

**2024 -2025**  
**PROGRAM BOOK**

**Missouri**

**Helping Our Veterans By  
Bridging The Gap**

**VFW Auxiliary**



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## Missouri VFW Auxiliary

Check out the VFW Auxiliary website for updated information on our programs & events.

You can download the Chairmen's Promotion Material to your computer.



Missouri VFW Auxiliary Website - [www.vfwauxmo.org](http://www.vfwauxmo.org)

Facebook: **MO VFW AUXILIARY**

Check out both sites on your laptop, tablet, or phone to have the most updated information on events happening in the Missouri VFW Auxiliary.



Dear Department of Missouri Membership,

Please take a moment as we begin the new year to reflect on the reasons we are involved with the VFW Auxiliary. Please remember to be kind as we work our programs & support Veterans while working as a TEAM with our VFWs. Teamwork is a must for our success! Thank you for your involvement in the VFW Auxiliary and welcome to the 2024-2025 year - as we continue our mission we should be,

“Helping our Veterans by Bridging the Gap.”



Always,

Department President Amy Jo Lett

### 2024-2025 Special Projects

#### **Walking for Scholarships Challenge**

asking Auxiliaries to raise money for the **Department Scholarship Fund** by Walking! See the Scholarship May/June Program materials. Questions, ask Chairman Jenn Hoyt.



#### **Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness**

Please send donations to **Treasurer Jackie Davis at 3849 Hwy 47 W Troy, MO 63379**  
Payable to: **MO VFW AUX** and earmark; **Suicide Prevention**  
All Donations will be donated to **Missouri Suicide Prevention Education Teams.**



### 2024-2025 Department Meeting Dates

**Fall C of A /Homecoming Banquet Murder Mystery (Columbia) - September 27-28, 2024.**

Directions [Courtyard by Marriott, 3301 Lemone Industrial Blvd, Columbia, MO 65201](#)

**Winter C of A Voice of Democracy Patriots Pen & Teacher of the Year (St. Louis) - February 7-8, 2025** Directions [Marriott St. Louis Airport, 10700 Pear Tree Lane, St. Louis, Mo 63134](#)

**Department Convention (Springfield) – June 12-16, 2025**

Directions [Oasis Convention Center 2446 N Glenstone Ave, Springfield MO 65803](#)



# VFW Auxiliary

## All-State Auxiliary Achievement Award



Every VFW Auxiliary in the Department of Missouri is eligible to obtain the “**All-State Achievement Award**” for 2024-2025. The criteria is listed below. Keep this with you so you can check off each item that you have achieved as an Auxiliary. Your Auxiliary needs to obtain **275** points out of **300** to obtain the All-State Achievement Award.

### Criteria for obtaining the “All-State Achievement Award.”

#### 1. Growth in Membership:

Membership standings by June 1, 2025, based on June 30, 2024, final membership standings.

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Points
Over 101% in membership, not including deaths (current percent)	10	
100% Plus in membership, not including deaths (current percent)	5	
100% Plus in membership, including paid deaths (paid Percent)	5	
97-100% in membership, including paid deaths (paid percent)	5	
Total	25	

#### 2. President Leadership:

The President is to make sure the following are completed.

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Pts
Installation Report of new officers entered into MALTA and a copy sent to Department Secretary by <b>June 1</b> .	10	
Within 30 days of taking office, the President provide a financial statement and membership report to the Post Commander. (Section 810 of the National <b>BYLAWS</b> )	10	
Offices of President and Treasurer bonded for double the Auxiliary Funds by <b>July 30</b> .	10	
The Audits of the Auxiliary are sent in on time each quarter to the Department Treasurer. (For each Audit sent on time you receive <b>10</b> pts audit for a maximum of <b>40</b> points with the last Audit being sent by April 30.)	40	
The President presided over at least <b>10</b> meetings.	10	
The President or a representative of the Auxiliary must have attended a minimum of 2 District meetings and a report made at the next Auxiliary meeting to receive 20 points, then add 10 points for each meeting attended up to 40 points.	40	
The President or an Officer from the Auxiliary attended the Department School of Instructions, and the information was shared with the members of the Auxiliary.	10	
All fees owed to the Department have been paid to the Department Treasurer. (i.e., Delegate fees, membership dues, etc.)	10	
District dues paid to the District Treasurer by September 30.	10	
The President must sign up one new/rejoin member. The President’s member ID number must be on the application as the recruiter.	10	
Total	160	

#### 3. Auxiliary Participation:

The Auxiliary members participate in the meetings and projects.

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Points
All Auxiliary Officers <b>MUST</b> have their dues paid by December 15, 2024.	5	
The Auxiliary participated in the Department Joint Special Project.	10	



The Auxiliary actively participated and reported in the Department Programs.	5	
The Auxiliary did one project that benefited the Veterans and report is made on the website.	5	
The Auxiliary did a project with the VFW Post other than the “Buddy”® Poppy Voice of Democracy and the Patriot’s Pen.	10	
Total	35	

#### 4. Auxiliary Donations/Quotas:

The Auxiliary should donate to each of the following Department Funds:

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Points
Department President’s Special Project	10	
Department Missouri National Home Fund	5	
Veteran’s Service Officers Fund	5	
Hospital Fund	5	
Scholarship Fund	5	
Youth Activities Fund	5	
Total	35	

#### 5. Programs:

Auxiliaries are encouraged to participate in the National Programs by doing projects in each. The Auxiliary is to report what they did on the Department website.

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Points
Americanism	5	
Auxiliary Outreach	5	
“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home	5	
Historian & Media Relations	5	
Hospital	5	
Legislative	5	
Scholarships	5	
Veteran & Family support	5	
Youth Activities	5	
Total	45	

Criteria	Possible Points	Actual Points
1. Growth in Membership	25	
2. President’s Leadership	160	
3. Auxiliary Participation	35	
4. Auxiliary Donations/Quotas	35	
5. Programs	45	
Total Points	300	

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_ President’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Send report to All State Chairman  
Gail Huffman – email - [gailhuffman88@gmail.com](mailto:gailhuffman88@gmail.com)

Report is due by: **April 30, 2025**

# **Program Guide**

## **2024-2025**



## Department of Missouri 2024-2025 Program Guide

<i>July 2024</i>		✓
<i>National Convention</i>	<b>Plan to attend National Convention. It will be in Louisville, Kentucky July 27-August 1, 2024</b>	
<i>Standing Rules</i>	★ Review your standing rules by appointing a committee to review for any changes needed.	
<i>Audit</i>	★ April, May, and June second quarter Audit to be completed by July 31. The outgoing and incoming Trustees, Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers should be present.	
<i>Bond &amp; 990</i>	★ Send 990 receipt to Department Treasurer upon completion	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	★ Start planning for Suicide Awareness ★ Begin planning an activity to assist homeless veterans, such as a Back Packs.	
<i>VFW</i>	★ As per Sec. 810 – The Auxiliary President will “within thirty days after induction into office, submit to the Commander of the respective Post, the last quarterly audit, membership status report...”	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ Assist the Post with promoting the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award ★ Hold a program for Americanism and give certificates to those that fly the flag regularly. ★ Promote less common Patriotic Holidays ★ Plan 4 <sup>th</sup> of July events.	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Check with your local community groups and see if there are activities that your Auxiliary may be able to assist with. ★ Please make sure ALL community activities that your Auxiliary assists with have been voted on and approved by the membership prior to participation.	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	★ Plan “Buddy”® Poppy Drives now. ★ Plan an event to promote the VFW National Home for children through education and/or publicity.	
<i>Extension &amp; Revitalization</i>	★ Use resources for a Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit ★ Assemble New Member Kits	
<i>Historian</i>	★ Start your Historian books of events. ★ Learn to use your technology to your benefit.	
<i>Hospital and VAWS</i>	★ Start discussions on craft-at-home projects. ★ Plan how your Auxiliary can help Veterans who are shut-ins or hospitalized.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Contact legislators on Veteran issues.	
<i>Membership</i>	★ <i>Presidents</i> , per Sec 810A section G of the bylaws, appointed a committee of not less than five (5) members, including the Treasurer, to contact all members for payment of dues. ★ <b>Don’t forget the Dues Increased from \$8.50 to \$13.50.</b> ★ Former members who did not pay their <b>2023</b> dues as of June 30, 2024, are no longer a member, must reapply for membership and the Auxiliary will vote to accept them. Check the material provided by your Department Membership Chairman. ★ Form an Investigating Committee to investigate new membership.	
<i>Scholarships</i>	★ Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen are due to Post <b>October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024</b> . Time to get the program in the schools. ★ Theme for Voice of Democracy <b>“Is America Today our Forefathers’ Vision?”</b> The Patriot Pen theme is <b>“My Voice in America’s Democracy?”</b> Print brochures from the VFW website <a href="http://www.vfw.org">www.vfw.org</a> under “Community” or order from the VFW Store <a href="http://vfwstore.org">vfwstore.org</a> . ★ Young American Creative Patriotic Art is due to the Auxiliary by <b>March 31, 2025</b> ★ Contact schools and youth group leaders now with the information for the students. ★ Donate to the Department Scholarship Fund. Mailed to Department Treasurer.	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	★ Our youth can do many things such as help with “Buddy”® Poppy campaigns or help Auxiliaries with some of their projects. ★ What ideas do you have about where you could help a youth group? ★ Start watching for individual youth who display their patriotism, support our veterans, service members and their families for the Patriot’s Youth Award. Refer to the Chairman’s Program material for more information. ★ Promote and support reading among youth with the Patriotism through Literacy program. Refer to the Chairman’s Program Book for further information.	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	★ Report all projects	

<i>August 2024</i>		✓
<i>Audits</i>	★ An approved audit is due to the Department Treasurer by August 31 <sup>st</sup> .	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	★ Veterans and Military Support (formerly National Military Services) donations are to be mailed directly to VFW National Headquarters, VFW Programs, 406 W 34 <sup>th</sup> St, 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111. Attn: Veterans & Military Support ★ This program covers “Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship”, Unmet Needs, Operation Uplink and the MAP program.	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ Encourage the schools and businesses to fly our Flag. ★ September 11 is Patriot Day, ★ September 20 is POW/MIA Day. ★ September 29 is Gold Star Mothers and Families Day. ★ Plan an appropriate activity for these days.	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Contact your city to ask if the Auxiliary could assist in any Fall Festivals. ★ Volunteer to judge a Halloween Contest	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	★ Plan your “Buddy”® Poppy display for the Fall Conference. Refer to the Department Chairman’s promotional material for guidelines. Theme is “Ornaments” for Veterans ★ VFW National Home Trip is October 25-27, 2024	
<i>Historian</i>	★ Create a highlight member for your Facebook post. ★ Keep an updated record of what your Auxiliary has done.	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	★ Volunteer at the VA Hospitals, local hospitals, and Veteran’s homes. ★ Recruit new members and involve your youth groups. Please check the age requirements.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Has your Auxiliary signed up any members or non-members for the VFW Action Corps?	
<i>Membership</i>	★ Use your membership committee to collect dues. ★ Please make sure your Auxiliary is focusing on Retention on all members. ★ Recruit new members and contact former members about reapplying for membership	
<i>Scholarships</i>	★ Take all Scholarship information to all schools, public, private and home-schooled students in your area by the end of the month. Remember the DUE DATE! ★ Walk for Scholarships – track your miles and collect from friends	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	★ Youth Activities Chairman work with the Scholarship Chairman to get the word to youth group leaders about those Scholarship opportunities due to the Post by October 31 <sup>st</sup> .	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	★ Submit all your project reports! ★ Don’t wait until April to submit.	

<i>September 2024</i>		✓
<i>Celebrating America’s Freedom Event &amp; Fall C of A</i>	★ Celebrating America’s Freedom Event VFW National Home Eaton Rapids, MI September 7, 2024 ★ Fall Conference and Murder Mystery Homecoming Banquet, Courtyard by Marriott, 3301 Lemone Industrial Blvd, Columbia, MO 65201 September 27-28, 2024	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	★ Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Awareness 988 and press 1. ★ Donate to the Department Veterans Service Officers Fund and the National Veterans Service Fund. ★ September is Military Suicide awareness month. Do a “wellness check” on Veterans in your community	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ September 11 is Patriot Day. Hold program so everyone REMEMBERS! ★ The third Friday of September, is POW/MIA Recognitions Day. Have a ceremony at your Post home or a military monument in your city. ★ Remember the Gold Star Mothers and Families on September 25. Let them know that we do appreciate the sacrifice of their loved one for your country. ★ Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award due to the Post on October 31.	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Consider working at a soup kitchen, food pantry, homeless shelter, or farmers market.	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	★ Finish Buddy”® Poppy display for the Fall Conference. The theme will be Ornament. Be sure that at least one poppy remains in its original form. Ornament must be accompanied by sealed envelope—on the outside of the envelope the number of poppies used, and total # of poppies hours spent assembling the display—on the inside of the envelope a card with your auxiliary # and the name(s) of the assembler(s) of the display printed on it.	

