

## **ATTENTION**

**All Email Accounts have been reset as of June 13th.**

**The new default password is: VFW2023!**

**Please note Officer Bonds and Employee Bonds  
expire August 31, 2023**

**REMEMBER:** All names on bank account(s) must be bonded



“No Veteran asks for a thank you”

**NUMBER 1**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

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

**July 1, 2023**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:**

State Commander	Gary Adams	<a href="mailto:gadams@vfwva.org">gadams@vfwva.org</a>	Post 1115
Senior Vice Commander	Mitch Rubenstein	<a href="mailto:mrubenstein@vfwva.org">mrubenstein@vfwva.org</a>	Post 2447
Junior Vice Commander	Doug Hoffman	<a href="mailto:dhoffman@vfwva.org">dhoffman@vfwva.org</a>	Post 3160
Adjutant/Quartermaster	Ed Mann	<a href="mailto:adj@vfwva.org">adj@vfwva.org</a>	Post 9808
Judge Advocate	Mark Maggio	<a href="mailto:mmaggio@vfwva.org">mmaggio@vfwva.org</a>	Post 4639
Surgeon	Charles Busch	<a href="mailto:cbush@vfwva.org">cbush@vfwva.org</a>	Post 3103
PDC	Geoffrey Lyster	<a href="mailto:glyster@vfwva.org">glyster@vfwva.org</a>	Post 9835
Chief of Staff	Tom Hines	<a href="mailto:chiefofstaff@vfwva.org">chiefofstaff@vfwva.org</a>	Post 12200
State Chaplain	James R. Goebell, III	<a href="mailto:chaplain@vfwva.org">chaplain@vfwva.org</a>	Post 8356
State Inspector	Randy Coker	<a href="mailto:rcoker@vfwva.org">rcoker@vfwva.org</a>	Post 1503
District 1 Commander	Victor Kowalewski	<a href="mailto:cdrdist1@vfwva.org">cdrdist1@vfwva.org</a>	Post 176
District 2 Commander	Mark Winn	<a href="mailto:cdrdist2@vfwva.org">cdrdist2@vfwva.org</a>	Post 392
District 3 Commander	Barney Campbell	<a href="mailto:cdrdist3@vfwva.org">cdrdist3@vfwva.org</a>	Post 10654
District 4 Commander	Tom Hines	<a href="mailto:cdrdist4@vfwva.org">cdrdist4@vfwva.org</a>	Post 12200
District 5 Commander	David Gilleran	<a href="mailto:cdrdist5@vfwva.org">cdrdist5@vfwva.org</a>	Post 4637
District 6 Commander	George Winters	<a href="mailto:cdrdist6@vfwva.org">cdrdist6@vfwva.org</a>	Post 12179
District 7 Commander	Richard Petro	<a href="mailto:cdrdist7@vfwva.org">cdrdist7@vfwva.org</a>	Post 2123
District 8 Commander	Todd A. Taylor	<a href="mailto:cdrdist8@vfwva.org">cdrdist8@vfwva.org</a>	Post 3103
District 9 Commander	Dan Boyer	<a href="mailto:cdrdist9@vfwva.org">cdrdist9@vfwva.org</a>	Post 7726
District 10 Commander	Ken Wiseman	<a href="mailto:cdrdist10@vfwva.org">cdrdist10@vfwva.org</a>	Post 1503
District 11 Commander	Alexander Thymmons	<a href="mailto:cdrdist11@vfwva.org">cdrdist11@vfwva.org</a>	Post 1499

District 12 Commander  
District 13 Commander

Elizabeth Witch  
Virgle Lane

[cdrdist12@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist12@vfwva.org)  
[cdrdist13@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist13@vfwva.org)

Post 1994  
Post 8947

At the 101<sup>st</sup> Annual State Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia, held in Portsmouth, Virginia, June 3, 2023, I, Gary Adams, being duly elected and installed as State Commander in Accordance with Article V, Section 517 of the National By-Laws, do hereby assume Command.

All previous appointments are hereby declared vacant as of June 3, 2023, except those set forth in the By-Laws.

**2. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2023-2024:**

COMMITTEES	POSITION	FIRST	Last Name	Post
Audit Committee	Chairman	Tom	Gimble	1503
Audit Committee	Member	James	Adams	7916
Audit Committee	Member	Ron	Laney	1503
Audit Committee	Member	John	Meehan	1503
Awards & Citations	Chairman	Steve	Byrne	9339
Awards & Citations	Member	Donald	Trausneck	1115
Buddy Poppies	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Advisor	Hal	Roesch	3219
Budget	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Member	Mitch	Rubenstein	2447
Budget	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Budget	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Budget	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
By Laws & SOP	Advisor	Ed	Mann	9808
By Laws & SOP	Chairman	Tom	Gimble	1503
By Laws & SOP	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
By Laws & SOP	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
By Laws & SOP	Member	Hal	Roesch	3219
By Laws & SOP	Member	David	Jarrett	12179
Centennial Committee	Chairman	Hal	Roesch	3219
Centennial Committee	Member	Geoffrey	Lyster	9835
Centennial Committee	Member	Ken	Wiseman	1503
Community Services	Chairman	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Credentials	Chairman	Jill	Lynch	3219
Credentials	Table	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Credentials	Table	Sandra	Terry	1115
Disaster Relief	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Disaster Relief	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Fund Raisers	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Fund Raisers	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Fund Raisers	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
Gaming Legislation	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Gaming Legislation	Member	Mitch	Rubenstein	2447
Gaming Legislation	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Gaming Legislation	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503

Gaming Legislation	Member	Hal	Roesch	3219
Gaming Legislation	Member	Chris	Birch	9760
Grave Registrar	Chairman	James	Goebel, III	8356
Honor Guard	Captain	George	Winters	12179
Honor Guard	Member	Howard	Minton	1115
Honor Guard	Member	Randy	Coker	1503
Honor Guard	Member	Doug	Osbourne	2239
Honor Guard	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
Honor Guard	Member	Richard	Zick	4639
Honor Guard	Member	Earl	Baskett	1115
Honor Guard	Member	Said	Lazo-Aguilar	2239
Honor Guard	Member	James	Pitts	8529
Honor Guard	Member	James	Collins	4639
Honor Guard	Member	Mark	Jarrell	4639
Honor Guard	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Honor Guard	Member	Jarl	Christensen	4639
Honor Guard	Member	Mitchell	Rubenstein	2447
Honor Guard	Member	Phillip	Arendsen	8529
Honor Guard	Member	Donnie	Duncan	2239
Hospital/Suicide Prevention	Chairman	Charles	Bush	3103
Hospital/Suicide Prevention	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
Hospitality	Chairman	James	Cooper	637
Hospitality	Member	Howard	Minton	1115
Hospitality	Member	Dennis	Kennedy	637
IT	Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
IT	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
IT (Zoom)	Member	Michael	Diaz	9760
Joint Leadership Council	Chairman	Richard	Raskin	7589
Joint Leadership Council	Vice Chairman	Joanne	Smith	9808
Legislative Committee	Chairman	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Legislative Committee	Member	Doc	Crouch	3150
Legislative Committee - National	Chairman	Jill	Lynch	3219
Legislative Committee – National	Member	Tom	Levitt	1503
Membership/Life Membership	Chairman	Tom	Hines	12200
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Geoffrey	Lyster	9835
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Alexander	Thymmons	1499
Membership/Life Membership	Member	George	Winters	12179
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Tom	Troy	5412
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Troy	Wagers	392
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Michael	Diaz	9760
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Ken	Wiseman	1503
National Home Representative	Chairman	Mark	Winn	392
National Home Representative	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Newspaper	Chairman	Randy	Coker	1503
Newspaper	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589

