



## Greetings,

I hope this October message finds you all being positive and spreading **Kindness** because **Kindness** is best when it is shared.

Andrew Carnegie once said, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives." I believe at all levels of the VFW Auxiliary, we come together as a team with everyone working in unison. We have unselfish common goals, we work together – we are brothers and sisters – we are a family. Our team is stronger than the sum of our members because there are more skill sets available, so weaknesses can be counterbalanced resulting in the team accomplishing more than any individual could achieve. When the team succeeds – everyone on the team shares the glory.

**Membership Update:** **Congratulations** to those Auxiliaries and Districts that have reached 100% in membership. The National 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter award for Department is \$100 to each Department that retains 50% of its annual members and achieves Department goal.

### Reminders:

**Auxiliary Treasurers** file your Auxiliary's 990N-e-Postcard (<https://sa.www4.irs.gov/epostcard/>) before the November 15 deadline.

**Auxiliary and District Presidents:** The program promotions are to be read at your next meeting. Please ensure this information is shared and passed on to the members.

**Auxiliary Members:** Please visit the PA VFW Auxiliary website (<http://www.pavfwaux.org>) and our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pavfwaux.org](http://www.facebook.com/pavfwaux.org)) often. The website has a programs and forms sections you may want to make use of.

Something has been added to this year's Department Facebook page. The **PA VFWA ? of the Week**. Each week I'll ask a VFW Auxiliary-related question and if you think you know the answer, reply using the comments and be sure to list where in the Bylaws and Ritual you found the answer. If you're not already regularly browsing the Department Face Book page, you're missing out on a lot of good information. To join go to [www.facebook.com/pavfwaux.org](http://www.facebook.com/pavfwaux.org). Also, you can follow us on TikTok and Instagram.

Commander Mannella's Testimonial will be October 14 - 16 at the DoubleTree in Monroeville. Our Council of Administration meeting is scheduled for Saturday at 9:00 AM. I hope to see some of you there.

Department, District and Auxiliary Officers (Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers) dues **MUST** be paid by December 31, 2023. If not paid, then any non-paid officers **WILL** be relieved of their position.

**Patriotic Trivia:** How well do you know your **red, white, and blue?**

When the flag becomes soiled it must be destroyed in an appropriate ceremony. True or False? Email me at [valeriedecorte50@gmail.com](mailto:valeriedecorte50@gmail.com) with your answer. Please include your name and which Auxiliary you are a member of. The first correct response received will be posted on our Department Facebook page.

Until you hear from me again, be strong, be safe, and be kind.

Veterans & Family Support  
Americanism  
Auxiliary Outreach  
Buddy Poppy Order Form  
Historian  
Hospital  
Membership  
Scholarships  
Sock Drive  
TIPS  
Website

#### IMPORTANT DATES 2022

October 5 District 7 Meeting @ Essington #4845 – 7:00 P.M.  
October 9 District 14 Meeting @ Catawissa #8306 – 2:00 P.M.  
October 9 District 17 Meeting @ Newport #34 – 2:00 P.M.  
October 10 Columbus Day Department Headquarters Closed  
October 14-16 Commander Mannella's Testimonial, DoubleTree, Monroeville  
October 16 District 1 Meeting @ Bridesburg-Lawton #2 – 2:00 P.M.

BY ORDER OF:

*Valerie DeCorte*

Valerie DeCorte  
Department President

ATTEST:

*Jodie Hollinger*

Jodie Hollinger  
Department Secretary/Treasurer



**General Orders #4  
October 2022  
Veteran & Family Support**

**This is the new number for the Suicide Prevention Line.  
Please make everyone aware. This could save a life.**

**988**



**PA Smile**

**October is a great month to highlight a Caregiver. Why not do Halloween treat bags and deliver them to all the caregivers you know? I look forward to all of your monthly reports.**

**Please refer your program books for all the steps you do for your programs. THIS IS WHY PA WILL BE #1.**

**“Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care”**

**while we**

**“Respect...Honor...Remember”**

**Paula Havasi**

**10 Van Lane, Beaver, PA 15009**

**[Phavasi@live.com](mailto:Phavasi@live.com)**

**412-671-5721**

# AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

OCTOBER 2022

GENERAL ORDERS #4

We are well on our way to a momentous year! Patriotism never stops.... keep up the great work!  
I love seeing all the shares on social media, Pennsylvania is rockin' the **Red, White, and Blue!**

With *"Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care"*, Always *"Respect.... Honor.... Remember"* our Veterans!!

