

ATTENTION

All Email Accounts have been reset as of June 15th.

The new default password is: VFW2022!

**Please note Officer Bonds and Employee Bonds
expire August 31, 2022**

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



NUMBER 1

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

**“Veterans Helping Veterans
Dept. of Virginia 100th Anniversary”**

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

July 1, 2022

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

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1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

State Commander	Geoffrey Lyster	cdr@vfwva.org	Post 9835
Senior Vice Commander	Gary Adams	srvicecdr@vfwva.org	Post 1115
Junior Vice Commander	Mitch Rubenstein	jrvicecdr@vfwva.org	Post 2447
Adjutant/Quartermaster	Ed Mann	adj@vfwva.org	Post 9808
Judge Advocate	Doug Hoffman	judge@vfwva.org	Post 3160
Surgeon	Mark Maggio	surgeon@vfwva.org	Post 4639
PDC	Butch Schupska	bschupska@vfwva.org	Post 3160
Chief of Staff	Ken Wiseman	chiefofstaff@vfwva.org	Post 1503
State Chaplain	James Goebel	chaplain@vfwva.org	Post 8356
State Inspector	Charles Bush	inspector@vfwva.org	Post 3103
District 1 Commander	Victor Kowalewski	cdrdist1@vfwva.org	Post 176
District 2 Commander	David Goldstein	cdrdist2@vfwva.org	Post 392
District 3 Commander	Kenneth Shannon	cdrdist3@vfwva.org	Post 4639
District 4 Commander	Gus Villalobos	cdrdist4@vfwva.org	Post 9954
District 5 Commander	David Gilleran	cdrdist5@vfwva.org	Post 4637
District 6 Commander	David Jarrett	cdrdist6@vfwva.org	Post 12179
District 7 Commander	Michael Diaz	cdrdist7@vfwva.org	Post 9760
District 8 Commander	Jeffrey Dombroff	cdrdist8@vfwva.org	Post 9835
District 9 Commander	Dan Boyer	cdrdist9@vfwva.org	Post 7726
District 10 Commander	Benjamin Guinan	cdrdist10@vfwva.org	Post 1503
District 11 Commander	Melissa Patrick	cdrdist11@vfwva.org	Post 7814

District 12 Commander
District 13 Commander

Elizabeth Wicht
Virgle Lane

cdrdist12@vfwva.org
cdrdist13@vfwva.org

Post 1994
Post 8947

At the 100th Annual State Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia, held in Portsmouth, Virginia, June 11, 2022, I, Geoffrey Lyster, 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 11, 2022, except those set forth in the By-Laws.

2. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2022-2023:

COMMITTEES	POSITION	FIRST	Last Name	Post
Audit Committee	Chairman	John	Meehan	1503
Audit Committee	Member	Ron	Laney	1503
Audit Committee	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503
Awards & Citations	Chairman	Steve	Byrne	9339
Awards & Citations	Member	Ken	Hale	1827
Buddy Poppies	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Member	Mitch	Rubenstein	2447
Budget	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Budget	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
By Laws & SOP	Chairman	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Centennial	Chairman	Hal	Roesch	3219
Centennial	Member	Ken	Wiseman	1503
Centennial	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Centennial	Member	Ed	Mann	9808
Community Services	Chairman	Gary	Adams	1115
Credentials	Chairman	Jill	Lynch	3219
Disaster Relief	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Fund Raisers	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Fund Raisers	Member	Mitch	Rubenstein	2447
Fund Raisers	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
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	Phil	Arendsen	8529
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	Herb	DeGroft	15048
Honor Guard	Member	Donnie	Duncan	2239
Hospital/Suicide Prevention	Chairman	James	Goebel	8356
Hospitality	Chairman	James	Cooper	637
Hospitality	Member	Howard	Minton	1115
IT	Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
IT	Member	Ken	Wiseman	1503
Zoom	Chairman	Michael	Diaz	9760
Joint Leadership Council	Chairman	Richard	Raskin	7589
Legislative Committee	Chairman	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Legislative Committee	Member	Doc	Crouch	3150
Membership/Life Membership	Chairman	Tom	Hines	9954
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Membership/Life Membership	Member	George	Winters	12179
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Ken	Wiseman	1503
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Mark	Shockley	3219
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Michael	Diaz	9760
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Tom	Troy	5412
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Sam	Rosenbaum	4667
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Alex	McKenna	12202
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Alexander	Thymmons	1499
Newspaper	Chairman	Randy	Coker	1503
Newspaper	Member	Ed	Mann	9808
Outreach	Chairman	Ron	Link	7589
Parliamentarian	Chairman	Richard	Raskin	7589
Patriots Pen	Chairman	Dennis	Walk	176
Personnel	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Personnel	Member	Hal	Roesch	3219
Personnel	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Personnel	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503
POW/MIA	Chairman	Michael	Chism	2582
POW/MIA	Member	Pete	Fairchild	3219
Resolutions	Chairman	M. Conrad	Agresti	3150
Resolutions	Member	Barney	Campbell	10654
Resolutions	Member	James	Brown	9501
Resolutions	Member	Michelle	Swindle	1211
Resolutions	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809
Resolutions	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Resolutions	Member	Geoffrey	Lyster	9835
Resolutions	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Scouting	Chairman	Bob	Fenlason	7916
Service Officer	Asst.	John	Birdwell	3160
Service Officer	Asst.	Raymond	Bailey	1503
Teacher's Recognition	Chairman	Chris	Birch	9760
Time & Place	Chairman	Eugene	Chavis	10826

Time & Place	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Time & Place	Member	Ed	Mann	9808
Time & Place	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Time & Place	Member	Sandra	Terry	1115
Time & Place	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Veterans and Military Support	Chairman	Ron	Link	7589
VFW Riders	Chairman	Rob	Pedersen	3160
Vietnam War Commemoration	Chairman	Jeffrey	Dombroff	9835
Vietnam War Commemoration	Member	Gary	Myers	1827
Voice of Democracy	Chairman	Lou	Filippone	7589
Women Veterans	Chairman	Joanne	Smith	9808

3. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades

I am truly proud and humbled to have been elected and installed as your State Commander for 2022-2023. I'd like to thank the members for electing me and all those who helped and encouraged me as I worked through the chairs as a State Officer. I am dedicated to improving this organization while upholding its finest traditions.

