



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Americanism Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Americanism-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

**Flag Education – Promote #AuxiliaryPatriotism – POW/MIA Recognition  
Star Family Recognition**

Americanism can mean so many different things to different people so this year I hope to explore and "Inspire" many different ways to show your American pride. I will "Aspire" to help guide you all through sights, sounds, color, and maybe even taste to raise up more American pride and awareness. We will recognize, celebrate and honor Military holidays and birthdays and why we recognize these dates. We will also go back to our "Roots" and strengthen our Patriotism through education of our youth. Let's get ready for some RED, WHITE and BLUE Fun!

### **National Awards for Auxiliaries**

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.

**Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.**

### **Department Awards**

- Best outstanding activity and/or event educating the community about lesser-known patriotic holidays in each category. Must send required National entry form to Department chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall promotion of Patriotic Holidays through observance, ceremony, and/or tribute in each membership category. \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall greatest number of American and/or POW/MIA Flags distributed or presented. \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

- Best overall program on the education of Americanism/Patriotism community/schools. \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best overall award for the most Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificates of Appreciation and/or Respect for the Flag presented to citizens or businesses for their American pride. \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote/participate in an activity/event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays		
Promote, participate, recognize any patriotic day and or branch of service birthdays		
Distribute and/or present American Flags and/or POW/MIA flags (Report number of flags.)		
Number of Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificates of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations presented to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA Flag and/or other displays of American pride		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Auxiliary Achievement Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### **COMPLETED ENTRY MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2025**

Auxiliaries will be chosen for the Auxiliary Achievement Circle of Excellence by a combination of the completion of achievements on this form and a brief description of your Auxiliary's accomplishments. Please keep a copy of this form handy, so throughout the year you can record what you did. That way at the end of the year filling this form out will be easier. To be considered for this achievement, it must be filled out and a short description of your year must be attached, then sent to me by May 1, 2025.

Winning Auxiliaries will get a \$50 check and a Citation of Merit, Special gift to the President and a Citation.

Any President who submitted this guide sheet but did not achieve the Circle of Excellence will receive a Citation and small gift.

***The presentation will be made at the 2025 Department Convention.***

I wish every President the best of luck in your pursuit for a place in Michigan's Circle of Excellence!

### **TO BE NAMED WINNER OF AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT, YOU MUST MEET THE FOLLING CRITERIA:**

1. Auxiliary **MUST** be represented at each of your own District Meetings.
2. Membership **MUST** be 95% by December 1, 2024.
3. All monies owed to the Department **MUST** be paid in full by March 31, 2025.
4. ALL audits **MUST** be received at the Department Office ON TIME.
5. Report **at least one (1)** time between May 1, 2024, and April 20, 2025, in each chairmanship.
6. Report of Installation **MUST** be received in the Department by June 30, 2024.
7. IRS form 990 report **MUST** be completed by November 15, 2024 and copy mailed to the Department Treasurer. (Unless your Auxiliary does long form, then notify Department.)
8. This guide sheet **MUST BE COMPLETED**, along with a short description of your Auxiliary's accomplishments, and **MUST** be postmarked or emailed to me by **May 1, 2025**.

## **Auxiliary Achievement Program**

Auxiliary # \_\_\_\_\_

District # \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary President's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Program Accomplishments**

Section One: Presidents Involvement	Points available	Points earned
Within 30 days of taking office, President provided financial information and membership report to the Post Commander, as required by Section 810 of National Bylaws	5	
Report of Installation entered online and/or sent to Department Secretary by July 15, 2024. Copy sent to Department and District	10	
List of Chairmen sent to Department AND District Secretary by July 15, 2024	5	
President held a planning meeting	5	
Offices of President and Treasurer bonded for double the Auxiliary funds by August 31, 2024	5	
President presided over 10 business meetings	10	
President registered and attended ALL their own District meetings	15	
President, Sr. Vice, or Jr. Vice registered, signed in and attend the School of Instruction at Fall Conference, or one given by Dept Officers	5 per person	
President, or line officer registered, signed in and attend the Mid-Winter Conference (Jan 2025)	10	
All Audits sent to Department on time	10	

Total Points Available: 90 -It's 5, 10, 15 per accomplishment or zero (0)

Earned in this section \_\_\_\_\_



Section Two: Membership Goals	Points available	Points earned
Formed membership committee of at least 5 members	5	
Sent out 1 <sup>st</sup> dues notices by 8/31/24	10	
Sent out 2 <sup>nd</sup> dues notice or contacted unpaid members by 11/30/24 (not applicable if already 100%)	5	
Achieved 100% by 12/31/24 plus 1	20	
Achieved 100% by 04/30/25 plus 1	10	
Held a membership drive, event or advertised more than once in a media outlet of your choice (social media, newspaper, etc)	5	

