

ATTENTION

All Email Accounts have been reset as of June 21st.

The new default password is: VFW2024!

**Please note Officer Bonds and Employee Bonds
expire August 31, 2024**

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



“Of the Veterans and For the Veterans”

NUMBER 1

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

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

July 1, 2024

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

State Commander	Mitch Rubenstein	mrubenstein@vfwva.org	Post 2447
Senior Vice Commander	Doug Hoffman	dhoffman@vfwva.org	Post 3160
Junior Vice Commander	Mark Maggio	mmaggio@vfwva.org	Post 4639
Adjutant/Quartermaster	Ed Mann	adj@vfwva.org	Post 9808
Judge Advocate	Charles Bush	cbush@vfwva.org	Post 3103
Surgeon	Randy Coker	rcoker@vfwva.org	Post 1503
PDC	Gary Adams	gadams@vfwva.org	Post 1115
Chief of Staff	Butch Schupska	bschupska@vfwva.org	Post 3160
State Chaplain	Robert P. Ruffolo	chaplain@vfwva.org	Post 12218
State Inspector	Ken Shannon	kshannon@vfwva.org	Post 4639
District 1 Commander	John E. Collins	cdrdist1@vfwva.org	Post 960
District 2 Commander	Ronald L. Riffle	cdrdist2@vfwva.org	Post 4809
District 3 Commander	Paul Smith	cdrdist3@vfwva.org	Post 9808
District 4 Commander	Mark Wilson	cdrdist4@vfwva.org	Post 8163
District 5 Commander	David Gilleran	cdrdist5@vfwva.org	Post 4637
District 6 Commander	George Winters	cdrdist6@vfwva.org	Post 12179
District 7 Commander	Richard Petro	cdrdist7@vfwva.org	Post 2123
District 8 Commander	Todd A. Taylor	cdrdist8@vfwva.org	Post 3103
District 9 Commander	Dan Boyer	cdrdist9@vfwva.org	Post 7726
District 10 Commander	Raymond Delpesche	cdrdist10@vfwva.org	Post 1177
District 11 Commander	Alexander Thymmons	cdrdist11@vfwva.org	Post 1499

District 12 Commander
District 13 Commander

Elizabeth Wicht
Virgle Lane

cdrdist12@vfwva.org
cdrdist13@vfwva.org

Post 1994
Post 8947

At the 102nd Annual State Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia, held in Williamsburg, Virginia, June 15, 2024, I, Mitchell Rubenstein, 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 15, 2024, except those set forth in the By-Laws.

2. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024-2025:

COMMITTEES	POSITION	FIRST	Last Name	Post
Audit Committee	Chairman	Tom	Gimble	1503
Audit Committee	Member	James	Adams	7916
Audit Committee	Member	Sheri	Moore	3103
Audit Committee	Member	Eric	Mallett	4809
Audit Committee	Member	David	Jarrett	12179
Awards & Citations	Chairman	Steve	Byrne	9339
Awards & Citations	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809
Awards & Citations	Member	Sandra	Terry	1115
Buddy Poppies	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Member	Sheri	Moore	3103
Budget	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Budget	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Budget	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
By Laws & SOP	Chairman	Charles	Bush	3103
By Laws & SOP	Member	Randy	Coker	1503
By Laws & SOP	Member	Ken	Shannon	4639
Community Services	Chairman	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Credentials	Chairman	Jill	Lynch	3219
Disaster Relief	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Disaster Relief	Member	Doug	Hoffman	3160
Fund Raisers	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Fund Raisers	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Fund Raisers	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
Gaming Legislation	Chairman	Hal	Roesch	3219
Gaming Legislation	Member	Paul	Smith	9808
Gaming Legislation	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Gaming Legislation	Member	Monit	Zimmerman	7589
Gaming Legislation	Member	Dan	Boyer	7726
Gaming Legislation	Member	Chris	Birch	9760
Grave Registrar	Chairman	Robert	Ruffolo	12218
Homecoming Committee	Chairman	Charles	Bush	3103
Homecoming Committee	Member	Joanne	Smith	9808
Homecoming Committee	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Homecoming Committee	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639

Honor Guard	Captain	George	Winters	12179
Hospital/Suicide Prevention	Chairman	Robert	Ruffolo	12218
Hospitality	Chairman	James	Cooper	637
Hospitality	Member	Howard	Minton	1115
IT/Zoom Committee	Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
IT/Zoom Committee	Member	Todd	Taylor	3103
IT/Zoom Committee	Member	Michael	Diaz	9760
IT/Zoom Committee	Member	Ronnie	Steele	2582
Joint Leadership Council	Member	Richard	Raskin	7589
Joint Leadership Council	Member	Joanne	Smith	9808
JROTC Committee	Chairman	Deadra	Miller	8169
JROTC Committee	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Legislative Committee - National	Chairman	Jill	Lynch	3219
Legislative Committee – State	Chairman	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Legislative Committee	Member	Doc	Crouch	3150
Legislative Committee	Member	Garland	Hamlett	8902
Legislative Committee	Member	Tom	Levitt	1503
Legislative Committee	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Membership/Life Membership – North	Chairman	Todd	Taylor	3103
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Tom	Troy	5412
Membership/Life Membership - South	Member	Troy	Wagers	392
National VFW Program	Chairman	Butch	Schupska	3160
Newspaper	Chairman	Randy	Coker	1503
Outreach	Chairman	Jerry	Jacobsen	1841
Parliamentarian	Chairman	Rick	Raskin	7589
Patriots Pen	Chairman	Michael	Diaz	9760
Patriots Pen	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Patriots Pen	Member	Ashley	Gurley	12202
Personnel	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Personnel	Member	Hal	Roesch	3219
Personnel	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503
Personnel	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
POW/MIA Committee	Chairman	Michael	Chism	2582
Programs Scholar's App. Coordinator	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Resolutions Committee	Chairman	M. Conrad	Agresti	3150
Resolutions Committee	Member	Jill	Lynch	3219
Resolutions Committee	Member	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Resolutions Committee	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Resolutions Committee	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809
Scouting	Chairman	Bob	Fenlason	7916
Service Officer		Laurie	Clay	8545
Service Officer	Asst.	John	Birdwell	4809
Service Officer	Asst.	Raymond	Bailey	1503
Southern Conference	Chairman	Hal	Roesch	3219
Southern Conference	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Teacher's Recognition	Chairman	Chris	Birch	9760

Teacher's Recognition	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Time & Place Committee	Chairman	Jeff	Dombroff	9835
Time & Place Committee	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Time & Place Committee	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Time & Place Committee	Member	Tony	Lunn	9835
Time & Place Committee	Member	David	Jarrett	12179
Veterans and Military Support Committee	Chairman	Jerry	Jacobsen	1841
Vietnam War Commemoration	Chairman	Jeff	Dombroff	
VFW Riders	Chairman	Mark	Shockley	3219
Voice of Democracy Committee	Chairman	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Voice of Democracy Committee	Member	Glenda	Indyck	4639
Women Veterans Committee	Chairman	Joanne	Smith	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Doris	Wollett	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Sandra	Terry	1115
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Jill	Lynch	3219

3. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

I'd like to start this first General Order off with thanking everyone that played a part in making the State Convention a huge success. The effort that is required to ensuring that the schedule of events is adhered to and kept on track is a direct reflection on Ed and Angie from Headquarters along with everyone that assisted them at the Convention.

I cannot express how grateful I am for the incredible honor of serving as your Commander for 2024–2025. Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility, and I am truly humbled to follow in the footsteps of the esteemed leaders who have come before me.

My commitment is never-ending, as Dawn and I embark on this journey together we will always uphold the timeless traditions of the VFW and Auxiliary as we continue to serve our Department and its members diligently. Building upon the remarkable achievements of our past Department Commander Gary Adams and Department Auxiliary President Vicki Butler, you can rest assure that my counterpart Dawn Kuhn and I will undertake these roles with great respect and dedication to all our members.

Together, let us move towards our shared goals, pushing boundaries, and exceeding expectations every step of the way. Your support and dedication will be instrumental as we navigate this path together. As the Line officers along with the District Commanders begin the SOI training, I hope that you will find the content informative. This training provides a better understanding of the tasks and requirements necessary to make All State and All-American.

We are One Team and One Family; the Auxiliary is a unique part of that and should be given all the respect they deserve for their contributions and unwavering support to help the Veterans of Foreign Wars succeed now and into the future. We would not have achieved the success and accolades we have, if it wasn't for their steadfast participation. We owe it to the Auxiliary to let their members know we are thankful for all they have done and continue to do.

I look forward to meeting you all and getting to work, you may notice some new ideas and challenges, however, we must always remember our motto "**No one does more for Veterans**". I plan to work hard to accomplish the goals that have been set for this year, but I need your help and total participation to get it done. Together, we will make a difference, and together we will make it happen.

Those attending the National Convention here is the tentative uniform of the day:

Friday, July 26th – Travel day

Saturday, July 27th – Red Shirt

Sunday, July 28th – Orange Shirt
Monday, July 29th – Black Shirt
Tuesday, July 30th – Purple Shirt – for Gary
Wednesday, July 31st – Black Shirt
Thursday, August 1st – Black Shirt

Yours in Comradeship, and Service,
Mitchell “Mitch” Rubenstein
State Commander

4. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

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

5. ALL STATE:

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

VFW Post 4809, District 2, Norfolk, VA
VFW Post 637, District 3, Hopewell, VA
VFW Post 6364, District 3, Richmond, VA

VFW Post 4491, District 6, New Castle, VA
VFW Post 3150, District 10, Arlington, VA

6. CHAPLAIN’S CORNER:

Deus Lo Vult!

Welcome to Chaplain’s Corner. This is a space for our Chaplains across the State of Virginia to share resources, coordinate activities, nurture our spiritual needs and encourage self-reflection amongst our Comrades.

But first, I want to thank all of you for your confidence in me in our past election. The call to the Chaplaincy is a special charism of deepening our service and nurturing our spirits. Chaplains are the Commander’s spiritual rock. The Chaplain plays a unique role in ministering to veterans and their families. According to our Congressional Charter, the Chaplain “*shall be concerned with the spiritual needs of the members and by precept and example, point the way toward a high moral plane for the organization.*” In their work, the Chaplain provides a focal point to help us in nurturing the living, caring for the dying, and honoring the dead regardless of faith tradition. Whether it is responding to a member in crises, comforting a bereaved family member, or providing invocations at functions, your Chaplains are here to serve you.

To accomplish this important work, over the course of the next year your Chaplaincy is going to prepare a multi-year strategy to revitalize our State Chaplaincy programs. We will look at including reflective passages, resources, and a monthly Zoom meeting to support each other and coordinate our activities. We will create a social media presence to nurture comradeship and spirituality. Additionally, we will explore the creation of a presence on the State Headquarters page. We also want to hear from you about what you need from your Chaplains. Details to follow as we move out on this.

One simple act we will encourage for everyone is taking time out of our hectic lives to pause and reflect. Making time for reflection is critical to a healthy mind. An example of this might be to spend a few minutes and think about the events of our last state convention. We are blessed by the friends we made, relationships we bolstered, and things we learned that can help us improve ourselves and our Posts.

I’d like to end with the words of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who are laboring among you and who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you, and to show esteem for them with special love on account of their work.

Be at peace among yourselves. We urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, cheer the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient with all.

See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good [both] for each other and for all. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

In Faith,
Robert Ruffolo
State Chaplain
Celebrating 30 Years of Service to the VFW

7. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: 8/24/24 SOI: 9:00 AM Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 176 Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: St. Chief-of-Staff Butch Schupska	7 th	Date: 8/10/24 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 12:30 PM Location: 9760 Berryville 425 S Buckmarsh St Rep:
2 nd	Date: 8/10/24 Meeting: 9:00 AM Location: Post 392 Virginia Beach 2408 Bowland Parkway Rep: St. Chief-of-Staff Butch Schupska	8 th	Date: 8/10/24 Meeting: 9:00 AM SOI: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7728 Morrisville 112496 Harpers Run Rd, Bealeton Rep: St Cmdr Mitch Rubenstein
3 rd	Date: 8/10/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: State JVC Mark Maggio	9 th	Date: 9/14/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 2719 Wytheville 250 S 4 th Street Rep: State Judge Advocate Charles Bush
4 th	Date: 8/10/24 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8163 Clarksville 7488 Highway 15N Rep: State Inspector Ken Shannon	10 th	Date: 8/25/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Rd Rep: State Surgeon Randy Coker
5 th	Date: 8/17/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep: State SVC Doug Hoffman	11 th	Date: TBD Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:
6 th	Date: 8/3/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Avenue NW Rep: State Surgeon Randy Coker	12 th	Date: 7/13/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 7360 Grundy 2959 Lovers Gap Rd, Vansant

13th Date 8/17/24
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Lunch: Noon
SOI: 12:30 PM
Location: Post 8947 Mineral
201 Mineral Ave
Rep: St. Cmdr Mitch Rubenstein

8. DELINQUENT:

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Election Reports
2	8545	18.00		
3	8529	9.00		
3	9501	9.00		
4	7819	6.00		
4	7897			Yes
4	8446		March	
4	8759			Yes
4	9855	9.00		
5	647	15.00		
5	873	3.00	March	
5	7854	9.00		
5	8467	6.00		
6	4299	6.00	March	
6	5895	3.00		
6	9877	6.00		
6	12179			Yes
7	621	15.00		
7	1860	21.00		
7	8613		Sept March	
7	9292	9.00		
9	4667		Sept Dec March	
9	7136		March	
10	609	18.00		
10	7327	45.00		
11	632	24.00		
11	3060	3.00		
11	4204	3.00		
11	8479	3.00		Yes
11	9339	6.00		
11	10826	9.00		
12	4301	6.00	Dec, March	Yes
12	5715	12.00		Yes
12	6975	21.00		
12	7360	6.00		
12	9830	6.00		Yes
12	9864	6.00	March	

9. DMV CUSTOM PLATES:

There have been several inquiries to headquarters about the VFW license Plates for vehicles. They are still available and there is an additional fee. To purchase these plates you will need a current or life membership card or a recent

dated letter on VFW letterhead from a Post Commander, Adjutant or Quartermaster verifying a good standing membership. Details and fees can be found under www.dmv.virginia.gov then Custom Plates.

