Erie County Council Ladies Auxiliary VFW
APRIL 2015 Newsletter
“The Journey is the Reward When Serving Our Veterans”
“Patriotism Begins at Home”
Kathleen Blake, President

Upcoming Events:
- April 26
  Baby Shower
  VFW Post 5798
- April 27
  ECCA Meeting
  VFW Post 6251
- May 8 & 9
  ECCA CONVENTION
  VFW Post 6251
- May 15 & 16
  DISTRICT 6 CONVENTION
  VFW Post 6251

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Dear Sisters: We are back from Spring Conference where we all had a wonderful time and as always, learned a lot.

All Treasurers should have received the notice from National regarding the hacking of the company the IRS uses to handle 990-E cards. It is imperative that you go on this website and CHANGE your password, so the hackers do not have access to your Auxiliary information.

Department Treasurer, Marianne McLane, elaborated on the change to Membership for next year. There will be no Re-Instate category. If a Sister allows her continuous annual membership to lapse, she cannot pay back dues and be reinstated. She loses all her continuous years and must reapply to an Auxiliary. She must again provide proof of eligibility and Auxiliary Sisters must vote to accept her as a NEW member. The sister will be required to be a member for one (1) year before she can apply for a Cancer Grant. Again, I urge you to CONTACT SISTERS in arrears to let them know that dues must be RECEIVED at National by June 30, 2015. Erie County needs 100 more members to reach 100%. Keep working on your membership so that the organization can stay strong. If your treasury is healthy, consider paying the per capita ($10.50) from your Relief Fund.

All Auxiliaries should also send a report to District Six Treasurer, Chris Leavor, 2027 Cemetery Hill Road, Franklinville, NY 14737, about any new members recruited. District 6 has a cash award for new members, but you must send a report for your Auxiliary to qualify.

Year-End Reports are due to the Department Chairmen by April 1st. Auxiliary Presidents have until April 10th to send their report to President Irene. There is still time for you to get them in. I’m happy to report that Erie County is 100% in everything but the Cancer Quota. Remember this is how we fund the Cancer Grants for our Sisters. Unfortunately, 57 Department NY sisters have needed one this year.

Auxiliary Officers are elected at your April meeting. Auxiliary Secretaries should send in the Installation Report to Department Secretary, Sally Gagnon, immediately after your elections. Sally will then send out the Installation Warrant. No Installation Report - No Warrant!!

Secretaries must also fill out the Delegate/Alternate Forms for County, District, Department and National and mail them to the correct addresses. DELEGATES/ALTERNATES: Erie County Council mail to Deborah A. Fucina; District Six mail to Sandy Milgate; Department of NY mail to Sally Gagnon; and National gets mailed to National Headquarters. Credentials will then be sent, allowing your Delegates to vote at the Conventions.

All Auxiliaries should have received their County and District Six Convention packets by now. Both are being held at the Pvt. Leonard Post, Jr., VFW Post 6521. I hope that many of you are planning to attend - it’s a convenient location for Erie County Sisters!

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

The next regular meeting of the Erie County Council Ladies Auxiliary will be on April 27, 2015 @ 7 PM at the Pvt. Leonard Post Jr. VFW Post 6251 - 2450 Walden Avenue - Cheektowaga, NY. The ECCA meets every 4th Monday of the month.
Department Convention packets are being mailed soon. So be on the lookout. National Convention is in Pittsburgh, PA. Information is in the National Auxiliary News. This is probably the closest the National Convention will ever be to us, so I’m planning to go. Hope to see you there, too.

Wishing you and your families a Happy Easter. Remember, the “Journey is the Reward When Serving Our Veterans”. And please pray for our Military, our Veterans and their Families.

Loyally,
Kathie Blake, President

WAYS & MEANS: ECCA Jr. Vice President Amy Darling wants to remind you to bring your theme baskets for the Ways & Means Raffle being held at the ECCA Convention in May.

HOSPITAL: The VAMC is in need of donations. Personal items for the women and infant items are also needed (sizes 3-6 months and 6-9 months). Also needed are underwear and sweats (sizes XL and up), winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and boots for Veterans. VOLUNTEERS are also welcome. If interested, call Volunteer Services and tell them you are with the VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

FUND-RAISERS: President Kathie reported at the February meeting that both fund-raisers, the Cancer Bowling and Soup-A-Thon, were great successes. She thanked everyone who participated and is already making plans for next year’s Soup-A-Thon.

AUXILIARY EVENTS: Eden Memorial VFW # Post 5798 (8989 Erie Road – Angola) is sponsoring the 4TH ANNUAL BABY SHOWER to benefit the Homeless Pregnant Female Veterans at the Buffalo VA Hospital on SUNDAY, APRIL 26 from 2-5 PM. Items requested are infant clothes (from 6-9 months +), gift cards, personal care products for both babies and moms, diapers, and anything else that is appropriate for the new moms and babies. Contact Evelyn for more information at 912-4697 or email eczast@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE: Articles for the ECCA Newsletter and/or Website must be submitted by the 20th of each month. Please keep in mind Newsletters are published every other month.

Peace & Love,
Deborah A. Fucina, PCP
ECCA Secretary, Webmaster & Newsletter Editor

ECC Ladies AUX: www.eccauxvfw.org
ECC VFW: www.eccvfw.org

FACEBOOK for ECC VFW & AUXILIARY:
Community Page: https://www.facebook.com/ECCVFWLA
Group Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/VFW.ECC.ECCA