VFWAUXVA.ORG 2025-2026 SEPT

# DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA Veterans of Foreign Wars

Patriotic Holidays & Days to Fly the Flag

Sept 1 - Labor Day

**Sept 10** - World Suicide Prevention Day

**Sept 11** - Patriot Day Honoring the Victims of the Terrorist Attack of Sept 11, 2001

**Sept 17** -Constitution Day & Citizenship Day

**Sept 18** - Air Force Birthday - POW/MIA Recognition Day

**Sept 27** - Gold Star Mother's & Family's Day Honoring Families of Fallen Service Members.

Oct 13 - Navy Birthday

Oct 26 - National Day of the Deployed

#### **QR** Codes

Program QR Codes are used on just about everything. Members can use it as a talking point to explain about the VFW Auxiliary

**Unity Brings Victory** 

#### Auxiliary\_Department of VA

Presidents Message

# Unity Brings Victory.



## Greetings Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters -

As we begin a new year of service and support, let's all remain committed to excellence and transparency. Let's work together to have clear communications, support one another and maintain timely reporting.

The suggestion forms received at our Department SoI were great! I appreciate the feedback and look forward to using as many of your suggestions as possible!

Thank you to each Auxiliary who submitted their Installation Report and paid their Bond on time!

#### **DISTRICT DUES:**

Sec. 506—District Dues

A. Delegates assembled at a District Convention may assess annual dues not to exceed one dollar (\$1.00) the amount per member per Auxiliary that Districts may not exceed when annually assessing their Auxiliaries.

- 1. Based on the June 30 membership of the preceding year.
- 2. Dues cannot be assessed per Auxiliary on a flat rate basis.
- 3. Dues should be remitted to the District Treasurer by September 30 of the current Auxiliary year or as established by the District Standing Rules.

#### **AUXILIARY AUDITS:**

Section 814 – Trustees, Duties of (all levels)

- First Quarter (January, February, March): Audits must be completed by April 30 each year. Once accepted, the audit should be submitted to the Department Treasurer no later than May 31 annually.
- Second Quarter (April, May, June): Audits must be completed by July 31 each year. Both outgoing and incoming Treasurers and Trustees should attend the audit. Once accepted, the audit should be submitted to the Department Treasurer no later than August 31 annually.

#### Auxiliary\_Department of VA

#### Presidents Message Cont.

- Third Quarter (July, August, September): Audits must be completed by October 31 every year. Once accepted, the audit should be submitted to the Department Treasurer no later than November 30 annually.
- Fourth Quarter (October, November, December): Audits must be completed by January 31 each year. Once accepted, the audit should be submitted to the Department Treasurer no later than February 28 annually.

#### 990 Filing:

All 990's must be filed by November 15, 2025.

Timely submission of paid bonds, attendance at district meetings, filing of 990's and approved audits to the Department Treasurer are some of the required components of the Outstanding Auxiliary Requirements

It is recommended that Auxiliary Presidents review the program tracking report to verify that their Auxiliary has received credit for submitted reports. If any discrepancies are identified, please contact the Department Program Chairman.

The Department Officers and I are available to help each Auxiliary thrive. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Attested:

Seedel Miller

Department Secretary

VFW Auxiliary, Virginia

By Order of:

Kelli Levitt

Kelli Seveth

Department President

VFW Auxiliary, Virginia

National President's Theme From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free Department President's Theme
Unity Brings Victory

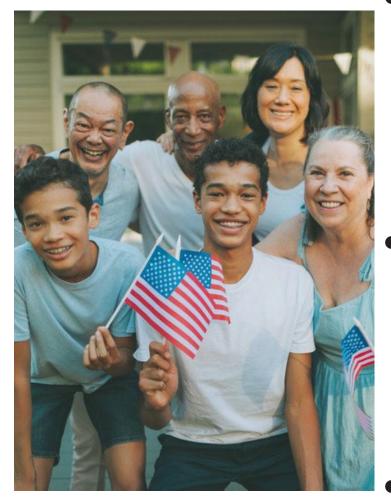
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"We deeply appreciate your membership and commitment. Together, we're making a difference in the lives of veterans and ensuring no one is left behind."



## EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION CHAIRMAN



NATIONAL VFW AUXILIARY REQUIRES FIVE (5) ESSENTIAL THINGS OF AN AUXILIARY IN ORDER TO BE IN "GOOD WORKING ORDER".

