

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS**



2025-2026 PROGRAM KICKOFF



Saturday, August 23, 2025

Theresa Logue, Department President

**Patricia Folino, PDP
Chairman**

**Sheila Layton, PDP
Co-Chairman**



DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Patricia A. Folino, PDP, Chairman
Sheila J. Layton, PDP, Co-Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

June 4th through the 7th 2026 - Sheraton Monarch Place Hotel - Springfield, Massachusetts

This year's Department Convention will be held June 4th through June 7th at the Sheraton Monarch Place Hotel (Sheraton), Springfield, Massachusetts.

Both the Department of Massachusetts VFW and its Auxiliary will be housed in the Sheraton and all meetings and events will take place in the hotel.

As soon as the VFW Convention Committee has had its meeting with the Sheraton and finalized their plans they will be contacting us to provide all the information we need to keep you informed.

Please, if you have any questions, suggestions, concerns, etc. please let us know as soon as you can so we can pass these on the VFW Convention Committee.

We sincerely hope that you will join the Department Officers and Chairmen in celebrating the conclusion of another successful year

Loyally,

Patricia A. Folino, PDP, Chairman

Sheila J. Layton, PDP, Co-Chairman

CONVENTION FUND

Kathleen Clement, PDP, Chairman

93 Church St.

Fairhaven, MA 02719

508-997-7214

kclement1@comcast.net

As Convention Fund Chairman this year, my co-chairman, Diane Lafond, and I will have the task of raising funds for the 2027 State Convention. Not an easy job but with your help we can meet that challenge. We will be holding several fundraising events throughout the year.

We will be seeing you at every meeting with this year's Gift Table. Handmade items, jewelry, and attic treasures will be on the table for purchase. Stop by to check out new items every meeting. Why not make your gift purchases from us. Find something nice, inexpensive and help raise funds for the Department's Convention Fund in the process. We will also be holding a raffle at each meeting.

The first of two larger events, that have already been planned, was the annual Convention Fund Chicken Bake at the Freetown Memorial Post #6643 in July. Thank you to that post and auxiliary for hosting the event and helping make it a success. The catered dinner was delicious, and the raffles rounded out an enjoyable afternoon. We were able to have a regular raffle, a basket raffle and the most popular 50/50 raffle. Thank you to those that were able to attend, helped that day, or donated to the raffles. Diane and I would like to especially thank Pat Wilbur, State Sr. Vice President, and her husband Bruce for coordinating the event dinner.

Our second event planned is the annual Pre-Convention Jamboree. This year's Jamboree is scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at the David F. Adams Post #611 in Taunton. This is always a fun day with a large raffle, mostly of cash prizes, being the main attraction. Auxiliaries and members will be solicited for prizes through a mailing flyer, and there will be many door prizes on the prize list for those in attendance. A small buffet at a nominal cost will also be provided.

Our 2026 Convention will find us finishing off the gift table, holding daily raffles, and our Special Convention Raffle where we will have several larger prizes. Tickets for the Special Convention Raffle will be sent through the mail for you to be able to participate in the drawing. We are anticipating a special handmade item to be drawn during the convention, as well.

With your help we will meet our goal of funding the 2027 State Convention. An additional happening or raffle may be added to our planned events this year, should we need to raise additional funds. Thanking you in advance for your continued support.

*Kathleen Clement, PDP
Chairman*

*Diane Lafond, PDP
Co-Chairman*

District President's Conference Chairman

Bette Jane Mire

351 Rice Road

Winchendon, MA 01475

saulmire@comcast.net

978-297-5206

The District Presidents play such a vital role in having a successful year it is a privilege being able to work with them as the District President's Conference Chairman this year.

The District Presidents must bring back important information from our council of administration meetings, make their official visits and assists any situations that may arise, and keep communications open between the auxiliaries and the department. You can assist your District President by attending your district meeting and bringing back the information you learn there, back to your auxiliaries.

Each District President has an opportunity to take home 3 awards during the year.

