

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 3
403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

"Full steam ahead for vets"

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

September 1, 2021
Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrade & Auxiliary

First let me thank the best Department & Auxiliary a Commander can ever ask for, we came together as a family at the National Convention and had the best hospitality room there. There are too many people to mention, and I am afraid I would forget someone, and I would feel sad I forgot someone **SO FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART THANK YOU ALL.**

Now a special congratulation goes out too Dan Boyer for being the Departments third triple crown winner.

Now here is my special project for my year - it to help the hospice center. I would like all Post that have a canteen to do a dinner and send the profit to Headquarters in the memo put for Commander Special Project. Or, if you just want to donate do the same thing.

To all District Commanders and Line Officers, on Friday September 17 around 1830 we are having a potluck dinner at Headquarters. Mitch is bringing a grill so bring what you want to have cooked. The COA meeting is Saturday 18 September 0900. We are going to zoom this also if you need a room for Friday night call Headquarters.

By the time this is printed we should find out what the numbers are to make 100%, so as the weather stays warm it is still time to be out there, so we don't have to push hard at the end.

Butch Schupska
State Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2296 Tasley 21503 Daugherty Road Rep: St Cmdr Butch Schupska	7 th	Date: 01/15/22 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: St SVC Geoffrey Lyster
2 nd	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 th	Date: 11/13/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 7589 Manassas 9304 Centreville Road Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein
3 rd	Date: 11/13/21 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: To follow lunch Location: Post 2239 Colonial Heights 14705 Jefferson Davis Hwy Rep: St Adj/QM Ed Mann	9 th	Date: 9/19/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4667 Marion 861 Goolsby Street Rep: State JVC Gary Adams
4 th	Date: TBD Meeting: TBD Location: Post 8163 Clarksville 7488 Highway 15 Rep:	10 th	Date: 9/26/21 SOI: 9:00 AM Lunch: NOON Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 1503 Dale City 14631 Minnieville Road Rep: St Surgeon Doug Hoffman
5 th	Date: 11/13/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 647 Danville 275 VFW Drive Rep: St JVC Gary Adams	11 th	Date: 1/22/22 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 632 Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein
6 th	Date: 12/4/21 Meeting: Noon Location: TBD Rep: St Judge Advocate Mitch Rubenstein	12 th	Date: 11/6/21 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 9600 Pound 1112 Main Street Rep: St Surgeon Doug Hoffman
		13 th	Date: 11/13/21 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 8947 Mineral 201 Mineral Avenue Rep: St Cmdr Butch Schupska

3. 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.

4. **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/buddypopy 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

5. **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. Please use the 2021-2022 Entry Form attached to the General Orders. Do not use the old tri-fold brochure entry form. Other changes include who can nominate a teacher and who is eligible. Requirements for documentation remain the same.

The program dates for this year are as follows: **October 31st** is the Deadline for teacher nomination by the Post. Post judging should be completed by **November 15th** and winners sent to District. District judging should be completed by **December 15th** and winners forwarded to the Department by **December 20th**. Department judging will be completed by **December 23**. District chairpersons will provide District Reports with their District winners to the State Chairman. State winners will be recognized at the Winter Council of Administration in Portsmouth in January 2022.

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.

Chris Birch
Teacher's Recognition Chairman

6. 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	12145	\$6.00		9	7969	\$3.00
4	12200	\$3.00		9	9640	\$15.00
5	7854	\$9.00		11	8479	\$3.00
5	8467	\$6.00				
				12	4301	\$6.00
6	4299	\$6.00		12	5715	\$15.00
6	5311	\$9.00		12	8979	\$6.00
				12	9600	\$9.00
7	621	\$15.00		12	9830	\$6.00
7	8613	\$12.00		12	9864	\$6.00
7	9660	\$9.00				
				13	10295	\$9.00
9	6000	\$15.00				

7. 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.

8. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 7th**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site www.vfwva.org.
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **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 where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

For District Officers your address will be cdrdist1@vfwva.org for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district #

adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

9. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

10. IMPORTANT DATES:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| September 18, 2021 | Fall Council of Administration Meeting, State Headquarters (9:00 am) |
| 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 |

11. 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.

12. INSPECTIONS:

Mission Statement: District/Post Inspections are on-site interviews between the Inspector and District/Post leadership where the Inspector acts as an advisor to ensure the District/Post is operating according to the provisions of the VFW Bylaws and that the District/Post operates for the purposes defined in our Congressional Charter. By collecting data, assessing operations, and lending best practices, the Inspector acts as a diligent instructor who imparts knowledge and guidance of District/Post operations. After inspection, the Inspector brings their findings and recommendations to their Leadership's attention in order to create a standard for the District/Post and to ensure a strong foundation for the future.

The Districts set the example for Post!

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

Charles Bush
State Inspector
inspector@vfwva.org
540-907-5292

13. 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.

14. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

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

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

What will your Legacy be?

15. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

Welcome to a new year and new Membership Team Members. The Team this year has seven members including myself. The Members look forward to assisting you and your Post this year. The Members are George Winters Post 12179 Lynchburg, Geoff Lyster Post 9835 Warrenton, Ken Wiseman Post 4522 Vinton, Michael Diaz Post 9760 Berryville, Mark Shockley Post 3219 Phoebus, Kathy Goodall Post 4809 Norfolk and Tom Hines Post 9954 Lunenburg County. You can see that all 7 are from different Districts so we have a good cross section of the State covered. We are here to assist and train you and your Post in the fine art of recruiting, retaining, and mentoring of new or reinstated veterans. Our Membership Training School will be coming to you soon by way of a Zoom Meeting.

I encourage you to take advantage of the team and begin recruiting early and often. Looks like we are going to be dealing with the virus again this year. Just remember that it's just a virus and has over a 99% survival rate and always did. Do what you feel is best for your protection and recruit, recruit, recruit. The Fall is full of events in your area, and I encourage you and your Post to have a table at these events to pass out information and invite veterans to join our organization. A Generations of Service Pamphlet and a Fact Sheet from National will assist you greatly while recruiting. The Fact Sheet gives inexperienced recruiters information about what this organization does to help veterans and their families. The Pamphlet list the major legislative victories that we have achieved since our inception in 1899. Our Washington Office is older than almost all other Veterans Service Organizations.

The Team looks forward to another All American Year for the State and working with you to achieve that. Please contact any of us for assistance.

Tom Hines PSC
Membership Team

16. NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY:

SEPTEMBER 17- Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. For POW/MIA merchandise, click vfwstore.org/category/memorial/pow-mia.

17. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters and the Hopewell, Norfolk and Dale City Service Offices will be closed September 6, 2021 for Labor Day.

18. 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.

19. 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 with “Partners in Patriotism Application” in the subject line.

20. PATRIOT DAY:

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

21. POST OFFICER’S DUTIES:

Attention of incoming Post Officers is directed to Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure which outlines the duties of various Post Officers.

22. RECRUITING SCHOOL:

On behalf of the State Membership Chair and the Membership Committee, I am announcing that we have set the time, date, and locations for the five (5) locations which will be used to teach the Recruiter SOI.

The locations, dates, and times are as follows:

September 12	Post 1503	14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City	9am-12pm
October 9	Post 4809	5728 Bartee Street, Norfolk	9am-12pm
October 9	Post 1115	701 West Stuart Drive, Hillsville	9am-12pm
October 10	Post 9808	7168 Flag Lane, Mechanicsville	9am-12pm
October 10	Post 2447	100 Veterans Way, Edinburgh	9am-12pm

We have designed this to capture as much of the state as possible while still having space to bring people in safely and parking to accommodate everyone. Also, we will have a ZOOM option for both October 9th and 10th and this information will follow soon.

