



## President's Message February 2025



There is only one reason why...OUR WHY...we joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. It is to either honor the memory of a loved one who never came home from the battlefield or to serve in gratitude for that family member who did.

And there should only be one reason WHY we continue to stay a member of the VFW Auxiliary; to support the veterans of the VFW Post we are part of, to aid those veterans within our great state and assist where possible across the country, through programs like Buddy Poppy/National Home. There should be no other reason to be a member of this organization.

I see so many auxiliaries doing just that – taking care of their veterans. Helping their Post with a fundraiser, donating to the National Home, Unmet Needs, and/or the Department sponsored hospitals. I also hear of time spent within their communities, helping veterans outside of their post home, taking meals to homeless veterans and dropping off gifts to veterans in nursing homes. This is our mission, this is our purpose.

Having growth within our numbers is important, having strength within our membership even more so. We cannot get the work done without willing hearts and hands. It is important to educate our new members on who we are and what we do. As you recruit, make potential members aware this is a service organization, not a “club” – I hear that word too much lately and it trivializes who we are.

We are the support to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we are its Auxiliary. We are not members of the VFW, nor do we have any rights to the canteen or the Post, other than as guests. Both sides most certainly should be working together, but Auxiliary members need to remember the Post and it's canteen belongs to the veterans and be respectful of that.

Let's never forget our **WHY** and continue doing what the New Jersey VFW Auxiliary does best, take care of our veterans!

Loyally,

*Denise Beckler*



## **The Essence of Americanism: Honoring the Brave and the Fallen**

Americanism, a term often tossed around, holds a profound significance that resonates deeply within the hearts of patriots. It is an unwavering love for one's country, unshakeable loyalty to its institutions and ideals, and an unrelenting desire to defend it against all adversaries. At its core, Americanism is about reverence for the flag, a symbol of freedom and democracy, and a commitment to securing the blessings of liberty for posterity. This month, I would like to pay tribute to the VFW Honor Guard, an exemplary embodiment of Americanism, who selflessly serve to honor the fallen, comfort the grieving, and inspire the living.

The VFW Honor Guard's purpose is multifaceted, yet singular in its objective: to serve as a beacon of respect and gratitude to all veterans, past and present. Their duties extend beyond the ceremonial, as they provide solace to families in times of bereavement, presenting the American flag with precision and dignity, performing a gun salute, and playing Taps, a haunting melody that echoes the nation's gratitude. I had the privilege of witnessing the Honor Guard's solemn ritual at my father's funeral, an experience that indelibly etched the significance of Americanism in my heart. As they stood guard, their precision and reverence palpable, I felt an overwhelming sense of pride and gratitude. They honored my father, a veteran who had devoted his life to the service of his country, and in doing so, honored the very fabric of Americanism.

In that touching moment, I realized that Americanism is not merely a concept, but a lived experience. It is the collective efforts of individuals who, like the Honor Guard, demonstrate unwavering dedication to the nation and its ideals. They remind us that Americanism is not just about waving the flag or reciting the Pledge of Allegiance; it is about embodying the values of sacrifice, loyalty, and devotion that have defined our nation since its inception. As we reflect on the essence of Americanism, let us not forget the selfless men and women who have given their lives in service to our country, nor the families who have suffered the ultimate sacrifice. Let us honor their memory by promoting Americanism in all its forms, from teaching respect for the flag to highlighting the plight of POWs and MIAs.

The VFW Honor Guard's exemplary service reminds us that Americanism is not a static concept, but a dynamic force that inspires and unites us. As we strive to promote Americanism, let us draw inspiration from the Honor Guard's unwavering commitment to honoring the fallen, comforting the grieving, and inspiring the living. By doing so, we can ensure that the blessings of liberty and democracy continue to endure for generations to come.

Kelly Farrell Dowdy  
132 Spring Garden St  
Riverside, NJ 08075

609-251-1321

Auxiliary Outreach  
February 24-25

Camilla M. Albano  
153 Indiana Ave  
Blackwood N.J 08012  
[camilla.albano@comcast.net](mailto:camilla.albano@comcast.net)

Home [856] 227-6097  
Cell [609] 828-7220

**We are in the home stretch, the finish line is just ahead, time to put on the last bit** of strength and breach though the winning tape. It not too late for auxiliaries to do an Auxiliary Outreach program. It's great to hear someone say thank you, for all you do for the community, when they see you in your VFW Auxiliary apparel and know the work we do. But there are still many in our community who do not know who we are and work we do... It's not too late for the auxiliary to contact someone in the community to volunteer. Valentine's Day is a great time to volunteer, Contact your local Senior Citizen center and ask how you can help.

