

VFW Auxiliary Department of Virginia

March 2026
Communications # 7

UNITY BRINGS VICTORY

Index

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From Sea to Shining Sea, Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free.
Unity Brings Victory.

President's Message

Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters –

Hope everyone has recovered from the cold and snow! February was quite the month for it. Looking forward to sunshine and the beginning sights of spring.

Please be sure to see the flyer for National President Lois Callahan's visit to Virginia. A lot of fun events planned!

Remember that April is the month to elect Auxiliary officers. Also, with our Department Convention being the end of May, the timeline for electing and submitting Auxiliary, District & Department Delegates has changed. Please reach out to Secretary Jerry with any questions.

The 2026 Podium Book - If you do not have it, I encourage you to obtain one and **READ** it! If you have Bylaws questions, if you are unsure of the Ritual, Elected and Appointed Officer Responsibilities, Floor Work, Special Ceremonies, Meetings in general – you will find these answers and much more.

Usual reminders:

- **District Meeting Attendance:** Auxiliary President or their representative **is required** to attend each of their District Meetings, as well as the District Convention.
(SEC 810A (F)) Please be sure that your District Secretary reports to the OA Chairmen the attendance of each District meeting.
Maggie Myers - Magmyer64@yahoo.com Patty Baskett - pbaskett85@yahoo.com
- **Programs:** Please remember that one of the OA requirements for this year is that each Auxiliary must report in each of the of the following – Americanism, Auxiliary Outreach, Buddy Poppy/National Home, Historian/Media Relations, Hospital, Legislative, membership, President's Special Project, Scholarships, Veterans and Family Support and Youth Activities.

Please continue to report! It's not too late to submit things that may have been overlooked. And remember, some events can be reported in multiple programs. Please reach out to the Department Chairman if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you to those who continue to support our Veterans and this organization with honor and integrity. I ask each of us to reflect on why we are here and the responsibility we accepted when we chose to serve. Our words, decisions, and actions should demonstrate ethical leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the greater good of the organization.

Loyally,

Kelli

By order of:



Kelli Levitt
Department President
VFW Auxiliary, Virginia
itsmekelli@aol.com
(703) 895-8855

Attested:



Gerald Miller
Department Secretary
VFW Auxiliary, Virginia
vfwauxvasecretary@gmail.com
(571) 236-3605

~ No Act Of Kindness, No Matter How Small, Is Ever Wasted ~
aesop

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Tuesday, March 10th



10:30am - Arrival at DCA.

11:30am - Arrival at VFW Post 1503 for welcome luncheon. **(free event)**
14631 Minnieville Rd. Dale City, VA

1:30pm - Depart Post 1503 for a quick stop at Potomac Mills Mall or to the hotel for check in.

6:00pm - Depart hotel for dinner at the **ROSE GAMING RESORT!** 17680 Colonial St. Dumfries, VA

Wednesday, March 11th

9:15am - Depart VFW Post 1503 via **(free)** bus to Quantico Marine Corps Museum.
Please arrive by 9:00, for prompt departure.

11:30am - Lunch at Tun Tavern, located in the museum.
PLEASE bring cash for your lunch, as they will not split checks for a group seating.

1:00pm - Depart MC Museum en route to Black Horse Forge and Loyal Drum for tours.
31 Utah Place # 108 Fredericksburg, VA

4:00pm - Depart Fredericksburg for VFW Post 1503 and return to hotel.

7:00pm - Dinner, DJ and Dancing at VFW Post 1503. **(free dinner)**

Thursday, March 12th

5:00am - Depart hotel for DCA.

IF YOU PLAN TO RIDE ON THE BUS OR HAVE LUNCH AT TUN TAVERN - YOU MUST RSVP TO KARLA BY FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026. CASINO REQUIRES PHOTO ID FOR ENTRY

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Woodbridge
14030 Telegraph Rd. Woodbridge, VA 22192
(703)-576-1600 - website: [Holiday Inn](https://www.holidayinn.com)

We look forward to seeing everyone!!
Hope you will join us to show National President Lois a huge
Virginia welcome and treat her to a great visit!!