1. For membership---- The district with the highest percentage in membership. The District President will take home the Traveling trophy (At convention June 2026 they will be able to keep it)
2. Mid-Winter--- A list of achievements has been given to each District President, each district President reaching these goals an award will be given
3. Circle of Excellence--- This is based on a point system. Any District President reaching 275 points will be entering the circle of excellence and receiving an award at convention 2026.

I encourage the District Presidents to mentor your auxiliaries with respect and kindness and our department will succeed in our mission in "BRIDGE THE GAP" for our Veterans

Thank you madame President for this appointment. I look forward to a great year.

VFW Auxiliary Membership Moment

How to Treat People with Respect

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

The key to treating people with respect is to treat them as you would like to be treated – also commonly known as the Golden Rule. When dealing with difficult members in your local Auxiliary, seek to understand the root of their problems toward you. Then, you will be able to rise above the situation, and treat them well.

Here are several tips for treating members with respect within your Auxiliary:

1. Practice self-respect.

Because you want to respect others as you would hope to be respected, it is incredibly important that you extend to yourself the same respect and courtesy that you would extend to another person. If someone says something cruel or demeaning, speak up. Tell them what you found to be disrespectful and why.

2. Really listen.

A lot of people don't listen very well, because they're distracted, checking their phone, or thinking about the next thing that they are going to say. Learn to *really* listen when other people speak.

3. Treat other people's ideas with due consideration.

This means listening to another person's ideas, opinions, and advice with an open mind. Even if you don't necessarily agree with them, give them the benefit of thinking about what they have said.

4. Be mindful of your words.

Words are *very* powerful and they can be incredibly disrespectful if used improperly. Think carefully about what you're going to say, and to whom, otherwise you might hurt someone.

5. Cultivate good manners.

This is as simple as saying "thank you" and "please" when you're requesting something from another person. It shows that you respect the time and effort that it will take for them to help you, and it will allow them to feel respected.

**HISTORIAN / MEDIA RELATIONS
Donna Hakala, Chairman
99 Wagon Hill Road
Marlborough, MA 01752
508-251-0504
donnakh1963@yahoo.com**

My job this year is to document our State President's travels and all other programs, visits, etc. Thank you, Madam President, for this appointment.

Since I am unable to be every where all the time, I am asking all of you, when you attend an event where our President Theresa is, to please send me photos and/or newspaper articles so I can prepare wonderful memories for Theresa to enjoy in years to come. You have my appreciation for your assistance.

Auxiliary Historians should research MALTA resources for tips on preparing a local history of your Auxiliary's activities throughout the year. MALTA has a Publicity Guide, talking points, adult & youth photo release forms, speeches, press releases, etc., to guide you throughout the year. You can even find instructions on how to make a social media reel to submit for a National award. Use the QR code on the next page to take you there.

This can be a fun position to hold. Be creative. Bring out the photographer in you. Everyone will enjoy reminiscing when they review your book.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Historian & Media Relations Program

Hospital Program

Paul J. La Porte
PO Box 12
East Bridgewater, MA 02333
E: plp1063@gmail.com
C: (774) 273-1910



The Hospital program is one of the oldest VFW Auxiliary programs. Our National Ambassador is Kim Copson. She is a resident of New Hampshire and is a two-generation veteran family member.

Our goal is to support and assist our veterans and their families. There are many ways that you can support and assist our veterans. These include donations of clothes, toiletries, sundries, non-perishable goods. You can also volunteer at the medical centers either for events or just your time talking to veterans. No matter what we do, we want to help bring a smile to them.

Here are just a few ideas of ways you and your auxiliary can support and assist our veterans:

- Veterans have children, at this time of year school supplies and backpacks are needed.
- Volunteer at a VA or veterans' home; helping with an event is a great idea.
- Make or have students, scouts or sports teams create cards for our veterans, i.e., for Valentine's Day, Veterans Day, Christmas or just a card that says hello.
- Host parties around noteworthy events, major holidays, Superbowl or quarterly events.
- Give a small gift (such as canteen coupons) for the holidays, from your Auxiliary and/or youth.
- Support women veteran healthcare. Learn about the resources and health care services available and help them receive the benefits and services they deserve.
- The Honors Escort Program is an opportunity to honor each veteran in a respectful and open manner and provides an opportunity for a veteran's family and friends, other veterans and medical facility staff to participate in a display of high regard and reverence for the individual at the time of death.

