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Memo to the Department of Florida VFW Auxiliary Past National President Past Department Presidents Department Presidents on Council District Presidents Past District Presidents Past National Council Members Department Officers Madam President Members



It is with much pride and pleasure I have asked my auxiliary members to support me in placing my name on the ballot for National Council Member Area F. My goal is to represent the members of the VFW Auxiliary for the great state of Florida on the National Headquarters for the years of 2024 -2026. I joined the VFW Ladies Auxiliary in 1996 via the eligibility of my late husband Staff Sargent Robert W Gilchrist Jr. At that time, I knew little or nothing about the workings of the VFW and its mission. It was just a nice place to meet with some good friends. I soon started attending meetings and was asked to be the secretary at the Candler post outside of Ocala. Shortly thereafter, I served as Auxiliary President for 3 years. Immediately following, I was elected District 22 Auxiliary President for the next 3 years. Then I resume my service. As District 18 Auxiliary President, for 3 years as My extensive experiences continued, 1 was Program Chairman for the National Home for Children appointed by Jodi Nerney, past Department President, and was awarded second place. I was elected into the Department Chairs in 2010, serving as Department President from 2016-2017. I was part of this groundbreaking year of very important changes when the VFW Ladies Auxiliary became gender friendly and opened our membership to the men who were husbands, sons, brothers and grandsons of our military. Additional changes my first year also included the Circle of Excellence for the Department Presidents. I have the great honor to say I was the first winner for the great state of Florida.

Collective Auxiliary Leadership Experiences:

- Auxiliary President, 3 years
- District 22 Auxiliary President, 3 years
- District 18 Auxiliary President, 3 years
- Auxiliary Department President for the State of Florida, 1 year
- Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff for the State of Florida, 1 year
- Chairmanships for the National Home for Children, 1 year
- Auxiliary Mentor for Leadership for the State of Florida, 1 year
- Chairman of Volunteers for the Auxiliary National Convention in Orlando, 1 year
- Veterans Council for the City of Orlando, 1 year
- VAVS representative for the VA Hospital in Orlando, Daytona, and Vieira, 3 years
- Veterans' Village Board in Fort McCoy, 3 years
- Auxiliary Secretary/Treasurer Post 4287, 14 years

My unwavering commitment to the Auxiliary was solidified when I joined as a Life Member in 1996. In addition, I became a Life Member for the National Home for Children and joined the Military Order of Cooties Auxiliary to serve others. I am confident my past experiences could be a great asset to the VFW Auxiliary Department of Florida. I'm retired, my family obligations are all settled. My main focus would be to represent the Department of Florida to make sure any changes made on the national level would only be for the betterment of the Auxiliary. I vow to represent this elite organization to the best of my ability.

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Maggie Gilchrist

Past Department President