10. 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.

11. 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.

Also, 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**.

12. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 21st**. 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 **VFW2024!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

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

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

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

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

13. 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.

14. HOMECOMING SHIRTS:

Please note that we will be doing another order of the Black 2024-2025 Homecoming Shirts. The Order forms are in the attachments.

15. IMPORTANT DATES:

July 27 - Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 22 – 25, 2024	Commander-in-Chief Homecoming, Savannah, Georgia (see attachment)
November 7-9, 2024	Southern Conference, Nashville, TN (see attachment)
January 9 - 12, 2025	Winter Council Meeting, Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA: phone 757-220-2250. Room Rates are \$92.00 per night.
August 9 - 14, 2025	National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

16. 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.

17. 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 has been 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.

18. MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE:

Your Cooties had lots of fun conducted degree work at the Annual Convention adding 10 new Cooties to our Pup Tents. We are looking for a few good VFW members to start a new Pup Tent in Western Virginia. Upcoming Cootie events are Cootie Safari in August and Tomb Trek in Arlington in November. Our Grand of Virginia website is <https://lotcsva.org/> and the Supreme website is <https://lotcs.org/> where you can find more information on starting a Pup Tent.

For more information on the Military Order of the Cootie please contact Ken Shannon Grand Commander at grandcdr@vfwva.org.

Thank You for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Ken Shannon
Grand Commander

19. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

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

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>		<i>Annual Payouts:</i>		
<i>Levels</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Departments</i>	<i>National</i>	
Gold- \$1,200.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	
Silver- \$800.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	
Bronze- \$400.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	

What will your Legacy be?

20. NATIONAL CONVENTION:

VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING – 125th National Convention housing opened, Monday, March 18, 2024. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at vfw.org/convention. The convention website will also have general convention information including the registration form and links to other convention related information for Louisville, Kentucky – July 27-Aug. 1, 2024, and a tentative agenda (also attached in last month’s General Orders).

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

21. OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Dale City, Norfolk and Smithfield Service Offices will be closed July 4-7, 2024, in observance of Independence Day.

State Headquarters will close at noon on July 3, 2024, and reopen on July 8, 2024, in observance of Independence Day. Also State Headquarters will close at 2:30 pm on July 25, 2024.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster Mann will be available by phone and email.

22. 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.

23. PATRIOT'S DAY:

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.

24. 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.

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. RECRUITING SOI:

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

Saturday August 10th at Post 7728 Morrisville - 11:00 AM

Saturday August 24th at Post 8545 Smithfield – 10:00 AM

We look forward to seeing everyone at training.

28. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:

The 2024–25 themes were chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt. The Voice of Democracy theme will be **"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"** and the Patriot's Pen theme will be **"My Voice in America's Democracy?"**

29. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 299:

Membership Inactive
Ronald D. Elmore, VFW Post No.1264

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 Ronald D. Elmore, Life Membership No. 1072429, be removed from the rolls of Irvin L. Manning Post No. 1264, Roanoke, Virginia, and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States vacated per member's request.

By order of
Duane T. Sarmiento
Commander-in-Chief

30. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

Over the coming months, I will be providing a chronological history of events taking place in the named month that impacted the Vietnam War effort. Some of you may recall that I made these reports several years ago but since there is a newer audience for this information, I feel comfortable in recycling them.

The following historical events for the Vietnam War took place during July:

1954 (July 21st) - The conferees at Geneva come to an agreement, meeting French Prime Minister Pierre Mendés France. This final agreement of the Geneva Accords establishes a ceasefire in Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam, officially ending the First Indochina War. In Vietnam, the accords create two “regroupment” zones separated by a Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) roughly along the 17th parallel, and restrict the activities of foreign military personnel in Southeast Asia. French forces must withdraw south of the DMZ and Communist forces north. The accords also call for a general election within two years in both the North and the South to establish a single national government. An International Control Commission (ICC) composed of Canada, Poland, and India supervises the implementation of this agreement. The United States refuses to acknowledge most of this agreement but does sign the “cease fire” portion.

1959 (July 1st) – Through the end of the year, Operation HOTFOOT deploys U.S. Army Special Forces dressed in civilian clothes to clandestinely train the Laotian Army—as well as Hmong and other ethnic minorities in Laos—to fight Pathet Lao Communist forces. The United States later extends the operation to include combat operations against the North Vietnamese Army, and renames it Operation WHITE STAR in 1961. WHITE STAR formally ends in July 1962, when Laos officially becomes neutral.

1962 (July 1st) - The United States establishes Headquarters Support Activity, Saigon (HSAS). HSAS is primarily staffed by Navy personnel, but is under the operational control of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. HSAS staff provide administrative and logistics support—including supply and fiscal, public works, medical and dental, commissary and exchange, special services, and housekeeping functions—to MACV and MAAG and also to Navy, Army, and Air Force components in Saigon. HSAS activities play a vital role in supporting the American military buildup in Vietnam.

1965 (July 1st) - U.S. Coast Guard Squadron One arrives in Vietnam. Squadron One commands the Coast Guard units involved in Operation MARKET TIME and initially includes 17 patrol boats separated into two divisions. Division 11 patrols along the Cambodian and South Vietnamese coasts in the Gulf of Thailand. Division 12 is based at Da Nang and patrols the Vietnam coastline from the 17th parallel, south. The Coast Guard adds a third division, Division 13, in February 1966 to patrol the waters of the Mekong Delta. During Squadron One’s first year of operations, its personnel board and inspect approximately 30,000 Vietnamese junks and capture over 100 tons of enemy supplies.

1965 (July 8th) - The Vietnam Service Medal is created by Executive Order 11231. It is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who serve in combat operations, or for specified periods of time, in specific areas of Southeast Asia between July 4, 1965 and March 28, 1973. Those who received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in Vietnam between July 1, 1958 and July 3, 1965 are also eligible for the Vietnam Service Medal.

1965 (July 16th) - The 161 Battery, Royal New Zealand Artillery, begins combat operations in Vietnam. The 161 Battery is attached to the U.S. 173d Airborne Brigade with the primary mission of supporting the 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, based at Bien Hoa Air Base outside Saigon.

1965 (July 24th) - North Vietnamese troops fire multiple Soviet-built, radar-guided, surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) at a flight of U.S. Air Force F-4 Phantoms over North Vietnam. One SAM downs the Phantom flown by pilot Captain Richard P. Keirn and radar intercept officer Captain Roscoe H. Fobair. This is the first instance of a SAM successfully destroying a U.S. aircraft in Vietnam, a significant moment in the history of air combat. Fobair is killed. Keirn successfully ejects and is captured. He spends almost eight years as a POW.

1965 (July 29th) - The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, arrives in Vietnam. The brigade is based near Cam Ranh Bay, on the coast of central South Vietnam. Its initial mission is to protect the port facilities and bases in the region from attack by Viet Cong insurgents.

1965 (July 31st) - Command of Operation MARKET TIME passes from the U.S. Navy Seventh Fleet to the U.S. Naval Advisory Group. The U.S. Navy and Coast Guard vessels carrying out MARKET TIME's surveillance and interdiction operations become the Coastal Surveillance Force, also known as Task Force 115. This task force continues to conduct patrols of South Vietnam's coastal waters with surface ships, patrol boats, and aircraft.

1966 (July 1st) - U.S. Navy carrier aircraft patrolling off of Haiphong, North Vietnam, identify three North Vietnamese torpedo boats, which fire torpedoes from long range at the destroyer USS *Rogers* and the frigate USS *Coontz*. U.S. Navy F-4 Phantoms subsequently sink the enemy boats. American ships rescue 19 North Vietnamese survivors. They are exchanged for U.S. POWs in 1967 and 1968.

1966 (July 6th) - A total of 52 American POWs from the North Vietnamese prison camps known as the "Briar Patch" and the "Zoo" are paraded in front of large crowds and cameras in Hanoi. In what is sometimes called the Hanoi March, the POWs suffer violent abuse from the crowd, including thrown objects and physical attacks that injure many of them. The march continues for about an hour. Images and news of the abuse provoke international condemnation. They also bring greater attention to the plight of POWs among the American public and inside the U.S. government.

1966 (July 7th) - U.S. Marine and South Vietnamese Army personnel launch Operation HASTINGS in response to MACV's call for more extensive operations in Quang Tri Province. Forces involved include 8,000 Marines—including four battalions of infantry, one battalion of artillery, and the First Marine Aircraft Wing—and 3,000 South Vietnamese troops. It is one of the largest operations of the war so far. Allied forces engage the well-trained North Vietnamese 324B Division south of the DMZ. Marine units patrol in force and push enemy troops into helicopter-inserted men in blocking positions. HASTINGS lasts until August 3, and the North Vietnamese suffer heavy losses during the operation.

1967 (July 15th) - The first troops of the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment (the "Queen's Cobras") arrive in South Vietnam, becoming the first Thai combat units to enter the war. They deploy near Bien Hoa Air Base and build a base camp. The main body of the regiment, which totals over three thousand men, arrives by the end of September. The Queen's Cobras begin major combat operations in October, assisting in the pacification of Bien Hoa Province. They also build a hospital and 30 miles of roads, among other civic action projects, in their area of responsibility.

1967 (July 26th) - The Department of Defense establishes the Prisoner of War Policy Committee under Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Paul C. Warnke. The committee's objective is to provide centralized direction of all POW matters and to develop official U.S. policies for the recovery, return, and treatment of American POWs.

1967 (July 29th) - While the aircraft carrier *USS Forrestal* is on Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin, a rocket from an F-4 Phantom II is accidentally triggered and shoots across the carrier's flight deck. The rocket causes a series of explosions that rock the ship. Fire engulfs one end of the flight deck and spreads below decks. All told, 134 crew members are killed and 62 are injured. Dozens of aircraft are damaged or destroyed. This is one of three major accidental fires that occur on U.S. aircraft carriers during the war.

1968 (July 1st) - The South Vietnamese government, with CIA assistance, officially creates the Phoenix Program. This program evolves from CORDS Director Robert Komer's 1967 CIA plan called Intelligence Coordination and Exploitation. Phoenix utilizes military and CIA intelligence and identifies Viet Cong operatives to target for arrest, defection, or assassination. Phoenix agents employ extremely controversial methods, and both military and civilian leaders eventually question its effectiveness. Congress begins investigating Phoenix in 1971, and the United States ends its involvement in the program the next year.

1968 (July 1st) - The U.S. Army 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) arrives in South Vietnam. It takes up station just south of the DMZ, in northern I Corps.

1968 (July 1st) - The United States increasingly relies on hundreds of American merchant vessels to support operations. To manage these ships and their crews, the U.S. Coast Guard establishes Merchant Marine Detail, Saigon. The detail is attached to the U.S. Embassy. Coast Guardsmen assigned here resolve disputes and other problems involving the growing numbers of merchant seamen in Vietnam.

1968 (July 3rd) - General Creighton W. Abrams formally succeeds General Westmoreland as commander of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. He has been acting commander since May.

1970 (July 1st) - Elements of the 101st Airborne Division occupy Fire Support Base (FSB) Ripcord, which is emplaced on a hill west of Hue, near the A Shau Valley. Multiple North Vietnamese army regiments attack the base on July 1. Surrounded and outnumbered, the men of the 101st hold out until they are given the order to evacuate the base on July 23. The battle for FSB Ripcord is the last major confrontation between North Vietnamese and U.S. ground forces during the war.

