

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**



**DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA**

**“No Veteran asks for a thank you”**

**NUMBER 11**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

FAX: 866-416-0586  
Website: [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)  
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**May 1, 2024**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

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**1. COMMANDER’S MESSAGE:**

Dear Comrades,

I am overjoyed to share that we are well on our way to achieving our All-American goals. Thanks to your unwavering commitment and tireless efforts, we are currently over 99% in membership and have met nearly all the requirements.

This is an incredible accomplishment, and it is all because of you - our dedicated team of passionate individuals who have gone above and beyond to make this dream a reality. I am truly grateful for each and every one of you.

Your hard work, dedication, and team spirit have been the driving force behind our success. Together, we have overcome challenges and pushed the boundaries of what we thought was possible. This achievement is a testament to the power of unity, collaboration, and a shared vision.

To our exceptional Membership Team - your passion, hard work, and commitment to serving our members is truly inspirational. Your contributions have been instrumental in our continued growth and success. Thank you for being the driving force behind our thriving community.

To our esteemed District Commanders - your leadership, guidance, and support are invaluable. I am in awe of the countless hours you pour into this organization, and I am deeply grateful for your unwavering loyalty and vision.

To our remarkable Line Officers - the time and effort you dedicate to your roles is truly remarkable. Your commitment to excellence and your willingness to go above and beyond are what make this organization thrive. Your contributions do not go unnoticed, and I am eternally grateful.

And to our pillars, Ed and Angie - you are the heart and soul of this organization. Your wisdom, expertise, and tireless assistance on so many levels have been instrumental to our success. I am profoundly thankful for your guidance and support, which have been crucial to our growth and development.

Each and every one of you plays a vital role in our shared mission, and I am honored to work alongside such an incredible team. Your dedication, passion, and teamwork are what make this organization truly special.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for your unwavering commitment and for being the driving force behind our success. I am truly grateful to have you all as part of our extraordinary team.

With heartfelt appreciation,  
Gary Adams  
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 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, the 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**.

## **4. AWARDS:**

State Awards and All State information were in March's General Orders, along with various entry forms.

## **5. BUDDY POPPIES:**

The new price for the original buddy poppies (red ones) are \$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.

A Buddy Poppy order form was in last month's General Orders.

## **6. DELEGATE FEES:**

In accordance with the National By-Laws Section 222(C), each Post will pay in accordance with Department By-Laws a delegate registration fee for each delegate to which the Post shall be entitled.

Therefore, you must submit your delegates list (form is the first page of the April General Orders) to the Department in accordance with Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure (B) along with a check in the amount of \$3.00 for every delegate your Post is entitled to as of membership status March 31. All delegate lists and monies should be sent to Department Headquarters by June 5, 2024. Failure to do so will put your Post in arrears to the Department and Posts will have no voting strength at the State Convention.

**7. DELEGATES TO DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT 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.

**8. DELINQUENT:**

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits	Bonds	Dist.	Post	Audits
2	2296	6.00		Bond	9	4667	Sept, Dec
3	7167		December		12	4301	December
7	8613		September				

**9. DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1<sup>st</sup>      Date:            5/4/24<br/> Meeting:        11:00 AM<br/> Location:        Post 3219 Phoebus<br/>                       122 E Mellen Street, Hampton<br/> Rep:              State Commander Gary Adams</p>  | <p>6<sup>th</sup>        Date:            8/3//24<br/> Meeting:        11:00 AM<br/> Location:        Post 1264 Roanoke<br/>                       4930 Grandview Avenue NW<br/> Rep:</p>   |
| <p>2<sup>nd</sup>        Date:            5/11/24<br/> Meeting:        9:00 AM<br/> Location:        VFW Post 4809<br/>                       5728 Bartee Street<br/> Rep:              PSC Butch Schupska</p>                      | <p>7<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/11/24<br/> Lunch:           11:30 AM<br/> Meeting:        To follow lunch<br/> Location:        Post 9660 Broadway<br/>                       14550 Runion Creek Road<br/> Rep:              State SVC Mitch Rubenstein</p> |
| <p>3<sup>rd</sup>        Date:            5/4/24<br/> Meeting:        10:30 AM<br/> Location:        Post 9808 Mechanicsville<br/>                       7168 Flag Lane<br/> Rep:              State Judge Advocate Mark Maggio</p> | <p>8<sup>th</sup>        Date:            8/10/24<br/> Meeting:        9:00 AM<br/> Location:        Post 7728 Morrisville<br/>                       112496 Harpers Run Rd, Bealeton<br/> Rep:              Incoming St Cmdr Mitch Rubenstein</p>                      |
| <p>4<sup>th</sup>        Date:            8/10/24<br/> Meeting:        1:00 PM<br/> Location:        Post 8163 Clarksville<br/>                       7488 Highway 15N<br/> Rep:</p>  | <p>9<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/11/24<br/> Meeting:        10:00 AM<br/> Location:        Post 1115 Hillsville<br/>                       701 W Stuart Drive<br/> Rep:              State Commander Gary Adams</p>  |
| <p>5<sup>th</sup>        Date:            5/18/24<br/> Meeting:        10:00 AM<br/> Location:        Post 4637 Martinsville<br/>                       1425 Greensboro Road<br/> Rep:              State Inspector Randy Coker</p> | <p>10<sup>th</sup>      Date:            5/11/24<br/> Meeting:        10:30 AM<br/> Location:        Post 1503 Dale City<br/>                       14631 Minnieville Road<br/> Rep:              State Judge Advocate Mark Maggio</p>                                  |

11<sup>th</sup> Date: TBD  
Meeting: 10:00 AM  
Location: TBD  
Rep:

12<sup>th</sup> Date: 7/13/24  
Meeting: 11:00 AM  
Location: Post 7360 Grundy  
2959 Lovers Gap Rd, Vansant

13<sup>th</sup> Date: 5/25/24  
Meeting: 11:00 AM  
Location: Post 8947 Mineral  
201 Mineral Avenue  
Rep: State JVC Doug Hoffman

## 10. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 13<sup>th</sup>**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers. You will receive all General Orders, special notices and any other documentation that you need via email. This will help cut down on postal expenses and speed up the response time for you receiving the information.

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

1. Go to Department web site [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org).
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW2023!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

For Post Officers, your address will be [cdrpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost176@vfwva.org) where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

[adjpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost176@vfwva.org)  
[qmpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost176@vfwva.org)

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

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

## 11. FLAG DAY, JUNE 14:

All VFW units are reminded to properly display the U.S. Flag on Flag Day, Friday, June 14 and to conduct a ceremony or program as feasible. You may contact the VFW Communications Department for a Flag Day speech. It is also suggested Posts should award the VFW Patriotic Citizen Award (Product No. 4385) for those who have daily displayed our National flag.

## 12. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

## 13. HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG:

The U.S. Flag should be at half-staff on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May (federal holiday - half-staff until noon). Flags available at VFW Store [vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags](http://vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags).

