

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

**NUMBER 4**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
(540) 886-8112

*"Communicate for Success"*

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

**October 1, 2019**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

We have completed our annual Schools of Instruction which we presented at most District meetings. This year we included videos about the new VFW logo and running a meeting. Based on post session comments we believe that the information presented was well received. Paramount was that even with the new VFW logo, the Cross of Malta will remain the defining symbol of the VFW.

We have been receiving several Post audits with simple math errors. Trustees are encouraged to verify the content of the audit and the calculations. To make things easier, the latest approved audit form is now available on the Department website. If you download it to your computer, it is fillable and self-calculating.

[https://vfwva.org/uploads/Documents/audit\\_report.pdf](https://vfwva.org/uploads/Documents/audit_report.pdf)

We also conducted recruiter training at Mechanicsville and Roanoke. Although both sessions were lightly attended, those present had lots of questions and comments. Kathy Goodall and I conducted the training at Mechanicsville and Tom Hines and Ken Wiseman were the instructors at Roanoke. The sessions were more of an open forum rather than "death by PowerPoint" and were well received.

On October 5 we'll be having Quartermaster & Trustee training at Colonial Heights and Roanoke. While the training is especially tailored to those two offices, anyone can attend. The sessions start at 9:00 AM.

National has conducted a life membership purge and identified over 88,000 deceased members nationwide. In Virginia 1,098 members have been identified. The data is available on MEMSTATS. Post Quartermasters should have received a letter by now listing those in their Post who have been identified and how to correct any who have mistakenly been

listed. We're not asking you to re-verify the data but if you know for sure that an identified member is still alive please notify National so that the member can be reactivated.

Speaking of MEMSTATS, life members have been added and you can now get an accurate picture of where your Post stands in the quest for 100%. Now is the time to start working your unpaid lists and schedule recruiting events. Let's not wait too long and then need to race to the finish line. Also, my congratulations to Buchanan Post 5895 for being the first Post in Virginia to reach 100% -- Well done.

Post and District inspections are nearing completion. I am concerned that many Posts have very outdated Articles of Incorporation; in some cases, going back over 60 years. Please investigate updating them and then submitting them to the Department for forwarding to National. When approved by the Commander in Chief simply file a restatement of articles with the SCC which can be done online. For your convenience a boiler plate template is available on the State website in the forms repository. <https://vfwva.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=63309>

September 20 was the dedication of the POW/MIA memorial in Suffolk. I was honored to attend along with several of my line officers. We were pleased to welcome National Surgeon General Curtis O. (Doc) Bohlman who represented National. Thanks to Mike Chism of Suffolk Post 2582 for coordinating this event and sticking with the process over several years.

Looking forward, Auxiliary President Marcia Semones' and my homecoming which will be at Mechanicsville Post 9808 on October 12 starting at 5:00 PM. Come on out and enjoy camaraderie and some really fine food. Both of us look forward to meeting you. Please dress casually.

That's enough for now...

Respectfully,  
Rick Raskin  
State Commander

## 2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: TBD Rep: State Commander Rick Raskin	5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 2327 Old Chatham Road Rep: Chief-of-Staff Tom Hines
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 11/16/19 Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 3160 Norfolk 111A View Avenue Rep: Surgeon Geoff Lyster	6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/17/19 Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: VAMC Salem Bldg 75 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor 1970 Roanoke Blvd. Rep: Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 10/26/19 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: JVC Butch Schupska	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 1/18/20 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep: Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 11/16/19 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7059 Farmville 1616 Graham Road Rep: Sr. Vice Commander Eric Mallett		

8<sup>th</sup> Date: 11/17/19  
Lunch: 12:00 Noon  
Meeting: 1:00 PM  
Location: Post 7589  
9304 Centreville Road  
Rep: Surgeon Geoff Lyster

11<sup>th</sup> Date: 1/25/20  
Lunch: 11:30 AM  
Meeting: After Lunch  
Location: Post 1499 Lexington  
105 Memorial Lane  
Rep:

9<sup>th</sup> Date: 1/25/20  
Lunch: 12 Noon  
Meeting: 1:00 PM  
Location: Post 1115 Hillsville  
701 W. Stuart Drive  
Rep:

12<sup>th</sup> Date: 11/02/19  
Registration: 10:00 AM  
Meeting: 11:00 AM  
Lunch: To follow Meeting  
Location: Post 6975 Bristol  
14 16<sup>th</sup> Street Bristol, TN  
Rep: Inspector Gary Adams