We have several goals this year: to improve service to veterans and communities and continue to advocate on their behalf. To achieve one hundred percent plus membership and be recognized as an All-American Department. And to foster camaraderie, while improving organizational communication and building *Esprit De Corps*. Together, with your help we can achieve anything!

We are coming off a strong membership year for the Department; we are over 100 percent in membership with 35 Posts achieving All-State. Our Membership Committee remains largely unchanged and dedicated to continue with their high standard of excellence. As a motivated recruiter myself, we have sought to add several recruiting incentives for our recruiters. This year you can earn a Limited Edition State Commander Challenge coin for recruiting only 20 new/reinstated members. You can become a Department Aide-de-Camp by recruiting/reinstating 35 new/reinstated members; and receive a State Commander's "Top State Recruiter" shirt, by recruiting 50 new members. For a full list of incentives see the All State Plan. New this year, there will be **three DeVaughan Membership awards**. The first-place top recruiter will receive \$300, a cap, Department citation and large trophy. The second and third place recruiters will each receive Department citations and large trophies. I would like to urge each recruiter to make their personal best this year, as our Department strives to be the best in the nation.

Our Department will continue their fine training regimen. There will be four Recruiting Schools including one held virtually (online). We recently held the District Officer School of Instruction (SOI) and are looking forward to our statewide SOI's to be held this quarter. As we have done in recent years, we will be conducting SOIs in the Districts instead of having them held at (two) central locations. This way our overall attendance is greater, and members don't have to travel to a central location. A Department Representative (Line Officer) will work with the local District Commander to present the training, which can be customized to fit the needs of the District.

This is a very special year, as your Department of Virginia will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on February 1, 2023. We have planned several events to commemorate our "Department Centennial" which is a significant milestone and achievement. We will be bringing the party to you, as we conduct complimentary regional events around the state. We have planned (four) free Centennial Celebrations; in which we will be presenting Limited Edition Centennial Coins to all attendees; and distinguished Centennial Medallions to each Post. The State Commander & State President's Homecoming will be held on January 6, 2023 (Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel). We are selling red State

Commander shirts & ballcaps; and Homecoming Gun Raffle tickets to support this complimentary event. It's going to be a celebratory year and I hope you will join us!

Geoffrey Lyster
State Commander
Department of Virginia

4. 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**.

5. 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.

6. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 176 Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: St. Judge Advocate Doug Hoffman	5 th	Date: 8/20/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep: State Inspector Charles Bush
2 nd	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 392 Virginia Beach 2408 Bowland Parkway Rep: PSC Butch Schupska	6 th	Date: 8/6/22 Meeting: Noon Location: Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Avenue NW Rep: State Commander Geoffrey Lyster
3 rd	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: To follow lunch Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: State Adj/QM Ed Mann	7 th	Date: 8/13/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: Noon Location: Post 9760 Berryville 425 S Buckmarsh Street Rep: State JVC Mitch Rubenstein
4 th	Date: 8/13/22 Meeting: 10:30 AM Location: Post 9954 Victoria 1000 Marshall Avenue Rep: State Surgeon Mark Maggio	8 th	Date: 8/20/22 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: To follow SOI Location: Post 12202 King George 12266 Kent Road Rep: PSC Rick Raskin
		9 th	Date: 9/24/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7726 Independence 115 Klondike Road Rep: St. Judge Advocate Doug Hoffman

10th Date: 9/25/22
SOI: 9:00 AM
Lunch: Noon
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: 9274 Falls Church
7118 Shreve Road
Rep: PSC Ken Wiseman

12th Date: 9/10/22
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 1994 Abingdon
17581 Lee Highway
Rep: State Surgeon Mark Maggio

11th Date: 8/20/22
SOI: 9:00 AM
Meeting: To follow SOI
Location: Post 1499 Lexington
105 Memorial Lane
Rep: State SVC Gary Adams

13th Date: 8/20/22
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 8947 Mineral
201 Mineral Avenue
Rep: State Commander Geoffrey Lyster

7. ALL-STATE:

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

VFW Post 10840, District 5, Penhook, VA
VFW Post 7589, District 8, Manassas, VA
VFW Post 3219, District 1, Phoebus, VA

VFW Post 4491, District 6, New Castle, VA
VFW Post 7327, District 10, Springfield, VA

Yours in Comradeship
Ed Mann
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

11. DELINQUENT:

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

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Election Reports	Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Election Reports
1	824	\$15.00			10	609	\$15.00		
1	2296	\$6.00			10	5412	\$18.00	March	Need
1	12201	\$3.00							
					11	632	\$24.00		
2	993		March		11	3060	\$3.00		
					11	4204	\$6.00		
3	7167	\$6.00							
3	8046	\$6.00			12	4301	\$6.00	March	
					12	5715	\$12.00		
5	7800	\$9.00	March	Need	12	7360	\$9.00		
5	7854		March		12	8979	\$6.00		
5	8467	\$6.00	March		12	9600	\$9.00	March	Need
					12	9830	\$6.00		
6	5311		March		12	9864	\$6.00		
7	621	\$15.00			13	2613	\$3.00		
7	1860	\$21.00			13	10574	\$18.00		
7	6044	\$3.00							
7	8613	\$12.00							

12. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 15th**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site www.vfwva.org.
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW2022!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

For Post Officers, your address will be cdrpost176@vfwva.org where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

