

MARYLAND COMBAT VETERAN



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U. S.

NOV - DEC 2016

VOLUME 40, NO. 3

State Commander



T. C. Williams

Comrades,

"Choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong."

I start with sad news once again. Comrade Dwight Watson passed away recently. He was a long time member of the State Honor Guard, Grand Commander of the MOC, and an All American Post Commander. He always had a joke and was willing to help whenever asked. We will miss you Dwight.

As of October 26th, the membership for the Department is at **83.05%**. Hopefully this number will rise to 85% by the end of October and 95% by the end of December. This goal will require everyone's help.

November 1st is the deadline for the participant entries in the VOD and Patriots Pen contest. Be sure to get your entries in to the District Chairman as soon as they are judged and by the next deadline.

Remember, when you report your Community Service activity in these areas, to include the names of your Post winners. This way you will be sure to get credit for those programs.

November is a busy month. **Election Day** is the 8th so be sure and vote. If you do not vote you lose your right to complain. If you transport someone to the polls, it is a reportable activity, so be sure to include your time and mileage cost on your CS report. The 11th is **Veterans' Day** and all should participate in the local events held in your areas. It is a good day to wear your medals or ribbons with pride. The 25th is **Thanksgiving** and I wish you and yours a very happy holiday.

Sometime in the not too distant future you will find the Annual Fundraiser tickets in your mailbox. Please take the time to respond. This is to aid in the support of the Department Convention.

Happy Holidays! I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy, prosperous, and Happy New Year.

T.C. Williams
Commander



Department of Maryland VOD / Patriot's Pen Winners – Where are they now?

By Jocelyn Runice, 2008-2009 Maryland State VOD Winner



Jocelyn Runice 2016

I grew up loving to write: my summers were spent completing made-up writing assignments and going to writing camps held by the local college. So when my 6th grade English teacher, Ms. Gardner, mentioned an out-of-class essay competition held by the VFW, I was eager to participate.

I won at the post level for Patriots Pen from sixth to eighth grade, before graduating to Voice of Democracy my freshman and sophomore year of high school. That second year of VoD, with the friendship and support of Mr. Chenoweth and the Mac Arthurs, I won at the State level and went on to represent Maryland at the National level in Washington DC.

I remember being incredibly nervous as my family drove me to the DC conference - What were the other State winners like? Would I make friends easily? I had no idea what to expect, and told my parents to pick me up as early as possible on the last day. Funny enough, when that day actually rolled around I ended up calling them and telling them to "slow down and take your time!" Between a trip to the White House, touring the monuments, and running around the hotel with my new friends, I never wanted to leave. The only thing that could coax me into the car home was the promise of our next reunion, at Valley Forge in Philadelphia.

Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy - and later Buddy Poppy and the Patriotic Art competition - taught me a lot about US history and led me to consider what words like "freedom" and "democracy" meant to me at a personal, national, and global level. I gained a new appreciation for veterans, and all that men and women who serve have faced during and after the war. The competitions also taught me about confidence and poise, and how to speak with a kind of authority even at a young age. And lastly, I learned a lot about friendship. The people I met along my VFW journey have stayed with me to this day - the Voice of Democracy State winners that made it so hard to leave DC during the National competition are all still in contact with one another. I met up with one of my closest VoD friends as recently as last month!

What began as a suggestion by my English teacher in sixth grade became some of my most cherished memories and opportunities, even eleven years later after graduating from Washington University in St. Louis with a degree in Graphic Design and Art History. Today, I work as a graphic designer for the publishing company Condé Nast, whose offices are within One World Trade Center in New York City. I find myself everyday using the knowledge and life skills that I learned through the various VFW programs, and I thank you so much for the chance to be a part of them.



State winners at DC Conference



Group of winners on Valley Forge trip

State Sr. Vice Commander



William Miller

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters;

Membership numbers are moving in the right direction. Here's hoping we'll be at 85% by the time you read this. I am also hoping that you all are working your membership and other Programs hard. We need to do all we can in all our programs to ensure Commander T.C. Williams attains All-American State Commander status. Use the Department sponsored 50/50 Life Program to gain new members and convert annuals. If you aren't familiar with the

program, give your Post or District Commander a shout, or feel free to contact me at seniorvicecommander@vfwmaryland.org.

The upcoming months hold program opportunities. Our next opportunity is Veterans Day. All Posts should be planning ceremonies for this occasion. And don't forget to report it on your Community Activities Report under Americanism. Looking forward to all your successes on behalf of our Veterans.



