

**NUMBER 8**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

**"Full steam ahead for vets"**

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

**February 1, 2022**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

1. Commander's Message
2. District Meetings
3. Active Membership
4. All American Dashboard
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8. General Orders
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20. Special Order No. 126
21. Vietnam War Commemoration

**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

Comrades & Auxiliary:

Just returning from Winter Council and Homecoming, which was a big success thank you all that put it together. There are too many to name and I would hate to miss one, for all that attended, thank you all for being there we had over 121 there.

Now it's time to get back to what we do the best that is taken care of our veterans and recruiting new members. The weather in February is not likely our friend but see if we can set up inside, but just don't stop because they won't let you. Get a copy of the unpaid list from your Quartermaster and work that with another person.

As of 1-18-22 the Department is at 90.62 and 956 ahead of last year, don't stop the weather is getting better. District Commanders check with your Post Commanders and see if they are using the All State & All American Check list let's double check now and make sure they are, don't want anyone to miss out of an award like last year.

Now that the weather is getting cold it's time for all of us to call our elderly members and see how they are doing because no one thinks of vets but vets, plus make reports on that, let's make the second half of the year and make all Posts 100% in reporting.

Just to let you all know that I am going to have rotator cup surgery on my left shoulder 1-21-22 I will be down for a couple days, but I have three duty drivers to take me to where I need to be.

Butch Schupska  
State Commander

## 2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 2/5/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2296 Tasley 21503 Daugherty Road Rep: PSC Eric Mallett	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/14/22 Social: 11:00 AM Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: Noon Location: Post 9760 Berryville 425 S Buckmarsh Street Rep:
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 2/12/22 Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 4411 Franklin 3385 Beaver Dam Road Rep: State Surgeon Doug Hoffman	8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 2/12/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 3103 Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne Street Rep: State Cmdr Butch Schupska
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 2/26/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 637 Hopewell 1400 Lynchburg Street Rep: State SVC Geoffrey Lyster	9 <sup>th</sup>	Date: TBD Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 2/19/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 12200 Emporia Johns-Manville Club House 120 South Allen Road, Jarrett Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein	10 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 3/20/22 Lunch: NOON Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road Rep: State Cmdr Butch Schupska
5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 2/19/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7800 Stuart 939 VFW Rd, Patrick Springs Rep: State Surgeon Doug Hoffman	11 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 5/14/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 8644 Bridgewater 118 Dry River Road Rep:
6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 4/2/22 Meeting: NOON Location: Post 4491 New Castle 295 Hunters Drive Rep:	12 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 2/12/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep: State JVC Gary Adams
		13 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 2/19/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 1827 1170 River Road Rep: State SVC Geoffrey Lyster

## 3. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

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

#### 4. ALL AMERICAN DASHBOARD:

Military Assistance Program grants have been launched to show Departments and Posts how much in grant assistance that has been received from National HQs to supplement the Unmet Needs financial grants & VFW Sport Clips Help-A-Hero scholarship statistics. The information charts reside on the KPI tools section.

Please encourage Posts to read the 2021-2022 Membership program. Many Posts don't understand they need to sign up 5 New Action Corps subscribers, create a Facebook page, 2 separate partnering events along with a 10% increase in Community Service Impact from last year. They must submit reports through the dashboard to gain credit.

#### 5. AMAZONSMILE:

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

#### 6. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:

All officers should obtain current 2022 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2022 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 122nd National Convention, which becomes effective on September 2, 2021.

#### 7. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 7<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 **VFW2021!** 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)

#### 8. 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.

## 9. FUND RAISER:

Post and Districts are reminded that Sec.214 and Sec.414 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure respectively cover Solicitation of funds and fundraising activities. Post and Districts should review and ensure they are in compliance.

## 10. IMPORTANT DATES:

June 9 - 12, 2022	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night. Group name "Virginia Department VFW & Auxiliary State Convention 2022"; Cut-off Date May 9, 2022.
July 16 – 21, 2022	National Convention, Kansas City, Missouri
October 27 – 30, 2022	Southern Conference, Asheville, North Carolina
July 22 – 27, 2023	National Convention, Phoenix, Arizona
July 27 – Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 9 – 14, 2025	National Convention, Columbus, Ohio
August 15 – 20, 2026	National Convention Salt Lake City, Utah

## 11. INSPECTIONS:

Hello, Comrades of Virginia; we all hope 2022 will be excellent and prosperity for all.

