



VFW Auxiliary
Department of Virginia
Communication #2
October 2023



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Elanor P. Doczi | Block Advisors with over 33 years’ experience.
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**Experienced with Military returns,
Small Businesses, including Partnerships,
Corporations, Estates and Trusts and
Individual returns.**



Must be read by the Auxiliary Secretary at the first meeting following receipt, then file for reference.

Bond: I am so happy to say that all Auxiliaries have paid their bond before the deadline of August 31st!! **Thank you, everyone!!**

Sec. 801—Eligibility for an Elected Officers: Any member in good standing belonging to an Auxiliary shall be eligible to any office in the Auxiliary, County Council, District, Department, or the National Organization.

Reminders: *if the President, Treasurer or Secretary of your District or Auxiliary is an annual member, their annual dues must be paid no later than December 31, 2023.* As per National if *dues are not paid by the President, Treasurer or Secretary by January 4, 2024, the Department must submit an e-mail or letter on January 5, 2023, requesting the non-paid Officer be relieved of their position.*

To all the Auxiliary members in the Department of Virginia, Please the **CHAIN OF COMMAND** first is your Auxiliary President, if they cannot help you with the issue contact your District President if they do not have the answer, please contact the Department President or a Department Line Officer. Never call National before following this Chain of Command. If it is necessary, the Department will contact them to get guidance/clarity.

STAY INFORMED ABOUT CHANGES: Podium Book Available Now! Good news!! The 2024 Podium Book: Bylaws and Ritual is available **NOW** in **MALTA under Member Resources!** The Bylaws underwent a number of changes this year, perhaps the biggest of which is the change of the bullet system. The large/small bullets have been changed to an alphanumeric system. This was suggested and voted on by delegates at the 2023 National Convention during the discussion of Bylaws and Resolutions. Other voted-upon changes include "Conductress" becoming "Conductor" and the removal of County Councils (decided by the VFW in 2022). **Check it out now!** Note: a hard copy will be available for purchase soon from the VFW Store.

Department Line Officers and I are here to assist your Auxiliary in any way we can. Do not be bashful.....reach out....we are just a phone call away. We are here to help you succeed.

ATTEST:

BY ORDER OF:

Ellen Stogsdill

Ellen Stogsdill
Department Secretary
VFW Auxiliary, Virginia

V. Butler

Vicki Butler
Department President
VFW Auxiliary, Virginia



Department President Vicki's and Department Commander Gary's homecoming

Did you know that President Vicki and Commander Gary are having their homecoming in Hillsville at VFW Post 1115 on October 14, 2023? They are and you need some information to be sure that you do not miss this fun evening to celebrate our department president and commander.

First thing you need to know is **you must sign up** for this event at Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gary-and-vickis-homecoming-chicken-stew-at-vfw-1115-hillsville-va-tickets694387149657?aff=oddtcreator>

You will need to print off a ticket per person from Eventbrite to attend this event.

October 10, 2024 is the last day to register for this event.

The itinerary for this event is as follows:

Dinner will be from 5-7:30pm

Menu

Dept. Commander Gary's famous Chicken Stew w/ crackers

Vegetable soup

Cold cut sandwiches

Desserts

Coffee, tea, and water

Live music starts at 7pm with the Granite City Rollers (Inside event)

Bonfire 8pm with Smores

Cornhole tournament contact Dept. Commander Gary to sign up 276-733-9633

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT

You will need to make hotel reservations on your own. There are no blocks of rooms reserved for this event. Please do not wait to reserve a room. Hotels are filling up fast. Dept. Commander Gary has indicated there is space to dry camp at VFW Post 1115,

If you are interested in this contact Dept. Commander Gary at 276-733-9633.

If you or your auxiliary are interested in giving President Vicki a love gift at this event, please have your check to Dept. Treasurer Cathy Graham by October 10, 2023. If you or your auxiliary have a special gift you would like to present President Vicki, please contact Dawn Kuhn 804-909-5792.

We look forward to seeing you on October 14, 2024, to celebrate our Dept. President and Commander.

Respectfully,
Dawn Kuhn
Homecoming Chairman



Secretary

Sec. 712A—Auxiliary Secretary

- The Auxiliary Secretary shall
- ~~Maintain a roll of deceased members with the date of death.~~ **At National Convention it was voted that the secretary no longer had to maintain a roll of deceased members with date of death.**
- Input or transmit the names of the Delegates and Alternates to Secretaries required to receive them within thirty (30) calendar days of election.
- Immediately following installation, enter the required information into MALTA or submit the installation report to the Department Secretary **within seven (7) calendar days.**

Sec. 717—Conductor Duties of

- The Conductor shall assist the President and perform such duties as the Ritual may prescribe.
- Shall arrange the room and put away paraphernalia at the close of the meeting. **At National Convention it was voted that the conductress will now be known as CONDUCTOR.**

The below resolutions and Bylaw changes voted on at National Convention can be found in Malta, Members Resources and under National Convention. <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources>

2023 Adopted or Defeated Resolutions

VFWA Resolution 1 Treasurer Resolution from Committee 2023 Convention. **ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

VFWA Resolution 2A Dues Increase. **ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

VFWA Resolution 2B Incremental Dues Increase **Not Adopted**

VFWA Resolution 3 Dues Increase DAL. **ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

VFWA Resolution 4 Incorporation. **ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**

2023 Proposed Resolutions & Bylaw Changes

Proposed Bylaw Revisions 2023 Convention

Once 2024 Bylaws are available it is recommended that the President, Secretary, and Treasurer each have a copy of the changes. **At National convention there were changes to the bylaws.** The 2024 Ritual will be available in Malta under Member Resources. <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources> or purchased from the VFW Store.

Change of Officers: When you send me a change in the officers in your District or Auxiliaries, please include the membership number with the name of the member. The membership number is needed to change the installation report in Malta.



Ellen Stogsdill, Department Secretary
6522 Chartwell Drive
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462
757-777-7194 ellenstogsdill@cox.net



Oct 2023

TREASURER

The membership numbers on the Membership and Financial Tracker are pulled from the National website under Reports and the Daily Comprehensive Membership Report which includes an as of midnight date. I am using the Total Number to reflect your actual number of members. For the purposes of the banner, the membership chairman will use the Peak Total number as this includes deaths and transfers.



Remember to contact your membership for dues renewals. Beginning next July 1, 2024, the amount to send for an annual membership will be \$16.00. National voted to raise the per capita dues by \$5.00. The Department voted to raise the per capita dues by \$5.00. **Now is the time for the Auxiliaries to look at their dues and decide if they need to raise them.**

Membership Applications must be checked **for completeness**. Some are coming in with missing birthdates. The application cannot be processed without a birthdate. Also, when paying by credit card for a life member, all of the requested information must be present including the amount to be charged. If it is wrong or missing, the application cannot be processed until the missing information is provided.



Don't forget to file your 990-N with the IRS prior to **November 15, 2023**, or you can lose your non-profit status. If you would like me to file it for you, fill out the request form included in the forms packet available on the Department website. Please include the name and address of the Treasurer as they are the Responsible party. <https://vfwauxva.org/uploads/Documents/2024990form.pdf>



The 2nd Quarter Audit was due by August 31, 2023.



September 30, 2023, is the **deadline** for paying your District Dues. Check with your District Treasurer for the required amount.



I will be sending out renewal notices for the Department in October. **Contact me by October 5th if you do not want to be included in the mass mailing.**



Cathy Graham, Department Treasurer
VFW Auxiliary, Virginia
9691 Lindenbrook St
Fairfax, VA 22031-1132
703-319-0845 cg12dc12@outlook.com

Chaplain's Corner 2023-2024 Chaplains.

Please send reports monthly even if you don't have anything to report. Please send reports by the 5th of the month. WHEN YOU SEND A CHAPLAIN REPORT: Include ALL deceased members, they MUST be entered into Malta. If you need help entering the information, please contact Ellen Stogsdill at ellenstogsdill@cox.net or Cathy Graham at cg12dc12@outlook.com.

I ask that you Please DO NOT include requests for alerts and/or cards on this form! A separate request will ensure timely attention!

There has been a change in the chaplain's alerts and all other programs; due to this change we will only be sending out **the chaplain's alert once a week on Wednesdays**. This is to save on the cost of emails that we send through MailChimp and to make sure we do not go over our limit. Sorry for any delays or inconvenience that this may cause.

ALERTS & CARDS; For anyone other than yourself – please be sure that the person is aware and okay with her or his information being shared with others. Will be sent to any VFW or Auxiliary member, and/or their family members.

CARDS & ALERTS SENT by me THIS PERIOD: Thinking of You: 15, Get-Well: 10, Sympathy: 4, E-Mail Alerts: 1.

WOW I have received lots of reports. Please keep sending your reports in. While I am not an Official Clergy Person – I am a friend and available, should you need me. Please remember those who are ill or struggling.

Ephesians 4:32. "Be Kind & Compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you. Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn.

Respectfully
Jennifer Winn
VFW Auxiliary, Department of Virginia
◆◆◆◆◆ Chaplain◆◆◆◆◆ 2023 - 2024
Jen.vfwa.moca@gmail.com
952 Avatar Dr.
Va. Beach, Va. 23454
(757) 721-0002 (H) - (757) 478-4526 (C)

Americanism

Welcome Fall! I don't know about you all, but I am ready for some cooler temperatures.

This report we will focus on Patriotic Instructor. This is a very important role in the Auxiliary, they are responsible for building our **#AuxTRIBE!**

Patriotic Instructors:

- Embody Auxiliary sister/brotherhood.
- Learn and practice our VFW Auxiliary rituals and traditions.
- TEACH, mentor and model our VFW Auxiliary rituals.
- Wear our gear! Encourage a similarity of dress whether VFW Auxiliary branded or patriotic.
- Display, explain and **properly** wear our Official Uniform when appropriate.
- Encourage our **#AuxTRIBE** mentality...If we are unified in spirit, mission and appearance we will attract new members and veterans who may be feeling displaced.
- Flag Education, visit "vfw.org/community/flag-etiquette" for information.
- Teach Respect for the flag – Engage the Community.
- Promote Patriotism – Celebrate Patriotic Holidays



School is starting: How is that Flag looking?

Now is the time to reach out to your local school, parochial school and even homeschoolers and houses of worship to see if there is a need for their Flag to be replaced! This could be your "in" to bring up the subject of how we might be able

to help them with Flag education or provide them with patriotic materials for instructional use. You know that once those first vital lines of communication are open, the door may stay open for us to get our scholarships and youth contests into the hands of our local youth. The VFW Store has some awesome age-appropriate material for Americanism instruction!

