NOVEMBER 2026

VFW Auxiliary

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY MAGAZINE

NATIONAL CONVENTION
RENO, NEVADA

2026-2027 NATIONAL GUARD
JEANETTE D. GARCIA

DOGS INC. HELPS
GOLD STAR FAMILIES

AUXILIARY
ACRONYMS



IT'S TIME TO FILE YOUR AUXILIARY'S TAX RETURN!



Treasurers, please remember your 990-N (e-Postcards or other federal tax return) must be submitted to the IRS no later than November 15, 2026. This is important because it allows Auxiliaries to maintain their tax-exempt status. So, if you haven't already, take action to get this filed now to avoid problems later. Please note that the IRS does not accept paper forms of the 990-N (e-Postcard). Smaller charities that are eligible and choose to file the Form 990-N, Electronic Notice for Tax-Exempt Organizations (e-Postcard), must sign in to the IRS's modernized authentication platform using either a Login.gov or ID.me account, the current IRS credential service providers. Form 990-N submissions may be made on the IRS website at https://sa.www4.irs.gov/epostcard/. There is no fee to file this tax return.

DATES & DEADLINES

November

NOVEMBER 11	Veterans Day
NOVEMBER 15	VFW Voice of Democracy® and Patriot's Pen® Post judging complete
NOVEMBER 26	Thanksgiving
NOVEMBER 30	See the *2026-2027 National Program Book* for Membership awards deadlines

December

DECEMBER 07	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
DECEMBER 15	• Illustrating America Contest student entries due to participating/ sponsoring VFW Auxiliaries • VFW Voice of Democracy® and Patriot's Pen® District judging complete
DECEMBER 25	Christmas
DECEMBER 31	Circle of Excellence goal: Paid Officers – Auxiliary Officers MUST have dues paid by this date • New Year's Eve

For more information on awards, see the *2026-2027 National Program Book* in MALTA Member Resources.

TABLE OF Contents

NOVEMBER 2026 • VOLUME 91 • ISSUE 2

UNWAVERING SUPPORT
FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®









Features

9 2026 National Convention
Members traveled to the "Biggest Little City in the World," Reno, Nevada, for the VFW Auxiliary's 113th National Convention.

16 New National Guard
Meet Jeanette D. Garcia, who was elected as the VFW Auxiliary's National Guard.

17 HQ will ACH you the funds next week and check MALTA to see your COE points.
Say what? These are a few common Auxiliary-specific acronyms and terms. Find more in this article.

19 Dogs Inc.
Nonprofit program brings furry, four-legged companionship to Gold Star families.

22 VFW Foundation
Check out the relaunch of their website and its new features and resources, including a platform to share your fundraising success stories.

In Every Issue

3 Get Digital
4 President's Message
5 Editor's Letter
6 Reader's Voice
7 Member Spotlight
21 Our History

About the Cover

Nevada Auxiliary 10054 Conductor William Ryder, who goes by Ryder, "rides" into the Convention hall with Nevada volunteers ahead of the Circle of Excellence ceremony.

NEW ILLUSTRATING AMERICA CONTEST DEADLINE



Extra, extra – read all about it! Did you know that the first deadline for the Auxiliary's Illustrating America Contest is coming up next month?

That's right, it is a full three months **EARLIER** than it was. The new deadline to submit Illustrating America entries to participating/sponsoring Auxiliaries is **DECEMBER 15.**

We broke the news in the first magazine issue of the new Program Year, in the National E-Newsletter and on social media, but we think it's worth repeating.

Plan accordingly! Make note of this significant change and help us get the word out. We do not want talented students' entries to get disqualified for a missed deadline.

Find updated contest information, including the new student entry date, rules, prize amounts and more on our National website, vfwauxiliary.org under the Scholarships & Contests tab, Illustrating America. Also find these materials in MALTA Member Resources, Youth Activities.

get SOCIAL

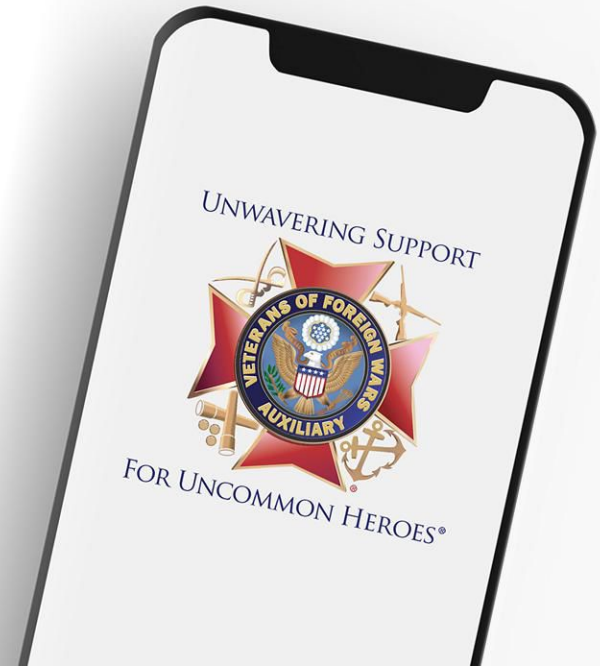
Instagram
@vfwauxiliaryhq

LinkedIn
VFW Auxiliary

Facebook
vfwauxiliary

Pinterest
vfwauxiliary

YouTube
VFW Auxiliary National Organization





In this season of gratitude and celebration, your hard work to grow our membership is the greatest gift we could receive.

Dear members —

As we approach November and December, seasons of thanksgiving and the birth of a new year, I want to thank you all for the dedication, support and actions taken to support our veterans, service members and their families. Your Unwavering Support For Uncommon Heroes is truly appreciated.

Another thing to remember about the holidays is that on December 31, 2026 every annual member is in good standing. On January 1, 2027 at 12:01 a.m., every annual member who has not paid their 2027 annual dues is no longer a member in good standing. In this season of gratitude and celebration, your hard work to grow our membership is the greatest gift we could receive. Please work on annual membership so no member is left behind. I want to remind you about some big news. We're so excited and we really appreciate that AMBA, the Auxiliary's benefits provider, has said they will double all of our Department Membership awards this year!

- 1st Down Department Award #1: $400 to each Department that reaches 95% plus in paid membership by November 30, 2026. This will be $800 thanks to AMBA!
- 2nd Down Department Award #2: $450 to each Department that reaches 98% Plus in paid membership by February 28, 2027. The AMBA gift doubles this to $900!
- 3rd Down Department Award #3: $500 to each Department that reaches 100% Plus in paid membership by April 30, 2027. AMBA's match brings this to $1,000!
- Touchdown Department Award #4: $600 to each Department that reaches 102% Plus in paid membership by May 30, 2027. This doubles to $1,200!

That means Departments are now eligible to receive DOUBLE the original combined total of $1,950 for this Program Year: up to $3,900 of total award money! Everyone can use the extra money, and I can't wait to celebrate each of you reaching this goal!

