

Department of Kansas Membership

2024-2025 Mid-Summer SOI

David Huddleston-Membership Fleet Admiral (Chairman)

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And just like that, we're back from the Races and ready to start our own race for this 2024-2025 Auxiliary year. How can it already be here? I will be calling on all of my Captains (District Chairman) and my Lieutenants (all Auxiliary Members) as we have some work to do this year—we ended up with 9,848 Members for the Dept of KS.

In order to keep up with our National Membership Goals all Department membership goals will be based on your Current Membership Status this year as we focus on Inviting/Recruiting NEW and/or Rejoined Members, including our current members and Investing in the future of this Organization for years to come. Each District Membership Captain (Chairman) will receive a Membership Chart to help keep your District in line with our Department and National Membership Goals. In order to keep things moving right along, this is the current status as of August 15, 2024.

Districts	Current %	Paid %	Goal %	Need Paid
District 1	66.67%	67.02%	80.07%	113
District 2	81.17%	81.17%	80.10%	√
District 3	72.50%	72.65%	80.05%	101
District 4	77.47%	77.68%	80.01%	50
District 5	74.40%	74.64%	80.01%	70
District 6	69.11%	69.11%	80.06%	139
District 7	87.46%	89.07%	90.35%	√√
Members at Large	91.26%	91.26%	80.04%	√
Team KS	77.71%	77.99%	80.01%	227

For the Department to reach the goals set forth by National we must reach above and beyond. If we meet the below goals then WE WILL not only meet National's membership goals, but WE WILL exceed National's membership goals! How exciting would that be?

The Auxiliary who converts the most Annual Members to Life members will receive a \$50.00 Check from Department and Certificate.



Department of Kansas Website



National Membership



National Programs

80%+ by Aug 31, 2024 90%+ by Sept 30, 2024 95%+ by Nov 15, 2024
98%+ by Mar 1, 2025 100%+ by May 15, 2025 101%+ by Jun 30, 2025

1

FROM OUR ROOTS

"Prepare Your Why"

2

TO OUR BRANCHES

Find them "Where They Are"

3

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

"Get Your Ask In Gear"

We just made it back from our 111th VFW Auxiliary National Convention held in Louisville, KY. We have come so far over the last 100 Plus Years in this Great Organization. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary started with a small group of women who wanted to serve Veterans. In 2015, we were able to grow our Organization when the name changed from VFW Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Auxiliary and male members were added. Change came again in 2021, when it was voted during the National Convention to remove the verbiage pertaining to being a US Citizen as a requirement for membership.

There are **12 Individuals** who are able to join the VFW Auxiliary under **one** qualified Veteran. Not every potential member that we approach will be eligible. Acceptable proofs of eligibility include DD-214 separation documentation, records from a memorial or website showing eligibility, the Wall of Faces (www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces) VFW Eligibility full List (www.vfw.org/join/eligibility) An Investigating Committee of 3 should be formed to review the eligible Veterans DD-214 and the completed Membership Application, and the signatures of at least 2 persons who served on this committee are necessary. Please review the VFW Auxiliary Membership Moment How to Ensure a Membership Application is Complete.

There are several resources available on the Department of KS Website vfwauxks.org—go to Programs and click on Membership. This year we are encouraged to make use of the QR Code that National has created for us. It will take you to the National Website and on it you will find the latest Fact Sheet, Membership Application and Membership Brochure.

We must **include every member** in what we're doing. Not every member that joins will attend meetings. It's important that we get to know our members and find out what their strengths are. Ask them to participate in our Programs and have a **Member Spotlight** throughout this year. Let's make sure that members within your community know what the individuals have done for this organization and our Veterans.

Our Membership Goals this year will be published in my Membership Sunflower Express Articles. Keep your eyes out for them. Our First Membership Challenge was to Host a Membership Drive/Requirement Event. This could be at any point in the Year and the Logistics are set on how your District Membership Chairman wishes. Our main goal is that every Auxiliary within our Department has at least 1 Membership Drive. The Districts that are able to have every Auxiliary participate will be placed in a Drawing for a Special Prize with the drawing will take place during our Dept Convention. It will take Each and Everyone One of US to Rise to the Challenge to make that 101%+ in Current Membership Let's Go Team Kansas. I know that we can do it—**1 Member at a Time!**

Membership Reporting Questions

1. Did your Auxiliary participate in a recruiting event or Membership drive?
Please add location of the event in the Description of your project.
2. Did your Auxiliary participate in Adopt a Member (paying Angel dues)?
3. Did your Auxiliary receive any Annual to Life Membership converts?
Please add number of Convert to Life in the Description of project section.
4. Did your Auxiliary create your own Newsletter informing your members about dues and activities for the year, or did you use the pre-generated letter from MALTA? Please answer in the Description of project section.
5. When did your Auxiliary send out the first round of dues notices?

From Our Roots to Our Branches
Extending Service to our Veterans
Brenda Bryant
VFW Auxiliary National President 2024-25

Remember • Respect • Honor
Marsha LaRosh
VFW Auxiliary Department President 2024-25