Total Points Available: 55 (it's 5, 10, 20 points apiece or 0) Earned in this section \_\_\_\_\_

Section Three: Auxiliary Participation	Points available	Points earned
All Auxiliary officers' dues MUST be paid by December 15, 2024	10	
Auxiliary actively participated and reported in ALL the Department Programs	10	
Auxiliary member other than the President registered/attended ALL THEIR OWN District Meetings	5	
At least 1 member other than an officer attended a training held by Department Officers (either at a conference or across the state)	5	
At least 1 member other than an officer registered at Fall or Mid-Winter Conference	5	
Auxiliary signed up at least 1 new/rejoined member. Must have a member ID # on the application	5	
Auxiliary completed at least one project, activity, or donation that benefits veterans by April 30, 2025	10	
Participated in Department President's Member Recognition Program	5	

Total Points Available: 55 (it's 5 or 10 points apiece or 0) Earned in this section \_\_\_\_\_

Section Four: Auxiliary Donations/Quotas	Points available	Points earned
Donation to ALL Department Suggested Donations	5	
National Home Health & Happiness Quota paid to National VFW Auxiliary by December 31, 2024	5	
Auxiliary Program Pin monies paid by March 1, 2025	5	
Donation to the National President's Special Project	5	
Donation to the Department President's Special Project	5	

Total Points Available: 25 (it's 5 points apiece or 0) Earned in this section \_\_\_\_\_

You must include a brief description of your activities, achievements, goals you and your Auxiliary accomplished, etc.... to be considered for Michigan’s Circle of Excellence. This is where you brag about yourself and your Auxiliary! (NO more than 2 pages- 1 is fine!) If you complete you will get 25 points.

In the table below, please just use a check mark if you reported in the chairmanship and in which quarter. This will be used for a tie breaker.

Section Five: Reporting in Programs Report at least once in each quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter
Americanism				
Auxiliary Outreach				
“Buddy”® Poppy/VFW National Home				
Historian & Media Relations				
Hospital				
Legislative				
Membership				
Scholarships				
Veterans & Family Support				
Youth Activities				

One (1) point per check mark (40 extra points available)      Total Extra Points Earned \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points Available 250 (40 extra points available if there is a tie)  
Total Points Earned \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions please reach out to me in an email, and I can call you if you need me to!!

Debbie Scheetz  
 Auxiliary Achievement Chairman  
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 586-945-1287  
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## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Auxiliary Outreach Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Auxiliary Outreach-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

#### **Building Partnerships – Auxiliary Participating in Outreach**

Auxiliary Outreach is members partnering with organizations for the benefit of your local community or institutions. The Outreach can be performed by people of any age, skills set or ability. The project can benefit any group of people such as children, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and for the public. An Outreach can be held in communities of all types and sizes – rural, suburban and urban, small and large. Some ideas to be considered for Auxiliary Outreach are as follows:

- Participation in walks/runs that benefit other organizations.
- Partnering with local Police, Firefighter, EMT's to assist with their community training programs.
- Partnering with parks and recreations to departments to assist with their developments.
- Partnering with an animal shelter and assist with their community programs.
- Partner with a soup kitchen and assist with their community programs.

There are so many ways to reach out to your community. Just google “community events” in your local area and see what pops up like a Shelter house, Hospice Home or Homeless shelter looking for volunteers. Once the Auxiliary is ready to assist with a project, be proud and visible; show your pride by wearing Auxiliary-branded attire. Remember this is for the organization and shows our community participation and not just in our Post homes.

Finally, it is considered Auxiliary Outreach if the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project. On rare occasions such as a natural disaster or emergency community need, the project may be voted on after the fact. All it takes is one Auxiliary member volunteering to count.

### **National Awards for Auxiliaries**

1. Most outstanding ***photo collage*** created by the VFW Auxiliary of their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current program year.
  - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most outstanding photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary partnerships during the current Program Year.



Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Charman by March 31, 2025, for judging, Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Department Awards

- Best Auxiliary Outreach photo collage in each membership category. Citation of Merit and \$10 to the Auxiliary. Must send required National entry form to Department chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Auxiliary who partnered with other organizations non-affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 -51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Create photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships		
Volunteer or partner with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. <b>Must report each time and include number of members volunteering and total hours.</b>		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary "Buddy"® Poppy/National Home for Children Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: "Buddy"® Poppy/ VFW National Home-Michigan

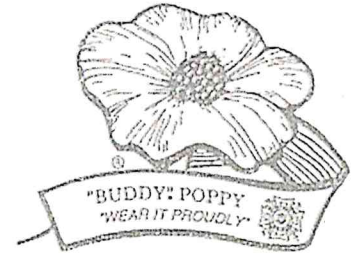
*National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans*

*Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire*

### PROGRAM GOALS

**"Buddy"® Poppy Education/Outreach - "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest  
VFW National Home Education and Community Outreach**

**"Buddy"® Poppy Program** - The "Buddy"® Poppy is a small and mighty flower that has remained the VFW's official memorial flower since 1922. The Poppy represents the blood shed by American service members and provides us with the reminder of their sacrifices. The Poppy program provides compensation to veterans who assemble them, financial assistance to veterans' rehabilitation and service programs, and partially supports the VFW National Home.



