

From the Desk of the Secretary -February 2024



Hello Brothers & Sisters,

Welcome to 2024!!! In the VFW Auxiliary, we have reached the program mid-year 2023-2024. With the holidays behind us, now is the time to catch up with reporting your auxiliary activities. The Department Program Chairpersons anxiously await your reports.

We had a wonderful Christmas Conference in December, many auxiliaries and their members were recognized for all their wonderful efforts. Below, please see the list of awards presented.

Christmas Conference Awards

Americanism - Best Reporting Awards

- Group #1 - Largo Kettering Auxiliary #7757 in District 2
- Group #2 - Fort Smallwood Auxiliary #2462 in District 6
- Group #3 - Star Spangled Banner Memorial Auxiliary #10078 in District 11
- Group #4 - Emmitsburg Memorial Auxiliary #6658 in District 7
- Group #5 - Lt. Peter G. Zouck Auxiliary #521 in District 7
- Group #6 - Wells - McComas Auxiliary #2678 in District 4

Historian Awards

Most Outstanding Photo: 1 award for each of the four categories

- Americanism Project - Post# 10077 Faith Friend (4th of July Parade)
- Buddy® Poppy Campaign - Post# 10028 Beverly Ramsey-Simpson (Buddy Poppy Buckets)
- Hospital Visit - Post# 8175 Terry Allen (Helping VA Hospitals in need)
- Youth Activity involvement - Post# 3065 Michele Maszon (Family Bingo)

Best Media Coverage (newspaper clipping): 1 award for each category.

- National President Carla's visit to Maryland - Post# 6506 Betty Stahm Facebook Post)
- Any program project that demonstrates the Auxiliary and VFW working together. - Post# 2678 Cathy Gistedt (MIA/POW Ceremony)

Hospital Awards:

Diontay D. Duppins sponsored by 10159 Youth Volunteer Award.

Judith Holt over 3000 hrs. pin.

Jacquelyn Kimball over 3000 hrs. pin

Cynthia P Davis over 2000 hrs. pin

AWARDS for donations of \$500.00 or more to the Hospital-

Essex-Holly Neck Auxiliary 2621 - \$625.00

Wells-McComas Auxiliary 2678 - \$500.00

E.E. Streets Memorial Auxiliary 5118 - \$1,534.80

Emmitsburg Memorial Auxiliary 6658 - \$600.00

Chesapeake City Memorial Auxiliary 7687 - \$500.00

Tyson - Walker Auxiliary 8509 - \$500.00

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Jarrettsville Manor Memorial Auxiliary 8672 - \$500.00
Gunpowder Auxiliary 10067 - \$600.00
Deer Park Auxiliary 10077 - \$540.00

Membership Awards:

WINNERS OF THE "NEW" MEMBERSHIP CONTEST:

The Auxiliaries in each membership group that increased their paid members the most (from November 10th to November 25th) would win the following: \$200.00 for 1st Place - \$100.00 for 2nd Place - and \$50.00 for third Place!

Group 1 -

1 st Place - Oldtown Memorial Auxiliary 9451	\$200
2 nd Place - Walter Howard-Shaw Auxiliary 327	\$100
3 rd Place - No winner	\$0

Group 2 -

1 st Place - Garrett County Memorial Auxiliary 10077	\$200
2 nd Place - Dorie Miller Auxiliary 5367	\$100
3 rd Place - Kent County Memorial Auxiliary 652	\$50

Group 3 -

1 st Place - Queens Point Memorial Auxiliary 6775	\$200
2 nd Place - Henry Hart Auxiliary 1411	\$100
3 rd Place - Jerry Skrivanek Auxiliary 8185	\$50

Group 4 -

1 st Place - J. Paul Duke Jr. Memorial Auxiliary 9376	\$200
2 nd Place - Yingling-Ridgely Auxiliary 7472	\$100
3 rd Place - Elkton Memorial Auxiliary 8175	\$50

Group 5 -

1 st Place - Chesapeake City Memorial Auxiliary 7687	\$200
2 nd Place - Bill Ruth Auxiliary 10076	\$100
3 rd Place - Gunpowder Auxiliary 10067	\$50

Group 6 -

1 st Place - E.E. Streets Memorial Auxiliary 5118	\$200
2 nd Place - Wells McComas Auxiliary 2678	\$100
3 rd Place - Price-Anderson Auxiliary 341	\$50

Member who recruited the most new members (over 5) - Jackie Kimball with 17 members recruited - \$50.00

