



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Extension & Revitalization/Chief of Staff December 2025-January 2026

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*

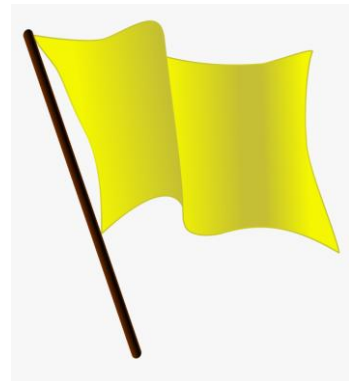
Welcome to the Department of Michigan VFW Auxiliary!! I am excited to announce and warmly welcome two new Auxiliaries to our state. The Auxiliary to Reed City VFW Post 2964 was established on October 28, 2025, with organizer Kathy Yost and new member Kimberly Storch leading the charge in getting things started. Additionally, the Auxiliary to Algonac VFW Post 3901 was instituted on November 9, 2025, with organizer Roberta Reid providing great support. We wish you all the best and look forward to witnessing the incredible contributions you will make for veterans and your local communities.



Mentoring: Our National Extension & Revitalization Ambassador, Karlene Beams, has a powerful theme this year: "You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf." Thinking about this, I realize that while Michigan doesn't have many surfing spots on the Great Lakes, the thrill of riding those waves is something you can experience in many ways—not just on the water. That same adrenaline rush can come from mentoring others

and sharing our organization's mission. So, take a moment to guide new members, help them find their footing, and let them feel that same exciting energy that comes from making a difference.

Performance Improvement Plans: There's a new approach for Auxiliaries that are having trouble. Instead of suspending them, the Department will now send a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) committee to meet with the officers and any members involved. Together, they'll work on identifying issues and building a Performance Improvement Plan. With support from the committee, the Auxiliary takes ownership of the plan and gets actively involved, rather than being sidelined. The committee will guide the process and gradually help the Auxiliary get back on track, attending meetings as needed and helping resolve problems before suspension even becomes an option.



New Auxiliaries: Michigan is doing great in starting new Auxiliaries this year as we already have four new ones, however, there is still much to do. There are many unaffiliated VFW posts in the great state of Michigan. Here is a list of the initial steps for creating an Auxiliary:

1. A VFW Post must have a 2/3 vote of the Post membership present to have an Auxiliary. Written communication of the proposed formation of an Auxiliary must be given to the entire membership of the Post at least 20 days prior to the meeting.
2. The Department President appoints the official organizer of that Auxiliary and at least two others who will assist in mentoring the new Auxiliary.
3. A minimum of 15 eligible applicants must be on the Charter application. Transfers are accepted at the closure of the institution and just prior to the installation of the newly-formed Auxiliary.

Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit-This is a list of resources that you can find on MALTA to help keep your Auxiliary healthy. These are links that you can follow using Ctrl + Click.

- [Auxiliary Meeting Checklist for the Auxiliary President](#)
- [Healthy Auxiliary Checklist To-Dos & Deadlines](#)
- [Healthy Communication Phone-Text Tree.doc](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Health Certificate](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Meeting Challenges & Solutions](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Member Questionnaire](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Sample Meeting Agenda](#)



R U Healthy Checklist reminders for December:

- ✓ Dues to be 100% paid by 12/31
- ✓ Officers' dues must be paid by 12/31
- ✓ Dues submitted to National via MALTA or to Department
- ✓ Make Mid-Winter Conference hotel arrangements
- ✓ Report in all programs

R U Healthy Checklist reminders for January:

- ✓ Complete the October, November, December audit. Have it approved at your February meeting, and mail it to Department by February 28.
- ✓ Delinquent dues notices sent
- ✓ 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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