**2025**  
*A Year to Remember*



**VFW National Home** – Founded in 1925 as a place where families left behind by war –mothers and children, brothers and sisters – could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home. The VFW National Home serves as a living memorial to America's veterans by helping our nation's military and veteran families during difficult times. On January 7, 2025, the VFW National Home, has helped military and veteran families who need a fresh start in a safe and peaceful environment for 100 years! Let's promote and celebrate this momentous occasion.

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.
  - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.
2. Most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
  - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**Entry forms required for each award and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry forms to their Department "Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and monies will be deposited in the winning Auxiliaries account after the 2025 VFW National Convention.**

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

- Best Overall activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home’s 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the Auxiliaries for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in the Mid-Winter “Buddy”® Poppy display contest. Youth Category: Plaque for 1<sup>st</sup> place winner and Citation to all youth who participated.
- Best Overall promotion of the VFW National Home Help Line. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion of the VFW National Home in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

<b>Achievements</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Reported</b>
Hold a “Buddy”® Poppy drive with or without their VFW Post		
Promote the “Buddy”® Poppy thru education in the community		
Participate in the Mid-Winter Conference “Buddy”® Poppy display contest		
Number of “Buddy”® Poppies that were distributed during Program Year		
Promote the VFW National Home thru education in the community		
Promote the VFW National Home Helpline		
Attend Michigan Day at the VFW National Home on August 11, 2024		
Auxiliary held an activity/event to recognize the VFW National Home’s 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday		
Auxiliary to send 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Card to the National Home by January 1, 2025		
Purchase at least one Life Membership to VFW National Home in current Program Year		
Purchase at least one VFW National Home Tribute Brick in current Program Year		
National Health & Happiness donations of \$.10 to \$.25 cents per member. Paid in full by March 31, 2025, based on June 30, 2024 membership		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at your own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Christine LeBrun, BPNH Chairperson  
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## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary District Achievement Guide Sheet 2024-2025

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

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*National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans*

*Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire*

Congratulations on being elected as District President for the 2024-25 Auxiliary year. This is an honor that your District trusted you with this position. I know that each of you will take it seriously and do your very best to achieve the Circle of Excellence goals for your District, which will help your Department President Jane achieve it as well! As you should know, as District President you are a leader and a mentor to the members in your District as well as a representative for your District members to the entire Department. This should not be taken lightly, and it has responsibilities and goals that you need to do to your best to achieve!

You will be working closely with the Department Line Officers, but mostly with the Treasurer, Secretary and President. You will learn from them as well as work closely with them so you can go back and mentor the members in your District on what they need to do to achieve excellence.

You will be given the tools necessary to achieve the goals that the Department is asking of you and if you feel you are not getting those tools or help that you need then just ask for it! I am confident that you will all do a great job! Now see below for what is expected of you as District President. We are going by the point system again this year, so if you have any questions just ask! Also, this year we will have a year-end report (Due by May 1, 2025) so that I know what everyone did throughout the year! There will be more about this in a bulletin.

### **National Bylaws/Administrative Responsibilities (all MUST be done on time to achieve a total of 100 points)**

1. District Report of Installation MUST be received at National Headquarters by 6/30/24.
2. Reports of Installation from all your Auxiliaries MUST be received at National Headquarters by 6/30/24, with a copy to the Department Secretary, or a request for a suspension by the Department President will be submitted to National.
3. District and all Auxiliaries MUST be bonded by 8/31/24.
4. District 990 and all Auxiliaries 990s must be filed by 11/15/24. Copy MUST be sent to the Department Treasurer.
5. District and Auxiliary Officers' dues must be paid by 12/31/24.
6. All Auxiliary official visits must be completed by 12/31/24 unless approved by the Department President.

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Administrative Responsibilities/Leadership (worth 25 points apiece, total of 75 points)**

7. Every Auxiliary in your District must report in every program at least once from June 1, 2024, to April 20, 2025.
8. District must communicate with every Auxiliary at least quarterly in one or more ways- email, mail, phone, website, or newsletter.
9. Submit a minimum of two articles to the MOV newspaper.

