

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

**NUMBER 2**

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)

**August 1, 2022**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COMMANDER’S MESSAGE:**

Comrades and Auxiliary

Greetings. July was a very busy month across the VFW. I was honored to represent the Virginia VFW at numerous events such as the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Event; Desert Storm Memorial Groundbreaking; National Gun Show VFW Recruiting Booth and the VFW National Convention in Kansas City.

**National Convention:** At the 123<sup>rd</sup> National Convention we elected and installed our new slate of National Officers including Commander-In-Chief (C-I-C) Tim Borland from the Department of Arizona. Chief Borland is the first Iraqi Freedom veteran to be elected CIC and one of the top recruiters in the nation.

**Awards:** Virginia was prominently featured during the Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to all for earning “All-American Department” honors for the 2021-2022 membership year! Congratulations also goes to the following “All-American Districts”: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10 and 13. And congratulations to the following “All-American Posts”: 392, 609, 622, 637, 1264, 1503, 2123, 2217, 2239, 2447, 2719, 2894, 3103, 3150, 3160, 3219, 4411, 4491, 4639, 4809, 5412, 6364, 7327, 7589, 7819, 7916, 8169, 8356, 8469, 8947, 9274, 9760, 9808, 9835, 10657, 12179 and 12202.

Congratulations to our new National Councilmember Ken Wiseman on being installed; Past C-I-C Hal Roesch for receiving the VFW Distinguished Service Award; and Past Department Commander Butch Schupska for earning his Triple Crown Award.

**SOI:** In the next two months we will be conducting the Department of Virginia School of Instruction (SOI) across the state. I hope you will attend your first District Meeting and SOI and learn what is new this year. We have updated your training and even included a few new modules like Suicide Awareness. I think you will find the training relevant and beneficial.

**Membership:** State Membership Chairman Tom Hines and his Membership Team are executing our 2022-2023 State Membership Plan. I encourage all Post Commanders to submit their Membership Plans and to begin establishing firm recruiting events. We recruit more new members during the summer season than at any other time during the year. Make some calls and get your reservations in now for that special recruiting event at your Post, county fair, Walmart, Tractor Supply, etc. I have committed to the National Commander that the Dept. of Virginia will do all it can to achieve 100 percent plus membership this year and strive to achieve 100 percent nationally. We believe in the “*Recruit One Member Initiative.*” If you recruit just one new member, you will receive a **National Recruiting Award** (lapel pin). I would like every member and every Post in Virginia to recruit or reinstate at least one new member this year! We are all recruiters and I want to see you wearing your Recruiting Pin with pride. I would also like all our experienced *State Certified Recruiters* to reach personal bests this year. Together, we can reach new heights!

**Miscellaneous:** The new **2023 VFW State Calendar-Raffle** will be coming out this month. The calendar-raffle was very popular last year. There are literally hundreds of prizes to be awarded and all proceeds will go towards supporting the Department of Virginia, VFW. If you missed getting a red *Commander's/100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shirt* or ballcap at State Convention, please contact State Headquarters (540-886-8112); we will get them out to you (with the new *State Raffle-Calendars*) at your next District Meeting & SOI.

Sincerely and respectfully,  
Geoffrey Lyster  
State Commander  
Department of Virginia

**2. APPOINTMENTS:**

COMMITTEES	POSITON	FIRST	LAST	POST
Audit Committee	Member	James	Adams	7916
POW/MIA Committee	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809

**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. Both March 31 and June 30 quarters have ended and both are **NOW PAST DUE**.

**4. CANDIDACY:**

I, Charles Bush, do hereby announce my candidacy for State Surgeon for the 2023-2024 year.

**5. DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS:**

Members now have the ability to download their digital version of their membership card. Depending on whether a member has an iPhone or Android, they will be able to download and access their digital membership card from the VFW app.

This will not replace the physical VFW membership card - we will still be sending out membership cards to all our annual and Life members. This is intended as another option for our members' convenience. When asked to show a

VFW membership card, a member can either produce their physical card out of their wallet or display their digital card on their smart phone.

**6. DELINQUENT:**

The following is a list of Posts that are still delinquent in Delegate Fees, Audits and Election Reports:

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits
1	824	\$15.00		10	609	\$15.00	
1	2296	\$6.00		10	5412	\$18.00	March
1	12201	\$3.00					
				11	632	\$24.00	
2	993		March	11	3060	\$3.00	
3	7167	\$6.00		12	4301	\$6.00	
3	8046	\$6.00		12	5715	\$12.00	
				12	8979	\$6.00	
5	7800	\$9.00		12	9600	\$9.00	
5	8467	\$6.00		12	9830	\$6.00	
				12	9864	\$6.00	
7	621	\$15.00					
7	1860	\$21.00		13	10574	\$18.00	
7	6044	\$3.00					
7	8613	\$12.00					