**Congratulations** to the (54) 2021-2022 **Inspection Ready Posts**. You should receive your Certificate and Thank You Note from District Commanders very soon.

In our omission, Post 9808 Battlefield, Mechanicsville, District 3, you are identified as a 2021-2022 **Inspection Ready Post**.

**No Training this month:** we will start correcting and updating any discrepancies identified during inspections, capture lessons learned, and review process improvement for next year beginning in February. We will start Inspector's training again in July 2022.

**Just a reminder**, please check your Post/District status using the State/National Dashboard to ensure your information is correct and up to date!

Now that part 1 (Post/District Inspections) is complete, let's focus on lessons learned and create a plan to address any discrepancies. The Inspectors **No. 2 Objective** is to **correct all discrepancies by April 30, 2022**.

Yours in Comradeship and Peace,  
Charles Bush  
State Inspector  
[inspector@vfwva.org](mailto:inspector@vfwva.org)  
540-907-5292

**12. IRS FORM 8822-B:**

IRS form 8822-B. It is now a requirement by the IRS that all Posts submit this form. This form must be submitted any time the Post Quartermaster changes and/or the Post address changes. This was effective January 1, 2014.

Here is the link to get the form and instructions – <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822b.pdf>  
This will also apply to all Auxiliaries that have their own EIN number.

**13. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

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

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>	<i>Annual Payouts:</i>		
<i>Levels</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Departments</i>	<i>National</i>
Gold - \$1,200.00	\$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?*

**14. MEMBERSHIP:**

Comrades and Commanders,

It looks like Spring is right around the corner. I know this because my mailbox has a couple of seed catalogs in it several times a week. This tells me it's time to start making plans for outdoor recruiting events again. I know after being cooped up for a while that you are as anxious as I am to get out and mingle with the public again. Spring festivals are almost upon us and boat and camping shows are happening now. A missed opportunity can never be recovered, so look for them in your area. If you need assistance call in the State Team and one of us will assist.

Does your Post have a Life Membership Program to encourage your annual members to become Life Members? If not it's time to consider looking at options that will work for your Post. YOU NEVER HAVE TO COLLECT THEIR DUES AGAIN ONCE THEY BECOME LIFE. Make your job easier as Post Commander by having fewer annual members. National has come out with a Post Grant incentive that will PAY your Post for membership and converting annuals to life members (see attachment). Members at Large will not count in this promotion in any way. It will run until funds are depleted, so start early and earn some money for your Post.

There is a lot of competition out there now to entice veterans to join Veterans Service Organizations. I have seen national prime time tv ads for the D.A.V. and the American Legion. Since our National H.Q. offers only radio and tv public service announcements, I encourage you to download one and run it in your local area. Having said that, there is nothing quite as effective as personal contact. That's the reason we push getting out as a Post in your area and let your town see you in action. The State Team is always ready to assist you. Call State H.Q. or any member of the team for assistance.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team

**15. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters and the Service Offices of Hopewell, Norfolk and Dale City Service Offices will be closed February 21, 2022, in observance of President's Day. The State Adjutant/Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

**16. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:**

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

**17. 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.

**18. ROSTER CHANGES:**

Outreach Chairman &  
Eighth District Adj/QM  
Ron Link  
703-420-2114

Post 12200 Meeting Location  
Johns-Manville Club House  
120 South Allen Road  
Jarrett, VA 23867

Post 6975 Cmdr  
Michael A. Vallas  
929 Holston Ave Apt 1  
Bristol, TN 37620  
423-967-5071  
[cdrpost6975@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost6975@vfwva.org)

Post 6975 SVC  
Richard A. Davidson  
520 W Valley Dr  
Bristol, VA 24201

**19. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:**

Judging for state-level winners of Voice of Democracy contest occurred 18 December 2021. The winners are listed below:

1st Place Anjali M. Ghafoerkhan- District 10 Sponsored by Dale City Post 1503

2nd Place Isabel G. Spielberg- District 2 Sponsored by Norfolk Post 3160

3rd Place Clifford Krieger- District 8 Sponsored by Morrisville Post 7728.