#### 14. IMPORTANT DATES:

June 12 - 16, 2024	State Convention, Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA: phone 757-220-2250. Room Rates are \$139.00 per night. Cut-off date is Wednesday, May 22, 2024 (state with the VFW State Convention Group)
July 27 - Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
August 22 – 25, 2024	Commander-in-Chief Homecoming, Savannah, Georgia
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

#### 15. INSTALLING OFFICERS:

Installing officers are directed to see to it that the Post Election Report forms have been completed and submitted to National Headquarters. If a Post Election Report form has not been forwarded to National Headquarters at the time of installation, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time of the installation of Post Officers no later than June 1. **We encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS).** Post Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters. Additionally, Section 413 of the National Bylaws requires that a properly completed District Election Report be submitted to National Headquarters prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

#### 16. IRS FORM 8822-B:

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

#### 17. LIFE MEMBER DRAWING:

Congratulations to LCDR Robert W. Holland Post 12217 as the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. LCDR Robert W. Holland Post 12217 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 100% of their membership goal reported to State Headquarters by March 29, 2024, deadline.

#### 18. LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYOUT:

The Life Membership Board of Trustees, with the concurrence of the National Council of Administration, pursuant to Section 111 of the VFW Bylaws, has determined that for the 2024-25 membership year, the Life Membership Fund will pay out as follows:

- Plan ABC - A total payout of \$10.50 for each life member (\$3.50 to each Post, Department and National)
- Plan D - A total payout of \$11.46 for each life member (\$3.82 to each Post, Department and National)
- Plan E - A total payout of \$22.62 for each life member (\$7.54 to each Post, Department and National)
- Note: At-Large Members are corresponding Plan pay out amount divided by two. For example, Plan ABC At-Large Payout is \$5.25.

Payment will be made in September 2024 for all Life Members recorded as of Aug. 31, 2024. In addition, a payment will be made in January 2025 for all Life Members processed during the period Sept. 1 through Dec. 31, 2024.

## 19. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

First and Foremost I would like to thank all of you for your unwavering support this year. All of you make it a pleasure to serve as your Membership Chairman. The State needs 183 for 100% and 851 to make 102% this morning April 19th. That is awesome, what you have accomplished this year for your Department. However, the mission has not been completed yet. Let's all continue to strive for 102% before our State Convention in June. We have two major dates in May that will be great recruiting days, first Mother's Day weekend and then Memorial Day weekend at the end of the Month. Of course, there are many Spring Festivals that can be successful as well. Please keep an application with you at all times and always be on the lookout for a new member or maybe you will see a former member that you can reinstate.

The membership team is always ready to help you with planning or execution of an event. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, State H.Q., or any member of the team. We are here to make your Post successful. Good hunting and let's close out the year strong.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team Chairman

## 20. NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS:

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.

1. Until a Post submits a community service for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter between 1 April and June 30<sup>th</sup> they will stay red.
2. The hover feature shows which quarters I have received.
3. The ones that are missing can be entered through your Department's reporting process. I capture the date of the event, mileage, hours, and monies utilized every night at midnight and update the dashboard.

Our goal should be to communicate with Posts for the Posts to enter reports when they do the event, and then they will not be caught off guard every quarter. Each event should be reported separately and not roll-ups for monthly or quarterly totals. By doing each event separately it clearly justifies to the auditors, that if audited what you do stands alone and cannot be questioned.

I'm always available if you need anything.

Meet The Challenge  
**Lynn W. Rolf III**  
Programs Director  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
406 W 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111  
O:816.968.1116 C: 913.290.1754

## 21. 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](http://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.

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.

**22. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters will be closed May 6, 2024.

State Headquarters and the Service Offices of Dale City, Norfolk and Smithfield will be closed May 27, 2024, in observance of Memorial Day.

**23. 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.

**24. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:**

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

**25. 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.

**26. ROSTER CHANGES:**

VFW Post 12225 QM  
Bryan J. Hagenberger  
PSC 1005 Box 2347  
FPO, AA 34009  
757-270-8087  
[qmpost12225@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost12225@vfwva.org)

**27. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 270:**

Membership Ineligible  
Tammy A. Fulbright  
VFW Post No. 1211

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Tammy A. Fulbright, Membership No. 11651268, be removed from the rolls of Back Bay Post No. 1211, Virginia Beach, Virginia, and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

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

**28. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 271:**

Membership Ineligible  
Melvin R. Wells  
VFW Post No. 8652

Pursuant to the voluntary surrender of their membership upon their acknowledgement of ineligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Melvin R. Wells, Membership No. 11700192, be removed from the rolls of Mountain Empire Post No. 8652, Coeburn, Virginia, and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

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

**29. STATE CONVENTION:**

Mitch and Dawn will be having the annual reception at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center in Williamsburg. Space is limited. If you plan to attend, you must sign up for a ticket on Event Bright. The link to do so is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/margaritaville-202425-tickets-880779995677>. Please only put one name per ticket.

Thank You for your prompt attention to this matter.

**30. STATE SURGEON:**

Hello, Comrades and Auxiliary members of the VFW Virginia. We wish you and your family a promising May time of the year! Let's stay active and aware of ALS.

But first, let's recognize and congratulate the names listed below. Please assist me in giving them a hearty round of applause. Keep up the excellent work!

The below comrades of distinction are working hard and excellently supporting the wellness of their Post, District, and Community. Congrats to you all; you have set the pace and standard.



Post(s): \* ***in bold are new recognitions***

Post 2123, Post Surgeon, Comrade Claudia Bell, District 7 (August 2023)  
Post 621, Post Surgeon, Comrade Dave Wittich, District 7 (November 2023)  
Post 1177, Post Surgeon, Comrade Steven Hood, District 10 (January 2024)  
Post 392, Post Surgeon, Comrade Theresa Parisi, District 2 (February 2024)  
Post 3103, Post Surgeon, Comrade Paul Stier, District 8 (February 2024)  
**Post 1115, Post Service Officer, Comrade Richard Newell, D9 (February 2024)**  
**Post 1115, Post Surgeon, Comrade Roger McGlocklin, D9 (February 2024)**  
**Post 1115, Post Asst. Chaplain, Comrade Monika Hunter, D9 (February 2024)**  
**Post 1033, Post Commander, Comrade Cmdr Shawn Wright, D6 (April 2024)**  
**Post 1033, Post QM, Comrade William B Atherholt, D6 (April 2024)**  
**Post 12202, Post Surgeon, Comrade Christopher Johns, D8 (April 2024)**

District(s):

District 8 Surgeon, Comrade Kevin Corbett, Post 3103 (August 2023)  
District 10 Surgeon, Comrade Nancy Springer, Post 3150 (September 2023)

Two questions to all Post and District Surgeons:

1. Are you providing helpful health information and medical awareness to your Comrades and Aux Members?
2. Are you working with the Chaplain, Aux, MOC, and the Service Officer to support the Post and Community?
3. If you are doing good work, send me a report, thanks.

In the attachments a page provides information on the challenging subject of ALS.

Take care of your health and continue to support our Veterans!