10<sup>th</sup> Date: 12/8/19  
Meeting: 1:00 PM  
Location: Post 7916 Occoquan  
204 Mill Street  
Rep:

13<sup>th</sup> Date: 11/16/19  
Meeting: 12:00 Noon  
Location: Post 1827 Charlottesville  
1170 River Road  
Rep: JVC Butch Schupska

### 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 October 14, 2019 in observance of Columbus Day.

### 5. BUDDY POPPY:

**Contact State Headquarters to place your order** for “Buddy”® Poppies. Remember that your Poppies should be ordered a minimum of 12 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, caps, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddpoppy> or the VFW Store/Emblem and Supply Catalog.

“To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.” The Manual of Procedure provides that Post relief funds may be used for programs such as Voice of Democracy, Youth Essay, 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.

**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 120<sup>th</sup> 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:**

**DEADLINE APPROACHING:** **October 31<sup>st</sup>** is the Deadline for teacher nomination by the Post. Post judging should be completed by **November 15<sup>th</sup>** and winners sent to District to arrive by **November 20<sup>th</sup>**. District judging should be completed by **December 15<sup>th</sup>** and winners forwarded to the Department no later than **December 20<sup>th</sup>**. Department judging will be completed by **January 10<sup>th</sup>** and winners submitted to VFW National Headquarters by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

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. (*See attached flyer for more information.*)

Chris Birch, Chairman  
540-539-5446

**9. CONTROL OF UNITS:**

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

**10. DUES NOTICE SCHEDULE:**

Annual members will receive a *mailed renewal* notice five months, three months, and one month prior to their subscription end date. Annual members with a valid email address will also receive an *emailed renewal notice* six months, four months, and two months prior to their subscription end date.

Annual members will receive a *mailed lapsed notice* one, three, and five months following their expiration.

**11. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:**

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 17<sup>th</sup>**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org).
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The 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](mailto:cdrpost176@vfwva.org) where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

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

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

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

## 12. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

## 13. IMPORTANT DATES:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| October 12, 2019    | Homecoming for the State Commander and State President, Post 9808 (Mechanicsville)  |
| October 17-20, 2019 | Southern Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana   |
| 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: <a href="https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1562340618766&amp;key=GRP&amp;app=resvlink">https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1562340618766&amp;key=GRP&amp;app=resvlink</a> |
| 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.   |

## 14. INCORPORATION:

The attention of the Post Commander is directed to section 708 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the procedure for the Incorporation of Units. It shall be the responsibility of the Post Commander to ensure full compliance with both sections and to ensure that all state requirements for annual filing, fees, etc., are met in a timely manner.

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

**15. 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>

**16. JOINT LEADERSHIP COUCIL OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:**

The mission of the Joint Leadership Council is to provide advice and assistance to the Governor, General Assembly and the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) on matters of concern to the veterans community and provides a conduit of information to and from the veterans service organizations on policy and legislation, pending and enacted, as well as information on existing services.

The Joint Leadership Council is open to qualifying veterans service organizations in Virginia. VSOs and their representatives are appointed by the Governor. Each member VSO is allotted one representative and one alternate. ... All meetings are open to the public.

The VFW Department of Virginia’s JLC Committee representatives are:  
Dan Boyer – Chair (276) 236-3185  
Tom Gimble – Vice-chair (703) 851-5822

Additional information is available at:  
<https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/joint-leadership-council-veterans-service-organizations-2>

**17. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

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

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

**18. LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAY-OUT:**

As indicated in the By-Laws, payment was made made in September 2019 for all Life Members recorded as of August 31, 2019. In addition, a payment will be made in January 2020 for all Life Members processed during the period September 1 through December 31.

**19. MEMBERSHIP:**

Greetings Comrades,

I wanted to thank those that came out to Post 9808 in Mechanicsville last month for some tips on Recruiting. There were 14 present. I appreciate CDR Rick’s help. As I write this, I am preparing for the State Fair. Thank you in advance to Tom Hines and Butch Schupska for their help. This time of year, there are still a lot of Fall Festivals and events that we can participate in. Never hesitate to contact Flea Markets, Farmers Markets, Wine Festivals or any

other Festival you see advertised to see if they will allow you to set up a table with information for our organization. Lots of times you can get a spot for free....you just have to ask! All they can do is say No but if the answer is No, you can still contact the Dept to see if they have the funds in the budget to help cover any costs. If anyone needs any help, I will do all I can to assist so please just let me know.

