

🌻 President's Message – September 2025 🌻

Hello, Auxiliary members!

I'm Robyn Sterrett, honored to serve as your 2025–2026 Department President. I've been proud to be an auxiliary life member since November 2013, joining under the eligibility of my grandfather, James Crowder, who bravely served in WWII in Italy. His legacy is my inspiration. us

First, a heartfelt thank-you to my auxiliary and district—Deer Park Memorial 3067 and District 9—for standing with me every step of the way as I worked through the department chairs. And to all the incredible members across Washington State—your encouragement has fueled my journey. Every chair I've held, I've carried with pride, purpose, and a drive to succeed—and that's thanks to YOU.

💡 My theme this year is “**Keep the Home Fires Burning**”, paired with my special project, **Heroes Homestead**. Both are all about one thing: **communication**.

That means lifting each other up, supporting one another, and keeping our auxiliary foundation strong. Together, we'll grow our membership, strengthen our National Programs, and—most importantly—continue serving our veterans, their families, and our communities.

I couldn't be prouder of our **Department Program Chairmen** this year. What a team! Please make sure to read and share their bulletins—they've done a fantastic job promoting their programs at the School of Instruction.

A big thank-you to the **Yakima Post and Auxiliary** for hosting the SOI and serving such a warm, welcoming luncheon.

To my fellow line officers—you inspire me every day. A special shout-out to my “right and right hands,” **Karen Flynn and Cindy Burkey**. Your strength, wisdom, and guidance keep me moving forward. I am beyond grateful for both of you.

And to **Tom Richardson**—the one who first introduced me to the VFW—thank you for believing in me, encouraging me, and walking beside me throughout this journey. I wouldn't be here without your love and support.

I'm excited for my district visitations ahead and the chance to meet so many more of our wonderful members in person. Remember—**communication is the key**. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Karen, Cindy, or me anytime. We're here for you.

With gratitude and loyalty,

Robyn Sterrett

Department of Washington President