



Greetings, Auxiliary family-

Our Dept. Chairmen are now discussing end-of-year reports, so it's time to submit National Program Award forms to your Department Chairmen. Although it may seem like a chance to relax, this is actually a busy period for everyone. The convention Program Book packet and hotel details have been sent out; please check your inbox for additional 2026 VFW & Auxiliary Department Convention updates.

2025 – 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS*			
Date	Event	Location	Time
Feb 28	Celebrating America's Freedom Event	Washington, DC See event agenda @ www.vfwauxmd.org → CALENDAR	
Mar 2 - 6	VFW Washington Conference	Washington, DC See event agenda @ www.vfwauxmd.org → CALENDAR	
March 14	Commander & President's Testimonial	Cecil Co. Memorial Post 6027 813 Turkey Point Road North East, MD 21901	Cocktails 5 pm
March 15	Auxiliary Council of Administration Meeting	Chesapeake City Post 7687 304 Basil Avenue Chesapeake City, MD 21915	Lunch 12 noon Meeting 1 pm
May 26 - 29	VFW & Auxiliary Department Convention	The Grand Hotel Ocean City, MD	

UPDATE YOUR DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Color Bearer #2 Rosalind Salmond

POW/MIA Flag Bearer Bryan Jones

✦ Please keep me informed of any updates to officers, contact details, or Auxiliary meeting information.

👉 Be sure to use the **Officer Change Form** available at www.vfwauxmd.org → [Resources](#) → [Officer Change Form](#).

March 2026

Program Promotion Preview

Cheri Brown, Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chairman, recommends planning ahead for National Vietnam Veterans Day. You can also read Cheri's brief story about Rosie the Riveter and celebrate Rosie's "We Can Do It" spirit on March 21st.



Auxiliary Outreach Chairman Kathy Williams is drawing attention to events happening around Maryland. This month, she spotlights activities in St. Mary's and Talbot Counties. The list of featured events provides Auxiliaries with valuable ways to engage with their communities and showcase service in practice.

Buddy® Poppy & National Home Chairman, PDP Karen Rooker wants to remind everyone that there is still time to submit your report. To make things easier, Karen has provided the Department Report Form as well as National Program Awards No. 1 and No. 2.

Circle of Excellence Chairman Debbie Sturgis, PDP reminds us to track point due dates. Review the updated spreadsheet often to monitor your progress; each point affects the Department of Maryland.

Chief of Staff Cathy Gistedt's monthly mailing includes tips for maintaining a strong Auxiliary, with extra advice on effective meetings and program reporting.

Historian/Media Relations Chairman Dorothy Swigon's March topic includes more suggestions to Make a Geat Reel and adding music to Instagram Reels.

Review **Hospital Chairman Cynthia's Hospital Wish List** and bring it to your next meeting so members can help provide needed items to VA hospitals.

Legislative Chairman Linda Eberhart presents the key aims of the Legislative Program, points out six specific issues, and recommends looking at earlier mailings to review all Priority Goals. She also provides access to the Priority Goals Brochure through a provided link.

Membership Chairman Jackie Kimball urges all Maryland Auxiliaries to keep pushing for membership. With creative ideas, she motivates everyone to reach the goal. The finish line is near—let's achieve success for the Department of Maryland together.



President's Special Project Chairman Mary Cardinal-Vogt reminds us that the Maryland House Kitchen remodel has reached an important stage where your support is vital.

Scholarships Chairman Nancy Shenk provides an overview of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. Nancy outlines important submission deadlines, common errors encountered, and offers practical guidance to participants. She has included the Contest Entry Form in her March mailing.

Department Treasurer Jackie Kimball, PDP, provides her expertise regarding audits. It is important to ensure that all audits are current. Auxiliaries that do not have up-to-date audits may lose their voting privileges at the Department and National Conventions.

Veterans & Family Support Chairman VaNette Jones, PDP, anticipates the submission of final reports for the 2025-2026 program year. She is confident in your auxiliary's commitment to serving veterans and their families and emphasizes the importance of documenting your efforts through timely reporting.

Youth Activities Chairman LaTasha Thomas is excited to share some ideas for the "Reading Buddies" project. See LaTasha's March mailing for additional project ideas.



Nancy August, Department VFW Liaison, reminds us of "Uniting for Veterans: Grants to Assist the Hungry and the Homeless".

Always faithful!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Libby".

Libby DallaTezza, Secretary & Programs Coordinator
VFW Auxiliary Department of Maryland