

BANQUET REGISTRATION DEADLINE JANUARY 3rd ***WINTER COUNCIL MEETING***

January 10 – 12, 2020
Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel ~ Portsmouth, Virginia ~ 757-673-3000 ~
\$90.00 Per night

(Hotel Group Rate Deadline is December 9th)

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR BANQUET TICKET
\$45.00

**ALL TICKETS MUST BE PRE-PURCHASED. THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS
SOLD AT THE WINTER COUNCIL MEETING.**

Tidewater Buffet

Mixed Greens with assorted dressings / Tangy Cucumber Salad / House Made Coleslaw
Shrimp and Roasted Garlic Cavatappi Pasta / Southern Style Fried Chicken
Green Beans and Bacon / Wild Rice / Whipped Red Bliss Potatoes
Rolls
Assorted Pies
Regular & Decaf Coffee, Iced Tea and Water

RETURN THIS PORTION TO STATE HEADQUARTERS BY **JANUARY 3, 2020 (NO EXCEPTIONS)**
Check, Discover, American Express, Visa, or MasterCard Accepted

Person placing the order (name): _____ Phone: _____

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

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

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

Please Circle One: Discover American Express MasterCard Visa SIGNATURE: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Code on back _____

Mail form to: State Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401

You may also e-mail this form to: statehq@vfwva.org or fax it to: 1-540-886-8112 if paying by credit card only

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

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 5

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

"Communicate for Success"

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

November 1, 2019

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

October has been a busy month throughout the Department. We have had the State Fair, several gun shows and we have recruited over 100 new members. However, we are still behind last year on the quest to again achieve 100%+ membership. As of October 21, we were at 80.78%. We still need 6200 to achieve 100%. State A/Q Ken Wiseman will be identifying those Posts that are far behind so we can focus more effort in helping them.

I would like to thank Post 9808 and especially Ed Mann and Lola & Boyd Burnett for providing a great homecoming celebration for me and State President Marcia Semones. The staff at 9808 really knows how to roll out the red carpet. Over 125 people attended on and had a wonderful time. Thanks to everyone who gave gifts to Marcia and me.

From October 18 – 20, a large contingent of Virginians attended the Southern Conference in Baton Rouge, LA. While there, we did a lot of networking with the other 13 southern states and learned of their successes and challenges. I spoke on how Virginia gets out to the Posts and how we make training easily accessible, as witnessed by our recent Schools of Instruction, Recruiter training, Quartermaster and Trustee training sessions. The Conference formally endorsed our own Hal Roesch for Commander in Chief for 2020-21. Also, past Commander in Chief John Smart (Post 1503) installed the Conference officers for the ensuing year.

From November 8-10 we will be doing a roundup in District 12. We plan to visit every Post over a 3-day period, to meet and greet and help each Post with any issues they may have. We are looking forward to connecting with some Posts that probably haven't seen State officers in quite some time. Thanks to Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor for making the arrangements.

With Veterans Day coming up we have an excellent opportunity to get our message out and increase our ranks. I encourage everyone to take advantage of community activities, visit schools, set up recruiting events; you know the drill. The more we are out in public the better we promote the VFW and what we do and represent.

That's it for now...

Rick Raskin
State Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 176 Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: State Commander Rick Raskin	8 th	Date: 11/17/19 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7589 9304 Centreville Road Rep: Surgeon Geoff Lyster
2 nd	Date: 11/16/19 Lunch: Noon with meeting to follow Location: Post 3160 Norfolk 111A View Avenue Rep: Surgeon Geoff Lyster	9 th	Date: 1/25/20 Lunch: 12 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 1115 Hillsville 701 W. Stuart Drive Rep: SVC Eric Mallett
3 rd	Date: 10/26/19 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: JVC Butch Schupska	10 th	Date: 12/8/19 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7916 Occoquan 204 Mill Street Rep: JVC Butch Schupska
4 th	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7059 Farmville 1616 Graham Road Rep: SVC Eric Mallett	11 th	Date: 1/25/20 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: After Lunch Location: Post 1499 Lexington 105 Memorial Lane Rep: State Commander Rick Raskin
5 th	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 2327 Old Chatham Road Rep: Chief-of-Staff Tom Hines	12 th	Date: 11/02/19 Registration: 10:00 AM Meeting: 11:00 AM Lunch: To follow Meeting Location: Post 6975 Bristol 14 16 th Street Bristol, TN Rep: Inspector Gary Adams
6 th	Date: 11/17/19 Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: VAMC Salem Bldg 75 2 nd Floor 1970 Roanoke Blvd. Rep: Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor	13 th	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 12:00 Noon Location: Post 8947 Louisa 201 Mineral Avenue Rep: JVC Butch Schupska
7 th	Date: 1/18/20 Lunch: 11:30 AM with meeting to follow Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor		

3. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The National By-Laws provide for only one type of membership; active membership. There are no provisions in the National By-Laws, nor is there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership cards. Associate Member cards, Honorary Membership cards, Courtesy Membership cards or any other special type of cards. Any Post issuing such unauthorized cards, or conducting club operations open to the general public, endangers its standing with the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Officers signing outlaw cards admitting non-

members to VFW premises are subject to disciplinary action. National and Department officers cannot defend practices that conflict with VFW By-Laws or procedures.

4. OFFICE CLOSURE:

The State Headquarters and the Dale City, Hopewell and Norfolk Service Offices will be closed November 11, 2019 in observance of Veterans Day and November 28 and 29, 2019 in observance of Thanksgiving.

The State Adjutant and State Service Officer will be attending Service Officer training during the week of November 17-22, 2019 in Annapolis, MD. They will be unavailable for claims during that week. Additionally, they will be delayed in returning phone calls and emails but will contact you as soon as possible. The Dale City and Norfolk offices will be open under normal hours during this time.

The State Headquarters and the Dale City and Norfolk Service Offices will be closed December 23 – 27, 2019 in observance of Christmas and January 1, 2020 for New Year's Day.

The Hopewell Service Office will be closed from December 23, 2019 – January 3, 2020 in observance of Christmas and New Year's.

5. BUDDY POPPY:

Plans should be under way for the Veterans Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. Contact State Headquarters to place your order for Buddy Poppies. Remember that your Poppies should be ordered a minimum of 6 to 8 weeks in advance of your distribution date. Miscellaneous items (coin cans, caps, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at <https://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy> or the VFW Store/Emblem and Supply Catalog.

The Manual of Procedure provides that Post relief funds may be used for programs such as Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Citizenship Education, and Community Service if 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.

6. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:

All Officers should obtain current 2020 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2020 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 120th National Convention, which became effective on August 23, 2019.

7. CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE SURGEON:

I, Gary Adams, do hereby announce my candidacy for State Surgeon for the 2020-2021 year.

8. CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD:

Post judging should be completed by **November 15th** and winners sent to District to arrive by **November 20th**. District judging should be completed by **December 15th** and winners forwarded to the Department no later than **December 20th**. Department judging will be completed by **January 10th** and winners submitted to VFW National Headquarters by **January 15th**.

Post and District Adjutants must report required information through **Dashboard** in order to get credit for participation. This new reporting system is a replacement for the reporting previously done by District and State chairpersons. It is critical that it be accomplished in order for Posts and Districts to get credit for participation in the All-State and All-American programs.

Post chairmen must be sure to send the original nomination form, essay and official VFW Post teacher entry form of the winner from each grade's category – along with one-page resume, up to five (5) pages of documentation and a good quality head and shoulders photograph from the winning teachers.

Chris Birch, Chairman
540-539-5446

9. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 17th**. 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 user name is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW#2019** 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

10. 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 (**please note new price**). Contact State Headquarters for more info.

11. IMPORTANT DATES:

January 10-12, 2020 Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA. Phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$90.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars-Winter Council Meeting". Cut-off Date December 9, 2019. The link needed to register for your room on line is as follows: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1562340618766&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

June 11-14, 2020 State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$131.00 per night. Group name "VFW Department of Virginia Annual Convention"; Cut-off Date May 11, 2020.