<b>Historian</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use social media to tell the story of who we are, what we do!</li> <li>★ Send pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	
<b>Hospital and VAVS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Continue to sign up volunteers for this program.</li> <li>★ Discuss what you can do for veterans for Halloween and Thanksgiving that are hospitalized or living in a nursing home.</li> </ul>	
<b>Legislative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep up to date on the legislation that are the VFW Goals.</li> <li>★ Contact your elected officials and urge them to vote for our veteran's rights</li> </ul>	
<b>Membership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Review where you stand on collecting those continuous dues.</li> <li>★ Plan a dues reminder mail out for the end of this month.</li> </ul>	
<b>Scholarships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Reconnect with the schools and home-schooled students to make sure they are working on the program. Due date to Post level Oct. 31<sup>st</sup></li> <li>★ Walk for Scholarships – track your miles and collect from friends</li> </ul>	
<b>Youth Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact youth groups in your community to see if they will help with any programs, or if you can help THEM with one of theirs.</li> </ul>	

<b>October 2024</b>		✓
<b>Plan to Attend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Big Ten Conference – Indianapolis, IN October 18-20, 2024</li> <li>★ National Home Trip – Eaton Rapids, MI) - October 25-27, 2024</li> </ul>	
<b>Audit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ July, August, and September third quarter Audit to be completed by October 31.</li> </ul>	
<b>Veterans &amp; Family Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Plan a project for National Family Caregivers Month (November).</li> <li>★ Plan a Veteran's Day Program</li> </ul>	
<b>Americanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Start plans for Veterans Day Activities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Auxiliary Outreach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact your local schools and see if your auxiliary can assist with Trunk or Treat for Halloween.</li> <li>★ Partner with another organization to hold a blood drive.</li> </ul>	
<b>"Buddy"® Poppy/National Home</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Check the programs chairman's information for the trip to National Home.</li> <li>★ Plan a "Buddy"® Poppy Drive with the Post.</li> </ul>	
<b>Historian</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact media with any upcoming events using a Press Release available behind MALTA.</li> <li>★ Send in pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	
<b>Hospital and VAVS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Donate to the Department Hospital Fund. Your donation helps to support the Department Representatives as they provide items at the VA Hospitals and Veteran's Homes. We also give each facility a monetary gift to be used on those items they may need. Make checks out to MO VFW Aux. and send them to the Department Treasurer, Jackie Davis. Earmark checks "Hospital Dept. Fund."</li> <li>★ Are you tracking those volunteers and craft at home hours?</li> <li>★ What are your plans for the holidays for our hospitalized veterans?</li> </ul>	
<b>Legislative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep up to date on the legislation that are the VFW Goals. Contact your elected officials and urge them to vote for our veteran's rights.</li> <li>★ Host a town hall meeting inviting candidates</li> </ul>	
<b>Membership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Do not hold dues. Enter them in MALTA as soon as you get them or send them to the Department Treasurer, Jackie Davis.</li> <li>★ There should not be a balance in the Dues column on the Treasurer's report. If there is, ask why it is there.</li> <li>★ Are new members and rejoins being brought in by members?</li> </ul>	
<b>Scholarships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Work with the Post to Contact judges for the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and the Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award contests.</li> <li>★ Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries are due October 31<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>★ Post judging must be done by November 15.</li> <li>★ Contact students for the Young American Patriotic Art Contest and the 3D Art Contest.</li> <li>★ Donate to Department and National Funds</li> </ul>	
<b>Youth Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Educate members about the National Citation for Youth Groups.</li> <li>★ Find groups you can recognize with this citation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Online Reporting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Report all projects</li> </ul>	

<i>November 2024</i>		✓
<i>Audit</i>	★ Approved Audit for July, August, and September third quarter Audit to be sent to Department Treasurer by November 30, 2024.	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	★ Have you contacted local community groups to assist with help for Homeless Veterans in your community? ★ Plan a Christmas party for the families of deployed military. ★ Work with your Americanism Chairman on Veterans Day events.	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ Veteran's Day is November 11 <sup>th</sup> . Have a public ceremony to thank veterans for their dedication to our great nation, have a ceremony at your own Post followed by a luncheon, or arrange for a school to hold a ceremony and invite one or more veterans to participate. Work with your Veterans and Family Support Chairman. There will also be a fillable, printable citation to present to your veterans from your Auxiliary. ★ The Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award is due to VFW District Chairman	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Deliver meals for Meals on Wheels.	
<i>"Buddy"® Poppy/National Home</i>	★ Have a "Buddy"® Poppy Campaign this month.	
<i>Historian</i>	★ Feature a Veteran or Auxiliary member on your Facebook page. ★ Send pictures to the Historian.	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	★ Hospital Donation ★ Finalize the plans for the holidays you have been making for the Hospitals and Veterans Homes.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Continue to check for alerts from National Headquarters on legislation that is being voted on that will affect our veterans. ★ Get out and vote	
<i>Membership</i>	★ Recruit new members. ★ Contact any member that has not paid their dues and see if they need assistance. ★ Do a member "wellness" check for any member that has missed several meetings find out why! Let them know you care.	
<i>Scholarships</i>	★ Send your winners for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen to your District Chairman. The district must have their judging completed by December 15. ★ Walk for Scholarships – track your miles and collect from friends	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	★ Adopt a family of a deployed military soldier. Helping them in any way they may need.	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	★ Report all projects	

<i>December 2024</i>		✓
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	★ Aid a military family during the holidays. ★ Plan what you will be doing in February for veterans around Valentine's Day. ★ Assist Homeless Veterans during this holiday season. Provide food, warm clothing, etc.	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ December 7 <sup>th</sup> is Pearl Harbor Day. At your Auxiliary meeting have a presentation commemorating this day. ★ The Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award winners will be selected by the District. District judging is to be completed by December 15.	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Partner with your local Fire Department on a fire prevention and safety class. ★ Partner with local community groups and see if they need aid with any Christmas activities they have planned.	
<i>"Buddy"® Poppy/National Home</i>	★ Start your "Buddy"® Poppy display for the Department Winter Conference. "MO on the Move" Poster. See the Department Chairman's promotional material for guidelines. ★ Promote the National Home Military and Family hotline. ★ Make donation to Health and Happiness if not done.	
<i>Historian</i>	★ Send pictures to the Historian.	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	★ Hold a special bingo for the Veterans in the Veteran's Homes or take Christmas cards to them with a dollar or two in them. A few minutes visiting with these veterans is the best gift you can give.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Keep everyone informed on political issues involving Veterans and those on active duty. ★ Action Alerts	

<i>Membership</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep making personal contacts to members who have not sent in their dues.</li> <li>★ If someone is having financial problems, the Auxiliary can vote to pay dues for them.</li> <li>★ All Officers are to have their dues paid by December 31<sup>st</sup>. If not, effective, January 1, 2025, they will no longer be eligible to hold office, as they are no longer a member in good standing. (Sec 807 of the Bylaws.)</li> </ul>	
<i>Scholarships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Donate to the Department Scholarship Fund if you have not done so. All the Scholarships given at State level take a great deal of money each year.</li> <li>★ Give the Past National Presidents Scholarship application to students who can apply.</li> </ul>	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Work with your Hospital Chairman to get the youth groups to volunteer at the Nursing Homes.</li> </ul>	

<i>January 2025</i>		✓
<i>Audits</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ October, November, and December fourth quarter Audit to be completed.</li> </ul>	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Promote Sport Clips haircuts. Sport Clips sponsors scholarships for our nation's heroes through the VFW "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship" awards.</li> </ul>	
<i>Americanism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Check on damaged flags throughout your community that need to be replaced.</li> <li>★ Present certificates recognizing their displaying of the American Flag.</li> </ul>	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact your city's Parks and Recreation department to see if your Auxiliary can partner with them in planting trees or flowers in the spring.</li> </ul>	
<i>"Buddy"® Poppy/National Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Educate your community about the history of the "Buddy"® Poppy and the National Home.</li> </ul>	
<i>Extension &amp; Revitalization</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Start recruiting officers &amp; chairmen for the next year</li> </ul>	
<i>Historian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact media with recent events and provide photographs with releases to use in the paper.</li> <li>★ Send pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Volunteers are always needed, whether it is a VA Hospital, a Veterans Home or your local Hospitals and Nursing Homes. Check those out in your area to see where your volunteering would help veterans the most.</li> </ul>	
<i>Legislative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Check on any legislative bills</li> </ul>	
<i>Membership</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Officers who have not paid their dues by December 31 are no longer in good standing</li> </ul>	
<i>Scholarships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Students should be working on the Patriotic Art Contest.</li> <li>★ The Continuing Education Scholarships applications are available.</li> <li>★ Past National Presidents Scholarship</li> </ul>	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Come up with projects young students can do for Valentine's Day that would honor the Veterans in Nursing Homes, Veterans Homes, VA Hospitals.</li> <li>★ Start planning for the Illustrating America Art Contest. All entries due to Department Chairman by April 15.</li> </ul>	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Submit all project reports</li> </ul>	

<i>February 2025</i>		✓
<i>Plan to Attend</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ National Mid-Winter Conference Cancun Mexico February 1- 6, 2025</li> <li>★ Winter C of A Meeting Marriott St. Louis Airport. 10700 Pear Tree Lane, St. Louis, Mo 63134 February 7-8, 2025</li> <li>★ VFW Legislative Conference in Washington DC -- <b>March 1-8, 2025</b>. See the State Voice of Democracy winner competing at National.</li> </ul>	
<i>Audits</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Approved Audit for October, November, and December is to be sent to the Department Treasurer by February 28, 2025</li> </ul>	
<i>Delegates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ See Sec 302 of the National Bylaws for electing your District delegates. The list of delegates sent to the District Secretary prior to the District Convention.</li> </ul>	
<i>Nominating Committees</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Auxiliary elections are to be done in April.</li> <li>★ If you are having a nominating committee, those members need to be appointed this month so they can report their findings at your March meeting. Be sure everyone understands this committee's job is to get one candidate for each elective position; however, nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the April election. See Bylaws Sec. 804B – Elective Officers shall be nominated and elected at a regular meeting in April.</li> <li>★ Nominating committee is <b>NOT</b> required, it is an option.</li> </ul>	



<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Happy Valentine’s Day to our Veterans. Participate in a program at your local VA Hospital or simply have a party for your Post Veterans.</li> </ul>	
<i>Americanism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Present a certificate to a property owner who is flying their Flag daily. Take a picture of you and your president presenting the certificate. Get an article and picture in your local newspaper.</li> <li>★ Get an article published about the number of American and POW/MIA flags you have given away; the number of certificates you have presented and how proud you are of your community for their constant display of Patriotic Support.</li> </ul>	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Partner with EMT’s to host a CPR class.</li> <li>★ Partner with a local group doing fundraising as a volunteer</li> </ul>	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Use “Buddy”® Poppies in your Valentine Displays.</li> </ul>	
<i>Historian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Are you keeping a diary of your Auxiliary activities? Are you taking photos for your Historian Book. Remember this is the history of your Auxiliary.</li> <li>★ Send pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Have you updated the Department Hospital Chairman on Craft at Home hours?</li> </ul>	
<i>Legislative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Local elections are held in many communities in April. Host a “Meet the Candidates” forum for any local election. All candidates should be invited to attend this forum.</li> </ul>	
<i>Membership</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Continue to try to sign up new members and get those unpaid members to pay to accomplish this. Don’t stop now even if you are 100%</li> </ul>	
<i>Scholarships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ The Patriotic Art Contest entries are due to Auxiliaries by March 31.</li> <li>★ Share with your Auxiliary AND Post members the information for the “Missouri Past National Presidents Scholarship.” Applications are on the Missouri website and due in April.</li> </ul>	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Contact your City’s Park Manager and see what you might be able to do to help groups of young people.</li> <li>★ Have you contacted your schools about the <i>Illustrating America Art Contest</i>?</li> </ul>	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Sumit Project Reports</li> </ul>	

<i>March 2025</i>		✓
<i>Delegates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ See Sec 303 of the National Bylaws for electing your District delegates. The list of delegates and alternates are sent to the District Secretary prior to the District Convention. Be looking for information coming from the Department Secretary about your delegates and alternates.</li> </ul>	
<i>Nominating Committees</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Auxiliary elections are to be done in April.</li> <li>★ Is your nominating committee in place? Make sure they are ready for next month’s elections.</li> </ul>	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Plan a “Family Freedom Festival” for the summer</li> </ul>	
<i>Americanism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Present businesses in your community with a certificate of appreciation for flying the American and POW/MIA flags.</li> <li>★ Start plans for Memorial Day.</li> </ul>	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ <b>Partner</b> with EMT’s to host a CPR class.</li> </ul>	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Start planning your display for the Convention.</li> </ul>	
<i>Historian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Are you keeping a diary of your Auxiliary activities? Are you taking photos for your Historian Book. Remember this is the history of your Auxiliary.</li> <li>★ Send pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Have you updated the Department Hospital Chairman on Craft at Home hours?</li> <li>★ Recruit volunteers for the VA Hospital and Veterans Homes.</li> </ul>	
<i>Legislative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Local elections are held in many communities in April. Host a “Meet the Candidate” forum for any local election. All candidates must be invited to such a forum.</li> </ul>	
<i>Membership</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Work on the former members. Try to convince them to rejoin.</li> </ul>	
<i>Scholarships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ The Patriotic Art Contest entries are due to Auxiliaries by March 31.</li> <li>★ Share with your Auxiliary AND Post members the information for the “Missouri Past National Presidents’ Scholarship.” Applications are on the Missouri website and due in <b>April 15, 2025</b></li> </ul>	

<i>Youth Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Purchase Girl Scout cookies and send to the troops.</li> <li>★ <b>Illustrating America Art Contest</b> deadline is April 15.</li> </ul>	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Submit project Reports</li> </ul>	