#### IMPORTANT TOOLS AVAILABLE IN MALTA

- Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation and MALTA Member Resources are two of the most valuable tools available to members at all levels.
- Please take time to review these two documents in MALTA.



Patricia Jurgensen 12781 Chatter Brook Dr Catharpin, VA. 20143-1032 Email: pjurgy@aol.com Cell: 703-380-3024

The National President's Theme is "From Sea to Shining Sea, Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free." Of course, honoring Veterans is what we do every day as Auxiliary members.

Now, let's think about this theme "You Can't Stop the Waves But You Can Learn to Surf." What does that theme mean to you? Does learning to surf mirror the VFW Auxiliary's mission to our Veterans?Let's review some benefits of learning to surf:

- $\bullet \quad Surfing \, encourages \, teamwork \, and \, communication.$
- Surfing ignites a passion that lasts a lifetime.
- Surfing is an endless opportunity for growth and passion.
- Surfing is more than a sport- it strengthens family honds.

Do these words sound familiar? Now, it's also time to learn how to surf to meet "Unity Brings Victory" which is our Department President's theme for this year.

We can start meeting the above themes by accomplishing the following Five Auxiliary Essentials.

#### FIVE ESSENTIALS OF AN AUXILIARY ARE:

- 1. Auxiliaries shall hold at least ten (10) business meetings per year between July 1 and June 30th. (Bylaws, Sec. 210).
- Dues are paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Bylaws, Sec. 207). (This is a requirement to maintain the Auxiliary's Charter).
- 3. Approved quarterly audits conducted by the Trustees must be submitted to the Department Treasurer. (Bylaws, Sec. 814).
- 4. Officers are elected, installed, and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30. (This action generates the bond application via email from National).
- 5. The Offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31st.

### Treasurer

#### Tips before approving an application

Application problems persist and slow down processing.

- Is your Auxiliary number listed at the top?
- Is the annual or life membership box checked?
- New member information: is it legible and a complete address? I use MALTA and Zip Code look-up to verify.
- Birthdate listed and copy sent to me shows it along with the sex block checked.
- Post-Affiliated Veteran must have the Veterans VFW membership
   ID #. If it is missing it cannot be processed.
- Non-Affiliated Veteran must have the campaign or medals listed, dates of service, and location overseas listed.
- Investigating committee needs at least two signatures, meeting date and accepted block checked.
- Signature of member must be dated.
- If using a credit card, the amount needs to be filled in, the address and credit card information need to be legible. There is a time limit on how long the credit card information is available, 3 months only from the date signed.
- For those wanting credit for recruiting new members, make sure your membership ID # is listed on the form. When entering many at once, having to stop to look up the ID # delays processing.
- There is a new updated form coming out next year. Be on the watch for it.

#### **AMERICANISM**

There are many patriotic symbols for our country, but none represents the United States better than the American Flag. It stands for freedom. Freedom that has been earned by sacrifice. As Auxiliary members, we have a responsibility to educate others about flag etiquette, proudly display the flag, retire worn flags with dignity through public ceremonies and to help others deepen their understanding.

Honoring our flag is a tribute to our nation and to everyone who has served to protect it.

Auxiliaries are encouraged to hold educational events, support community projects that remind us how precious our liberty is, and promote observance of patriotic holidays.

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





### Auxiliary Outreach





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

AUXILIARY OUTREACH - if you are unsure of what to count, follow the arrows! Did your Auxiliary partner with REMEMBER: Monetary or Do NOT Report! a local group or organization? goods donations do not count Yes Was the event approved Did one or more members by your members and Do NOT Report! assist in the event? recorded in the minutes? Yes No Was the Auxiliary member Do NOT Report! already a part of the Do NOT Report! event's organization? No Yes Can the event be reported in Did the member(s) wear another Auxiliary program? Auxiliary attire during the event? No No Do NOT Report! REPORT IT!

Example: Jane, an Auxiliary member, went to donate blood. She noticed how busy the Red Cross volunteers were. She offered to stay to help them, and they accepted. This is not Auxiliary Outreach.

However, while she was there, she asked if they could use help in the future. When Jane went to her monthly meeting, she told her the Auxiliary members about the need for volunteers at the blood drive. Her Auxiliary voted to help at these drives; when there is a blood drive the members of her Auxiliary, wearing Auxiliary attire, help. This is Auxiliary Outreach.

