



## Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Minnesota

---

### GENERAL ORDERS #10 APRIL 2019

"General Orders are to be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference."

- 1. CHAIN OF COMMAND:** A memo received from the National Auxiliary office reminds Auxiliaries and members to use proper channels in communications. National Headquarters prefers that the Department President has the first opportunity to assist Auxiliaries and members. Any correspondence received by National will be referred to the Department President. Page 14 of the Booklet of Instructions in the Bylaws explains Using Proper Channels.
- 2. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:** Department Commander Tom Hanson and I had the privilege of escorting our Department Voice of Democracy winner, Abigail Parker, in Washington, DC. She received the \$2,000 Fridley VFW Post 363 and Auxiliary Scholarship and Department of Michigan and Auxiliary Scholarship (combined). Congratulations Abigail! She was sponsored by Coon Rapids VFW and Auxiliary #9625 in the 7th District. Also, Ryan McDowell from Annapolis, MD received the \$4,000 Department of MN William F. Halsey Memorial.
- 3. PATRIOT'S PEN:** Our Department winner, Brennan Muhich, was awarded the \$1,000 Silver Spring Memorial Post #2562 (MD) and Department of Utah Award (combined). Congratulations! Brennan was sponsored by the George and Mark Klobuchar VFW and Auxiliary #4456 in Gilbert. Also, Margie Berleth from New Hampshire received the \$1,000 Golden Valley VFW Post #7051 award and Allie Autry from Tennessee received the \$1,000 Department of MI award and Warren A. Tressler Memorial (MN) combined.
- 4. MEMBERSHIP:** Congratulations to District 3 on being the first District to achieve 100% in membership! The year is coming to an end so we need to push, push, push for membership!
- 5. LOYALTY DAY:** Loyalty Day is May 1. It is a special day for reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom. Plan an event to observe Loyalty Day at your local school, nursing home or other location.
- 6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Officers for the coming year (2019-2020) are to be elected at your regular monthly meeting in April. Review you membership roster and make sure any member that may be considered for an office has paid their membership dues and is in good standing. No member shall be elected to office unless they are in attendance or unless a written letter stating willingness to hold office is received.
- 7. LEGISLATIVE:** Veterans Day on the Hill was well attended. Thank you to everyone who attended.

8. **DELEGATE FEES AND FORMS:** Department delegates must be elected at least 30 days prior to the Department Convention. Fill out the Delegate form and send it to the Department office. **(Department forms are included in this mailing)**. Department delegates are due to the Department office by May 28. Don't forget to send the Delegate fees to Department when you receive the Department Delegate Invoice from the office. The form for National Delegates is also included in these General Orders. The delegates for the National Convention may be entered online by the Auxiliary Secretary beginning April 1.
9. **COMMANDER TOM HANSON'S TESTIMONIAL:** The Department Commander's Testimonial will be held on April 6th at the Willmar Post in Willmar. Reservation form was included in March General Orders.

Get well wishes to all who are ill...prayers and condolences to those who have lost loved ones.



*"Working Hard to Turn Nightmares into Dreams"*

**BELIEVE...WE CAN DO IT!**

By Order of:

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Patricia Presfield".

Patricia Presfield  
Department President

Attested to:

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Marilyn Sheffield".

Marilyn Sheffield  
Department Secretary

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

**Auxiliary Secretary:** Immediately following the election of Department Delegates and Alternates, please complete (type or print) and mail immediately to the Department Secretary. Upon receipt of this list, the credentials will be mailed to your Auxiliary President. **Send this list to: VFW Auxiliary, 20 West 12th Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, St Paul MN 55155, attention Department Secretary.**

If a member registers as an alternate she must vote as an alternate even though she is replacing a delegate. ***Elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for every thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Auxiliary as of March 31.*** (per Department Bylaws)

AUXILIARY # \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_ AUXILIARY LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

Aux Pres \_\_\_\_\_ Sr Vice \_\_\_\_\_ Jr Vice \_\_\_\_\_

(Above names for documentation only in the event one or two of the officers do not attend. Also, if an Officer named above is also a delegate they must be listed below.)

