

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

UNDERSTANDING OUR

AUXILIARY TRADITIONS

Welcome! We know that when you first join our Auxiliary, it can be overwhelming. We want you to have this guide to help you learn a little about our Ritual and the meaning of the things we do. Please ask if you have any questions. Thank you for becoming a part of our cause!

RAPS OF THE GAVEL:

- One rap: Attention – standing with hands at side, head up with eyes looking straight ahead.
- Two Raps: Rise
- Three Raps: Be seated

PARADE REST: Left foot is moved slightly to the side while bringing arms to the small of the back. Clasp the left thumb in the right hand. The head is bowed slightly during prayer.

SALUTE: During our meeting, the President will say “Salute” when the flags enter and leave the room, as well as when we say the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem. Salute the flag by placing the palm of the right hand flat over the heart. All veterans are allowed and encouraged to render a military hand salute for passing of flags, Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem.

- Note: When the term “flag” is used as above, it generally means the larger flags as opposed to the flags the color team carries. When the color team is carrying flags, the President will instruct whether you will stand and/or salute.

ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR AUXILIARY OFFICERS:

- When the Secretary calls roll, each officer will rise as her/his office/name is called and remain standing until all have been called.
- When officers (including color bearers/flag bearers/banner bearers) vacate their stations but remain in the room, the chair does not have to be filled.

UNDERSTANDING OUR

AUXILIARY TRADITIONS, Continued

OTHER TRADITIONS AND POINTERS:

- Members stand when the flag(s) are moving on the floor (again, this usually means the “larger” flags. When only the color bearer flags are in motion, you will be advised what to do via gavel raps – even when the Post remains sitting and/or standing.
- Auxiliary members do not clap in unison – again, even when the Post does so.
- Members stand to be recognized prior to speaking to the President. To speak to another member, say “Madam/Brother President [or whoever has the floor at that time], through you to Sister/Brother” and then your question or comment.
- Any member may make a motion or second a motion. Identify yourself and, if applicable, your position or office. Remember, when you make a motion, do NOT say “I make a motion . . .”, say “I move . . .”.
- If a meeting is in session and you need to enter, rap on the door and show your current dues/membership card to the Guard for admittance.
- All movement and talking will STOP when the Chaplain is opening/closing the Bible or the National Anthem is being sung/played. Just stop – don’t rush for a chair!
- Members will not cross between the President’s station and the altar except as directed. This is considered hallowed/sacred ground symbolizing where our comrades who have answered the final roll call are at rest.
- As with every organization, we have a “lingo” all our own. To assist new members in understanding the difference between Auxiliary, District, and Department, I like to use the analogy of well-known government entities: Auxiliary = City, District = County, Department = State, and National = Federal.
- An Auxiliary may offer to hold Memorial Services for a deceased member by contacting the family without waiting for a request from the family. Any part of the service that may conflict with any religious belief may be omitted and/or changed.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 425-235-8542 or via email at leu.judy@gmail.com.

Loyally,

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