Also, finally, the Police Post 1529 Monument has been relocated to a place of honor. It now resides at Garrison Forest Veterans

Cemetery at the foot of the Carillon there and will forever be a monument to those interred in these hallowed grounds and their service.



Last, but certainly not least, I want to wish all my comrades, brothers and sisters a Happy Holiday Season, and a Prosperous 2017. As always, I'll be looking forward to seeing you as I travel throughout the great state of Maryland.

Bill Miller



State Jr. Vice Commander



Denise Perry

Comrades,

October was the month to assess whether all of things that are due next month will be ready to turn in. That includes reviewing the State Commander's All State program. If you haven't done so, now would be the right time to make sure you are checking all the boxes so that your Post will be an All-State Post.

November is the month for a number of deadlines; including 990 Tax returns, All State requirements, and VOD and Patriot's Pen.

VFW National Legislative Committee

I hope all of you are registered and will vote on November 8th. This is a very important election for everyone, no matter what your party affiliation. Congress did not approve a budget so the federal government is operating under a continuing resolution until December 31st. When they come back in January they will start on the budget and everything will be reviewed including military and veteran programs. I encourage everyone to sign up for Action Corp and respond to Action Alerts. Legislation that would help or hurt us has been decided because of the number of responses Congress received.

Denise Perry



Get Involved In the **Election Process**

It's your right ... It's your responsibility. As veterans, VFW members truly know what words like citizenship and patriotism mean and the obligations that come with them. VFW members understand that these obligations do not just end when our service is complete.

There is no group of citizens that has a more vested right to vote than our nation's veterans. We must continue to play a role as patriotic citizens and get involved in the elections!

We Must Elect a **Pro-Veteran Government**

Veterans and military quality of life and national security issues must be a priority of Congress and the Administration. The only way to ensure this is to vote for those candidates who believe in our issues.

With continued talks about deficit reduction, budgets and cuts in spending programs that affect veterans, military and their families, it is doubly important that we support candidates who understand and support VFW Priority Goals.



Veterans of Foreign Wars
National Legislative Service &
Action Corps
200 Maryland Ave, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-2230
E-Mail: vfwnc@vfw.org

A How To Guide to Getting Involved in the Election Process

Register to

Vote!

As a citizen and VFW advocate, you should be registered to vote! Contact your local board of elections for applications and more information or use the National Mail Voter Registration Form. Print it directly from the website www.sac.gov, fill it out and send it in. Uniformed Services members and their families can find more information about absentee voter registration at the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.gov.

Encourage Others to **Register**

Plan a voter registration drive well in advance of any state registration deadlines. To ensure a good turnout:

- find a central location such as a library, a grocery store, a public transportation station, etc.;
- make sure you receive enough applications from your board of elections; and
- display banners or signs to advertise and attract attention to your booth.

Host A **Town Hall Meeting** or Candidates Forum

Candidates and campaigns are always looking for places to host an event and audiences to speak to. Why not host an event at a VFW Post in your State. Here are some tips for hosting your own event:

- Send a letter or email of invitation to each candidate—set a date, a location and follow up with a phone call.
- Promote the event to community groups, veterans groups and the public. Use your local media to publicize it.
- Select a moderator who is comfortable speaking in front of an audience and who can keep the program on topic.
- Prepare questions in advance.

Attend Other Candidate **Forums**

If candidates cannot make it to your Post, ask veteran-related questions at other public forums. See that our issues are on their agendas. If you know the moderator or someone on the panel, urge them to bring up veterans issues, too.

Get Involved in the **Campaign**

Although VFW members cannot endorse candidates on behalf of VFW, there is nothing preventing you from working on behalf of your favorite candidate.

Campaigns are always looking for volunteers, and offering a hand can be a great way to help candidates in their election bid.

See if the candidate has a veterans council or advisory panel, and see if you can provide any input. Every effort helps.

Stay **Informed**

Your job isn't done when the elections are over. You must use your influence and continue to urge your representatives to support VFW and veterans' issues.

Subscribe to *Washington Weekly*, VFW's weekly e-mail newsletter, to stay informed and on top of issues and things you need to communicate to your legislators. Join VFW's Quick Reaction Force (QRF) now on Twitter. VFW recently launched a new advocacy tool using Twitter to help provide immediate and effective constituent engagement with Capitol Hill to protect veterans' priorities. To subscribe to the weekly or our QRF on Twitter visit VFW in DC at www.vfw.org.

