

The Ohio Quibbler

October 2023

Head Professor's Message

We find ourselves already in October, with the leaves changing, cool nights, hoodies, and boots. I hope everyone is on the right track to get their next quarter audits ready and to the Department office. Make sure that you include the last monthly bank statement (for all accounts), that it has been signed by at least two trustees, and has been voted on at your meeting. I have noticed on the dashboard that there are still a few audits missing, and your Auxiliary should be getting those taken care of as soon as possible. I would love to see every Auxiliary and District President receive the Ohio Excellence Award.

I would once again like to remind everyone of our upcoming Zoom meeting for our #teamohio Magic Makers on October 7th, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. The Zoom link has been sent to your District President and is going out by email to your Auxiliary Presidents. These meetings are designed for you to ask questions and receive good information to keep your Auxiliary moving in the right direction. I have seen and heard some wonderful ideas of Districts and Auxiliaries coming together at their posts or someone's home and hosting a zoom party. I truly encourage everyone to participate, and bring your questions, we will have the chat line open. I would like to remind everyone to be courteous and respectful of one another and stay muted, unless asking a question, or you can ask it through chat. I will be posting an agenda soon on the Facebook page.



President's Message Continued

I would like to remind everyone to be kind to one another, to always read your by-laws, and if you have questions, to always contact someone higher to help before you give an answer. I know that everyone does not agree all the time, that sometimes people just DO NOT like one another and, once-in-a-while we just have a bad day. However, when we close the door and sit in our meetings those differences MUST be put aside to make magic happen for our Veterans. Remember, we are here to assist our Veterans, V.F.W, families, communities, and youth. Our purpose is to promote patriotism, honor the fallen, promote the National programs, educate our youth, and use our voices to make the lives of the ones who gave so much better while they are serving, and when they get home. We are Not here to be petty and mean to one another. Please think about what you say to others and how you say them before you react. I know I have been guilty of this myself many times. We are all human but should always strive to be better every day and leave a legacy of service we can be proud of.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and the awareness color is purple. I would like to ask each auxiliary to reach out to your local domestic violence shelter and see if they have any needs. Maybe you could host a dinner, raffle, or ask for donations through your community or at your post to make-a-monetary or goods donation to the shelter from your Auxiliary. I would also love to see all of you in purple this month and flood our Department Historian with a picture of you or your auxiliary with a sign saying I/we am a phoenix. I am a survivor, and I am proud to say that I am a phoenix, and though it is over 20 years ago the trauma still lives on for the ones who get a way. Special recognition will be given to all auxiliaries that participate.

I would like to say thank you to the team Ohio magic makers for everything you do daily in making our world a better place, to everyone who participated in the 124th celebration of our VFW founding fathers. Thank you to all that took the time to come to Reynoldsburg VFW 9473 to meet and greet our National President, we had a phenomenal visit. Special shouts out to Colonel Butler and Peggy at the Veterans Memorial Museum for their time in making our National Presidents visit extra special. Reynoldsburg Auxiliary President Susan Ashlaw, the Commander, and their Honor Guard for assisting with the auxiliary shuffle. The VFW Ohio Charities for assisting with transportation, and the VFW for the comradery. To all who are sick, please know you are in my prayers. To all who have lost someone special my heart is with you and send my sincere condolences. I am always here to assist and answer questions. Thank you for this extraordinary adventure. Together we Rise.

Loyally Serving,
Shannon Stanley
Department President



National President's Visit

National Auxiliary President Carla Martinez arrived in OHIO Thursday, September 21, 2023. On Friday, September 22, 2023 NP Carla, DP Shannon, Dept Line Officers and District Presidents toured the National Veterans Memorial Museum in Columbus, had lunch, stopped at the VFW Plaque and went shopping at the Easton Mall. After shopping, they headed off to the Reynoldsburg Post #9473 for a Meet & Greet with our National Auxiliary President.

Saturday, September 23rd was the VFW Founder's Day Celebration and Ceremony at Greenlawn Cemetery to Honor the Founding members of the VFW back in 1899. After Speaking to the attendees, everyone went back to the Paul Lawrence VFW Post to a luncheon. The National Commander-in-Chief and National Auxiliary President both spoke and helped present the 2 James Romanis awards to a VFW & Auxiliary members that were nominated for going above and beyond for our Veterans, their families and communities.

Saturday evening, the VFW & Auxiliary met for dinner and afterwards for some ice cream at Graeter's Ice Cream inn Columbus.