Patriotic Holidays:



Holidays are the ties that bind! Observance of patriotic holidays especially serves to unite people because the ritual and spectacle that are associated with holiday transcend our heritage. It just means **EVERYBODY** likes to "America it up" and **show our pride on holidays!**

- September 29: VFW Birthday
- Third Friday in September is POW/MIA Remembrance Day
- Gold Star Mothers/Family Day is the last Sunday in September
- October 13th – Navy Birthday
- November 10th – 248TH Birthday of the Marine Corps
- November 11th – Veterans Day
- Pearl Harbor Day – December 7th

Karla Coker, Dept. Americanism Chairman
13212 Trails End Ct
Manassas, VA 20112-5504
(571) 221-7350 kjcoker1503@gmail.com





Fall what a wonderful time of the year. As I am writing this, we have 10 Auxiliaries reported in Auxiliary Outreach. **Go Team!** It was great talking to all the Auxiliaries at the Department SOI. If anyone has questions about Outreach do not hesitate to email me at the address below
 Q: Do you know why chicken coops only have two doors?



All volunteer efforts must be voted on and approved by your Auxiliary. If you make a motion to do this in the name of VFW Auxiliary during your meeting and it passes, please do so. Then report it in the Outreach form.

The fall season is the time of year that organizations have fund raisers, bazaars, etc. They may have a pancake supper or chili suppers. It could be rescuing squads or fire departments or a Rotary club. It could be a fund raiser for school clubs or athletic sports groups. It might be a way to raise money for a homeless shelter or women's shelters. There are a great many ways to assist your community through your Auxiliary.

There may be organizations having their projects in your Posts. As long as there is no affiliation to the VFW or Auxiliary, you can show your volunteer activity on the Outreach Program.

If you want to help in a senior center or help with youth groups. You might want to help raise money for a beautification project in your area.

Auxiliary Outreach is donating your blood sweat and tears to an organization outside of your own.

Auxiliary Outreach is not writing checks, collecting items or money for another organization, baking, food preparation...

Whatever you do in community service, turn this into your Post. They can add this to their Community Activities reports.

If you send me one report or send me 100 reports, I will accept them all. Our Department loves to get National Awards. Help us out.

A: Because if they had four, they would be called chicken sedans.

I hope your Auxiliary has a very successful year.



Robert DeChamplain. 2023-2024 Auxiliary Outreach Chairman
 7417 Wildwood Dr
 Norfolk, VA 23518-4415
 (757) 239-4517 amleg327bobd@gmail.com

BUDDY”® POPPY & VFW NATIONAL HOME

What great work you are doing! I have enjoyed reading your reports.

Our National Ambassador, Lisa Jackson has expressed her hope that all auxiliaries will integrate the “**Buddy**”® **Poppy** into all of your events. This could be a fundraising event, decor for any breakfast, lunch or dinner you may host, bingo nights and membership drives. While promoting each and every National Program, you will have another opportunity to incorporate the Buddy”® Poppy. **Remember to report your creative ideas!**

Here are some of Ambassador Jackson’s great ideas to get you started!

- Add a Poppy to a gift to a hospitalized veteran.
- Place it in an envelope as you are sending out your dues reminders.
- Hand a Poppy to your local government official when working on our legislative objectives.
- Invite the local scouts to your Poppy drives, who can resist a cute child?

VFW National Home

Please support National President Carla’s special project, the VFW National Home Welcome Center Renovation Project-

Funds raised will be used to remodel the existing lobby area of the VFW National Home Welcome Center, converting it into a welcoming retail space with updated reception and information area.

Highlights of the renovation include:

- Floors would be replaced with a nonslip surface
- A sidewalk would be added from the administration walkway to ensure ADA compliance.
- Increase retail space and expand items carried for resident convenience, such as milk & bread.
- Postal & parcel operations will be combined for resident & postal worker convenience.

To donate, visit MALTA and select Make a Gift, National President’s Special Project. Checks can be made payable/sent to: VFW National Home, 3573 S Waverly Rd. Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. Reference “Welcome Center Renovation Project” Or visit, vfwnationalhome.org/donate. In comments section type: “Welcome Center Renovation Project”



Kathy L. Voss
klvjwv83@gmail.com
919-264-7839

Extension and Revitalization



We are starting a new Program Year. Let's make sure Auxiliaries get started on the right track. There are many things that a Department Chief of Staff, District Presidents, or District Mentor can look for to help Auxiliaries become a [healthy Auxiliary](#).

We need to **push for each Auxiliary to have ten (10) meetings a year**. I know that in the winter it is hard, but we need to try. If a quorum is not present refer to National Bylaws, Section 210 – Meetings, Regular and Special, 5th bullet: Video conferencing or teleconferencing when used to form a full quorum shall be utilized for extenuating circumstances to meet the required minimal ten meeting dates; or a member vote that needs immediate attention.

Is there good attendance at the Auxiliary meeting? Are you making the meeting productive and short? Follow an agenda to keep the meeting on track. Is the meeting day and time appropriate for members to attend? Send out a survey to see when members would like to have a meeting and what to do for the National Programs.



Are the Officers, Chairman and members having good conversation at their meeting or is it just one person? **Every member has a voice. Please listen to all. If a member comes up with something new, try it! It might be something great this time around.**

The Auxiliary election of Officers has been held. Are the elected Officers the same members who have been there before or is it someone new? You can have your Mentoring for Leadership Chairman mentor the members with new ideas or help the new members understand what the National Auxiliary Bylaws say. **Sometimes you just need a mentor to help the Auxiliaries look at it differently.**

The below could be a **Red Flag**. We need to watch for the little things to help our Auxiliaries, then we can help them grow stronger to **become healthy Auxiliaries**.

District Presidents: Make sure the Auxiliaries in your District required paperwork is received in a timely manner.



Are the Trustees completing the Auxiliary audits on time? If the answer is no, we can send in a team to help with the audits or explain why they are required every three (3) months. District Presidents, check with our Department Treasurer on who is falling behind.

District Presidents: Did your District or the Auxiliaries get their Bonds purchased, Paid District dues by 9/30/2023 and filed the 990N by 11-15-2023? If not, call your Department Treasurer to help contact these Auxiliaries and the District. **Use a team to work with both Auxiliaries and Districts.**

District Presidents: Are the Auxiliary, District Officers' membership dues being paid by December 31? Again, you can ask your Department Treasurer to provide a list for you. Then, working with your Department Membership Chairman, start making phone calls.

Then, we always need to watch membership, new and retention, in the Auxiliaries. Talk with your Membership Chairman to see if you can work together. As a team we can help these Auxiliaries become stronger, healthy Auxiliaries. Membership growth will come with more members involved in our Auxiliary, District and Department.



As **Department Chief of Staff**, I would like to use a team to work with our Districts and Auxiliaries. Do not do the job alone. Department Chairmen are key team members – membership will slide into their Programs. There is always someone to team up with to make your Department, District and Auxiliary stronger. **Would you like to become a team member?**



Georgette Bannon
4036 Georgia Rd
Chesapeake, VA 23321-5312
(757) 715-0202
georgettebannon@gmail.com



HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS

Chairman: Jamie Stewart
5194 Longbow Rd
King George, Va 22485
757-897-5521
Jamie_stewart91@icloud.com

It just takes YOU!



Congratulations to District 8 for being the only district 100% reported and congratulations to Auxiliary 392 for having the most reports!



If the Historian doesn't do their part, our auxiliaries will suffer. We are a NECESSITY! It is up to the Historian to capture special memories and activities through photos & videos. Through media, we allow our Auxiliaries to sell what we are doing at all levels for our Veterans, their families, and our communities.

Social Media

Does your auxiliary have social media? It's a great way to get the word out and show what we are doing!

If your Auxiliary doesn't have a social media account, there are many resources on getting one set up! At department SOI was told by many auxiliaries that they do not have a social media page because they are older and do not know how to set one up or use it. Consider looking at MALTA for resources or asking family members for help. Once it's started it's pretty simple to use!

For those who use social media please keep in mind #SNAP (S.N.A.P.): Stop Now Ask Permission, be aware of what you are photographing and connect with the subject and the emotion (don't be a paparazzi).



Aux 392 delivering collected school supplies to
Strawbridge Elementary School

HOSPITAL

October 2023

- Hello Brothers and Sisters! October is such an exciting month! We will see beautiful weather along with the leaves changing color. Halloween will be celebrated by both adults and kids. Please do not forget to mark your calendar this year for National Noodle Day which is October 6th.



The focus this month is: Community Care:

Please visit: va.gov/community-care. Veterans may be eligible for care through a provider in their local community, depending on their health care needs or circumstances, and if they meet specific eligibility criteria. Even if a veteran is eligible for community care, they generally still have the option to receive care from a VA medical facility. In most cases, veterans must receive approval from VA before receiving care from a community provider to avoid being billed for the care. VA staff members generally make all eligibility determinations for community care. Through the community care system, the veteran can utilize an in-network physician under the following systems or circumstances:

- General Community Care
- Urgent Care
- Emergency Care
- Foreign Medical Care
- Home Health & Hospice Care
- Indian/Tribal Health Services
- In Vitro Fertilization
- State Veterans Homes
- COVID & Flu Shots



The VA Community Care Network is a connection for veterans to access community providers that will assist with timely and high-quality care.

I have received some awesome reports with great pictures, thank you so much!! If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your dedication and hard work for this program.

Dinah Viner Devins Doyle
Hospital Chairman
3449 Crimson Holly Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
757-560-0493
n2runn1@yahoo.com





LEGISLATIVE

Elections will be held on November 7 for General and Special Elections
It is important that you be *INVOLVED* in the *ELECTION PROCESS*.

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

Early Voting begins Friday, Sept. 22

Deadline to Register or Update Registration is October 16

Deadline for a Ballot to be Mailed to you is October 27

- It is important to remember that in all Auxiliary political activities, we *must remain neutral*. You can host a forum for all political candidates, but you cannot endorse any one candidate. If asked to endorse a political candidate, explain that the VFW Auxiliary prohibits such an endorsement. Do not allow your VFW Auxiliary to appear to support or endorse an individual candidate.
- Host or attend town hall meetings. Encourage your members to attend with you and to participate.
- Develop intelligent questions for candidates during election campaigns or during discussion of legislative issues, to address the issues our membership supports.
- The Auxiliary is prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, or contributing to any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office.
- The Auxiliary should conduct voter education activities (including presenting public forums and publishing voter education guides) in a non-partisan manner. Encourage people to participate in the electoral process, such as voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives, would not be prohibited political campaign activity if conducted in a non-partisan manner.

Election information about candidates in your area:

- 2023 General Assembly Candidates: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/candidate-list/2023-november-general-election---ga-candidates/>
- 2023 November General Election and Special Election Local Office Candidates: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/candidate-list/2023-november-general-election---local-candidates/>

Voter information: Be sure to check out your candidate's websites for information for their stance on Veteran's issues. Report those members that work the polls, transport voters to the polls, etc.