1970 (July 2nd) - Amid reports and allegations of South Vietnamese abuse of political prisoners and prisoners of war, U.S. congressmen Augustus F. Hawkins (D-CA) and William R. Anderson (D-TN) tour a South Vietnamese prison on Con Son Island, approximately 50 miles off the coast of South Vietnam. They discover that the facility holds a number of prisoners in squalid conditions, including some held in underground concrete pits, covered by iron bars. In their report, the congressmen dub the cells "tiger cages," and note that their occupants—as many as five prisoners per each six-foot-by-ten-foot cell—are shackled to the floor so that they are barely able to move. The occupants—most of whom are Viet Cong, civilian, and North Vietnamese prisoners—are generally malnourished and lack sufficient medical care.

Pictures of the Con Son prisoners appear in the July 17, 1970 issue of Life Magazine. The story and the congressional delegation's report spark outcry in the United States as well as accusations that the U.S. government is complicit in the prisoner abuse. The revelations threaten to hinder ongoing peace negotiations with North Vietnam. The U.S. State Department demands that the American mission in Saigon address the problems immediately, and the U.S. government presses South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu for reforms. The International Red Cross steps up its inspections of South Vietnamese military prisons, but the "tiger cages" of Con Son become a potent symbol for the antiwar movement.

Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Mitch Rubenstein
State Commander

The Virginia Veterans Network is here for you.

Find more information about resources and support at dvs.virginia.gov through the Virginia Veterans Network. Our offerings include:

 Burial Services	 Career Services	 Education	 Entrepreneurship	 Financial Assistance
 Fitness	 Health Services	 Homeless Assistance	 Legal Assistance	 Life Wellness
 Mental Wellness	 Social Life	 Veteran Benefits	 Volunteer Engagements	 Workshops



The Virginia Veterans Network is managed by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.



The Virginia Department of Veterans Services connects Virginia's veterans and their families to the federal and state benefits, support, quality care, and recognition they have earned.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact DVS for assistance at:

 VirginiaVeteransNetwork@dvs.virginia.gov

 804-786-0286

GET CONNECTED.

Here's how: Visit dvs.virginia.gov to create a profile and validate your veteran or service member status. After registering, you'll find services and resources from hundreds of local and nationwide organizations vetted by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS).



Scan QR code to visit the Virginia Veterans Network.

FOR SALE!

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

interested in buying or questions contact our Department Treasurer Cathy Graham cg12dc12@outlook.com



Save the Date
August 22-25, 2024
Savannah, Georgia

Al Lipphardt
VFW National Commander Homecoming

Where:

- **Hyatt Regency Savannah**
2 W. Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Group Code – G-VFWG
Room rate \$263 per night



Hotel Reservation Link – Available Now
[VFWDG - Commander-in-Chief Homecoming \(hyatt.com\)](https://www.hyatt.com/en/US/hotels/hyatt-regency-savannah)



Activities:

Hands-on Cooking Class
Painting with a Twist
Riverboat Cruise
Golf
Shopping

“Believe In What You Do – Do What You Believe In”



MONDAY



AUGUST 26, 2024

USA WARRIORS ICE HOCKEY GOLF OUTING

Chantilly National Golf & Country Club

SCHEDULE

8:00 AM
REGISTRATION
OPENS

BREAKFAST

10:00 AM
SHOTGUN
START

3:00 PM
AWARDS
LUNCHEON

PRICING

\$200 PER PLAYER

Includes golf, cart, breakfast, contests,
beverage cart, awards luncheon, open bar,
prizes and awards

\$100 AWARDS LUNCHEON ONLY

Includes awards luncheon
and open bar

SKIP THE LINE, PAY ONLINE

50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS
1 for \$20

MULLIGAN PACKAGE
1 for \$20

Register at

[GOLFINVITE.NET/USAWARRIORS](https://golfinvite.net/usawarriors)

QUESTIONS? Reach out to usawarriors@golfinvite.com





USA WARRIORS ICE HOCKEY GOLF OUTING

SPONSORSHIPS

The four (4) levels listed below (Platinum, Gold, Silver & Bronze) include signage at a hole, company logo on event website & banner.

Platinum — \$5,000

- Two (2) golf foursomes
- Most prominent logo position
- Special mention at opening & closing remarks

2 Available

Gold — \$3,000

- Two (2) golf foursomes
- Most prominent logo position

5 Available

Silver — \$1,750

- One (1) golf foursome

5 Available

Bronze — \$750

20 Available

Beverage Cart Sponsor — \$2,500

- Signage on beverage cart
- Special mention at closing remarks

2 Available

Open Bar Sponsor — \$2,500

- Signage at open bar
- Special mention at closing remarks

3 Available

Contest Sponsor — \$1,000

- Signage at contest hole

4 Available

Hole-in-One Sponsor — \$1,000

- Signage at contest hole

4 Available

Choose Your Hole (Add-On) — \$500

List your top 3 golf hole choices! Priority will be given to higher level sponsorships.

**May only be purchased with a Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze sponsorship*

Register at

GOLFINVITE.NET/USAWARRIORS

QUESTIONS? Reach out to usawarriors@golfinvite.com





SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

VFW POST 3103 STAR SPANGLED VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT



LEE'S HILL GOLF CLUB
10200 OLD DOMINION PARKWAY
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22408

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
FREDERICKSBURG AREA
VETERANS.

INDIVIDUAL PLAYER

\$125

FOURSOME

\$500



Sponsorship opportunities are available!

For more information go to:

[HTTPS://www.vfw3103.org](https://www.vfw3103.org)

or use the QR Code

Contact us at VFW3103@gmail.com



SCAN ME!!!



THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



Honoring Our Vietnam Veterans

October 3 – 6, 2024

Covington, VA

Dear Neighbor,

March 1, 2024

We have exciting news to share with you and everyone throughout the Alleghany Highlands and surrounding areas. The Wall That Heals Covington Committee is honored to have been selected to host The Wall That Heals in Covington, VA, October 3, 2024 – October 6, 2024. We are proud that Covington will be the only site in Virginia hosting this event in 2024.

The Wall That Heals honors the 58,281 service members who lost their lives and all who served defending our country during the Vietnam War. A traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D. C., the exhibit consists of The Wall That Heals and the Mobile Education Center. This three-quarter replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point.

One of the greatest benefits of having The Wall That Heals in our community is the opportunity for education at a level impossible even at The Memorial in Washington, D.C. VVWF staff who accompany the exhibit are trained to engage people of all ages and backgrounds. When combined with access to The Memorial and mobile Education Center, you have the unique ability to learn about the Vietnam War, the Memorial, and the impact each had on our nation.

The exhibit is free to the public and will be on display at the Jackson River Sports Complex. The Wall That Heals Covington will be open 24 hours a day beginning Thursday, October 3, 2024, until closing at 2:00 PM, Sunday, October 6, 2024. Guided tours for students will be available on Thursday and Friday during school hours. Other groups may schedule tours on Thursday or Friday evenings and all-day Saturday.

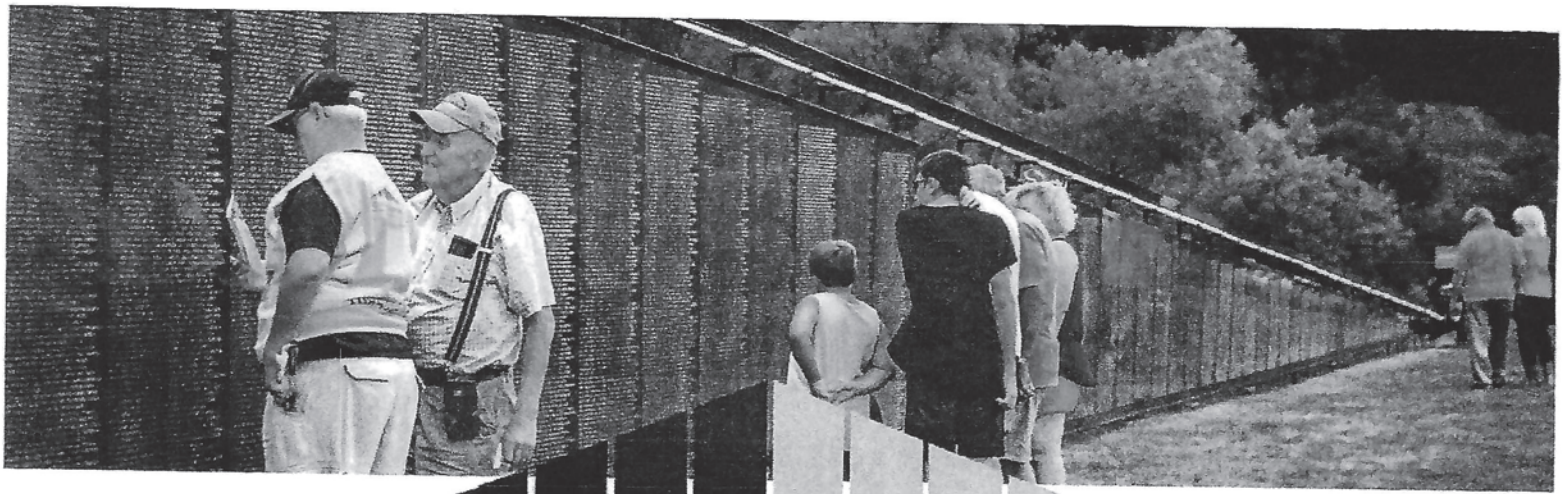
We hope to make this project a reality, but we cannot do it without the support of people like YOU! We have to raise the necessary funds six months prior to the event and ask that you consider helping to support our goal by signing up to be a sponsor today. Sponsorship details are enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact me by emailing thewallthathealscovington@gmail.com.

We look forward to partnering with you and need your support today to make the visit of The Wall That Heals Covington a reality.

Sincerely,

Cindy Wright

Sponsorship Chair



THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL

October 3 - 6, 2024

Jackson River Sports Complex

870 W Edgemont Dr., Covington, VA 24426

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - 24 HOURS

CLOSING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AT 2 PM

Group tours are available.

For more information, contact Lynda via phone at 540-691-8289 or by email at thewallthathealscovington@gmail.com.
Pre-registration for tours is preferred.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Thursday, October 3rd - Opening Ceremony at 10 A.M.
- Saturday, October 5th - Agent Orange Ceremony at 7 P.M.
- Sunday, October 6th - Closing Ceremony at 1:45 P.M.

Proudly hosted by the



FOR MORE INFORMATION

SCAN ME! >>>

OR YOU CAN VISIT

WWW.THEWALLTHATHEALSCOVINGTON.COM



The Wall That Heals Sponsorship Pledge Form

Contact Information

Business Name as you wish it to be listed: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Selecting a Sponsorship Level

Sponsorships are available to any business, individual or foundation. Event information and a detail of the benefits included for each sponsorship level are included in this packet, please see the other pages for details.

Sponsorship Level		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Sponsor	\$5,000 and above
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Sponsor	\$2,500 - \$4,999
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Sponsor	\$1,000 - \$2,499
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contributing Sponsor	\$100 - \$999

Payment Type

Enclosed is our check for \$ _____, payable to VFW Post 1033 Vietnam Wall Fund.

Sponsorships may be paid online via Card by visiting www.thewallthathealscovington.com.

Please send me an invoice for the entire pledge amount of \$ _____.

Sponsorship forms received without payment will be invoiced.

Other Opportunities

We cannot become a sponsor at this time but would like information regarding donating an in-kind item or service.

We cannot become a sponsor at this but would like more information on volunteer opportunities for this event.

★ GOLD SPONSOR

\$5,000 +

- Company or Individual name on banner displayed at the event.
- Company or Individual name featured on the event flyer.
- Company or Individual name on Volunteer T-Shirt.
- Company or Individual name cross-promoted on Social Media.
- Company or Individual name featured in Program Booklet.
- Acknowledgement on The Wall That Heals Covington Website.

★ SILVER SPONSOR

\$2,500 - \$4,999

- Company or Individual name on banner displayed at the event.
- Company or Individual name cross promoted on Social Media.
- Company or Individual name featured in Program Booklet.
- Acknowledgement on The Wall That Heals Covington Website.

★ COMMUNITY SPONSOR

\$1,000 - \$2,499

- Company or Individual name featured in Program Booklet.
- Acknowledgement on The Wall That Heals Covington Website.

★ CONTRIBUTING SPONSOR

\$100 - \$999

- Acknowledgement on The Wall That Heals Covington website.

