

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 10 (MUST BE READ AT MEETING)

MAY 2024

1. MEMBERSHIP: All of you have been working so hard on membership and I deeply appreciate that. We are getting so close to reaching our goals! As of this writing, WISCONSIN is in fifth place in the Big Ten Conference. We are now 69 members away from reaching 100% for our PAID membership and 254 members away from reaching 100% of our CURRENT membership. If your Auxiliary needs help with your membership, please contact our Department Membership Chairman, Linda Schluter. She is more than willing to help in any way that she can.

2. INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED AUXILIARY OFFICERS: Please install your officers this month and even if you enter the info into Malta, our Dept. Secretary, Jackie Gregory, still needs a copy for the Roster.

3. DONATIONS: Have you made all of the suggested donations for this year? Please check the form that was included in the General Orders at the beginning of the year. It is also on our website <u>www.vfwauxwi.org</u>. Click on Resources at the top of the page and then treasurer. It is the third item listed "2023-2024 Suggested Donations Form." Thank you.

4. MEMORIAL DAY is May 27th. Please take a moment to honor and remember our fallen military.

5. Our Convention is coming up soon! We will be at the Tundra Lodge in Green Bay from June 12^{th} – 15^{th} . Our banquet theme is Military Ball. The registration form was included in the March General Orders. Registration is due by May 24^{th} , otherwise you'll have to pay a late fee.

6. I have said it before and I will say it again, thank you so much for all that you have done for our Veterans and our VFW Auxiliary this year. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

8. Since this is my last General Orders, I want to tell you all how much I have enjoyed being your President. I have made many new friends and it has been a pleasure. There have been a few problems along the way, but we have tried our very best to solve them.

Remember to always **"Bee the Change".** Thank you all, once again for **"Banding Together for our Veterans".**

Loyally,

Sherrie Rosenau Department of WI President 920-251-8888 <u>littlemama6@yahoo.com</u>



DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

MAY-JUNE 2024 BULLETIN

What is Auxiliary Outreach?

Auxiliary Outreach for 2023-2024 is in the final stretch. Does not mean to stop now! Community Outreach should never come to an end. This can go on week after week, month after month and year after year. We should not need a program to show we care. Outreach is about KINDNESS, GIVING, and CARE. This costs nothing, Outreach is priceless. Hopefully I have made this program a bit clearer. So, keep up the hard work and report what you have done.

SO, WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED THIS YEAR?

- Dos and Don'ts of this program
- We've learned what is considered Auxiliary Outreach
- We've learned it is about VOLUNTEERING & PARTNERING
- We've learned there must be a motion passed on the Aux. floor
- And we've learned it's not about money donated or spent



Make It Happen

HAVE YOU REAPED THE BENEFITS OF OUTREACH

- By Helping Others
- By Learning New Skills
- By Meeting New People
- By Personal Growth
- By Developing a Sense of Purpose



Buddy Poppy/National Home Program 2023-24

May Bulletin

"Buddy" Poppy

CONVENTION POPPY DISPLAYS

Have you thought about your Buddy[®] Poppy entry for the VFW State/ Department Convention? You still have plenty of time to make a display and enter it into the competition.

There will be first, second, and third place winners in each of three categories. First place winners will have the option of submitting their entry for judging in the National Competition in Louisville, KY.

Attached to this bulletin is the registration form and the rules for the 2024 Buddy Poppy Convention Displays.

I look forward to seeing your wonderful entries!



Faith A. Elford, PDP, 2023-24 Chairperson, 608-322-5144, faelford@outlook.com

VFW National Home



April 15, 2024

As our program year together is coming to an end, I have heard about one more wonderful program at the VFW National Home that you may not know about. One more great secret.

Did You Know... The VFW National Home has its own 4-H Club for the children. They are called the "VFW Dynamos!"

The National Home has a pig barn on the property and an area for rabbits. The children can pick their 4H projects. Some work with the pigs, some with the rabbits and others do craft projects. The kids are taught how to care for the animals and taught what they need to know, for the ultimate goal of taking their animals to show at the State Fair. The kids that work with the pigs are told that they need to understand that the pig will be sold at State Fair and will become food. (Life on a farm.) The kids that work with the rabbits must learn about 36 steps of examining a rabbit and do it in front of the judges and do it in order. So they have a lot of studying to do. The rabbits are also sold at the fair but to people that will use them for breeding or they become someone's pet.