**7. DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1<sup>st</sup>    Date:            8/20/22<br/>           SOI:                9:00 AM<br/>           Meeting:          11:00 AM<br/>           Location:        Post 176 Newport News<br/>                                 21 Forrest Drive<br/>           Rep:                St. Judge Advocate Doug Hoffman</p>  | <p>4<sup>th</sup>     Date:                8/13/22<br/>           Meeting:          10:30 AM<br/>           Location:        Post 9954 Victoria<br/>                                 1000 Marshall Avenue<br/>           Rep:                State Surgeon Mark Maggio</p>  |
| <p>2<sup>nd</sup>     Date:                8/20/22<br/>           SOI:                9:00 AM<br/>           Lunch:             Noon<br/>           Meeting:          1:00 PM<br/>           Location:        Post 392 Virginia Beach<br/>                                 2408 Bowland Parkway<br/>           Rep:                PSC Butch Schupska</p>          | <p>5<sup>th</sup>     Date:                8/20/22<br/>           Meeting:          10:00 AM<br/>           Location:        Post 4637 Martinsville<br/>                                 1425 Greensboro Road<br/>           Rep:                State Inspector Charles Bush</p>   |
| <p>3<sup>rd</sup>     Date:                8/20/22<br/>           SOI:                9:00 AM<br/>           Lunch:             11:30 AM<br/>           Meeting:          To follow lunch<br/>           Location:        Post 9808 Mechanicsville<br/>                                 7168 Flag Lane<br/>           Rep:                State Adj/QM Ed Mann</p> | <p>6<sup>th</sup>     Date:                8/6/22<br/>           Meeting:          Noon<br/>           Location:        Post 1264 Roanoke<br/>                                 4930 Grandview Avenue NW<br/>           Rep:                State Commander Geoffrey Lyster</p>  |
|  | <p>7<sup>th</sup>     Date:                8/13/22<br/>           SOI:                9:00 AM<br/>           Lunch:             11:30 AM<br/>           Meeting:          Noon<br/>           Location:        Post 9760 Berryville<br/>                                 425 S Buckmarsh Street<br/>           Rep:                State JVC Mitch Rubenstein</p> |

8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: To follow SOI Location: Post 2524 Culpeper 12210 Sperryville Pike Rep: PSC Rick Raskin	11 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: To follow SOI Location: Post 1499 Lexington 105 Memorial Lane Rep: State SVC Gary Adams
9 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 9/24/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7726 Independence 115 Klondike Road Rep: St. Judge Advocate Doug Hoffman	12 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 9/10/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep: State Surgeon Mark Maggio
10 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 9/25/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: 9274 Falls Church 7118 Shreve Road Rep: PSC Ken Wiseman	13 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/20/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 8947 Mineral 201 Mineral Avenue Rep: State Commander Geoffrey Lyster

## 8. DUTIES OF TRUSTEES:

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to section 218 of the Manual of Procedure, "Duty of Trustees." Trustees Report of Audit must be completed in detail at the close of each quarter. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster and Adjutant records.

## 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:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| October 27 – 30, 2022 | Southern Conference, Asheville, North Carolina (Information packet is included in this month's General Orders)   |
| January 12 - 15, 2023 | Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA phone 1-888-839-1775. Room Rates are \$97.00 per night.  |
| 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   |
| July 27 – Aug 1, 2024 | National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky  |
| August 9 – 14, 2025   | National Convention, Columbus, Ohio  |

## 12. INCORPORATION:

The attention of the Post Commander is directed to section 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the procedure for the Incorporation of Units. It shall be the responsibility of the Post Commander to ensure full compliance with both sections and to ensure that all state requirements for annual filing, fees, etc., are met in a timely manner.

Posts should take the necessary steps to incorporate under the laws of the state in which the Post is located. Financial responsibility laws, as interpreted by the courts, may cause members of unincorporated Posts to be at risk. Incorporating under the provisions of section 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure and the laws of the state will provide protection for Post members. Posts are urged to contact their Department Adjutant to obtain the proper forms for incorporating. The Articles of Incorporation must be reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief prior to forwarding them to the proper state authorities.

## 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.

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 numbers.

**14. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

CHECK OUT OUR LEGACY LIFE VIDEO! Go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), click on JOIN, 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.

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>	<i>Annual Payouts:</i>	<i>Post:</i>	<i>Department:</i>	<i>National:</i>
<b>Levels:</b> Gold-	\$1200.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Silver-	\$800.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bronze-	\$400.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

*What will your Legacy be?*

**15. MEMBERSHIP:**

Comrades and Commanders,

As we are beginning our second month of this membership year, I encourage you to print a copy of the July General Orders. They have both State and National Membership Programs in them along with all other programs, timelines, and general information for you and your Post to have a successful year. Keep them handy and refer to them often and you will have no trouble reaching your goal of All State or All American. Work membership every month and mentor the new members that you recruit. Remember they have very little or no knowledge of the organization and need a little help to get interested in your Post and the great things we do to help our Veterans and their Families. Don't forget about your Auxiliary and help them out with a new member when possible. If you don't have an Auxiliary yet, please think about starting one. They can be a valuable asset to a Post.

I must acknowledge the Sixth District for a very successful event. Post 1264 Commander, Cecil McWilliams, and District Six Commander, David Jarrett, decided to work the Salem Fair this year. It's a very difficult venue to gain access to with background checks, insurance requirements, bonds and pictures for I. D. badges, but they met the challenge and signed up 43 new, reinstated, or out of state transfers. Not to mention the exposure the VFW table got during the duration of the Fair. Great work by David, Cecil and their crew. Let's all work hard and pull the wagon together and the State will have a great and rewarding year.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team Chairman

**16. NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, SEPT. 16:**

Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. For POW/MIA merchandise, click [vfwstore.org/category/memorial/pow-mia](http://vfwstore.org/category/memorial/pow-mia).  
<http://www.vfwstore.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=97>

**17. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters will be closing at 10:00 am August 4, 2022. The Adj/QM will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

Please note the Hopewell Service Office is temporarily closed.

