



Greetings,

We have climbed this mountain and as of today we are at 102.00%. We do not want to stop here! There are still many unpaid continuous members that we need to reach out to and get them in good standing. **“Band Together for our Veterans”** and work hard to get every member current and well informed.

Congratulations to Adalyn Pastuszek – our Department First Place VOD winner sponsored by Sunbury VFW and Auxiliary #8736, Sunbury. It was a distinct pleasure for Commander Gyger and I to escort her in National’s Parade of States in Washington DC she won an additional \$1500 scholarship.

Reminders:

The PA Auxiliary **Sweepstakes** annual raffle drawing will be held on Friday Evening, April 5 in Gettysburg. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased prior to the drawing.

Programs Update: Your Auxiliary’s program year end reports are all due and must be in the hands of your District President by April 6. Hand delivered at the Testimonial or emailed. **Please do your part in meeting our deadlines.**

Special Project Update: Our special project, PA Wounded Warriors, is going very well. Continue to send your donations to the Department Treasurer, Jodie Hollinger, at 4002 Fenton Avenue, Harrisburg PA 17109 and please mark your check Department President’s Special Project. Thank you to all for supporting this very special organization who takes care of our Veterans.

Election of Officers – All Levels: Please refer to our By-Laws Article VIII - Sec. 804 to ensure that elections are held in accordance. By reviewing Sec. 806 proper Installation on all levels will be held.

Department Convention: Our 2024 State Convention is scheduled for June 12-15 at the Harrisburg Sheraton. Convention information will be available on our website by the middle of April, go to www.vfwauxpa.org. and make your reservations right away.

What have I observed in my travels?

As Brenda and I have visited many Districts so far this year, we saw cooperation between Auxiliaries and Posts within their respective District. I commend all of you who follow the rules and procedures to better serve our Veterans.

We are a family of diverse members and as a family we don't always agree. That's a fact of life. When we look at the individual family/auxiliary we recognize that not everyone has the same opinion and sometimes they can be very verbal when they disagree. Unfortunately, I am aware of conduct that is detrimental to the well-being of our organization. Ongoing verbal dissention disrupts the protocol of the meetings and undermines the values upon which we were established.

All of our Veterans, past and present, deserve better!

We must be able to work together for our Veterans, their families and communities. Our Auxiliary meetings should be conducted according to the BYLAWS and RITUAL and if we respect each other and work together, we will accomplish our goal of serving our Veterans.

A very special thank you to the Districts I have visited to date. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to accommodate my visit. Your hospitality and camaraderie have been greatly appreciated.

Veterans & Family Support
Americanism
Barger Golf Tournament
Celebrating America's Freedom Event
Installation Information
Loyalty Day
Membership
TIPS
Youth Activities

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 5 & 6 - Department President's Testimonial – Eisenhower
April 13 - District 16 Meeting @ Horsham #9788 – 11:00 A.M.
April 14 - District 1 Meeting @ Parkwood Memorial #7650 – 1:30 P.M.
April 21 - District 14 Meeting @ Canton #714 – 2:00 P.M.
April * 21 - District 23 Meeting @ Salisbury #8826 – 2:00 P.M.

Mary Jean Mastridge

Mary Jean Mastridge
Department President

Jodie Hollinger

Jodie Hollinger
Department Secretary/Treasurer

*Department President's Official Visit

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

GENERAL ORDERS #10 April 2024

April is the Month of the Military Child. There are over 1.6 million children with a parent or parents that serve our nation. Military families move every two to three years, there are new surroundings, new schools, new friends. Children of military families grow up with unique challenges and sacrifices, especially during times when a parent deploys. April 15 is Purple Up! For Military Kids Day, a day to show our support for military children by wearing purple. April 30 is Military Brats Day, a day to acknowledge how precious the military's children are.

Operation Purple Camp is an opportunity for military children to connect with other youth that have experienced the deployment of a parent. Children of active-duty service members and veterans, from all uniformed services, including the National Guard, Reserve, Space Force, the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may apply. Camp is not offered in Pennsylvania this year, but children can still sign up for Operation Purple Summer Challenge, a virtual summer camp experience. Learn more at

<https://www.militaryfamily.org/programs/operation-purple/operation-purple-camp/>

Military Women's Memorial is located at the ceremonial entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. The memorial honors women's service from the American Revolution to today with exhibits, films, events and more. About 3 million women served in the Armed Forces and MWM needs our help to reach the 2.7 million women veterans whose stories have not been recorded. Do you have a family member or friend who is a woman veteran? Encourage them to register their service for free at <https://womensmemorial.org/> to ensure HERstory joins hundreds of thousand of individual stories that make up the MWM Register.