Louis Filippone  
Voice of Democracy Program Chairman

## 20. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 126:

The suspension from membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States for a period of one (1) year ending January 20, 2022, with reinstatement contingent upon submitting proof of completion of a sexual harassment program for WINSTON BRADLEY, Membership No. 10026046, Columbia Post No. 2613, Columbia, Virginia, as set forth in Special Order No. 173 dated February 25, 2021, has expired.

It is noted that the above named individual was an annual member whose dues have since expired. With the imposed penalty being expired and all other requisites of the special order having been met, WINSTON BRADLEY is now eligible to make application for membership in a Post of his choosing in accordance with Section 107 effective January 20, 2022.

By order of  
Fritz Mihelcic  
Commander-in-Chief

## 21. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

I have a supply of commemorative lapel/hat pins available to provide to Posts needing 5 or less and who don't wish to become commemorative partners in the war's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission. Post commanders may contact me at [cdrdist8@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist8@vfwva.org). For those Posts that participate in local recruiting events like gun shows, consider having several pins on hand – you will almost always find an eligible veteran to present one to and it may serve as an intro to gain that veteran's membership.

The most recent partner list published by the anniversary commission lists 24 Posts and two HQ in the Department of Virginia as commemorative partners. If your Post isn't on the following list and you feel that you may have enough Vietnam Veterans in your area to justify joining, please do so. It costs nothing and there are some neat benefits Posts will receive which will aid in recruiting too. The link is [www.vietnamwar50th.com](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com).

State HQ	HQ, Distr 11	392	609	637	1115	1177	1503	1860	2239	2582	2894	3150
4301	4411	7167	7589	7916	8469	8947	9640	9855	9808	9835	10295	10387

This month, we will celebrate another Virginian who earned the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War: CPL Larry E. Smedley, USMC was born in 1949 in Front Royal, Virginia. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in March 1966. Upon completion of training, he was assigned as a rifleman and fire team leader with Company's D & C, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 8<sup>th</sup> Marines at Camp Lejeune. In July 1967, he arrived in Vietnam and served as a rifleman and squad radio man with Company D, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 7<sup>th</sup> Marines and was promoted Corporal in September. While on patrol on December 21, 1967, he was mortally wounded in action for which he earned the Medal of Honor. His citation reads as follows:

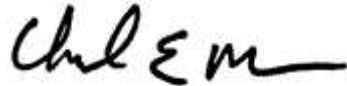
*For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a squad leader with Company D, First Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division, in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. On the evenings of 20–21 December 1967, Corporal Smedley led his six-man squad to an ambush site at the mouth of Happy Valley, near Phouc Ninh (2) in Quang Nam Province. Later that night, an estimated 100 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army Regulars, carrying 122 mm rocket launchers and mortars, were observed moving toward Hill 41. Realizing this was a significant enemy move to launch an attack on the vital Danang complex, Corporal Smedley immediately took sound and courageous action to stop the enemy threat. After he radioed for a reaction force, he skillfully maneuvered his men to a more advantageous position and led an attack on the numerically superior enemy force. A heavy volume of fire from an enemy machine gun positioned on the left flank of the squad inflicted several casualties on Corporal Smedley's unit. Simultaneously, an enemy rifle grenade exploded nearby, wounding him in the right foot and knocking him to the ground. Corporal Smedley disregarded this serious injury and valiantly struggled to his feet, shouting words of encouragement to his men. He fearlessly led a charge against the enemy machine gun emplacement, firing his rifle and throwing grenades until he was again struck by enemy fire and knocked to the ground. Gravely wounded and weak from loss of blood, he rose and commenced a one-man assault against the enemy position. Although his aggressive and singlehanded attack resulted in the destruction of the machine gun, he was struck in the chest by enemy fire and fell mortally wounded. Corporal Smedley's inspiring and courageous actions, bold initiative, and selfless devotion to duty in the face of certain death were in*

keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

He was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery in Section 31, site 6486. Among other honors, a portion of I-4 between Orlando and Altamonte Springs in Florida and a bridge on US Route 340 between Page and Warren Counties in Virginia is named in his honor.