One of the requests coming from the hospitals/medical centers is for \$5.00 or \$10.00 gifts to give to outpatients, inpatients and homeless veterans and their families. There are concerns that the gift cards will not be going to our veterans. The VA organization is currently trying to put together a process to hopefully ensure the gift cards are getting to veterans. This may take time. I am trying to set up something with our CDCE reps to have a process and assurance that the gift cards are getting to our veterans. This is a work in progress that I hope to have in place by our workshop. In addition, I met with Providence CDCE. They currently have a system in place for gift cards to our veterans.

Thank you for supporting our veterans. They are the reason that we are free!

Once again, this year, the hospital program has eight goals for auxiliaries to win points toward auxiliary of the year. The first and second place winners in each of our four divisions will win monetary prizes.

Here are the points each auxiliary can earn for the Hospital; program 2025-2026.

1. Member(s) attendance at the Hospital Workshop	3 Points
2. Utilize the Hospital material/resources in MALTA Member Resources & instruct usage of Hospital QR code	1 Point
3. Donation to Department Hospital Fund (Hospital Pledge)	2 Points
4. Donation of \$50.00 or more to Department Hospital Fund (Hospital Pledge)	5 Points
5. Sponsor a party/function for any facility, both VA and non-VA	2 Points
6. Donations to a medical center/community hospital/soldiers or nursing home	2 Points
7. Volunteer at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility	2 Points
8a. Submit required half-year report by 12/31/25	1 Point.
8b. Submit required year-end report by 4/15/26	<u>1 Point.</u>
Total	19 Points

This year's Hospital Workshop will be held on Saturday, October 4th at Needham VFW Post #2498. We will continue to have donations of toiletries, new clothing, games, puzzles, journals, notebooks delivered directly to the hospital you are supporting. This will allow the veterans to get the supplies in a timely way while not burdening our VAVS and CDCE reps to get these supplies back to their respective medical centers. Please ensure you provide a detailed report of your donations with reasonable value with your first and second half reports. Please see each hospital or medical center needs list on the following pages.

Bedford VA Medical Center
200 Springs Road, Bedford, MA 01730
781-275-7500

Needs List:

- Unisex Sweatpants - Men's (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Unisex Sweatpants - Women's (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Unisex Men's T-shirts (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Unisex Women's T-shirts (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Men's Mesh shorts (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Women's leggings (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Duffle bags, small suitcases
- Backpacks
- Women's robes (sizes SM. MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Men's slippers. Sneakers, slides or flip flops (sizes 8-13, both medium & wide width)
- Women's slippers. Sneakers, slides or flip flops (sizes 8-13, both medium & wide width)
- Socks (Men's and Women's)
- Women's underwear (sizes 5-9 & plus sizes)
- Women's sport bras (sizes MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Men's underwear (sizes MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Coffee K-pods (Regular and Decaf)
- Soft snacks (Hospice unit)
- Color pencils
- Adult coloring books
- Bar soap
- Body wash
- Women's shampoo and conditioner
- Men's 3-in 1 (shampoo, conditioner, bodywash)

From Sea to Shining Sea, Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free

VA Boston HCS-Jamaica Plain Campus
Needs List VA Boston HCS-Jamaica Plain Campus, 150 S Huntington Ave, Boston, 02130
Phone: 857-364-2443 Email: vhabhscdce@va.gov

- Reading Glasses
- Books, Music, Toys, Games, DVDs, CDs, puzzles (sealed)
 - Books and Recent Magazines for their Veteran Reading Room & Mobile Book Carts
- Food Items K-cup coffee pods/Hot cocoa, Tea bags
 - For the Huntington House (veterans
- Food Items Individually wrapped snack food items, coffee, Dairy creamers.
 - For their free Coffee Cart
- Bottled water and fruit juice
 - For their Coffee Cart and Clinics
- Popcorn and supplies
 - For the popcorn cart
- New In-the-Season clothing/men & women (light weight and rain)
 - For Veterans Clothing Room/s
- Miscellaneous Tickets to Sporting/Cultural Events Museums, etc.
 - For SARRTP, TRUST House and Huntington House
- Hand and feet warmers and other miscellaneous items
- Rain and light weight jackets

VA Boston HCS-Brockton Campus
Needs List VA Boston HCS- Brockton Campus, 840 Belmont Street, Brockton, 02301
Phone: 774-826-1135 Email: vhabhscdce@va.gov

The VA relies on in-kind donations to support many of our programs including our clothing room, Veteran libraries, toiletry items for our inpatient Veterans, and items for our morning coffee hours.

