

November 1, 2025

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



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Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter

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*VFW Department Greg Harrell's **Homecoming** will be November 15, 2025, in conjunction with VET Fest held at Post 549 in Tucson. Click [here](#) for more information.

***Winter Conference** will be January 9-11th. Hotel and Banquet information is available on the Department website at www.vfwauxaz.org under news/department events. You can also click [here](#) to go to the information. Please note that the room deadline is Dec 11th. Also, the banquet ticket price is \$55 until Dec 11th then it goes up to \$70. Get yours now!!

***The National CAFE** will be at the Vietnam Wall in Washington DC on February 28, 2026. Registration will be open on your MALTA account on November 14 2025. This will be the last CAFE for the near future, so come join other Auxiliary members at this National site. The hotel information will hopefully be out soon. To see the flyer click [here](#).

***The PAR** report is up and running. The form is behind log in at www.vfwauxaz.org. Please log in and get your Auxiliary PARs caught up and current. PARs should be completed through September. You can check the tracking sheet on www.vfwauxaz.org behind log in. If you think you have turned in one and it is not marked off, please contact Melissa Martin at newfoundfreedom3@msn.com



President Brenda Kinghorn's Message

Happy November!!

The President's official visits are complete!! It was a great experience, joy able, and made me feel very welcome. All the districts are doing a great job with their auxiliaries.

While you are reading the newsletter articles, from myself, Department Line officers and Program Chairmen, please take the time and respond and complete any surveys that are attached. We value you, as the Department of Arizona members, for your input in changing or keeping things as is. To help our Department to excel.

I would like to say thank you to all the Auxiliaries and Posts that are working on "Blankets for Bryan" my special project. You have all already gathered blankets, socks, hats, gloves from your members and dropped them off in your communities. You have used your Youth groups to help and show them how the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary help the homeless in your area. I love seeing the writeups and pictures from your #blanketsforbryanaz reporting.

November includes numerous national and international days.

- November 5th is National Doughnut Day.
- November 7th-9th is Western Conference in Boise Idaho. We are hoping to see a large presence from both the Department of Arizona VFW and Auxiliary.
- November 11th is Veteran's Day. This is an official U.S. public holiday to honor all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday's origins are rooted in the end of World War I, with the armistice taking effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.

There will be ceremonies, lunches, and dinners to thank veterans from all

branches. They will be held at posts, schools and businesses across Arizona. Don't forget to do the writeups with pictures and #azveteransandfamilysupport.

Department of Arizona VFW Commander, Greg Harrell, is having his homecoming and in conjunction with Vet Fest III, November 15th, 2025, held at VFW Post 549, 8424 E Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ. See flyers on VFW Department of Arizona website, Facebook and Department of Arizona Auxiliary website.

Winter conference will be held, January 9th -11th, 2026. The information is on the VFW Department event calendar and the Auxiliary website events. Get ready to root on your district winners for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarship.

National Auxiliary President Lois Callahan will be attending the Winter conference for her official visit to our state. More information will be sent out as it is finalized.

NDCM #15 Betty Decker

I want to thank everyone for the great time that I had at your Fall Conference in October. It was my first time to see Lake Havasu. Thank you to President Kinghorn and all the others for showing me a great time. It was great to meet up with old friends and to create new friends. It was wonderful to hear all the great things that your Auxiliaries are doing around the state.



I know that we did go a tad long at Council but great information was passed. I did want to throw out a couple of things that I spoke about and somethings that I missed.

- Don't forget you need to report the death of an Auxiliary member as soon as it happens. Do not wait! Do not hold them!
- New membership application in January 2026. Please watch for this. Only the new membership applications will be allowed to be submitted starting on January 1, 2026.
- Please encourage members to follow the chain of command.
- Auxiliaries in Action was added to the National website. Check it out, it will let members and potential members know what we do every day for our veterans, communities and our organization.
- Bonds – If you would like to add Bonds to your Standing Rules you may do so but the Standing Rule needs to explicitly state "double/*1.25 the amount of our highest balance month of the previous year". With this statement it will ensure that membership is aware of the amount the bond is for.
- Remember everyone can attend the National President's Mid-Year cruise, check out vfwauxiliary.org for the forms.

The combined training that the Department of Arizona held on that Saturday was informative, fun, and presented with a look towards the future. I enjoyed that you worked with your counterparts to present information.

Overall, I give the Department of Arizona's Fall Conference a big shoutout for be one of the best Conference's I've attended. As always thank you for having me.

Betty Decker
VFWA NDCM 15
505-801-1183
bldeck@live.com



Secretary/Treasurer Kim Sloan

Thank you to all the Recruiters, Secretaries, Treasurers and Investigating Committee Members that working hard to make sure that new member applications are complete **before** they are approved by the Auxiliary and sent to Department

for processing.

If your Auxiliary has an application that has been returned because it was not complete, please understand that this is one way of helping the Auxiliary to learn and to comply with the Treasurer's Guide which state...

*Transmit a copy of the member's **fully completed Membership/Transfer Application**, Membership Summary Form, and prepare a check payable to VFW Auxiliary, Department of Arizona for payment of Department and National portion of dues or Life Membership fees, that are not being paid by credit card, to the **Department Treasurer**.*

2026 NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Below is the new application that you may start to use immediately **BUT ONLY FOR NEW ANNUAL OR LIFE MEMBERS PAYING THRU THE AUXILIARY. YOU CANNOT USE THIS APPLICATION FOR APPLICANTS WANTING TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD until Jan 1st, 2026. For those applicants that want to pay by credit card, you must use the current application and complete the credit card section.**

Starting January 1, 2026, this is the **only** application that will be accepted. So please start to clean out and get rid of old application forms. I would suggest that you start to use these new forms in December so that when you vote on the new members for transmittal in late December or January, they are on the correct application form.

