



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Extension & Revitalization/Chief of Staff August/September 2025

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

Facebook Page: Extension & Revitalization-Michigan

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**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 Red Arrow VFW Post 1527 in Kalamazoo who was instituted on July 20, 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 Michelle Decker, organizer, and Jason and Sara Manke for all of your assistance in starting this Auxiliary.



**District and Auxiliary Presidents:** By now District Presidents should have their official visit schedule completed and have alerted each Auxiliary President in the District when they should expect them to be there. Please see the attached flyer entitled "Official Visit Guidelines and Expectations" taken from *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations, Version 1.5, 2018* for assistance in how to be ready for the official visit.

**Mentoring:** Mentoring is an important part of this chairmanship. The Department is planning our famous "Road Show" Trainings this year in every District that asks for one. Check the Department's website and the Extension & Revitalization-Michigan Facebook page often for times and locations near you.

### **Healthy Auxiliaries and Struggling Auxiliaries:**

#### **Green Flag – Healthy Auxiliaries**

Green Flag Auxiliaries are those Auxiliaries that are doing everything they are supposed to do. They have used the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit found in MALTA and they have met the five essential requirements for a Healthy Auxiliary. Karlene Beams, National Chief of Staff suggests that "A Green Flag Auxiliary would be an excellent choice to mentor struggling Auxiliaries."



#### **Yellow Flag – Struggling Auxiliaries**

Yellow Flag Auxiliaries are those that are struggling in one or more areas and just need a little bit of mentoring. District Presidents can be very helpful in identifying these Auxiliaries in need when making an official visit. Just mention it on the official visit form and the Chief of Staff can take further steps if necessary. Auxiliaries can also ask for mentoring if needed. There are so many people in our Districts and neighboring Auxiliaries who are willing and able to assist. Please do not wait until your Auxiliary is a Red Flag Auxiliary to ask for help.

#### **Red Flag – Suspension**

Red Flag Auxiliaries will be placed on suspension to give them time to regroup and work at getting better at what we do best. Hopefully, this time of teaching from the Suspension Team will help the Auxiliary to recover and return as a Green Flag Auxiliary.

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

- ✓ April/May/June audit reports are due to the Department by August 31, 2025. Please remember to read and approve on your Auxiliary floor before submitting them.
- ✓ It is the duty of Trustees on every level to see that the offices of President and Treasurer are bonded with an indemnity company authorized by National Headquarters of the Department, on or before August 31, 2025.
  - Amount of bond is at least double the amount of funds the President and Treasurer may be accountable for.
  - Amount shall be approved by the Auxiliary and premium paid from their funds. A motion shall be made, passed and included in the Secretary's minutes.
  - A copy of the bonds shall be incorporated into the minutes.
  - Bonds do not cover gaming accounts.

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

- ✓ Send another dues reminder to all of your annual members who have not yet paid their dues.
- ✓ District dues, based on June 30, 2025 membership, paid to the District by September 30, 2025.
- ✓ Begin preparing for your July, August, September audit.
- ✓ Reported 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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Department Chief of Staff/Extension & Revitalization Chairman  
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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](http://vfwauxiliary.org) and click on Member Resources under MALTA login, or [vfwauxmi.org](http://vfwauxmi.org) and click on Programs for more Extension & Revitalization information.