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Administrative Responsibilities/Leadership (worth 10 points apiece, total of 70 points)**

- 10. Must attend all C of A meetings (5 of them)
- 11. District President must engage every Auxiliary in doing the work of the organization.
- 12. District President shall assure that all Auxiliaries donate or complete at least one project or activity, that benefits veterans by 4/20/25.

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Training (worth 25 points apiece, total of 50 points)**

- 13. District to conduct a training session in addition to your school of instruction in a subject area that may be weak in your District. This may be done the same day as your District meeting.
- 14. District President or his/her representative present at one of the Department's "Road Show" Training. Dates and locations TBA.

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership goals and growth (membership numbers for standings are used from June 30,2024 to June 30,2025) Membership will be based on figures listed in the CRM-Paid, Cancelled & Deceased reports in MALTA. You only receive one of the four levels below- maximum points that you can achieve: 125**

- 1. Over 101% in Membership, not including deaths (current percent) --**125 points**
- 2. 100% Plus in Membership, not including deaths (current percent) --**100 points**
- 3. 100% Plus in Membership, including paid deaths (paid percent) --**75 points**
- 4. 97-100% in Membership, including paid deaths (paid percent) --**50 points**

**Total points:** \_\_\_\_\_

Total points that you can achieve: 420 points

**Total Points from all the above:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bonus Points used only if there is a tie for the 3 highest point range**

- 1. A District Officer is to contact any Auxiliary below 100% in membership January 31, 2025, to on/or before April 15,2025. (Explain in your year-end report how you achieved this. This is separate from the communication from #8-above) **25 points.**
- 2. All required paperwork submitted to the Department on time that is not in any of the above goals. This would include District meeting notices, vouchers, audits, and the year-end report. **25 points**

**Total points from just bonus points:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total of all points (including bonus points):** \_\_\_\_\_

## Department Awards

- District with the highest points will receive: A Certificate of Achievement and \$200 check to the District and a special gift to the District President.
- District with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest points will receive: A Certificate of Achievement and \$125 check to the District and a special gift to the District President.
- District with the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest points will receive: A Certificate of Achievement and \$75 check to the District and a special gift to the District President.
- Districts (not including the above 3) that score more than 250 points will receive a \$50 check to the District and a small gift to the District President.
- Districts that scores between 200-250 points will receive a \$25 check to the District and a small gift to the District President.
- Any District that scores under 200 points will receive a \$10 check to the District and a small gift to the District President.

To participate in these District awards, I must receive this form with your totals by 5/1/25. Also please write a year-end report telling me what you did for your District throughout the year. Include what your Auxiliaries did or achieved, what you may have attended through your District like fundraisers, events, programs, etc. If you have any questions, please contact me.

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District Achievement Chairman  
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# Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Historian/Media Relations Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Historian/Media Relations-Michigan

*National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans*  
*Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire*

## PROGRAM GOALS

### Historian Duties – Media Relations

An Auxiliary Historian is like the person in your home who takes photos and stores them in scrapbooks and albums, giving you the opportunity to reflect on changes over time. Your family member keeps family awards to show accomplishments. They buy and save souvenirs as memories of family events and vacations. They are the memory keeper, the collector of the family history. They are the Family Historian.

The Auxiliary Historian is the memory keeper and collector of the Auxiliary history. As a group, we can look back on our history to reflect on how we have changed over time, and review our accomplishments that show us what has worked for the Auxiliary. Our Auxiliary members can look back on the memories of the great things we have done in our communities, promoting patriotism, helping our veteran's families at the National Home, hospital visits, working with legislators, scholarships, working with our youth and most of all everything we do for our veterans, which is the reason we do what we do.

The Media Relations side of this is to let the public out in our communities more aware of what we do, the lives we change and the veterans we serve. Media is communication. There are a lot of Media platforms. You may not be able to use them all, but the more you use the more you are able to promote and educate the public about the goals of our programs and our accomplishments. You may even entice them to join you.



### Sources of Communication

Newspapers	Facebook	Email	Signs
Radio	Flyers	Magazines	Instagram
Television	Website	Newsletters	Billboards
You Tube	Twitter	Snapchat	Pinterest

MALTA Member Resources, Historian & Media Relations, is a great place to look for helpful information on using Media. Resources like Publicity Tools and Press Releases for sharing your auxiliary story and events. There are VFW Auxiliary Local Talking Points and Power Point Templates. The VFW Auxiliary Publicity Guide is filled with a lot of information, check it out.

National Historian & Media Relations Ambassador, Tela Harbold, believes we are the messengers. We need to promote our hard work, our great accomplishments and our devotion to our veterans, military, and their families. If your community does not see it, how are they supposed to know it. Show off your Auxiliary and the VFW Auxiliary Programs you are participating in.

**National Awards for Auxiliaries**

1. Most outstanding promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources.
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the most outstanding promotion of the VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources.

**Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Historian and Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

**Department Awards**

- Best Historian/Media Relations promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources in each membership category. Must send required National entry form to Department chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Historian Book contest, scrapbook or digital. \$20 – 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$15 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, \$10 – 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best Overall Media Relations to educate and train members on how to use Media Sources. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media		
Hold a Media Relations training to educate your members on logging into MALTA, navigating Facebook or other social media		
Create a Historian’s Book documenting your Auxiliary’s year, Scrapbook or Digital		
Communicate Quarterly to all members by Email, Printed Mail, Text, or Phone Call		
Maintain a Facebook page with or without the VFW		
Maintain a website with or without the VFW		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Blanche Brown  
 Historian/Media Relations Chairman  
 10975 Irish Rd.  
 Vermontville, Mi.  
 517-896-7752  
 bbrownvfw@gmail.com





## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Hospital Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Hospital-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### PROGRAM GOALS

#### **Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support – Valentines for Veterans Women Veterans Health Care – Honors Escort**

The Hospital Program is one of the oldest Programs in our organization and it is one of my favorites because we are serving and helping our veterans, which is our mission, as well as supporting our Department President's theme "**Aspire to Inspire.**"

There are so many ways we can serve and help our veterans through the Hospital Program. Sometimes we can keep doing what we usually do, however, it's also fun to think outside the box on how we can serve and support our veterans who are hospitalized or in nursing homes.

#### **Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support**

We need to work on recruiting volunteers to help in VA, non-VA facilities and nursing homes. Talk to your family and friends about how fun it is to put smiles on the veterans' faces. Don't forget to recruit youth volunteers. Many schools look for ways youth can help in the community. Once we recruit, we need to retain our volunteers and one way is to recognize their volunteerism with Appreciation certificates and the VFW Auxiliary Hour Service pins.

#### **Valentines for Veterans**

Valentines Day is one of those fun holidays for the giving and receiving Valentines. This is another great way to include youth as they love to make homemade Valentines. Seek out youth organizations, such as Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls to work with them on making Valentines and even help delivering them to the local VA or nursing homes. Our veterans love to see youth come visit them.

#### **Women Veterans Health Care**

As we are now having more women veterans, it is important to not forget them. At one VA, there is a women's health center, but it is hidden away from the regular clinics, so it is easy to not find them. One idea is donating women's items to their clinic area and the staff can hand them out as the female veterans come for appointments. Make sure you put a label on it from VFW Auxiliary with your post name and a contact number.

#### **Honors Escort**

Some of Michigan's VA medical facilities have adopted this program as part of the end-of-life protocol for veterans who depart while in their care. It provides an opportunity for the veteran's family, friends and other veterans, as well as the medical staff, to honor the departed



veteran with reverence and respect. We need to promote this program to Michigan VA and non-VA medical facilities.

### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR MEMBERS**

1. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

**Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.**

2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" plaque awarded to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

**Entry form required available in MALTA Member Resources. The winner will be announced and a plaque presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.**

3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions.

**Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Winners will be announced and citation presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus Ohio.**

### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

1. Most creative ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that were the most creative in ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.

**Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

### **DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

- Best creative ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients in each membership category. Must send required National entry form to Department chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary and a special award to the Chairman.
- Best Hospital Program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary and a special award to the Chairman.
- Best overall promotion of Women Veterans' Health Care in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary and a special award to the Chairman.

- Best overall promotion of educating members and medical facilities on the Honors Escort Program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary and a special award to the Chairman.
- Plaque presented to Michigan's Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year at the 2025 Department Convention.
- Special Award to each Auxiliary who recruited five new Hospital Volunteers.

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Report total number of Auxiliary members who volunteer at any VA or non-VA facility (Auxiliary member to be counted one time per year.)		
Total number of hours that Auxiliary members volunteer at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility (Report through the year every time.)		
Total number of hours that Sponsored Volunteers and/or students volunteer under the VFW Auxiliary sponsorship and supervision at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility		
Promote, participate or host/co-host with your VFW any activity such as/but not limited to Honor's Escort, National Salute to Veteran Patients- Valentines for Veterans, Veterans Health Care (VHA), Women Veterans Health Care Program		
Total dollar amount spent on all Hospital Program related items and/or projects		
Recruit new ADULT or YOUTH Hospital Volunteers		
Recognize volunteers with Hospital Volunteer Appreciation Certificates and Service Pins		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District meeting		
Report every quarter		

Ann Backhurst - Hospital Chairman  
 1106 N. McClellan Avenue  
 Marquette, MI 49855  
 PH: 251-604-5998.  
 vfwaux.annbackhurst@gmail.com





## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2024-2025

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

Facebook Page: Legislative-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***  
***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### Program Goals

#### **Be an Advocate - Be Informed - Be Engaged**

Congratulations and thank you on being selected as the Legislative Chairman for the ensuing year. One of the main objectives of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. Your efforts, as we have seen in our recent Legislative Victories, can influence lawmakers whose decisions affect veterans and their families every day.

