

The Extension and Revitalization program benefits every member of the Auxiliary through education. It's important to be knowledgeable about our traditions while becoming informed about all aspects of the programs that we represent. This way, we are better prepared to mentor our members and help them achieve success in leadership roles.

Training and educating members to be future leaders is why we mentor. It ensures that our Auxiliaries will continue to remain strong and healthy into the future. One of the key ways to ensure that Auxiliaries are achieving this status is by utilizing tools available through MALTA Member Resources and the Department of Kansas website. Some of these tools include the Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit, Building on the VFW Foundations Guidebook, VFW Auxiliary Podium Edition: Bylaws & Ritual, Sunflower Express and the Department and National Program books. It's important to catch our new members when they first join the Auxiliary and speak to them about what their interests are. Follow up by making sure that they are invited to participate in events which they find enjoyable. Being actively involved in this organization will help increases our chances of obtaining new members and maintaining our current ones.

I'm asking each Auxiliary to bring one item to their District School of Instruction, Fall or Spring Meeting to be added to their District tackle box. Items contributed should be something that helps your Auxiliary remain strong, healthy and in good standing.

I'd also like each District President to send two ideas to either myself of our Chief of Staff, Mike McCandless on topics that you or your Auxiliaries would like additional training on. These sessions will be held via zoom and will usually only last about 1 hour, unless additional time is needed. Watch for emails from the Department Secretary, Kathy McCandless as well as our Facebook page and Kansas website for when these sessions are to take place.

There are several different national awards that are available this year for members, District Presidents, and Department Chairmen. Please refer to the National Program book for further information.