All donation drop-offs can be scheduled 24 hours in advance. It is requested that a drop-off time be scheduled for items, as we do not accept unattended donations. Please contact one of our local Center for Development & Civic Engagement office locations. The times are as follows: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. to coordinate acceptance of your donation.

Items needed but not limited to:

- Reading glasses
- New underwear
- New socks
- Toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, lotion, razors, shaving cream.)
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Puzzle books
- Adult coloring books
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Nail Care
- Clean gently used clothing and shoes.
- Winter coats
- Rain gear

In addition, please consider volunteering at events and just sitting with our veterans.

**VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System
421 North Main Street, Leeds, MA 01053-9764
413-636-6796, christopher.frappier@va.gov**

Please note that we cannot accept used items. All items must be new in package and/or tagged.

Inpatient wish list:

Bodywash	Shampoo
Toothpaste	Toothbrushes
Floss	Powder
Combs	Nail clippers
Deodorant/Antiperspirant	Men's underwear (all sizes)
Women's underwear (all sizes)	Socks (all sizes)
Men's and women's tops and bottoms	Jeans, sweats, leggings (all sizes)
T-shirts, long-sleeved T-shirts (all sizes)	
Slip-on shoes (all sizes)	Shower shoes (flip-flops)
Shaving cream	Disposable Razors
Chapstick	Lotion
Tampons	Sanitary Pads
Depends undergarments	Composition Notebooks
Gel Pens	Document savers/bags
Reading glasses	Sweatpants without strings
Hats	Gloves
Activity Books	Pocket calendars/appointment books

VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System
421 North Main Street, Leeds, MA 01053-9764
413-636-6796, christopher.frappier@va.gov

Homeless Outreach Wish List:

Tarps	Backpacks
Utensil kits	Sleeping bags or sleeper jackets
Can openers	Shaving cream
Small note pads with pens	Water (gallon, liter, serving size bottles)
Common phone chargers	Band-Aids
Chapstick	Lotion
Tampons	Sanitary Pads
Depends undergarments	Gloves & mittens
Hats	Sunglasses
Sanitary napkins and tampons	Document savers/bags
Gallon and sandwich size Ziploc bags	Thermal underwear
Pet food	Umbrellas
Dry shampoo	Baby/cleansing wipes
Diapers (all sizes)	Formula
Powder	Boxed juice or juice pouches
Men's underwear (all sizes)	Women's underwear (all sizes)
Socks (all sizes)	Men's and women's tops and bottoms
Dry cereal	Jeans, fleece leggings (all sizes)
Rain slickers or ponchos	Boots/Sneakers (all sizes)
T-shirts, long-sleeved T-shirts (all sizes)	

- Protein/granola bars or other similar non-perishable food items
- Emergency blankets (the kind that come in the small bag and are paper thin, shiny, etc.)
- Hand and toe/foot warmers (the kind that are the little packet that you shake and the material inside the pouch heats up)
- Non-perishable flip top cans of beans, vegetables, fruit, etc.
- Monetary Donations (Check Memo: GPF 1039)

The Veterans Homs at Holyoke
Needs list for the Veterans' Home at Holyoke, 110 Cherry Street, Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 466-5165

