



# SUNSHINE E-NEWS

## DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

### Important Information

**REPORTING WEBSITE:** All auxiliaries must have all reports entered into the Auxiliary Reporting website by April 15. The website will be taken down ending the reporting year. Auxiliaries should report in all programs however, Americanism, Hospital and Veterans and Family Support are required to qualify for the Circle of Champions. Any activities after April 14 can be reported when the website is back up in July.

**ELECTIONS:** According to the bylaws Article VIII, Section 804A—"Elective Officers shall be nominated and elected at a regular meeting in April. Full slate of officers must be elected or the auxiliary could be in jeopardy of suspension.

**INSTALLATION:** All officers must be installed not more than 60 days prior to the convening of Department Convention. This means that officers cannot be installed prior to April 15. Refer to Article VIII, Sec 806A—Auxiliary Installation details. After Installation, the current secretary shall input the installation report into MALTA.

**DELEGATES:** It's time to elect delegates for District Convention, Department Convention and National Convention. Delegates are elected, not appointed. Any member in good standing is eligible to be elected as delegate.

	Convention Date	When to elect	How many delegates/alternates	What to do with delegates
District	Varies by District (most in May)	Not less than 30 days before convention	1 delegate and 1 alternate for each 15 members or fraction thereof at the time of the election	Send to District secretary PRIOR to convening
Department	June 15, 2023	On or after May 15	1 delegate and 1 alternate for each 15 members or fraction thereof at the time of the election	Send to Dept Treasurer with delegate fees PRIOR to convening
National	July 22, 2023	Last regular meeting in April	1 delegate and 1 alternate for each 50 members or fraction thereof as of March 31 membership	Send to National secretary (input into MALTA or have Dept Sec help) by May 30

# Meet Our Department Treasurer Linda Burnette



Sister Linda Burnette joined the auxiliary in 1983 under the eligibility of her father Dewey Allison who served in the Army Air Corp WWII.

Linda grew up in Sturgis, MI, the middle of 5 children. She moved to Florida 50 years ago when she decided warm weather year round was better than shoveling snow. So, at 20 years old, she moved to Florida. Linda worked for Honeywell International for nearly 30 years before retiring in 2010.

Linda was married to the late Ron Burnette, the love of her life for 18 years. She has one daughter, Angela who has been a huge supporter for all she wants to do.

Linda is a member of Old Fort Harrison Auxiliary 2473 in Clearwater. From 1984 until 2017, Linda served as the Auxiliary Treasurer except for 3 years. Linda went through the chairs in District and served as District President, making President of the year in her division. On the Department level, Linda served as Department Chairman on many programs and winning 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place in her division at National Convention. In 1995, she decided to run for the office of Department Guard working her way to President. Linda was installed as Department President for the 1999-2000 year, serving with Harvey Eckoff as her Department Commander. In 2017, Linda was elected to the office of Department Treasurer. Linda enjoys training Treasurers and mentoring members of this organization. She enjoys mentoring "seasoned" and new members and encourages them to take an active part in the organization.

Resources:  
National Website:  
[www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)  
MALTA: [malta.vfwauxiliary.org](http://malta.vfwauxiliary.org)

# Auxiliaries in Action



The kitchen crew for Wesconnett Auxiliary 7909 for their dinner March 3rd dinner. Two youth volunteers from Trinity Baptist College helped out. Pictured are Kathy Wright, Margaret Latimer, youth volunteer Noelle, Kathy Danahoo, Glenn Wright with VFW and youth volunteer Declan.

District One and District One Auxiliary had the honor of assisting with Special Operation Warrior Foundations 5K Walk/Run and Half Marathon. The SOWF provide for the children of Special Operation Personnel that have been killed in the line of duty, and they have taken on Purple Heart Recipients Children, that have paid the Ultimate Sacrifice. This is All done in conjunction with the Flora Bama Lounge, who continues to support Veterans and. Youth Programs in Northwest Florida and Southwest Alabama.



Auxiliary 10087 entertained the Veterans at the Brentwood Rehabilitation center on March 17. Music was provided by Steve Curnow with pizza served for lunch. A wonderful time was had by the Veterans. Pictured Pat Lampasona and Carol Franker.

On March 20, the Post 8189 and the Auxiliary each presented a check to Megan Day from the YMCA of Citrus County. The monies will allow 12 underprivileged children to attend Summer camp this year. What an awesome feeling! Thank you to all who were there to show our support for this worthy institution.





***Q. What happens if we cannot elect officers?***

A. If you cannot elect a President, all elections stop (without a President you cannot have an auxiliary). Immediately notify the Department President who will work with your Auxiliary to determine the future of your Auxiliary.

***Q. What is the job of the election judge? Of the tellers?***

A. According to the Booklet of Instruction page 9, #5, the judge and tellers count the ballots. The judge will announce the report of the tellers. On page 10 #8, the judge shall announce the number of members in the room entitled to vote, the number of votes cast, and the number of members not voting. According to booklet of instructions and the ritual the judge announces how many votes for each candidate and the result of the election.

***Q. Do you have to attend the meeting to be elected to an office?***

A. According to Article VIII, Sec. 804A, first bullet second sub-bullet "No member shall be elected to office unless the member is in attendance at the election" next sub-bullet "Unless they submit in writing their willingness to be elected and hold office."

***Q. Can a member hold two offices?***

A. According to Article VIII, Sec 801, sub-bullet under first bullet "No member shall hold two (2) elective offices on the same level at the same time." "The member may hold one (1) elective and one (1) or more appointed officers on the level." "The exception to this ruling being that of Trustee may hold another elective or appointive office other than President, Secretary, or Treasurer.

***Q. When are officers installed***

A. According to Article VIII, Sec. 806A "Auxiliary Officers shall be installed in their respective offices not more than sixty (60) calendar days prior to the convening of the Department Convention. And Article VIII, Sec. 806C "The District Officers shall be installed before the adjournment of the

meeting at which elected.

***Q. Who can install officers and who selects the installing officer?***

A. According to Article VIII, Sec. 806A third sub-bullet under first bullet "The following members in good standing may conduct the installation ceremony...a member who is a Past Auxiliary President...a member who has held a higher elective office...or a Past Post Commander or higher office. Sec 806C pertains to district "...who is at least a Past District President, who has held a higher elective office in the Auxiliary, A Past District Commander or higher office."

Article VIII, Sec 806A fourth sub-bullet "The Auxiliary President-elect will select the Installing Officer."

***Q. When do officers assume office?***

A. Article VIII, Sec 806A first sub-bullet under first bullet "...shall not assume duties until the Department President is installed." Sec 806C first sub-bullet under first bullet "...shall not assume the duties of the office until the installation of the District President as a member of the Department Council of Administration.

E-mail your articles and pictures of your auxiliary activities to Jodi Nerney, Editor-in-Chief at [canefan@ix.netcom.com](mailto:canefan@ix.netcom.com) with Newsletter as subject. If you would like to receive this newsletter directly in your inbox, send a note to [vfwauxflnews@gmail.com](mailto:vfwauxflnews@gmail.com) that you would like to receive it.