Jeff Dombroff  
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Butch Schupski  
State Commander



### New/Reinstated Membership Grant initiative for VFW Posts

Starting January 1, 2022, every VFW Post that signs up and submits full membership dues\* for each member will receive a grant based on the type of membership submitted while funds are available.

<b>Member Type</b>	<b>Rebate Amount</b>
New to the VFW Life member and/or any **Reinstated annual to Life with full Life member payment.	\$30.00
New to the VFW Life member and/or any **Reinstated annual to Life <b>Installment Payment</b>	\$20.00
New to the VFW Annual member	\$20.00
**Reinstated Annual member	\$10.00

**\*Full membership dues include the per capita for National, Department and the Post.**

**\*\*Reinstated definition - Anyone that has been a member before, and their dues have been expired for 2 years and 1 day or more is classified as a Reinstated member.**

**Members submitted prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> are not eligible for this program.**

**Current Annual members defined as any member whose dues have not been expired more than two years are not eligible for the grant.**

**Members at Large are not part of this program.**



11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL



# BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK



**APRIL 2nd, 2022 | DISMAL SWAMP TRAIL, CHESAPEAKE**

Take a part in a walking event commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Bataan Death March of World War II. Honor the 90,000 US and Filipino Servicemen who suffered and endured one of the most harrowing events in history.

### Onsite Events:

- 16.6 mile walk | 7:00AM start
- 5 mile walk | 10:00 AM
- 1 mile family walk | 11:00 AM
- Closing Ceremony | 12:00PM
- Registration starts @ 6:00AM*



Sponsored by  
VFW Post 2894

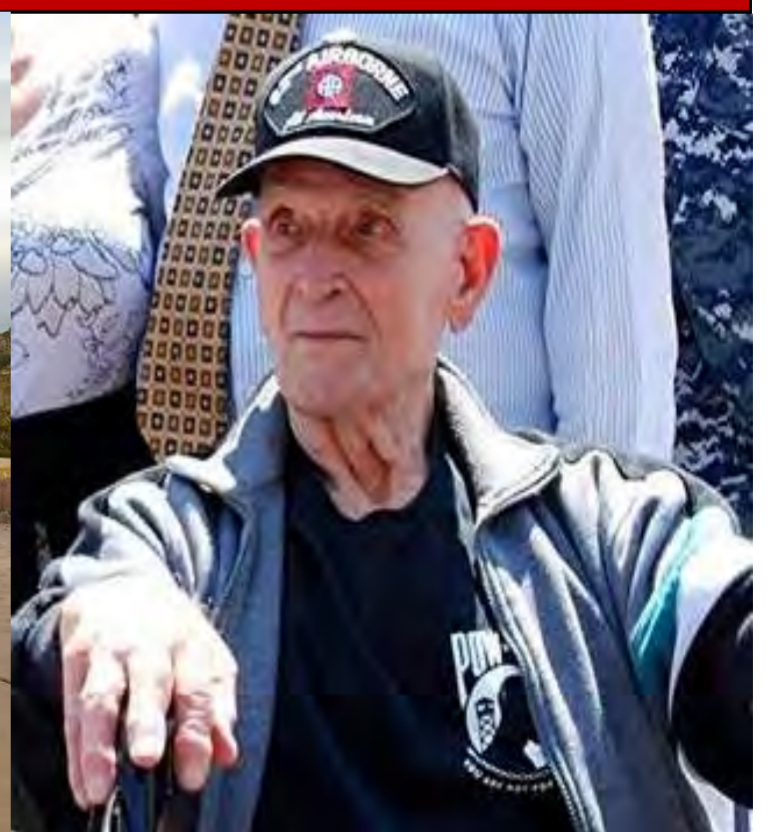
*SSG Jon K. Dozier Memorial*

### Virtual Event:

- 16.6mile/5mile/1mile**
- Walk/run/bike/swim/roll - ANY WAY YOU WANT, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

**15 JAN - APR 2, 2022**

Military Displays and Lots of family friendly activities!