In 2023 every 4Her showing an animal, chose to show a pig! The animal program requires a significant time commitment. It is a three-month long program. Children are encouraged to go to the farm every day to work with their animal since the amount of time spent with their animal directly affects their success at fair. The usual commitment for a child raising a hog is to go to the farm for chores at least four times per week, with one of those days to include an hour-long meeting. In addition, kids who are raising pigs should get them out every day and walk them. All animals are then sold at the fair by auction, and the 4-H members receive a profit after reimbursing the National Home for expenses incurred on their animal.



Here is a picture of the new trailer that the 2023-24 VFW and Auxiliary Department Sr. Vice Commanders and Presidents donated to the Home. It has, "VFW Dynamos 4H Club" printed on it. It is used to transport the animals to the State Fair. The Program Directors were very excited. It is great for getting the pigs to the State Fair.

Centennial Membership Program



VFW National Home is also excited to announce the Centennial Life Membership program, which began on April 1, 2024, and end December 31, 2025, in honor of our 100th anniversary. For just \$100, you can join this special program by upgrading your existing membership or becoming a new member.

As a Centennial Life Member, you'll receive a special centennial membership pin and membership card that will allow you to display your

affiliation with pride. Plus, you'll enjoy discounts on souvenirs and apparel that are not available to regular members.

You can find Centennial Life Member form on the VFW National Home website at: https://vfwnationalhome.org/you-can-help/membership/

REGISTRATION FOR BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST ANNUAL STATE/DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Post and/or Auxiliary Number ______ City _____ City _____

Category (1,2, or 3) _____ Display No. Leave Blank _____

Number of Poppies used in Display ______ (where display is entered in Category 3 & is a sample of a number of identical items, only one item needs to be displayed, but indicate the number of such items used and the total number of Poppies used.)

Name of Person/Persons responsible for setting up & taking down the display.

If you are the top winner in one of the three categories, do you wish to have your display entered in the National Contest? If yes, you will be responsible for having the display transported to the National Convention. In case the winners cannot get their display to the National Convention, the VFW and VFWA Chairmen will pick a substitute.

YES_____NO_____

Your Signature & Title______

NOTE: This entry form must accompany your display to the designated area at the State/ Department Convention prior to 12:00 noon on Friday of the Convention week. If entering a display in more than one category, prepare a separate copy of this form for each display.

BUDDY POPPY ANNUAL CONVENTION AWARDS PROGRAM BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

- 1. Will follow State/Department Rules
- 2. Judges Award for "MOST IMPRESSIVE"-\$25.00 State/Department Convention Only
- 3. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place awards in each category-**State/Department Convention Only**
- 4. 1st place in each category will be entitled to represent the State/Department of Wisconsin in the National Convention Contest

DISPLAY CONTEST CASH AWARDS-ANNUAL STATE/DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

CATEGORY	1	2	3	
1 st Place	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	
2 nd Place	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
3 rd Place	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	



2024 Buddy Poppy Convention Contest at VFW State/Department Convention June 12-15, 2024



Have you thought about your Buddy[®] Poppy entry for the VFW State/Department Convention? You still have plenty of time to make a display and enter it into the competition.

There will be first, second, and third place winners in each of three categories. First place winners will have the option of submitting their entry for judging in the National Competition in Louisville, KY. The three categories are:

CATEGORY 1: Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign

- > Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotion, etc.
- Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy [®] Poppy.

CATEGORY 2: Memorial or Inspirational Displays

- > Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes.
- Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy [®] Poppy.

CATEGORY 3: Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

- Post Home displays, table center-pieces, corsages, pictures, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.

*Any display not meeting the qualifications of Category 1 or 2, shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

In **ALL CATEGORIES**, at least one (1) of the poppies used in the display **MUST BE** in its **ORIGINAL FORM AND COLOR WITH LABEL ATTACHED**. **Full details** can be found on the State VFW website at **vfwwi.org** under the PROGRAMS tab. Scroll down to Buddy[®] Poppy to locate Buddy Poppy resources. VFW Poppy Chairman Renee Simpson and VFWA Chairman Faith Elford hope to see many creative entries this year. **Good luck to all**.