My joint special project with VFW Commander-in-Chief Cory L. Geisler will ensure that no hero is left behind. Donations to the National President's joint special project support the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and their critical efforts to repatriate lost loved ones. Supporting this joint special project, Operation Bring them Home, is another great way to give during the holidays. DPAA needs our help and our monetary gifts, artifacts found in our homes and those of our relatives, or even DNA samples if not already provided to DPAA, are critical tools for DPAA when searching for our missing.

I send to each of you my utmost gratitude and thanks for everything you do ***Serving America's Heroes*** and I wish you all a jolly and blessed holiday season.

Donna

DONNA K. MILLS
National President



Consider how you could incorporate our mission into your holiday traditions.

Dear members —

The countdown to winter is here and before we know it, it will be what many of us consider the most wonderful time of year.

Whether you're planning family feasts, Friendsgiving or fine tuning your Black Friday shopping strategy, also consider how you could incorporate our mission into your holiday traditions. You could visit with a longtime member you haven't seen in a while. Or you could make and deliver baked goods or holiday cards to hospitalized or nursing home-bound veterans.

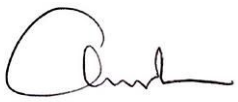
The end of the calendar year can be a tough time for our veterans and fellow members who might be alone or separated from loved ones. Remember to keep them in your thoughts and let that motivate you to act. Give the gift of spending time with our veterans, service members and our extended Auxiliary and VFW family. It's FREE! But it means so much to them.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* that includes more in-depth National Convention coverage, a story about an Auxiliary member who, as road captain for a motorcycle group, had the sacred duty of bringing home and laying to rest a Korean War veteran, a glimpse both back in time and a look ahead to our storied ties to Lady Liberty and much more.

Stay tuned for the January edition, in which we'll share big news about the magazine. We'll also feature all we achieved for veterans and service members on the legislative front in 2026. For those reading this issue, be the first to let us know:

1. You read it!
2. What time you read it.

Do this by commenting on HQ's magazine Facebook post on November 1. The first person to comment will get a special shout out on our National social media page.



AMANDA COOK
Editor-In-Chief

VOLUME 91
NUMBER 2

Editor-In-Chief
Amanda Cook

Contributing Writers
Nicole Panteleakos &
Kris Baker

VFW Auxiliary Magazine
is published six times per year – January, March, May, July, September and November – by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, 406 West 34th St., 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111.

Editorial Office
Address all communications for publication to The Editor, VFW Auxiliary Magazine, 406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111, (816) 561-8655, Fax (816) 931-4753. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs must be accompanied by return postage and no responsibility is assumed for safe handling. Poetry submissions are not accepted. Or email info@vfwauxiliary.org.

Graphic Design
Braden Design
jaclynn@bradendesign.co

Change of Address
Members may change their own address or email address in MALTA. Or email info@vfwauxiliary.org.

Website
www.vfwauxiliary.org



READER'S VOICE

This is the space for comments regarding your *VFW Auxiliary Magazine*. Mail your submissions to National Headquarters or email them to info@vfwauxiliary.org, marked "Letter to the Editor." We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor should not be interpreted as the opinion of the National Organization.

A response to September's Member Spotlight written by Kris Baker:

I can't thank you enough for the story. I LOVE it. You are a delightful writer and totally captured the fun and essence of Michael and me. I've been sending it everywhere this morning. And I wanted to say thank you, especially to you, for seeing the story and heart behind the story.
As part of my work, I coach writers in philanthropy. We ask them to be human, share the humor, corny, joy-filled and heartbreaking moments in a way that is relatable and connected. For me, you did just that. Each time I read it, I find another moment that is so authentic and carefully written, I clap out loud.

Thank you again for telling our story. What an incredible gift you have!

BECKY CARLINO | AUXILIARY 5137 | MEDINA, OHIO

Can you find the "Easter egg," or (somewhat) hidden message in this issue? Hint: It just might be in a letter to members.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

We all belong to this great organization because we are passionate about serving veterans, service members, their families and communities. We welcome and value your comments, suggestions and questions.

The editors of *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* want to know what you think about features and articles you see in the magazine. **Please email your letters to the Editor to info@vfwauxiliary.org, marked "Letter to the Editor,"** or send them to

VFW Auxiliary Magazine,
406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor,
Kansas City, MO, 64111.

MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

CHRISTI VIGIL



TAKING THE RIDE

Auxiliary member acts as road captain for VFW motorcycle group





RIGHT: Auxiliary and Post 101 in Colorado Springs, Colorado President Christi Vigil (right) and Past District 5 Commander and Post Commander Mindy King have worked together over the last two years at events across their District.

ABOVE: The VFW Warrior Motorcycle Organization has traveled miles escorting veterans' remains to their hometowns to be buried after being identified by the DPAA. Vigil has served as senior road captain for the group.

Like a clap of thunder, the roar of the motorcycles engines shakes the ground. A crowd of people line the streets to watch them go by, many saluting. Most of the riders have seen combat and death, and for some onlookers they may seem to carry a grim visage. For all, it is an imposing sight. The motorcycles ride in a tight formation, with American Flags waving behind them. The VFW Warrior Motorcycle Organization knows how to make their appearance felt.

There in the middle of the black leather and dust, rides Auxiliary 101 President Christi Vigil. She is senior road captain for the VFW Warriors and is assisting them in a sacred duty. They have traveled hundreds of miles as they escort the remains of a Korean veteran to his hometown to be laid to rest. The veteran was identified by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and after decades could finally be returned to his home.

Vigil has been on several of these missions which have varied from 250 to 475 miles, all to honor these veterans once thought lost and give them a proper homecoming.

"Folks recognize VFW Warriors and know we'll be there," Vigil said. "They can depend on us for missions ranging from escorting veteran remains found in Korea to their final resting place to escorting veterans on honor flights to raising money for different causes."

Vigil was voted in as road captain four years ago. As an Auxiliary member, this is the

highest position in the group she can hold. That position involves ensuring safety for everyone on the rides, being a community connector and working with other organizations and motorcycle groups. The road captain will also often map out the dedicated route, usually from an airport, hospital or funeral home to the cemetery. Vigil joined after the death of her father, Onesimo Vigil, a Vietnam veteran under whom she joined the Auxiliary.

""He was a Warrior (of the VFW Warrior Motorcycle Organization)," Vigil said. "He was killed in a motorcycle accident, and the way he was treated coming home from Vietnam and then when he passed was insulting so I said I'll make sure there is a face behind those patches."

The patches are on a vest of Vigil's and recognize his service in Vietnam, along with one for the VFW Warriors. On past missions, Vigil would wear the vest in honor of her dad. Sadly, while volunteering at veterans' breakfast at a local YMCA, the vest, along with some other items, was stolen. The vest had tremendous personal meaning to Vigil; however, this has not deterred her from her rides and her work with the Warriors. Though the road has been winding, she believes it has all been worth it. She appreciates the good work the group does but also recognizes the benefits VFW Warriors has for its members.

"Being part of this community, the freedom and camaraderie between all of us is a great boost for mental health for some veterans looking for that bond they created in the service," Vigil said. Though joining a motorcycle club may seem unconventional to some, for Vigil it seemed like a logical next step. "I felt there are so many opportunities and extensions to utilize the VFW to reach further to help veterans and their family."

