



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

# THE MARYLAND VFW COMBAT VETERAN

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

vfwmd.org

November—December 2019

Volume 43—No. 3

## ONE FORCE ONE MISSION



Thomas Williams, Commander  
Dept. of MD Veterans of Foreign Wars

Dear Comrades,

This year is rolling by at a fast rate of speed. By this time our programs should be almost complete. I've been visiting different posts in the state at different events and things are looking good. Membership is looking good too...the Department of Maryland is 7th in the nation. We still need new and younger members. Maryland is not the only state with this problem. I've talked with other State Commanders who have the same issues. The VFW has to move toward being more family friendly. I've seen several of our Maryland Posts putting in swing sets and playgrounds. We need to plan more family friendly activities. The Auxiliary can help with these events. We need to work together...a house divided will fall.

I received a call from Secretary Owens about my campaigning and your fund raising for Charlotte Hall. We started the ball rolling and the state has all the money for the canopy. Now our veterans will be safe and dry out of the weather.

We lost a member from 10067 in a motorcycle accident. He left a wife and children behind. He had begun a kitchen

remodel project before the accident. Thanks to Thomas Kimball and the Veterans Assistance Program we put his widow back in a new kitchen. The program provided the materials and his post provided the labor. This is what I mean by veterans helping veterans and coming together as one team!

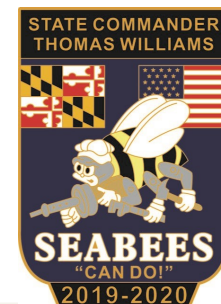
Veteran's Day is just around the corner. It's not just about a free meal. We have to remember our brothers and sisters that made sacrifices so that we could have that free meal. Each post should have a program or ceremony that day. I will be laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Yours in Comradeship, Make sure everyone gets their flu shots and stays warm and healthy this winter. From my home to yours Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

Yours in Comradeship,

*Thomas Williams*

USNR — State Commander





James F. Wade, Sr.  
Jr. Vice Commander  
Dept. of MD VFW

VFW, Auxiliary & Cootie Members,

Hello Comrades,

I want to thank you so much for all of your continued support. Working alongside one another and I am positive that as a team, we will accomplish everything that can be done for our organization ... our communities ... for our military, veterans and their families. I ask each of you today to get involved within your VFW, Auxiliary, and your Communities and seek out those Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, because they will be the main force of this organization in the not so distant future.

I also ask you to seek out the many other veterans from other wars and conflicts who are eligible to join our great organization—but don't just shove a membership application in their hand and expect them to join. First, we must explain to them who we are ... what we do ... and who we do it for. Tell them about our forefathers

who returned home to a government that bore no responsibility to care for their injuries ... their rehabilitation ... or their families.

And, then I ask you to tell them that it was the VFW who changed the way this country treats her veterans ... treats her service members ... and treats all of our families. The fact that there is a Department of Veterans Affairs is because of the VFW. The VFW is the largest organization of combat veterans in the country. Comrades ... everything that we do is for somebody else. That is the VFW legacy ... and that is a recruiting pitch. Wanting to be part of a legacy is why our youth continue to enlist and re-enlist in our military ... even after years of constant war. The VFW legacy of service to others is the recruiting pitch we need in order to get them to join us ... but they have to want to join ... not be pressured into it. We must show them what the VFW does for veterans ... for service members ... and for their families. If you pressure them into joining, they will be gone in a year. But if you get them interested and involved; you will have them for a lifetime. Membership is one of keys to everything the VFW does ... and everyone's primary goal to increase membership within their Post and within the State of Maryland. Let's support our Department Commander!

On Veterans Day, the wife and I would like to thank every Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Airman, and Coast Guardsman for their Service. And remember always to keep in your prayers all of our service men and women, especially those in harm's way and throughout this world, and let us not forget our veterans in our Veterans Medical Centers. We are One Nation under God with Liberty and Justice for all, but it does come at a price.

