

ATTENTION

It is with regret the Department announces the Cancellation of the Department Commander and President/Supreme MOC Auxiliary Homecoming in Virginia Beach. This is due to more stringent Covid-19 restrictions creating uncertainty about being able to hold this event in February.

At this time, we must announce that Hal's homecoming is being postponed to July 8-11, 2021.

The Homecoming packet is in this General Orders. Those already registered will not need to take any action at this time. Should you desire a refund you will be given a full refund.

Please feel free to contact Ken Wiseman kwiseman@vfwva.org or 540-487-4476 with any questions. Thanks, and stay safe.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 8

403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, Virginia 24401

"Steady the Course"

FAX: 866-416-0586
Website: www.vfwva.org
Email: statehq@vfwva.org

February 1, 2021

(540) 886-8112
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Commander's Message | 13. Membership Training |
| 2. District Meetings | 14. Officer Closure |
| 3. Active Membership | 15. Patriot's Pen |
| 4. AmazonSmile | 16. Posts in Arrears for Financial Obligation |
| 5. By-Laws and Manual of Procedure | 17. Post Pandemic Relief Grants |
| 6. E-Mail Account Access | 18. Reporting |
| 7. Free Writing Classes | 19. Special Order No. 143 |
| 8. General Orders | 20. State Convention |
| 9. Important Dates | 21. Teacher of the Year |
| 10. IRS Form 8822-B | 22. VFW Special Project Program |
| 11. Legacy Life Membership | 23. Vietnam War Commemoration |
| 12. Membership | 24. Voice of Democracy |

1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades,

We are sorry to announce the joint Homecoming for Department State Commander Eric Mallett, Department President Maggie Myers and MOCA Supreme President Jennifer Winn of the **cancellation** of our homecoming scheduled for February 5 - 6, 2021. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions from the Governor of Virginia we are unable to hold the event. At this time, we do not have a reschedule date.

If you have made a hotel reservation please call the hotel to cancel your reservation so you are not charged. Refund payments will be forthcoming from the Department of Virginia for those that have paid for the registration fee.

The Department of Virginia VFW is growing strong this year we have started one new Post in Emporia, Virginia, we are working on the next Posts in Kilmarnock, Virginia, and King George and later in the year Reston, Virginia. If you are an eligible veteran living in these areas or know of a veteran spread the word. Forward all eligible members to State HQ or contact Tom Hines our Department membership Chairman.

The Department supported numerous bills in January for the House and Senate. One was SB1410 from delegate Kathy Tran Senate bill and Senator John Bell House bill SB1410 Prohibited discrimination, status as active military or a military spouse.

Membership - I have extended the deadline for Post and District Commander that reach 100% membership before February 28, 2021 will receive a Commander jacket.

I have got another membership incentive that starts 1February, the first three District Commanders and the first Post Commanders in their division as listed below will receive \$500.00 deadline is March 31:

Post Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 First 100% in membership \$500.00
 Post Divisions 5, 6, 7 First 100% in membership \$500.00
 Post Divisions 8, 9, 10 First 100% in membership \$500.00

The next deadline goal is for ALL Districts and Post to be at 95% in membership by March 31, 2021 CALL YOUR UNPAIDS if COVID19 has you locked down, NEED HELP with an unpaid list CALL HQ if your QM can't get the list from OMS. Call me if you need help.

Reporting please submit all your reports this last half I would like to see us 100% reported this time.

If the Districts and Post have not made their donations to National VMS or to the States Foundation, please try to accomplish soon.

GREAT JOB TEAM Virginia.



Eric Mallett
 State Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1st Date: TBA
 Meeting: 11:00 AM
 Location: TBA</p> | <p>6th Date: 4/10/21
 Meeting: Noon
 Location: Post 1841 Daleville
 4902 Roanoke Road</p> |
| <p>2nd Date: 2/13/21
 Meeting: 9:00AM
 Location: Post 3160 Norfolk
 District Line Officers ONLY
 Zoom Link in attachments</p> | <p>7th Date: 5/15/21
 Lunch: 11:30 AM
 Meeting: 12:15 PM
 Location: Post 9760 Berryville
 425 S Buckmarsh St</p> |
| <p>3rd Date: TBA
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: TBA</p> | <p>8th Date: 2/13/21
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: Post 3103 Fredericksburg
 2701 Princess Anne Street</p> |
| <p>4th Date: 2/20/21
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: Post 8759 Amelia
 16440 Five Forks Road</p> | <p>9th Date: TBA
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: TBA</p> |
| <p>5th Date: 2/20/21
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: Post 8467 Meadows of Dan
 80 Mabry Mill Road</p> | |

10th Date: 3/7/21
Lunch: 11:30 am
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 1503 Dale City
14631 Minnieville Road

12th Date: 4/3/21
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 6975 Bristol
317 Gate City Hwy

11th Date: TBA
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: TBA

13th Date: 2/13/21
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: Post 1827 Charlottesville
1170 River Road

3. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The National Bylaws provide for only one type of membership: active membership. There are no provisions in the National Bylaws, nor is there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership cards, Associate Member cards, Honorary Membership cards, Courtesy Membership cards or any other special type of cards. Any Post issuing such unauthorized cards, or conducting club operations open to the general public, endangers its standing with the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Officers signing outlaw cards admitting non-members to VFW premises are subject to disciplinary action. National and Department officers cannot defend practices that conflict with VFW Bylaws or procedures.