#TEAMOHIO enjoyed and were honored to have our National President with us on this most important weekend for the VFW and the entire organization-because NOBODY DOES MORE FOR VETERANS than the VFW



LOOK



Meet & Greet National President Carla Martinez

A BIG Thank you to the Reynoldsburg Post #9473 for stepping up and allowing the Auxiliary to have National Auxiliary President Carla Martinez' Meet & Greet with the VFW Department of Ohio for the National Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento when illness fell upon Whitehall Post. Lots of fun, laughter, comradery and wings/fries were had by all who attended.

Sending healing prayers to our Brothers & Sisters at the Whitehall Post for speedy recovery!



LOOK



Founder's Day 2023





Auxiliary Winner of the James Romanis Award

CONGRATULATIONS TO District 12 Auxiliary President Renee Rosenberry who was awarded the 2023 James Romanis Award at the Founder's Day luncheon held September 23, 2023 at the Paul S Lawrence Memorial Post #9857 in Columbus.

Renee was nominated for the extraordinary work for our Veterans, their families and communities. Here is a little bio of Renee below. If you see Renee, make sure to congratulate her!

Renee' joined the VFW Post 8402 Auxiliary as a life member January 26, 2005. The offices Renee' has held at the auxiliary level are treasurer, chaplain and is currently the Sr Vice President of her Auxiliary. Renee's eligibility comes from her husband, Greg who was a previous District 12 Commander and served 21 years in the Air Force. Renee' is also a proud mother of a daughter who is currently serving in the United States Air Force. Her favorite thing about the Auxiliary is the many new ways we learn to serve our Veterans.



LOOK



CHAIN OF COMMAND

AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS

Report to the District President with problems



DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Assists ***Auxiliary Presidents*** in finding solutions to problems. If you are not sure of the answer or action to be taken, contact the ***Department President***



DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

Will work along with the **Chief of Staff** to help find solutions to the problems the **District Presidents** have reported. Will contact the **National Office** with any problems or actions that cannot be taken care of on the Department level

PLEASE **DO NOT** deviate from this
CHAIN OF COMMAND
Following this will make it easier
for ALL of us!

Eligibility Requirements for VFW Auxiliary Membership:

Members must be at least 16 years old.

Those eligible are:

- Husband/Wife
- Widower/Widow
- Father/Mother
- Grandfathers/Grandmothers
- Sons/Daughters
- Grandsons/Granddaughters
- Brothers/Sisters

Of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Those eligible for membership in the VFW are those that have received a campaign medal for overseas service; have served 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days in Korea; or have ever received hostile fire or imminent danger pay.

Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.

Proof of service is required for eligibility and must be obtained by the applicant.

Information on a veteran's service record can be obtained by contacting:

National Archives and Records Administration

Phone: 1-866-272-6272

Online:

Veterans Service Records: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

4-Step Veteran Request Process: <https://vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html>

Military Records Request Using Standard Form 180 (SF-

180): <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>

If you have membership questions or need more information, please contact us at info@vfwauxiliary.org.

Department Secretary/Asst Treasurer: Diana Moore-Morris

I am a Life Member of Black Lamberjack Carey, Ohio Auxiliary 3759. I joined under the ligibility of my son, who served in the United States Air Force in four foreign conflicts and is now retired. My husband, Ben, is a Vietnam veteran. I have held numerous positions and Chairmanships on the Auxiliary, District and Department levels. I am a past Department President (2016-2017) and a member of the Circle of Excellence. I am also a Past National Council Member Area D, as well as being a Page for National Conventions. Ben and I share two sons, one daughter, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. We enjoy spending time with family and camping. I also spend some of my spare time relaxing by playing the hammered dulcimer.



District 2 Auxiliary President: Kristina Smith

I joined the Robert Lee Griner VFW Auxiliary #9289 under the eligibility of my husband, Christopher Smith. He Served in the United States Marine Corps from 1999 to 2003. Out of his 4 years of service he spent 2 years over seas. He was an Amtrack Crew Chief, and did the first am-philious landing on the beach of Iwo Jima since WWII, he joined our post under the eligibility of be-ing in South Korea, and was our post Quartermaster 2020-2023, he discharged as a SGT.