State Chief of Staff



Keith Kaider

Comrades,

September was another busy month. It was a pleasure to accompany the State Commander to the suicide awareness event, *Illuminating the Darkness*, at Fort Meade.

It was also my pleasure to represent the Department at the POW/MIA Remembrance at Post 5118. The ceremony by the Vietnam Veterans of America was especially moving.

I accompanied the Commander to the District 3 Meeting. With the usual Staff Meeting, CofA, and my own Post and District meetings, I was fully occupied.

Going forward, the deadline for Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen entries to the Posts is November 1st. Time to remind those you sent information to that they need to make their submissions.

Membership is still a priority. The Commander has set a goal of 4-5% increase per month until reach 100%.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the CofA in November.

In Comradeship,
Keith Kaider



State Adjutant



Douglas MacArthur

Comrades;

There are some exciting happenings going on at your Department Headquarters. Assistant Adjutant John Gistedt has taken the lead and has been working diligently on a new website that was brought to us through a grant from VFW National Headquarters. This grant allows us to "piggy back" our website with the National Website to offer both National and Department access. This website, when completely uploaded with our Department information, will also allow

District and Post access for an Annual fee of \$360.00. This website will be designed by each state to meet its individual needs.

John will be providing a demo of the new website at the next VFW CoA meeting on November 12th. We urge any Post Commander or Post representative who may be interested to attend this meeting.

For access the new website click here www.vfwmd.org and the site will open to the page below.

The US Army logo slides to reveal all Military branches of service;



and, as you continue down the page, you will see the following:



This is followed by the Commander's message, our Mission Statement and links to Maryland and National news; and, a listing (with photos) of our State Officers and District Commanders.

This website will also allow on-line reporting which we hope to have available after the first of the year.

A good example of a site that is up and running is the State of Michigan. Click on www.vfwmi.org to view their site.

As the Holiday Season approaches, there will be excited children everywhere. Please be more aware of our children around their school bus pick-up and drop-off sites. Store parking lots will also be filled with excited children hoping to sneak a peek at Santa and give him their wish list. As the weather gets colder, driving may become a bit of a challenge. I guess what I am saying is, please, please be careful and watch out for our children, especially during this holiday season.

Our next CoA meeting will be on November 12, 2016 at E. E. Streets Memorial Post 5118 starting at 12pm – Summer Uniform.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 410-752-6474. Please forward all faxes to the Department Hqtrs at (410-783-2939).

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season (Merry Christmas, Happy Yule, Pleasant Winter Solstice, Happy Hanukkah, and Joyous Kwanza) and a healthy prosperous New Year.



In Comradeship,
Doug MacArthur

Happy Holidays

State Quartermaster



D. Harvey Cunningham

Comrades,

As you all know the Quartermaster Bonds through the Department of Maryland expired on August 31, 2016. Anyone that has not renewed their Bond is now not in compliance with the National By-Laws. Please re-new your Bond as soon as possible. Also any post or District that is bonded with a company outside the Department of Maryland must send a copy of their

Bond to Department Headquarters.

The Department 50% Life Membership Program is going well. I keep hearing from Posts asking about the program. At the September 17, 2016 Council of Administration Meeting each District Commander was given information on the program with copies for each Post Commander. As of this writing we have converted 56 Annual members to Life Membership. The total cost so far is \$ 8,265.00. The Council of Administration approved the program for a 3 years period at a maximum expense of \$50,000.00.

Post and District audits are very important and the National By-Laws state they must be filed with the Department every quarter. Audits are now due for the September 30, 2016 quarter. There are still audits due for June 30, 2016. Please get your audits in as soon as possible. If you need help please contact me.

83.05%. The goal for 10/31/2016 is 85% which is very obtainable. The goal for Nov. 30, 2016 is 90% and everyone should try to be at 100% by Dec. 31, 2016. Remember all 100% Commanders on December 31, 2016 will receive a "Jump in and help a Vet" team membership jacket.

D. Harvey Cunningham



State Judge Advocate



Victor Fuentealba

Comrades,

At the October meeting of the Maryland Veterans Commission, it was announced that Veterans can now have the word "Veteran" printed on the front of their Maryland Driver's Licenses at no charge. You will then be able to use your driver's license when making a purchase at a store that gives Veterans a discount, without additional identification.

