

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**



**DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA**

**NUMBER 4**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

**“Full steam ahead for vets”**

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

**October 1, 2021**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COMMANDER’S MESSAGE:**

Hello Comrades AND Auxiliary

First let me start out by saying congratulations to the following Posts for making a 100% starting off the year. Post 2239 Colonial Heights 106.52%; Post 12201 Kilmarnock 150.00% and Post 12202 King George 188.00%. Two of the three that made it this year was started in Commander Mallet’s Year.

Post Commander’s you should have printed off the All State and All American Program checklist. Every time you complete an item make a check next to it so you know what was completed same for all American, when it comes to Buddy Poppies order them early so we don’t have what happened last year.

Reporting we have 41 days left in the first half, District Commanders check with the Post that needs help, at our Fall Council Meeting last weekend All District Commanders were given a printout of their District let’s help these Post be reported for the first half.

Homecoming for all that are attending please send an email to [District2schupka2@gmail.com](mailto:District2schupka2@gmail.com). Please put your name and how many are attending with you, so we have a count of how much food to get, it’s Friday January 7, 2022, the place will be at Winter Council at the Renaissance in Portsmouth, Virginia, time will be put in November General Orders.

Dress code for Homecoming is Commander's shirt, for Saturday its casual and Banquet/Awards will be coat and tie. For the Auxiliary Homecoming comfortable and casual, for banquet wear President's shirt for all Line Officers.

Butch Schupska  
State Commander

## 2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2296 Tasley 21503 Daugherty Road Rep: St Cmdr Butch Schupska	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 01/15/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: St SVC Geoffrey Lyster
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 11/13/21 RSOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8545 Smithfield 223 Washington Street Rep: St Surgeon Doug Hoffman	8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/13/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7589 Manassas 9304 Centreville Road Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 11/13/21 Lunch: 10:00 AM Meeting: To follow lunch Location: Post 2239 Colonial Heights 14705 Jefferson Davis Hwy Rep: St Adj/QM Ed Mann	9 <sup>th</sup>	Date: TBD Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: TBD Meeting: TBD Location: Post 8163 Clarksville 7488 Highway 15 Rep:	10 <sup>th</sup>	Date: TBD Lunch: NOON Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: TBD Rep:
5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/20/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 647 Danville 275 VFW Drive Rep: St JVC Gary Adams	11 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 632 Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein
6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 12/4/21 Meeting: Noon Location: TBD Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein	12 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/6/21 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 9600 Pound 1112 Main Street Rep: St Surgeon Doug Hoffman
		13 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/13/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 8947 Mineral 201 Mineral Avenue Rep: St Cmdr Butch Schupska

## 3. 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.

#### 4. BONDS:

**All Bonds expired August 31, 2021.** 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 the Quartermaster Bond rate schedule **is for** the Post Officers. There is a separate schedule for your canteen employees and other who are not Post Offices but need to be bonded. Remember that persons on any and/or all accounts the Post have **Must** be bonded. **If you are bonded through another company you must still submit proof of bonding to State Headquarters. Those not bonded:**

District	Post	District	Post
2	District	7	9660
3	10657	12	9600
4	5313	12	9830
4	8759	12	9864
4	12200	13	District
6	5311	13	10574

#### 5. BUDDY POPPY:

Although we emphasize Buddy Poppies on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, it is important to realize that the distribution of Buddy Poppies should be a year-round exercise. Each time a Post participates in an activity where the public will be present, Buddy Poppies should be present as a fundraising tool and simply to recognize our fallen comrades. Where the VFW appears, Buddy Poppies should be a constant reminder that we will never forget those who have perished in the name of liberty. Just as “They Gave, Will You?” is a year-round thing, so should the distribution of VFW Buddy Poppies.

Remember that your poppies should be ordered a minimum of 8 weeks in advance of your distribution date. Be sure to specify a date by which the poppies are required, do not use “ASAP.”

Miscellaneous items (coin cans, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at [vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy](http://vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy) or the VFW Store/Emblem and Supply Catalog.

The Manual of Procedure provides that Post relief funds may be used for programs such as Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen, Citizenship Education, and Community Service as long as suggestions in the chairmen guidebooks are used as an example of promoting these programs.

