

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

CHAIRMAN, CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

101<sup>st</sup> Annual State Convention, Portsmouth, Virginia June 1 – 4, 2023

Below are listed the Delegates and alternates duly elected at a regular meeting of Post \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Name	Title	Name	Title
1		21	
2		22	
3		23	
4		24	
5		25	
6		26	
7		27	
8		28	
9		29	
10		30	
11		31	
12		32	
13		33	
14		34	
15		35	
16		36	
17		37	
18		38	
19		39	
20		40	

Official:

Yours in Comradeship,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Adjutant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Commander

MAIL TO:

State Adjutant  
403 Lee Jackson Hwy  
Staunton, VA 24401

Elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each 30 members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the date of election. Delegate strength to be based on State Quartermasters records as of March 31, 2023, with the exception of New Posts organized after that date and prior to opening date of State Convention - June 1, 2023. Each Post must pay \$3.00 for every delegate that they are entitled to. Please send **form and check** to State Headquarters by May 23, 2023.

Please make sure you put Comrades that **ARE ATTENDING** the State Convention first.

Delegate fees **must be paid** regardless of whether anyone is attending the State Convention or not.

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**



**DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA**

**NUMBER 10**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

**"Veterans Helping Veterans  
Dept. of Virginia 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary"**

FAX: 866-416-0586  
Website: [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)  
Email: [statehq@vfwva.org](mailto:statehq@vfwva.org)

**April 1, 2023**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Commander's Message                        | 17. Post Elections                             |
| 2. Active Membership                          | 18. Posts in Arrears for Financial Obligations |
| 3. Audits                                     | 19. Reporting                                  |
| 4. Awards                                     | 20. Roster Changes                             |
| 5. Calendar Raffle                            | 21. Special Order No. 202                      |
| 6. Delinquent                                 | 22. Special Order No. 226                      |
| 7. District Meetings                          | 23. Special Order No. 227                      |
| 8. Delegate to District/Department Convention | 24. Special Order No. 228                      |
| 9. E-Mail Account Access                      | 25. Special Order No. 229                      |
| 10. General Orders                            | 26. Special Order No. 230                      |
| 11. Important Dates                           | 27. Special Order No. 231                      |
| 12. Installing Officers                       | 28. Special Order No. 232                      |
| 13. IRS Form 8822-B                           | 29. State Convention                           |
| 14. National Convention Housing Registration  | 30. VFW Special Project Program                |
| 15. Membership                                | 31. Vietnam War Commemoration                  |
| 16. Office Closure                            |  |

**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

April is a month of holidays. This year, the major holidays of Ramadan, Easter and Passover will all be occurring in April. For me it signifies warmer weather and a "Spring Surge" in recruiting. We had a busy VFW month in March and the following is a brief recap of events:

In the last five weeks we have opened two new VFW Posts in Virginia! On February 25<sup>th</sup> we held the Post 12217 Holland Institution; on March 11<sup>th</sup> we followed that, with the Post 12218 Western Prince William County Post Institution. Both of these Posts are in enthusiastic, vibrant communities and well placed for growth. We are expecting great things from these Posts in the future. When you see these members at an event, please give them a hearty welcome to our VFW family.

We had a great time at the northern Virginia Centennial Celebration at VFW Post 1503 Dale City! We were honored to have as our guests, the Commander-In-Chief; the National SVC, JVC, QM and Adjutant and their staff. They were escorted to the venue by our VFW Riders. The event was smash hit with good food and drink, free gifts and emblematic sales. Thank you, to all who attended. Special thanks to VFW Post 1503 Dale City for hosting. Our next Centennial Celebration will be April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Post 2447, Edinburg; all members and their families are welcome.

On March 6<sup>th</sup> the 76<sup>th</sup> National "Parade of Winners" was held in Crystal City, VA. The VFW proudly presented more than \$171,000 in scholarships and awards as it named the national winners of its 2023 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholarship competitions. We are very proud of our Virginia state winners: VOD first place

winner John P. McGraw sponsored by Post 7589 Manassas in District 8 and Patriots Pen first place winner Nathan D. Wallin sponsored by Post 3219 Phoebus in District 1.

National Legislative Conference attendees stayed in Crystal City this month, as they prepped for our Commander-In-Chief's testimony. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Virginia delegation was there, in a standing-room-only packed chamber in the Cannon House Office Building, as Chief Tim Borland delivered his message of "Every Veteran Counts" during in-person testimony before the 118th Congress during a special joint hearing of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs held Wednesday. Backed by almost 400 VFW and VFW Auxiliary members CIC Borland spoke on the PACT Act of 2022 expanded benefits; cracking down on "predatory claims consultants" in filing VA claims (via GUARD VA Benefits Act); veteran suicide prevention; improved and expanded Transition Assistance Program (TAP) for separating veterans; and ending the practice of offsetting DOD retirement and VA disability pay. Thanks to our Virginia legislative team who lobbied legislators during the Legislative Conference. Their efforts made a difference for veterans.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> a Virginia Life Member received the Congressional Medal of Honor (CMOH). COL Paris Davis, a Vietnam veteran and Life Member of Post VFW Post 7916 in Woodbridge, VA, received the CMOH at the White House after nearly 60 years. He was honored at a White House ceremony as the President hung the blue ribbon around his neck." The VFW is very proud of him, and I reached out to pass him our congratulations.

This past month your VFW marched in several parades performing Color Guard duties: including the George Washington Parade (Alexandria); the *Ballyshaners* St. Patrick's Parade (Alexandria) and the Ocean View St. Patrick's Day Parade (Norfolk).

We are nearing the end of our administrative and membership year. If you haven't already done so, please get your Community Reports submitted; we intend to be 100 percent by the end of this month. Continue to review the All-State requirements and Dashboard status for your Post and District. We want as many Posts as possible to qualify for All State this year.