VFW Warriors and similar groups like the Patriot Guard Riders and the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association continue to organize these processions for fallen soldiers. Working with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), they have been able to hold these solemn events for veterans from conflicts as far back as World War II. Support for the DPAA is the special joint project of VFW Auxiliary National President Donna K. Mills and VFW Commander-in-Chief Cory L. Geisler called Operation Bring them Home. To learn more about the DPAA visit dpaa.mil.

A RESOLUTE LEADER

Though she enjoys being on the road, Vigil also stays vigilant when it comes to her work at home as President of her Colorado Springs Auxiliary.

"She shows up every time without any self-intentions in mind or hopes of getting credit," said Mindy King, Past VFW Post 101 Commander and Past District 5 Commander. "Christi focuses everything she does around how she can better serve the veteran community."

This will be Vigil's third year as President, but it was not a role that came naturally to her.

"I like volunteering but not being in charge, but I love the Auxiliary members and didn't want our Auxiliary to be lost or disbanded after 100 years," Vigil said. "So, I just stepped up and filled the position, and it was wonderful having a Commander who was helpful and as passionate about the VFW and its concerns as Mindy."

"She invites people to come to events at the Post instead of just asking them to join without knowing what they are getting into to," King said. "Then she's there at the Post or events to make sure they feel welcome. There's a reason our Auxiliary was the top for membership in the District and she's the heart behind it."

Vigil has a kept a clear philosophy on how to be a leader in an Auxiliary.

"Don't dictate; delegate and show them you'll be in the trenches with them on all activities and it should be fun as well as fulfilling," Vigil said. "I'm not the boss; the Auxiliary is ours and what we make of it. Everyone is equal, the titles are just labels to facilitate the group."

The schedule Vigil and her team created includes a wide variety of work in the community. Some upcoming projects their Auxiliary has planned include volunteering one month at a local food pantry and another month at non-profit, low-income housing, volunteering at their local cemetery to raise, clean and maintain headstones and their special project is hosting potlucks at the high school football games to raise money. They have also partnered with their Veteran Resource Group to raise awareness about veteran suicide.

"It is what you make of it. We accomplished more as a team than on our own.," she said. "Remember the mission and why we are here."

Though Vigil is used to the noise of the road, it is the quieter moments that help her reflect on what it means to be a part of the Auxiliary.

"The little things make such an impact without you knowing," Vigil said. "The little impacts you make are part of something bigger than yourself." KB

VFW AUXILIARY'S 113th NATIONAL CONVENTION

RENO, NEVADA

Our journey to the wild, wild, West and the "Biggest Little City in the World" was an adventure in surprises: Blondie and Angel Eyes style.

There were the exciting kind of surprises we look forward to every year and the other kind that require a little pivoting.

VFW Auxiliary 2025-2026 National President Lois Callahan sailed through her Convention with characteristic grace and panache. "Thank you all for your friendship, your service, and your commitment



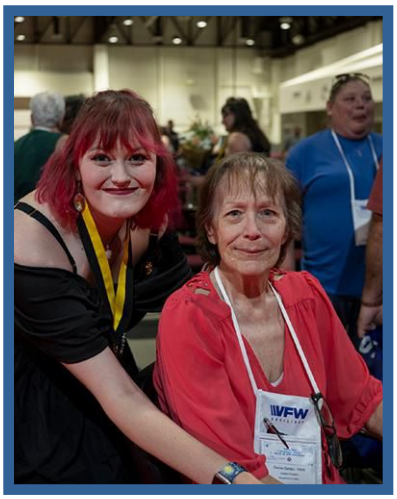
From Sea to Shining Sea, Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free," she said. "This year, I'm so happy that you kept in your minds and in your hearts our theme, and I could not be more proud of the work you've completed. May God continue to bless you, our organization and the United States of America."

COMMEMORATING THE YEAR

Callahan's many achievements during her year as Madam National President included leading the organization to 102% in paid membership, the institution of 40 new Auxiliaries and collecting nearly $100,000 for her special project, the VFW Auxiliary's own Continuing Education Scholarship. Members' gifts funded an increase in the four scholarship amounts by a full $1,000 per Conference. The project will help Auxiliary members and their families make their dreams of furthering their studies and careers come true.

"Education and career training are essential building blocks to success in life, she noted, "and this assistance will go a long way in improving the lives





of all future recipients. Thank you, Auxiliary. Thank you so very much for your enthusiasm in supporting that special project."

Another accomplishment was a team effort.

"With our Stock the Store class project, VFW Commander-in-Chief Carol Whitmore and I could not have picked a more worthy undertaking than completing a vision which began with Past VFW Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento and VFW Auxiliary Past National President Carla Martinez," Callahan said. "Cutting the ribbon, which marked the opening of the VFW National Home Store, was a wonderful highlight for this year. Our Department Presidents and Commanders raised funds to see the store at the VFW National Home become a reality. Thank you all so very much. It is your generosity that brought this project to fruition. National Home families for decades to come will benefit from your generosity."

LOOKING AHEAD

The 113th Convention honored tradition and launched members into the new Program Year of ***Serving America's Heroes***. Sessions, recognition, training and other offerings to the more than 1,400 attendees included the 45+ Members Luncheon, the Circle of Excellence ceremony, the VFW Patriotic Celebration, VFW and Auxiliary Joint Opening and Joint Memorial Service, meetings, voting, elections, installation, welcoming guests, announcing National awards, Auxiliary Patriotic Art and VFW "Buddy"® Poppy displays, the Presentation of Flags, entertainment, gaming and a formal banquet.

A couple of unique and lovely additions to the production this year were: the beautiful fiddle playing of National Assistant Musician Rhonda Marcum and an American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation of our national anthem by Aletta Butler of Mississippi.

MORE SURPRISES

Rewinding to the beginning, we encountered a few rare incidents and setbacks. Despite this, Convention carried on.

The Thursday night before National Convention 2026 opened, fortunately ahead of many



members' arrival dates, Reno experienced a wide-scale electricity outage that affected thousands of residents as well as visitors and the hotels that house them. As a result, some who were assigned to the Atlantis Hotel & Resort enjoyed dessert in the dark…their shadows cast by the smoky glow of nearby tableside flambés. Wait staff had to hand tally tabs by calculator and candlelight. Elevators even traveled, for a while, along unlighted trajectories to deliver guests to their floors.

Aftereffects of the power outage led to intermittent breakdowns with Convention center elevator and escalator service and later, a water pipe burst in the VFW's main hall the morning of the Joint Opening that required a team of workers armed with giant squeegees to clear the deluge for a delayed session.

CONVENTION HAPPENINGS

In the exhibit hall, but this time at registration, HQ brought the Patriotic Art winners – Young American Creative Patriotic Art, 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art and Illustrating America - to members digitally, showcasing the top National entries in a slideshow that attendees could view at any time the hall was open. This format also allows National Headquarters to keep the art from becoming damaged in cross-country transport to Convention. In case you missed it, you can find this year's National winners linked here.

National Convention was out of the gate with the Reno volunteer contingent who rode into the hall on inflatable hobby horses in full cowboy and cowgirl regalia to the bouncy beats of "Wild, Wild West." This was followed by Callahan's and her husband Terry's walk down the red carpet for the Circle of Excellence Ceremony. Both were dressed to the nines and led the procession of more than 40 equally sharply dressed inductees. Auxiliary and VFW members at the ceremony celebrated these Department Presidents who were recognized for their dedication to achieving key organizational goals.