The next session of the Maryland General Assembly will begin in January and I will keep you posted on any legislation that is of interest to Veterans and their families. In the meantime, I would like to extend my best wishes to you and your family for a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season.

Vic Fuentealba

State Chaplain



Rev. Ron James

Comrades,

It's Fall again and I can't help but see God's work in all the beautiful colors in the trees. Just like life, everything dies, but is reborn. It will be Spring before we know it, and fresh flowers will be here.

This is the time of year when so many holidays are celebrated. November 1 & 2 are All Saints and All Souls days. November 11th is Veterans Day and every Veteran should attend a service somewhere or let someone know what the Veterans of this great country have done to keep us free. November 24th is Thanksgiving Day. December 25th is Christmas.

Please help me pray for all the soldiers, and their families, who are not near their loved ones on these holidays. Remember that I am always available to each member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their family. 24/7 (410) 829-6308. God bless us all.
vfwchaplain@verizon.net

Rev. Ron James



State Surgeon



Roy Lare

Comrades,

I was a smoker and have been blessed with COPD. So I thought I would include information about respiratory problems.

Fall and Winter Advice for Respiratory Patients

Stay Healthy!! Keeping healthy is more important than ever for patients with chronic lung diseases. Some common-sense rules

prevail in maintaining virus- or infection-free health—washing your hands often, sanitizing between washes, quitting smoking, caring for your teeth and gums, avoiding germs, and considering vaccinations like flu shots. But there are even more considerations you may not have thought of with regard to staying healthy.

Humidity

Your lungs require a great deal of moisture—100% relative humidity—to keep their cleansing systems working, and to keep you free from infection. Your nose provides a great deal of this moisture to incoming air, but in the drier air of wintertime, it is more of a challenge. Dry air can be harmful to anyone. For people suffering from chronic lung problems, it can cause serious and lengthy respiratory infections.

To stay healthier during dry winter months, try these tips:

Drink plenty of liquids — water, juices, and more water! Check with your physician to determine your optimum goal. Drinking most liquids before your evening meal should minimize interruptions during the night.

Add humidity to your air with humidifying devices. Be sure to keep your systems clean and germ-free. Cleaning your humidifier will depend upon the type of humidification system you have; be sure to check your instructions to ensure optimum working condition.

Cold Air. When outside, breathe through your nose — it will help warm the inspired air. On cold days, wrap a scarf around your face; it will help warm the cold air before it reaches your nose. Also, when you first step outside, stop and breathe a few short breaths before proceeding — this may save you a few coughing spells.

Avoid Colds. If others have colds, try to avoid them. Their germs are airborne. If they must be near you, they should wear a surgical face mask (available from drug stores). Be sure to avoid using their plates or utensils. Also, try to avoid crowds when possible since there are always cold germs where there are groups of people.

Keep Your Nose Clean. Blow your nose as often as necessary. Your nose works overtime in the winter months, trapping dust and germs. It's always a good idea to use fresh, disposable tissues so you can dispose of them afterward.

Keep Active. Exercise is important year-round! If the weather gets too bad to exercise outside, walk around the house and climb stairs. Try to do as much as you would if you were outdoors. Consider investing in home exercise equipment to keep your exercise regimen going during the wintertime. *Consult your physician before starting a new exercise program.*

Avoid Dust. The dryness of winter weather can bring a great deal of dust into your life. Follow these tips to minimize dust:

- If you have a central heating system, replace the air filters before turning your system on for the season.
- Dust frequently with a dusting agent that keeps the dust on the cloth. Wash or dry-clean your drapes and curtains. Vacuum or dust behind radiators. Don't forget to change your vacuum cleaner bags and filters regularly.

Keep a Healthy Weight. During winter months, try to stay at or a little below your ideal weight. Since eating and digesting food can be exhausting, it's better to eat 5-6 small meals a day than three large meals.

Consider a Flu Shot. It is recommended that many respiratory patients get an influenza vaccine in the fall — before the flu season begins. Ask your physician about getting a flu shot. Be sure to get plenty of rest in the days prior to the vaccination.

Stay away from smokers. Be aware that smoke from someone else's cigarette can be irritating and as harmful to you as if you were smoking. Ask your friends not to smoke — or at least to smoke away from you, outside or in another room.