**IF WE DON'T TELL OUR STORY, WHO WILL**

**NATIONAL AWARDS**

Most outstanding photo collage, of picture of events during the program year. Entry Form required and available on MALTA Member resources. Due to me no later then March 31th

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARY:**

Auxiliary Outreach chairman send in your end of year report to me no later then **April 15th**. Department awards are to be in a two-pocket folder with documentation, photos, newspaper article[s] and written report about your programs.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY.

## **“BUDDY”® POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME**

### **February 2025**

Terri Andryszczak  
24 Beech Street  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
Phone: 732-322-9970  
Email: [vfwpost1302@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost1302@gmail.com)



### **“Buddy”® Poppy**

The “Buddy”® Poppy, a symbol easily recognized and associated with the VFW, is versatile and can be utilized in so many ways. They can be used to create wonderful projects/displays to hang around your Post or to hand out at events or visits to the VA Hospitals. Pinterest is a great resource for suggestions. Go to Pinterest and type in Buddy Poppy VFW and you will see what pops up. Maybe craft a “Buddy”® Poppy heart shaped wreath in time for Valentine’s Day.

Some projects that can be found on Pinterest are:

“Buddy”® Poppy topiary



“Buddy”® Poppy cupcakes



“Buddy”® Poppy boutonniere



Let your imagination run wild! The possibilities are endless!







## VFW NATIONAL HOME

What a celebration! VFW National Home's 100th birthday celebration was live streamed on Facebook. To view the recording, just type in VFW National Home in the search box and scroll down to January 7<sup>th</sup>. You can hear the speeches, see the crowd and watch the (cup)cake cutting. Oh! and you can see all the birthday cards hanging on the walls. There are lots of pictures of the party on the Facebook page!

Make sure to follow the VFW National Home Facebook page to receive updates and announcements, notifications of major upcoming events (the Gala on February 8<sup>th</sup>), and read/hear great stories from and about residents and the impact National Home has made. Many postings of the daily activities occurring there can also be viewed, just as if you were there in person. Currently, National Home is thanking their house sponsors – one house per week. So, be on the lookout for New Jersey's.

"Celebrating 100 years of support for American military, veterans, and their families at the VFW National Home! 🎉 Your unwavering dedication has kept our mission going strong 🙌 Thank you to all who have supported us faithfully over the years. Here's to many more years of making a difference together!" (Posted on VFW National Home Facebook page on January 7<sup>th</sup>.)



Gloria Lisicki  
45 Wheeler Avenue  
Carteret, NJ 07008



Home: 732-541-5392  
Cell: 732-841-8037  
[glisicki@comcast.net](mailto:glisicki@comcast.net)

**CANCER**  
**2024-2025**

The most important thing to remember is **EARLY DETECTION:**

**FEBRUARY** is National Cancer Prevention Month. Join the American Association for Cancer research in supporting research to prevent Cancer.

The federal government estimates that 2 million Americans were diagnosed with cancer, during 2024, and that more than 600,000 died from their disease. Research shows that more than 40% of these cases and nearly half of the deaths can be attributed to preventable cause – smoking, excess body weight, physical inactivity, and excessive exposure to the sun, among others.

Gallbladder cancer develops in the small organ below the liver, this is rare cancer that occurs when malignant cells grow in the gallbladder. The gallbladder's size and location make it easier for cancer to grow undetected. Symptoms include pain in the upper right abdomen, nausea and vomiting, and yellowing of the skin and eyes. There may be no symptoms. When symptoms occur, they may include abdominal pain, bloating, itchiness and fever. Treatments include surgery, chemotherapy and radiation.

**SPECIAL NOTE: BREAST CANCER**

Scientists are investigating new ways to prevent breast cancer, with clinical trials involving vaccines, personalized doses of tamoxifen, and targeted inhibition of the cells that give rise to breast cancer. These and other promising new avenues or research are discussed in the AACR blog. **Cancer Research Catalyst.**

If you have not sent in your donations for Cancer please send them in as soon as possible. Mail them to our Department Treasurer Paula Pinto.