Outreach	Chairman	Ron	Link	7589
Parliamentarian	Chairman	Rick	Raskin	7589
Patriots Pen	Chairman	Lou	Filippone	7589
Personnel	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Personnel	Member	Hal	Roesch	3219
Personnel	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503
POW/MIA Committee	Chairman	Michael	Chism	2582
POW/MIA Committee	Member	Pete	Fairchild	3219
Resolutions Committee	Chairman	M. Conrad	Agresti	3150
Resolutions Committee	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Resolutions Committee	Member	Butch	Schupska	3160
Scouting	Chairman	Bob	Fenlason	7916
Service Officer		Laurie	Clay	8545
Service Officer	Asst.	John	Birdwell	4809
Service Officer	Asst.	Raymond	Bailey	1503
Social Media	Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
Social Media	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
SOI Program	Chairman	Rick	Raskin	7589
SOI Program	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
SOI Program	Member	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
SOI Program	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Southern Conference	Chairman	Hal	Roesch	3219
Southern Conference	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Teacher's Recognition	Chairman	Chris	Birch	9760
Teacher's Recognition	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Time & Place Committee	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Time & Place Committee	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Time & Place Committee	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Veterans and Military Support Committee	Chairman	Ron	Link	7589
VFW Riders	Chairman	Rob	Pedersen	3160
Voice of Democracy Committee	Chairman	Geoffrey	Lyster	9835
Voice of Democracy Committee	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Women Veterans Committee	Chairman	Joanne	Smith	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Doris	Wollett	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Laurie	Clay	8545

### 3. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

We had a great Convention last weekend, and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Saturday night was amazing. There were lots of Cowboys, and Cowgirls in the place that night. The BBQ was great, and the dancing was hot. Thanks to ours dance contest winners: Romeo Marlowe, Cara Buckley, Randy, and Karla Coker. Romeo had plenty of partners. I wish to thank Hal Roesch for all his hard work, and Ed Mann as well. None of the night would have been even half of the success it was without ours sponsors. I want to thank Powerhouse Gaming, Grover Gaming, Arrow Gaming, Humana, Advocate Health, and Performance Foods. The night was a total success. Many thanks to Commander Lyster for everything he did for the Centennial Celebration and has done for the Department. He has brought Virginia to over 103% so far, and I expect we will break 104% by close of June. At the time of this reporting, we only need 63 to do so. Congratulations on a very successful year Commander.

For the 2023-2024 year We have a goal of 102% from National. Therefore, we have a goal of 102% statewide as well. I expect that we will need somewhere around 33,500 members in Virginia to make All-American for the 9<sup>th</sup> time in a row. To do that it is going to take all of us. Commander Lyster has left big shoes to fill but we can do it. We have Tommy Hines in Membership with his team working hard to make us All-American again. With that kind of experience, we can't go wrong. Thanks to the entire membership team for 2022-2023 and for 2023-2024.

I have set our All-State Goals as close to the All-American Goals as I could so that you could be successful. I have tried not to make a lot of extra expectations of you in addition to Nationals goals. I do ask that each Post recruit Five new or reinstated members, with a minimum of One of them being a new member. I have added that Posts with less than 50 members can be All-State. Community reporting will be required every quarter because National has required every quarter. We want you to be successful. Report in all categories by end of Sept, end of Dec, end of Mar, and end of Jun. This strengthens the VFW. We know you're doing the work. We only ask that you report it.

Next, I ask that all Post and District Cdr's, Adj's, and QM's send me an email and keep in touch with us this year through our email system. It is a very costly system if we had to pay for it but luckily, we have a grant provided we use it. It doesn't need to be anything long just let me know that you have access to it and check it often. You can always reach me at [gadams@vfwva.org](mailto:gadams@vfwva.org). But if you need to call me my cell phone is (276) 733-9633. I serve You, the membership.

To those of you going to National Convention I am providing a list of suggestions to wear.

- Saturday Purple (if you have it)
- Sunday Purple (if you have it) You don't have to wear the same shirt for two days.
- Monday, please wear your Red Centennial Shirts to honor Commander Lyster.
- Tuesday Orange Shirts (They were a big hit when we did that.)
- Tuesday night Red, White, and Blue for the patriotic parade.
- If you are All-American, they ask you to wear a jacket and tie to cross the stage.

Also, the Hospitality Room has had to be scaled back not any doing of ours, I assure you. It will open Friday afternoon. If you will send me an email and let me know you want texts then send me your Name, and cell phone number, we will let you know when we open, close, menus, and information about Virginias Hospitality room at National. I look forward to working with all of you this year and I plan to help you make this an All-American Department for the ninth year 2023-24.

Yours in Comradeship  
Gary Adams  
State Commander

#### 4. 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.

#### 5. ALL STATE:

Congratulations to the following Districts and Posts who made All-State since the last list in the General Orders.

District 7, Department of Virginia

VFW Post 8252, District 1, Gloucester, VA  
VFW Post 10840, District 5, Penhook, VA

VFW Post 4491, District 6, New Castle, VA  
VFW Post 8644, District 11, Bridgewater, VA

## 6. AUDITS:

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

## 7. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 8/26/23 SOI: 9:00 AM Joint Meeting: To follow SOI Lunch: To follow Joint Meeting Meeting: To follow Lunch Location: Post 176 Newport News 21 Forest Drive Rep: State Judge Advocate Mark Maggio	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/27/23 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: To follow SOI Meeting: To follow Lunch Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: State SVC Mitch Rubenstein
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 8/12/23 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: 10:15 AM Location: Post 392 Virginia Beach 2408 Bowland Parkway Rep: State Commander Gary Adams	8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/5/23 Meeting: 9:00 AM Location: Post 3103 Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne St Rep: State JVC Doug Hoffman
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 8/12/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: State SVC Mitch Rubenstein	9 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 9/9/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7726 Independence 115 Klondike Road Rep: Charles Bush
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 7/29/23 SOI: 10:00 AM Lunch: After SOI Meeting: After Lunch Location: Post 9954 Victoria 1000 Marshal Avenue Rep: State Inspector Randy Coker	10 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/20/23 SOI: 10:30 AM Lunch: NOON Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road Rep: State JVC Doug Hoffman
5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/19/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep: PSC Geoffrey Lyster	11 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/26/23 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: Location: Post 632 Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Rep: State Judge Advocate Mark Maggio
6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/5/23 Meeting: Noon Location: Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Avenue NW Rep: State Commander Gary Adams	12 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 7/1/23 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep: Charles Bush
		13 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 8/26/23 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 8947 Louisa 201 Mineral Avenue Rep: PSC Geoffrey Lyster

**8. DELINQUENT:**

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Election Reports
1	824		March	
1	2296	6.00		
1	12201	3.00	March	Yes
3	8529		March	
4	7819	6.00		
4	8446	6.00		
5	873			Yes
5	8467			Yes
6	776	9.00		
6	5311	9.00		
6	5895	6.00		
6	9877	Short 3.00		
7	1860	21.00	March	
7	6044	3.00		Yes
7	8613	9.00		
11	3060	6.00		
11	4204	3.00		
11	9339	6.00		
12	4301	6.00	March	
12	5715	12.00	March	
12	6975	21.00		
12	7360	6.00		
12	8652	9.00	March	Yes
12	8979	6.00		
12	9600	9.00	SeptDecMarch	
12	9830	6.00		
12	9864	6.00		
13	1827	27.00		
13	2613	3.00		
13	10574	15.00		

**9. 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.

**10. 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.



## 11. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 13<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 **VFW2023!** 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**

[svdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:svdist1@vfwva.org)  
[adjdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:adjdist1@vfwva.org)  
[qmdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:qmdist1@vfwva.org)

## 12. 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.

## 13. IMPORTANT DATES:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| July 22 - 27, 2023    | National Convention, Phoenix, Arizona   |
| November 2 - 5, 2023  | Southern Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma  |
| January 12 - 14, 2023 | Winter Council Meeting, Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA: phone 757-220-2250. Room Rates are \$89.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars – Winter Council Meeting Group"; Cut-off Date December 11, 2023. |
| July 27 - Aug 1, 2024 | National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky   |
| August 9 - 14, 2025   | National Convention, Columbus, Ohio   |

## 14. 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.

**15. 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.

**16. 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?*

**17. MEMBERSHIP:**

Commanders and Comrades,

It's great to be with you again and start a new Membership Year with State Commander Gary Adams. We have established a tradition here in Virginia of slow steady growth. I congratulate you on doing that for eight years in a row. While it continues to be a challenge each year you have stepped up to the plate and delivered a home run. We had some heavy hitters last year many recruiters had over 25 members recruited. For the first time in my memory, we had one, Geoffery Lyster, signing over 200 new or reinstated members. Also, there were three other century recruiters, Ken Wiseman, over 150 and Troy Wagers and yours truly over 100. By these results you can see that there are veterans out there that we haven't signed up yet.