04.26.2019

For more information, visit <https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan>  
Register by April 2nd at <https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan/register>  
*Walk-on registrations welcome*

# 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 10, 2022 at the Renaissance Portsmouth Waterfront Hotel (425 Water St. Portsmouth, VA) from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm.

**COST:** Only \$35.00 (*includes tax & gratuity*)

**MENU:**

Mixed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings  
Prime Rib of Beef au Jus with Horseradish Sauce  
Red Bliss Whipped Potatoes  
Green Beans  
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:** Mark Maggio  
Commanders Club Treasurer  
6481 Revere Street  
Williamsburg, VA 23188

**DEADLINE:** *PRE-REGISTRATION FOR MEAL IS REQUIRED.  
PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 30, 2022 NO EXCEPTIONS.  
NO MEALS WILL BE AVAILABLE UNLESS PRE-REGISTERED.*

**NOTES:** ALL Past and Present Post, District and Department Commanders and MOC Seam Squirrels, are encouraged to join the Commanders Club. Life Membership is \$30.00. You must be a member to attend the Commanders Club Luncheon. This year's meal is **only \$35.00**. We are calling on all Commanders Club Members to attend the luncheon as well as encouraging all current and/or Past Commanders to join the Commanders Club and join us for the luncheon. Those joining the Commanders Club would pay \$65.00 for Life Membership and the luncheon.

Respectfully,

**Geoffrey D. Lyster, President**  
Department of Virginia Commanders Club

**Mark Maggio, Treasurer**  
Department of Virginia Commanders Club

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

POST NUMBER

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Life Member Dues for:

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## 2022 PRIORITY GOALS

### Support Today's Veterans and Military

Please contact or visit your congressional representatives and stress that these are the issues we will be fighting for in the 117th Congress. These priority goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary. To find your congressional representatives, visit [www.vfw.org/ActionCorps](http://www.vfw.org/ActionCorps).

### Play a Role in the Process

Be engaged and help us ensure that these priority goals are enacted. Sign up today for the VFW Action Corps Weekly and VFW Action Alerts:

- Visit [vfw.org/JoinActionCorps](http://vfw.org/JoinActionCorps)
- Text "VFW" to 50457
- Scan the QR Code



