

# VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT HISTORIAN

Bulletin #1

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The VFW Auxiliary was founded on Sept 14, 1914 after the VFW asked for Representatives from across the country to meet and form a National organization. Rice Means, the wife of the then VFW Commander-in-Chief, was appointed as a temporary Chairman. Margaret Armstrong was given the role as temporary Secretary and was later elected to be the first National President of the Auxiliary.

The original name for the organization was the Ladies Auxiliary VFW and membership was offered exclusively to female spouses and relatives of members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The name changed to VFW Auxiliary on July 20, 2015, when the delegates at the 116th VFW National Convention in Pittsburgh voted to extend membership to eligible male spouses and relatives.

Connecticut's Auxiliary was founded on June 30, 1925 and started with 11 Auxiliaries. Percie Johnson was the first Department President. Connecticut's Auxiliaries were among the first to hold Gold Star Mother events.

## What's your Auxiliary's history?

**Who** were the original Officers?

**What** events did they participate in or Sponsor?

**Where** did they meet?

**When** did your Auxiliary get Chartered?

**Why** did changes occur over the years?

“Serving America's Heroes” - National President Donna Mills

“Soaring for our Veterans” – Dept. President Lynn Peet