Auxiliaries with 101% + membership -

Takoma Park 350 - 101.92%,
Silver Spring Memorial 2562 - 101.06%,
Garrett County Memorial 10077 - 105.56%,
E.E. Streets Memorial 5118 - 105.86%,
Aberdeen Memorial 10028 - 112.95%,
John R. Webb 3285 - 103.89%,
Cecil County Memorial 6027 - 102.73%,
Chesapeake City Memorial 7687 - 101.29%,
Elkton Memorial 8175 - 102.14%,
Sheridan Hood 3065 - 104.00%,
John & Samuel Tyson-Wilbert-Walker Memorial 8509 - 107.14%,
Gunpowder 10067 - 104.62% All received a Minnie Mouse small purse.
District 10 - 1st District to reach 101% - given a Lottery Calendar

Mentoring for Leadership

First auxiliary to turn in a report - Chesapeake City Auxiliary 7687 Districts 7, 10, and 14 received awards for being 100% reported.

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President's Special Project

Good Job Awards:

1st Place - 7687 Chesapeake City Memorial

2nd Place - 8672 Jarrettsville Manor Memorial

3rd Place - 6775 Queens Point Memorial

Scholarships

Auxiliary 8175 awarded for having the most VOD student entries.
and 7472 for the first auxiliary to report.

Youth Activities

Best completed reports- District 10

Most creative - Federalsburg Memorial Auxiliary 5246

Use of patriotic youth awards, RAP cards, or event supporting patriotism through literacy- Aberdeen Memorial Auxiliary 10028

Officer Resources Now Available in MALTA

NOW AVAILABLE: The Officer Resources have been uploaded to MALTA. Only Secretaries and Presidents have the ability to access these resources. Officer Resources are located under Duties, Auxiliary or Department Secretary, Manage Auxiliary or Department, Officer Resources. Departments have access to everything. Auxiliaries and Districts have limited access.

NEW changes to the Directory.

Sheridan-Hood Auxiliary #3065 - change in meeting to 2nd Tuesday @ 6:00 pm

Walter-Howard-Shaw Auxiliary #327 - change in meeting to 1st Tuesday @ 6:30 pm

IMPORTANT!!!

The auxiliary elections will be here shortly. April is the designated meeting date (Bylaws Sec. 804B-Auxiliary) for your elections. Watch your email for the election packet containing the proper forms to elect District Convention delegates, Dept. Convention delegates, National Convention delegates, and the Installation report form. A memo will be included in the packet for step-by-step instructions.

February 2024 Program Promotion Preview

Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chairman Cheri Brown encourages Auxiliaries to "show me" your Americanism activities. Be sure to check out Cheri's bonus points.

Cathy Gistedt, our Auxiliary Outreach Chairman has provided a full month of suggestions for Outreach projects. Such great ideas and last-minute ways to fulfill your Auxiliary Outreach expectations. Don't forget to report these to Cathy.

Be sure to visit the **Buddy® Poppy and National Home Chairman Karen Rooker's** NEW material. She's provided the latest Buddy® Poppy order form as well as a reporting correction.

Historian & Media Relations Chairman Dorothy Swigon shares tips on refreshing your story-telling skills.

February is an especially important month for **Hospital Chairman Cynthia Davis**. February 11 - 17 is National Salute to Veteran Patient's Week. Please read all about it in Cynthia's mailing.

Legislative Chairman Bill Sipirek makes some suggestions for legislative topics to discuss at your next meeting.

Head to the finish line with **Membership Chairman Betty Ann Johnson** as she offers lots of opportunities to win money! Please share with your auxiliary Betty Ann's Membership Moment "Finding the Hot Button."

Be sure to see **Bobbie Goldman's Mentoring for Leadership** challenge. She shares our own National Ambassador, Francine Cornish's advice to C.A.R.E. about new members.

President's Special Project Chairman Sheila Justice shares some upcoming events at U.S. Kennels. Sheila has some important information about ordering U.S. Kennels items. Please read and be sure you know where to send donations and where to order items.

Scholarships Chairman Melissa Tracey reminds us that deadlines are approaching fast for the Young American Creative Patriotic Act (YACPAC) and the VFW Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship. Read the contest requirements and deadlines.

See the holiday reminders from **Veterans & Family Support Chairman Phyllis Cooks**. Be sure to read about all the military holidays and observances to honor our veterans, active military personnel currently serving in the US Military, those in the reserves, and the military families, the military spouses and military children left behind. To quote Phyllis "They deserve our Love and Respect!"

T.T.F.N.



Libby DallaTezza, Secretary