Our membership is strong at over 98 percent, needing approximately 500 members to make 100 percent. Thanks to our outstanding Membership Team. I encourage all of our leaders to start setting up your events for the Spring Recruiting Surge. Spring has historically been one of the strongest times of the year for recruiting and retention. Let's sprint to the finish line and put the Department of Virginia over the top this spring! Have a great month.

Geoffrey Lyster  
State Commander  
Department of Virginia

## **2. 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.

## **3. AUDITS:**

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218 (a)(11) of the National Manual of Procedure, Officers: Duties and Obligations. Trustees Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, one of which ended March 31.

## **4. AWARDS:**

State Awards and All State information were in last month's General Orders, along with the various entry forms.

## 5. CALENDAR RAFFLE:

This year the calendar raffle becomes my responsibility. I wanted to do something a little different this year. This year I want to thank and welcome home all our Vietnam Veterans. This makes the calendar a little more personal to many comrades and Auxiliary Members to buy one for themselves or as a gift to a Vietnam veteran. I have discussed this idea at a few District meetings I have attended and everyone really likes the idea. The previous raffles have been successful, but I want to make this the best calendar raffle we have done so far. But I need your help. What I am looking for is to have your members (that are Vietnam veterans and belong to a Post in Virginia or Auxiliary member of a Vietnam veteran) send me a photo of them while they were in country along with their name, year in country, a brief description or quote for the photo and VFW Post number they belong to. They can send it to my email address ([judge@vfwva.org](mailto:judge@vfwva.org)). I look forward to seeing all the photos and I hope for an overwhelming response. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Douglas Hoffman  
State Judge Advocate

## 6. DELINQUENT:

The following is a list of Posts that are still delinquent in Audits.

Dist.	Post	Audits	Dist.	Post	Audits	Dist.	Post	Audits
3	7167	Sept	12	8652	Dec	13	2613	Dec
			12	9600	Sept, Dec			

## 7. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 5/6/23 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 3219 Phoebus 122 E Mellen Street, Hampton Rep: State Surgeon Mark Maggio	6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 4/1/23 Meeting: Noon Location: Hosted by Post 5895 Buchanan at Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Avenue NW Rep: St Chief-of-Staff Ken Wiseman
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 5/13/23 Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 4809 Norfolk 5728 Bartee Street Rep: State Inspector Charles Bush	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/20/23 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: To follow Lunch Location: Post 9760 Berryville 425 S. Buckmarsh Street Rep: St Chief-of-Staff Ken Wiseman
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 5/6/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: PSC Butch Schupska	8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 4/15/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post Culpeper 12210 Sperryville Pike Rep: State Commander Geoffrey Lyster
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/13/23 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 7059 Farmville 1616 Graham Road Rep: St Chief-of-Staff Ken Wiseman	9 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/6/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4667 Marion 861 Goolsby Street Rep: St SVC Gary Adams
5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/20/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep: State JVC Gary Adams		

10 <sup>th</sup>	Date: TBD Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: TBD Rep:	12 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 4/1/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9830 Damascus 23489 Mountain City Rd State Surgeon Mark Maggio Rep:
11 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/13/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 8644 Bridgewater 118 Dry River Road Rep: State JVC Mitch Rubenstein	13 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/13/23 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1827 Charlottesville 1170 River Road Rep: St Judge Advocate Doug Hoffman

**8. DELEGATES TO DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT CONVENTION:**

Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws – Regular Meeting, Districts shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year for purposes of transacting business and conducting schools of instruction.

Pursuant to Section 417 of the National Manual of Procedure, District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed.

District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed in accordance with Section 416 of the Manual of Procedure.

**9. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:**

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. 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](http://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 **VFW2022!** 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](mailto:cdrpost176@vfwva.org) where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

[adjpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost176@vfwva.org)  
[qmpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost176@vfwva.org)

For District Officers your address will be [cdrdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist1@vfwva.org) for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district # **Please note District Senior Vice Commander's now have an email address**

[svrdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:svrdist1@vfwva.org)

[adjdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:adjdist1@vfwva.org)

[qmdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:qmdist1@vfwva.org)

## 10. GENERAL ORDERS:

The cut off for the General Orders is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. No EXCEPTIONS. Subscriptions for hard copy General Orders are \$30.00 for the year. Contact State Headquarters for more info.

## 11. IMPORTANT DATES:

June 1 - 4, 2023	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$149.00 per night. Group name "Virginia Department VFW & Auxiliary State Convention 2023"; Cut-off Date April 28, 2023.
July 22 - 27, 2023	National Convention, Phoenix, Arizona
November 1 - 4, 2023	Southern Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma
January 12 - 14, 2023	Winter Council Meeting, Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA: phone 757-220-2250. Room Rates are \$89.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars – Winter Council Meeting Group"; Cut-off Date December 11, 2023.
July 27 - Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 9 - 14, 2025	National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

## 12. INSTALLING OFFICERS:

Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 216 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed.

Post-Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than June 1 to the National Headquarters. We highly encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post-Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters.

## 13. 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 anytime the Post Quartermaster changes and/or the Post address changes. This is effective January 1, 2014.

## 14. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING REGISTRATION:

124th National Convention housing officially opened February 17, 2023. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at [vfw.org/convention](http://vfw.org/convention). The convention

website will also have general convention information including the registration form and links to other convention related information for Phoenix, Arizona – July 22-27, 2023, including a tentative agenda.

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, which provides that each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Posts are encouraged to register their Post delegate(s) online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or by submitting their National Convention Post and Delegate Registration form that will be mailed to all Posts as part of the Election Report/Convention Registration mailing going out later this month. Registration forms for the 124th National Convention may be mailed to: Convention Registration, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

#### **15. MEMBERSHIP:**

Comrades and Commanders,

We are moving into Spring and the weather will be suitable for recruiting and your Post becoming involved with the many Community events planned for this time of year. Please inquire into the events in your areas and get the Post involved in them. A perfect time to pass out Buddy Poppies and sign-up new members.