**DELEGATES**

**ALTERNATES**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_
21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_

**VFW Auxiliary  
Department of Minnesota**

**45 YEAR + MEMBERS**

**Attention Auxiliary Presidents:** Members belonging to the VFW Auxiliary for 45 years or more will be honored with a Special Presentation at the 2019 Department Convention in St. Cloud.

Please list the names and mailing addresses of those who ***plan to attend***. Mail this form to the Department Secretary by **May 23, 2019** at VFW Auxiliary Department of MN, 20 West 12th Street, 3rd Floor, St Paul MN 55155.

**AUXILIARY #** \_\_\_\_\_

**DISTRICT #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date joined** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City & Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT AND DISTRICT  
ROSTER ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS  
April, 2019**

**Auxiliaries**

**1<sup>st</sup> District Auxiliary**

Giese-Kelsey Auxiliary #6913, Chatfield  
Auxiliary President Sherry Manahan, 344 Main Street N., #3, Chatfield, MN 55923

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT TESTIMONIALS**

<b><u>District</u></b>	<b><u>Date/Location</u></b>
1	May 4, Spring Valley
6	April 27, Monticello
7	April 13, Brooklyn Park
9	April 27, Thief River Falls



**NOT ACCEPTED BEFORE APRIL 1, NOR AFTER MAY 31**  
of the Current Calendar Year

**NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OFFICIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

~~DO NOT SEND THIS FORM IN IF NAMES HAVE BEEN INPUT ONLINE~~

TO: National Secretary  
VFW Auxiliary  
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor  
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

FROM: AUXILIARY NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_  
AUXILIARY NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Per Section 305 of the National Bylaws, "Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected at the last regular meeting in April; one for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof in good standing on March 31. The VFW Auxiliary Secretary shall provide the names of the Delegates and Alternates to the National Secretary, along with their membership ID number, within thirty (30) calendar days of the day of election" and no later than MAY 31. The Auxiliary Secretary is asked to input his or her Auxiliary's Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) online in MALTA via use of their respective membership ID number(s) and to print out a copy of the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) for his or her records.

**This is to certify that the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) listed below were duly elected to represent our VFW Auxiliary at the upcoming National Convention on \_\_\_\_\_ based on the total VFW Auxiliary membership as of MARCH 31 in the MALTA System.**

**ID Number and Name ARE REQUIRED** to complete this form.  
**TYPE or PRINT NEATLY** each Delegate's or Alternate's ID NUMBER and NAME.

**~DELEGATE CREDENTIALS WILL BE ISSUED AT CONVENTION SITE UPON CHECK-IN.~**

DELEGATES		ALTERNATES	
ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME	ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Auxiliary Secretary) (Address) (City, State & Zip Code)

**NOTE: This is a listing only. (NO CHECKS ARE TO BE INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM.)**



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**TREASURER'S TIPS and TRAINING**  
**April 2019**

**Delegate Fees** – You will receive an invoice notifying you of the amount of Delegate Fees your auxiliary owes. **DO NOT** send a check until you receive the invoice.

**Signatures on Checks** – **ONLY the PRESIDENT AND TREASURER** are allowed to sign checks. These should be the only two names on the Signature Card at your bank. Your Bond will be null and void if others are signing checks.



**Transferring Members** – ALL members wishing to transfer **MUST** be investigated and voted on. Membership Applications must be filled out completely. This is not new...it is just being enforced.

**Membership Applications** - CAN NOT be processed without a birthdate and a phone number.

**Membership Stats**- You can find your most current Membership Statistics in MALTA under Reports. Click on Membership Summary and enter your Auxiliary number. This will give you current numbers to verify that all members that you believe to be processed match your totals.