Personal/Hygiene items

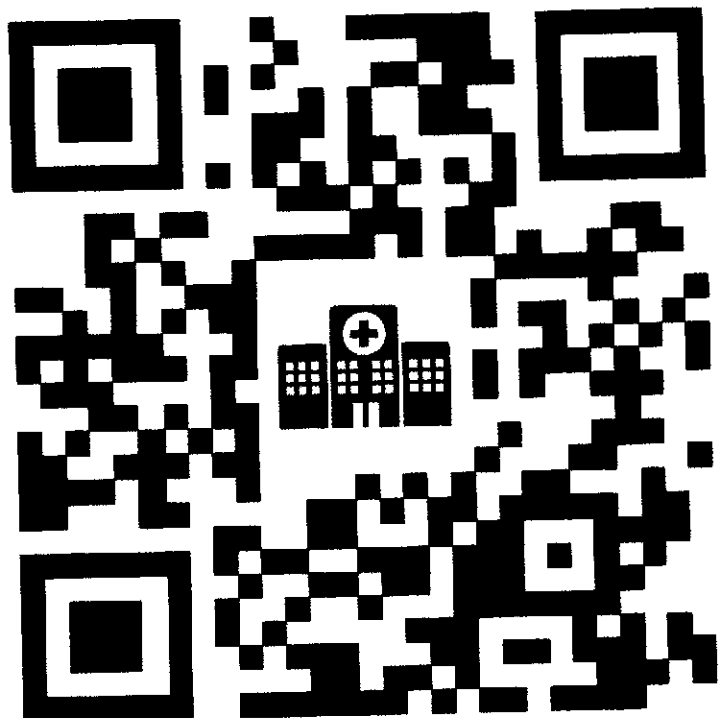
- Deodorant
- Denture cleaner and adhesive
- Cerave soap and lotion
- Aveeno soap and lotion
- Eucerin soap and lotion
- Aquaphor soap and lotion
- Sunkin Naturals soap and lotion
- Andolou soap and lotion
- Alcohol free mouthwash

Clothing items

- Men's short sleeve tee shirts (LG, XL, 2XL, & 3XL)
- Men's open bottom sweatpants (LG, XL, 2XL, & 3XL)
- Men's full zip sweatshirts (MD, LG, XL, 2XL, & 3XL)
- Men's boxers (loose leg) (LG, XL, 2XL, & 3XL)
- Suspenders
- Women's long/short sleeve cotton shirts (SM, MD & LG)
- Women's open bottom sweatpants (SM, MD & LG)

Miscellaneous items

- Over the ear headphones
- Over the glasses sunglasses
- Wheelchair and walker bags
- Sugar-free cough drops



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Hospital Program

LEGISLATIVE

Lynne LeBlanc, Chairman
1 Jonathan Lane
West Townsend, MA 01474
leblanc8156@gmail.com
978-340-3613

Another year is upon us and I look forward to working with each one of you to advocate for our veterans and their families, as well as our service members. I will be your Legislative chairman for the 25-26 year. With over 3,700 Auxiliary members in Massachusetts alone we can use our voices as a way to honor our veterans and show our appreciation.

I have set some goals and hope to empower you to become active participants in the legislative process, working to shape policies that impact the veteran community.

1. Stay focused on the VFW's Priority Goals (www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service) and the 6 areas of concern:

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

2. Join (next page) the VFW Action Corps Weekly. Watch out for "Action Alerts". These alerts guide you on how and when to contact your legislators. It's easy and it's free! They do the work for you, just click that red box. Send a copy of the email response to your Auxiliary President and to me please. If nothing else open Action Corps weekly email and honor those that paid the ultimate sacrifice and are finally identified and returned to their loved ones.

3. Attend town hall meetings, meet and greet sessions and other events where you can interact with legislators on veterans' issues. After an in-person meeting with a local legislator, send an email or thank-you card to show your gratitude. Make sure to let your Auxiliary President know when you attend any of these type events and email me the info also if possible.

4. Host a "thank-you notes" with a purpose gathering. Make handmade cards or handwritten notes to send to our Veterans. Some of you already make and send cards to our Veterans. Think of adding the QR code or links (next page) to the VFW Action Corps Weekly sign-up page or the VFW Priority Goals to your notes/cards.

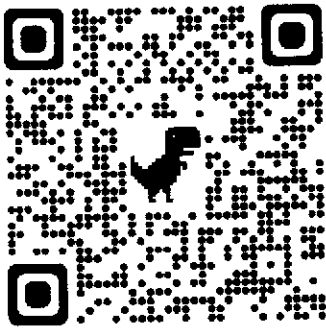
5. Use MALTA Member Resources, Legislative. Print the Suicide Awareness cards to pass out or "I voted for a Veteran" stickers to give out.