Karla Coker
National President's Visit Chairman
(571)221-7350 Kjcoker1503@gmail.com

AMERICANISM



Chairman:
Wandra Early
212 Three Chopt Rd.
Kents Store, VA 23084
wearly1260@gmail.com
(804)833-6746

Pride in the ideals of my country, saluting and pledging allegiance to our flag, showing appreciation of my freedoms and the Constitution that guarantees those freedoms are what Americanism means to me. It also means showing appreciation for those that have fought for this country. I fly my flag and joined the VFW Auxiliary to help our veterans and to ensure that younger generations learn about the sacrifices made for us. I want them to know just what the Constitution says and its guarantees for us all. I want them to take pride in our country, respect our flag, and understand the importance of our freedom.

One way to teach them is to hold events for them on special days and explain why it is special. With that in mind, special days in March are:

March 3 – Star Spangled Banner Day & Naval Reserve Birthday

March 13 – K-9 Veterans Day

March 21 – Rosie the Riveter Day

March 29 – National Vietnam War Veterans Day

March 31 – Deadline for student entries for the Young American

Patriotic Art Contest scholarship, 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art scholarship and the Illustrating America contest

[Americanism Program Awards Awards for Auxiliaries:](#)

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event displaying or educating others about proper ways to display and respect the American Flag.

Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that host the most outstanding activity and/or event. Educating others about proper ways to display and respect the American Flag.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required form to me by March 31, 2026, for judging.

I will sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Americanism Ambassador by April 30, 2026, for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Reminder: Get those Americanism reports in as soon as possible.

For more information, refer to
MALTA Member Resources.





Chairman:
 Beverly Abbott
 130 Brookview Rd.
 Danville, VA 24540-3408
desiabbott@comcast.net
 (434)792-4497

Auxiliary Outreach

Please remember Auxiliary Outreach is about **forming partnerships with other organizations**. You need to be encouraging your members to reach out to these organizations. Get your Auxiliary excited about Auxiliary Outreach. Think outside the box, although your bulletins are great, try and utilize social media as well. A **great example** shared by Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador Sara Manke is Becky Kiefer from the Department of Florida who regularly posts on their Department Facebook page and on TikTok. Becky makes informative videos doing Auxiliary shout outs!

Are you utilizing all the **great resources available on MALTA**? Review the VFW Auxiliary Outreach Guide and share the information with your Auxiliaries.

Is your Auxiliary that are reporting things that don't count? Refer them to the Auxiliary to Post Community Service Report form that can be found on MALTA, under Member Resources, Miscellaneous Resources.

Awards for Auxiliaries: Encourage your Auxiliary to **fill out the award form**.

Most outstanding Auxiliary Outreach activity and/or event that is shared on social media using #AuxiliaryOutreach.

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that shares the most outstanding Auxiliary Outreach activity and/or event using #AuxiliaryOutreach during the current Program Year. Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman **by March 31, 2026**, for judging.

Volunteer opportunities:

- As warmer weather approaches, many organizations will begin to have runs/marathons as fundraisers. These are great opportunities to collaborate with the organization to be volunteers.
- Find an organization hosting a "*Rise Against Hunger*" project that is a fun, high-energy and hands-on meal packaging event that empower volunteers to make a tangible difference in the fight against hunger. You may find in your area organizations hosting events with *U.S. Hunger* (virtual food drives, full cart virtual pantry, and hosting hunger projects) or *Feed My Starving Children* (hosting MobilePack Events).



**Good Deeds Day
April 12**

A global movement of people performing kind, helpful or selfless acts for someone else or the community, without expecting reward, to make a positive difference, big or small, in your daily life.



**National VolunteerWeek
April 19-25**

An annual celebration to recognize and appreciate the significant contributions of volunteers in communities nationwide. Established in 1974 by presidential proclamation, the week highlights the power of volunteers to tackle societal challenges and build stronger communities.