2024-2025 Program Year VFW & Auxiliary C of A Journey to Healing Together C Honoring Veterans Together Friday-Saturday, July 12-13, 2024 Stoney Creek Hotel, 3060 S. Kinney Coulee Rd., Onalaska, WI 54650



Tentative Auxiliary Agenda

(All Sessions are open to all members. Dress code: Business Casual)

<u>Friday, July 12</u>	
1:00 – 5:00 PM	School of Instruction-Including District Instructions; New Treasurer
	Program Training; and Malta Training
6:00 PM	"South of the Border" Dinner
<u>Saturday, July 13</u>	
8:30 AM – Noon	Program Chairmen Promotions
Noon - 1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own
1:00 PM	Council of Administration Meeting

- Call the hotel directly for reservations 608-781-3060
- Room rates: \$110/\$120/\$125 plus tax. [Ask for the VFW block]
- Deadline for special room rate: June 15th
- This weekend is a great way to learn about the VFW and Auxiliary Programs and events planned for the new year and to meet your VFW Commander Mary Ann Christopherson and Auxiliary President Cheryl Woodards and their leadership teams.
- Following the Friday meetings, a "South of the Border" buffet dinner for the VFW & Auxiliary is planned.

Program Meal Reservations – Cut off for meal reservation is June 15, 2024

Name:		
Name:		
Address:		
CITY/ST/ZIP:	Phone:	

Friday, July 12 – 6:00 pm – "South of the Border" Dinner – Ground beef and grilled chicken served taco bar style with all the sides and crisp tortilla chips, salsa, nacho cheese ______@ \$38 each = \$______

- Please make check payable to VFW-Dept of WI, earmarked July C of A
- Mail to: VFW Dept of WI, P.O. Box 6128, Monona, WI 53718-0128
- (or reserve and pay online on the WI VFW website at vfwwi.org/News/Events)
 - Reservations MUST be received by June 15 no exceptions!



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY Department of Wisconsin Hospital Report May/June 2024



I would like to thank all the Auxiliaries who turned in their Year-end Reports. Every Auxiliary does something for our veterans which is why we belong to this organization so why not report it? The VA Hospitals and WI VA nursing homes are welcoming organizations to come and visit their residence and play bingo and give out treats. Reach out to your nursing home in your area and see if you can do a visit. Our Department Representatives and Deputies are visiting and doing activities in their facilities. Please keep on giving to our Department Hospital funds/Hospital Projects so our veterans can enjoy a little bit happier life.

I am looking forward to our VFWA Convention in June and giving out awards to the Outstanding Volunteer and giving out the hospital charms to our volunteers. Please plan to come.

Thanks again for all you do for hospitalized veterans. Keep up the good work.

Karen Johnson



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN



Journey to 100 Years



May 2024 – Journey to 100 Years question:

To remain in meetings, according to new regulations to become effective January 1, 1949, what was eliminated?

Send your answer NOT LATER THAN May 31st.

to: Rita Byers at <u>rabyers66@gmail.com</u> for a chance to win the \$25.00 monthly cash prize.

No entries will be accepted after the deadline. All entries with correct, complete answer will be put into the drawing for the month. This month will be drawn at the Council of Administration meeting in June.

The 100th Anniversary Committee



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MAY-JUNE 2024

DISTRICT RACE			
AS OF APRIL 4, 2024			
DISTRICT	PLACE	PAID%	
D-9	1 st	105.43%	
D-4	2 nd	101.99%	
D-6	3 rd	100.95%	
D-8	4 th	100.11%	
D-7	5 th	98.79%	
D-10	6 th	95.38%	
D-11	7 th	94.92%	
D-2	8 th	94.22%	
D-9	9	85.38%	

MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS FOR BIG TEN AND WISCONSIN AS OF APRIL 4, 2024 BIG TEN: OUR current paid percentage is 99.16%. If Wisconsin is 100% by April 15, 2024, our Big Ten director will gift \$30.00 to Sherrie's Special Project. Go Wisconsin Go! WISCONSIN: We are currently at 99.16 PAID PERCENT. Only 68 more members are needed for Wisconsin to become 100%. Recently a big Auxiliary in District 2 was disbanded, and you can see how that had a negative impact on our current and paid percentages. Bee the Change and help move Wisconsin's Paid Percentage to 100%. YOU CAN DO IT!