The Department is doing well, needing less than 500 to reach our goal of one hundred percent plus one. We are also closing in on my personal goal of twenty-five hundred new and reinstated that I hope for each year. It has been a pleasure to work with many of you this year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts so far. Working together has us almost at the finish line, now let's finish the mission and close out membership.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team Chairman

#### **16. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters and the Service Offices of Smithfield, Norfolk and Dale City will be closed April 7, 2023, in observance of Good Friday.

Please note the Hopewell Service Office is temporarily closed.

#### **17. POST ELECTIONS:**

Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election, and installation of Post Officers. Post-Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters immediately following the election of Post Officers but not later than June 1.

#### **18. 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.

## 19. 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](http://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.

## 20. ROSTER CHANGES:

Post 993 QM  
Terrance T. Wilson  
13 Travis Place  
Portsmouth, VA 23702  
757-409-9391  
[qmpost993@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost993@vfwva.org)

Post 1211 QM  
Richard L. Forrest  
1577 Back Bay Landing Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23457  
757-435-0646  
[qmpost1211@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost1211@vfwva.org)

Post 8902  
Dues \$35.00

Post 12217  
Meeting Place/Time  
6712 S Quay Road  
Suffolk, VA 23437  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Post 12217 Cmdr  
Robert Meade  
5602 Duck Town Road  
Zuni, VA 23898  
757-742-1474  
[cdrpost12217@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost12217@vfwva.org)

Post 12217 SVC  
Robert Beckett  
1400 Buckhorn Drive  
Suffolk, VA 23437  
757-537-5617  
[beckettrm@yahoo.com](mailto:beckettrm@yahoo.com)

Post 12218  
Meeting Place/Time  
6620 James Madison Highway  
Haymarket, VA 20169  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 10:00 am

Post 12217 JVC  
Jeffrey Gilliam  
23494 Birkenbog Way  
Zuni, VA 23898  
757-650-2318  
[jeffrey.l.gilliam@navy.mil](mailto:jeffrey.l.gilliam@navy.mil)

Post 12217 QM  
Ronald Wright  
2000 Springside Ct  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456  
757-635-9765  
[qmpost12217@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost12217@vfwva.org)

Post 12218 Cmdr  
Robert Ruffolo  
6205 Cobblers Green Court  
Gainesville, VA 20155  
708-616-9060  
[cdrpost12218@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost12218@vfwva.org)

Post 12218 SVC  
Bill Powers  
25844 Cameron Walk Place  
Aldie, VA 20105  
703-919-1403  
[phdskip@gmail.com](mailto:phdskip@gmail.com)

Post 12218 JVC  
Patrick Crowley  
4609 Allens Mill Blvd  
Haymarket, VA 20169  
540-905-2610  
[patrickcrowley4242@gmail.com](mailto:patrickcrowley4242@gmail.com)

Post 12218 QM  
Joseph Vano  
8870 Tenbury Court  
Bristow, VA 20136  
706-627-0302  
[qmpost12218@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost12218@vfwva.org)



**21. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 202:**

Membership Ineligible  
Carol J. Johnson VFW Post No. 4809

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Carol J. Johnson, Life Membership No. 1407205, be removed from the rolls of Tidewater Post No. 4809, Norfolk, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**22. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 226:**

Membership Ineligible  
James T. McCoy VFW Post No. 9600

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of James T. McCoy, Life Membership No. 2580804, be removed from the rolls of Christopher Gist Post No. 9600, Pound, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**23. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 227:**

Membership Ineligible  
Wendell T. Maggard VFW Post No. 9600

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Wendell T. Maggard, Membership No. 9644507, be removed from the rolls of Christopher Gist Post No. 9600, Pound, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**24. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 228:**

Membership Ineligible  
Herbert J. Bentley VFW Post No. 9600

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Herbert J. Bentley, Life Membership No. 3399652, be removed from the rolls of Christopher Gist Post No. 9600, Pound, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**25. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 229:**

Membership Ineligible  
James P. McGlothlin VFW Post No. 7360

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of James P. McGlothlin, Life Membership No. 1042541, be removed from the rolls of Childs-Gentry Post No. 7360, Grundy, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**26. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 230:**

Membership Ineligible  
Leon St. Clair VFW Post No. 7360

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Leon St. Clair, Life Membership No. 5692429, be removed from the rolls of Childs-Gentry Post No. 7360, Grundy, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**27. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 231:**

Membership Ineligible  
Arvil C. Wood VFW Post No. 8979

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Arvil C. Wood, Life Membership No. 9130383, be removed from the rolls of Dickenson Memorial Post No. 8979, Clintwood, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**28. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 232:**

The records of disciplinary action ordered by the Commander of the Department of Virginia, VFW, against SAUN T. WILLIAMSON, Life Membership No. 5920736, Louisa County Post No. 8947, Mineral, Virginia, have been received. The accused failed to request a hearing or summary disposition whereupon the Department Commander imposed and the Department Council of Administration affirmed a penalty of SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States for a period of six (6) months and an official letter of reprimand.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that SAUN T. WILLIAMSON be removed from the rolls of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States for a period of six (6) months commencing March 16, 2023, and ending on September 16, 2023, and issued a letter of reprimand by the Department Commander. On completion of the suspension period, his membership will be transferred to Department of Virginia Member-at-Large after which time he will be eligible to transfer to a Post of his choosing in accordance with Section 107 of the National Bylaws.

By order of  
Timothy M. Borland, Commander-in-Chief

**29. 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 appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1677094520280&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

**30. 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 Chairperson 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 Chairperson's Guide.

**31. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:**

This month I provided Vietnam Veteran commemoration pins to Posts 12218 (4), 8446 (7) and 622 (11). I requested and received a new supply of pins from the National Commemoration Commission in Arlington so have more available to send to Posts that have a need.

This month's Vietnam War Congressional Medal of Honor winner is Colonel Paris D. Davis, USA.

