



WI VFW AUXILIARY

2024-25 GENERAL ORDERS



"HONORING VETERANS TOGETHER"

November 2024

MUST BE READ AT MEETING

Volume 3 - Issue 5

- **General Orders and Program Bulletins** can be found on the Department Website at: <https://vfwauxwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp> Look under the news tab and click on General Orders.
- **Congratulations** to Department Sr. Vice President Kim McWilliams, being elected as National Council Member #11, replacing Past Department President Laurel Ann Weise. Laurel Ann resigned due to health issues. Please keep Laurel Ann in your thoughts and prayers.
- **National President** Brenda Bryant had a wonderful visit to Wisconsin. She encourages us to keep up the great work we are doing in the state.
- **Membership** – In the Big Ten – Wisconsin is in first place currently with 92.15%. Keep up the good work and continue to recruit, retain, and get people to rejoin.
- **Fall Council of Administration** – This meeting will be held at the Portage VFW Post on November 16, 2024, at 10 AM. We need a head count for lunch so please let Dept. Secy. Faith know if you are attending by November 8, 2024. Email: wivfwafaith@outlook.com
- **990's** - The deadline for the 990's is November 14, 2024. Hopefully by now all of you have completed this process. If you are having any difficulties, please let us know immediately.
- **Audit** – Your first quarter audit should be completed and approved no later than November 30, 2024. Don't forget to put both the audited date and approved date on the form.
- **Donations** – Have you made your yearly donations as yet? If not, please do so soon.
- **Mid-Winter Convention in Oshkosh** – We have just been made aware of hotel ownership change from Best Western to Marriott. If you made your reservations under Best Western, please call and make sure they forwarded on. See new Reservation Phone # on page 6.
- **A special thank you** to everyone who purchased a raffle calendar. For the first time all 1300 calendars were sold and turned in by the deadline. The money raised from these calendars help offset the cost of doing business for the Department.
- **Auxiliary Special Visits** – Should be done by now by District Presidents. Make sure you have turned in all the appropriate paperwork.
- **Best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Please reach out to those who might be and feel alone this time of year. A pleasant smile and simple thinking of you goes a long way.**

Cordially,
Cheryl L. Woodards
Department of Wisconsin President
608-692-4027
Wivfwacheryl55@gmail.com

**"From our Roots to our Branches Extending
Service to our Veterans" as we are
"Honoring Veterans Together"**

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

by Kathie Lendosky, V & FS Chairperson
Lendosky16@charter.net
Landline: 262-692-9661 (leave a message)
Cell: 414-588-9339 (Leave a message)



November 11th 2024 is Veterans Day. Remember: when we support Veterans (men/women), we support their families too whether married or single parent. There are several resources for Veterans and women veterans and their families, including VA programs, nonprofit organizations, and other resources. There are plenty of educational resources for Veterans, and women Veterans. Set up a table display, word of mouth, thank you board listing all the details of what we are thankful for, community boards, ad in newspaper, VFW Posts, radio announcement, plan a veteran of the month and offer a treat basket, gas card and more. Plan an event for mental health awareness and suicide prevention.

Educate Women veterans on VA programs and child care programs for working veterans:

- **Women Veterans Call Center:** Call 855-829-6636 to get help with finding resources, enrolling in VA health care, child care, etc. Women Veteran Program Managers are Located at each VA medical center, these professionals can advise, advocate, and coordinate care and provide assistance on benefits and child care for working veterans.
 1. Evidence-based psychotherapies: VA medical centers offer a variety of psychotherapies to treat mental health conditions .VA also offers mental health care tailored to women Veterans. Please let me know if you would like the Networking list of support groups for Women Veterans.
 2. Women veterans need to know there are VA benefits which include personalized, comprehensive health care such as routine check-ups, cancer screening, birth control, mammograms, maternity care, and more.
- **Thank a veteran,** hug or shake his/her hand, visit a veteran, offer to take a veteran out or do lawn care, sit and listen to a veteran tell his story, play cards with a veteran, pay for mental health copay, plan an event for mental health and recovery, babysit for Families of veterans, offer diapers for their babies & Veterans, assist with computer, transportation, etc. *Community members flock to displays on mental health for veterans.*

AMERICANISM

by Sally Lamers 24-25 VFWA Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chair
1861 Oakridge Road, Neenah, WI 54956 sslamers@gmail.com
920.475.0789 *please leave a message*



Promote Patriotism

When singing our National Anthem or saying the Pledge of Allegiance on patriotic holidays it reinforces the value of our freedom as American citizens.
By passing our patriotism on to the next generations we instill pride while honoring Patriots and our Country.

