

LAST RECRUITING SCHOOL

The last Recruiting School will be held January 22, 2022 at 10:30 AM.

Like the last two Recruiting Schools that were held, this is to register your Post and receive the link to join. The link received after registering is unique and **MUST NOT BE SHARED**. If shared with others you run chance being locked out of the SOI.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwoc-mpqDspHtUGYU2ml4EzbY7uYsFXHcOZ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST CHANCE TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THE RECRUITING SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION. THIS IS AN ALL STATE REQUIREMENT!!

**NUMBER 7**

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

"Full steam ahead for vets"

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

January 1, 2022

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades & Auxiliary:

First, I hope that all had a great holiday and a safe happy New Year. As I write this, we had our Winter Council and our Homecoming at the same time, thank you all that attended and hope you all had a great time.

As of 12-18-21 we had nine Post that made 100% plus one, CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL NINE. There are a number of Posts that need less than ten to join the 100% club and get my jacket before December 31.

To all District Commanders call your Post Commanders and see if they need help to reach their membership, all Post Commanders get with your Quartermasters and print out your expiring list and unpaid list and have your team call them.

This is a reminder to all Post Commanders if you made a 100% before 31 December 2021 you get a Commander's jacket, but if you did not complete the All State Program then you won't make All State, that is all on you, so please double check to make sure you have crossed off everything.

Know that the weather is starting to get cold let's see if we can get inside to do recruiting, don't stop just because of the weather.

Post Commanders make sure that your Post Adjutant puts your reports in all American Dashboard so your Post can make All American.

Butch Schupska
State Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2296 Tasley 21503 Daugherty Road Rep: St Cmdr Butch Schupska	7 th	Date: 1/15/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: St SVC Geoffrey Lyster
2 nd	Date: 2/12/22 Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 4411 Franklin 3385 Beaver Dam Road Rep: State Surgeon Doug Hoffman	8 th	Date: 2/12/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 3103 Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne Street Rep: State Cmdr Butch Schupska
3 rd	Date: 2/26/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 637 Hopewell 1400 Lynchburg Street Rep: State SVC Geoffrey Lyster	9 th	Date: 1/15/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 1115 Hillsville 701 W Stuart Drive Rep: State JVC Gary Adams
4 th	Date: 2/19/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 12200 Emporia 4278 Belfield Road, Freeman Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein	10 th	Date: 3/20/22 Lunch: NOON Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road Rep: State Cmdr Butch Schupska
5 th	Date: 2/19/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7800 Stuart 939 VFW Rd, Patrick Springs Rep:	11 th	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 632 Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Rep: St Surgeon Doug Hoffman
6 th	Date: 4/2/22 Meeting: NOON Location: Post 4491 New Castle 295 Hunters Drive Rep:	12 th	Date: 2/12/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep: State JVC Gary Adams
		13 th	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. CLAIR B. POFF PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD:

The Clair B. Poff Public Relations award is presented to three (3) Posts for the most outstanding newsletter or publication for their size group and then forwarded to National for judging. Group 1: Membership 99 members or less; Group 2: Membership 100 – 179 and Group 3: Membership 180 or more. To enter, send two different copies of your Post Newsletter to State Headquarters along with the editor's name and address. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 8, 2022. Judging will determine first, second and third place winners.

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 closed of each quarter, one of which ended December 31, 2021. 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 7th**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site www.vfwva.org.
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **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 where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

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

svdist1@vfwva.org
adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

10. **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.

11. **GENERAL ORDERS:**

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

12. **IMPORTANT DATES:**

January 7 - 9, 2022	Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; The State Commander/President's Homecoming will be held during this time.
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
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

13. **INSPECTIONS:**

Hello, Comrades of Virginia; Happy New Year!
We all hope 2022 will be awesome and prosperity for all.

I'm happy to report that all Posts and Districts are **100%** inspected; you have done an outstanding job achieving this goal!

I want to take the time to thank the District Inspectors, District Commanders, State Officers, and Post members for the success and completion of Inspections; together, we achieve our State Commander's goal of 100% by December 17.

Congratulations to our District Inspectors of the Month for November/December to District 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, and 12. You found a way to get the job done, and we thank you.

