



# THE MARYLAND VFW COMBAT VETERAN

The Official Publication of the Department of Maryland Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



vfwmd.org

May-June 2018

Volume 41—No. 6



William Miller, Commander  
Dept. of MD Veterans of Foreign Wars

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

Well, here we are, my last article as your State Commander. This year, for the most part has been very fruitful. Many great things were accomplished and donations made in support of our Veterans. Unfortunately, we've fallen short of the membership goals I set for the year. As of this writing, we need 1070 members to be 100% in the State, and we only have until June 30, 2018. As I've said before, please don't forget the 50/50 Life Member Program funded by Department to get new members. Maryland deserves to be All-American!

Many thanks to PSC Tom Kimball and his wife Jackie and everyone else who made the Testimonial Dinner for President Rooker and me a success this past March. For those of you who didn't attend, you missed a great time, and my wife Penny and I missed you.

Before I close, I want to wish the incoming Commander, SVC Denise Perry, all the best as she takes over command of the Department of Maryland. I ask all of you

to throw your support to her and her programs.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to making my year as your 91<sup>st</sup> State Commander a special year for me. I especially want to thank my Line Officers, District Commanders, and my home Post 521 in Owings Mills for your help. I assure you, I will not be going away, and will stay active "*Giving Star-Spangled Veterans Service Daily.*" See you at the Ocean!

Yours in Comradeship,  
*Bill Miller*  
State Commander





Denise Perry  
Sr. Vice Commander  
Dept. of MD VFW

Comrades, Sisters  
and Brothers,

The year is coming to a close most of the programs and elections have been completed. Upcoming events include officer installations and the State Convention.

For those of you who have free time and want to get prepared for next year, check out the Learning Materials on the Department website:

<http://www.vfwmd.org>

Congratulations to all of the Posts and Districts who met their goals this year. I look forward to seeing you receive your awards the State Convention.

#### VFW National Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee's next scheduled conference isn't until September. We still need to remain vigilant regarding legislation and the FY 2018 budget that affects veterans, military and their families.

<http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup.htm>

Yours in comradeship,

*Denise E. Perry*

State Sr. Vice Commander



Rev. Ron James  
Chaplain  
Dept. of MD VFW

Comrades, Sisters  
and Brothers,

May is a month of installation. Don't forget to pray during the ceremony. (It's in the manual) Also, don't forget during the obligation the words "So help me God". It may have been long ago that

you were installed in the VFW as a comrade, but the first words of the obligation are "In the presence of Almighty God". God is a big part of the Veterans of Foreign Wars procedures, and our daily routine. I often think of the old saying: "There are no atheists in a foxhole!" I think of the United States of America as a foxhole during the past few years; and consider how there should be no atheist among us.

This nation was founded on religious freedom, not the freedom of the few to not let the majority practice their religion. A few are trying to get the "UNDER GOD" removed from the pledge of allegiance. If this happens, then "In God we Trust" will soon be off our currency. Crosses are being taken down as a result of a few persons being vocal. Prayers are already out of schools, and people are not letting their children join the scouts

*See Chaplain, Page 3*

THE MARYLAND VFW COMBAT VETERAN

#### STATE COMMANDER

William Miller

#### ADJUTANT

Douglas MacArthur

#### EDITOR

Jacquelyn Kimball

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[MDVFWCombatVet@comcast.net](mailto:MDVFWCombatVet@comcast.net)

Send all communications for publication to [MDVFWCombatVet@comcast.net](mailto:MDVFWCombatVet@comcast.net). Deadline for submissions is on the 20th, during the months of June, August, September, December, February and April.

#### WEBSITE

[www.vfwmd.org](http://www.vfwmd.org)

**VFW**   
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

*Chaplain, From Page 2*

because of the reference to God in the Oath.

Don't forget Mother's Day May 13<sup>th</sup>.  
Remember your Father on June 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Armed Forces Day is May 19<sup>th</sup> and  
Memorial Day is May 30<sup>th</sup> (28<sup>th</sup> observed).  
Try and get to a ceremony somewhere to  
honor our fallen comrades.

The convention is June 4 to 7. The  
Memorial ceremony is Monday night  
June 4<sup>th</sup> (upstairs) at 6 pm. Practice is at 2  
pm June 4<sup>th</sup>. Try and get your "Gold Star  
Families" to the ceremony.

I am once again offering to perform the  
wedding ceremony by the pool or on the  
beach during convention if anyone  
wishes to be wed at the ocean. I just need  
your information one week before  
convention. I am running for Chaplain  
for the 11<sup>th</sup> year. Please vote for your  
choice of candidates in each office. I am  
ALWAYS AVAILABLE to each member  
of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their  
family. 24/7 (410) 829-6308.

[vfwchaplain@verizon.net](mailto:vfwchaplain@verizon.net)

Yours in comradeship,  
*Ron James*  
State Chaplain



**Victor Fuentealba**  
Judge Advocate  
Dept. of MD VFW

years for the passage of legislation that  
would exempt military retirement pay  
from the State income tax. Although our  
efforts were not entirely successful, this  
year the legislature increased the  
amount of the retirement pay exempt  
from State Income tax to \$15,000 and  
reduced the age requirement from 65 to  
55. Another bill gives a real property  
tax credit in Washington County to  
certain disabled veterans. HB 1162 and  
SB 0626 exempt surviving spouses of  
certain veterans from vehicle registration  
fees and SB 0362 does the same for  
certain disabled veterans. SB0429 and  
HB 0165 grant property tax credits to  
certain surviving spouses of  
veterans. Contact me if you have any  
questions about this legislation.

