



**Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary #3**  
**MICHIGAN CONNECTION**  
**August 2022**

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

Facebook Page: Auxiliary VFW – Michigan  
517-487-3715 (Office)  
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***Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold them Steady and Safe***

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Hope your year is starting out well. It was a pleasure to represent Michigan at the National Convention. I want to take the opportunity to congratulate immediate Past Department President Stephanie Krueger on achieving the Circle of Excellence and all the awards that her Chairmen brought home for Michigan.

**Veterans & Family Support**

- Award #1 Big Ten Conference Most Outstanding increases in Awareness of homeless Veterans Aux. #2406 \$25.00
- Award #3 Best Promotion of support for Veterans, Military and Family Caregivers \$25.00 Gift Card
- Award #4 Second-Place Outstanding Performance Award \$100.00

**Americanism**

- Award #1 Big Ten Conference Aux. #702 #AuxiliaryPatriotism hashtag in a social media post \$25.00 to Aux. #702
- Third Place Winner in Illustrating America Art \$25.00 Gift Card Madison Fisher.

**Auxiliary Com. Outreach**

- Award #1 Big Ten Conference Volunteering with First Responders Aux. #702 \$25.00 to the Aux.
- Award #3 Outstanding Performance \$200.00

**Buddy Poppy/Nat'l Home**

- Award #2 Best promotion to educate community. \$25.00 Gift Card Kathy Hubbard.
- Award #4 Outstanding Performance \$200.00

**Chief of Staff**

- Award #3 Second Place Outstanding Performance \$100.00

**Hospital**

- Award #3 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Brenda Huckins Aux. #2233

## **Mentoring for Leadership**

- Award #2 Most Informative School of Instruction \$25.00 Gift Card to Judith Brown
- Award #1 Big Ten Conference First Place Instrumental in fulfilling the role as Mentor/Leader Sandi Onstwedder \$25.00 to Aux. #3701
- Award #1 Big Ten Conference Second Place Instrumental in fulfilling the role as Mentor/Leader Sonya VanValkenburg \$25.00 to Aux. #702

## **Scholarships**

- Award #1 Outstanding Promotion of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest Big Ten Conference \$25.00 to Aux. #6248

## **Friendly Reminders**

**Audit** covering the months of April, May, and June **MUST** be completed by July 31<sup>st</sup>, accepted by the Auxiliary, and sent to the Department by August 31, 2022.

## **Sec. 814—Trustees, Duties of (All Levels)**

Bullet #4 It shall be the duty of the Trustees to see that the offices of the President and Treasurer are bonded with an indemnity company authorized by the National Headquarters or the Department.

Sub Bullet #1 As surety in a sum at least **DOUBLE** the amount of funds and value or property for which, so far as can be anticipated, the President and Treasurer may be accountable.

Sub Bullet #2 The amount shall be approved by the body and the bond premium paid from their funds. A motion shall be made, passed and included in the Secretary's minutes.

**The Motion and Amount of Bond shall be recorded in the minutes.**

## **District Meeting Notices**

We are slow at receiving District Meeting Notices and the locations. They will be posted as soon as we have them.

## **Department Commander/President Special Project**

Donations from VFW Posts and Auxiliaries are being sought for the Oscar Mike Foundation. It is a 501 C 3 non-profit started by injured Veterans and is operated out of Illinois. **Oscar Mike** is Military slang meaning on the move. They strive to be a leading provider for funding for injured Veterans to participate in life changing adaptive sports. Hopefully we will be able to provide you with further information at the Joint VFW/Auxiliary Meeting at our Fall Conference. Start planning your donations now. **Send to the VFW Department Headquarters 924 N. Washington Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48906 earmarked Oscar Mike.**

## Upcoming Events

**National Convention** will be July 16th to July 23rd in Kansas City, Missouri. We are looking forward to celebrating the Department of Michigan as we receive some National Awards Recognition from the 2021-2022 Auxiliary year.

**Michigan Day at the National Home is Sunday, August 7th.** We are asking your Auxiliary to donate cleaning supplies if you can. Here is a list of suggested items. Paper Towels, Vacuums, Hand Soap Refills, Laundry Soap/Detergent, Oven Cleaner, Kitchen Waste Baskets, Libman Wonder Mops and Replacement Heads, Odo-Ban-available at Sam's Club.

**Camp Trotter Family Event is August 20th.** Everyone is welcome to attend and see our wonderful camp in person. Please bring your family and friends to experience firsthand what an amazing Children's Camp the Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars has. Bring a passing dish to share. Lunch will be served at 12:00 pm.

**Mark your calendars now! Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 7:00 pm. ZOOM with the National President. We will be at the Charlotte VFW Post #2406 in the 8<sup>th</sup> District for a "Picnic in the USA" event that will honor and host our Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary National President, Jane Reape. If you cannot join us in person, please join in by Zoom and hear her prolific message to one and to all.**

### Treasurers Tips

Bond fees **MUST** be paid by August 31, 2022.

**All 990's** due by November 15, 2022. The Department Treasurer does not automatically file for your Auxiliary. It is the responsibility of the Auxiliary to either contact the office and let the Treasurer know that they are in need her help, Auxiliary do it on their own, or hire an outsider. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the Department Office.

**All new member applications received in the Department Office that are NOT completed in their entirety will be returned to the Auxiliary to be completed and resubmitted.**

Questions? If you have any questions or comments, please email the Department Office at [misec@asiserve.net](mailto:misec@asiserve.net) and we will answer your question and incorporate it into our next Michigan Connection.

Diana Ward- Department President

Sandi Onstwedder- Department Secretary