I whole heartily agree with our National Ambassador, Deanna "DeeDee" Guyette, that "the Legislative Program is the root of all other VFW Auxiliary Programs and initiatives. After all, legislative rights are the reason the VFW and Auxiliary were formed. And the VFW Priority Goals... provide the framework for all VFW work on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C."

Are you familiar with the Priority Goals? It is up to us to educate not only our membership but our Post members as well. Only then can we urge our Legislators to support the bills which will ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans and focus much needed attention to issues such as veteran homelessness and suicide. This year's Priority Goals focus on:

- ✓ Budget
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ Disability Assistance and memorial Services
- ✓ Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
- ✓ Military Quality of Life
- ✓ National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA

Please become familiar with the VFW Priority Goals and keep plenty of the brochures at your Post and on your membership display tables. These goals are reviewed and renewed each January. You can check the VFW website, ([vfw.org](http://vfw.org)) or MALTA Member Resources for the current goals brochures.

The VFW Priority Goals are enhanced by the VFW *Action Corps Weekly*. I absolutely love this newsletter!! It's free and full of news about what's happening on Capitol Hill not only with veteran and service member issues but with our national security. It also updates our MIA soldiers who have been recovered and are being sent home for a funeral with full military honors. Sign up at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) & click on Advocacy tab or [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org), click on "What We Do" & "Legislative." You don't have to be a VFW or Auxiliary member to sign up. You can encourage community members who have an interest in veteran affairs to read this newsletter.

Please utilize the resources in the VFW Auxiliary MALTA under Member Resources. There is a vast assortment of tools for you to use in being proactive in educating your membership and community about the VFW Priority Goals, the Legislative Process and how to contact your legislators.



**NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

1. Most outstanding activity &/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with most outstanding activity &/or event that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

**Entry form required and available on MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

- Best outstanding activity and/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers in each membership category. Must send required National entry form to Department chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Legislative Program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion of VFW Priority Goals and VFW *Action Corps Weekly*. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion of Contacting your Legislators regarding Veteran issues. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 -51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Host/co-host with VFW Post activity/event connecting members with local lawmakers		
Report the number of Auxiliary members who are subscribed to VFW's Action Corps Weekly E-Newsletter		
Promote, participate and/or host/co-host with/without VFW Post activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals		
Auxiliary members contact their legislators on veterans' issues by any means (Report number of emails, letters, phone calls, post cards, etc.)		
Auxiliary members attend events where they could interact with their legislators (ex: town halls, meet & greets, legislative conferences, etc.)		
Train members on the Legislative Process		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Respectfully,  
 Deb Marshall, Legislative Chairperson  
 622 Neier Rd  
 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
 (989) 621-4476  
[gubitmom@yahoo.com](mailto:gubitmom@yahoo.com)



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Membership Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Membership-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

***Membership Theme: America's Greatest Treasure***

### PROGRAM GOALS

**Invite New Members – Include Current Members – Invest in the Future of the Organization**

Membership ...a most important facet of the gem that is our VFW Auxiliary. WE are the biggest supporters of our heroes, our veterans. That is why we must work tirelessly to grow our organization by recruiting new members and retaining the ones we already have. Also very important...reach out to the members who have dropped their membership. Find out why. It could be the reason they dropped is no longer valid! For this year, each Conference has a branch of the service and will have a brief skit at the Big 10 Conference in October. The Big Ten's Theme is Air Force. That's cool...we, the Mighty Michiganders will FLY up, up, up to the top in Membership!!

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

1. Recruiter pin to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and or/rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2025. Recruiter Pin will be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters.
2. National Membership Achievement Award to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits 20 new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. Department Treasurer must enter Membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2025. VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are not eligible for this award. Awards to be presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio. If the winner is not in attendance, the award will be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters after the National Convention.
3. Top Recruiter award to one recruiter in each of the four (4) conferences who recruited the most new/rejoined members in their conference. VFW Recruiters and Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are NOT eligible for this award. The award will be presented at the National Conference in Columbus, Ohio. If the winner is not present, the award will be mailed directly to their home from National Headquarters after the National Convention.



4. VFW Auxiliary Recruiter Drawing for each VFW Auxiliary National Membership Achievement Award winner. Winners will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$500 Visa Gift Card. VFW Recruiters and VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are NOT eligible for this award. Winner will be announced at the National Convention in Columbus Ohio in June 2025. If the winner is not in attendance, the award will be mailed to the winner from National Headquarters after the National Convention.

