VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

"Unity Brings Victory"

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

FAX: 866-416-0586 Website: www.vfwva.org Email: statehq@vfwva.org September 1, 2025 Staunton, Virginia 24401 In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades and Auxiliary,

The VFW National Convention has come and gone, and once again, the voice of our membership made a significant impact on our organization. I am proud to congratulate Cory Geisler on being elected National Senior Commander in Chief — a remarkable achievement, especially considering it's been many years since a candidate ran from the floor. Congratulations, Cory!

We also made history with the election of our first female National Commander in Chief, Carol Whitmore. I am honored to be part of her class and have thoroughly enjoyed this journey with her. I am truly excited about the direction our organization is headed. Commander Whitmore's priorities are focused on legislation and programs, and I am confident she will increase membership and retention by emphasizing these areas.

September is always a busy month within our Department. We have the School of Instructions underway, and our Teacher of the Year, Patriots Pen, and Voice of Democracy programs are in full swing. If you need assistance in finding candidates for any of these programs, please reach out — we are here to help. Remember, it's not just about making All-American or All-State; it's about recognizing as many teachers and students in our communities as possible.

With the hot summer days behind us, it's time to focus on recruiting, Buddy Poppy drives, and keeping our Department strong. I hope to visit as many Posts as possible this month and look forward to connecting with you all.

This year's Homecoming will be held at Post 1503 on October 11, 2025, beginning at 5 PM. Hotel details and additional event information can be found in this month's General Orders flyer. The event is free for our members and their families as a token of appreciation for your ongoing support of the Department. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!

Thank you for your continued support and dedication.

Yours in Comradeship Douglas "Doug" Hoffman State Commander

2. AUDIT REPORTS:

Also, attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218 (a)(11) of the National Manual of Procedure, Officers: Duties and Obligations. Trustees Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, one of which ended June 30th and is **NOW PAST DUE**.

3. BONDS:

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

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

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 three (3) weeks in advance of your distribution date.

Miscellaneous items (coin cans, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy or by calling Member Service Center at 1.833.839.8387. 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 chairperson's 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.

5. **DELINQUENT:**

Post	District	Fee	Audits	Post	District	Fee	Audits
824	1	\$ 20.00		5311	6	\$ 15.00	
5500	1	\$ 15.00		1860	7		June
1211	2		June	8613	7	\$ 15.00	
2296	2	\$ 10.00	June	5412	10		June
2894	2		June	2424	11		June
7167	3		June	9339	11	\$ 10.00	
8529	3	\$ 15.00		4301	12	\$ 10.00	
7819	4	\$ 10.00		5715	12		March, June
776	6	\$ 15.00		6975	12	\$ 30.00	
2157	6	\$ 15.00	June	7360	12	\$ 10.00	
4299	6	\$ 5.00		9864	12	\$ 10.00	`

6. **DEPARTMENT SOI'S:**

School of Instructions will not be held at District Meetings this year. We will be having different training sessions in different locations and dates throughout the state. It does not matter which one you attend be it must be in person. There will no ZOOM.

September 6, 2025	POC Randy Coker rcoker@vfwva.org	Post 1503, Dale City 1463 Minnieville Rd, Dale Cit	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
September 13, 2025	POC Mitch Rubenstein mrubenstein@vfwva.org	Post 2216, Staunton 212 Frontier Dr, Staunton	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
September 13, 2025	POC Ed Mann adj@vfwva.org	Post 9808, Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Ln, Mechanicsville	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
September 27, 2025	POC Eric Mallett emallett@vfwva.org	Post 4809, Norfolk 5728 Bartee St, Norfolk	9:00 am – 3:00 pm

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. **DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