Thank you,  
Comrade Charles Bush  
VFW VA State Surgeon

**31. YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:**

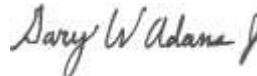
The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is now accepting entries for its 78th annual 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholarship competitions. This year's themes ask America's high school students "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?" while middle school students will have the opportunity to contemplate, "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Gary W Adams, Jr.  
State Commander

# PLEASE NOTE

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.

102<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
FORT MAGRUDER HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER  
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA  
JUNE 13 - 16, 2024

Kathy Goodall  
Convention Chairman

Sandra Terry  
Convention Vice Chairman

**Tentative Subject to Change**

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,  
June 13,  
2024**

11:00 AM	NOON	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING	AMPHITHEATER
10:00 AM	4:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	WILLIAMSBURG ROOM
12:30 PM	2:00 PM	VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION MEETING	NEWMARKET BOARD RM
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES	RICHMOND
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>9:00 PM</b>	<b>JOINT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS</b>	<b>RICHMOND</b>

**Friday,  
June 14,  
2024**

7:30 AM	8:30 AM	PAST STATE COMMANDERS/PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST	ROUND ROOM
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	WILLIAMSBURG ROOM
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>OPENING SESSION</b>	<b>RICHMOND</b>
<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION  (NOMINATION OF STATE OFFICERS)</b>	<b>PETERSBURG</b>
4:00 PM	5:30 PM	WOMEN VETERANS FORUM	AMPHITHEATER
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	VENDOR APPRECIATION	NEWMARKET
7:30 PM	9:30 PM	MOC DEGREE WORK	AMPHITHEATER

**Saturday,  
June 15,  
2024**

8:30 AM	10:30 AM	REGISTRATION, VFW	WILLIAMSBURG ROOM
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION</b>	<b>PETERSBURG</b>
11:30 AM	1:00 PM	COMMANDERS CLUB LUNCH	RICHMOND A
<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS</b>	<b>PETERSBURG</b>
3:15 PM	4:30 PM	MOC SCRATCH	AMPHITHEATER
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	VFW RIDERS MEETING	PETERSBURG
6:30 PM	9:00 PM	COMMANDERS RECEPTION	RICHMOND

**Sunday,  
June 16,  
2024**

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	JOINT DEVOTIONAL SERVICE	PETERSBURG
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	NEW COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DISTRICT COMMANDER'S SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER

Registration \$3.00 (All VFW members are required to register in advance as delegates from their Post)

**HOSPITALITY ROOMS**  
Department – Williamsburg Room  
Tenth District – Third Floor

# **CHIMNEY ROCK VFW POST 9660 COMMANDERS CUP MAY 8, 2024**

## **LAKE VIEW GOLF COURSE**

**4 PLAYER TEAMS  
SHOTGUN START 9AM**

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE POST HOME  
AND SUPPORT LOCAL VETERANS**

**Registration Deadline: April 24, 2024**

**Team of 4: \$500  
includes Green fees, cart rental,  
goodie bag and lunch.**

**CONTACT  
POST COMMANDER, WAYNE SAYLOR  
540-435-7617  
OR  
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT, KAY KIBLER  
540-820-2331**



MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU



SGT Nicholas C. Mason Memorial  
VFW Post 12202 and  
King George Parks and Recreation  
present

**3rd Annual Post Celebration and  
King George Family Day**

MAY 4, 2024  
1pm-7pm

Special  
appearance from  
the 501<sup>st</sup> Legion



Food Trucks,  
Local Beer and Wine Vendors  
Crafts, Live Music  
Kids Games and More!



AT SEALSTON SPORTS COMPLEX  
11050 Fletchers Chapel Road  
King George, VA

**4th  
ANNUAL**

**BOBBIEJO**

# **DICE RUN**



**SATURDAY, June 1**

**Start & End at VFW Post 637 Hopewell  
1400 Lynchburg St, Hopewell, VA 23860**

*Rain or  
Shine*

**Registration: 9:30am**

**\$25 Rider / \$15 Passenger**

**First Out: 10am**

**Last In: 2pm**

*Pre-Register & Extra Card*



**\$500 HIGH**



**\$250 LOW**

**MUSIC | VENDORS | FOOD | DRINKS | PRIZES**

**Benefitting the Bobbiejo Lazo Scholarship**

**Visit our Facebook page for More Info: VFW Post 637 Hopewell VA**



# 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.

If you are a current member of the Department of Virginia Commanders Club please assist me by sending your Roster information to [treasurerclub@vfwva.org](mailto:treasurerclub@vfwva.org).

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 AT EVENTBRITE WITH A SERVICE FEE:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/department-of-virginia-commanders-club-lunch-tickets-840793314437?aff=oddtcreator>

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 \_\_\_\_\_



# Grand Pup Tent of Virginia

## Military Order of the Cootie of the United States

### Invites you to join our illustrious Order

The Military Order of the Cootie is the “HONOR DEGREE” of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and serves our Veterans through Hospital Visits and helping Veterans. We would like you to help us provide more support to our Veterans in need throughout the State.



Currently this Cootie Year our Grand of Virginia has performed over 800 visits of 6,000 hours with a value of \$230,000 in service to our Veterans in the VA Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Veterans in need, and our VFW Members.



To join us please fill out the Membership Application attached and have your Post certify your VFW Certificate of Eligibility. The Eligibility can be accomplished in three ways by serving six months as a Post Officer, Post Committee, or Post Duties.

Forward you completed application to our Grand Adjutant at [grandadj@vfwva.org](mailto:grandadj@vfwva.org) and we will coordinate with a Pup Tent for your acceptance into our Order. We plan on conducting a Grand Scratch on Friday June 14 at the State Convention in Williamsburg for the conference of degrees.



For any questions please contact Ken Shannon, Grand SVC at [PupTent18@vfwva.org](mailto:PupTent18@vfwva.org)





MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



New Cootie  Reinstated Cootie

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cootie No. \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter VFW Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pup Tent Name, Number and Location

Applicant's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City State Zip

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

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ Hat Size: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
VFW Post Name and Number

Located in: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

<p>I certify that I am an active member of the VFW of the U.S. and am desirous of becoming a member of the MOC – "The Honor Degree of the VFW".</p> <p>_____ Applicant's Signature</p>	<p>Recommended and Verified (PRINTED) by:          _____ Cootie No: _____          _____ Cootie No: _____          Accepted into Pup Tent on Date: _____          1<sup>st</sup> Degree accepted Date: _____          2<sup>nd</sup> Degree accepted Date: _____          3<sup>rd</sup> Degree received and title of Cootie bestowed on this Date: _____</p>
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**VFW CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Located in \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Name Post No. City, State and Zip

This is to certify that Comrade \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant

Has been a member of the VFW for the preceding six (6) months, and that he has fulfilled one of the following qualifications as indicated:

- (1) Held the following Office in the Post: \_\_\_\_\_  
OR
- (2) Served on the following Post Committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
OR
- (3) Satisfactorily performed Post duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified to by a majority of the members present at a meeting of this Post held on (Date): \_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Adjutant (PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Commander (PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Adjutant (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Commander (Signature)

**All previous application forms are void and will no longer be accepted after 31 December 2022**

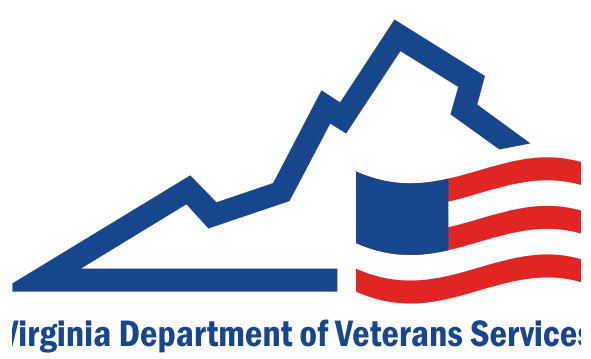
# The Virginia Veterans Network is here for you.