But Veteran Day is not a day for Veterans alone. It's a day for all Americans to be a part of, because every American Citizen has a role to play in carrying the legacy and burden of Freedom. Each

American Citizen must continue to fulfill its promises to provide our Veterans with the benefits and entitlements they've earned and deserve.

*See Jr. Vice, Page 3*

THE MARYLAND VFW COMBAT VETERAN

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## WEBSITE

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



Department Jr. Vice Commander's Christmas and New Year Message:

Comrades,

Anyone who has worn a uniform knows the Christmas holiday season is the most difficult time of year to be separated from family and friends. However, how many of us really understand the painful nobility of their sacrifice. For those on active duty in the Middle East, the business of battle and of survival knows no holiday.

What we can do, as Veterans, is to remind those around us of the emotional importance this time of year is for the troops thousands of miles from home. After all, they are "honoring our nation" with their service while fighting wars whose consequences have nothing and everything to do with the humanity and the freedom with which to celebrate the holidays. Thanks to those brave "Women and Men", who have sworn and are willing to give their lives in order to keep this great nation free!

The debt of gratitude we owe those who have borne the burden of our freedom can probably never be adequately repaid. But, the least we can do is to give them more than a passing thought. As we enjoy the Christmas and New Year celebrations, keep in mind that someone in uniform is making this possible. Chances are that it might even be a family member.

In that spirit, let my wife, Gaylene, and I wish all Veterans a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a great New Year!

Comrades.

Have you spoken to and thanked a Veteran today!

Family First; Veteran Always

*James F. Wade, Sr.*

Jr. Vice Commander

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## VA WILL SHARE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

Veterans will not have to fill out paperwork to share health information

It will soon be easier for you to get VA health care in your community without paperwork. In or after January 2020, you won't have to provide a signed, written authorization for VA to release your electronic VA health information to a participating community care provider.

VA will automatically begin sharing your health information with participating community care providers using the Veterans Health Information Exchange. The electronic system is secure and safe.

This change will make it easier for your health care team to make better decisions about your health care. It can also help you be safer, especially during emergencies.

### No action is needed

If you are OK with VA sharing your electronic patient information with your community care provider, you don't have to do a thing. Your information will be shared automatically.

### Form is needed to OPT OUT of electronic sharing

However, if you **do not** want to share your information electronically, you must submit VA Form 10-10164 (Opt Out of Sharing). You can submit your Form 10-10164 at any time. VA will share your information until you submit your form. You can return **VA Form 10-10164** at any VA Medical Center. Just visit the Release of Information (ROI) office. **You can also send it by mail.** After VA processes your form, your VA health information will not be shared electronically with community providers you see for treatment.

### Change your mind? No problem

You change your mind and share your health record with your participating community provider. Just complete and return VA Form 10-10163 (Opt In for Sharing) at any time. You also can still ask VA to share your information with participating community care providers by fax or mail service.



Tiffany Daniel  
Chaplain  
Dept. of MD VFW

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



## ARMED FORCES INFORMATION AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### FACT SHEET: VETERANS DAY

#### The Curtain Rises

**Time:** 5 a.m., November 11, 1918.

**Place:** In a railroad car drawn up in a siding in the Forest of Compeigne, northeast of Paris.

**Action:** Representatives of the victorious Allies and the defeated Central Powers placed their signatures on the agreement that ended the shooting of World War I, the most cataclysmic contest of arms mankind had yet experienced.

Later that same day, at precisely 11 a.m., the bugle call to cease firing sounded and, for the first time in 4 years, the unaccustomed silence of a world at peace replaced the thunder and lightning of a world rent by war.

It had been a terribly costly upheaval; all the participating nations had suffered great losses. Of the nearly five million Americans who served, more than 53,000 died in combat, of wounds, or as prisoners of war. Another 204,000 Americans survived their wounds. Nonbattle deaths climbed to an appalling total—more than 63,000.

Yet, despite the terrible toll, the prevailing mood on November 11, 1918, was one of unbounded joy that the fighting had ended. In Paris church bells pealed the good news, banners fluttered gaily, total strangers embraced one another fervently, and the bistros did a lively business.

