

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

GENERAL ORDERS NO.1 (MUST BE READ AT MEETING)

July 2023

- 1. **EXTENSION:** District Presidents, if you know of any “Bachelor Posts” in your District that are interested in having an Auxiliary, please contact Department Chief-of-Staff Vicki Newbauer. The earlier in the year that we institute new Auxiliaries, the easier it is to get them off to a good start.
- 2. **CONGRATULATIONS** to all new Presidents and Officers. We hope you will have a most enjoyable and successful year. Auxiliary and District Presidents please appoint all program chairmen and urge them to keep a notebook to allow them to have complete and accurate year end reports.
- 3. **General Orders must be read at each meeting.** It is the responsibility of each Auxiliary chairman to give a summary of the information from the Department Chairman. When the chairman is absent the Auxiliary secretary will be responsible for relaying the message to the members.
- 4. The First Council of Administration and Chairmen’s Promotional Meeting will be held at the Best Western on Mondovi Rd in Eau Claire on July 7-8, 2023. Friday, July 7th at 1:00 p.m. will be training for the District President’s, Sr., and Jr. Vice Presidents. At 3:00 p.m. we will have a joint meeting with the VFW on the Special Project for this year. The Joint Kick Off Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. On July 8th at 8:30 a.m. the Chairmen will present their program for the coming year. At 1:00 we will have the Council of Administration Meeting.
- 5. There will be a new National Award this year...Member of the Year. Please look under Cheryl Woodards’ program for more information.
- 6. We are trying to go green this year in regard to General Orders mailings. This will be voted on at the July Council meeting.
- 7. The National Convention will be held in Phoenix, Arizona from July 22-27, 2023.
- 8. The National President’s visit will be held on August 28th and 29th.

The National President for the 2023-2024 year is Carla Martinez and her theme is “Banding Together for Our Veterans”. My theme for the coming year is “Bee the Change”.

Loyally,

Sherrie Rosenau
Department of WI President
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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
Veterans & Family Support
July 2023

Veterans & Family Support is the heart of our organization and a program that every member can and should participate in. Our veterans sacrificed so much for us and it's time that we do all we can for them.

As Tessa Butcher, our National Ambassador states, "We are all musicians in a great human orchestra." Not any one of us can be a solo act. We must work together for the common good. What is that?? That is our Veteran and the family that supports them, both in and out of their military service.

National President Carla Martinez' theme of "**Banding Together for Our Veterans**" will offer guidance for support programs, VA Benefits, higher education opportunities, Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention.

The Military Assistance Program or MAP, Unmet Needs & VFW "SportClips Help a Hero Scholarship" are part of Veterans & Military Support.

MAP helps local VFW & Auxiliary members forge & Nurture bonds with local military units by providing financial assistance to sponsor morale-boosting send-offs, homecomings & casual get-togethers. And to help Post & Auxiliaries participate in Adopt-s-Unit and Family Readiness Group events.

The Unmet Needs program gives grants up to \$1500 payable to the creditor to help bridge the gap to make a mortgage or rent payment or to fund home and auto repairs, insurance, utility cost, food and clothing. While the soldier is away, the family can get help through this program.

The VFW "Sport Chips Help a Hero Scholarship" awards scholarships up to \$5000 to qualifying veterans & servicemembers to help them complete their educational goal without incurring excessive student loan debt.

The VFW's National Veterans Service (NVS) helps veterans, servicemembers & their families obtain the benefits they deserve—at no cost. They are assisted by qualified personnel in filing claims for: Disability Compensation, Rehabilitation & Educational Programs, Pension & Death Benefits, Employment & Training Programs, Hospital & Outpatient Care, Specialized Health Care for Female Veterans & Alcohol & Drug Dependency Treatment.

Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention is an area we see and hear about all around us, but we still don't know how to address it. This year we will become more aware of the resources available and what signs to look for as we travel amongst our Veterans and their family. The most recent statistics show that

more than 16 Veterans every day commit suicide. Sisters & brothers in a years' time, that is over 5000 veterans we lose to this horrible activity. What are the five signs of mental health? (1) Are you feeling like you? (2) Are you feeling agitated? (3) Are you withdrawn? (4) Are you caring for yourself? (5) Do you feel hopeless? More of this information will be on the Auxiliary website soon. However, if you or someone you know is in need now, you can call the **VETERANS CRISIS LINE by Dialing 988 Press 1**. You will reach a Crisis Professional for a confidential conversation.

Let's be part of the orchestra by "**Banding Together for Our Veterans**" and "**Bee The Change.**"

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

July 2023 General Orders Chair Report

Hello brothers and sisters! This message comes to you with wishes for a safe and fun summer, making memories to last a lifetime. I want to give you a little info in case you do not know me. I'm very proud to be your 2023-2024 Department of WI Americanism Chair/Patriotic Instructor and looking forward to my first national program. This has always been my favorite of the VFWA programs, and I truly enjoyed presenting the POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony as the District 8 Americanism Chair long ago.