AWARDS, AWARDS, AWARDS YET TO COME

- AUXILIARY NOT 100%. There are still 10 (\$15) Awards if you reach 100% by April 30th.
- DISTRICT IS NOT 100%. If you are 100% by May 10, you can win an award. 2(\$25) Awards.
- Recruit 5 new members by May 10. <u>3 (\$25) Awards.</u>
- Recruit 10 new members by May 10. <u>3 (\$75) Awards</u> or Recruit the most members. <u>1 (\$25)</u> <u>Award</u>.
- New Life Member or Convert to Life purchased by May 10. 1 (Up to \$100) Award.

"BEE THE CHANGE" WHILE "WE BAND TOGETHER FOR OUR VETERANS."

Linda Schluter, Membership Chairman

l.schluter0319@gmail.com

608-209-3080

4601 Declaration LN, Madison, WI 53704



MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP MAY/JUNE BULLETIN

Brothers and Sisters, our Auxiliary year of "Bee the Change" will shortly be coming to an end. Now is the time to reflect, celebrate and prepare to transition to a new Program year. It's time to celebrate on what you did accomplish.

Now transition! We cannot lose sight that we still have work to do for 2023-2024 Program Year. Congratulations to all that will assume offices for 2024-2025. I hope you all have an amazing year. Mentors, please offer guidance, assistance and support to these new officers.

This is my last bulletin as your Mentoring for Leadership Chr. I hope that I have represented our Department and President Sherri well. **THANK YOU** for sharing your time, talents and dedication to your Auxiliaries and all that this great organization represents. Have fun with my last Trivia Sheet. Send answers to me by June 1st to get into the drawings for a couple of treat baskets at Convention.

One last quote before closing: "To Mentor is to touch a Life forever."

God Bless everyone, stay safe and healthy.

Linda Moran Mentoring for Leadership Chr.

Loopylin1950@gmail.com 920-337-9922

APRIL FOOLS AND MEMORIAL DAY TRIVA QUESTIONS---MULITPLE CHOICE THIS TIME

- 1. In Scotland, April Fool's Day is often called "Hunt the Gowk Day." What is a gowk?
 - a. Fairy
 - b. Witch
 - c. Bird

2.

- d. A wild pig
- What long lived soap opera made its debut on April 1st. 1963?
 - a. Days of Our Lives
 - b. Young and Restless
 - c. General Hospital
 - d. Coronation Street
- 3. What famous celebrity was shot on April 1st, 1984?
 - a. Marvin Gaye
 - b. Sam Cooke
 - c. John Lennon
 - d. Akon
- 4. Which of these novels has the earliest recorded association between foolishness and April lst.
 - a. Tale of Two Cities
 - b. Oliver Twist
 - c. A Midsummer's Night Dream
 - d. Canterbury Tales
- 5. Which handy kitchen appliance went on sale April 1st, 1889.?
 - a. Dishwasher
 - b. Blender
 - c. Toaster
 - d. Percolator
- 6. What was the original name for Memorial Day?
 - a. Remembrance Day
 - b. Decoration Day
 - c. Civil War Soldier Day
 - d. Th Day of Remembrance
- 7. Where is the official birthplace of Memorial Day?
 - a. Massachusetts
 - b. Virginia
 - c. New York
 - d. Pennsylvania
- 8. Who started the tradition of wearing red poppies on Memorial Day?
 - a. Moina Michael
 - b. Dorothea Dix
 - c. Florence Nightingale
 - d. General John Logan
 - How many soldiers are buried in Arlington National Cemetery?
 - a. 50,000

9.