Auxiliary Outreach is a partnership formed by one member, a group of members or an Auxiliary for the benefit of their community or its institutions.

Your Auxiliary should approve and record in the meeting minutes that they want to partner with an outside organization before the event. Attend a City Council or Chamber of Commerce meeting to be aware of upcoming community and civic events in your area. Another source of information is your area newspaper or online community Facebook pages.

A simple way to think about how to do a successful Auxiliary Outreach project is to remember the PAPER.

- Partner: Find an organization that is doing a community event.
- **Approve**: Pass a motion at your Auxiliary meeting to partner with that organization for their success.
- Participate: Assist the other organization with whatever they need.
- **Emblem**: Wear items or apparel that identifies you as a member of the VFW Auxiliary.
- **Report**: Send a report of the event to your Department Chairperson as well as to newspapers and post on social media using #Auxiliaryoutreach.

## **Buddy**"® Poppy Education/Outreach / National Display Contest



We are beginning what I am sure is going to be another momentous year for our Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home programs! Last year was a successful year raising donations for the National Home and I applaud your hard work. The National Home also celebrated its  $100^{\rm th}$  birthday! There was quite a celebration.

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



#### "BUDDY" POPPY

The VFW "Buddy" Poppy display contest at the convention this year was very successful. Thank you to all who participated. It is not to soon to start planning your display for next year.

You can find a video to help promote the program by logging into MALTA, clicking on Member Resources, and clicking the tab on the left that includes "Buddy Poppy". It is of utmost importance to remember that you are not "selling" Poppies but distributing them with the hope of getting donations. If someone chooses to donate, you MUST place contributions into your Relief Fund.



#### VFW NATIONAL HOME

The VFW National Home honors and supports veterans and service members by aiding their families. This year one item we want to focus on is promoting the VFW National Home's Military & Veteran Family Helpline. Another focus is to create awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the National Home. Visit the VFW National Home website to learn more: vfwnationalhome.org

Remember to educate how one can purchase lifetime membership to support the National Home. In addition to the regular lifetime membership, you can upgrade your existing membership or become a new member with the limited time VFW National Home Centennial Membership Program available until December 31, 2025. For more information visit vfwnationalhome.org

Feel free to reach out to me if you need anything. I look forward to seeing what you all can accomplish this year! You are all what makes The Department of Virginia so amazing!

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."

~~ HELEN KELLER

#### **HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS**





Bettina Lane 285 Deerfield Place

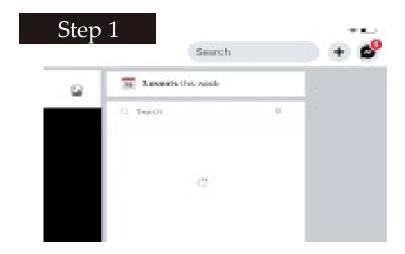
Mineral, Va. 23117 540 287-1454

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our goal this year is to post reels (slides shows) of our posts events. For those that have never posted a reel on Facebook. Below are step by step instructions on how to create a reel.

I encourage you to have fun with it, make it interesting, but please keep in mind to always pay attention to the picture you choose. Facebook and Instagram are great tools to promote our organization, and our posts. I am looking forward to your reports.

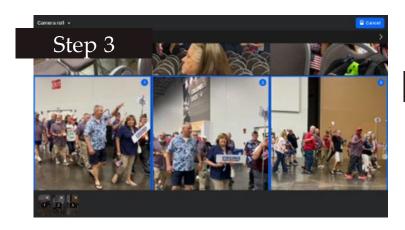
#### HOW TO CREATE A REEL ON FACEBOOK



Click on the plus in the the right upper corner of the screen.



Choose Reel in the drop down menu and click on it.



Here you can search for appropriate background music, if you would like to add music.



Follow instructions and post. Don't forget to cross post on Instagram

## HOSPITAL

## **PROGRAM**



Hello to All Auxiliaries,

Thank you to those auxiliaries who have already begun submitting your reports. As we begin this year, I want to share important information about the National Ambassadors Program and upcoming awards.

Please remember before planning an event at a hospital, please call the hospital's volunteer coordinator to ask about their current guidelines for group activities—this will ensure your plans align with their requirements. If you are considering an event at a VA hospital and need support, reach out to our VAVS representatives at that facility; they can help you navigate procedures and connect you with the right contacts.