Have you **logged onto MALTA yet???** PLEASE DO!!! There are so many materials/resources available for all the programs! You will see the criteria and /or forms to use for National awards...check it out!

*The new layout on MALTA is super easy to use as well, do not wait 😊*

I KNOW we all have been busy, busy.....tell me why/what/where/when!! Tag me and TELL ME!

Did you know???

**Parade Flags are available through Department Headquarters.....FOR FREE!!!!???**

That is where your donations to the "Flag Fund" go, just send a quick email, and ask nicely! 😊

**Distributing American Flags and POW/MIA Flags (2" X 3" or larger)** at community events is a FANTASTIC way to meet potential members & educate youth on Flag Etiquette.... hand out coloring pages.... the littles LOVE it!

Is there an outstanding citizen and/or business in your community that "oooooooozes" Patriotism?  
**Show your appreciation with a Citation of recognition!** Sample forms are on the resource page.

## Important Upcoming Dates:

- Columbus Day – October 10
- US Navy Birthday – October 13
- National Day of Deployed -October 26
- Halloween – October 31 🎃
- Election Day – November 8
- US Marine Corps Birthday – November 10
- Veterans Day – November 11
- Thanksgiving Day – November 24 🍗
- Pearl Harbor Day – December 7
- US National Guard Birthday – December 13
- National Wreaths Across America- December 17
- US Space Force Birthday – December 20
- Christmas Day = December 25 🎄

**The Patriotic Instructor sees that the Pledge of Allegiance is given properly & Respect to the Flag is observed.**

**ATTENTION:** hands at side, head up, eyes forward

**HEART SALUTE:** face Flag, right hand flat on heart  
(Veterans can use the Military Salute)

**PARADE REST:** left foot slightly to the side, arms to back, left thumb in palm of right hand, bowing head.

***Thank you for all you are doing for the Department of Pennsylvania!***

Loyally yours,

*Amy Peterson*

PA Department Chair 2022-2023



[THEPETERSONS@ATLANTICBB.NET](mailto:THEPETERSONS@ATLANTICBB.NET)

814-331-1142

# **Auxiliary Outreach**

(Formerly called Auxiliary Community Outreach)  
General Orders #4  
October 2022

## **Partner with American Red Cross - Host a Blood Drive**

It is a win-win partnership for Auxiliary who will work with many groups or people across organization; bring people together in a spirit of teamwork to make your event successful; and promote a cause that could help save millions of lives each year.

### **Everybody Wins**

- Patients are able to receive the lifesaving blood they urgently need
- Auxiliary builds goodwill and improve team spirit by working together to help others
- Auxiliary shows leadership in bringing volunteers and donors together for a good cause

### **Auxiliary Provides**

- Location – large open room with enough space to ensure donor privacy
- Volunteers – for recruiting, scheduling, and supporting donors
- Donors – recruit and schedule donors for your blood drive

### **Red Cross Provides**

- Planning Assistance – representative will work with Auxiliary to plan and organize event
- Recruitment Tools – representative will help determine number of donors needed and how to recruit them
- Equipment and Supplies – Red Cross will bring everything needed, set up and take it down, including snacks and drinks
- Trained Staff – Red Cross staff will screen donors and collect donations safely and professionally

**Contact Red Cross today to setup your blood drive at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>**

**“Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care” while we “Respect...Honor...Remember” our Veterans.**

Kimberly Grundon  
Department Chairman  
kgrundon@comcast.net/717-275-7094

**EFFECTIVE 9/1/22 NATIONAL INCREASED THE COST OF  
BUDDY POPPY BANKS & BOARDS**

**PLEASE USE THIS NEW FORM WHEN ORDERING BUDDY POPPIES – REV. 9/1/2022**

RETURN ORDER FORM WITH CHECK TO  
Department of PA, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
4002 Fenton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109-5943  
1-717-234-7927