1^{st}	Date:	9/6/25	2^{nd}	Date:	11/8/25
	Meeting:	10:00 AM		Meeting:	9:00 AM

21 Forrest Drive

Location: Post 176 Newport News Location: Post 4809 Norfolk

5728 Bartee Street

Rep: St Judge Advocate Randy Coker Rep: PSC Eric Mallett

3 rd	Date: Meeting: Lunch: Location:	11/8/25 10:00 AM To follow Meeting Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane	8 th	Date: Meeting: Location: Rep:	9/6/25 10:00 AM Post 3103 Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne St St Cdr Doug Hoffman
	Rep:	St Adj/QM Mann	9 th	Date:	9/20/25
4 th	Date:	11/15/25	9	Meeting:	10:00 AM
7	Meeting:	11:00 AM		Location:	Post 2719 Wytheville
	Location:	Post 8759 Amelia		20 cu tion.	250 S 4 th St
		16440 Five Forks Road		Rep:	State Surgeon Todd Taylor
	Rep:	State Cdr Doug Hoffman		1	,
	•	<u> </u>	10^{th}	Date:	12/6/25
5^{th}	Date:	TBD		Meeting:	10:00 AM
	Meeting:	10:00 AM		Location:	Post 8241 McLean
	Location:	TBD		70	1051 Springhill Rd
	_			Rep:	St JVC Charles Bush
	Rep:		$11^{\rm th}$	Date:	TBD
6 th	Data	12/6/25	11	Meeting:	9:00 AM
0	Date: Meeting:	12/0/25 11:00 AM		Location:	TBD
	Location:	Post 1264 Roanoke (sponsored Post 4299)		Location.	ממו
	Location.	4930 Grandview Avenue NW		Rep:	
	Rep:	PSC Mitch Rubenstein		rtop.	
	rtop.	1 % C 11 1	12^{th}	Date:	11/15/25
7^{th}	Date:	1/17/26		Meeting:	11:00 AM
	Meeting:	11:00 AM		Location:	Post 1994 Abingdon
	Location:	Post 2447 Edinburg			17581 Lee Highway
		100 Veterans Ways		Rep:	St Judge Advocate Randy Coker
	Rep:	State Cdr Doug Hoffman	a a th		
			13^{th}	Date	TBD
				Meeting:	11:00 AM
				Location:	TBD
				Rep:	
				rcp.	

9. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts will reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails the week after the State Convention. 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 **VFW2025!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

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

adjpost176@vfwva.org qmpost176@vfwva.org

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

srvdist1@vfwva.org adjdist1@vfwva.org gmdist1@vfwva.org

10. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

11. HOMECOMING SHIRTS:

Please note that we will be doing another order of the Maroon/White 2025-2026 Homecoming Shirts. The Order forms are in the attachments. Deadline is September 30, 2025.

12. IMPORTANT DATES:

October 11, 2025	Homecoming at VFW Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Rd, Dale City at 6:30 pm Deadline for tickets, September 22, 2025 (see insert)
November 6 - 9, 2025	Southern Conference, Montgomery, TX (see Department of Texas website for more information)
January 8 - 11, 2026	Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night. Cutoff Date is Monday, December 8, 2025, by 5:00 pm.
May 27 - 30, 2026	State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$99.00 per night. Cutoff Date is April 26, 2026, by 5:00 pm.
July 25 - 29, 2026	National Convention, Reno, Nevada
October 22 - 25, 2026	Southern Conference, Mobile, AL
January 13 - 15, 2027	Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$110.00 per night. Cutoff Date is December 12, 2027, by 5:00 pm.
June 6 - 12, 2027	State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night. Cutoff Date is May 5, 2027, by 5:00 pm.

July 31 - August 4, 2027 National Convention, Milwaukee, WI

January 12 - 14, 2028 Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main

Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night.

Cutoff Date is December 11, 2028, by 5:00 pm.

June 21 – 24, 2028 State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main

Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night.

Cutoff Date is May 20, 2028, by 5:00 pm.

August 5 - 10, 2028 National Convention, San Antonio, TX

13. 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.