**Real Time**- Please keep in mind that your Membership Statistics will change immediately when you add a new member, pay dues on a lapsed member, a member transfers out or you report a member as deceased. You may be 100% today, but if someone transfers tomorrow your percentage **WILL GO DOWN**.

**Life Member Payout**- We were notified that the payouts will remain the same for next year, which is \$2.90 per Life Member. Life Member Payouts are issued annually from the Life Membership Fund at National HQ. These payouts are direct deposited into your auxiliary's bank account. The January payout is for all living Life Members based on the location of their membership as of December 31. The August payout is for all new Life Members for the current year and whose life applications were processed between January 1 and June 30.

**Dues Reminder Notices**- Department HQ Office will assist you in preparing notices for your auxiliary. We still have many unpaid Annual Members out there. Please call the office if you would like us to help you with Dues Reminders. 651-291-1759

**Member Recruiter Award** – Please fill out the form (enclosed) if you have recruited 5 or more new or rejoined members. ....transfers do not count. Send to National by May 31.



**Audits** – **Negative Balances are not allowed.** If you do not have money in your auxiliary coffers, you should not be spending. You **MAY NOT** use designated funds (Relief Fund, Cancer Fund, Remodeling Fund, etc.) for anything other than their intended purpose.

**Former Member Lists** – Every District President received a list of former members for every auxiliary in their district. If you have not been given the list for your auxiliary, please contact your District President and get it from them. This is a great resource for you for recruiting. These former members once wanted to be a part of our organization, please invite them to rejoin us.

**Members Requesting to Be Dropped** – The member must send a written request directly to National Headquarters (not through Auxiliary Treasurer). The request must include name, address, membership ID and daytime phone number for verification. The request cannot be a form letter, pre-typed by the Auxiliary Treasurer.

**Treasurer's Report**- At each Auxiliary meeting, the Treasurer shall make a report following the Reading of the Minutes, which shall contain:

- a. Balance on hand at last report
- b. Amount received from all sources since last report
- c. Amount expended since last report
- d. Balance on hand

The Treasurer's Report must show all receipts and disbursements in detail, including name of person or firm to whom check is issued and stating for what purpose.

**EVERY fund** the Auxiliary has (Cancer, Relief, Improvement, Kitchen, Officers, etc.) **MUST be listed in your Treasurer's Ledger separately.** This will ensure that only the monies in those "accounts" are expended for the purposes which they are intended and funds from other accounts are not used for incorrect purposes. (i.e. no Cancer Fund monies can be used for Kitchen expenses). All of these funds are kept in one checking account; however, they must be tracked as individual accounts/funds within your ledger.

Have a blessed Easter.

Laurie A. Dale, Treasurer  
Department of MN VFW Auxiliary



# Member Recruiter Award

**UNCLE SAM HAT MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD:** Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures five (5) new and/or rejoined members from July 1, 2018, to April 30, 2019, with the official form received at National Headquarters **no later than May 31, 2019**, will be honored with an Uncle Sam Hat Member Recruiter pin.

**PATRIOTIC VEST MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD:** Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures ten (10) new and/or rejoined members from July 1, 2018, to April 30, 2019, with the official form received at National Headquarters **no later than May 31, 2019**, will be honored with a Patriotic Vest Member Recruiter pin.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Aux. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City State Zip Code

Recruiter's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

THIS FORM CAN BE USED FOR BOTH THE FIVE AND TEN MEMBER PIN AWARDS

NUMBER	AUXILIARY NUMBER	MEMBER NAME	DATE ACCEPTED
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

**Completed form must be received by National Headquarters by May 31, 2019.**

Mail form to:  
**VFW Auxiliary**  
**ATTN: Membership Awards**  
**406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor**  
**Kansas City MO 64111**  
 Or email to [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

**VFW AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA  
AUXILIARY AUDIT REPORT**

AUXILIARY # \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_

FOR PERIOD \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

FUND	CASH BALANCE LAST AUDIT	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	CASH BALANCE THIS AUDIT
GENERAL FUND	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
RELIEF FUND	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
PER CAPITA FUND	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
CANCER INS/FUND	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
OTHER	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>CHECKING TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
SAVINGS	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
CD'S	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>AUDIT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**CHECKING ACCOUNT RECAP**

AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ENDING CHECKING ACCT STATEMENT BALANCE ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSIT IN BANK INTENDED FOR NEXT MEETING ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKS CLEARED BY BANK FOR NEXT MEETING ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL BALANCE ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKING TOTAL BALANCE ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DIFFERENCE EQUALS OUTSTANDING CHECKS. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE BOOKS OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER HAVE BEEN AUDITED, FOUND CORRECT AND ALL MONIES ACCOUNTED FOR**

DATED \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE #1 \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE #2 \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE #3 \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND TO:**  
VFW AUXILIARY  
ATTN: DEPT TREASURER  
20 WEST 12<sup>TH</sup> ST - FLOOR 3  
ST. PAUL MN 55155-2002

SEE PODIUM EDITION BYLAWS AND RITUAL: Sec. 814-TRUSTEES, DUTIES OF



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT**  
**Bulletin #9 - April 2019**

District and Auxiliary Year-End reports are done and we truly had a great year. As I am writing this bulletin, I have not received the year-end reports but I have all the confidence in our Department that we are going to shine.

I have mailed to each District Veterans and Family Support Chairman the National Ambassador's March bulletin which I hope they will pass on to their auxiliaries. This bulletin has great ideas for items to be in boxes that you ship to the troops.

Remember, just because you have completed your year-end reports does not mean our work is done. Supporting our veterans is a never-ending project and we should be carrying it on throughout the year.

Keep sending boxes to our deployed troops; they all like to keep in touch with their home country. Include a letter or card with your boxes letting them know the VFW and VFW Auxiliary support them 100%. Let our veterans know they will never be forgotten.

**Remember - "BELIEVE - WE CAN DO IT"**

Jane Meland  
Veterans and Family Support Chairman  
6921 Grand Ave S  
Richfield, MN 55423  
612-861-4257  
qmcsmeland@aol.com



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**AMERICANISM**  
**Bulletin #10 - April 2019**

After such a snowy winter, I'm sure most are looking forward to spring and April showers instead of snowflakes. May 1, Loyalty Day, will be here before we know it.

Is your Auxiliary or District making plans to recognize this day? This can be done with a media article, and/or by organizing a community celebration which may include a special ceremony or a parade. The media article could include a photo of the signing of a Loyalty Day Proclamation by your Mayor and an explanation about the day.

What is Loyalty Day?

It serves as an occasion when all American citizens publically reaffirm their loyalty to America. Loyalty is an intangible thing, but it causes people to form a government, to obey its laws and rules and to willingly defend their country against oppressors. It is the cohesive factor that welds a people together to act for the common good.

In 1958 the VFW successfully achieved official recognition of May 1 as "Loyalty Day" by Congressional adoption of Public Law 85-529 at the 85th Congress in 1958.

We observe Loyalty Day to remind ourselves and others that there is no substitute for loyalty and to pledge ourselves to maintain a free society in which loyalty is respected and encouraged.

***"Working Hard to Turn Nightmares into Dreams"***  
***"Believe – We Can Do It!"***

**Gege Abraham, Americanism Chairman**  
**Department of Minnesota VFW Auxiliary**

**507.475.1755 • [owatonnavfw3723@gmail.com](mailto:owatonnavfw3723@gmail.com) • 1738 Mosher Ave, Owatonna MN 55060**





**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**“BUDDY”® POPPY/NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN**  
**Bulletin #9 – April 2019**

**“BUDDY” POPPY**

“I am looking forward to seeing a record number of (poppy) displays at our convention in Orlando” says Renee Fulk, National Ambassador.

Distribution dates of April 19-28 are for Poppy Cards to announce Poppy Day. Use them in your post home asking for donations to honor or memorialize a veteran. Drop off a Poppy Card to local businesses and give them a note (**see sample**). Often businesses will place it at the check-out register and offer their own donation.