It is officially “school sport season” so be sure to sing YOUR National Anthem LOUD AND PROUD at all the games you attend.

Lead by example!

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION

by Linda Moran, Department Chief of Staff
Loopylin1950@gmail.com 920-337-9922 (H) 920-639-9987 (C)



Many members question why we push so hard to keep our organization 100% Plus. It is all about our veterans and their families.

If we lose our members, who is going to work our programs? Who will go to the hospitals and volunteer? Who is going to speak up and tell Congress to stop balancing the budget on the backs of our veterans? With our numbers, we speak volumes when we ask Congress to support our veterans and make sure they are taken care of. So, make sure you are not leaving any of our members behind. Keep working with your membership chairman. THAT ONE MORE MEMBER HELPS.

Remember if problems or questions on anything---PLEASE, PLEASE call President Cheryl or me and we'll get help your way. Our goal is to have all Auxiliaries remain healthy this year.

There are many resources available to you on the VFW Auxiliary website on all levels on building your VFW Auxiliary Foundation and the various programs. Check it out.

GOD BLESS AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING AS WE CONTINUE HONORING VETERANS TOGETHER.

HOSPITAL

by Karen Johnson Hospital Chairman
nursefrazzle@new.rr.com ; (920) 707-3062



The Holidays are now approaching. This is a special time of the year and our veterans in hospitals and facilities require more companionship, compassion and giving assistance to bring joy to their hearts. Often separated from family, friends or even pets, our veterans feel isolated and alone during the holidays. Even though we do so much throughout the year, it's this season that makes being a hospital volunteer extra special.

Each VAVS Hospital and VA Hospital have special needs and if you call and ask the activities director or representative, they can tell you what is needed. Your Auxiliary can have Bingo parties or a Christmas party. All you need to do is ask. There are so many things that you as an auxiliary can do to make a veteran happy for the holidays. Let's help the volunteers and see if they need help during the holiday season.

You are doing a great service for our veterans in our VA medical centers, veteran's home, and all facilities who serve our veterans. Keep up the good work.

Look at the Hospital Program section of our website and you can download a wish list for Oscar G Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Tomah VA and the Wm. S. Middleton VA. A Zablocki VA list should be posted by the time you read this report.

LEGISLATIVE

by Debbie Nackers, Legislative Chairperson
debnack666@gmail.com

November 5th is fast approaching. As citizens of this great country, it is our duty to "Get Out and Vote" Our forefathers and veterans sacrificed to give us this right. Don't waste it.



Proudly wear this sticker found on MALTA.

Help your fellow members by offering rides, help with absentee ballots, poll locations and times etc....

Get information at myvote.wi.gov I recently helped a member get an absentee ballot. The information on this website was very helpful.

MEMBERSHIP

by Charlene Cobb, Membership Chairman
ckcand2k9@yahoo.com; 262-348-6547

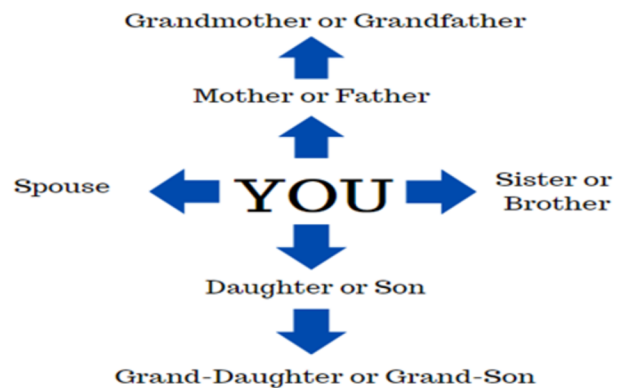


As our National Membership Chair, Linda Roloff states: "If we adapt to changing circumstances and recognize that sometimes the terrain changes, we become more effective. The way we see things has a direct impact on how we approach things." She asks us to simplify our eligibility view - her example, (Picture a flight attendant giving her exit doors speech...)

