



# VFW Auxiliary Membership Moment

## *Orienting New Members*

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The moment a person becomes a VFW Auxiliary member is special for both the member and the local Auxiliary. Whether you choose to mark this meaningful event with a special ceremony or induct new members at a monthly Auxiliary meeting, make sure you acknowledge and celebrate their involvement in the VFW Auxiliary. Encourage all local Auxiliary members to participate in welcoming this new member of your Auxiliary family.

During the induction ceremony, ask new Auxiliary members to talk briefly about themselves, their work, and their families. Ensure that all Auxiliary members personally introduce themselves to each new member. It is important that your local Auxiliary recognize the new member by name and photo (if available) in your next newsletter, on your website or Facebook page, or in other communications.

Give new members an understanding of the benefits of membership in your Auxiliary and the opportunities for service and involvement in the local community. Consider organizing a formal orientation program shortly after the new member's induction. Topics for the formal orientation program (that could extend over several sessions) may include:

- Your Auxiliary's history and impact on the community
- Auxiliary administrative details (meeting dates and times, etc.)
- Your Auxiliary's recent accomplishments
- Upcoming Auxiliary projects and activities
- How the new member would like to be involved

By following these steps, it is likely that a new Auxiliary member will feel appreciated and welcome, and lead to a lifelong interest in the VFW Auxiliary.