Consider involving youth in your auxiliary hospital events! For example, you might invite local scout troops or school clubs to help assemble care packages for veterans, or partner with youth organizations for card-making activities. Involving young people not only gives them valuable volunteer experience, strengthening their sense of responsibility and community service, but also helps veterans feel appreciated and connected to the next generation. You can have members sew or knit items to take and distribute at the hospitals. Here is a link to patterns you can use. Sewing Patterns

Please remember to check next month's communication for details on department awards. If you have questions or need assistance with event planning don't hesitate to contact me. Let's work together to make this year truly impactful for our veterans!

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

The Department Hospital Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry form to the National Hospital Ambassador by April 30, 2026 for judging.

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.



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

#### HOSPITAL PROGRAM AWARDS

#### Awards for Members:

- 1. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- 2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" plaque awarded to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Plaque to be mailed directly to winner from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- 3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital
  Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10
  Program Divisions. Entry form required
  available on MALTA Member Resources.
  Citations to be mailed directly to winners
  from National Headquarters after the 2026
  VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

#### **Awards for Auxiliaries:**

- Most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals(VA and non-VA facilities)
- 2. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities).

## Legislative

Legislative Chairman: Liz Wilson 4725 Boxford Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23456 (757) 473-3456 lizwilson3456@gmail.com



WOW! It's that time of year again! Programs are in full swing, and Legislative is moving right along.

I'm not going to overload you this month but grab a cup of your favorite beverage and let's see what we can do together!

I am so honored to be the 2025 – 2026 Legislative Chairman. This program is so dear to my heart because it allows us to actively fight for our Veterans and Families rights. They need our voice and support.

Even though this is not a National Election year, we will have the opportunity of voting for many of local and State legislators. Remember in all Auxiliary political activities, we must remain neutral, and all participation must be voted on by your Auxiliary.

Use websites for legislative candidates to glean information on support of veterans and options to contact their offices. If you do not know who your current representatives are, reach out to your District Chairman. All Districts were given the Statewide list at the recent School of Instruction; or you can contact me. I will be more than happy to send yours' to you. Once you have their information reach out to them. Most of the time, they will email you back and let you know how they feel. Also pay close attention to those running for election to ensure they have our Veterans and families as a priority.

You can also make sure you are signed up for VFW Action Corps Weekly - a free weekly news email that will keep you up to date on what is happening on Capitol Hill with Veterans, service members and their families' issues. (To sign up obtain a sign-up sheet from national website and submit this form to me. Be sure to have your zip code on the sign-up sheet, it indicates what voting district you are in.)

I look forward to working with each and every one of you this year! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Don't forget....REPORT REPORT REPORT



Until next month, Liz Wilson



## Membership Program

Welcome to our first Communication! Each month we will highlight helpful tools and resources for your Auxiliary to improve with recruiting and retaining membership. Let's share our creative stories/events with each other so that together we can be the beacon of light for others. Send me your success stories and I will share them in our Communications.

## Here are some helpful tips:

·Share your story and you too can be entered into the drawing at Mid-Winter Conference.
Together we can lift each other in unity and bring victory to all auxiliaries.

Partner with your VFW Post Commander to offer joint Membership Drives, events or promotions, and encourage new VFW Post Members to invite their eligible family members to join the Auxiliary. By offering the Auxiliary "wheel of eligibility" to new Post members it opens the opportunity to invite their family into our support system.

'Ensure members stay engaged and valued by maintaining a record of their talents and interests to help fill those volunteer positions needed. (Check VFWAUXVA.org Resource page for the "Membership Interest" Form)

Share your Successful Recruiting Story! This month I would like to recognize Curtis A Smith VFW AUX 1033 District 6 for their creative Membership Drive and the wonderful newspaper article publishing their event. They plan on doing a project to honor the Gold Star Family Wall and Veterans from their area. Way to Go AUX 1033!

#### NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP **AWARDS**

- Recruit 5 Members and receive a "5 Member Pin"
- Recruit 5 Members and enter in a drawing for \$100 Visa Gift Card
- Recruit 20+ Members and receive a "National Membership Achievement Award"
- Recruit 20+ Members and be entered in the "National Membership Achievement Drawing"

**NANCY KEARNEY 60 WHIRLAWAY DR** STAFFORD, VA 22556 NANKEARNEY.NK@GMAIL.COM 702-250-3787



In the event of a tie, a drawing will determine the winner.