## Extension and Revitalization and Mentoring

February Communication 2025

Good day everyone, hopefully you all are staying warm. Can't believe its February already. Before you know it we will be in Wildwood!!

I'm combining both programs this month on the communication.

A few things, is everyone filling out the awards sheet for Extension and Revitalization and Mentoring? They were sent out again during the last communication. If anyone needs one or both of these forms, I can send them out to you. Please remember that the winner will receive a \$25 award for each program for their auxiliary. Also, don't forget to fill out the Healthy Auxiliary sheets and send them back to me. In case you need them they will be attached to this months communication. They are not the same questions that are in Malta. Both of these forms need to be back to me by April 31, 2025.

If any Auxiliary is having problems and feel that you are a 'yellow' light, please feel free to call and I can try to help you out and get your Auxiliary back in shape.

Did anyone hold a mentoring class for your new members? There is so much information for new members to learn about...programs...meetings...conventions...and on and on. How many new members have joined a program to help out our veterans? It's always great to have a seasoned member mentor a new member and become part of the wonderful world of our Auxiliary.

FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES, EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR  
VETERANS

Barbara Wiener

Dept. Chief of Staff NJ

Barb.wiener@yahoo.com



# Historian/Social Media

Mary Ryan Sandman  
176 Patty Bowker Rd  
Tabernacle, NJ 08088  
(609) 456 – 1774  
[maryryan40@outlook.com](mailto:maryryan40@outlook.com)

As you read in January's mailing, the Department of New Jersey will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June 2025.

So naturally I am working on something, I am looking for pictures through the years and some info.

Were you a member of the Junior Girls or Men's Auxiliary, please send pics (also include who is in the pics).

Info needed

1. When did the Junior Unit start and end?
2. When did the Men's Auxiliary start and end?

Now, Past Department Presidents I also need pictures and info from you. For the pictures, please let me know who is in the pictures. But I also need info from you: what was your theme? What was your special project? How much did you raise for your project? Favorite memory from your year?

I am also looking for the above info for those that served as National President or National Commander.

All the pics and info can be e-mailed.



## Hospital Promotion February 2025

Carolyn Rovito  
251 Church Street, Apt. 1  
Lodi, NJ 07644  
Crovito.2@gmail.com  
201-233-7010

February is here! That means there is a lot going on for our hospital program. This month we should focus on highlighting ways to bring happiness to all those in our hospitals and those providing care. From our National Ambassador Paullette McCord, **Valentines for Veterans** "Share the love we have for our veterans and service members this Valentine's Day by sending a storebought or handmade valentine, hosting a party, recognition event or dinner in their honor. Fellow members, individuals and groups in your community can use their creativity to show compassion for our veterans and service members." This is a great way to get your community and youth involved to brighten up the day of our hospitalized veterans.

National Salute to Veteran Patients week takes place this year from February 9<sup>th</sup> through February 15<sup>th</sup>. Connect with our Department hospital representatives to connect on the various activities happening at different facilities during the week. I know that East Orange and Lyons are working on something special for the residents of their facilities. This week was created to pay tribute to those veterans currently hospitalized, to encourage volunteerism and visits, along with increasing community awareness about the role of V.A. medical centers. There are many creative ways our members have gotten involved with our hospitalized veterans this year. Let's be sure to make this month as special as the rest!

Be sure to fill out your activity reports following your participation to have them on file. Please be sure to get those reports to me and list the volunteers who participated in the hospital activities. Let us know other creative ways you have gotten involved with our hospitalized Veterans this year.

## LYONS HOLIDAY PARTY

Lorraine Brooks  
110 Buttermilk Bridge Road  
Washington, N. J. 07882  
VAWS Representative

We had a Holiday Party on January 2, 2025, for Lyons campus Building 143. We bought pizza, soda, water, assortment of chips and assortment of cupcakes.

The units that came down for the party were:

PTSD 12 veterans

Core 26 veterans

Women's Trauma 12

Substance Abuse 26

In building 143 upstairs is a lock down unit so we also sent up to them 5 pizzas, soda, water, chips and cupcakes.

I am so happy to let the Department, and its members know that ALL Veterans in building 143 attended our Holiday Party.

I would like to thank the two Auxiliaries and Posts that attended and donated and handed out new clothing to the Veterans that came down for the Party. They were Post 2833 and Post 2290.