This year please try to focus on retention. If a member doesn't renew their membership, there's usually a reason that they don't. Try to find out what that reason is and if possible, correct it. We have a great Department and I think we can become even stronger by bringing some of our unpaid veterans back in. In closing I encourage you to work hard and help Gary continue the tradition of excellence that you have established.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team Chairman

**18. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING REGISTRATION:**

124th National Convention housing opened February 17, 2023. A tentative agenda is enclosed.

To make a reservation, go online to [vfw.org/Convention](http://vfw.org/Convention) or call 833.262.6900 (1+725.263.1068 internationally).

Attention is directed to the provision of Section 222 (d) of the National Bylaws, “Each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee.” Post Quartermasters are encouraged to register their delegate on-line through the Online Membership System (OMS). Posts failing to comply with this provision will be considered delinquent and in arrears.

**19. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters and the Dale City, Norfolk and Smithfield Service Office will be closed July 3- 4, 2023, in observance of Independence Day. State Adjutant/Quartermaster Mann will be available by phone and email.

Please note the Hopewell Service Office will be permanently closed effective July 1, 2023.

**20. 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 book stores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

**21. PATRIOT’S DAY:**

Per Presidential Proclamation, Sept. 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).

**22. 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.

**23. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:**

Post, District, Department Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters are reminded of the requirements of Sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedure with regard to proof of eligibility for all newly-elected and appointed officers. Elected and appointed officers **shall not be installed** or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Failure or refusal to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant.

**24. 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.

**25. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:**

The 2023-2024 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento. The Voice of Democracy theme will be “What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?” and the Patriot’s Pen theme will be “How Are You Inspired by America?”.

## 26. RECRUITING SOI:

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

Saturday August 5th at Post 4809 Norfolk. 10:00 AM  
Saturday August 5th at Post 3103 Fredericksburg TBD  
Saturday August 19th at Post 4667 Marion 10:00 AM  
Saturday August 26th at Post 8163 in Clarksville 9:00 AM  
Saturday September 9 at Post 9292 Elkton 10:00 AM

We look forward to seeing everyone at training.

## 27. SURGEON:

Hello, Comrades of Virginia; we hope you are doing well.

Happy New VFW Year, we hope all your goals were achieved last year; please take some time to reflect on your success and challenges, and let's keep moving forward.

As your newly elected State Surgeon, let's start the new year with the duties of the Surgeon in the effort to support the Commander and their Post.

Duty of Surgeon. The Post Surgeon shall be the chairman of the Health Committee and, with the assistance of such others as may be appointed by the Commander, they shall promote and put into effect health programs for the benefit of their Post and the community. The Department and District Surgeon will assist Post Surgeons.

This year we want to bring awareness to your medical numbers and medical awareness throughout the year. This information can be useful for yourself, your comrade, your family, and the people you love. Each month we will bring answers to:

- Do you know your numbers?
- Medical Awareness
- Medical Resources for more information

To start the year for this month, we will identify Suicide and Crisis Awareness, which should be done every day and 24 hours a day. Around the Commonwealth of Virginia, within our VFW programs like the ID tag initiatives, and even during a few commercials on TV, there is information and help for veterans. Remember, **you are not alone**. Please dial 988 for assistance.

- The number for help is **988**
- The Flyer attached provides information and resources.
- <https://bit.ly/988forHope>

Yours in Comradeship and Peace,  
Charles H. Bush Jr.  
State Surgeon

## 28. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

This month's Vietnam War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient is Master Sergeant Richard A. Pittman, United States Marine Corps.

Dix was born May 26, 1945, near Stockton, CA. Following his high school graduation, Pittman attempted to enlist in the Navy and Army but was turned down due to being legally blind in one eye. He ultimately enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in November 1965. After recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California in December 1965, he went on to individual combat training with the 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Training Regiment, Camp Pendleton, California, graduating in February 1966. Upon graduation, he was promoted to private first class. Transferred to the Far East in the Republic of Vietnam, he joined Company I, Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division and served as a rifleman with this unit until May 1966. He then became a rifleman and squad leader with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, serving in this capacity until February 1967. He was promoted to Lance Corporal on July 1, 1966, and received a meritorious promotion to Corporal on November 12, 1966. It was during this assignment that the action for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor took place. His citation reads as follows:

*For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a member of First Platoon, Company I, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines during combat operations near the Demilitarized Zone, Republic of Vietnam. On July 24, 1966, while Company I was conducting an operation along the axis of a narrow jungle trail, the leading company elements suffered numerous casualties when they suddenly came under heavy fire from a well concealed and numerically superior enemy force. Hearing the engaged Marines' calls for more firepower, Sergeant (then Lance Corporal) Pittman quickly exchanged his rifle for a machine gun and several belts of ammunition, left the relative safety of his platoon, and unhesitatingly rushed forward to aid his comrades. Taken under intense enemy small-arms fire at point blank range during his advance, he returned the fire, silencing the enemy positions. As Sergeant Pittman continued to forge forward to aid members of the leading platoon, he again came under heavy fire from two automatic weapons which he promptly destroyed. Learning that there were additional wounded Marines fifty yards further along the trail, he braved a withering hail of enemy mortar and small-arms fire to continue onward. As he reached the position where the leading Marines had fallen, he was suddenly confronted with a bold frontal attack by 30 to 40 enemy. Totally disregarding his own safety, he calmly established a position in the middle of the trail and raked the advancing enemy with devastating machine-gun fire. His weapon rendered ineffective, he picked up a submachine gun and, together with a pistol seized from a fallen comrade, continued his lethal fire until the enemy force had withdrawn. Having exhausted his ammunition except for a grenade which he hurled at the enemy, he then rejoined his own platoon. Sergeant Pittman's daring initiative, bold fighting spirit and selfless devotion to duty inflicted many enemy casualties, disrupted the enemy attack and saved the lives of many of his wounded comrades. His personal valor at grave risk to himself reflects the highest credit upon himself, the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.*

Corporal Pittman next saw duty as section leader and motor vehicle operator with Transport Company, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, 1st Marine Division (redesignated Transport Company, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, Force Logistics Command). While serving in Vietnam, he participated in numerous combat operations including Operation Deckhouse I and Joint Operation Nathan Hale with Army, Navy, and Air Force, at Song Cau District; Operation Deckhouse II and Operation Hastings in Quang Tri Province; Operation Colorado and Operation Napa at Tam-Ky Province; Operation Desoto near Quang Ngai; and in action against enemy forces at Da Nang.

Upon his return to the United States, he served his last tour of duty as a postal clerk with Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 5th Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California. While stationed at Camp Pendleton, he was promoted to Sergeant on December 1, 1967. He was discharged from active duty on April 5, 1968, and received the Medal of Honor from President Lyndon B. Johnson on May 14, 1968.

In 1970, he re-enlisted in the Marine Corps and was promoted to a final rank of Master Sergeant during his 21-year career. He retired on October 27, 1988.

After his retirement, he resided in Stockton, California until his death on October 13, 2016, at the age of 71. He is interred in Cherokee Memorial Park in Lodi, CA.

AmVets Post 1947 in Stockton is named for Pittman, as is Pittman Charter School of the Stockton Unified School District. The latter had a small memorial in its lobby as of 2018. In December, 2022, a new Veterans Affairs clinic in French Camp was designated the Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic.

This is the final report that will feature an individual awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War. Beginning with next month's (August) report, I will provide a timeline of monthly significant events impacting the

Vietnam War from its earliest days thru the end of the War. Readers are reminded that I still maintain a supply of the Commemorative Pins and should anyone need some, reach me at the email address below.

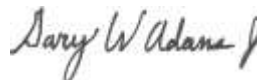
Jeff Dombroff  
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Gary W Adams, Jr.  
State Commander

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

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

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

August 26, 2023, Post 8163, Clarksville

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

September 16, 2023, Post 1264, Roanoke

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

September 23, 2023, Post 4667, Marion

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





Limited Edition

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia

Centennial Anniversary KA-BAR Knife

Celebrating 100 years  
Only 100 made  
\$100 each



To get yours contact State Headquarters.

(540) 886-8112

Shipping Charges may apply.