Find more information about resources and support at [dvs.virginia.gov](https://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](mailto:VirginiaVeteransNetwork@dvs.virginia.gov)

 804-786-0286

## GET CONNECTED.

Here's how: Visit [dvs.virginia.gov](https://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.

## May is ALS Awareness Month

Hello, Comrades and Auxiliary members. As the weather slowly changes, let's enjoy the outdoors and stay active.

**ALS:** Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (a-my-o-TROE-fik LAT-ur-ul skluh-ROE-sis), also known as ALS, is a nervous system disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal

ALS is often called Lou Gehrig's disease after the baseball player who was diagnosed with it. The exact cause of the disease is still not known. A small number of cases are inherited.

ALS often begins with muscle twitching, weakness in an arm or leg, trouble swallowing, or slurred speech. Eventually, ALS affects the control of the muscles needed to move, speak, eat, and breathe. There is no cure for this fatal disease.

**Symptoms** of ALS vary from person to person. Symptoms depend on which nerve cells are affected. ALS generally begins with muscle weakness that spreads and gets worse over time. Symptoms might include:

- Trouble walking or doing usual daily activities.
- Tripping and falling.
- Weakness in the legs, feet, or ankles.
- Hand weakness or clumsiness.
- Slurred speech or trouble swallowing.
- Weakness associated with muscle cramps and twitching in the arms, shoulders and tongue.
- Untimely crying, laughing, or yawning.
- Thinking or behavioral changes.

Awareness campaigns during ALS Awareness Month aim to educate people about this challenging condition and support research efforts to find effective treatments and improve the quality of life for those affected by ALS.

Reference:

- <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/amyotrophic-lateral-sclerosis/symptoms-causes/syc-20354022>
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ALS>

Thank you, R/S, Comrade Charles Bush, VFW VA State Surgeon.



The Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc. (VVM) was established in 2020 as a 501.C3 Non-Profit organization for the purpose of recognizing and preserving the memories and incidents of Virginia citizens who served in the United States Armed Forces with the development of public memorial(s) to honor the service and sacrifices of current and future generations. The memorials are to be located in Huntington Park, Newport News, VA, adjacent to the Virginia Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Our initial project is the building of the Virginia Iraq Veterans Memorial which we are currently raising funds to build. We will follow with an Afghanistan Veterans Memorial.

With the current gaming laws in Virginia, the VVM is a worthy organization to donate your gaming proceeds too. Several Posts, both VFW and American Legion have donated to the VVM with their gaming donations already.

Please visit our website listed below for more information as well as photos of what the memorial will look like. If you have questions, please email [info@virginiaveteransmemorial.org](mailto:info@virginiaveteransmemorial.org) and we will get back to you. Our volunteers are made up of all walks of life, young and old. Veterans from every branch of service, from numerous Veteran Service Organization as well as the Gold Star Mothers. If you would like to get involved, please let us know. We currently meet at American Legion Post 25 in Newport News, Va, the first Monday of each month at 6:30PM. This meeting is held on Zoom as well for those out of the area. We currently have not received any government funding and are solely relying on donations. If you know of any person, organization or company who would like to help us fund this memorial, please let us know.

<https://virginiaveteransmemorials.org/>



**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)



# LOUISVILLE WEB VERSION PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE JULY 27-AUGUST 1, 2024

*Note: This information will be updated periodically.*

## **WELCOME TO LOUISVILLE**

Welcome to Bourbon City. Yes, Bourbon is a spirit that comes in a glass, but it's also the spirit that defines Louisville's culture, arts & parks, and creative energy. It's the kind of spirit that helped create Louisville itself. It's the spirit of hospitality you feel when you visit Louisville - the home of Muhammad Ali, the Kentucky Derby and the Louisville Slugger.

While you are here, follow the [Urban Bourbon Trail](#)® and discover the city's finest Bourbon cocktail and culinary experiences. Explore Louisville's rich history and architecture along Whiskey Row and Museum Row in downtown Louisville. Enjoy "one of the nations' best local food scenes" as recognized by USA Today. With more restaurants per capita than any other city in the nation, it will not be difficult to find the perfect spot to experience the rich, diverse, Southern culinary heritage unique to Louisville.

## **CONVENTION LOCATION**

Convention activities will take place at the Kentucky International Convention Center located at 221 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

## **LOCATION**

Louisville is the place for bourbon and bluegrass music. It is located on the banks of the scenic Ohio River between St. Louis and Cincinnati. Louisville's central location puts it within a day's drive of half of the nation's population. Visit [gotolouisville.com](http://gotolouisville.com) to plan your trip to enjoy an entirely different type of Southern experience.

## **WHAT TO WEAR**

A general guideline for attire for the convention is business casual for meetings. For VFW members, it is always appropriate to have your cap on hand for meetings. Jackets are not required unless you are, All American Commanders) and may be on stage to receive your award as photographs are taken during those functions.

## **AIRPORT**

Fly Like a Butterfly in and out of Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport (SDF), the main airport for the Greater Louisville/Southern Indiana region. It is only 7.6 miles from the Kentucky International Convention Center (approximately 10 minutes from downtown). Whether you are arriving or departing, there are plenty of options for getting to and from the airport, including: rideshare, zTrip, public bus transportation. To review transportation options, visit [Getting To and From the Airport](#). While you are at the airport, check out the award-winning restaurant located in the Main Terminal, Book and Bourbon Southern Kitchen, which boasts 85 world-class bourbons and popular southern menu items.

## **GETTING AROUND LOUISVILLE**

No car, no problem. The downtown area is very walkable. Taxi service is available, with [zTrip](#) being the primary operator. Louisville also offers alternative ridesharing companies, such as Uber and Lyft, as well as scooter rentals. [Getting Around Louisville](#)

## **PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel for parking availability and costs. Parking information for the Kentucky International Convention Center, along with helpful maps, can be accessed via this link <https://kyconvention.com/attend/maps-parking/>.

## **REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP**

See mobile APP for times and locations of registration/packet pick-up. Registration for both VFW and for Auxiliary,

Want to miss the crowds/lines and pick-up your badge and packets early? Try remote registration. Both the VFW and the Auxiliary will have **remote registration** set-up at the Kentucky International convention center. VFW only accepts credit cards on this day.