In 1987 my mother Theresa, sisters Karen, Linda and I became charter members of Heart of the Valley Auxiliary 10544 under daddy's eligibility. Harry H. Lamers was a very proud WWII Army Air Corps veteran and charter member of Post 10544. Between parades, fireworks, and attending the VFW and American Legion picnics we did it all and he instilled a passion for patriotism in us right from the start. What a way to grow up! Daddy taught us that being a part of something great is fulfilling and his pride trickled down to us so we "bleed red, white and blue". We are proud to carry on his legacy.

FIND INFORMATION

- **In monthly emails** you will receive from me & in reports sent with general orders
- **24/7 Online at three places:**
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/what-we-do/americanism/>
<https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources>
<https://vfwauxwi.org> (click on Programs then Americanism)

Each month I will give information to make filling out End of Year Reports easier and so your Auxiliary can be successful. Let's get President Sherrie in the National Circle of Excellence by working hard for our Veterans.

It is an exciting time to BEE a part of the change in our organization. With kindness and respect, we can carry on the traditions while coming up with new ways to get the job done. Please send me pictures (email, text or snail mail) of all you do in the way of Americanism. You will make my reports better and I'll be happy to share your work with the Department.

Thank you and God Bless America as we "Band Together for our Veterans" & "Bee the Change"

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

JULY 2023 BULLETIN

What is Auxiliary Outreach?

Auxiliary outreach is volunteer work performed by one member or group of members for the benefit of their community or it's institutions. It is a donation of time, not money. It is about partnering with other organizations in our communities.

- Be performed by people of any age, skill set or ability level.
- Benefit any group of people such as youth, senior citizens and those with disabilities.
- Benefit animals, the environment, and public spaces.
- Be done in communities of all types and sizes.

The first steps in making your auxiliary outreach program successful:

- Find local groups and organizations in need of assistance.
- Ask what your auxiliary can do to help them.
- **VOTE** at your auxiliary meeting to approve the activity.
- Form the partnerships
- Report the details.

A few suggestions of qualifying activities

Spending time in a local homeless shelter kitchen serving meals, bussing tables, or cleaning up.

Working with Police or Fire Departments on bicycle or home safety training.

Participating in walks that benefit other organizations as an event volunteer.

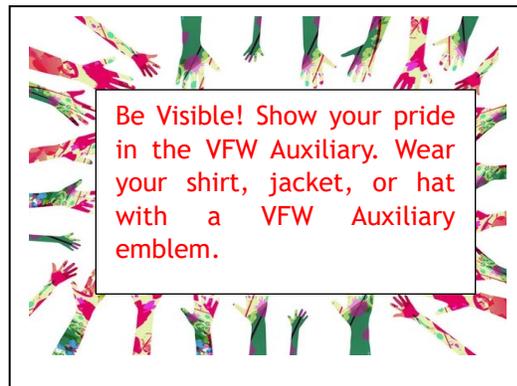
Help youth group collect food donations for a local food pantry.

Benefits of the outreach program:

- Helping others
- Learning new skills
- Meeting new people
- Personal growth
- Developing a sense of purpose



“Bee the Change”



A few suggestions that do not qualify

Taking comfort items to the local USO.

Sending an auxiliary check to support a charity.

Collecting clothing and comfort items for homeless veterans at the post home.

Passing the collection basket at church.

Buddy Poppy distribution.

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT CHIEF OF STAFF

VICKI NEWBAUER

July 2023



PROGRAM GOALS

- REVITALIZE & REJUVENATE
- PRESENT TO UNAFFILIATED POSTS
- MAINTAIN CURRENT AUXILIARIES
- ESTABLISH NEW AUXILIARIES

Ensure the legacy of our great organization continues through strong, healthy Auxiliaries with members who are prepared to take over leadership roles when needed. *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* and Malta Member Resources are two most valuable tools available to members on all levels to learn about and understand their duties.

Identify Red Flag Auxiliaries

1. Conducting 10 meetings per year: Y or N
2. Good attendance at the monthly Auxiliary meetings: Y or N
3. Completing the required paperwork in a timely manner: Y or N
4. Elect new Officers or re-elect the same members: Y or N
5. Officers, Chairmen & Members work as a team: Y or N
6. Member involvement, input during meeting: Y or N
7. Participating in the National/Department programs: Y or N
8. Membership growth: Y or N



One NO is a Red Flag

Vicki Newbauer

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Hospital July 2023



Hi, everyone, my name is Karen” nursefrazzle” Johnson and I will be your Hospital Chairman for the 2023-2024 year. Our National Hospital Ambassador Della Steege would like us to promote Community Care/Telehealth/Compassionate, Non-Traditional Holidays, Recognizing Staff members, Women’s Health care service and volunteerism.