<i>April 2025</i>		✓
<i>Audits</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ January, February, and March first quarter audit is to be completed by April 30.</li> </ul>	
<i>Delegates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Delegates and Alternates are to be sent to the Department Treasurer.</li> <li>★ <b>YOU ARE TO ELECT YOUR NATIONAL DELEGATES IN APRIL.</b></li> <li>★ See 303 for instructions for Department delegates and Sec. 304 for National. Be sure and get these submitted following the procedures outlined.</li> </ul>	
<i>Election of Officers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Officers are to be elected this month.</li> <li>★ The newly elected Auxiliary President determines who will do the Auxiliary installation. Newly elected District Presidents will be installed before the adjournment of the meeting at which they were elected. Districts. refer to Sec. 806B.</li> </ul>	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Always help and support Veterans and their families.</li> <li>★ Have you planned an activity or special event for <b>Military Caregiver Month</b> in May?</li> </ul>	
<i>Americanism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Flag Day is June 14.</li> <li>★ Plan a Memorial Day ceremony.</li> </ul>	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Assist at the polls for local elections.</li> </ul>	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Donations for the National Home Program should be sent to Department Treasurer Jackie Davis. This donation is for the Halloween party that the Department puts on for the children.</li> </ul>	
<i>Historian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Start getting your Historian records together to present to the members for the end of the year.</li> </ul>	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Visit a Veteran in the hospital or in the Nursing Home.</li> </ul>	
<i>Legislative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Does your municipality have elections this month?</li> </ul>	
<i>Membership</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Call or visit those members who have not paid their dues. Let them know they are important to our organization.</li> </ul>	
<i>Scholarships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Young American Creative Patriotic Art winners are to be sent to Department Chairman for judging.</li> </ul>	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Work with Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts.</li> <li>★ <b>Illustrating America</b> entries are due to Department Chairman April 15.</li> </ul>	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Submit Project Reports</li> </ul>	

<i>May 2025</i>		
<i>Audits</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Approved Audit for January, February, and March first quarter audit is to be sent to the Department Treasurer by May 31<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>	
<i>Delegates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Lists are to be completed and sent to the Department Treasurer with the delegate fees. Delegate lists have to be in, in order for your Auxiliary to have a vote at Convention.</li> </ul>	
<i>Installation of Officers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Auxiliary officers shall be installed at a regular or special meeting held not more than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention. They shall not assume their duties until the new Department President is installed.</li> <li>★ New Officers are to be entered into MALTA and a copy of the installation report sent to the Department Secretary immediately.</li> </ul>	
<i>Veterans &amp; Family Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Summer Care packages sent to your adopted unit or service members from your community.</li> </ul>	
<i>Americanism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ May 1 is Loyalty Day</li> <li>★ May 8 is Victory in Europe Day (VE Day), 1945.</li> <li>★ May 21 is Armed Forces Day</li> </ul>	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Reach out to the organizations in your city and see if you could assist with a project</li> </ul>	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy/National Home</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Complete your “Buddy”® Poppy display for the Department Convention.</li> </ul>	
<i>Historian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Keep working on your Historian Record Book.</li> <li>★ Send pictures to the Historian.</li> </ul>	

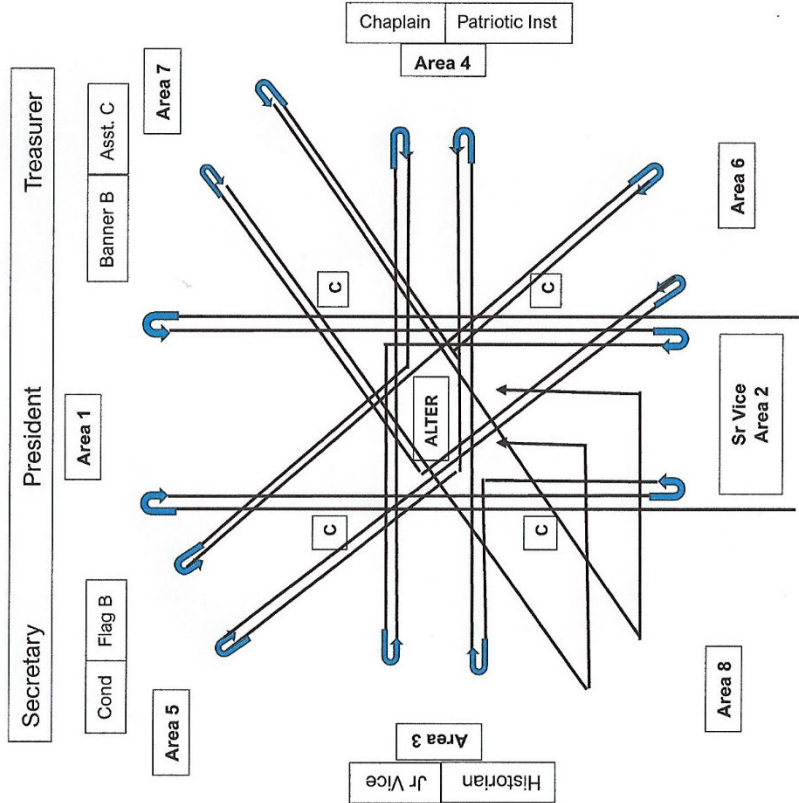
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	★ Host a Bingo or a barbeque for the Veterans in the Homes.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Keep up to date on the Veteran issues.	
<i>Membership</i>	★ <b>DO NOT HOLD CONTINUOUS DUES!</b> ★ July 1 starts a new year for dues. ★ New members might be confused with our dues system and complain about paying again in a month for a whole new year, just tell them that being a continuous member will give them more tenure as a continuous member. Offer to pay their first year's dues to get new members signed up. Paying \$13.50 for the first year is a bargain to get a new member	
<i>Scholarships</i>	★ Contact your School Districts with the 2025/2026 brochures to get the program on the new school year's agenda.	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	★ Youth groups can always use help during the summer months. Purchase a few baseballs and give to a local team, invite your church's youth group to help put flags on veterans' graves on Memorial Day weekend. The possibilities are endless.	

<i>June 2025</i>		
<i>Department Convention</i>	★ Department Convention – June 12-16, 2025, Oasis Convention Center, Springfield MO ★ Attend to receive all your awards for your hard work.	
<i>Veterans and Family Support</i>	★ Start investigating programs in your area for assistance to veterans and family members for areas of concern such as adult day care centers, home hospice care, homemaker and home health aide programs, home telehealth, respite care, or skilled home care.	
<i>Americanism</i>	★ Flag Day June 14, 2025 ★ Host a flag exchange at your Post Home or another location in your community.	
<i>Auxiliary Outreach</i>	★ Help out the Food Pantries in the Community.	
<i>“Buddy”® Poppy and VFW National Home</i>	★ Promote the VFW National Home life memberships to your VFW and Auxiliary members. ★ Donate directly to the National Home. Remember, they do not receive government funding for the Home. Your donation is what keeps the Home going.	
<i>Extension &amp; Revitalization</i>	★ Is your Auxiliary struggling? Try using the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit or the Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation for educate your members on all aspects of the duties of Officers, how to be a Chairman, the why of reporting, etc.	
<i>Historian</i>	★ Finalize your Historian Book and present to your Auxiliary for the completed 2024–2025.	
<i>Hospital and VAVS</i>	★ Learn about the unique needs of women veterans. Learn about the resources and health care services available and help them receive the benefits and services they deserve.	
<i>Legislative</i>	★ Provide a Get Out the Vote registration event for graduating Seniors.	
<i>Membership</i>	★ Membership for the 2024/2025 year is through June 30, 2025. Remember any new members brought in now will be paying the 2025 dues until July 1, 2025.	
<i>Scholarships</i>	★ Now is a good time to recognize your students who have entered into the Scholarships programs. Plan a reception/lunch to recognize them and make sure you invite the parents and maybe even the teachers.	
<i>Youth Activities</i>	★ Contact your libraries and see if your members could read to the younger children for story time in the library.	
<i>Online Reporting</i>	★ Submit Project Reports	

# Cross of MALTA and Floor Plan

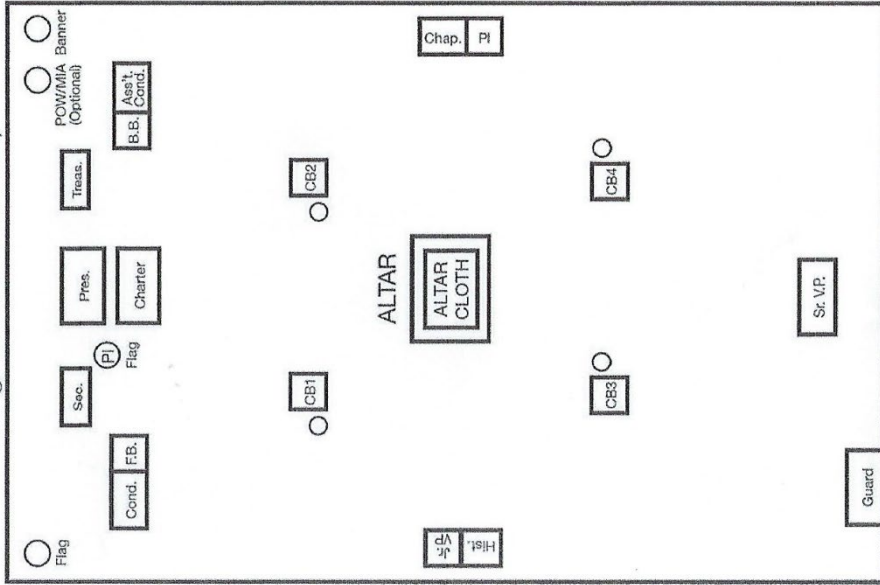
## LINE UP for CROSS OF MALTA

- Conductor
- Color Bearer #1
- Color Bearer #2
- Color Bearer #3
- Color Bearer #4
- Guard (drop off area 8)
- Banner Bearer (drop off area 7)
- Secretary (?) (drop off area 5)
- Patriotic Inst. (drop off area 4)
- Historian (drop off area 3)
- President (drop off area 1)
- Assistant Conductor
- Treasurer (drop off area 7)
- Flag Bearer (drop off area 5)
- Chaplain (drop off area 4)
- Jr Vice Pres (drop off area 3)
- Sr Vice Pres (drop off area 2)



## FLOOR PLAN 1

Showing position of officers during Sessions of Auxiliary



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Floor Plans



# Auxiliary Secretaries and Treasurers

For the Secretaries and Treasurers Guide, please go to:

[www.vfwauxmo.org](http://www.vfwauxmo.org)

Click on “RESOURCES”. Then click on Secretary or Treasurer. You will find the following information under each tab.

## Secretary

- Secretary Minute Form
- Secretary Guide
- Roll Call Form

## Treasurer

- 990-Filing Form
- Form 8822-B – for new Treasurers
- 2024 Distribution Form – to use when sending checks and membership
- Treasurer Meeting Report
- Donation Guide
- MO Treasurer Guide
- Audit Worksheet
- Audit Form for Missouri

Other items will be added as we start the new year. Please check the website often for updates.



**VFW Auxiliary  
Department of Missouri  
2024-2025 Programs**



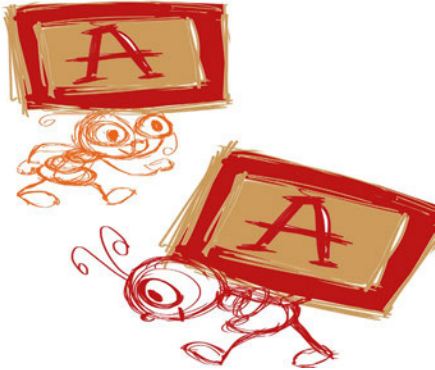


## SANDY PRICHARD

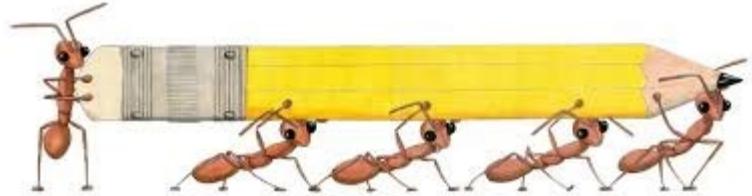
936 Carolina Place, Jackson MO 63755

573-576-6317

[Sandyprichard52@gmail.com](mailto:Sandyprichard52@gmail.com)



WE ALL WORK TOGETHER TO GET IT DONE



## AMERICANISM

*“AMERICANISM IS AN UNFAILING LOVE OF COUNTRY, LOYALTY TO ITS INSTITUTIONS AND IDEAS; EAGERNESS TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES; UNDIVIDED ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG; AND A DESIRE TO SECURE THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY AND POSTERITY.”*

\*This quote is from our VFW Auxiliary website

Embody Brotherhood/Sisterhood

Learn and Practice Auxiliary Rituals  
When the ants work together, they build homes, collect food, and grow.  
That's what Auxiliaries can do!

Celebrate Patriotic holidays together

## EDUCATION

#AuxAmericanism, please use this on our FB posts so I can see how you are educating our members and your youth. We have flag education for kids, patriotic days (funny how some people think Labor Day is to have all the flags out, please teach the days) and teach what the Missing Man table means (the poem is one that needs published more often, Bring attention to Americanism at every event. Hand out American Flags or Flag pins at a fund raising/organization walk or when you visit a school sports event. Small flags or pins can easily be kept in any bag you carry with you and explain how proud you are of being an Americanism chairman. Also use #AuxiliaryPatriotism when posting events.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Presidents Day – third Monday in February

National Vietnam War Veteran Day- March 29

Loyalty Day – May 1<sup>st</sup>

V-E Day- May 8<sup>th</sup>

Armed Forces Day – third Saturday in May

Memorial Day- observed last Monday in May

Flag Day- June 14<sup>th</sup>

Independence Day- July 4<sup>th</sup>

Patriot Day- September 11<sup>th</sup>

Constitution Day and Citizen Day – September 17<sup>th</sup>

POW/MIA Recognition Day – third Friday in September

Gold Star Mother's Day/Family's Day – last Sunday in September

Veterans Day- November 11<sup>th</sup>

Pearl Harbor Day- December 7<sup>th</sup>

I look forward to working with all Americanism chairman and hope I can help you and your Auxiliary during 2024-2025.

Continue to page 2 to learn more about Americanism Program

Americanism page 2

**VFW.org/community/flag-etiquette**, this website is to help you with information on the history of our flag and the US Flag Code. Be sure to visit and share with your members as well as your community.