Remember that we are asked to assist our Posts in this program. Work together making sure to order your Poppies, plan your demographics with local businesses and get your volunteers scheduled. Reach out to all members to help with this monumental day(s).

With Poppy Day coming up, I wanted to assist our MN Auxiliaries by attaching a note to mail to your own members (**see sample**), asking for a donation to your Relief Fund.

Set a time to go to a local school and tell the Poppy Story to the children. They may go home and tell their parents. Put an ad in the local newspaper to remind neighbors.

**VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN**

Renee Fulk, National Ambassador asked: “Please let me know if your Department website has a link to the VFW National Home for Children website”. *I am so proud to say YES we do !!!* <http://mnvfwauxiliary.org/links>

Another reminder, National President Sandi Kriebel’s special project is to remodel the guest lodge kitchen at the National Home. Please send your donations to the VFW National Home for Children, 3573 South Waverly Rd., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 and earmark your check National President Sandi Kriebel’s special project.

Have you informed your community of the National Home Military and Veteran Family Helpline 1-800-313-4200? Write an article in your local paper to introduce the public to this treasure called the VFW National Home for Children. Go through the bulletins previously sent and do a column describing the mission and its history.

Carol Kratz / MN Department Chairman  
“Buddy” Poppy & National Home  
[ckratz2003@comcast.net](mailto:ckratz2003@comcast.net)  
Telephone: 651-245-1024

Dear Neighboring Business,

VFW BUDDY POPPY DAY IS FRIDAY MAY 17TH

We are sorry we missed the opportunity to talk to you, however, we hope that you will want to join us in the challenge-to assist those less fortunate Veterans and their families who need assistance.

We are leaving this VFW Poppy Card to display in your establishment. We ask that you help to remind people of this day, as we celebrate and thank our current and past comrades, brothers & sisters who defended our country with honor and dignity.

Please help us by returning your donation in the attached envelope. Please make Checks payable to VFW Post/Aux # . Thank you in advance for your support.



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

Dear Post / Auxiliary Member,

Inspired by a soldier's poem, assembled by disabled and aging veterans, the VFW Buddy Poppy has been the flower of remembrance for American Soldiers for more than 90 years. As Memorial Day is approaching, we will ask you to remember VFW Buddy Poppy Day on May 17, 2019 so that others will know that we have not forgotten the sacrifices made by the American Soldier.

We thank you in advance, for contributing to the VFW/Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Relief Fund to assist our Veterans and Active Duty Military. No donation is too small. Please include the form below.

<p>Make Checks Payable to: <u>VFW / AUX</u></p> <p>Mail to:</p>	<p>Donations go to VFW / Auxiliary Relief Fund</p> <p>From: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Email Address: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Cell</p>
---	--



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION**  
**Bulletin #10 – April 2019**

April is a very important month in our VFW Auxiliary!!! All of us are preparing to nominate and elect new officers for the coming year.

Now is the time to review the election procedures and turn to our resources for guidance allowing members to nominate, elect and install their future leaders. Happy and healthy auxiliaries look for positive and forward- thinking leadership to meet the challenges that face our veterans, while advancing the objectives of our great organization.

Please become familiar with the election procedures outlined in the Podium Edition, Bylaws and Ritual 2019.

Here are a few suggestions to help your auxiliary nominate and elect strong leaders:

- 1) Be certain nominations are sisters/brothers who are willing to assume the responsibility of the office they are seeking.
- 2) Consider those members who have voiced an interest in holding an appointive office.
- 3) Encourage new and younger members to assume a role with the Auxiliary as you prepare for the coming year.
- 4) Remember we all joined the organization with the same rights and responsibilities.
- 5) We are honoring all veterans. We engage in good works to maintain true allegiance in upholding the principles that founded our great organization!!!!

**ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING!!!**

Joyce Abers  
Department Chief of Staff/Extension  
Email: [joyceabers@hotmail.com](mailto:joyceabers@hotmail.com)  
Home Phone: 1-320-859-6504  
Cell Phone: 1-320-491-2879





**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS**  
**Bulletin #10 - April 2019**

**HOW CAN SOCIAL MEDIA HELP YOUR AUXILIARY?**

Does your Auxiliary/Post have their own Facebook page or website? Having a place for your members to go to can do the following:

- Inform or remind your members about an upcoming event.
- It is free to share on Facebook, so this allows you to be seen by many for no cost.
- Others can see what you do and may be interested in becoming a member.
- Wonderful way to get information out there on our scholarships or fundraisers.
- Keeps all of us in touch instantly.

**Top 10 Reasons to Have a Facebook Page**



From National Ambassador Libby DallaTezza -  
Having a Facebook Page connects you to a global network of millions of people sharing interests and ideas. This can be helpful to find and connect with those who care most about our military, our veterans and their families.

10. It's FREE! And easy to set-up and maintain.
9. Since it's FREE, it helps stretch your Auxiliary budget!
8. Your members are likely already on Facebook.
7. It provides direct line of communication with Auxiliary members.
6. It's a great tool to share short, frequent messages.
5. It's a way for those interested in your Auxiliary to find it online.
4. It's an excellent tool to use in recruiting new members.
3. It's a wonderful way to get younger/different members involved in your Auxiliary.
2. It's an easy way to share information about fundraisers, scholarship contests, stories about how your Auxiliary helps veterans and their families, and recruit volunteers to help with an event – just to name a few!
1. Social media – especially Facebook – is today's word-of-mouth.

Twyla Bauch-Scofield – Historian Media Relations Chairman  
59990 279<sup>th</sup> St., Litchfield MN 55355  
[toyajean@hotmail.com](mailto:toyajean@hotmail.com)  
(320) 894-4275



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**HOSPITAL**  
**Bulletin #10 - April 2019**

Auxiliary Hospital Chairmen, have you ordered your Hospital Volunteer and Sewing Pins? The form is in the Hospital Handbook. It is important to recognize and thank our volunteers. If you do not have the handbook, call or email me and I can get you the forms.

Spring and Easter are just around the corner; check out Pinterest for lots of fun ideas and easy gifts and crafts to create. Put together some bags of Easter candy and hand out during coffee or bingo. Spending time, just visiting with the patients in the Homes and Hospitals is a simple way to bring a bit of cheer to their day.

The weather will soon be nice, with flowers and green grass. Plan a picnic or an Ice Cream social, help take some Veterans to a local baseball game or to an ice cream store for desert. Help get them out to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine.

Some of you have contacted me about the Blue Trigger material for the Weighted Lap Pads. I have attached the order form for the trigger material. We do have some at the Department office.

**Luverne Veterans Home** has coffee and some entertainment or bingo every afternoon from 2:15 to 3:30. Our volunteers serve the coffee and help clean-up after. They go out on trips to eat out or to some kind of entertainment and will be taking about 10 each month. They are replacing all the TVs and each will have headsets for each resident. They are also installing a new backup system in cases where the electricity goes out due to storms, etc. They are replacing all the doors to each resident's room. Thank you to all the Auxiliaries who have sent donations for the Veterans Home. That money makes it more pleasant for the residents.

Lois Novosad & Ann Krueger Co-Chairmen

**Silver Bay**, things are going well. They are getting their new windows and, hopefully, the remodeling will be done soon. The residents are still enjoying bingo and going out to eat. We have 2 spring/summer events -- a dog show and an art show. We are trying to bring more events to the home so more of the residents can be entertained. Music plays a large part of entertaining the veterans. I want to THANK all of the Auxiliaries for the donations you have made to Silver Bay. The money certainly made their lives happier♥

Lil LaVoy, Chairman

**Fergus Falls**, Even with the weather, activities are going on at Fergus Falls such as bingo, movie nights, and live entertainment. In April, there is the annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt. Volunteers fill Easter eggs and put in baskets for the Veterans to hand out to the children. Veterans also help them find hidden eggs. In May, there is the annual Cooties Fish Fry, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day Program. In June, the annual Stars and Stripes parade will be held. We continue to operate the General Store every Tuesday. Thank you for your generous donations.

