

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary - WI
Mentoring for Leadership
February, 2020
www.wivfwaux.org

Our National Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador Jane Ziebarth has provided “Eight Gifts that do not Cost One Cent” in her BLOG on the VFW Auxiliary website at <https://vfwauxiliary.org/blog/>. These gifts are excellent ideas for furthering your “Mentoring” activities if you are looking for a positive way to connect with fellow members, or for a positive way to reinforce how mentoring provides growth and understanding, or for a positive way to say thank you. Even with the new year upon us, there is still time to take the opportunity to share a gift and mentoring moment that do not cost even one cent.

Jane’s Eight Gifts are:

1. **The Gift of Listening**
You must *really* Do not interrupt, daydream, or plan your response – just listen.
2. **The Gift of Affection**
Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.
3. **The Gift of Laughter**
Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say, “I love to laugh with you.”
4. **The Gift of a Written Note**
A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.
5. **The Gift of a Compliment**
A simple and sincere, “You look great in red,” “You did a super job,” or “That was a wonderful meal” can make someone’s day.
6. **The Gift of a Favor**
Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.
7. **The Gift of Solitude**
There are times when we want nothing more than to be alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.
8. **The Gift of a Cheerful Disposition**
The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone by saying hello or thank you.

Remember: Members and friends are rare jewels. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

It is time to reflect on the mentoring activities that have taken place in your Auxiliary thus far. Mentoring in general has no specific beginning or ending date. However, the Mentoring for Leadership Program does when it comes to submitting an entry for awards! Please review the criteria and entry form for the [Awards for Auxiliaries](#) and start gathering the information to be submitted. If your Auxiliary has not implemented a mentoring program, it's not too late to get started. Remember there is also an [Award for Members](#) too! Be sure to submit both NLT March 31st to the undersigned.

While sharing our traditions with others and **“Giving Hope to Veterans and Families,”** **Mentoring for Leadership** will translate into **“Serving Our Veterans with Aloha.”**

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