Memberships that have expired and rejoined will be counted as New Memberships.

Awards announced at the May 2026 Convention!

#### Department Membership Awards

- \$100 Awarded to Top Recruiter of "New Memberships" for the Dept of Virginia \* (as of 3/31/2026)
- \$200 Awarded to the Auxiliary for the most "New Members" for the Dept of Virginia\*(as of 3/31/26)
- More Awards to be announced in upcoming Communications.... Stay tuned for exciting opportunities!





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



Early communication with the schools is extremely important. It's very important to follow the guidelines when communicating with the schools.

More Information is available on National website under Member resources.

## VFW PATRIOT PEN & VOICE OF DEMOCRACY ESSAY CONTEST

Theme for Both: "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"

This Contest is for students, that are enrolled in either public, parochial schools or are in a home schooled program in the United States, its territories or its possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.

#### YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST 3-DEMENSIONAL PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

- 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.

#### Deadline:

March 31, 2026 to local VFW Auxiliary

#### **PATRIOT'S PEN**

- This is for Grades 6-8
- The essays are to be typed in English and 300 – 400 words in length, within (+ or – 5 words)

Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay

- This is for Grades 9 12
- To submit their original written essay along with a recorded 3 – 5 minutes (+ or - 5 second max) audio essay, should be on a flash drive or other electronic device.

#### Deadline:

 Submitted to local VFW by October 31, 2025

## CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

This Auxiliary scholarship is for members (who have been a member for at least 1 year by the application deadline of February 15) and their immediate family with financial needs.

- The applicant must be at least 21 years of age by February 15, 2026, and answer ALL the questions on the application.
- Submit an essay of at least 300 words or less (describing their goals and how this scholarship will allow them to reach their goals) to National Headquarters by February 15, 2026.
- Scholarships are paid directly to the American College, vocational, technical or trade school of the winner's choice.

## VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

Chairman
Gayle Meadows
5964 Western Run Rd
Richmond VA 23231
gmeadows.vfw9808aux@gmail.com

804-241-4958





#### This year, our main focal points will be:

- VFW-Based Veterans Assistance Programs
- Veterans Mental Health Awareness
- Veterans and Veteran Spouse Employment

This month we will look at VFW-Based Veterans Assistance Programs.

The VFW takes care of veterans regardless of where they may have served. There are many programs, such as Unmet Needs and Military Assistance, designed to help our veterans get back on their feet in times of need. <u>VFW's National Veterans Service (NVS)</u> helps veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve – free of charge. For more information, visit the VFW website at: vfw.org/assistance.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has Veteran Services Officers dedicated to helping our veterans obtain the benefits they deserve after they have sacrificed so much. Service officers assist all veterans, whether they are VFW members or not, in filing claims for: Disability compensation; Rehabilitation and education programs, including GI Bill benefits; Pension and death benefits; Employment and training programs.

Resources available from Virginia Department of Veteran Services can be found by visiting <a href="https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/home">https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/home</a> or can be contacted at:

**Department of Veterans Services** 

101 N. 14th Street Richmond, VA 23219 info@dvs.virginia.go<u>v</u>

Phone: (804) 786-0286 or 844-VDVS-VET or 844-838-7838

Fax: (804) 786-0302

Follow on:

Facebook @VirginiaVeteransServices
X@VaVeteransSvcs
Instagram @virginiaveterans
LinkedIn Virginia Department of Veterans Services





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!



Chairman Veneé Alicea 2489 Potomac River Blvd Dumfries, VA 22026 703-599-3139 veneealicea@gmail.com

# Youth Activities

Youth Groups: The VFW Auxiliary is no stranger to working with and supporting today's many youth groups. This might include sponsoring a school or an after-school program, such as youth sports teams, school clubs, church groups, community service organizations, Boy Scouts, or JROTC. Reading Buddies: Be a "Reading Buddy." The auxiliary could reach out to our children to become better readers. Contact your local school and after-school programs to see if they need volunteers, or you could hold a reading buddy day at your VFW post. Use #auxreadingbuddy to promote what you and your auxiliary are doing.

Patriotism through Literacy: As community leaders, we have a unique opportunity to inspire our youth through the power of books. By introducing them to influential historical figures and teaching them about our nation's history, we can help instill a sense of pride, understanding, and responsibility. Together, we can cultivate a generation that respects the past, learns from it, and carries its lessons forward to build a stronger community for all.

Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citations: National Citations are an excellent way for youth groups to be recognized for their efforts and service projects honoring veteran service members and their families.





Patriotic Youth Award: This award is designed to recognize individual youth for their patriotism and support of veterans, service members and their families. A fillable version is available in MALTA, member resources under Youth Activities.

Illustrating America: The Illustrating America Contest is a great way to get students and their families interested in learning more about what the VFW Auxiliary does for our heroes and communities. See how our youth visualize the world through their paintings and creative drawings. Inspire students' artistic talents by rewarding them for their hard work. Entry forms and details can be found on the MALTA website or the VFW Auxiliary Website.

#### R.A.P. Cards Random Acts of Kindness Awards:

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.

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

## PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT









info@willingwarriors.org













**ABOUT** 

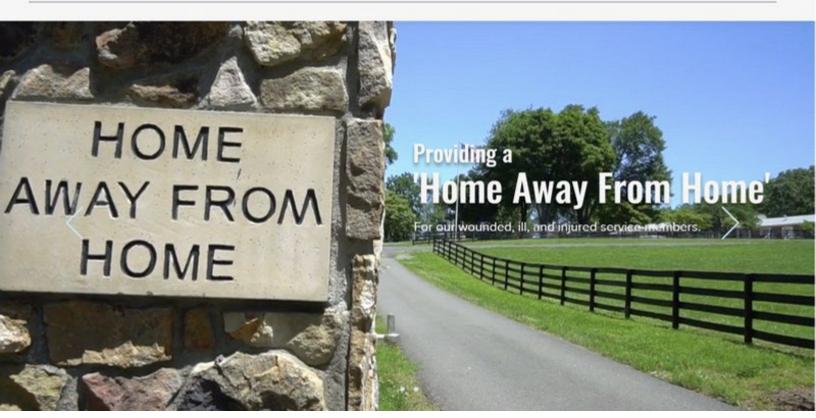
WHAT WE DO

**GET INVOLVED** 

**EVENTS** 

**MEDIA** 

CONTACT



DONATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENT TREASURER, PUT AUXILIARY # IN MEMO OF CHECK.

CATHY GRAHAM 9691 LINDENBROOK ST FAIRFAX, 22031-1132 CG12DC12@OUTLOOK.COM

SEND REPORTS TO: SHEMA PEPPERS 8611 SEAYS RD. SPOTSYLVANIA, VA 22551 540-809-7701 SPEPPERS8312@GMAIL.COM

#### **WAYS & MEANS**



June Convention 2025 was another great success for our Department of Virginia Ways & Means with the silent auction continuing to be the highlight of all our W & M Boutique offerings! The honest feedback and generous donations from VFW and Auxiliary members, Auxiliaries, and Districts have literally given me the "Ways and Means" in which I can present the fun in fundraising for the Department of Virginia Auxiliary. I am happy to be returning for 2025-2026 and look forward to seeing you all throughout our annual events!

#### **Sale & Auction Items**

Dawn Kuhn, Vicki Butler, Kathy Voss, Mary Corkhill, Victoria Thalman, Christine Mason, Nancy White, Kristi Corbett, Cathy Goodall, Cynthia Cortner, Trish Jones, Olivia Elkins, Woody Biggs

Auxiliaries: 1841, 1503, 7589, 1994, 3103, 12202

Districts: 6 & 8

#### **NOTES**

- Veterans, Auxiliary members, and local Virginia crafters!YOU are the Community we want to support! Please contact me directly with referrals to anyone (including yourself) interested in featuring their hand-crafted wares at our Ways & Means table to discuss details and logistics.
- Please bring any donations you may have (see list below) to an upcoming Ways & Means event

#### **WAYS & MEANS EVENTS**

October 11 - Department Commander & President's Homecoming - Dale City, VA

• 3 Fall/Winter "Holiday" themed raffle baskets - no table sales

January 2026 - Winter Council - Harrisonburg, VA

• Table sales and raffles

May 2026 - Convention - Harrisonburg, VA

· Table sales and silent auction

♥!! THANK YOU!! to all our donors and volunteers ♥

#### **W & M Volunteers and Helpers**

- Auxiliary 12202: President Christine Mason, Asst Soloist Victoria Thalman, Dept of VA Conductor Jamie Stewart, Dept of VA PDP Vicki Butler; member Helen Biggs
- VFW Dept of VA Jr Vice Commander Charles Bush

A very special THANK YOU to King George Auxiliary 12202 for use of their "Square" credit card processing system!