**Global Youth Service Day
April 24**

The world's largest annual event, where young people ages 5-25 participate in community service projects in over 100 countries, to benefit their communities. It's a time to celebrate youth impact, engage in service-learning and advocate for youth voice, with projects ranging from environmental cleanups and food drives to creating hygiene kits, highlighting youth as leaders and changemakers.

May 2, 2026, VFW Day of Service
June 21, 2026, United Way Day of Action

“From the shining lighthouse we want to honor the dead by helping the living.”

Buddy Poppy VFW National Home

Sandra Jeffries, National Ambassador
Pamela Kotz, Department of Virginia Chair

It is hard to believe that it is already March! Despite all the cold and wintry weather, everyone is hard at work promoting the Buddy Poppy and National Home Program. I love seeing your reports that show everything you have been doing!

Don't forget to fill out the National Program Award No. 1 and Award No. 2 entry forms after completing your activities promoting the Buddy Poppy Program and the National Home. The deadline to submit these entry forms to me is March 31st, so get them to me as soon as possible.

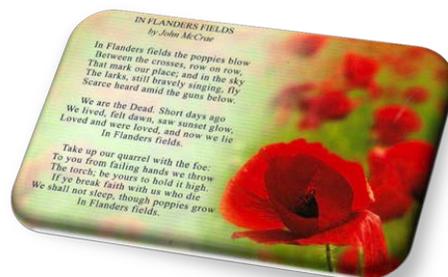
We are currently at 60% reporting in the Buddy Poppy/National Home Reporting. If your auxiliary has not sent me a report on this program, try to send it as soon as you are able. Remember, your auxiliary must report in all programs to receive Outstanding Auxiliary.

The May convention will be here before we know it. If you have not started on your Buddy Poppy Display Contest entry, be sure to get started soon so that it will be ready in time for the convention. I am looking forward to seeing everyone's entries.



Chairman:

Pamela Kotz
8326 Leighburn Dr. Roanoke, VA 24019
pamelakotz067@gmail.com
540-314-2429



"BUDDY"® POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

CATEGORY 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with the label attached.

CATEGORY 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays (Wreaths, memorial tablets, or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

(a) 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.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

CATEGORY 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table center-pieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

(a) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with the label attached.

NOTE: (a) Displays may or may not be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewers or the judges. (b) Post name, number, city, or state (including the shape of your state) may not be visible on the displays. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.



Form more information, visit
MALTA member resources





“Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home

National Program Award No. 1 2025-2026 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most outstanding activity and/or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

The Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador Sandra Jeffries by April 30, 2026 for judging.

Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.



“Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home

National Program Award No. 2 2025-2026 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

2. Most outstanding activity and/or event that creates awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the VFW National Home and promoting it within their Department to help veterans and their families.

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the VFW National Home and promoting it within their Department to help veterans and their families.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that created awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the VFW National Home and promoting it within their Department to help veterans and their families. (e.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

The Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador Sandra Jeffries by April 30, 2026 for judging.

Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION CHAIRMAN CHIEF OF STAFF



Chairman:
Patricia Jurgensen
12781 Chatter Brook Dr
Catharpin, VA.
Email: pjurgy@aol.com



You Can't Stop the Waves
But You Can Learn to Surf

Are we paying attention to Auxiliaries having any
"Yellow Caution Lights" or are in the "Red Light" area?

Below are signs of Auxiliaries that are in the Green Light area, and Auxiliaries who are in the Yellow or Red Light area which can lead an Auxiliary being put on a suspension.