Colonel Davis earned his commission through ROTC in 1959. He subsequently earned his Ranger Tab and his Special Forces insignia. He served overseas in Korea, Okinawa and Vietnam in the early 60's. Davis arrived for his second tour in South Vietnam in April 1965 and took command of 5th Special Forces Group A-team A-321 at Camp Bồng Sơn. On 18 June 1965, Davis and three of his Special Forces team led the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) 883rd Regional Forces Company in an attack on a Viet Cong (VC) base. Davis' CMH paperwork was twice submitted (1965 & 1969) but never acted upon. He received the Silver Star and Purple Heart as a result.

In 2021, a review of records uncovered the nomination which was ultimately approved in November 2022. He was finally presented the Medal of Honor by President Biden at a White House Ceremony on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

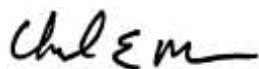
*The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1863, has awarded in the name of Congress the Medal of Honor to Captain Paris D. Davis, United States Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty. Captain Paris D. Davis distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Commander of Detachment A-321, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, during combat operations against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Bong Son, Republic of Vietnam, June 17-18, 1965. Captain Davis, commanding an inexperienced South Vietnamese regional raiding force, learned that a vastly superior North Vietnamese enemy force was operating in the area. Through surprise and leadership, he gained the tactical advantage, personally engaging and killing several enemy soldiers. Wounded while leading the initial assault, Captain Davis continued moving forward, personally engaging the enemy in hand-to-hand combat. Launching a counterattack, the superior enemy force separated Captain Davis from his main Regional Force Company. Charging under the intense enemy fire, Captain Davis personally led four others in the destruction of enemy gun emplacements and captured more enemy personnel. Afterwards, Captain Davis moved to regroup his forces and break contact with the enemy to allow his expertly guided tactical air and artillery fire to obliterate the foe. However, the enemy again counter-attacked in superior numbers and Captain Davis was struck by automatic weapons fire. So close was the charging enemy soldier that shot him, Captain Davis engaged him in close-quarter combat and was again wounded in the process of defeating this soldier. Captain Davis then led his men to reorganize into abandoned enemy fighting positions as he continued to call for artillery and air support. Realizing two of his fellow Americans were incapacitated and unable to move while trapped by enemy fire, Captain Davis located their positions and moved to suppress enemy guns and personally rescue each to the safety of the friendly Company position. While enacting the rescue of the first American, Captain Davis was shot in the leg. In great pain he continued forward and dragged him to the Company perimeter. Captain Davis then exposed himself again to the intense enemy fire to rescue the second American, crawling 150 yards to complete the rescue while being hit by enemy grenade fragments. After rescuing the second fellow American, Captain Davis then personally directed the helicopter extraction for the wounded, but refused medical extraction for himself. Captain Davis continued to engage the enemy until all members of his Company were extracted. He remained on the battlefield to continue personal coordination of tactical air and artillery fire, ensuring the destruction of the enemy force.*

Davis wrote about the action which goes into greater detail than is summarized in the CMH citation. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris\\_Davis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_Davis))

Davis served a third tour in Vietnam in 1969, and later commanded the 10th Special Forces Group and retired from the army as a colonel in 1985. Davis published the Metro Herald newspaper in Virginia for 30 years. He is now retired and lives in Arlington County, Virginia.

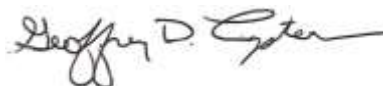
Jeff Dombroff  
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Geoffrey D. Lyster  
State Commander

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The VFW Department of Virginia is turning 100 this year and we are celebrating across the state with our members. Come join us at one of these seven locations. We will have food, fun, music, and giveaways. So, RSVP Online at one, or all these locations. Just click on any of the links You want to attend, to RSVP. We hope to see you there.

**Please make sure you print your ticket(s) for entry into the event!!**

April 22, 2023, Post 2447, Edinburg, VA

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Edinburg.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Edinburg.eventbrite.com)

June 3, 2023, State Convention Portsmouth

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Portsmouth.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Portsmouth.eventbrite.com)

August 26, 2023, Post 8163, Clarksville

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Clarksville.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Clarksville.eventbrite.com)

September 16, 2023, Post 1264, Roanoke

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Roanoke.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Roanoke.eventbrite.com)

September 23, 2023, Post 4667, Marion

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Marion.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Marion.eventbrite.com)



# Commanders Club Luncheon

## **ATTENTION: All Past and Present Commanders**

You are invited to attend the Annual Commanders Club Luncheon to be held on Friday, June 2, 2023 at the Renaissance Portsmouth Waterfront Hotel (425 Water St. Portsmouth, VA) from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm.

**Commanders, please pass this information on to your Comrades.**

**COST: Only \$35.00**

**MENU:** Mixed Greens Salad with assorted dressings  
Prime Rib of Beef au Jus with horseradish sauce  
Oven Roasted Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Oven Fresh Rolls with Butter  
Chef's Choice Dessert: Cake or Pie  
Iced Tea with Lemon and/or Ice Water

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:** Department of Virginia Commanders Club

**MAIL CHECK TO:** Ken Shannon  
Commanders Club Treasurer  
152 Old Carriage Way  
Williamsburg VA 23188

**DEADLINE: May15, 2023 PRE-REGISTRATION FOR MEAL IS REQUIRED.  
NO MEALS WILL BE AVAILABLE UNLESS PRE-REGISTERED.**

**Pick up your ticket at REGISTRATION and present it at the door**

**REMEMBER:** You can become a LIFE MEMBER for \$35.00; All dues can be sent to Ken Shannon at the address above.

PLEASE SEND THE FORM BELOW ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK TO ASSURE ACCURACY.

-----  
Post No. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of each person attending luncheon (please print clearly)

NAME DATE JOINED

---

---

---

---

Life Member Dues for \_\_\_\_\_

For Life Members please include Name, Post or PT, Address, Email, and Phone Number

# Department of Virginia Commanders Club

Commanders and Seam Squirrels join the Department of Virginia Commanders Club

We promote the interest of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in accordance with the By-Laws of the Department of Virginia and in addition to fostering esprit de corps provide additional scholarships for youth (VOD/PP/SOY).

