

**VFW AUXILIARY**  
**Department of California**  
**Extension & Revitalization Program**  
**2026–2027**  
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**“Remembering Our Whoo Through Mentorship, Growth & Revitalization”**

This year, our Department President Angie Prill reminds us of the importance of “*Remembering Your Whoo.*” At the heart of everything we do are the people we serve and the members who stand beside us in service. Our “Who” includes:

- Our veterans
- Active-duty service members
- Military families
- Fellow Auxiliary members
- Future leaders
- Struggling Auxiliaries needing encouragement
- New members searching for connection and purpose

As Extension & Revitalization Chairman, my goal is to help every Auxiliary remember why we exist and who we serve. When we focus on people first, we build stronger Auxiliaries, stronger leaders, and a stronger organization.

**“Building Strong Auxiliaries Through Mentorship, Growth, and Leadership”**

Strong Auxiliaries do not happen by accident. They are built through mentoring, education, teamwork, communication, and a commitment to supporting one another. As your Department Extension & Revitalization Chairman, my goal is to help strengthen existing Auxiliaries, support struggling Auxiliaries, encourage membership engagement, and assist in building future leadership throughout the Department of California.

By working together, we can create healthy, vibrant Auxiliaries that continue serving veterans, their families, and our communities for generations to come.

**Program Goals**

**1. Promote Healthy Auxiliaries**

Encourage every Auxiliary to meet the National “5 Essentials” of a Healthy Auxiliary:

- Hold at least 10 business meetings annually

- Maintain at least 10 paid members by February 1
- Submit quarterly audits on time
- Elect and report officers by June 30
- Ensure Presidents and Treasurers are bonded by August 31

I encourage Districts and Auxiliaries to utilize the Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit and MALTA Member Resources to strengthen operations and leadership.

## **2. Focus on Mentorship**

Mentorship is one of the most powerful tools we have to build future leaders.

I encourage:

- Experienced members to mentor newer members
- Past Presidents to support incoming officers
- District leaders to maintain regular communication with Auxiliaries
- Auxiliaries to welcome and engage inactive members

A positive and encouraging environment helps members feel valued, respected, and inspired to serve.

## **3. Revitalize Struggling Auxiliaries**

No Auxiliary should feel alone.

I encourage District Presidents and leadership teams to:

- Identify struggling Auxiliaries early
- Offer mentoring and guidance
- Conduct Auxiliary visits
- Share resources and training opportunities
- Promote teamwork and communication

Sometimes revitalization begins simply by listening, encouraging, and helping members reconnect with the mission of the Auxiliary.

## **4. Support Extension Efforts**

Growth is essential to the future of our organization. I encourage Posts and Auxiliaries to:

- Explore opportunities to establish new Auxiliaries

- Recruit family members of eligible veterans
- Share the mission and impact of the VFW Auxiliary in their communities
- Use available National and Department resources to support extension efforts

We must continue building the next generation of Auxiliary leaders and members.

## **5. Encourage Education & Leadership Development**

Knowledge builds confidence and successful leadership. I encourage all members to:

- Utilize MALTA Member Resources
- Attend trainings, workshops, conferences, and District meetings
- Learn officer duties and responsibilities
- Develop leadership skills through participation and service

Leadership is not about titles — it is about service, encouragement, and helping others succeed.

### **Special Projects & Ideas**

**Mentor a Member:** Encourage each Auxiliary officer to mentor at least one member during the year.

**Healthy Auxiliary Check-Ins:** Promote quarterly communication between District leadership and Auxiliaries needing support.

**Leadership Roundtables:** Encourage sharing of ideas, successes, and challenges between Auxiliaries.

**Recognition & Encouragement:** Celebrate Auxiliaries and members making positive improvements and contributions.

Together, we can strengthen our Auxiliaries through kindness, mentorship, education, teamwork, and service while always “Remembering Your Who.”

Our “Who” is the veteran who sacrificed for our freedom, the military family who serves beside them, the member searching for connection and purpose, and the communities who depend on our compassion and support.

Every member matters. By investing in one another, mentoring future leaders, and supporting struggling Auxiliaries, we ensure the future success of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary while continuing our mission of serving veterans, military families, and our communities with pride, compassion, and dedication.

I look forward to working alongside each of you during this exciting year as we continue “Remembering Your Whoo” in all that we do.