Posts are further reminded that Section 711 of the Manual of Procedure provides that non-profit organizations, exempt from taxes under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, may assist with the distribution of Buddy Poppies, provided there shall be no division of proceeds. A donation to these groups may be made from the Post general fund.

**VFW SILVER, GOLD AND DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY POPPIES.** The silver, gold and diamond anniversary Buddy Poppies are for Posts that are currently in their 25th, 50th or 75th anniversary years. For Posts currently in their 100th year anniversary, they can order any color and as many as they need. The anniversary poppies are approximately three times as expensive for us to produce, but because of the small quantities we deal in, we don’t pass those costs on to the Posts. Please limit your order of anniversary poppies to 1,000 to ensure stock does not run out, unless you are currently in your 100th year. These are ordered through the Department and processed the same as the red poppies. Annotate on the order to National that it is for anniversary poppies and specify which one.

## **PURCHASING BUDDY POPPIES:**

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

Ed Mann  
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

## **6. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:**

All officers should obtain current 2022 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2022 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 122nd National Convention, which becomes effective on September 2, 2021.

## **7. CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD**

The VFW Teacher of the Year award contest recognizes three exceptional teachers for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students. Nominations of outstanding teachers in three categories: grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12.

ATTENTION: There are changes for this year's program. For starters, there is a new Teacher Entry Form which was published in the September 2021 General Orders. Go to the National Web Site and preprint your Post information before the Nominator fills out the form. Other changes include who can nominate a teacher and who is eligible.

The program dates for this year are as follows: **October 31<sup>st</sup>** is the Deadline for teacher nomination by the Post. Post judging should be completed by **November 15<sup>th</sup>** and winners sent to District. District judging should be completed by **December 15<sup>th</sup>** and winners forwarded to the Department by **December 20<sup>th</sup>**. Department judging will be completed by **January 10<sup>th</sup>** and winners submitted to VFW National Headquarters by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**. District chairpersons will provide District Reports with their District winners to the State Chairman.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me (540) 955-3311 or (540) 539-5446 or email me [bigredtruk@comcast.net](mailto:bigredtruk@comcast.net).

Chris Birch  
Teacher's Recognition Chairman

## **8. CONTROL OF UNITS:**

All Commanders are reminded that Section 709, Manual of Procedure - Control of Units, requires that any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or in behalf of a Post, County Council, District or Department shall be at all times under the direct control of such Post, County Council, District or Department and that all money, property or assets of any kind or nature, must be placed in the care and custody of the respective Quartermaster. All Commanders should ensure that all provisions of Section 709 are enforced.

## 9. DELINQUENT:

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

Dist.	Post	Fees		Dist.	Post	Fees
4	5313	\$6.00		9	7136	\$12.00
4	12200	\$3.00		9	7969	\$3.00
				9	9640	\$15.00
5	7854	\$9.00				
5	8467	\$6.00		11	8479	\$3.00
6	4299	\$6.00		12	4301	\$6.00
6	5311	\$9.00		12	8979	\$6.00
				12	9600	\$9.00
7	8613	\$12.00		12	9830	\$6.00
7	9660	\$9.00		12	9864	\$6.00
9	6000	\$15.00		13	10295	\$9.00

## 10. DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Members now have the ability to download their digital version of their membership card. Depending on whether a member has an iPhone or Android, they will be able to download and access their digital membership card from the VFW app.

This will not replace the physical VFW membership card - we will still be sending out membership cards to all our annual and Life members. This is intended as another option for our members' convenience. When asked to show a VFW membership card, a member can either produce their physical card out of their wallet or display their digital card on their smart phone.

## 11. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 7<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 **VFW2021!** 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 #

[svrdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:svrdist1@vfwva.org)  
[adjdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:adjdist1@vfwva.org)  
[qmdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:qmdist1@vfwva.org)

## 12. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

## 13. IMPORTANT DATES:

November 18 - 21, 2021 Southern Conference, Hilton Head, South Carolina

January 7 - 9, 2022 Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$94.00 per night. Group name "VFW Department of Virginia Winter Council Meeting"; Cut-off Date December 6, 2021. The State Commander/President's Homecoming will be held during this time.