A special thank you to my auxiliary for all the help they gave me.

Thank You for helping me in Honoring Through Service to Our Veterans

Lorraine Brooks

## Lyons Campus

Lorraine Brooks  
110 Buttermilk Bridge Road  
Washington N.J. 07882  
Phone 908-689-2564  
Cell 908-619-5566

Salute to Veterans week.

Every year in February Lyons campus has Salute to Veterans week. The Department of New Jersey always participates in it. I usually do 3 units, and I bring food for lunch.

It's the week of Valentines Day February 9 through 14. If any Auxiliaries and Posts want to participate you need to Call voluntary services at 908-604-5814. They are the ones that schedule all the parties. They will tell you what's available, how many are in the units, any dietary problems and how many people you would be buying for.

Honoring Through Service To Our Veterans is a way that they now that there always in Our Thought and in our Prayers.

Lorraine Brooks  
VAVS Representative





Victoria L  
Hendrix  
P O Box 385  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

[legal.vhendrix@gmail.com](mailto:legal.vhendrix@gmail.com)

(856) 577 – 1314

**“We are Family – From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans”**

Fabulous February to you!! I pray your New Year has been great thus far. Our current membership percentage for the Department of New Jersey is **97.31%!! Congratulations is in order for such a great achievement!!** I also applaud those Auxiliaries who have reached 100% and above!! The work you have done doesn't go unnoticed. New Jersey Rocks!!

Our next goal is reaching 100% as we continue to travel the road to The Circle of Excellence and beyond!

The Eastern States Conference is quickly approaching, and it would be awesome if we could put our boots on the ground and work diligently to achieve 100% as a Department! I know that we can, and we will achieve this goal, because we are the “Notable New Jersey Members of The Eastern Conference”.

February is the month of LOVE!! Let's put our love in motion and help to recruit our friends and loved ones as members of our amazing Auxiliary! If you need help recruiting more members, please remember to reach out. Remember your “WHY” and spark up conversations with eligible family and friends. Offer to pay for their initial membership, conduct a membership drive, purchase a life membership as a gift, etc. Use your creative minds to get their attention. Please don't forget the tech savvy friends and family you have and share the easy QR Code with them.

**REMINDER of Upcoming Goals:**

**Department Goals –**

- \$100 for Auxiliaries that reach 104% by March 31, 2025.
- Spring Conference – (3) \$50 Drawings for Auxiliaries that reach 100% membership.
- (1) Just1One \$25 winner.

**National Goals -**

Continuing to work towards recruiting new members can and will pay off! There will be a top recruiter in each of the (4) conferences who recruits the most new and/or rejoined members.

For those members who recruit (5) or more members will receive a "Roots to Branches" pin directly from National.

For those members who recruit (20) new members by May 31, 2025, will receive a National Membership Achievement Award.

The Department of New Jersey will again continue the "Just One Cards", which are to be completed whenever a recruiter successfully recruits a new member. Please remember to mail or hand deliver your "Just One Cards" directly to me to be placed into the raffles, which will be drawn at the Fall and Spring Conferences along with Convention. The award for each drawing of the "Just One Cards", will be a prize of \$25.

Remember!! Be creative in your membership outreach!

"Don't *Leaf* Any Qualifying Member Behind"

Sisterly,  
Victoria L Hendrix  
Membership Chairwoman  
VFW Department of New Jersey Auxiliary



"From Our Roots to Our Branches"

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Sandy Reed, Chairman  
732-343-1133

[vfwauxiliary7508@gmail.com](mailto:vfwauxiliary7508@gmail.com)

## **3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest** AND

## **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest (2-Dimensional)**

- Grades 9-12
- Entries will be judged on originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed, content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas, design technique and total impact of work.

### **VFW Auxiliary judging dates and deadlines:**

- March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.
- April 15:** First place winner from each participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary or optional VFW Auxiliary District advances to the VFW Auxiliary Department (state) for judging.
- May 5:** First place winner from each Department (state) due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- July/August:** All students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through twelfth place winning entries will be announced on VFW Auxiliary National social media pages and may be displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- September:** All art entries received at VFW Auxiliary National will be returned to students to the address provided on the entry form.