## 18. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

Procedure and Ritual establish that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition* shall be the parliamentary authority on procedural matters not governed by VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. This edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* is readily available at local bookstores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

## 19. PATRIOT DAY:

**SEPTEMBER 11.** Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11, is designated as "Patriot Day."

The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States. For flags and other patriotic items, click here [vfwstore.org/category/patriotic/miscpatriotic](http://vfwstore.org/category/patriotic/miscpatriotic).

## 20. POST OFFICER'S DUTIES:

Attention of incoming Post Officers is directed to Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure which outlines the duties of various Post Officers.

## 21. PURCHASING BUDDY POPPIES

For many years, the courtesy of allowing Posts to buy Poppies and to pay later was something that was extended as a way to help Posts. However, we have started to see too many Posts still owe for Poppies at the end of the year because of not paying their bill. Effective May 30, 2019, Posts must pay before they can receive Poppies. We will continue to accept payment by check, or you can call and order over the phone with State Headquarters by using a credit or debit card. An order form is enclosed.

Ed Mann  
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

## 22. RECRUITING SOI:

State Headquarters will conduct three in-person sessions of the Recruiter School of Instruction (SOI). The All-State plan requires a Post to send at least one Post officer to a training session. The dates, times, and locations for the Recruiter SOI are as follows:

Post 1499 (Lexington): August 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Post 9808 (Mechanicsville): August 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Post 1115 (Hillsville): September 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Please email Past State Commander Ken Wiseman at [kwiseman@vfwva.org](mailto:kwiseman@vfwva.org) with the number of members you expect to have in attendance and which session you plan to attend. There will not be a meal provided.

We look forward to seeing everyone at training.

## 23. 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.

**24. ROSTER CHANGES:**

Post 1033 Cmdr  
Shawn D. Wright  
108 Parkview Ave  
Covington, VA 24426  
843-902-2509  
[cdrpost1033@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost1033@vfwva.org)

Post 1033 SVC  
Matthew L. Tate  
174 Woodside Dr  
Lewisburg, WV24901  
540-968-1093  
[mtate1960@aol.com](mailto:mtate1960@aol.com)

Post 7059  
Mailing Address  
319 Deer Lane  
Pamplin, VA 23958  
434-547-5134

Post 7800 Cmdr  
Donald B. Cockram  
1569 Handy Mountain Dr  
Claudville, VA 24076  
276-222-0634  
[cdr@vfwva.org](mailto:cdr@vfwva.org)

Post 7800 SVC  
Davy L. Dollarhite  
4533 Woolwine Hwy  
Stuart, VA 24171  
276-694-6739

Post 7800 JVC  
John D. Braziel  
4152 Mitchell Rd  
Ridgeway, VA 24148

Post 7800 QM  
Leroy E. Jones  
PO Box 140  
Woolwine, VA 24185

Post 9600 Cmdr  
James L. Bush  
PO Box 1062  
Pound, VA 24279  
276-796-4350

Post 9600 SVC  
George L. Williams  
PO Box 1481  
Wise, VA 24293  
276-207-1944

Post 9600 JVC  
James T. McCoy  
PO Box 1416  
Pound, VA 27279  
276-796-5470

Post 9600 QM  
Delmar Cantrell  
9285 Mountain Cove Rd  
Pound, VA 24279  
276-796-4821  
[qmpost9600@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost9600@vfwva.org)

Post 9835 SVC  
Phone: 540-222-1300

**25. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY THEMES:**

The 2022–23 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Timothy M. Borland. The Voice of Democracy theme will be **“Why is the Veteran Important?”** and the Patriot’s Pen theme will be **“My Pledge to our Veterans.”**

**26. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 288:**

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 Bowling Green Post No. 10295, Bowling Green, Virginia mustered November 28, 1972, 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  
Fritz Mihelcic  
Commander-in-Chief

**27. VFW FRIENDS OF FREEDOM:**

If you are not already a member of the VFW's online community, please visit [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) and look for the gold banner that says "**Find Out What's Happening**" to sign up. As a member of the VFW's Friends of Freedom, you will receive special emails with breaking VFW news, legislative alerts and unique opportunities to help the VFW in assisting our nation's veterans, service members and their families. You may also visit [vfw.org/VFWatWork](http://vfw.org/VFWatWork) and click on "**Read VFW success stories**" to learn how the VFW is fighting for veterans' rights, assisting veterans in need, educating our youth and aiding military families across the nation. Check back often to see newly posted stories!

**28. VVF COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT:**

The Virginia Veterans Foundation, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, has opened the window to apply for a grant to perform community service. The grant, funded by Powerhouse Gaming, will provide twelve (12) grants worth up to \$250 for the 2022-2023 year. Should any money remain after the twelve (12) grants are paid out, those not selected in the first round of grants will be considered a second time. The requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the application is due no later than November 30, 2022. Posts **AND** Auxiliaries can apply for this grant, but only one grant will be given to an individual Post or their Auxiliary, regardless of who applies. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

**29. VVF POST HOME IMPROVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE GRANT:**

The Virginia Veterans Foundation, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, has opened the window to apply for a grant to perform improvements on your Post home. The grant, funded by Powerhouse Gaming, will provide ten (10) grants worth up to \$1,000 for the 2022-2023 year. The requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the application is due no later than November 30, 2022. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

**30. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:**

This month's Congressional Medal of Honor winner is Jay R. Vargas. Born in Winslow, Arizona in 1938, joined the Marine Corps in 1963 after graduating from college. He completed the Basic School at Quantico and was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> MARDIV. He served as a Rifle Company Commander numerous times and was commanding G Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Marines when the action for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor occurred. The citation reads as follows:

