



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Extension & Revitalization/Chief of Staff October/November 2025

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Extension & Revitalization-Michigan

National Theme: *From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free*

Department Theme: *We Don't Know Them All, But We Owe Them All*

Welcome to the Department of Michigan VFW Auxiliary!! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Auxiliary to Pullman VFW Post 6134 who was instituted on August 23, 2025.

We wish you all the best and we are looking forward to seeing all of the wonderful things you will do for veterans and your community. Thank you to Patricia Knapp, organizer, and the mentoring team of Nancy Vredevelde, Tracy Van Fleeren, and Michelle Holcomb for all of your assistance in starting this Auxiliary and helping them to learn.



Mentoring: Our National Extension & Revitalization Ambassador, Karlene Beams, has a great theme this year: "You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf." She states that it means to her that "even when we face roadblocks, we can find a way around them and complete our mission." If you are facing any roadblocks in your Auxiliary or need assistance in any way, please make sure you are

reaching out to get some help. You can reach out to your District President, District Deputy Chief of Staff, or directly to me. My contact information is at the end of this bulletin. There are plenty of people to help you "learn to surf".

District Presidents: At your next District meeting, invite your members to contact the Unaffiliated Posts in your District. Please make sure that only one contact is made per post. By doing this the membership in your District will grow. Once a Commander of an Unaffiliated Post says that he/she would welcome us coming to a meeting the following are the tools that the presenter should take or do:

- ✓ Our National Website (under Chief of Staff resources) has the Presentation to Bachelor Post using two different methods
- ✓ Take the Eligibility Wheel, with enough copies to give to each Post member
- ✓ Take copies of the National Facts leaflet (you can get these from National for free)
- ✓ Take copies of the Application form
- ✓ The presenter should let Post members know about the procedures to start an Auxiliary located in our Bylaws, Article II Section 202. A list may be helpful for the Commander.

If the VFW is interested, please let me know and I will assist in any way that I can to help them get started.

Auxiliary Presidents: Now is a great time to check on the Membership Committee that you appointed in the beginning of the year! How is membership going so far this year? Has the Committee contacted all unpaid annual members? Are there members who are in need of the Auxiliary to pay their dues out of the relief fund?

Good Job Awards: Do you have those few people who are always doing something extra for the Auxiliary? Maybe they are an officer who consistently does a great job in their position. Maybe it is a Chairman who just put on a great program for our veterans or a fundraiser for your Auxiliary. Maybe it is a member who assisted a Chairman? Whatever the case, how about giving



them a Good Job Award. You can find two different Good Job Award Certificates and a Good Job Award Card on the National Website under Member Resources and then Extension and Revitalization, or on the Department website under Programs and then Extension and Revitalization. Everybody likes to get a pat on the back occasionally. This is a nice way to say “Thank You” to the members who step up and help. Pass them out at your meetings or events and watch people smile!

R U Healthy Checklist reminders for October:

- ✓ Trustees will complete the July, August, September audit by October 31, have it approved at your next meeting, and mail, email, or fax it to Department by November 30.
- ✓ Report in all programs
- ✓ Dues submitted to National via MALTA or to Department

R U Healthy Checklist reminders for November:

- ✓ IRS Form 990 ePostcard filed by November 15
- ✓ Trustees should have already completed the July, August, September audit. Have it approved at your November meeting, and mail it to Department by November 30.
- ✓ Additional dues notices sent, and dues submitted through the MALTA system or to Department
- ✓ Purchase 2026 Bylaws and Ritual from the VFW Store
- ✓ Report in all programs

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

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Technology Talk: This QR code will take you to the VFW Auxiliary website Extension & Revitalization Program information page.



Please log into vfwauxiliary.org and click on Member Resources under MALTA login, or vfwauxmi.org and click on Programs for more Extension & Revitalization information.