Roy Lare

410-754-8707 roylare@gmail.com



State Inspector



Bobby Brown

Comrades,

Audit Reports for the quarter ending September 30th were due by October 31st. Post Inspections were due 1 November. I am receiving some audit reports that fail to indicate the period of report or do not report figures in Item #4 Post Relief Fund and Item #5 Post Dues Reserve Fund. Additionally, I receive audit

reports that have not been signed by a minimum of 2 Post/District Trustees and/or the District/Post Commander. These reports are being returned to the District/Post for correction and will not be credited as received until audit report is returned to Department Headquarters with all the information and signatures required.

This year's Inspection Program is progressing on schedule. I urge all inspectors to insure that all information is accurately reported.

Keep those reports coming in! Have a Happy and Peaceful Holiday Season!

In comradeship,
Bobby Brown



*VFW and VFW Auxiliary
Department Officers
2016-2017*

EVENTS AROUND THE STATE



Congratulations to Elkton Memorial VFW Post 8175 who celebrated their 70th Anniversary



Members of E. E. Streets Memorial VFW and VFW Auxiliary participated in the 9/11 Commemoration in Tilghman, MD

9/11 National Day of Remembrance at Free State Post 8950

By R. Edwards

On the 15th Anniversary of September 11, 2011 (9/11), VFW Free State Post 8950, Lanham Maryland, conducted a program to recognize the near 3,000 people that died during the most tragic attack on U.S. soil. Post Commander Robb Edwards figured it would be thoughtful to team with their newly adopted Boy and Girl Scouts Troops, of Reid Temple AME Church (Gerry Smith, Scout Master, Ty Smith, Scout Leader) to formally honor the fallen, their families, and remember them this day.

In addition to program formalities, both the Boy and Girl Scouts participated and read two poems. Girl Scout Ayanna Hussey (Girl Scout Gold Award Recipient) of Troop 6907, and her little sister Cadet Girl Scout Aaliyah Hussey of Troop 1447, read "A Toast to the Fallen." Boy Scouts Akin Hussey and Jeremiah Smith, both of Troop 450, read "United We Stand."



Post 8950's program was heartfelt and moving for all. Post Comrades were appreciative plus thanked the Scouts and their parents for understanding what this day means to our nation and the importance of their participation. One Post Comrade said following the program, "after near ten years, it felt good to rekindle an active relationship with local Scouts!" This past July, 13 Boy Scouts from adopted Troop 450 also helped the Comrades repaint their artillery gun in front of the Post. All said, this is one fine example of how the 9/11 National Day of Remembrance was well recognized in District 2, Post 8950 like other Posts throughout the Department of Maryland

Upcoming Events



VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE



Southern Charles County Memorial VFW Post 10081 and
Auxiliary

Invite You to an
OPEN HOUSE
FOR
ALL VETERANS
And their Families


Friday.....**NOVEMBER 11, 2016**
11:00AM




Maryland Veterans Museum & Patriot Park
Remembering a Honoring America's Heroes


11000 Crain Highway
Newburg, MD 20664

FOOD and REFRESHMENTS
Will be served after the Ceremony



Dorie Miller VFW Post 5367

Celebrates



Come join us for this memorable occasion!

Sunday, November 20, 2016
Church Service 10:00 A.M.
followed by Celebration Luncheon

Place: *Heritage United Church of Christ*
3106 Liberty Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

***Your Event Flyer
Could Be
Here !***

QUARTER AUCTION




VFW Auxiliary to Aberdeen Memorial Post 10028
821 Old Philadelphia Road, Aberdeen, MD 21001
410-272-1258

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Doors open at 5:00 pm
Auction starts at 6:00 pm

\$3.00 per paddle 2 for \$5.00

Door Prizes

- 1 Quarter Bid – value up to \$25
- 2 Quarter Bid – value \$26 – \$50
- 3 Quarter Bid – value \$51 to \$75
- 4 Quarter Bid – value \$76 & up

Raffles

For more information, please call:
Carol Brown 443-422-8189
or
VFW Post 10028 410-272-1218

Food will be available for purchase



The VFW Post 3065 Auxiliary
Is Hosting Their....