Taking knowledge of flag education to the classrooms of our area students is an important way to help shape young citizens into patriotic, responsible adults. Recognize the classrooms, students or even businesses that display flags or show patriotism. You will find several examples of awards or citations to hand out. Add your own flare to them by engraving a plaque and honor their classroom or business with a presentation. If you see a flag that needs replaced maybe your auxiliary can purchase and present to that business or organization that flies it proudly.

**Military Flags of Order of Precedence**, this can be confusing for many so according to The Department of Defense guidelines, military flags should be displayed (from left to right) Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard.

Showing your patriotism is not only for days like Independence Day, I encourage you to wear patriotic items as often as you can. Brothers and Sisters, wear your red, white and blue and educate everyone why you are passionate about our Veterans and Americanism. Be proud of your patriotism.

Patriotic Instructors should research and take the time to learn and understand the traditions and ceremonies of the Auxiliary, found in by-law book or on national website (MALTA resources). Your job is to help educate the public about proper flag etiquette and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

When our military men and women leave the service for civilian life, some may feel displaced, depressed, or lost. They may be suffering from PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder). They may feel the stress from being out of uniform, without their comrades, and lacking a mission with those around them. Auxiliary members can help provide a new community by observing Auxiliary traditions and rituals; we can create an environment that helps members embody brotherhood/sisterhood, protect the peace in our Posts, encourage respect and camaraderie between members and bond a unified community. A safe place and stress-free environment is what all Posts should supply our Veterans.

Star Family Recognition is honoring families of those who lost loved ones. Recognize those families who have loved ones overseas. Have an event and invite Blue, Silver and Gold Star families. So many of us move on and these things are forgotten except by the loved ones and we should all remember them each and every year. Have a yearly BBQ or old fashion picnic. Invite the families and their extended families to show no one is forgotten.

Again, I am proud to be your Americanism/Patriotic Instructor for 2024-2025 and if you need me, please reach out anytime. I will be setting up a Facebook page as the year begins, so please search for it. I will post ideas and examples for you. If you are comfortable texting then please do, I will answer them quickly, email may take a day. 573-576-6317 Sandy Prichard



Wave your flags proudly!

# Americanism Awards

## Department of Missouri Building Bridges Awards for Auxiliaries:

**First place** - \$20 (subject to approval by the council) and a citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

**Second place:** A citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

## National Awards for Auxiliaries:

Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.

***Helping Veterans by Bridging the Gap with Teamwork  
From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans***







## AUXILIARY OUTREACH 2024-2025

Kim Rudy  
605 Boys Street  
Monett, MO 65708  
Phone: 417-393-5371  
[krudyauxoutreach2425@gmail.com](mailto:krudyauxoutreach2425@gmail.com)

Volunteering is second nature for VFW Auxiliary members. It's what we do, how we do it, where we do it and why we do it – because it's always the right thing to do.

When an Auxiliary partners with another organization outside our own, it is considered Auxiliary Outreach if the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project. Partnerships with other organizations can be a single event or multiple events throughout the year.

Examples of Auxiliary Community Outreach include but are not limited to:

- \*Honor First Responders
- \*Hosting a Blood Drive
- \*Tutoring or reading to students
- \*Meals on wheels
- \*Joint programs with American Cancer, Alzheimer's Group, American Diabetes

\*Working with Police or Fire Departments on Safety programs

\*Local humane societies or animal rescue groups

\*Backpack meals for kids on weekends

Always show your pride in the VFW Auxiliary by wearing Auxiliary-branded attire when you participate in Auxiliary Outreach events. A shirt, jacket or hat with the Auxiliary emblem can start a conversation about the Auxiliary and what we do. It is also a great way to show members volunteering out in our communities and not just in our Post Homes. You want to be visible in the communities.

Our Department President's theme this year is: "Helping our Veterans by Bridging the Gap". Let's help them out by helping in our community and supporting everyone and each other!

The "Building Bridges" Award will be judged based on teamwork within the Auxiliary and including VFW members.

- o First Place will receive \$20 and a Citation to one Auxiliary in each of the four program divisions.
- o Second Place will receive a Citation to one Auxiliary in each of the four program divisions.

I look forward to working with everyone this year and am anxious to see and share all of your wonderful things that your Auxiliaries are doing to work in our communities. Please make sure to report all projects and activities to the Online Reporting System at: [www.vfwauxmo.org](http://www.vfwauxmo.org)



Department of Missouri VFW Auxiliary  
"Buddy"® Poppy/ National Home

Program Book 2024-25

Branda Young  
1221 Schuchart Rd  
Union, MO 63084  
(636)234-1055  
Brandayoung.d9p@gmail.com



***"A single poppy has the soul of a thousand heroes and the tears of a million loved ones."***

For over a hundred years the **"Buddy"® Poppy** has been an integral part of the VFW community. The Poppy is the official memorial flower of the VFW representing the blood shed by American service members. It reminds us that we will not forget their sacrifices.

This year marks 100 years since the VFW registered the name **"Buddy"® Poppy** with the U.S. Patent Office. On May 20, 1924 a certificate was issued granting the VFW all trademark rights in the name Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers.

### **How to Order**

- Contact your VFW Post to order Poppies. If you have any problems ordering, please contact me.
- Request the order form from your Department Headquarters. Be sure to allow plenty of time (8-12 weeks) for delivery before your distribution date.
- Brochures, "Buddy"® Poppy distribution supplies and promotional items can be purchased from the VFW store at [vfwstore.org](http://vfwstore.org) or by calling 1-833-VFW-Vets.

### **New "Buddy"® Poppy**

- ✓ Is made of tin
- ✓ It does not REPLACE the original "Buddy"® Poppy but is an alternative to the original "Buddy"® Poppy.
- ✓ The original "Buddy"® Poppy is NOT going away.

### **"Buddy"® Poppy Distribution Tips**

1. Contact your city/town clerk's office to see if a permit is required for your distribution event.
2. Get permission from your desired distribution location(s). Ask store manager/owners permission before promoting your distribution event.
3. Make sure Auxiliary members know when and where the distribution event will take place.
4. Contact your local radio station or paper to share information about your distribution event and/or share on social media.
5. Ask local youth groups for their assistance.
6. Have Poppy distributors wear Auxiliary (or VFW) braded clothing to promote the Auxiliary and VFW while also helping the public to connect the distribution event to the organization.
7. Use the "Buddy"® Poppy Chairmans Manuel to educate distributors. Remind them that they are distributing the Poppies for donations **NOT** selling them.

**NEVER** refuse someone a "Buddy"® Poppy because they are unable to donate.



### **“Buddy”® Poppy Fall Contest**

Our “Buddy”® Poppy Contest at the Fall Council of Administration this year will be a Christmas ornament contest.

- ✓ The theme for the ornaments will be Patriotic
- ✓ There will be two categories: Made by Youth (age 15 and below) and made by an Adult (age 16 and up).
- ✓ Ornament can be any size/shape. (Remember it must be able to hang on a tree.) ✓ Make sure you have at least one Poppy in its original form with tag on the ornament.
- ✓ An envelope with:
  - **Adult** or **Youth** on outside ➤
  - On the inside:
    - Auxiliary number
    - number of members
    - number of poppies used
    - number of hours spent making ornament

**DO NOT add anything to your ornament that will identify who made it.**

Ornaments will be judged and winners will be announced during our meeting Saturday. Ornaments will be given to President Amy Jo Lett to distribute to Veterans Homes and Hospitals as she makes her visits.

### **“Buddy”® Poppy Winter Contest**

The theme for our “Buddy”® Poppy Contest for the winter C of A this year will be **“MO on the Move.”**

- ✓ On a posterboard or trifold create a display explaining our “Buddy”® Poppy.
- ✓ This display can be used at your “Buddy”® Poppy Drive, explaining to our community the history of the Poppy.
- ✓ Make sure you have at least one Poppy in its original form with tag on it.
- ✓ An envelope with:
  - Nothing on the outside
  - On the inside:
    - Auxiliary number
    - number of members
    - number of poppies used
    - number of hours spent making ornament

### **VFW National Home**

**Happy Birthday National Home!!!!** Almost 100 years ago the VFW National Home was founded to fulfill the VFW pledge to “honor the dead by helping the living”. In the spring of 1925, Mrs. Pollett, a widow with six children, was the first family welcomed to the VFW National Home. They lived in an old frame farmhouse.

Over the years the VFW National Home has grown from an old frame farmhouse to a campus with playgrounds, park areas, single-family homes, a community center and gymnasium, childcare facility, guest lodge, chapel and administrative offices. The VFW National Home continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of America’s military and Veterans’ families. One thing has remained the same over the years and that is the National Home’s commitment to honor our nation’s Veterans and active-duty military by providing help and hope for their children and families.

During this year our National Ambassador, Jodie Hollinger, would like all the Auxiliaries to take the time to CELEBRATE with her by sending a heartfelt birthday card to the VFW National Home in celebration of its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mail your Auxiliary cards to the National Home at the beginning of the year so that it can be displayed at the National Home, all year long.

### **Ways You Can Help the VFW National Home**

- ✓ Education and Publicity- Educate the public about the VFW National Home.
- ✓ Donate to Department National Home Fund
- ✓ Donate to National Home Fund (not including Health and Happiness)
- ✓ Purchase a National Home Life Membership
- ✓ Shop the National Homes Amazon wish list.

### **National Home Bus Trip**

The annual VFW National Home Bus trip is scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. Our theme this year is **Hotel Transylvania**. I will include additional information in future promotional materials. It is my goal to have VFW and VFW Auxiliary members run the games so that the VFW National Home staff can be a part of the party. If you have any game ideas (or would like to be in charge of a game/station) or would like to donate prizes for the games, please let me know. We would also like to collect “handmade” items for the game prizes.

The staff at the National Home said that when a new family comes to the home, they sometimes do not have much with them. Since our Department President, Amy Jo Lett, and Commander Ric DePontee are both crafters, what better way to help the families at the National Home than making items such as kitchen towels, potholders, etc that can be used in their homes. You can bring your items to the Fall Conference or send with someone that is going on the trip. PLEASE DO NOT MAKE LARGE ITEMS LIKE QUILTS, DUE TO LACK OF SPACE TO HAUL THEM. Please read future promotional materials to see what we are asking from the Auxiliaries.

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

The Building Bridges Award:

**First place** - \$20 (subject to approval by the council) and a citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

**Second place:** A citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.


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

1. Most outstanding photo activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”<sup>®</sup> Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”<sup>®</sup> Poppy.
2. Most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home’s 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.



**“HELPING OUR VETERANS BY BRIDGING THE GAP” WE CAN REACH “FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”**



	<p><b>Chief of Staff Extension-Revitalization Program Book Department of Missouri</b></p>	<p><i>Janet Barlar</i></p> <p><i>10865 C0 Rd 3310 Rolla, Mo. 65401 573-261-1948 baraux1953@yahoo.com</i></p>
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## Department Chief of Staff

As Department Chief of Staff, I am a ‘jack-of-all-trades’!! My jobs are:

1. to help ensure the success of our Department Auxiliaries,
2. to help increase our membership,
3. to help promote our Programs.



I will also be serving as the Extension & Revitalization Chairman and promoting Mentoring for Leadership.

I will assist our lovely Department President Amy Jo when asked and will be kept updated on what is going on within our Department. I will be an advisor for our Department President and an extra set of eyes and ears to be on the lookout for the “Red Flags” that would tell us an Auxiliary is in trouble and needs assistance. Throughout the year, I will be promoting the use of *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* and the many resources available to the Auxiliaries in MALTA.

### EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION PROGRAM



The purpose of Extension and Revitalization is to:

1. Present to Bachelor Posts
2. Establish New Auxiliaries
3. Maintain and strengthen our current Auxiliaries.
4. Recognize Red-Flag Auxiliaries

### EXTENSION

We need to make certain that current Auxiliaries are sound, but it is equally important to make presentations to bachelor Posts and when viable to institute new Auxiliaries. An Auxiliary cannot exist without a Post and there must be a 2/3 vote of the Post to get started. Positive and knowledgeable Auxiliary presenters are important when addressing a Post.

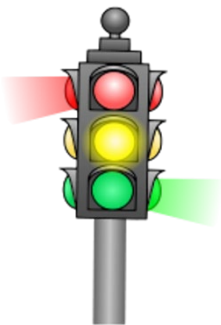
Ask permission to describe the benefits of an Auxiliary to a VFW Post. Extension tools and presentations are available in MALTA Member Resources.

**Establishing New Auxiliaries** Whether a VFW Post decides on its own that it wants an Auxiliary or whether an Auxiliary member or non-member sees the potential for a new one, the steps for creating an Auxiliary are the same.

1. A VFW Post must vote by 2/3 majority to have an Auxiliary. (An Auxiliary can never exist on its own without a Post and can never be started without that Post's permission.)
2. The Department President appoints the official organizer of that Auxiliary, and the organizer must be a member of the Auxiliary.
  - It would help to allow two others who are knowledgeable with Auxiliary business and work well with others to be on an organizing team. They can answer questions and assist with training, educating, and mentoring the new Auxiliary once it is instituted. It is recommended that the organizer and the organizing team work with the Auxiliary and its members for at least a year, or until they are ready to proceed as an Auxiliary in good standing.
3. A minimum of 15 eligible applicants must be on the Charter application. Transfers are accepted at the close of the institution and just prior to the installation of the newly formed Auxiliary. The Department Chief of Staff could assist by providing the following tools for the organizer and organizing team:

For more information on this topic, see Article II, Auxiliaries and Article VIII, Officers (Sec. 815) of the VFW Auxiliary Podium Edition: Bylaws and Ritual.

## Revitalization



Maintaining Current Auxiliaries as Healthy Auxiliaries is the focus of Revitalization. I purchased a stoplight for our Department Meetings and for President Amy to take on her District visits. I will display one of three lights: Green, Yellow, or Red at our meetings, so everyone can see how our Department is doing. I know it will be Green at all three meetings!!! Let me explain what each light means:

### **GREEN LIGHT –YELLOW LIGHT – RED LIGHT**

Auxiliaries who are at the **GREEN LIGHT** are healthy Auxiliaries.