The Auxiliary Hospital Program is essential to veterans and is equally rewarding to the volunteers who dedicate their time and efforts to this Program. After 100-plus years of hospital volunteering for our veterans, the pandemic has altered our Hospital Program in many ways, yet the goal is still the same. We must find new processes and get creative to complete the work. Our new normal in volunteering may never resemble the way we used to do it, but the need is still there. Now that the VA facility, hospitals, veterans’ homes, nursing homes, other medical facilities are opening their doors again, this is the time we will need more volunteers. We lost a lot of volunteers in the Covid epidemic and a lot of them are not coming back. So please think about giving time to a veteran. Volunteers can be: VFWA members, non-members, or youth.

Community Care for veterans is so you as an Auxiliary can help veterans find their way into the VA health care system. **Telehealth clinical video** for veterans that live long distance to VA. **Compassionate** contact is trained volunteer who are matched with veteran who are experiencing loneliness or socially isolated. **Women’s health care** need and want health care they can count on. These things are important to our veterans. Please help. Do not forget the veteran.

Karen Johnson

Hospital chairman
nursefrazzle@new.rr.com

Bee the
Change



Thank you President Sherrie
for asking me to do
Legislative again.

Department awards for Auxiliaries:

- Citation and \$20 Award for the **most creativity in youth education**
- ⇒ Turn in to me by April 1st, 2024 on your end-of-year report
- Citation to each Auxiliary that hosts an event educating our youth on Legislative issues.

National Awards for Auxiliaries:

- Most outstanding activity and/or event educating the community on veteran Legislative issues.
- ⇒ Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community on veteran Legislative issues. The entry form can be found in Malta in resources under the Legislative.
- ⇒ Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating

2024 VFW Legislative
Conference will be
held March 3rd-7th in
Washington, DC



What to be working on through out the year.

- Make sure to utilize your Legislative material/resources in Malta
- Sign up members for Action Corps
- Promote, participate and/or host activities regarding the VFW Priorities
- Co-host with your VFW Post activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals
- Keep track of your events that you attend; (legislative conference, town halls, meet-and-greets, etc.)



Current Bill:

S. 1436, Critical Health Access Resource and Grant Extensions (Charge) Act of 2023. This is in support for Homeless Veterans and Caregivers.

Stay in the know with the VFW Action Corps. <https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts/vfw-action-corps-weekly>. See what the current issues the VFW is fighting for in Legislation..

Kim McWilliams

Department Legislative Chairman

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JULY MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

JULY 2023

WELCOME BROTHERS AND SISTERS TO THE "BEE THE CHANGE" YEAR WITH PRESIDENT SHERRI AND THE "BANDING TOGETHER FOR VETERANS" YEAR WITH NATIONAL PRESIDENT CARLA. GUESS WHAT I'M YOUR MENTORING CHAIRMAN AGAIN THIS YEAR.

MAKE THIS PROGRAM A FUN EXPERIENCE FOR ALL. LET'S FIGURE OUT A WAY TO MENTOR EACH OTHER, WE HAVE A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OUT THERE. SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND KNOWLEDGE WITH OTHERS. PLEASE DON'T LEAVE YOUR STORY UNTOLD AND YOUR KNOWLEDGE UNSHARED.

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM WE WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO EMBRACE AND PROMOTE THE CARE CONCEPT.

CATCH THE MEMBER WHEN THEY FIRST JOIN.

ASK THEM TO PARTICIPATE.

REMEMBER WHAT IT FELT LIKE TO BE NEW.

ENGAGE THEM IN A PROGRAM THAT FITS THEM.

**The challenge of leadership
is to be strong, but not rude;
be kind, but not weak;
be bold, but not bully;
be thoughtful, but not lazy;
be humble, but not timid;
be proud, but not arrogant;
have humor, but without folly.**

- Jim Rohn

JULY 4TH TRIVIA

1. Where was the first celebration of Independence Day held?
2. How many times does the Liberty Bell ring on Independence Day?
3. The Fourth of July commemorates which document?
4. What is the proper way to fold the American flag?
5. Which American president was born on the 4th of July?
6. What is the location of the nation's oldest Fourth of July Parade?
7. What is the total number of people that signed the Declaration of Independence?
8. Every July 4th, what food is most commonly consumed?
9. What was The Statue of Liberty's official name?
10. Every 4th of July, how many hot dogs are consumed?
11. What was the population of the United States on July 4th, 1776?
12. On July 4th, which classic children's book was published?
13. In what year were fireworks first used to celebrate the Fourth of July?
14. During World War 11, where did the Declaration of Independence get stored?
15. Which country declared independence from the United States on July 4th 1960?

Email answers to me at Loopylin1950@gmail.com or snail mail to me.

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WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM GOALS

INCREASE OUR FUNDS



Calendar Raffle



Pie in the Face



Bakeless Bake Sale



Donations of tickets for sporting events,
pictures, other items of great value (\$100+)



Donations from
Businesses



Grant Writing



Alicia Weix & Barbara Stillman, Ways and Means Co-chairs