I grew up in St. Mary's and graduated from MHS in 2001. I currently work for our VFW which is a joy and a challenge. We currently live in St. Mary's, and have two sons Robert and Logan. Growing up I heard so much about all of the branches of the military and took pride in the long line of servicemen and women in my family. My dad served in the Army during Vietnam and was stationed in Germany. My older brothers were both in the Army, David retired in 2021 as a Lt. Col. All of my uncles served, one in the Army, one as an officer in the Navy and on as a Gunny in the Marines.

Since Joining the VFW Auxiliary I have held all of the chairmanships at post level, Jr and Sr Vice for our post and for district, I have been the Buddy Poppy/National Home Chairman for District 2, on the Credentials Committee for Department and am a life member of the National Home. I am also a member of Celina Moose Lodge #1473, Bellefontaine American Legion Auxiliary #173, and was a member of the St. Mary's Summerfest Committee for a number of years, chairing Salute to Veterans and all Veteran events for the weekend along with my husband Chris. Coming from a large military family I am big on getting PTSD and Veteran Suicide out there, no Veteran should ever have to go through these things alone; in 2021 I started the Silent Watch in St. Mary's at Memorial Park, and I hope to see many VFW & Auxiliary members there to help bring awareness to the situation. I am currently a trustee for the post level. I am so proud to support our Veterans and their Families!



Nomination for Outstanding Auxiliary Member

Nomination form for Outstanding Auxiliary Members for the Ohio Quibbler

*Members being nominated have a chance to be spotlighted in the monthly Ohio Quibbler

Name of Auxiliary Member being nominated: Kathy Fitz

Name of Member NOMINATING: Darla Lowe

District 9 Auxiliary 2529 Date of event: 5-13-2023

Details of Outstanding Act/Event:

Kathy Fitz is 94 years young and works with the best of us. She helped at a Buddy Poppy drive from 8am till 5pm at Tractor supply in Sandusky. She helped with a Buddy Poppy drive at Fin Feather Fur from 10am till 5pm. She put 1000 poppies on American flags for July 4th to be passed out downtown Sandusky. She wasn't able to be downtown because of illness. She attended Friday and Saturday at the June Convention. She attended every Auxiliary meeting when she is feeling well enough for Darla to pick her up. She only missed a few. She helped with a Fin Feather Fur raffle on Aug 19th from 10am till 5pm. The winner received a \$500.00 gift card to Fin Feather Fur. She shares her love for Veterans at the nursing facility any chance she can. They know when she leave she is usually going to go do something with the VFW.

Kathy had 2 brothers that served during Pearl Harbor. She has lost both of them now but still thinks of them often.

She is a great listener, a awesome friend and a great supporter of Veterans and this VFW.

Photo attached: ☒ yes ☐ no

Date submitted to Dept Historian: 9-22-23

How Nomination was submitted: email

by email or snail mail



Nomination for Outstanding Auxiliary Member

Nomination form for Outstanding Auxiliary Members for the Ohio Quibbler

*Members being nominated have a chance to be spotlighted in the monthly Ohio Quibbler

Name of Auxiliary Member being nominated: Kim Ratliff

Name of Member NOMINATING: Paula Platte

District 9 Auxiliary 2743 Date of event: _____

Details of Outstanding Act/Event:

Kim became a member of our auxiliary a little less than one year ago, but she recently converted to a life member. She is an incredible member and has chosen to be very active. She is always volunteering her time, even with a short notice, and often donates craft items to be raffled. Kim comes early to open the concession stands and worked one night a week during the summer; furthermore, she picked up extra nights whenever people were needed. She served at our Reverse Raffle and POW/MIA dinner, as well as washed many dishes. She is dependable, works extremely hard, and is always willing to help!

She has a gigantic heart and shows her passion for serving veterans and their families in many ways. Her main project is creating patriotic jewelry and pins out of resin, as well as beautiful hand-painted masterpieces. These items are taken to craft shows, bingo, and anywhere people will buy them. Then, Kim gives at least half, if not all, of the proceeds to the Ohio Veterans Home. One of the paintings she did was a depiction of the "Honor Flight," and it was breathtaking! A family member of a soldier on the actual flight came to her booth, saw the painting, and burst into tears. Without hesitation, Kim gave her the painting free of charge to show her gratitude of their service and sympathy for their loss. The family member was speechless! Another cool thing she did was make each of the District Presidents a wand pen as well as a spell book and pen for Dept. President, Shannon. Kim was so excited to give them to Shannon as a gift, when we told her about the Harry Potter theme.