**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

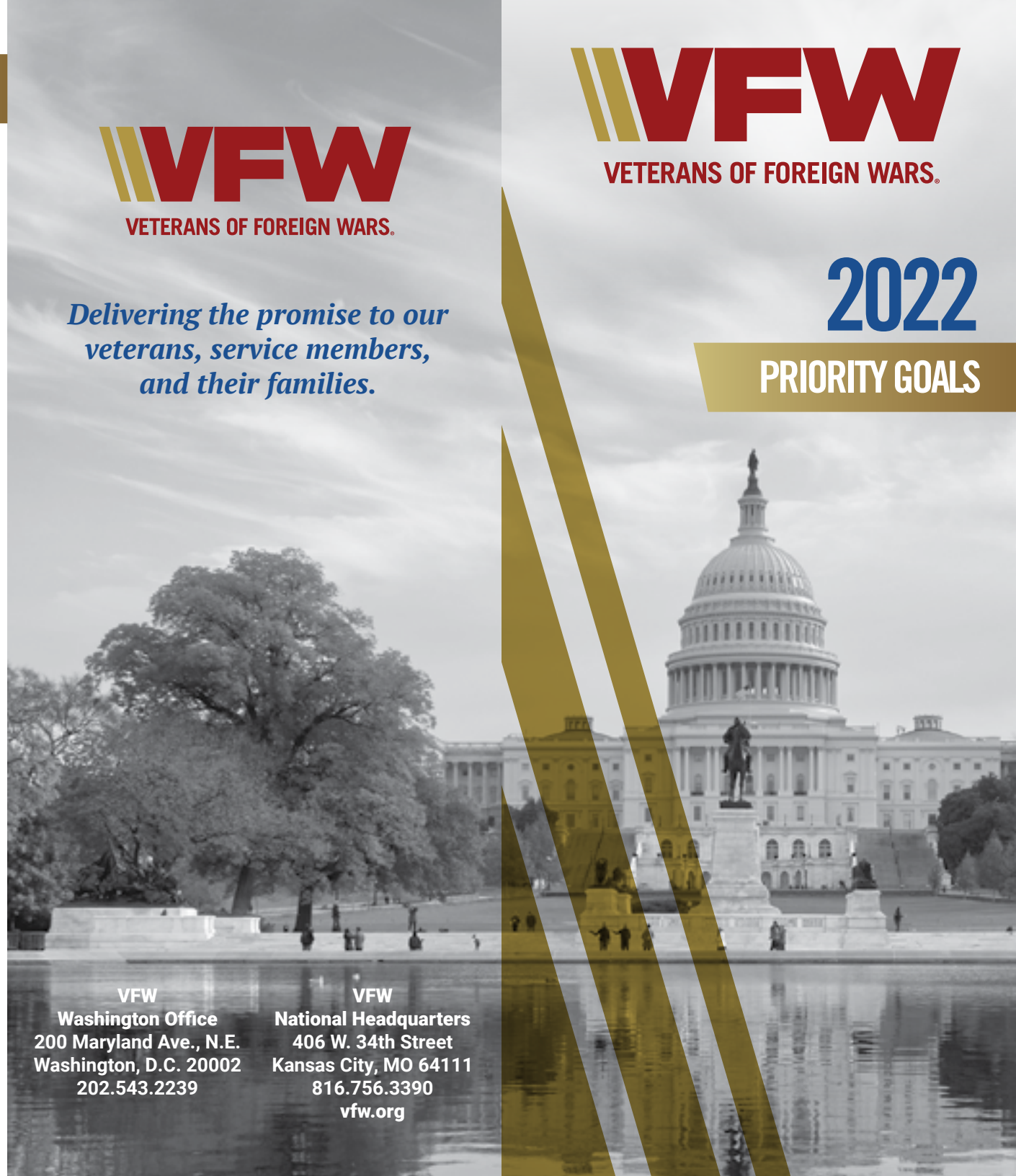
*Delivering the promise to our  
veterans, service members,  
and their families.*



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

# 2022

## PRIORITY GOALS



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

VFW  
National Headquarters  
406 W. 34th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
816.756.3390  
[vfw.org](http://vfw.org)

## Budget

To fully fund programs for veterans, service members, and their families, Congress must:

- Reform the dysfunctional federal budget process.
- Authorize VA to receive reimbursements from TRICARE and Medicare.
- Never reduce one veteran's benefits to pay for another.

## Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

To ensure veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits, Congress and VA must:

- Pass comprehensive toxic exposure reform, including improvements to the claims process, to provide health care and benefits to all toxic exposed veterans.
- Consider treatment of presumptive conditions as a claim for disability compensation.
- Properly implement the modernized appeals process.
- Reinstate a pre-decisional review period for claims representatives prior to final ratings decisions.
- Require VA to accept private medical evidence in lieu of VA examinations.
- Update regulations and laws governing claims to account for digital claims processing.
- Improve the accuracy of disability compensation claims related to military sexual trauma.
- Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits for survivors.
- Increase burial allowances to account for inflation and include spouses' information on all headstones.

## Education, Employment, and Transition Assistance

To ensure veterans succeed after leaving military service, Congress, VA, DOD, and DOL must:

- Conduct oversight of transition assistance program pathway attendance and ensure access to community transition resources.
- Improve education benefits through increased online student housing allowances, child care stipends, parity for Guard and Reserve members, and elimination of delimiting dates.
- Enhance outreach and counseling for Veteran Readiness and Employment eligible veterans.
- Expand small business and entrepreneurship resources for veterans and military spouses.
- Expand preferences and tax incentives for hiring veterans and military spouses.
- Fund and track outcomes for career-focused training programs.
- Increase funding for HUD-VASH vouchers, grant and per diem payments, and pilot programs to combat veteran homelessness.
- Authorize more than one adaptive automotive grant for disabled veterans.