- **Virginia law requires all voters to provide either an acceptable form of ID or sign an ID Confirmation Statement at the polls.** <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/in-person-voting/>

Together we can make a difference in the lives of our veterans, active military, and their families.
Let YOUR VOICE BE HEARD regarding important Veteran's issues.

Remember to REPORT TO ME!!!
And remember to include your District and Auxiliary numbers!!!

Loyally, Beverly Abbott



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

Sign up today! Go to <https://votervoice.net/VFW/register> or use the QR code below.

VFW Action Corps



**Sign-up to receive our Weekly E-Newsletter
and Action Alerts:**

- Use camera to scan QR code above
- Text "VFW" to 50457 or visit
- Visit vfw.org/JoinActionCorps



If you scan the QR code and you are **already signed up**, your information will appear.
Just click save and you are done.

MEMBERSHIP



Ask Someone to Join

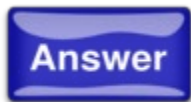
There are numerous places and times to ask someone if they want to join the VFW Auxiliary. Your approach will look different depending on who your audience is. In all cases, the potential member should have some knowledge of what the VFW Auxiliary is and what we do before they ever receive an application.

Important tools:

- Fact Sheet, available for free from National Headquarters.
- Business card with contact information. (Order yours from the VFW Store, vfwstore.org.)
- MALTA Member Resources.



Did your Auxiliary President appoint a five-person membership team, to include the producer (Treasurer), to contact all members during the Program Year for payment of dues?



Sec. 810A—Auxiliary President. [8th Bullett, page 74]

The Auxiliary President shall appoint a committee of not less than five (5) members, including the Treasurer, to contact all members during the year for payment of dues. • It is recommended that they also contact those who have not paid dues for the preceding years.

- **This Committee shall report** on all contacts made and turn any money collected over to the Treasurer as soon as possible,
 - No later than the first meeting following collection.
 - Volunteers may also be used.



There are a ton of Membership resources for everyone to use. Check out MALTA Member Resources. It has everything you need to garner your potential new member. Just log in to MALTA and click on Member Resources, Membership. Everything you need is there for the picking. <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources>

- VFW Auxiliary Applications
- VFW Auxiliary Brochure Order Form
- New Member Engagement Guide
- New Member Orientation Checklist
- New Member Packet
- Retention Tools

Invest By investing in the future of your Auxiliary, you can grow into a successful franchise. With Lights, Camera, Action!, not only are we having fun, but we are also ***Banding Together for Our Veterans using Service Mentorship and Patriotism.***



Georgette Bannon
 4036 Georgia Rd
 Chesapeake, VA 23321-5312
 (757) 715-0202
georgettebannon@gmail.com



Appreciation

WE LOVE OUR MEMBERS!

National Awards for Auxiliaries:

National Awards for Auxiliaries:

1. \$25 to each Auxiliary that reaches 98% Plus in Membership by March 31, 2024*.
2. \$25 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2024*.
3. Lights, Camera, Action! VFW Auxiliary Drawing. Each VFW Auxiliary that reaches 101% Plus by June 30, 2024* will be entered into a onetime drawing to receive \$500.

Congratulations to the following Auxiliaries:

District 2, Auxiliary 392 = 103.11%

District 10, Auxiliary 8469, 100%

District 11, Auxiliary 8644, 100%

District 12, Auxiliary 1994, 100%

just one more

National Awards for Members



National Awards for Members

1. Lights, Camera, Action! pin to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits **five (5) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2024. Lights, Camera, Action! pin will be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters.**
2. National Membership Achievement Award to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2024. NMA Award to be presented at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. If a member is not in attendance, the award to be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters after National Convention.
3. Lights, Camera, Action! VFW Auxiliary Recruiter Drawing. Each VFW Auxiliary National Membership Achievement Award recipient will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$500 Visa Gift Card. (VFW Recruiters are not eligible). Recruiter Award Forms are no longer needed for VFW Auxiliary members. Reports are compiled by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters from information entered in MALTA. VFW members who recruit new VFW Auxiliary members will need to fill out the required VFW members-only form that is available on MALTA Member Resources. Completed form must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA by June 10, 2024.

2024

Congratulations

To the following members for recruiting 5 or more members this year:

13 Members:

District 2, Auxiliary 392

Dinah Doyle

5 Members:

District 2, Auxiliary 4809

Ashley Johnson

5 Members:

District 8, Auxiliary 7589

Ann Mitchell



JUST RECRUIT!



The above data is from Malta as of 9-13-2023.

MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP

A stronger membership on every level of our organization can be accomplished through mentoring.

Mentoring helps broaden leadership skills and leadership provides guidance for mentoring members; they work hand in hand.

Through the mentoring process, extending the hand of friendship to a new member or even a tenured member who has been inactive for a while can create a strong organization!

A positive and organized meeting experience will leave members wanting to come back, especially when good communication and respect for each other is demonstrated.

Every Auxiliary should have resources in place to assist in communicating and motivating members to better understand the Auxiliary and the organization as a whole.

Using the **Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future** document can help you get started in creating a Program for your Auxiliary.

I would like to encourage each auxiliary to embrace the CARE concept.



- C - Catch the member when they first join.
- A - Ask them to participate.
- R - Remember what it felt like to be new.
- E - Engage them in a Program that fits them.



A mentor who can communicate, energize interest and is patient will enrich a member’s experience. The majority of our members have had someone who took an interest in them, was willing to explain meeting proceedings, National Bylaws and Ritual and the National Programs.

Without mentors our Auxiliaries can lose knowledge, traditions and members! How would we then be able to continue our mission to serve the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.

Can you be a MENTOR?



Deborah J. Martin
 539 Westwood Drive
 Ruckersville, VA 22968
Debva0506@gmail.com



2023 - 2024 OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY REQUIREMENTS

FOR REPORTING YEAR: MAY 1, 2023 – APRIL 30, 2024

Chairman: Carol Vangi
 1024 Hullview Ave
 Norfolk, VA 23503-2028
 757-621-5519 cjonesvangi@gmail.com



NATIONAL BY-LAW REQUIREMENTS:

- ✦ Auxiliary installation report must be received by National Headquarters **by June 30, 2023**. This can be entered through MALTA. If you enter through MALTA, please provide the information to the Department Secretary. If unable to do through MALTA, please send to the Department Secretary by **June 15, 2023** for submission. If the installation report is not received by the National Headquarter by **June 30, 2023**, the report must be mailed to the National Headquarters for input. If not received at the National Headquarters by **July 31, 2023**, **the Department MUST submit request for suspension to allow time to mentor and rejuvenate.** Sec 806A Auxiliary. TIP: Do not wait until June. Installation Report can be submitted following the Installation.
- ✦ Auxiliary President and Treasurer must be bonded by **August 31, 2023**. The bond can be paid by the Treasurer through MALTA. If you wish to mail a check, the bond application is available on MALTA. **If not paid by August 31, 2023, the Department they MUST submit for suspension by that date to allow time to mentor and rejuvenate the Auxiliary.** Sec 814-Trustee, page 89 TIP: Do not wait until the last minute. Bond can be paid any time after July 1st.
- ✦ **District dues must be remitted to the District Treasurer by September 30, 2023 as per National Bylaws Section 506. Amount due is based on the Auxiliary membership as of June 30, 2023 at the amount established by the District Standing Rules. Sec 506 District.**
- ✦ If the President, Treasurer or Secretary are an annual member, their annual dues must be paid no later than December 31, 2023. As per National If dues are not paid by the President, Treasurer or Secretary by January 4, 2024, the Department must submit an e-mail or letter on January 5, 2024 requesting the non-paid Officer be relieved of their position. FYI.....Any annual member who does not pay their dues by **December 31, 2023** are no longer a member in good standing. Be sure to check those membership cards at your January meeting.

SECTION 814 TRUSTEES DUTIES, ALL LEVELS: AUXILIARY AUDIT REQUIREMENTS:


Quarter	Month Covered	Audit Completed by	<input type="checkbox"/> Audit must be in the office of the Department Treasurer as follow:
Second	April, May and June	July 31 Annually	August 31 Annually
Third	July, August, September	October 31 Annually	November 30 Annually
Fourth	October, November, December	January 31 Annually	February 28 Annually
First	January, February, March	April 30, Annually	May 31 Annually
Send to Cathy Graham, Department Treasurer 9691 Lindenbrook Street, Fairfax, VA 22031-1132 703-319-0845 cg12dc12@outlook.com			

TRAINING:

✦ Auxiliary President, Secretary and/or Treasurer must attend either the Department School of Instruction OR District School of Instruction either in person or if the School of Instructions are available virtual. In person Schools will be dependent on Covid restrictions established by the Commonwealth of Virginia. FYI - Although the President, Secretary and/or Treasurer are required to attend one of the SOI, the Schools are open to all members.

SECTION 810A ATTENDANCE:

Assure that the **President or their Representative attend all properly called District Convention or Meetings.** **The District Secretary to report to OA Chairman immediately after SOI's and District with a list of names, title, and Auxiliary number of those who attended.** Trustees are encouraged to attend the Department and District School. If meetings are available on a virtual setting, an Auxiliary Member Representative must call in or join virtually staying for the entire meeting to count towards attendance.