She is the guard for our auxiliary and is a flag bearer at the district level. Our auxiliary is blessed to have such an amazing woman with a servant heart! For these and so many other reasons, Kim Ratliff should be spotlighted in the Ohio Quibbler.

Photo attached: ☒ yes ☐ no

Date submitted to Dept Historian: 9/28/23

How Nomination was submitted: email

by email or snail mail



PIC-COLLAG



PIC-COLLAG



PIC-COLLAG



PROCLAMATION

Department Chairman



No. October 7th

ZOOM ONLINE TRAINING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

COME LEARN:

Q & A With our
Department Chairman

Come Be Apart Of The Magic!

"We Rise Together"



Department of Ohio Special Project

Ohio Department Commander Wiley and Auxiliary President Stanley have both chosen Save A Warrior as their Special Project for the next year. Save A Warrior™ was founded in 2012 to end the epidemic of suicide within our Veteran and First Responder communities. The Save A Warrior program serves our nation's heroes in crisis at no-cost to them and focuses on providing a pathway to healing from the devastating effects of Complex Post-Traumatic Stress (C-PTS) that oftentimes lead to suicide and suicidal ideations.

Text VFWPORJECT to 91999 to donate





PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT - SAVE A WARRIOR



Save A Warrior

**VFW Community Service encompasses many Auxiliary Programs, not just Auxiliary Outreach. Therefore, all that your Auxiliary does is to be reported to the Post Adjutant.*



VFW Auxiliary Outreach

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q.:** Every year my Auxiliary participates in a walk in our area that raises awareness about suicide prevention. Members walk in the event and donate \$100 to the organization. Can the number of hours and members who walked in the event count toward Auxiliary Outreach?

A.: This is a great team-building activity for your Auxiliary, however, walking or running in an event/trace may not be reported under Auxiliary Outreach. This example may be reported under Veterans & Family Support as that's where Veteran & Military Suicide Awareness and Prevention falls.
2. **Q.:** Members of a local Auxiliary were asked to sit on their county board to help raise money and volunteer to work at a dedication of a memorial that honors veterans. Since it was not a VFW- or VFW Auxiliary-sponsored event, can this be reported under Auxiliary Outreach?

A.: No, it cannot be reported under Auxiliary Outreach. It's for veterans and the betterment of the community, therefore, it should be reported under Americanism.
3. **Q.:** A few of the ways listed to participate in Auxiliary Outreach involve youth. Wouldn't this be reported under the Auxiliary's Youth Activities Program?

A.: It depends on the project. For example, if you are putting on a patriotic program at a school with your Auxiliary, that is reported under Americanism and/or Youth Activities. If your Auxiliary volunteers with the Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts to teach them the Folds of the Flag, that is reported under Americanism and/or Youth Activities. If your Auxiliary partners at the Boys & Girls Club to tutor a group of kids, that is reported under Auxiliary Outreach.
4. **Q.:** Our Auxiliary purchases and delivers turkeys for a food pantry every Thanksgiving. Does this get reported under Auxiliary Outreach?

A.: No, it does not. Dropping off turkeys for a Thanksgiving meal is not the same as volunteering time in the food pantry organizing food, serving meals, bussing tables, etc.
5. **Q.:** Our Auxiliary partners with another organization to host a sock collection at our local Walmart. Does this qualify as Auxiliary Outreach?

A.: It depends. If you stay and man the collection, then yes. If you drop off a collection bin and leave, then no.

If you are unsure of whether your project will count toward the Auxiliary Outreach Program, contact your Department Chairman with your questions.

the future. So, when Jane went to her monthly meeting, she told her fellow Auxiliary members about the need for volunteers at the blood drive. Her Auxiliary voted to help at these drives. Now when there is a blood drive Jane and other members of her Auxiliary are there, wearing Auxiliary attire and helping. This is Auxiliary Outreach.

VFW Community Service and VFW Auxiliary Outreach

VFW Auxiliary Outreach is similar to the VFW Community Service Program. Below is an excerpt from what the VFW communicates to their Posts. We hope this will help you to know what can and cannot be reported under this Program for both the VFW and the Auxiliary.

VFW Community Service

Community Service as defined by the National Community Service Trust Act "encompasses any human act serving the common good; in the interest of the community." Elsewhere, community service is further defined as "a service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. subscribes to the above but adds that, for the purposes of volunteer recognition, VFW community service must be performed by and as a representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and must be performed for an organization outside the VFW and its Auxiliaries and must be verified by an authorized representative of that organization.

