

**NUMBER 9**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112  
Hours M – F 8:00am – 4:00 pm

**"Unity Brings Victory"**

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

**March 1, 2026**

Staunton, Virginia 24401

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

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**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

Comrades,

Unfortunately, I have some bad news for Virginia's veterans. SB315 and HB315 have both passed, and they are more than likely headed to Governor Spanberger's desk for signature. These bills will open the door for "claim sharks" to operate legally here in the Commonwealth, something we have fought hard against for the last three years.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for the commitment, the advocacy, and the persistence you've shown throughout this fight. We're not out of moves yet, we still have a few tricks up our sleeves, and we'll see what the future holds.

In the meantime, please continue steering veterans toward trusted, accredited resources, including our Department Service Officer, Gary Adams, and the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. The best representation for a VA claim is and always will be an accredited service officer.

Spring is right around the corner. Don't pay any attention to that rodent from Pennsylvania! Get outside and keep pushing forward with Poppy Drives and recruiting events. I appreciate the work you've done so far on membership.

I'll be heading to Washington, D.C. the first week of March and look forward to meeting with as many of our Commonwealth's Members of Congress and Senators as possible.

As we approach the end of the VFW year, remember:

- March: Nominations for Post Officers
- April: Elections
- May: Installations

Keep charging ahead. I look forward to finishing the year strong and showing once again that Virginia's veterans, programs, and Posts are the best in the nation.

March 29 is Vietnam War Veterans Day. To all of our Vietnam Veterans, thank you for your service to our country. May we never again forget the sacrifices made by our veterans, nor fail to give them the honor, support, and welcome they so deeply deserve.

Welcome home.

Doug Hoffman  
State Commander

## 2. 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.

## 3. AUDITS:

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

## 4. AWARDS:

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD AND PLAQUES

A Life Membership Increase Award plaque 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 not including those on payment plans) in each category. The judging will be based on life membership as of Thursday, April 30, 2026.

- 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

### 2025-2026 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

\*\*\*There is no limit on the number of Posts that can earn All-State honors\*\*\*

#### All-State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 101% membership quota by May 1, 2026, to receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. (NO EXCEPTIONS).

2. The Post must recruit at least one (1) NEW or reinstated life or life installment member. Otherwise, the Post may have one annual member upgrade to life membership.
  3. All members of the Post with access to assets must be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
  4. The Post must have been inspected, and the inspection report must be received by State HQs no later than 4pm on December 12, 2025, with all documented discrepancies corrected by Thursday, April 30, 2026.
  5. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend each meeting of their District. More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged to attend.
  6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction (SOI). More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged. These will be held five times on different dates and at different locations around the state. Dates and locations of these will be posted in the General Orders, which are located under the news section of the State HQs website.
  7. The Post must have at least one member complete the online Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI). Posts are encouraged to have more than one member complete this training and those who are recruiters on your Post's membership and recruiting team or listed in your Post's membership plan are great candidates for this training. Information on where to find this online training will be posted in the General Orders.
  8. All audit reports must be submitted to, and accepted by, the State HQs as required by Section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late audit out of the four required.
  9. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or a fraction thereof. Contact the State HQs to make this purchase.
  10. The Post must donate to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for the State HQs, and you can contact the State HQs to make this donation. Donations are based on the size of each Post and are as follows:
    - \* 99 members or less - \$100.00 – *For every \$100 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team Point*
    - \* 100 to 399 members - \$200.00 – *For every \$200 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team Point*
    - \* 400 or more members - \$300.00 – *For every \$300 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team Point*
  11. The Post must submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted at least once a quarter by Sept 30, 2025, Dec 31, 2025, Mar 31, 2026, and June 30, 2026, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:
    - (1) Americanism Report
    - (2) Community Activities Report
    - (3) Safety Report
    - (4) Youth Activities Report
    - (5) Hospital Report
  12. The Post must have participated in at least 3 of the 4 following categories of programs:
    - Patriot's Pen Program
    - Voice of Democracy Program
    - JROTC, Sea Cadets, or Civil Air Patrol: Entries for any one of these three programs will earn the Post credit for this category. Posts will not receive credit for doing more than one of the three programs in this category. Posts must submit a copy of the Cadets certificate to the State HQs no later than Friday, March 6, 2026, to receive credit for the All-State program.
    - Teacher of the Year Program
- Posts who complete ALL requirements by April 30, 2026, will receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. Posts who complete all requirements EXCEPT membership by April 30, 2026, will have until June 30, 2026, to complete

ONLY their membership goal of 101% and will receive awards as noted in this document at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year.

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

Note 2: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being 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 3: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State for submitting of entries for Scout of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Emergency Medical Technician of the Year, 911 Dispatcher of the Year, and/or Explosive Ordinance Disposal Technician of the Year.

### POST ALL-STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, 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 a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this commander to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
2. Those Post Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.
3. All-State Post Quartermasters who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, 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 a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this quartermaster to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
4. Those Post Quartermasters who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.
5. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest number of Team Points in the state on Thursday, April 30, 2026, will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the 2025-2026 Year. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be Captains of the All-State Team.
6. The Awards and Citations Committee will break all ties, and their decision will be considered their recommendation to the State Commander.
7. The State Commander shall make the final decision on all recommendations of awards, and the State Commander's decision shall be final.

### 2025-2026 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

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

#### All-State District Requirements:

1. Districts must meet their 101% membership quota by May 1, 2026, to receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. (NO EXCEPTIONS).
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected. State HQs must receive the inspection reports for the District and all Posts in the District no later than Friday, December 12, 2025. All documented discrepancies must be corrected by Thursday, April 30, 2026, to complete this requirement.

3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to assets must be properly bonded.
4. All audit reports for the District must be turned into the State HQs as required by Section 418 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
5. The District shall ensure all Posts submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted at least once a quarter by Sept 30, 2025, Dec 31, 2025, Mar 31, 2026, and June 30, 2026, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:
  - (1) Americanism Report
  - (2) Community Activities Report
  - (3) Safety Report
  - (4) Youth Activities Report
  - (5) Hospital Report
6. The District must donate at least \$150 to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for the State HQs, and you can contact the State HQs to make this donation.

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

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation.
2. Those District Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive a cap. Caps may be purchased.
3. All-State District Commanders will receive a State Commander's Medallion if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by Thursday, April 30, 2026.

### **INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS FOR LIFE MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLANS**

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Report dated Thursday, April 30, 2026. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Individual recruiters will receive for:

- 3 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – Commander's Challenge Coin
- 15 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – State Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap & citation
- 30 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – \$250.00 and State Commander Medallion

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

**First Place:** The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who receives the most points for each type of new member recruited for the 2025-2026 membership year by using the National Recruiter Report dated Thursday, April 30, 2026. The following points are awarded for each new or reinstated member: 1 point for each annual member recruited, 3 points for each life member installment plan recruited, and 5 points for each life member recruited. They will receive the following:

- A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the Convention.
- A citation.
- A distinctive cap and name badge
- State Commanders Medallion
- Commander's "Top Recruiter" Polo Shirt

There will be 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new member competition of the 2025-2026 Membership Year will receive the following:

- A citation
- State Commanders Medallion

#### 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 HQs is the day prior to awards judging Thursday, April 30, 2026. This award will be presented at the 2026 State Convention.