PAGE 9: 2025-2026 VFW Commander-in-Chief and VFW Auxiliary National President Carol Whitmore and Lois Callahan stand in solidarity. **PAGE 10 LEFT:** Members cheer on Callahan and her husband Terry as they make their entrance for the Circle of Excellence ceremony. **RIGHT:** Department of Indiana President Jessica Ray celebrates her achievements with National District Council Member #14 Denise Sampo. **ABOVE CLOCKWISE:** VFW and Auxiliary leadership take in a view of the parade of Departments from onstage during the VFW's Patriotic Celebration. Whitmore presents Callahan with the VFW Medal of Merit. 2026-2027 VFW Auxiliary National President Donna K. Mills, in costume as Pittsburgh Steelers founder Art Rooney, along with her National Ambassadors, turn up the fun at the Programs Seminar. Sandy Basset of Auxiliary 8706 in Oklahoma is getting the party started at Saturday's festivities.





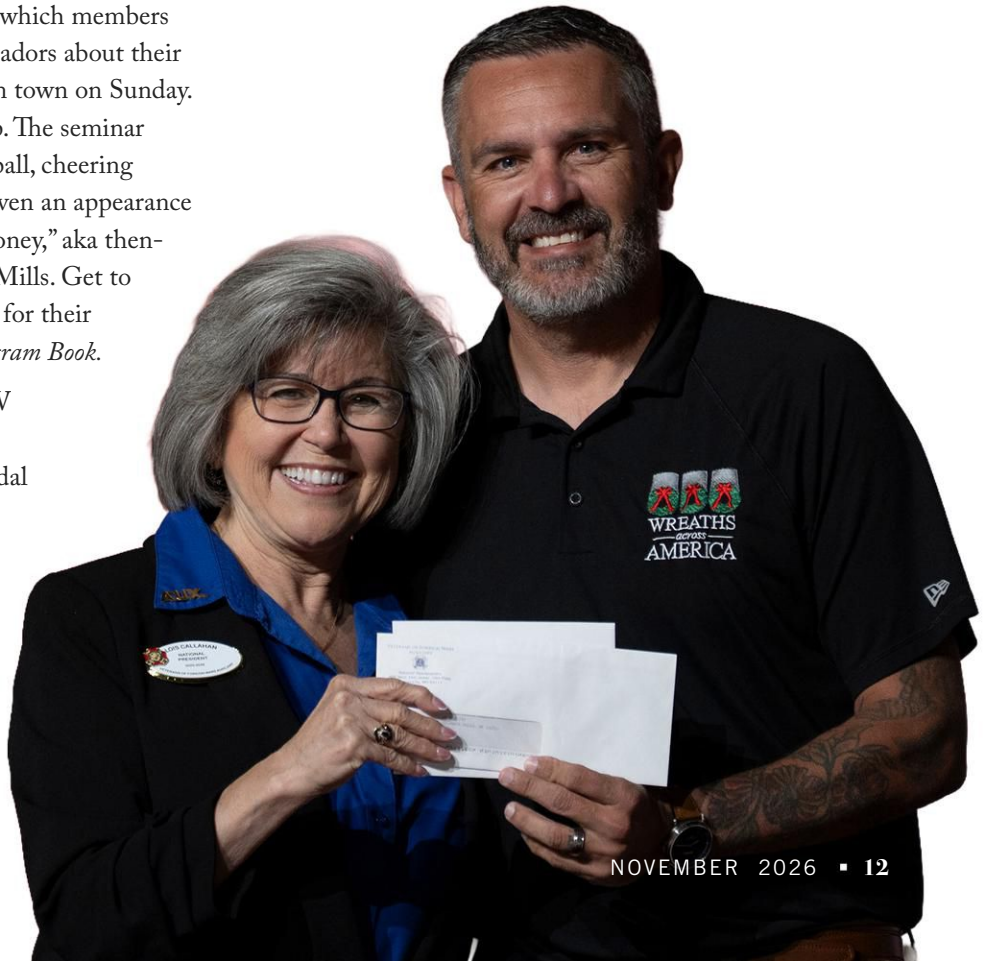


Callahan also received a Circle of Excellence medallion. To learn more about the Circle and how your Department can join this elite group, see the *2026-2027 National Program Book* in MALTA Member Resources.

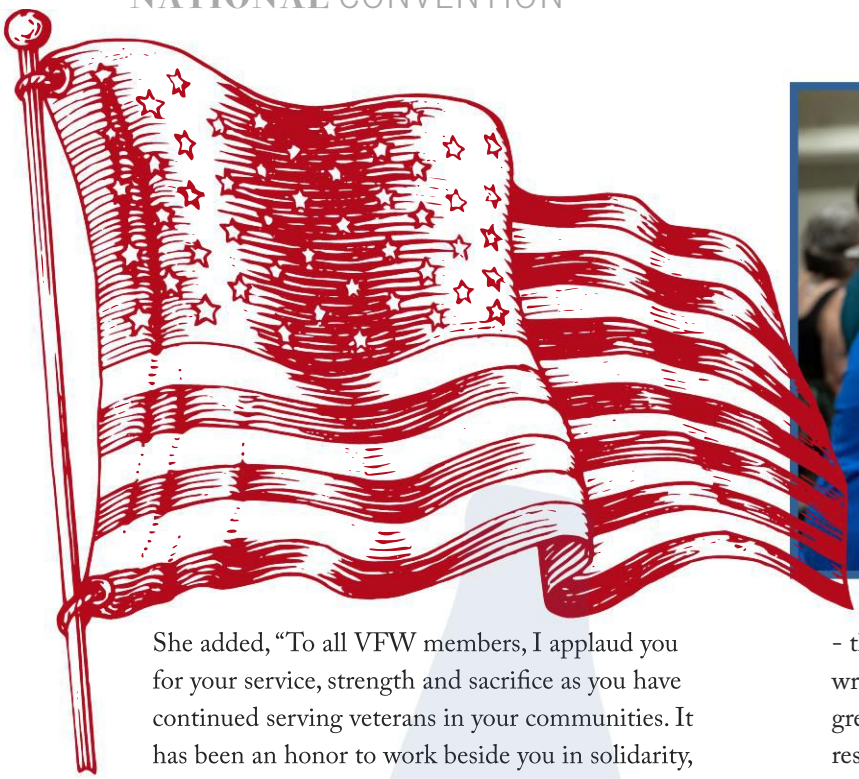
The National Programs Seminar, during which members heard from 2026-2027 National Ambassadors about their emphases this year, was the main game in town on Sunday. This is where the fanfare really amped up. The seminar touched down replete with fun and football, cheering accessories, a sea of black and gold and even an appearance from Pittsburg Steelers founder "Art Rooney," aka then-incoming National President Donna K. Mills. Get to know the Ambassadors and their visions for their respective Programs in the *National Program Book*.

As Convention got underway, then-VFW Commander-in-Chief Carol Whitmore presented Callahan with the VFW's Medal of Merit.