VFW "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" - Veterans apply by April 30 for the fall semester - visit www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support for details and eligibility. Help fund these scholarships by donating to Sport Clips, visit www.sportclips.com.

Dates to remember:

April	Month of the Military Child	April 15	Purple Up! For Military Kids Day
April 5	Gold Star Spouses Day	April 30	Military Brats Day
April 6	Year-End Reports due by today *	April 30	Sport Clips Scholarship Application due

* **Veterans & Family Support Year-End Report** (2) copies are due to your District President, no later than April 6. It is found in the [Dept of PA Auxiliary Program Book](#) and at www.vfwauxpa.org click on Programs then Veterans & Family Support.

What will you do for our veterans, service members and their families?

We are **Banding Together for Our Veterans to Let Freedom Ring!**

Loyally,

Tina Hinkle

Veterans & Family Support Chairman

tina@vfw5265.org

AMERICANISM

General Orders #10

April 2024

I know you are probably happy to have reports for the 2023-24 year done and submitted. I know they are time consuming, but so necessary. I wish all of you GOOD LUCK in receiving citations and awards at the upcoming conventions. This is my last General Orders for the year, but I will still be sending out tips for the remaining months.

There are still several patriotic holidays and recognition days between now and July when you will have new Program Chairmen. You can do events in the remaining months of this year and include them in the 2024-25 reports.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- Loyalty Day- May 1st
- Armed Forces Day- 3rd Saturday in May
- Memorial Day- May 30th (traditional)
- Memorial Day this year- May 27th
- Flag Day- June 14th.

I wish you all a Happy Spring!! Thank you all for your hard work this year while we were **"Banding Together For Our Veterans"** and making sure that our American motto of **"LET FREEDOM RING"** continues to spread across our United States of America. A great share of the responsibility is ours to see that *"Our Flag is never desecrated, and to teach the people of our land what this means."* May **OLD GLORY** continue to fly high and proud over our nation. God Bless our Veterans and Troops.

Loyally,

Carolyn J. Paccio

2023-24 Americanism Chairman

REGISTRATION FORM

____ Yes, I'll Play. Enclosed is my entry fee.
Number of players ____ @ \$80.00/player.

____ I am paying for a team of four golfers.
Please register the golfers listed below.

____ I am paying for myself and would like to
be paired with other golfers.

Sorry, I am unable to play, but here is my
donation of \$_____.

Player #1 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Player #2 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Player #3 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Player #4 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Dwight Fuhrman
SEND ENTRY AND FEE TO: Dwight Fuhrman
5059 Rislyn Court Spring Grove, PA 17362
Please return form & payment by July 22, 2024

THE TOURNAMENT

PRIZES AWARDED AT LUNCHEON

Par-three holes will offer
"Closest to the pin" prizes

BONUS PRIZE:

\$500.00 will be paid for the
first Hole-In-One
on any par-three on the golf course.

Any additional Hole-In-One that day
Receive \$100.00.

Held at
THE BRIDGES GOLF CLUB
6729 York Road
Abbottstown PA 17301
717-624-9551
proshop@bridgesgc.com

SCHEDULE

7:00 AM Registration Begins

8:00 AM Golf Scramble Shotgun Start
Players need to be on the course

Luncheon Buffet at VFW Post 8896, East Berlin, PA
Lunch, prizes & awards will be at the VFW
upon completion of golf, 12PM to 3:00 PM

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT
Dwight Fuhrman- 717-578-2953
Email: fuhrman1970@comcast.net

VFW POST 8896

presents

30TH ANNUAL PA VFW DISTRICT 21



GOLF SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY
AUGUST 9, 2024



Proceeds will go to the
Jack Barger Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund.

THE JACK E. BARGER, SR. MEMORIAL NURSING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

INTRODUCTION

A Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund was established at the 1989 VFW State Convention, held at King of Prussia, PA. This fund was in Memorial of Jack Barger, Sr., Department Commander, 1987-88, who passed away during his term of office.

POLICIES

Candidates for the award will be solicited through the Pennsylvania Nursing Association and its contacts with nursing schools in Pennsylvania. Chairpersons and deans of nursing schools will be asked to submit names of worthy candidates. The recipient(s) will be chosen by means of a lottery conducted by P.N.A. with the VFW State Commander and Barger Scholarship Chairman drawing the name(s).

There are two qualifications placed on the candidate(s) by the VFW: (1) the individual be a veteran or the son or daughter of a veteran; (2) be a resident of Pennsylvania.