4. AMAZONSMILE:

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to charitable organizations selected by our customers. Our very own foundation is listed the Virginia Veterans Foundation.

5. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:

All officers should obtain current 2021 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2021 revised edition reflects that in response to the deadly virus COVID-19, the 121st National Convention was held pro-forma where no amendments to the National Bylaws or Manual of Procedure were made.

6. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 25th**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

You will receive all General Orders, special notices and any other documentation that you need via email. This will help cut down on postal expenses and speed up the response time for you receiving the information.

Here are directions for logging into your new account for the first time.

1. Go to Department web site www.vfwva.org.
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW2020!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

For Post Officers, your address will be cdrpost176@vfwva.org where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

For District Officers your address will be cdrdist1@vfwva.org for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district #

adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

7. FREE WRITING CLASSES:

Would you like to preserve your military experiences? Now is the time to share your stories! The Virginia War Memorial Foundation is accepting applications for the Spring Semester of the Mighty Pen Project (MPP), one of our most popular and enduring programs!

This 12-week creative writing class is free to veterans of all military branches. The MPP helps veterans craft personal and expressive works that document service to both community and country. Create, learn, and grow alongside fellow veterans and aspiring writers!

To sign up, visit vawarmemorial.org/mpp. Spring 2021 classes will be held virtually on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm, January 6th through March 24th. Graduation will be held on April 7, 2021. Feel free to reach out with any questions!

View the MPP Archives| Listen to MPP stories through Virginia Voice

Annie Rudasill Warman
Administrative Assistant
Virginia War Memorial

8. GENERAL ORDERS:

The cut off for the General Orders is the 20th of the month. No EXCEPTIONS. Subscriptions for hard copy General Orders are \$30.00 for the year (**please note new price**). Contact State Headquarters for more info.

9. IMPORTANT DATES:

June 3-6, 2021	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$125.00 per night. Group name "Virginia VFW"; Cut-off Date May 3, 2021
July 8-11, 2021	National Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch Homecoming, Portsmouth, VA (a revised packet will be forthcoming)
July 31-August 5, 2021	National Convention, Baltimore, MD
November 18-21, 2021	Southern Conference, Hilton Head, South Carolina
January 7-9, 2022	Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$94.00 per night. Group name "VFW Department of Virginia Winter Council Meeting"; Cut-off Date December 6, 2021.

10. IRS FORM 8822-B:

IRS form 8822-B. It is now a requirement by the IRS that all Posts submit this form. This form must be submitted any time the Post Quartermaster changes and/or the Post address changes. This was effective January 1, 2014. Here is the link to get the form and instructions –<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822b.pdf>
This will also apply to all Auxiliaries that have their own EIN number.

11. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

CHECK OUT OUR LEGACY LIFE VIDEO! Go to vfw.org, click on JOIN, and scroll down to Legacy Life Membership and then click on the video on the right. This prestigious program is available to all Life members and is now available in memoriam for past Life members. There are three levels of membership; each offer their own package of exclusive member benefits. Financial contributions to the Legacy Life Member Program are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

Enrollment Cost:

Levels
Gold- \$1,200.00
Silver- \$800.00
Bronze- \$400.00

Posts
\$18.00
\$12.00
\$6.00

Annual Payouts:

Departments	National
\$18.00	\$18.00
\$12.00	\$12.00
\$6.00	\$6.00

What will your Legacy be?

12. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

Welcome to Winter recruiting, there's no difference except for the cold, rain, sleet, and snow. Kind of makes me wish I had done more while it was warm. It's an opportunity to dust off the old long johns and sign up some new veterans. We need to pick up the pace a bit to get back in step with Eric's schedule for membership. We have another New Post opening on the 27th of this month in Kilmarnock. We have two other opportunities on the horizon for new Post and are following those leads. I am still confident we can and will reach our goal of 100% plus one, however it's going to take all of us working together. There are a lot of Post around the State that need only a few to be 100%. I encourage these Post to make it happen and bring in the last few that you need.

District Commanders please reach out to your Post that are below 90% and see what assistance they need. Nothing gets done without effort and it's time for the leaders of this Department to step up and get the job done. You are going to run into resistance because of the flu but we have to lead them out of their fear of it. Outdoor recruiting is the safest way to get the job done right now. There will be social distancing provided by the table and wear your mask if it makes you more at ease. We have to always focus on the positive and this will help them get over their fear. We are Veterans and have faced much worst conditions and we are still here. So, I encourage you to lead by example and invite me to assist at your events, I am not afraid to mingle with people. I am looking for good things to happen between now and June 30th.

