



The Texas V.F.W. Auxiliary
Our Two Cents
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DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT IRMA SOLIS

“THANKFUL & GRATEFUL FOR THE SACRIFICE”

**“FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES,
 EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”**

As April begins, we find ourselves rapidly approaching the year's end.

This month brings with it several key deadlines and we eagerly await the final program results from Texas. Achieving a successful conclusion requires consistent effort and meticulous attention to detail.

It's crucial to remember that our established processes are essential for achieving positive outcomes. Any gaps or omissions in these processes can significantly impact results.

Please note that despite administrative changes throughout the year (since our fiscal year began in July), program requirements, deadlines and procedures remain unchanged.

Therefore, we remind you of the critical deadlines:

- April 10th to District Presidents
- April 20th to Department Chairmen

Please ensure you adhere to the deadline relevant to your specific responsibilities. Your diligence in meeting these deadlines is critical to our overall success.

APRIL/ MAY/JUNE DATES

April 5	District 24	May 3	District 25
April 12	District 10	May 10	District 2
April 19	District 30	May 12	District 12

June 4 – June 7 State Convention

MEMBERSHIP
Gerald Spradlin – Chairman
Cyndy Yancey – Co-Chairman



NURSING SCHOLARSHIP
Renee S. Clark – Chairman

We are so close to hitting that 100% for Texas!! Splendid work, everyone!

One of the things that slows down membership being entered is the applications not being complete and missing key information. We thought another quick rundown of the necessary information might be helpful.

First, please make sure you are using the most recent application from MALTA or the VFW Auxiliary website. In the bottom right-hand corner, it should say “*Revised February 2024.*”

Second, at the top it says **Applicant completes sections A, B, C or D and F. Auxiliaries/ Department complete section E.** Please be sure these sections are completed.

The most common things left out of the application are:

1. Birthdate of applicant.
2. Name, medals and location of foreign service of the applicant’s qualifying Veteran, if non-affiliated with a Post.
3. Signatures of the Investigating Committee.
4. Date of the meeting the application was voted on and approved. Please be sure all these items are filled in before sending the application in.
5. Signature of applicant.

These items are **all** necessary and the application cannot be processed without them.

REMEMBER, don’t “leaf” any qualifying member behind. Be sure to keep the QR code on your phone. It is the easiest way to share information about the organization and the application. Check back with them in a week. Don’t let them lose interest or feel they weren’t important enough.

We want to see Texas make 100% plus in Membership! Keep up the good work on recruiting new members! As always, if we can help, let us know!



Don’t forget ... National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week (May 6-12) each year.

The nursing profession has been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association (ANA) since 1896. Each of ANA's state and territorial nurse’s associations promotes the nursing profession at the state and regional levels. Each conducts celebrations on these dates to recognize the contributions that nurses and nursing make to the community.

TAKE THE TIME TO REACH OUT TO YOUR FAVORITE NURSES (lol or not so favorite nurses that give the shots) AND SAY THANK YOU.

REPORT IT ON YOUR 2025-2026 REPORTS!!!!

I have had the honor of being asked to continue serving as the Department of Texas Program Chairman for Nursing Scholarship/Honor the Nurses...SO I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU. **There will be a few updates and clarifications coming at Statewide Training in July...hope to see you there.

I want to take a brief moment and **thank each and every one of you** for your questions, thoughts, discussions and suggestions on how to keep improving this program.

I look forward to presenting the three scholarships at Department Convention in June and look forward to seeing many of you there.

Until then I will keep all of you sisters and brothers in my thoughts and prayers. Please remember I am only a text, email or phone message away (remember I do not answer phone calls during the school day). BUT, I will get back with you as quickly as I can.

**Thankful and Grateful For the Sacrifice,
From Our Roots To Our Branches, Extending
Service To Our Veterans**



WAYS AND MEANS
Tracie Frink – Lydia Leal

Thank you to all of the Auxiliaries that brought grab bags to Mid-Winter and a special thank you to Tanya Jackson for your help with them. You are amazing.

Thank you to the Districts that brought baskets or their money raised for the baskets.

Please continue sending in your ticket stubs, Lucky Calender stubs and money to Department.



LEGISLATIVE
Michelle Booker – Chairman
Karen Kaylor – Co-Chairman

Greetings

We had a lot of excitement for the month of March. Commander in Chief Alfred Lipphardt along with many of our VFW Veterans and Auxiliaries attended the Joint Hearing Committees of Veterans' Affairs United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives in Washington DC.