VFW & Auxiliary Remote "Pre-Registration":

Friday, July 26, 10a-6p

South Pre-Function (Main concourse)

## **PACKET PICK-UP**

**VFW** - if you are not pre-registered, you will need to go to registration at the convention center on Saturday, July 27 starting at 8a to register and pick-up your convention packet.

## **MOBILE APP**

We will NOT be publishing a convention schedule of events in hard-copy. All events and convention information will be contained in the Mobile APP. Go to [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention) for instructions on how to download the mobile APP which will be available closer to the dates of the convention. The mobile APP provides immediate updates on any changes that may occur during the convention.

## **SHUTTLES**

The hotels in Louisville are in the downtown area and **within walking distance from the convention center**. The Hyatt and the Marriott are **both connected to the convention center**. The Galt House is approximately 1.5 blocks from the convention center. There is an indoor walk-way from the Galt House that ends directly across the street from the Kentucky International Convention Center.

Therefore, the decision has been made that there will **NOT** be shuttle service provided for the 2024 Louisville convention.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Housing opens **3/18/24** and closes **6/10/24**. Go to [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention). The official convention hotels for the 125th National convention will be listed on the convention web site. A list of convention department housing assignments will be located at that website.

## **HOTEL PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel regarding parking availability and costs. Parking charges are set by the individual hotels and are not representative of fees charged by the VFW/Auxiliary.

## **LUGGAGE STORAGE**

If you wish to store your luggage at the hotel before you check in, or after checking out before departure, please make arrangements with guest services.

## **GRATUITIES**

You are responsible for all gratuities during your stay. Tipping is personal, as a guideline, we recommend gratuities of \$1 per day for your housekeeper and \$1 per bag for taxicab drivers and hotel bell-staff.

## **PHONE MESSAGES**

Messages may be left with the hotel operator, who will make sure you get them as soon as you return to your hotel. In case of emergency, call the VFW National Headquarters 816-756-3390.



**SAFETY TIPS** (See hotel information located in room)

### **SPECIAL SERVICES**

**First Aid Room Location Kentucky International Convention Center**, Main Concourse on the Market Street side of the building near Oak & Brew - Thursday, 7/25-Thursday, 8/1

**Emergency**--Emergency after hour's numbers provided before convention or call 911.

**Scooter rental** –Scooter rental information is listed on the convention web page.

If you have not been vaccinated for COVID-19, we encourage you to wear a mask while in attendance of the convention.

**RV Park Information** - [https://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=rvparks&find\\_loc=Louisville%2C+ky](https://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=rvparks&find_loc=Louisville%2C+ky)

### **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

Check with Louisville Tourism for locations of local churches, synagogues, etc. for services. *Check Mobile APP for locations.*

### **QUIET ROOM**

A QUIET ROOM for reflection will be open 24 hours at the Kentucky International Convention Center – *Check Mobile APP for location.*

### **MOTHERS ROOM**

A mothers room will be located on-site at the convention center - *Check Mobile APP for location.*

### **AGENDA**

See tentative web agenda at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) 125th VFW National Convention information. A final agenda will be provided within the mobile APP and can be found by downloading the VFW Mobile APP approximately 2 weeks before the convention. Please note a Schedule of Events will **NOT** be printed. If you are unable to download the *Mobile App*. Please pickup a printed copy of the agenda at registration.

### **VISITOR INFORMATION LOUISVILLE**

#### **Save: Inside Track Pass, Louisville's Savings Passport**

Take advantage of special offers and discounts from some of the city's most popular sites including retail shops, restaurants, and attractions with the mobile exclusive passport, Inside Track Pass. To get your pass, visit <https://www.gotolouisville.com/meeting-planners/destination-services/plan/inside-track-pass/>. Your passport will be instantly delivered to your phone via text and e-mail and ready to use immediately. When visiting a participating business, simply present the Inside Track Pass on your phone to the staff member to redeem special discounts.

#### **Explore: Downtown's Three Main Districts (Whiskey Row, Museum Row & South Fourth Street)**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/neighborhoods/downtown/>

#### **Experience: Louisville's Unique Neighborhoods**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/neighborhoods/>

North, south, east or west – Louisville offers a wealth of attractions and fantastic historic architecture in every direction. Much like the boroughs of New York City, Louisville’s neighborhoods each have their own distinct personalities.

### **Shop**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/things-to-do/shopping/>

### **Dine**

[https://www.yelp.com/search?find\\_desc=best+restaurants&find\\_loc=Louisville%2C+KY](https://www.yelp.com/search?find_desc=best+restaurants&find_loc=Louisville%2C+KY)

### **Dine near KICC**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/restaurants-near-kicc/>

### **Visit Museums & Galleries**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/things-to-do/entertainment-nightlife/museums-galleries/>

### **Bringing the family? Here are [family-friendly activities](#) sure to be a hit with all ages:**

Kentucky Kingdom: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/kentucky-kingdom-and-hurricane-bay/>

Kentucky Science Center: <https://kysciencecenter.org/>

Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory:

Louisville Zoo: <https://louisvillezoo.org/>

Mega Cavern: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/louisville-mega-cavern-mega-zips-all-underground-ziplines-adventure-tour/>

Muhammad Ali Center: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/muhammad-ali-center/>

Main Event <https://www.mainevent.com>

### **Purchase Attractions Tickets**

<https://reservations.gotolouisville.com/attraction/list/6849/m3117>

### **Purchase Attraction Ticket Bundles**

<https://reservations.gotolouisville.com/package/category/6849/3/m3676?customNavLink=1>

## **VISITOR CENTER**

Visit the Louisville Visitor Center at 301 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Louisville. Open Mondays – Saturdays: 10 am – 5 pm, and Sundays: 12 pm – 5 pm. Visitors can also call the Visitor Information Call Center at 1-888-568-4784, Monday – Friday: 9 am – 5 pm (EST) or e-mail [info@gotolouisville.com](mailto:info@gotolouisville.com) for city information.

## **DOWNTOWN AMBASSADORS**

Downtown’s roving hospitality team is on duty seven days a week starting at 7 am each day. Look for the folks wearing orange shirts when you have a question or need assistance. Some ambassadors are on-foot, some are on bikes. They are very knowledgeable, helpful, & friendly and will be able to provide information about downtown and about Louisville.

Revised: 2/12/2024

## **TENTATIVE AGENDA**

### **VFW 125th National Convention Louisville, KY Kentucky Convention Center July 27-August 1, 2024**

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.*

*Times for various functions are subject to change.*

*Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

#### **Friday, July 26, 2024**

10:00 a.m. –6:00 p.m.

**Remote registration** – VFW/Auxiliary – Convention Center -South Pre-Function – Main Concourse

#### **Saturday, July 27, 2024**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

VFW Health Fair

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

VFW/Registration/Exhibits

8:30 a.m.

National Veterans Service Advisory Committee

10:00 a.m.

Budget and Finance Committee

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Uniting to Combat Hunger – TBD

1:30 p.m.

National Council of Administration Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Eastern Conference Caucus

4:00 p.m.

Southern Conference Caucus

4:00 p.m.

Big Ten Conference Caucus

4:00 p.m.

