

SUNSHINE

E-NEWS LETTER



AUGUST 2024 - ISSUE NO 2

From Team Florida

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME:

UNITY

One Family One Voice One Team

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT:



With many questions about Standing Rules, here is something that I hope will help clarify them. For guidelines on Standing rules, please take the time to read Building on the Auxiliary Foundation page 28. Basically, Standing Rules are intended for Auxiliaries to disperse monies between meetings. Disbursements may include such things as, paying bonds, buying flowers, paying health and happiness, District dues, membership dues on each level, love gifts, program awards and travel expenses. Please refer to you Current Ritual Books under Article II, section 211

for a better understanding of what might also be included in an Auxiliaries Standing Rules. Such as operating procedures or the status of your Standing Rules: i.e., modifications and voting on them.

I leave you with these few quotes on Positive Leadership:

Having a positive attitude isn't wishy-washy, it's a concrete and intelligent way to view problems, challenges, and obstacles. By " Jeffery Moore "

Building Positive attitudes begins with having confidence in yourself. By: "Roger Fritz"

And one of my favorites,

A positive attitude is something everyone can work on and learn how to employ.

By none other than "Captain Jack Sparrow. "

Remember our focus is Veterans, and our motto is **"Unity"**. What is team Florida? We are 1 Family, 1 Voice, 1 Team.

See you all at SOI BOOT CAMP.

FROM THE DESK OF THE 2024-2025 VFW DEPARTMENT COMMANDER GLENN WRIGHT:



Dear Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary,

I'm very excited to have the opportunity to work with the Auxiliary to achieve our common goals. I want to encourage the VFW and Auxiliary to work together to settle differences at the lowest level. I have already been working with Auxiliary President Ginger Brehmer for many months, and we work together with respect and a spirit of cooperation. I promised her that the VFW would work in partnership with the Auxiliary. Our joint project "Freedom Ride" which provides therapeutic horseback riding is proof of our teamwork. I want us to leave any differences in the past and move forward to work for our veterans, their families, and the community. I know this is going to be a great year!

Glenn Wright,
Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander
Department of Florida

2024 Save the Date 2025
School of Instruction "Boot Camp"

Friday - Sunday August 16- 17, 2024

Florida Hotel & Conference Center

1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, Florida 32809

Phone: 800-588-4656

Room Rate: \$121 .00 plus tax (Mention VFW School of Instruction)

Complimentary Self-Parking

Deadline for Reservations - July 25, 2024

Friday August 16, 2024

10:00 AM - 11:30 Am - District President's Meeting (Closed Meeting)

11:30 Am - 12:30 PM - Dept. Chairmens Meeting

2:00 PM – Council Meeting

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM Secretary workshop & MALTA

4:30 PM – Roles of the Auxiliary Officers

Saturday August 17, 2024

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Department Program Fair (Patriotic Themed)



8:30 Am - National Convention Awards - Teresa Bachand

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM – President's Leadership Workshop

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM: Treasurers Workshop including MALTA

11:00 AM- Jason Smith Veterans Service Officer

11:30 AM - Program Advisor - Debbie Tilley

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM - Question and Answer session (Department Website?)

2:00 PM - Roger Ingall -Sunshine Newsletter

2:30 PM - Announcements - Debbie Tilley

2:35 P.M. Closing remarks - Dept President Virginia Brehmer

Important: Workshops are open to ALL interested members

SPECIAL NOTICE: ALL TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Please check website often for updated
information**



Attention: At the School of Instruction "BOOT CAMP"

The Program Chairmen will have laptops available Friday and Saturday to assist any member with reporting, learning how to navigate the website, signing up for Action Corps, and hopefully be able to assist in answering questions.

Auxiliary Patriotism

Auxiliary 4337 President Lorinda Acosta (R) and Sr. Vice Carol Davis (l) of the Eugene Quinn 4337 Auxiliary decorating their post in time for the 4th of July



VFW Department of Florida Purchases Van for the Veterans Village to Use.

Adjutant Quartermaster Gene Perrino picked up the new transit van for the Department to be used at the Village for the residents. This was paid for by the membership of the VFW and the VFWAUX. Gene thanks every Post and Auxiliary for their support and donations. Absolutely not one penny was spent out of the Veterans Village account that he manages. Truly a great day for the Department of Florida VFW. Rock On Florida!



Monthly Program Focus: Auxiliary Outreach

Helping Hands Can and will make a difference!

- SUMMERTIME IS THE PERFECT TIME TO PARTNER WITH YOUR TOWN OR COMMUNITY, HELP CLEAN UP A BEACH OR PARK
- MAYBE THERES A CANCER RUN IN YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU CAN HELP HAND OUT WATER, SIGN-UP RUNNERS, OR HAND OUT AWARDS
- HELP DELIVER MEALS ON WHEELS TO OUR SENIORS IN THE COMMUNITY
- HELP AT A SENIOR CENTER, TEACH COMPUTER SKILLS
- HELP AT AN ANIMAL SHELTER, WALK THE DOGS OR SHOT CLINICS
- MAYBE HELP FIRST RESPONDERS WITH THEIR FUNDRAISING EVENTS
- CHECK WITH YOUR MEMBERS SEE WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THEY BELONG TO, VOLUNTEER TIME TO HELP WITH THEIR EVENTS
- ALWAYS REMEMBER – IF IT'S REPORTABLE IN ANY OTHER PROGRAM IT DOES NOT BELONG IN AUXILIARY OUTREACH
- WEAR YOUR VFW AUXILIARY ATTIRE

DEPT AWARD FOR MOST OUTSTANDING PHOTO COLLAGE CREATED BY THE VFW AUXILIARY OF THEIR VFW AUXILIARY OUTREACH PARTNERSHIPS DURING THE CURRENT PROGRAM YEAR.