This was an hour of triumph for the victorious Americans of Gen. John J. Pershing's American Expeditionary Force. They had gone "over there" and soundly licked the Kaiser—with the help of their Allies, of course. They had "made the world safe for democracy." If the great dream of their Commander in Chief, President Woodrow Wilson, of a community of nations acting in concert to maintain world peace should become a reality, the peace won so dearly would endure.

On this memorable date, President Wilson made these memorable remarks: "We were able to bring the vast resources, material and moral, of a great and free people to the assistance of our associates in Europe who had suffered and sacrificed without limit in the cause for which they fought. Out of this victory there arose new possibilities of political freedom and economic concert. The war showed us the strength of great nations acting together for high purposes, and the victory of arms foretells the enduring conquests that can be made in peace when nations act justly and in furtherance of the common interests of men."

Not until years later would this war be given a number—to distinguish it from World War II.

Meanwhile, the Nation mourned its World War I dead and gave the men who returned a hero's welcome. On the first anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, President Wilson issued a proclamation, saying, "To us in America the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory...."

In 1921, on Armistice Day, a solemn ceremony took place in the presence of President Warren G. Harding and other dignitaries. The body of the Unknown Soldier of World War I, an unidentified American who had been buried in France, was formally reinterred in glory in Arlington National Cemetery. Inscribed on the tomb, which is guarded day and night, were the words: *Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God.*

The tomb of the Unknown Soldier became the Tomb of the Unknowns on Memorial Day, May 30, 1958. At that time, the bodies of two unidentified servicemen—one had died in World War II and the other in the Korean conflict—were reburied in crypts beside the first. President Dwight D. Eisenhower led the ceremonies and placed upon each of the two coffins the Medal of Honor.

Armistice Day was designated an official American holiday by Presidential proclamation in 1926. In 1954 the name of the holiday was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. From that time on, it has been a day for the Nation to pause and do honor to all veterans—living and dead—that vast legion of men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States. The customary 2 minutes of silence at 11 a.m., the time when the Armistice of 1918 took effect, remains an impressive part of the Veterans Day observances.

### **The Backdrop**

News of the outbreak of war in Europe in August 1914, sparked by the assassination of Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife, came as a total and stunning surprise to Americans. The United States did not even consider intervening, nor was it prepared militarily to do so.

President Wilson quickly proclaimed the neutrality of the United States, and the American people heartily and almost unanimously approved. War, to the vast majority of Americans, was unthinkable. To many, it meant a senseless sacrifice of lives and resources in order to gratify the profiteering ambitions of big munitions makers and banking interests. Besides, Europe was several thousand miles away, and there were important domestic matters that needed attention.

A small minority of Americans quickly recognized the need for the United States to arm, not only to protect its interests but for possible entry into the war. Their pleas for military preparedness fell on deaf ears at first, but as the war progressed and a succession of incidents severely strained American relations with Germany, the minority grew more numerous and influential.

Congress voted in 1916 to more than double the strength of the Regular Army, to make the National Guard a part of the national defense structure, and to expand the Navy greatly. It also passed the Shipping Act, which gave birth to the modern merchant marine. The Revenue Act of 1916 was significant in this respect—it shifted from the poor to the rich a greater percentage of the tax burden.

The United States was inevitably drawn into the conflict in Europe after submarines roaming the Atlantic sunk American ships and took American lives. President Wilson, a man dedicated to peace and social progress, tried desperately to keep America out of the war, and he did everything in his power to arrange a peaceful settlement of the issues among the warring nations. But his efforts were futile.

After a great deal of soul searching and anguish, the President finally reached the painful decision that the United States could not honorably avoid entering the war. He so informed a joint session of Congress in a historic message delivered at 8:30 p.m. on April 2, 1917.



"The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against mankind," President Wilson told the expectant Congress. "Neutrality is no longer feasible or desirable where the peace of the world is involved and the freedom of its people, and the menace to that peace and freedom lies in the existence of autocratic governments, backed by organized force which is controlled wholly by their will, not by the will of their people....