14. IRS FORM 8822-B:

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

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

15. JUNIOR VICE COMMANDERS:

Post, District, and Department Levels

Dear Second Vice Leader of Comrades, the Illustrious Junior Vice Commanders (JVC),

Congratulations on being elected as the Junior Vice Commander, you are stepping into one of the most demanding and vital leadership roles within the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Whether you serve at the Post, District, or Department level, your position is not just a title but a calling to lead, learn, and lift others.

Many names often refer to the Junior Vice Commander:

- Straw Boss
- The Strength of the Post
- Two Steps Away
- 2nd Vice

These nicknames aren't just slang; they reflect your proximity to command and the weight of responsibility you carry. You are the "**STRENGTH**" behind the scenes, the steady hand ready to guide, and the eyes and ears of your Post, District, or Department.

As JVC, this is your first opportunity to ask/task others to take action, provide guidance, and lead purposefully. You are two steps from the Commander, and every step you take should prepare you for that role. To do so, you must know every detail of what's happening within your organization. From meetings to reports, audits to bylaws, your knowledge must be thorough and your commitment unwavering.

More information to follow. We are looking forward to discussing ways to help the commander and prepare yourself for the next steps in your VFW journey of leadership.

Thanks for taking the challenge. Now let's keep moving forward. We wish you much success!

I'll be right there with you,

Humbly Submitted, Charles Bush State Jr Vice Commander Greeting you in Comradeship and Peace

16. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

The following will be the 2025-2026 Life Member Payout. The National Council of Administration concurred with the payment amounts at its March 2, 2025, meeting.

- Plan ABC A total payout of \$10.50 for each life member (\$3.50 to each Post, Department and National).
- Plan D A total payout of \$11.70 for each life member (\$3.90 to each Post, Department and National).
- Plan E A total payout of \$23.10 for each life member (\$7.70 to each Post, Department and National).

Note: At-Large Members' corresponding plan pay out amount is divided by two. For example, Plan ABC At-Large Payout is \$5.25 (\$10.50 / 2, Department & National).

This information will also be placed in the VFW General Orders and other communications. As indicated in the By-Laws, payment will be made in September 2025 for all Life Members recorded as of August 31, 2025. In addition, a payment will be made in January 2026 for all Life Members processed during the period September 1 through December 31, 2025.

We wanted to get this information to you as soon as possible, because we know it affects your Post's budget projections for the ensuing year.

Marc Garduno Quartermaster General VFW National Headquarters

17. LIABILITY INSURANCE:

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

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

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

Ed Mann State Adj/QM

18. MEMBERSHIP:

Commanders and Comrades,

The State is off to a great start with over 325 new members so far. I hope everyone has seen the VFW commercials during Fox News Jesse Waters Primetime. I have seen it the last 3 nights. It's great that National is rallying behind our first Female National Commander. Doug has the honor and privilege of being one of her State Commanders. I remember when Virginia had our first Female State Commander in Margo Sheridan. Our State rose to the occasion and made Margo an All-American Commander. Now we have the challenge, or some would say the opportunity to make Doug the first State Commander to reach his goal of 101%. Are we going to let another State beat us, I think not. You only have the chance to be the first at anything once. Virginia let's make Carol Whitmore proud of Virginia and Doug All American early in the year.

The All-American and All State plans are in the July General Orders so familiarize yourselves and shoot for both goals. The State Team has been very busy since Doug took command and we will continue to assist you with your goals. The State Membership Teams contact information is in the July General Orders under Committees. Please contact State H.Q., me, or any member of the team for assistance. Let's make Carol and Doug proud of Virginia this year.

Tom Hines PSC Membership Team Chairman Cell. 434 774 7729

19. MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE:

Cootie event is Tomb Trek in Arlington in November.

Our Grand of Virginia website is https://lotcsva.org/ and the Supreme website is https://lotcs.org/ where you can find more information on starting a Pup Tent.