June 9 - 12, 2022 State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night. Group name "Virginia Department VFW & Auxiliary State Convention 2022"; Cut-off Date May 9, 2022.

July 16 – 21, 2022 National Convention, Kansas City, Missouri

## 14. INCORPORATION:

The attention of the Post Commander is directed to section 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the procedure for the Incorporation of Units. It shall be the responsibility of the Post

Commander to ensure full compliance with both sections and to ensure that all state requirements for annual filing, fees, etc., are met in a timely manner.

Posts should take the necessary steps to incorporate under the laws of the state in which the Post is located. Financial responsibility laws, as interpreted by the courts, may cause members of unincorporated Posts to be at risk. Incorporating under the provisions of section 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure and the laws of the state will provide protection for Post members. Posts are urged to contact their Department Adjutant to obtain the proper forms for incorporating. The Articles of Incorporation must be reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief prior to forwarding them to the proper state authorities.

## 15. INSPECTIONS:

Hello, Comrades of Virginia,

I'm happy to report that our Posts are 47% and Districts are 77% inspection completion.

Congratulations to our District Inspectors of the Month from July and August to District 2, 3, 6, and 11;

July	Comrade Ronnie Steele	Dist. 2
August	Comrade Dave Ebersole	Dist. 3
August	Comrade Jerry Jacobsen	Dist. 6
August	Comrade Gene Chavis	Dist. 11

Inspector Training **Part 2 Question of the month: “Are you (the Inspector) Prepared? Before and During Inspection/ Who needs to be available during the inspection/some feedback and recommendation.”** This question is open to all.

The Inspectors **No. 1 Objective** is to create and support a plan **to inspect all Posts and Districts by December 17, 2021,** and to **correct all discrepancies by April 30, 2022.**

Are **You Inspection ready?** You, too, can get a certificate of Post Inspection readiness!

Any questions, comments, support needed, or recommendations, don't hesitate to get in touch with me at:

Charles Bush  
State Inspector  
[inspector@vfwva.org](mailto:inspector@vfwva.org)  
540-907-5292

#### 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 any time the Post Quartermaster changes and/or the Post address changes. This was effective January 1, 2014.

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

#### 17. **LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

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

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

*What will your Legacy be?*

#### 18. **MEMBERSHIP:**

Comrades and Commanders,

This report is the start of the second quarter of Butch's year, time flies when you are having fun. Why do I mention the beginning of the fourth month, most of the training has been completed from the State side down to Districts and Posts. The last scheduled training is the Recruiter School on the 9th and 10th of October. The District Commanders were briefed on the school at the Fall Council Meeting. If you have any questions about the zoom registration for credit please contact Mike Diaz, Ken Wiseman, or State Headquarters. REMEMBER THIS SCHOOL IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ALL STATE. You can attend in person or by zoom.

The State has started strong this year with 494 new or reinstated members at the time of this report. I encourage all members to attend the Recruiter School, we have made it interesting and have new and younger members of the team involved in the presentation.

The July General Orders had copies of the All American and All State Programs along with Checklists for both in it. It would be beneficial to your Post to print off this information and review it as you go forward in your quest for All American and All State. There's always one or two Post upset at the end of the year because they missed a requirement that would have qualified them for one or both programs. Don't let this happen to you this year.

As we enter the Fall Season of County Fairs and Town events try to have an information and recruiting table set up to benefit your Post. You will learn how to do this by attending the Recruiter School in a few days on the 9th and 10th of October. If you attend the State Fair this year stop by the VFW Booth and see us in action, we would love to show you our methods of recruiting. If you need assistance with any phase of your recruiting plan please contact State Headquarters or me and we will try our best to help you.

Tom Hines PSC  
Membership Team

#### 19. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters and the Hopewell, Norfolk and Dale City Service Offices will be closed October 11, 2021 for Columbus Day.