**ATTN: BUDDY POPPY ORDER**

<u>QUANTITY REQUESTED</u>	<u>MERCHANDISE</u>	<u>QUANTITY COST</u>
	BUDDY POPPIES	100 @ \$14.00
	BUDDY POPPIES	500 @ \$70.00
	BUDDY POPPIES	1000 @ \$140.00
	BANKS	10 @ \$50.00
	VOLUNTEER BUTTONS	25 @ \$15.00
	POPPY BOARDS	50 @ \$25.00 Increased 9/1/22

**NOTE: ALL ORDERS MUST INCLUDE SHIPPING CHARGE BELOW**

100/1,999 POPPIES - \$7.00  
2,000/3,999 POPPIES - \$10.00  
4,000/ 7,999 POPPIES - \$14.00  
8,000/11,999 POPPIES – \$21.00  
12,000/15,999 POPPIES - \$28.00  
16,000/20,000 POPPIES - \$32.00  
BANKS/BUTTONS/BOARDS - \$7.00

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID BEFORE THEY CAN BE SHIPPED**

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY ALL INFORMATION**

**Ship to:**

---



---



---



**ALL BUDDY POPPY ORDERS MUST INCLUDE  
SHIPPING CHARGE – IF NOT INCLUDED THE  
ORDER WILL BE RETURNED**

CHECK# \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ INCLUDING \_\_\_\_\_ SHIPPING CHARGE  
POST# \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_  
AUX# \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT # \_\_\_\_\_

For Department use only: Order received at Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Shipped: \_\_\_\_\_ Credited under Post: \_\_\_\_\_

## HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS

GENERAL ORDERS #4

October 2022

This year's National Ambassador for Historian and Media Relations, Nicole Koutz, is looking for the "Most outstanding Historian & Media Relations report," and I just **KNOW** that an Auxiliary in PA can win! Check out the National Award Form [here](#).

### SO, HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS REPORT YET?

- It's so much easier if you start it early then tweak it and decorate it later. It will save you so much time later!
- Think of the report as a log of what your Auxiliary has been doing since Department Convention.
- Look at pictures for the 5 Ws: WHO is present? WHAT does it depict? WHERE were you? WHEN did this happen? WHY did it happen?
- WHY is often the first step! You are discussing program initiatives, passions and people at your Auxiliary meetings. Your Auxiliary votes, plans, prepares and is present at these events.
- *Write about that! Show me that! Celebrate it by sharing!*

Lastly, if you are submitting a written or pictorial History Book for **Department** judging, your book is to be sent to my home address (below) and **must** be received by April 5, 2023:

418 Edmond Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Contact me with any questions at [k.digi@pitt.edu](mailto:k.digi@pitt.edu)! I'm here to help!

Loyally,

***Kristin***

Kristin DiGiacomo  
Historian & Media Relations Chairman  
[k.digi@pitt.edu](mailto:k.digi@pitt.edu) | 412-867-0021

# HOSPITAL AND VAVS PROGRAM

Bonnie S. Drake ~ Department Chairman / Diane Haller ~ Co-Chairman

## GENERAL ORDERS # 4 – October 2022

One of the reasons I love the Fall season, is it's just time to be thankful and reflect on how blessed we are! It's a time to enjoy the beautiful colors that dot the tree line, the crisp air, bonfires, Halloween parties and Thanksgiving gatherings. It's a great time to do something special for the Veterans and/or families who may not be able to see or experience what we do each day? Take pictures of "FALL" scenery, and put them in a photo frame and album, press colorful leaves make a collage with maybe a cute sign like ("Enjoy the Fall Season, but please don't fall") or whatever you feel is a Hallmark saying.

If able, go into the hospitals, VA Centers, Nursing Homes, or visit inbound Veterans who stay in their homes, and maybe make some smores or make turkey's using their hands with them, take them to a Halloween Party Thanksgiving Dinner. You'll be blessed, blessing others!