## Health Care

To ensure service members and veterans receive timely access to high-quality health care without increasing cost shares, Congress, VA, and DOD must:

- Reduce the number of service members and veterans who die by suicide to zero.
- Strengthen care and research for mental health and traumatic brain injuries.
- Require an assessment of Vet Centers to ensure adequate staffing, resources, and funding.
- Improve programs and services for women and minority veterans.
- Research and effectively treat health conditions associated with toxic exposures.
- Eliminate copayment requirements for preventive health care, including medications.

- Research the efficacy of medical cannabis.
- Preserve the integrity of TRICARE.
- Properly implement VA and DOD health IT systems.
- Expand telehealth services.
- Expand nursing home eligibility, and long-term care options.

## Military Quality of Life

To maintain a quality, comprehensive benefits and retirement package that is the backbone for an all-volunteer force, Congress and DOD must:

- Increase military base pay comparability with private sector wages.
- Protect and improve on-base quality of life programs.
- Ensure that military housing is safe and free of toxic substances.
- End the military retirement pay and VA disability compensation offset.
- Ensure military family members are gainfully employed.
- Eliminate food insecurity in the military.
- Establish the Armed Forces University.
- Ensure equity of benefits for Reserve component service members.
- Improve stability and support for military families.

## National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA

To fully support service members, and protect our nation's citizens and interests around the world, Congress and DOD must:

- Expand partnerships with host nations and private/public organizations to achieve the fullest possible accounting of U.S. military personnel missing from all wars.
- Preserve the all-volunteer force.
- Ensure DPAA is fully funded to perform its personnel recovery mission.



## **PART-TIME WORK**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Interviewing farmers by telephone or personal visit to collect information on crops and livestock

**POSITION:** FIELD INTERVIEWER (PART-TIME INTERMITTENT)

**FOR:** NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE (NASDA) IN COOPERATION WITH THE USDA/NASS

**HOURS:** PART-TIME INTERMITTENT (Flexible Hours)

**STARTING PAY:** \$15.00 PER HOUR + MILEAGE (58.5 cents/mile)

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1) MUST BE DEPENDABLE
- 2) MUST BE ABLE TO MEET DEADLINES
- 3) MUST HAVE A TELEPHONE
- 4) MUST HAVE A RELIABLE VEHICLE AND GOOD DRIVING RECORD
- 5) MUST HAVE ACCESS TO EMAIL
- 6) REQUIRES BACKGROUND CHECK
- 7) AGRICULTURAL BACKGROUND HELPFUL (but not necessary)

**WORK AREA:** Phoning can be done at any location. Field visit can be negotiated to include Bland, Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, Tazewell, and Wise.

For more information

**CONTACT:** Alice Davis  
NASDA Field Supervisor  
Phone: (540) 552-7377

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).

*Hay-U*

Ronnie Steele  
Commander  
Grand of Virginia  
Military Order of the Cootie





Comrades:

My name is Harold Milton Schupska, (aka), Butch. I am announcing my candidacy for National Council member for the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 2022-2026. I was in the Navy from 1972-1975, then came back into the Navy in 1979. I married Peggy Ann Barchaniwcz on July 18, 1983. We have no children, but we spoil nieces and nephews and then send them home. I retired from the Navy on September 30, 1996 as a First-Class Boiler Technician (SW). My wife Peggy and I reside in Norfolk, Virginia.



I joined the VFW in 1989 at Ocean View Post 3160 became involved with the Military Order of the Cooties, reaching the title of Seam Squirrel four times. In 2002 I became Junior Vice Commander of Post 3160. In 2003-2004 I was Senior Vice Commander and then in 2004-2005, I became Post Commander. As Post Commander I received the distinguished All-State Commander award and made All American Commander. In 2008-2009, I was elected as the Grand Commander of the Military Order of the Cooties. From 2010-2013, I was elected Post Commander again, and was an All-American Commander all three terms, and All-State two of the three terms.

In 2016, I ran for Department Surgeon and from 2017 until the present, I have made my way up the chairs and am the 2021-2022 Department Commander.

I will give this Department my all to ensure that Virginia continues to lead the Veterans of Foreign Wars. "Full Steam Ahead for Vets".

I hope I can count on your support at state convention in June of 2022.



Harold Milton Schupska (AKA) Butch



# Vote Ken Wiseman for National Council of Administration!

An Experienced Leader For Virginia!