Tom Hines, PDC
Membership Team

13. MEMBERSHIP TRAINING:

Membership Monday Webinar Training Series Tentative Schedule:

- February 8, 2021 – How to successfully plan and execute a Recruiting Outreach Event
- March 8, 2021 – Identify your potential Post Officers and Chairmen for the upcoming new membership year.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://vfw.zoom.us/j/92263422696?pwd=SWhvQjBSZmVhVVdiSXILRTJKVGUrQT09>

Meeting ID: 922 6342 2696
Passcode: 818768
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,92263422696# US (Chicago)
+13017158592,,92263422696# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 922 6342 2696
Find your local number: <https://vfw.zoom.us/j/92263422696>

Each Membership Monday training topic is developed with the Post-level leadership in mind. Each of these sessions are intended to be live with ability for audience interaction. These training sessions are recorded and can be viewed throughout the year. Videos are posted on the VFW Membership Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembershipHQ> and on the VFW website, www.vfw.org

All Membership Monday Webinars are planned to be held at 2:00 PM, CST on the dates provided.

Training is open to every member of the VFW and Auxiliary.

Each Membership Monday will be recorded and available for viewing for members who cannot attend the training live. Visit the sites below to view training topics.

- OMS under Membership Recruiting & Retention, VFW.org
- The Membership Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembership>
- VFW YouTube Channel, https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLS17GMBRjUlatKGz_QdpAoUHnXAvaPXi

If you would like to suggest a Membership Monday training topic, please email us at, membership@vfw.org.

14. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters and the Service Officer offices in Hopewell and Dale City will be closed February 15, 2021 in observance of President's Day. The State Adjutant/Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

Please note the Norfolk Service Office is temporarily closed.

15. PATRIOT'S PEN:

Judging for state-level winners of Patriot's Pen contest occurred in mid-December. The winners are listed below:

First Place - Justine Chan - District 3 - Post 1426 - 7th Grade - jej Moore, Prince George, VA

Second Place - Alayna Brooke Hillman - District 7 - Post 2447 - 7th Grade - Valley Baptist Christian School

Third Place - Addy Phillips - District 9 - Post 2719 - 8th Grade - Ft Chiswell Middle School

Dennis Walk
Patriot's Pen Chairman

16. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Bylaws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

17. POST PANDEMIC RELIEF GRANTS:

To all VFW State Departments Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders, Junior Vice Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters,

The VFW Foundation is shifting its grant making focus for the 2021 fiscal year to provide urgently needed financial relief to VFW Posts affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The VFW Foundation Post Pandemic Relief Grant (PPRG) is an opportunity for VFW Posts that own or lease their buildings to receive up to \$2,500 in support toward expenses such as mortgage/rent, utility bills and property taxes. Posts will need to meet certain requirements to be eligible to receive funding from this program.

PPRG applications will be accepted beginning 10/1/2020. However, Posts may access and begin completing the application prior to October 1 by visiting www.vfw.org/grants and clicking on "Apply Now".

For more information please visit: www.vfw.org/grants. You may also contact Jason Couch, Grants & External Relations Coordinator, at jcouch@vfw.org. (Guidelines and application are attached also attached are the eligibility updates)

18. REPORTING:

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you should visit the Department website (www.vfwva.org). The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters.

There will be no form for Homeless when reporting for assistance to a homeless veteran please put it on a Community Activity report under aid to others.

19. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 143:

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 210 of the National Bylaws, the charter of The Salem Post No. 12154, Salem, Virginia mustered December 12, 2015 is hereby cancelled, and the Post declared defunct. Such cancellation includes a revocation of the right to use all trademarks and service marks, including the name, emblems/insignia, seals and logos, of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.

By order of
Harold "Hal" Roesch, II
Commander-in-Chief

20. STATE CONVENTION:

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to a successful event.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1602798939355&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

21. TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

Judging was held for the State Teacher of the Year award on Saturday, December 23, 2020 at VFW Post 9760, Berryville, VA. The State winners are as follows:

K-5 - Gabrielle Patterson - Baldwin Elementary School, Manassas, VA 20110 - District 8, Post 7589

6-8 - Mrs. Elizabeth Stone - Baldwin Intermediate School, Manassas, VA 20110 - District 8, Post 7589

9-12 - Michael K. Summers II - E.C. Glass High School, Lynchburg, VA 24501 - District 6, Post 12179

Chris Birch, PDC
Teacher Recognition Chairman

22. VFW SPECIAL PROJECT PROGRAM:

This program was put in place to recognize VFW units for creating and completing unique and extraordinary community service projects.

Record book entry nominations that are found to be complete and well-substantiated should be endorsed by the Department Adjutant or VFW Department Community Activities Chairman and forwarded to National Programs Department. Deadline for entries is April 30 of each year.