**SCAN
ME! >>>**



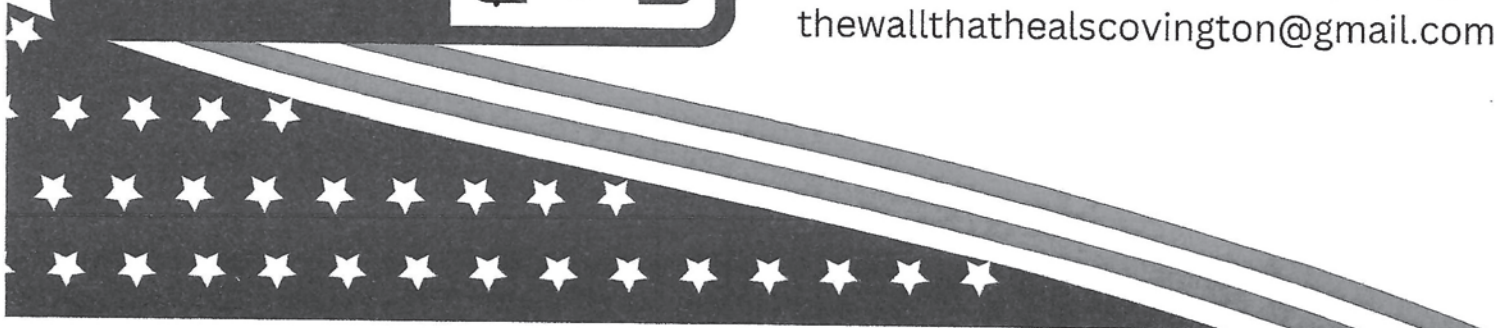
For Questions, Contact:

Cindy Wright

Sponsorship Chair

540-958-3436

thewallthathealscovington@gmail.com



VFW SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 7--9, 2024

SHERATON MUSIC CITY NASHVILLE AIRPORT

777 MCGAVOCK PIKE, NASHVILLE, TN 37214

PHONE: (615) 885-2200



WHEN YOU STAY AT SHERATON MUSIC CITY NASHVILLE AIRPORT IN NASHVILLE, YOU WILL BE 2.3 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT, WITHIN A 5.7 MILE 10-MINUTE DRIVE OF THE GRAND OLE OPRY AND NISSAN STADIUM. THIS 4-STAR HOTEL IS 8.7 MILES FROM VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY AND 7 MILES FROM THE FAMOUS NASHVILLE BROADWAY STREET OF MUSIC AND SHOWS.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW Department Tennessee
G21 War Memorial Building
301 6th Ave N
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0100

Phone: 615-242-5851
Fax: 615-244-5302
E-Mail: tnvfw@att.net
Website: www.vfwn.org

As the premier combat-related non-profit veteran organization, with lineage that dates to Spanish-American War veterans the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary (VFWA) depend on donations from patriotic individuals, corporations, foundations, small business owners, and community organizations to remain workable both nationally and within our state. Sponsorships and donations help us to continue to serve our country and our communities and stand up for the ideals and principles in which our country's founding fathers intended. Here are six basic information items below about us:

1. The VFW is one of the most respected voices in Washington D. C. lobbying for veterans' benefits.
2. National Security & Foreign Affairs is vital to the VFW. We fought in uniform to keep our country safe.
3. Ensuring all veterans receive the benefits earned and especially that women veterans receive benefits and services that honor their brave military service is one of the VFW's top Priorities.
4. VFW's concern about the homeless veterans with children as well as those that do not have children.
5. We continue with our commitment to education through our Youth Scholarship Programs. The Voice of Democracy audio-essay competition annually awards \$2 million in scholarships. Our Patriots Pen Essay Contest awards more than \$1.2 million annually.
6. The individual post in our communities continues to be the foundation of our service to our veterans and service to our communities. Our members, auxiliary members and supporters have contributed over 4.8 million volunteer hours and donated \$44.8 million annually to local community service projects. In the span of the last 20 years VFW has supplied over 11,000 grants totaling \$5,567,730 to our military families facing hardships.

As you can see from this brief list that our actions as the Veterans of Foreign Wars locally and nationally, we are an active and driving force today related to U. S. service members, veterans, and their families. Our National Motto is "No One Does More for Veterans"

There are 14 States in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Southern Conference. Each year on a rotation bases, one State sponsors a three-day conference for all 14 states so its leadership can discuss where it stands, and the progress made currently and what steps to take to maintain the effectiveness of each State in helping our veterans and military service members.

As a volunteer non-profit organization, we depend on corporations and small business to help sponsor our efforts of putting on meetings and events. We here at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Tennessee want to thank you for taking the time to consider partnering with us by selecting one of the sponsorship packages enclosed. If you decide to partner with us, please contact our Sponsorship Chairman Eric Spurbeck at 423-368-6375 or ejspurbeck@gmail.com for further information. You can also contact our VFW TN Department office at 615-242-5851 or tnvfw@att.net. These contacts will put you in touch with our team and we will be glad to collaborate with you to set up your sponsorship package.

VFW Department of TN has a 501 (C)(3) VFW Tennessee Foundation which all corporations and small business donations can be run through.

Thank you, the TN VFW Southern Conference Committee.

**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2024
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS & AUXILIARY**

November 7th to November 9th, 2024

Sheraton Music City, 777 McGavock Pike
Nashville, TN 37214-3140

For Reservations call Sheraton Music City 615-885-2200

Or use this **Booking Website Link:** <https://book.passkey.com/e/50495528>

Room Block listed as Veterans of Foreign Wars Southern Conference

Room Rate: \$189.00 plus state and local tax currently 15.25% + \$ 2.50

Cut-Off Date for Room Registration October 7, 2024

Pre-Registration fee is **\$ 90.00** per person.

Registration Fee Covers: Banquet, Hospitality Room, and Entertainment

Registration at the Conference will be **\$ 95.00.**

REGISTRATION

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____ POST/AUX: _____

PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Select one meal for your dinner at the Banquet.

Roasted Breast of Chicken with wild mushroom compote, pancetta shallot jus _____

Roasted Cod with Chardonnay Tarragon butter _____ *Each includes chefs seasonal.*

Vegetable and starch. Seasonal Green salad. Rotating of Chocolate Cake, Cheesecake

Mail this form and check for Registration To:

VFW Department of TN, G-21 War Memorial Building
301 6th Ave. N

Nashville, TN 37243-0100

E-Mail Form to tnvfw@att.net

Credit Card information

Name on Card _____ Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Security Code _____

OR Call Department of TN Office 615-242-5851 with Credit Card information

Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport

777 McGavock Pike Nashville, TN 37214

Phone: (615) 885-2200

HOTEL DESCRIPTION

Location When you stay at Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport in Nashville, you'll be 2.3 miles from the airport, within 5.7 miles a 10-minute drive of Grand Ole Opry and Nissan Stadium. This 4-star hotel is 8.7 mi (13.9 km) from Vanderbilt University and 7 mi (11.3 km) from Broadway.

Rooms Make yourself at home in one of the 410 guestrooms featuring refrigerators and flat-screen televisions. Your pillowtop bed comes with premium bedding. Rooms have private balconies. Cable programming and video-game consoles are provided for your entertainment, while complimentary wireless Internet access keeps you connected. Private bathrooms with shower/tub combinations feature designer toiletries and hair dryers.

Amenities Don't miss out on the many recreational opportunities, including an indoor pool, a 24-hour fitness center, and a seasonal outdoor pool. Additional features at this hotel include complimentary wireless Internet access, concierge services, and gift shops/newsstands.

Dining Enjoy a satisfying meal at Old Hickory Grill serving guests of Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport. Quench your thirst with your favorite drink at the bar/lounge. Buffet breakfasts are served on weekdays from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM and on weekends from 6:00 AM to 11:00 AM for a fee.

Business Amenities Featured amenities include a 24-hour business center, express check-out, and complimentary newspapers in the lobby. Event facilities at this hotel consist of conference space and a meeting room. A roundtrip airport shuttle is complimentary at scheduled times.

Spoken Languages English

Onsite Payments Visa, Diners Club, Debit cards, Cash not accepted, Discover, American Express, JCB International, Mastercard, UnionPay

Hotel Policies

- You'll be asked to pay the following charges at the property:
 - Deposit: USD 75.00 per accommodation, per stay
We have included all charges provided to us by the property.
 - Fee for buffet breakfast: approximately USD 18.95 for adults and USD 10.95 for children
 - Secured self-parking fee: USD 16.00 per day (in/out privileges)
 - Secured valet parking fee: USD 21.00 per day (in/out privileges)
 - Pet fee: USD 50.00 per accommodation, per stay
 - Service animals are exempt from fees.
 - Late check-out is available for a fee (subject to availability)
- The above list may not be comprehensive. Fees and deposits may not include tax and are subject to change.

The seasonal pool will be open from May to October. The property has connecting/adjoining rooms, which are subject to availability and can be requested by contacting the property using the number on the booking confirmation. Guests can arrange to bring pets by contacting the property directly, using the contact information on the booking confirmation (surcharges apply and can be found in the Fees section). This property advises that enhanced cleaning and guest safety measures are currently in place. The property is cleaned and disinfected using an electrostatic sprayer; disinfectant is used to clean the property; commonly touched surfaces are cleaned with disinfectant between stays; bed sheets and towels are laundered at a temperature of at least 60°C/140°F; guestroom doors are sealed after cleaning. Personal protective equipment, including masks, will be available to guests.

Social distancing measures are in place; staff at the property wear personal protective equipment; a shield is in place between staff and guests in main contact areas; periodic temperature checks are conducted on staff; temperature checks are available to guests; guests are provided with hand sanitizer; cashless payment methods are available for all transactions; guests can access their rooms with a mobile device. Contactless check-out is available. Enhanced food service safety measures are in place. Individually wrapped food options are available for breakfast. This property affirms that it follows the cleaning and disinfection practices of Commitment to Clean (Marriott). This property welcomes guests of all sexual orientations and gender identities (LGBTQ+ friendly).

- Extra-person charges may apply and vary depending on property policy.
 - Government-issued photo identification and a credit card may be required at check-in for incidental charges.
 - Special requests are subject to availability upon check-in and may incur additional charges; special requests cannot be guaranteed.
 - Safety features at this property include a fire extinguisher, a smoke detector, a security system, a first aid kit, and window guards.
 - Be prepared: check the latest COVID-19 travel requirements and measures in place for this destination before you travel.
 - Please note that cultural norms and guest policies may differ by country and by property; the policies listed are provided by the property.
 - Front desk staff will greet guests on arrival.
- Maximum number of pets per room 2. Service animals are allowed. Service animals are exempt from fees/restrictions. Only dogs are allowed. Pets allowed.

AMENITIES

- Internet Access (free)
- Pool
- Spa Services
- Fitness Facility (24-hour)
- Restaurant
- Pets Allowed
- Accessible
- Meeting Space Available
- Bar
- Non-smoking
- Room Service
- Conference Space Available
- Dry Cleaning
- Laundry Facilities
- Airport Transportation
- Room Service
- Kitchen

Ted Rhodes Golf Course



Ted Rhodes Golf Course is on the banks of the Cumberland River in North Nashville. The course, originally called Cumberland Golf Course, featured nine holes when built in 1953. In 1969, at the request of the legendary Councilman Robert Lillard, the Park Board renamed the park in honor of Theodore "Ted" Rhodes, a renowned, black golf professional from Nashville, who paved the way for other black golfers like Charlie Sifford, Lee Elder, Renee Powell, and Tiger Woods. [Learn more about the legendary and iconic Ted Rhodes.](#)

In May 1992, the facility was re-designed and expanded from nine to eighteen holes. The links style eighteen-hole course incorporates lakes and bunkers, which provide a pleasurable round for golfers. The greens at Ted Rhodes are large and offer a big target for your approach shot. At Ted Rhodes, golf and exercise go hand-in-hand. It is an easy course to walk.

Also, while enjoying a round at Ted Rhodes, witness spectacular wildlife. The lakes and river provide, in an urban setting, natural habitats for turtles, fish, muskrats and the occasional family of beaver.

Ted Rhodes Golf Course is home to the Duffers Golf Association. The Duffers are a group of men who play golf and enjoy competition and fellowship. The Duffers host an annual tournament to benefit Sickle Cell Anemia. They also take pride in their efforts supporting Meharry Hospital.

The registration and information for the Southern Conference Golf Tournament November 8, 2024, is on the Department TN website vfwtn.org.

Southern Conference T Shirts

If you wish to purchase a regular T-Shirt or from the Other Option Shirt List give us your name and size and we will have it for you at registration. Pre-Purchase price for regular tees is \$15.00. XXL Add \$3.00, 3XL'S Add \$5.00. The purchase price for the T-shirts at the conference will be **\$22.00** Plus the extra charge for larger sizes.

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Mark a size or sizes if more than one is needed S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

Number of T-Shirts ___ X \$15.00 Plus \$3.00 extra per shirt for XXL or \$5.00 extra for 3XL'S.

Total Amount \$ _____

All shirts are color in gray for regular tees and other option list are also gray in color.