**FOR SALE!**

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

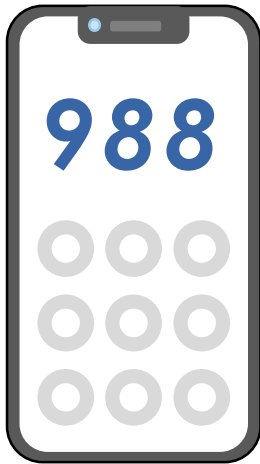
interested in buying or questions contact our Department Treasurer Cathy Graham

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



# New!

# 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE



## Call or Text 988 for Free, Confidential, 24/7 Mental Health Support

On July 16, 2022, the U.S. is transitioning to using the 988-dialing code to operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255).

## Facts About 988



**Accessible.** It serves as a universal entry point so that no matter where you live, you can reach a trained crisis counselor who can help people in suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the U.S.



**Comprehensive.** 988 is a direct connection to compassionate care and support for anyone experiencing mental health-related distress – whether that is thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress.



**For Everyone.** People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one or someone who may need crisis support.

To learn more about 988, visit:  
[bit.ly/988forHope](https://bit.ly/988forHope)



## **TENTATIVE AGENDA**

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

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.  
Times for various functions are subject to change.  
Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Committee Meetings:

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

### Monday, July 24, 2023

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

### Tuesday, July 25, 2023

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

**Wednesday, July 26, 2023**

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

**Thursday, July 27, 2023**

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

*Updated: 2/1/23*





## 2022-2023 ALL STATE TEAM

1. The Post must meet their 102% Membership Quota by June 30, 2024, and recruit Five (5) New and or Reinstated members.
2. All people with access to the assets must be bonded.
3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than 4pm on December 15, 2023, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by Friday, May 10, 2024, to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept email and send 1 email to [gadams@vfwva.org](mailto:gadams@vfwva.org) no later than Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 2023.
5. At least one of the following must attend each District meeting. Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant.
6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction.
7. The Post must send a Post Member to the State Recruiting School (preferably a member from the post recruiting team).
8. All Audit Reports must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late report out of the four required.
9. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or fraction thereof.
10. The Post must donate to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF) Posts with:
  - 99 members or less - \$50.00
  - 100 to 399 members - \$75.00
  - 400 or more members - \$100.00
11. All posts must submit the following reports at least **once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2023, Dec 31, 2023, Mar 31, 2024, and June 30, 2024.
  - Hospital Report
  - Americanism Report
  - Community Activities Report
  - Safety Report
  - Youth Activities Report
12. The Post must participate in at least 2 of the 3 following programs:
  - Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging). Entries must be turned into the Post by Tuesday October 31, 2023. Post must submit to the district no later than Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

- Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging). Entries must be turned into the Post by Tuesday October 31, 2023. Post must submit to the district no later than Wednesday, November 15, 2023.
- Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)

13. The Post must **102% on Memstats by June 30th.**

14. **You must recruit at least 1 new member.**

Note 1: Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all three programs.

Note 2: Five (5) additional points for each of the submission of an entry for EMT, Fireman, Law Enforcement, 911 Dispatcher, and/or Scout of the Year.

Note 3: Posts will receive additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each member above 102%.

Note 4: Posts with less than 50 members are now eligible for the All-State Team.



2023 - 2024

### ALL STATE DISTRICT CHECKLIST

For a District Commander to qualify, the Commander must meet the following All State District Commanders criteria:

1. The District must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2024
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than December 15, 2023, with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 10, 2024 to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to money must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander, Sr Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept email and send 1 email to [gadams@vfwva.org](mailto:gadams@vfwva.org) no later than Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
5. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
6. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least **once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2023, Dec 31, 2023, Mar 31, 2024, and June 30, 2024
  - a. Hospital Report
  - b. Americanism Report
  - c. Community Activities Report
  - d. Safety Report
  - e. Youth Activities Report
7. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of Sunday, October 1, 2023. Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.
8. The District must donate \$100.00 to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

All-State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by Friday, May 10, 2024 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State District Commander's cap, an All-State pin and an All-State Citation during the State Convention. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria, except for membership, by Friday, May 10, 2024, and then meet the membership criteria by Sunday, June 30, 2024, will receive an All-State pin and Citation at their next District meeting but will not receive an All-State cap.

All-State District Commanders will receive a VFW jacket if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by May 10, 2024.



## **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA 2023-2024 ALL-STATE PROGRAM**

(JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024)

This Membership – Awards Program has been designed with incentives to work on membership, VFW programs, meeting attendance and submission of reports. Post and District membership 102% quotas will be based on the Friday, June 30, 2023, membership as adjusted by National Headquarters. Except where noted, the quota will NOT be reduced because of members who die or transfer to another Post. A new Post will be assigned a membership quota of 30 members.

### **Department of Virginia’s membership goal percentages and goal dates 2023-2024**

- Friday, September 29, 2023, Department membership 75%
- Friday, December 29, 2023, Department membership 90%
- Friday, March 29, 2024, Department membership 95%
- Friday, May 10, 2024, Department membership 100%
- Sunday, June 30, 2024, Department membership 102%

### **MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES**

Membership plaques will be presented at the State Convention to the Post with the largest numeric membership increase in each category. The judging will be based on Membership as of Friday, May 10, 2024.

- **Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75**
- **Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150**
- **Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250**
- **Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500**
- **Category E – Posts with Membership of 501 or more**

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD**

A Life Membership increase award and \$200.00 will be awarded at the State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in Life members (must be at least 3 new Life members) in each category. The judging will be based on Life Membership as of Friday, May 10, 2024.

- Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75
- Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150
- Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250
- Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- Category E – Posts with Membership of 501 or more



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWINGS

There will be four (4) Life Membership drawings. One (1) Post will be selected for each drawing. Posts must meet their membership quota by the day prior to drawing to be eligible. Posts with 10 thru 75 members will have one (1) chance, Posts with 76 thru 150 members will have two (2) chances, Posts with 151 thru 250 will have (3) chances, Posts with 251 through 500 members will have four (4) chances, and Post with 501 or more members will have five (5) chances.

- The first drawing will be held on Friday, September 29, 2023, and the Post must have 75% of its 2024 membership quota to participate.
- The second drawing will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, and the Post must have 85% of its 2024 membership quota to participate
- The third drawing will be held on Thursday, February 29, 2024, and the Post must have 95% of its 2024 membership quota to participate.
- The fourth drawing will be held on Friday, March 29, 2024, and the Post must have 100% of its 2024 membership quota to participate.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AWARD

A Membership Renewal Award will be awarded to each Post that renews ALL viable Annual Members on its unpaid list who were Annual Members the previous year by membership goal by Friday, May 10, 2024. Deceased members and conversions to Life Membership will not count against total.

## POST 100% MEMBERSHIP AWARD

In addition, the respective Post Commander and Quartermaster will receive 100% Membership Pins and Tumblers if the Post meets its 2023-2024 102% membership goal by Friday, May 10, 2024. These awards will be presented at the Posts' respective District meetings.

## 2023-2024 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

There is no limit on the number of Posts that can be All-State.

### All State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 102% Membership Quota by June 30, 2024, and recruit Five (5) New and or Reinstated members. **You must recruit at least 1 new member.**
2. All people with access to the assets must be bonded.
3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than 4pm on December 15, 2023, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by Friday, May 10, 2024, to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept email and send 1 email to [gadams@vfwva.org](mailto:gadams@vfwva.org) no later than Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 2023.



5. At least one of the following must attend each District meeting. Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant.
6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction.
7. The Post must send a Post Member to the State Recruiting School (preferably a member from the post recruiting team).
8. All Audit Reports must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late report out of the four required.
9. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or fraction thereof.
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Note 2: Five (5) additional points for each of the submission of an entry for EMT, Fireman, Law Enforcement, 911 Dispatcher, and/or Scout of the Year.



Note 3: Posts will receive additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each member above 102%.

Note 4: Posts with less than 50 members are now eligible for the All-State Team.

### **POST ALL STATE TEAM AWARDS**

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all the criteria, including membership, by Friday, May 10, 2024 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300.00, to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Commanders who achieve the All-State award by Friday, May 10, 2024, and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria except for membership by Friday, May 10, 2024, and then meet the membership criteria by Sunday, June 30, 2024, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.
2. All-State Post Quartermasters who have met all the criteria, including 102% membership, by Friday, May 10, 2024 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300.00, to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Quartermasters who achieve the All-State award by Friday, May 10, 2024, and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander.
3. All-State Quartermasters meeting the criteria except for membership by Friday, May 10, 2024, and then meeting the membership criteria by Sunday, June 30, 2024, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.
4. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest points in the All-State judging on Friday, May 10, 2024, will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the Year 2023-2024. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be the Captains of the All-State Team.
5. The Awards and Citation Committee will break all ties and their decision will be considered the recommendation to the State Commander.
6. The State Commander shall make the final decision for all recommendations of awards and the decision shall be final.



