

## **Our Auxiliaries Need Care**

### **2024-2025 National Extension & Revitalization Ambassador Betty Arnold**

*From Our Roots to Our Branches*, our Auxiliaries need care daily. It is up to each of us to carry on a tradition and build on the strong foundation of our Auxiliary. Our roots are strong, but I worry about the branches. I am seeing “red” lights – let’s work together to get Auxiliaries into the “green” status. Remember to always be kind!

Consolidation of two Auxiliaries is similar to starting a new Auxiliary. This involves the blending of Auxiliaries into one group while electing Officers, combining funds, working projects and Programs, and functioning as one strong unit. This can be a very smooth process if you have a team of mentors to help make that happen. Sometimes there will be very strong personalities to deal with but encourage all to remember their “why” and the reason we were established – to help veterans and their families.

Starting a new Auxiliary is an exciting event – your enthusiasm while doing this will remain with those members as you watch your “baby” Auxiliary grow into a working Auxiliary dedicated to our veterans and goals of the organization.

Suspension is an opportunity to step back, regroup and move forward. I have seen suspensions come through because Officers were not elected – election of Officers occurs in April – where were you from April until now? It’s a shame if we allowed an Auxiliary to struggle for that long without extending assistance. Recognize those yellow caution lights and ACT immediately. Don’t wait until the last minute – just ask!

#### Identify Unhealthy Auxiliaries – Yellow Caution Lights

- Audits not done timely
- No representation on District-Level at meetings
- No change in Officers
- No new members
- No Program reports

Change the “No” to “Can Do” and make a difference. District Presidents or Representatives of the President are crucial to the Extension & Revitalization Program. They should be alerting us to Auxiliaries in the “Yellow Caution Light” and mentoring.

Department Chiefs of Staff - Check with your Department Secretary and District Presidents regularly to make certain no Auxiliary is left without guidance if needed.

A simple “Thank You” for a job well done is always appreciated. The “Good Job Award” form is available in MALTA Member Resources, Extension & Revitalization.

Remember our promise of tradition and caring – *From Our Roots to Our Branches!*