We will be taking roll at each of these training sessions and any Post can attend any session they want to attend. All-State requirements mandate the Post send at least one representative, but we would enjoy having more if possible. Also, please be advised that there will NOT be any meals served at the event.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have on this.

Thanks!

Ken Wiseman
Membership Committee Member

23. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS:

Section 220 of the National By-Laws, “Vacancies and removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members: states, “Any elective Post officer removed by the State Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post under the provisions of this section, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed.”

24. REPORTING:

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

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

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

25. ROSTER CHANGES:

Post 1841
Dues \$35.00

Post 2894 QM
Charles Wolff
3970 Cornland Rd
Chesapeake, VA 23322
505-238-6638
qmpost2894@vfwva.org

Post 4522
Does not have Canteen

Post 7819 Cmdr
Greg Eanes
434-298-1238

Post 8243 Meeting Place
South Boston Aux Fire Dept
801 Wilborn Ave
South Boston, VA 24592

PSC Ken Wiseman
IT and Membership Member
9220 Hastings Drive #105
Manassas, VA 20110

26. 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?**"

27. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 9:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 212 of the National Bylaws and upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, while under suspension, due to their failure to establish a meeting quorum or elect the required officers, the charter of Dinwiddie County Post No. 12145, Dinwiddie, Virginia mustered January 31, 2015, is hereby cancelled and the Post declared defunct. Such cancellation includes a revocation of the right to use all trademarks and service marks, including the name, emblems/insignia, seals and logos, of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.

By order of
Fritz Mihelcic
Commander-in-Chief

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

The National Convention adopted a change to the Ritual adding National Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day (March 29) to the list of commemorative dates. This change was submitted by the Department of Virginia.

I have a supply of Vietnam Veteran commemorative lapel pins on hand. Posts wishing to obtain no more than ten may contact me at the email address on my signature block below. Since my last report, I have distributed nine of them (six in person and three others resulting from mail requests received).

This month's Vietnam War Medal of Honor recipient – Wesley L. Fox - was born in Herndon, Virginia and, following the start of the Korean War, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. During that conflict he was wounded and awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V". By May 1966, then a First Sergeant, he was directly commissioned as a 2nd Lt while stationed in Europe. Returning Stateside, he became a platoon commander at Camp Pendleton and then, in November 1968, was assigned to 1/9 Marines as "A" Company Commander in Vietnam. The action for which he earned the Medal of Honor occurred on February 22, 1969. The citation accompanying his Medal of Honor reads as follows:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as commanding officer of Company A, in action against the enemy in the northern A Chau Valley. Capt. (then 1st Lt.) Fox's company came under intense fire from a large well concealed enemy force. Capt. Fox maneuvered to a position from which he could assess the situation and confer with his platoon leaders. As they departed to execute the plan he had devised, the enemy attacked and Capt. Fox was wounded along with all of the other members of the command group, except the executive officer. Capt. Fox continued to direct the activity of his company. Advancing through heavy enemy fire, he personally neutralized 1 enemy position and calmly ordered an assault against the hostile emplacements. He then moved through the hazardous area coordinating aircraft support with the activities of his men. When his executive officer was mortally wounded, Capt. Fox reorganized the company and directed the fire of his men as they hurled grenades against the enemy and drove the hostile forces into retreat. Wounded again in the final assault, Capt. Fox refused medical attention, established a defensive posture, and supervised the preparation of casualties for medical evacuation. His indomitable courage, inspiring initiative, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of grave personal danger inspired his Marines to such aggressive action that they overcame all enemy resistance and destroyed a large bunker complex. Capt. Fox's heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Marine Corps, and uphold the highest traditions of the [U.S. Naval Service](#).

The Medal was presented to him by President Nixon at a White House ceremony. Fox retired from the Marine Corps in 1993 as a Colonel. Post retirement, he served for eight years as deputy Commandant of Cadets at Virginia

Tech. Colonel Fox passed away at his residence in Blacksburg, Virginia in November 2017 and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman
cdrdist8@vfwva.org

31. 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](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.