For more information on the Military Order of the Cootie please contact Michael Chism Grand Seam Squirrel at grandcdr@vfwva.org.

Thank You for your kind consideration of this request.

Also, the following is information on Pup Tents.

 SS PT 1 Richard Bates
 puptent01@vfwva.org
 (757) 831-0422

 SS PT 2 Lewis Bush
 puptent02@vfwva.org
 (757) 609-1417

SS PT 5 John Collins	puptent05@vfwva.org	(757) 719-3196
SS PT 9 Ronnie Steele	puptent09@vfwva.org	(619) 368-8887
SS PT 11 Bruce Fisher	puptent11@vfwva.org	(757) 846-0953
SS PT 13 William Purcell	puptent13@vfwva.org	(737) 207-0896
SS PT 14 Tom Levitt	puptent14@vfwva.org	(703) 895-5070
SS PT 17 Mike Jeffery	puptent17@vfwva.org	(850) 499-0261
SS PT 18 Glenda Indyck	puptent18@vfwva.org	(617) 515-9269
SS PT 19 Todd Taylor	puptent19@vfwva.org	(202) 407-5077

Sincerely, Michael "Chiz Wiz" Chism Grand Seam Squirrel

20. NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, SEPT. 20:

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/patriotic/miscpatriotic.

21. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters will be closed September 1, 2025, in observance of Labor Day.

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

22. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

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

23. PATRNERS IN PATRIOTISM:

Adjutant General Dan West would like you to join him in supporting the VFW's life-changing programs for veterans, service members and their families. The VFW has an option that allows you to support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly or yearly basis, which helps reduce expenses and eliminates the amount of fundraising mail you receive. 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 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 toll-free 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.

24. PATRIOT'S DAY:

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

25. 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.

26. POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY:

POW/MIA Recognition Day is **September 20.** 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.

27. 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."

28. 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.

29. ROSTER CHANGES:

Post 1115 SVC William T. Greathause 174 Eagles Nest Dr Woodlawn, VA 24381 919-356-5824 toddgreathouse@ymail.com

Post 5412 Mailing Address 5610 Tilia Ct Burke, VA 22015

Post 6975 QM Jerry Cotter 2015 Bay St Bristol, TN 37620

Post 9292 SVC Bennie M. Cupp 9108 S East Side Hwy Elkton, VA 22827 540-298-6859 Post 9292 Cmdr David J. Anthony 3047 Clubhouse Hill Rd Rockingham, VA 22801 cdrpost9292@vfwva.org

Post 9292 JVC Jack D. Hensley PO Box 341 Elkton, VA 22827 540-652-9031 Yeahboy2@aol.com

Post 9292 QM Allen Nicholson 1919 Bethel Church Rd Elkton, VA 22827 540-246-3247 qmpost9292@vfwva.org

30. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is now accepting entries for its 79th annual Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholarship competitions. The 2025-2026 theme asks America's students "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"

Student entries may be submitted (along with a completed entry form) to their local participating VFW Post. The deadline for both contests is **Oct. 31, 2025**.

Read more about the contests, or submit your essay and entry form at your local participating VFW Post.

31. STATE CONVENTION:

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

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

32. STATE SURGEON:

Comrades,

We are off to a running start! The VFW National Convention was history making with two floor votes and our first woman to lead the organization. Having met our Commander-in-Chief Carol Whitmore before, I personally have every confidence in her leadership and am looking forward to her year.

With the floor votes, it was interesting to see in person the power of showing up. Virginia had the largest delegate vote count from the floor and we were seen and heard! Go Virginia!

As we move into September, we are prevelantly in cancer (blood, childhood, ovarian, and prostate) awareness month as well as suicide prevention awareness month. Be sure to get checked and stay up on your health. Look out for your fellow Veterans and be sure to make those buddy checks!

We are also in the middle of Hurricane season. Be sure you have a plan and have an emergency kit and supplies. This will carry over into winter planning as well, so it is best to be prepared and not need it than to need it and not have it.