Reports are compiled by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters from Information entered in MALTA. VFW members who recruit new VFW Auxiliary members will need to fill out the required VFW members-only form that is available in MALTA Member Resources. Completed form must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and Department Treasurer must enter Membership in MALTA by June 10, 2025.

#### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

1. \$50 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2025.
2. VFW Auxiliary Drawing. Each VFW Auxiliary that reaches 101% Plus by June 30, 2025 will be entered into a one-time drawing to receive \$500.

#### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS**

1. Bronze Department Award #1: \$200 to each Department that reaches 95% Plus in Membership by November 30, 2024.
2. Silver Department Award # 2: \$250 to each Department that reaches 98% Plus in Membership by March 31, 2025.
3. Gold Department Award #3: \$300 to each Department that reaches 100% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2025.
4. Platinum Department Award #4: \$400 to each Department that reaches 101% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2025.

Departments that received the Platinum Award #4 will still receive Gold Department Award #3 for a combined total of \$700.

#### **DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR DISTRICT**

1. First district to reach 100% by November 30, 2025 will receive \$100.
2. First District to reach 101% by December 31, 2024 will receive \$100.
3. First District to reach 101% Plus by March 31, 2024 will receive \$100.

#### **DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

1. Every Auxiliary that reaches 100% by Sept 1, 2024 will be entered in a drawing for \$50.00 at our Fall Conference where three winners will be pulled. If your Auxiliary reaches 100% by December 1, 2025, you will be entered into the Mid-Winter Conference drawing where three winners will be pulled. If you reach 100% by March 31, 2025, you



will be entered into the Department Convention drawing where three winners will be pulled.

2. Any Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus 2 will be entered in a drawing at Department Convention where three winners will be drawn for \$100 each.

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR MEMBERS**

1. Any member who recruits 10 New/and or Rejoined members by December 31, 2024, will be entered in a drawing at Mid-Winter for \$100. One will be pulled.
2. Any member who recruits 10 New/and or Rejoined members by March 31, 2025 will be entered in a drawing at Department Convention for \$100. One will be pulled.
3. There will be a drawing at Department Convention for the top three recruiters from the state. Each top recruiter will be awarded \$100.00. No organizers of Auxiliaries are eligible.

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

<b>Achievements</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Reported</b>
Participate in a recruiting event		
Achieve 100% in membership by November 30, 2024		
Achieve 101% in membership by January 31, 2025		
Participate in Adopt a Member (dues angels) initiative		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Marian Belaire  
 17384 Doris St  
 Livonia 48152  
 248.345.2442  
 mbelairemvf@yahoo.com



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Scholarships-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### Program Goals

**Student Participation – Recipient Recognition – Community Awareness – Increasing the Fund**

Each of our scholarships encourage patriotism, assist students in attaining an education and help students reach their full potential. This increases VFW and Auxiliary recognition while supporting our communities, students, and members. Here is a list of all of the Scholarships:

- **Continuing Education Scholarship**
- **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest AND 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest**
- **2024-2025 VFW Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest-Theme: “Is America Today Our Forefathers’ Vision?”**
- **2024-2025 VFW Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest-“My Voice in America’s Democracy?”**
- **Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Citation for Elementary, Middle and High School teachers and their schools.**

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.
  - Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

**Entry form required and available in the MALTA Membership Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required form to the Department Scholarship Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning Auxiliaries from the National Headquarters and money will be deposited in the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Best outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary in each category. Auxiliary must send the required National entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall promotion of 2-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary



- Best promotion of 3-Dimensional Young American Creation Patriotic Art Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall promotion of Voice of Democracy. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best Overall promotion of Patriot's Pen Program. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best Overall promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

<b>Achievements</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Reported</b>
Promote/participate in the Continuing Education Scholarship Contest		
Donation to the Continuing Education Scholarship		
Promote/participate in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship		
Number of students that submitted 2-Dimensional art entries for judging		
Donation to Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship		
Promote/participate in the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship		
Number of students that submitted 3-Dimensional art entries for judging		
Donation to 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship		
Assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest		
Assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest		
Assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Teacher of the Year Program		
Host/co-host with the VFW an award ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in any/all contests		
Total dollar amount and/or value of awards presented by Auxiliary in any/all contests		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report in all 4 quarters		

Denise Arnold  
 9525 E River Rd  
 Mt Pleasant, MI 48858  
 989-621-0327  
 scholarshipsMI2425@gmail.com





## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Guide Sheet 2024-2025

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

Facebook Page: Veterans & Family Support-Michigan

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*National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans*

*Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire*

### PROGRAM GOALS

**VFW National Veterans Service (NVS) - VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs**

**Assist Veterans, Service Members and Their Families**

**Promote Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness**

### VFW National Veterans Service

NVS helps veterans, service members, and their families obtain the benefits they deserve – at no cost. NVS provides a nationwide network of nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who help veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system.

### VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs

VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs serve active-duty and recently discharged military. They include:

- **Military Assistance Program (MAP)**
- **Unmet Needs**
- **Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship**

### Promote Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness

Make a difference in the life of a veteran or service member in crisis by educating yourself and others about the warning signs of suicide.

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to increase awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military and their families.
  - Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity or event to increase awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military, and their families.

**An Entry Form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Veterans and Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

## DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Best overall activity/event that increased awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military, and their families. Auxiliary must send the required entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best Veterans & Family Support program in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion and fundraising for the National Veterans Services and VFW Veterans and Military Support program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion and fundraising for the Mid-Michigan, Talons Out and/or U.P. Honor Flight Programs. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion and fundraising for Operation Bottom Cover. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote, participate, host/co-host with your VFW Post activities for any of these programs: Disaster Relief, Military Assistance (MAP), National Veterans Service (NVS), Unmet Needs, Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness		
Host a fundraiser to help with the Mid-Michigan, Talons Out and/or Upper Peninsula Honor Flight Programs. Donations may go directly to chosen Honor Flight Program or may be used to sponsor a chaperone		
Coordinate an open house event or activity that includes VFW accredited Service Officers to help all veterans, military and their families to navigate the VA system to obtain their benefits		
Promote veteran and military suicide prevention and mental health awareness		
Provide direct aid to military, veterans and/or their family members (i.e. cash, rent, bills, funeral, food, school supplies, diapers, tuition, transportation). Report monetary donations and number of veterans, service members, and/or families assisted		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Scott Collins  
 127 E. Case Street  
 Negaunee, Michigan 49866  
 Cell/Text 906.236.2419 Home Phone 906.401.0453  
[scott.collins@negauneeschools.org](mailto:scott.collins@negauneeschools.org)





## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities/Camp Trotter Guide Sheet 2024-25

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

Facebook Page: Youth Activities/Camp Trotter - Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***

***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### PROGRAM GOALS

**Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups - Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citations -  
Patriotic Youth Award - Patriotism through Literacy - Illustrating America**

I am excited to take on my first chairmanship this year with the Youth/Camp Trotter program! I have worked with children for over 20 years and now I am able to connect my two passions, involving children and supporting Veterans. I am thrilled at the idea of teaching our children about Veterans, their sacrifices, and how we can fully support them.

### YOUTH

As you will notice when looking through the guide sheet the Red, White, and Blue singing contest is not listed. Although it is sad to see the contest go, it gives us the opportunity to put our efforts into supporting youth groups and bringing them into our other programs! Remember, you can include youth with many of our other chairmanships (e.g., hold a buddy poppy drive with them, ask them to participate in serving dinner, etc.) and still report it here. The children we work with can be the “branches” while we are the “roots” feeding them the information they need to extend service to our Veterans.

### CAMP TROTTER

75 years!!! Camp Trotter is celebrating 75 years! How lucky are we to have this gem in our backyard? It is the only VFW sponsored camp in the country and we can send our kids ages 7-12 there for a week at a time annually. Please keep an eye out for cleaning dates, Camp Trotter Family Day (come see what it is all about), and other fun Camp Trotter news in the bulletins throughout the year.

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth.
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth.

**Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging.**

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Best outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth in every membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall working with and/or sponsoring youth groups. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion/participation in the Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion/participation in the Patriotic Youth Award Program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary



- Best overall promotion/participation in Patriotism through Literacy. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion/participation in Illustrating America art contest. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promotion/participation in Camp Trotter program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR STUDENTS**

- Illustrating America winner in each grade division (K-2, 3-5, & 6-8) receive \$50

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

<b>#1 -10-36</b>	<b>#2 -37-50</b>	<b>#3 -51-68</b>	<b>#4 - 69-84</b>	<b>#5 - 85-98</b>
<b>#6 - 99-115</b>	<b>#7 - 116-139</b>	<b>#8 -140-166</b>	<b>#9 -167-237</b>	<b>#10 -238-OVER</b>

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Number of youth groups you worked with this program year		
Number of youth you worked with during the current program year		
Number of "Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans" citations awarded		
Participate in Patriotism through Literacy		
Number of books donated in participation of Patriotism through Literacy		
Promote the Illustrating America art contest		
Number of students who submitted art entries for Illustrating America art contest		
Number of art entries submitted to Department from your Auxiliary for judging		
Host an award ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in Illustrating America art contest		
Total dollar amount and/or value of awards presented for Illustrating America art contest		
Donate to Camp Trotter Scholarship fund		
Purchase a Life Membership to Camp Trotter		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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