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER and DANCE

Saturday, December 10, 2016
7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.
Donation \$20.00

1201 Union Avenue
Hampden, MD 21211

DJ Dave McKay, Dinner and Beer
Cush Bar is Available
For Tickets

Contact Michele Maszon
443-449-1294 or
Shawn – 443-621-0985

MARYLAND COMBAT VETERAN

Publisher/Editor: Linda MacArthur, PSP

The newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Department of Maryland, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, 101 North Gay Street, Room J, Baltimore, MD 21202 combatvet16-17@comcast.net

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

As you will notice in this issue we are broadening our subject matter with the hopes that more Posts/Auxiliaries will utilize this newsletter to promote their events both past and future.

Also, we hope that you will provide your own stories for "VOD/Patriots Pen Winners . . . Where are they Now?" to tell the stories of your Post winner. Send your articles to me at the email address above.

VFW Auxiliary State President



Betty Stahm

Dear Brothers, Sisters
and Comrades,



It's hard to believe that we are fast approaching the Holiday Season. The time is going way to fast. I have enjoyed all my District Visitations. To date we have seen all the great work being done by District 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11. The Department Officers and Chairmen extend a special "Thank You" for your hospitality and warm welcome.

To date our Membership is at **87.80%**. I would like to thank Auxiliaries **350, 5246, 5337, 8672, 3285, 6918, 8185, 3065** and **10078** for already achieving their 100% in membership. To date we have recruited over **793** male members. If your Post has a Men's Auxiliary, I asked that you reach out to them to join our organization. Also invite male relatives of your Post Members. We are building the Department of Maryland to be the very best that it can be to best serve our Veterans.

This issue of Combat Veteran I would like to feature our Extension & Hospital Programs:

Extension - As a member it is your duty to make sure you have a strong, viable Auxiliary. If you have agreed to take an office, make sure you are responsive to your duties & obligations. Do you think your membership is to a "Club"? Then you are on the wrong Train! We work and support our Veterans and our Military. Communication is the key to having a successful organization. Open up dialogue with your members and Post members to see how you can improve your Auxiliary. Work together and we will do great things. The Department of Maryland is here to work with you and for you. Our Goals this year in Extension Program are to maintain current Auxiliaries and to Establish New Auxiliaries.

Hospital - Our Veterans are in need of our help. They are aching both physically and mentally. We must bring awareness to the mental illnesses that our Veterans are experiencing. Military

Suicides are growing among our Veterans and we must bring awareness to our leaders and the people of our land. We need to volunteer time and donate supplies needed at our VAMC and other medical facilities. VFW Auxiliary members have been volunteering in hospitals and medical facilities since the organization's inception in 1914. The Hospital Program was one of the first nationally adopted programs for our organization. Our Goals this year for the Hospital Program are: Volunteer Service in Medical Facilities, Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition, Veterans Voices Writing Project and Military Suicide Awareness.

At this time, I would like to welcome VFW Auxiliary to Oldtown Memorial (previously called Clifford B. Sisler) Post 9451 located in Oldtown, MD, instituted on October 14, 2016. We are also excited that we will be instituting one more Auxiliary in the very near future. We are excited to have these new Auxiliaries join our great organization and we are here to help you in any way.

November is a very busy month for us. Make sure you "Thank a Veteran" for everything they have done for us on their day, November 11th. We will be well represented at the Eastern States Conference. Then after that we are excited to have our National President Colette Bishop visit our great State on November 20th thru November 21st. I would like to thank Post 6506 and it's Auxiliary for hosting the Meet and Greet and Post 7472 and it's Auxiliary for hosting the National President's Dinner. I am excited to show Madam President Colette how hard we work for our Veterans. Then soon after that we have our Christmas Conference that is fast approaching at Post 5118 on Sunday, December 4th. Again I say, "Where does time go"? We will be soon at our halfway mark for our year.

I want to wish everyone a "Blessed Merry Christmas and a Very Happy Holiday. May each of you have a Healthy, Happy New Year. Remember it is our Veterans who gave us the right to celebrate our religious Freedoms, whatever they may be. "Thank You" to our Veterans and Our Military. May God Bless the U. S. of A., and those who defended her both past and present.



With Warm Regards,
Betty Stahm
410.598.5895



(FAQ - Frequently Asked Question)

Many have asked about Men's Auxiliary members "transferring" to the VFW Auxiliary and/or why they have to show eligibility.

A former Men's Auxiliary member CANNOT transfer to the VFW Auxiliary. They belonged to a state-run organization under their Department that was in no way affiliated with the VFW Auxiliary.

According to our Bylaws, ALL new members (regardless of past membership in any other organization) MUST fill out an application, show proof of eligibility, pay dues and be voted on. There are no exceptions to this. The chart below shows eligibility requirements.