It was advocating for our Veterans at its finest. The contract that was signed by all whom volunteer to serve within our military forces was discussed. Commander Lipphardt stated the following "While the benefits we afford our all-volunteer force may seem generous to those who never raised their right hands and took the Oath of Enlistment, these benefits are simply the warranty of all-volunteer service contracts—DD Form 4—each of us signed before we put on the uniform. In addition to the service member's obligations, each contract explicitly entitles the service members to certain benefits as a result of honorable service. This is why the VFW calls on our nation to honor the contract."

To read the full statement goggle Congressional Statement of VFW National Commander Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt. Section 9 is a must read to better understand what our Veterans volunteered for and why these benefits are much deserving,

The above statement should not only inspire us but also motivate us to continue to be strong advocates for

our Veteran's rights, for it was our family members that dedicated their lives for this country. So, continue to be aware and respond to all action alerts and read, advocate and engaged.

I encourage you to share our Commander's article with others to help them to understand why signing up for Action Corps Weekly and responding to the alerts is so important. Our VFW National Commander in Chief is leading the way and we must do our utmost to help in protecting our veteran's rights.

**Reminder April 10th Year-End reports due to District President April 10, 2025.

**Being Thankful and Grateful For the Sacrifice,
From Our Roots To Our Branches, Extending
Service To Our Veterans**



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT
Missi Palmore – Chairman

As both your Veterans and Family Support Chairman and a Veteran Family trifecta (child, wife, mother) member I would just like to remind all of ya'll that you are fabYOUlous! For the 2024-2025 Department of Texas program, you have been truly amazing. With every envelope in the mail or email in my inbox, I have been truly amazed at the outpouring of love, dedication, and support for our wonderful Veterans, community and family members.

You have driven thousands of miles, made hundreds of visits, assisted with doctor visits, shared hugs and tears, collected clothing and food, raised funds for so many things and above all showed our honorable Veterans the love and admiration they so truly deserve.

Thank you for the honor to be your V&FS chairman this year. You brought me into each of your Posts, communities and Districts. All of you have shown as bright as the Texas stars at night. You know what you do and you surely do it well. You knock it out of the park.

I can't wait to see the great end of year reports wrapping up all the great things you have done for the Veterans and Family program. Ya'll come up with some of the greatest things to show gratitude and love for those in your community. Remember some things do not cost a penny and they can mean the most.

Keep shining your fabYOUlous Texas selves bright throughout our great state. Thank you for a wonderful 2024-2025 year!



**Thankful and Grateful For the Sacrifice, From
Our Roots To Our Branches, Extending Service
To Our Veterans**



BUDDY POPPY/NATIONAL HOME
Sally Jarrett – Chairman
Sarah Begley – Co-Chairman

A Special THANK YOU to all the Auxiliaries' reports and hard work throughout this year.

Looking forward to seeing you at the State Convention.

**Thankful and Grateful For the Sacrifice, From
Our Roots To Our Branches, Extending Service
To Our Veterans**



SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM
Ronny Mote - Chairman

Now that all the entries for the Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art contests have been submitted to a local participating VFW Auxiliary, our 2024-2025 Scholarship opportunities have come to a close.

A huge thank y'all to each and every one who helped promote the Scholarships Program during the 2024-2025 program year. And an even bigger thank you to Dina Hudson, the Scholarships National Ambassador, for all the encouragement and support. It was truly an honor to help you Get The Word Out!

Also don't forget that any events or promotions taking place after the 2024-2025 reporting deadline should be sent to the 2025-2026 Department Chairman. And always remember to help continue Increasing The Fund!

Student Participation * Recipient Recognition
* Community Awareness * Increasing the Fund

**Thankful and Grateful For the Sacrifice, From
Our Roots To Our Branches, Extending Service
To Our Veterans**

CHIEF OF STAFF

EXTENSION/REVITALIZATION/MENTORING
Patricia "Patsy" Kemp

What Makes Life 100%?

If you use the equation that A=1, B=2, C=3, etc. you can figure out the following.

H A R D W O R K

8 1 18 4 23 15 18 11 = 98% Only

K N O W L E D G E

11 14 15 23 12 5 4 7 5 = 96% only

A T T I T U D E

1 20 20 9 20 21 4 5 = 100% - By keeping a great attitude we will be 100% in Caring, Mentoring and all we do.