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

## 20. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

Procedure and Ritual establish that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition* shall be the parliamentary authority on procedural matters not governed by VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

## 21. PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM:

**Have You heard About the VFW's Partners in Patriotism?** – Would you like to support the VFW's life-changing programs for veterans, service members and their families without receiving all of the unwanted mail? The VFW has developed an option that lets you support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis, as well as reduce expenses and eliminate unwanted 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. If you are interested in joining Partners in Patriotism, you may contact the VFW Development Department Donor Services at 816-756-3390, ext. 6318, or email us at [partners@vfw.org](mailto:partners@vfw.org) with "Partners in Patriotism Application" in the subject line.

## 22. PATRIOT'S PEN:

The theme for this year is "What Makes America Great". Yes, that is the same as Voice of Democracy. Entries are due to the Post by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. **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 11<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## 23. 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](http://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.

## 24. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY THEMES:

The 2019-2020 themes have been chosen by Commander-in-Chief William J. "Doc" Schmitz. There will be **ONE THEME FOR BOTH CONTESTS**. The Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen theme will be "What Makes America Great".

**25. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 59:**

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the name of Marvin A. Yarbrough, Life Membership No. 10533332, be removed from the rolls of Ocean View Post No. 3160, Norfolk, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
William "Doc" Schmitz  
Commander-in-Chief

**26. 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>

**27. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:**

The Voice of Democracy program, instituted in 1947, has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars premier scholarship program. Annually, nearly 40,000 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 2019 theme is, "What Makes America Great". 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>.

**2019-2020 Voice of Democracy Reporting Deadlines**

31 October, 2019 Student entries due at the Post  
15 November, 2019 Completion of Post judging  
15 December, 2019 Completion of District judging  
22 December, 2019 Department VOD Selection Board  
10 January, 2020 Completion of Department Judging  
15 January, 2020 District Participation Reports due for Department Chairman  
15 January, 2020 Department winners due for National

Awards will be presented to the top three Department winners at the Department Winter Council meeting awards banquet on Saturday, 11 January 2020 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Please send complete application packets to your District Department Chairman to include the completed Official Student Entry form, 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 the District Participation Report and submit it to the Department VOD Chairman NLT Wednesday, 15 January 2020.

**The District first place winning submissions should be mailed to the Department VOD Chairman Louis Filippone at 15608 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville, Virginia 20120-1255.**

For those competing for the All-American award, please take note of the changes to the All-American program as Posts may donate \$75 to the National HQs Programs Department in lieu of submitting an entry. Districts may not substitute an entry for a donation. **ALSO**...the All-State plan will **NOT** be changed and donations in lieu of a submission does not earn credit for a Post competing for the All-State award.



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 Saturday, 21 December 2019. The Department VOD Selection Board will be held on Sunday, 22 December 2019 at Post 7589 in Manassas, Virginia.

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

The top three finalists will be invited to the Winter Council Luncheon in Portsmouth, Virginia on Saturday, 11 January 2020. 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. 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 on Thursday, 11 June 2020. Should you require any assistance or additional information regarding the 2019-2020 Voice of Democracy program, or its administration please contact me directly.

Louis Filippone  
Chairman, Voice of Democracy Program

### **28. 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the application is due no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State HQs.

### **29. 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the application is due no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>, 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



# State Commander And President's Homecoming



**October 12, 2019**  
**Battlefield Post 9808**  
**7168 Flag Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

Cocktails at 5 p.m. (Open bar)  
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.  
DJ at 8 p.m. (Cash bar)