"We are glad, now that we see the facts with no veil of pretense about them, to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its peoples, the German peoples included; for the rights of nations, great and small, and the privilege

of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience. The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty. We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no domination. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom of nations can make them....

"It is a distressing and oppressive duty, Gentlemen of the Congress, which I have performed in thus addressing you. There are, it may be, many months of fiery trial and sacrifice ahead of us. It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance. But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free. . . ."

Four days later, on April 6, 1917, the Congress passed a resolution declaring war on Germany. The President signed it the next day.

Once committed to war, the United States shifted its war preparations into high gear. The American people united in their will to prosecute the war unflinchingly to the victory that came in 1918.

The draft law was more democratic than that of 1863; it did not allow bounties, exemption by purchase, or hiring of substitutes. On June 5, 1917, all men between the ages of 21 and 30 were registered in the Nation's first large-scale conscription of troops.

As the future veterans, confident of victory, set off to fight in European trenches, America gave them a good sendoff, often to martial music. There were tears and fears, of course, but usually they were concealed.

### **The Final Scene**

The setting of the final scene of World War I—the signing of the peace treaty—was the palace at Versailles in the suburbs of Paris on the 28th day of June in the year 1919. The negotiations preceding the signing had not been without power politics, secret agreements on the division of the spoils, and a spirit of revenge on the part of some of the delegates to the Paris Peace Conference.

This was not true of President Wilson, who had drawn up Fourteen Points as the basis for a "peace of justice." The last of these was incorporated in the Treaty. It read, "A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike...." The association formed was the League of Na-

tions.

### **Postlude**

Even while the Versailles Treaty was being drafted, the men of the A.E.F. were returning home as quickly as possible—in cargo ships converted into transports and aboard cruisers and battleships. Demobilized at regional centers in the United States, they joined the ranks of the country's more aged veterans.

The aftermath of the war in the United States divas horror at the casualties followed by a great wave of disillusionment and a reversion to isolationism. Americans wondered if the victory was worth the price, even though the country was more prosperous. The Senate, in the same mood, refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles, and the United States never became a member of the League of Nations. Had the United States joined the League, the course of history might have taken a different turn.

It took another World War to convince Americans that the United States could not isolate itself from the rest of the world—that a nation as wealthy and powerful as the United States had certain moral obligations toward other nations.

The United Nations, now described as the world's best hope of peace, is carrying on the work started by the League of Nations. The League expired by its own vote on April 18, 1946 and bequeathed its properties to the United Nations.

### **Veterans, Then and Now**

The fact that Veterans Day stems from a World War I event—the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918 by no means detracts from the honor due American veterans of all wars, and of peacetime service as well. Nor does the fact that World War I did not make the world "safe for democracy" invalidate the faith of those who fought it or demean their courage and sacrifice. Our veterans of every war have fought for principles they and the entire Nation held dear. Americans have never served as mercenaries or been guided by militaristic thinking.

Those who have become veterans since World War II are acquainted with the frustrations of fighting an unconventional and undeclared "cold" war, which can be just as deadly as the "hot" variety. The World War I serviceman had his problems, and very little in the way of bene-

fits to help compensate for them, but his problems were the usual problems of fighting men. This sudden transition from civilian to military life was not easy and often entailed great personal sacrifices. On the other hand, the enemy he fought was always in uniform and used the conventional tactics of the day. Furthermore, there was no threat of a mushroom cloud billowing over his head.

President Wilson's dream of an enduring peace enjoyed by a world of free nations is a noble dream and one worth fighting for. It cannot be realized easily or in the near future. But the veterans of World War II and Korea helped give substance to that dream. And the veterans of tomorrow, now serving in Viet-Nam and many other distant lands, are also bringing that dream a bit closer to reality.

**Veterans Day—November 11**—has been set aside as a day when the Nation unites in paying homage to those who have defended it. No more appropriate time could be found in which to reflect on the magnificent tradition our veterans have established and the great courage and sacrifice that made it magnificent.