Comrade David Gilleran	District 5	November
Comrade Todd Taylor	District 8	November
Comrade Daniel Boyer	District 9	November
Comrade Mark Wilson	District 4	December
Comrade Ben Guinan	District 10	December
Comrade Elizabeth Wicht	District 12	December

Congratulations to our 2021-2022 **Inspection Ready Posts**. This year we wanted to acknowledge those Posts who stepped up and made our jobs a little easier. We call you Inspection Ready Posts; we have 53 posts recognized. You assist by being ready for inspection, conducting pre-inspections, having everything in place, or having the right persons available to answer the questions. Thanks for your hard work and attention to detail. Below are the Posts we identified as Inspection Ready Post for 2021-2022.

Post #	Post Name	Dist.	City	Inspection Date
3219	Ruppert L. Sargent	1	PHOEBUS	8/3/2021
8252	Francis J. Mellar Jr.	1	GLOUCESTER	8/25/2021
392	General Mac Arthur Memorial	2	VIRGINIA BEACH	8/14/2021
993	Harold Treacle Memorial	2	PORTSMOUTH	9/20/2021
1211	Back Bay	2	VIRGINIA BEACH	10/7/2021
2582	Joe Bagley	2	SUFFOLK	10/20/2021
2894	SSG Jonathan K. Dozier Memorial	2	CHESAPEAKE	10/9/2021
3160	Ocean View	2	NORFOLK	10/14/2021
4411	Sergeant (USMC) Jayton D. Patterson	2	FRANKLIN	9/16/2021
4809	Tidewater	2	NORFOLK	9/13/2021
2239	Robert E. Lee	3	CHESTER/COLONIAL HEIGHTS	8/5/2021
10387	Albert Lee Mills	3	HOPEWELL/PETERSBURG	9/23/2021
10654	Arthur Williams Memorial	3	RICHMOND	8/10/2021
7166	South Hill-La Crosse	4	SOUTH HILL	9/11/2021
8163	Roanoke River	4	CLARKSVILLE	9/4/2021
647	Ballard Pruitt	5	DANVILLE	9/10/2021
7800	Sammy Martin	5	STUART	9/20/2021
1033	Curtis A. Smith 116th Infantry	6	COVINGTON	10/5/2021
1264	Irvin L. Manning	6	ROANOKE	8/6/2021
4491	Craig Valley	6	NEW CASTLE	8/5/2021

5895	Ricky W. Sink	6	BUCHANAN	7/27/2021
9877	Amherst County	6	AMHERST	11/16/2021
12179	Desmond T. Doss Memorial	6	LYNCHBURG	8/7/2021
9760	Clarke County Memorial	7	BERRYVILLE	9/13/2021
3103	Fredericksburg	8	FREDERICKSBURG	9/19/2021
7589	Francis Cannon	8	MANASSAS	9/14/2021
9835	Robert E. Laing Memorial	8	WARRENTON	9/11/2021
12202	SGT Nicholas C. Mason Memorial	8	KING GEORGE	10/11/2021
2719	Wythe	9	WYTHEVILLE	10/22/2021
4667	Francis Marion	9	MARION	10/8/2021
7969	Bland County Memorial	9	BLAND	10/22/2021
9640	Casey-Shortt	9	RICHLANDS	10/15/2021
609	Russell Mitchell	10	ALEXANDRIA	10/23/2021
1177	Loudoun County	10	LEESBURG	10/15/2021
3150	John Lyon	10	ARLINGTON	10/11/2021
7916	Hawkins-Reeve	10	WOODBRIIDGE	9/26/2021
8469	Blue and Gray	10	FAIRFAX	10/17/2021
632	Rion-Bowman	11	HARRISONBURG	8/4/2021
1499	Shenandoah Valley	11	LEXINGTON	9/18/2021
2216	Augusta-Staunton	11	STAUNTON	8/9/2021
2424	Waynesboro	11	WAYNESBORO	7/20/2021
3060	Dula Byerly	11	DEERFIELD	7/22/2021
3136	Collins-Hughes	11	MOUNT SOLON	8/2/2021
4204	Coleman-Brinkley	11	HOT SPRINGS	7/16/2021
7814	Thomas-Fields	11	STAUNTON	7/17/2021
8479	Lyndhurst-Sherando	11	LYNDHURST	9/25/2021
8644	Myers-Hodges	11	BRIDGEWATER	8/18/2021
9339	Stuarts Draft	11	STUARTS DRAFT	8/10/2021
10826	Verona	11	VERONA	8/12/2021
1994	Abingdon Memorial	12	ABINGDON	9/9/2021
5715	John Fox Jr	12	BIG STONE GAP	12/12/2021
8652	Mountain Empire	12	COEBURN	12/12/2021
2217	James Madison	13	ORANGE	9/9/2021

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.**

Charles Bush
State Inspector
inspector@vfwva.org
540-907-5292

14. 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.

15. JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL:

The JLC met on December 15. Attending for the VFW were myself and alternate representative Rev. Dr. Harold Sayles. Seven agenda items for the 2022 legislative session were finalized. Point papers are available at <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/joint-leadership-council-veterans-service-organizations-2>. The 2022 Day on the Hill is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 13, 2022, and is planned to be a virtual meeting. Details will follow.

Acting JLC Chair Denice Williams was elected Chair and Monti Zimmerman (MOAA and VFW VA Legislative Committee Chair) was elected Vice-Chair. The JLC work plan for the coming year was approved with the first meeting to be held May 12. At that meeting the 2022 legislative session will be reviewed and topics that could be included as 2023 initiatives will be discussed.

Anyone who has an issue they would like to see us sponsor in the 2023 agenda is encouraged to contact me to draft a proposal. Please allow sufficient time as items must be submitted prior to May 2, 2022.

PSC Rick Raskin
JLC Representative

16. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

Another calendar year has passed, and we are halfway through our VFW Year. Congratulations to the Post that are meeting and exceeding the milepost goals that Butch set in his membership plan. Also, to the Post Commanders that will be getting Commanders Jackets for reaching 100% membership by December 31. The next few months are unpredictable as far as the weather goes, but I encourage you to look for opportunities to work your membership plan. If you want or need assistance with recruiting or retention at the Post level, please reach out to any member of our Membership Team or State H.Q. Our Western Districts have been blessed with a new Gun Show in Wytheville on January 15-16th. I have talked with several Post in the area and secured a table with Showmasters Gun Shows. Two other dates are set for the year and it appears that this will be a permanent location. I encourage any Post member in the area to stop by our table and say hello.

I look forward to seeing you at the Winter Council and at the Membership workshop. Please stop in and talk to us with your ideas or concerns while we are there. I wish all of you a healthy and happy New Year.

Tom Hines PSC
Membership Team

17. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters and the Service Offices of Hopewell, Norfolk and Dale City Service Offices will be closed January 1, 2022 and reopen January 3, 2022 in observance of New Year's. Also, all offices will be closed on January 17, 2022 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The State Adjutant/Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

18. PUBLIC SERVANT AWARDS:

Posts are asked to submit three nominees (one for each career area) to State Headquarters no later than January 10, 2022.

Law Enforcement Award

Firefighter Award

Emergency Medical Technician Award

NOTE: VFW PUBLIC SERVANT AWARD CITATION POST ENTRY FORM. This form was developed to assist VFW Post Safety Chairmen with an entry form to hand out to the local Fire Department, Police Department, etc. to assist interested individuals in nominating one of their own. The entry form along with the required documentation (nominees' background, resume of background in appropriate work, accomplishments in appropriate field, title and address) are to be returned to the local VFW Post for their judging. Once the winner in each category have been chosen, the Post will forward those entries on to the next level of judging.

Instructions and entry forms were in December General Orders.

19. REPORTING:

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you should visit the Department website (www.vfwva.org).

The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters.

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

20. RESOLUTIONS:

The 2022 National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual books are out, and I am pleased to report that at least one resolution originating in the Department of Virginia again made their way into the document. Specifically, Resolution VA-2021-01 – Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day (March 29) – has been added to the list of Commemorative dates. The Resolutions Committee continues to look at areas where the VFW might be able to focus Congress' and the Administration's attentions to issues benefiting veterans. Some of these areas are counseling (especially for veterans of Afghanistan), improving PTSD adjudications for military sexual trauma (MST), and expanding the availability and funding for breast cancer screening for veterans exposed to burn pits. As you identify other topics that merit concern, please bring them to the attention of the Committee – Michelle Swindle (mlswindle@cox.net), Ben Guinan (guinanbt@gmail.com), Ron Riffle (vfw4809ron@gmail.com), Charles Bush (inspector@vfwva.org), or myself (mcaiii@aol.com). We can help you draft a resolution into the proper format and get it cued up for presentation. Happy Holidays!