All Past and Present Post, District, Department, and National Commanders, Seam Squirrels, Grand Commanders, and Supreme Commanders are eligible.

If you are a current member of the Department of Virginia Commanders Club please assist me by sending your Roster information to [kenneth.shannon152@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.shannon152@gmail.com).

Life Member Dues are \$35.00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Department of Virginia Commanders Club

MAIL CHECK TO: Ken Shannon  
Commanders Club Treasurer  
152 Old Carriage Way  
Williamsburg VA 23188

PLEASE SEND THIS COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Post or Pup Tent \_\_\_\_\_

Dates as Commander or Seam Squirrel \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



**Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department of Virginia  
CDR/President's Reception  
& Centennial Celebration**



- **Why:** *To Honor the Department Commander & President and Virginia 100<sup>th</sup> Anniv.*
- **Date/Time:** Saturday, June 3, 2023; 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Location:** Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water St, Portsmouth, VA
- **Cost:** Free (to all VFW & Auxiliary and their families)
- **Dress:** **“Western Wear”** (*wear your Cowboy hat; western boots, bolo tie & big belt buckle:*
- **Entertainment:** Famous DJ “JR” – and Featured Speakers
- **Contests:** Awards for Best Dancers; Best Western Outfit
- **Giveaways:** Free Limited Edition Dept. of Virginia Centennial Coin to all attendees.
- **Raffles:** Super 50/50 Drawing; Baskets of Cheer Raffles
- **Menu: Famous “Cowboy Barbecue” Buffet!**
  - **Salad Shakers:** *“Like out on the Trail” Includes: Mixed green salads, tomatoes, croutons, goat cheese, spiced pecans, cranberries, roasted peach vinaigrette; assorted dressings*
  - **Entrees:**
    - Texas Barbecue Pork Ribs
    - All-Day Smoked Beef Brisket with Kentucky Bourbon BBQ Sauce
  - **Side Dishes:** *Southern sweet potato casserole; grilled vegetables; garlic red bliss potatoes*
  - **Dessert:** *Assorted Chesapeake mini-dessert shooters, strawberry lemonade cheesecake, ‘Campfire Smores’, assorted southern style mini-bundt cakes, crème brule*  
-Served with fresh baked rolls & butter, freshly brewed gourmet coffee and exotic herbal teas



❖ **RSVP to the link by May 27, 2023:**

[https://VFW\\_VA\\_100\\_Portsmouth.eventbrite.com](https://VFW_VA_100_Portsmouth.eventbrite.com)

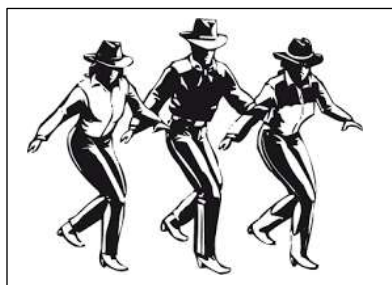
*Hampton Roads Area  
Centennial Celebration  
All local VFW/Aux Welcome!*



**Commander's Reception & Centennial Celebration**

*An All-American Salute to Veterans  
The Biggest Veteran Event of the Year!!*

Hospitality Rooms  
open prior to the  
event-And After!



*Country Line Dancing*

Dept. of Virginia  
Veterans of  
Foreign Wars  
1923-2023



# PLEASE NOTE

All State Post  
Commanders and All  
State Post  
Quartermasters **Must**  
**attend AND sign in** to  
all highlighted  
Meetings on the  
Convention Agenda to  
receive the \$300.00  
stipend.

100<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
RENAISSANCE PORTSMOUTH-NORFOLK WATERFRONT HOTEL  
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA  
JUNE 1– 4, 2023

Eugene Chavis  
Convention Chairman

Kathy Goodall  
Convention Vice Chairman

**Tentative Subject to Change**

All State Post Commanders and All State Post Quartermasters **Must attend AND sign in** to all highlighted Meetings on the Convention Agenda to receive the \$300.00 stipend.

**Thursday,  
June 1, 2023**

11:00 AM	NOON	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING	PORTSMOUTH IV
10:00 AM	4:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION MEETING	PORTSMOUTH IV
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>9:00 PM</b>	<b>JOINT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH V-VIII</b>

**Friday,  
June 2, 2023**

8:00 AM	5:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>OPENING SESSION</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH V-VIII</b>
11:30 AM	2:00 PM	COMMANDERS CLUB LUNCHEON	PORTSMOUTH I-III
<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION</b> <b>(NOMINATION OF STATE OFFICERS)</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
7:00 PM	9:00 PM	WOMEN VETERANS FORUM	

**Saturday,  
June 3, 2023**

7:30 AM	9:00 AM	PAST STATE COMMANDERS/PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST	HOLLEY BALLROOM I-III
8:30 AM	10:30 AM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
NOON		VFW RIDERS BIKE SHOW	GARAGE TOP FLOOR
1:00 PM	3:00 PM	MOC SCRATCH	PORTSMOUTH I-II
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	VFW RIDERS MEETING	AMPHITHEATER
5:30 PM	9:00 PM	COMMANDERS RECEPTION & CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION	HOLLEY BALLROOM

**Sunday,  
June 4, 2023**

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	JOINT DEVOTIONAL SERVICE	PORTSMOUTH I-II
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	NEW DISTRICT COMMANDERS SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DISTRICT COMMANDER'S SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER

Registration \$3.00 (All VFW members are required to register in advance as delegates from their Post)

**SATURDAY RECEPTION/DANCE WILL BE FREE TO ALL ATTENDING THE STATE CONVENTION**

**HOSPITALITY ROOMS**  
State – Commodore Room \*\*

Limited Edition

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia

Centennial Anniversary KA-BAR Knife

Celebrating 100 years  
Only 100 made  
\$100 each



To get yours contact State Headquarters.

(540) 886-8112

Shipping Charges may apply.