In addition, efforts performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary's benefit should not be considered as community service.

A particularly controversial area in VFW community service is service to one's church. Generally, these efforts are not considered community service for two reasons: 1) they are not performed for the community at large; 2) they are part of an individual's service to their faith and not to the VFW. The exception to this would be performing the same service for all religious organizations in a given community.

Important Auxiliary Additions to VFW Community Service:

1. Wear something that signifies you are a member of the VFW Auxiliary.
2. The project must be voted on during an Auxiliary meeting. (The VFW also requires this in another section of their instructions.)
3. If what you are doing is reportable under another Auxiliary Program, report it under that Program, not under Auxiliary Outreach.
4. Auxiliary work* (e.g., Outreach, Americanism, Veterans & Family Support, etc.) is to be reported to your local VFW Post Adjutant so it can be added to their report. This will help your Post with eligibility for the National Outstanding Community Service Post Award.
5. Auxiliary Outreach volunteer work need not be verified by the organization you are partnering with. (This is a VFW requirement only.)

Auxiliaries are responsible for so many good deeds that help our communities. Collectively, all our projects need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community.

We hope this provides clarification on this Program. If you are unsure of whether your project will count toward the Auxiliary Outreach Program, contact your Department Chairman with your questions.

VFW Auxiliary Outreach Guide

What Does and Does Not Qualify



What is Auxiliary Outreach?

Auxiliary Outreach is volunteer work performed by an Auxiliary under the direction of another organization, for the benefit of their community or its institutions. It is a donation of time, not in-kind or monetary donations. It's about partnering with other organizations in our communities to help improve where we live. Auxiliary Outreach can:

- Be performed by people of any age, skill set or ability level.
- Benefit any group of people such as youth, senior citizens and those with disabilities.
- Benefit animals, the environment and public spaces.
- Be done in communities of all types and sizes – rural, suburban and urban, small and large.

What's Considered Auxiliary Outreach

Examples include:

- Working walks or runs that benefit other organizations as an event spotter, water station volunteer, timekeeper, etc. (Walking or running in the race is not part of Auxiliary Outreach; that's participation, not partnering.)
- Working with local police on child ID kits or with EMTs to host CPR Training.
- Working with firefighters on fire safety and prevention.
- Working with parks and recreation departments to plant trees, develop non-veteran related community art installations and on adopt-a-park initiatives.
- Helping with a spay and neuter animal clinic.
- Serving food at soup kitchens.

What's Not Considered Auxiliary Outreach

Auxiliary Outreach is for projects NOT AFFILIATED with VFW or VFW Auxiliary Programs. Volunteer work that is performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary is NOT considered Outreach. Examples of projects that do not qualify include:

- Repairs to, maintenance or beautification of the Post home.
- Cooking or serving a meal for a Post or Auxiliary fundraiser.
- "Buddy"™ Poppy distribution.
- VFW or Auxiliary meetings, conventions, conferences or schools of instruction.
- Providing an honor guard at a member's funeral.
- Flying the American Flag.
- Conducting Flag retirement programs.
- Church activities for one specific congregation and not the entire community (e.g., usher, elder, deacon, minister, etc.)

Examples

1. John, an Auxiliary member, mowed his neighbor's lawn out of the goodness of his heart. This is not Auxiliary Outreach. John found out his local senior center helps mow lawns for individuals in the community. He brought that up at a meeting. The Auxiliary voted to partner with the senior center. This is Auxiliary Outreach.
2. Jane, an Auxiliary member, went to donate blood. She noticed how busy the Red Cross volunteers were. She offered to stay to help them, and they accepted. This is not Auxiliary Outreach. However, while she was there, she asked if they could use help in



In 1924, the VFW registered the name "Buddy"® Poppy with the U.S. Patent Office. The "Buddy"® Poppy represents the blood shed by American military service members and reminds us of their sacrifices.



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Our HISTORY

"In Flanders fields the poppies grow / Between the crosses, row on row..."

Thus begins "In Flanders Field", and thus began the strong connection between poppies and military service. It was April 1915 when Colonel John McCrae penned the poem that would be published in *Punch* magazine a few months later. McCrae would not live to see the war's end, but his words have lived on for more than a century.

HISTORY

According to *Celebrate 75 Years: Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW*, the distribution of silk poppies to benefit children post-war started as the brainchild Madame Anna Guerin of France. She worked closely with the Franco-American Children's League until 1922, when the organization was dissolved.