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

svrdist1@vfwva.org

adjdist1@vfwva.org

qmdist1@vfwva.org

13. IMPORTANT DATES:

July 16 – 21, 2022	National Convention, Kansas City, Missouri (Information packet was in May's General Orders)
October 27 – 30, 2022	Southern Conference, Asheville, North Carolina (Information packet is included in this month's General Orders)
January 12 - 15, 2023	Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA phone 1-888-839-1775. Room Rates are \$97.00 per night.
June 1 – 4, 2023	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$149.00 per night. Group name "Virginia Department VFW & Auxiliary State Convention 2023"; Cut-off Date April 28, 2023.
July 22 – 27, 2023	National Convention, Phoenix, Arizona
November 1 – 4, 2023	Southern Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma
July 27 – Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 9 – 14, 2025	National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

14. INSPECTIONS:

Hello, Comrades of Virginia; we hope you are doing well in 2022

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

First, let's start the new year with congratulations to **VFW Post 647 (Ballard Pruitt)/ District 5 in DANVILLE** for winning \$100.00; a drawing of the (63) **Inspection Ready Posts** and Post 647 is the winner.

Back by popular demand, we will keep the Inspection Ready Posts Recognition certificate for this upcoming year; **63 of 129** posts were identified as inspection-ready last year. We look forward to recognizing you for your work.

What's new for 2022-2023?

1. In addition to Inspection Ready Posts, we would like to focus on the **Post Inspection Binders** with an (Outstanding Inspection Binder Award)

Hint: There is an **excellent** PowerPoint presentation on our VFWVA website under Resources, Forms; scroll down to Guides and Handouts (near the bottom of the page)

2. After receiving feedback, it is highly recommended that a pre-post inspection with the Commander, SVC, JVC, QM, Adj, and assistants conduct an internal inspection before your regular inspection. Review last year's assessment together; most of the time, the post team can learn, ask questions, and be better prepared.

Are You Inspection ready? You, too, can become a member of the Post Inspection Ready Team! We look forward to recognizing you for your work.

3. We are also working on a checklist for Posts operating clubroom, bingo, canteen, or other state-licensed activities; refer to question 28 of the post-inspection form. Be on the lookout for the checklist. This is our gathering information period for a standard Virginia form, thanks for your support.

Yours in Comradeship and Peace,
Charles H. Bush Jr.
State Inspector
inspector@vfwva.org
540-907-5292
"We are all family in Comradeship."

15. 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.

16. IRS FORM 8822-B:

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

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

17. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

As we start a new year it gives me great pleasure to introduce your Membership Team for this year.

Ken Wiseman Post 1503

Mike Diaz Post 9760

Kathy Goodall Post 4809

George Winters Post 12179

Mark Shockley Post 3219

Tom Troy Post 5412

Sam Rosenbaum Post 4667

Alex McKenna Post 12202

Alexander Thymmons Post 1499

We have expanded the team again this year adding Sam, Alex, Tom, and Alex. We are reaching farther west than ever before with Alexander from the Lexington Post and Sam from the Marion Post. We have recruiters to assist you in Districts One, Two, Four, Six, Seven, Nine, Ten, Eleven, and Thirteen. That's recruiters in nine of our thirteen Districts. There is no reason that any Post that wants assistance with recruiting shouldn't get it. Again, this

year it is the Post Members that will sustain us and help us reach our Goal. Our Goal as always is 100% plus 1, and I feel confident that you will reach it again. The secret to membership is to take advantage of all opportunities in your area. Communicate with your annuals and encourage them to become life members. A Post with all Life Members doesn't have to worry about renewals every single year. Commander Lyster and all Post Commanders, I am pledging the support of the Membership Team to all of you. We Will Assist You, all you have to do is ask. Let's have a great year.

Tom Hines PSC
Membership Team Chairman

18. OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Norfolk and Dale City Service Offices will be closed July 4, 2022, in observance of Independence Day.

State Headquarters will be closed July 1 – 4, 2022 in observance of Independence Day. The Adj/QM will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

Please note the Hopewell Service Office is temporarily closed.

19. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

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

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

What will your Legacy be?

20. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING AND REGISTRATION:

CONVENTION HOUSING: 123rd National Convention housing opened Feb. 17, 2022.

We encourage attendees to make their reservations now for the National Convention. We **cannot** guarantee there will be availability through housing **deadline of June 13** as the rooms are booking quickly and are **first come, first served**.

To make a reservation, go online to vfw.org or call 844.464.6840 (980.337.3372 internationally). (Housing and tentative agenda was enclosed in May General Orders)

CONVENTION REGISTRATION – Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure states 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 VFW National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee provided the Post has paid the mandated \$25 advance registration fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111, ATTN: Convention Registration or you may register online by going to vfw.org.

21. 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.

22. PATRIOT DAY:

SEPTEMBER 11. Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11, is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States. For flags and other patriotic items, click here vfwstore.org/category/patriotic/miscpatriotic.

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. PURCHASING BUDDY POPPIES

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

Ed Mann
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

26. RECRUITING SOI:

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

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

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

We look forward to seeing everyone at training.

27. REPORTING:

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

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

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

28. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY THEMES:

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

29. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 284:

Membership Inactive
Christopher Madison
VFW Post No. 9808

Pursuant to the voluntary resignation of their membership upon the ascertainment of their desire to no longer be affiliated with the Veterans of Foreign Wars,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Christopher Madison, Membership No. 10367317, be removed from the rolls of Battlefield Post No. 9808, Mechanicsville, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States vacated per member's request.

By order of
Fritz Mihelcic
Commander-in-Chief

30. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

Lately as I travel around, I find fewer and fewer Vietnam Veterans who are not sporting their commemorative pins. We must be doing something right. I still presented eight in the past month and there are still plenty of our brothers and sisters still unrecognized. So, keep an eye out and get them their pins. I have a small supply available so you need only ask or send me the veteran’s information and I will ship them one.