The Military Order of the Cootie is recognized as a subordinate and auxiliary order to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. It shall be **considered as the "Honor Degree" of the parent organization and shall be** governed by and under the control of the National Convention, the National Council of Administration, and the Commander-in-Chief.

Our service program is described as a directive to "Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White." Each year the Cooties volunteer thousands of hours of time worth over ten million dollars to Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) hospitals and domiciliaries throughout the United States. This work, in addition to the hours of service donated as active members of the VFW, set the members of the MOC apart as Foreign Service and Combat Veterans who are fully engaged in their communities.

Eligibility is determined through being active members for at least 6-months in a Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and through completion of satisfactory service on a Post committee or satisfactory performance of Post duties or participating actively as a leader of post functions.

If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to become a Cootie reach out to [grandcdr@vfwva.org](mailto:grandcdr@vfwva.org).

**"Neb"**

***Ben Guinan***

Commander, 2022-2023  
Grand of Virginia  
Military Order of the Cootie





Charles H. Bush, Jr.

### **Candidate for the High Office of VFW State Surgeon 2023-24**

Comrades, my name is Charles Bush, and I am running for State Surgeon. With your help, I want to bring learning, knowledge, recognition, and creditability to each position. I'm passionate about supporting our veterans, impacting our communities with good deeds, honoring our teachers and educators, engaging with our first responders, and encouraging youth activities by setting the example of a good American to all.

My goals are to continue improving our work on the business and administration side of our organization, grow membership and find a way to improve membership retention (I think we are missing out on grooming our next set of VFW leaders). Continue to make the VFW a strong voice for veterans. Create a strategic plan to visualize these goals along with your feedback, comments, and support. On the VFW membership side, embrace the family culture by enhancing members' experiences through recognition and increased learning. We, the VFW family, can uphold the VFW's outstanding achievements of the past with future process improvements.

My eligibility includes joining the Marine Corps and serving two combat tours, Desert Storm/Desert Shield in 1990 and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) in 2003, also deployments in South Korea.

My qualification includes joining the VFW organization as a Life Member in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, in 1997 while on active duty, transferring to Post 3103 Fredericksburg in 2009, and being appointed as the Senior Vice Commander pro temp in 2009 and elected to Post Commander in 2010-2011. Served on the District Eight Staff for over eight years, designated as the Inspector, and elected JVC, SVC. I was elected District 8 Commander and achieved All-State and All-American District Commander as District Commander for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. In 2019 all five posts made 100% membership, and two of five posts made All-American and All-State.

I'm currently serving as the State Inspector. In my positions working with the Posts, Districts, and the State, I have accumulated experience in the business of the VFW. I am ready to serve my comrades at the state surgeon level.

I am a learning member of the State Resolution Committee and the current President of the Commanders Club. I am also a member of the Past Post Commanders Council for Post 3103.

I'm currently employed by the Marine Corps Systems Command as a civilian employee since 2012, working in Acquisition Logistics. My wife Danielle is also a veteran and lifetime member of VFW Post 3103.

Born and raised in Mobile, Alabama (LA Lower Alabama), and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps from June 1981 until July 2011. With over 30 years of active duty military service and achieved the highest enlisted technical rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant/E-9 (MGySgt) in the Tactical Field and Garrison Communications MOS, starting as a basic field wireman to Communications Chief.

My father was Army Vietnam Veteran Airborne; my grandfathers were Veterans, and eight great uncles joined the military. I grew up around veterans and enjoyed the benefits as a dependent of a 100% disabled veteran (father). Now I have the opportunity to serve as a veteran in this organization. Together, Let's keep moving forward!

In Peace and Comradeship, Charles Bush, 540.907.5292 (cell), [charlesbush2259@gmail.com](mailto:charlesbush2259@gmail.com).

**FOR SALE!**

The Department of Virginia Auxiliary has a QuickBooks program ( never been used) for sale for \$500.

interested in buying or questions contact our Department Treasurer Cathy Graham

[cg12dc12@outlook.com](mailto:cg12dc12@outlook.com)



**PHOENIX WEB VERSION  
PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE  
July 22-27,2023**

*Note: This information will be updated periodically.*

**WELCOME TO PHOENIX**

It's time to go beyond. Follow trails that reveal mighty mountaintops. Wander among iconic landscapes beneath picture-perfect skies. Let the Sonoran Desert be your guide to limitless adventure. Downtown Phoenix is where you'll find sports arenas, live music, rooftop lounges, museums, theaters, art galleries and more than 200 restaurants. Historic neighborhoods like Roosevelt Row and Grand Avenue share an urban footprint with modern marvels like CityScape and the Phoenix Convention Center.

**CONVENTION LOCATION**

Convention activities will take place at the Phoenix Convention Center located at 100 North Third Street, (downtown) Phoenix, 85004.

**LOCATION**

Phoenix is a place where it's easy to migrate between high culture and low, resort escapes and local hangouts, outdoor adventure, and poolside lounging. Start planning your trip at [VisitPhoenix.com](http://VisitPhoenix.com) or [order a travel guide here](#).

**WHAT TO WEAR**

A general guideline for attire for the convention is business casual for meetings. For VFW members, it is always appropriate to have your cap on hand for meetings. Jackets are not required unless you are, All American Commanders) and may be on stage to receive your award as photographs are taken during those functions.

**AIRPORT**

Sky Harbor, dubbed America's Friendliest Airport, is the main airport for the Greater Phoenix area. Sky Harbor serves more than 120 domestic and international destinations. With 1,200 daily flights—about 500 of them nonstop—Sky Harbor is one of the most convenient airports in the United States. Sky Harbor is only 4 miles from Phoenix Convention Center and can be accessed via rideshare, taxi, or [public transportation like Light Rail](#).

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Convenient transportation to and from the airport comes by way of PHX Sky Train. This driverless people mover transports Valley Metro Rail passengers to the airport from the 44th Street/Washington Street station. There passenger can take Valley Metro Rail to downtown Phoenix. The 28-mile line links Phoenix to the neighboring communities of Tempe and Mesa, and includes stops at attractions such as Phoenix Art Museum, Heard Museum, Chase Field, Footprint Center and Tempe's Mill Avenue.

**PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel for parking availability and costs. Parking information, costs etc., for the convention center can be accessed via this link <https://www.phoenixconventioncenter.com/parking>

**REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP**

See mobile APP for times and locations of registration/packet pick-up. Registration for both VFW for Auxiliary, Hall 5-6.

**Note:** *Want to miss the crowds/lines and pick-up your name badge & packets early? Try Remote Registration. Both the VFW and Auxiliary will have remote registration for those who are **PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES ONLY**. You will be able to do that at the VFW Headquarter hotel, **Hyatt Regency Phoenix** and the Auxiliary Headquarter hotel, **Renaissance**.*



## PACKET PICK-UP

**VFW** - if you are not pre-registered, you will need to go to Hall 5-6 at the convention center on Saturday, July 22 starting at 8a to register and pick-up your convention packet.

**VFW & Auxiliary** 'remote' **pre-registration**: Friday, July 21, 9a-5p  
Renaissance - Locations/times: **Lobby**

**VFW & Auxiliary** 'remote' **pre-registration**. Friday, July 21, 9a-5p  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix- Locations/times: **Lobby**

## MOBILE APP

We will NOT be publishing a convention schedule of events in hard-copy. All events and convention information will be contained in the Mobile APP. Go to [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention) for instructions on how to download the mobile APP which will be closer to the dates of the convention. The mobile APP provides immediate updates on any changes that may occur during the convention.

## SHUTTLES

The hotels in Phoenix are located in the downtown area and within walking distance from the convention center. Therefore, a **limited shuttle service** will be provided. The following is a **tentative** schedule of days the shuttle will operate. Specific times will be found in the convention mobile app. If you require special transportation (handicap/scooter/wheelchair), contact the shuttle provider at the number provided in the mobile APP event schedule. A final shuttle schedule will be included on the Mobile APP and will be updated on the VFW convention web page prior to the convention dates.

### Saturday, July 22, 2023

7a-8p

### Sunday, July 23, 2023

7a-5p

### Monday, July 24, 2023

7a-6p

### Tuesday, July 25, 2023

7a-9p

### Wednesday, July 26, 2023

7a-5p

### Thursday, July 27, 2023

7a-6:30p

*(refer to convention mobile app for complete schedule including pick-up and drop-off points)*

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Housing opens **2/17/23** and closes **6/21/23**. Go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) at the convention website. The official convention hotels for the 124th National convention are listed on the convention web site.

## HOTEL PARKING

Check with your assigned hotel regarding parking availability and costs. Parking charges are set by the individual hotels and are not representative of fees charged by the VFW/Auxiliary.

## LUGGAGE STORAGE

If you wish to store your luggage at the hotel before you check in, or after checking out before departure, please make arrangements with guest services.

## PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER

Note the Phoenix Convention Center is a 'Cash-less' facility. You will need to pay for any concessions with a credit or debit card. There are 'reverse ATMs' located throughout the convention center. You may put in cash and receive a VISA Card to use at no-charge. Upon leaving Phoenix, any remaining \$\$ on your card can be used anywhere VISA is accepted. Locations for the Reverse ATMS will be published ahead of the convention.

## **HYDRATION WHILE IN PHOENIX**

Please note there are 'water bottle' filling stations located around the center. We encourage you to bring your own water bottles. If you choose not to do that, there will be other options for hydration at the convention center.

## **GRATUITIES**

You are responsible for all gratuities during your stay. Tipping is personal, as a guideline, we recommend gratuities of \$1 per day for your housekeeper and \$1 per bag for taxicab drivers and hotel bell-staff.

## **PHONE MESSAGES**

Messages may be left with the hotel operator, who will make sure you get them as soon as you return to your hotel. In case of emergency, call the VFW National Headquarters 816-756-3390.

**SAFETY TIPS** (See hotel information located in room)

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

**First Aid Room Location Phoenix Convention Center** -Thursday, July 7/20-Thursday, July 27  
**Emergency**--Emergency after hour's numbers provided before convention or call 911.

**Scooter rental** –Scooter rental information is listed on the convention web page.

If you have not been vaccinated for COVID-19, we encourage you to wear a mask while in attendance of the convention.

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

Check with VISIT Phoenix for locations of local churches, synagogues, etc. for services. VFW will conduct a Catholic Mass on Saturday, July 22 and Sunday morning, July 23 at the convention center. Protestant service will be held on Saturday 7/22 at 6p in the Convention Center. *Check Mobile APP for locations.*

## **QUIET ROOM**

A QUIET ROOM for reflection will be open 24 hours at the Phoenix Convention Convention Center – *Check Mobile APP for location.*

## **MOTHERS ROOM**

A mothers room will be located on-site at the convention center - *Check Mobile APP for location.*

## **AGENDA**

See tentative web agenda at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) 124th VFW National Convention information. A final agenda will be provided within the mobile APP and can be found by downloading the VFW Mobile APP approximately 2 weeks before the convention. Please note a Schedule of Events will **NOT** be printed. If you are unable to download the *Mobile App*. Please pickup a printed copy of the agenda at registration.

## **VISITOR INFORMATION PHOENIX**

### **Phoenix Deals & Discounts**

The deals are instantly delivered to your phone via text message or email, and you can use them right then and there – just show your coupon. So go eat, drink and play in Phoenix, and let our city surprise you.