Sandi Hendriks

Auxiliary Outreach Chairperson

sandihendriks@yahoo.com



June Women Veterans Appreciation month

For the month of June Women Veterans Appreciation month, on June 12, Auxiliary 7721 partnered with Avow hospice, Naples to Host Women Veterans Day. Their Jr. Vice Lois Bolin was featured speaker to honor these women and present them with special Veterans medallions from the Florida Veterans Foundation.

Many stories, camaraderie and service given to our country was an inspiration to all, when recognizing the branches of those who served.

A special guest Florence 99 and almost 100 is a true hero who served in WW!! alongside her husband and honored her father who was in WW1.

Our Auxiliary hosted the luncheon with delicious food from Mission BBQ, who supports all Veterans in our community.

Photo is Florence and of the entire women veteran's group who attended.



Post 4538 and Auxiliary host the 1st Annual Wakulla County A Salute to Our Veterans event.

On June 21 & 22, Post 4538 and Auxiliary hosted the 1st Annual Wakulla County A Salute To Our Veterans event. This event was at no cost to Veterans and their families.

We were able to offer many services which included, medical, dental and vision services, financial literacy, counseling sessions, VA services, haircuts and much more.

We even presented a \$500 check to our local high school ROTC.



Get to know your 24-25 Department Officers

Name: Debbie Tilley

Position: Department Secretary

Years in the Auxiliary: 22

Home Post: 7909

Home District: 6

Who did you join under: My husband Glen



What Positions in the Auxiliary have you held? Auxiliary - Chaplain, Secretary, and Trustee, Treasurer, President, District – all chairs, Treasurer, Trustee. Department - All chairs, Membership Chairman 3 years, Dept. Program Advisor, National Membership Ambassador, National District Council Member Area F.

What motivates you for the VFW Auxiliary? Keeping the memory and goals alive that are men and women have paid so dearly for. Talking to a new member and watching them get excited over a program that they didn't understand and seeing the light bulb come on and then helping them with reporting or membership

Do you have any hobbies? Gardening, crossword puzzles, Creating flyers etc. on computer anything for the Auxiliary and VFW

Favorite quote or saying: "If you have the faith of a small mustard seed, then nothing is impossible"

Any message you would like to leave for the members? Believe in yourself that one person can make a difference and be that person.

Know your Department Chairmen:

- Americanism – Carol Franker Qcarol4u@gmail.com
- Auxiliary Outreach – Sandi Hendriks sandihendriks@yahoo.com
- Buddy Poppy / VFW National Home – Kelly Barr buddypoppy2425@gmail.com
- Extension Revitalization & Mentoring – Debbie McCollum Ucfnole21@yahoo.com
- Historian / Media Relations – Jeanne F. Laurine Jeannelaurine5@gmail.com
- Hospital – Karen Heikkila Hospitalauxfl@yahoo.com
- Legislative – Melissa McKeon Melissamckeon@gmail.com
- Membership – Betty Bailey bann652@aol.com
- Scholarships – Ann Batson annbatson@att.net
- Dept. President's Special Project – Pauline Riddle fireballs44@hotmail.com
- Veterans & Family Support – Bob Kabala rkabala@tampabay.rr.com
- Youth Program – Amy DiMauro stavamy@aol.com

Keep up to date with the monthly promotions from your chairmen!

Send your Pictures and Story's for the Sunshine E-Newsletter to: Roger Ingall Shanily.04@gmail.com

VAVS SPOTLIGHT

Have you ever wondered what VAVS is, and who can participate? Here is valuable information about Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS).

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service operates one of the largest volunteer programs in the Federal Government, supplementing staff and resources in all areas of patient care and support. In 1946, the VFW Auxiliary became one of the 13 charter members of VAVS. The mission of VAVS is to provide a structured volunteer program under the management of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) employees in cooperation with community resources to serve veterans and their families with dignity and compassion. Our need for volunteers has increased due to more veterans being served in the VA

system than ever before. Recruiting volunteers is an especially important part of the VAVS program. The Department President appoints all VAVS Representatives and up to three (3) Deputy Representatives and/or Associate Representatives and Associate Deputy Representatives per VA facility with a Voluntary Service Program; however, the Department Hospital Chairman is the immediate supervisor of all VAVS Representatives

Interested and want more information? Check out the VAVS Participation Guide for Representatives, Deputy Representatives and Associate Representatives. At:

[VAVS-Guide.pdf \(vfwauxiliary.org\)](#)

Dates to Remember for 2024-2025

• National Convention	July 27 – August 1, 2024	Louisville, KY
• School of Instruction	August 16-18 2024	Florida Hotel, Orlando, FL
• C.A.F.E. National Home	September 7, 2024	
• Department Fall Conference	October 25-27, 2024	Florida Hotel, Orlando, FL
• Southern Conference	November. 7-9, 2024	Nashville
• Department Mid-Winter Conference	January 24 – 26, 2025	Westgate Resorts, Orlando
• National Mid-Year Conference	February 1 – 6, 2025	Hideaway at Royalton Riviera, Cancun
• Dept. Presidents Homecoming	March 14 – 15 2025	Crown Plaza – Indialantic Beach
• National President's Visit	March 20 – 23, 2025	
• Veterans Village Picnic	March 22, 2025	
• Planning Meeting for Mike Yates	April 5, 2025	
• Dept. Commanders Homecoming	April 12, 2025	
• Department Judging	April 25 – 26, 2025	
• Department Convention	June 12- 15, 2025	Renaissance Orlando, FL
• National Convention	August 9-14, 2025	Columbus, OH

Send your Pictures and Story's for the Sunshine E-Newsletter to: Roger Ingall Shanily.04@gmail.com