Every Post Special Project receiving the Award of Excellence in the May judging will be entered in the Fred C. Hall Memorial Outstanding Post Special Project Competition. Complete information can be found in the VFW Community Activities and Citizenship Education Chairman's Manual.

23. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

Commander – During the reporting period, I received a request from the Ocean View Post 3160 in Norfolk (District 2) on how to become a member of the Commission. I provide some basic information and referred the writer to the Commission's website (www.vietnamwar50th.com). At this time, 23 Posts and two higher VFW organizations in Virginia are Commemorative Partners. JD

The following historical events for the Vietnam War took place during February:

Feb 8, 1962 - The United States activates Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV), with headquarters in Saigon. MACV's first commander is General Paul D. Harkins. The new command absorbs and supervises the Military Assistance and Advisory Group, Vietnam. From 1962 on, MACV directs the conduct of the war.

Feb 19, 1962 - The Navy establishes and begins training 13-man Seabee Technical Assistance Teams (STATs) to counter Communist insurgents through civic action programs and to support CIDGs. The first STATs deploy to Vietnam in January 1963. In South Vietnam, STATs build military installations, village fortifications, houses, schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, and wells. They also fortify isolated bases held by U.S. Special Operations forces and their paramilitary troops.

Feb 7, 1965 - Early in the morning, while it is still dark, approximately ten Viet Cong insurgents breach the fenced perimeter of the U.S. Army advisory facility near Pleiku, in the South Vietnamese Central Highlands. The infiltrators place demolition charges against several structures, detonate them, and begin throwing additional charges and mortar rounds through windows and damaged walls. The attack lasts for about ten minutes. At the same time, a few kilometers away, two five-man Viet Cong mortar teams enter the aircraft parking area of Camp Holloway, an Army helicopter base and headquarters for the 52d Aviation Battalion. Over the course of ten minutes, the Viet Cong teams fire mortar rounds and detonate charges against parked aircraft and barracks buildings. The attacks kill eight Americans and wound over 100 others. Over a dozen aircraft are destroyed or damaged. The attackers escape both the advisory base and Camp Holloway with no casualties.

Feb 8, 1965 - In the immediate wake of the Viet Cong attack at Pleiku, President Johnson reads a report submitted by National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy regarding Bundy's recent trip to South Vietnam. Bundy's report notes that "without U.S. action defeat appears inevitable." Johnson decides to authorize the systematic bombing of North Vietnam in an attempt to prop up the Saigon regime and deter Hanoi's support for Viet Cong insurgents. Initial retaliatory bombings eventually develop into the years-long bombing operation called ROLLING THUNDER. Johnson is publicly silent about his decision to authorize the bombings.

Feb 8, 1965 - President Johnson orders airstrikes against North Vietnamese military targets. They are codenamed Operation FLAMING DART. U.S. Navy carrier aircraft strike enemy installations near Dong Hoi, North Vietnam. The next day, U.S. Air Force and South Vietnamese aircraft strike North Vietnamese barracks and antiaircraft sites near the DMZ. These are the first U.S. Air Force strikes against North Vietnam.

Feb 10-11, 1965 - Viet Cong guerrillas detonate a bomb at a U.S. Army barracks facility in the South Vietnamese coastal city of Qui Nhon. The blast kills 23 Americans and 7 South Vietnamese. In response, President Johnson orders additional air attacks in North Vietnam on February 11, known as FLAMING DART II. U.S. Navy and Air Force and South Vietnamese aircraft hit barracks and other facilities at Chanh Hoa and Vu Con with rockets and bombs.

Feb 16, 1965 - A U.S. helicopter pilot spots a 130-foot North Vietnamese trawler unloading cargo on a remote beach in South Vietnam's Vung Ro Bay. Airstrikes capsize the trawler. Three days later, allied personnel reach the scene and find that the trawler was carrying about 100 tons of arms, ammunition, explosives, and other supplies intended for the Viet Cong. The incident helps provide the final justification for Operation MARKET TIME. This combined U.S. Navy-U.S. Coast Guard-South Vietnamese navy coastal patrol operation is designed to stem the flow of smuggled supplies by sea from North to South Vietnam. During the next seven years, the patrol vessels and aircraft of MARKET TIME help thwart the great majority of infiltration by North Vietnamese coastal vessels. The North Vietnamese respond by moving their seaborne smuggling operations further south, through the ostensibly neutral port at Sihanoukville, Cambodia. They also increase the volume of traffic moving overland through Laos and Cambodia via the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Feb 25, 1965 - The Republic of Korea Military Assistance Group, Vietnam, also known as Dove Unit, begins to arrive in Vietnam. It is based in Bien Hoa Province. South Korea's Dove Unit includes a noncombat force of about 2,400 men comprising a construction support group, marine corps engineer company, army security company, and navy amphibious unit.

