

# Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP BULLETIN May 2023

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

Facebook Page: Mentoring for Leadership- Michigan

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

*National Theme: Banding Together for Our Veterans*

*Department Theme: Our Veterans the Angels Among Us*

## Program Goals

- Create a Welcoming Environment at your Auxiliary.
- Recognize individual members' strengths and weaknesses.
- Train when the opportunity presents itself.

## **May 2023 Auxiliary Meeting:**

I am so excited to work alongside valued Auxiliary members who understand the importance of sharing the knowledge of our organization with all members of their own Auxiliary.

Often you will catch yourself thinking, oh yeah, not everyone is aware that our organization (Auxiliary) does that. That becomes the ahh ha moment for you. When hopefully you will step up and follow through by filling in the blank spaces of information. Thus, assuring all members the ability to move forward with the same basic program or project criteria in mind.

In our organization mentoring means being prepared to give accurate information, direction, and guidance on our actions and procedures, based upon our Bylaws and Ritual. As Mentoring for Leadership Chairman in your Auxiliary you are encouraged to take on the role of a gentle educator of the Auxiliary Traditions and Bylaws.

This can be the most rewarding experience an active member can have in their Auxiliary. Watching the growth of a new member or renewing a spirit of commitment and understanding in a member who may have forgotten about some things within our organization.

**Mentoring + Leadership = Happy – Healthy Auxiliaries**

At your first business meeting in June, you could unveil a helpful Auxiliary kit. Work hand in hand with the Extension & Revitalization Chairman in your Auxiliary to prepare a "Welcome to the Auxiliary Kit" for new members. Be prepared to share it with those members that may not have attended meetings for a few years also. A refresher course in our Auxiliary and our traditions is always a positive to present. The aim is to keep knowledge in the hands of all members. Share a list of Officers with phone numbers, their job descriptions within the Auxiliary, and the part they play in the monthly meeting.

There is wealth in the statement, "The more in the know, the better it all will go."

# MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP BULLETIN

## June 2023

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The new Auxiliary year is beginning. Now is a great time to get your objectives together for your Chairmanship. You can assemble items that you will need to refer to as Mentor in your Auxiliary.

Prepare a bag with the following items in it to carry with you to all your Auxiliary meetings:

1. Current Bylaws
2. Building on the Auxiliary Foundation Book
3. List of Auxiliary Traditions
4. List of Auxiliary members, their phone numbers, and addresses
5. Program Guide Sheets
6. Current Bulletins
7. Auxiliary Acronyms list
8. Sample Motions

Prior to the June business meeting prepare a form. Ask a few simple questions of every member present such as:

1. Would you like a mentor to help explain what is occurring in the meeting?
2. Would you be willing to mentor a new member, or a returning member who hasn't attended Auxiliary meetings in a while?
3. Would you like to discuss Auxiliary Traditions between meeting dates?
4. What do you feel your best contribution to the Auxiliary would be? (Being a Line Officer, Treasurer, Secretary, Chairman, Trustee, etc.)

I believe that if we C.A.R.E. our Auxiliaries will excel!

C= Catch the member when they first join.

A= ask them to join in and participate

R= Remember what it felt like when you were brand new to the auxiliary.

E= Engage them to join in and participate in a program or project that fits them.

Every member of an Auxiliary is a Mentor and should be respected, accepted, and treated as one.

Loyally yours,

Sandra Onstwedder

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