	<p style="text-align: center;">GREEN LIGHT – A HEALTHY AUXILIARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auxiliary holds at least ten (10) business meetings per year between July 1 and June 30th. • Dues are paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1st of the current year. • <i>Approved quarterly audits are conducted by the Trustees and the audits are submitted to the Department Treasurer.</i> • Officers are elected, installed, and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30. • The Offices of President and Treasurer are bonded. • District Dues are paid based on prior year's June 30 membership. • Program reports and required program donations are submitted. • Auxiliary minutes are documented in accordance with the Bylaws. • Treasurer prepares and reads at each meeting a Treasurer's report which shows all receipts and disbursements in <u>each</u> Fund since the last report.
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Just a few "Yellow Caution Lights" of an Unhealthy Auxiliary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change in officers. • Constant vacant elected positions not filled. • Audits not done timely. • Failure to hold regular meetings due to lack of a quorum. • Minutes of Auxiliary meetings not in compliance with the Bylaws. • Treasurer's report not provided or read at the meetings. • No representation at the District Level meetings or Conventions. • No program reports or program donations.
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RED LIGHT – an Auxiliary destined for a suspension. Just a few examples:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fails to hold elections of officers.• Fails to recruit new members.• Declining membership.• Holds only 4-5 monthly meetings a year.• President controls the meeting and rarely entertains new ideas.• Poor communication between officers.• Meeting minutes (if prepared) are not in compliance with the Bylaws.• Treasurer's report (if prepared) is not in compliance with the Bylaws.• Audits contain errors and is primarily conducted by one elected trustee and continuously contains the signatures of pro-tem Trustees.• Audits are prepared by the Treasurer, and the Trustees just sign the audit form.• Never attends a District Meeting or District Convention.
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WHAT DOES "YOU CAN'T STOP THE WAVES BUT YOU CAN LEARN TO SURF" MEAN:

Are you thinking "How in the world does learning to surf relate to the mission of the VFW Auxiliary?"

Well - basically when you learn to surf you will (1) make life-long friendships, (2) become part of a community, (3) it provides the opportunity for your passion to grow, and (4) you will rarely come out of the water without a smile on your face. I think these four reasons reinforce the rewards we gain by serving our Veterans and our community ... and it certainly reinforces the Department President's theme "Unity Brings Victory".

Important Documents to Study:

Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation and the MALTA Member Resources are two (2) of the most valuable tools available to members on all levels to (1) learn about the organization, (2) understand the programs, (3) assume leadership roles, and (4) understand the duties of each officer. Please take time to study these documents.

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION CHAIRMAN CHIEF OF STAFF



Chairman:

Patricia Jurgensen
12781 Chatter Brook Dr
Catharpin, VA.
Email: pjurgy@aol.com



HISTORIAN / MEDIA RELATIONS

VFW Post 392 Auxiliary Facebook Post

Dinah Viner Devins Doyle Admin

Today at Jones & Cabacoy Veterans Care Center, VFW Post and Auxiliary visited with Veterans and their families. Over 400 Valentine cards were done by VFW Post and Auxiliary and Strawbridge Elementary School. Thanks to Strawbridge Elementary School students and their Kindness Club for making over 100 Valentines Days cards for our Veterans. The cards were given to the residents. Each resident was given a goody bag with candy, notepads, American flagpens, ducks, bookmarks and a Buddy Poppy. A long stem fresh rose was given to staff and residents donated by the AARP Cupid Crew program. Fred Jennings, Auxiliary District 2 President made awesome Military branch tissue boxes and coasters. We got to visit with the residents and got to see some of their rooms, it was a true honor. Thank you to everyone who volunteered today, we had a great time!!! The Valentines for Veterans Project is part of the Auxiliarie's Hospital Program, bringing joy to so many Veterans. Thanks also to Kathryn Shear, Jake and staff, your the best!! VFW Post 392 and Auxiliary are the BEST!!!!



This months feature is Post 392 Aux. Thank you for posting on your Facebook page.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I thank all of you for doing a great job reporting.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every time you post on **Facebook**, you can turn in a **report for the Historian/Media Relations Program.**

We are only three months away from the end of our year and there is still time to send in reports.

This year, the requirement is to report in all programs and Historian/Media Relations is one of the easiest to report.