*For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Commanding Officer, Company G, [Second Battalion, Fourth Marines](#), Ninth Marine Amphibious Brigade in action against enemy forces in the [Republic of Vietnam](#) from 30 April to 2 May 1968. On 1 May 1968, though suffering from wounds he had incurred while relocating his unit under heavy enemy fire the preceding day, Major (then Captain) Vargas combined Company G with two other companies and led his men in an attack on the fortified*

village of Dai Do. Exercising expert leadership, he maneuvered his Marines across 700 meters of open [rice paddy](#) while under intense enemy [mortar](#), [rocket](#) and [artillery](#) fire and obtained a foothold in two hedgerows on the enemy perimeter, only to have elements of his company become pinned down by the intense enemy fire. Leading his reserve platoon to the aid of his beleaguered men, Major Vargas inspired his men to renew their relentless advance, while destroying a number of enemy [bunkers](#). Again wounded by [grenade](#) fragments, he refused aid as he moved about the hazardous area reorganizing his unit into a strong defense perimeter at the edge of the village. Shortly after the objective was secured, the enemy commenced a series of counterattacks and probes which lasted throughout the night but were unsuccessful as the gallant defenders of Company G stood firm in their hard-won enclave. Reinforced the following morning, the Marines launched a renewed assault through Dai Do on the village of Dinh To, to which the enemy retaliated with a massive counterattack resulting in [hand-to-hand combat](#). Major Vargas remained in the open, encouraging and rendering assistance to his Marines when he was hit for the third time in the three-day battle. Observing his battalion commander sustain a serious wound, he disregarded his excruciating pain, crossed the fire-swept area and carried his commander to a covered position, then resumed supervising and encouraging his men simultaneously assisting in organizing the battalion's perimeter defense. His gallant actions uphold the highest traditions of the Marines Corps and the [United States Naval Service](#).

Ultimately promoted Colonel and after serving in numerous higher level assignments, Colonel Vargas retired in 1992. His Medal of Honor was presented at a White House ceremony by President Nixon in May 1970. After leaving the military, Vargas served as the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs from 1993 to 1998. On July 9, 2001, he was appointed to the position of Regional Veterans Liaison for the [United States Department of Veterans Affairs](#) by the [Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony J. Principi](#). He served in this position until January 2009.

Jay Vargas, a [Mexican-American](#), is one of four brothers who served in the United States [Armed Forces](#) in time of war. Like Vargas, each of his brothers are decorated veterans — Angelo served at [Iwo Jima](#) in [World War II](#); Frank fought on [Okinawa](#) in World War II; and Joseph served in the [Korean War](#). In addition to the Medal of Honor, Jay Vargas was awarded the Silver Star and five Purple Hearts. In honor of his mother, Vargas had her name engraved on his Medal of Honor. She died before he received his Medal of Honor; he requested that her name be engraved on the medal and be added to the rolls. As such, the actual recorded recipient of this Medal of Honor is "VARGAS, M. Sando. Colonel Vargas currently resides in Arizona.

Jeff Dombroff  
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

### **31. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:**

The Voice of Democracy program, instituted in 1947, has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars premier scholarship program. Annually, nearly 25,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Written and recorded audio essays are submitted by each applicant and address an annual patriotic theme. The 2022 theme is, "Why is the Veteran Important?" The contest is open to students in grades 9-12. More specific information, including rules, forms, and brochures are available at <http://www.vfw.org>.

In order to have a successful program this year it is important that participating Posts begin recruiting high schools, teachers and students as soon as possible. Since high schools in your area have already let out for summer vacation, you can either contact them now electronically through emails and social media or contact them directly as soon as classes resume.

## **2022-2023 Voice of Democracy Reporting Deadlines**

31 October 2022 Student entries due at the Post  
15 November 2022 Completion of Post judging  
03 December 2022 Completion of District judging  
17 December 2022 Department VOD Selection Board  
06 January 2023 Completion of Department Judging  
15 January 2023 District Participation Reports due for Department Chairman  
15 January 2023 Department winners due for National

Awards will be presented to the top three Department winners at the Department Winter Council meeting on Saturday, 14 January 2023 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Please send complete application packets to the Department VOD Chairman to include the completed Official Student Entry form with all appropriate signatures, a typed transcript, flash drive and a photograph of the District winner. Make sure your flash drive is properly recorded and playable before sending it. Incomplete application packets will disqualify your candidate from District and Department judging. District Chairmen are expected to complete and send out the District Participation Report in a timely manner. It should be received by the Department VOD Chairman, which is required for his Department Report NLT Sunday, 15 January 2023.

The District first place winning submissions should be mailed to the Department VOD Chairman Louis Filippone at 15608 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville, Virginia 20120.

You are strongly encouraged to send your application packets by UPS, Fed Ex, or USPS return receipt. You are also advised to keep a duplicate copy of the complete application packet on hand. The Department VOD Chairman must receive your submissions NLT Friday, 16 December 2022. The Department VOD Selection Board will be held on Saturday, 17 December 2022, location to be announced. Possible teleconference format judging is being considered.

### **Voice of Democracy Department Awards**

The top three finalists will be invited to the Winter Council Luncheon in Portsmouth, Virginia on Saturday, 14 January 2023. All three finalists will receive their awards and present their essays at the awards banquet. The first-place winner will receive a minimum of \$2,000.00 from the Department along with \$500.00 from the Commander's Club and an additional check from the Auxiliary. The second-place winner will receive a minimum of \$1,000.00, and the third-place winner will receive a minimum of \$500.00. Additional donations are expected this year. The Post that sponsors the Department's first place winner will be awarded the Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Trophy at the Department Convention in June 2023, date to be determined. Should you require any assistance or additional information regarding the 2022-2023 Voice of Democracy program, or its administration please contact me directly at (703) 477-2274 or email at drlouortho@aol.com.