- b. 10,000
- c. 400,000
- d. 1 million
- 10. What is the top Memorial Day weekend destination?
 - a. New York, New York
 - b. Orlando, Florida
 - c. Washington, D.C.
 - d. Philadelphia, PA

ANSWER SHEET FOR TRIVIA QUESTONS (APRIL FOOLS/MEMORIAL DAY)

- 1. C-- Bird (Cuckoo)
- 2. C—General Hospital
- 3. A—Marvin Gaye—Accidently shot by his son.
- 4. D—Canterbury Tales
- 5. A—Dishwasher
- 6. B—Decoration Day—It was named because people were meant to decorate soldier's graves.
- 7. C.—Waterloo, New York
- 8. A—Moina Michael –Wrote a poem about poppies and the war which gave her the idea for wearing poppies.
- 9. C—400,000 according to Statistic Brain reports.
- 10. B—Orlando is the top spot according to AAA.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Jackie Gregory Chairman

May/June 2024 Department of Wisconsin

jackie.g@tds.net



Spring has sprung!!!!! This year is coming to an end in a few months, but that doesn't mean our work is done. Now is the time we start planning for next year. Let's get out into our communities and spread the word about the different scholarships the VFW and VFW Auxiliary has to offer.

The VOD and Patriot's Pen entry forms for next year are available on the National VFW website (vfw.org). New information on the 2024-2025 entry forms have now included that:

• The essay must be contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. Inappropriate use of ChatGPT or other AI tools is not allowed. Some essays this year were disqualified because they used AI tools. Be sure to highlight that fact to the teachers and students so they are aware of this.

***The theme for the 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy is: **"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"** ***The theme for the 2024-2025 Patriot's Pen is: **"My Voice in America's Democracy?"**

Start planning your scholarship program for next year. Think outside the box to get the word out to schools, youth groups, Home-schooled associations, Youth sports teams, Faith-based youth groups, etc. Use Auxiliary websites, newsletters, posters at Post Homes, and social media to let everyone know that these scholarships and contests are available to them.

*Voice of Democracy	*Continuing Education
*Patriot's Pen	* Young American Patriotic Art
	* 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art

Has your Auxiliary donated to our Scholarships funds? The VOD, Patriot's Pen, Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Art funds are in need of your donations. New this year, the Department is offering a 1st place 3-Dimensional Art award of \$500.00. Those donation checks can be made out to: **VFWA-WI** and sent to Dept. Treasurer Lenore Otto, 1383 W. Wisconsin Ave., Oconomowoc, WI 53066, earmarked for your specific program/programs. Thank you!

Don't forget to help the Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Art contest Escrow Fund!!!!! The Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Art Contest escrow funds need more funding so that we may acknowledge and reward more of our young patriotic artists at the National level. You can make your donation through MALTA, or you can mail a check to National Headquarters, Attn: Patriotic Art Scholarship Fund.

I hope to see many of you at the Department Convention and you receive many awards for all of your hard work and dedication to our organization. Thank each of you for working this Program to the best of your ability this year.

"Bee the Change" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans"





PRESIDENT'S PIN 2024-2025

PRE-ORDER FORM



The theme for the 2024-25 WI Auxiliary Year is:

"Honoring Veterans Together"

Incoming President Cheryl Woodards chose this pin design to honor her Korean War Veteran father (deceased from cancer at 56) and her mother. Mom had an undying love of cardinals. Shortly after she passed, while writing out thank you cards, Cheryl looked up to see a male and female cardinal sitting together on the deck. She felt it was a visit from both of her parents, saying they will always be there.

Cheryl invites you to "Pair Up" with her and be there for our Veterans by purchasing this pin.

PRESIDENT'S PIN PRE-ORDER FORM

MINIMUM-15 PINS

Auxiliary Name:			Aux #:	District:
Contact Person:			Phone:	
Email Address:				
				GRAND
No. of Pins		_x \$3.00 =	**Plus shipping: \$10.00	TOTAL:
**Only	y add in the	shipping cost if you	u want the pins mailed to you.	
Mark One:				
	Ι will pick ι	ip the pins at the De	epartment Convention in June.	
	Please send the pins with our District President			
	**Please n	nail the pins to us.		
**Shipping Address:				(Only needed if you want the pins
_				mailed to you)
_				-
-				-
Make checks payable	e to: VFWA	-WI and in the Men	10: 2024-25 Pins	
Mail th	nis order for	m with your check	by: May 24, 2024	
(After	this date, th	nere will be a \$5.00	late fee for orders.)	
Mail this form and ch	eck to:	Lenore Otto, Dept	Treasurer	
		•		
		1383 W. Wisconsi		
		Oconomowoc, WI	53066	

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY **TREASURERS**

THIS IS A NOTE TO UPDATE YOU ON THE UPCOMING CHANGES FOR VARIOUS AREAS WITHIN YOUR OFFICE.