#### THE W. I. Wooddell Memorial Post Quartermaster Award

The W. I. Wooddell Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to their Post and the entire state. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for this award. Submission must be received by Thursday, April 30, 2026. The recipient is to be selected by a committee headed by the State Quartermaster. The award will consist of a citation, plus a check in the amount of \$200 from the State HQs. This award will be presented at the 2026 State Convention.

#### Scout of the Year Award

The Scout of the Year Award is presented to the State Scout of the Year winner. Submissions must be to the Scouting Committee Chairman by April 1, 2026. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Scout of the Year with a maximum of one entry allowed from each Post. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be sent to the Post to be presented at the time and place of the Post's choosing.

#### THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK

The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2026, for judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the 2026 State Convention. Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth place awardees. Electronic submissions are accepted and must be submitted on a thumb drive. The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book is not a requirement to be All-State. Posts shall submit their entry no later than Thursday, April 30, 2026, to State HQs for judging.

#### 5. BONDS:

**ALL BONDS EXPIRED AUGUST 31, 2025.**

Please see July or August General Orders for the rate schedule for the cost of your bond and return completed forms and payment to State Headquarters. Please note Quartermaster Bond rate **is for** the Post Officers. There is a separate schedule for your canteen employees and others who are not Post Officers but need to be bonded. Remember that persons on any/or all accounts the Post has **MUST BE BONDED**.

**EACH PERSON BONDED MUST BE ON A SEPARATE FORM. EXAMPLE DO NOT PUT QM AND COMMANDER ON SAME FORM, THERE MUST BE TWO FORMS COMPLETED BEFORE BONDS CAN BE PROCESSED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHICH FORM YOU SHOULD BE USING CONTACT STATE HEADQUARTERS.**

#### 6. DISTRICT CONVENTION:

Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws – Regular Meeting, Districts shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year for purposes of transacting business and conducting schools of instruction.

Pursuant to Section 417 of the National Manual of Procedure, District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed.

District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed in accordance with Section 416 of the Manual of Procedure.

**7. DELINQUENT:**

District	Post	Fee	Audits	District	Post	Fee	Bonds	Audits
3	7167		June, Sept, Dec	7	9760			December
4	7819	\$ 10.00		9	2719			September
4	9855		December	9	4667		Expired	
4	12200		December	9	7136			September
5	873		December	9	7726			December
5	7800		December	11	632			December
5	8467		December	11	9339		Expired	
6	1264		December	12	7360	\$ 10.00		
6	4522		December	12	9830			December
6	5311		December	12	9864	\$ 10.00		
6	5895		December	13	8947			Sept, Dec
7	8613		December					

**8. DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

<p>1<sup>st</sup>      Date:            5/16/26  Meeting:        10:00 am  Location:        Post 3219 Phoebus (sponsored by Post 960)                           1222 E Mellen Street, Hampton  Rep:                State Surgeon Todd Taylor</p>	<p>5<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/16/26  Meeting:        10:00 AM  Location:        Post 4637 Martinsville                           1425 Greensboro Road  Rep:</p>
<p>2<sup>nd</sup>        Date:            5/9/26  Meeting:        9:00 AM  Location:        Post 392 Virginia Beach                           2408 Bowland Parkway  Rep:</p>	<p>6<sup>th</sup>        Date:            4/4/26  Meeting:        11:00 AM  Location:        Post 1264 Roanoke (sponsored Post 4491)                           4930 Grandview Avenue NW  Rep:                State Surgeon Todd Taylor</p>
<p>3<sup>rd</sup>        Date:            TBD  Meeting:        10:00 AM  Lunch:            To follow Meeting  Location:        TBD  Rep:</p>	<p>7<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/16/26  Meeting:        11:00 AM  Location:        Post 9660 Broadway                           14550 Runion Creek Road  Rep:                St Judge Advocate Randy Coker</p>
<p>4<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/9/26  Meeting:        11:00 AM  Location:        Post 7166 South Hill                           1472 N Mecklenburg Ave, LaCrosse  Rep:                St JVC Charles Bush</p>	<p>8<sup>th</sup>        Date:            4/25/26  Meeting:        10:00 AM  Location:        Post 9835 Warrenton                           18 Court Street  Rep:</p>

<p>9<sup>th</sup>    Date:            5/16/26  Meeting:        10:00 am  Location:       Post 4667 Marion                       861 Goolsby Street  Rep:</p>	<p>11<sup>th</sup>    Date:            4/25/26  Meeting:        10:00 AM  Location:       Post 8644 Bridgewater                       118 Dry River Road  Rep:</p>
<p>10<sup>th</sup>    Date:            3/14/26  Meeting:        10:00 AM  Location:       Post 1503 Dale City                       14631 Minnieville Road  Rep:              St Judge Advocate Randy Coker</p>	<p>12<sup>th</sup>    Date:            4/11/26  Meeting:        11:00 AM  Location:       Post 1994 Abingdon                       18003 Cleveland Church Rd  Rep:</p>
	<p>13<sup>th</sup>    Date              TBD  Meeting:        11:00 AM  Location:       TBD  Rep:</p>

**9. E-MAIL ACCOUNTS:**

As most should be aware by now, the grant from which the Department received 900 Microsoft 365 Licenses will no longer be available after March 31st of this year. A new Grant is available but there is a cost for each license. The old Grant cost \$349 total for the 900 licenses. The new cost per even discounted is significant. Your Council of Administration has made the decision to fund the Licenses for the Council Members and Post Commanders and others deemed essential to the operation of the Department. This cost will now be more than \$5000. As the licenses are for official Department use only the CoA also adopted the attached SOP as guidance for usage. For Post and Districts who would like to get a license for any additional officers they will need to fill out the attached application for the license and justify the reason and need for it. The State Commander will make the determination on approval. If approved the submitting Post or District will have to fund it at an annual cost of \$40 per license. We know that many were getting comfortable with utilizing this in their Post business, and this was not something we needed to happen. But here we are, and your Council had to make some difficult choices for going forward. With patience we will get through this difficult transition and move the Department forward.

Doug Hoffman  
State Commander

**10. GENERAL ORDERS:**

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

**11. IMPORTANT DATES:**

- May 27 - 30, 2026            State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$99.00 per night. Cutoff Date is April 26, 2026, by 5:00 pm.
- July 25 - 29, 2026            National Convention, Reno, Nevada
- October 22 - 25, 2026        Southern Conference, Mobile, Alabama
- January 14 - 17, 2027        Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$110.00 per night. Cutoff Date is December 12, 2026, by 5:00 pm.

- June 10 - 13, 2027 State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night. Cutoff Date is May 5, 2027, by 5:00 pm.
- July 31 - August 4, 2027 National Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- January 13 - 16, 2028 Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night. Cutoff Date is December 11, 2027, by 5:00 pm.
- June 22 – 25, 2028 State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night. Cutoff Date is May 20, 2028, by 5:00 pm.
- August 5 - 10, 2028 National Convention, San Antonio, Texas

**12. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

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

<i>Levels</i>	<i>Enrollment Cost: Annual Payouts:</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?*

**13. LIABILITY INSURANCE:**

Posts with Post Homes must have liability insurance and list State Headquarters and VFW National Headquarters as additional insurers. State Headquarters does not need a copy of your whole insurance policy, only a copy of the Certificate of Insurance listing State Headquarters and VFW National Headquarters as additional insurers.