Celia Piippo, Chairman

***Working Hard to Turn Nightmares into Dreams!***

Karen Haugen  
Department Hospital Chairman  
1810 17<sup>th</sup> St S.  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
701.367.1518  
karenhaugen@midco.net

VFW AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA  
FABRIC REQUEST FORM

Auxiliary # \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**BLUE TRIGGER  
YARDS**

\_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by:  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail request to: Karen Haugen  
1810 17<sup>th</sup> St S  
Moorhead, MN 56560

OR E-Mail request to: karenhaugen@midco.net

**When request is received you will receive a call from me to make arrangements to  
pick up fabric**

This form may be duplicated.



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**LEGISLATIVE**  
**Bulletin #10 - April 2019**

Thank you to all who were able to attend the 2019 MN Veterans Day on the Hill rally. Your support for veterans is needed and appreciated.

Here is some legislation related to veterans that may interest you. Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) pushed for reforms to current bankruptcy law to protect veterans experiencing financial hardship. The bipartisan Honoring American Veterans in Extreme Need (HAVEN) Act, led by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and John Cornyn (R-TX) would exclude Veterans Affairs and DOD disability benefits from the veterans' monthly income calculations, preventing those funds from being taken by creditors.

There is a lot of activity in the Minnesota state legislature. HF 1063 and SF 54 have been introduced to fund construction of new veterans homes in Bemidji, Montevideo, and Preston. HF 172 and SF 242 is the establishment of a POW and MIA Recognition day. There are also many bills introduced related to the Disabled and Deceased Veterans' homestead market value exclusion benefit for surviving spouse eligibility. Currently, a surviving spouse has the exemption for 8 years. These bills would eliminate the 8 year limitation.

This is from the VFW Action Corps email:

Senators Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) introduced the VFW-supported Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019. This will improve veterans' access to high-quality mental health care and help reduce the rate of veteran suicide. The bill would bolster VA's mental health workforce to serve more veterans, improve rural veterans' access to mental health care, strengthen support and assistance for transitioning service members, study and expand innovative and alternative treatment options such as animal therapy, outdoor sports and activities, yoga, and acupuncture. It also holds the VA accountable for its mental health care and suicide prevention efforts.

Keep an eye on the proposed legislation on both the state and National level. It can have a great impact on veterans and their families.

Thanks for all you do for Veterans.

Cleo Bonham – Department Chairman  
4727 White Oak Ct. Eagan MN 55122  
651-208-3744  
cleobonham@gmail.com



## Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Minnesota

---

### MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

#### Bulletin #10 - April 2019

Department of Minnesota Membership Chairman

Sonia Tatge

322 Trondheim Rd

Kenyon, MN 55946

507-789-6240

[statge@frontiernet.net](mailto:statge@frontiernet.net)

“April showers bring May flowers!” Most of us have heard these words; however, I believe that April will bring 100% in membership from all the Auxiliaries in Minnesota. That is our goal! All auxiliaries that attain 100% in membership by April 30, 2019, will be entered into a bonus drawing at the Department Convention in June for \$100!

BELIEVE---WE CAN DO IT! All of us have work to do since we still have many unpaid members that we do not want to lose. Please reread the March Bulletin and work with the Department Membership Team to contact those members by sending out DUES NOTICES. Please contact them or visit them and find out why dues have not been paid. Perhaps they could use help from the Auxiliary this year. Consider using your Relief Fund to help them. Reach out to these members who are currently not in good standing.