This month’s Congressional Medal of Honor winner is Roy P. Benavidez. Born in Texas in 1935, he enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard in 1952 and switched to the active Army in 1955. He completed airborne training and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft Bragg. He earned his Green Beret and was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group. In 1965 he was sent to Vietnam as an advisor. During a patrol, he stepped on a land mine and was evacuated to the States where doctors at Ft Sam Houston concluded that he would never walk again. Determined to prove them wrong, he undertook unauthorized training at night and, after a year’s hospitalization, walked out on his own two feet with his wife by his side. He returned to Vietnam in January 1968. On May 2nd, he was involved in the action that would earn him his country’s highest award. The citation reads as follows:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty: On 2 May 1968, Master Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) Roy P. Benavidez distinguished himself by a series of daring and extremely valorous actions while assigned to Detachment B56, 5th Special Forces

Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, Republic of Vietnam. On the morning of 2 May 1968, a 12-man Special Forces Reconnaissance Team was inserted by helicopters of the 240th Assault Helicopter Company in a dense jungle area west of Loc Ninh, Vietnam to gather intelligence information about confirmed large-scale enemy activity. This area was controlled and routinely patrolled by the North Vietnamese Army. After a short period of time on the ground, the team met heavy enemy resistance, and requested emergency extraction. Three helicopters attempted extraction, but were unable to land due to intense enemy small arms and anti-aircraft fire.

Sergeant BENAVIDEZ was at the Forward Operating Base in Loc Ninh monitoring the operation by radio when these helicopters, of the 240th Assault Helicopter Company, returned to off-load wounded crew members and to assess aircraft damage. Sergeant BENAVIDEZ voluntarily boarded a returning aircraft to assist in another extraction attempt. Realizing that all the team members were either dead or wounded and unable to move to the pickup zone, he directed the aircraft to a nearby clearing where he jumped from the hovering helicopter, and ran approximately 75 meters under withering small arms fire to the crippled team.

Prior to reaching the team's position he was wounded in his right leg, face, and head. Despite these painful injuries, he took charge, repositioning the team members and directing their fire to facilitate the landing of an extraction aircraft, and the loading of wounded and dead team members. He then threw smoke canisters to direct the aircraft to the team's position. Despite his severe wounds and under intense enemy fire, he carried and dragged half of the wounded team members to the awaiting aircraft. He then provided protective fire by running alongside the aircraft as it moved to pick up the remaining team members. As the enemy's fire intensified, he hurried to recover the body and classified documents on the dead team leader.

When he reached the leader's body, Sergeant BENAVIDEZ was severely wounded by small arms fire in the abdomen and grenade fragments in his back. At nearly the same moment, the aircraft pilot was mortally wounded, and his helicopter crashed. Although in extremely critical condition due to his multiple wounds, Sergeant BENAVIDEZ secured the classified documents and made his way back to the wreckage, where he aided the wounded out of the overturned aircraft, and gathered the stunned survivors into a defensive perimeter. Under increasing enemy automatic weapons and grenade fire, he moved around the perimeter distributing water and ammunition to his weary men, reinstilling in them a will to live and fight. Facing a buildup of enemy opposition with a beleaguered team, Sergeant BENAVIDEZ mustered his strength, began calling in tactical air strikes and directed the fire from supporting gunships to suppress the enemy's fire and so permit another extraction attempt.

He was wounded again in his thigh by small arms fire while administering first aid to a wounded team member just before another extraction helicopter was able to land. His indomitable spirit kept him going as he began to ferry his comrades to the craft. On his second trip with the wounded, he was clubbed from behind by an enemy soldier. In the ensuing hand-to-hand combat, he sustained additional wounds to his head and arms before killing his adversary.^{[7][note 1]} He then continued under devastating fire to carry the wounded to the helicopter. Upon reaching the aircraft, he spotted and killed two enemy soldiers who were rushing the craft from an angle that prevented the aircraft door gunner from firing upon them. With little strength remaining, he made one last trip to the perimeter to ensure that all classified material had been collected or destroyed, and to bring in the remaining wounded.

Only then, in extremely serious condition from numerous wounds and loss of blood, did he allow himself to be pulled into the extraction aircraft. Sergeant BENAVIDEZ' gallant choice to join voluntarily his comrades who were in critical straits, to expose himself constantly to withering enemy fire, and his refusal to be stopped despite numerous severe wounds, saved the lives of at least eight men. His fearless personal leadership, tenacious devotion to duty, and extremely valorous actions in the face of overwhelming odds were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect the utmost credit on him and the United States Army.

Sergeant Benavidez survived the action and remained on active duty until 1972. He was presented his Medal of Honor by President Reagan at a White House ceremony in 1981. Frequently requested as a speaker by many military and civilian organizations, Roy Benavidez passed away in November 1998 and is interred in the Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery. More than a dozen buildings and institutions are named in his honor.

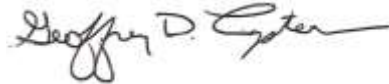
Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Geoffrey D. Lyster
State Commander

TENTATIVE AGENDA

VFW 123rd National Convention Kansas City, MO Kansas City Convention Center July 16-21, 2022

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 15, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Remote registration – VFW/Auxiliary – Downtown
Marriott & Loews Kansas City hotel

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 16, 2022

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 17, 2022

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.

Veterans Military Support Committee

11:00 a.m.

Update on VFW Legislative Priority Goals

11:00 a.m.

Veterans Service Update

12:30 p.m.

First Time Attendees Welcome Orientation

1:00 p.m.

Programs Town Hall

Committee Meetings:

2:00 p.m. Resolutions Committees (*General Session Hall*)
2:00 p.m. National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual
2:00 p.m. National Military Services
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 – Medical
Sub-committee – Employment
Sub-committee – Other Benefits

4:00 p.m. Membership Seminar – Post Development

Monday, July 18, 2022

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. National Outstanding Community Service
Post Reception

1:00 p.m. Workshops

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

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. Parliamentary Procedure 101
1:00 p.m. Update on Federal Benefits and Services for Veterans
1:00 p.m. Grants and Fundraising for Posts
2:00 p.m. Parliamentary Procedure 101
2:00 p.m. Chaplains Workshop
1:00 p.m. OMS Q&A
5:00p.m. Parade Line-up
6:00p. m. Patriotic Rally

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

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
1:00 p.m.	VFW National Home Workshop

Thursday, July 21, 2022

8:00 a.m.	Business Session: Nomination /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)

Updated: 2/8/22



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



Dear Comrade Commander:

Questionnaire for VFW Accountable Officers Crime Coverage

August 1, 2022

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

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

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

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

COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRE THAT:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Post # and State

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

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

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

Has the post had any Crime Coverage losses over the past three years? _____.