#### 20. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

Procedure and Ritual establish that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition* shall be the parliamentary authority on procedural matters not governed by VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. This edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* is readily available at local bookstores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

#### 21. PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM:

Have You Heard About the VFW's Partners in Patriotism? The VFW has an option that allows you to support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis, as well as reduce expenses and eliminate the fundraising mail. It is called Partners in Patriotism. As a member of Partners in Patriotism, you choose a set dollar amount for your donation (minimum amount of \$10) that is either charged to your credit card or set up as an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank account. Once you join the VFW's Partners in Patriotism, you will only receive the Quarterly Supporter newsletters to keep you informed of the many efforts your monthly gifts are making possible, and a Year End Tax Receipt mailed by the end of January. If you are interested in joining Partners in Patriotism, you may contact Donor Services in the VFW Development Department at 1.833.VFW.GIVE (1.833.839.4483) or email us at [partners@vfw.org](mailto:partners@vfw.org) with "Partners in Patriotism Application" in the subject line.

#### 22. RECRUITING SCHOOL:

Comrades,

As was already announced, the State Membership Committee is conducting Recruiter SOI's and we will have a Zoom option for two of the session in October. This training satisfies the State Commander's requirements for All-State. **ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ENSURE ACCURATE ACCOUNTABILITY.**

When you register, you will be required to put your first and last name, email address, and Post number to get the link to the meeting. **DO NOT SHARE YOUR LINK!** If you want others to join, they need to register themselves and use their own computer, laptop, or phone.

**October 9th meeting at Hillsville:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZItD--uqz8pGt05mKaQMYWcT6KDz0DNOylq>



**October 10th meeting at Edinburg:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0oc-yupzsrG9Am-GeLcPW-ctsN8JKpqv7j>

All sessions start at 9am and you will need to log in a little earlier to be ready. You can still attend in person, and we will have teams at the following locations for LIVE training:

October 9th: VFW Post 1115 (701 W. Stuart Drive Hillsville) and VFW Post 4809 (5728 Barte Street Norfolk)

October 10th: VFW Post 2447 (100 Veterans Way Edinburgh) and VFW Post 9808 (7168 Flag Lane Mechanicsville)

Please let me know if you or anybody has any questions or concerns.

Ken Wiseman  
Membership Committee Member

### 23. 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.

### 24. ROSTER CHANGES:

District 12 Cmdr  
Elizabeth A Wicht  
228 Kirkwood St  
Glade Spring, VA 24340  
757-515-6783  
[cdrdist12@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist12@vfwva.org)

District 12 Adj/QM  
Ronald C. Rogers  
717 Nettie Hill Rd  
Bristol, TN 37620  
423-878-6709  
[qmdist12@vfwva.org](mailto:qmdist12@vfwva.org)

Post 1860  
Mailing Address  
76 Eldridge Dr  
Front Royal, VA 22630

Post 4667 Cmdr  
Samuel M. Rosenbaum  
1157 Zion Hill Rd  
Marion, VA 24354  
276-780-0138

Post 4667 SVC  
Lester B. Owens  
4598 Lee Hwy  
Marion, VA 24354  
276-759-4876

Post 4667 JVC  
Claud A. Heath  
212 Walton Rd  
Marion, VA 24354  
276-783-4028

### 25. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY THEMES:

The 2021-22 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic. The Voice of Democracy theme will be "**America: Where do we go from here?**" and the Patriot's Pen theme will be "**How can I be a good American?**"

**26. VVF POST HOME IMPROVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE GRANT:**

The Virginia Veterans Foundation, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, has opened the window to apply for a grant to perform improvements on your Post home. The grant, funded by Powerhouse Gaming, will provide ten (10) grants worth up to \$1,000 for the 2021-2022 year. The requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, the application is due no later than November 30, 2021. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

**27. VVF COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT:**

The Virginia Veterans Foundation, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, has opened the window to apply for a grant to perform community service. The grant, funded by Powerhouse Gaming, will provide twelve (12) grants worth up to \$250 for the 2021-2022 year. Should any money remain after the twelve (12) grants are paid out, those not selected in the first round of grants will be considered a second time. The requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, the application is due no later than November 30, 2021. Posts **AND** Auxiliaries can apply for this grant, but only one grant will be given to an individual Post or their Auxiliary, regardless of who applies. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

**28. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:**

The Voice of Democracy program, instituted in 1947, has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars premier scholarship program. Annually, nearly 64,500 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Written and recorded audio essays are submitted by each applicant and address an annual patriotic theme. The 2021 theme is, "America: Where Do We Go From Here?" The contest is open to students in grades 9-12. More specific information, including rules, forms, and brochures are available at <http://www.vfw.org>.