**"From Our Roots To Our Branches"
"Extending Services To Our Veterans"** as we showed we are **"Thankful & Grateful For The Service"**

Keep working membership -- We still have March, April and May to get it into Department.

District Presidents there are still a few Auxiliaries that need help reporting. Please assist them and make sure they get credit for work done.

Thank you, Sisters and Brothers, for striving to achieve all of our goals this year. It could only happen by working together as a team.

The things that I hope everyone learned this year was to communicate better, more often and the importance of communication. Also, the importance of having a mentoring program in each Auxiliary.

Thank you to each one that stepped up and mentored in any way. The goal of Officers & Mentors is to train and equip leaders of today and to strengthen our Auxiliary and Districts, in other words, Our Foundation for tomorrow.

AMERICANISM / PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Amanda Humphrey – Chairman

Howdy to the great state of Texas for the last time this wonderful 2024-2025 year!

It has definitely been an eye-opening experience this year!

THANK YOU to all our Veterans, if it wasn't for your Sacrifices we wouldn't be here today.

THANK YOU for all the wonderful reports from all the wonderful Auxiliaries that have been sent in. Makes me feel like I know each of y'all so much more!! I admire the love each and every one of you have for this GREAT Organization - it is so heartfelt that I can't THANK Y'ALL enough!! I wish I could take that love, dedication, and drive, bottle it up to sprinkle it ALL OVER Texas!!

THANK YOU so much to Madam President Irma, and all the amazing Line Officers for stepping up and for all the hard work you all have done and continue to do to keep Texas shining bright thru this very different year and all the years to come.

THANK YOU ALL FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!!!

HOSPITAL/VAVS Glenda L. Hunt - Chairman

Thanks to all the Texas Auxiliary members that participated in the Hospital/CDCE Program.

Its success is due to your unwavering support and dedication to our Nation's heroes.

Chose a Cause and Save a Life - has been more than a Hospital Program Motto. Your actions have changed many Veterans lives. We care and honor their military service. We are thankful for their sacrifice. It is not happy people who are thankful; it is thankful people who are happy.

Our year is coming to a close. Hospital/CDCE Year End Reports are due to your District Presidents by April 10th. The District Presidents have to get these to your Chairman by April 20th. Do not be late. You have worked so hard and deserve to be recognized. The reports have been outstanding. Remember to honor your Auxiliary members for working our Hospital Program with a Certificate of Appreciation.

If you have any reports after April 10th, hold them along with May and June. They should be sent to the 2025-2026 Hospital Program Chairman in July.

Texas VFW Auxiliary Members serve our Veterans with a caring heart and helping hands!!!

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****ATTENTION EVERYONE****

DISTRICT 9 WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU TO OUR APRIL CONVENTION!!

* **THURSDAY APRIL 24TH** WILL BE DINNER AT 6:00 PM

* **FRIDAY APRIL 25TH** WILL BE AN EVENT FILLED DAY WEAR YOUR WALKING SHOES!! ASK SUSIE IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME!! 😊

***SATURDAY APRIL 26TH** WILL BE ALL THE MEETINGS.

***SUNDAY APRIL 27TH** SAFE TRAVELS HOME

WE HAVE ROOMS AT \$89.00 PER NIGHT FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

AMANDA HUMPHREY
EMAIL: VFWWAUX4818@GMAIL.COM
TEXT/CALL: 1-254-317-6345

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Brenda Bryant

National President

2024-2025

Brenda Bryant of Hawk Point, Missouri, was elected to the office of National President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary at its 111th National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

A 45-year-plus member of Humphrey-Schwerdt Auxiliary 2180 in Warrenton, Missouri, she has served the organization in many capacities including Auxiliary, District and Department President. On the National level she has served as National District Council Member, Big Ten Conference Chairman for the Membership and Safety Programs twice, National Appeals & Grievances and Bylaws Review & Resolutions Committees, Director of the Voice of Democracy Program and as National Historian.

She joined on the eligibility of her father, Herman Stuck, who served in the United States Army from 1950 to 1952 in Korea. She is married to Wayne Bryant, a retired Vietnam Navy veteran.

Brenda is a retired special education teacher where she worked with high school behavior disability and learning disability students. She refurbishes furniture for an antique store, has served several terms as Alderman on her City Board and is certified to perform weddings.