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

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

QM or Commander or Adjutant or Sr.Vice Signature

Phone Number

Street Address and City

VFW QUARTERMASTER BOND

\$3.50 Per Thousand

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

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

\$2.50 Per Thousand

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

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

\$2.00 Per Thousand

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

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

\$1.75 Per Thousand

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

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



Tallman Insurance

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

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

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

1. a) Name of Post Post #

b) Post Address

2. a) Name of Person to be Covered

3. Position to be Covered

4. Coverage Amount Requested \$

5. Number of Persons Covered 1

6. Number of Locations 1

7. Post - Annual Income

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

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

b) If yes, explain

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

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

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

Signature: Person to be Covered

Form # 4B

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

\$6.00 PER THOUSAND

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

\$4.00 PER THOUSAND

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

\$3.00 PER THOUSAND

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

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

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

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

If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to become a Cootie reach out to grandcdr@vfwva.org.

"Neb"

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





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

Crowne Plaza Asheville
1 Resort Drive
Asheville, NC 28806

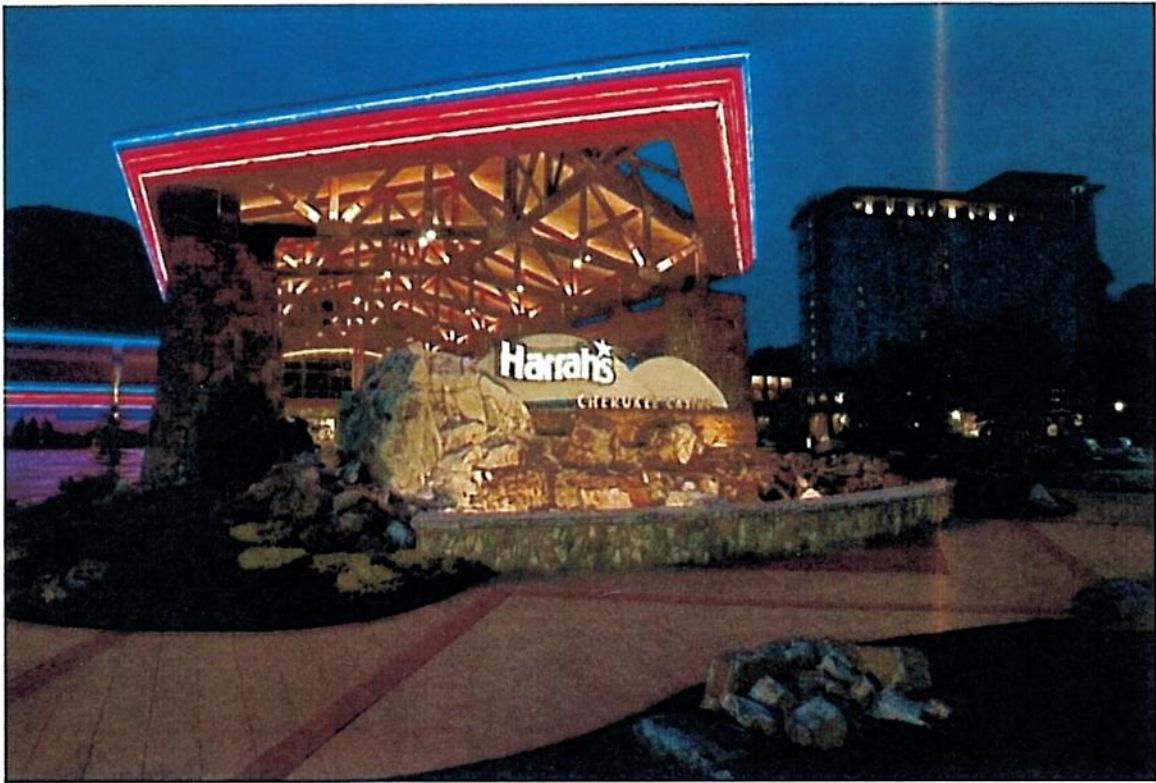
AREA ATTRACTIONS:



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



Travel Along The Beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway (free)



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



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

Southern Conference 2022
Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary

October 27th—October 30th 2022

Crowne Plaza Asheville

1 Resort Drive

Asheville, NC 28806

Room rate: \$182.00 + tax per night

Deadline September 29, 2022

Registration Form:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Department: _____

Post/Aux: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

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

*Registration Fee covers:

Banquet, Hospitality Room, and
Entertainment.

Registration at the Conference will be \$95.00.

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

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

Make checks payable to: Department of North Carolina VFW

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY:

DATE RECEIVED: _____

CK#: _____

AMOUNT: _____

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

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

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

Deadline September 29, 2022



Request for Transportation Form:

Name: _____ **Airline:** _____

Arrival Date: _____ Time: _____ Flight: _____

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____ Flight: _____

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

Select your Dinner

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

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

MAIL FORMS TO:

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

Or

Email: SouthernConference2022@vfwnc.com

2022 - 2022

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, 2023
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than December 16, 2022 with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 5, 2023 to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster must be properly bonded.
4. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
5. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least **once** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **once** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30):
 - a. Hospital Report
 - b. Americanism Report
 - c. Community Activities Report
 - d. Safety Report
 - e. Youth Activities Report
6. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of September 2022. Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.
7. 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 May 12, 2023 (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 May 5, 2023 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 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 5, 2023

2022-2023 ALL STATE TEAM

The Post must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2023

The Post Quartermaster must be bonded.