Recruit those possible new members. Speak to any groups in the community and encourage them to honor their veteran by becoming a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

Remember to check the list of possible REJOINS that each Auxiliary received earlier this year. There are many potential members on those lists, also. Work together to accomplish this task.

District awards are still available for those achieving 100% PLUS by May 31, 2019. Only one District has achieved 100% so far. Challenge the auxiliaries in your District!

Don't forget the MN Department Individual Awards for recruiting 5, 10, or 20 new members. Criteria for these awards has been in past bulletins---deadline to me is April 30, 2019. Deadline to National Headquarters is May 31, 2019. Please use the forms that have been provided in the past General Orders and/or the National Program Book.

Please contact me with your questions at any time.

LET'S WORK AS A TEAM---100% PLUS---NOW!!! BELIEVE WE CAN DO IT, MINNESOTA!!





Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Department of Minnesota



## APRIL 2019 - BULLETIN #10

Spring is starting to arrive and with its arrival we're coming to the end of the year for our scholarship programs? Take some time and write down some reminders for next year. What worked well, what needed to be worked on, etc. We want this Scholarship program to be promoted all year long.

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. The theme for the 2019 - 2020 Voice of Democracy Program will be announced shortly.

Patriot's Pen is a Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsored essay competition giving students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. There were more than 120,000 students who participated this past year in this contest. The theme for the 2019 - 2020 Patriot's Pen Program will be announcement shortly.

**Tim Haugen**

**Department Scholarship Chairman**  
1810 17<sup>th</sup> St S  
Moorhead, MN 56560-5809  
701.261.6973  
Timhaugen74@gmail.com

As soon as the themes are announced for the 2019 - 2020 year let's start promoting the themes for the National Scholarships in your communities. It is never too early to let them start planning and preparing. We know that we have many very talented youth in our communities. We know that a youth from MN can win on the National level.

Thank you to all the VFW Posts and Auxiliaries for all your hard work this past year. The Scholarship Program is a fun one to promote. There is a lot of work that needs to take place, and everyone has shown that they do care about our youth. Thank you for making Minnesota shine in the National Scholarships Program.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this year as Scholarships Chairman and have enjoyed hearing from many of you throughout the year. I'm looking forward to giving out awards to many deserving Auxiliaries for your hard work this past year. I have enjoyed the journey!

## Minnesota Only! Nursing



### Marcella Arnold Nursing Scholarship:



**Deadlines are  
April 1 and  
October 1, 2019**

I will announce in next months' General Orders the Winners from the April 1st, 2019 deadline applications.

# Happy



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**  
*Department of Minnesota*

---

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES**  
**Bulletin #10 - April 2019**



It's hard to believe that we are at the time of year when year-end reports are due. The MN Middle School creative art contest is over and the winners will be announced at the Department Convention in June. Thank you for all the participants who entered.

With year-end reports due, please do not stop promoting and participating in activities with our youth. It is important that we do not stop just because we have all completed our year-end reports. Get out there and recognize our youth; hand out some R.A.P (Random Acts of Patriotism) cards or coins. Help educate the youth on patriotism and Americanism. Just because the reporting has ended does not mean our efforts should end.

When you are working on your year-end reports, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions on what it is I am looking for on the report. I am looking forward to receiving 100% reporting from all districts and hope that I am able to report 100% to National for all of us! It reflects on all of us and it takes all of us for me to be able to report 100% to National.

Youth groups supporting veteran's citations. Please go back and review what your youth groups have done and get those citations completed and sent to me so I can forward to National. These must be received by National by April 20, 2019.

[https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-2019\\_updated\\_Youth-Activities-Award-for-Auxiliaries-Request-Form.pdf](https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-2019_updated_Youth-Activities-Award-for-Auxiliaries-Request-Form.pdf)



Dave Scofield – Department of Minnesota Youth Activities Chairman  
59990 279<sup>th</sup> St., Litchfield MN 55355  
[Dave.Scofield@outlook.com](mailto:Dave.Scofield@outlook.com)  
(320) 894-4246