## 2023-2024 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

**\*\*There is no limit on the number of Districts that can be All-State\*\***

### **All State District Requirements:**

1. The District must meet their 100% Membership Quota by Sunday, June 30, 2024.
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than Friday, December 15, 2023, with all documented discrepancies corrected by Friday, May 10, 2024, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to money must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander, Sr Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept email and send 1 email to [gadams@vfwva.org](mailto:gadams@vfwva.org) no later than Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
5. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
6. All posts in the district must have submitted the following reports at least **once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2023, Dec 31, 2023, Mar 31, 2024, and June 30, 2024
  - Hospital Report
  - Americanism Report
  - Community Activities Report
  - Safety Report
  - Youth Activities Report
7. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of Sunday, October 1, 2023. Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.
8. The District must donate \$100.00 to the Department's Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

### **All-State District Awards**

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by Friday, May 10, 2024 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State District Commander's cap, an All-State pin and an All-State Citation during the State Convention. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria, except for membership, by Friday, May 10, 2024, and then meet the membership criteria by Sunday, June 30, 2024, will receive an All-State pin and Citation at their next District meeting but will not receive an All-State cap.
2. All-State District Commanders will receive a VFW jacket if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by Friday, May 10, 2024.



## **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

1. All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Reports dated Friday, May 10, 2024. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Annual members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will receive:
2. Their Annual Dues (National and Department portions) paid by the Department for the current year.
3. Their name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership.
4. For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the Life Membership Drawing.
5. The drawing for the Life Membership listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.
6. Life Members recruiting 5 New or Reinstated Members will receive:
  - a. Name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for one level of Legacy Life membership equal to \$400.00 or \$200.00 cash if already a gold member.
7. For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing.
8. The drawing for the Legacy Life Membership award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging Friday, May 10, 2024.
9. Members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will be entered in a drawing for round trip airfare to the 125th National Convention, and an expense check in the amount of for \$599.00 to help defray expenses. Additionally, the winner will receive either the cost of round-trip airfare for one person or the actual cost of gas, not to exceed the cost of round-trip airfare for one person.
10. For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing. The drawing for this award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging Friday, May 10, 2024

## **POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

Post Commanders who have their Post 100% in membership by Sunday December 31, 2023, will receive a Department Commanders 100 Club Shirt. Winners will be announced at the Winter Council, Shirts will be presented at a District Meeting.

## **INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS**

Individual recruiters will also receive for:

1. 20 New or Reinstated Members – a Pen and Key Chain Set
2. 35 New or Reinstated Members – Pen and Key Chain & Commander's Challenge Coin
3. 50 New or Reinstated Members – a Department Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap & citation
4. 75 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's "Top State Recruiter" shirt





Pens, Keychains, and coins will be presented at the next district meeting after the convention. Note: Recruiters who have previously received an Aide-de-Camp cap will only receive a citation.

### **THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

First Place: The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who recruits the most - new and/or reinstated members of the 2023-2024 Membership Year. They will receive the following:

- A check in the amount of \$300.00.
- A Department citation.
- A distinctive cap and name badge
- A large trophy

There will be 2nd and 3rd place winners awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new and/or reinstated member competition of the 2023-2024 Membership Year will receive the following:

- A Department citation.
- A large trophy

**These awards will be presented at the State Convention.**

### **THE GEORGE E. McCracken HONOR GUARD/COLOR GUARD AWARD**

The George E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award is presented to the most outstanding Post Honor Guard/Color Guard. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is by the day prior to awards judging Friday, May 10, 2024. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Firefighter of the Year Award is presented to the most outstanding firefighter. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is Thursday January 11, 2024. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in fire/emergency safety work, accomplishments in fire/emergency safety field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is presented to the most outstanding law enforcement officer. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to



State Headquarters is Thursday January 11, 2024. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in law enforcement work, accomplishment in the field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **911 DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The 911 Dispatcher of the Year is presented to the most outstanding dispatcher. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is Thursday January 11, 2024. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in emergency services, accomplishment in the field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Emergency Medical technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Emergency Medical Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is Thursday January 11, 2024. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in paramedic work, accomplishment in the field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

The Teacher of the Year awards are presented to the most outstanding Teachers. The selectees will receive a apple award, citation, and a monetary award. There are three winners – Kindergarten through 5th grade, 6th through 8th grade, and 9th through 12th grade. These awards will be presented at the Winter Council or State Convention.

### **THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD**

The W. I. Woodall Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to his Post and the Department. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for Quartermaster of the year. Submission must be received the day prior to the awards judging Friday, May 10, 2024. The recipient is to be selected by a committee headed by the State Quartermaster. The award will consist of a custom lettered citation, plus a check in the amount of \$200.00 from the Department. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **CLARENCE E. KELLEY MEMORIAL VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AWARD**



The Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place VOD winner and is presented at the State Convention. In addition, each Post participating in the VOD program will receive a citation.

### **LARRY MATTERA MEMORIAL PATRIOT'S PEN AWARD**

The Larry Mattera Memorial Patriot's Pen (PP) Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place Patriot's Pen winner and will be presented at the State Convention. In addition, each Post participating in the PP program will receive a citation.

Note: The State VOD and Patriots Pen winners will receive a plaque and monetary award for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place to be presented at the Winter Council of Administration Banquet. The first three place winners are expected to attend the Banquet where the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners will be announced, and the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will read their essay.

### **SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Scout of the Year Award is presented to the State Scout of the Year winner. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be presented at the State Convention. In addition, each Post participating in the Scout Program will receive a citation.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK**

The Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024, for State judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the State Convention. Special Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth places. Electronic submissions will be accepted this year. Electronic entries must be submitted on a thumb drive. It is not a requirement to be All-State.

## All-American Post Checklist

### All-American Post Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through AllAmerican Dashboard
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:
  - o Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - o Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - o Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$100.
  - o National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to Department judging
  - o A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June.
  - o Buddy Poppy- Purchase Three per member in the Post

### All-American Post Award

All Posts that meet the Qualifying Percentage and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American Post Citation, Post Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top **25** Posts in each Division will receive:

- Acknowledgment in VFW Magazine
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention
- All-American Post citation
- All-American Post streamer
- All-American citation - commander
- All-American name badge – commander
- All-American cap (commander only, quartermaster and Post members may purchase “Post Member” cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)
- All-American Team Post Member lapel pin (25 pack)
- The top five commanders in each division will also receive:
  - ⇒ ▪ A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.
  - ⇒ ▪ Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

## Post Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
<b>1</b>	951+		Over 102%
<b>2</b>	750	950	Over 102%
<b>3</b>	356	749	Over 102%
<b>4</b>	246	355	Over 102%
<b>5</b>	185	245	Over 102%
<b>6</b>	143	184	Over 102%
<b>7</b>	112	142	Over 102%
<b>8</b>	88	111	Over 102%
<b>9</b>	68	87	Over 102%
<b>10</b>	51	67	Over 102%
<b>11</b>	10	50	Over 102%

### IMPORTANT NOTES

In order to receive stipends, awardees must be in attendance at designated events

Only one National paid stipend per event (National Convention, Legislative Conference, etc.)

#### **Early Bird Award – VFW Legislative Conference:**

The top three Post commanders and quartermasters in each division on Jan. 1, 2024, will receive:

- A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW Legislative Conference, Washington D.C

#### **Post Commander and Quartermaster – New & Reinstated Member Award**

The top 10 Post commanders and quartermasters in each division who report more than 50 new and/or reinstated members by Jan. 1, 2024, will each be awarded:

- A travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo.

#### **Meeting the Challenge Award**

The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 102% membership by April 1, 2024, will each be awarded:

- Five-night hotel accommodation at the National Convention.

#### **102% Post, District & Department**

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 102% or greater in membership before July 1, 2024.

#### **102% Commander Drawing**

Each Post and District commander that exceeds 102% in membership by June 1, 2024, will receive an entry in this drawing. Twenty Post commanders and Twelve District commanders will receive:

- A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.