- **Have you been mentioned in the local paper?**

- **Have you posted on Facebook?**

Report! Report! Report!

If you have any questions or need help with your report, please feel free to contact me. I am here to help.



Chairman:

Bettina Lane
285 Deerfield Place
Mineral, Va. 23117
(540)287-1454

presidentauxvfwpost8947@gmail.com



Historian & Media Relations

National Program Awards

2025-2026 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding social media reel highlighting the VFW Auxiliary in action.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the most outstanding social media reel highlighting their VFW Auxiliary in action.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form and the social media reel to the Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

Instructions on how to make a social media reel is in MALTA Member Resources under Historian & Media Relations, Websites & Social Media-Websites, How to Create a Facebook Reel.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the social media reel highlighting the VFW Auxiliary in action.

The Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form along with the Department-winning social media reel to the National Historian & Media Relations Ambassador Kristin DiGiacomo by April 30, 2026 for judging.

Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.

Hospital



Chairman:
Kristi Corbett
10300 Clarendon Ct.
Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Vfwauxiliary3103@gmail.com
(540) 623-0221



Happy March!

I hope all are doing well through the winter snow and ice. As we move into spring, we are coming to the end of our reporting year. Please be sure to send your reports about what your auxiliary has been doing for our veterans. At the Convention this year there will be awards for the top 3 auxiliaries reporting their hospital projects. I have received so many great reports about all that has been done for our veterans in VA Hospitals and non-VA Hospitals. Keep up the good work.

Pictures of Our Auxiliaries in Action



VFW Auxiliary National Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year Award No. 3 2025-2026

No. 3 "Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year" Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Eligibility:

- Volunteer may be any VFW Auxiliary member who serves as a VFW Auxiliary Hospital Volunteer in any medical facility in your Department (VAMC, military, community, children's hospital, nursing home, therapy center or clinic).
- Volunteer must have served from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.
- Volunteer hours at VA and non-VA facilities may be combined for award purposes.
- VAVS Representatives and Deputies are also eligible to be considered as Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year.

Hospital Volunteer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Hospital Volunteer Membership No.: _____

Hospital Volunteer VFW Auxiliary No.: _____ Department of _____

Total number of volunteers recruited: _____ Program Division Number: _____

Number of hours served from July 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026. _____

Total lifetime hours served as a hospital volunteer: _____

Number of VA and non-VA facilities where the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter volunteers. _____

Number of other Hospital Programs has the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter participated in. _____

What are the volunteer assignments? _____

Please attach a separate sheet with detailed information on why this VFW Auxiliary member is an Outstanding Hospital Volunteer.

Auxiliary Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

*Auxiliary Hospital Chairman will forward the completed Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year form to the Department Hospital Chairman by **March 31, 2026**.*

Department Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

*The Department Hospital Chairman will select **ONE** Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year and will forward the completed form to National Hospital Ambassador Kim Copson by **April 30, 2026**.*

Forms sent to National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.

National Hospital Ambassador Kim Copson will select ONE Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the year in each of the 10 Program Divisions to be announced at the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.



VFW Auxiliary National Hospital Volunteer Recruiter Award No. 1 & No. 2 2025-2026

No. 1 "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter" Citation to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital volunteers (VA and non-VA facilities) from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

No. 2 "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" Plaque awarded to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital volunteers (VA and non-VA facilities) from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Plaque to be mailed directly to winner from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Hospital Volunteer Recruiter's Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Hospital Volunteer Recruiter's Membership No.: _____

Hospital Volunteer Recruiter's VFW Auxiliary No.: _____ Department of _____

Total number of volunteers recruited: _____ **Program Division Number:** _____

In case of a tie, please consider the below information.

