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"Teamwork Makes the
Dream Work"



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"Banding Together
for our Veterans"

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MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP – AUGUST 2023

A mentor to me is someone who is positive, kind, compassionate, knowledgeable and takes an interest in helping me become a better leader. Your mentors could be co-workers, a teacher or an Auxiliary member, just to name a few. I have several Auxiliary brothers and sisters that I look up to and that have mentored me over the past several years. Look to your Line Officers and Chairmen in not only your Auxiliary, but your District and Department as well.

I encourage you to look at the *Mentoring Guide: Relationship Building for the Future* which can be found behind your MALTA login under Member Resources. This program promotes the **C.A.R.E.** concept which will help in building the relationship between you and your current, new and rejoin members.

C is for catch the member when they first join. Make it your mission to let them know how much they are valued within our organization. When attending meetings, have a new member sit with a seasoned member who can help explain things as they happen during the meeting.

A is for ask them to participate. Contact your new members and offer to pick them up and bring them to a meeting or event that your Auxiliary is doing. Find out what types of projects they would be interested in helping with. Getting them involved in our programs is going to go a long way in keeping them actively involved. Distribute the *Programs Overview* (Mentoring for Leadership resource page) to new members so that they are able to get a feeling for what Programs our Auxiliaries support.

R is for remember what it felt like to be new. Do you remember how you felt when you first joined the Auxiliary? I bet things seemed a bit overwhelming. The Auxiliary has so many traditions that are observed and acronyms that we utilize during our meetings. Be sure to have a copy of the *Understanding Auxiliary Traditions* (Americanism resources page) and *VFW Auxiliary Acronyms and Commonly Used Terminology* (Mentoring for Leadership resources page) available for reference. Go over it during the meeting, it's great to have a refresher even for our long-time members!

E is for engage them in a program that fits them. By interacting and learning about your new, transfer and long-time members, you'll find out where their passion lies within our organization. Every one of our programs will allow for our members to contribute to projects that speak to their strengths and passion.

We know that we all are here for a common purpose, our veterans, active-duty service members, their families and our communities. Use that as that base for each relationship within your Auxiliary and build on it over time. We'll be doing some trainings each month through the Sunflower Express to help get members used to utilizing the other tools available such as the Bylaws & Ritual and Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations Guidebook (Member Resource page). I encourage each Auxiliary to have a laptop or phone available at their next meeting to help those members who haven't activated their MALTA account do so. This is the first step in helping each member achieve the best resources available to them as an Auxiliary member.

August Training Standing Rules

Guidebook 1: Officers' Duties - Resources – Page 28

Guidebook 5: Financial Responsibilities – Auxiliary, District and County Council Treasurers and Trustees – Pg 13