The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than 4pm on December 16, 2022, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 5, 2023 to complete this requirement.

The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend each District meeting.

The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend the School of Instruction.

The Post must send a Post Officer to the State Recruiting School.

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.

The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or fraction thereof.

The Post must donate to the Department **Virginia Veterans Foundation** (VVF) Posts with:

- a. 500 or more members - \$135.00
- b. 100 to 499 members - \$110.00
- c. 99 members or less - \$85.00

The Post must have submitted the following reports at least **ONCE** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **ONCE** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30)

- a. Hospital Report
- b. Americanism Report
- c. Community Activities Report
- d. Safety Report
- e. Youth Activities Report

The Post must participate in at least 2 of the 3 following programs:

- a. Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
- b. Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
- c. Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)

The Post must recruit at least one new member.

Note1: Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all three programs.

Note2: One (1) additional point for each of the submission of an entry for EMT, Fireman, Law Enforcement, and/or Scout of the Year.

Note3: 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 additional member above 100%.

Note4: Posts with less than 50 members are not eligible for the All-State Team. To be eligible Posts must increase their membership to 50 or more members.

Note5: A Post with less than 50 members who completes all other requirements of the All State program, achieves 100% in membership, but does not surpass 50 total members will be honored with a certificate and a check for \$300. Posts with less than 50 members are excluded from the requirement to recruit one new member. These Posts will each be known as a "Meritorious Post".



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
2022-2023 ALL-STATE PROGRAM
AND ANNUAL STATE AWARDS
(JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023)
“No One Does More For Veterans”
Department of Virginia - 100th Anniversary**

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 100% quotas will be based on the June 30, 2022 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 2022-2023

September 15, 2022 Department membership 75%
December 30, 2022 Department membership 90%
March 30, 2023 Department membership 95%
May 12, 2023 Department membership 100%
June 30, 2023 Department membership 105%

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 May 5, 2023.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250
- d. Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- e. 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 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 May 5, 2023.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250
- d. Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- e. 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. Drawings will be held on the day of awards judging. 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.

- a. The first drawing will be held on September 23, 2022 and the Post must have 75% of its 2023 membership quota to participate.
- b. The second drawing will be held on October 28, 2022 and the Post must have 85% of its 2023 membership quota to participate
- c. The third drawing will be held on January 27, 2023 and the Post must have 95% of its 2023 membership quota to participate.
- d. The fourth drawing will be held on March 24, 2023 and the Post must have 100% of its 2023 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 May 12, 2023. 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 2022-2023 100% membership goal by May 12, 2023. These awards will be presented at the Posts' respective District meetings.

LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Post with the largest increase of new Legacy Life Members will receive a check in the amount of \$200.00. The judging will be based on Legacy Life Membership as of May 5, 2023. The award will be presented at the State Convention.

2022-2023 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 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2023
2. The Post Quartermaster 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 16, 2022, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 12, 2023 to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend each District meeting.

5. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend the School of Instruction.
6. The Post must send a Post Officer to the State Recruiting School.
7. 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.
8. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or fraction thereof.
9. The Post must donate to the Department **Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF)** Posts with:
 - a. 500 or more members - \$135.00
 - b. 100 to 499 members - \$110.00
 - c. 99 members or less - \$85.00
10. The Post must have submitted the following reports at least **ONCE** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **ONCE** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30)
 - a. Hospital Report
 - b. Americanism Report
 - c. Community Activities Report
 - d. Safety Report
 - e. Youth Activities Report
11. The Post must participate in at least 2 of the 3 following programs:
 - a. Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
 - b. Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
 - c. Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)
12. The Post must recruit at least one new member.

Note1: Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all three programs.

Note2: One (1) additional point for each of the submission of an entry for EMT, Fireman, Law Enforcement, and/or Scout of the Year.

Note3: 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 additional member above 100%.

Note4: Posts with less than 50 members are not eligible for the All-State Team. To be eligible Posts must increase their membership to 50 or more members.

Note5: A Post with less than 50 members who completes all other requirements of the All State program, achieves 100% in membership, but does not surpass 50 total members will be honored with a certificate and a check for \$300. Posts with less than 50 members are excluded from the requirement to recruit one new member. These Posts will each be known as a "Meritorious Post".

POST ALL STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all the criteria, including membership, by May 5, 2023 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) 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 May 5, 2023 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 May 5, 2023 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 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 membership, by May 5, 2023 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) 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 May 5, 2023 and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All-State Quartermasters meeting the criteria except for membership by May 12, 2023 and then meeting the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.

3. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest points in the All-State judging on May 5, 2023 will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the Year 2022-2023. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be the Captains of the All-State Team.

4. The Awards and Citation Committee will break all ties and their decision will be considered the recommendation to the State Commander.

5. The State Commander shall make the final decision for all recommendations of awards and the decision shall be final.

2022-2023 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 June 30, 2023

2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than December 16, 2022 with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 5, 2023 to complete this requirement.

3. The District Quartermaster must be properly bonded.

4. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

5. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least **once** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **once** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30):

- a. Hospital Report
- b. Americanism Report
- c. Community Activities Report
- d. Safety Report
- e. Youth Activities Report

6. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of September 2022.
Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.

7. The District must donate \$100.00 to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

DISTRICT ALL STATE DISTRICT AWARDS

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by May 5, 2023 (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 May 5, 2023 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 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 May 5, 2023

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Reports dated May 5, 2023. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Annual members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will receive:

1. Their Annual Dues (National and Department portions) paid by the Department for the current year.

2. Their name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership.

Note1: For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the Life Membership Drawing.

The drawing for *the Life Membership* listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.

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.

Note2: For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing.

The drawing for the *Legacy Life Membership* award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging May 5, 2023

Members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will be entered in a drawing for:

a. Round trip airfare to the 124th National Convention.

b. 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.

Note3: 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 May 5, 2023.

POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Post Commanders who have their Post 100% in membership by Dec 31, 2022 will receive a Department Commanders jacket. Winners will be announced at Winter Council, jackets will be presented at a District Meeting.

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS

Individual recruiters will also receive for:

- a. 10 New or Reinstated Members – a Pen and Key Chain Set
- b. 20 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's Challenge Coin
- c. 35 New or Reinstated Members – a Department Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap and citation
- b. 50 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's "Top State Recruiter" shirt
- d. 75 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's jacket

These awards will be presented at the State Convention.

Note: Recruiters must meet the criteria by May 5, 2023 to receive cap, shirt and jacket at convention.

Note: Recruiters who have previously received an Aide-de-Camp cap will only receive 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 2023-2023 Membership Year. They will receive the following:

- a. A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the State Convention.
- b. A Department citation.
- c. A distinctive cap and name badge
- d. 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 2022-2023 Membership Year will receive the following:

- b. A Department citation.
- c. A large trophy

These awards will be presented at the State Convention.

THE GEORGE C. DALBY AWARD

The George C. Dalby Award is presented to any Post member for outstanding participation in VFW programs. Rules for this contest are sent to each Post in the spring. Deadline for submission to State

Headquarters is the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2023. Post and District Commanders are excluded from this award. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

THE W. B. SHAFER, JR. MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The W.B. Shafer, Jr. Membership Award is presented to the Post making the greatest percentage gain in membership as shown by the State Membership Report dated the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2022. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

THE RICHARD A. (AI) GUAGER AMERICANISM AWARD

The Richard A. (AI) Guager Americanism Award is presented annually. Rules for this contest are sent to each Post in the spring. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is by the day prior to awards judging May 12, 2023. This award will be presented at the State Convention. Posts placing second through tenth will receive a citation.

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 May 5, 2023. 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 January 10, 2023. 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 January 10, 2023. 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.

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 January 10, 2023. 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 plaque, 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. Wooddell 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 May 5, 2023. 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.

THE CLAIR B. POFF PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

The Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award is presented to three (3) Posts for the most outstanding newsletter or publication for their size group and then forwarded to National for judging. Group 1:

Membership 99 members or less; Group 2: Membership 100 to 179; and Group 3: Membership 180 or more. To enter, send two different copies of your Post Newsletter to State Headquarters along with the editor's name and address. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 10, 2023. Judging will determine first, second, and third place winners.

THE ROBERT H. RINER AWARD

The Robert H. Riner Award is presented to the District Commander with the highest percentage gain in membership over the last year. Membership gain will be as shown by the State Membership Report dated the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2023. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

WILLIAM T. (BILL) ALLEN HOSPITAL AWARD

The William T. (Bill) Allen Hospital Award is presented to Posts with outstanding reporting of hospital work. The winning Posts will be determined by the State Hospital Chairman. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Hospital award categories are:

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 250
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

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 Winter Council of Administration Banquet. In addition, each Post participating in the VOD program will receive a citation.

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

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 Winter Council of Administration Banquet. In addition, each Post participating in the PP program will receive a citation.

Note: The State 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 1st 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, 2022 to April 30, 2023 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. All Posts entering a Community Service Record

Book will have a chance to win a monetary award in the amount of \$200.00 if judged best overall entry in their respective membership category. One (1) check will be issued in each membership category.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 250
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

BUDDY POPPY CITATIONS

Buddy Poppy Citations will be presented to the District Commander whose District purchased the most Buddy Poppies and to District Commanders whose Districts had 100% participation in the Buddy Poppy Program. The Post in each District that purchased the most Buddy Poppies will also be presented a citation. These awards will be presented at their next District Meeting.

COMMENTS:

"This year, I would like to congratulate all of the members of the VFW Department of Virginia on achieving your 100th Anniversary. I wish each and every member an excellent year and I hope all of our Posts and Districts reach their goals and strive for achieving All-State and All-American status. Furthermore, I hope that all members will try to recruit or reinstate at least one new member, and our dedicated recruiters will endeavor to achieve new 'personal bests' this year. Your Department Officers are here to assist you in the performance of your duties. We are Veterans Helping Veterans!"

Respectfully,

GEOFFREY D. LYSTER
State Commander

All-American District Checklist

All-American District Leadership Criteria

Membership greater than 100%

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 **25** 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 100%
2	3,282	4,999	Over 100%
3	2,172	3,281	Over 100%
4	1,447	2,171	Over 100%
5	906	1,446	Over 100%
6	1	905	Over 100%

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.)

All awards are non-transferable

Post/District/Department: Membership must be greater than 100 percent, which means 100 percent plus one in overall membership.

Early Bird Award – VFW Legislative Conference: Each winner if able must walk Capitol Hill with their Departments and attend the Voice of Democracy (VOD) parade of winners.

Top Five Recruiter Award: Seminar is outside the continental United States and requires current passport to attend. Must be valid for 6 months after the trip dates.

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. For further information about the *Commander’s “Official Visit or Round Up”*, please contact the Membership Department by calling **1-888-JOIN-VFW** or by email at membership@vfw.org

Donations made to replace a Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen (By eligible overseas Post). **Do not donate through your Department or by any other means.** Use this link:
<https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfwprogramsdonation>

Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the following link: <https://heroes.vfw.org/page/22950/donate/1>

****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**

All-American Post Checklist

Membership greater than 100%

Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through All-American Dashboard.

Post-Election Report must be submitted to National

Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:

Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District Judging

Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging

Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Program Services, minimum of \$100

National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to next level of judging (Overseas Post donate \$75 to National in lieu of entry)

A Post must submit a community service report to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard NLT 30 June 2023

Buddy Poppy- Purchase five 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 **50** 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 - *Quartermaster may purchase cap*
- All-American lapel pin - Commander - *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
1	951+		Over 100%
2	750	950	Over 100%
3	356	749	Over 100%
4	246	355	Over 100%
5	185	245	Over 100%
6	143	184	Over 100%

7	112	142	Over 100%
8	88	111	Over 100%
9	68	87	Over 100%
10	51	67	Over 100%
11	10	50	Over 100%

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.)