America is proud of its veterans—past, present, and future!



# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY VETERANS STAND DOWN & HOMELESS RESOURCE DAY

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019**  
**10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

**FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY VETERANS AND PERSONS  
WHO ARE HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS**

## RESOURCES & SERVICES WILL INCLUDE

- EXPUNGEMENT FAIR
- BIRTH CERTIFICATES
- HEALTH CARE SERVICES
- DENTAL/VISION CARE
- EDUCATION ASSISTANCE
- MAINSTREAM BENEFITS
- ENERGY ASSISTANCE
- MENTAL HEALTH
- EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSISTANCE
- VA BENEFITS

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**8001 SHERIFF ROAD, LANDOVER, MD 20785**



# VA STRENGTHENS CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

On Sept. 25, 2019, VA announced improvements to the caregiver support program. This announcement put a timeline to expanding the comprehensive assistance to family caregivers. VA is expanding the program in accordance with section 161 of the VA MISSION Act of 2018.

Under the MISSION Act, VA will use a phased approach to expand the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers to eligible Veterans from all eras. Currently, the program is only available to eligible Veterans seriously injured in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001. Prior to expanding, VA must upgrade its information technology (IT) system and implement other improvements to strengthen the program.

## When will the program expand?

VA is not currently accepting applications for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers for Veterans of eras other than post 9/11. The first phase of the program expansion will occur once the Secretary has certified that VA's new caregiver information technology system is fully implemented, which could be as early as the summer of 2020. VA will expand eligibility and begin accepting applications in two phases:

- In the first phase, VA will begin accepting applications of eligible Veterans who incurred or aggravated a serious injury in the line of duty on or before May 7, 1975.
- The final phase, due to begin two years later, will include eligible Veterans who incurred or aggravated a serious injury in the line of duty after May 7, 1975, to September 10, 2001.

## What is the timeline for expanding the IT system?

To modernize its caregiver IT system, VA is adopting a three-phased approach and will deploy a new system based on a commercial off the shelf product called Caregiver Record Management Application (CARMA) beginning in October 2019. VA will deploy phase two in January 2020 to centralize and automate stipend payment calculations and expects to deploy phase three in the summer of 2020, which will enable caregivers to apply for benefits online. VA will then perform testing and verify that the system has full functionality before expanding the program as required under the MISSION Act.



## What services does VA offer for all caregivers?

VA provides a wide range of services for caregivers including training, education, respite care, a telephone support line, and self-care courses. These are available to caregivers for Veterans enrolled for VA health care regardless of when or how they were injured.

## What does VA offer under the comprehensive assistance program?

Caregivers in this program may also receive a monthly stipend, beneficiary travel, mental health counseling, enhanced respite services and other benefits.

## How is VA strengthening the caregiver program?

In recent months, VA has developed or amended 14 standard operating procedures to clarify program requirements for VA staff, increased oversight in each Veterans Integrated Service Network, provided training and education to staff and caregivers, and is boosting operational capacity with the hiring of more than 680 staff.

## What else is VA doing for caregivers?

VA is working across the organization to ensure caregivers have a positive experience through program improvements and initiatives to include:

- Establishing a campaign (VA/Elizabeth Dole Foundation collaboration) that aims to integrate caregivers into the health care team, through education modules about topics, such as, the role and impact of caregivers.
- Expanding telehealth services to enable Veterans and their caregivers to get care in the comfort of

their homes.

- Providing a toolkit for caregivers and family members and their role in the prevention of suicide.
- Promoting self-care for caregivers through text messaging.
- Increasing self-care courses for caregivers.

Providing home and community-based care alternatives through the Choose Home Initiative at 21 VA medical centers.

## How can I learn more?

For detailed information on the CSP and the full range of services available to caregivers, visit: <https://www.caregiver.va.gov/> or call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274. For information on the MISSION Act, visit: <https://missionact.va.gov/>.