Feb 26, 1965 - President Johnson's decision to use American airpower to bomb North Vietnam leads him to further conclude that the United States requires more ground forces in South Vietnam, whose responsibility it will be to protect growing U.S. air bases and other facilities from retaliation by Communist troops. Johnson approves General William Westmoreland's request for two Marine Corps battalions to fill this role, and the Marines begin preparations for a landing at Da Nang, in northern South Vietnam.

Feb 17, 1966 - Thailand activates the Royal Thai Military Assistance Group, Vietnam. The Royal Thai Air Force contingent already in South Vietnam comes under the new group's command. The Thai forces in South Vietnam eventually consist of Royal Thai Air Force, Navy, and Army groups. The largest contingent is from the Army. Later in the year MACV places them under the operational control of the 9th U.S. Infantry Division.

Feb 14-15, 1967 - The 11th Company of the Republic of Korea 2d Marine (Blue Dragon) Brigade is surrounded and attacked by a regiment-sized force of Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops near a village southwest of Chu Lai. The attackers breach the Koreans' perimeter with bangalore torpedoes and flame throwers. Some Korean troops are forced to resort to hand-to-hand combat. A South Korean counterattack ultimately drives off the larger enemy force.

Feb 22, 1967 - Elements from multiple U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and South Vietnamese army units take part in Operation JUNCTION CITY. The operation is the primary offensive of the overall campaign in III Corps and its objective is to encircle and destroy the Viet Cong 9th Division, which controls the area northwest of Saigon near the Cambodian border. JUNCTION CITY represents one of the largest helicopter actions of the war, and the offensive begins with the only major parachute assault of the war. The operation lasts until May. U.S. troops capture 850 tons of food and about 500,000 pages of documents, kill over 2,700 enemy soldiers, and force Viet Cong commanders to move their southern headquarters into Cambodia.

Feb 24, 1968 - As part of the assaults on Khe Sanh and Hue, enemy forces begin attacking allied shipping on the Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers. These waterways are crucial supply and communication links for northern I Corps. Deputy Commander of MACV, General Creighton Abrams, requests Naval Forces Vietnam to create a task force that can protect supply convoys and keep waterways open to traffic. It is known as Task Force Clearwater.

Task Force Clearwater begins escorting river supply convoys with patrol boats, helicopter gunships, and ground troops, which act as reaction forces during ambushes. The task force proves especially vital for protecting supplies intended for the besieged Marine garrison at Khe Sanh.

Feb 27, 1968 - After his trip to Vietnam in early 1968, anchorman Walter Cronkite broadcasts his coverage of the Tet Offensive. Cronkite concludes his report with a personal commentary, voicing his skepticism of official assertions of military progress.

"To say that we are closer to victory today is to believe, in the face of evidence, the optimists who have been wrong in the past. To suggest we are on the edge of defeat is to yield to unreasonable pessimism. To say that we are mired in stalemate seems the only realistic, yet unsatisfactory, conclusion. . . . But it is increasingly clear to this reporter that the only rational way out then will be to negotiate, not as victors, but as an honorable people who lived up to their pledge to defend democracy, and did the best they could." –Walter Cronkite

February 1968 - As the Tet Offensive rages, U.S. Air Force aeromedical evacuation aircraft transport more than 10,000 wounded and injured personnel during February alone. Air Force Airlift units average over 9,000 patients evacuated per month through the month of June.

Feb 23, 1969 - The North Vietnamese and Viet Cong launch artillery attacks on over 100 population centers and military targets across South Vietnam. The attacks represent a Communist attempt to mount another sustained offensive close to the Tet season, though this one is far weaker than Tet 1968. Communist forces target Saigon and other cities and installations with mortar and rocket fire. MACV commander General Abrams quickly orders a four-day retaliatory bombardment of North Vietnam below the 19th parallel using both air strikes and naval artillery. In March, President Nixon orders further retaliatory air strikes known as Operation MENU. The erratic Communist offensive lasts until June.

Feb 8, 1971 - Approximately 17,000 South Vietnamese soldiers and marines launch Operation LAM SON 719, along Highway 9 into Laos. Their objective is to interdict enemy supply efforts on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, west of Khe Sanh. Although the South Vietnamese are supported by U.S. Army helicopters and U.S. Air Force aircraft, American ground forces are not permitted to enter Laos. The operation is an important test of the progress of Vietnamization. A much larger North Vietnamese force stalls and then reverses the assault, and the South Vietnamese suffer high casualties. LAM SON 719 ends on March 24.

Feb 12, 1973 - A U.S. Air Force C-141, the "Hanoi Taxi," airlifts the first American prisoners of war to freedom from Gia Lam Airport in Hanoi, North Vietnam. From February 12 to March 29, U.S. transport aircraft fly POWs home from Southeast Asia as part of Operation HOMECOMING. In all, 591 American military and civilian prisoners are released, including individuals held by North Vietnam, the Viet Cong, the Pathet Lao, and the People's Republic of China.

Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman
cdrpost9835@vfwva.org

24. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

Judging for state-level winners of Voice of Democracy contest occurred in mid-December. The winners are listed below:

1st Place Hope C. Frost - District 2 - Sponsored by Portsmouth Post 993

2nd Place Hannah L. Nardini - District 3 - Sponsored by Mechanicsville Post 9808

3rd Place Tyler Thomas Kelley - District 8 - Sponsored by Warrenton Post 9835

Louis Filippone
Voice of Democracy Program Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Eric Mallett
State Commander

Second District Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7576090770>

Meeting ID: 757 609 0770

Passcode: VFW

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,7576090770#,,,,*419971# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,7576090770#,,,,*419971# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 757 609 0770

Passcode: 419971

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7576090770>

Please do not edit this section of the description.

This event has a video call.

Join: <https://meet.google.com/tcx-twsh-nxf>

View your event at

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=dXNjc2FjOHxcmo5b2ZlbnFjdGZmN25wbTQgY2RyZGlzdDJAdmZ3dmEub3Jn&tok=MjUjcm9ubmllLmQuc3RlZWxlQGdtYWIsLmNvbWU4OTlyZyAyNDBlZWZhODMzYzlkMGFmMTZhZTYyMDAzYmQ1ODAzZTQ&ctz=America%2FNew_York&hl=en&es=1



Scout of the Year

WHO CAN ENTER

Scouts who are registered, active members of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, or a Sea Scout Ship who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.

There is no minimum age requirement for applicants as long as all other eligibility criteria has been met.

The maximum age requirement for applicants is 18 years old and if an applicant reaches their 18th birthday during the nomination year they remain eligible as long as they are still in high school at the time of the submission deadline.

HOW TO ENTER

Scouts should download and submit a completed VFW Scouting Scholarship form, resume of high school activities, scouting record, community service record and letters of recommendation to a local VFW Post no later than March 1. Locate your local Post here.

Note: A Scout can enter through ONE VFW Post only.

HOW IT WORKS

Local VFW Posts submit their winning candidates with full entry criteria to their respective VFW Department (state) by April 1. Ensure that if a District judging is taking place that entries are forwarded to the District first and that enough time is allotted to ensure that the Department still receives the entry by April 1. From there, the Department selects a winner and forwards the entry to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1 for national-level judging.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
Office 816.756.3390
Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
Office 202.543.2239
Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org
www.vfw.org

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. Awards are as follows:

- \$5,000 1st place National scholarship
- \$3,000 2nd place National scholarship
- \$1,000 3rd place National scholarship

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship at the time the above reward was received.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. There is no minimum age requirement for applicants as long as all other eligibility criteria has been met. The maximum age requirement for applicants is 18 years old. If an applicant reaches their 18th birthday during the nomination year, they remain eligible as long as they are still in high school at the time of the submission deadline. A Scout may enter through only one VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

- Deadline for entry to VFW Post is **March 1**.
- One candidate with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the next level of judging by **April 1**. The VFW Department Scouting chairman can provide this information.
- The Department winner must be selected and submitted by their Department Scouting chairman to the VFW National Headquarters by **May 1**.

Questions should be directed to 816.756.3390, ext 6155. during normal business hours Monday through Friday or emailed to scouting@vfw.org.

Official Entry Form

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

**MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT
and submitted directly to a VFW post in your community.**

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout/Venture is an active member of our unit or was when the award was received and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States' Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

VFW DEPARTMENT SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

PHONE: _____

SPONSORING VFW POST

POST NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE:

DISTRICT CERTIFICATION

IF APPLICABLE, CHECK WITH THE VFW DEPARTMENT SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT #: _____

DISTRICT CDR.: _____

DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION

MUST BE COMPLETED BY DEPARTMENT VFW SCOUTING CHAIRMAN OR DEPT. COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- **Photograph of the Scout** — must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- **School Participation Record** — a single page, one-sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.
- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one-sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A scout leader.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
 - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** – submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

WHO MAKES UP THE VFW SCOUTING TEAM?

The backbone of Scouting in the VFW is the VFW Scouting Team. These VFW members are deeply involved in Scouting, most with decades of experience.

Appointed by their Department Commander, they are responsible for promoting scouting in their state. They are available to encourage Posts to sponsor units, support units and individual Scout projects. They should be the Department's "expert" on all phases of scouting. Many Departments have multiple members of the VFW Scouting Team, but every Department should have at least one individual to promote the values of scouting to youth and to the VFW itself. For more information on the VFW Scouting Team call 816.756.3390, ext 6155, or email scouting@vfw.org



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW Riders VA 7th Annual 4 Season's Poker Run

First 50 riders who register will
get a FREE VFW buff!



\$15 per Rider/\$5 per passenger

Come help support the VFW Riders Virginia. Cost includes lunch provided by Mission BBQ at the end of the run. Musical Guest Sons of the Beach! Cash prizes for best hand and as always there will be items for raffle/auction. All proceeds support the VFW Vander Clute fund, which supports Veterans and their Families.