"To my Commander-in-Chief, Carol Whitmore, it has been an honor and a pleasure working with you this year," Callahan effused. "You are kind, competent and confident, qualities we should all aspire to embody as we take on leadership roles on all levels. Thank you for including me in your travel and for celebrating the VFW Auxiliary as a true 'force multiplier' for the VFW. Visiting Taiwan with you was an experience I will never forget, and I was so proud to have sat behind you in a room filled to capacity by VFW and Auxiliary members in a show of support in Washington, D.C. when you testified to the Joint Committee on Veterans Affairs in March."



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: 2025-2026 National Americanism Ambassador and Patriotic Instructor Diana Russell-Milton readies her Flag during Wednesday's session. National Soloist Willa Watts captivates the Delegation with her music. National Assistant Musician Rhonda Marcum's fiddle playing adds a soulful note to the event. Callahan presents a gift of $10,000 to her Better World Award recipient, Wreaths Across America. Accepting the check is Christopher Stout.





She added, "To all VFW members, I applaud you for your service, strength and sacrifice as you have continued serving veterans in your communities. It has been an honor to work beside you in solidarity, as the Auxiliary has done for more than 110 years, and it was especially poignant to do so this year as the United States of America celebrated our semi-quincentennial."

That evening, the VFW Auxiliary's Better World Award recipient, Wreaths Across America, represented by their Assistant Director of Corporate Development and Partnerships Christopher Stout, was among the honored guests at the VFW awards banquet. Wreaths Across America, founded by Morrill and Karen Worcester, was established with the mission of Remembering the Fallen, Honoring Those Who Serve and Teaching the Next Generation the Value of Freedom. What started as a quiet act of remembrance - the placing of surplus wreaths from the Worcester's wreath company at Arlington National Cemetery, grew into a nationwide movement that today is responsible for more than 3 million sponsored veterans' wreaths that are placed on the headstones of our nation's service members.

Whitmore, Callahan and other VFW and Auxiliary National Officers were on stage for the Patriotic Celebration Tuesday and greeted the always colorful and high-energy parade of Departments that made its way into the hall. But first, Whitmore stepped to the podium to take what might have been the world's largest group selfie, briefly turning to capture herself and the hall packed with VFW and Auxiliary members in the audience in her shot. (We're hoping someone from Guiness World Records was in the room.)





TOP: Members in traditional Paiute dress from All Indian Auxiliary 6825 in Schurz, Nevada file in to join the celebration – Auxiliary President Elaine Montoya, Conductor Lucinda Benjamin and Senior Vice-President Laurie Thom. **BELOW LEFT:** VFW Auxiliary National Line Officers, from left to right – Chief of Staff Bette Jean Biedrzycki, Conductor Cynthia Davis, Secretary-Treasurer Ann Panteleakos, Senior Vice-President Kim Harney, President Donna K. Mills, Junior Vice-President Sandra Uzell, Chaplain Janey Feher and Guard Jeanette D. Garcia. **BELOW RIGHT:** 2025-2026 VFW Commander-in-Chief Carol Whitmore captures what might be the biggest selfie in the world in the "World's Biggest Little City."







During Auxiliary business sessions, Program awards were announced and distributed to members across the nation who embodied the spirit of Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes.

The VFW Auxiliary welcomed speakers from the VFW National Home (including newly appointed "Buddy"® Poppy Child Noelani and new National Home Director Jerred Johnson) and Dawn VanTassell, Supreme President of the Military Order of the Cootie. Callahan selected The Jackson Laboratory to receive $50,000 to help fund scientific research and pave the way for better treatments that will offer hope to individuals and families facing a cancer diagnosis.

Additional cancer research donations went to the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute in Little Rock, Arkansas and MD Anderson's Department of Sarcoma Medical Oncology.

During official business, members considered the following Resolutions and Bylaws revisions (see next page).





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Callahan accepts her Past National President pin from her husband Terry. It was high fives for all from Mills as she made her first journey down the aisle as National President. Callahan welcomes the VFW National Home's "Buddy"® Poppy Child, Noelani. A candid moment with National Musician Patsy Cole, whose talent at the piano has been the soundtrack accompanying Convention for 11 years. National Assistant Soloist Julia Price wows members by performing songs specially selected by her National President.

- Postponed 2025 Resolution No. 4 - Sec. 210H - Meetings, Regular and Special: **ADOPTED AS AMENDED**
- No. 01 - From Dept of WV - Sec. 102D – Eligibility Resolution: **ADOPTED**
- No. 02 - From Dept of IL Officers - Sec. 208B – Continuing Auxiliaries: **NOT ADOPTED**
- No. 03 - From Dept of IL 8th Dist. - Sec. 208B – Continuing Auxiliaries: **NOT ADOPTED**
- No. 04 - From Dept of OK - Sec. 206 B3 – Consolidation of Auxiliaries: **ADOPTED**
- No. 05 - From Dept of OK - Sec. 207D – Surrender or Forfeiture of Charter: **ADOPTED**
- No. 06 - From Dept of OK - Sec. 208A – Disbandment: **ADOPTED**
- No. 07 - From Dept of OK - Sec. 209 B3b – Suspension or Cancellation: **ADOPTED AS AMENDED**
- No. 08 - From Dept of OK - Sec. 209 B3d – Suspension or Cancellation: **ADOPTED**
- No. 09 - Dept of OK - Booklet of Instructions H2 – Election Procedure: **NOT ADOPTED**
- No. 10 - From Committee - Sec. 201B – Formation of Auxiliaries: **ADOPTED AS AMENDED**
- No. 11 - From Committee - Sec. 208B – Auxiliary to a Disbanded Post: **WITHDRAWN BY COMMITTEE**



For full proposed Resolutions text and Proposed Bylaws revisions, visit MALTA Member Resources, National Convention.

Delegates elected Jeanette D. Garcia, Department of New Mexico, as National Guard. Read her story on page 16. All National Line Officers, led by National President Donna K. Mills, were installed with all appointed Officers and newly elected National District Council Members. To learn more about 2026-2027 National Officers, find their bios in MALTA Member Resources.

We've already rushed to the "open field" with this year's theme, ***Serving America's Heroes***, led by National President Mills. To learn all about it and work our National Programs, check out the *National Program Book* in MALTA Member Resources.

During her acceptance speech after she was installed as National President, Mills said, "Ladies and gentlemen, you are the most important part of this team and I'm counting on you to do your very best this VFW Auxiliary year to make us the truly outstanding team that we are, that we always have been and that we will continue to be for generations to come – ***Serving America's Heroes***."

We hope to see members July 31-August 4 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for National Convention 2027! AC



LEFT: Dawn VanTassell, Supreme President of the Military Order of the Cootie, is among Convention's special guests. **ABOVE:** Mills and Callahan share a laugh, which goes to show that while Convention is very much about the business of the organization, a healthy sense of humor keeps the event balanced. *(All event photos by Nicole Bissey and VFW Marketing Communications)*

2026-2027

NATIONAL GUARD

JEANETTE D. GARCIA



National Guard Jeanette D. Garcia grew up giving back to veterans. She remembers volunteering at the hospital, working with the VFW putting baskets together for families for Thanksgiving, Christmas parties for children, the parades and seeing the joy in our veterans and members.

