



EXTENSION

&

REVITALIZATION



**FEBRUARY
2026**

Bullying is a difficult but important topic, and as members, we all share the responsibility of creating a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment. It is essential that everyone—regardless of role, background, or length of membership—feels valued and treated with dignity. Auxiliary meetings, events, and social networking spaces should always be free from intimidation, humiliation, hostility, harassment, or any behavior that causes others to feel uncomfortable or excluded.

We each play a vital role in being part of the solution. This means being mindful of our words, actions, and online interactions, and speaking up when we see behavior that does not reflect our shared values. By fostering open communication and mutual respect, we help create an atmosphere where members feel safe to express their ideas, opinions, and concerns without fear of judgment or retaliation.

Every member deserves the same courtesy, kindness, and consideration you would extend to a close friend. Differences of opinion can be handled thoughtfully and respectfully, without personal attacks or dismissive behavior. In its simplest form, this expectation can be summed up by the Golden Rule: treat others the way you would like to be treated. When we commit to this principle, we strengthen our organization and ensure that everyone feels included, supported, and welcome.

As a member, you play a crucial role in the success of your Auxiliary and in the longevity of the organization as a whole. By listening to and applying ideas from all members, we can accomplish the goals we set for our Auxiliaries. Each member brings a unique perspective, and it's important to remember that just because something didn't work in the past doesn't mean it won't work today.

Working together across different generations promotes creativity and strengthens our organization. To do this successfully, we must ensure that everyone is respectful, flexible, and understanding. We can achieve this by:

- Avoiding stereotypes about different generations
- Being open to learning and allowing others to learn from you
- Adapting to various communication styles
- Focusing more on our similarities and less on our differences

There are a few National awards that are available this year to include the following:

Awards for Members: Citation and a \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff in establishing a new VFW Auxiliary with the approval of the Department President. The completed nomination form must be sent to the National Chief of Staff Karlene Beams by April 30, 2026 for judging.



Sunday – February 22, 2026

2:00 P.M.

***Auxiliary & District Rosters**

***Delegates**

***Installation Reports**

***Bonds**

Awards for District Presidents or Official Representatives:

Citation and a \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one District President or Official Representative in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff with a struggling VFW Auxiliary by mentoring and maintaining a close relationship until the VFW Auxiliary becomes healthy, with the approval of the Department President. Use of MALTA Healthy Auxiliary tools and mentor training is required. The completed nomination form must be sent to the National Chief of Staff Karlene Beams by April 30, 2026 for judging.

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