

Extension, Revitalization & Mentoring Bulletin #1

Welcome to a new year as we work together From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans. And may we always remember to put "Veterans, Family First"

As your Department Chief of Staff, I will be working closely with our Department President, District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents to make sure that all the Auxiliaries are healthy and strong.

Some of the program goals for this year are to Maintain and Strengthen Current Auxiliaries, establish New Auxiliaries and to recognize red flag Auxiliaries.

The VFW Auxiliary has been built on traditions and the Extension and Revitalization program will benefit each member of our organization by keeping them informed and involved in our programs and traditions. Remember that the more we teach and learn together the stronger our Auxiliaries will become and as our roots run deeper our branches will continue to grow and expand.

It is our responsibility to become mentors to all our members at every level and remember what it felt like to be a new member. Extending a hand and a smile to a new or longtime members can make them feel welcome and accepted. Always remember to use the CARE concept.

C- Catch the member when they first join. Remember your first meeting and how you felt.

A-Ask them to Participate.

R- Remember what it felt like to be new.

E- Engage them in a program that fits them.

Please remember that every one of our members has great ideas and we need to avoid saying that "WE tried that before and it didn't work" or "This the way we have always done this" New ideas or new twists can create fantastic results.

Is your Auxiliary a Green Light, Yellow Light, Red Light Auxiliary? Green Light means that you are a Healthy Auxiliary. Yellow Light means that you are having some problems and that you may need help. Which will require you to be open and need to take action to resolve the problems. Be aware of the caution light. Red Light is when you will be put on suspension. Please do not get to a Red Light, but if you do this will be the time to regroup and work together to get back to that Green Light. Please reach out before you get to that Red Light. There are many resources and people to help you avoid it.

We need to work together to maintain our current Auxiliaries to help them be successful and viable but for us to grow we need to work with our unaffiliated Posts to form New Auxiliaries. An Auxiliary cannot exist without a Post. There are many resources available so please reach out to me for help and or questions.

Thank you for all that each of you do in your Districts and Auxiliaries. Nothing is too small to make a difference. Remember that From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans. And may we always remember to put "Veterans, Family First"

Loyally,
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