**\*\*VFW Auxiliary National reserves the right to modify these rules and eligibility without notice.\*\***

**February 15, 2025 - "Continuing Education Scholarship" entry deadline.**

***As a team, we are going to help our students achieve their goals!***

**Keep promoting the Auxiliary Scholarship Facebook page!**

Invite everyone you know to join the page (schools, PTA, teachers, students, neighbors, etc.)!

- Use the FB page as part of your advertisements. Sponsor posts, Share to your personal page. Share, Share, Share!

If you have any questions or want to share ideas, Please reach out!

Sincerely,  
Sandy Reed

***Honoring Through Service to our Veterans***

## **Veterans and Family Support February 2025**

Hope everyone is having a wonderful year so far. I always talk about how we can stay in contact with our veterans, but I never talk about the veteran's wife or significant other. They work so hard keeping our veterans safe and taking care of them when they are sick, taking them to the VA for their appointments or just taking them to the store.

But what about when a veteran passes away? We need to ask ourselves how can we help that veteran's family? How can we keep that family involved in our auxiliary? As you know sometimes the veteran's family don't go to the post like they used to. You don't see them as much as you used to you're lucky to see them maybe 5 times out the year sometime less than that. Don't let that veteran's family fade away we as an auxiliary are here to help them and their family.

Let the Veteran's family know that we are here to help them and we are in their corner too. If they join your post let them know that you are only a phone call away. Like I said before if you don't see or talk to them in 2 to 3 days give them a call or stop by their home to make sure they are okay.

**Just a reminder: Don't forget April 15<sup>th</sup> your year end report is due.**

Brenda Bailey  
**bb.bailey27@gmail.com**



## Youth 2025 Activities February 2025

Brothers and Sisters,

Now is the time to get your information together for the National Awards Programs. The Youth Activities should be to me no later than March 31 2025. So I can forward it to National for their judging. If you need any help with getting the forms I have made copies of them and can mail them to you. I am going to give the contest rules for Illustrating America:

Art must be two-dimensional

The Art must be on canvas or paper

Watercolor, pencil, pastel charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker other media may be used.

Submit canvas on a stretched frame or canvas board other entries must be matted in white or reinforced with heavy paper,

The art should be no smaller than 8"x10" but no bigger than 18"x24" not including mat.

Coloring sheets, digital art and photography can not be used.

This consists of three grade groups K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. The first, second and third place National awards will be displayed at National Convention.

There is also Youth Activities National Award for the most outstanding activity or event of youth reading to veterans or veterans reading to youth. This must be sent to me by March 31 2025, If you need this form I can send you a copy,

Loyally  
Mary Dungan  
Youth Activities Chairman  
[Marydungan217@yahoo.com](mailto:Marydungan217@yahoo.com)  
Phone Number 609-351-5852

**VFW AUXILIARY**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America**  
**Department of New Jersey**

Spring Conference/Department President Testimonial Dinner  
Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Veterans and Their Families

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Comrades,

On the weekend of April 4 – 6, 2025, the VFW Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New Jersey will hold their Fall Conference. The conference will be held at the **Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 815 Route 37 West Toms River, NJ 08755.**

The weekend will commence with a Council of Administration meeting on Friday evening, April 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the hotel. On Saturday morning the VFW Auxiliary will hold their Annual Spring Conference Meeting at 10:00AM.

Room reservations can be made by calling the hotel at (732)341-2400 Ext. 0 or online at: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/1X32F6>. Please be sure to provide them with the Group Name for your discounted room rate: **VFW Auxiliary.**

**(Breakfast buffet available for \$10.13 per person)**

Hotel Room Information

(2) Double Beds and/or King Rooms Available

Starting at \$166 a night (+tax & fees)

Book now through March 7, 2025

The dinner honoring our Department President Denise Beckler and celebrating 100 Years of Service to Veterans and their Families will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Ballroom. The dinner tickets are \$50.00 per person – served buffet style with appetizers, main entrée, dessert, coffee and tea.

Dinner reservations must be returned by Friday, March 28, 2025. NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR.

Forms for the AD Journal and Boosters are included. Please return your forms to Mary Ryan Sandman by March 22, 2025.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone coming out and joining us as we honor our Department President Denise Beckler and Celebrating 100 Years of Service.