The Certificate of Insurance needs to be sent to State Headquarters every year and it can be emailed to [statehq@vfwva.org](mailto:statehq@vfwva.org), faxed 1-866-416-0586 or regular mail to VFW State Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at State Headquarters.

Ed Mann  
State Adj/QM

**14. MEMBERSHIP:**

Commanders and Comrades,

Great news, we are closing the gap on first place in the Southern Conference. We are within a quarter of a percentage point of taking over first place. Although we are in fourth, we have moved up from a half a point out of

First. This morning, we are at 96.46%. Please continue to work hard and we will soon be looking back on the other States in the Conference.

While the weather is still cantankerous, we have shown that this can't stop our efforts. I encourage you to start planning for Poppy drives and Memorial Day. Always recruit while distributing poppies. There will be spring festivals all across the state, and we should be at those recruiting new members.

As always, the team is here to help in any way we can. Please contact any member or State Headquarters for assistance.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team Chairman  
Cell. 434 774 7729

#### **15. NATIONAL CONVENTION:**

The 127th National Convention housing will open, **Tuesday, March 18, 2026**. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at [vfw.org/convention](http://vfw.org/convention). The convention website will also have general convention information including the registration form, tentative agenda, and links to other convention related information for Reno, Nevada – July 24 - 29, 2026.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION – Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure states each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials, and one identified registered delegate for the VFW National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee provided the Post has paid the mandated \$25 advance registration fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. ATTN: Convention Registration. Quartermasters may also register delegates utilizing the online membership system (OMS).

#### **16. POST ELECTIONS:**

Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election and installation of Post Officers. Post Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) immediately following the election of Post Officers but not later than June 1.

#### **17. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:**

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

#### **18. REPORTING:**

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you should visit the Department website ([www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)). The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters. There will be no form for Homeless when reporting for assistance to a homeless veteran please put it on a Community Activity report under aid to others.

## 19. ROSTER CHANGES:

District 9 JVC  
James Sayers  
245 Red Hill Loop  
Max Meadows, VA 24360  
276-620-0349  
[dv10f7@gmail.com](mailto:dv10f7@gmail.com)

Post 1994 Cmdr  
Tony Mitchell  
131 Smartview Lane  
Abingdon, VA 24210  
[cdrpost1994@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost1994@vfwva.org)

Post 1994 QM  
Francis Laney  
13142 Mallicote Dr  
Abingdon, VA 24210  
276-477-1242

Post 2157 Cmdr  
Andrew D. Dooley  
7938 W Lynchburg Salem Tpke  
Thaxton, VA 24174  
540-330-9635  
[cdrpost2157@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost2157@vfwva.org)

Post 2157 QM  
Larry A. Craig  
234 Pony Acre Rd  
Bedford, VA 24523

Post 4411 JVC  
David K. Muise  
213 River Landing Cres  
Franklin, VA 23851  
757-818-4477  
[4411dmuise@gmail.com](mailto:4411dmuise@gmail.com)

Post 4667 JVC  
Luther W. Williams  
495 Kelly Hill Rd  
Atkins, VA 24311

Post 12200 Cmdr  
Joseph Bain  
804-926-4975

Post 12217 QM  
Kristina M Wisniewski  
5062 Kings Grant Cir  
Suffolk, VA 23434  
757-582-2828

## 20. SALUTE TO SERVICE:

Attached is a flyer for the Salute to Service Reunion Celebration at the Virginia War Memorial. The registration link is: <https://vawarmemorial.org/salutetoservice2026/>

## 21. STATE CONVENTION:

The link for VFW's 2026 State Convention below. This block's cutoff date is **April 26th, 2026**.

Booking link: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=4846760>

## 22. VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION:

The Virginia Veterans Foundation is pleased to announce you may know make your donations online. Go to the Department of Virginia's website – [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org), then click on About and then click on Virginia Veterans Foundation. Scroll to middle of the page and click on here to donate and follow the directions.

## 23. VIRGINIA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

Bruce P. Crandall was born on February 17, 1933 in Olympia, WA. He was drafted into the Army in 1953 and commissioned following graduation from Engineer OCS at Ft. Belvoir, VA in 1954. Following rotary and fixed wing training, he was assigned to an Army Aviation Mapping Group stationed at the Presidio of San Francisco. Following numerous overseas aerial mapping assignments in north Africa and Central and South America, he helped to develop air-assault tactics as a platoon leader while assigned to the 11th Air Assault Division. In early

1965, he joined the Dominican Republic Expeditionary Force as a liaison to the XVIII Airborne Corps. Later that year, he was assigned to South Vietnam, where the United States had entered the civil war defending South Vietnam against the Communist North Vietnamese. He commanded the 1st Cavalry Division's Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion at Camp Radcliff, An Khe, Vietnam. He led a flying unit supporting eight battalions on the ground, using the call sign "Ancient Serpent 6". On November 14, 1965, Crandall led the first major division operation of the Vietnam War, landing elements of the 1st Battalion and 2nd Battalion of the 7th Cavalry Regiment and the 5th Cavalry Regiment into Landing Zone X-Ray in the Battle of Ia Drang. His actions this day earned him the Medal of Honor. The citation reads as follows:

Major Bruce Crandall distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism as a Flight Commander in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). On 14 November 1965, his flight of sixteen helicopters was lifting troops for a search and destroy mission from Plei Me, Vietnam, to Landing Zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley. On the fourth troop lift, the enemy had Landing Zone X-Ray targeted. As Major Crandall and the first eight helicopters landed to discharge troops on his fifth troop lift, his unarmed helicopter came under such intense enemy fire that the ground commander ordered the second flight of eight aircraft to abort their mission. As Major Crandall flew back to Plei Me, his base of operations, he determined that the ground commander of the besieged infantry battalion desperately needed more ammunition. Major Crandall then decided to adjust his base of operations to Artillery Firebase Falcon in order to shorten the flight distance to deliver ammunition and evacuate wounded soldiers. While medical evacuation was not his mission, he immediately sought volunteers and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, led the two aircraft to Landing Zone X-Ray. Despite the fact that the landing zone was still under relentless enemy fire, Major Crandall landed and proceeded to supervise the loading of seriously wounded soldiers aboard the aircraft. Major Crandall's voluntary decision to land under the most extreme fire instilled in the other pilots the will and spirit to continue to land their own aircraft, and in the ground forces the realization that they would be resupplied and that friendly wounded would be promptly evacuated. This greatly enhanced morale and the will to fight at a critical time. After his first medical evacuation, Major Crandall continued to fly into and out of the landing zone throughout the day and into the evening. That day he completed a total of 22 flights, most under intense enemy fire, retiring from the battlefield only after all possible service had been rendered to the Infantry battalion. His actions provided critical resupply of ammunition and evacuation of the wounded. Major Crandall's daring acts of bravery and courage in the face of an overwhelming and determined enemy are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Crandall initially received the Distinguished Service Cross but that was later upgraded to the Medal of Honor which was presented by President George W. Bush at the White House on February 26, 2007. In 1977, he retired as a Lt Colonel and earned a Masters degree in Public Administration. He was later promoted to Colonel. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Colonel Crandall earned four Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Air Medal with numeral 23 and the Vietnam Service Medal with four campaign stars. Colonel Crandall was inducted into the United States Air Force's "Gathering of Eagles" in 1994, one of only seven Army aviators so honored, and the Army Aviation Hall of Fame in 2004. He still resides in Tempe, AZ.