The deadline for submitting proposed  
amendments to the "Department and

Comrades, Sisters  
and Brothers,

The Maryland  
General Assembly  
concluded its 2018  
session and a few  
bills concerning  
veterans were  
passed. As must of  
you know, all of  
the veterans  
organizations have  
been fighting for

National by-laws has passed and there  
were no proposed changes  
submitted. Looking forward to seeing you  
at the Department Convention in June.

Yours in comradeship,  
*Vic Fuentealba*  
State Judge Advocate



**Frank Bennett**  
Surgeon  
Dept. of MD VFW

Comrades, Sisters  
and Brothers,

The 2017-2018 year  
is done. It was fine  
to a point. It could  
have been better.  
Let us try to make  
next year great.  
We need to  
concentrate more on  
reporting. Talk to  
your members at  
your meetings,  
along with Post

Service Officer, Chaplain, and Hospital  
Chairman. They know what veterans they  
visited in the hospital.

Conduct blood pressure checks, pass out  
cancer and diabetes literature. No one  
person can do it all.

I am asking for your support, as I will be  
running for Surgeon again.

Yours in Comradeship,  
*Frank Bennett*  
State Surgeon

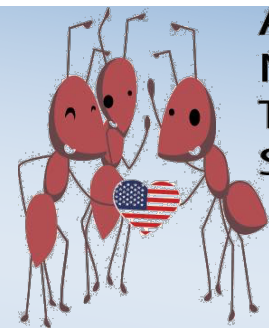


UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

# Auxiliary News



All're  
Needed  
To  
Succeed

VFW AUX  
Dept of MD  
2017-2018



**Believe . . . We Can Do It!**

**2018-19 National President Sandi Kriebel  
Homecoming Celebration – Hanover, Maryland  
September 7, 2018**

## CELEBRATION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fee: \$110.00      Deadline Date to Register: August 1, 2018  
Friday Night Banquet (USO WWII Theme – Casual – President's Shirt appropriate)  
Saturday Morning "To-Go" Continental Breakfast

### COMPLETE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PERSON

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

The following entrée's will be served with the following: Caesar Salad, Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Green vegetable, Rolls, Butter, Water, Ice Tea, Coffee or Hot Tea, White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake Dessert.  
Please choose one:

- ☐ Maryland Style Crab Cakes w/Dijon Beurre Blanc
  - ☐ New York Strip Steak – au Poivre with Brandy Cream Sauce
  - ☐ Seared Breast of Chicken with Wild Mushrooms Marsala Jus
- A Vegetarian meal is available upon request.**

☐ Complimentary To-Go Continental Boxed Breakfast for Bus on Saturday morning. (As the bus for the CAFÉ leaves at 8:00 a.m., the Department of MD is providing a "To Go" breakfast for your convenience.)

Special needs: Explain briefly \_\_\_\_\_  
Dietary needs: Explain briefly \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:** VFW Auxiliary, Dept. of Maryland  
**Earmark check:** MD Celebration 2018

**Mail registration form and check to:**  
Lyn MacArthur, 2018 Celebration Registration Chairman  
4803 Seven Trails Circle, Aberdeen, MD 21001  
Phone: 410-272-8206 (8am-7pm) email: lindamac55@comcast.net

Questions: Please call or e-mail Lyn MacArthur, Registration Chairman (Contact info above) or  
Carole Betto, 2018 Celebration Chairman at 410-334-3969/e-mail [betrig@comcast.net](mailto:betrig@comcast.net)  
**Registration fee will not be refunded if cancellation is received after August 15, 2018.**



## School Of Instruction 2018

Hosted by:

**Charles Evering VFW Auxiliary Post 6506**  
8777 Philadelphia Road, Rosedale, MD 21237  
Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Join us to learn about the upcoming year's guidelines, programs, and events from our state officers and chairmen.

Doors open at 7:30 AM for Chairman, 8:30 AM for attendees, program starts at

9:30 AM...complimentary coffee, hot tea, juice, and donuts while they last.

(If you have special needs or tastes, please come prepared.)

### REGISTRATION

A mandatory \$10.00 registration fee per District and Auxiliary is required. This is whether anyone from your District/Auxiliary attends or not – as approved at the March 25, 2018 Council of Administration Meeting.  
District and Auxiliary Presidents will receive a B&W copy of our

State Program Book and State Directory.

**Everyone** can attend, but **must** register to assure sufficient seating.

CD or Flash Drive (FD) may be ordered at a cost of \$7.00 each.

Lunch must be paid for in advance; **NO** lunch may be purchased at the door.

**All money must be sent to Department Treasurer Carole Betto by June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

### Lunch Choices:

Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad \$10.00

Sandwiches will be served with choice of soup and red skin potato salad; chips, dessert and your choice of sweet tea or iced water. (Soda and bottled water can be purchased from the Post Canteen)

### School of Instruction 2018 Registration Form

**Mail your check made payable to VFW Auxiliary Dept. of MD to: Carole Betto, VFW AUX Treasurer,**  
26595 Blue Jay Lane, Hebron, MD 21830 no later than **June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**

Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance:    Number attending (no Charge) \_\_\_\_\_    Number of CD's \_\_\_\_\_ x \$7.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Flash Drive's \_\_\_\_\_ x \$7.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunch: # of Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_ # of Tuna Salad \_\_\_\_\_    Total Lunch(s) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Mandatory Registration Fee of \$10.00 plus CD/FD's plus lunch(s):    Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_