

October 7, 2025

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter

Visit our Website



*We would like your feedback on Fall Conference. Please take the survey. Let your thoughts be heard! Click here for [access](#). Survey will end Oct 21st.

*Western Conference is November 7-9th in Idaho. Click [here](#) for more information.

*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. July, August and September should be completed in October.



President Brenda Kinghorn's Message

FALL IS HERE!!!

Temperatures are falling across the State of Arizona. It will be a lot cooler in our area of Pinetop/Lakeside. The leaves are turning their vibrant beautiful colors, before dropping from the Aspen and Oak trees.

The Posts and Auxiliaries will start to see their winter members returning. Activities at the Posts and their surrounding communities will be busy with Veterans and families. With Halloween this month, youth activities will be on the rise ie: lunches, parties, and Trunk in Treats.

Members, engage the younger veterans, with their spouses and kids. Get into the schools and ask to drop off flyers for fun events sponsored by Posts and Auxiliaries. Put flyers on bulletin boards around town, Youth centers, possibly Day cares. A community Facebook will send it out into your community.

Department of Arizona VFW and Auxiliary, Fall Conference was held October 3rd though 5th, at BlueWater Resort & Casino in Parker, Arizona. The grounds and the Colorado River are beautiful. The turnout for Friday night's COA was excellent, and I would like to extend my gratitude to those arriving Friday and being there. Seeing the sea of Red Shirts was very emotional. Also, hanging in there, when we had technical difficulties with the projector. We wanted the members to see and read along with the council. A special "Thank You" to Department Membership Chairman, Crystal McCarty, for stepping up, when I asked her to play and sing the "Baby Shark" song, to get the membership to engage. Also, for informing them about the new Department Membership awards coming up.

I was honored to present PDP Lynn Pierre, the Circle of Excellence for 2024-2025 and her gift from the PNP Brenda Bryant. I want to personally send out a Special Thank You to, District 15 National Council member, Betty Decker and her husband, Mark, for being at the COA and Saturday's joint training with all the programs represented, by both sides of the house.

Saturday morning was a solemn Prisoner of War / Missing in Action ceremony. Added to Saturday's morning agenda, Town of Parker, Mayor Randy Hartless and La Paz County Supervisor, District 2, Duce Minor, presented Commander Greg Harrell and myself the Keys to the town and I received a special pin from Supervisor Minor. I felt very honored and emotional. Greg and I presented our coins and pins to them, and I explained the significance of my pin. Thank you to Joshua Philipps, from Post 7061, for helping with this special presentation.

The joint efforts of VFW and Auxiliary program chairmen worked out great and very

informative. Americanism Chairman, Heather Lyn, and comrades presented a flag folding ceremony, while Kerry Sherand, Auxiliary 7968, read what each fold meant. It was incredibly moving and preside.

Again, thank you to all that attended and please prepare to attend the Winter Conference in January, to welcome National President Lois Callahan and root on the Department of Arizona scholarship winners across from your district.

Media Chairman, Paulette Marshall, took hundreds of photos and is placing them on Department of Arizona Auxiliary Facebook.



Secretary/Treasurer Kim Sloan

I've shared with some of you that the VFW Auxiliary has some exciting changes coming January 1. We will have a new Application starting January 1.

A few items to start thinking about:

- Starting January 1 Applications with date **01/2026** are the only applications that will be accepted.
- The major update is for applicants paying by credit/debit card. The applicant or Gift Giver will **NOT** show their credit/debit card information.

The process will be –

- Once Department Treasurer confirms that the Application is complete, the membership will be processed.
- That membership will show as a "Provisional" Member.
- The credit/debit card holder will get an email and a text message that their membership has been processed, and they must now make the payment using the link provided. **THEREFORE, THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS AND A PHONE NUMBER.** They will have 30 days to pay.
- MALTA will show that member as "Pending Payment"
- If the member fails to pay within the 30 days, they will be removed from MALTA and they will have to start the process again or they will have to pay the Auxiliary directly.
- They will not receive or be able to print a card until payment is received and processed.
- Auxiliary Treasurers will be able to see in MALTA what members have not paid in order to follow up.
- If someone else is paying as a gift, that persons contact email address and phone **MUST** be included on the application so that they receive the email and text messages.
- The new Application will allow for new Annual Members to pay by credit/debit card.
- All members will be able to call National Headquarters and pay by phone.
- Members paying by credit/debit card will have to pay any admission fees directly to the Auxiliary. They will not be included in credit/debit card payments.
- The new Application should be available late this month or next month. You can start using it when it's available (prior to January 1) for

New (or Rejoin) Annual members, new (or Rejoin) Life Members as long as they paid the Auxiliary directly by cash/check and you are sending an Auxiliary check with the application.

- If the applicant is paying by credit card, you must use the old application form until January 1.
- The new application will be easier to copy as the gray boxes are gone. We are working on replacing the dark blue box at top with a lighter color.
- The membership QR code will automatically go to the new application.
- The new application still requires the same information but in a slightly different format.
- You will be able to show a VFW membership number as Recruiter, but the Recruiter Form for VFW members will still need to be completed.
- In the future (hopefully 2026) the VFW and Auxiliary membership systems will “talk” to each other and be able to credit the recruiters without any further reporting.
- The Auxiliary Secretary or Treasurer will be able to scan applications for both new members and current members in MALTA and that application will then be saved to that members’ profile. You must scan and save **ONLY** the application, not payment info, eligibility info, etc. And if the application has credit card information shown, it must be blacked out.

So excited for this new system! Plan on learning more about it in the weeks to come and at Winter Conference.

Membership Crystal McCarthy

Every district increased over the last month—**GREAT JOB**, team! ☐ Thank you for the steady work you’re putting in to keep us moving forward. Every gain strengthens our Department, and together we’ve raised Arizona’s overall membership percentage. Keep that momentum going!



Don’t forget about the exciting recruiting opportunity at the **Arizona State Fair** (sign-up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054AAEAC2AA5F4C25-58526384-state>). This is a perfect chance to share who we are, what we do, and why membership matters. A few spots are still open!

☐ **Ocean’s Four Champions!** ☐

☐ A huge round of applause to the Auxiliaries that completed the *Ocean’s Four Challenge* and earned a **\$50 prize**:

☐ **Auxiliary #549** ☐ **Auxiliary #1433** ☐ **Auxiliary #1677**

☐ **Auxiliary #3513** ☐ **Auxiliary #3713** ☐ **Auxiliary #5990**

☐ **Auxiliary #6306** ☐ **Auxiliary #7968** ☐ **Auxiliary #9399**

☐ **Auxiliary #9401** ☐ **Auxiliary #10386**

☐ **Membership Snapshot**

Arizona Overall Membership: 92.56%

Movers and Shakers:

1. District 10 – 97.11%
2. District 1 – 93.91%
3. District 7 – 93.26%

Let's keep the surge going: recruiting and renewals matter. We need annual members to renew or upgrade to Life to lock in that growth.

Shout-out to Auxiliaries 8807 & 9399—already at 100% thanks to strong Life membership! ☐

Goal: Department at 95% by 11-30-25.

What's your plan? Let's hear about your steps so we can spotlight the wins.

☐ **Brag Box**

Got a creative project?

Big or small, your out-of-the-box ideas matter! **Email me the details** of your Auxiliary's membership programs, events, and innovations. *Your story* could be the next one highlighted in this newsletter!

AN OCEAN OF ELIGIBILITY



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!