Jeff Dombroff  
Chairman

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Douglas Hoffman  
State Commander



Department Commander Shirt  
2026-2027



Pre- order forms must be sent to **Department Headquarters**  
**no later than March 13, 2026, for VFW members**

**Cost: Small – Extra Large: \$35.00 2XL: \$36.00 3XL: \$37.00 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 the State Convention May 2026 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 2026-2027**

Please charge my card: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Please Circle One: Discover American Express MasterCard Visa

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: State Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401  
You may also e-mail this form to: [statehq@vfwva.org](mailto:statehq@vfwva.org) or fax it to 1-866-416-0586 if paying by Credit Card only

104th ANNUAL CONVENTION  
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOTEL MADISON  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA  
May 28-31, 2026

Kathy Goodall  
Convention Chairman

Sandra Terry  
Convention Vice Chairman

**Tentative Subject to Change**

The 2025-2026 All State Post Commanders and All State Post Quartermasters **Must attend AND sign in** to all highlighted Meetings on the Convention Agenda to receive the \$300.00 stipend.

**Thursday,  
May 28, 2026**

11:00 AM	NOON	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING	MADISON BOARDROOM
10:00 AM	4:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	CONF CENTER FOYER
12:30 PM	2:00 PM	VIRGINIA VETERAN'S FOUNDATION MEETING	MADISON BOARDROOM
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES	SHENANDOAH A&B
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>9:00 PM</b>	<b>JOINT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS</b>	<b>SHENANDOAH A&amp;B</b>

**Friday,  
May 29, 2026**

7:30 AM	8:30 AM	PAST STATE COMMANDERS/PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST	DOLLEY MADISON DINING ROOM
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	CONF CENTER FOYER
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>JOINT OPENING SESSION</b>	<b>SHENANDOAH A&amp;B</b>
<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>VFW BUSINESS SESSION (NOMINATION OF STATE OFFICERS)</b>	<b>SHENANDOAH B</b>
4:00 PM	5:30 PM	WOMEN VETERAN'S FORUM	SHENANDOAH B
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Legislative Goals and priorities	SHENANDOAH B
7:30 PM	9:30 PM	MOC DEGREE WORK	ALLEGHENY

**Saturday,  
May 30, 2026**

8:30 AM	10:30 AM	REGISTRATION, VFW	CONF CENTER FOYER
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION</b>	<b>SHENANDOAH B</b>
11:30 AM	1:00 PM	COMMANDERS CLUB LUNCH	ALLEGHENY A,B&C
<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS</b>	<b>SHENANDOAH B</b>
3:15 PM	4:30 PM	MOC SCRATCH	MADISON BOARDROOM
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	VFW RIDERS MEETING	MADISON BOARDROOM
6:30 PM	9:00 PM	COMMANDERS RECEPTION	SHENANDOAH A&B

**Sunday,  
May 31, 2026**

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	FAREWELL PRAYER BREAKFAST	APPALACHIAN
9:30 AM	11:00 AM	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION	MADISON BOARDROOM

Registration \$5.00 (All VFW members are required to register in advance as delegates from their Post)  
**SATURDAY RECEPTION/DANCE - THERE WILL BE A \$10.00 FEE TO THOSE WANTING TO ATTEND  
HOSPITALITY ROOM - Department – APPALACHIAN Ballroom**



# STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION

State Convention will be held May 28 – 31, 2026 at the

Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley  
Conference Center  
710 S Main Street  
Harrisonburg – 540-564-0200

The Commanders Reception will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>.  
You will **NOT** be able to purchase tickets the weekend of the Convention.  
Pre-purchased tickets will be available at the registration table.

**You MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR THE RECEPTION (NO REFUNDS)**

**Please wear your new Commander's Shirt**

Tickets: \$10.00

Meal will consist of

**Salad** (*Mixed Greens, Tomatoes, Shaved Parmesan, Kalamata Olives, served with Balsamic Garlic Vinaigrette*)  
**Tomato, Basil, and Feta Salad with Citrus Vinaigrette**  
**Roasted Sliced Italian Beef**  
**Chicken Piccata with Lemon Caper Pinot Grigio Sauce**  
**Penne Bolognese**  
**Roasted Vegetable Medley with Italian Herbs**  
**Garlic Parmesan Bread sticks**  
**Tiramisu and Cannoli**

Your choice of Iced Tea, Iced Water

---

RETURN THIS PORTION TO STATE HEADQUARTERS, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401 BY May 14, 2026  
No Exceptions No Refunds after May 14<sup>th</sup> Check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express Accepted

Person placing the order (name) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out completely for each person you are registering including Post or Auxiliary number.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Aux: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my card: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle One: MasterCard or Visa or Discover or American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pre-paid tickets **will not** be mailed to you; they will be available for pick up at registration.*



# Department of Virginia Commanders Club

Commanders and Seam Squirrels join the Department of Virginia Commanders Club

We promote the interest of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in accordance with the By-Laws of the Department of Virginia and in addition to fostering esprit de corps provide additional scholarships for youth (VOD/PP/SOY).

All Past, Present, and Elected Post, District, Department, and National Commanders, Seam Squirrels, Grand Commanders, and Supreme Commanders are eligible.

Life Member Dues are \$35.00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Department of Virginia Commanders Club

MAIL CHECK TO: Ken Shannon  
Commanders Club Treasurer  
152 Old Carriage Way  
Williamsburg VA 23188

**OR PAY ONLINE WITH A SERVICE FEE:**

Check the April General Orders for Online payments.

PLEASE SEND THIS COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Post or Pup Tent \_\_\_\_\_

Dates as Commander or Seam Squirrel \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



# Korean War Historical Seminar



The 10<sup>th</sup> Korean War historical seminar  
hosted by OP International,  
Society of the 3d Infantry Division



**What: A historical seminar on the Korean War**

**Who: Korean War veterans, their families, friends, and anyone  
Interested in the Korean War**

**Where: American Legion Post 176  
6520 Amherst Avenue  
Springfield, VA 22150**

**When: 19-21 March 2026**

**19 March– Seminars 0900-1600**

**20 March – Seminars 0900-1600**

**21 March– Wreath ceremony Tomb of the Unknowns  
Arlington National Cemetery**

**Homewood Suites Hotel by Hilton offers a special rate  
for attendees. Address is: 7010 Old Keene Mill Road,  
Springfield, VA 22150.**

**Points of Contact: C. Monika Stoy and Timothy R. Stoy**

**Registration Date: NLT 1 March 2026**

**Registration Fee: \$20**

**Email: [timmoni15@yahoo.com](mailto:timmoni15@yahoo.com), Phone: 571 419 8915**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



# SALUTE TO SERVICE

**35 Years Beyond  
Operation Desert Storm**

Celebrating The Veterans Who Served Together



**SALUTE TO SERVICE  
Reunion Celebration  
March 21, 2026**

**Virginia War Memorial  
Richmond, VA**

To learn more or request an invitation,  
please visit [vawarmemorial.org](http://vawarmemorial.org).