<p>MEMBERSHIP:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ 100% PLUS 1 MEMBER based on members paid as of June 30, 2023. Provided all other awards requirements are met, those Auxiliaries that achieve membership goal by April 30, 2024 will receive their award at Convention. ✚ Provided all other Banner requirements are met, those Auxiliaries that achieve membership goal by June 30, 2024 will receive their Banner at their first District meeting of the 2023-2024 year.
<p>MONETARY DONATIONS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✚ VFW National Home for Children – Health and Happiness Fund. Two Choices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ \$0.10 per member based on the Auxiliary membership as of June 30, 2023. \$0.25 or more per member based on the Auxiliary membership as of June 30, 2023. <p>NOTE: If the Auxiliary chooses to donate \$0.25. the Auxiliary will receive a citation from National for their contribution.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✚ NOTE: Payment can be made three ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can be paid through MALTA. Please let the Department Treasurer know the Health and Happiness was paid with amount and date paid. ○ Check mailed to the Department Treasurer, earmarked Health and Happiness, payable to VFW Auxiliary Department of Virginia. ○ Check earmarked Health and Happiness, payable VFW National Auxiliary mailed to VFW National Headquarters ○ Attn Anne Pantelakos, National Secretary/Treasurer. 406 West 10th St. 10th Floor Kansas City, Mo 64111 ○ Please let the Department Treasurer know the Health and Happiness was paid with amount and date paid. <p style="text-align: center;">✚ VA Medical Center Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ \$0.45 per member based on the Auxiliary membership as of June 30, 2023 checked mailed to Department Treasurer earmarked VA Medical Center. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MONETARY DONATIONS MUST BE PAID BY 4-30-2024</u></p>
<p>PROGRAMS</p>	<p>The Auxiliaries are encouraged to promote and report in all programs however the following will be required. As our organization is based on promoting patriotism and supporting Veterans and their families, the following programs must be promoted by all Auxiliaries as a requirement.</p> <p>The Auxiliary must report in the following programs BY 4-30-2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Americanism ✚ Hospital – in addition to the VA Medical Center Fund the Auxiliary will need to report in a least one item under the Hospital Program. ✚ Veterans and Family Support. ✚ AND report in at least <u>one or more</u> of the following programs: <p>Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home; Community Outreach; Historian/Media; Legislative; Membership, Mentoring for Leadership, Scholarship and Youth Activity. By selecting one or more of the above programs this will give your Auxiliary the opportunity to select the program.</p>
<p>*NEW* Membership Bogie</p> 	<p>If your Auxiliary achieves 100% by missing the (+1) in Membership you can still earn the Outstanding Auxiliary designation by participating and reporting in each Program (being 100% Reported in all Programs). All programs are Americanism, Auxiliary Outreach, Buddy Poppy/National Home, Extension/Revitalization, Historian, Hospital/VAVS, Legislative, Membership, Mentoring for Leadership, Presidents Special Project, Scholarship, Veterans and Family Service, and Youth Activities and completing <u>all other Outstanding Auxiliary requirements by April 30, 2024.</u></p>

Donation made to the VFW Veterans and Military Support can be made by check earmarked Veterans and Military/ & mailed to:
 VFW National Headquarters, Attn: Veterans & Military Support
 406 West 34th St, 9th Floor
 Kansas City Mo. 64111

Donation can be made online: Vfw.org/way-to-help. Select Veterans & Military Support. Click “Contribute”
If you donate online, please e-mail the Department Treasurer with the date and amount of the donation.
Please send a copy of the check to VFS Support Chairman.

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT



Protect our Defenders is a nonprofit organization working to end sexual violence, victim retaliation, misogyny, sexual prejudice, and racism in the U.S. military.

Not all scars show,
not all wounds heal.
Sometimes it's just
not visible,
the pain that someone
feels.

Mission: Protect Our Defenders (POD) is the pre-eminent national human rights organization dedicated to ending sexual violence, victim retaliation, misogyny, sexual prejudice, and racism in the military and combating a culture that has allowed it to persist. We honor, support, and give voice to survivors of military sexual violence. We seek reform to ensure all service members are provided a safe and respectful work environment free from misogyny and racism, and have access to a fair, impartially administered system of justice.

Values: The women and men who serve in our Armed Forces should not have to work in an environment where harassment and sexual assault is widespread and victims face retribution for reporting their assaults. Service members deserve a system of justice worthy of the American principles they have dedicated their lives to protect. The prevalence of sexual violence, victim retaliation, misogyny and racism in the military and a culture that has allowed it to persist erode military values of integrity and sacrifice, undermine good order and discipline and exacerbate existing inequalities for women, people of color and LGBTQ service members. Reforming this culture will strengthen our military and promote unit cohesion and morale. Protect Our Defenders has a deep understanding of military process and procedure. We work respectfully and collaboratively, engaging stakeholders who can speak from personal experience about the need for reform, to promote change from outside and from within the military.



Our Work: Protect Our Defenders deploys a multifaceted effort towards reform. Every day, through policy reform, advocacy, public education, and pro bono support, we work to provide those who serve in our military a safe and respectful environment free from harassment and abuse, and to create a justice system that can fairly and effectively adjudicate these crimes. These efforts are directly informed by our work with survivors, their families, and current and former military members, and are grounded in our core values.

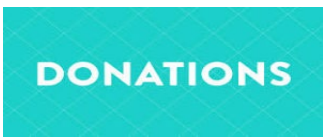
Policy Reform & Legal Advocacy: We engage in a multifaceted effort to change the culture of sexual abuse and harassment, empower victims, and create a fair and impartial system of justice for our service members that is transparent and accountable. We do this through policy advocacy, legal challenges in military courts, reports exposing systemic abuse, and by filing amicus briefs to protect the rights of survivors and enforce their rights.

Legal & Case Assistance: POD's Legal Services Program is the only program in the country providing free legal services specifically for survivors of military sexual assault and sexual harassment, and bystanders and whistleblowers who are suffering retaliation for intervening or reporting sexual assault or harassment. Services often include victim legal representation for the military justice process, protection from retaliation, discharge records corrections, and assistance with obtaining needed health care.

Research & Analysis: Members of Congress, stakeholders, survivors, advocates and the press rely on POD for fact-based analysis. We analyze and translate prevalence reports and research on sexual assault and harassment, synthesize the results into fact sheets, press for collection and disclosure of military data on demographics of and disparities affecting both the victim and the accused, educate the public and press on key findings, and collaborate on major research projects.

Education, Advocacy & Movement Building: POD supports survivors in their efforts to speak with the press, their members of Congress, and at local events across the country. We work with an ever-growing community of survivors, families, and civilian advocates to develop and disseminate calls to action and materials that educate and engage the civilian and military communities about the need for reform.

Media Engagement: POD works with the media to provide expert analysis and break investigative reports. We dive deep into cases to expose misconduct and abuse within the military and push to keep the issue of assault and harassment in the military at the forefront of public debate.



Send donations to Department Treasurer

Cathy Graham

9691 Lindenbrook Street
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-1132



Send reports and a copy of the check to Judy Lupole and Fred Jennings

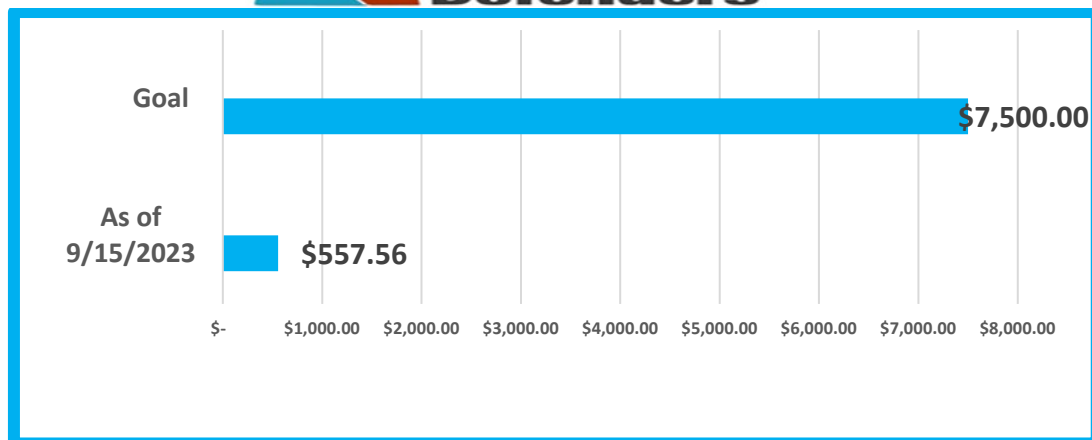
1246 Quarter Way
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23464



Judy Lupole
757-581-2702
luvedale88@verizon.net



Fred Jennings
757-477-5086
fredlyj@verizon.net





Scholarship

Schools are now in session! It is important that you get the information and the forms for our Scholarships to the students and teachers as soon as possible..

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AUDIO-ESSAY CONTEST

The theme for this year is **What Are The Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?** The contest is open to students in grades 9-12 who attend a public, private, or parochial high school or home study programs in the United States. Follow up with your school/teacher contacts during the month of September. Deadline: October 31, 2023

PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST

The theme for this year is **How Are You Inspired by America?** Open to students in grades 6-8 by the **October 31** deadline who are enrolled in public, private, or parochial school or home study program in the United States. Follow up with your Middle School teachers – make sure they have the information needed to have a successful contest. Deadline: October 31, 2023

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST 3-DIMENSIONAL PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

These Contests are open to all patriotic young artists in grades 9-12. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. Deadline: March 31, 2024.

Contact your area ROTC Units, Boy Scout or Girl Scout Troops, local teen groups participating in community-sponsored sports, and Parks and Recreation activity centers. In every community, there are multiple groups where you can promote our programs. Our youth scholarship programs benefit every student in our communities.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Continuing Education Scholarship is open to any Auxiliary member who has been a member for at least a year, their spouse, their son or daughter with financial need. Applicants must be 18 years or older. The Applicant must fill out the application and write a brief essay (no more than 300 words) describing their commitment to their goals and how this scholarship will help them attain those goals. Deadline: February 15, 2024.

Kathy Birch, 2023-2024 Scholarship Chairman
304 E Main St
Berryville, VA 22611-1306
(540) 955-3311 katbirch@comcast.net



Veterans & Family Support

This month the focus is on Veteran & Military Support Programs. The VFW's Veteran & Military Support Programs serve active-duty and recently discharged members of the military. They are:

- **VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"** provides service members and veterans, who are U.S. Citizens, with scholarships of up to \$5,000 to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student load debt. It's another way for the VFW to say "thank you" to those who fought for our freedoms.

Applicants must be retired, honorably discharged, active duty, or a member of the National Guard or Reserve. The applicant must be separated with or currently hold a military rank of E-5 or below and demonstrate a need for financial assistance. The applicant must participate in, be accepted to or currently enrolled in a VA-approved program or school at an accredited post-secondary institution.



Scholarships are limited to one per family per semester.

Applications for the fall semester will be accepted January 1 through April 30; Spring semester will be accepted August 1 through November 15th. Fall semester scholarships will be awarded in August and spring semester scholarships will be awarded in January. Scholarships must be used by the end of the school semester for which the veteran is applying, or they will become null and void. Scholarships are restricted for tuition and fees only and will be paid directly to accredited schools. See <https://vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support> for more information.

- **Student Veteran Support Grant** offers much needed assistance to support specific student veteran events. The grant, administered by the VFW Washington Office, focuses on supporting the overall student veteran population within the community, which consists of many student veterans at campuses across the country that are not affiliated with an SVA chapter. The grants will be disbursed to a VFW Post or Department that has submitted an application, to support the student veterans at the university or college.

<https://vfwprograms.formstack.com/forms/svgrantapplication>

Grant Eligibility: 1. Applicants must be VFW members associated with an appropriate entity of the VFW (VFW Post, District, Department, or National); 2. Appropriate VFW Post, District, Department, or National leadership serve as the convening authority on the grant request and is responsible for receiving funds; 3. Funds must be utilized for events and outreach designed to assist and support veterans currently enrolled in institutions of higher learning; 4. Grants may be awarded up to \$500 to support each event, and grants can be awarded to a VFW entity twice each fiscal year, totaling up to \$1,000.