=====

Other Options Available only by pre-order will not be available at Conference. The shirts below are \$25.00 each plus the selected shirt item extra charge. Plus \$4.00 XXL \$6.00 3XL'S

Other Options List

Long Sleeve Tees add \$ 5.00-----S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

Dry Fit Tees add\$ 3.50----- S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

V-Neck Tees add \$ 3.50----- S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

Sweatshirts add \$15.00-----S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

Hooded Sweatshirts add \$ 20.00---S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3XL'S ___

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Number of T-Shirts ___ X \$25.00 plus Other Option item charge. Plus \$4.00 extra per shirt for XXL or \$ 6.00 extra for 3XL'S. Total Amount \$ _____

Make check payable for selected Number of Shirts to: VFW Department of Tennessee (memo Southern Conference T-shirts)

Credit Card Information

Name on Card _____ Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Security Code _____

OR Call Department of TN Office 615 -242-5851 with Credit Card information

Mail Form to: VFW Department of Tennessee
G21 War Memorial Building
301 6th Ave. N
Nashville, TN 37243-0100

E-Mail Form to: tnvfw@att.net or Fax: 615-244-5302

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

General Jackson Showboat

Paddleboat cruising the Cumberland River, with a dining room & theater for musical performances.

Address: 2812 Opryland Dr, Nashville, TN

Phone: (615) 458-3900

Historic 2nd Avenue

Address: 2nd Ave. N, Nashville, TN

These are some Places Around 2nd Ave.

Bowie's 174 3rd Ave N (217 feet W)

Phone: (615) 953-7155

Coyote Ugly Saloon 154 2nd Ave N

(234 feet SE)

Phone: (615) 254-8459

Black Tap Craft Burgers & Beer

140 3rd Ave N (235 feet SW)

Phone: (615) 808-0969

Sbarro Italian Eatery

200 Commerce St (242 feet SE)

Phone: (615) 256-7393

The Hermitage-Home of Andrew Jackson

The Hermitage is a historical museum located in Davidson County, Tennessee 10 miles east of downtown Nashville. The 1,000-acre + site was owned by Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, from 1804 until his death at the Hermitage in 1845. It also serves as his final resting place.

4580 Rachels Ln, Hermitage, TN

Phone: (615) 889-2941

Adventure Science Center

Adventure Science Center is a non-profit science museum for children located in Nashville, Tennessee. The museum features over 175 hands-on interactive exhibits with themes including biology, physics, visual perception, listening, mind, air and space, energy and earth science.

800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville, TN

Phone: (615) 862-5160

Green Hills Mall

The Mall at Green Hills is a shopping mall located in Nashville, Tennessee. The mall has more than 100 stores and restaurants on two main floors totaling 1,053,000 square feet, including Louis Vuitton, Tiffany & Co., Burberry, Crate & Barrel, Apple Store and Restoration Hardware.

2126 Abbott Martin Rd., Nashville, TN

Phone: (615) 298-5478

Opry Mills Mall

Opry Mills is a super-regional shopping mall in Nashville, Tennessee. The mall was owned by the Mills Corporation and Ryman Hospitality Properties until 2007, when the Mills Corporation was acquired by Simon Property Group. It opened on May 12, 2000 on the former site of Opryland Theme park.

433 Opry Mills Dr., Nashville, TN

Phone: (615) 298-5478

Number of stores and services: 178

Tennessee Performing Arts Center

The Tennessee Performing Arts Center, or TPAC, is located in the James K. Polk Cultural Center at **505 Deaderick Street** in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. It occupies a city block between 5th and 6th Avenues North and Deaderick and Union Streets.

Phone: [\(615\) 782-4040](tel:(615)782-4040)

Nissan Stadium-Home of the TN Titans

Nissan Stadium is a multi-purpose stadium in Nashville, Tennessee. Owned by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, it is primarily used for football and is the home field of the Tennessee Titans of the National Football League and the Tigers of Tennessee State University.

1 Titans Way, Nashville, TN

Phone: [\(615\) 565-4300](tel:(615)565-4300)

First Horizon Park

First Horizon Park, formerly known as First Tennessee Park, is a baseball park in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. The home of the Triple-A Nashville Sounds of the International League opened on April 17, 2015, and can seat up to 10,000 people.

19 Jr Gilliam Way, Nashville, TN

Phone: [\(615\) 690-4487](tel:(615)690-4487)

Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum

The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville, Tennessee, is one of the world's largest museums and research centers dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American vernacular music. Chartered in 1964, the museum has amassed one of the world's most extensive musical collections.

222 5th Ave. S, Nashville, TN

Phone: [\(615\) 416-2001](tel:(615)416-2001)

Rivergate Mall

Rivergate Mall is a super-regional shopping mall located in Goodlettsville, Tennessee, just outside of Nashville. Opened in October 1971, the mall features 1,129,035 square feet of gross leasable area, with approximately 80 stores and restaurants, as well as a food court.

1000 Two Mile Parkway Goodlettsville, TN

Phone: [\(615\) 859-3458](tel:(615)859-3458)

Tennessee State Museum

The Tennessee State Museum is a large museum in Nashville depicting the history of the State of Tennessee. The current facility opened on October 4, 2018, at the corner of Rosa Parks Boulevard and Jefferson Street at the foot of Capitol Hill by the Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park.

1000 Rosa L Parks Blvd, Nashville, TN

Phone: [\(615\) 741-2692](tel:(615)741-2692)



VFW Southern Conference

Sheraton Music City, 777 McGavock Pike

Nashville, TN 37214

November 7 – 9, 2024

Sponsorship/Donor Vendor Agreement Form

Date: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND TURNED IN TO YOUR VFW REP.

Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Contact Name: _____

Sponsorship Level Package: _____ Donation Only _____

Estimated Value of Donated Items: _____

Contribution Total: _____

Deadlines: All sponsorship package funding must be received by October 15, 2024.

Please make checks payable to: VFW Department of Tennessee (memo to read: Southern Conference 2024). If needed for 501(c) (3) requirements, make checks payable to: Tennessee VFW Foundation (memo to read: Southern Conference 2024).

Mail your contribution to: VFW Department of Tennessee, G21 War Memorial Building, 301 6th Ave. N, Nashville, TN 37243-0100

You may also contact your VFW Representative for packet pickup.

VFW Representative Name: _____ Phone: _____

Any notes for the event coordinator please leave here: _____

Your monetary sponsorship is non-refundable as well as any merchandise donated to us, barring Force Majeure. Please sign below agreeing to participate in our event in the manner you agreed upon above.

Name (Printed): _____ Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

The VFW Representative will sign below, and you will be given a copy in return. This signed document will be your receipt for tax purposes.

Name (Printed): _____ Signature: _____

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN
Sheraton Music City



\$10,000.00 Gold

Level Sponsor

Receives

- 1) 2024 Southern Conference Booth Space with table
- 2) Full Page color ad in 2024 Southern Conference Program book
- 3) Entered to play in 2024 VFW Southern Conference Golf Tournament
- 4) Two Tickets to 2024 Southern Conference Banquet
- 5) A Table at the 2025 VFW Tennessee February Mid-Winter Conference
- 6) A Table at the 2025 VFW Tennessee State Convention
- 7) 2025 VFW State Convention Program book full page color ad
- 8) VFW Tennessee Website ad for 24 months

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN
Sheraton Music City

\$5,000.00 Diamond  Level Sponsor

Receives

1. 2024 Southern Conference Booth Space with table
2. Full Page color ad in 2024 Southern Conference Program book
3. VFW Tennessee Website ad for 18 months
4. A Table at the 2025 VFW Tennessee February Mid-Winter Conference
5. A Table at the 2025 VFW June State Convention

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN
Sheraton Music City

\$2,500.00 Emerald  Level Sponsor

Receives

1. 2024 Southern Conference Booth Space with table
2. Full Page color ad in 2024 Southern Conference Program book
3. VFW Tennessee Website ad for 8 months
4. A Table at the 2025 VFW Tennessee February Mid-Winter Conference

Other Exhibitor Space with table Rental \$ 100.00 each

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN
Sheraton Music City

\$1,000.00 Ruby  **Level Sponsor**

Receives

1. 2024 Southern Conference Booth Space with table
2. Half Page color ad in 2024 Southern Conference Program book
3. 2024 VFW Tennessee Website ad for 6 months

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN
Sheraton Music City

\$ 500.00 Sapphire  **Level Sponsor**

Receives

1. 2024 Southern Conference Booth Space with table
2. Half Page Black & White ad in 2024 Southern Conference Program book
3. VFW Tennessee Website ad for 3 months

VFW Southern Conference Nov. 7--9, 2024, Nashville, TN

\$ 250.00 Topaz  **Level Sponsor**

1. Quarter Page Black & White ad in Southern Conference Program Book
2. VFW Tennessee Website ad for 1 month

Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary

November 7—9, 2024

Southern Conference Program Book

The Southern Conference program book is intended to be a commemorative or keepsake for the attendees who attend the Southern Conference. The program book also serves as an excellent medium for advertising. There are fourteen states in the Southern Conference which will increase your advertisement exposure and make the small fee for an ad in our program book an excellent short-term investment.

Pricing of ads for the program book are:

Full page Color ad \$ 250.00

Half Page Color ad \$ 150.00

Quarter Page Color ad \$ 75.00

Full Page Black & White ad \$ 175.00

Half Page Black & White ad \$ 115.00

Quarter Page Black & White ad \$ 50.00

Standard Business Card ad \$ 20.00

VFW Tennessee Website Advertisement:

VFW TN Website advertising is \$ 75.00 PER MONTH (\$900 per year) if paid up front otherwise the price is \$100.00 per month. Our website is unique in the fact that each company advertising with us will be given access to that portion of our website so they can change the content of the ads at their convenience.

To place an ad in the program book or the TN Website contact VFW Department of TN office

By phone: 615-242-5851--- E-mail: tnvfw@att.net

Fax: 615-244-5302

Mail to:

Department of Tennessee
Veterans of Foreign Wars
G 21 War Memorial Building
301 6th Ave. N
Nashville, TN 37243-0100



VFW Auxiliary Department of Virginia

I would like to begin by thanking Department Commander Rubenstein for letting the VFW Auxiliary Virginia provide Post Commanders and members information about forming a new Auxiliary and recruiting Auxiliary members for existing Auxiliaries.

Starting a New Auxiliary

The first step to institute a new Auxiliary begins with Per VFW Bylaws Section XI - no Auxiliary to a Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall be formed unless approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Post membership present and voting at a regular or special meeting, due notice of the proposed formation of an Auxiliary having been given the entire membership of the Post, in writing at least twenty (20) days prior to a regular meeting, or special meeting called for the aforementioned purpose. The approval to form a new Auxiliary is to be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

Although the process to form a new Auxiliary sound like a challenge, the benefits of having an Auxiliary affiliated with your Post far outweigh the challenge. You will have a partner to work with to assist the VFW to pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families, provide volunteer hours in the VA Medical Centers and local medical facilities, conduct patriotic programs with thousands of students and offer hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. We are there to assist Veterans and their families as well as working with other organizations in our communities.

Existing Auxiliary

If your post has an Auxiliary, you already know the benefits of having an affiliated Auxiliary. If you have not already done so, you can show your support by signing up eligible family members. The best resource for new Auxiliary members (must be minimum of 16 years old), either forming a new Auxiliary (which we need fifteen new members) or an existing Auxiliary is the Post members. Included is the VFW Auxiliary Eligibility which shows the relatives to the Veteran who are eligible to become an auxiliary member. If you would like to sign up new Auxiliary members, please contact the Auxiliary President. He or she will be happy to assist you.