HISTORY

A \$500.00 scholarship was awarded in 1990 and over the past 20 years the amount and number of scholarships awarded have increased to six (6) \$1,000.00 scholarships per year.

There have been various fund-raising efforts made over the years but the two main efforts have been requesting donations from VFW posts and auxiliaries and the Nursing Scholarship Golf Scramble.

FUTURE GOALS

Each year give six (6) scholarships. Increase the equity in the fund in order to make the fund self-sustaining. It is believed that an equity of approximately \$150,000 will be required.

With the help of the VFW posts and auxiliaries within Pennsylvania supporting the Golf Scramble by buying advertisements in the program book we will be able to increase the donation for the golf scramble to over \$10,000.00 each year. All money for advertisements in the Golf Scramble program book goes to the scholarship fund. Remember that none of this money supports the golfers participating in the scramble; however, they support the scholarship program.



**NOTICE: This order is a contract.
No verbal arrangements have been made other than those incorporated in this agreement.
This order is noncancellable and becomes of force on acceptance thereof.**

2024 PROGRAM AD APPLICATION

_____ Full Page & Sponsor of Hole.....	\$200.00
_____ Full Page.....	\$100.00
_____ Half Page.....	\$50.00
_____ Quarter Page.....	\$30.00

100% of the proceeds from Hole Sponsors and Ads go to the Jack Barger Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund.

Deadline for ADS is July 22, 2024. Make checks payable to Dwight Fuhrman and mail to 5059 Rislyn Court Spring Grove Pa 17362

Attach Your AD Copy Here

NOTE

**Any donations other than ads or golfers can be mailed to Dwight Fuhrman
5059 Rislyn Court
Spring Groce PA 17362**



UPDATED HOTEL INFORMATION!!!
VFW AUXILIARY'S 12TH
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOM EVENT
VFW NATIONAL HOME
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
SEPTEMBER 7, 2024



The Department of Pennsylvanian VFW Auxiliary is taking a bus to the National Home for the National President's Cafe in September 2024. The bus will depart on Friday, September 6, 2024 at 6:00am from headquarters and return on Sunday, September 8, 2024 around 7:00pm.

The cost for the bus and your lunch at the National Home is a total of \$170.00 per person. Your check should be made payable to: Dept of PA VFW Auxiliary with **CAFE** on the memo line and mail to Marsha Fuhrman 5059 Rislyn Court Spring Grove PA 17362. Jodie will register everyone for the lunch at the National Home—do **not** go on MALTA and register.

There will be drinks and snacks on the bus going to and returning from the National Home; as well as 50/50's, gambling and raffle basket(s).

UPDATED INFO:

The hotel reservations will need to be made by you. We are staying at the AC/Marriott, Lansing. The cost is \$139.00/night and reservations can be made by calling **517-337-7771**. **Discounted Group Rate Code: VFW AUXILIARY BLOCK** **Please book today!!** **Breakfast is included!**

Come and join us in celebrating the National Home and our 100th year! Don't miss the bus, the fellowship and the fun—**Make your reservations EARLY – we want to be sure everyone is at the same hotel.**



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
 HELP HOPE HONOR



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

District/Post _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Check Number _____

Any questions, call Marsha @ 717-578-2953 or Sandy @717-891-2093.

ATTENTION AUXILIARY/DISTRICT OFFICERS

Per Section 804B – Auxiliary

A. Elective Officers shall be nominated and elected at a regular business meeting in **APRIL**

B. Each year at the regular annual election, one (1) Trustee shall be elected for a three-year (3-year) period. (Your 3yr drops to 2yr, the 2yr drops to 1yr, and your 1yr drops off)

Section 804C- District

A. The elective Officers shall be nominated and elected annually at the District Convention.

B. Each year at the regular annual election, one (1) Trustee shall be elected for a three-year (3-year) period. (Your 3yr drops to 2yr, the 2yr drops to 1yr, and your 1yr drops off)

Secretaries – Please sign into MALTA and under your Duties look for your Manage Auxiliary/District Section. You will see Officer Resources, click this! You will then see a title: Installation Report; Long Form or Short Form. Please pick which form you will fill out. You want to be sure you have this copy PRINTED because the installing officer will sign this form in MAY after the installation of the officers. This form will be used to fill out the Installation Report on MALTA under SHORTCUTS. The signed Installation Report will be placed in the Secretary book.

Who May Installation the New Officers?