## *In Memoriam*

### **CARL FRANCIS VOGT** **STATE COMMANDER 2012-2013**

Carl Francis Vogt, VFW Maryland State Commander 2012-2013, went to his heavenly home on October 13, 2019

Carl was son of the late Carl Heinz Vogt and the late Martha Schneider Vogt. In addition to his parents, Carl was preceded in death by one brother, Guenther E. Vogt.

Carl worked as a Contracts Manager with Manpower Group. He was a Veteran of the United States Air Force, having served in support of the Vietnam Conflict.

Carl was raised in the Catholic Church.

He was a member of the Joseph B. Garity American Legion Post #562 in Ridgewood, NY, where he served as Post Commander. Carl was also a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #2393 in Patuxent, MD. He also enjoyed membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #10081 in Bel Alton where he served as Post Commander in 2005 and currently as the Post Quartermaster. Additionally he served as VFW Maryland State Commander in 2012-2013 leading Maryland Veterans with the theme "*Maryland Veterans Serving Veterans*". He was also a member of the Calvert Elks Lodge #2620. Carl served as the State President of the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Elks Association from 2013-2014 and was a former District Deputy, Exalted Ruler, and was currently serving as the Chairman of the Trustees of the Calvert Elks Lodge.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mary Elizabeth Ireson Cardinal-Vogt; one son, Lawrence Vogt, and his wife Meredith, of Palm Coast, FL; one brother, Arnold Vogt, and his wife Brigitte, of Greensboro, NC; and one sister, Ingrid Herbel of Mount Pocono, PA.

A Celebration of Life for Carl, was held at the Calvert Elks Lodge #2620, on October 27, 2019. The Elks Lodge of Sorrows and VFW Memorial Ritual was conducted.



## EASTERN SHORE STAND DOWN

**Veterans and Families Welcome!**

(proof of military association requested)

**Saturday, November 2nd, 2019  
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

This ONE DAY event serves Veterans and their families who need housing, jobs, benefits, and other services.

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 194  
821 E William St, Salisbury, MD 21804**

There will be food, music, benefits, referrals and more.

If you are interested in volunteering or providing services  
contact David Wharton at 410-742-1571 or at  
[WhartonStandDown@gmail.com](mailto:WhartonStandDown@gmail.com)

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# Auxiliary News



Aloha!



A Healthy Auxiliary is a stable Auxiliary. We need all Hands on Deck so that we can continue "Staying Connected to our Veterans". Working our National programs keeps us in tune of our Veterans, Military Members and their families' needs. All programs intertwine with each other in one way or another. By now all auxiliaries should be 100% reported in all programs. If you have not reported to your department chairman please make every effort to do so by the end of November.

It should be your goal to be at least 95% in membership at the end of November and 100% by December 31st. As of this writing (10/21) the Department needs only 10% more paid annual dues to reach our November goal of 95%. Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries' annual dues on all levels must be paid by December 31st. We must lead by example.

Your 990 is due on or before November 15th. Send a copy to Department Treasurer Carole Betro. Quarterly audits should be submitted in a timely fashion as well. Trustees, it is your duty to call the audit, complete and submit to Department Treasurer. You will be headed towards a successful year once all your essentials are taken care of. This will leave more time and effort to serve our Veterans.

We know as with all organizations we may face challenges. Let us have solutions not problems with each of these challenges. Continue to work together towards our mission to give "Unwavering Support for Uncom-

mon Heroes"! By being a healthy auxiliary you offer a lifeline to our Veterans!

At this time I would like to wish from our house to yours a Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas! Please pray for the safety of our service members around the world. Also for their families while their love ones are away during this time. May each of you enjoy the holiday season ahead!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Betty J. Stahm*

Betty J. Stahm

Chief of Staff

VFW Auxiliary - Department of Maryland

410.598.5895

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We are "Staying Connected to Our Veterans" so that we can continue "Serving our Veterans with Aloha" ! *Be Healthy and stay on the right path!*



# MD VFW & AUXILIARY In the Spotlight