6. Report, Report, Report at mid-winter and the end of the year. Even if you only let me know how many of your members joined Action Corps it will be greatly appreciated. Try to at least double the number of members in your Auxiliary that are participants in Action Corps.

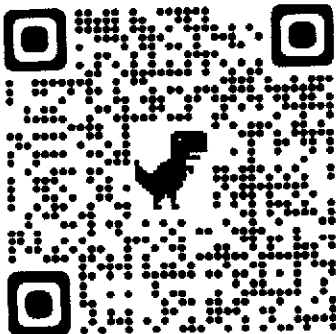
Ask for assistance at any time. I am here to support your efforts and together we can achieve great things for our Veterans, service members and their families.

Finally, the first person to email or text me that they have read my write-up will win a \$25 gift certificate to Dunkin Donuts. It must be timed stamped so I know who the winner is. Thank you and Good Luck!

QR Code for Action Corps Weekly signup:



QR code for 2025 Priority Goal Pamphlet:





Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Legislative Program

**MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL CEMETERY
Virginia Ledoux, Representative
205 Comfort Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
508-697-9814
gledoux205@comcast.com**

Joint Veterans Committee Report

2025/2026

Memorial Day Ceremonies were held on Sunday, May 25th at 1:00. The attendance was estimated to be 100 people from military units and 200 people in the audience.

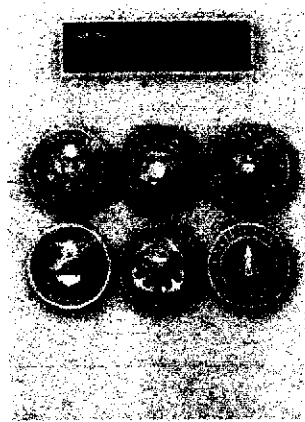
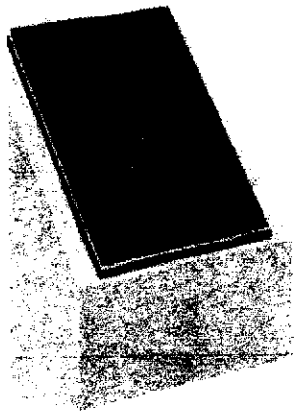
POW/MIA Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, September 19th at 6:00 PM at the Memorial across from the Administration building.

Veterans Day Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, November 9th at 1:00 PM. This year a new Memorial dedicated to victims of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is being planned for dedication during the ceremony.

There is an artist's rendering of the memorial with this report. The memorial is being sculptured by Robert Shure who also created the POW/MIA Memorial.

In 2026, the Memorial Day Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 24th at 1:00 PM.

The Committee is working with the Cemetery Staff to improve communication in the event of a cancelation or postponement of an event.



2-3

BACK

PTSD MEMORIAL



IN TRIBUTE TO THOSE
WHO SERVED AND SACRIFICED

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE. HE
AND PEACE TO ALL.

Membership

Kelly Durkee-Erwin, PDP,
Chairman
781-789-8018
k.durkee.erwin@gmail.com

I am the Ocean - From Sea to Shining Sea (to) - Bridge the Gap!

I am thrilled that YOU are a part of this incredible journey. Our mission is to honor, support, and empower our Veterans, Military, Families, Survivor Families, and communities.

Believe that together, we can make waves of positive change.

Just like the ocean, our Veterans are vast, powerful, and full of life. They have navigated through the storms and calm waters, showing resilience and strength. By asking others to join our VFW Auxiliary, you let them become a part of this mighty ocean, contributing to a community that values and uplifts our heroes. Our new members help to ensure that this great organization lives on to continue helping generations of more Veterans who just entered boot camp today!

