

From the Desk of the Secretary - December 2024

Hello Brothers & Sisters,

Happy Holidays! We all know that means Christmas is just around the corner. Our VFW Auxiliary at Cecil Co. Memorial No. 2678 is planning a fun Christmas Conference for us. See their event flier included in this mailing.



15-Dec	Auxiliary Christmas Conference	Cecil County Memorial VFW 6027 813 Turkey Point Road North East, MD 21901	
18-Jan	District 16 Visitation	Wicomico County Memorial VFW Post 10159 821 West Main Street Salisbury, MD	12:00 Noon
19-Jan	District 4 Visitation	Federalsburg Memorial Post 5246 2630 Veterans Drive Federalsburg, MD	10:00 AM
26-Jan	VOD & Patriot's Pen Department Awards	Wells-McComas VFW Post 2678 6521 North Point Road Baltimore, MD	1:00 PM
Feb 1 - 6	2025 Mid-Year Conference	Hideaway at Royalton in Cancun, Mexico	
Mar 13 - 16	Sr. Vice Conference	Kansas City, Missouri	
15-Mar	Council of Administration Meeting	Grasonville Memorial Post 7464 VFW Avenue Grasonville, MD	
15-Mar	Commander & President's Testimonial	E.E. Streets Memorial Post 5118 355 Glebe Road Easton, MD 21601	
Aug 9-14	VFW & Auxiliary National Convention	Columbus, Ohio	

IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY Please notify me in writing (email is preferred) of any changes in officers, contact information or auxiliary meeting information.

Changes, updates, and corrections to the Directory.

VFW Auxiliary No. 3065 Meeting Correction - 2nd Tuesday @ 6:00 PM

VFW Auxiliary No. 7460 New Treasurer -

James Brewer
2 Johnson Street
Cambridge, MD 21613
james.e.brewer23@gmail.com

2024-2025 Program Promotion Preview



Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chairman Cheri Brown, PDP reminds us to spread the Christmas cheer with our men and women who are deployed and don't forget their families.

Auxiliary Outreach Chairman Karen Rooker, PDP shares the basic steps to complete a project with the "organizations out there just begging for assistance" in the form of "manpower, not monetary." Karen stresses the importance of reporting.

"Buddy"® Poppy & National Home Chairman PDP Betty Stahm focuses on the holiday blues. She encourages education and promotion of the *National Home Helpline*. Betty has many ideas to incorporate the "Buddy"® Poppy in all our programs for the Holidays.



Chaplain Melissa Tracey presents us with a beautiful Christmas prayer. She shares some additional non-traditional holidays that you won't want to miss. How about National Cookie Day, National Brownie Day or National Cupcake Day? YUMMY... sounds like a good excuse to do some baking and a time for sharing with your auxiliary shut ins.

Our **Chief of Staff Betty Ann Johnson** shares some refresher information about the Duties of the Officers. Be sure to read the duties related to the office you hold. Betty Ann promises "more info to be given at the Christmas Conference."



Historian/Media Relations Chairman Cathy Gistedt's mailing is eye-catching as always. See Cathy's Membership Drive challenge and her ideas on "Hold Your 'How To' Training". Again, Cathy floods us with ideas for "Telling Our Story".

Be sure to see **Hospital Chairman Cynthia Davis'** Hospital Item Requests and Volunteer Requests. Cynthia reminds auxiliaries to make their donation to the Hospital Fund.

In **Legislative Chairman Bill Siperek's** December mailing he reminds us to review the current legislative bills in congress. He explains two important bills veteran related bills. Also read about the recently passed Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act.

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"It's a great time to surprise someone with a smile and a paid membership" per **Membership Chairman Felicia Weeks**. She has many challenges and incentives to share.

Scholarships Chairman JoAnne Bierly encourages recognizing your winners, promoting them in your local newspapers and on Facebook. She shares the VFW Dept. of Maryland Awards Ceremony details with a reminder to RSVP by January 11, 2025, to 410-752-6474.



"Patriot Point" - President's Special Project Chairman Sheila Justice reviews the "ABOUT PATRIOT POINT" and how your donations are used to benefit veterans and military service organizations to help heal through organized recreational activities.

Youth Activities Chairman Crystal Hallen suggests hosting an event where Veterans read to children and children read to Veterans. Be sure to take photos. Please be sure to read Crystal's suggestions on reporting her program.

Veterans & Family Support Chairman VaNette Jones' has her mid-year checkup for you in her December mailing. She challenges us to "make a difference in a veteran's life."

Sailing away... SEA you later!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Libby".

Libby DallaTezza, Secretary
VFW Auxiliary Department of Maryland

