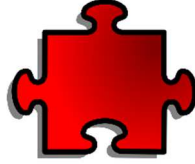


At our Fall Conference, members were given a puzzle piece with “VFWA” on the puzzle piece to remind them every day that each member is a vital part of the VFWA - you are each a “piece of the puzzle” in the Auxiliary and we need and want each member to know that you are each appreciated and needed. In order for our organization to thrive we must have everyone working together and remembering we are here for our Veterans.



**NATIONAL AWARDS:** Mentoring for Leadership Award Application Forms for Auxiliaries and Mentoring for Leadership Awards for Members are on the National and MO Auxiliary websites. Applications are to be sent to me by April 15 and I will forward the forms to our National Chief of Staff and Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador. I know there are several in our State (both auxiliary and member) who will qualify.

Mentoring is based on relationships. Members may look different; members may act differently but each member has at least one thing in common with all members. They care about veterans. Build on that relationship.

Attracting new members is crucial to our organization but do not underestimate the importance of keeping and engaging our existing members. Strengthen your relationship built on the caring spirit of love of veterans.

**MENTORING = LEADERSHIP = HEALTHY AUXILIARY**

Get with your Membership Chairman and make phone calls to members to collect dues – don’t let dues time be the only time you reach out to your members. Call, email, or visit to just say “hello” and check to see how they are doing.

Are you sharing information you learned at District and/or Department meetings with your members? This allows you to mentor and also train future leaders in the Auxiliary.



**BE THE LIGHT**      **ALWAYS BE POSITIVE AND PATIENT – ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING**

**BE THE LIGHT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX!!**

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