- **VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship** grants exemplary student veterans (Fellows) the chance to join the VFW legislative team on Capitol Hill during the VFW Legislative Conference



hosted in early spring each year. The Fellows will walk the halls of Congress, educating their legislators on the issues facing today's student veterans and have the opportunity to meet with policymakers from federal agencies responsible for implementing veterans' policy. Online application at <https://vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support/student-fellowship>

- **Unmet Needs** is there to help America's service members who have run into unexpected financial difficulties. The program provides financial aid of up to \$1,500 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant – not a loan – so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, the creditor is paid directly. The financial hardship must be due to one of the following: https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/vfw_unmetneeds
 - Currently on active duty, whose financial hardship is a result of a current deployment, military pay error, or from being discharged for medical reasons.
 - Discharged on or after September 11, 2001, whose financial hardship is a direct result of your military service-connected injuries and/or illnesses.
 - Discharged prior to September 11, 2001, are on a fixed income that must include VA compensation for a service-connected injury/illness and facing an unexpected financial hardship.



Think of the **Military Assistance Program** (MAP) as the VFW's troop support. Since 2005, MAP has helped provide financial assistance to VFW Post and Auxiliaries to sponsor troop send-offs, homecomings and get-togethers. Posts and Auxiliaries participating in Adopt-A-Unit and Family Readiness Groups can also receive assistance. If you're interested in participating in the program, contact the MAP office at map@vfw.org. FAQs on Adopt-A-Unit can be found on <https://vfw.org/community/troop-support>.

10/4 = Coffee with a Cop Day **10/8 = National Hero's Day** **10/28 = First Responder's Day**

Don't forget to send in your reports to Cindypcx2@yahoo.com

Chairman: Cynthia Cortner
11 Halifax Ct., Sterling, VA. 20165
C: (619) 254-0014, cindypcx2@yahoo.com





October

Hello Brothers and Sisters! I hope that everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and getting ready for Halloween and all the ghosts and goblins that will be out.

Here are some important dates to remember.

- October 09, 2023 – Columbus Day/Indigenous People’s Day
- Oct. 13, 2023– Navy Birthday
- Oct. 26, 2023 – National Day of the Deployed
- October 31, 2023 – Halloween

Learn about our Illustrating America art contest for students K-8 and our national anthem singing contest, Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue! on the Malta website under What We Do, Youth Activities and behind MALTA - Member Resources.



Find information about Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art contests and the Continuing Education Scholarship under the Scholarships & Contests tabs on www.vfwauxiliary.org.



- Please remember to recognize Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.) 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 an R.A.P. coin or card. It is a fun and unique way to engage children elementary age and younger!



- Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Please contact me if you need assistance.

Diane Melson
 7832 James Blair Lane
 New Kent, VA 23124
 703-314-3809
 dmelsonvfw9808@aol.com



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Audit for April – June 2023, must be in the office of our department Treasurer by **August 31, 2023**.
- District Dues Paid by 9/30/2023.
- Don't **forget to file your 990-N** with the IRS prior to **November 15, 2023**, or you can lose your non-profit status. Form to send to our department Treasurer is on our website <https://vfwauxva.org/uploads/Documents/2024990form.pdf> and she will file, once the form is received.
- President, Treasurer and Secretary Annual Dues paid by **12-31-2023**.



Mark your calendar!

Department Commander and President Homecoming, 10-14-2023.
Grover King VFW Post 1115, 701 W. Stuart Dr., Hillsville, Virginia 24343.
Information to be in communication and email to all members.

NO ZOOM MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE 2023 -2024 COUNCIL OR CONVENTION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT MEETING. IF YOU ARE ON COUNCIL AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND CONTACT VICKI BUTLER OR ELLEN STOGSDILL

Mark your calendar!

2024 Winter Conference: Thursday, January 11, 2024 - Sunday, January 14, 2024:

Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185, (757) 220-2250

RATE: 1 King Bed or 2 Double Beds: \$89.00 plus tax.

All guestroom rates include a complimentary breakfast buffet in our dining room.

CUTOFF DATE: Reservations by attendees must be received on or before **Monday, December 11, 2023**.

METHOD OF RESERVATIONS: Reservations for the Event must be made by individual attendees directly with the hotel reservations department at (757) 220-2250 by identifying yourself with the Veterans of Foreign Wars - Winter Council Meeting group.

Mark your calendar!

2024 June Convention: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 – June 16, 2024:

Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185, (757) 220-2250. More Information to follow. Information to follow closer to the date.

VFW AUXILIARY, NATIONAL EVENTS

November 1 – 4, 2023 Southern Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma
July 27 – Aug 1, 2024 National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 9 – 14, 2025 National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

Please contact
Department
Secretary about
information for
National Events

VFW AUXILIARY, VIRGINIA

Auxiliaries Reported as of: 9-15-2023

	Americanism	Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children	Auxiliary Outreach Program	Extension & Revitalization	Historian	Hospital	Legislative	Membership	Mentoring for Leadership	President Speacial Project	Scholarships	Veterans and Family Support	Youth Activities
District 1													
176					Reported					Reported			
3219					Reported	Reported							
District 2										Reported			
392	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported
993			Reported										
2582	Reported												
2894													
3160					Reported					Reported			
4411		Reported			Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported				
4809	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported			Reported	Reported
District 3													
622										Reported			
637	Reported				Reported						Reported		
2239					Reported								
4639													
6364													
7167					Reported								
8046													
8529													
9501													
9808	Reported	Reported					Reported	Reported		Reported			Reported
10387													
10654													
10657	Reported											Reported	

VFW AUXILIARY, VIRGINIA

Auxiliaries Reported as of: 9-15-2023

	Americanism	Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children	Auxiliary Outreach Program	Extension & Revitalization	Historian	Hospital	Legislative	Membership	Mentoring for Leadership	President Speacial Project	Scholarships	Veterans and Family Support	Youth Activities
District 4													
7059			Reported										
7166													
8163													
8759						Reported							Reported
9855													
9954	Reported				Reported					Reported			
District 5													
647							Reported			Reported			
7854			Reported				Reported					Reported	
8243										Reported			
District 6													
776													
1033		Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported				Reported	Reported
1264						Reported							
1841		Reported					Reported						
District 7													
621													
2447					Reported								
8613													
9292													
9660											Reported		
9760	Reported	Reported			Reported		Reported	Reported				Reported	Reported
District 8													
3103					Reported								
7589	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported	Reported		Reported	Reported
12202					Reported								

VFW AUXILIARY, VIRGINIA

Auxiliaries Reported as of: 9-15-2023

	Americanism	Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children	Auxiliary Outreach Program	Extension & Revitalization	Historian	Hospital	Legislative	Membership	Mentoring for Leadership	President Speacial Project	Scholarships	Veterans and Family Support	Youth Activities
District 9													
1115			Reported		Reported			Reported					
1184													
4667	Reported												
6000													
7136													
7726													
7969													
9696													
District 10													
609	Reported	Reported				Reported	Reported					Reported	
1177	Reported	Reported	Reported		Reported	Reported	Reported		Reported			Reported	Reported
1503					Reported								
3150							Reported						
7327													
7916													
8469													
9274													
District 11													
632													
3136													
4204													
7814					Reported								
8644							Reported						
District 12													
1994		Reported	Reported				Reported			Reported		Reported	
9600													

VFW AUXILIARY, VIRGINIA

Auxiliaries Reported as of: 9-15-2023

	Americanism	Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children	Auxiliary Outreach Program	Extension & Revitalization	Historian	Hospital	Legislative	Membership	Mentoring for Leadership	President Speacial Project	Scholarships	Veterans and Family Support	Youth Activities
District 13													
1827													
8169					Reported								
8947					Reported								
10574													

The above numbers are reports received by the Department Chairmans as of the 10th of the month

If your Auxiliary has reported and it is not shown, please call the chairman

VFW Auxiliary, Virginia 2023 -2024 Department Chairman

Program	Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Email
Americanism	Karla Coker	13212 Trails End Ct	Manassas	VA	20112-5504	(571) 221-7350	kjcoker1503@gmail.com
Auxiliary Outreach	Robert DeChamplain	7417 Wildwood Dr	Norfolk	VA	23518-4415	(757) 239-4517	rdechamplain1@cox.net
Buddy Poppy - National Home	Kathy Voss	804 Blue Thorn Dr	Apex	NC	27539-9106	(919) 264-7839	klvjwv83@gmail.com
Extension & Revitalization	Georgette Bannon	4036 Georgia Rd	Chesapeake	VA	23321-5312	(757) 715-0202	georgettebannon@gmail.com
Historian - Media Relations	Jamie Stewart	5194 Longbow Rd	King George	VA	22485-3168	(757) 897-5521	jamie_stewart91@icloud.com
Hospital	Dinah Devins Doyle	3449 Crimson Holly Ln	Virginia Beach	VA	23453-2802	(757) 560-0493	n2runn1@yahoo.com
Legislative	Beverly Abbott	130 Brookview Rd	Danville	VA	24540-3408	(434) 792-4497	desiabbot@comcast.net
Membership	Georgette Bannon	4036 Georgia Rd	Chesapeake	VA	23321-5312	(757) 715-0202	georgettebannon@gmail.com
Mentoring for Leadership	Deborah Martin	539 Westwood Drive	Ruckersville	VA	22968-3676	(434) 985-7987	debva0506@gmail.com
Oustanding Auxiliary	Carol Vangi	1024 Hullview Ave	Norfolk	VA	23503-2028	(757) 621- 5519	cjonesvangi@gmail.com
President Special Project "Protect our Defender"	Judy Lupole	1246 Quarter Way	Virginia Beach	VA	23464-8510	(757) 581-2702	luedale88@verizon.net
President Special Project "Protect our Defender"	Fred Jennings	1246 Quarter Way	Virginia Beach	VA	23464-8510	(757) 477-5086	fredlyj@verizon.net
Scholarships	Kathleen Birch	304 E Main St	Berryville	VA	22611-1306	(540) 955-3311	katbirch@comcast.net
Veterans & Family Support	Cynthia Reyes Cortner	11 Halifax Ct	Sterling	VA	20165-5611	(619) 254-0014	cindypcx2@yahoo.com
Youth Activities	Diane Melson	7832 James Blair Ln	New Kent	VA	23124-2992	(703) 314-3809	dmelsonvfw9808@aol.com