### **Post Commander and Quartermaster Division Challenge**

For every 10 new/reinstated members recruited between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024, Posts will earn one entry for both Post commander and quartermaster entered into a drawing. One Post per division will receive:

- A \$1,000 stipend each for commander and quartermaster to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.

### **Legacy Life Membership Acquisition**

Each Post that achieves the designated benchmarks of 25, 50 and 75 Legacy Life Members will be awarded:

- A Legacy Society Post Proclamation. Each Post that achieves the distinctive benchmark of 100 Legacy Life members by July 1, 2024, commander or Post representative will receive: 7
- A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention. • Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.
- Legacy Society Post Proclamation.

### **Top Department Recruiter**

The top Recruiter in every Department on July 1, 2024, will receive:

- Engraved Navy Cutlass Note: Minimum of 25 new/reinstated members required to win this award.

### **Elite Recruiter**

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new and/or reinstated members by July 1, 2024, will receive:

- A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.
- Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.

### **Recruiter of the Year**

The VFW member who signs up the greatest number of new and/or reinstated members greater than 250 by July 1, 2024, will receive:

- A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.
- Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.
- Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.
- Commander-in-Chief's Crystal Eagle.

### **New Post Development and Post Revitalization Department Award**

- For each new Post chartered, and/or revitalized, the Department Quartermaster will receive:
- A \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post.

## All-American District Checklist

### All-American District Leadership Criteria

Membership greater than 102%

Conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit report through the dashboard.

District-Election Report must be submitted to National

Meet all the following Program Participation criteria:

Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging

Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging

National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to  
Department judging

### All-American District Award

All Districts that meet the Qualifying Percentage and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American District Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top **15** Districts in each Division will receive:

- All-American District streamer
- All-American District citation - Commander
- All-American name badge - Commander
- All-American cap - Commander - *\*Quartermaster may purchase cap*
- All-American lapel pin - Commander - *\*Quartermaster may purchase pin*
- The top **two** District Commanders in each division will also receive:
  - **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
  - **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**

### District Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
1	5,000	14,000	Over 102%
2	3,282	4,999	Over 102%
3	2,172	3,281	Over 102%
4	1,447	2,171	Over 102%
5	906	1,446	Over 102%
6	1	905	Over 102%

## IMPORTANT NOTES

- Awards are transferable inside the Post, Districts or Department.
- **Post/District/Department:** Membership must be at least 102 percent.
- **Post member cap,** any member in a Post that achieves All-American status can purchase a “Post Member” cap. Those members must be in the Post during the membership year.
- The *Department Commander’s “Official Visit or Round Up”* is for Department commanders to visit Posts in their Department to get face-to-face time with their Post and District leadership and assist with membership and Programs.
- Donations made to replace Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen (By eligible overseas Post). **Do not donate through your Department or by any other means.** Use the dashboard for your donation.
- Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the following link: Use the dashboard for online donation.

\*\*For the Conference Membership Award traveling trophy, the Conference Chairman will be responsible for the return of the trophy to the Membership Department booth at the National Convention each year.



# VFW National Membership Program

MEET THE CHALLENGE



2023-2024

**Duane T. Sarmiento**  
**Commander-in-Chief**

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## **Membership Mission**

To recruit, retain and mentor a stable membership base including all generations of veterans.

To cultivate a membership that is well versed in institutional knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization and in the local community. To establish Posts with an established vision of service, leadership, and community outreach.

## **Introduction**

Today, the Veterans of Foreign Wars is 124 years old. During those years, we have had WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, and other veterans joining en masse. Today, however, we have lost many of these honorable men and women. As history has proven, the Post-9/11 veterans will join our organization like others have when they are ready, however usually not until their kids grow or their retirements are in place.

We must not stereotype any of our future members regardless of sex, color, or personal beliefs. If a member qualifies, bring them in. The only way to make this success permanent is to retain those members, recover past members, and continue to recruit new veterans into our ranks. There are still many veterans eligible to join and at all ages. However, our focus needs to be on our Post-9/11 veterans, for they will be our future.

You might ask, how do we build our organization? It's simple, leadership by example. If you are a Commander of a Post, District, Department, or the National Commander, then get out there and recruit members yourself and show your team that if you can do it, so can they. A good way to do this is to improve the way we communicate with our members at all levels of the organization. Posts, Districts, Departments, and our National Officers need to use all methods available to convey information for news and training to our membership through newsletters, emails, social media, recruiting booths and outreach teams.

We need to know who our members are and how we can address their needs and concerns. It's time to step it up and recruit Post-9/11 veterans. Each of us needs to do our part and recruit at least one new member. Think about it. If we all recruit one each, we would show substantial growth in membership in just one year.

## **Membership Goals**

1. Build a strong organization through recruiting new members while retaining our current membership, creating a solid baseline for the future.
2. Work together to achieve VFW's goals. The VFW National Headquarters staff is available to assist in coordinating programs, developing membership initiatives, and building awareness among our membership and the entire veteran community.

## **Membership Objectives**

- Achieve 102% in Membership
- For everyone to recruit at least one new member and then mentor that member.
- Increase membership drives and/or events.
- Develop new Posts and/or revitalize existing Posts.
- Increase Life Membership and Legacy Life Membership

## **Membership Resources**

In order to assist our Posts, Districts, and Departments in meeting the goals set out by the Commander-in-Chief in this membership program, the National Headquarters has a wealth of resources at your disposal. Many of those are available free of charge to our members.

- Membership materials ranging from applications, recruiting brochures, posters, and benefits brochures can be ordered directly from the Membership Department using the Membership Order Form (located under Membership Quick Links once you log into [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) )
- Resources for Post Development, Membership Campaigns, and Mentorship such as training guides, videos, and webinars are available in the Training & Support section on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org)
- Promotional tools such as radio spots, sample advertisements, public service announcements, and media kits are all available through the Media Room on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org)

See the trend? Just about anything you will need is at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org), check it out.

The VFW National Headquarters staff is ready and trained to answer any questions you may have concerning membership, VFW programs, or other issues. You can contact our **Member Service Center directly at 1.833.VFW.VETS**, or the **Membership Department at 1.888.JOIN.VFW**.

### **Triple Crown Award**

Any commander who achieves All-American at the Post, District and Department level will receive a Triple Crown pin and recognition at the National Convention.

### **Recruiting Awards**

- **1,5, 10, 15** Corresponding numbered member pin
- **25** CIC coin and Citation
- **50** National Aide-De-Camp cap and Citation
- **75** CIC Medallion Set
- **100** Century cap **or** \$50 VFW Store credit & Citation
- **150** CIC Custom Desk Name Plate

### **Department “102 Percent” Incentive**

Any Department that attains 102% in membership by close of business on June 30th, 2024, will be entered into a random drawing. The commander and quartermaster that is selected will each receive:

- **\$2500 voucher through Veterans Travel Services (VTS) applied towards airfare, accommodations, and transportation for a trip of their choice.**

### **Early Bird Award—VFW Legislative Conference**

The top three Post commanders and quartermasters in each division on Jan. 1, 2024, will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW Legislative Conference, Washington D.C.**

### **Post Commander and Quartermaster – New & Reinstated Member Award**

The top 10 Post commanders and quartermasters in each division who report more than 50 new and/or reinstated members by Jan. 1, 2024, will each be awarded:

- **A travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo.**

### **Meeting the Challenge Award**

The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 102% membership by April 1, 2024, will each be awarded:

- **Five-night hotel accommodation at the National Convention.**

### **102% Post, District & Department**

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 102% or greater in membership before July 1, 2024.