Because of unexpected Covid 19 school closures we must be more creative this year when recruiting applicants for the Voice of Democracy contest. Please consider using social media, and electronic communication with school administrators and teachers, as well as traditional methods.

**2021-2022 Voice of Democracy Reporting Deadlines**

31 October 2021 Student entries due at the Post  
15 November 2021 Completion of Post judging  
05 December 2021 Completion of District judging  
18 December 2021 Department VOD Selection Board  
22 December 2021 Completion of Department Judging  
15 January 2022 District Participation Reports due for Department Chairman  
15 January 2022 Department winners due for National

Awards will be presented to the top three Department winners at the Department Winter Council meeting on Saturday, 8 January 2022 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Please send complete application packets to the Department VOD Chairman to include the completed Official Student Entry form with all appropriate signatures, a typed transcript, an audio CD or flash drive and a photograph of the District winner. Make sure your flash drive or CD is properly recorded and playable before sending it. Incomplete application packets will disqualify your candidate from District and Department judging. District Chairmen are expected to complete and send out the District Participation Report in a timely manner. It should be received by the Department VOD Chairman, which is required for his Department Report NLT Saturday, 15 January 2022.

The District first place winning submissions should be mailed to the Department VOD Chairman Louis Filippone at 15608 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville, Virginia 20120.

You are strongly encouraged to send your application packets by UPS, Fed Ex, or USPS return receipt. You are also advised to keep a duplicate copy of the complete application packet on hand. The Department VOD Chairman must

receive your submissions NLT Friday, 17 December 2021. The Department VOD Selection Board will be held on Saturday, 18 December 2021, location to be announced. Possible teleconference format judging is being considered.

### **Voice of Democracy Department Awards**

The top three finalists will be invited to the Winter Council Luncheon in Portsmouth, Virginia on Saturday, 08 January 2022. All three finalists will receive their awards and present their essays at the awards banquet. The first-place winner will receive a minimum of \$2,000.00 from the Department along with \$500.00 from the Commander's Club and an additional check from the Auxiliary. The second-place winner will receive a minimum of \$1,000.00, and the third-place winner will receive a minimum of \$500.00. Additional donations are expected this year. The Post that sponsors the Department's first place winner will be awarded the Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Trophy at the Department Convention in June 11, 2022. Should you require any assistance or additional information regarding the 2021-2022 Voice of Democracy program, or its administration please contact me directly at (703)477-2274 or email at [drlouortho@aol.com](mailto:drlouortho@aol.com).

Please be advised all dates and venues are subject to change as a result of unforeseen Covid 19 restrictions.

Louis Filippone  
Voice of Democracy Program Chairman

### **29. WINTER COUNCIL MEETING:**

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1620421775100&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

To book via phone, please call Central Reservations at 1-888-839-1775 and ask for the 'VFW' group rate.

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Butch Schupska  
State Commander

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant*

The purpose of the VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant is to assist VFW Posts in Virginia who need assistance with funding projects to improve, expand, or repair their Post home as well as assisting those Posts in financial need. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to \$1,000 each for the 2021-2022 year. All requirements must be met or the Post will be required to return the grant, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances.

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) If funding a project, it must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Post must submit a thorough justification for the grant.
- 2) If asking for emergency assistance, the Post must explain the reason for the emergency and provide a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.
- 3) The VFW Post in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
- 4) The Post must be in good standing with the VFW National and Department Headquarters.
- 5) If funding a project, the Post must own or lease the Post and must provide a copy of the documents showing either ownership or a current lease. For Posts who lease the property, there must be at least 2 years remaining on the lease to receive a grant.
- 6) The Post must not allow smoking in their Post building but may use the grant to repair damage after voting to ban smoking. A ban on smoking is defined as no smoking allowed inside the building of the Post home. It may be allowed outside of the building.
- 7) Receipts for the project or bills covered by the assistance requested must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion or for bills already paid.
- 8) Should the project costs or assistance requested total less than \$1,000 once complete, the balance of the grant will not be paid. Additional projects may not be added to an approved grant. Alterations to an approved grant require approval by the Virginia Veterans Foundation before the grant can be claimed.
- 9) The VFW Post receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the funded project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
- 10) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
- 11) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
- 12) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant*

### Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Post mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address of the Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Quartermaster name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated cost of the project or assistance requested: \_\_\_\_\_

How will labor be provided?: \_\_\_\_\_

**On a separate page, give either a description of the project to be completed or justification for assistance requested. For emergency assistance, also include in your description a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.**

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Post Commander: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Quartermaster: \_\_\_\_\_

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Community Service Grant*

The purpose of the VFW Community Service Grant is to assist VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in Virginia who need assistance with funding community service projects. There will be of twelve (12) grants worth up to \$250 each for the 2021-2022 year. All requirements must be met, or the grant must be returned, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances.

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) The project must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- 2) The VFW Post or Auxiliary in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Post must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
- 3) The Post or Auxiliary must be in good standing with the VFW National Headquarters and the Department of Virginia.
- 4) If the project is hosted at a building, it must be a non-smoking building regardless of the owner's rules for the use of the building.
- 5) The grant is not to be used for work on a VFW Post home or the property owned by any membership-based organization.
- 6) Receipts for the project must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion.
- 7) Should the project costs total less than \$250 once completed, the balance of the grant will not be paid. Additional projects may not be added to an approved grant. Alterations to an approved grant require approval by the Virginia Veterans Foundation before the grant can be claimed.
- 8) The VFW Post or Auxiliary receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
- 9) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
- 10) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
- 11) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.
- 12) Only one grant per year will be provided to an individual Post or Auxiliary, regardless of who applies for the grant.

# THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

## *VFW Community Service Grant*

### Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post/Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address of the event: \_\_\_\_\_

Commander/President name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Quartermaster/Treasurer name, phone number, and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of the project to be completed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated cost of the project: \_\_\_\_\_

How will labor be provided?: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Commander/President: \_\_\_\_\_ QM/Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to become a Cootie reach out to [grandcdr@vfwva.org](mailto:grandcdr@vfwva.org).

*Hay-U*

Ronnie Steele

Commander

Grand of Virginia

Military Order of the Cootie







# VFW SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**



Conference dates:  
November 17th-21st  
2021

Reservation dates:  
November 14th-23rd  
2021

130 Shipyard Dr.  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928  
843-842-2400

[sonesta.com/hiltonheadisland](https://sonesta.com/hiltonheadisland)

Room Rate: \$ 139.00 + tax per night

## Southern Conference Tentative Schedule of Events

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021	Registration
	S.C. Hospitality Room
	Silent Auction
Friday, Nov. 19, 2021	Morning Colors –Paris Is.
	Golf Tournament
	Registration
	Vendor Service
	Silent Auction
	Auxiliary Meeting
	Memorial Service
	S. C. Reception
Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021	Silent Auction
	Registration
	Officer Breakfast's
	Joint Opening Ceremony
	VFW Business Meeting
	VFW Auxiliary Meeting
	Candidates Reception
	Banquet
Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021	Departures

**Southern Conference 2021**  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States & Auxiliary  
November 17 to November 21, 2021

<https://vfwsc.org>

**Pre Registration Fee \$75.00**

Due to Department of South Carolina by November 5, 2021

**On Site Registration Fee \$85.00**

**Covers: Banquet, SC Hospitality Room, and Entertainment**

(Payment by Credit Card will have an additional transaction fee)

**Registration #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Aux: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Registration #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Aux: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Make Checks Payable to:

VFWSC

Mail all documents to:

VFW Department of South Carolina

210 Glassmaster Rd.

Lexington, SC 29072

Or Email to: [admin@vfwsc.org](mailto:admin@vfwsc.org)



**Conference Polo Shirts**  
 Men's \$33.00 Ladies \$30.00

Men's (pocket)	S	M	L	XL
Ladies (no pocket)	S	M	L	XL
Men's (pocket)	S	M	L	XL
Ladies (no pocket)	S	M	L	XL

*Men S - 4XL Lady S - 3XL Circle your selection*

**Morning Colors at Parris Island Marine Corps Recruiting Center**

No. of Persons in party. \_\_\_\_\_ Print each name and Date of Birth for security.