VFW Auxiliary
Department of Virginia as of 9-15-2023

Auxiliary	Membership			VA Medical Centers			Health & Happiness	VFW Vet. & Mil. Programs	Pres Special Project	CDR Special Project	X = Audit Received by Department Treasurer			
	6-30-23 Totals	09/15/23	%	AMOUNT OWED	AMOUNT PAID	OTHER		AMT PAID	AMT PAID	Amt Paid	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
District 1														
176	50	37	74.00%	22.50					15.00			x		
3219	225	208	92.44%	101.25	101.25		56.81					x		
District 1	275	245	89.09%	123.75	101.25	0.00	56.81	0.00	15.00	0.00		x		
District 2														
392	514	530	103.11%	231.30	232.00		129.00		100.00			x		
993	68	48	70.59%	30.60								x		
2582	36	31	86.11%	16.20								x		
2894	34	24	70.59%	15.30			25.00					x		
3160	302	269	89.07%	135.90	135.90		75.50		127.56			x		
4411	95	70	73.68%	42.75								x		
4809	295	287	97.29%	132.75	132.75		73.75					x		
District 2	1344	1259	93.68%	604.80	500.65	0.00	303.25	0.00	227.56	0.00		x		
District 3														
622	34	17	50.00%	15.30	15.30		8.50		50.00			x		
637	382	264	69.11%	171.90	171.90							x		
2239	71	44	61.97%	31.95	31.95		17.75					x		
4639	60	28	46.67%	27.00			21.00					x		
6364	170	129	75.88%	76.50	76.50		42.50					x		
7167	52	40	76.92%	23.40			13.00					x		
8046	46	31	67.39%	20.70								x		
8529	72	48	66.67%	32.40	21.15		11.75					x		
9501	56	21	37.50%	25.20								x		
9808	194	156	80.41%	87.30	87.30				100.00			x		
10387	38	12	31.58%	17.10			9.50					x		
10654	33	25	75.76%	14.85	14.85		8.25					x		
10657	31	17	54.84%	13.95	13.95		7.75					x		
District 3	1239	832	67.15%	557.55	432.90	0.00	140.00	0.00	150.00	0.00		x		

VFW Auxiliary
Department of Virginia as of 9-15-2023

Auxiliary	Membership			VA Medical Centers			Health & Happiness	VFW Vet & Mil. Programs	Pres Special Project	CDR Special Project	X = Audit Received by Department Treasurer ** RECEIVED BUT RETURNED			
	6-30-23 Totals	09/15/23	%	AMOUNT OWED	AMOUNT PAID	OTHER		AMT PAID	AMT PAID	Amt Paid	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
District 4														
7059	67	51	76.12%	30.15			16.75					X		
7166	37	36	97.30%	16.65	16.65		9.25				**			
8163	52	37	71.15%	23.40	23.40		13.00				X			
8759	39	13	33.33%	17.55							X			
9855	31	26	83.87%	13.95							X			
9954	121	107	88.43%	54.45	54.45				25.00		X			
District 4	347	270	77.81%	156.15	94.50	0.00	39.00	0.00	25.00	0.00				
District 5														
647	73	40	54.79%	32.85	32.85		18.25	200.00	25.00		X			
7854	24	14	58.33%	10.80							X			
8243	29	13	44.83%	13.05	13.05		7.25	25.00	25.00		X			
District 5	126	67	53.17%	56.70	45.90	0.00	25.50	225.00	50.00	0.00				
District 6														
776	19	6	31.58%	8.55	10.00		10.00				X			
1033	50	27	54.00%	22.50	22.50		12.50				X			
1264	79	76	96.20%	35.55			19.75				X			
1841	23	21	91.30%	10.35	5.75		5.75				X			
District 6	171	130	76.02%	76.95	38.25	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	X			
District 7														
621	104	36	34.62%	46.80	46.80		26.00				X			
2447	488	309	63.32%	219.60							X			
8613	102	58	56.86%	45.90	46.35		25.75				X			
9292	13	2	15.38%	5.85			3.50				X			
9660	39	24	61.54%	17.55	17.55		10.00				X			
9760	393	272	69.21%	176.85	176.85		98.25		25.00		X			
District 7	1139	701	61.55%	512.55	287.55	0.00	163.50	0.00	25.00	0.00	X			
District 8														
3103	175	129	73.71%	78.75	78.75		43.75				X			
7589	102	93	91.18%	45.90	45.90		25.50		50.00		X			
12202	46	35	76.09%	20.70							X			
District 8	323	257	79.57%	145.35	124.65	0.00	69.25	0.00	50.00	0.00	X			

VFW Auxiliary
Department of Virginia as of 9-15-2023

Auxiliary	Membership			VA Medical Centers			Health & Happiness	VFW Vet & Mil. Programs	Pres Special Project	CDR Special Project	X = Audit Received by Department Treasurer ** RECEIVED BUT RETURNED			
	6-30-23 Totals	09/15/23	%	AMOUNT OWED	AMOUNT PAID	OTHER		AMT PAID	AMT PAID	Amt Paid	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
District 9														
1115	206	189	91.75%	92.70	92.70		20.60					x		
1184	31	21	67.74%	13.95								x		
4667	119	94	78.99%	53.55	53.55		29.75					x		
6000	45	18	40.00%	20.25								x		
7136	21	14	66.67%	9.45										
7726	100	88	88.00%	45.00			25.00					x		
7969	32	18	56.25%	14.40								x		
9696	62	41	66.13%	27.90								x		
District 9	616	483	78.41%	277.20	146.25	0.00	75.35	0.00	0.00	0.00				
District 10									15.00					
609	43	39	90.70%	19.35	19.35		10.75					x		
1177	43	34	79.07%	19.35	19.35		10.75					x		
1503	1047	979	93.51%	471.15	471.15		261.75	500.00				x		
3150	168	152	90.48%	75.60	75.60		42.00					x		
7327	149	133	89.26%	67.05								x		
7916	225	200	88.89%	101.25								x		
8469	42	41	97.62%	18.90								x		
9274	30	20	66.67%	13.50								x		
District 10	1747	1598	91.47%	786.15	585.45	0.00	325.25	500.00	15.00	0.00		x		
District 11														
632	181	121	66.85%	81.45								x		
3136	15	11	73.33%	6.75								x		
4204	23	0	0.00%	10.35								x		
7814	26	20	76.92%	11.70								x		
8644	60	60	100.00%	27.00	27.00		15.00					x		
District 11	305	212	69.51%	137.25	27.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		x		
District 12														
1994	40	40	100.00%	18.00	18.00		10.00	25.00				x		
9600	47	18	38.30%	21.15								x		
District 12	87	58	66.67%	39.15	18.00	0.00	10.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	x			

VFW Auxiliary

VFW Auxiliary														
Auxiliary	Membership			VA Medical Centers			HEALTH & HAPPINESS	VFW Veterans & Military Support	Pres Special Project	CDR Special Project	X = Audit Received by Department Treasurer			
	6-30-23 Totals	9/15/2023 Totals	%	AMOUNT OWED	AMOUNT PAID	OTHER		AMT PAID	AMT PAID	AMT PAID	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
District 13														
1827	202	111	54.95%	90.90	90.90		50.50					X		
8169	35	27	77.14%	15.75	15.30		8.25					X		
8947	82	65	79.27%	36.90								X		
10574	167	93	55.69%	75.15								X		
District 13	486	296	60.91%	218.70	106.20	0.00	58.75	0.00	0.00	0.00		X		
Members at Large	730	639	87.53%											
Total - VIRGINIA														
District Percentages														
District	6-30-23 Totals	9/15/2023 Totals	%	Percentage Order										
1	275	245	89.09%	District	6-30-23 Totals	9/15/2023 Totals	%							
2	1344	1259	93.68%	2	1344	1259	93.68%							
3	1239	832	67.15%	10	1746	1598	91.52%							
4	347	270	77.81%	1	275	245	89.09%							
5	126	67	53.17%	8	323	257	79.57%							
6	171	130	76.02%	9	616	483	78.41%							
7	1139	701	61.55%	4	347	270	77.81%							
8	323	257	79.57%	6	171	130	76.02%							
9	616	483	78.41%	11	305	212	69.51%							
10	1747	1598	91.47%	9	616	483	78.41%							
11	305	212	69.51%	3	1239	832	67.15%							
12	87	58	66.67%	12	87	58	66.67%							
13	486	296	60.91%	7	1139	701	61.55%							
				13	486	296	60.91%							
				5	126	67	53.17%							
Members At Large	730	639	87.53%											
Department's Total	8,935	7,047	78.87%											



Americanism

Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

- Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters.”
 - Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters.” Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters.” Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

**Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department
Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2024**

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters.” (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Americanism Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Americanism Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Americanism Ambassador Linda Roloff for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Americanism Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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



Auxiliary Outreach

Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding community partnership with another organization.

- **Citation** to every Auxiliary that partners with another organization within their community. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding community partnership with another organization. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event at which the Auxiliary partnered with another organization within their community. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador Sandra Pinsonault for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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



“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Award for Auxiliaries No. 2

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

2. Most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their community and/or other Veterans Service Organizations about the VFW National Home.

- **Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community and/or other Service Organizations about the VFW National Home. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their community and/or other Service Organizations about the VFW National Home. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the hosted activity and/or event that educated their community and/or other Service Organizations about the VFW National Home. Please attach any additional information. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Chairman: _____ Date: _____

(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department-winning entry form to National “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador Lisa Jackson for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Chairman is to email National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBER INFORMATION

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss		Name:	
Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Date of birth:	*Email:	*Mobile Phone:	

Membership Type:

- Associate *(not a member of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary)*
 Life Member *(must be a member in good standing of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary or a unit of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. Complete affiliation information below. If no Post or Auxiliary number is provided, an Associate Membership will be issued.)*

VFW & VFW AUXILIARY INFORMATION

(Required if a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member)

- I am a member of VFW Post _____ in the Department of _____ VFW
 I am a member of VFW Auxiliary _____ in the Department of VFW Auxiliary _____

RECRUITER (Not required)

Recruiter name: _____ Recruiter Post or Auxiliary number: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Apply online at: www.vfwnationalhome.org/membership	One-time membership fee \$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed and made payable to VFW National Home <input type="checkbox"/> Charge my <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express	
Name on card:	Card number:
Signature:	Expiration date:

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A LIFE MEMBER

BEING A LIFE MEMBER or an Associate Life Member of the VFW National Home is one way you can create a bond between yourself and the mission of the National Home. Your support and encouragement honor our veterans and today's military by helping their children and families in times of need. Life Members in good standing with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary may vote for trustees representing their National Home District and proposed Bylaw or Articles of Incorporation changes.



Scan to buy your membership now!

*These fields are required for electronic voting.



Extension & Revitalization

Member Award No. 1

Nomination Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one member in each of the four (4) Conferences who assisted the Department Chief of Staff in nurturing/strengthening a struggling Auxiliary and utilized *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* in their efforts. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. \$25 VFW Store gift certificate will be mailed directly to the winning member after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Nominee's Name: _____

Department of: _____ Auxiliary No.: _____

Nominee's Member ID No.: _____

Nominee's Phone No.: _____

Nominee's Email Address: _____

Describe how the nominee assisted the Department Chief of Staff in nurturing/strengthening a struggling Auxiliary and utilized *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* in their efforts. Please attach any additional information. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Chief of Staff: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Chief of Staff is to complete and submit the nomination form to VFW Auxiliary National Chief of Staff Penny Hurt for judging.