For questions, please email  
[salutetoservice@vawarmemorial.org](mailto:salutetoservice@vawarmemorial.org)

**Dedicated to veterans  
of Operation Desert Shield  
and Desert Storm**

Speakers

Music

Wreath-Laying Ceremony

Oral Histories

Remembrance and  
Connection



# VFW Department of Virginia

## Official Email Policy

### Purpose:

To ensure all Department email accounts are used professionally and securely for official VFW business.

### Scope:

Applies to all officers, staff, and volunteers using Department-provided email addresses.

### Policy:

1. **Official Use Only**
    - Department email addresses must be used solely for VFW-related communications.
  2. **Professional Standards**
    - Maintain respectful and professional tone in all messages.
    - Use the approved signature block with name, title, and Department contact info.
  3. **Security Requirements**
    - Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA).
    - Use strong passwords and do not share credentials.
    - Do not auto-forward all emails to personal accounts.
  4. **Confidentiality**
    - Do not share member data or sensitive information without authorization.
    - Encrypt emails containing personal or financial data.
  5. **Prohibited Activities**
    - No personal, political, or commercial use.
    - No harassment, offensive content, or unauthorized disclosures.
  6. **Compliance**
    - Bulk emails to non-members must comply with CAN-SPAM (accurate headers, unsubscribe option, physical address).
  7. **Monitoring & Enforcement**
    - The Department may monitor email usage.
    - Violations may result in revoked access or disciplinary action.
-

# Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia Official Email License Application Form

This application is for obtaining an official Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Department of Virginia email address. The email address and associated license are for **official VFW business only**. Misuse of this email address may result in immediate revocation of the license without refund.

Full Name:		VFW Position/Role:	
Post Number:		Phone Number:	
Current Email:		Preferred Username:	

**Justification for Needing Official Email:**

Reason:	
---------	--

By signing below, I acknowledge:

- Official use only.
- License can be revoked anytime.
- Cost: **\$40.00/year**.
- Compliance with VFW policies.

Applicant Signature:		Date:	
----------------------	--	-------	--

State Cmdr Name:		Signature:		Date:	
Adj/QM Name:		Signature:		Date:	

Payment: \$40.00	Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Card <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Transaction ID:	
Cardholder Name:		Card Number:	
Expiration Date:		CVV:	



**COMBAT  
TESTED  
GAMING**

DIVISION  
VIRGINIA  
2

By the **VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



**MADDEN**

**TOURNAMENT**

**VFW POST 392**

2408 Bowland Parkway,  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> @ 12 PM**



**SIGN UP & PLAY!**

**PRIZES AVAILABLE**

**ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!**

**THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK**

**RECORD BOOK  
ENTRY FORM**

1. This form must be filled in and attached to the inside cover of the Community Activities Record Book that your Post enters in the Department Community Activities Record Book Contest.
2. This form must be signed by the Post Commander.
3. After judging the Record Book, books can be picked at State Headquarters. Any Record Books left will be taken to the State Convention where it must be picked up. **No** Record Books will be brought back from the State Convention.

**CATEGORIES FOR RECORDING PROJECTS**

The Community Activities Program is divided into seven general categories:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Community Involvement                | 4. School and Church Assistance |
| 2. Cooperation with other organizations | 5. Safety                       |
| 3. Aide to others                       | 6. Americanism                  |
|   | 7. Youth and Voice of Democracy |

Post No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Total Projects Since 5/1/25 Total Hours (Volunteered)

Total Funds Used/Donated

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Post Members as of 4/1/26

Total Auxiliary Members as of 4/1/26

City Population

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN**

Post \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Chairman) (Name of Chairman)

JUDGES, NOTE THE FOLLOWING LEADING PROJECTS

Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**Books must be picked up at State Convention**

Signature - Post Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander's Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

# THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK GUIDELINES

1. Record books should contain community service projects that are completed during the period May 1, through April 30.
2. FASTENER and COVER: If books have metal posts, steel is preferable to brass or aluminum. If covers have decals, place self-adhesive clear plastic over the decals so they will not be damaged during shipping and handling. Please use superior quality page dividers and index tabbing; the extensive handling that the record books experience must be considered.
3. CLIPPINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS: Show dates and captions. Include supporting information.
4. ACCOUNTING OF EXPENSES: In a brief statement show how money was spent for each category (one or two pages at the most for each category).
5. ARRANGEMENT OF BOOK: Enter each project by category. (Chronological or month by month listing makes your entry more difficult for the judges to evaluate.)
6. ENTRY FORM: Complete and fasten inside front cover of volume one.
7. MAIL OR SHIP RECORD BOOK ENTRY FOR THE DEPARTMENT CONTEST to your Department Headquarters or the address they designate.
8. Avoid non-community service related items in your record book entry. Pictures of Post Officers, installation of officers, meeting, etc., will not be credited.

(This material should be assembled in a separate section and kept by the Post until the record book is returned after the competition, then it can be added to the record book for permanent reference).

## PREPARING A RECORD BOOK

Posts and Auxiliaries carry on many projects which are of public service. The best way to tell the story of your Post and Auxiliary's work in the community is through a Community Activity record book that contains evidence of the many projects and programs your Post and Auxiliary perform.

The contents of your record book should be arranged and in such detail that it tells the story of each project, clearly and completely, to those who may read and judge it.

Posts and Auxiliaries should combine their community activity programs into one book or one set of books the Post and its Auxiliary are judged as a unit.

When making up a record book it is advisable to group your projects and programs into one of the seven categories. If a project qualifies for more than one category, select and list it under one category. It will be given credit, regardless of whether it is listed under the proper category.

For example:  
Lite-a-Bike could be listed under categories five or seven.

Do not duplicate your efforts by placing them in each of the categories.

Remember, when compiling your community service record book you are telling a story of your work to judges who generally are not familiar with your efforts or community. The easier it is for the judges to read the facts, the easier it is for them to evaluate your work.

Some Community Activity record book entries have an additional index for each category which lists the subgroups within the categories. Some entries have an index only in the front of volume one.

Remember, also if you enter your record book in other competitions, the judges will be less likely to know about the VFW Community Activities Program. Just like composing a good letter, let your record book present the story so there will be no misunderstanding.

**GEORGE E. McCracken HONOR GUARD/COLOR GUARD PLAQUE  
ENTRY FORM**

**George E. McCracken served for over 30 years as the State Honor Guard Captain and -knew of the many hours, out-of-pocket funds given by these truly special groups, who serve with pride, dignity, and honor throughout the state, representing their Post- and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.**

**This contest runs from July 1 to the following April.**

**To enter, a Post must submit a complete detailed report of the participation and activities of their Post Honor/Color Guard, including the following:**

**Post Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Post Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Parades:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Funerals:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Flag Raising Ceremonies:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Members Participating:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Other Activities:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**This report must be submitted to STATE HEADQUARTERS by 4:00 p.m.,  
April 30, 2026, for the STATE AWARD JUDGING.**

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department of Virginia  
403 Lee Jackson Highway  
Staunton Virginia 24401

Buddy Poppy Order Form

Post Number \_\_\_\_\_

Ship To Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date Ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Sale \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type (Circle One) Visa    Master Card    Discover    American Express

Make checks payable to: Department of Virginia, VFW with buddy poppies on the memo line.