VFW Auxiliary Chaplain



Greetings

The holiday season is fast approaching. The holiday season brings out depression and suicide among our Veterans and friends. Please take time to remember our Veterans and deployed troops with phone cards and care packages.

Cynthia Davis

Auxiliaries please remember your sick and shut-in members with a phone call, visits, and thinking of you cards; they can make a difference.

Enjoy your holidays and be safe!

Happy Holidays



VFW Auxiliary National Certified Recruiter Trainer



Libby DallaTezza

"AWESOME JOB" to the Department of Maryland VFW Auxiliary!!! We have reached our **yearly goal** of new and rejoined members!! That's right...not just 1st quarter goal or 2nd or 3rd quarter goal....but the entire year goal with many, many, new life members!

I received word from National that we are the first Department to do so. Way to go recruiters!!!

Way to go Maryland....now to 100% plus 1



Now that you have your School of Instruction Degree,
you can further your education by attending the

Department of Maryland

Recruiting Class and Online Auxiliary Academy Class

Instructed by National Recruiter Trainer Libby DallaTezza and
Department President Betty Stahm

November 12, 2016
11am to 2pm
Lt Peter G. Zouck VFW Post 521
214 Tollgate Road
Owings Mills MD 21117

*Advance Registration Required - Return below form by October 31, 2016 to Libby DallaTezza via email or USPS
Class is being offered at No Charge. Coffee and Cake will be served.
Recruiting Kit will be awarded to the Auxiliary with the MOST ATTENDEES!
All Attendees will be placed in Drawings for Recruiting "Tools"

School of Instruction 2016 Part 2 Registration Form
Return form by October 31, 2016 to Libby DallaTezza via email or USPS
Libby DallaTezza 1751 Keyville Road South Keymar MD 21757
vfwauxrecruiter4md@comcast.net

Auxiliary Name: _____	Post Number: _____
Contact Person: _____	Phone/Cell: _____
Email Address: _____	Number of Attendees: _____

VFW Auxiliary Secretary



Linda MacArthur

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

Well the cool weather we were hoping for (to relieve the heat) is here and I have heard some day already they were ready for springtime. Well, hang onto that thought as I think we might be in for a long winter.

We have several events coming before the end of this year and I have updated to Calendar below to reflect those events.

2016-2017 Schedule of Events

2016	Event	Location	Time
Nov 1	Official Hospital Visit	Elsemere – Wilmington DE	1:00pm (SAT)
Nov 12	Graduate School	LT Peter G Zouck VFW Post 521, Owings Mills, MD	11a-2p (SAT)
Nov 18-20	Eastern States Conference	Camp Hill, PA	
Nov 20-21	National President's Visit		
Nov 20	Meet & Greet	Charles Evering Post 6506, Rosedale, MD	6:00-8:00pm (SUN)
Nov 21	Tour of McVets (Downtown Baltimore)	Meet at Post 6506 9:30am for Bus (departs 10:00am) Tour McVets and have Lunch	9:30am – 2:00pm (MON)
Nov 21	Dinner with National President	Yingling-Ridgely Post 7472, Ellicott City, MD	6:00 – 7:00pm (MON)
Dec 4	Auxiliary Christmas Conference	E. E. Streets Memorial VFW Post 5118, Easton, MD	11:00am (SUN)
Dec 10	District 7 Official Visit	Monocacy Valley Memorial Post 6918, Taneytown, MD	10:00am (SAT)
Dec 17	District 14 Official Visit	Wells McComas Post 2678 Sparrows Point, MD	Light Lunch 12p Mtg 1p (SAT)
Jan 21	District 16 Official Visit	Meuse Post 194, Salisbury, MD	3:00pm (SAT)
Jan 22	District 4 Official Visit	E. E. Streets Memorial Post 5118, Easton, MD	1:00pm (SUN)
Jan 22-26	Ladies Auxiliary Sr. Vice Conference	Kansas City, MO	
Jan 29	Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Banquet	Free State VFW Post 8950, Lanham, MD	TBA
Feb 20-25	Auxiliary Mid-Year Conference	Western Caribbean 5 Night Cruise	
Feb 26 – Mar 2	Legislative Conf & VOD Parade of Winners	Washington, DC	
Mar 18	Commander & President's Testimonial	Charles Evering Post 6506, Rosedale, MD	TBA
Mar 19	Council of Administration Meeting	Charles Evering Post 6506, Rosedale, MD	12:00 pm
Apr 21	Joint VFW & AUX Golf Outing Fundraiser	Ruggles Golf Course, APG, MD	TBA
June 5-8	Maryland State Convention	Princess Royale, Ocean City, MD	
Jul 22-25	National Convention	New Orleans, LA	