Our reach extends from coast to coast, across the globe, uniting people from all walks of life. Whether you're in the United States, Europe, or anywhere in between, your participation helps us create a global network of support. Together, we can ensure that no Veteran feels alone, no matter where they are. We aim to bridge the gap between Veterans and the resources they need. Our programs focus on providing essential services, fostering camaraderie, and creating opportunities for growth and development. By asking others to join us, you help build these bridges, connecting Veterans with the support they deserve. The more that join, the easier the load.

Talking points for your elevator speech: Why Join or Rejoin?

Community: Be part of a supportive, welcoming community. Impact: Make a real difference in the lives of Veterans. Growth: Gain valuable experiences/skills.

Camaraderie: Build lasting friendships/mentors.

Ready to dive in? Here's how to help build our Membership:

1. Use the QR code to send people directly to the Membership signup
2. Volunteer: Participate in community events and initiatives. (Bring membership forms)
3. Spread the Word: Share our mission with friends and family.
4. One more best practice is to keep a seasoned member is member-to-member(s) gifting. (Remember, if you choose to pay for a member(s), this must be voted on or included in the standing rules, i.e., "the standing rules state that Auxiliary 123 will pay dues for every member age 85 and older", for example.)

Together, we can create a wave of change that spans "From Sea to Shining Sea." Let's "Bridge the Gap" and show our Veterans that they are not alone. Help friends, family, neighbors to join us today and be a part of something truly special. We are the ocean. We are united. We are the VFW Auxiliary.

Important Membership Dates:

July 7 – Treasurers log into MALTA and physically mail the first dues notice

November 30 - 95% Plus in paid membership.

January 1 – Unpaid annual members not allowed entrance into members only parts of club or meetings

February 28 - 98% Plus in paid membership.

April 20 - 100% Plus in paid membership.

May 31 - 102% Plus in paid membership.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

VFW Auxiliary

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Members of the VFW Auxiliary are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat.

For more than 100 years, we have been serving veterans, the military, their families and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.

Personal Benefits

Veteran & Military Support – Anyone with a heart for veterans can count their membership as an important way to stand with veterans and the military community on Capitol Hill and in local legislative battles affecting them.

Networking – Through local and national events, members have the chance to meet people from all walks of life and many career backgrounds, creating a vast network of people who are passionate about veterans, active-duty military and their families.

Friendships – The camaraderie gained from serving together for a cause that is close to everyone's heart leads to lifelong friendships and a strong network of support.

Personal Fulfillment – Longtime volunteers will be the first to tout the benefits of serving others and the sense of personal fulfillment it brings. The organization offers multiple avenues for service, such as hospital volunteering and the adoption of military units.

Personal Growth & Development – We offer multiple ways for members to acquire skills, such as leadership, fundraising, event planning and community outreach.

Cancer Grants – After one year of continuous membership, members who are battling cancer may be eligible for a grant to help cover expenses.

Service Benefits

VFW National Veterans Service – A network of highly-trained professionals are available to identify the benefits you may be eligible for and assist you in filing a claim. These services are available at no cost to veterans and their dependents.

VFW Auxiliary Digital Magazine – Published 6 times a year, this magazine will keep you informed about what members are doing nationwide, as well as exciting events and national programs.

Insurance Benefits – The VFW Auxiliary sponsors discounted policies for life, health, accident, long-term care and dental, along with many other benefit plans.