Per Bylaws Section 806A – Auxiliary Installation

3. The following members in good standing may conduct the installation ceremony:

- a. A member who is a Past or current Auxiliary President
- b. A member who has held a higher elective office in the Auxiliary
- c. Or a Past or current Post Commander or higher office.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

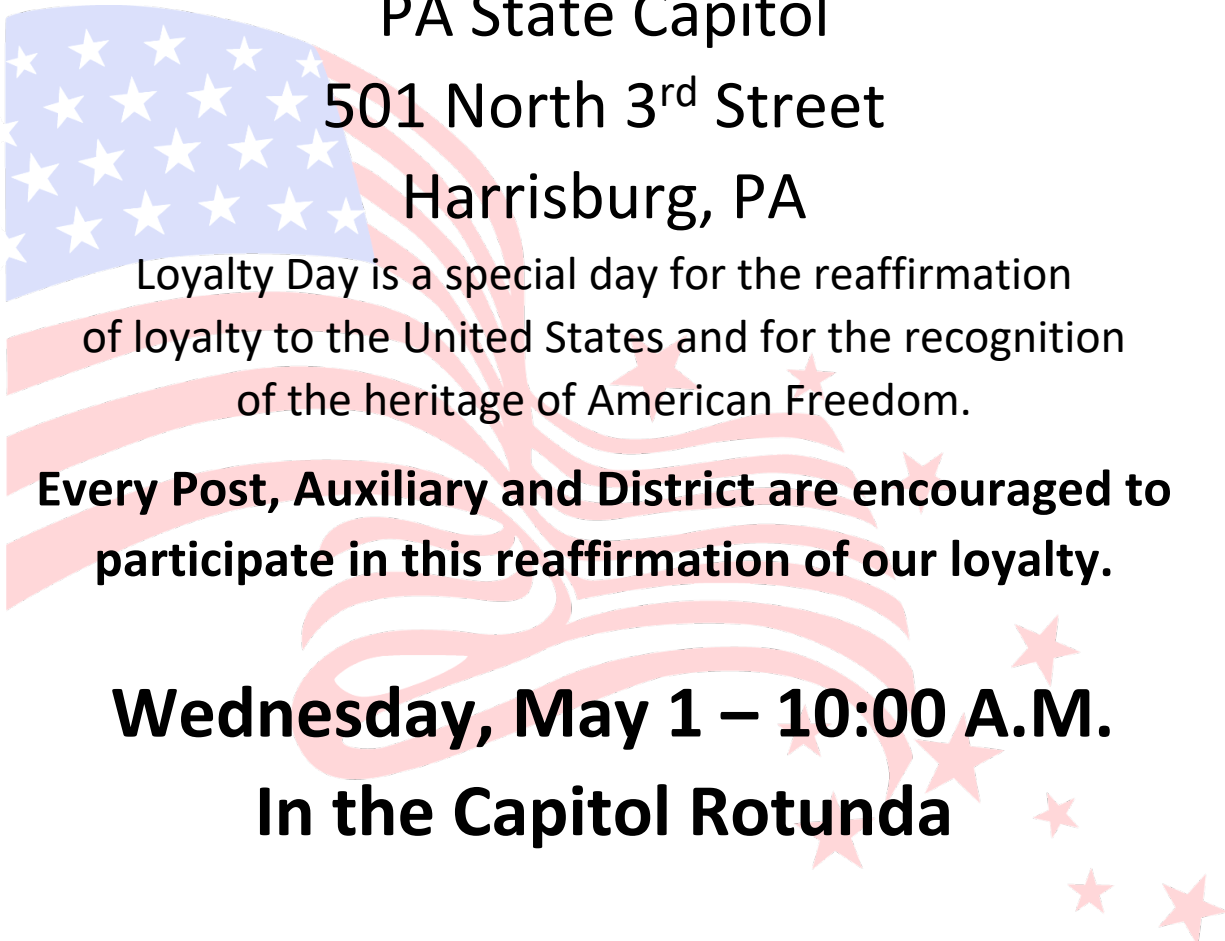
LOYALTY DAY

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

PA State Capitol

501 North 3rd Street

Harrisburg, PA

A large, stylized graphic of the American flag is positioned on the left side of the page. It features the stars and stripes of the flag, with the stars appearing as white and pinkish-red shapes. The graphic is partially obscured by the text on the right.

Loyalty Day is a special day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American Freedom.

Every Post, Auxiliary and District are encouraged to participate in this reaffirmation of our loyalty.

Wednesday, May 1 – 10:00 A.M.

In the Capitol Rotunda

Bring your Flags w/stands



MEMBERSHIP

102.01%

General Orders #10

April 2024

“CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN”



Congratulations to District 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, & 27 for reach over 100% in Membership. We have 7 Districts so close to reaching the top of the Mountain. Let's do this Pennsylvania!!!