Please be advised all dates and venues are subject to change as a result of unforeseen Covid 19 restrictions.

Louis Filippone  
Voice of Democracy Program Chairman

## **32. WINTER COUNCIL MEETING:**

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.

### **Event Summary:**

**Start Date: Monday, January 9, 2023,** (this date is for discounted rate not start of Council Meeting)

**End Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2023,** (this date is for discounted rate not end of Council Meeting)

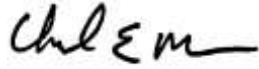
**Last Day to Book: Monday, December 12, 2022**

**Hotel(s) offering your special group rate:**

- **Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel for 97 USD per night**

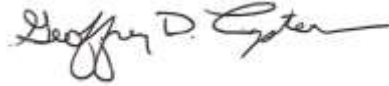
<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1656095589272&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Geoffrey D. Lyster  
State Commander



DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**  
**TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA**



Dear Comrade Commander:

Questionnaire for VFW Accountable Officers Crime Coverage

August 1, 2022

One of the most important communications you will receive during the year concerns the bond of your Unit Quartermaster. Section 703 of our National By-Laws requires that each accountable officer shall be bonded with an Indemnity Company as surety and the By-Laws places the responsibility for adequate bonding upon the Commander of the post. In any business it is customary to bond any officer handling funds. **THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER MUST BE AUDITED AT LEAST QUARTERLY BY THE TRUSTEES. THIS IS TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 218 OF THE NATIONAL MANUAL OF PROCEDURES.**

The Department Headquarters carries a Crime Policy for the bonding of Department and Post Accountable Officers. This Policy runs for a year – from September 1 to August 31 – premium payments are made on that basis. Coverage for all accountable officers expires on August 31 and premium for the New Year is due on September 1.

Any unit may decide whether it prefers to take out a Policy with some other surety company or have its funds protected by the Department Headquarters Crime Policy. But the matter should be given prompt attention because if your Accountable Officer had previously been covered through the National Headquarters, **a new premium payment is required by September 1, 2022 and delinquent after this date.**

**IF THE POLICY IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 9-1-2022, THE POST HAS ONLY 90 DAYS TO SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FOR PRIOR TERM. AFTER 90 DAYS PRIOR COVERAGE CEASES.**

**COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRE THAT:**

1. You agree to make/or cause to be made, at least annually, an audit of your books and accounts, including complete verification of all securities and bank balances pertaining to each “employee and/ or volunteer”.

If the above is not complied with, the Insurance Company will refuse to honor claim of missing funds which cannot be proven by records. Monthly audits and reconciliation of bank statements may avoid this denial of claim.

2. The Insurance Company will not pay for loss resulting from any unauthorized advances made by an “employee” to any member for delinquent dues and assessments.

3. “Employee” means any duly elected position, or any appointed officer as listed in the policy schedule.

**4. POST MUST SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FORM WITHIN 120 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DATE OF DISCOVERY OF THE LOSS. Proof of loss resulting from dishonest acts on the part of the bonded officer is required in settlement of claims.**

**THIS POLICY IS ONLY FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 TO AUGUST 31, 2023.**

**The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2023.**

RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WITH YOUR PREMIUM CHECK PAYABLE TO YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post # and State

I hereby apply for A1. Employee/Volunteer Theft coverage in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the position

of \_\_\_\_\_. For the year from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

Number of Persons Bonded:   1        Number of Locations:   1        **Post Annual Income:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Dated: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Has the post had any Crime Coverage losses over the past three years?** \_\_\_\_\_.

If yes, provide a description with date and amount of loss on a separate sheet.

**DEADLINE FOR COVERAGE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 – AFTER THIS DATE YOU WILL BE DELIQUENT AND NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE VFW BY-LAWS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
QM or Commander or Adjutant or Sr.Vice Signature

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address and City

**VFW QUARTERMASTER BOND**

**\$3.50 Per Thousand**

\$ 3,000.----\$10.50  
 \$ 4,000.----\$14.00  
 \$ 5,000.----\$17.50  
 \$ 6,000.----\$21.00  
 \$ 7,000.----\$24.50  
 \$ 8,000.----\$28.00  
 \$ 9,000.----\$31.50  
 \$ 10,000.----\$35.00  
 \$ 11,000.----\$38.50  
 \$ 12,000.----\$42.00  
 \$ 13,000.----\$45.50  
 \$ 14,000.----\$49.00  
 \$ 15,000.----\$52.50  
 \$ 16,000.----\$56.00  
 \$ 17,000.----\$59.50  
 \$ 18,000.----\$63.00  
 \$ 19,000.----\$66.50  
 \$ 20,000.----\$70.00  
 \$ 21,000.----\$73.50  
 \$ 22,000.----\$77.00  
 \$ 23,000.----\$80.50  
 \$ 24,000.----\$84.00  
 \$ 25,000.----\$87.50