State Headquarters now has Buddy Poppies (old or new) in stock. The new price for the original buddy poppies (red ones) \$160.00 per 500. The price for the new metal poppies is \$70.00 per 500. As a reminder, poppies must be paid for before they can be shipped.

POSTS MUST ORDER FIVE POPPYS PER MEMBER MUST BE ORDERED IN ORDER TO MEET ALL STATE/ALL AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS.

Quantity of Boxes (500 Per Box) \_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Poppies \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount paid \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Example: If a post has more than 100 members but less than 200, then 1000 poppies must be ordered to meet the five poppy per member requirement, due to the fact they only come in boxes of 500.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Commander or Quartermaster

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA MARCH 2026

THE VFW DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA HAS --- 57 UNAFFILIATED POSTS

Since 1914, the VFW Auxiliary has been fulfilling its original objectives by supporting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, serving veterans and active-duty military including their families, and spreading patriotism nationwide.

We have nearly a half million members nationwide who volunteer millions of hours and raise millions of dollars for charitable projects that benefit veterans, military service personnel, and their families.

Through our National Programs, we assist the VFW (1) to pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families, (2) we volunteer nearly a million hours in the VA medical system, (3) we conduct patriotic programs with elementary, middle, and high school students and (4) we donate over \$100,000 dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE VFW AUXILIARY

Male and female relatives (listed below) of persons who served in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil, or in hostile waters.

- Husband/wife; widower/widow; father/mother; brothers/sisters; sons/daughters; grandfathers/grandmothers; grandsons & granddaughters.
- Members must be at least 16 years old.



### WHO TO CONTACT REGARDING FORMING AN AUXILIARY?

Patricia Jurgensen  
Department Chief of Staff  
Email: [pjurgy@aol.com](mailto:pjurgy@aol.com)  
Phone: (703) 380-3024

# DAY OF SERVICE 2026



Kicking off on Saturday, May 2

**Save the Date and  
Let Us Know You're  
All In Next Year!**

Sign up today at  
[vfw.org/DayofService](https://vfw.org/DayofService) or  
scan the QR code below.

Register early to give  
yourself more time to  
plan — and give us more  
time to help promote  
and support your event.

**MORE EVENTS,  
MORE RESOURCES,  
MORE PROMOTION  
& EVEN MORE  
COMMUNITY IMPACT.**



**SCAN TO SIGN  
UP FOR 2026!**

[vfw.org/DayOfService](https://vfw.org/DayOfService)

**STILL  
SERVING**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

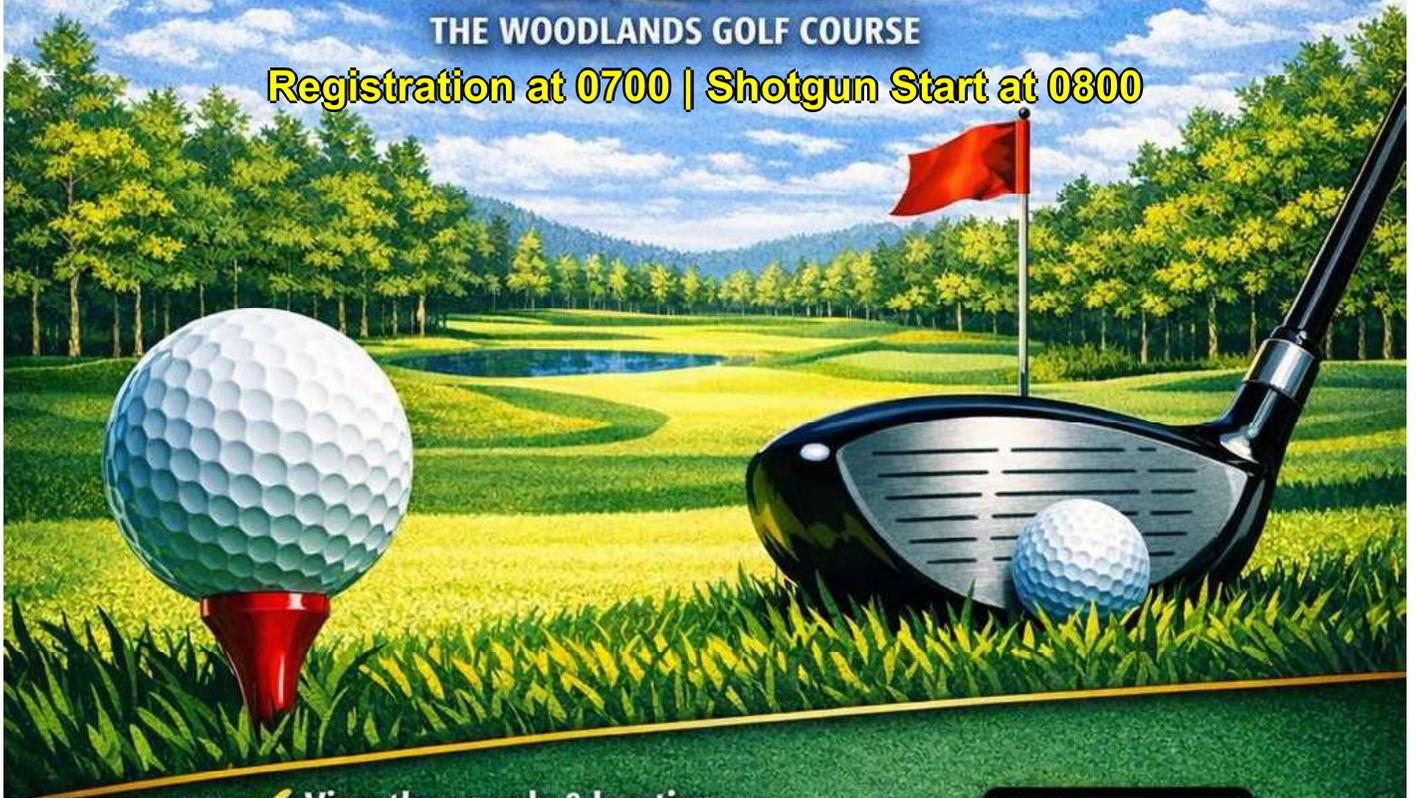
*2nd Annual*

**VFW Ruppert L. Sargent Post 3219  
GOLF CLASSIC**

*Saturday, May 2nd, 2026*

THE WOODLANDS GOLF COURSE

Registration at 0700 | Shotgun Start at 0800



- ✓ View the agenda & location
- ✓ Register for the event
- ✓ Check out our sponsors
- ✓ Check out our sponsorship opportunities
- ✓ Donate to the cause
- ✓ Volunteer!