**HOSPITAL/VA FOCUS:** This month we are focusing on Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center (WBVA), located at 1111 East End Boulevard, Wilkes-Barre PA which was established in 1946 (after two (2) years of planning and fundraising starting in 1944). WBVA has 173 operating beds, 58 hospital beds, including 30 inpatient care, 24 inpatient mental health and 4 surgical beds, 105 community living center (nursing home) beds, and 10 beds in their substance abuse residential rehabilitation program. 1,360 full time employees, including 228 nursing staff and 101 physicians who are dedicated clinical and professional staff, and many volunteers. Maryann Pauline (D11-Aux 8253), Representative and Ann Ray M. Begis (D12-Aux 3432), Deputy both see that the needs of our hospitalized Veterans are met. One of the big draws for the residents is playing cards and enjoy yelling out BINGO when volunteers are able to run bingo games. Please take time to stop in and see "Through a Hero's Eyes" Veteran Art Gallery starting Sunday December 4, 2022, 10 a.m. to Friday, March 3, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

**Recognition time:** This year we would like to go out of our way to show our appreciation to Doctors/ Nurses/ Staff/ Hospital/ Volunteers / VAVS Representatives and Deputies who go above and beyond what they do on a regular basis. One Auxiliary in each division that has the best promotion honoring these special people will receive a citation. Support your volunteers by thanking them for their service and recognize their contributions! A simple thank you goes a long way, but you can also print a Certificate of Appreciation from the website at [www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources) and present it to them at an auxiliary meeting, or a volunteer appreciation event.

Hospitals & VA Centers depend on our donations so be generous! .

Everyone will see what the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars is about, as we continue to "Respect...Honor...Remember" our Veterans and their families with "Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care".

Thought for the month: "In a world where you can be anything, BE YOURSELF!"

Loyally,

*Bonnie S. Drake*

Bonnie S. Drake  
Hospital and VAVS Program Chairman  
2318 Owego Turnpike, Honesdale PA 18431  
Email: [gotauxbonnie@yahoo.com](mailto:gotauxbonnie@yahoo.com) Phone 570.647.8685

*Diane Haller*

Diane Haller  
Co-Chairman





## MEMBERSHIP GENERAL ORDERS #4

**We continue to reach for our 105% Membership Goal!  
EVERY MEMBER MATTERS!**

By **Building, Reinforcing and Reuniting Connections**, we ensure our membership grows. As our membership grows, we grow our ability to support **Veterans and Active Military**, as well as their **families and our communities**. Your Membership Committee builds your Membership Plan which is the blueprint for your Membership Year. Don't forget to send me pictures and descriptions of your Recruitment Booths and send a copy of your Welcome Packets, as well. Follow the PA VFW Auxiliary Facebook page to see our weekly progress on "What's Our Number Wednesday?" Earn these National Membership Awards:

### National Membership Awards

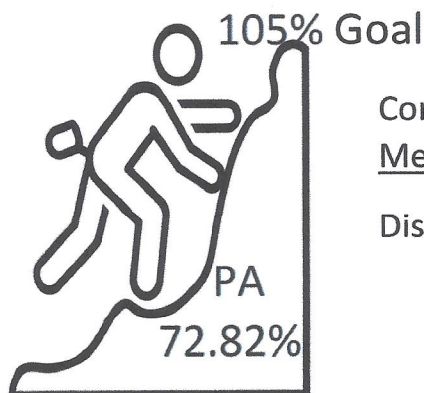
1. **\*Heart-Shaped Hands Pin** to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Due to Department Treasurer by June 10, 2023. Pin will be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters.
2. **\*National Membership Achievement Award** to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Due to Department Treasurer by June 10, 2023. Award will be presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona or mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters.
3. **\*Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care Award** to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most new members from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. The award will feature the member's name alongside the name of an honored veteran. Award will be presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona or mailed to the Department for presentation. Department Treasurers and VFW Members are not eligible.

**Forms are no longer needed from VFW Auxiliary Recruiters; reports are compiled by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters staff from information entered in MALTA.**

\*VFW members who qualify for awards(s) #1 and #2 above will still need to complete the form & mail to Department by June 10 as Auxiliary cannot track VFW members in MALTA. See Resources page on the Auxiliary National website Resources page.