Western Conference Caucus

#### **Sunday, July 28, 2024**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

VFW Health Fair

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

VFW Registration/Exhibits

8:30 a.m.

Annual Memorial Service

10:00 a.m.

Membership Seminar

10:00 a.m.

VFW Programs, VMS Committee

10:00 a.m.

VFW Riders National Advisory Committee

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Cornhole

11:00 a.m.

Update on VFW Legislative Priority Goals

11:00 a.m.

VFW Post Service Officer Training

12:30 p.m.

First Time Attendees Welcome Orientation

1:00 p.m.

VFW Programs Town Hall

### **Committee Meetings:**

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

4:00 p.m. Membership Seminar – Post Development  
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Association Meeting

### **Monday, July 29, 2024**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits  
8:00 a.m. Joint Opening Session  
*(Business session will resume after lunch break)*  
3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Cornhole Finals  
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Reception *(by invitation)*

### **Tuesday, July 30, 2024**

8:00 a.m.-12N. VFW Health Fair  
8:00 a.m.-12N. VFW Registration/Exhibits  
8:00 a.m. VFW Business Session  
1:00 p.m. 2024-2025 Department Commanders Luncheon – *(by invitation)* –  
1:00 p.m. 2024-2025 Senior Vice Commanders, Senior Vice Presidents Luncheon *(by invite only)*  
1:00 p.m. 2024-2025 Junior Vice Commanders, Junior Vice President's Luncheon *(by invite only)*  
1:00 p.m. Parliamentary Procedure Discussion  
1:00 p.m. Update on Federal Benefits and Services for Veterans  
1:00 p.m. Grant Seeking & Fundraising Ideas for VFW Posts  
1:00 p.m. Chaplains Workshop  
5:15 p.m. Parade Line-up  
6:00 p.m. Patriotic Celebration

**Wednesday, July 31, 2024**

8:00 a.m. Business Session /Nomination of Officers  
1:00 p.m. All American Commanders Luncheon (ticketed event)  
1:00 p.m. VFW National Home Workshop

**Thursday, August 1, 2024**

8:00 a.m. Business Session: Election/Installation of National Officers  
National Council of Administration Meeting  
*(Following business session)*  
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Commander-in-Chief's and National  
President's Reception (ticketed event) – Kentucky  
Convention Center

*Updated: 2/20/24*

*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

[COLFINVITE.NET/USAWARRIORS](https://colfinvite.net/usawarriors)

QUESTIONS? Reach out to [usawarriors@golfinvite.com](mailto: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](https://golfinvite.net/usawarriors)

QUESTIONS? Reach out to [usawarriors@golfinvite.com](mailto: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



Many more sponsorship opportunities available!  
For more information go to  
<https://www.vfw3103.org/> or use the QR Code  
Please contact Jeremy Jones at  
[joneszjp@gmail.com](mailto:joneszjp@gmail.com)



SCAN ME!!!



## 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.

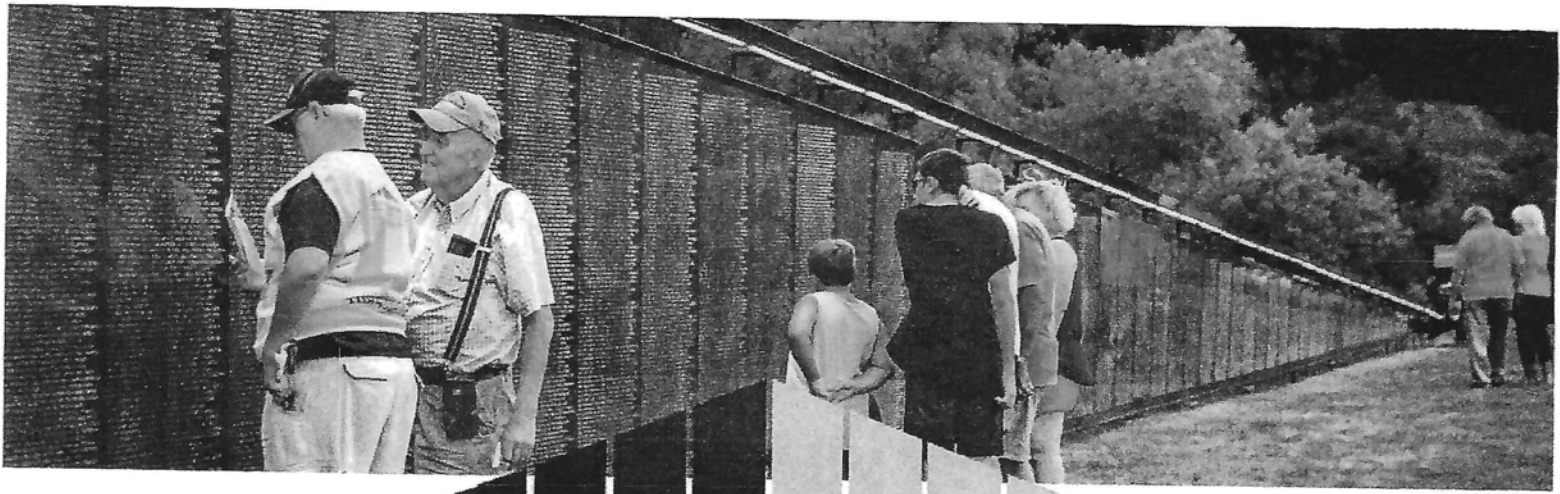
We hope to make this project a reality, but we cannot do it without the support of people like YOU! We have to raise the necessary funds six months prior to the event and ask that you consider helping to support our goal by signing up to be a sponsor today. Sponsorship details are enclosed. If you have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



**ConnectionsPlus™**  
Healthcare + Hospice  
Formerly Rockbridge Area Hospice + Mountain Regional Hospice  
Hometown roots. Nonprofit values. Since 1984

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**SCAN ME!** 

OR YOU CAN VISIT

[WWW.THEWALLTHATHEALSCOVINGTON.COM](http://WWW.THEWALLTHATHEALSCOVINGTON.COM)





# 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, 2024 - October 6, 2024**  
**Jackson River Sports Complex, Covington, VA**

## SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

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*Sponsorship Deadline:*  
*August 31, 2024*

LEARN MORE



**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](http://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.*

Please return this form and make checks payable to: VFW Post 1033 Vietnam Wall Fund c/o Bill Atherholt  
P.O. Box 483, Clifton Forge, VA 24422.