I would like to Congratulate John Sturms, the Auxiliary President at our newly instituted Oldtown Memorial (old name Clifford B. Sisler) VFW Auxiliary to Post 9451 in Oldtown, Maryland, District 3. We wish you and your new Auxiliary members the best of luck as you move forward in support of our Veterans and remind you that the Department Officers are here to help you; do not hesitate to contact us.



Institution Ceremony of VFW Auxiliary 9451



President Stahm and newly elected officers of VFW Auxiliary 9451

A reminder to all VFW Auxiliary Officers, your dues must be paid by December 31, 2016 or National will automatically remove you from Office which means your Auxiliary Sr. Vice President will move into the position of President and the Jr. Vice President will move into the position of Sr. Vice President automatically. A vote must then be held for the office of Jr. Vice President. This also includes Auxiliary Secretaries and Treasurers. Once National removes you from Office, you cannot hold office again until the next Auxiliary

year which begins on July 1, 2017. Your Auxiliary will need to elect a new Treasurer and appoint a new Secretary in this event. So please be sure that your dues are paid prior to the end of 2016.

Also, if you should change your President, Treasurer or Secretary for any reason, you should notify Department as soon as possible so that this change can be made to the Department records as well as notifying the National Organization so they can update their database so there is no lapse in communication.

As we move into the Holiday Season, please remember those less fortunate in our Communities. Now is the time to plan those Thanksgiving Baskets and get the names from your local church, schools or Social Services of those Families who would not have Thanksgiving, or for that matter, Christmas without our love and support.

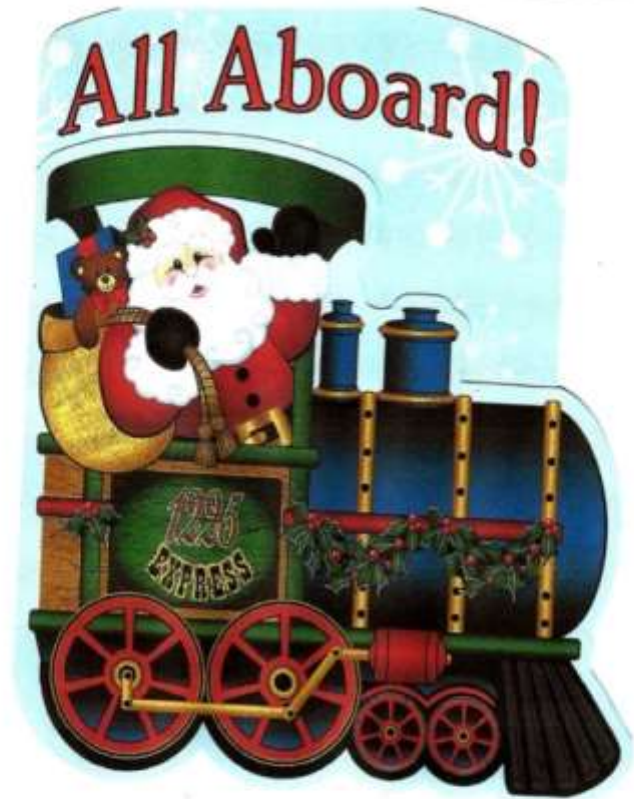
And especially remember our troops, both at home and abroad during this Holiday season. They too may be struggling and in need of our help and support. Contact your local FRG (Family Readiness Group) representative to find out if there are military families that can use your assistance during the Holiday Season.

To all of my Comrades, Brothers and Sisters I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, a Joyous Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year. Stay warm and safe during the upcoming winter months!

Lyn MacArthur



The Christmas Conference is just around the corner and we hope you will be able to join us. Remember those homemade cookies and their recipes.



CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE - DEC. 4TH 11:00AM

E.E.STREETS MEMORIAL POST 5118 EASTON

SANTA may appear with gifts!! McVets Choir will entertain us!

Bring Your Favorite COOKIES & Recipe! They may win a PRIZE!

Menu: LASAGNA, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD (red&green food for Christmas!)

Come on out & have a Fun time!!