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



Historian & Media Relations Award for Auxiliaries No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding video interview with a VFW Auxiliary legacy (longtime active) member.

- **Citation** to every Auxiliary that submits a 3-5 minute video interview with a legacy VFW Auxiliary member. Auxiliaries must send the entry form and the 3-5 minute video interview to their Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2024 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding 3-5 minute video interview with a legacy VFW Auxiliary member. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form and video to their Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the VFW Auxiliary legacy member interviewed.

Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman: _____

Date: _____ (signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department-winning entry form and video to National Historian & Media Relations Ambassador Diana Morris for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman must **email** National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form and video. (National does not need video's)

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



Hospital Award for Auxiliaries No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event that recognizes veterans on non-traditional holidays.
 - **Citation** to every to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that recognizes veterans on non-traditional holidays. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event recognizing veterans on non-traditional holidays. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the outstanding activity and/or event recognizing veterans on non-traditional holidays. Please attach any additional information. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Hospital Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Hospital Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department-winning entry form to National Hospital Ambassador Della Steege for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Hospital Chairman is to **email** National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



VFW Auxiliary National Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year nomination form 2023-2024

Hospital Award No. 3 for VFW Auxiliary Members

No. 3 "Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year" Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the ten (10) Program Divisions. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

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 serve from July 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.
- 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 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: _____

How long has the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter been a hospital volunteer? _____

Total lifetime hours served as a hospital volunteer: _____

Number of hours served from July 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024. _____

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

What are the volunteer assignments? _____

What other Hospital programs has the Hospital Volunteer Recruiter participated in? _____

Auxiliary Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

Please attach a separate sheet with detailed information on why this VFW Auxiliary Member is an Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year.

Auxiliary Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

Forward nomination forms to your Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Department Hospital Chairman signature: _____ Date: _____

The Department Hospital Chairman will select ONE Outstanding Hospital Volunteer and forward it to the National Hospital Ambassador Mary Spindler by April 30, 2023.

The National Hospital Ambassador Della Steege will select **ONE** Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year for each of the ten (10) Program Divisions to be recognized.



Legislative Award for Auxiliaries No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

- Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community on veteran Legislative issues.
 - Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community on veteran Legislative issues. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community on Legislative issues. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the Auxiliary hosted activity and/or event that educated their community on veteran Legislative issues. Please attach any additional information. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Legislative Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Legislative Chairman must sign and send the completed Department-winning Auxiliary entry form to National Legislative Ambassador Sherry Howland for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Legislative Chairman must email VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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



This form is for
VFW Members only
for recruiting members to the VFW Auxiliary 2023-2024

1. Lights, Camera, Action Pin to each Veterans of Foreign Wars member who recruits five (5) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024*. Due to VFW Auxiliary Department Treasurer by June 10, 2024. Pin will be mailed directly to the VFW member from National Headquarters.
2. National Membership Achievement Award to each Veterans of Foreign Wars member who recruits twenty (20) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023 May 31, 2024*. Due to VFW Auxiliary Department Treasurer by June 10, 2024. Award will be mailed directly to the VFW Recruiter from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.

VFW Recruiter's Name: _____ VFW Post Number: _____

VFW Recruiter's Address: _____
Street Address City State ZIP Code

VFW Recruiter's Membership Number: _____ VFW Recruiter's email: _____

Number	Date*	New Auxiliary Member Name	Auxiliary Membership Number	Auxiliary Number
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Completed form must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by June 10th, 2024.

Email to info@vfwauxiliary.org

or mail to

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City MO 64111

ATTN: Program Awards Administrator

National President's Theme: "Banding Together for Our Veterans"



Mentoring for Leadership

Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most unique activity and/or event that educates their Auxiliary members about how to find and train mentees while using and promoting VFW Auxiliary resources and learning material
 - **Citation** to every Auxiliary that has an activity and/or event that educates their Auxiliary members about how to find and train mentees. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that has the most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their Auxiliary members about how to find and train mentees. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their Auxiliary members about how to find and train mentees. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador Francine Cornish for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman is to **email** National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



Mentoring for Leadership Award for Members No. 1 *Nomination Form 2023-2024*

1. Citation awarded to the first, second and third place VFW Auxiliary member in each Department with the most unique and/or creative way to mentor a member to become a leader.

**Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to the
Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman by March 31, 2024.**

Nominee's Name: _____

Department of: _____ Auxiliary No.: _____

Nominee's Member ID No.: _____

Nominee's Phone No.: _____

Nominee's Email Address: _____

Share why the nominee deserves to receive the Mentoring for Leadership Award.
Describe what the nominee has done to deserve this award. Please attach any additional information. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

April 30, 2024 – Up to three nominations from each Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman are due to the National Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador Francine Cornish by April 30, 2024.

Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

Forms sent to National Headquarters will not be processed.



Scholarships

Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary.
 - **Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
 - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Scholarships Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Scholarships Chairman must sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Scholarships Ambassador Tina Hicks for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Scholarships Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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



2023-2024 VFW Auxiliary National Continuing Education Scholarship Application

The VFW Auxiliary is pleased to present this National Scholarship to assist VFW Auxiliary members and their immediate family who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or a career direction at a vocational/technical school. One (1) scholarship will be awarded each year to a selected candidate in each of the four (4) VFW Auxiliary Conferences.

The \$1,250 scholarship shall be used in the academic year following completion of the contest. The scholarship will be paid directly to the American college/university or vocational/technical school of the awardee's choice.

Eligibility:

- **VFW Auxiliary member** for at least one full year by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- The **spouse, son and/or daughter** of a VFW Auxiliary member that has been a member at least one full year by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- Applicant must be **21** years of age or older by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- Previous National Continuing Education Scholarship winners are not eligible.

Applicant Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

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

Applicant Phone Number: _____ Applicant email: _____

Relationship to VFW Auxiliary Member: **(please circle one)** **Self** **Spouse** **Son** **Daughter**

VFW Auxiliary Member Name: _____ Date VFW Auxiliary Member joined: _____

VFW Auxiliary Member I.D. Number: _____ VFW Auxiliary No.: _____

I hereby grant permission to publish my name and photo in VFW Auxiliary Magazine, on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if named a winner in one of the top national awards. I hereby verifying that the entry was done by the applicant listed above.

Applicant Signature: _____ **AGE:** _____ **Date:** _____

**On a separate piece of paper, provide typed answers each question listed below.
All questions must be answered for the application to be considered.**

1. What is the name of the college/university or vocational/technical school you plan to attend?
2. Have you been accepted?
3. What is your intended major or course of study?
4. What is the Adjusted Gross Income from the family's Federal Income Tax return for the prior year?
5. How many dependents are in the household?
6. What are your financial reasons for applying for the Continuing Education Scholarship?
7. Have you been awarded Financial Aid from any other sources? Please list/specify.
8. Write a brief essay (no more than 300 words*) describing your commitment to your goals and how this scholarship will help you attain these goals. **Essays longer than 300 words will not be accepted.*

Email to:
info@vfwauxiliary.org with the following subject line:
Continuing Education Scholarship Application
OR mail to:
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111
Attn: Program Awards Administration

**Application due to
VFW Auxiliary
National
Headquarters
By February 15**

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

CONTEST ELIGIBILITY

- Students in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home school program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.
- Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or older, GED and adult education students, or National winners of previous (two-dimensional) Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests are NOT eligible.

CONTEST RULES

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Entry must be two-dimensional.
- Entry must be on canvas or heavy paper.
- Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board. Other entries, if matted, must be matted in white. Do not use color mats.
- Reinforce the back with heavy Paper. Mounted and floating mats may also be used, Do not frame art.
- Complete contest entry form and submit with entry.
- Entries may not be smaller than 8" x 10" and not larger than 18" x 24," (not including a mat).
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media may be used.
- Complete typed explanation (artist statement) of art (total of 250 words or less) and submit with entry.
- Parent or guardian signature required on contest entry form.
- If the American Flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, number of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Digital art and photography are NOT accepted.

JUDGING

Entry will be judged on the originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed; content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; design technique; total impact of work.

Those selected to judge the contest on all levels will be teachers, professionals and persons knowledgeable about art.

VFW AUXILIARY DEADLINES

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. (District judging optional.)
- **April 15:** One winner from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary Department (state).
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First- through 12th-place winners displayed at National Convention; all Department winners shown on VFW Auxiliary social media.
- **September:** Art will be returned to address on entry form.

VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships

First place - \$15,000
 Second place - \$7,500
 Third place - \$3,500
 Fourth and Fifth place - \$1,500
 Sixth and Seventh place - \$1,000
 Eighth through Nineteenth place - \$500

Students may enter both two-dimensional and three-dimensional contests in the same Program Year but must complete an entry form for each.

FIND THE ONLINE ENTRY FORM AT
vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships

STUDENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Student entries must be submitted to a sponsoring VFW Auxiliary by March 31.
 Entries submitted directly to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will be disqualified.

SPONSORING VFW AUXILIARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

2-DIMENSIONAL



YOUNG AMERICAN *creative* PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST



Scholarship contests that recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth.
vfwauxiliary.org

3-DIMENSIONAL PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

CONTEST ELIGIBILITY

- Students in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home school program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.
- Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or older, GED and adult education students, or National winners of previous 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contests are NOT eligible.

CONTEST RULES

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Entry must be three-dimensional.
- Art can be paper, papier mâché, pottery, sculpture, fabric, wood, metalwork, etc.
- Entries may not be larger than 18" in any direction.
- Entries may not weigh more than 5 pounds.
- Complete contest entry form and submit with entry.
- Complete typed explanation of the steps taken to create the three-dimensional art entry/artist statement (total of 250 words or less) and submit with entry.
- Parent or guardian signature required on contest entry form.
- If the American Flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, number of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Digital art, photography, three-dimensional laser-printed art, weapons and jewelry are NOT accepted.

JUDGING

Entry will be judged on the originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed; content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; design technique; total impact of work.

Those selected to judge the contest on all levels will be teachers, professionals and persons knowledgeable about art.

VFW AUXILIARY JUDGING AND DEADLINES

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. (District judging optional.)
- **April 15:** One winner from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary Department (state).
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First- through 4th-place winners displayed at National Convention; all Department winners shown on VFW Auxiliary social media.
- **September:** Art will be returned to address on entry form.

VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships

First place - \$2,500
 Second place - \$1,500
 Third place - \$1,000
 Fourth place - \$500

Students may enter both two-dimensional and three-dimensional contests in the same Program Year but must complete an entry form for each.