Name	DOB
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Banquet Choices**

Entrée A: Chicken Scallopini \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée A: Chicken Scallopini \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée B: Center Cut Sirloin \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée B: Center Cut Sirloin \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée C: Roasted Veg. Pasta \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée C: Roasted Veg. Pasta \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée D: Fruit Plate: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée D: Fruit Plate: \_\_\_\_\_

Includes Salad, Fresh Bread & Butter,  
Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Water.

Includes Salad, Fresh Bread & Butter,  
Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Water.

Please mark your preference.

Please mark your preference.

Name:

Name:

# Southern Conference 2021

Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary  
November 17 – 20, 2021

## Request for Transportation

A courtesy shuttle will be provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of South Carolina from the Hilton Head Airport to the Sonesta Resort.

Make your air travel plans to Hilton Head Airport, not the Savannah/Hilton Head Airport. The Airport Identifier is HHH South Carolina.

Please complete the form below for the Department of South Carolina to make sure they have enough shuttles available to make a good schedule for pick up with as little lag time as possible.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Airlines: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight#: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight#: \_\_\_\_\_

How many to pick up: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: VFW, Department of South Carolina  
210 Glassmaster Road  
Lexington, SC 29072

Phone Number: 803-808-0317

Email: [admin@vfwsc.org](mailto:admin@vfwsc.org)

**Join us for a day on the links!**

**“Ship Yard Golf Club”**

**Galleon/ Clipper**

**18 Holes**

9:00 AM Shotgun Start / Scramble Start

Longest Drive Contest

Closest to the Pin Contest

\$110 per Player

Includes Green Fees, Cart Fees, Range Balls, Course Contests.

Club Rental - \$49.00 includes 1 sleeve of 6 Titlist Balls.

**Golf Tournament**

Team Name : \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Players: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Mulligans can be purchased at 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00.

# 2021 Southern Conference Publication

Full Page Black & White Ad - \$50.00

Full Page Color Ad - \$100.00

Inside Back Cover Ad - \$150.00

Back Cover Ad - \$200.00

Please contact Kate Brock at 803-808-0417

Mon - Thurs, 8 AM to 4 PM EST.

with any and all questions.

Prepared ads can be sent via email to [admin@vfwsc.org](mailto:admin@vfwsc.org) .

Ads may be submitted as Publisher, JPG, PNG or word files,

Please, no PDF files.

We will be happy to help you put an ad together.

Signage for the golf tournament is available for \$100.

Please forward inquiries to [admin@vfwsc.org](mailto:admin@vfwsc.org)

Comrades:

My name is Harold Milton Schupska, (aka), Butch. I am announcing my candidacy for National Council member for the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 2022-2026. I was in the Navy from 1972-1975, then came back into the Navy in 1979. I married Peggy Ann Barchaniwcz on July 18, 1983. We have no children, but we spoil nieces and nephews and then send them home. I retired from the Navy on September 30, 1996 as a First-Class Boiler Technician (SW). My wife Peggy and I reside in Norfolk, Virginia.



I joined the VFW in 1989 at Ocean View Post 3160 became involved with the Military Order of the Cooties, reaching the title of Seam Squirrel four times. In 2002 I became Junior Vice Commander of Post 3160. In 2003-2004 I was Senior Vice Commander and then in 2004-2005, I became Post Commander. As Post Commander I received the distinguished All-State Commander award and made All American Commander. In 2008-2009, I was elected as the Grand Commander of the Military Order of the Cooties. From 2010-2013, I was elected Post Commander again, and was an All-American Commander all three terms, and All-State two of the three terms.

In 2016, I ran for Department Surgeon and from 2017 until the present, I have made my way up the chairs and am the 2021-2022 Department Commander.

I will give this Department my all to ensure that Virginia continues to lead the Veterans of Foreign Wars. "Full Steam Ahead for Vets".

I hope I can count on your support at state convention in June of 2022.