She then connected with the VFW and, by extension, the VFW Auxiliary, to coordinate a nationwide poppy sale ahead of Memorial Day.

In 1923, after a year of struggling to obtain the original silk poppies, a decision was made to purchase materials from an artificial flower shop in New York City. That is also when the decision was made to have the poppies made by disabled veterans and veterans in need, who would be paid for their work.

ANNIVERSARIES

In 2022, the VFW celebrated a century since they declared the poppy the organization's official flower. Because the decision to do so was voted upon during National Convention, 2023 marked one-hundred years of Memorial Day distribution. In February 2024, it will have been 100 years since the name "Buddy"® Poppy was registered with the U.S. Patent Office, meaning no other organization can use the name. And in 1955, "Buddy"® Poppy officially became a joint Program of the VFW and Auxiliary, providing extra income to disabled veterans, while some of the money from donations goes to the VFW National Home, helping children and families. (The National Home will be celebrating their centennial in 2024!)

RECENT & FUTURE CHANGES

COVID-19 meant changes for the "Buddy"® Poppy Program. While members continued to distribute them for

donations outside public establishments, there were few places open in May 2020, making it difficult to do so. In 2023, VFW Headquarters and the VFW Store have been working on the rollout of a new "Buddy"® Poppy, one made from tin that is pinched together to be held in place, though the familiar ones will continue to be used. The pandemic also meant changes in who would make and distribute the poppies; this is now done at Cottonwood Incorporated, where adults with developmental disabilities are instrumental in the assembly. This helps them to earn a paycheck while also feeling personal satisfaction, as many are the children and grandchildren of veterans.

The "Buddy"® Poppy has been with us for more than a hundred years, and we hope to continue to use them in remembrance of veterans who have passed, including Colonel McCrae, for another hundred years, thanks to the continued efforts and support of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. ♦ NP

*"We are the Dead / Short days ago / We lived, felt down,
and sunset flows / Loved and were loved, and now we lie
/ In Flanders fields."*



TOP: Starlet Dora Day was the "Buddy"® Poppy Program's Leading Lady in 1955. **MIDDLE:** Hedwig Olson assisted the 1955-1956 "Buddy"® Poppy girl to the White House where she presented a Poppy to First Lady Mamie Eisenhower. **BOTTOM:** In this undated photo, taken in the 1940s, a VFW Auxiliary member smiles with a veteran who helped work to assemble poppies while in the hospital as part of his therapy.

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR OF THE UNITED STATES
PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT
"BUDDY"® POPPY PROGRAM**

NATIONAL CONVENTION "BUDDY"® POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

These guidelines have been designed to place emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays. It is suggested and recommended that Department (State) contests rule be established in a like form.

RULES

- (1) Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:

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

- (a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.
- (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

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

- (a) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the "Buddy"® Poppy.
- (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

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

- (a) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.
 - (b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.
-

- (2) Departments purchasing over 250,000 Poppies will be allowed two (2) displays in **each** of the three (3) categories for the National Display Contest ... all others will be allowed one (1) display in each of the three (3) categories, no deviations.
- (3) The National Programs Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down or returning displays.
- (4) Displays shall be set up in space provided in the convention facility. Prior to setting up the display, the responsible person must register with the "Buddy"[™] Poppy desk and complete an entry form (unless one was forwarded earlier, approved by Department) which will show the category of competition, the number of Poppies used, the purpose of the display, the Post and/or Auxiliary number and location, and the name of the person who will dismantle and remove the display at the close of the convention. **(Please be advised, all displays must be removed by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday or it will be disposed of by convention center personnel.)**
- (5) Displays may or may not be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewers or the judges.
- (6) Post name, number, city or state (including the shape of your state) may **not** be visible on the displays. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

JUDGING

Judging of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) is entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of Poppies used. Judging will be completed by Monday evening and the winning displays will have the appropriate ribbons placed on the display.

PRIZES

Plaques will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in each of the three categories, and will be mailed to the winning Department's adjutant after convention.

NOTE

The Department adjutant will have to notify the Programs Director, in writing, by **June 30th** of the Posts that will represent the Department in each category. This will allow us the time necessary to ensure each entry has sufficient space to set up at the National Convention.

Please be advised, the Programs Committee cannot guarantee against theft of personal items placed on the displays. The exhibit hall is secured at night and monitored by security guards; however, they monitor a large area and are not assigned to one specific area. We strongly discourage using items of sentimental value, items of value or items considered to be irreplaceable on the "Buddy"[™] Poppy displays. Thank you and good luck!

