

## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Historian/Media Relations Bulletin – August/September 2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Historian/Media Relations-Michigan

National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans
Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire

Hoping all Historian/Media Relations Chairmen at District and Auxiliary level are able to get onto the Department Website (vfwauxmi.org) and the National Website/Malta (vfwauxiliary.org/Malta). The information provided under the Historian/Media Relations Program will help you to be more effective as a chairman and help you educate other members to be an Auxiliary Storyteller (Goal – Training to educate members). A Storyteller is valuable, documenting events and activities done out in the community and promoting what we do for our Veterans. Collecting and organizing the documentation will make a reference for future Auxiliary Members on how the Auxiliary was able to continue the "Good Work" (Goal – Scrapbook). It also allows those who participated in the memories look back and remember.

The Storyteller needs to continue to tell the Auxiliary's story to the community by various Media Resources (Goal – Maintain Facebook Page). If we "Promote" what we do for our Veterans, the community will learn the importance of our Veterans and how the community can also help and support them. The Historian/Media Relations Chairman also "Promotes" Auxiliary Programs, so members and the community are aware of our many endeavors (Goal – Promote Programs).

We also need to "Promote" activities and events to those members who cannot make our meetings, so they can see what is being accomplished and what may be coming up on the agenda, so they may participate. Media Resources also include Newsletters, Quarterly letters, Messenger, Emails, and Websites (Goal – Communicate Quarterly). If more members along with the community are aware of functions it could increase participation of members and a bonus of more membership. Remember, Membership is also a Program to be "Promoted".

We can always learn from each other. Attending your District meetings (Goal – Attend District Meeting) allows you to talk with other Auxiliaries and listen to speakers who "have been there, done that". You can learn from their mistakes and their successes. You can also learn new ways to accomplish achievements, do activities and promote awareness. The more we learn the better we are for our Veterans. The Department Conferences, Fall and Mid-Winter, are also a wealth of information where you can attend a School of Instruction (Goal – Attend School of Instruction). The conferences have a joint meeting on the first day with the VFW Members which helps Auxiliary Members better understand the VFW Programs and community involvement. Always try to work with your post, combining activities and events to further help our Veterans. "Promote" how you help Veterans and bring awareness to problems many of our Veterans live with day to day. "Promote" why we are here, why we do what we do and why we are there for our Veterans. Our Post VFW Members are our Veterans!

As a Veteran, Combat and Non-Combat, as an Auxiliary Member, as a Family Member and as an American, "Promote" everything you do, need and wish for our Veterans. Brag about our Veterans! Brag about what they need! Brag about what they did! Promoting activities, events and fund raisers, and helping a Veteran at our Auxiliary, District, Department and National level brings the awareness our Veterans need and deserve. So, continue to use all media resources to get this done.

Tell your stories on how you are "Promoting" and "Bragging".

## REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT!

Blanche Brown Historian/Media Relations Chairman 10975 Irish Rd. Vermontville, Michigan 49096 517-896-7752 bbrownvfw@gmail.com