(\$3,000. To \$25,000.)  
 \$3.50 Per Thousand

**\$2.50 Per Thousand**

\$ 26,000.----\$ 65.00  
 \$ 27,000.----\$ 67.50  
 \$ 28,000.----\$ 70.00  
 \$ 29,000.----\$ 72.50  
 \$ 30,000.----\$ 75.00  
 \$ 40,000.----\$ 100.00  
 \$ 50,000.----\$ 125.00  
 \$ 60,000.----\$ 150.00  
 \$ 70,000.----\$ 175.00  
 \$ 80,000.----\$ 200.00  
 \$ 90,000.----\$ 225.00  
 \$100,000.----\$ 250.00  
 \$110,000.----\$ 275.00  
 \$120,000.----\$ 300.00  
 \$130,000.----\$ 325.00  
 \$140,000.----\$ 350.00  
 \$150,000.----\$ 375.00  
 \$160,000.----\$ 400.00  
 \$170,000.----\$ 425.00  
 \$180,000.----\$ 450.00  
 \$190,000.----\$ 475.00  
 \$200,000.----\$ 500.00  
 \$210,000.----\$ 525.00  
 \$220,000.----\$ 550.00  
 \$230,000.----\$ 575.00  
 \$240,000.----\$ 600.00  
 \$250,000.----\$ 625.00

(\$26,000. To \$250,000.)  
 \$2.50 Per Thousand

**\$2.00 Per Thousand**

\$251,000.----\$ 502.00  
 \$252,000.----\$ 504.00  
 \$253,000.----\$ 506.00  
 \$254,000.----\$ 508.00  
 \$255,000.----\$ 510.00  
 \$256,000.----\$ 512.00  
 \$257,000.----\$ 514.00  
 \$258,000.----\$ 516.00  
 \$259,000.----\$ 518.00  
 \$260,000.----\$ 520.00  
 \$270,000.----\$ 540.00  
 \$280,000.----\$ 560.00  
 \$290,000.----\$ 580.00  
 \$300,000.----\$ 600.00  
 \$310,000.----\$ 620.00  
 \$320,000.----\$ 640.00  
 \$330,000.----\$ 660.00  
 \$340,000.----\$ 680.00  
 \$350,000.----\$ 700.00  
 \$360,000.----\$ 720.00  
 \$370,000.----\$ 740.00  
 \$380,000.----\$ 760.00  
 \$390,000.----\$ 780.00  
 \$400,000.----\$ 800.00  
 \$410,000.----\$ 820.00  
 \$420,000.----\$ 840.00  
 \$430,000.----\$ 860.00  
 \$440,000.----\$ 880.00  
 \$450,000.----\$ 900.00  
 \$460,000.----\$ 920.00  
 \$470,000.----\$ 940.00  
 \$480,000.----\$ 960.00  
 \$490,000.----\$ 980.00  
 \$500,000.----\$ 1,000.00

(\$251,000. To \$500,000.)  
 \$2.00 Per Thousand

**\$1.75 Per Thousand**

\$501,000.---\$ 876.75  
 \$502,000.---\$ 878.50  
 \$503,000.---\$ 880.25  
 \$504,000.---\$ 882.00  
 \$505,000.---\$ 883.75  
 \$506,000.---\$ 885.50  
 \$507,000.---\$ 887.25  
 \$508,000.---\$ 889.00  
 \$509,000.---\$ 890.85  
 \$510,000.---\$ 892.50  
 \$520,000.---\$ 910.00  
 \$530,000.---\$ 927.50  
 \$540,000.---\$ 945.00  
 \$550,000.---\$ 962.50  
 \$560,000.---\$ 980.00  
 \$570,000.---\$ 997.50  
 \$580,000.---\$1,015.00  
 \$590,000.---\$1,032.50  
 \$600,000.---\$1,050.00

(\$501,000. And UP)  
 \$1.75 Per Thousand



Tallman Insurance

A.1 Employee/Volunteer Theft (Dishonesty)
VFW QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CLUB EMPLOYEES &
BINGO PERSONS TO, BE COMPLETED BY
COVERED INDIVIDUAL

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

Bond Term: October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023

1. a) Name of Post Post #

b) Post Address

2. a) Name of Person to be Covered

3. Position to be Covered

4. Coverage Amount Requested \$

5. Number of Persons Covered 1

6. Number of Locations 1

7. Post - Annual Income

8. Has the post had any losses over the past three years?
If yes, provide a description along with the date and amount of loss.

9. a) Have you ever been convicted of any dishonest or fraudulent employment related act, "for example" burglary, robbery, theft or embezzlement of funds of any kind.

b) If yes, explain

IF BOND IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 10-1-2022, THE POST HAS ONLY 90 DAYS TO SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FOR PRIOR TERM, AFTER 90 DAYS, PRIOR COVERAGE CEASES.

If this is a replacement for a current position, please advise what person you are replacing

Signed this day of ,
(Day) (Month) (Year)

Signature: Person to be Covered

VFW CANTEEN MANAGERS AND CANTEEN EMPLOYEES  
 BINGO MANAGERS, GAMING MANAGERS AND GAMING WORKERS  
 RATE SCHEDULE

\$6.00 PER THOUSAND

\$ 1,000.-----\$ 6.00
\$ 2,000.-----\$ 12.00
\$ 3,000.-----\$ 18.00
\$ 4,000.-----\$ 24.00
\$ 5,000.-----\$ 30.00
\$ 6,000.-----\$ 36.00
\$ 7,000.-----\$ 42.00
\$ 8,000.-----\$ 48.00
\$ 9,000.-----\$ 54.00
\$10,000.-----\$ 60.00
\$11,000.-----\$ 66.00
\$12,000.-----\$ 72.00
\$13,000.-----\$ 78.00
\$14,000.-----\$ 84.00
\$15,000.-----\$ 90.00
\$16,000.-----\$ 96.00
\$17,000.-----\$102.00
\$18,000.-----\$108.00
\$19,000.-----\$114.00
\$20,000.-----\$120.00
\$21,000.-----\$126.00
\$22,000.-----\$132.00
\$23,000.-----\$138.00
\$24,000.-----\$144.00
\$25,000.-----\$150.00