# ★ 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! >>>**



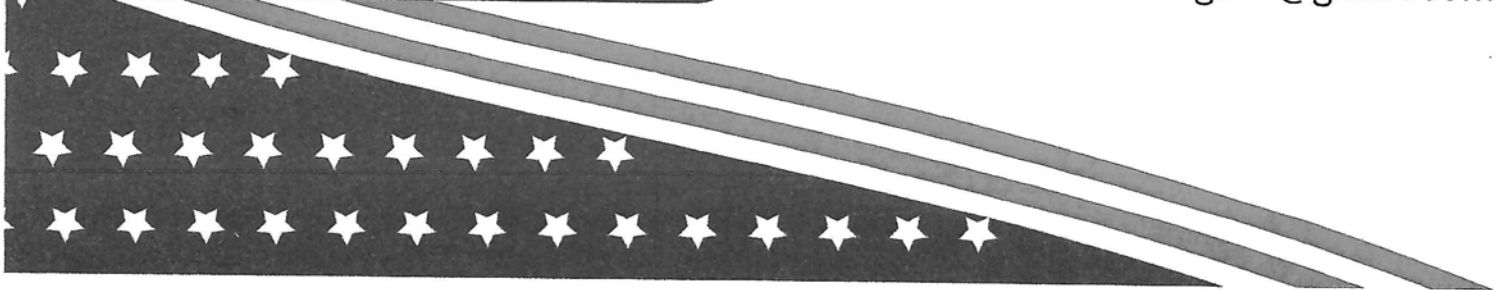
**For Questions, Contact:**

Cindy Wright

*Sponsorship Chair*

540-958-3436

[thewallthathealscovington@gmail.com](mailto:thewallthathealscovington@gmail.com)



# 58,281

## NAMES ON THE WALL

1,500+ SERVICE MEMBERS  
UNACCOUNTED FOR  
FROM THE VIETNAM WAR

8 WOMEN  
ON THE  
WALL

1968  
DEADLIEST YEAR  
IN THE WAR

161

MEDAL OF HONOR  
RECIPIENTS ON  
THE WALL

23 yrs., 1 mo.

AVERAGE AGE OF  
SERVICE MEMBERS  
ON THE WALL

15

AGE OF THE  
YOUNGEST  
SERVICE  
MEMBER ON  
THE WALL

# 400,000+

## ITEMS LEFT AT THE WALL

43 SETS OF  
BROTHERS  
ON THE WALL

3 SETS OF FATHERS  
AND SONS ON  
THE WALL

246 MOST CASUALTY DEATHS FOR  
ONE DAY / JANUARY 31, 1968

### REQUESTING THE WALL THAT HEALS

VVMF seeks sites that can provide a welcoming, quiet atmosphere, large enough to accommodate the components of *The Wall That Heals*, and that can be open to the public 24 hours a day, typically from Wednesday through Sunday.

Before, during, and after, VVMF staff work with hosting organizations to assist with program and event development to transform *The Wall That Heals* visit into a lasting impact for their community.

If your organization is interested in hosting *The Wall That Heals*, please visit [www.vvmf.org/twth-request](http://www.vvmf.org/twth-request) for more information.

### VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that founded the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C., in 1982. VVMF is the organization that partners with the National Park Service to maintain and care for The Wall, The Three Servicemen statue, flagpole, and *In Memory* plaque.

VVMF's mission is to honor and preserve the legacy of service in America and educate all generations about the impact of the Vietnam War and era. We honor the service of all, preserve the memory of those who died during the war and since returning home, and educate all generations about the lasting impact of the war.

VVMF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with no government funding — our programs, ceremonies and education efforts are dependent upon your generous donations. Please consider making a donation by going to [www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org) or calling 202-393-0090.

Hosted By



**VFW**

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

POST 1033  
Covington, VA

**ConnectionsPlus™**

Healthcare + Hospice

Formerly Rockbridge Area Hospice + Mountain Regional Hospice  
*Hometown roots. Nonprofit values. Since 1984*

For more info, visit

[www.thewallthathealscovington.com](http://www.thewallthathealscovington.com)

Honoring Our Vietnam Veterans

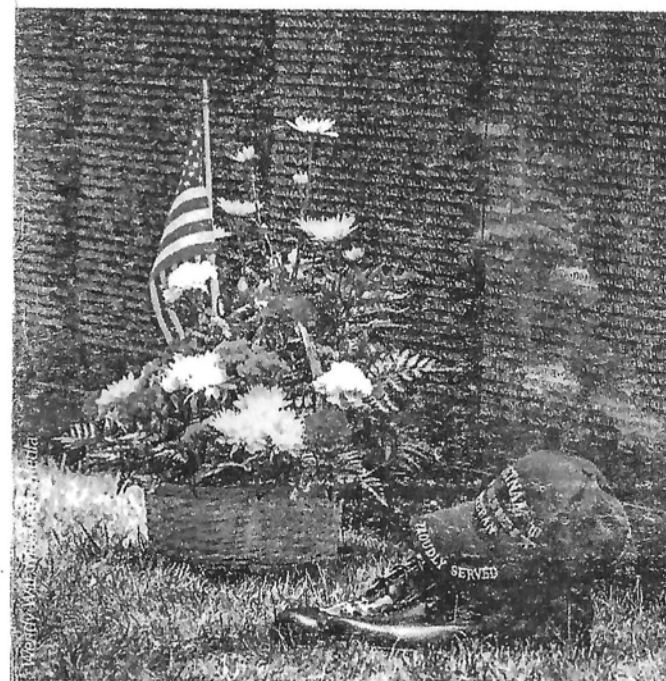
October 3 - 6, 2024

Jackson River Sports Complex

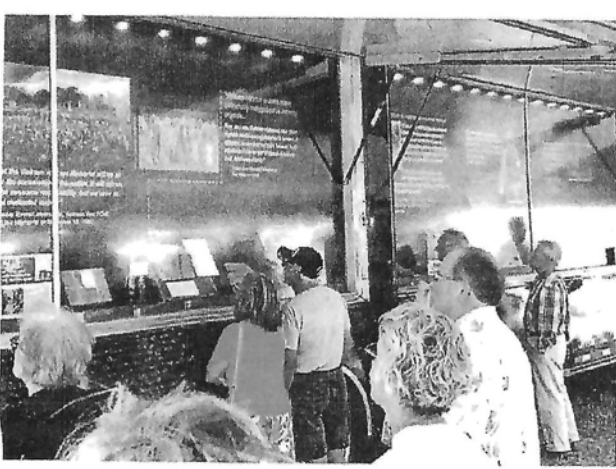
Covington, VA

# THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL  
REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



VIETNAM VETERANS  
MEMORIAL FUND  
★  
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL



Welcome to *The Wall That Heals*, the three-quarter scale traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The exhibit consists of the Wall replica and the mobile Education Center. *The Wall That Heals* exhibit is open to the public day and night throughout the visit.

## THE WALL REPLICA

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. Visitors experience The Wall rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of The Wall in D.C.

Like the original Memorial, *The Wall That Heals* is erected in a chevron-shape and visitors can do name rubbings of individual service member's names on The Wall.

The Wall replica is constructed of Avonite, a synthetic granite, and its 140 numbered panels are supported by an aluminum frame. Machine engraving of the more than 58,000 names along with modern LED lighting provide readability of The Wall day and night.

