



## General Orders No. 2

August 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We're in the throes of our On-the-Road Training sessions and will wrap them up immediately following the VFW National Convention. Thank you to everyone who has attended so far, and we look forward to the remaining session. We've had great attendance and wonderful conversations, and we enjoy meeting the members across this amazing state!

A few friendly reminders for **Treasurers on all levels**:

If you haven't already done so, the Bond needs to be purchased through MALTA immediately. Please ensure the President and Treasurer are **bonded in a sum at least double the amount of funds and value of property** for which, so far as can be anticipated.

Were you installed as a new Treasurer recently? When Treasurers change for any reason, the **IRS Form 8822B, Change of Address or Responsible Party**, must be completed and returned according to the instructions on the form.

Your 990-N e-postcard can be submitted now, so don't delay. Remember to make sure it has been **"Accepted"** and not just **"Submitted."** A copy of the confirmation of acceptance by the IRS must be sent to Department Headquarters.

The program book and individual programs are on the Department's website, along with some updated forms under "Resources," so please be sure to check out [vfwauxpa.org](http://vfwauxpa.org) regularly for relevant information to help you be successful throughout the year.

Pennsylvania is gearing up to attend the National Convention from August 9-14 in Columbus, OH, and we can't wait to hear our 2024-2025 Chairman's names called in recognition of the amazing work they did during their year. #PAProud

Remember, **"Every Day is Veterans Day,"** and with all our efforts as the Auxiliary, we can do amazing things for our Veterans who served this great Nation!

Thank you for everything you do, and let's keep up the great work!

### Important Dates:

August 3 District 18 Meeting @ Lykens #2385 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 4 District 30 Meeting @ Saxton #4129 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 10 District 17 Meeting @ Duncannon #255 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 10 District 26 Meeting @ Northern Cambria #343 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 17 District 8 Meeting @ Warminster #6493 – 2:30 P.M.  
August 17 District 14 Meeting @ Rome #6824 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 17 District 19 Meeting @ Bradford #212 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 20 District 20 Meeting @ Mt. Pocono #3448 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 24 District 21 Meeting @ Dillsburg #6771 – 2:00 P.M.  
August 24 District 27 Meeting @ Donegal #6743 – 2:30 P.M.  
August 3 On The Road Training 9:00 to 4:00 P.M. Bloomsburg VFW 804  
August 16 On The Road Training 9:00 to 4:00 P.M. Duncansville VFW 8724

With warmest regards,

*Robin*

Robin Kohler  
Department President

*Jodie*

Jodie Hollinger  
Department Secretary/Treasurer

# GENERAL ORDERS - AUGUST.2025

## DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA MEMBERSHIP 2025-2026

CHAIRMAN - AMY PETERSON- amyaux212@gmail.com

#EVERYDAYISVETERANS DAY #SERVINGTHOSEWHOSERVEDJOINOURRANKS

#FROMSEATOSHININGSEAHONORINGVETERANSTHATKEEPUSFREE

**EVERY DAY IS  
VETERANS DAY**

**SERVING  
THOSE WHO  
SERVED**

**JOIN OUR RANKS**

RANK UP to "LANCE CORPORAL"!!!!  
FIRST District to reach 100% +++  
WINS 2 BANQUET TICKETS FOR PRESIDENT'S TESTIMONIAL!

### 'TALK THE AUX' CHALLENGES! INVITE, RECRUIT, INCLUDE, INVEST, RETAIN

- "RANK UP" Annual Members Only Challenge - Convert to LIFE membership
  - ENTRY FOR ONE TIME \$100 drawing, Must convert to LIFE by April 30, 2026.
  - Must be a Current member, Treasurers will sign off confirmation and send to me.
  - This challenge is for individual Current members.
- "JOIN OUR RANKS" RECRUITING CHALLENGE FOR AUXILIARY MEMBERS ONLY
  - Members can keep track on their own, have their treasurers sign off and email to me
  - This challenge is for individual members; auxiliary does not qualify.
  - 5 or more New/Rejoins (Life/Annual) - by April 30, 2026, ENTRY FOR ONE TIME \$100 drawing

### BACK TO BASICS TROOPS!

EARLIER DUES REMINDERS ~ SHARE YOUR WHY  
COMMUNICATION~TRAINING~SHARING IDEAS

**ALL STATE CHECK-OFFS!**  
BOND PAID BY JULY 31, 2025?  
ATTEND OTR TRAINING YET?  
IF SO, WELL DONE TROOPS!

**PENNSYLVANIA ~ 71.75%**

Sounding Off the Year at 30766/42881  
PAID MEMBERSHIPS!