1. ANNUAL DUES

- a. Department Dues are now \$10 (effective October 2023)
- b. Effective July 1, 2024 National Dues will be \$10

That means a minimum of \$20 must be collected from each annual member. SO....if you want any extra for your account your Auxiliary must approve all increases to your dues or the money will come from your funds.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE SECRETARY PUTS THE <u>CORRECT TOTAL</u> (for Dues) ON THE INSTALLATION REPORT

2. TREASURER CHANGE – Auxiliary or District

- a. If you are resigning as Treasurer, please make sure that the new Treasurer Completes IRS Form #8828-B.
- b. Make sure the Past Treasurer assists the new Treasurer in doing the 990EZ form Immediately after July 1, 2024 then it is completed long before the due date.

DO NOT PAY FOR DOING THIS IT IS FREE!!!!!!!!

BUT MOST IMPORTANT IS THE CHANGING OF SIGNATURES ON ALL BANK ACCOUNTS

THAT MEANS CHECKING, SAVINGS, & CDS etc.

- 3. Here is a reminder that all checks are made payable to:
 - a. VFWAUX-WI mailed to the Dept Treasurer unless noted
 - b. The President and Treasurer' signatures must be on the check

Any questions please email or phone (please leave a message-don't just hang up

Lenore Otto, Dept Treasurer WI <u>lennylavfw@yahoo.com</u> 262-560-1222

WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM GOALS

MAY 2024

Our main goal is to increase our funds. We are open to new ideas.

Our next event that we need raffles baskets for is state convention. State convention will be held June 12th - 15th in Green Bay. We are looking for already made baskets. We appreciate any donations! Consider giving a gift card to be added to a gift card tree. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF CASH (CHECKS) FOR SPECIAL RAFFLES AT CONVENTION. CHECKS CAN BE SENT TO LENORE OTTO, EARMARKED "W & M SPECIAL RAFFLE". DONATIONS CAN BE MADE BY INDIVIDUALS OR AUXILIARIES.





Alicia Weix & Barbara Stillman Ways and Means Co Chairs



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

May/June 2024

VFW Auxiliary – Department of Wisconsin Patty Jansky, Chairman / pajansky@charter.net



Our Youth Go Marching On . .

Even though our two big contests (**Illustrating America** and **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!**) have met their deadlines, our Youth Activities Program is still bursting with ideas for our kids. As our Youth Activities National Ambassador Joyce Caldwell says, "Working with our youth is a year-round commitment." Spring has arrived and summer is right around the corner. There is a need for coaches, umpires, referees, etc. for youth sports teams. Your Auxiliary could also offer to sponsor a team. In turn, you can encourage these youth and their families to participate in patriotic projects and work with you to help our veterans.

Continue reaching out to all our youth groups – Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H, Boys and Girls Clubs, summer camps, school and church groups, and more. This is the season when veterans and elderly neighbors may need help with starting their gardens, planting flowers or cleaning up their yards. Your Auxiliary can invite your local youth to celebrate with you many special days coming up – Loyalty Day, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Father's Day and July 4th.



Keep sharing the love of books through our **Patriotism Through Literacy** Program. Show youth that we appreciate their patriotism and love for our veterans by awarding them **Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citations,** individual **Patriotic Youth Awards** or **R.A.P. cards.** We can include youth in **ALL** our Auxiliary Programs. Getting children involved in as many projects as possible is a wonderful way to spend time with them – our country can only benefit from our partnership with our youth.

As our Program Year is drawing to a close, I would like to thank again all our Auxiliaries that have and continue to promote and donate to our Youth Activities Program. Your support of this important National Program is greatly appreciated! Your efforts make a difference in the lives of our children, our veterans, our communities, and our country.





"Bee the Change" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans".