"It is important to be involved, because we do so much," she said. "When you see a smile on their face or they know you are listening to them, it means so much to our veterans."

As soon as Garcia turned 16, her parents, members of the VFW and then-Ladies Auxiliary respectively, handed her an application to join the organization. Before that, she spent two years involved with the Auxiliary's Junior Girls.

She's a Life Member of George O. Breece Auxiliary 401 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She joined on the eligibility of her father, Joe D. Salas, who served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1967.

Garcia has served the organization in many capacities, including Auxiliary, District and Department President as well as National District Council Member #15 and National Ambassador for Veterans & Family Support.

Dedication to veterans and service members runs through generations of family. Both of her daughters and two sisters are members. Her daughter, Dominique Garcia, has also served the Auxiliary at the local, Department and National level: as Auxiliary and New Mexico Department President, National Color Bearer No. 3 and National Youth Activities Ambassador in 2024-2025.

Running for National office wasn't always the plan, Garcia said. A role she took on in the mid-2010s piqued her interest.

"Running for National Guard wasn't a thought many years ago," she said. "It wasn't until I was Department President in 2014-2015 that it became a gradual interest. I was asked by a Past National President if I had ever thought about running. I talked to my family, my Department, other members and really thought hard if this was something I could really do. I was not elected in 2022-2023, but I didn't give up. This was in my heart and I worked hard to continue on this journey."

She's looking forward to learning and growing as she advances through the Chairs leading to the National Presidency.

"My plans/goals for this Program Year are to learn from the National Officers and the National organization regarding my role and duties. Being elected National Guard is an honor, but also a little scary. The position is much more than people think. I want to listen and observe what (the Officers) do and soak everything in. As I travel, I also want to listen to members and provide information to our Departments."

She continued, "I'm excited to learn from the Officers and be a support where needed. Not everything is new to me in some aspects, but I want to ensure that I know proper procedures, know what I need to speak about and enjoy my role. I'm ready to be a support to Departments that can ask questions and be comfortable talking to me. I'd like everyone to know that I am a member just like them."

Family inspired her to start her Auxiliary journey at age 16, and family is what drives her on this leg of the voyage to our organization's highest office.

"I want to thank my family for their support," she said. "Their advice, hugs and late-night talks have helped me tremendously. (They're) very important and I couldn't do this without them." AC





AUXILIARY ACRONYMS

EVERY ORGANIZATION HAS ITS OWN INTERNAL LINGO, AND THE AUXILIARY IS NO DIFFERENT. BELOW ARE SOME TERMS THAT MEMBERS FREQUENTLY SEE, ALONG WITH EXPLANATIONS.

ACH (AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE) – Electronic funds-transfer system that enables electronic transfers of money in the United States. The ACH network acts as a financial hub and helps people and organizations move money from one bank account to another. ACH transactions consist of direct deposits and direct payments, including business to business transactions, government transactions and consumer transactions. (source: Investopedia.com)

AMBASSADOR – The National Ambassadors are appointed annually by the National President. The Ambassadors communicate and promote National Program goals to Department (state) Chairmen and the membership at large.

AUXILIARY – The local unit of the VFW Auxiliary organization; also, the shortened term for all levels of the organization.

BOOKLET OF INSTRUCTIONS – Yellow pages within the Podium Edition: Bylaws and Ritual; a manual of internal policy and procedures for the Auxiliary (all levels).

BYLAWS – The Auxiliary's rules and procedures. The Bylaws include the purpose of the Auxiliary, membership criteria, how Delegates are elected, the duties of Officers at all levels of the organization, information on the organizational image and the discipline of members, among other topics. It is available for purchase from the VFW Store, and is available digitally behind MALTA Member Resources.

COE (CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE) – A premier group of Department Presidents who have proven their leadership. The program replaced the former Outstanding Department President awards and gives every Department President the opportunity to achieve National recognition for the hard work of the Department. When a Department President achieves the Circle of Excellence, they remain in the Circle forever.

COA (COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION)-DEPARTMENT LEVEL – The Council of Administration approves the Department budget and the audit, proposes and approves expenditures outside Department Standing Rules, budget and Bylaws and represents the Department in all matters in the interval between Department Conventions. The Council of Administration of a Department consists of the Department President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice–President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Conductor, Guard, Chief of Staff, District Presidents (Auxiliary President if no District), the four immediate Past Department Presidents and any elected National-level Officer from the Department.

DELEGATE – An Auxiliary member elected annually by fellow members to represent their Auxiliary at the District, Department or National Conventions or National Conventions and at other times when a vote is required.

DEPARTMENT – The VFW Auxiliary National organization is organized into 50 Departments, with one representing each of the 50 states. The Department is the liaison between National Headquarters and Auxiliaries and Districts and relays information to all levels. There are also Auxiliaries unaffiliated with a Department that report directly to National Headquarters - those in France, Guam, the Philippines and Thailand.

DISTRICT – Geographic area within a Department. Districts are liaisons between Auxiliaries and Departments and relay information to both. The VFW determines District boundaries.

FLOOR WORK – Ritualistic movements performed on the floor during a traditional or contemporary Auxiliary meeting at all levels. Floor work is not done during a roundtable meeting.

MALTA – (Membership Auxiliary Leadership Technology Access) Our online membership system built specifically for the VFW Auxiliary. Also access MALTA via the app!

NATIONAL DISTRICT COUNCIL – The National District Council comprises Auxiliary members that are elected by the Department(s), (states) they represent and serve a single two-year term. The 29-member Council is the ruling body between National Conventions and the Council members are the voice of the members from the Department(s) they represent. The Council functions similarly to a board of directors or a board of trustees.

PROGRAM – Outline of resources designed to bring needed services, information and assistance to veterans, service members, their families and our communities. The National organization has 11 Programs: Americanism; "Buddy"® Poppy; Extension & Revitalization; Historian & Media Relations; Hospital; Legislative; Membership; Scholarships; Veterans & Family Support; VFW National Home and Youth Activities.

PROJECT – A task or event within a Program.

RITUAL – Activities unique to the Auxiliary, including how meetings are conducted, Officer installations and special ceremonies, including the member initiation and memorial service.

SOI (SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION) – A training event put on by a Department or District near the start of each Program Year.

VAVS (VETERANS AFFAIRS VOLUNTARY SERVICE) IS NOW CALLED THE CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (CDCE)

The VFW Auxiliary participates in the government-run program Center for Development & Civic Engagement. Along with the VFW, the VFW Auxiliary is a charter member of this Veterans Health Administration program, which began in 1946. The CDCE operates one of the largest volunteer programs in the Federal Government, supplementing staff and resources in all areas of patient care and support. The mission of the CDCE is to provide a structured volunteer program under the management of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) compensated employees in cooperation with community resources to serve veterans and their families with dignity and compassion.



Gold Star mother & daughter find companionship and independence through nonprofit's program

On a dry, hot July day in Reno, Nevada, Jillian Hinton sat in her booth at the VFW and VFW Auxiliary National Convention's exhibit hall. Conventiongoers crowded the aisles around them, picking up the free pens and koozies other vendors were handing out. She looked down at the big brown eyes staring up at her. Hinton knew she brought the real attraction.