Number of hours served from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. _____

Total lifetime hours served as a hospital volunteer: _____

Number of VA and non-VA facilities where the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter volunteers. _____

Number of other Hospital Programs has the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter participated in. _____

What are the volunteer assignments? _____

Auxiliary Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

*Auxiliary Hospital Chairman will forward the completed Hospital Volunteer Recruiter form with the most total volunteers recruited to the Department Hospital Chairman by **March 31, 2026.***

Department Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

*The Department Hospital Chairman will forward the completed Hospital Volunteer Recruiter form with the most total volunteers recruited to the National Hospital Ambassador Kim Copson by **April 30, 2026.***

Forms sent to National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.

National Hospital Ambassador Kim Copson will select the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter with the most total volunteers recruited in each of the 10 Program Divisions and one Hospital Volunteer Recruiter in the nation with the most volunteers recruited to be announced at the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Legislative



Chairman:
Elizabeth Wilson
4725 Boxford Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Lizwilson3456@gmailcom
(757) 473-3456

Hello Everyone,

Hope you are staying warm on this cold winter's day. I guess the Ground Hog was right! Six more weeks of bad weather! UGH!!

Friends, I cannot stress enough how important the use of VA Action Corp is for our Veterans. There have been several alerts this past month and I have been able to see progress we are making not only with the Virginia Congress but with our National Congress as well.

One of the many issues facing Virginia's Legislators is the right for the Claim Sharks to be allowed to exploit our Veterans. This is a service that is free to our Vets, so why are we allowing them to continue? It's up to you and me to let our Representatives know that it is an unfair practice that we will not stand for!!!

I am begging you to sign up if you have not. Our Veterans need to be heard! It is so easy. When the alert comes in, you click into in and add your personal info for your Legislators reply. You will get an email letting you know that it has been sent. That's how easy it is and your voice is heard!!

When you get the response, just forward it to me. Make sure in the subject line to tell me what District and Auxiliary. I hear the question, "Can I send it even though I am not the Legislative Chairman for my Auxiliary"? The answer is YES!!

Don't delay. REPORT, REPORT, REPORT!

Please review the Committee Report spreadsheet and if your Auxiliary is not reported please get your report to me ASAP. If you have reported and it is not showing, please reach out to me because for some reason I am still not getting all confirmations from Google Forms.

Thank you for all you do,

Liz Wilson
Legislative Chairman 2025-2026

For more information,
refer to MALTA
member resources





MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Nancy Kearney, Chairman
60 Whirlaway Drive Stafford, VA 22556
Email: nankearney.nk@gmail.com

(702)250-3787

"Unity Brings Victory"



Greetings and Top of the Morning to You!

Can you believe we are already into March? State Convention is right around the corner and that means more Membership Awards! Way to Go Virginia! Our Department is so close to receiving 100% membership. Together we can make this happen. We still need your Membership Reports! Currently we have a handful of Auxiliaries who have not reported. Thank you for your continued hard work with recruiting membership for your auxiliary. Invite, Include, and Invest in our future.

Some helpful Recruiting tips:

- **Invite New Members:** A friend once shared with me the saying: ***"People Buy People, before they buy Products or Services."*** Your kindness and enthusiasm are what attracts others to become an engaged member. Be the friend we all need who is inviting and helpful. Recruiting is not just about numbers it's about being part of a family.
- **Include New and Current Members:** Do you remember when you first joined your Auxiliary? Who brought you in, invited you to events, and made that extra effort to get to know you? These are the little things we can do to welcome others. Members love to feel appreciated.
- **Invest in the Future of our Organization:** Now is a good time to involve new members in taking ownership in the auxiliary they have chosen to be with. Mentor and encourage them to consider taking an Officers position. New people bring fresh new ideas, help keep them engaged. Sharing in the responsibility keeps us growing and improving with success.



This month we recognize:
Auxiliary 1994

Auxiliary 1994 stands alone without a District and yet they are a powerhouse in recruiting new members and achieving over 107%. Your hard work and dedication sets an example to all of us! Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Way to Go Auxiliary 1994!

Thank you to all our auxiliaries sharing your successful recruiting stories/events. Keep the stories coming.

