



Membership Bulletin #3 December 2023

Cheers

Happy Holidays to all VFW Auxiliary members of Washington State! The best gift that you can give to our veterans is a healthy and thriving membership!!! Here are the results of the November membership challenge. Out of 62 auxiliaries 12 were 95% plus by 11/30/23 and 13 auxiliaries were 100% or more. Give your auxiliary a big standing ovation! The 95% plus auxiliaries were: 921, 2289, 9079, 10018, 1694, 3057, 7824, 3617, 51, 1435, 9430 and 1045. The 100% or more auxiliaries were: 2329, 2669, 4992, 1948, 8956, 11402, 4278, 1263, 2995, 5056, 9301, 9474, 3482! Congratulations! The winner of the November 11th challenge was auxiliary 11402 (Tumwater-Lacy Auxiliary)11402 and won \$100! The winner of the November 30th challenge was 1435 (Spokane Valley auxiliary!) Again, congratulations and cheers!!! At our mid-winter conference in January, we will have a membership round up and draw two (2) \$100 prizes. The Districts will have their own challenge in their 4 membership groups. The District percentage winners will receive some exciting movie style gifts and the District with the highest membership will win \$100.

Other good news for the holiday season is that Washington has 86 new life members, 4 rejoin life members, 100 new annual members and 13 rejoin annual members. Our state stands at 90.73% as of 12/5/23.

In her fall Blog National Membership Ambassador Ansje Lansing wrote “No matter the function, always have some sort of Membership set up available” for the participants at Auxiliary and VFW events. In addition to the “Membership Wheel” and the numerous membership resources found in Malta, there is a **no charge** website for obtaining DD214s: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>. It works and is very timely. Also ask the VFW members for their assistance in deciphering applicants’ DD214s. I had a personal experience at my VFW where the quartermaster helped figure out if the applicant qualified. Many discharge documents are eligible. But I say don’t give up on the candidate and again ask the VFW for help reading the documents.

Jeers

To be in good standing as a continuous member, you must pay your annual dues by 12/31/23. If your annual dues are not paid by June 30th, 2024, you will have to reapply to be a member all over again.

Action

Auxiliaries look over your annual member rosters, call these members. Do a wellness check. If the member is over 80 years old, if they are ill, or in financial stress, offer to them that the auxiliary will pay their dues for them. This would take a motion to approve at your regular meetings. And what a nice gift for our members in need during this holiday season. Fa, la, la, la!

Sherlock and Dr. Watson have been very busing searching for members and encouraging members to pay their dues. These investigators know how to influence their suspects!!! They hope that Auxiliaries have been able to encourage their annual members to convert to life!!!

I wish to send my personal holiday greetings to you and your families and remember our veterans who may not have family to enjoy the holidays with!! This is why we exist to support our veterans and their families "Banding together for our Veterans" and "Do it for those who can't."

Loyally yours,

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