"I think you are a star," Hinton said.

A friendly tail wag was the response.

Dogs Inc. was one of the many vendors at this year's National Convention. Dogs Inc.'s service dog program provides support for veterans and Gold Star family members with a qualifying disability, including post-traumatic stress, mobility challenges and more. Hinton is a director of mission awareness with Dogs Inc. She attended the convention with her service dog, Kylo, as well as two Dogs Inc. ambassador dogs, whose job is to meet and greet the public—because, as Hinton puts it, "Who doesn't want to pet a dog?"

"People always enjoy coming over and eeing the dogs," she said. "People are very respectful, ask a lot of questions and are very interested in all the dogs can do."

When she is asked if she knows of a Gold Star family that *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* can contact who has been affected by Dogs Inc., she nods.

"Yeah. Mine."



GOLD STAR COURAGE

In 2017, on a very different, warm May day in Oahu, Hawaii, Sgt. Terrence Hinton was serving as a motor transport operator for the Army's Third Brigade Combat Team when his truck crashed during training exercises. He did not survive. He was 36 years old. In an instant, Jillian became a Gold Star spouse, and her children, Christian and Cayleigh, became Gold Star children. Today, Christian carries on his father's legacy of service as an active-duty United States Marine, making Hinton both a Gold Star spouse and a Blue Star mom.

"When someone you love dies in service to our country, people are incredibly supportive in those first days and weeks," Hinton said. "But eventually everyone goes home, and your family has to figure out how to live a life you never expected to be living."

Dogs Inc. eventually became part of that life when Cayleigh was matched with Taylor, a black Labrador, through the organization's skilled companion dog program.

Unlike Dogs Inc's task-trained service dogs, who have public access rights and go wherever their handler goes, skilled companion dogs do their "work" at home, providing comfort and unconditional love to families like Hinton's.

"I watched Taylor become a steady, reassuring presence in my daughter's life," Hinton recalled. "Taylor couldn't change what happened or take away the loss of Cayleigh's dad, but she could be there on the hard days. She could sleep beside her, offer physical closeness and simply be a constant when so much in Cayleigh's world had changed."

Years later, Dogs Inc. changed Hinton's life through its service dog program for Gold Star Family members. In October 2025, she was partnered with Kylo, who is trained to mitigate symptoms of Hinton's disability.

"Sometimes I think about how remarkable that journey is," Hinton said. "I first came to this organization as a Gold Star spouse looking for something that might help my daughter. Today, I walk into work with my own service dog beside me and have the privilege of telling people about the organization that has meant so much to my family."

DOGS AT WORK

At Convention, Hinton's team fielded a lot of questions about how their organization works. Dogs Inc. is not about Lassie and Benji going over "TPS reports" or stock futures. What began with a focus on guide dogs for people with vision loss has grown into an organization serving people through several specialized programs, including service dogs and guide dogs for veterans, facility therapy dogs for first responders and military facilities, skilled companion dogs for children with vision loss and dogs trained to support individuals with Type 1 diabetes.

"Every dog and all of our services are provided at no cost to the people we serve," said Marisa Gerlach, a dual-certified instructor and director at Dogs Inc. "Our mission may have expanded over the years, but the purpose behind it remains the same: creating extraordinary partnerships between people and dogs that provide greater independence, confidence and hope."

Dogs Inc. dogs are purpose-bred, nurtured by a specialized staff of puppy-raisers, volunteers, canine care professionals and a veterinary team. After the dogs complete their training, they are matched with a family or individual in need. Their service dog and skilled companion dog programs both serve Gold Star families, but there is a clear distinction between the two.

Skilled companion dogs provide companionship and support at home, meaning they do not have public access rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Service dogs for veterans and Gold Star family members, on the other hand, serve individuals with a qualifying disability. These dogs are trained to perform specific tasks that mitigate the individual handler's disability—both at home and in public.

Dogs Inc. currently serves more than 750 active teams, and their Alumni Support program provides premium dog food, monthly flea, tick, and heartworm preventatives and an annual wellness examination and vaccinations—at no cost to recipients. The nonprofit also has a team of trainers who are easily accessible for graduates for follow-ups and any additional support that is needed.

Volunteers are an essential part of Dogs Inc.'s mission.

"Between the volunteers on our campus, breeder host families and puppy raisers who span the country, there are almost 1,000 volunteers who help prepare our dogs for their future careers," said Hinton. "Puppy raisers are volunteers who open their homes—and hearts—to a puppy, teaching them proper house manners and basic obedience. They share their world with their puppy, bringing them to grocery stores and museums, farmers markets and family events. These kinds of exposures help the puppy feel confident when they're older and working alongside their handler."

Dogs Inc. is headquartered in Florida, though their community extends throughout the country. Their puppy-raising network currently reaches 49 states.

"That national reach is especially meaningful when speaking with organizations like the VFW and VFW Auxiliary," Hinton said.

TRAVELS WITH KYLO

In their first 11 months together, Kylo and Hinton traveled to 11 states. Kylo navigated airports and airplanes, attended large conventions, concerts and sporting events and stood beside Hinton while she shared some of the most personal parts of her life in front of audiences.

At this Convention in Reno, Hinton was again reminded of the difference Kylo has made in her life. The Convention floor had grown crowded and loud and eventually everything became too much. She had to get away from it all.

Kylo helped her through that moment. And then she went back.

"To someone else, that might not sound significant. To me, going back is the story," Hinton said. "For years, I thought independence meant being able to handle everything myself. Kylo has changed my understanding of that."

When Hinton looks at these two black Labradors she and her daughter are now bonded to, she sees two completely different Dogs Inc. programs and two completely different relationships.

Taylor has given Cayleigh a steady source of companionship and connection. Kylo has helped Hinton move through the world with greater confidence and independence.

"Neither one changed what happened to our family, but both have changed what life after that loss looks like," Hinton said. "For me, this isn't simply an organization I work for. I've experienced the mission from the other side of the leash." KB

LEARN MORE ABOUT DOGS INC. HERE.



LEFT/BELOW: Jillian Hinton, director of mission awareness with Dogs Inc., was partnered with Kylo, who is trained to mitigate symptoms of Hinton's disability. Hinton has found renewed independence with the help of her four-legged companion. At events like the VFW Auxiliary National Convention, Hinton and Kylo are spreading the word of Dogs Inc. and how the organization can help Gold Star families and others with their task-trained service dogs.

Our HISTORY

LIBERTY, AMERICA & HOME



"A hush fell over the darkened theatre, and across the screen a great steamer plowed the foaming waves, and then in the misty distance could be seen the heroic figure of a woman holding aloft a great torch, a figure symbolizing Liberty, America, and Home. Down from the youngest child to the oldest person in the audience, each naturally, unthinkingly knew that this figure meant America, just as they had known that in the last scene the fading show of the Eiffel Tower had symbolized France. Can you remember the first time you knew that the Statue of Liberty was ours and symbolized our country? Neither can I; it is just as natural to recognize this statue as it is to recognize our own flag."