(Revised 12/9/2022)

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. (Sec. 200).
2. Quies should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 207)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 204)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer (MLO) be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least five (5) business meetings per year. (Sec. 2-20).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 2-17)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 2-14)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 15.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auditors should have at least five (5) business meetings per year (Sec. 210).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 804)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 18.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least two (2) business meetings per year. (Sec. 2-20).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 2-27)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 2-34)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 18.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer (MLO) be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auditors should have at least five (5) business meetings per year. (Sec. 203).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 207)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 604)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 18.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by Annual 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year (Sec. 202).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207).
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Treasurers. (Sec. 204)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 15.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer (MLC) be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least five (5) chapters (meetings) per year (Sec. 202).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207).
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 204)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 15.
5. The office of President and Treasurer MUST be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year (Sec. 202).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207).
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly and its by Trustees. (Sec. 804)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 15.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year (Sec. 202).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207)
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Treasurers. (Sec. 204)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 15.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be installed by August 31.

5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

1. Auditors should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year (Sec. 208).
2. Quorum should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year (Sec. 207).
3. Up-to-date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 804)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 18.
5. The officers of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31.

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Hospital Award for Auxiliaries No. 1

Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

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

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

Auxiliary Name: _____ No.: _____

Department of: _____

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

Department Hospital Chairman: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

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

AND

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

Forms sent directly to National Headquarters will not be processed.



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

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

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

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

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

| Number | Date* | New Auxiliary Member Name | Auxiliary Membership Number | Auxiliary Number |
|--------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
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| 20 | | | | |

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

Email to info@vfwauxiliary.org

or mail to

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

ATTN: Program Awards Administrator

VFW Auxiliary Membership Moment

How to Ensure a Membership Application is Complete



One of the most critical steps in considering a new member for the VFW Auxiliary is the careful review of the prospective member's application details by a three-member Investigating Committee appointed by the Auxiliary President (as outlined in Section 102 of the 2017 VFW Auxiliary Bylaws and Ritual).

As an exclusive veterans' service organization, the VFW Auxiliary must ensure that every prospective member's eligibility has been thoroughly vetted by an Investigating Committee before any action can be taken on the application. According to Page 1 of the VFW Auxiliary Booklet of Instructions, "It is the duty of the Investigating Committee to see that the applications are filled out completely before they are presented to the body for consideration." The following fields are to be completed on each application:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruited by• Auxiliary Name and Number• Kind of Membership (annual, life, etc.)• State• Name (spelled correctly)• Date of Birth• Address• Gender• City, State, Zip• Phone• E-mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post Affiliated or Non Affiliated• Relationship• Veteran (name)• Post Number (if applicable)• Name of campaign ribbons or medals• Foreign Service dates• Location• Applicant's signature and date• Signatures of the Investigating Committee (at least 2)• Signature line following the Obligation |
|--|---|

In addition to the prospective member's application, it is the responsibility of the Investigating Committee to review proof of honorable service of the eligible veteran, unless he/she is a member of the VFW Post to which the applicant is applying for membership.

Proof of the veteran's honorable service in any foreign war, insurrection or expedition (as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces) may be determined through careful examination of a Separation Document (DD214) with a VFW-authorized campaign or service medal of the United States; receipt of Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger Pay, as verified by a copy of a Leave and Earning Statement (LES) issued by the U.S. Armed Forces; or service in Korea for 30 consecutive/60 non-consecutive days after June 30, 1949.

Performance reports, travel orders, medical orders, medals reports, morning reports, assignment listings, buddy affidavits, and letters from a foreign war zone may also be reviewed if a DD214 is not available. For veterans pre-1946, a report of their discharge listing the medals and decorations that were earned is acceptable proof.

For soldiers currently on active duty, they will not have a DD214. In those cases, the appropriate orders showing overseas deployment to a qualifying area, or awarding of an authorized campaign medal, or a LES showing Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger pay will suffice to prove eligibility.

National Commander-in-Chief & President's Joint Project

The VFW National Home Welcome Center Renovation Project

**AUXILIARY NATIONAL PRESIDENT
CARLA MARTINEZ
& VFW NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
DUANE SARMIENTO**



THE GOAL IS TO REMODEL

the existing lobby area into a welcoming retail space, updated reception and information area.