**YELLOW LIGHT** - Auxiliaries are displaying a Red Flag and a caution light, and it is up to the Department Chief of Staff, when requested by the President, to assist the Auxiliary. The District President or Auxiliary Representative must be honest in the assessment of their visit to an Auxiliary and communicate any concerns to the Department President and/or Chief of Staff. This Red Flag could be failure to meet any one or more of the **5 Essentials of an Auxiliary**. It could also be a subtle concern for example, attracting no new members, failure to report in Programs, no new officers, not growing, or failure of members to attend District and Department meetings and Department trainings. As soon as the **Caution** light appears, the Department Chief of Staff needs to work closely with the Department President and observe what is happening on the Auxiliary level - be ready to spring into action. This is the time to step in and **OBSERVE** the Auxiliary and offer **MENTORING**. Pick the member or team that fits the Auxiliary – there is no one size fits all. Perhaps mentoring would be the solution and the Auxiliary can get into the **GREEN** quickly. Mentors might be considered counselors and cheerleaders. Focus on the positives of the Auxiliary and encourage those, while offering guidance and training in areas of concern.

**RED LIGHT** – the Auxiliary may be put on suspension as a time to step back and regroup. Suspension should not be looked on as a negative thing, it simply means there is some work to do to get the Auxiliary where it needs to be. The hope is that the Auxiliary will recover and come back stronger and better than before.

The National Organization has developed many resources for members to use, including tools available in MALTA Member Resources. These resources have proven to be valuable tools in helping Auxiliaries be more productive.

**The Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit** – included in this kit are seven (7) resources to assist Auxiliaries in identifying and solving issues:

- Healthy Auxiliary Checklist
- Healthy Auxiliary Member Questionnaire
- Auxiliary Meeting Clinic
- Communication Phone/Text Tree
- Good Job Certificate
- Healthy Auxiliary Certificate
- VFW Auxiliary Mentoring Guide

***Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation*** makes every effort to educate members on all aspects of the duties of Officers at all levels, how to be a Chairman, the why of reporting, etc.

Saving an Auxiliary may be achieved by recruiting new members. Work with your Membership Chairman to help an Auxiliary become Healthy. (No new members = a true Red Flag) (See Membership in MALTA Member Resources for recruiting tools)

## **Five Essentials of an Auxiliary**

The National Organization requires only five (5) things of an Auxiliary:

- 1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. (Sec. 210, A.) Five (5) members in good standing (of that Auxiliary) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. (Sec. 212, A.)**
- 2. Dues should be paid by at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 207, C.)**
- 3. Quarterly Audits by Trustees must be submitted. (Sec. 814)**
- 4. Officers elected, installed, and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30. This generates the bond application via email. (Sec. 804A and 806A)**
- 5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31. (Sec. 814, E.)**

## Mentoring for Leadership

Mentoring for Leadership should include training and educating members to be future leaders. We must make sure that the legacy of the VFW Auxiliary continues through strong and healthy Auxiliaries with members who are prepared to take on leadership roles and will continue to move the VFW Auxiliary forward. We can't allow our Auxiliaries to stay "in the past", technology gives us the ability to reach so many more members, which then allows us to continue the tradition and promise to take care of our veterans and their families. As National Chief of Staff Betty Arnold stated, "**blend the past with the present to guarantee our future.**"

1. Mentoring helps broaden leadership skills and leadership provides guidance for mentoring members; they work hand in hand.
2. A stronger membership will be accomplished through mentoring.
3. Through the mentoring process, we can form a friendship with a new member or even a member who has been inactive for a while, thus creating a stronger Auxiliary.
4. Utilizing the Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future document will help you get started in creating a Program for your Auxiliary.
5. Through this Program you will be encouraged to promote the CARE concept.

### CARE CONCEPT

**C-** Catch a 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.



Over time, this member may express interest in holding an office or chairmanship. Work with them to help them succeed. This will only make the Auxiliary and the organization better. Choose the mentor carefully. If the member is interested in floor work, choose an experienced floor worker, if they are interested in keeping books, have them work with the Secretary or Treasurer.

### Remember to use our Resources:

- *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation*
- Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit
- MALTA – Extension & Revitalization
- The current year National Program Book "Understanding Auxiliary Traditions" video.

If you need anything, please **DO NOT** hesitate to call, or email me. Here's to a very successful year!!

## HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS

Stephanie Leary, Department of Missouri Chairman  
1031 NE Remington Ct., Lee's Summit, MO 64086  
(573)337-9399 | dlearyous89@gmail.com



First off, thank you for taking on the responsibility of being your Auxiliary's Historian and Media Relations Chairman. Secondly, I want to thank Amy Jo for asking me to record her special year and to help promote the projects of the VFW Auxiliary Department of Missouri. I look forward to working with all the Chairmen and providing any assistance needed. My goal is to provide new and old hints, tips and tricks throughout the year to help everyone be successful.

Your responsibility will be to document how your Auxiliary is "Helping Veterans by Bridging the Gap" this year. According to the by-laws, "the Historian shall collect all authentic material pertaining to the history of their Auxiliary, carefully compile the same, and submit a report at the end of the year." You may also choose to use your photos, documentation and storytelling to help provide your president with a memorable keepsake to cherish when looking back at their time as President. This could be a pictorial scrapbook, photobook, digital frame, slideshow or video.



Through Media Relations, you will be the voice of your Auxiliary, its Programs and activities. This can be done through a website, social media, radio, newspapers and local TV. Media Relations is a key role which helps your community understand the significant work your Auxiliary and Post does. This in and of itself is a fantastic way to find additional support for your Auxiliary's Programs and also help grow your Auxiliary's membership.

Resources to help you with your job are plentiful. In MALTA ([malta.vfwauxiliary.org](http://malta.vfwauxiliary.org)) you will find media releases, flyers, social media posts and how-to documents. Check out other organization websites for their promotional materials and tool kits that can be used for awareness months. Don't forget to partner with the other Program Chairmen to help them get the word out about their initiatives, too.

While creating your materials as the Historian & Media Relations Chair remember to obtain the 5 W's (who, what, when, where and why) and provide those with the information you release in order to clearly convey your message. Don't assume people automatically know!

While you are not expected to be a professional photographer please keep in mind the capabilities of your camera, the photo size setting (minimum 1 MB), the framing, arrangement and lighting of your subjects and having a lens clear of smudges and fingerprints (especially with a cell phone camera).



I would love to highlight what the Auxiliaries across Missouri are doing. Please send me a link to your auxiliary's website and/or social media page(s). Also, on social media you can also share with Department and National what you are doing by using the following hashtags in your public social media posts: #VFWAuxMOhistorians, #AuxiliariesInAction or #AuxInAction, #VFWAuxiliary or #VFWAux, #AuxSWAP (Sharing Wonderful Auxiliary Projects), #VFWAuxTBT (Throw Back Thursday).



## REPORTS

Reporting is for statistical purposes only and should be done, if possible, on the Department's website, [www.vfwauxmo.org](http://www.vfwauxmo.org) > Members Only > Program Reporting. If you are unable to do so you can request another person to assist you or send it directly to me.

Reporting will ask these questions:


- Did you communicate quarterly to each of your members via email, printed mail, text or phone call? How?
- Do you have a Facebook Page with or without the Post? Please provide link(s).
- Do you have a website with or without the Post? Please provide the link.

## AWARDS

- Department Building Bridges Award for Auxiliary Historian & Media Relations Program
  - Most outstanding promotion highlighting the teamwork displayed between VFW Auxiliary and VFW members in an endeavor that assists Veterans.
    - 1st Place - \$20 and a citation to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 4 Membership Groups with the most outstanding promotion.
    - 2nd Place - A citation to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 4 Membership Groups with the most outstanding promotion.
  - The promotion must be to the community and can be through social media, newspaper, radio, etc. It can be a one-time promotion or multiple promotions.
  - Entries are due under online reporting by April 15, 2025.
- National Award for Auxiliary Historian & Media Relations Program
  - Most outstanding promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources.
    - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the most outstanding promotion of the VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources.
  - VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form from MALTA to me by March 31, 2025 for judging before being sent to National.



*Helping our Veterans by Bridging the Gap*

<p>Karen Cypret  2222 Whiplash Lane  Washburn, Mo. 65772  417-342-7652  <a href="mailto:mohospitalvavs.kcypret@gmail.com">mohospitalvavs.kcypret@gmail.com</a></p>		<p>Missouri Hospital VAVS  2024-2025</p> <p>“From Our Roots to Our Branches”  we are “Helping Veterans by  Bridging the Gap” and “Giving our  time and energy for our veterans in  need.”</p>
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VAVS stands for **Veteran Affairs Voluntary Services**

The first National Home, now the VA’s oldest hospital, was opened in Maine in 1866. They provided medical care and long-term housing for Civil War Veterans. These homes were initially to be room and board for disabled veterans. However, by the late 1920s, these homes were providing a level of care comparable to hospital care and in 1930; President Hoover created the Veterans Administration to consolidate all veteran services. And we were there! In 1928, the Hospital Program became the second National Program adopted by the VFW Auxiliary. We as hospital volunteers have spent over 100 years donating millions of hours offering smiles, compassion, aid, comfort, dollars, etc., to our veterans. The way we volunteer today is much different from our beginnings.

**Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support:**

New volunteers are needed every day across our nation to step up and carry on the work that our older members started. Missouri has seven (7) Veterans Homes. It is imperative that we get the word out about the need for new volunteers because the need is greater than ever.

Be confident and share your positive experiences and your joy as working as a hospital volunteer. Your testimony is one of your best recruiting tools. Additionally, do not just share with your fellow members but with family, neighbors, friends, youth groups; reach out into your community to educate them about volunteering for our veterans.

**Where can we serve?**

Members, non-members and youth can volunteer in many types of facilities under this Program:

- Local hospitals
- Veterans’ homes
- Nursing homes
- Adult Day-Care Centers
- Fisher Houses
- Both VA and non-VA medical clinics and facilities

**Here are the Missouri Veterans homes and their contact information.**

Cameron Veterans Home  
1111 Euclid Cameron, MO 64429  
(816) 632-6010

Cape Girardeau Veterans Home  
2400 Veterans Memorial Dr. Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 290-5870

St. James Veterans Home  
620 N. Jefferson St. James, MO 65559 (573) 265-3271

St. Louis Veterans Home  
10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63136 (314) 340-6389

Mexico Veterans Home  
#1 Veterans Dr. Mexico, MO 65265 (573) 581-1088

Mt. Vernon Veterans Home  
1600 S. Hickory Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 (417) 466-7103

Warrensburg Veterans Home  
1300 Veterans Rd. Warrensburg, MO 64093 (660) 543-5064

You can find this information and more at [www.mvc.dps.mo.gov](http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov)

**Veterans Hospitals and their contact information:**

Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital  
800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201-5297 (573) 814-6000

Jefferson Barracks  
1 Jefferson Barracks Drive St. Louis, MO 63125-4199 (314) 652-4100

John J. Cochran Veterans Hospital  
915 North Grand Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63106-1621 (314) 652-4100

John J. Pershing VA Medical Center  
1500 N Westwood Blvd, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 (573) 686-4151

Kansas City VA Medical Center  
4801 Linwood Boulevard Kansas City, MO 64128-2226 (816) 861-4700

You can find all this information and more at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

### **Craft at Home:**

We have changed it from Sew at Home to Crafting at Home. There are so many things that people craft that isn't sewing. You can sew of course, but how about knitting, crochet or even woodworking?

How about making and then taking homemade cards into nursing homes. Do you like to make handmade greeting cards? This is a fun project for your auxiliary to do as a group, include the youth in your area also. Little children love to craft. Look beyond the Christmas cards. What other holiday can you make cards for?

### **Food Insecurity:**

Many veterans and their families today find it hard to spread their budgets to the end of the month. Many facilities have a food locker to assist in this need but many do not have the space to accommodate food storage so grocery store gift cards are really appreciated. The facility's social workers generally manage this program so check with the CDCE Chief for more information. This would be a great auxiliary fundraiser!

### **Women Veterans Health Care**

The VA is dedicated to meeting the health care needs of our nation's women veterans, which is the fastest growing group of the veteran population. Comprehensive health services are available and tailored to the unique needs of women veterans. Check with your CDCE Chief for special events that are being planned and what you can do to help.



June 12th is Women Veterans Day: She Serves, She Sacrificed, She Deserves.

### **Honors Escort:**

The Honors Escort Program in VA facilities is part of the end-of-life protocol for veterans who pass away while in their care. The Honors Escort is an opportunity to honor each veteran in a respectful and open manner. It provides a way for a veteran's family and friends, other veterans and facility staff to participate in a display of reverence to the veteran at the time of death. Check with your facility to find out if they have an Escort Program and how you can help. If no program exists, introduce the idea to them and be sure to include your VFW members.

**Unusual National Holidays** are fun to celebrate.

Don't forget about the staff and doctors. Have your Auxiliary start planning fun days! Here is a great link for you to start planning your fun Days. <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/>

**Department Hospital Project:**

Wal-Mart gift cards in the amount of \$20 is the project I have selected for the 24-25 year. It is common for residents in Veterans Homes and Nursing Homes to need money for things that is not provided with the services they receive at the homes. Veterans in hospitals are in need of the same. This will provide them dignity allowing them to have control over a small part of their lives. My goal is to have One Thousand (1,000) \$20 cards for our deserving veterans. It would be wonderful if we surpassed our goal. Please purchase the cards and bring them to the Department meetings (or send them with someone who is going). We will be collecting them all year round and will divide them equally among the Veteran Homes and VA Hospitals.