Loyally,  
Victoria L. Hendrix – Dinner Chairperson

**Tickets Reservations**  
**Saturday, April 5, 2025**  
**Department of New Jersey**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**

PLEASE RESERVE DINNER BUFFET TICKET(S) AT \$50.00 PER PERSON:

DEADLINE FOR TICKETS FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

Please fill in check #----- in the amount of \$-----

Number of Tickets----- Auxiliary # ----- Post # ----- District -----

Members Attending

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Please provide contact person with their phone number:

Name ----- Phone # -----

Please make checks payable to the VFW Auxiliary Department of NJ mail form to:

Victoria L. Hendrix  
P O Box 385  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060  
Cell: (856)577-1314  
Email: legal.vhendrix@gmail.com

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY  
SPRING CONFERENCE AD JOURNAL FORM

Ad Prices:

Full Page	\$25.00
Half Page	\$15.00
Inside Front Cover	\$50.00 (First come, first serve)
Inside Back Cover	\$50.00 (First come, First serve)
Outside Back Cover	\$75.00 (First come, First serve)

Either Print what you want below or send a PDF/Word Doc of Ad with payment:

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All ads must be submitted no later than March 22, 2025 to:

Mary Ryan Sandman  
176 Patty Bowker Rd.  
Tabernacle, NJ 08088  
609-456-1774

Please make checks out to: VFW Auxiliary Dept of New Jersey



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

SPRING CONFERENCE BOOSTER SHEET FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - WHAT YOU WRITE IS WHAT WILL BE TYPED  
\$2.00 PER LINE

1. _____	13. _____
2. _____	14. _____
3. _____	15. _____
4. _____	16. _____
5. _____	17. _____
6. _____	18. _____
7. _____	19. _____
8. _____	20. _____
9. _____	21. _____
10. _____	22. _____
11. _____	23. _____
12. _____	24. _____

(use a second page for more than 24 names)

All Boosters must be submitted no later than March 22, 2025 to:

Mary Ryan Sandman  
176 Patty Bowker Rd.  
Tabernacle, NJ 08088  
609-456-1774

Please make checks out to: VFW Auxiliary Dept of New Jersey

Department President  
Denise Beckler's Shirts  
are still available!



Please contact  
Mary Ryan Sandman  
[Maryryan40@outlook.com](mailto:Maryryan40@outlook.com)

Or

(609) 456-1774

THERE IS LIMITED SIZE

AND

STYLE AVAILABILITY!

Styles are:

Black V-Neck Tee; Black Crew Tee and Polo

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

January 14, 2025

## OFFICIAL RULING – Property Ownership

At the 2024 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, the **VFW Auxiliary National Bylaw, Article IX, Sec. 920 – Property Ownership** was passed. To resolve any confusion, I have made this official ruling on the interpretation of this Bylaw.

*As stated in Sec. 920, B., For the purposes of these Bylaws, personal property is defined as tangible and intangible property that is moveable, even if a small amount of disassembly is required to move. C., For the purposes of these Bylaws, real property is defined as land and permanent structures on the land. Therefore, be it known that:*

- Auxiliaries may own personal property, **per Sec. 920, A.**
- When personal property is placed in a VFW Post building, there shall be a clear understanding of who owns the property, how it will be used and disposed of if the VFW Post and/or VFW Auxiliary goes defunct.
- This understanding shall be in writing and signed by both the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.
- Any items without a clear, signed statement of ownership and usage, will be the property of the VFW Post.
- Items donated to the VFW Post prior to the Bylaw change, are the property of the VFW Post, unless there is a previously signed document stating otherwise.
- Additionally, the Auxiliary may not charge the VFW Post rent to use items purchased by the Auxiliary that are kept at the VFW Post building (e.g., tables, chairs, etc.), unless a written agreement exists between the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Post for the rental of these items.
- Any shed or building purchased by the Auxiliary and placed on the VFW Post property shall belong to the VFW Post and not the Auxiliary. The VFW Post as owner pays the taxes and insurance on such property. Any ad valorem tax or any other taxes are the responsibility of the owner of the property.
- The exception to this is that Auxiliary specific and/or Auxiliary branded items (e.g., Auxiliary Charter, Auxiliary Flags, Color Bearer Flags, Auxiliary Banners, Auxiliary Plaques, Auxiliary Awards, etc.) remain the property of the Auxiliary.

The goal is teamwork. We encourage all VFW Auxiliaries and VFW Posts to work together. Clear communication is the key.

By Order of

Brenda Bryant  
National President  
BB:AP: cb

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®