## **Endorsed by current National Councilman Tom Gimble!**

The National Council of Administration oversees the National HQs of the VFW and Virginia needs someone to represent our interests and help oversee national-level efforts. With a multi-million dollar budget, important programs, and a future that must be as great as our past, we need experience and knowledge in the person holding this position.

As an All-American Past State Commander and All-American Past State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Ken knows firsthand Virginia's relationship with the National HQs and will fight to protect the more than \$175,000 Virginia gets annually from the National HQs. Ken knows the importance of Service Officers having been one and he sees the help they give veterans as a cornerstone of the VFW. Ken spent three years working in the VFW's D.C. office and knows well our fight on Capitol Hill and the need to support all VFW employees in their efforts to fulfill our mission.

Most importantly, Ken understands the challenges faced by our Posts. Having served multiple times as a Post Commander and Post Quartermaster and earning All-American and All-State honors along the way, Ken believes Posts are the most important level of the organization and should be supported as such. Ken will work to ensure that the National HQs empowers and strengthens Posts, not make it harder for them to succeed.

**Vote for experience and continued advocacy!**

## **Mark P. Maggio**

### **Candidate for the Office of State Surgeon 2022-23**



Comrades my name is Mark Maggio and I am running for State Surgeon. I moved from New York to Virginia in 2003. I have served in a variety of positions since living in Virginia and most recently served as the State Chief of Staff for Commander Eric Mallete. In my positions with the Posts, Districts and State, I have accumulated experience in the business of the VFW and feel that I am ready to serve my fellow comrades as a state officer and eventually State Commander. My goals are to continue the work that has been done by the state over the years growing the membership and reaching out to new members, and continuing to make the VFW a strong voice for veterans.

I enlisted in the Army November of 1982 and went to Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. I served as a Smoke Generator Operator until receiving my commission from Hofstra University in May 1986 as a Chemical Officer. I served as a platoon leader and executive officer of the 363<sup>rd</sup> Chemical Company and was transferred to the 318<sup>th</sup> Movement Control Agency just prior to deploying to Saudi Arabia for Desert Shield and Storm. During Operation Desert Storm I served as Freight Movements Officer from October 1990 till July of 1991. I returned home and went on to the Transportation Officer Advanced Course then went on to serve as a Company Commander of the 623<sup>rd</sup> Transportation Company. I then served in various staff assignment in the 354<sup>th</sup> and 436<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalions. I later served with the 1179<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade and the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command where I served tours in both Afghanistan and Iraq. In Iraq I was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for establishing a redeployment system that streamlined the process of units moving in and out of theater while minimizing the disruption of the change over operations and combat operations.

While serving in Post 4639 I served as Jr and Sr Vice Commander becoming Commander in 2010. I was an All State Commander in my first year. In 2018 I was elected District 3 Commander and was an All American District Commander in my first year and a All State District Commander in my second. In 2018 11 of the 15 posts in the district made All State and 7 made All American. I was asked by Commander Mallete to be his Chief of Staff and worked in that position during the 2020-21 term. I am a member of the State Honor Guard and I am currently the Treasurer of the Commanders Club. I am also a member of the Military Order of the Cooties, where I currently serve as the Sky Pilot.

I am currently employed by the United States Army working at Fort Eustis for the Future Concepts Center under the Army Futures Command. I have been a civilian employee of the Department of the Army since 2010. My girlfriend Rosanne is a member of the Auxilliary and her father was a victim of Agent Orange which took his life in 2001. I have lost several comrades who served in Vietnam to Agent Orange and cancer. I have lost comrades to suicide as well. It is the remembrance of those lives that drive me to a voice for veterans whose voice may be lost in the din of competing voices for Government resources and aid. I want to be the voice that breaks through and helps them get the aid that they fought for and sacrificed for. We must always remain vigilant and never assume our work is finished. No one does more for Veterans than the VFW, must not just be a slogan but our lives work. Thank you Comrades for your consideration.

Fraternally,

Mark P. Maggio  
757-879-7724 - Cell  
[Mmaggio39@gmail.com](mailto:Mmaggio39@gmail.com)