



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Chief of Staff/Extension Bulletin - July 2020

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

Facebook Page: VFW Auxiliary Dept of Michigan Chief of Staff/Extension

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**National Theme: Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans**

**Department Theme: Honor, Serve and Remember our Veterans with Everlasting Patriotism**

**Auxiliary Presidents:** Now is the time to place some important dates into your planning calendar including District meetings, Schools of Instruction, and the Fall Conference. Plan on attending these informative meetings and take along some of your Auxiliary members too. Let your chairmen know that they will receive a lot of valuable information at these meetings. Check the *Michigan Connection* and the Department website for dates and times of these events.

**Reporting!** Check your Guide Sheet for reportable items. Please make sure you report the items that are on your Guide Sheet. Just reporting that you read your bulletin at the meeting doesn't tell me what you are doing in the program!

**Do you know of a Post without an Auxiliary!** Did you know that there are around 80 VFW Posts in Michigan without an Auxiliary? One of the responsibilities of the Chief of Staff is to try to bring in new Auxiliaries to Posts that do not have one. If you happen to visit a Post without an Auxiliary, talk positively about the Auxiliary to them. Schedule a time that you can go there and present the "Why Having an Auxiliary Can Boost Your Post" PowerPoint and/or PDF and "Ten Top Reasons for Your Post to have an Auxiliary," and then let me know if they are interested in starting an Auxiliary and I will contact them. Let's get more people involved in this great organization!

### **R U Healthy Checklist reminders for July:**

- ✓ Submit an itemized report of the financial and membership status of your Auxiliary to your Post Commander within 30 days of taking office. If you have not done this, you have until July 6, 2020 to do so.
- ✓ Submit Bond Application for offices of President and Treasurer bonded with an indemnity company authorized by National Headquarters.
- ✓ Trustees complete April 1, 2020-June 30, 2020 audit.

If there is anything that I assist you with, don't hesitate to contact me using the following information.

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**Auxiliary Presidents:** Please check the Auxiliary website for possible Building on the Auxiliary Foundation educational workshops that the Department is offering. We will have them in different areas of the state when possible so that your Auxiliary officers and members can come to one that is close to you.



Good communication is essential to having a healthy and successful Auxiliary. How do you communicate with your members about meetings, events, etc.? In today's world, we have many forms of communication including newsletters, phone calls, texts, e-mails, Face Book, and Twitter to name a few. All our members are different and prefer different ways to communicate. Great leaders will find out what is best for their members and then use that form of communication with them. For assistance utilize the "Healthy Communication Phone/Text

Tree" that is available on the Department website.

**Promote Your Auxiliary!** You do wonderful things for your community and the veterans who live there. Let your community know what you do, and they will want to help too! Don't keep the VFW and its Auxiliary a secret. Let's publicize all of the great things that we are doing!

**5 Essentials of an Auxiliary.** While we know that you are out there doing a ton of work for our veterans the National Organization requires only five (5) things of an Auxiliary. They are as follows:

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. (Sec. 210)
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 207)
3. Up-to-date quarterly audits must be submitted by the Trustees. (Sec. 814)
4. Officers elected, installed, and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30.
5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31.

### **R U Healthy Checklist reminders for August:**

- ✓ Bond the offices of President and Treasurer by August 31, 2020!
- ✓ Dues notices sent and dues submitted to National via MALTA or to Department.
- ✓ If you haven't already done so submit April 1, 2020-June 30, 2020 approved audit to the Department Headquarters by August 31, 2020.

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