**Online Reporting:**

Please remember to report any activity you have done as soon as you have completed it. Make sure your auxiliary chairperson is mentioned in the description if they are not the one doing the reporting. Please do not hold your reports until the last minute. You may forget to report on something that you have done.

**Things I'm looking for this year:**

- Number of \$20 Wal-Mart gift cards donated
- Amount of money donated
- Number of handmade cards made and delivered
- Most outstanding project

**Department of Missouri Building Bridges Awards for Auxiliaries:**

First place - \$20 (subject to approval by the council) and a citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

Second place: A citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

**Helping Veterans by Bridging the Gap with Teamwork  
From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans**

2024-2025 "CRAFT-AT-HOME" VOLUNTEER PIN APPLICATION

Submit completed form to the Department Hospital Chairman by April 15, 2023

Karen Cypret 22222 Whiplash Lane Washburn, Mo. 65772 (471)342-7652

[mohospitalVAVS.kcypret@gmail.com](mailto:mohospitalVAVS.kcypret@gmail.com)

Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Aux.# \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary President: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

List auxiliary members entitled to "Craft-at-Home" Volunteer Pin/Charms based on accumulated crafting hours for items crafted for VA Medical Center, Nursing Homes, Outpatient Clinics, Community or other Hospitals.

Name	Location	Total Hours

50 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 100 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 150 Hours \_\_\_\_\_

200 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 300 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 400 Hours \_\_\_\_\_

500 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 750 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 1000 Hours \_\_\_\_\_

2000 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 3000 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ 4000 Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Number of First Time Sewers: Pins: \_\_\_\_\_ Crafters: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please apply for charms when accumulated hours are earned by the volunteer.

First time sewers will receive the "Scissors" pin.

Auxiliary Hospital Chairman Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary President Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_






Program Book







Bottom Line Up Front (BLUF)  
Bulletin  
Department of MO Legislative  
2024-2025 Program Book

Monica R Schroeder  
6617 Hwy P  
Westphalia MO 65085  
[moaux8045@gmail.com](mailto:moaux8045@gmail.com)  
573.680.5738








### Importance of Today's Legislative Program

 It is considered the Legislative Program to be the root of all other VFW Auxiliary Programs and initiatives. After all, legislative rights are the reason the VFW and Auxiliary were formed. And the VFW Legislative Priority Goals, which are released annually, provide the framework for all VFW work on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. All VFW Auxiliary Programs support and relate to the Priority Goals in one way or another. If we understand the importance of the Legislative Program, then our efforts to advocate for our veterans become that much more effective and our voices will be heard!




### Goals

-  Budget
-  Health Care
-  Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs
-  Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
-  Military Quality of Life
-  National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA


### Must Do's

-  Bridging the Gap and show a united VFW and Auxiliary
-  Get involved with Military Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO)
-  Know the Priority Goals
-  Use the Action Alerts
-  Communicate with elected officials and identify yourself as VFW Auxiliary
-  Share Legislative resources with members and communities
-  Host register to vote events


### Objectives of Legislative Program

-  Improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families.
-  Study the issues of the VFW Priority Goals
-  Call needed attention to crises such as homelessness and suicide.



### Auxiliary Legislative Guidelines

 In all Auxiliary political activities, we must remain neutral. Legislative activity is different from political activity. We support bills, not people or political parties. No Auxiliary space, which includes websites and social media accounts, should show favoritism towards any candidate, party or issues not endorsed by the VFW.

### Legislative Chairman

 Present a report at each meeting. Give a brief description of current priority legislation that will affect our veterans, service members and their families. Report on the status of bills.

### The Missouri Building Bridges Awards:

-  First place \$20 and a citation goes to one Auxiliary in each of the four Program Divisions.
-  Second place: A citation goes to one Auxiliary in each of the four Program Divisions.

Judging will be based on reports submitted throughout the year; winners will be announced, and awards presented at the 2025 Department Convention.



## National Awards for Auxiliaries



Most outstanding activity and/or event collaborating the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.



Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with most outstanding activity and/or event that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources at

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources>

Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

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



## Action Corps

Sign up for Action Corps so you stay current on key legislation.

Text “VFW” to 50457

Visit website:

<https://votervoice.net/VFW/Register>



Scan the QR Code

## Legislative Resources

VFW Website: [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

MO VFW Auxiliary Website: [www.vfwauxmo.org](http://www.vfwauxmo.org)

VFW Legislative Priorities:

<https://www.vfw.org/legislativepriorities>

VFW Legislative Priorities including VFW 2024 Priority Goals:

<https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service>

VFW Action Corps Weekly:

<https://www.vfw.org/actioncorpsweekly>

All Federal Bills Currently Supported by VFW:

<https://ssl.capwiz.com/vfw/issues/bills/>

Federal Bills: <https://www.congress.gov>

US Senators: [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

US Representatives: [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

MO Senators:

<https://www.senate.mo.gov/Senators/Index>

MO Representatives: <https://house.mo.gov>

MAVO Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064617375512>

“Helping Our Veterans by Bridging the Gap”  
“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to  
Our Veterans”



# Department of Missouri Membership

## 2024-2025 Program Book

**Vicki Garcia – Membership Major (Chairman)**

816-392-3220 \* [moauxgarcia5675@gmail.com](mailto:moauxgarcia5675@gmail.com)

1004 Lakeshore Drive, Odessa MO 64076



Attention squadron members! I am **Major Vicki Garcia**, your new **Membership Major**. My mission is to ensure our squadrons are cohesive, motivated, and mission-ready. Let's work together to strengthen our bonds, enhance our capabilities, achieve excellence and live out daily our Membership Squadron Mission Statement. Remember, teamwork makes the dream work!

### MEMBERSHIP SQUADRON MISSION STATEMENT

"Our mission is to **soar to new heights in recruiting new members** by **bolstering our squadron of current Auxiliary members** with **battle-tested skills** while **fortifying the resolve** of our **squadron by enlisting new members to ensure our organization's legacy lives long into the future**. We pledge to **execute precision maneuvers in membership drives, forge unbreakable bonds in mentoring new members** and **unleash our recruiting skills** in every endeavor. Together, we'll **dominate the skies, ignite camaraderie** and **propel our legacy** forward. Aim high, embrace the challenge and let our collective wings carry us to victory!" We are bold, resilient and unwavering! We will **pledge** to join forces with our counterparts in the VFW. Together we can bring forth the vision of "**Helping our Veterans by Bridging the Gap**".

This year our focus will be on meeting our membership goals using an Auxiliary's current membership quota. What does that mean? That means that to meet the goals set forth by our Queen Ant, each Auxiliary will need to get to **100%+ to be considered a growing Auxiliary**. We want to award growing auxiliaries! This percentage will be based on the current years' membership quota as of July 1, 2024. How do we do that? **Recruit, Recruit, Recruit**. With that in mind there will be various Department awards this year based on recruiting new members and rejoins.

The current make-up of our organization has most of our members over the age of 75. There is just no easy way to say that we are losing more and more members to death each year. While it is sad, the truth is that we need to gain new members each year just to maintain our current membership levels. To grow we must double our efforts to focus on recruiting. I know we all love this organization and joined for our own reasons, but our common reason is our love for veterans. Let's remember that as we concentrate this year on **growing** our organization so that our mission can last years into the future.

In dwindling ranks, our strength declines, a legacy fading, like whispered winds. Future veterans await our care, yet empty chairs remain, unoccupied. Don't let this be our organization's legacy. More than any other year, please make this year the year to focus on recruiting new members. If we all just pledged to recruit or rejoin 1 new member our Department would grow by over 12,000 members! Can you imagine it? I can.

And without further ado, I will now introduce this year's membership squadrons along with the goals to meet to be considered for awards.

# DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI – MEMBERSHIP SQUADRONS

## Fearsome Fighters Squadron

Team Captain Meghan McGrath

Districts 6 & 9



## Aim High Squadron

Team Co-Captains: Joanne Hammuck & Judy Northcutt

Districts 2, 5, 12, 17



## Recruiting Raptors Squadron

Team Captain Jennie Rosales-Wolfgeher

Districts Non 1, 7, 15, 18



## Unity Flyers Squadron

Team Captain Melinda Ross

Districts 3, 8, 14



## **Airfield Operations Officer Captain Jackie Davis - Members At Large**

Our first exercise of endurance and fortitude will be to meet the orders given by our Queen Ant. It is my job as your Membership Major, along with my captains to make sure we follow her orders at each stage of our campaign to the "T". All Auxiliary orders for membership goals are as follows:

**85% + by August 15, 2024**

**90% + by September 30, 2024**

**95%+ by November 15, 2024**

**98%+ by March 1, 2025**

**100% + by May 15, 2025**

**101% + by June 30, 2025**

Remember, that Department membership goals are based on your current membership quota NOT paid membership. For the Department to reach the goals set forth by National we must reach above and beyond. If we meet the above goals then **WE WILL** not only meet National's membership goals, but **WE WILL** exceed National's membership goals! How exciting would that be?

It is imperative to meet these goals to increase our squadron's strength to meet the current and future challenges our veterans will combat. Every increase in membership is one more voice we have in Washington to make sure bills are passed that benefit our veterans.

## **DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

Good news auxiliaries! This year there will be **NO online reporting necessary for the membership program!** Which also means there will be **no year-end awards. What?** Instead, I will be giving out awards **all year long! YOU** get an award, and **YOU** get an award, everyone gets an award...well probably not but I can hope! The following awards will be presented at each of the fall and winter conference meetings and at the June 2025 convention meeting.

### **AWARDS FOR MEMBERS**

**Recruiter's Wings Award** – given to the Auxiliary member who recruits the most new members or rejoined members since the last meeting. This outstanding recruiter will receive \$25 and a citation. **Auxiliary treasurers are not eligible for this award.**

**VFW Recruiter's Wings Award** – given to the VFW member who recruits the most new Auxiliary members or rejoined members since the last meeting. This outstanding recruiter will receive \$25 and a citation.

### **AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

**Top-Flight Ace Award-** given to the Auxiliaries that meet all Department membership goals since the last meeting. All eligible Auxiliaries will receive a citation and be put into drawings for a chance to win \$50.

**Recruitment Star** – given to the Auxiliaries that have had at least one membership drive since the last Department meeting. Photos and documentation of the membership drive must be emailed to the Membership Major ("Chairman") at least two weeks prior to any Department meeting to be considered for this award. Eligible Auxiliaries will receive a citation and be put into drawings for a chance to win \$50.

## **Recruiting and Membership Tools**

### **BE PREPARED TO SHARE YOUR "WHY" NARRATIVE WITH POTENTIAL RECRUITS**

Recall your initial motivation for joining our organization and your ongoing commitment to service. Emphasize the bond of camaraderie and dedication to supporting veterans and their families.

Can you effectively communicate the value of our organization to potential recruits? Among various non-profit organizations, what sets us apart? Having clear 'who we are' information strengthens our case for why someone should join us. Remember, effective communication is essential in recruitment, and understanding our unit's purpose and mission helps convey its significance to prospective members.

#### **WHY should someone join our organization?**

- To contribute to the well-being of our veterans, service members and their families.
- To enhance one's skillset and professional growth.
- To establish valuable connections and foster camaraderie
- To access essential services and support, including insurance coverage, grants and discounts.

We've developed a fresh new QR Code for recruitment purposes. It's deployable at recruiting events and can be affixed to recruitment posters. This allows potential members swift and convenient access to membership resources. No longer do you need to generate hard copies of this information, which often end up discarded.

Remember, clear communication is essential, especially when conveying technical details to potential recruits.



Just some of the resources that can be found using this QR Code:

- Current Membership Application
- VFW Auxiliary Fact Sheet
- VFW Auxiliary Benefit Sheet
- Current VFW Priority Goals Brochure
- VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel
- VFW Auxiliary Benefit Sheet
- VFW Auxiliary National Program Overview

### **ATTRACTING YOUNGER MEMBERS**

Attention Auxiliary members and Post members! Our mission: to enlist the next wave of Auxiliary warriors. There's a vast pool of eligible candidates waiting for our call to duty. The recent conclusion of the 20-year Middle East conflict has left us with staggering numbers of potential recruits, but, here's the challenge: it's not about a shortage of prospects; it's about igniting enthusiasm and understanding about our organization. We must adapt our approach to attract these young members. Think like our fellow veterans and their families.

Many juggle time constraints due to young children and busy schedules. So, how do we reach them? No longer can we rely solely on post events or community invitations. We must meet them where they are—conveniently and purposefully. Remember, they are the future of our organization. It's time to reshape ourselves, evolve and become something better.

Our continuing mission: to engage the next generation strategically. Young members could care less about a bake sale, a blood drive, bingo night, or monthly breakfast at the post. So, where do they reside these days? They'd rather text than talk on the phone; they thrive in virtual events and meetings; and social media is their daily playground.

Our organization must adapt and meet them **WHERE THEY ARE**. Here's how:

1. **Innovate:** Break free from the old mindset—"that's how it's always been done." If we don't evolve, we won't endure as an organization.
2. **Tech Allies:** Tap into tech-savvy members or their tech-savvy offspring. Even if they're not eligible for membership, their support matters.
3. **Social Media Surge:** If we're not there already, establish a robust social media presence. Regular posts—minimum once a week—keep interest alive.
4. **Electronic Outreach:** Communicate events via text, email and social media. Let's bridge the gap and shape our future."\*



**Where** can we find these new, younger members? Most of them are related to current members of the Auxiliary and Post members.