President Special Project



Chairman:

Shema Peppers
8611 Seays Rd Spotsylvania, VA 23551-3433
speppers8312@gmail.com
(540)809-7701

REPORT REPORT REPORT

Let's help our wounded warriors

After a lengthy stay in a medical facility, they are given a reprieve in a beautiful retreat with family and friends at **WILLING WARRIORS**. Nothing to worry about giving them time to recuperate mentally and return to the everyday therapy and relentless worries of their future.

PLEASE DONATE

If you have already donated, thank you. We need to help as many as we can.
Every little bit helps \$\$\$

**SEND DONATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT TREASURER, PUT
THE AUXILIARY # IN MEMO OF CHECK.
SEND REPORT TO THE CHAIRMAN
WITH DONATION INFORMATION.**

Dept. Treasurer:

Cathy Graham
9691 Lindenbrook St.
Fairfax, VA 22031-1132.
cg12dc12@outlook.com

Chairman:

Shema Peppers
8611 Seays Rd Spotsylvania, VA
23551-3433
speppers8312@gmail.com
(540)809-7701

SCHOLARSHIP



**** PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP IS
OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT ****

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

Please remember that the following deadline is approaching fast.

• March 31, 2026, to local VFW Auxiliary

- These 2 categories are open to high school students in grades 9 – 12.
- Students enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home school programs in the United States, its territories, and possessions or dependent of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas school.
- Foreign education student or national winners of previous Young American Patriotic Art Contest are **NOT eligible**.

**The Continuing Education Scholarship has already passed.
Hope we have some entries.**

Note: Please check and make sure that I have all your reports correct if not please let me know. I want to make sure I **do not** miss anyone.



Chairman:
ROSE HARPER
14436 Hupp Road
Timberville, VA 22853
Rose.e.harper09@gmail.com
(540)421-3333



For more information,
refer to MALTA
member resources

VETERAN & FAMILY SUPPORT

Chairman:

Gayle Meadows
5964 Western Run Rd.
Richmond, VA 23231
gmeadows.vfw9808aux@gmail.com
(804)241-4958



For more information, refer to MALTA member resources.



Greetings – This month I would like to re-emphasize one of National Ambassador Annie O'Connor's main focus areas: Veterans & Veteran Spouse Employment.

You may ask how can we support our Veterans & their spouses in their search for employment. You or your Auxiliary can provide assistance by:

- offering to help with resources for their job search, including job fairs
- offer transportation to an interview or job fair
- provide child care while they attend interviews

There are two days in March that recognize our Veterans:

March 25 is National Medal of Honor Day - Since its creation, over 3,500 Medals of Honor have been awarded to the country's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and coastguardsmen. Some ways to Observe Medal of Honor Day are:

- Adopt a Medal of Honor gravesite
- Fly the U.S. flag at your home or business
- Visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- Visit local memorial sites
- Use #MedalOfHonorDay to post on social media.

March 4 is National Hug a G.I. Day. To celebrate, consider these meaningful ways to show appreciation for military personnel:

- Reach out to a service member and offer a heartfelt hug or handshake
- Organize a community event to honor local veterans and active-duty soldiers
- Write thank-you notes expressing gratitude for their service
- Share stories or memories of loved ones who served in the military
- Participate in or support charities that assist military families
- Spread awareness on social media using the hashtag #HugAGI

Remember - We can't know the good work your Auxiliary is performing for our Veterans if you don't send in your reports.

A rising tide lifts all veterans to success!

Youth Activities



OUR DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA VFW AUXILIARY IS HELPING TO TEACH YOUTH THE SKILLS OF TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP. THE YOUTH OF TODAY WILL BECOME THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW. LET'S ENCOURAGE AND EDUCATE THEM BY GETTING THEM INVOLVED IN OUR ORGANIZATION!!! LET'S TEACH THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF HONORING OUR VETERANS!