**100% + Distinguished Leadership**

**EFFECTIVE 23.JULY.2025**

District Auxilliary

10 \*\* 7251

19 \*\* 464

27 \*\* 3368

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU RANK !!!**

**EVERY DAY IS  
VETERANS DAY**



**PROGRAM  
SPOTLIGHT**  
August  
2025

# EVERY DAY IS VETERANS DAY



**VFW Auxiliary  
Department of Pennsylvania**

## **EXTENSION**

**Karen Hoover,  
Chief of Staff**

### **AMERICANISM**

**Cherie Dysard, Chairman**

Recognize one of your local patriotic teachers this year by nominating them for the Smart-Maher Teacher of the Year Program!

### **AUXILIARY OUTREACH**

**Jency Mercado, Chairman**

Report **QUARTERLY** using the report form on the website!

Reach out if your Auxiliary is in need of support.

Resources are available to help you!

### **Veterans & Family Support**

**Athena Theodorakos-Gjerde,  
Chairman**

Check out the VFW Foundation Grants – Auxiliaries are eligible to apply for funds for activities that support our active military and veterans!

### **Youth Activities**

**Marsha Fuhrman, Chairman**

Reach out to your local youth groups and include them in your VFW events and activities!

Additional information for these programs and activities can be found at [vfwauxpa.org](http://vfwauxpa.org) then programs – check out each program and look for the “Information Station!”

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Amy Peterson, Chairman**

Pay attention to All-State Award Deadlines!

### **Legislative**

**Tim Altman, Chairman**

All Auxiliary Members should sign up for VFW Action Corps Weekly.  
Stay informed!



## BUDDY POPPY/NATIONAL HOME

Beverly Kemmerer, Chairman

Get out several times a year to get donations for your Buddy poppies, and Buddy poppy tins. BUDDY POPPY FORM available on the website [www.vfwauxpa.org](http://www.vfwauxpa.org)

The National Home is a great place to help Veterans and their families for a fresh start during difficult times. If a Veterans and their family needs help they can reach out to the following:

- Call helpline 1-800-313-4200
- Email: [help@vfwnationalhome.org](mailto:help@vfwnationalhome.org)
- Go to website: [vfwnationalhome.org/help](http://vfwnationalhome.org/help)

NATIONAL HOME WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS A MEMBER!

**You can join two ways.**

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR \$50.00**

Being a proud member of the VFW Auxiliary, you can become a VFW National Life Member. You will gain access to voting privileges, receive a unique pin and a membership card displaying your affiliation.

**CENTENNIAL MEMBERSHIP FOR \$100.00 (This membership is only available until December 31, 2025)**

## HOSPITALS

Linda Dilling, Chairman

**VOLUNTEERING is the hallmark of the Hospital Program. Volunteers are ALWAYS needed at our facilities!**

**Look at the hospital page and find**

- Steps to take before hosting an event at a facility
- Tips for recruiting volunteers

## SCHOLARSHIP

Karen Mooney, Chairman

For 2025-2026, I am hosting a T-Shirt fundraiser to help earn money for the scholarships programs. I am selling a gray shirt and a red shirt to help with this fundraiser. The flyer is on the website - please share with your local auxiliary members, and contact me for the order form.

Continuing Education Scholarship is National President Lois Callahan's special project this year. Looking to bring more attention to the one scholarship that is specific to Auxiliary members and their families.

VOD/PP contests have started. If you have not already started to share this information, now is the time.

Young American Patriotic Art Contest may not be due until the end of March, but you need to give these artists time to create their designs. The level of talent that exists in our youth is amazing and this takes time to compose. Share in the same places as above but also consider your local pottery shops, your local paint and create shops and consider any local art store as they often have community boards to share information.

## HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

Debra Antosh, Chairman

Starting off the new year with your upcoming events calendar is a great way to let every one know what is going on. This way all can stay organized and can manage time effectively, making commitments to said meetings and events. Your calendar should include: upcoming Auxiliary meetings, all events and projects, including details like dates, times, and locations. Providing this creates great management knowing who can attend what, where, when and how. Participation makes it possible for a successful event. Posting a month before for every month, giving ample notice to all.

## PENNSYLVANIA SOLDIERS AND SAILORS GENERAL ORDERS #2

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Department President Robin A. Kohler for our appointments as Representative and Deputy to Pa. Soldiers and Sailors Home in Erie, PA.

To all the Auxiliaries that have supported us in the past, we extend a sincere Thank You for all your donations.

We also want to thank all the volunteers, for without them, many things we do for our Veterans would not be done.

Because of your donations, all Veterans have enjoyed many activities.... fishing trips, visits to the zoo, Veterans' Home Week, bingos birthday parties, music and supply them with their many wants and needs.

Once again, we are asking for your support for our Veterans at the Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home.

Please send your donations earmarked PSSH to VFW Auxiliary of Pa., 4002 Fenton Ave, Harrisburg, Pa. 17109-5943.

Thank you for continue interest in serving our Veterans and their families.

Thank you again for your support for all our Veterans across the state.

Sincerely,

*Doris*

Doris L. Svitek, Representative

*Marlane*

Marlane E. Zaken, Deputy