Take care of yourselves Comrades. You are a vital resource, not just to the VFW but to your communities and your families. This never changes! I hope to see you all soon in my travels around the state for various functions and meetings. As always, feel free to reach out to me if there is something I can be of assistance with.

Todd Taylor Department of Virginia Surgeon

33. VIRGINIA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

The United States Vietnam War Commemoration Committee will close its doors in November. They recently sent out their final Sitrep and a letter to all Commemorative Partners thanking them for their efforts over the more than a dozen years that the Committee has been coordinating events to honor Vietnam Veterans and keep the memory of that conflict front and center.

Twenty-nine of Virginia's VFW Posts (plus State & District 11 Headquarters) are listed as Commemorative Partners. Between hosting events and distributing decals and the round eagle Vietnam Veteran pins to all Vietnam veterans we encountered, the VFW Department of Virginia made sure that Vietnam Veterans were recognized and

thanked (something that didn't happen a half century ago). Listed below are those VFW Posts in this Department that were listed by the Commission as Commemorative Partners. Thanks for your efforts.

392	609	637	1115	1177	1503	1860	2123	2239	2447	2582	2894	3150	4301
4411	7167	7589	7916	8169	8469	8947	9640	9808	9755	9835	10295	10387	12202
12217													

Next month's report will continue with recognizing Medal of Honor winners from the Vietnam War.

Jeff Dombroff Vietnam War Commemoration Chairman

34. VVF COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT:

The Virginia Veterans, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, as opened the window to apply for a grant to perform community service. There will be of ten (10) grants worth up to \$300 each for the 2025-2026 year. Should any money remain after the ten 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, 2025, and June 30, 2026, the application is **due no later than November 30, 2025.** 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.

35. VFW POST HOME IMPROVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE GRANT:

The Virginia Veterans, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, as opened the window to apply for a grant to perform improvements on your Post home. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to \$500 each for the 2025-2026 year. All requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, the **application is due no later than**November 30, 2025. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

Official:

Ed Mann State Adjutant

ChlEm

By Order of:

Douglas Hoffman State Commander

Destr J for The

VFW/AUX DEPARTMENT of VIRGINIA COMMANDER & PRESIDENT HOMECOMING

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11, 2025 VFW POST 1503 - DALE CITY SOCIAL HOUR 5-6 DINNER 6:30

- 70's THEME-

COMEGET YOUR GROOVE ON

BE READY to DANCE and DRESSED to IMPRESS!!

FREE EVENT

YOU MUST REQUEST TICKETS BY SEPTEMBER 22, 2025, VIA EMAIL TO

TOM LEVITT AT:

NLCTLEVITT@VFWVA.ORG WHEN EMAILING - PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR NAME & PHONE NUMBER **LIMIT TWO (2) TICKETS PER PERSON**

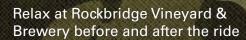
HOTEL INFO:

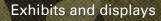
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 3901 FETTLER PARK DR. **DUMFIRES, VA 22026** 703-441-9001

> **HAMPTON INN** 16959 OLD STAGE RD. **DUMFRIES, VA 22025** 703-441-9900











September 6, 7-8 am

Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery 35 Hill View Lane Raphine, Virginia



Enjoy either a short, mid, or Metric Century bicycle route through the beauty of the rolling hills and lush fields of the central Shenandoah Valley countryside.

September 6, 2025

Begins at 8:30 am Last rider off: Metric Century 9 am / Mid 9 am / Short 9:30 am Meet at Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery 35 Hill View Lane, Raphine, Virginia

We ride to support our combat veterans and to raise funds for Boulder Crest Foundation, a therapeutic and wellness facility which enables our combat veterans and their families to recover, rest, recharge, and reconnect.