Through ***Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care***, we will ***Respect... Honor... Remember...*** our veterans.

Andrea Meintel  
Department Membership Chairman  
[andreavfwaux@gmail.com](mailto:andreavfwaux@gmail.com)



Congratulations to the following Auxiliaries who are the Newest Members of the **100% Membership Mission Club**:

District 26: Aux. 1586      District 27: Aux. 3368

SCHOLARSHIPS IN PENNSYLVANIA  
GENERAL ORDERS #4  
OCTOBER 2022

Schools are back in session! Whether virtually or in a classroom, students still need to have the information for all of our key Scholarship Opportunities at the ready! The Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Essays are both running concurrently, with matching deadlines of October 31, 2021.

If you are using different methods to get the information to both teachers and students this year, getting the essays back to you could be just as challenging. Do not hesitate to use electronic technology. Have teachers email essays to you to avoid physical or unnecessary contact, or have them put the essays into a manilla envelope and mail them. Many parents and schools are still concerned with Corona viruses. Do not ignore their concerns. Find a way to get things done.



Sculpting

When judging the contests, select community leaders, local media personalities, legislators, administrators, even front-line workers to serve as judges. Share with the judges the rules of each contest ahead of the actual judging so they are prepared to select a winner for you!

The Continuing Education Scholarship is for **any** Auxiliary member in good standing and having been a member for at least one year to get a \$1,000 scholarship for themselves, a spouse, or their child. **DO NOT DELIVER TO THE SCHOOLS!** All applications need to be submitted to National HQ by February 15, 2022.



Ceramics

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests needs your attention too. Students need time to get creative and have artwork ready by the March 31, 2022 deadline. Remember we have 2 & 3-D Contests now! One

student may enter each contest – must have a separate application for each entry!

**“Respect...Honor...Remember”** our Veterans and their families as we continue to work these programs with **“Hands that Serve, Hearts That Care.”**

Loyally,

*Joan*

Joan Faddis, Chairman  
Department of PA Scholarships

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
VFW & VFW Auxiliary  
SOCK, HAT AND GLOVE DONATION DRIVE  
*for Homeless Veterans*

**Auxiliary Brothers & Sisters,**

During this **Respect...Honor...Remember** year we are partnering with the VFW in collecting white socks, gloves and winter hats for Homeless Veterans. Please bring items to our Mid-Winter Conference, January 19 - 23, 2023 at the Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA.

These items are stored at Department Headquarters until distribution to Homeless Veterans at Stand-downs, special events, etc. Your Post and Auxiliary may get a supply of these items at any time by contacting VFW Headquarters to schedule a pick-up.



Kind regards,

*Valerie DeCorte*

Valerie DeCorte, President  
Department of PA – VFW Auxiliary

# TIPS

General Orders #4

October 2022

**Chief of Staff Report** – Thank you for filling out the Healthy Checkups! I am starting to receive them. Some suggestions shared to increase attendance at Auxiliary meetings – a newsletter with upcoming events - participate in more community events zoom meetings (You still need a quorum physically present) - phone calls to members

## **Mentoring for Leadership**

Did you use the Mentoring for Leadership materials available on the National VFW Auxiliary website. This is one of the questions on your yearend report. Training your future leaders can only improve our organization!