M. Conrad "Connie" Agresti
Resolutions Chairman

21. ROSTER CHANGES:

Post 4411 JVC
James Robert Mallory
22416 Medicine Springs Road
Courtland, VA 23837
660-888-9134
jimningridmallory@yahoo.com

Post 4522 JVC
Eric A. Horne
4545 Laurelwood Drive
Roanoke, VA 24018
540-798-9658
infantryeahorne@yahoo.com

Post 7814
Meeting & Mailing Address
815 N. Augusta Street
Staunton, VA 24401

Post 9830 SVC
Edgar V. Ball
37235 Chestnut Mtn Rd
Damascus, VA 24236
718-748-1715

Post 12202
Mailing Address
PO Box 433
King George, VA 22485

Meeting Location
5888 Coakley Drive
King George, VA 22485

22. VFW FOUNDATION (NATIONAL):

#StillServing Grants Available!

The VFW Foundation still has plenty of grant funding to award to Posts and Auxiliaries through our #StillServing and UTCH grant programs. Our new slate of programs includes two new grants, the #StillServing Community Volunteerism Grant and the #StillServing Corporate Partnership Grant, in addition to the long-standing #StillServing Community Support Grant.

Posts and Auxiliaries may receive all three grants during the fiscal year for a total of \$3,500! #StillServing Grants will remain open until July 31, or until all funding has been exhausted which typically happens in mid to late spring each year. The #StillServing grant applications were in December General Orders and information about each opportunity is available at vfw.org/Grants.

Uniting to Combat Hunger (UTCH) Grant Funding Available!

VFW Posts and Auxiliaries may receive up to \$5,000 in matching funds for cash donations made to local food banks. Posts and Auxiliaries can also donate food and will be awarded \$1 for every pound donated to a food bank. Each volunteer hour logged while serving at a food bank will earn an applicant \$1. A minimum combination of cash, hours and pounds of food donated totaling 500 is needed to receive a matching UTCH grant. The attached application is also available online; additional information can be found at www.vfw.org/UTCH.

Any questions regarding these grant programs can be directed to jcouch@vfw.org. Plenty of funding for all grants is still available, apply today!

23. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

Department judging results for Voice of Democracy have been completed. Winners and their ranking will be announced in the February General Orders after the winners have been recognized at the Winter Conference Awards Ceremony.

24. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

During the reporting period, I know of 20 Vietnam veterans who received their commemorative lapel pins. Since the beginning of the year, I (or members of my Post) have presented more than 70 Pins to grateful veterans and I am sure that many more in the Commonwealth have benefited from interaction with their local VFW Posts. In addition, four members of Post 9835 accepted an invitation to address three 10th grade history classes at W. C. Taylor MS in Warrenton regarding their experiences and service during the Vietnam War.

Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Butch Schupka
State Commander



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
AND
VFW AUXILIARY**

Winter Council of Administration Meeting
January 7 – 9, 2022
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
Portsmouth, Virginia
757-673-3000

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

7:00 PM 9:00 PM Virginia Veterans Foundation Board Meeting TBD

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2022

Noon	5:00 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Virginia Veterans Foundation Meeting	Madison
5:00 PM	7:00 PM	State CMDR and Aux. Presidents Homecoming	Portsmouth I-III
7:00 PM	11:00 PM	VFW Riders Dance	Portsmouth I-III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022

8:00 AM	8:45 AM	VFW Auxiliary Floor Practice	Portsmouth V
8:00 AM	2:30 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Commanders Club Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
8:30 AM	2:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting/ Program Fair	Portsmouth V
9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Service Officer Training	Amphitheater
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	VFW Council of Administration Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	VFW Riders Meeting	Madison
1:30 PM	3:00 PM	MOCA Meeting	Madison
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	Membership & Recruiting Workshop	Portsmouth VI-VIII
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	MOC Meeting	Lee Room
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	VOD & PP BANQUET	Holley Ballroom

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

9:00 AM 9:30 AM Joint Devotional Service Madison

TEACHER OF THE YEAR, VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, AND PATRIOT'S PEN BANQUET TICKETS: \$45.00
FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE VFW RIDERS Cost \$10.00

Department Hospitality Room – Commodore Room

(Tentative schedule subject to change)



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



**The VFW Department
of Virginia
Oral History Project
is about to begin!**

VFW Department of Virginia has contracted with Publishing Concepts (PCI), a trusted partner, to create this special member publication.

Up-to-date member information is essential for our organization to serve veterans, their families, and our communities in accordance with the traditions and proud history of VFW Department of Virginia. We are also collecting stories from our members to memorialize the history of their VFW experiences through the years.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to be included!



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.

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 363rd Chemical Company and was transferred to the 318th 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 623rd Transportation Company. I then served in various staff assignment in the 354th and 436th Transportation Battalions. I later served with the 1179th 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
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