

July/August 2026

#AZ2627ChiefofStaff

Hello Team Arizona!!

I'm Donna Ventola, a proud life member of Auxiliary 5990 Avra Valley-Marana, Arizona. I joined in 2010 under my father, a Vietnam veteran. I have held many positions and chairmanships at the Auxiliary level, District level and Department level.

I am proud to be YOUR Department of Arizona Chief of Staff; I am honored to welcome you to a new season of service. Like a winning football team, our VFW Auxiliary succeeds when every member works together, supports one another, and stays focused on our mission of serving veterans, service members, and their families.

Our playbook begins with the **Establishing New Auxiliaries, Maintaining Current Auxiliaries, and Mentoring-Encouraging members**. These essentials keep our team strong, help us grow, and ensure we continue making a positive impact throughout Arizona.

Just as successful football programs expand by developing new teams, we must work to **establish new Auxiliaries** and bring the VFW Auxiliary mission to more communities. At the same time, we must **maintain our current Auxiliaries** by encouraging participation, supporting programs, developing leaders, and celebrating accomplishments.

A championship team also invests in its players. **Mentoring and encouraging members** are essential to our future success. Experienced members can help guide new members, share knowledge, and build confidence. When we create a welcoming environment and recognize contributions, we strengthen our bench and develop future leaders.

As we move forward this year, I encourage every Auxiliary to focus on the Five Essentials, support growth opportunities, and invest in mentoring fellow members. Together, we can move the chains, score big for our veterans, and make this a championship season for the Department of Arizona.

See you in the END ZONE !!!!