12. 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.

13. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING:

Congratulations to Col. Samuel R. Millar Post 1860 as the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. Col. Samuel R. Millard Post 1860 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 75% of their membership goal reported to State Headquarters by the September 27, 2019 deadline.

14. MEMBERSHIP:

Greetings Comrades

The State Fair is over and was a success. We recruited 54 new members, had 1 renewal, and 2 transfers. 34 were for annual membership, 17 Life Installments and 3 full paid Life memberships. Districts 1,2,3,4,8,10 and 13 were the recipients of our efforts. We spoke to many Veterans and provided information for them to read up on our organization and to consider becoming a member at a later date. I received one phone call from one such Vet. We also received \$559 in Buddy Poppy donations. Thank you to those that came out to help and especially to Tom Hines and Butch Shupska for their help all 10 days. As always, I am here to help in any way that I can.

Happy Fall Y'All!
Yours in Comradeship,
Kathy Goodall
757-572-8224
Skckagret@yahoo.com
membership@vfwva.org

15. PATRIOT'S PEN:

The Patriot's Pen entries selected as first place winners in each District shall be mailed to State HQs and shall arrive no later than Wednesday, December 11th, 2019. Judging will allow us only a little time before we must get everything to National HQs by their deadline.

The address is 403 Lee-Jackson HWY Staunton, VA 24401.

Please note new Patriot's Pen is Dennis Walk, Newport News Post 176.

16. REPORTING:

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). Once you arrive at the site, click on the "Resources" link and then "Online Reporting". You will select "Click Here" to make an entry or on the "Community Reports" and "District Report" links to view them. The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters.

17. 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 look forward to a successful event.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1562340618766&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

18. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

The 2019 Department Voice of Democracy Selection Board will be held at Post 7589 in Manassas, Virginia on Sunday, 22 December 2019 beginning at 9:00 AM. At least one representative from each District should be present.

Louis Filippone
Chairman, Voice of Democracy Program

19. POST HOME IMPROVEMENT 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 six (6) grants worth up to \$500 for the 2019-2020 year. Should any money remain after the six (6) 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 1st, 2019 and June 30th, 2020, the application is due no later than November 30th, 2019. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State HQs.

20. 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 2019-2020 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 1st, 2019 and June 30th, 2020, the application is due no later than November 30th, 2019. 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 HQs.

Official:



Ken Wiseman
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Rick Raskin
State Commander

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
AND
VFW AUXILIARY

Winter Council of Administration Meeting
January 10 - January 12, 2020
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
Portsmouth, Virginia
757-673-3000

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020

Noon	5:00 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
4:30 PM	6:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Line Officers Meeting	Jefferson Room
6:15 PM	7:00 PM	District Presidents' Meeting	Portsmouth V
7:00 PM	9:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting	Portsmouth V
9:00 PM	1:00 AM	VFW Riders Dance	Portsmouth I-III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020

8:00 AM	2:30 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Commanders Club Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
8:00 AM	8:45 AM	VFW Auxiliary Floor Practice	Portsmouth V
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	VFW Council of Administration Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
9:00 AM	2:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting	Portsmouth V
9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Service Officer Training	Amphitheater
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	VFW Riders Meeting	Madison
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	Membership & Recruiting Workshop	Portsmouth VI-VIII
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	VFW Auxiliary Program Chairmen	Portsmouth V
4:00 PM	7:00 PM	VOD & PP BANQUET	Holley Ballroom
7:00 PM	8:00 PM	MOC Meeting	Portsmouth V
7:00 PM	8:00 PM	MOCA Meeting	Madison

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Joint Devotional Service	Holley Ballroom IV
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TEACHER OF THE YEAR, VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, AND PATRIOT'S PEN BANQUET TICKETS: \$45.00
FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE VFW RIDERS

Department Hospitality Room
Tenth District Hospitality Room

(Tentative schedule subject to change)