### **102% Commander Drawing**

Each Post and District commander that exceeds 102% in membership by June 1, 2024, will receive an entry in this drawing. Twenty Post commanders and Twelve District commanders will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**

### **Post Commander and Quartermaster Division Challenge**

For every 10 new/reinstated members recruited between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024, Posts will earn one entry for both Post commander and quartermaster entered into a drawing. One Post per division will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend each for commander and quartermaster to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**

### **Legacy Life Membership Acquisition**

Each Post that achieves the designated benchmarks of 25, 50 and 75 Legacy Life Members will be awarded:

- **A Legacy Society Post Proclamation.**

Each Post that achieves the distinctive benchmark of 100 Legacy Life members by July 1, 2024, commander or Post representative will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**
- **Legacy Society Post Proclamation.**

### **Top Department Recruiter**

The top Recruiter in every Department on July 1, 2024, will receive:

- **Engraved Navy Cutlass**

**Note:** Minimum of 25 new/reinstated members required to win this award.

### **Elite Recruiter**

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new and/or reinstated members by July 1, 2024, will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.**

### **Recruiter of the Year**

The VFW member who signs up the greatest number of new and/or reinstated members greater than 250 by July 1, 2024, will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**
- **Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.**
- **Commander-in-Chief's Crystal Eagle.**

### **New Post Development and Post Revitalization Department Award**

- For each new Post chartered, and/or revitalized, the Department Quartermaster will receive:
  - **A \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post.**

## **All-American Criteria**

***The All-American program exists to recognize exceptional leadership and teamwork, authentic accomplishment in membership growth and VFW core programs.***

### **All-American Post Criteria**

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through All-American Dashboard
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$100.
  - National Citizenship Education Teachers Award –Post must advance a teacher to District; if no District judging applies then advance to Department for judging (Overseas Post donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
  - A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June.
  - Buddy Poppy- Purchase Three per member in the Post

### **All-American Post Award**

- All Posts that meet the Qualifying Percentage and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American Post Citation, Post Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

- The Top **25** Posts in each Division will receive:

- Acknowledgment in VFW Magazine
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention
- All-American Post citation
- All-American Post streamer
- All-American citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander



- All-American cap (commander only, quartermaster and Post members may purchase “Post Member” cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)
- All-American Team Post Member lapel pin (25 pack)
- The top **five** commanders in each division will also receive:
  - **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
  - **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**

### **All-American District Criteria**

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit report through the dashboard.
- District-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry\*see last page)
  - National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)

### **All-American District Award**

- All Districts that meet the Qualifying Percentage and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American District Commander Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

- The Top **15** Districts in each Division will receive:

- All-American District streamer
- All-American District citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander
- All-American cap (commander only, quartermaster may purchase cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)
- The top **two** District commanders in each division will also receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**

### **All-American Department Criteria**

- Membership must be at least 102%.
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, report of these events must be submitted through the All-American dashboard.
- Conduct a Department Commander’s “Official Visit or Round Up” prior to Jan 1, 2024, with a report submitted through the All-American dashboard.

### **National Legislative Service**

- Monthly National Legislative Service committee member reports submitted to National Legislative Service in Washington, D.C.

### **National Veterans Services**

- Must have a State/Department service officer and submit his or her name and contact information to National Veterans Services in Washington, D.C. by July 31, 2023.
- Department Service Officer successfully completes NVS training requirements with a passing grade.
- Department Service Officer or appropriate designee reports hosting Post Service Officer training to NVS. Reports due by 30 June 2024.

### **Programs**

- Voice of Democracy - An entry advanced to National judging
- Patriot’s Pen - An entry advanced to National judging
- Veterans & Military Support Programs – Must complete State/Department fundraiser and proceeds donated to Veterans & Military Support Programs, Kansas City, Mo. (see last page)
- Must have at least One teacher submitted for the Teacher of the Year competition. (One entry from one of the three categories).
- Must enter one Employer of the Year Nomination (see last page)
- Must enter one JROTC Cadet of the Year Nomination (see last page)
- Must enter one VFW Member of the Year Nomination (see last Page)

### All-American Department Award

- All-American Department streamer
- All-American Department citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander
- All-American cap - commander - *quartermaster may purchase cap.*
- All-American lapel pin - commander - *quartermaster may purchase pin.*
- \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention
- Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention Joint Opening Session

### Conference Membership Award

The Conference with the highest membership percentage of the four Conferences will receive a \$1500 award and have their name and year engraved on a traveling trophy presented by the Commander-in-Chief to the Conference Chairman at the National Convention. The 2023-2024 Conference Chairman will return the trophy to the membership booth at National Convention in Louisville, KY no later than COB on Saturday to ensure placement of the new nameplate. This trophy will be presented to the 2023-2024 Conference Chairman on stage during the Joint Opening Session\*\*.

### Post Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
1	951+		102%
2	750	950	102%
3	356	749	102%
4	246	355	102%
5	185	245	102%
6	143	184	102%
7	112	142	102%
8	88	111	102%
9	68	87	102%
10	51	67	102%
11	10	50	102%

## District Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
1	5,000	14,000	102%
2	3,282	4,999	102%
3	2,172	3,281	102%
4	1,447	2,171	102%
5	906	1,446	102%
6	1	905	102%

### Important Notes

- Awards are transferable inside the Post, Districts or Department.
- **Post/District/Department:** Membership must be at least 102 percent.
- **Post member cap,** any member in a Post that achieves All-American status can purchase a “Post Member” cap. Those members must be in the Post during the membership year.
- The *Department Commander’s “Official Visit or Round Up”* is for Department commanders to visit Posts in their Department to get face-to-face time with their Post and District leadership and assist with membership and Programs.
- Donations made to replace Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen (By eligible overseas Post). **Do not donate through your Department or by any other means.** Use the dashboard for your donation.
- Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the following link: Use the dashboard for online donation.
- **\*\*For the Conference Membership Award traveling trophy, the Conference Chairman will be responsible for the return of the trophy to the Membership Department booth at the National Convention each year.**
- Employer of the Year nomination link:  
[https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw\\_employer\\_of\\_the\\_year\\_award](https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw_employer_of_the_year_award)
- JROTC Cadet of the Year nomination link:  
[https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw\\_jrotc\\_cadet\\_of\\_the\\_year\\_award](https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw_jrotc_cadet_of_the_year_award)
- VFW Member of the Year nomination link:  
[https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw\\_member\\_of\\_the\\_year\\_award](https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw_member_of_the_year_award)
- Department “102 Percent” Incentive, NOTE: Reimbursement for travel expenses paid by the VFW will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099 if the total of payments made to you during any calendar year equals \$600.00 or more. Travel expenses paid for a guest or spouse for the award will also be reported to the IRS. The reimbursement you receive from the VFW will be deemed by the IRS to be taxable income. Since the circumstances of each individual are different, it is recommended that you consult your tax advisor to determine the effect these payments may have on your personal tax situation. It is your responsibility to keep receipts and other records as you and your accountant and/or tax advisor deem necessary in order to document your expenditures.

## Recruiter Awards

### CIC Membership Awards



Aide-de-Camp Cap and Century Recruiter Cap



1-, 5-, 10-, and 15-member Recruiting Pins  
Commander-in-Chief's Pin and Coin



Engraved Navy Cutlass



CIC logo power bank



Recruiter Of The Year – Crystal Eagle trophy



CIC Desk Name Plate (Award winners name with CIC logo and slogan )





CIC Medallion Set with SVC and JVC Coins

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All-American Awards





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, 2023

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, 2023 and delinquent after this date.**

**IF THE POLICY IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 9-1-2023, 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, 2023 TO AUGUST 31, 2024.**

**The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2024.**

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, 2023 through August 31, 2024.

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, 2023 – 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**

**\$4.50 Per Thousand**

\$ 3,000.----	\$ 13.50
\$ 4,000.----	\$ 18.00
\$ 5,000.----	\$ 22.50
\$ 6,000.----	\$ 27.00
\$ 7,000.----	\$ 31.50
\$ 8,000.----	\$ 36.00
\$ 9,000.----	\$ 40.50
\$ 10,000.----	\$ 45.00
\$ 11,000.----	\$ 49.50
\$ 12,000.----	\$ 54.00
\$ 13,000.----	\$ 58.50
\$ 14,000.----	\$ 63.00
\$ 15,000.----	\$ 67.50
\$ 16,000.----	\$ 72.00
\$ 17,000.----	\$ 76.50
\$ 18,000.----	\$ 81.00
\$ 19,000.----	\$ 85.50
\$ 20,000.----	\$ 90.00
\$ 21,000.----	\$ 94.50
\$ 22,000.----	\$ 99.00
\$ 23,000.----	\$103.50
\$ 24,000.----	\$108.00
\$ 25,000.----	\$112.50

