

From the Desk of the Secretary - November



Hello Brothers & Sisters,

While attending the Eastern Conference in New Jersey recently, I realized that maybe it's time to talk about MALTA, (Membership Auxiliary Leadership Technology Access), and to remind you of all the resources available behind MALTA login. National Headquarters has recently added the National Budget and Standing Rules under Miscellaneous Resources. I recommend you take a look at the budget, you will see they are making attempts to offset the terrible economic times we are living in. They have lots of spending cutbacks... makes me feel a bit better about the Council's decision to no longer mail the AUXILIARY Magazine. As a reminder, make sure your email address is included in your MALTA account to receive the AUXILIARY Magazine and the E-Newsletter.

Now, back to MALTA and the resources available... See the section *VFW Auxiliary Magazine Submissions*. Do you know an incredible member of the VFW Auxiliary who goes above and beyond for the organization, our veterans and their community? Nominate that member to be recognized in the AUXILIARY Magazine. Find the form under Miscellaneous Resources. While you are there, check out the "My Veteran Submission" form. Our magazine would love to highlight your favorite veteran. This magazine feature is ideal for introducing the membership to the veterans who are particularly special to our members. I would love to see a Maryland auxiliary member honored under the *Spotlight*. Even better, it would be wonderful to have a Maryland Veteran featured for what sets them apart from others and how they have impacted your life and the lives of others with whom they served.

Please take a moment to sign into your MALTA account and view all the additional National Programs information available.



From the Desk of the Secretary - November

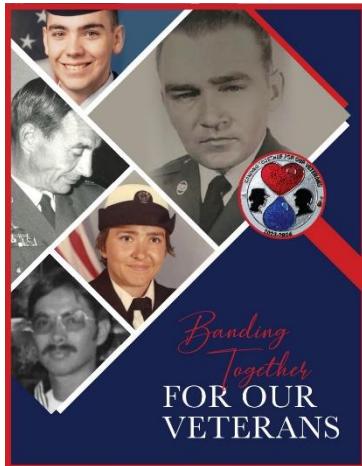
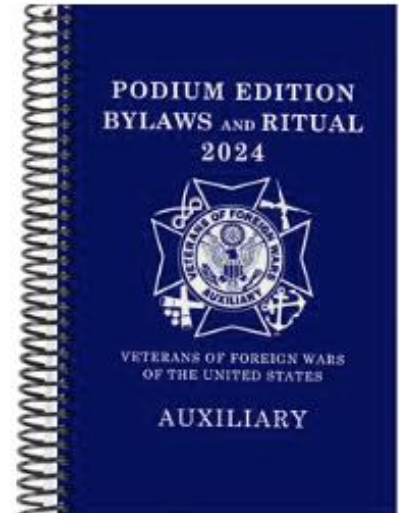
Podium Book Available Now

Good news!! The 2024 Podium Book: Bylaws and Ritual is available NOW in MALTA under Member Resources!

The Bylaws underwent a number of changes this year, perhaps the biggest of which is the change of the bullet system. The large/small bullets have been changed to an alphanumeric system. This was suggested and voted on by delegates at the 2023 National Convention during the discussion of Bylaws and Resolutions.

Other voted-upon changes include "Conductress" becoming "Conductor" and the removal of County Councils (decided by the VFW in 2022). Check it out now!

Note: a hard copy will be available for purchase soon from the VFW Store.



While beginning work on the *2024-2025 National Program Book*, HQ discovered an inaccuracy on page 53 of the 2023-2024 printed *Program Book* under Young American Creative Patriotic Art, scholarship amounts. This has been corrected on the digital version of the *Program Book* in MALTA Member Resources, and has always been correct on the Patriotic Art brochures and online contest rules and information sheets members can share with students, teachers and parents. If you have a printed copy of the *2023-2024 National Program Book*, please print off page 53 and replace it in your hard copy.

If you don't already have a MALTA login, I hope you now realize what you are missing. It is easy as

1. Go to www.vfwauxiliary.org and click on "MALTA Member Login".
2. Click on "Activate Account".
3. Enter the required information: Member ID, First and Last Name as shown on your Membership Card, Primary Address, and Zip Code.
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create your password.

Ta-Dah!!!

From the Desk of the Secretary - November

NEW changes to the Directory.

District 14 new President -

Paul Olivares
8423 Kavanaugh Rd
Dundalk, MD 21222
443-564-8086
paulvfwauxiliary@gmail.com

Elkton Memorial Auxiliary #8175 new President -

Betty Dean
1189 Leeds Road
Elkton, MD 21921
443-309-4430
bettydean15@comcast.net

November 2023 Program Promotion Preview

Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chairman Cheri Brown's topic this month is "Are we ready to serve and protect each other?" See her ideas about disaster preparedness.

Our **Chief of Staff Jackie Kimball** wants to hear from all Maryland members. Be sure to print Jackie's *Department of MD VFW Auxiliary Health Checkup Member Questionnaire*. Jackie has a special gift to present at the Christmas Conference for every member who completes the questionnaire.

Hospital Chairman Cynthia Davis proudly provides her BIG THUMBS UP to another auxiliary that donated \$500 + to the Hospital Fund. Be sure to see her November Planning Fun Days list and note November 18th is Mickey Mouse Day. Share her information about the Veterans Crisis Line.

Membership Chairman Betty Ann Johnson reminds us that it's time to consider awards. Check out how your auxiliary can make some extra money. Lights... Camera... Action for Membership.

We can thank our **Department Treasurer Jackie Kimball** for explaining that always confusing Trustee positions. Also, Jackie brings additional clarification to the Membership Application.

Every Auxiliary member should read the information from **Veterans & Family Support Chairman Phyllis Cooks**. Topics this month are the *National Call Center and The Veterans Stamp Program*.

T.T.F.N.



Libby DallaTezza, Secretary



@kirokuma 824