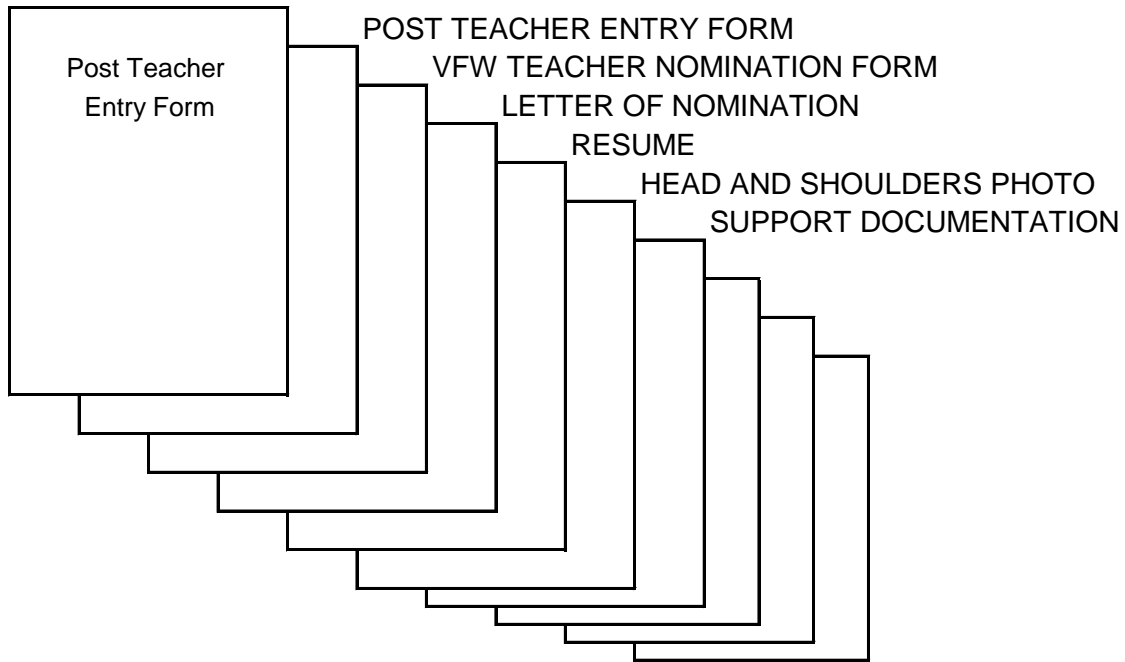
**RSVP BY FRI, SEPT. 13, 2019 TO VFW POST 9808 (804) 746-9808**  
**BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM**

Hotel Accommodations:  
Holiday Inn Express Mechanicsville  
7441 Bell Creek Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
(804) 559-0022 (804) 559-6810  
[www.himechanicsville.com](http://www.himechanicsville.com)

Two Queen Beds: \$94/night  
King Beds: \$94/night



## VFW TEACHER OF THE YEAR CHECKLIST



- 1 Post Teacher Entry Form. Filled-out, signed at the Post and District Level
- 2 VFW Teacher Nomination Form
- 3 Letter of Nomination: Should be on letterhead, dated, signed.  
Original only; 350 words
- 4 Resume: 1 page, both sides
- 5 Head and Shoulders Photo: Any size okay - no grainy computer pictures
- 6 Support Documentation. Up to 5 pages, both sides. Information to support letter of nomination, i.e. programs, newspaper clippings, etc.

### NEATNESS COUNTS

# **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 twelve (12) grants worth up to \$250 each for the 2019-2020 year. All requirements must be met, or the grant must be returned, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances.

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) The project must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- 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 VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement Grant*

The purpose of the VFW Post Home Improvement Grant is to assist VFW Posts in Virginia who need assistance with funding projects to improve, expand, or repair their Post home. There will be of six (6) grants worth up to \$500 each for the 2019-2020 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) The project must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- 2) The VFW Post 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 must be in good standing with the VFW National Headquarters and the Department of Virginia.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 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 \$500 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 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.

# **THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION**

## *VFW Post Home Improvement 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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.

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

# PRESS RELEASE

## A Veteran's Success Story Event – Hike Across America's TShane Johnson; to benefit the Gary Sinise Foundation

### Veteran Storytelling: The Success Stories You Haven't Heard

**Location:** From New York to Florida      **Date:** 9/11 through December 14, 2019

**New York City, NY** – This year's Hike Across America's Event <https://www.hikeacrossamerica.com/home-page> will partner with the Gary Sinise Foundation and Rotary International. TShane Johnson, Marine Veteran and Rotarian, will begin a long run from New York City on 9/11 and end three months later in Central Florida. All proceeds benefit the Gary Sinise Foundation and their special program R.I.S.E. <https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/rise/> Building homes for special needs wounded veterans as they recover for a successful, quality of life.