Here's our plan:

1. **Member Intel:** Have your members compile a list of potential recruits.
  - o **Column A:** Family members you KNOW are eligible to join. Consider gifting them membership.
  - o **Column B:** Family members who MAY be eligible. This is a chance to reconnect.
2. **Doubling Down:** Imagine if each of us recruited just one new member—our organization would double in size within a year!
3. **The Power of ASK:** Don't underestimate the simple act of asking. When you meet someone new, inquire if they would consider joining our ranks. Find out if they share our passion for helping veterans.
4. **Eligibility Check:** Determine if they're eligible to join. Focus on finding passionate individuals who align with our cause. An engaged member is a valuable asset.
5. **Active Engagement:** Once they're on board, encourage their participation. Together, we'll shape our future.

How do we ensure active participation from our new recruits? Let's break it down:

1. **New Member Orientation Checklist:** Implement this essential tool. It's our compass for guiding fresh recruits through their initial steps.
2. **Talent Recon:** Identify their unique talents and skills. Each member brings something valuable to the table.
3. **Communication Channels:** Tailor our approach to their preferences. Whether it's email, text, or carrier pigeon, we'll meet them where they're most comfortable.
4. **New Member Packet:** Assemble a comprehensive packet. It's their induction into our ranks—a roadmap to understanding our mission, values and expectations.

When assembling new member packets, let's ensure they are well-equipped for their journey. Here's our checklist:

1. **Bylaw Briefing:** Include a concise updated bylaw book. It's their compass for understanding our rules and regulations.
2. **Acronyms & Jargon:** Demystify our language. Provide an Acronyms & Common Terminology guide—essential for navigating our conversations.
3. **MALTA Maneuver:** Help them create a MALTA login. It's their gateway to our digital realm.
4. **Welcome Dispatch:** Send a personalized "Welcome" email or letter. Make them feel part of our squadron from day one.
5. **Benefits Blueprint:** Detail their Membership Benefits. Show them the perks of joining our ranks.
6. **Tradition Transmission:** Share our Auxiliary traditions. These rituals bind us together.
7. **Officer Intel:** Provide contact information for Auxiliary officers, Department officers and National officers. They are their go-to allies.
8. **Program Overview:** Educate them on VFW Auxiliary National Programs by including a VFW Auxiliary National Programs: An Overview. It's our mission in action.
9. **VFW Store Recon:** Include the VFW Store Flyer/website/catalog. Gear up for duty!
10. **Recruitment Roll Call:** Attach a current membership application. It's their ticket to enlistment of other new members.

## Create a membership team:

Your mission: to assemble a dynamic membership squadron within your Auxiliary. The treasurer alone cannot shoulder the burden of recruiting new members or retaining our current ranks.

Your team must be strategic and comprehensive. Here's the blueprint:

1. **Dues Dispatch:** Contact current members about annual dues (Dues Notice). Keep the financial engines running smoothly.
2. **Reconnect Recon:** Reach out to former members. Encourage them to rejoin our ranks. Let's reignite their passion.
3. **Recruitment Rally:** Set dates for recruitment events—aim for at least four. These are our frontline engagements.
4. **Mentor Matchup:** Assign mentors within your Auxiliary. Active members guiding the next generation.
5. **MALTA Maneuver:** Conduct a MALTA training. Teach them how to pay dues seamlessly. Our digital arsenal awaits.
6. **Roster Revamp:** Clean up rosters—remove deceased members and correct bad addresses. Streamline our forces.
7. **Training Summit:** Hold a Membership Training Session. Equip them with knowledge and camaraderie.

Remember, our strength lies in unity. Together, we'll shape the future of our organization!

## Encourage attending District and Department meetings:

Let's rally our forces for District and Department meetings. The more intel our members gather, the more active and engaged they'll become.

Here's our battle plan:

1. **Lunch Recon:** Offer to buy lunch for first-time attendees. It's a gesture of camaraderie and ensures they feel welcomed.
2. **Carpool Convoy:** Extend the carpool invitation. New recruits need allies—they'll appreciate the friendly ride.
3. **Wingman Escort:** Stick with them during the meeting. Introduce them to members from other Auxiliaries. We're building bridges.
4. **District Deployment:** Remember, those who engage at the District level are more likely to soar to Department meetings and beyond.

## National Membership Awards

All National Awards for membership will be based on your membership percentage in accordance with the CMR - Paid cancelled & deceased on MALTA. The CMR-Paid, Cancelled & Deceased report can be accessed in MALTA under the reports tab.

### Awards for Members

1. **RECRUITER PIN:** For each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2025. Recruiter pin will be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters.
2. **NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACHEIVEMENT AWARD:** For each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits 20 new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2025.
3. **TOP RECRUITER AWARD:** For one recruiter in each of the 4 conferences who recruited the most new and/or rejoined members in their conference.
4. **VFW Auxiliary Recruiter Drawing** for each VFW Auxiliary National Membership Achievement Award winner. Winners will be entered into a drawing to receive one \$500 Visa gift card.

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio. If winners of 2 or 3 above are not in attendance, the award will be mailed directly to the winner from National Headquarters after the National Convention.

**Auxiliary Treasurers and VFW Recruiters on all levels are NOT eligible for membership awards listed in 2-4 above.**

To be eligible to win the **VFW Auxiliary Recruiter** drawing you **MUST** be present to win.

Recruiter Award Forms are no longer needed for VFW Auxiliary members. Reports are compiled by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters from information entered in MALTA.

For more information, please refer to the National Program Book on the National Website.

### National Auxiliary Awards

1. **Fifty-dollar (\$50) Award** to each Auxiliary that reaches **100+% prior to June 30, 2025.**
2. **VFW Auxiliary Drawing** – Each Auxiliary that reaches **101+% prior to June 30, 2025,** will be entered into a one-time drawing to receive **\$500.**

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.





# VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

An incomplete application could delay your membership start date.

**Applicant completes sections A, B, C or D and F. Auxiliaries/Departments complete section E.**

**A**

Recruited/Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recruiter Member ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 Auxiliary No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID (If already a member) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual Membership  Rejoin  
 Life Membership  Transfer  
 Member at Large in Department of \_\_\_\_\_  Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters  
 (If not a transfer, skip to B.)  
 **LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
 **ANNUAL TRANSFER**  Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  Paying  Nonpaying  
 **ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE** (Fill out Life Membership information below.) Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_

**B**

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  Female  Male  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**C**

**POST-AFFILIATED** (\*Must be a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_

**D**

**NON-AFFILIATED** (\*Veteran is not a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Post (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of campaign ribbons or medals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**E**

Investigating Committee Signatures

1  \_\_\_\_\_ 2  \_\_\_\_\_ 3  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws.  Rejected  Accepted Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_ Obligated Date \_\_\_\_\_

**F**

**OBLIGATION** In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Must be signed by all members.)

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY**  Check here if this is a gift.

Credit cards may NOT be used for initial payment of Annual Dues.

Cash  Check  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AMEX \_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership Fee

Name on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

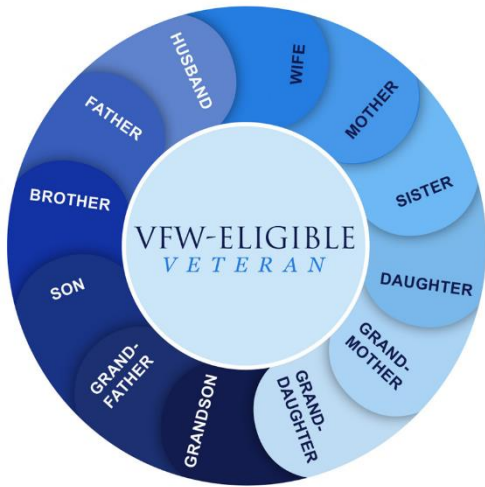
Billing address for card \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature  \_\_\_\_\_





## Who Can Join The Auxiliary Under Your Eligibility?

VFW Members your family can join the VFW Auxiliary!

Members Name \_\_\_\_\_

VFW Post# \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Must be 16 years or older and one of the below.

**Please give to the Auxiliary Membership Chairman or President.**

### Spouse: Male/Female/Widow/Widower

Name	Phone Number

### Parents: Mother/Father/Step/Adopted

Name	Phone Number

### Siblings: Sister/Brother/Half/Step/Adopted

Name	Phone Number

### Children: Son/Daughter/Step/Adopted

Name	Phone Number

### Grandparents: Maternal/Fraternal/Step/Adopted

Name	Phone Number

Thank you!





**Jenn Hoyt**

**Missouri VFW Auxiliary Scholarship Chairman 2024 - 2025**

**Email: [Hoytauxiliaryscholar24@gmail.com](mailto:Hoytauxiliaryscholar24@gmail.com)**

**816 - 674-5157**

This year I want to challenge you and your Auxiliary to walk for education. Some of your sisters and brothers have smart watches or fitbits. I would like each Auxiliary to donate to the scholarship fund so we can continue to help our youth grow. One way your Auxiliary can donate is to participate in a Walking Challenge where from July 1 to December 31, 2024 you keep track of how many miles you and your auxiliary are walking. Each month you turn in your walking form to your District Scholarship Chairman and they can email it to me. Now, you are wondering how to get money for walking. Simple, ask for it. Ask your family members or your friends if they will donate to your miles.



Example: Say, if I walk five miles. Ask- Will you donate \$5?

You would be amazed how much money you can get to donate for our scholarship fund. I will have a form attached that you keep track each week of how many miles you walk and how much money you get from walking.

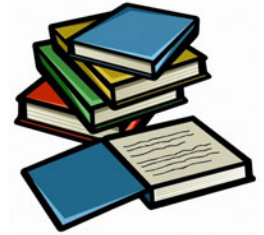
Your Auxiliaries can send the donations to Jackie Davis and make checks to MO VFW Auxiliary and put in the memo (scholarship fund)

There will be an award given to the Auxiliary and District for the highest donation to the Scholarship fund.

## **Continuing Education Scholarships**

This scholarship is open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. Entrants must be at least 21 years old, complete the application, and submit an essay of 300 words or less. The application must be received at National Headquarters by February 15:

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



Or email it to [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

\$1,250 will be awarded to an applicant in each of the four Conferences. Applications are available on the Department website or in MALTA Member Resources.

## **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest**

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art is the Auxiliary's newest contest in the Scholarships Program. We are proud to offer this contest to all patriotic young artists in grades 9-12.

Both art contests are open to any student in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who is 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 intend to become a U.S. citizen. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or older, GED and adult education students, or national winners of previous Patriotic Art Contests are ineligible.

Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. One Department winner will be forwarded to Auxiliary National Headquarters. Please see the student brochure in MALTA Member Resources for more details on requirements and contest rules.

## **Art Contest Deadlines:**

**Participating VFW Auxiliary – March 31**

**(District Judging is OPTIONAL)**

**VFW Auxiliary Department – April 15**

**VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters – May 5**

## **National Scholarships: Young American Creative Patriotic Art**

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

## **National Scholarships: 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art**

First place - \$2,500

Second place - \$1,500

Third place - \$1,000

Fourth place - \$500

Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical or trade school of the winners' choice. Please promote this contest in your area. We have talented and creative artists waiting to be discovered.

Please note that the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest is an additional scholarship and separate from the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. See the official rules for art forms that are accepted for this contest.

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Escrow Fund needs your help to reward more of our young patriotic artists at the National level. Consider holding a fundraiser designated for Patriotic Art with your Post and Auxiliary.

To Donate to the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund Login to MALTA. Click on "Make a Gift." Select Patriotic Art

Mail checks earmarked Patriotic Art to:

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

Attn: Patriotic Art Scholarship Fund

406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor Kansas City, MO 64111



## □ **2024 - 2025 Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest**

Theme: **Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?**

Open to students in grades 9-12 by the October 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 intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students aged 20 or older, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or adult education students are ineligible. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.



### **National Awards:**

First Place – \$35,000 scholarship

Second Place – \$21,000 scholarship

Third Place – \$15,000 scholarship

Fourth through 36th Place – \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship

37th - 53rd Place – \$1,000 scholarship

## □ **2024 - 2025 Patriot's Pen Essay Contest**

Theme: **My Voice in America's Democracy?**

Open to students in grades 6-8, by the October 31 deadline who are enrolled in public, private or parochial school or home study programs 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 at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. (Foreign exchange students and former winners that placed in the National contest are excluded from the contest.) One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

### **National Awards:**

First Place – \$5,000

Second Place – \$4,000

Third Place – \$3,500

Fourth through 53rd Place – \$2,750 to \$500

### **Deadlines for both Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen:**

**Entries to VFW Post – Midnight, October 31**

**Post Judging Complete – November 15**

**Department Judging Complete – January 10**

**Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters – January 15**

## **Missouri Past National President scholarship Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**

The Department of Missouri offers two scholarships (\$1,800 and \$1,200) in honor of Mabel Tanner and Glenneta Vogelsang who served as National President to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary.

To qualify, students must be a high school senior and the sibling, child, grandchild or great-grandchild of a current Missouri VFW or VFW Auxiliary member

To apply, submit the following by April 15, 2025:

- 1) Application
- 2) A letter of recommendation from your high school principal, counselor, teacher or home school teacher.
- 3) A copy of your high school transcript.
- 4) A brief essay highlighting your community involvement, volunteer activities, honors you have received, and any organizations you participated in or outside of school.

Be sure to celebrate and recognize all students, teachers, parents and members who participate in and promote these scholarships. Invite your local media to attend and cover award ceremonies. The VFW store offers certificates for awards. Shop the VFW Store online at [vfwstore.org](http://vfwstore.org).

## **Scholarship and Contest Resources**

Complete list of all contest rules can be found on the following resources:

- VFW website  
[vfw.org/community/youth-and-education](http://vfw.org/community/youth-and-education)
  - MALTA Members Resources
  - VFW Auxiliary National Website  
[vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships](http://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships)

## **Department of Missouri Building Bridges Awards for Auxiliaries:**

First place - \$20 (subject to approval by the council) and a citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

Second place: A citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.