\$4.00 PER THOUSAND

\$26,000.-----\$104.00
\$27,000.-----\$108.00
\$28,000.-----\$112.00
\$29,000.-----\$116.00
\$30,000.-----\$120.00
\$31,000.-----\$124.00
\$32,000.-----\$128.00
\$33,000.-----\$132.00
\$34,000.-----\$136.00
\$35,000.-----\$140.00
\$36,000.-----\$144.00
\$37,000.-----\$148.00
\$38,000.-----\$152.00
\$39,000.-----\$156.00
\$40,000.-----\$160.00
\$41,000.-----\$164.00
\$42,000.-----\$168.00
\$43,000.-----\$172.00
\$44,000.-----\$176.00
\$45,000.-----\$180.00
\$46,000.-----\$184.00
\$47,000.-----\$188.00
\$48,000.-----\$192.00
\$49,000.-----\$196.00
\$50,000.-----\$200.00

\$3.00 PER THOUSAND

\$ 51,000.-----\$153.00
\$ 52,000.-----\$156.00
\$ 53,000.-----\$159.00
\$ 54,000.-----\$162.00
\$ 55,000.-----\$165.00
\$ 56,000.-----\$168.00
\$ 57,000.-----\$171.00
\$ 58,000.-----\$174.00
\$ 59,000.-----\$177.00
\$ 60,000.-----\$180.00
\$ 61,000.-----\$183.00
\$ 62,000.-----\$186.00
\$ 63,000.-----\$189.00
\$ 64,000.-----\$192.00
\$ 65,000.-----\$195.00
\$ 66,000.-----\$198.00
\$ 67,000.-----\$201.00
\$ 68,000.-----\$204.00
\$ 69,000.-----\$207.00
\$ 70,000.-----\$210.00
\$ 71,000.-----\$213.00
\$ 72,000.-----\$216.00
\$ 73,000.-----\$219.00
\$ 74,000.-----\$222.00
\$ 75,000.-----\$225.00
\$ 80,000.-----\$240.00
\$ 85,000.-----\$255.00
\$ 90,000.-----\$270.00
\$ 95,000.-----\$285.00
\$100,000.-----\$300.00



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**





**WELCOME TO THE VFW SOUTHERN CONFERENCE  
IN THE MOUNTAINS OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA  
OCTOBER 27TH – OCTOBER 30TH 2022**

**Crowne Plaza Asheville  
1 Resort Drive  
Asheville, NC 28806**

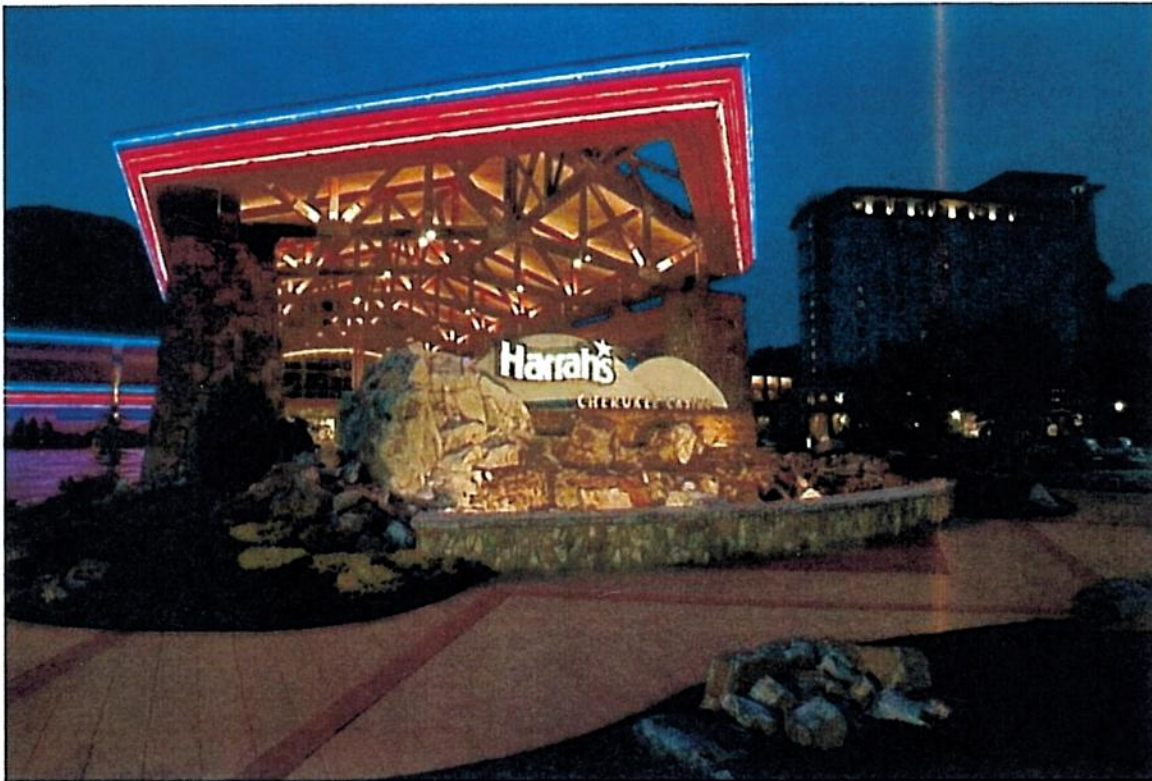
## AREA ATTRACTIONS:



The Famous Biltmore Estate, America's Largest Home (admission fee)



Travel Along The Beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway (free)



Harrah's Cherokee Hotel & Casino (1hr drive)



Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
(one of the only National Parks with no admission fee)

Southern Conference 2022  
Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary

October 27th—October 30th 2022

Crowne Plaza Asheville

1 Resort Drive

Asheville, NC 28806

Room rate: \$182.00 + tax per night

*Deadline September 29, 2022*

Registration Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Post/Aux: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-registration fee is \$85 .00 per person

\*Registration Fee covers:

Banquet, Hospitality Room, and  
Entertainment.