Visit: [charitygolftoday.com/vfwruppert](https://charitygolftoday.com/vfwruppert)

*Charity Golf Today*

# Veterans of Foreign Wars Lord Botetourt Post #1841 1st Annual Golf Tournament

*All Proceeds Support Veterans and Veteran Programs*

**Date:** Saturday, May 23, 2026

**Location:** Botetourt Golf Club, 2414 Country Club Rd, Troutville, VA 24175

4 Person Scramble—Shotgun Start @ 1:30pm—Check in 11:00

**Team Entry Fee**—Individual: \$100 Foursome: \$400

**Registration/Payment**— Forms found on [VFW1841.org](http://VFW1841.org),



**Registration Form and Payment Due By**—Friday, May 15, 2026

## **Team/Individual Prizes**

**1st—\$150/golfer**

**2nd—\$100/golfer**

**3rd—\$75/golfer**

## **EXTRAS**

Raffle Prizes

Longest Drive Prizes

Closest to Pin Prizes

Longest Putt Prize

Buy Mulligans

Boxed Lunch

And much more...

Want to be a Gold, Silver or Bronze Sponsor? Maybe you just want to sponsor a hole? See our sponsor options on our web page [VFW1841.org](http://VFW1841.org).

# Veterans of Foreign Wars Lord Botetourt Post #1841 1st Annual Golf Tournament

## 4 Person Scramble \* Shotgun Start

Botetourt Golf Club—Troutville, VA

May 23, 2026 \* Registration Opens - 11:00 am \* Start - 1:30 pm



### REGISTRATION FORM

*Please complete and return to the VFW Post 1841 with payment  
Individual Golfers will be teamed with others*



Team or  Individual

Team Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**\$100 Per Golfer/\$400 Per Team** \* Includes: Cart, Green Fees, Boxed Lunch, Player Gift Bag, Raffle Ticket, and Drink Tickets

**Player 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Extras** - Indicate the number of each extra on the line. You can buy more at the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mulligan - \$10.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Mulligan 4 Pack - \$30

Please make checks payable to: **LORD BOTETOURT POST 1841** | 4902 Roanoke Rd | Daleville, VA 24083



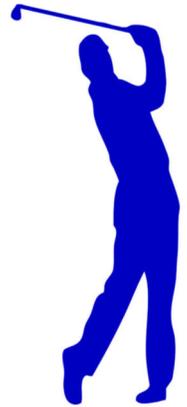
# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Lord Botetourt Post #1841

### Sponsorship Menu

#### Golf Tournament - May 23, 2026

<p><b>Gold Sponsor</b></p> <p>\$700</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company logo and name on 4 holes</li> <li>• Company logo and name on website</li> <li>• Name on posted social media</li> <li>• Foursome entry with 4 golfer gift bags</li> </ul>
<p><b>Silver Sponsor</b></p> <p>\$400</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company logo and name on 2 holes</li> <li>• Company logo and name on website</li> <li>• Name on posted social media</li> <li>• 2 Golfer entries with 2 golfer gift bags</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bronze Sponsor</b></p> <p>\$200</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company logo and name on 1 hole</li> <li>• Company logo and name on website</li> <li>• Name on posted social media</li> <li>• Single Golfer entry with 1 golfer gift bag</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hole Sponsor</b></p> <p>\$50</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name on 1 hole</li> </ul>



### First Annual Golf Tournament



Or Sponsor Online!

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Veterans of Foreign Wars Lord Botetourt Post #1841 1st Annual Golf Tournament



Sponsors

**4 Person Scramble \* Shotgun Start**

Botetourt Golf Club—Troutville, VA

**May 23, 2026 \* Start - 1:30 pm**

More Information [vfw1841.org](http://vfw1841.org)



Golfers

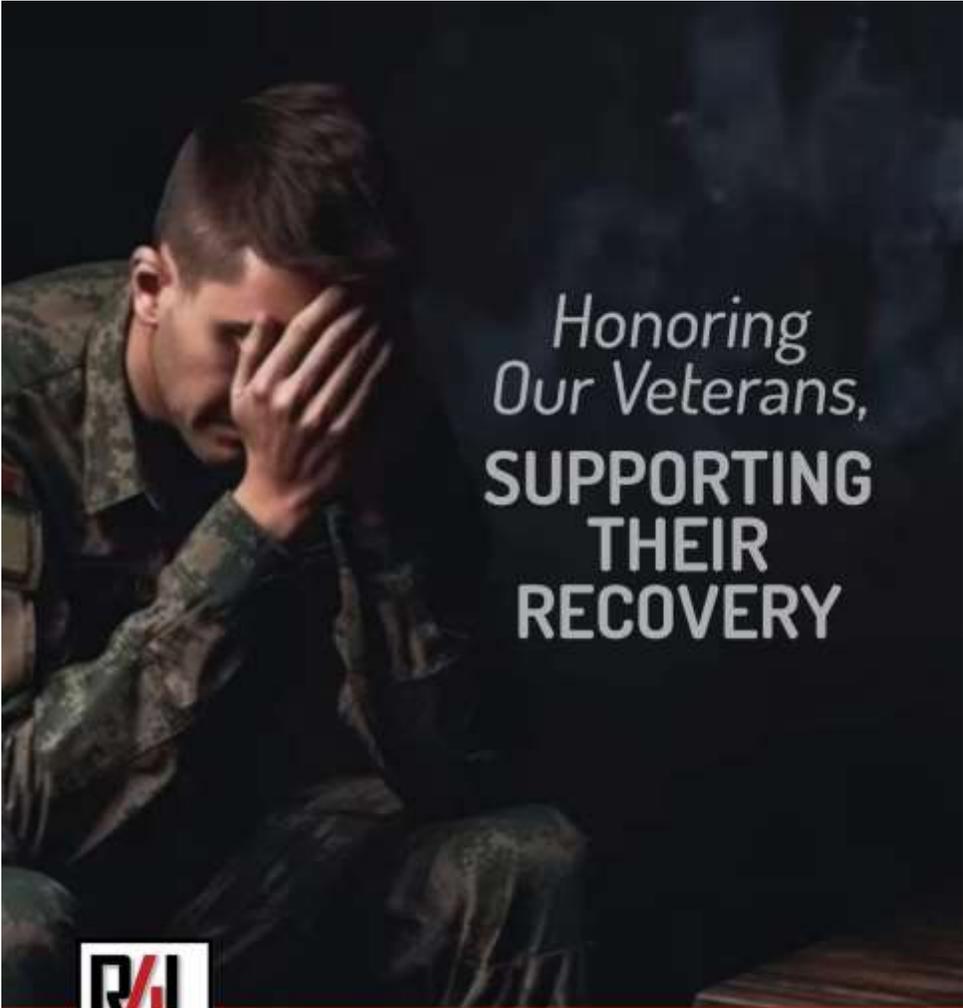
We honor the courage of those who have served — and recognize that bravery continues long after the battlefield. 🙏 us

At Recovery for Life, we stand beside our veterans on their journey to healing and wholeness. Through our Affordable Substance Abuse Treatment (ASAT) program, we offer:

- ✅ Centrally located office
- ✅ Affordable assessments
- ✅ Veteran discounts
- ✅ Individualized treatment plans
- ✅ Treatment groups & peer support

Because recovery takes courage — and no one should fight alone. 💙

#VeteransDay #RecoveryForLife #AffordableRecovery #VeteranSupport #FaithBasedRecovery  
#SubstanceAbuseRecovery



*Honoring  
Our Veterans,*  
**SUPPORTING  
THEIR  
RECOVERY**



757-456-0093 [myrecoveryforlife.com](http://myrecoveryforlife.com)

**FOR SALE!**

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

interested in buying or questions contact our Department Treasurer Cathy Graham

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



Calling all VFW/Aux Women Veterans to Register for the Women In  
Military Service For America Memorial  
Register her service for free at [womensmemorial.org](http://womensmemorial.org)

Our *Register* is a one-of-a-kind interactive database that records and preserves the names, service information, photographs and memorable experiences of each registered servicewoman.