Harold Milton Schupska (AKA) Butch





# Vote Ken Wiseman for National Council of Administration!

An Experienced Leader For Virginia!



## **Endorsed by current National Councilman Tom Gimble!**

The National Council of Administration oversees the National HQs of the VFW and Virginia needs someone to represent our interests and help oversee national-level efforts. With a multi-million dollar budget, important programs, and a future that must be as great as our past, we need experience and knowledge in the person holding this position.

As an All-American Past State Commander and All-American Past State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Ken knows firsthand Virginia's relationship with the National HQs and will fight to protect the more than \$175,000 Virginia gets annually from the National HQs. Ken knows the importance of Service Officers having been one and he sees the help they give veterans as a cornerstone of the VFW. Ken spent three years working in the VFW's D.C. office and knows well our fight on Capitol Hill and the need to support all VFW employees in their efforts to fulfill our mission.

Most importantly, Ken understands the challenges faced by our Posts. Having served multiple times as a Post Commander and Post Quartermaster and earning All-American and All-State honors along the way, Ken believes Posts are the most important level of the organization and should be supported as such. Ken will work to ensure that the National HQs empowers and strengthens Posts, not make it harder for them to succeed.

**Vote for experience and continued advocacy!**

# **Mark P. Maggio**

## **Candidate for the Office of State Surgeon 2022-23**



Comrades my name is Mark Maggio and I am running for State Surgeon. I moved from New York to Virginia in 2003. I have served in a variety of positions since living in Virginia and most recently served as the State Chief of Staff for Commander Eric Mallete. In my positions with the Posts, Districts and State, I have accumulated experience in the business of the VFW and feel that I am ready to serve my fellow comrades as a state officer and eventually State Commander. My goals are to continue the work that has been done by the state over the years growing the membership and reaching out to new members, and continuing to make the VFW a strong voice for veterans.

I enlisted in the Army November of 1982 and went to Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. I served as a Smoke Generator Operator until receiving my commission from Hofstra University in May 1986 as a Chemical Officer. I served as a platoon leader and executive officer of the 363<sup>rd</sup> Chemical Company and was transferred to the 318<sup>th</sup> Movement Control Agency just prior to deploying to Saudi Arabia for Desert Shield and Storm. During Operation Desert Storm I served as Freight Movements Officer from October 1990 till July of 1991. I returned home and went on to the Transportation Officer Advanced Course then went on to serve as a Company Commander of the 623<sup>rd</sup> Transportation Company. I then served in various staff assignment in the 354<sup>th</sup> and 436<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalions. I later served with the 1179<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade and the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command where I served tours in both Afghanistan and Iraq. In Iraq I was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for establishing a redeployment system that streamlined the process of units moving in and out of theater while minimizing the disruption of the change over operations and combat operations.

While serving in Post 4639 I served as Jr and Sr Vice Commander becoming Commander in 2010. I was an All State Commander in my first year. In 2018 I was elected District 3 Commander and was an All American District Commander in my first year and a All State District Commander in my second. In 2018 11 of the 15 posts in the district made All State and 7 made All American. I was asked by Commander Mallete to be his Chief of Staff and worked in that position during the 2020-21 term. I am a member of the State Honor Guard and I am currently the Treasurer of the Commanders Club. I am also a member of the Military Order of the Cooties, where I currently serve as the Sky Pilot.

I am currently employed by the United States Army working at Fort Eustis for the Future Concepts Center under the Army Futures Command. I have been a civilian employee of the Department of the Army since 2010. My girlfriend Rosanne is a member of the Auxilliary and her father was a victim of Agent Orange which took his life in 2001. I have lost several comrades who served in Vietnam to Agent Orange and cancer. I have lost comrades to suicide as well. It is the remembrance of those lives that drive me to a voice for veterans whose voice may be lost in the din of competing voices for Government resources and aid. I want to be the voice that breaks through and helps them get the aid that they fought for and sacrificed for. We must always remain vigilant and never assume our work is finished. No one does more for Veterans than the VFW, must not just be a slogan but our lives work. Thank you Comrades for your consideration.

Fraternally,

Mark P. Maggio  
757-879-7724 - Cell  
[Mmaggio39@gmail.com](mailto:Mmaggio39@gmail.com)