These words open the 1936 essay of 17-year-old Edna Falk, written in response to the prompt "What the Statue of Liberty Means to the American People" for a national essay contest held by the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. The Auxiliary's inaugural essay contest received more than 100,000 entries, but Falk's words stood out, and she was declared the winner by a judging panel composed of statesmen, patriots and educators.

Her prize? A trip across the Atlantic aboard the *SS Normandie*, then the largest, fastest and most elegant passenger ship from New York City to Paris, France, where she would pay her respects at the Tomb of the Unknown on Armistice Day in honor of those lost during World War I and tour several other national monuments and memorials. In addition to funding from the Auxiliary, the trip was made possible thanks to the contributions of the Federation of French Veterans of the Great War and *Paris Soir*, a French newspaper.

But first, there would be a 50th birthday celebration for Lady Liberty held on Bedloe Island (now Liberty Island), sponsored by the VFW Auxiliary, at which Falk received her gold medal. The date was October 28, 1936, the keynote speaker was President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the purpose was a rededication of the Statue of Liberty with a reminder of the half century she'd been "inspiring new hope in millions across the seas that sought refuge, opportunity and liberty" *(Silver Jubilee: Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, 1939).*

During his speech, Roosevelt noted of the many "huddled masses yearning to breathe free" who'd made the trip to America by boat, "They came to us speaking many tongues, but a single language – the language of human aspiration."

In addition to Roosevelt, those in attendance included New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, New York Governor Herbert Lehman, VFW Auxiliary Past National President Winifred Toussaint, VFW Auxiliary National President Gladys Mooney, and, of course, Falk herself.

This fall, the Statue of Liberty Museum is featuring Edna Falk and her essay in one of their temporary exhibits. We encourage those who are able to visit to check it out and know that the VFW Auxiliary has been an integral part of the history of Lady Liberty since 1936. While you're there, be sure to stop by the Museum of Immigration on Ellis Island (and learn about our connection with its creation in a future magazine article!) NP

VFW Foundation Launches New Website, Resources & Features



Some of the most valuable fundraising guidance comes directly from members. Across the country, VFW Posts and Auxiliaries are developing creative events, building local partnerships, engaging volunteers and identifying new ways to support their work. A successful effort in one community may offer a practical idea another Post or Auxiliary can adapt to meet its own needs.

"Posts and Auxiliaries are already doing remarkable work in their communities," said Jason Couch, grants manager for the VFW Foundation. "This new resource gives members an opportunity to share the fundraising ideas that have worked for them, so another Post or Auxiliary does not have to start from scratch. A successful event, partnership or campaign in one community could become the inspiration for another group's next fundraiser."

The VFW Foundation relaunched its website on July 30, 2026, creating a refreshed online home for information about the Foundation's mission, impact and opportunities to support veterans, service members and their families. The redesigned website also creates new opportunities to share practical resources and success stories with the VFW community.

Corporate Relations Manager Savanna Cavanaugh manages VFW Foundation website content, helping ensure members can easily find useful, relevant and accessible information.

"The website relaunch gives the Foundation a stronger platform to connect members with the resources, stories and information that can support their work," Cavanaugh said. "The fundraising success-story feature is designed to grow over time as Posts and Auxiliaries share ideas that other members can explore, adapt and bring to life in their own communities."

One of the newest resources on the Foundation website is the "Share Your VFW Post or Auxiliary Post Fundraising Success Story" feature. The online form gives VFW Posts and Auxiliaries an opportunity to share successful fundraising events, campaigns, community partnerships and other approaches that have worked in their communities.

A group may have organized a popular annual event, formed a partnership with a local business, secured sponsorships, rallied volunteers for a special project or created another effective fundraising approach. The details behind that success may help another Post or Auxiliary get started. Members are encouraged to explain what they did, how the effort worked, who was involved and what lessons they would share with others interested in trying a similar idea.

The VFW Foundation will review each submitted story for possible publication on its website. Approved stories will become part of a growing, member-driven collection of practical fundraising ideas that Posts and Auxiliaries across the country can explore, adapt and use in their own communities. The goal is to make it easier for members to learn from one another, build on proven ideas and strengthen their fundraising efforts.

"Fundraising assistance is most effective when it gives members useful ideas they can put into practice," Couch said. "We hope Posts and Auxiliaries will share the details behind their successes, what they did, why it worked and what they learned, so this becomes a practical resource for the entire VFW community."

The new feature reflects the Foundation's continuing commitment to support VFW Posts and Auxiliaries as they sustain programs, complete important projects and continue serving veterans, service members, their families and their communities.

To share a fundraising success story, visit vfwfoundation.org/vfw-post-or-auxiliary-post-fundraising-stories/. If you have questions about the VFW Foundation, fundraising assistance or sharing a fundraising success story, please contact Jason Couch at jcouch@vfw.org.

The VFW Foundation is committed to ensuring VFW Posts and Auxiliaries have the resources, knowledge and support they need to strengthen their communities and advance the VFW's mission. While funding VFW National Programs remains central to the Foundation's work, the Foundation also helps local Posts and Auxiliaries build their capacity through fundraising guidance, grant opportunities and resources designed to support their service to veterans, service members and their families.

VFW

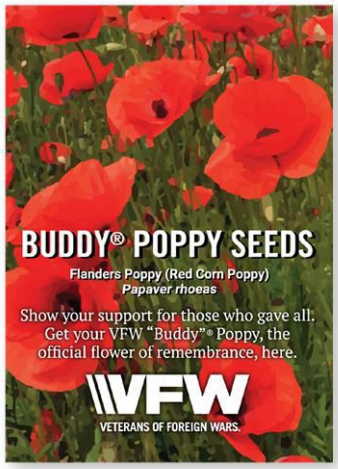
VFWSTORE.ORG

CLICK TO SHOP ONLINE!



FLEECE HOODIE
- VFW Auxiliary lasered on front chest
- 100% polyester polar fleece
- Unisex sizing
- Super soft feel
- Unlined hood
- Matching drawcord
- Front pouch pocket
- Imported; decorated in the USA

7674 S-2XL **$49.00**



POPPY SEEDS Grow your own red corn poppies. Sow in late fall or early spring. Approx. 350 seeds per packet.
1250 $3.00
Shipped as available seasonally.



1776 FLAG CAP Five-panel, structured, with hook-and-loop closure.
7201 $20.00

AUXILIARY MEMBER AND MILITARY VETERAN PIN ⅞". Rubber back.
1709 $6.50





PARTNERS IN SUCCESS PIN Bronze plating, enamel fill, double clutch back. 1¼"
1763 $5.00



BOOTS WITH FLAGS PIN Antique gold tone finish. Double clutch back 1".
1697 $3.50



TUMBLER Polar Camel, 22 oz. stainless steel with snap-on slider lid. **3160 $24.00**



3-D BALL ORNAMENT 125th Anniversary logo on one side and full color VFW emblem on the reverse. Etched from solid brass. 2" diameter, 2.5" tall. 24k gold finish. Made in the USA. **1025** ~~**$29.95**~~ **NOW $22.95**
While quantities last.



2ND ANNUAL PATRIOTIC ORNAMENT Etched from solid brass. 24k gold finish. Mesaures 2 x 3". Made in the USA. **1030 $24.00**