The screenshot shows a profile page for CPT Jane Elizabeth Markham. On the left is a black and white photograph of her in military uniform. To the right of the photo is a dark blue sidebar with white text: "Member: CPT Jane Elizabeth Markham", "MEMBER ID: 58095", "SERVICE: Army Air-WAC", and "HIGHEST RANK: CPT". The main content area is white with a blue header "WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE FOR AMERICA MEMORIAL" at the bottom. The profile is organized into sections: "SERVICE DATES" (Army WAC 1942-1945), "MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE" (a paragraph about her service as a flight nurse, including a plane crash in Africa), "AWARDS & DECORATIONS" (Air Medal, Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal), "WAR/CONFLICTS" (World War II), and "OVERSEAS" (Africa, France). A small logo for the Women's Memorial is in the top right corner.

The

*Register* records and preserves the history of the powerful women who have defended this country—both past and present.

From the earliest days of the nation, women have been serving alongside men to gain and preserve liberty, but it was difficult to find them in our history books. There was no repository of women's service to the United States. That all changed in April 1987.

Not long after legislation authorized the Women In Military Service For America Memorial and ten years before the Memorial would open to the public in 1997, the *Register* was created. Servicewomen and women veterans were invited to make their military experiences visible by "registering" their service. By completing a simple form with their dates of service, branch of service, awards and decorations, at least one memorable experience, and a picture in uniform, women took their rightful and visible place in history for all time. For the first time in American history, there was a place to learn about the extraordinary servicewomen who defend or have defended our country.

For more than 30 years, the Memorial has been permanently documenting military women's experiences and their impact on American, military and women's history. Visitors are invited to look up

servicewomen in the *Register*, learn about their impact on our collective history, and purchase a print of individual profiles as a keepsake.

If you know a servicewoman or woman veteran, please take advantage of the FREE registration to ensure HERstory joins hundreds of thousands of individual stories that make up our *Register*.

History is not complete until every military woman's story is told.

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Let's get every VFW Woman Registered

I know we have a large number of Charter Members and Members out there, please reach out to Tara Jeffries or Joanne Smith to start our Department list.

For New Additions to the Register:

Register her service for free at  
[womensmemorial.org](http://womensmemorial.org)

# VFW Music Licensing Exemption Checklist (Virginia)

*Based on Federal Copyright Law – 17 U.S.C. § 110(10)*

This checklist helps determine whether a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post event qualifies as a non-public performance and is therefore exempt from paying ASCAP, BMI, or SESAC public performance licenses.

## 1. Organization Status

- The event is organized by a nonprofit veterans' organization (chartered VFW Post).
- The Post is in good standing as a 501(c)(19) or operates under the national VFW's nonprofit umbrella.
- Why it matters: The exemption specifically applies to nonprofit veterans', fraternal, and membership organizations.

## 2. Type of Music

- The performance involves nondramatic musical works (recorded, live band, DJ, or karaoke).
- No theatrical or dramatic performances are included.
- Examples allowed: jukebox, live band, DJ, karaoke, background music.
- Not covered: musicals, operas, or dramatic performances.

## 3. Audience Restrictions

- Attendance limited to members and immediate guests.
- Not advertised to or open to the general public.
- Access controlled (membership card or guest list).
- Members-only events qualify; public dances or rentals do not.

## 4. Admission and Proceeds

- No admission charge or fees only cover reasonable costs (food, DJ, decorations).
- All proceeds used solely for charitable or Post purposes (no private profit).
- 'At cost' events are fine; proceeds can support veterans' programs.

## 5. Sponsorship & Control

- The Post organizes and manages the event (not an outside promoter).
- If a DJ or band is hired, they are under Post supervision.
- The music is incidental to a social function, not business activity.

## 6. Location & Use

- Event held in Post-controlled facility (canteen, hall, or grounds).
- Facility not rented to outside groups for public use.
- Music played on-premises only (not broadcast or streamed).

## 7. Optional Best Practices

- Keep documentation of nonprofit status (IRS letter or VFW charter).
- Record event details in Post minutes (date, audience type, purpose).
- If any public events occur during the year, consider a low-cost blanket license (~\$300-\$600/yr).

If all boxes are checked → No license is required under 17 U.S.C. § 110(10).

If any are unchecked → The Post likely needs a license (ASCAP, BMI, SESAC nonprofit rate).

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



FREE — US ARMY MAGAZINE  
27 BOUND VOLUMES  
1967—1996



Contact Rick Raskin—PSC  
[rraskin@vfwva.org](mailto:rraskin@vfwva.org)



# Vote for Experience! Elect Doug Hoffman to the National Council of Administration

2026-2030

## Ready on Day 1!

Doug will be ready to go to work from the moment he is installed. He has held numerous positions at the Post, District, and State levels of the organization culminating with his recent election to be the State Commander. He will bring all of that knowledge to help National HQs.



## Years of Service!

Doug earned All-American and All-State honors leading Post 3160 and District 2, which are both among the largest in Virginia. He also serves as the Treasurer for the Virginia VFW Riders ensuring their financial success. Doug also has experience in the private sector supervising people and overseeing large projects for the U.S. Navy, which is practical experience he will draw upon when studying the issues the VFW will face. With over 200 employees and a budget over \$100 million, The VFW needs experienced Council Members like Doug.

## Committed to Success!

Doug will ensure decisions made are for the betterment of the entire organization, not just a few inside it. Most importantly, he will ensure that the VFW continues to stand tall for veterans!



Beth A. Ford

### **Candidate for the High Office of the VFW State Surgeon 2026-2027**

Comrades, for those that don't know me I am Beth Ford and I am running for State Surgeon for the 2026-2027 term. I am not focused on recreating this organization as I believe that we are all doing great work. I am focused on keeping us great, focused on veterans, youth programs, membership, and true mentorship that inspires others to continue to lead and make meaningful differences and impacts for our future, communities, and programs. I look forward to serving the VFW to the best of my ability and the opportunity of being the next VFW Department of Virginia Surgeon.

My eligibility for the VFW was service during Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) where I was awarded the Air Force Combat Action Medal and the Broze Star. I retired after 22 years and 1 month of honorable service.

My VFW Service is as follows:

Post:

- Service as a Trustee and Adjutant 2024 to 2025
- Service and Jr. and Sr. Vice (Post 3219) 2020 to 2022
- All-State and All-American Commander (Post 3219)2022 to 2024
- Current Post Commander for Post 176

District:

- Jr. Vice District 1 2023-2024
- Sr. Vice District 1 2024-2025
- Current District 1 Commander for 2025-2026

Department:

- VFW Riders Treasurer 2019 – 2023
- Currently State Inspector
- Currently Sr. Vice for Commanders Club

Appointments:

- Assistant National Aide-De-Camp
- National Bylaws Committee 2019 and 2024