Registration at the Conference will be \$95.00.

For hotel reservations please contact the Crowne Plaza at (828) 285-2603

*\*Rooms must be reserved by September 29, 2022 at midnight to ensure the block room rate*

Make checks payable to: Department of North Carolina VFW

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY:

DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

CK#: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL FORMS TO: DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA VFW 917 NEW BERN AVE. RALEIGH, NC 27601

OR EMAIL: [SOUTHERNCONFERENCE2020@VFWNC.COM](mailto:SOUTHERNCONFERENCE2020@VFWNC.COM) (CHECK WILL STILL NEED TO BE MAILED)

Southern Conference 2022  
Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary  
October 27th—October 30th 2022  
Crowne Plaza Asheville  
1 Resort Drive  
Asheville, NC 28806

*Deadline September 29, 2022*



**Request for Transportation Form:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Airline:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arrival Date:** \_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_ **Flight:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Departure Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_ **Flight:** \_\_\_\_\_

Southern Conference 2022  
Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary  
October 27th—October 30th 2022  
Crowne Plaza Asheville  
1 Resort Drive  
Asheville, NC 28806

Select your Dinner

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Marinated Chicken Breast with Natural Jus  
Caribbean Pork Lion with Sweet Mango Glaze

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Marinated Chicken Breast with Natural Jus  
Caribbean Pork Lion with Sweet Mango Glaze

MAIL FORMS TO:

DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA VFW  
917 NEWBERNAVE.  
RALEIGH, NC 27601

Or

Email: [SouthernConference2022@vfwnc.com](mailto:SouthernConference2022@vfwnc.com)

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Community Service Grant*

The purpose of the VFW Community Service Grant is to assist VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in Virginia who need assistance with funding community service projects. There will be of twelve (12) grants worth up to \$250 each for the 2022-2023 year. All requirements must be met, or the grant must be returned, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances.

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) The project must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
- 2) The VFW Post or Auxiliary in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Post must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
- 3) The Post or Auxiliary must be in good standing with the VFW National Headquarters and the Department of Virginia.
- 4) If the project is hosted at a building, it must be a non-smoking building regardless of the owner's rules for the use of the building.
- 5) The grant is not to be used for work on a VFW Post home or the property owned by any membership-based organization.
- 6) Receipts for the project must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion.
- 7) Should the project costs total less than \$250 once completed, the balance of the grant will not be paid. Additional projects may not be added to an approved grant. Alterations to an approved grant require approval by the Virginia Veterans Foundation before the grant can be claimed.
- 8) The VFW Post or Auxiliary receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
- 9) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
- 10) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
- 11) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.
- 12) Only one grant per year will be provided to an individual Post or Auxiliary, regardless of who applies for the grant.



# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Community Service Grant*

### Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post/Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address of the event: \_\_\_\_\_

Commander/President name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Quartermaster/Treasurer name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of the project to be completed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated cost of the project: \_\_\_\_\_

How will labor be provided?: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Commander/President: \_\_\_\_\_ QM/Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant*

The purpose of the VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant is to assist VFW Posts in Virginia who need assistance with funding projects to improve, expand, or repair their Post home as well as assisting those Posts in financial need. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to \$1,000 each for the 2022-2023 year. All requirements must be met or the Post will be required to return the grant, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances.

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) If funding a project, it must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Post must submit a thorough justification for the grant.
- 2) If asking for emergency assistance, the Post must explain the reason for the emergency and provide a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.
- 3) The VFW Post in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
- 4) The Post must be in good standing with the VFW National and Department Headquarters.
- 5) If funding a project, the Post must own or lease the Post and must provide a copy of the documents showing either ownership or a current lease. For Posts who lease the property, there must be at least 2 years remaining on the lease to receive a grant.
- 6) The Post must not allow smoking in their Post building but may use the grant to repair damage after voting to ban smoking. A ban on smoking is defined as no smoking allowed inside the building of the Post home. It may be allowed outside of the building.
- 7) Receipts for the project or bills covered by the assistance requested must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion or for bills already paid.
- 8) Should the project costs or assistance requested total less than \$1,000 once complete, the balance of the grant will not be paid. Additional projects may not be added to an approved grant. Alterations to an approved grant require approval by the Virginia Veterans Foundation before the grant can be claimed.
- 9) The VFW Post receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the funded project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
- 10) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
- 11) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
- 12) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant*

### Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Post mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address of the Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Quartermaster name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated cost of the project or assistance requested: \_\_\_\_\_

How will labor be provided?: \_\_\_\_\_

**On a separate page, give either a description of the project to be completed or justification for assistance requested. For emergency assistance, also include in your description a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.**

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Post Commander: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Quartermaster: \_\_\_\_\_



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.