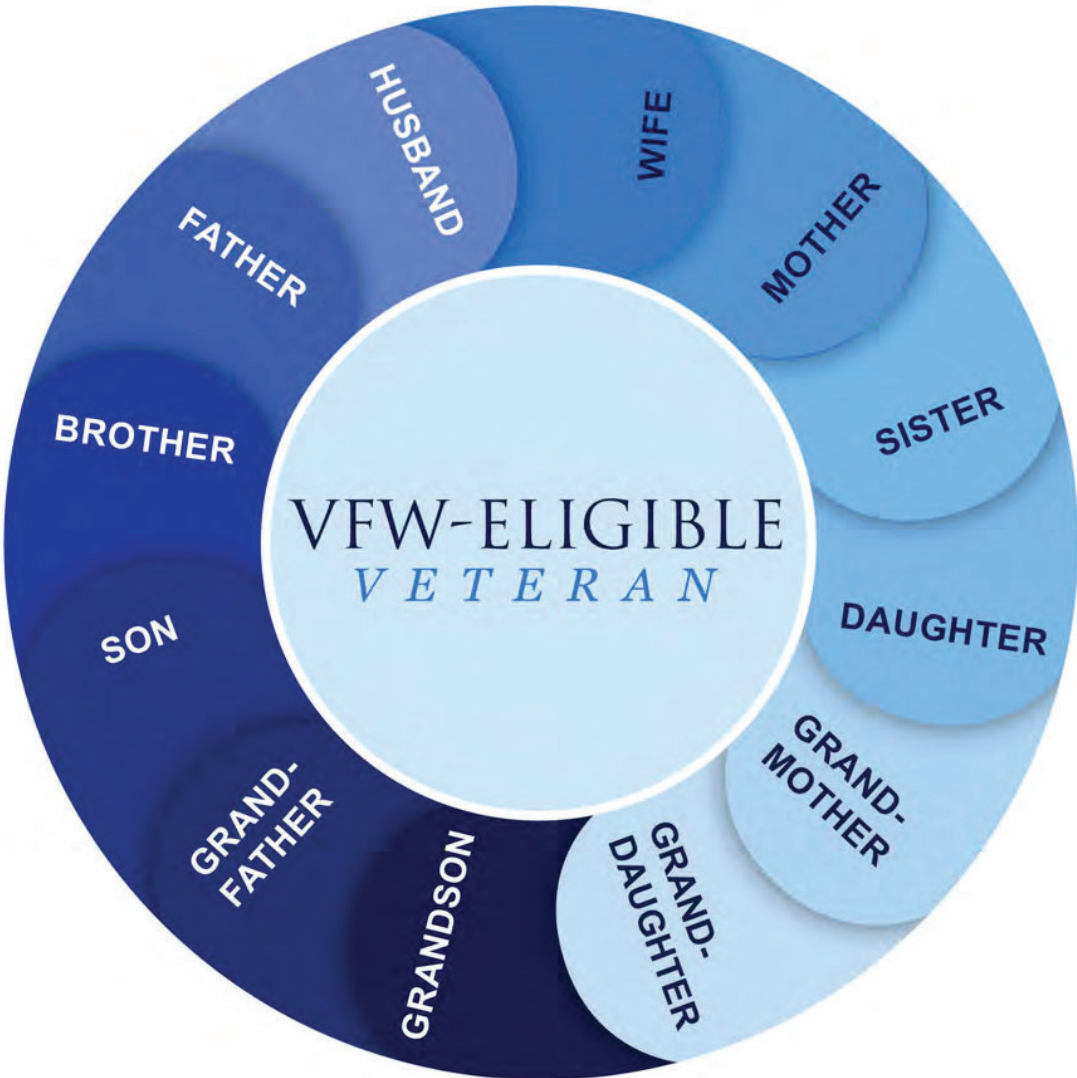
To our "bachelor" posts once your post has approved the formation of the Auxiliary, please contact our Department President Dawn Kuhn or Department Chief of Staff Carol Vangi. We will assist you with the next steps.

Again, thank Commander Rubenstein for allowing us to provide this information.

Dawn Kuhn, Department President
kuhn@comcast.net

Carol Vangi, Chief of Staff
cjonesvangi@gmail.com

VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel



**Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.*

2024 - 2025

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 101% Membership Quota by **Sunday, June 29, 2025**.
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the **Inspection Reports no later than Monday, December 16, 2024**, with all documented **discrepancies corrected by Friday, May 9, 2025**, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to money must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander, Sr Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept. email and send one (1) email to mrubenstein@vfwva.org no later than **October 1st, 2024** and will ensure that it is listed as done in the Online Reports.
5. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
6. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least **once a quarter by Sept 30, 2024, Dec 31, 2024, Mar 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025**.
 - Americanism Report
 - Community Activities Report
 - Safety Report
 - Youth Activities Report
 - Hospital Report
7. The District(s) must conduct a District **School of Instruction** by the end of **Sunday, October 6, 2024**. Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.
8. The District must donate \$100.00 to the Department's Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

2024-2025 ALL STATE TEAM

1. The Post must meet their **101% Membership Quota by May 9, 2025, and recruit Three (3) New members, to be recognized.** Achieving 101% after **May 9, 2025**, will be recognized at the next District Meeting (**NO Exceptions**).
2. All Post personnel with access to the assets must be bonded.
3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than **4:00pm on December 13, 2024**, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the department email and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or mrubenstein@vfwva.org no later than **October 1, 2024**. It is each Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant's responsibility to ensure this is met and it will be visible in the Online Reports.
5. A minimum of **any, one (1) of all Post officers** must attend each District Meeting and it is highly recommended that every Post officer attending bring at least one (1) up-and-coming member who demonstrates the ability, enthusiasm, and qualities, to be a future officer in your post. **We need to Mentor our officers of the future.**

Note: In the past we have required at least one of the top 5 Post officers to attend District Meetings. That is not a requirement this year as stated above.
6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the **School of Instruction (SOI)**, this is for your benefit as a learning experience.
7. The Post must send a **Post Member** to the **State Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI)** (preferably a member from the post membership/recruiting team) that should be listed on your Membership Plan.
8. **All Quarterly Audit Reports** must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late report out of the four required.
9. The Post must purchase **500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members** or fraction thereof.
10. The Post must donate to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF) Posts with:
 - **99 members or less - \$150.00** – For every \$150 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point
 - **100 to 399 members - \$300.00** – For every \$300 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point
 - **400 or more members - \$400.00** – For every \$400 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point

11. The Post must have submitted the following reports **at least once a quarter** by **Sept 30, 2024, Dec 31, 2024, Mar 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025.**

- Americanism Report
- Community Activities Report
- Safety Report
- Youth Activities Report
- Hospital Report

12. The Post must participate **in at least 2 of the 4** following programs:

- **Patriot’s Pen Program** – Theme: “*My Voice in America’s Democracy*” (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024**. **District to Dept. no later than Monday December 30, 2024, Dept. to National by January 15, 2025.**
- **Voice of Democracy Program** – Theme: “*Is America Today our Forefather’s Vision?*” (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024**. **District to Dept. no later than Monday December 30, 2024, Dept. to National by January 15, 2025.**

NOTE: PP & VoD Department winners need to be at National before **January 15, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS. All levels (State, District, and Post) must use the **Scholars App system** for their judging and delivery to their next level this year.**

- **JROTC, Sea Cadets, and Civil Air Patrol** (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Wednesday, February 12, 2025**. Post must submit to **District no later than Saturday, March 1, 2025, District to State no later than Tuesday April 1, 2025, and to National by May 1, 2025.**
- **Teacher of the Year Program** (Post must submit at least one Teacher to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024**. **District to Dept. no later than Monday December 30, 2024, Dept. to National is February 1, 2025.**
- **Must be posted on the Dashboard before midnight January 31, 2025**

13. The Post must reach **101% on Memstats by June 30, 2025.**

Note 1: Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all four (4) programs.

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

Note 3: Posts will receive additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each additional member above 101%.

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



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
VIRGINIA 2024-2025 ALL-STATE PROGRAM
(JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025)**

This Membership Awards Program has been designed with incentives to work on membership, VFW programs, meeting attendance and submission of reports. This year's **All-State requirement of 101% membership** quotas for Posts and Districts will be based on the **Sunday, June 29, 2025**, 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. **Note: This quota of 101% is for All-State, however, everyone is encouraged to reach for the All-American requirement which is 102%.**

Of Special Note: There is a New Award from the CIC “Above And Beyond” Drawing for every Post and District that exceeds 105% in membership by June 30, 2025.

Department of Virginia’s membership goal percentages and goal dates 2024-2025

- **Monday, September 30, 2024**, Department membership **75%**
- **Monday, December 30, 2024**, Department membership **88%**
- **Friday, March 28, 2025**, Department membership **93%**
- **Monday, May 19, 2025**, Department membership **100%**
- **Monday, June 2, 2025**, Department membership **101%**
- **Sunday, June 29, 2025**, Department membership **102%**

MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES

Membership plaques will be presented at the State Convention to the Post with the largest numeric membership increase in each category. The judging will be based on Membership as of **Friday, May 9, 2025**.

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



LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD

A Life Membership increase award and \$200.00 will be awarded at the State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in Life members (must be at least 3 new Life members) in each category. The judging will be based on Life Membership as of **Friday, May 9, 2025**.

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

LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWINGS

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

- The first drawing will be held on **Friday, September 27, 2024**, and the Post must have 75% of its 2025 membership quota to participate.
- The second drawing will be held on **Thursday, October 31, 2024**, and the Post must have 85% of its 2025 membership quota to participate.
- The third drawing will be held on **Friday, February 28, 2025**, and the Post must have 95% of its 2025 membership quota to participate.
- The fourth drawing will be held on **Friday, March 28, 2025**, and the Post must have 100% of its 2025 membership quota to participate.

POST 100% MEMBERSHIP AWARD

In addition, the respective Post Commander and Quartermaster will receive 100% Membership Pins and Tumblers if the Post meets its 2024-2025 of **100%** membership before **Tuesday, December 31, 2024**. These awards will be presented at the Posts' respective District meetings.



2024-2025 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

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

1. The Post must meet their **101% Membership Quota by May 9, 2025, and recruit Three (3) New members, to be recognized.** Achieving 101% after **May 9, 2025**, will be recognized at the next District Meeting (**NO Exceptions**).
2. All Post personnel with access to the assets must be bonded.
3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than **4:00pm on December 13, 2024**, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the department email and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or mrubenstein@vfwva.org no later than **October 1, 2024**. It is each Post Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant's responsibility to ensure this is met and it will be visible in the Online Reports.
5. A minimum of **any, one (1) of all Post officers** must attend each District Meeting and it is highly recommended that every Post officer attending bring at least one (1) up-and-coming member who demonstrates the ability, enthusiasm, and qualities, to be a future officer in your post. **We need to Mentor our officers of the future.**

Note: In the past we have required at least one of the top 5 Post officers to attend District Meetings. That is not a requirement this year as stated above.

6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the **School of Instruction (SOI)**, this is for your benefit as a learning experience.
7. The Post must send a **Post Member** to the **State Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI)** (preferably a member from the post membership/recruiting team) that should be listed on your Membership Plan.
8. **All Quarterly Audit Reports** must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late report out of the four required.
9. The Post must purchase **500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members** or fraction thereof.



10. The Post must donate to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF) Posts with:
- **99 members or less - \$150.00** – For every \$150 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point
 - **100 to 399 members - \$300.00** – For every \$300 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point
 - **400 or more members - \$400.00** – For every \$400 above the donation will earn (1) Team Point
11. The Post must have submitted the following reports **at least once a quarter** by **Sept 30, 2024, Dec 31, 2024, Mar 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025.**
- Americanism Report
 - Community Activities Report
 - Safety Report
 - Youth Activities Report
 - Hospital Report
12. The Post must participate **in at least 2 of the 4** following programs:
- **Patriot’s Pen Program** – Theme: *“My Voice in America’s Democracy”* (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Thursday, October 31, 2024.** Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024.** District to Dept. no later than **Monday December 30, 2024, Dept. to National by January 15, 2025.**
 - **Voice of Democracy Program** – Theme: *“Is America Today our Forefather’s Vision?”* (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Thursday, October 31, 2024.** Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024.** District to Dept. no later than **Monday December 30, 2024, Dept. to National by January 15, 2025.**
- NOTE: PP & VoD Department winners need to be at National before **January 15, 2025.** NO EXCEPTIONS. All levels (State, District, and Post) must use the **Scholars App system** for their judging and delivery to their next level this year.**
- **JROTC, Sea Cadets, and Civil Air Patrol** (must submit a student to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the **Post by Wednesday, February 12, 2025.** Post must submit to **District no later than Saturday, March 1, 2025, District to State no later than Tuesday April 1, 2025, and to National by May 1, 2025.**



- **Teacher of the Year Program** (Post must submit at least one Teacher to the district level for district judging). Entries must be turned into the Post by **Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Post must submit to their **District no later than Friday, November 15, 2024**. **District to Dept. no later than Monday December 30, 2024**, **Dept. to National is February 1, 2025**.

- **Must be posted on the Dashboard before midnight January 31, 2025**

13. The Post must reach **101% on Memstats by June 30, 2025**.

Note 1: Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all four (4) programs.

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

Note 3: Posts will receive additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each additional member above 101%.

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

POST ALL STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all the criteria, including membership, by **Friday, May 9, 2025** (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300.00, to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Commanders who achieve the All-State award by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria except for membership by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, and then meet the membership criteria by **Monday, June 30, 2025**, 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 101% membership, by **Friday, May 9, 2025** (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300.00, to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Quartermasters who achieve the All-State award by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander.



3. All-State Quartermasters meeting the criteria except for membership by **Friday, May 9, 2025**, and then meeting the membership criteria by **Monday, June 30, 2025**, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.
4. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest points in the All-State judging on **Friday, May 9, 2025**, will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the Year 2024-2025. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be the Captains of the All-State Team.
5. The Awards and Citation Committee will break all ties and their decision will be considered the recommendation to the State Commander.
6. The State Commander shall make the final decision for all recommendations of awards and the decision shall be final.