In her spare time Brenda enjoys crafting, bringing life back to old furniture, learning about the past and interacting with veterans. She is a Life Member of the VFW National Home and a member of Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary (MOCA), the Fleet Reserve Auxiliary and the Daniel Boone Area Retired Teachers Program.

Brenda and husband Wayne's family includes five adult children, 18 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.



JO ELLA MENN

**CANDIDATE FOR DEPARTMENT OF
TEXAS VFW AUXILIARY
TREASURER
2025-2026**

**ENDORSED BY AUXILIARY 8621
ENDORSED BY DISTRICT 6**

TREASURER'S DESK

Delegate information for State Convention has been sent from the Department Office. Please send to Department **as soon as possible.

Delegates for National Convention need to be sent to Department as soon as possible. **DELEGATE NAMES ONLY

YEAR-END REPORTS

**TO DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
BY APRIL 10, 2025**

**DISTRICT PRESIDENTS TO
DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN
APRIL 20, 2025**

AWARD SHEETS FOR END OF YEAR

**CHAIRMEN, PLEASE REMEMBER THE
MAY 5, 2025 DEADLINE FOR THE
AWARD SHEET TO BE SUBMITTED TO
PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR
VERIFICATION AS DIRECTED BY THE
DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT.**

**CHAIRMEN WERE PREVIOUSLY SENT
THE AWARD SHEET.**

**NATIONAL AMBASSADORS
YEAR-END WORKSHEET**

**DUE TO THE DEPARTMENT
PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2025.**

**THIS YEAR-END WORKSHEET IS
COMPLETED BY CHAIRMEN OF
NATIONAL PROGRAMS.**





TENTATIVE AGENDA
99th TEXAS VFW AUXILIARY STATE CONVENTION
Anatole Hotel – Dallas, Texas

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

3:00 PM-5:00 PM	President Reception (Invitation Only)	TBD
6:00 PM-8:00PM	Dinner National Rep, PDPs, Line Officers & Guests (Dutch Treat)	Carpenter Room (TBD)

Thursday, June 5, 2025

8:00 AM-4:00 PM	VFW AUX Registration/Credentials	Registration Desk
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways and Means	Stemmons Foyer
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Vendor Booths	Grand Foyer
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Buddy Poppies	Dardanelles
8:00 AM-4:00PM	VFW Service Officers VA Claims (Open to all)	Inverness
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	National VFW Store	Plum Blossom Room
9:00 AM-11:00 AM	VFW AUX Council of Administration	Stemmons Ballroom
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	Past Department President Luncheon	Carpenter Room
1:00 PM-4:00 PM	Joint Opening Session	Grand Ballroom
4:15 PM-5:00 PM	Joint Memorial Service	Grand Ballroom
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	Photos for Incoming Officers & District Presidents	Grand Ballroom
5:30 PM	Floor Practice	Stemmons Ballroom

Friday, June 6, 2025

8:00 AM-4:00 PM	VFW AUX Registration/Credentials	Registration Desk
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways and Means	Stemmons Foyer
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Vendor Booths	Grand Foyer
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Buddy Poppies	Dardanelles
8:00 AM-4:00PM	VFW Service Officers VA Claims (Open to all)	Inverness
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	National VFW Store	Plum Blossom Room
8:00 AM-11:00 AM	Auxiliary Business Meeting	Stemmons Ballroom
11:00AM-12:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
12:00 PM-4:00 PM	Auxiliary Business Meeting & Nominations	Stemmons Ballroom
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Reception with Cash Bar	Grand Ballroom
6:30 PM-9:00 PM	Awards Banquet (Formal Dress)	Grand Ballroom

Saturday, June 7, 2025

7:30 AM-9:00 AM	VFW/AUX Registration/Credentials	Registration Desk
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Vendor Booths	Grand Foyer
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Buddy Poppies	Dardanelles
8:00 AM-12:00PM	VFW Service Officers VA Claims (Open to all)	Inverness
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	National VFW Store	Plum Blossom Room
8:00 AM-Noon	VFW AUX Business Meeting	Stemmons Ballroom
	Memorial Service and Elections of 2025-2026 Officers	
4:00 PM	Joint Installation of Officers & Dist. Presidents (Black pants & nice white blouse or shirt)	Grand Ballroom
5:30 PM-7:30 PM	State Commander & Auxiliary President Reception	Carpenter

Sunday, June 8, 2025 – Safe Travels