All awards are non-transferable

Post/District/Department: Membership must be greater than 100 percent, which means 100 percent plus one in overall membership.

Early Bird Award – VFW Legislative Conference: Each winner if able must walk Capitol Hill with their Departments and attend the Voice of Democracy (VOD) parade of winners.

Top Five Recruiter Award: Seminar is outside the continental United States and requires current passport to attend. Must be valid for 6 months after the trip dates.

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. For further information about the *Commander’s “Official Visit or Round Up”*, please contact the Membership Department by calling **1-888-JOIN-VFW** or by email at membership@vfw.org

Donations made to replace a Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen (By eligible overseas Post). **Do not donate through your Department or by any other means.** Use this link: <https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfwprogramsdonation>

Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the following link: <https://heroes.vfw.org/page/22950/donate/1>

**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



Timothy “Tim” M. Borland
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

Without question, our membership numbers have decreased every year except for two years in the last 30 years. Yes, we have been successful in recruiting new members. However, the effort across the organization needs to improve if we want our influence in Congress to be noticed.

Today, the Veterans of Foreign Wars is 123 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. If we repeated that same scenario again

next year and the year after, we could be easily back over 2,000,000 members strong. When you are out there recruiting, remember this one thing: Every Veteran Counts!

Membership Goals

1. Build a strong organization through recruiting new members while retaining our current membership that creates a solid baseline for the future.
2. Work together to achieve the 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

- 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
- Provide Membership Assistance, using teams from your conference to assist and mentor those who request assistance.

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)
- 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
- Promotional tools such as radio spots, sample advertisements, public service announcements, and media kits are all available through the Media Room on vfw.org

See the trend? Just about anything you will need is at 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 Belt Buckle or Jewelry Set & Citation
- **50** National Aide-De-Camp cap and Citation
- **75** Commemorative Medallion Set
- **100** Century cap or \$50 VFW Store credit & Citation
- **175** CIC Century Plus Jacket

Department “100 Percent” Incentive

Any Department that attains 100% in membership by close of business on May 1st, 2023, will be entered into a random drawing. The commander plus guest and quartermaster plus guest 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 and the top two District Commanders and Quartermasters on Jan. 1, 2023, will receive:

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

Department Early Bird Incentive

For every Department that achieves 92% in membership by Jan. 1, 2023; the Department commander and quartermaster will receive:

- **A Henry .30-30 Caliber Rifle or a credit voucher of equal value for use with Veterans Travel Services (VTS) or the VFW Store.**

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, 2023, will each be awarded:

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

Kansas City Spree

The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 100% membership by April 1, 2023, along with their guest will each be awarded:

- **Round-trip airfare to Kansas City, Mo. from the airport nearest the awardee's home.**
- **A fun-filled weekend (May 18-21, 2023) that may include but is not limited to touring, shopping and a complete tour of the VFW National Headquarters.**

100% Post, District & Department

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 100% or greater in membership before July 1, 2023.

100% Commander Drawing

Each Post and District commander that exceeds 100% in membership by June 1, 2023, 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, 2022, and April 1, 2023, 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, 2023, 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 5 National Recruiters

The top five Recruiters plus a guest on February 1, 2023, will each receive:

- **Transportation and Accommodations to attend the Commander-in-Chief's Seminar in May 2023. (SEE IMPORTANT NOTES SECTION)**

Top Department Recruiter

The top Recruiter in every Department on July 1, 2023, will receive:

- **A Henry .30-30 Caliber Rifle or a credit voucher of equal value for use with Veterans Travel Services (VTS).**

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, 2023, will receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Distinctive cap, CIC Elite Recruiter Jacket, 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, 2023, 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, CIC ROY Jacket, 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 greater than 100%
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through All-American Dashboard.
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:
 - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$75 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$75 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 – one entry advanced to next level of judging (Overseas Post donate \$75 to National in lieu of entry)
- A Post must submit a community service report to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard NLT 30 June 2023
- Buddy Poppy- Purchase five 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 **50** 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 greater than 100%
- 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 (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 Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

- The Top **25** 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 greater than 100%.
- 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, 2023, 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, 2022.
- 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 2023.

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).

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 State/Department leading each conference will be entrusted with the conference membership colors for the following year. The 2021-2022 Conference winners will return the colors to the membership booth at National Convention in Phoenix, AZ no later than COB on Monday after the Joint Opening Session. The 2022-2023 Conference winners will then pick up the colors from the Membership Director at National Convention in July 2023 in Phoenix, AZ any time after 0800 on Tuesday at the Membership booth.

The Conference with the highest membership percentage of the four Conferences will 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 2022-2023 Conference Chairman will return the trophy to the membership booth at National Convention in Phoenix, AZ no later than COB on Saturday to ensure placement of the new nameplate. This trophy will be presented to the 2022-2023 Conference Chairman on stage during the Joint Opening Session**.

Post Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
1	951+		Over 100%
2	750	950	Over 100%
3	356	749	Over 100%
4	246	355	Over 100%
5	185	245	Over 100%
6	143	184	Over 100%
7	112	142	Over 100%
8	88	111	Over 100%
9	68	87	Over 100%
10	51	67	Over 100%
11	10	50	Over 100%

District Membership Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Percentages

Division	Total Membership		Qualifying Percentage
1	5,000	14,000	Over 100%
2	3,282	4,999	Over 100%
3	2,172	3,281	Over 100%
4	1,447	2,171	Over 100%
5	906	1,446	Over 100%
6	1	905	Over 100%

Important Notes

- In order to receive stipends, awardees must attend designated events
- Only **one** National paid stipend per event (National Convention, legislative Conference, etc.)
- **All awards are non-transferable**
- **Post/District/Department:** Membership must be greater than 100 percent, which means 100 percent plus one in overall membership.
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