#### **DONATIONS WELCOME!**

**WANTED** 

**Gently Used** VFW & Auxiliary Membership Items, new or vintage (Official Look, Hats, Bags, Pins, etc.)

**New or Gently Used** Household décor, ladies and men's accessories or clothing items, pet items,

**New** Vendor surplus or Going-Out-Of-Business items (ex: Thirty One, Princess House, Pampered Chef, etc.)

**New** Silent Auction Basket filler items: snacks, beverages (alcohol or non-alcohol), arts, crafts, collectables, patriotic or military items

Ideas for items YOU might want to see at our table!

#### NOT WANTED

Worn, stained, or visibly used items

Very large, bulky, or heavy items (please contact me for clarifications)

Toiletry liquids or perishable items (ex: Lotion, etc.)

**Anything Expired** 

Danielle Biggs 540-455-0808 drlwfwaux@gmail.com

#### OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY

Maggie Myers

Hope everyone had a wonderful Summer and enjoying this great cooler weather. Back in the swing of things with school, work and man those holidays are coming again fast.

Trying a new approach to transparency and showing everything, we are tracking for the department as real-time as we can. Couple of things to keep in mind:

- Arrival of your reports to Chairman and them logging them on their tracker; then trackers arrival to Patty and Maggie can have a delay, which can mean a delay of a communication month in posting.
- The Membership percentages are dependent on processing of applications being completed properly, payments and posting to Malta (Dept Treasurer can't process until they are completed properly).
- Remember i t is vital to report deceased members in Malta. Percentage you see in Communications is not affected by Deceased members, unless they are annual members that are deceased have not paid the current year's dues.
- Business section: These i tems are reported from several sources; Dept. Treasurer Financial Tracker, Dist. Sec., Dist. Treasurer, Dept. Sec. and Malta. If anyone has any questions about the validity of any of this information, please contact Patty Baskett and Maggie Myers. We will research your question and respond.
- It is important to bear in mind those responsible for sending Patty and Maggie information to email the attendance following the meetings as soon as possible. If we do not receive the information we cannot post, and Auxiliaries get anxious that they are not reported.

There is a legend top right that reminds you what the initials mean:

- W = Waiver granted by Department President
- NR = Not reported, when documentation has arrived
- N/A = Not Attended

#### **OA Requirements**

There was a typo in the book at SOI. It stated "The President, Secretary or Treasurer" must attend the Department or Dist. SOI. This should have read "AND".

We discussed at the June Convention and at SOI in detail the requirement for all three to attend one or the other (or both if they wish). Hand outs were given, which had the correct statement on it, the website copy has the correct statement as well.

We apologize for not catching this error while editing that booklet and any confusion that it may have caused folks. We have been requiring all three positions in attendance at SOI's for several years, so this should be something that we are all used to.

Again, we hope you have a great September, feel free to reach out if you have any questions. We are a team on this project! If all our Auxiliaries are stronger – the Department is stronger, and we serve our Veterans better!

## DISTRICT MEETINGS 2025-2026 (Revised Aug 24)

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#### District 2 SOI

#### District 3

September 6, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 176 Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Department President Kelli Levitt

September 27, 2025 Post 392 Virginia Beach 2408 Bowland Pkwy November 8, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane

#### District 4

#### District 5

#### District 6

November 15, 2025 11:00 a.m. Post 8759 Amelia 16440 Five Forks Road September 20, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 7854 Floyd 186 Epperly Mill Road SW Dept Senior Vice President Kathy Voss January 17, 2026 9:00 a.m. Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Ave. NW

#### District 7

#### District 8

#### District 9

January 17, 2026 11:15 a.m. Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way September 6, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 3103 Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne Street Department CoS Patricia Jurgensen September 20, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 2719 Wytheville 250 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street Department President Kelli Levitt

#### District 10

#### District 11

#### District 13

August 30, 2025 10:00 a.m. Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road PDP Maggie Myers August 30, 2025 9:00 a.m. Post 632 Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Dept. Junior Vice President Susan Dinon November 15, 2025 11:00 a.m. Post 1827 Charlottesville 1170 River Road



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: <a href="mailto:lisahoraneck@yahoo.com">lisahoraneck@yahoo.com</a>.