Who's service makes you eligible?

When it comes to recruiting family:

- Two-Up - Parents and Grandparents
- Two-Down - Kids and Grandchildren
- Spouse to the left
- Siblings to the right



Wisconsin now sits at over 92%. We are first in the Big Ten, but we have a way to go to reach 100%.

Keep sharing your ask and the QR Code.



NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

by Deanna Carothers, Chairman
600 Madison Ave., Fort Atkinson WI 53538, phone: 920-728-1176
e-mail: dhaugen53538@gmail.com



Wow, it's November already! By now, all submissions to Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy should be turned in at all the Posts. Be sure to keep in contact with the chairperson on the Post side to see if they need help with judging/scoring of the essays or help with coordinating recognition events. This should all be a team effort and working together we can get our best entries forwarded to the state level and hopefully get one awesome entry submitted to the National level! Let's Go Wisconsin 😊.

Don't forget the Continuing Education scholarship which is open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member at least 1 year), their spouse, their son or their daughter. Entrants must be at least 21 years old and must submit an essay of 300 words or less. This essay and entry application is due in to National Headquarters by Feb. 15th, 2025. An award of \$1,250 will be awarded to one applicant in each of the 4 national conferences. The application and essay can be mailed or e-mailed. Link to application: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education>

Hope you all get out to vote in the election and afterward enjoy the rest of your November! Give thanks and enjoy time with your families this Thanksgiving!



Journey to 100 Years

November 2024 Question



Who was chosen to help with many Auxiliary installations at Department Conventions and had also received National Awards?

Send your answer NOT LATER THAN November 30th.

To: Rita Byers at rabyers66@gmail.com 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 the fall, if held. Otherwise at the 2025 Mid-Winter meetings.

The 100th Anniversary Committee

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

by Patty Jansky, Chairperson
pajansky@charter.net



ILLUSTRATING AMERICA

As the famous painter Pablo Picasso said, “Every child is an artist.” Let’s give our students a chance to showcase both their patriotism and their artistic talent! Once again, our Youth Activities Program is offering the “Illustrating America” Art Contest for students in grades K-8. Their two-dimensional art will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. **Please remind your parents and students to read the instructions carefully.** There is an updated 2024-25 form on MALTA Member Resources. For example, each student’s name, age and grade level must now be printed on the back of their artwork. Matting requirements are less restrictive (colored mats are now allowed), and size dimensions have changed. Check out the new rules and entry form. These pieces of art are so precious! We don’t want a child’s entry to be disqualified because their artwork or entry form was not completed properly.



Entries are due to your Auxiliary by March 31, 2025. Local first place winners in each grade division must reach me by April 15, 2025. The awards are:

National and Department of Wisconsin Awards

Grades K-2: 1st Place: \$100 / 2nd Place: \$50 / 3rd Place: \$25

Grades 3-5: 1st Place: \$100 / 2nd Place: \$50 / 3rd Place: \$25

Grades 6-8: 1st Place: \$100 / 2nd Place: \$50 / 3rd Place: \$25

Encourage your talented young artists to enter this contest. More info can be found under the Youth Activities Program on our WI Auxiliary website or on the MALTA Member Resources Page.

Go, Wisconsin!

REMINDERS



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin

FALL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Cleary-Krech VFW Post 1707

215 W. Collins St., Portage, WI

Saturday, November 16, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M.

Email to wivfwafaith@outlook.com by November 8th if you will attend.

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Best Western Premier/**NOW: Marriott**

1 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI

~~920-230-1900~~ **NEW Reservation #: 855-987-1317**

Fri. & Sat. February 14-15, 2025