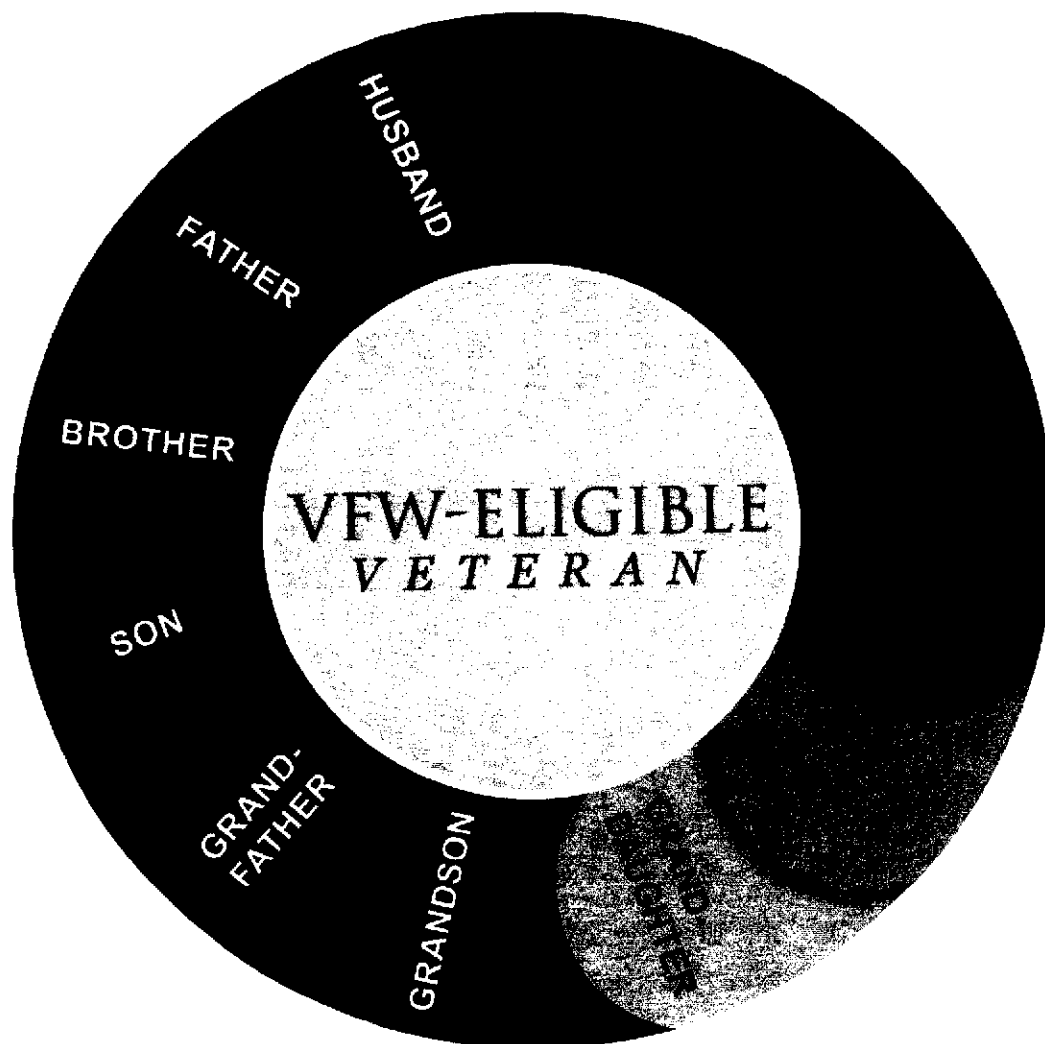
Discount Shopping – Get access to discounts on products and services that are important to you – including local offers!

VFW Store – A wide variety of VFW Auxiliary and other patriotic products are available at www.vfwstore.org.

Financial Services – Credit cards and certain financial services are available through USAA by calling 1-866-575-2859.



VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel



**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.*

2025 -2026 MEMBERSHIP DIVISIONS

DIVISION 1

10-28 members

1628 (23)

2125 (27)

2359 (28)

2626 (18)

3169 (18)

5188 (26)

5489 (10)

5594 (18)

6712 (23)

8049 (16)

8164 (27)

8345 (14)

8772 (22)

8819 (26)

DIVISION 2

29-45 members

486 (38)

611 (32)

697 (45)

1012 (31)

1046 (42)

1240 (37)

1274 (39)

2158 (44)

3439 (45)

5737 (43)

5988 (42)

9059 (43)

9261 (37)

9397 (29)

DIVISION 3

46-74 members

662 (69)

872 (50)

1385 (54)

1788 (74)

2331 (54)

2394 (74)

2452 (62)

2892 (62)

3291 (69)

3236 (47)

6643 (53)

7272 (58)

8607 (53)

8892 (49)

DIVISION 4

75+ members

523 (91)

529 (128)

625 (76)

996 (160)

1018 (79)

1822 (105)

2017 (87)

2346 (139)

2846 (83)

6538 (101)

8006 (109)

8349 (92)

10334 (83)



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Membership Program