

# Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary YOUTH ACTIVITIES/CAMP TROTTER BULLETIN May 2022

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

Facebook Page: Youth Activities/Camp Trotter-Michigan

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

*National Theme: Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care*

*Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe*

## Youth

With our help as Auxiliaries our youth will get more involved and participate in the programs that we have to offer; we must let them know what activities we have including Illustrating America, Patriotism through Literacy, Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue, Patriotic Youth Award, Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans, and the newest one for this year, **Grave Beautification**. Grave Beautification is beautifying the gravesites and headstones of our veterans and saying their names, so they are never forgotten. Contact your local cemetery for permission to beautify the headstones and markers. The guidelines for cleaning headstones and markers can be found at <http://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/cleaning.asp>.



### Requirements for Grave Beautification Reporting

1. Take a before and after picture of every headstone.
2. Keep a log of gravesite beautified during your event. Record the names of veterans in the log with the name of the cemetery, including town/city and state.
3. Place a Flag on the gravesite. Follow the guidelines of individual cemeteries before placing a Flag holder near the headstone.

The most outstanding veteran grave beautification activity and/or event by an Auxiliary with youth involvement will receive:

1. Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts a veteran grave beautification activity and/or event with youth involvement.  
Criteria and entry form (required) available at [vfwauxiliary.org/resources](http://vfwauxiliary.org/resources).  
Auxiliary must send the entry form to the Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2023.
2. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding veteran grave beautification activity and/or event with youth involvement. Winners will be announced and presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

## Camp Trotter

We have one of the most beautiful camps in our state located on Bill's Lake in Newaygo. With our help we can keep it that way. If you have never been there, I would encourage you to go and check it out even if it's just for the Day.

Here are some dates that you need to know about:

**April 23–24, 2022** is our annual cleanup day. Please come out and help if you can.

VFW Riders group will be at the camp for the yearly blessing of the bikes and to help cleanup **May 13 – 15, 2022**.

The scouts will be at the camp **May 20 – 22, 2022**.

VFW Golf outing and VTS **June 17 – 19, 2022**.

The camp is finally open this year for youth ages 7 – 12. Please get your applications in as soon as possible, the dates will fill quickly.

Youth camping weeks:

- ✓ **July 10-16**
- ✓ **July 17-23**
- ✓ **July 24-30**
- ✓ **July 31 – Aug 6**

Camp Trotter Family Day is **August 20, 2022**.



Camp Trotter is still looking for people to fill staffing positions. Contact Orville Beauchamp, VFW Department Chairman for Camp Trotter at (734) 486-8608 or [OrvilleB831@comcast.net](mailto:OrvilleB831@comcast.net) for an application.

If you are unable to help, please send a donation to department and earmark it where you want it to go like the General fund, Scholarship fund, etc.

Don't Forget

REPORT... REPORT... REPORT... REPORT... REPORT... REPORT...

Department Youth Activities/Camp Trotter Chairman  
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