

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary BULLETIN

October/November 2026

www.vfwauxmi.org

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading with a Patriot's Heart

"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go – and in racing, that's the art of releasing the past to run your best self forward."

Fall is fastly approaching us and with all its changes we should take the time to reflect on what drives us to be a part of this great organization. Is it our fellow members? Is it the veterans and their families we have the pleasure of assisting? Is it being out in our communities sharing our pride and patriotism for our country? Is it promoting the many resources out there that can help our veterans and service members? Is it sharing opportunities for youth to earn scholarship money from their God given talent? If I had to guess, I would say it is all the above and more! Now is the time to reignite your passion for why you do what you do, release what might have been holding your back, and put your best self-forward in recruiting others to share in your passion.



An achievement your Auxiliary should be working on this month is sending out your second dues notice by November 1st. In your notice, you can include an incentive your Auxiliary would like to promote for annuals converting to a life membership. Your Auxiliary has until December 31st to get into the first drawing for the "Shift in to Life" drawing! What better way to get that extra entry into the drawing and help your Auxiliary. You can also include any upcoming events that your Auxiliary and/or Post is hosting, invite them to a meeting, promote your Social Media pages and last but not least, thank them for being a member. Be sure to report

on our reporting website that you sent out your dues notice. This is also a requirement for Auxiliary Achievement.

REMINDER: DISTRICT AWARD UP FOR GRABS

Time is running out! The first district to reach 100% by November 30th will receive \$100! Now is the time to come together as a district to support each other, as team mates do, to get those due paid and raise that percentage to 100! How are you planning on working together to make that happen? Who will it be? Keep your eye on vfwauxmi.org to see who is leading the race.

Fall Conference will be held October 29 to November 1, 2026 at the Mt. Pleasant Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center. See you there

November

Hey Department of Michigan, we have a goal set and that is to achieve "First Down"! What is that you ask? Well, National is asking for us to be 95%+ by November 30th as a Department. What does that mean for our Department? It means money! Our Department will earn \$400 if we achieve this goal. Again, with all your hard work in the month of October sending out your dues notices, promoting membership incentives, hosting membership drives, I am sure this goal will land into the end zone.

Reminder: National will no longer send out Annual member cards. You can easily access and print your membership card through MALTA or you can add it to your digital wallet!



Inspiration for a Fall Membership Drive Ideas



A fall membership drive works best when it blends seasonal energy, clear value messaging, and easy, urgent calls to action — turning autumn's momentum into new member commitments.

- **Harvest & Community:** Tie your drive to "harvesting" new members — use imagery of golden leaves, pumpkins, and harvest festivals to symbolize gathering and growth
- **Fall Festival Kickoff:** Host a seasonal event (e.g., pumpkin patch, cider press, or community fair) where attendees can learn about your mission and join for a special fall rate
- **Giving Season:** Leverage the spirit of giving by framing your drive as part of the fall "giving season," similar to Giving Tuesday, with a one-day membership sprint

If you have not already, please join our Department Membership Facebook page: Membership-Michigan. This page is a resource for staying up-to-date on current happenings as well as ideas for you to use in your Auxiliary!

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