R.A.P. CARDS RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

We encourage and reward patriotism through R.A.P. If a child is seen thanking a veteran, properly placing their hand on their heart during the Pledge of Allegiance, or involved in some other activity that promotes patriotism, give them a R.A.P. card. It is a fun and unique way to recognize youth for doing an excellent job.

The R.A.P. card template is available for free behind your MALTA login. Go to Member Resources, then Youth Activities and find R.A.P. cards. You can choose to download a single card, a sheet of cards and/or the printable templates in either Word or as a PDF.



YOUTH ACTS OF KINDNESS CERTIFICATES - Kindness Matters!

This is a new incentive introduced this year by our National Youth Activities Ambassador Shannon Stanley. This certificate would go to boys and girls caught in an act of kindness. We can show our youth that their good deeds do not go unnoticed. Reach out to schools or youth group leaders and let them know that you are looking for students who go out of their way to be kind and helpful.



**Illustrating America Deadlines for Entries:
VFW Auxiliary-March 31, Department – April 15, National Headquarters- May 5**

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you. I look forward to working with you this year.



Chairman:
Veneé Alicea
2489 Potomac River Boulevard
Dumfries, VA 22026
veneéalicea@gmail.com
(703)599-3139

**Extra resources
are available at
VFWAUXVA.org**



DISTRICT MEETINGS 2025-2026

<p>District 1 May 16, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 3219 Hampton 122 E. Mellen St. TBD</p>	<p>District 7 May 16, 2026 11:15 a.m. Post 9660, Broadway 100 Veterans Way TBD</p>
<p>District 2 May 9, 2026 9:00 a.m. Post 392, Virginia Beach 3329 S. Battlefield Blvd TBD</p>	<p>District 8 April 25, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 9835, Warrenton 12210 Sperryville Pike TBD</p>
<p>District 3 February 28, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 637 Hopewell 1400 Lynchburg Street PNP Dee Guillory</p>	<p>District 9 May 16, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 4667 Marion 861 Goolsby St. TBD</p>
<p>District 4 May 9, 2026 11:00 a.m. Post 7166, South Hill 1000 Marshall Avenue Dept. Secretary Jerry Miller</p>	<p>District 10 March 14, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road PDP Shema Peppers</p>
<p>District 5 May 16, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 647 Danville 275 VFW Drive TBD</p>	<p>District 11 April 11, 2026 10:00 a.m. Post 632, Harrisonburg 3251 Stuarts Draft Highway TBD</p>
<p>District 6 April 4, 2026 TBD</p>	<p>District 13 February 28, 2026 11:00 a.m. Post 1827 Charlottesville 1170 River Road Dept. Conductor Jamie Stewart</p>



Items of Interest



National President's Visit to Virginia

Our VFW Auxiliary National President, Lois Callahan, will be making her official visit to Virginia on March 10 - 12, 2026. Most of the visit activities will be in the Northern Virginia area. See the enclosed flyer for details

2026 VFW Department of Virginia Convention

May 27 - 31, 2026 Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$99.00 per night. Cutoff Date is April 26, 2026, by 5:00 pm.

VFW Department of Virginia Convention Information

Convention Information will be sent out under separate email so everyone will have all the information they need in one location. This year, the last date you would be able to elect Department Delegates would be April 28th. This would allow for the required 30 days prior to the opening of our Convention on May 28th.

Persons interested in running for State Office

Anyone that will be seeking election at our Department Convention for any of the line offices should send their letter of intent to the Department Secretary so they can be listed in the Convention information.



What is a Cootie?? What is the MOCA? What does the MOCA do? How can I join the MOCA? How can I help out with the MOCA?



Have you asked these questions? Or interested in more information about the MOCA. Please email Grand of Virginia Chief of Staff, Lisa Eck. Email: lisahoraneck@yahoo.com



Thank you for being a valued part of our Auxiliary family. Your support helps us extend care, compassion, and resources to veterans and their families in need.



**VFW Auxiliary
Department of Virginia
vfwauxva.org**