May 1st Registration 930 – 1030 First bike out at 10AM

Poker run starts at VFW Post 3160, 111 A View Ave,
Norfolk, VA & ends at VFW
Post 3219, 122 E. Mellen
St, Phoebus, VA. Route to
be determined.

Poker Run is sponsored in part
by Powerhouse Gaming



Powerhouse Gaming

2021 4-SEASON'S POKER RUN

- You can buy breakfast at VFW Post 3160 for \$5.
- Bar at Post 3160 will be open during registration.
- Raffle & Auction prizes at end at VFW Post 3219.
- First 50 riders registered will get a FREE VFW BUFF.
- VFW Guardian Bells will be available for only \$5.



- Lunch proudly donated by



- Live music from Sons of the Beach!





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.®

Doug Hoffman
for
Department Surgeon
2021-2022



-
- **Qualifying Campaign—Operation Iraqi Freedom**
 - **Retired Navy Chief**
 - **Two time Post Commander of Ocean View Post 3160**
 - **All State and All American Post Commander**
 - **Commander of District Two**
 - **State Inspector**
 - **Past Department Deputy Chief of Staff**

My Goals as a member of the VFW is the continued recognition of our Vietnam Veterans and assisting them as they are entering their retirement years. They seem to be the forgotten members and they have a lot of wisdom and leadership to offer our communities. We need to be the ones to find them and offer membership and services to them as we continue to do for all veterans.

Hal Roesch
VFW Commander-in-Chief 2020-2021
Homecoming



July 8-11, 2021
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
425 Water Street Portsmouth, VA 23704

Hotel Information

**DEADLINE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IS June 7, 2021
USE NORFOLK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR ALL FLIGHTS**

LINK TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1611690097306&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

CALL TO MAKE THE RESERVATION: 1-800-839-1775 (Say you are with the “Hal Roesch” group to get the special rate)

We have the dates of the event plus more both before and after for the same price. Make sure you book accordingly.

The Department of Virginia has used this hotel for several years for our conventions and conferences. With beautiful views of the harbor, U.S. Navy warships, and historical and vibrant surroundings, this is the ideal location for a homecoming! The hotel is newly renovated with all rooms ready to welcome you in comfort and style. A modern, sleek approach to the well-known “Virginia Hospitality” awaits your arrival!

Rooms are \$135, plus tax, per night. Parking is \$10 per day. The rooms include complimentary Wi-Fi, a pool and exercise room, and the rate is good for three days before and three days after the event for those who want to stay longer. In addition to the hospitality provided by the Department of Virginia, a full restaurant and bar are available in the hotel.

**DEADLINE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IS June 7, 2021
USE NORFOLK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR ALL FLIGHTS**

Homecoming Agenda

Thursday, July 8th

11am-6pm: Registration

3pm: Hospitality room opens (open bar)

Friday, July 9th

645am: Golf tournament departs from the hotel

10am-5pm: Registration

Tour groups depart

12pm: USS Wisconsin and Nauticus Museum

12pm: Tour of the General of the Army Douglas MacArthur Memorial Museum

12pm-3pm: Hospitality room open (open bar)

630pm: Reception with a “Tailgate Party” theme. Guests are encouraged to wear the jersey of their favorite sports team (casual otherwise).

Hospitality continues until late (open bar).

Saturday, July 10th

11am-4pm: Registration

Tour groups depart

915am: 2-hour narrated Naval Base cruise (on a pleasure boat, 100-person max)

11am: Shopping at Norfolk Premium Outlets

12pm-3pm: Hospitality room open (open bar)

630pm: Dinner with guests encouraged to wear Hal’s homecoming shirt (casual otherwise).

Hospitality and entertainment continue until late (open bar).

Sunday, July 11th

All Day: Guests depart

Event Descriptions

ALL EVENTS INCLUDE ROUND-TRIP TRANSPORTATION

Thursday

“The Local Nightlife”: Our hotel is conveniently located near a pedestrian-only ferry (literally, beside the hotel) that takes you to the Norfolk side of the water where bars, restaurants, and entertainment goes late into the night. Maybe you catch an Uber into the historical Ghent neighborhood of Norfolk, just a few miles away, and enjoy amazing food. Within walking distance of the hotel is Portsmouth’s Old Towne district with local establishments, history, and easy to navigate streets. As you fly in and unpack, an easy night or a fun filled night are all at your disposal!

Friday

USS Wisconsin and Nauticus Museum: 12pm departure for approx. 3 hours at a cost of \$5 for transportation plus whatever admission fee you select (average of \$16). Visit the “Big Whiskey” and the museum dedicated to the rich history of Hampton Roads and the U.S. Navy. Our region is forever tied to the Navy and we are proud to showcase that inside a massive museum. Situated with the battleship tied to the pier connected to the museum, it is a “one-stop shop” for all of the Navy history, pride, and fun you could ever imagine! While some parts of the battleship are not handicap friendly, parts of it are and the entire museum is.