FIND THE ONLINE ENTRY FORM AT
vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships

STUDENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Student entries must be submitted to a sponsoring VFW Auxiliary by March 31.

Entries submitted directly to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will be disqualified.

SPONSORING VFW AUXILIARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

3-DIMENSIONAL PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST



Scholarship contests that recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth.
vfwauxiliary.org

President's Theme: "Service Mentorship and Patriotism"
 National President's Theme: "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY



2023-2024 Theme

“What are the greatest attributes of our Democracy?”

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023

Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$35,000 Award

What is the Voice of Democracy Program?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 27,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, “**What are the greatest attributes of our Democracy?**”

Why Should I Enter?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington DC, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$171,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$35,000.

The Rules

Who can enter?

The Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9-12 by the Oct. 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are ineligible.

What do I need to enter?

Record your original 3-5 minute (+ or - 5 second max.) audio essay on a flash drive, or other electronic device. You will submit the recording, typed essay and this completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or VFW Post for judging. In addition you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at youthscholarships@vfw.org for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to your name, school, city, state, race, or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership.

President's Theme: “Service Mentorship and Patriotism”
National President's Theme: “Banding Together for Our Veterans”

Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries begin at the VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One winner for every 15 entries from each Post advances to District and one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post, follow these instructions: First, visit this website vfw.org/FindaPost to “Find A VFW Post.” If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look for “Find a State Contact” to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at youthscholarships@vfw.org

What Is the Deadline for My Entry?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, **Oct. 31, 2023**. It is the responsibility of the student to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

What Are the Judging Criteria?

Originality is worth 30 points:

Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

Content is worth 35 points:

Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to another.

Delivery is worth 35 points:

Speak in a clear and credible manner.

2023-2024 Official Entry Form Voice of Democracy Competition

Must Be Completed by All Contestants

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Phone

Email

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

Grade in School

Age

Jacket Size

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and Email (if applicable)

To Be Completed by Student's Parent/Guardian

(Required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

()

Parent/Guardian Daytime Phone

Parent/Guardian Email

Participant Agreement for Students Advancing to National Level

If selected as a first-place state winner, I have the consent of my parent/guardian and school to attend the Voice of Democracy National Finals in Washington, D.C. as a guest of the VFW National Organization. In consideration for permission to participate in the National Voice of Democracy Competition ("Competition") I do hereby, for myself, for my heirs, executors, administrators and assignees, waive, release and discharge all rights and claims which I have or which may hereafter accrue against the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and/or the Departments (state organizations) of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective officers, agents, successors and assigns from any damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my participation in or association with the Competition and/or arising out of any travel related to the Competition. In the event of sickness, accident or injury in connection with the Competition, I consent to and accept the services of a duly licensed medical, surgical or dental specialist selected on my behalf and for such treatments, as they may deem necessary. I understand that VFW will not be liable for such treatment. I further understand that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States retains non-exclusive rights to use my audio file, essay, name and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

I Have Read and Understand the Rules and Participant Agreement

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed audio/essay entry and that I have only entered the competition once yearly if otherwise eligible. I understand that if it is found that I have entered any other Post's competition or used this essay for another VFW competition, I face elimination from the competition and will return any and all prizes or incentives awarded.

Signature of Student Participant

President's Theme: "Service Mentorship and Patriotism"
National President's Theme: "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Voice of Democracy Competition.

Post Commander/Chairperson Signature

Post #

VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature (if applicable)

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of students participating

No. of winners advanced to District

Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$

To Be Completed by the VFW District

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Voice of Democracy Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Departments.

District Chairperson Signature

Dist. #

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Phone

Email

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy Department Competition and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairperson Signature

()

Daytime Phone

Email

The winner has been will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

For assistance contact:
816.968.1155
Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org

Local VFW Post Information:

Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____

Alternate Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____



PATRIOT'S PEN



2023-2024 Theme

“How are you inspired by America?”

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023

Patriotic Written Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$5,000 Award

What is the Patriot's Pen Program?

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 73,000 students who participated last year in this contest.

Why Should I Enter?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, State and national level. Department (State) winners receive a portion of \$55,000 in national awards. National Winners will receive at least \$500. **The first-place national award is currently \$5,000.**

The Internal Revenue Service requires a recipient awarded more than \$599 be given Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable income. This may require the winner to provide their social security number.

How Does the Contest Work?

All entries begin at the VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post.

The contest consists of four levels. The first level (entry) is sponsored by VFW Posts. Post winners advance, one for every 15 entries, to the VFW District (regional) level where the one first-place winner is advanced to the VFW Department (state) level. The first-place winner at the Department level is then advanced into the VFW national competition.

Who Can Enter?

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th-grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31 deadline in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Home-schooled students also are eligible. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. (Foreign exchange students or former winners that placed in the National contest are ineligible.)

How Do I Get Started?

- Ask a teacher or youth group/club adult leader to supervise the Patriot's Pen writing contest.
- Contact a participating VFW Post and indicate your interest in participating.

- Establish a contact person who is a member of that VFW Post or its VFW Auxiliary.
- Make sure that your essay is submitted to the VFW Post before the contest deadline of October 31, 2023. You can submit your essay and entry form by email upon the Post's approval. Entries sent to the VFW National Headquarters directly will be returned.

How Am I Judged?

Knowledge of the theme is worth 30 points:

You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate you have researched the issue extensively.

Theme development is worth 35 points:

Answer all relevant facts about the theme such as the who, what, where, when and why. Relate the theme to your own experiences.

Clarity of ideas is worth 35 points:

Write your essay in an easy-to-understand format. Leave your reader with a clear understanding of your explanation of the theme.

What Is the Theme?

VFW's Commander-in-Chief annually chooses the year's theme. The 2023-2024 theme is:

“How are you inspired by America?”

Deadline Information.

To qualify, all entries must be submitted to a sponsoring VFW Post by midnight October 31, 2023.

Note:

If you need help finding a participating VFW Post, follow these instructions:

First, visit vfw.org/FindaPost to “Find a VFW Post.”

If you don't have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble contacting them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) headquarters office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit vfw.org/contactus to look for “Find a State Contact” to get your VFW state office's phone number and email.

**For assistance contact
the VFW National Headquarters
at 816.968.1155
Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org**

2023-2024 Official Entry Form Patriot's Pen Competition

Must Be Completed by All Contestants

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

() Phone Email

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy) Grade in School Essay Word Count

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and Email (if applicable)

To Be Completed by Student's Parent/Guardian (Required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

() Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone

Parent/Guardian's Email

What Are the Rules?

- You must write your own essay.
- All essays should be typed in English with no color or graphics. 300 - 400 words in length (+ or - 5 word max). Every word is counted regardless of length. The essay title (theme) or added footnotes do not contribute to the word count.
- In no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.) Do not put your name on the essay. The entry form is your essays cover sheet. Secure the Official Student Entry Form with a staple or other fastener on top of your essay. Contestants are allowed to enter only once each year if otherwise eligible (one Post competition).
- The essay must be contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. The approach to the Patriot's Pen theme should be positive and clearly focused. Poetry is not acceptable. Quotations may be used sparingly if plainly identified wherever used. A contestant's teacher, counselor or parent may check the essay for punctuation, grammar and/or spelling, but the content must remain the contestant's. Contestants will be judged on the basis of their essay alone and are not required to present the essay orally. All essays become the property of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars. The VFW retains non-exclusive rights to the use of your essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.
- At any time during the contest additional participant personal information (i.e. SSN, photo, etc.) could be requested by the VFW.

I Have Read and Understand the Contest Rules

Signature of Student Participant

President's Theme: "Service Mentorship and Patriotism"
National President's Theme: "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level Patriot's Pen Competition.

Post Commander/Chairperson Signature Post#

VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature (If applicable)

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of participants No. of winners

Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarships awards \$

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (Banquet, Pins, etc.) \$

To Be Completed by the VFW District

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Patriot's Pen Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department.

District Chairperson Signature Dist. #

Address

City, State, Zip

() Phone Email

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Patriot's Pen Department Competition and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairperson Signature

() Daytime Phone Email

The winner has been will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

Local VFW Post Information:

Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____

Alternate Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____





Veterans & Family Support Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

- Most outstanding activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health.
 - Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the Auxiliary activity and/or event that increased awareness of military suicide and mental health. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department-winning Auxiliary entry form to National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador Tessa Butcher for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must **email** National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



Veterans & Family Support Auxiliary Award No. 2

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to increase the support of veterans, service members and their families.
 - **Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that increases the support of veterans, service members and their families. Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event the support of veterans, service members and their families. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the Auxiliary hosted activity and/or event that increases the support of veterans, service members and their families. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department-winning Auxiliary entry form to National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador Tessa Butcher for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must **email** National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



Youth Activities

Auxiliary Award No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

- Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism Through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.).
 - Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention

Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2024.

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

Department Youth Activities Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Youth Activities Ambassador Joyce Caldwell for judging.

AND

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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



VFW Auxiliary National

Illustrating America Art Contest

An art contest for eligible students in grades K-8

2023-2024

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

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

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

**I hereby grant permission of the artwork by the student listed above to be published in VFW Auxiliary Magazine, on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if named a winner of one of the top national awards. I hereby verifying that the entry was done by the student listed above.*

Parent/Guardian signature: * _____

VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.

Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: _____ Representative Phone: _____

Representative email: _____

This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters only accepts Department level first place winners.

Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: _____ **Department of:** _____

Please check the appropriate grade division.

This first-place entry is for: Grade K-2 _____ **OR Grade 3-5** _____ **OR Grade 6-8** _____

March 31: Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Artwork is property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

April 15: One winner from each grade division in each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Artwork is property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

May 5: Final Level - Department winning entries in each grade division must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or they will be disqualified.

July/August: Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

September: All art will be returned to address on entry form.



Get Excited for the **Red**, **White** and **Blue!**

VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest for eligible students in grades K-12

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



2023-2024 Contest Entry Form

Please **print** or complete fillable form at vfwauxiliary.org
This form must be submitted with the video entry at all levels of judging.

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

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

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

I certify that all the contest requirements have been met and that I am the sole author of the attached/enclosed video entry. By entering the contest, I grant the VFW Auxiliary royalty-free rights to use, edit, share, publish and broadcast my contest video entry for the **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! national anthem singing contest for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary. I understand the video will not be sold but will remain the property of the VFW Auxiliary.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: * _____ Date: _____

Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: _____ Representative Phone: _____

Representative email: _____

This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.

National Headquarters only accepts Department level first-place winners.

Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: _____ Department of: _____

Please check the appropriate grade division.

This first place entry is for grad division: Grade K-8 _____ OR Grade 9-12 _____

March 31: Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

April 15: One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Final Level - Department first-place entry must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by **May 5** or it will be disqualified.

ATTN: Program Awards Administrator