# MISSOURI PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY

The Department of Missouri has two special ladies, **Mabel Tanner** and **Glenneta Vogelsang** who served as National Presidents of the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. To honor each of these ladies' year of service, the Department of Missouri Auxiliary offers an **\$1,800** Scholarship and a **\$1,200** Scholarship to two deserving high school seniors who are the **sister, brother, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, great-granddaughter, or great-grandson** of a current member of the Department of Missouri Auxiliary/VFW.

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of College or vocational/technical school enrolled in and plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

### VERIFICATION BY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, COUNSELOR, OR HOME SCHOOL TEACHER

This is to certify that: \_\_\_\_\_ ranked \_\_\_\_\_ in a class of \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name No. of Students in class

The date of Graduation will be \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

Comments about applicant should be submitted on a separate page and attached to this form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal, Counselor, or Home School Teacher Signature

### APPLYING UNDER THE ELIGIBILITY OF

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
VFW or Aux. Member's Name

Member of Auxiliary/Post #: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Eligibility must be verified through the Post/Aux. in which the member belongs.)

This is to verify we have checked the eligibility of the student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary President Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary Scholarship Chairman Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- To be considered you must submit:**
1. Your completed application.
  2. Letters of recommendations from **one** of your current instructors/**one** from a counselors/principal/home school teacher
  3. A copy of your transcript.
  4. A brief essay (300 words max) highlighting your community involvement, your volunteer activities, the honors you have received, and any organizations you participated in or outside your school.

**Send all required information to:**  
**Jenn Hoyt, 705 NE Magellan Ave. Apt A, Lees Summit, MO 64086-5513**  
**Due No later than April 15, 2025**



# Veterans and Family Support Department of Missouri

Darla Nebel  
4736 Gorrell  
Bland, MO 65014  
[Shebe6787@gmail.com](mailto:Shebe6787@gmail.com)

## Program Book 2024-2025

(573) 205-3454

Our Department President Amy Jo has chosen the theme” **HELPING OUR VETERANS BY BRIDGING THE GAP!!**” and Brenda Bryant, our National President, picked “**FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS.**” as her theme. I think the two themes work beautifully together and express how all the hard work we do is for our veterans. Veterans & Family Support is the core of everything that our organization stands for. Almost anything and everything that our membership does can fall under this program.

This year the Veterans & Family Support program will have three primary points of focus:

1. Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness
2. Childcare for active-duty service members
3. Veterans and Military Support Programs

### **Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness**

Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention is our president’s special project this year. Every day in the United States, 22 veterans succumb to suicide — losing their personal battle to invisible wounds of war. We need to stand up to do something to help veterans struggling with PTSD. We as an Auxiliary need to help our veterans and their families to find the tools to help themselves. We need to help our Veterans bridge the gap to help with their suicide/mental health awareness. Be mindful of the characteristics associated with thoughts of suicide and be watchful of our veterans' mental health. One veteran lost to suicide is one veteran too many!

What will you do for our veterans, service members and their families this year?

The Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can:

- Call 988 and Press 1.
- Call 1-800-MyVA4 1 1 to access all VA departments.
- Chat online at [veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net).
- Send a text message to 838255.

Confidential support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Tip: Add the Veterans Crisis Line number as a contact in your cell phone for easy referral.

Here are some great resources for Mental Wellness Support:

- **VFW Mental Wellness Campaign:** [vfw.org/assistance/mental-wellness](http://vfw.org/assistance/mental-wellness)
- **The Campaign to Change Direction:** [ChangeDirection.org](http://ChangeDirection.org)
- **Give An Hour:** [GiveAnHour.org](http://GiveAnHour.org)
- **Patients Like Me:** [PatientsLikeMe.com/join/vfw](http://PatientsLikeMe.com/join/vfw)
- **One Mind:** [OneMind.org](http://OneMind.org)
- **The Elizabeth Dole Foundation:** [ElizabethDoleFoundation.org](http://ElizabethDoleFoundation.org)
- **Help Heal Veterans (Therapeutic Craft Kits):** [HealVets.org](http://HealVets.org)
- **Veterans Voices Writing Project:** [VeteransVoices.org](http://VeteransVoices.org)

## **Childcare for Active-Duty Service Members**

As we serve diligently toward our mission of serving veterans, we often overlook those the veterans support themselves -their children. A special focus on this year's Veterans & Family Support Program is giving back to these families. Maybe it's babysitting for a few hours a week, providing for the babies and toddlers or maybe just being emotional support for the spouse left behind to take care of the family. By being a confidant for service member's family, our members are providing that much more peace for our active-duty military.

## **National and Missouri Veterans Service Programs**

The VFW's National and Missouri Veterans Service helps veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve - at no cost to the veteran. NVS/MSV provides a nationwide network of nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who help veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system. Those VFW Service Officers recover more than \$1 billion annually in VA benefits for veterans and their dependents.

These highly skilled professionals assist all veterans, whether they are VFW members or not, in filing claims for:

- Disability compensation.
- Rehabilitation and educational programs.
- Pension and death benefits.
- Employment and training programs.

NVS/MVS also works to ensure veterans receive quality, timely and accessible VA health care, including:

- Hospital care.
- Outpatient care.
- Specialized health care for female veterans.
- Alcohol and drug dependency treatment.
- Medical evaluation for disorders associated with military service, exposure to Agent Orange, radiation or other environmental hazards.

## **VFW Veterans & Military Support Program**

Veterans & Military Support contains programs initiated by the VFW: Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs and the VFW "Sport Clips® Help A Hero Scholarship." These programs serve active-duty and recently discharged military.

### **Military Assistance Program**

The Military Assistance Program (MAP) helps VFW and Auxiliary members give more to their local military units by providing funds to connect with troops. It helps forge and nurture bonds with those units by providing financial assistance for Posts, Districts and Departments to sponsor morale-boosting send-offs, homecomings, and casual get-togethers.

Post and Auxiliaries participating in Adopt-a-Unit and Family Readiness Group events can also receive assistance. MAP keeps care packages circulating by covering postage costs.

For guidelines to apply for MAP funds, contact the VFW Veterans & Military Support office at (816) 756-3390.

### **Unmet Needs Can Help in a Crisis**

Veterans, service members and military families face many unique challenges – financial difficulties should not be one of them. Unmet Needs is there to help America's military families who have run into unexpected financial difficulties because of deployment or other military-related activity or injury. Grants of up to \$1,500 payable to a creditor can bridge the gap to make a mortgage or rent payment or to fund home and auto repairs, insurance, utility costs, food and clothing. To learn more, visit [vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants](http://vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants).

### **VFW "Sport Clips® Help A Hero Scholarship" Program**

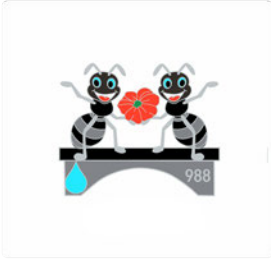
The VFW and Sport Clips are giving the gift of scholarships to our nation's heroes as a way of thanking them for their dedicated service to our nation. The VFW "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" awards scholarships of up to \$5,000 to qualifying veterans and service members to help them complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. To learn more, visit [vfw.org/student-veterans-support](http://vfw.org/student-veterans-support).

### **Monetary Donations**

Donations to these wonderful support programs can be made online or by mail. To donate online go to [vfw.org/ways-to-help](http://vfw.org/ways-to-help) and select the program you wish to donate to, then click the Contribute button. Donate by mail by sending funds to the VFW. Be sure to earmark which program or programs you are donating to (Veterans & Military Support, National Veterans Service, Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program, or VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"). Mail checks to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, 11th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111







Department of Missouri VFW  
Auxiliary  
Youth Activities Program  
2024-2025

Lori Suiter  
11703 E 37<sup>th</sup> St S  
Independence, MO 64052  
816-805-2245  
lsuiter5576@gmail.com

»Our children are the rock on which our future will be built, our greatest asset  
as a nation.

Nelson Mandela

Our youth are the future of our country. They are impressionable, and we as Auxiliary members are in a unique position to mold and teach our young people the principles upon which our nation was founded. We can lead by example while serving our veterans, service members and their families.

### **Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups**

As part of the Auxiliary Youth Activities Program, an Auxiliary can sponsor a youth group and engage youth in any of our programs, including activities to honor and assist our veterans and their families. Recruit within your local schools and youth organizations that may require volunteer or community service hours for advancements, school credits or service hours.

#### **Examples of Youth Groups you can work with:**

- School clubs
  - Youth sports teams
  - After school programs
  - Home School Association
  - Church youth groups
  - Scouting programs
  - JROTC
  - Youth community service groups
  - Nonprofit organization youth advisory councils
- And so many more!

Never forget, involving youth can bring new membership! When you involve entire families, they feel welcome and included. If children can help at an event, remember to act responsibly and respectfully around them. They are watching and learning from you.

### **Patriotism Through Literacy**

This program helps us promote and encourages our youth through literacy. We have the ability to introduce historical figures and teach them about events in our nation's history, all while fostering a love of books that leads to a lifetime of learning.

#### **Some examples of way you can participate are:**

- Volunteer to read to youth at a local library or school.
- Hold a book drive, and donate to local library, school, or shelter.
- Host a read-a-thon
- Invite an author to do a book talk/signing in your area.
- Host a "Reading" party at your post home.
- Donate patriotic books to local schools, libraries, etc.



## Youth Reading to Veterans & Veterans Reading to Youth

Reading is a big part of growing up and learning. Most students have nightly reading starting at a young age in school, and many times just listening to someone talk about patriotism and American history can be dull, but with a book, we can take them on a journey through history, and get them interested in patriotism, the Flag, and our country.

If you go to [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities, there is the Patriotism Through Literacy book list that is divided up by grade levels that you can pick books from. Check with your local libraries to see if they have any of the books in stock, or check bookstores, online, or e-books.

- Host a day of reading. Veterans can read to youth, and youth can read to them. Choose a book from the Patriotism Through Literacy list.
- When visiting a VA or nursing home see if the staff can set up a reading area for the youth and veterans can read to each other.
- Create a read-a-thon

## Illustrating America

The Illustrating America Art Contest is open to any student in grades K-8 who is enrolled in public, private, or parochial 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. Students must be U.S. citizen or lawful U.S. permanent resident. Foreign exchange students and students age 15 or older are ineligible. National grade division winners of previous Illustrating American contests may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous National winner.

- ✓ Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique.
- ✓ Contest will consist of three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5, and 6-8
- ✓ Entries must be received by Auxiliaries by **March 31, 2025**.
- ✓ **First place winner** from each grade division due to Department by **April 15, 2025**.
- ✓ Entry forms and contest rules can be found at [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities



## Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citation

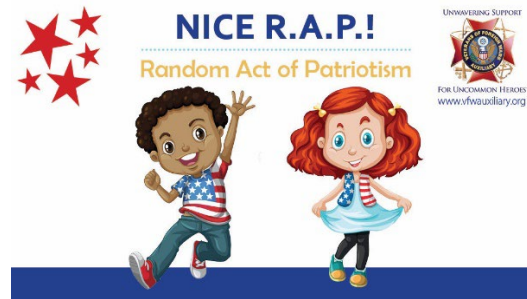
The Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citation is one way Auxiliaries can recognize youth groups for their efforts and service projects honoring veterans, service members and their families. This fillable, printable citation is available at [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities.

## Patriotic Youth Award

The Patriotic Youth Award is designed to recognize individual youth for their patriotism and/or support of our veterans, service members and their families. A fillable, printable citation is available at [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities.

## Random Acts of Patriotism

Children like to be told they are doing a good job. These R.A.P. cards are the perfect thing to print and present to our younger youth when they are observed doing something patriotic. Remember to take time and explain why you are giving it to them. You can find the template at [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities.



## Involve Youth in ALL Auxiliary Programs

Our youth are such a vital part of our future, that we must encourage involvement from an early age in all Auxiliary programs. There is always a place to serve even for our youngest youth. We also have the opportunity to communicate our cause easily through social media for all to see.

### Project examples Youth can help with:

- Visiting and volunteering in VA and non-VA facilities
- Marching in patriotic parades
- Volunteering to help veterans, service members, and families with yard work or house repairs.
- Send cards and small gifts to the VFW National Home families.
- Plan card and letter writing campaign in local schools to send mail to troops and veterans.
- Organizing collection, assembly, and delivery of care packages for troops.

### Department of Missouri Building Bridges Awards for Auxiliaries:

**First place** - \$20 (subject to approval by the council) and a citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

**Second place:** A citation to one Auxiliary in each of the membership groups with the most outstanding program/project including teamwork within the Auxiliary and including the VFW members.

### National Awards for Auxiliaries:

Most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth.

Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth.

Entry form is required and available at [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under Youth Activities. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2025, for judging.

As we involve our youth in *“Helping Veterans by Bridging the Gap With Teamwork”*, let us never forget that *“From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans”* is the reason we exist.



# HELPING VETERANS BY BRIDGING THE GAP

Department

2024



Ways and Means

2025

**Are you ready for a new and exciting year!**

Hello. I'm so excited about the new year. We decided to try something a little different. Along with the raffle baskets we will be doing a small silent auction at the fall and winter C of A meetings. I'm also asking Every Auxiliary to send at least 3 grab bags for each meeting and 5 for next year's Convention.

## Fall Council of Administration

Baskets: 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8

Silent Auction Items: 9, 12, 14, 15, 17, & 18

Grab Bags: 3 bags Every Auxiliary

## Winter Council of Administration

Baskets: Districts 9, 12, 14, 15, 17, & 18

Silent Auction Items: Districts 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8

Grab bags: 3 bags EVERY Auxiliary

## State Convention

Baskets: All Districts

Grab bags: All Auxiliaries 5 bags



Briana Borts

Ways and Means Chairman

Cell – 660-473-5514

Email: [vfwaux2591@gmail.com](mailto:vfwaux2591@gmail.com)