2024-2025 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

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

1. The District must meet their **101%** Membership Quota by **Sunday, June 29, 2025**.
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the **Inspection Reports no later than Monday, December 16, 2024**, with all **documented discrepancies corrected by Friday, May 9, 2025**, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone else with access to money must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander, Sr Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant must sign into the dept. email and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or mrubenstein@vfwva.org no later than **October 1, 2024** and will ensure that it is listed as done in the Online Reports.
5. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
6. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports **at least once a quarter by Sept 30, 2024, Dec 31, 2024, Mar 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025**.
 - Americanism Report
 - Community Activities Report
 - Safety Report
 - Youth Activities Report
 - Hospital Report



7. The District must conduct a **District School of Instruction (SOI)** by the end of **Sunday, October 6, 2024**. Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.
8. The District must donate **\$100.00** to the Department's Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

All-State District Awards

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by **Friday, May 9, 2025** (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State District Commander's cap, an All-State pin and an All-State Citation during the State Convention. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria, **except for membership, by Friday, May 9, 2025, and then meet the membership criteria by Monday, June 30, 2025**, 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 Vest if **all Posts within their District are 101% or more in membership by Friday, May 9, 2025**.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Be advised that as per the National Commander in Chief any lapsed member (regardless of length of time their dues are lapsed) will be counted as a Continuous member (Annual or Life) - Recruiter credit will only be given for Brand New Members to the VFW.

1. All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Reports dated **Friday, May 9, 2025**. These awards will be presented at the State Convention.
2. **Annual members** recruiting **Three (3) New Members** will receive:
 - a. Their Annual Dues (National and Department portions) paid by the Department for the current year.
 - b. Their name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership.
 - c. For each **additional Three (3) members** recruited, an additional entry will be made in the Life Membership Drawing.
 - d. The drawing for the Life Membership listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.



3. **Life Members** recruiting **three (3) New 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 if already a gold member, may transfer the award to another post member or receive a check for \$200.00.
 - b. For each **additional three (3) members recruited**, an additional entry will be made in the drawing.
 - c. The drawing for the Legacy Life Membership award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging **Friday, May 9, 2025**.

4. **Any Member** recruiting **three (3) New Members** will be entered in a drawing for:
 - a. Round trip airfare to the 126th 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.
 - c. For each additional three (3) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing. The drawing for this award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging **Friday, May 9, 2025**.

POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Post Commanders who have their Post at 100% membership by **Tuesday, December 31, 2024**, will receive a Department Commanders 100 Club Vest. Winners will be announced at the Winter Council, Vests will be presented at a District Meeting.

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS

Individual recruiters will also receive for:

1. **15** New Members – a Pen and Key Chain Set
2. **25** New Members – Commander’s Challenge Coin
3. **35** New Members – a Department Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap & citation
4. **75** New Members - \$75 Gift Certificate from the VFW Store
5. **100** New Members – State Commander's "**Top State Recruiter**" Vest

Pens, Keychains, and coins will be presented at the **next district meeting** after the convention.

Note: Recruiters who have previously received an Aide-de-Camp cap will only receive a citation.



THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the Member who recruits the greatest number of new members in the 2024-2025 Membership Year. The winner of the **First Place** Award will receive the following:

- A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the Convention.
- A Department citation.
- A distinctive cap and name badge
- A large trophy
- Commander's "Top Recruiter" Vest

2nd and 3rd place winners will be awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new member competition of the 2024-2025 Membership Year will receive the following:

- A Department citation
- A large trophy

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is presented to the most outstanding law enforcement officer. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is **Thursday, January 9, 2025**. 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 a Post or District meeting or at an agreed upon local venue. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry. One (1) entry per Post.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Firefighter of the Year Award is presented to the most outstanding firefighter. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is **Thursday, January 9, 2025**. 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 a Post or District meeting or at an agreed upon local venue. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry. One (1) entry per Post.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Emergency Medical technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Emergency Medical Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is **Thursday, January 9, 2025**. 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 a Post or District meeting or at an agreed upon local venue. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry. One (1) entry per Post.

911 DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 911 Dispatcher of the Year is presented to the most outstanding dispatcher. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is **Thursday, January 9, 2025**. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in emergency services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at a Post or District meeting or at an agreed upon local venue. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry. One (1) entry per Post.

EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The EOD Technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding still in one piece Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is **Thursday, January 9, 2025**. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in emergency services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at a Post or District meeting or at an agreed upon local venue. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry. One (1) entry per Post.

All Public Servant Awards must be submitted to National before February 1, 2025



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.**

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.**

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

JUNIOR ROTC, SEA CADET, AND CIVIL AIR PATROL, AWARDS

The JROTC Award **is presented to the Post** sponsoring the State’s first place JROTC, Sea Cadet, and Civil Air Patrol winner and is presented at the **State Convention, June 2025.**

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

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

THE GEORGE E. McCracken HONOR GUARD/COLOR GUARD AWARD

The George E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award is presented to the most outstanding Post Honor Guard/Color Guard. **Deadline for submission** to State Headquarters is by the day prior to awards judging **Friday, May 9, 2025.** This award will be **presented at the State Convention, June 2025.**



THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD

The W. I. Woodall Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to his Post and the Department. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for Quartermaster of the year. Submission must be received the day prior to the awards judging **Friday, May 9, 2025**. 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, June 2025**.

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, June 2025**. An additional (5) five points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Scout of the Year.

THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK

The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book should be kept from **May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025**, for State judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the **State Convention, June 2025**. 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. The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book is **not a requirement to be All-State**.

All-American District Checklist

All-American District Leadership Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- District-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria by January 31st, 2025:
 - o Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)

All-American District Award

All Districts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American District Commander Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 10 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)
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention

The top two District commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

Division Captains and Co-Captain: The commander of the top District in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2nd place commander designated as Co-Captain. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

District Division Breakdown:

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	5000+	
2	3,282	4,999
3	2,172	3,281
4	1,447	2,171
5	906	1,446
6	10	905

All-American Post Checklist

All-American Post Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31st, 2025:
 - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Donate to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$125
- A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June. One of these community service activities must be for the VFW Day of Service. Learn more at <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-ofservice/>
- Must purchase a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies

All-American Post Award

All Posts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American Banner, Post Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 15 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, adjutant, and Post members may purchase cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)

The top five Post commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

Division Captains and Co-Captains: The commander of the top Post in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2nd through 5th place commanders designated as Co-Captains. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

Post Divisions Breakdown:

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

OPERATION: ALL IN



VFW National Membership Program

2024-2025

Al Lipphardt

Commander-in-Chief

“Believe in what you do, do what you believe in.”

VERSION DATE: May 6, 2024

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I: SITUATION:

Commander's Introduction:

Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Al served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1979, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968, and from 1970 to 1971. In recognition of his heroic service in combat, he received the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star with "V" device, Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service, Purple Heart Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Silver Star and two Bronze Stars, among many others.

He joined the VFW in 2002 at Post 12002 in North Fulton, Georgia, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. Al is also a Triple Crown Commander, having been named as an All-American Post Commander in 2006, District Commander in 2010, and Department Commander in 2015.

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.

Specific Membership Numbers:

Our requirement this year is to continue growth and achieve at least 102% in membership. In the simplest of terms, we look at the prior year's total (which is how many individual members paid membership dues last year) and want to see a 2 percent increase. If a member has been lost due to passing away or not renewing their dues, then that means we must fill that gap in addition to recruiting new members to meet the 102% goal. This should serve as an example to prove that we must maintain our focus on retaining and mentoring our existing members as well as bringing in new members to the organization. Bring in the members we need, keep the members we have.

II: MISSION:

Membership:

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

Membership Requirements:

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

WHO: All VFW Members, including Post, District, Department, and National leadership.

WHAT: To meet the goals of increasing membership through recruiting, retention, and mentorship. To develop a spirit of camaraderie and service to all veterans. To strengthen the Veterans of Foreign Wars through a solid membership base.

WHERE: Across the globe with Posts in all 50 states and in overseas countries and territories.

WHEN: Beginning on July 1st, 2024 and continuing through the end of the membership year on June 30th, 2025.

WHY: To serve our comrades and their families, to remember and honor those who have come before us, and to live the words of our motto, that ***NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.***

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S STATEMENT

Comrades of Team Tribe 24-25,

You elected me to lead this organization in accordance with the National Bylaws, Manual of Procedures and Ritual to which I was installed. **LEAD I SHALL.**

D-Day

Operation ALL IN will commence August 1, 2024 @ 1200 Hours

THIS IS NOT A DRILL,

THIS IS NOT AN EXERCISE

The Alert Order was issued when you were Department and State Junior Vice Commanders, and the Warning Order as Senior Vice Commanders, in order to prepare for *Operation All In*, our All-American Program for Departments, Districts and Posts.

We proudly stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us; the founders from the Spanish American War followed by World War I. World War II, Korea, Vietnam, The Gulf War, along with our continuing Global War on Terrorism and those deployments to many other places under the orders of the President of the United States. We have been preparing for this moment for three years. In 2022-2023 we focused on *Commitment* under the leadership of CIC Tim Borland and "Every Veteran Counts" and we successfully achieved those goals because you came together. You realized how critical the force (membership) is to mission accomplishment. In 2023-2024 we focused on *Credibility* under the leadership of CIC Duane Sarmiento and "Meet the Challenge". Again, you supported the sitting commanders realizing how critical it is for this nation's veterans to know we speak the truth. The principles we were founded upon 125 years ago remain our foundation.

Team Tribe 24-25 Commanders at all levels will focus on *Courage*. Your courage is undeniable. The day you raised your hand and took the oath of enlistment you said four words that sealed your pledge to the people of this nation, "So help me God". When you were ordered to deploy, putting yourself in harm's way, you knew full well the dangers you would face. With changing geo-social-economic conditions and frankly, partisan politics, we have forgotten the most important asset we have. Our nation can never replace the sons and daughters lost in war. Failing to have a clear plan to achieve victory has been our strategy over these last four decades. Our warriors are deployed to be merely pieces on a game board to be used repeatedly without consideration for the toll taken on the warrior and

families at home. The material costs of war and the lifetime of grief and tragedy both physically and mentally to our warriors and their families are quickly forgotten by our nation's leaders.

More dangerous to this nation is the failure by its leaders to keep the promises made to those who have borne the battle. Slowness to grant healthcare and service-connected disabilities is only one part of this failure. We depend on a volunteer military. Recruiting is an issue across all branches of service. Veterans who have deployed to combat have very long memories. The memories I am referring to are those of 1975 and the evacuation of Saigon and when we saw the debacle in Afghanistan at Bagram Air Base as our equipment was left behind but more tragically was witnessing our troops, that is our families (who serve knowing we will never be left behind) and allies abandoned on the ground. Our Warrior Ethos says I will never leave a comrade behind. Our nation's leaders failed to keep that promise.

One of my uncles who served in WWII was with the 82nd Airborne landing in Anzio on D-Day. He went on to battles in Bastogne and Market Garden. He was highly decorated. Unfortunately, I was not close to him as he seemed to always be deployed overseas. I remember a conversation that confused me at the time. The talk was about what was I going to do with my life. At age 11, in 1957 America, I didn't know what I was going to do the next 15 minutes much less had I considered my life. But, I did not remember what he said until I heard it again from a Vietnam Veteran and fellow Rotarian. My Uncle Eddie's words were "the talent you have is your gift from God, the use of that talent is your gift to God". As I remembered I thought, did I really hear those words from that rock hard chiseled old soldier. But then I also remember he said, I chose to be a soldier. I chose to be a peacemaker, a Warrior of God. Evil exists and it cannot be appeased, reasoned with, or condoned. Evil is, and there is only one way to eliminate it and that is to destroy it wherever it appears. Like many of you we have seen the face of evil. In closing I am asking you to take up the vision of courage, never, ever, compromise your integrity. Your word is your bond. If you want to know where I am, look to the front, that's where I'll be. Follow Me.

I am proud to serve together with you. Put that vision into action. Embrace the suck, stand rigid for righteousness' sake, never compromise your principles, use the beliefs you held when you lowered your hand as you took the oath, and always be the best you can be as you **"Believe In What You Do – Do What You Believe In"**

III: EXECUTION:

Commander's Intent:

“Efforts are to be appreciated. Achievements are to be celebrated.”

To incentivize the necessary tasks of recruiting and retention, which are essential to the continued growth and strength of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a series of award programs will be established and overseen by the Membership Department under the direction of the Adjutant General. These programs will be directly related to membership growth and program participation, and awards will be assigned to those individuals as well as Posts, Districts, and Departments that show excellence above and beyond the standard.

How To Achieve Tasks:

Focus on the three pillars of membership: *Recruiting, Mentorship, and Retention*

1. Recruiting: We need to bring in new members and recover lapsed members. To do this, we must not only reach out to veterans in our community but also build our VFW Posts into places where veterans can feel at home, find the support and camaraderie they deserve, and be provided with the best service for their family and community.
2. Mentorship: We must engage our membership and keep them active. We must be training the leaders of the future, but also communicating and serving every member of our Posts
3. Retention: We must retain the members currently on our rolls. This means putting an end to cliquishness, welcoming eligible veterans of all generations, backgrounds, and walks of life.