Tour of the General of the Army Douglas MacArthur Memorial Museum: 12pm departure for approx. 3 hours at a cost of \$5 plus whatever other costs you incur (museum admission is free). Come and learn about General of the Army Douglas MacArthur and those wars he served in, including WWI, WWII, and Korea.

Saturday

2-hour narrated Naval Base cruise on a pleasure boat (100-person max): 915am departure from the hotel. \$30 per person. Set sail on the Victory Rover with a climate-controlled main cabin, large picture windows, and ample comfortable seating. More seating is available on the open-air bow and top deck. A large portion of our top deck has an awning to provide shade. In the main cabin are restrooms as well as a fully stocked ship store and bar with all your favorite refreshments and souvenirs

Shopping at Norfolk Premium Outlets: 11am departure for approx. 3 hours at a cost of \$5 for transportation plus whatever you spend at the mall. With nearly 70 stores, this is a chance for some deals!

Homecoming Registration Form

(Deadline June 7th, 2021)

REGISTRATION FEE: \$100 PER PERSON

Registration includes:

Welcome packet

Friday dinner and entertainment

Saturday dinner and entertainment

Hospitality all weekend

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

ALL DOCUMENTS WITH "FORMS" IN THE TITLE SHOULD BE MAILED OR EMAILED:

**VFW Department of Virginia
ATTN: HAL'S HOMECOMING
403 Lee-Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401
adj@vfwva.org
Call for payments: 540-886-8112**

Airport Transportation Form

USE NORFOLK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR ALL FLIGHTS

Name(s): _____

State/Department: _____

Cell phone number: _____

Number of passengers: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Airline: _____ Arrival time: _____

Departure Date: _____ Airline: _____ Departure time: _____

Transportation will be available using this form for the period of July 8-11. We are unable to handle travel outside of those dates.

DUE TO THE EXPECTED NUMBER OF FLIGHTS, THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO ENSURE TRANSPORTATION.

ALL DOCUMENTS WITH "FORMS" IN THE TITLE SHOULD BE MAILED OR EMAILED:

**VFW Department of Virginia
ATTN: HAL'S HOMECOMING
403 Lee-Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401
adj@vfwva.org
Call for payments: 540-886-8112**

Homecoming Payment Form

(NOT INCLUDING FEES AND COSTS AT THE EVENT WHICH YOU PAY SEPARATELY)

Name of those attending: _____ State: _____

Homecoming Registration Fee: Number of people _____ x\$100 per person = _____

USS Wisconsin & Nauticus Museum: Number of people _____ x\$5 per person = _____

MacArthur Memorial Museum: Number of people _____ x\$5 per person = _____

Shopping at Norfolk Premium Outlets: Number of people _____ x\$5 per person = _____

Naval Base cruise on a pleasure boat: Number of people _____ x\$30 per person = _____

HOMECOMING SHIRTS \$35

(WOMEN SHOULD GET ONE SIZE LARGER THAN NORMAL DUE TO DESIGN OF THE SHIRT)

POSTAGE FOR SHIRTS \$9 REGARDLESS OF ADDRESS

GENDER		SIZE	QUANTITY	COST	SHIP?	COST W/ POSTAGE	TOTAL DUE
M	F	S			Y N		
M	F	M			Y N		
M	F	L			Y N		
M	F	XL			Y N		
M	F	2XL			Y N		
M	F	3XL			Y N		

Are you picking up this shirt at homecoming? _____

If you want it mailed, what is the address? _____

Make all checks payable to VFW Virginia c/o "Hal's Homecoming"

ALL DOCUMENTS WITH "FORMS" IN THE TITLE SHOULD BE MAILED OR EMAILED:

VFW Department of Virginia
ATTN: HAL'S HOMECOMING
403 Lee-Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401
adj@vfwva.org
Call for payments: 540-886-8112

Hal's "Battle of the Fairway" Golf Tournament
Where the Shankopotamus runs wild!



Friday, July 9th 8am

Captain's Choice, shotgun start, with teams of 4 (make your own team or get partnered)

\$50 per person gets 18 holes, cart, and lunch

Suffolk Golf Course Suffolk, VA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Names of your partners (if known): _____

Deadline for registration is June 7th, 2021

Checks payable to "VFW Department of Virginia" earmarked "Golf Tournament"

Mail check and form to 403 Lee Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401

**Transportation to/from the course will be provided from the Renaissance Portsmouth-
Norfolk Waterfront Hotel and will leave at 645am**

adj@vfwva.org

Call for payment 540-886-8112

Hal's "Battle of the Fairway" Golf Tournament
Where the Shankopotamus runs wild!



Support Hal's Homecoming by sponsoring a hole!

Make checks payable to "VFW Department of Virginia" and earmark "Hole Sponsor"
All holes available and only \$75 per sign
Payment due by June 7th, 2021

Person/Post/District/State sponsoring the hole: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail this form and payment to 403 Lee Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401
adj@vfwva.org
Call for payments: 540-886-8112