The new application form is on the Department website - www.vfwauxaz.org behind login under Treasurer. It can be ordered under MALTA under Resources starting December 1st.

VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

Please print legibly. An incomplete application could delay your membership start date.

Applicant completes sections A, D or E and H.I. Auxiliaries/Departments complete section B,F,G.

A APPLICATION INFORMATION

Name Female ☐ Male ☐
 Address
 City State ZIP Phone () - Email

B Auxiliary Post No. City State
☐ New Member ☐ Transferring Member ☐ Rejoining Member (Prior ID Member Number)
☐ Member at Large in Department of Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

C (Transfer only information) ☐ ANNUAL TRANSFER ☐ LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER
 Member ID Previous Auxiliary ☐ Paying ☐ Nonpaying

D POST-AFFILIATED (*Must be a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)
 I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)
 VFW Membership ID VFW Post (Must be same as B)

E ☐ **NON-AFFILIATED** (*Veteran is not a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)
 I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)
 Name of campaign ribbons or medals:
 Dates of Service: to Foreign Location:

F Recruited/Recommended by: Recruiter Member ID
 Check one: Aux ☐ VFW ☐

G Investigating Committee Signatures
 1 ☒ 2 ☒ 3 ☒
 Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. ☐ Rejected ☐ Accepted Meeting Date Obligated Date

H ☐ Annual Membership ☐ Life Membership ☐ Check here if this is a gift: (Membership card will be sent to (transferor) and not member.)
 Payment Method and Amount: Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card
 ***If paying by credit card, after this application is processed, an email and/or text message will be sent to the contact information provided above for payment. Instructions in the communication for payment must be completed within 30 days or otherwise the application will be voided. If someone other than the applicant above is paying by credit card for the membership, please list your phone number and email address below to receive payment instructions once the membership application has been processed.
 Phone Email

I OBLIGATION In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never joining or joining this organization nor a member transfer over payment either to be admitted if it, my power to prevent it, I will never propose for membership any person not eligible according to our bylaws. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the veteran.
 Signature ☒ Date

By filing out this application and providing your contact information, you agree to receive communications from the VFW Auxiliary. The communications may include updates, promotions, and other information related to our services. Communications may be in the form of e-mails, SMS text messages, and/or automated calls. You understand that these communications may be sent using an automated/telemarketing dialer system. Standard message and data rates may apply. You can opt-out at any time by following the instructions provided in our communications. No mobile information will be shared with third parties/affiliates for marketing/promotional purposes.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES
 Life Membership fees are not refundable.
 Attained age at 12/01 of year applying for Life Membership:
 Through 20 \$253
 21-25 \$242
 26-30 \$230
 31-35 \$219
 36-40 \$207
 41-45 \$196
 46-50 \$184
 51-55 \$173
 56-60 \$161
 61-65 \$150
 66-70 \$138
 71-75 \$126
 76-80 \$115
 81-85 \$98
 86-90 \$88
 91 and over \$58

Revised January 2020

Membership Crystal McCarthy

Membership Momentum Continues!

Districts across Arizona are keeping the energy high, with several continuing to raise their membership percentages and helping push our overall Department total to 92.51%. Fantastic work, everyone—your dedication to recruiting, retaining, and re-engaging members keeps our organization strong!



Don't forget—the **Beachcomber's Challenge** is in full swing! Details and tracking info are posted on the Department website www.vfwauxaz.org under membership, so be sure your Auxiliary is participating and sharing what's working for you. Email me your creative ideas for bringing back former members or attracting new faces—I'd love to highlight them in an upcoming issue.

And a quick mea culpa—I missed it last month: Auxiliary 12128 is also at 100%. Bravo! And Auxiliary 9972 is on the road to 100 with a 98.69%. Will they be the next in the 100 club?

□ **There's No Place Like Membership!**

District 4 has gone full “Oziliary” magic! President Angela Hubbard created a fun Wizard of Oz–themed membership board — each Auxiliary (and Angela!) has a character that moves as progress is made. They’ve even added a Life Membership to the National Home for the top recruiter! What a creative, exciting way to bring fun to membership — great job, District 4! □□

Reminder: Keep your efforts fun and engaging! Get creative, involve your current members, and show new ones that recruiting can be just as rewarding—and just as much fun—as any other part of our mission. Keep up the great work—every conversation, event, and effort helps build our Ocean of Belonging Family Home!

□ **Call-Out Box: Auxiliaries in the Community**

Auxiliaries **2066, 2190, 10386 and 11014**, have been making waves—representing the Auxiliary at local stand downs, job fairs, and community outreach events with membership recruiting tables. These types of events are a great way to introduce the VFW Auxiliary to those who may not know who we are. Keep up the great work!

Your turn! Share what your Auxiliary is doing to connect with the community, and we may feature your efforts in next month’s issue. *Event details, photos, and quick summaries welcome!*

□ **Celebrating our Members Sidebar Spotlight: Auxiliary 10254’s Letter-Writing Campaign**

Auxiliary 10254 launched a heartfelt initiative to support one of their own—an Auxiliary member currently in **boot camp at Fort Benning**.

Members are writing letters of encouragement and sending care notes & packages, reminding our service members that their Auxiliary family is cheering them on from home.

This is a great way of supporting and **celebrating** our current members! What is your Auxiliary doing to support and celebrate current members? I’d love to hear and see all about it! □

AN OCEAN OF ELIGIBILITY



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary in Arizona | 326 E. Burrows St. | Tucson, AZ 85704 US

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