End of the Year Reports should be turned into your District President by now. Don't forget the All State forms need to be mailed to me by May 8th. Make sure you read the form and mail all the paper work with it. Even though we have completed the End of Year Reports that doesn't mean we stop working on Membership. Membership is very important to the VFW Auxiliary for fighting at Capitol Hill for our Veterans rights. Retention is very important and we are standing at 88.05% that means we still have members who have not renewed. Let's continue to contact those members and see why they have not renewed.

Would like to give a big shout out to the following Auxiliaries for reaching 100% or more in membership as of March 25, 2024: District 1, Auxiliary 2819 -100%; District 7, Auxiliary 3460 -106.25%; District 11, Auxiliary 283 -100%; District 14, Auxiliary 8306 103.94%; District 15, Auxiliary 7863 -100%; District 16, Auxiliary 7155 -106%; District 18, Auxiliary 1718 -103.17%, Auxiliary 6076 -101.74%, Auxiliary 7415 -100.26%, & Auxiliary 8638 -104.84%; District 19, Auxiliary 212 -100.76%, Auxiliary 2497 -104.97% & Auxiliary 8803 -101.14%; District 20, Auxiliary 3448 -100%; District 21, Auxiliary 556 100.56%; District 22, Auxiliary 5825 -100% & Auxiliary 8269 -100%; District 25, Auxiliary 128 -101.25%; District 29, Auxiliary 894 -100% & Auxiliary 7632 -100%; District 30, Auxiliary 4129 -100.68%.

As we “Band Together for our Veterans” it is time for us to get ready for a great year with “Lights, Camera & Action.” Get ready to “Climb Every Mountain” and we can reach the top of the mountain “Let Freedom Ring”.

Tammy Hunter

Tammy Hunter

Department Membership Chairman

huntertammyjo@aol.com

TIPS

General Orders #10

April 2024

Auxiliary Outreach – *Kimberly Grundon*

Ever consider mentoring? Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization provides that opportunity for individuals. Auxiliary members can mentor children through various programs offered:

- Community Based
- School Based
- Children of Military Families
- Children of Incarcerated Parents

Auxiliary members interested in mentoring can visit Big Brothers/Sisters website at <http://bbbs.org> – click on programs to read more information about each of the programs.

Buddy Poppy - VFW National Home - *Amy Peterson*

VFW National Home - Quick Reminders on Ways to Help

1. Become a National Home Life Member.
2. Donate to the Department Health & Happiness Fund.
3. Purchase items from their Amazon Wish list.
4. Donate to National's Joint Special Project.
5. Purchase a Tribute Brick.
6. **NEW!** Join as a Centennial Life Member

VFW Buddy Poppy - Crossover Ideas

1. Add to Goody Bags at the next YOUTH program.
2. Send your local LEGISLATIVE offices a "Buddy Poppy" Care packet(poppies, pin, koozie, buddy poppy info)
3. Hand out a Poppy at the next MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!
4. Add to active-duty care packages for Veterans & Family Support!
5. Use **#poppiescount** on social media for HISTORIAN credit!

Scholarships – *Joan Faddis*

Themes have been announced for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen 2024-2025! Please spread the word to all eligible!

Voice of Democracy - **"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"**

Patriot's Pen – **"My Voice in America's Democracy?"**

Deadline to local VFW Post is midnight, October 31, 2024

Youth Activities

General Orders #10

April 2024

Happy Spring to everyone. How has your Auxiliary participated with the Youth Activities Program? Did you have entries in the **Red, White and Blue Contest** or the **Illustrating America Art Contest?** District Presidents must have these in the hands of the Department no later than April 15, 2024

There are still things that we can be doing for our youth. We can encourage them to be helping veterans with different daily activities. We can get youth to read to our veterans who may be in nursing facilities.

We need to get our libraries to become active with the youth by having reading programs that can involve the Veterans in the community. Is it possible to have the library promote a **Spend an afternoon with a Veteran?** Maybe a veteran may want to share their story with the children.

There are still opportunities for our youth to say the Pledge to the Flag and also hand out Flags and also to learn our National Anthem. We have Memorial Day, Flag Day, Fourth of July, and Veterans Day. Our promoting does not stop, it just continues into the new year.

Remember our Youth are our FUTURE so **“Let Freedom Ring”** by **“Banding Together for Our Veterans.”**

If you have questions or need help with any ideas please contact me.

Thank you,

Joey Diehl

Joey Diehl
Department of PA Youth Activity Chairman
joeydiehl@aol.com
717-386-7598