

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Membership – June/July 2025

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Membership-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

With the smell of freshly mown lawns filling the air, we can tell that summer is approaching quickly. Perennials are peeking out of the ground and soon will add to the stunning displays of the various flowers in hanging baskets and large planters.

Congratulations to all the new membership chairman at all levels. With the new season, there's a new reason to go out in your communities and reach out to prospective members. Prospective members are everywhere. It's imperative that we keep our eyes open and look for them. Should you need my help, or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. If you do a community outreach event, please wear an Auxiliary pin or shirt. It never hurts to show your pride for this organization. Remember, we are an ELITE organization, not everyone is eligible to join.

One important tool all the membership chairman should have in their "recruiting toolbox" is a membership board. If you don't have a membership board, make one. They are easy to make. If you have one, do you have friends that own businesses in your town? If you do, ask them if you could put up a membership board in their place of business. Take your membership board to "public events" like flea markets, farmer markets, and garage sales.

My very dear friend, and hair stylist, has a special place for my board in her salon. If you don't have the dog tag with the QR code that my husband, Dennis, lasered (which I gave away many last year), please carry an application (or 2) with you. If you didn't get the dog tag, or want more, you can purchase an Auxiliary Keychain from the VFW store, vfwstore.org.

Time to Schedule a Recruiting Event

The VFW Auxiliary By-Laws require that every Auxiliary must have a membership committee. A recruiting event should be first on their list. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate. I try to keep mine simple. Here's a few suggestions of items to include at your recruiting event:

Table Cloth Membership Board Candy

Small Flags Patriotic Pens/Pencils Small Bottles of Water

Flag Pins Other Giveaways

As they say, "less is more". You don't want to overwhelm them. I would love to try and attend your recruiting event if possible. Please invite me.

June 14th is flag day this year. People will be flying their flags and what a great way to approach them to talk about our Auxiliary. Clearly, they are patriotic.

Are you a walker? I see many people out for a stroll in my neighborhood. If you are like them, take the QR code or paper application. I have stopped at homes that display the Blue Star flag

in their windows or fly the flag on their property. It begins the conversation. They may not be eligible to join, but they might have friends or coworkers that are. I have recruited a new member from my church. How? We have a list of deployed /enlisted members in our weekly bulletins that we keep in our prayers.

Then we have July 4th. Is your town having a 4th of July parade? That's a wonderful opportunity to hand out small flags, with your Auxiliary info wrapped around the stick. In the past, my Auxiliary also gave out the rulers with the Pledge of Allegiance on it. This way you are promoting Americanism. Or if they allow it, set up a Membership table.

If you have any questions, or need help, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I hope you all can go out and enjoy the warm weather with family and friends.

And...RECRUIT RECRUIT RECRUIT!!!

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