JUST A FEW OF THE THINGS THAT WILL BE DONE WITH THE RENOVATION:

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

Beginning July 1, 2023, members may donate to this project in [MALTA](#) by selecting Make a Gift, National President's Special Project.

CHECKS CAN BE MADE PAYABLE/SENT TO:

VFW National Home
3573 S Waverly Rd. Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

Reference "Welcome Center Renovation Project"

Or go to: vfnationalhome.org/donate

In comments section type:

"Welcome Center Renovation Project"

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Lisa Jackson, "Buddy"® Poppy and VFW National Home
Ambassador: buddypoppyvfwhomeamb@gmail.com

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Join Safe Havens in breaking the silence!

Quick Facts

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experience some form of physical violence in their lifetimes.
- Domestic violence is a pattern of abuse where one person exerts power and coercive control over another in an intimate relationship. The abuse can take many forms including physical, verbal, and spiritual.
- On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines nationwide receive over 19,000 calls.

Resources

- National Network to End Domestic Violence
<http://www.nnedv.org>
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
<http://www.ncadv.org>
- National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
<http://www.ncdsv.org>
- Safe Havens
<http://www.interfaithpartners.org>

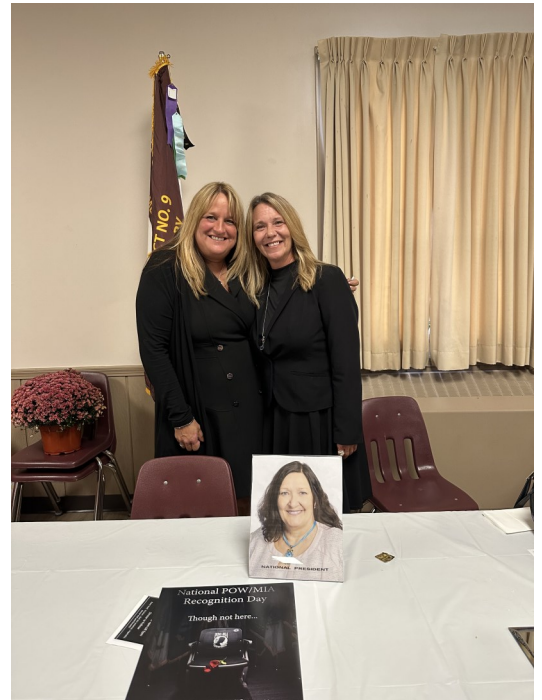
**National Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 799- SAFE (7233)**

There is NEVER an excuse for abuse!



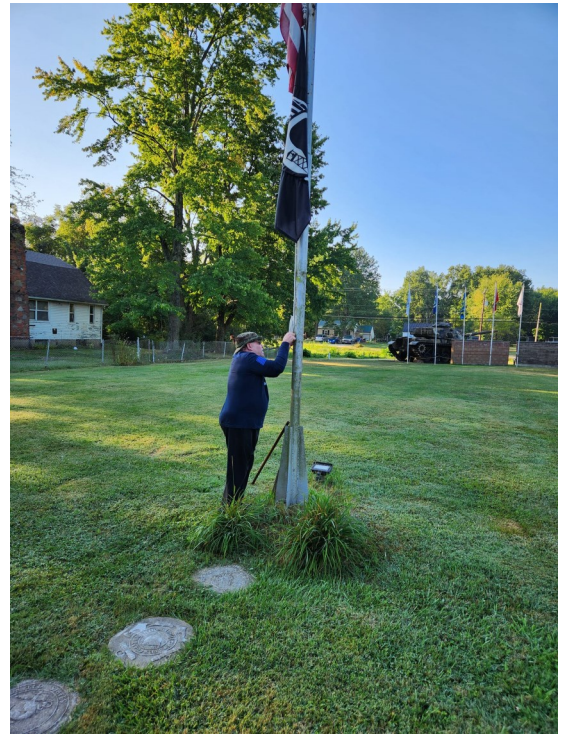
This project was supported by Grant No. 15J0VW-21-GK-02219-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.

© Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse, 2022















UPCOMING EVENTS

October 7-Zoom Meeting Online Training with
Dept Chairmen 10am-12noon

October 20-22-Big 10 Conference -Dept of
Illinois

God Bless our Troops, Veterans and their Families.
To all who has lost someone special, I send my heart
felt sympathy, and to all who are sick, I am praying
for you.

Loyally Serving with Love,
Shannon Stanley
Department President