IV: SERVICE AND SUPPORT:

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.

Department Leadership: Department officers will provide resources, support, and training where available including Schools of Instruction, Unpaid/Relocated lists, and other tools and incentives to enable membership growth and the mission of recruiting, retention, and mentorship.

National Headquarters: The VFW National Headquarters staff is ready and trained to answer any questions you may have concerning membership, VFW programs, or other issues. National Headquarters staff will be available for remote training when necessary, feel free to contact the Membership Department to schedule.

You can contact our Member Service Center directly at [1.833.VFW.VETS](tel:1833VFWVETS) or msc@vfw.org, or the Membership Department at [1.888.JOIN.VFW](tel:1888JOINVFW) or membership@vfw.org.

V: COMMAND AND CONTROL:

In order to incentivize growth and provide motivation and recognition for those individuals, Posts, Districts, and Departments that go the extra mile to strengthen and grow the organization, the Membership Department will issue membership awards designated by the Commander-in-Chief.

Awards Program Notes:

- Awards and stipends given to a Post will be transferrable to another member of that Post.
- No more than one stipend will be awarded to an individual for a given event.
- Post/District/Department: Membership must be a minimum of 102% in order to receive any award or stipend. This does not apply to the Early Bird award.
- NOTE: Reimbursement for travel expenses paid by the VFW will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099 if the total of payments made to you during any calendar year equals \$600.00 or more. Travel expenses paid for a guest or spouse for the award will also be reported to the IRS. The reimbursement you receive from the VFW will be deemed by the IRS to be taxable income. Since the circumstances of each individual are different, it is recommended that you consult your tax advisor to determine the effect these payments may have on your personal tax situation. It is your responsibility to keep receipts and other records as you and your accountant and/or tax advisor deem necessary in order to document your expenditures.
- Employees and officers of the VFW National Headquarters are excluded from receiving stipends unless otherwise authorized by the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General.
- Individuals receiving a 5-night hotel stay for either the VFW National Convention or the Legislative Conference must confirm attendance with the VFW Membership Department. Individuals confirmed who do not attend will be invoiced for half the cost of the reserved room.

All-American Program:

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

All-American Post Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31st, 2025:
 - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Donate to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$125
- A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June. One of these community service activities must be for the VFW Day of Service. Learn more at <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service/>
- Must purchase a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies

All-American Post Award

All Posts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American Banner, Post Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 15 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, adjutant, and Post members may purchase cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)

The top five Post commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

Division Captains and Co-Captains: The commander of the top Post in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2nd through 5th place commanders designated as Co-Captains. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

All-American District Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- District-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria by January 31st, 2025:
 - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)

All-American District Award

All Districts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American District Commander Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 10 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)
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention

The top two District commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

Division Captains and Co-Captain: The commander of the top District in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2nd place commander designated as Co-Captain. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

All-American Department Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%.
- Department must submit Department legislative chairman reports monthly through the Program dashboard tool.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria by January 31st, 2025:
 - 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.

All-American Department Award

- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention
- All-American Department streamer
- All-American Department citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander
- All-American cap - commander – quartermaster, and adjutant may purchase cap.
- All-American lapel pin - commander - quartermaster may purchase pin.
- Five nights paid hotel stay* for the 2024-2025 Commander attending the VFW National Convention.
- Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention Joint Opening Session

All-American Notes:

- 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. Adjutants may purchase a cap. Quartermasters may purchase a cap and/or Quartermaster Pin. Commanders who were not in the top 15 in their Division may purchase a cap, Commander’s Pin, and/or Post Commander Citation.
- Donations made to replace Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen by eligible overseas Posts, Districts, or Departments must be made through the All-American Dashboard, not through any other means.
- Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the All-American Dashboard.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS AND AWARDS:

Individual Recruiting Awards:

1/5/10/15 members recruited: recruiting pin

25 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief’s Coin

50 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief backpack

75 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief’s Medallion Set

100 members recruited: Century Cap or \$50 VFW Store credit & citation

Recruiting Awards will be sent out five times during the year to the Post, to be given out at a Post meeting to those members who have recruited new members. Mailings will take place near the end of October, January, March, May, and then after the end of the membership year.

Early Bird Award:

The top two Posts in each division on Jan. 1, 2025, will each be awarded a 5-night hotel stay for the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. One room will be booked per award/Post.

New Member Award:

Each Post that brings in a total of 15 New members will each be awarded a travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo. A Post may receive this award up to *five times* during the year!

“Operation: All In” Award:

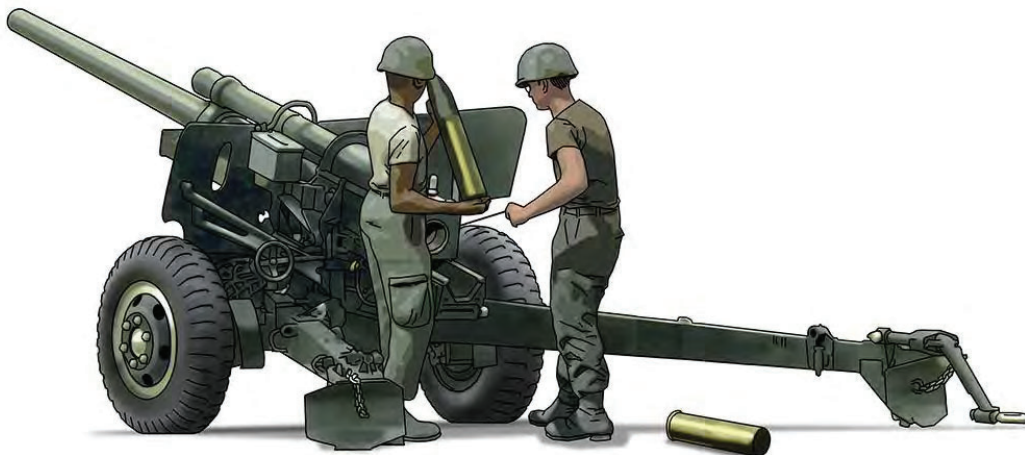
The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 102% membership by June 30th, 2025, will each be awarded a five-night hotel accommodation at the National Convention.

102% Post, District & Department:

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 102% or greater in membership by June 30th, 2025.

105% “Above And Beyond” Drawing:

Each Post and District commander that meets or exceeds 105% in membership by June 30, 2025, 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 Division Recruiting Challenge:

For every 10 new members recruited between July 1, 2024, and June 30th, 2025, Posts will earn one entry to be entered into a drawing. One Post per division will receive a \$1,000 membership grant deposited into the Post account.

Legacy Life Membership Acquisition:

Each Post that achieves the cumulative 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, 250, or 500 Legacy Life members by June 30th, 2025, commander or Post representative will receive a 5-night hotel accommodation at the VFW National Convention, reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session and a Legacy Society Post Proclamation.

Top Department Recruiter:

The top Recruiter in every Department by June 30th, 2025, will receive an engraved Cavalry Saber. Note: Minimum of 25 new members required to win this award.

Elite Recruiter:

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new members by June 30th, 2025, will receive a 5-night hotel accommodation at the VFW National Convention and a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge. In the event that an Elite Recruiter has already received a 5-night hotel accommodation from another award, a \$1,000 stipend will be issued at the National Convention.

Recruiter of the Year:

The Elite Recruiter who signs up the greatest number of new members greater than 250 by June 30th, 2025, will receive an additional \$1,000 stipend, reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session, a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge, and the Commander-in-Chief's Crystal Eagle trophy.

Life Member Recruiter Award:

Any VFW member who recruits at least 75 New Life members by June 30th, 2025 will receive a special citation from the Commander-in-Chief and a Recruiter Satchel with the Commander-in-Chief's logo.

New Post Development Department Grant:

For each new Post chartered the Department Quartermaster will receive a \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post.

Department Commanders and Quartermasters may apply for this grant directly through the National Membership Department.

Commander-in-Chief's Challenge:

To emphasize the importance of Life Membership as the backbone of our membership strength, the Commander-in-Chief is issuing the following challenge to all VFW Posts. Each month through the year, Posts will accumulate points as follows:

- New Annual Member: 1 point
- Annual or Lapsed Member converts to Life Member: 5 points
- New Life Member: 10 points

Each month, the Post that leads their membership division in points will receive a special award designated by the Commander-in-Chief. In addition, at the end of the year every Post who has led their division in the monthly challenges will be featured on a video display at the National Convention to recognize their achievements.

Triple Crown:

The Triple Crown is one of the most prestigious membership awards that an individual can achieve. It requires being named as an All-American Commander at Post, District, and Department level. Leaders who attain this level of excellence will be recognized at an Awards Banquet at the National Convention with a special Triple Crown pin.

Post Division Breakdown:

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

District Division Breakdown:

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	5000+	
2	3,282	4,999
3	2,172	3,281
4	1,447	2,171
5	906	1,446
6	10	905

Department Division Breakdown:

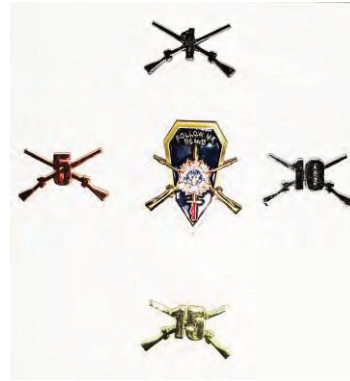
Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	29,000	above
2	15,750	28,999
3	12,000	15,749
4	7,000	11,999
5	2000	6,999

FRAGO: Items and Materials

Below you will see examples of some of the awards and items mentioned in this program. For more information, contact the VFW Membership Department.



Commander-in-Chief
Medallion and Coin



Commander-in-Chief Pin
and Recruiting Pins



Travel Charger



Cavalry Saber



Recruiter Satchel



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, 2024

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, 2024 and delinquent after this date.**

IF THE POLICY IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 9-1-2024, 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, 2024 TO AUGUST 31, 2025.

The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2025.

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, 2024 through August 31, 2025.

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

Has the post had any Crime Coverage (employee/ volunteer theft of money) losses over the past three years? _____.
If yes, provide a description with date & amount of loss on a separate sheet & what changes you have made so this does not happen again.
No Coverage can be extended until Travelers reviews and approves it.

DEADLINE FOR COVERAGE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 – 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, City and Zip

VFW QUARTERMASTER BOND

\$4.50 Per Thousand

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

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

\$3.50 Per Thousand

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

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

\$3.00 Per Thousand

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

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

\$2.75 Per Thousand

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

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



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

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

Coverage Term: October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025

FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL

1. a) Name of Post _____ Post # _____

b) Post Address _____
Street City State Zip

2. a) Name of Person to be Covered _____

3. Position to be Covered _____

4. Coverage Amount Requested \$ _____

5. Number of Persons Covered 1

6. Number of Locations 1

7. Post - Annual Income _____

8. Has the post had any crime losses (Theft of Money by Employees) over the past three years? _____
If yes, provide a description along with the date and amount of loss. **No Coverage can be extended until Travelers reviews it.**

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

b) If yes, explain _____

IF COVERAGE IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 10-1-2023, THE POST HAS ONLY 90 DAYS TO SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FOR PRIOR TERM, AFTER 90 DAYS, PRIOR COVERAGE CEASES.

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

_____.

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

Signature: Person to be Covered

Form Must be Signed by Covered Person

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



**Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department Commander Shirt
2024-2025**



Pre- order forms must be sent to **Department Headquarters**
no later than March 22nd, 2024 for VFW members

Additional Shirts for the VFW members will be available to order at the 2024 June Convention.

Cost: Small – Extra Large: \$35.00 2XL: \$36.00 3XL: \$37.00

Name: _____ Size: ____ Number of Shirts: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Post # _____ District # _____

If you are unable to pick up your shirt at June 2024 Department Convention and have not made prior arrangements to have it picked up. Please add \$9.00 for shipping.

Make checks Payable to: Department of Virginia VFW
For: Commander Shirt 2024-2025

Send Form to: Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Virginia
403 Lee Jackson Hwy
Staunton, VA 22401



**Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department Commander Shirt
2024-2025**



For anyone needing a shirt 4XL, 5XL, or 6XL, I am sorry but the shirt that was displayed at the Mid-Winter Council is not available in those sizes. However, we can order those sizes in this shirt. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Pre- order forms must be sent to **Department Headquarters**
no later than March 22nd, 2024 for VFW members

Additional Shirts for the VFW members will be available to order at the 2024 June Convention.

Cost: 4XL: \$38.00 5XL: \$39.00 6XL: \$40.00

Name: _____ Size: ____ Number of Shirts: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Post # _____ District # _____

If you are unable to pick up your shirt at June 2024 Department Convention and have not made prior arrangements to have it picked up. Please add \$9.00 for shipping.

Make checks Payable to: Department of Virginia VFW
For: Commander Shirt 2024-2025

Send Form to: Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Virginia
403 Lee Jackson Hwy
Staunton, VA 22401