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| https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/VFW-Aux-Logo_RGB_2018.jpg | **Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary****MICHIGAN CONNECTION****June 2022**[**www.vfwauxmi.org**](http://www.vfwauxmi.org)Facebook Page: Auxiliary VFW – Michigan**517-487-3715 (Office)****517-487-9044 (FAX)** |

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

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Auxiliary administrative year. First, congratulations to our new National Council of Administration Area B, Carrie Turner; we know that she will serve the members of Michigan well. A big welcome our new Guard, Jan Passmore. Best wishes to each one of them on their successful representation of Michigan members. In addition, Stephanie Krueger has been appointed as the Department Chief of Staff and Marilyn Malick as Program Coordinator.

Thank you to all who attended our joint reception honoring Department Commander John Griffith and Department Auxiliary President, Diana Ward on Saturday evening of the Department Convention. They are both looking forward to working with all Posts and Auxiliaries to ensure having a successful year for the Department of Michigan.

**Presidents Message**

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

It’s amazing that these years have flown by, and I am now your Department President. I wish to give you a sincere thank you for placing your faith and trust in me to lead our Department this year by electing me to this high office. I pledge to do my best for the membership and the Department of Michigan. We are going to have a great year. We have a great team of Department Officers, Chairmen, and appointed staff. We are here for you and honestly want you to reach out to us for assistance, questions, and other issues.

A little paperwork – we still have some outstanding Warrants and Audits from last year. If they are not into the Department office by June 30, 2022, unfortunately your Auxiliary will be placed on suspension and your Charter could be in danger of being revoked. We do not want that to happen. We do not want to lose any Auxiliaries this year!

We will be having the monthly zoom meetings again this year. We are putting together a schedule for that. Please try to get more of your Auxiliary members on. This is a training and information time for the members – not the Officers and Chairmen. We want to get a whole lot more members on each month. There will be email reminders with the links that will be sent to the Presidents or if you get us your email, we can put you on the list. There will also be links available in this publication.

National President Jane Reape will be here in August, and we will have more information about that on the website. Please try to make sure that you can make it to one of the events. We only have a couple of days with her, but let’s really have a great showing for her.

There will be information in the bulletins and the website about the upcoming Michigan Day at National Home and Camp Trotter Days picnic – these are also in August. Please try to attend.

My theme this year is “Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe”. Let’s make sure that we are reaching out to all our veterans and getting them what they need. It might be trips to the doctor or store, phone calls to let them know they are important, or food, etc.

My program pin money will be going for Camp Trotter. Please see Ruth Barnhill, my Pin Chairman if you were not able to get a pin at the Convention.

I will be traveling to Kansas City in July for the National Convention and hopefully Stephanie and her chairmen win a lot of awards.

**Diana**

**Message of Gratitude**

I want to thank all the members and Auxiliaries in the Department of Michigan. You embraced my wish for the Gold Star Mothers to be celebrated and remembered for their sacrifices, both in your hearts and through your donations. I will always appreciate you. Also, many thanks for the generous gifts I received at the Flag Presentation. While not expected, I do appreciate your heartfelt expressions of love. It was a great year for Michigan and the VFW Auxiliary. See you all down the road. I wish much good luck to all the Department Chairman at National Convention.

Stephanie Krueger- Past Department President 2021-22

**Upcoming Events**

National Convention will be July 16th to July 23rd in Kansas City, Missouri.

Michigan Day at the National Home is Sunday, August 7th. Watch our website for the agenda for the day’s events and a suggested donation list for our challenge with the Department of Ohio.

Camp Trotter Family event is August 27th. Everyone is welcome to attend and see our wonderful camp in person. Bring a passing dish. Lunch will be served at 12:00 pm.

**Treasurers Tips**

Bond fees cannot be paid until after July 5, 2022, but **MUST** be paid by August 31, 2022.

After July 1, remember that your 990 is due by November 15. The Department Treasurer does not automatically file for your Auxiliary. It is the responsibility of the Auxiliary to contact the office and let the Treasurer know and she will be happy to do it. 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 and we will answer your question and also incorporate it into our next Michigan Connection.

Diana Ward- Department President

Sandi Onstwedder- Department Secretary