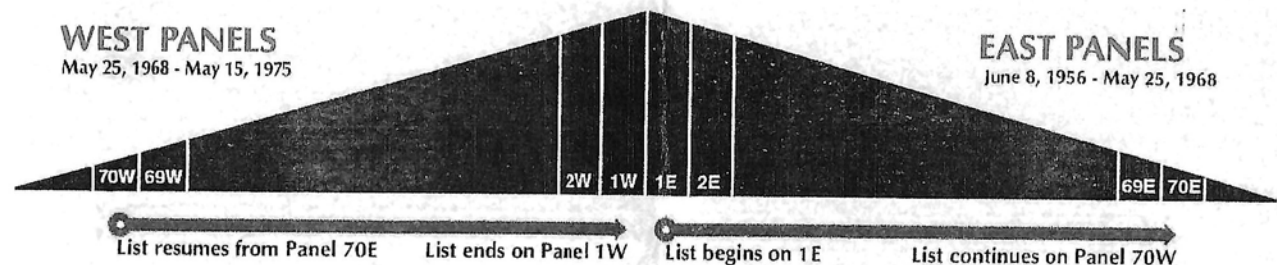
## MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER

The 51-foot trailer that carries *The Wall That Heals* transforms to become a mobile Education Center. The exterior of the trailer features a timeline of "The War and The Wall" and provides additional information about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Additional exhibits give visitors a better understanding of the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the collection of items left at The Wall. Displays include:

- > *Hometown Heroes* – Photos of service members on The Wall who list their home of record from the local area. The photos are part of VVMF's *Wall of Faces* – an effort to ensure the faces and stories of those on The Wall will never be forgotten. Help is needed to find better photos. Learn more at: [www.vvmf.org/thewall](http://www.vvmf.org/thewall)
- > Map of Vietnam

- > *In Memory Honor Roll* – Photos of Vietnam veterans (from the state we're on display) honored through VVMF's *In Memory* program which honors veterans who served in Vietnam, returned home and later died. A replica In Memory plaque is part of *The Wall That Heals* exhibit. Learn more at: [www.vvmf.org/inmemory](http://www.vvmf.org/inmemory)
- > A display of items representative of those left at The Wall in Washington, D.C.
- > Names on The Wall Directories – two directories allow for specific names on The Wall to be found alphabetically. A book is also available on site that features all 5,000+ *In Memory* honorees.
- > The Gold Star Bike – Donated to VVMF by the American Gold Star Mothers in 2012, the Softail Custom Harley motorcycle pays tribute to the mothers who lost sons to the Vietnam War.

## HOW TO FIND A NAME ON THE WALL



Names are arranged in order of date of casualty and alphabetically on each day, beginning at the center with panel 1E (under 1959), down panel 1E, then moving right towards 70E, then 70W towards the center, and ending above the 1975 on 1W. The first and last casualties are side by side at the apex of the Memorial.

1. Find a service member's name and location on The Wall in paper directories or online at VVMF's *Wall of Faces* at [www.vvmf.org/thewall](http://www.vvmf.org/thewall) or by downloading VVMF's The Wall app at [www.vvmf.org/app](http://www.vvmf.org/app)

2. Panel numbers are on the bottom of every panel. Row numbers count down from the top of each panel. On the margin of every other panel are white dots every 10 lines. Count down 4 dots and you're on line 40.

Each name is preceded (on the West Wall) or followed (on the East Wall) by a symbol designating status.

- ◆ Symbol denotes that the service member is known dead or presumed dead.
- ⊕ Symbol denotes that the service member was missing or prisoner status when The Wall was built in 1982 and remains unaccounted for today. When a service member is repatriated, the diamond is superimposed over the cross.





Charles H. Bush, Jr.

**Candidate for the High Office of VFW Virginia Department Judge Advocate 2024-25**

- I want to bring learning, recognition, and credibility to the Department Judge Advocate position. (To find ways to support the commanders)
- My goals are to continue to improve on the business side and support membership by finding ways to improve **membership retention**.
- Continue to enhance our family culture, working together as a team and family to support veterans, set an example, and positively impact our communities.
- My eligibility includes Active Duty service in the Marine Corps from 1981 to 2011 for over 30 years, two combat tours, Desert Storm (1990) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003), and attaining the high rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt) /E-9.
- My qualifications include joining the VFW organization as a Life Member in 1997 and currently serving as the State Surgeon 2023-2024
  - State Inspector 2021-2023
  - All-State and All-American District 8 Commander 2019-2021
  - Post 3103 Commander 2010-2011
  - Served on the District 8 Staff for over seven years as Inspector, JVC, SVC

R/S, in Comradeship, Charles Bush, (540) 907-5292 (cell) / cbush@vfwva.org (email)



*Randy Coker USMC (ret)*  
*Dale City VFW Post 1503*



## **CANDIDATE FOR DEPARTMENT SURGEON 2024-2025**

Comrades, my name is Randy Coker, and I am running for Department Surgeon for 2024-25. I am a Legacy Life member of the VFW. Since joining the VFW in 1999 I have served in a variety of leadership positions in the Post, District and Department levels. With each one of the previous positions, I accumulated increasingly more experience in the “business” of the VFW. This experience has given me the confidence to continue to serve my fellow comrades within this great organization in the Department of Virginia as the Surgeon and a continued “voice for Veterans” within the Department of Virginia.

My goals are, first and foremost the continued effort of supporting the Comrades of this organization as a voice for veterans. As an outspoken, forward thinking, results oriented comrade, I strive for nothing less than being recognized as the best. The Department of Virginia VFW has always been in the top tier of the Nation’s VFWs, and my goal is to continue to be the best by a continued great partnership with our outstanding Auxiliary.

I served in Desert Storm and Restore Hope in Somalia, I am a retired Marine Corps Master Sergeant (no more eating crayons for me) I take great pride in my 22 years of service to our country, and I truly believe that those years were only the stepping stone for me to be able to continue to serve veterans, past, present and future, in a different role. I look forward to hopefully serving the Veterans of this great organization as your next Department Surgeon. Thank you for your support and consideration.

### **QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE**

Desert Storm & Restore Hope Veteran  
Legacy Life member  
All American Post & District Commander  
Military Order of the Cootie  
Past Commanders Club President  
Current Department Honor Guard  
Current District 10 Hospitality Room Chair  
Current Department Newspaper Chaiman  
Current Post Adjutant, Post 1503  
Current Department Inspector

**\*\*\*\* DEDICATION / SERVICE & COMMITMENT \*\*\*\***

*Yours in comradeship*  
*Randy Coker*

# Vote for Experience!

## Elect Ken Wiseman

### National Judge Advocate General

2026-2027

#### Ready on Day 1!

Ken became a Paralegal after graduating from The George Washington University. More importantly, Ken has years of experience at all levels of the VFW that has taught him much about our great organization. Ken will be ready to go to work from the moment he is installed.



#### Years of Experience!

Ken earned All-American honors as a State Commander, State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Post Commander, and Post Quartermaster. He has been a Century Recruiter four times. Ken has led major updates to our bylaws and has experience handling Article 9 cases relating to disciplinary actions. Ken previously served as a VFW employee working on the National Legislative Service staff and he was an accredited Service Officer for the VFW.

Ken is currently the National Council Member and District 10 Commander in Virginia.

#### Committed to Service!

Having a Judge Advocate General with Ken's experience means having someone with experience in many of the issues our organization faces. Ken will work to help the VFW grow and he is committed to proving that "No One Does More for Veterans" than the VFW.