RIDING FOR STRENGTH

REGISTER ONLINE valleyvetsride4heroes.com







NATION ONE



















VFW POST 2216

INDOOR YARD SALE



SEPTEMBER 27 8AM-6PM 212 FRONTIER DRIVE, STAUNTON

CALL 540-885-7892 TO RESERVE TABLE





Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department Commander Shirt 2025-2026



Pre- order forms must be sent to **Department Headquarters**no later than September 30, 2025, for <u>VFW members</u>

3XL: \$37.00

4XL: \$38.00

Name:		Size: Number of Shirts:
Address:		
	Doct #	District #
Phone:	Post #	District #

If you are unable to pick up your shirt at the Winter Council January 2026 and have not made prior arrangements to have it picked up, please add \$9.00 for shipping.

Make checks Payable to: Department of Virginia VFW *For:* Commander Shirt 2025-2026

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

Send Form to: Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia

403 Lee Jackson Hwy Staunton, VA 22401



3rd Annual SGT Nicholas C. Mason Memorial VFW Post 12202 Building Fund Golf Tournament

When:

Thursday, October 23, 2025 7:30AM Registration Opens 9:00AM Shotgun Start

Fees:

Individual \$120 Team of 4 \$480 Includes lunch and 18 holes

Where:

The Golf Club at Mattaponi Springs 22490 Penola Road Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Drizoo for

Prizes for:
Top 3 Teams
Longest Drive/Closest to Pin
Most Patriotic Team



Send fees/donations to: 9337 Hickory Ln King George, VA 22485

C/O Christine Mason, VFW Post 12202 Auxiliary

Contact vfw12202golf@gmail.com or text Christine Mason at (540)379-5104 or Henry Welch at (512)731-8911 with any questions.







Scan to sign up with Golf Status.





Roll Call!

WE SERVE THOSE THAT SERVED. VETERAN LED PROGRAMS

We recognize that veterans have distinct experiences that require customized outpatient care for addiction.

At Master Center, we offer services and programs specifically designed to meet your unique needs.

Veteran Led Support Groups

Veteran Staff

Convenient Veteran Programs

Customized Outpatient Treatment Plans

Confidential & Judgment-Free Support

Recovered Peers/Coaches Assigned

Military Spouse, Survivor & Caregiver Resources

Rapid Appointments Available

Support for All Eras of Service

Easy Access | No Referral Needed

Reach out to Kelly Freel, Veteran Outreach Coordinator
E: kfreel@mastercenter.com | P: 804.944.0274



mastercenter.com 888.Try.MCAM | 888.879.6226



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

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



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 ten(10) grants worth up to \$300 each for the 2025-2026 year. All requirements must be met, or the grant must be returned, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances. **Grant application is due no later than November 30, 2025.**

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) The project must be initiated, completed and receipts submitted in the period of July 1, 2025, through June 1, 2026.
- 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 \$300 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.

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, p	phone number, and email address:							
Quartermaster/Treasurer name	e, phone number, and email address:							
Description of the project to be	e completed:							
Estimated cost of the project:								
How will labor be provided: _								
acknowledge that you have provided application rests solely with the Virgin	the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you all needed documents and that the decision on this grant nia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the noting the project and grant.							
Commander/President:	OM/Treasurer:							

VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant

The purpose of the VFW Post Home Improvement bs 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 \$500 each for the 2025-2026 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. **Grant application is due no later than**November 30, 2025.

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, 2025, through June 30, 2026. 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 \$500.00 once complete, the balance of the grant will not be paid.
- 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.

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:									
	Post Commander name, phone number, and email address:								
Post Quartermaster name, phone nu	mber, and email address:								
Estimated cost of the project or assi	stance requested:								
How will labor be provided:									
or justification for assistance re	description of the project to be completed equested. For emergency assistance, also n for how the Post will raise money in the oblems.								
acknowledge that you have provided all rapplication rests solely with the Virginia V	requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you needed documents and that the decision on this grant Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all ate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW ject and grant.								
Post Commander:	_ Post Quartermaster:								