### **Experience the best of downtown Phoenix by seeing these highlights!**

Things to Do in Downtown: <https://www.visitphoenix.com/stories/post/things-downtown-phoenix/>

Roosevelt Row: <https://www.visitphoenix.com/greater-phoenix/phoenix/downtown-phoenix/roosevelt-row/>

Cityscape: <https://www.visitphoenix.com/greater-phoenix/phoenix/downtown-phoenix/cityscape-area/>

### **Attractions Closest to Downtown**

Phoenix Art Museum <http://www.phxart.org>

Heard Museum <http://www.heard.org>

Arizona Science Center <http://www.azscience.org>

Desert Botanical Gardens <https://dbg.org/>

### **Explore Greater Phoenix during your stay:**

Shopping (Biltmore Fashion Park & Scottsdale Fashion Square closest to Downtown):

<https://www.visitphoenix.com/things-to-do/shopping/>

Local Boutiques <https://www.visitphoenix.com/stories/post/where-to-shop-for-local-phoenix-goods/>

Dining <https://www.visitphoenix.com/things-to-do/restaurants/>

Museums <https://www.visitphoenix.com/things-to-do/arts-culture/museums/>

Sightseeing: <https://www.visitphoenix.com/things-to-do/tours/>

### **Bringing your family? Here are family-friendly activities sure to be a hit with all ages:**

Purchase an [attraction pass here](#)

Children's Museum Downtown <http://www.childrensmuseumofphoenix.org>

Arizona Science Center Downtown <http://www.azscience.org>

Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament <https://www.medievaltimes.com/scottsdale>

Mavrix <https://www.mavrix.com>

Main Event <https://www.mainevent.com>

Arizona Boardwalk (Aquarium, Butterfly Wonderland, etc) <https://www.azboardwalk.com/>

## **VISITOR CENTER**

Please visit the Visit Phoenix visitor center on the sixth floor of the One Arizona Center building in the Arizona Center 400 E. Van Buren St., Ste. 600, Phoenix. We are open Monday thru Friday 10 AM to 4 PM.

Visitors can also you the [online chat here](#) or email [visitors@visitphoenix.com](mailto:visitors@visitphoenix.com).

## DOWNTOWN AMBASSADORS



Downtown's roving hospitality team is on duty seven days a week, 365 days a year to help you — whether that means walking you to your hotel or simply offering directions. Ambassadors are on-foot or bike in areas of high pedestrian activity. Look for the folks wearing orange shirts with “ASK ME” on the back or call 602-495-1500. Complimentary services provided include:

- Walking Escorts
- Car Battery Jumps
- Umbrella Escorts
- Restaurant Recommendations
- Personalized Tours
- Entertainment Info

## **TENTATIVE AGENDA**

### **VFW 124th National Convention Phoenix, AZ Phoenix Convention Center July 22-27, 2023**

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.*

*Times for various functions are subject to change.*

*Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

#### **Friday, July 21, 2023**

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Remote registration – VFW/Auxiliary – Hyatt  
Regency/Renaissance  
**Note:** *If registered, you can pick-up your badge at either  
hotel, if not, you will need to come to registration on  
Saturday at the convention center.*

#### **Saturday, July 22, 2023**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW/Registration/Exhibits  
8:30 a.m. National Veterans Service Advisory Committee  
10:00 a.m. Budget and Finance Committee  
1:30 p.m. National Council of Administration Meeting  
4:00 p.m. Eastern Conference Caucus  
4:00 p.m. Southern Conference Caucus  
4:00 p.m. Big Ten Conference Caucus  
4:00 p.m. Western Conference Caucus  
6:00 p.m. Catholic Mass  
6:00 p.m. Protestant Service

#### **Sunday, July 23, 2023**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits  
7:00 a.m. Catholic Mass  
8:30 a.m. Annual Memorial Service  
10:00 a.m. Membership Seminar  
10:00 a.m. VFW Programs, VMS Committee, Town Hall Meeting -  
10:00 a.m. VFW Riders National Advisory Committee  
11:00 a.m. Update on VFW Legislative Priority Goals  
11:00 a.m. VFW Post Service Officer Training  
12:30 p.m. First Time Attendees Welcome Orientation  
1:00 p.m. VFW Programs Town Hall

### Committee Meetings:

2:00 p.m. National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual -  
2:00 p.m. Finance and Internal Organization (200 series)  
2:00 p.m. General Resolutions (300 Series)  
2:00 p.m. National Security and Foreign Affairs (400 series)  
Sub Committee – POW/MIA  
2:00 p.m. National Veterans Service Resolutions (600 series)  
Sub-committee – Health  
Sub-committee – Benefits  
Sub-committee – Economic Opportunity/Other  
4:00 p.m. Membership Seminar – Post Development  
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Association Meeting -

### Monday, July 24, 2023

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits  
8:00 a.m. Joint Opening Session  
*(Business session will resume after lunch break)*  
1:00 p.m. VFW Outstanding Community Service Luncheon  
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Reception *(by invitation)*

### Tuesday, July 25, 2023

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits  
8:00 a.m. VFW Business Session  
*1:00 p.m. Department Commanders Luncheon – (by invitation) –*  
*1:00 p.m. 2023-2024 Senior Vice Commanders, Senior Vice*  
*Presidents Luncheon (by invite only)*  
*1:00 p.m. 2023-2024 Junior Vice Commanders, Junior Vice*  
*President's Luncheon (by invite only)*  
1:00 p.m. Parliamentary Procedure Discussion  
1:00 p.m. Update on Federal Benefits and Services for Veterans  
1:00 p.m. Grant Seeking & Fundraising Ideas for VFW Posts  
2:00 p.m. Parliamentary Procedure Discussion  
1:00 p.m. Chaplains Workshop  
5:15 p.m. Parade Line-up  
6:00 p.m. Patriotic Rally & Entertainment

**Wednesday, July 26, 2023**

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.	Business Session /Nomination of Officers
1:00 p.m.	All American Commanders Luncheon (ticketed event)
1:00 p.m.	VFW National Home Workshop
3:30 p.m.	New Council of Administration Member Training

**Thursday, July 27, 2023**

8:00 a.m.	Business Session: Election/Installation of National Officers National Council of Administration Meeting <i>(Following business session)</i>
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Commander-in-Chief's and National President's Reception (ticketed event) – Sheraton Hotel Phoenix

*Updated: 2/1/23*