(\$3,000. To \$25,000.)  
\$4.50 Per Thousand

**\$3.50 Per Thousand**

\$ 26,000.----	\$ 91.00
\$ 27,000.----	\$ 94.50
\$ 28,000.----	\$ 98.00
\$ 29,000.----	\$ 101.50
\$ 30,000.----	\$ 105.00
\$ 40,000.----	\$ 140.00
\$ 50,000.----	\$ 175.00
\$ 60,000.----	\$ 210.00
\$ 70,000.----	\$ 245.00
\$ 80,000.----	\$ 280.00
\$ 90,000.----	\$ 315.00
\$100,000.----	\$ 350.00
\$110,000.----	\$ 385.00
\$120,000.----	\$ 300.00
\$130,000.----	\$ 420.00
\$140,000.----	\$ 490.00
\$150,000.----	\$ 525.00
\$160,000.----	\$ 560.00
\$170,000.----	\$ 595.00
\$180,000.----	\$ 630.00
\$190,000.----	\$ 665.00
\$200,000.----	\$ 700.00
\$210,000.----	\$ 735.00
\$220,000.----	\$ 770.00
\$230,000.----	\$ 805.00
\$240,000.----	\$ 840.00
\$250,000.----	\$ 875.00

(\$26,000. To \$250,000.)  
\$3.50 Per Thousand

**\$3.00 Per Thousand**

\$251,000.----	\$ 753.00
\$252,000.----	\$ 756.00
\$253,000.----	\$ 759.00
\$254,000.----	\$ 762.00
\$255,000.----	\$ 765.00
\$256,000.----	\$ 768.00
\$257,000.----	\$ 771.00
\$258,000.----	\$ 774.00
\$259,000.----	\$ 777.00
\$260,000.----	\$ 780.00
\$270,000.----	\$ 810.00
\$280,000.----	\$ 840.00
\$290,000.----	\$ 870.00
\$300,000.----	\$ 900.00
\$310,000.----	\$ 930.00
\$320,000.----	\$ 960.00
\$330,000.----	\$ 990.00
\$340,000.----	\$1,020.00
\$350,000.----	\$1,050.00
\$360,000.----	\$1,080.00
\$370,000.----	\$1,110.00
\$380,000.----	\$1,140.00
\$390,000.----	\$1,170.00
\$400,000.----	\$1,200.00
\$410,000.----	\$1,230.00
\$420,000.----	\$1,260.00
\$430,000.----	\$1,290.00
\$440,000.----	\$1,320.00
\$450,000.----	\$1,350.00
\$460,000.----	\$1,380.00
\$470,000.----	\$1,410.00
\$480,000.----	\$1,440.00
\$490,000.----	\$1,470.00
\$500,000.----	\$1,500.00

(\$251,000. To \$500,000.)  
\$3.00 Per Thousand

**\$2.75 Per Thousand**

\$501,000.---	\$1,377.75
\$502,000.---	\$1,380.50
\$503,000.---	\$1,383.25
\$504,000.---	\$1,386.00
\$505,000.---	\$1,388.75
\$506,000.---	\$1,391.50
\$507,000.---	\$1,394.25
\$508,000.---	\$1,397.00
\$509,000.---	\$1,399.75
\$510,000.---	\$1,402.50
\$520,000.---	\$1,430.00
\$530,000.---	\$1,457.50
\$540,000.---	\$1,485.00
\$550,000.---	\$1,512.50
\$560,000.---	\$1,540.00
\$570,000.---	\$1,567.50
\$580,000.---	\$1,595.00
\$590,000.---	\$1,622.50
\$600,000.---	\$1,650.00

(\$501,000. And UP)  
\$2.75 Per Thousand



Tallman Insurance

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

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

Coverage Term: October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024

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 crime coverage 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 COVERAGE IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION
DATE OF 10-1-2023, 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



**WELCOME TO SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2023  
AT RIVER SPIRIT CASINO IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA  
NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023**

**RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT  
8330 RIVERSIDE PKWY  
TULSA, OK 74137**



# LOCAL ATTRACTIONS



J.M.  
**Davis Arms  
& Historical**  
MUSEUM

CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

[HTTPS://WWW.THEGUNMUSEUM.COM/](https://www.thegunmuseum.com/)



**GolfSuites**

[HTTPS://WWW.GOLFSUITES.COM/OK/TULSA/](https://www.golfsuites.com/ok/tulsa/)



[HTTPS://WWW.GATHERINGPLACE.ORG/](https://www.gatheringplace.org/)



[HTTPS://WWW.WOOLAROC.ORG/](https://www.woolaroc.org/)

**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2023**  
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY**

**NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023**

**RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT**

**8330 RIVERSIDE PKWY**

**TULSA, OK 74137**

**ROOM RATE: \$149 + TAX (KING/QUEEN)**

**SIGNATURE SUITE: \$199 + TAX**

***DEADLINE TO REGISTER SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023***

**REGISTRATION FORM:**

[Click here for digital registration form](#)

**PRE-REGISTRATION FEE IS \$85.00 PER PERSON**

**REGISTRATION FEE COVERS:**

**BANQUET, HOSPITALITY ROOM, ENTERTAINMENT, \$10 FREE PLAY IN THE CASINO AND ONE (1) EXCURSION PER PERSON\***

**(\*EXCURSIONS ARE LIMITED IN SIZE AND RESERVED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS.)**

**REGISTRATION AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE \$95.00 PER PERSON.**

**FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS, PLEASE VISIT THE VFW DEPT. OF OKLAHOMA WEBSITE AT: [WWW.VFWOKLAHOMA.ORG](http://WWW.VFWOKLAHOMA.ORG) OR CONTACT THE HOTEL AT 888-748-3731**

**HOTEL LINK**

***\*ROOMS MUST BE RESERVED BY SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 TO ENSURE THE BLOCK RATE ROOMS.***

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Department of Oklahoma VFW**

**FOR DEPT USE ONLY:**

**DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_ CK#: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_**

**MAIL FORMS TO: DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA VFW P.O. BOX 1126 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73101**

**EMAIL: VFWSSOUTHERNCONFERENCE2023@GMAIL.COM (CHECK WILL STILL NEED TO BE MAILED)**

**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2023**  
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS & AUXILIARY**  
**NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023**  
**RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT**  
**8330 RIVERSIDE PKWY**  
**TULSA, OK 74137**  
**TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORM**  
***DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AIRLINE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ARRIVAL DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FLIGHT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTURE DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FLIGHT:** \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies:

**MAIL FORMS TO:**  
**VFW DEPT. OF OKLAHOMA**  
**P.O. BOX 1126**  
**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73101**

**OR**

**SOUTHERNCONFERENCE2023@GMAIL.COM**



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2023  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS & AUXILIARY  
NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023  
RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT  
8330 RIVERSIDE PKWY  
TULSA, OK 74137

## EXCURSION REQUEST FORM

(1 PER PERSON. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. ALL EXCURSIONS AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY THE 3<sup>RD</sup>.)



TULSA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

[HTTPS://WWW.TULSAMUSEUM.ORG/](https://www.tulsamuseum.org/)



PHILBROOK MUSEUM OF ART

[HTTPS://PHILBROOK.ORG/](https://philbrook.org/)



OKLAHOMA AQUARIUM

[HTTPS://WWW.OKAQUARIUM.ORG/](https://www.okaquarium.org/)



GREENWOOD RISING - BLACK WALL STREET

[HTTPS://WWW.GREENWOODRISING.ORG/](https://www.greenwoodrising.org/)

MAIL FORMS TO:  
VFW DEPT. OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 1126  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73101  
OR  
SOUTHERNCONFERENCE2023@GMAIL.COM

**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2023**  
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY**

**NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2023**

**RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT**

**8330 RIVERSIDE PKWY**

**TULSA, OK 74137**

**BANQUET MEAL RESERVATION**

**PLEASE FILL OUT 1 PER GUEST**

**1 CHOICE**

1. **BBQ CHICKEN**
2. **BBQ BRISKET**
3. **OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY HEALTH OPTION)**
- 

**ALL MEALS COME WITH HOUSE SALAD, BISCUITS, DINNER ROLLS AND BUTTER,  
COLESLAW, MASHED POTATOES AND BOURBON PECAN PIE OR SALTED  
CARMEL APPLE PIE.**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_**

**VFW/AUX? \_\_\_\_\_**

**PLEASE MAIL BANQUET REQUEST TO: VFW DEPT. OF OKLAHOMA P.O. BOX 1126  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73101 OR EMAIL THEM TO  
[VFWSOUTHERNCONFERENCE2023@GMAIL.COM](mailto:VFWSOUTHERNCONFERENCE2023@GMAIL.COM).**