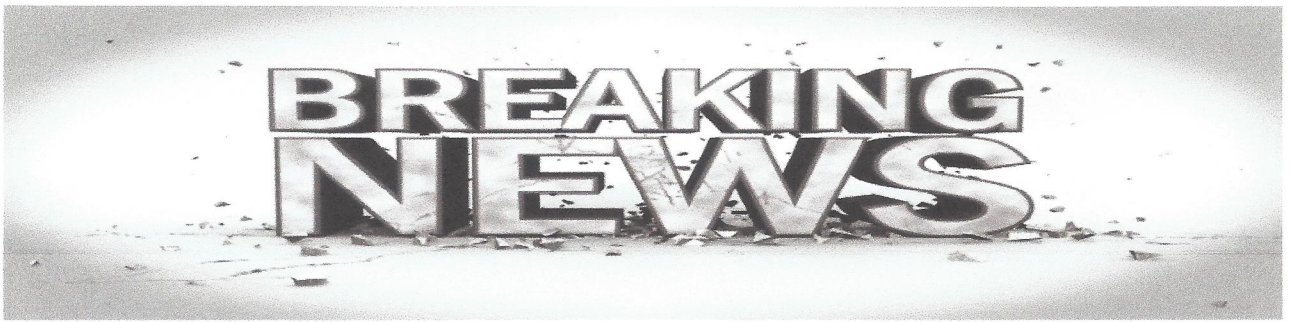
## **Extension & Revitalization**

Have you given out any Good Job Awards? Not only is this a question on your yearend report, members do like to be recognized for what they do. A simple Thank You goes a long way! Members may be more willing to participate!

Bobbie Lawrence  
Chief of Staff

## **Youth Activities**

Auxiliary Brothers & Sisters: With schools back in session, there is an updated list of books you may choose for "Patriotism through Literacy." Promote and support reading among youth with this simple, fun and potentially free (use your local library) initiative. Introduce youth to historical figures and teach them about events in our nation's history while fostering a love of reading that can lead to a lifetime of learning. To see the list go into MALTA and choose Member Resources, scroll down and under Youth Activities you will find it there. NOTE TO AUXILIARIES: Please report to me monthly. You may contact me at: Nancy Kreiner, 440 S. York Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 or [mrsplk2@aol.com](mailto:mrsplk2@aol.com).



## CHECK OUT THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA VFW AUXILIARY WEBSITE

**WWW.VFWAUXPA.ORG**

**HERE IS A PARTIAL LIST OF WHAT YOU WILL FIND ON THE WEBSITE:**

### **HOME PAGE—SCROLL DOWN**

- Announcements
- Department President's Welcome Message
- Links: Events Calendar, Membership Details, Assistance & Benefits
- Gallery—pictures from various events

### **ABOUT**

- About Us
- FAQs
- Mission Statement
- Officers-Pictures and Bios
  - You will find the current Officer's picture and a short Bio for each including Line Officers, District Presidents and Program Chairmen

### **PROGRAMS**

- Training Curriculum
- Programs
- Individual Programs
  - Each one has the most recent program, all of the promotional letters, awards and any other information that pertains to that program
    - Americanism
    - Auxiliary Outreach
    - Chief of Staff/ Extension
    - Hospital
    - Membership
    - Scholarships
    - Youth Activities
    - Buddy Poppy and National Home
    - Historian/ Media Relations
    - Legislative
    - Mentoring for Leadership
    - Veterans and Family Support
  - **Also included**
  - Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation

- Family Freedom Festival
- On-Line Academy
- Year-End Reports (Fillable)

## **RESOURCES (This section is still under construction)**

- Training Curriculum
- District Information-Upcoming Meetings
- Downloadable Info-
- Member Benefits
  - Insurance Plans
  - Additional Benefits
  - Travel Benefits
- Misc. Resources
  - Auxiliary Cancer Grant Application
  - VFW Guide to using Technology to Conduct and Auxiliary Meeting
  - VFW Auxiliary Website Solutions Program Grant Application
  - Tips for the Auxiliary Secretary
  - VFW Auxiliary Treasurer's Guide
  - 990-E Postcard User Guide from the IRS
- President and Secretary
  - Meeting Outlines
  - Voting-How to
  - Installing Officers Script
  - Tips for the Auxiliary Secretary
- Publicity Tools and Press Releases
  - VFW Auxiliary Brochure Order Form
  - VFW Auxiliary Fact Sheet
  - VFW Auxiliary Elevator Speech
- Websites & Social Media
- Treasurer Information
- MALTA Training Videos for Treasurers Resources
- Address Change
- Name Change

## **NEWS AND EVENTS**

- Podcast
- Calendar
- News

## **CONTACT US**

### **LOGIN-Only need this if you are REPORTING or Getting the Roster (This will be in Phase 2)**

- Report Entry-Username is your Membership ID-Password is your Last name
- Members Only is for the Roster same Login as Reporting

\*Use the FAQ Section to ask questions and get answers. We would like to hear from you.