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

32. 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



2021-2022

Entry Deadline: October 31, 2021

National Award: \$3,000

What is the Teacher Award Program?

Founded in 1899, the VFW highly supports the education of America's youth. VFW and its Auxiliary have developed a slate of programs dedicated to helping America's educators. VFW Citizenship Education programs stimulate interest in America's history, traditions, Americanism, civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism.

Teachers care deeply about America and its children. They're concerned about the perpetuation of America's noblest traditions and highest ideals. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve? Now you can...

Why Should I Enter?

VFW wants to identify and recognize America's best educators who instill a sense of national pride in students. It offers cash awards, commemorative plaques and all-expenses-paid trips to the VFW National Convention for these worthy teachers. The trip provides an opportunity for winners to network with like-minded individuals.

The Rules

How are teachers nominated?

Fill out the nomination form contained in this brochure, and provide a one-page resume as a minimum or up to five pages as a maximum of documentation of their teaching experience (for example: references, news articles, etc.) and a head-and-shoulder photo if available.

Please submit your completed nomination form signed, along with the required documentation, to your local VFW Post. Visit vfw.org/Find-a-Post for Post locations or call VFW Programs Department at 816.756.3390 ext. 6287 to find the Post nearest you.

2021-2022 Official Entry Form Teacher Award Competition

Must Be Completed by All Contestants

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Phone

Email

Grade Taught

School Name

School City, State

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this teacher has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Teacher Award Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairman's Signature

Post #

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairman's Signature (if applicable)

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of teachers participating

Amt. of Post/Aux. awards \$

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$

TEACHER AWARD

2021-2022

Entry Deadline: October 31, 2021
National Award: \$3,000

To Be Completed by the VFW District (If Applicable)

I certify that the teacher named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Teacher Award District Competition and is our sole entry into the Departments.

District Chairman's Signature	Dist. #

Address	

City, State, Zip	
() _____	_____
Phone	Email

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairman

I certify that the teacher named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Teacher Award Department Competition, is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairman's Signature	
() _____	_____
Daytime Phone	Email

The winner has been will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries begin at the local VFW Post level. Individual nominees may submit their entry directly to the Post. This VFW Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One Post winner advances to District, if applicable, then one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions: First, visit this website vfw.org/FindaPost to "Find A VFW Post." Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in. If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at tbeauchamp@vfw.org

What Is the Deadline for My Entry?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, Oct. 31, 2021. It is the responsibility of the nominator to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

What Are the Judging Criteria?

Citizenship (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what extent does the teacher encourage and/or model good citizenship and community involvement?

Innovation (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, how much innovation (new ideas, new tools, new resources, and new approaches) does this teacher utilize in the classroom? Does this teacher's effort reflect an ongoing desire to stimulate the students with new things?

Resources (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree has this teacher demonstrated an ability to identify and utilize new and exceptional resources to fund, facilitate and provide materials for his or her classroom? Does this teacher tap into outside agencies, organizations and individuals to acquire materials and expertise in the classroom? As an example – bringing speakers, finding in-kind and monetary donations, or utilizing local opportunities like museums, field trips and local events.

Passion (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree does this teacher appear to be passionate about the profession of teaching? Are they regularly seeking to upgrade their skills? Do they try and find ways to encourage their students? Do they take a personal interest in their student's individual success?



For assistance contact:
816.756.3390 ext. 6287
Email: tbeauchamp@vfw.org

Revised 7/2021

LOCAL VFW POST INFORMATION:

CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ **BEST TIME TO CALL:** _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ **BEST TIME TO CALL:** _____

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 1st, 2021 through June 30th, 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 1st, 2021 through June 30th, 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.

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

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



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

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 .

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

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 Mallette. 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 363rd Chemical Company and was transferred to the 318th 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 623rd Transportation Company. I then served in various staff assignment in the 354th and 436th Transportation Battalions. I later served with the 1179th 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 Mallette 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