TShane will be running every morning for 22 miles, wearing 100 pound pack, raising awareness for veteran issues and the successes and leadership of veterans and first responders in their communities. A documentary is being filmed along the way. It is the mission to find the success stories of veterans that have overcome the challenges and hardships and how they give back. He will be speaking on leadership, overcoming all obstacles (dates and locations subject to change)

- New York City, NY 9/11 7:00 Ground Zero
- New York City, NY 9/11 14:00 The Faith Exchange, 95 Leonard St., New York, NY 10013
- Philadelphia, PA 9/12 12:00 Independence Hall
- Washington, D.C. 9/17 10:00 Pentagon
- Washington, D.C. 9/18 TBA White House Tour
- Washington, D.C. 9/19 TBA VIPs for White House Tour
- Washington, D.C. 9/23 15:00 Capitol Building Speaking Engagement
- Washington, D.C. 9/23 17:00 Capitol Building VIP Tour
- Quantico, VA 9/24 9:00 National Museum of the Marines
- Richmond, VA 9/26 11:00 Virginia War Museum
- Richmond, VA 9/27 10:00 Virginia Capitol Building
- Norfolk, VA 10/1 8:00 Naval Station Norfolk CVN speaking engagements(2)
- Chesapeake, VA 10/2 12:00 Chesapeake Rotary Club, Lifestyle Center, Cypress Landing Dedication
- Norfolk, VA 10/2 17:30 VFW Dinner
- Norfolk, VA 10/4 8:00 Work out with Football Team
- Norfolk, VA 10/4 9:00 Old Dominion University – 2 speaking engagements, interviews, and tours
- Norfolk, VA 10/5 16:00 Old Dominion Football Game – Presidents Party Family Appreciation Day
- Farmville, VA 10/8 TBA Farmville Rotary Club and Fort Pickett
- Blacksburg, VA 10/11-12 TBA Virginia Tech Speaking Engagement
- Charlotte, NC 10/15-16 TBA Charlotte Running Company sponsored Book Signings at 5 Stores
- Parris Island, SC 10/23 TBA Work Out with Marines
- Savannah, GA 10/31 TBA Savannah Rotary Club
- Celebration, FL 11/2 9:00 Speaking at Rotoract Conference
- Mayport, FL 11/13 9:00 Naval Station Mayport
- Jacksonville, FL 11/15 9:00 NAS Jacksonville Dewey's All Hands Club 500 guests (All commands invited)
- Cape Canaveral, FL 11/17 TBA N.A.S.A.
- Orlando, FL 11/22 TBA Celebration and Orlando Rotary Clubs
- Melbourne, FL 12/1 4:00 Space Coast Marathon – Breaking Guinness Book of World Records
- Chesapeake, VA 12/7 17:00 Chesapeake Rotary Christmas Parade – Grand Marshall sponsored by VFW
- Lake Buena Vista, FL 12/12 7:00 Rotary Club of Lake Buena Vista preparation meeting and VIP visiting
- Disney Finish Line Celebration 12/14 20:00 Hike Across America, Gary Sinise Foundation, and Rotary Event

### Along the way, TShane will have several things to accomplish:

- To tell the true success stories of Veteran's and first responders across America
- Raise funds and find sponsors for the Gary Sinise Foundation's R.I.S.E. Program
- Speaking engagements to military personnel, veteran organizations, first responders, homeless men and women's shelters, east coast Rotary Clubs, Veteran Owned Businesses, Universities, ROTC programs, and organizations that want to give back.
- Break the Guinness World Record for Fastest Marathon Race carrying a 100 lb. Pack. (And fastest mile.)
- Promote awareness for the fair treatment of Veteran's everywhere, importance of family values, and giving back to those that have sacrificed for others.

**Contact:** Dianne Adcock, Project Manager, iPhone or Text: 757-685-3209 [dca@hikeacrossamerica.com](mailto:dca@hikeacrossamerica.com)



# FUNDRAISER DINNER WITH SHANE JOHNSON



PROCEEDS GO TO THE  
GARY SINISE FOUNDATION

**5:30 pm (1730) October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

**VFW Post 4809, 5728 Barteo St, Norfolk**

*Come meet Shane Johnson and enjoy a fabulous dinner prepared by Veteran graduates of Culinary Institute of Virginia.*

*Menu: Chicken (w/white wine pan sauce) or Beef (w/red wine pan or horseradish sauce); rice pilaf or whipped potatoes; roasted carrots or green beans; fresh rolls; garden or Caesar salad; choice of gourmet cupcake*

Cash bar 5:30-6:00 pm - Dinner 6:00 pm followed by presentation

Ticket cost = \$27.25 Make your reservations now at:  
<https://vfw-post-2894.ticketleap.com/hike-across-America-fundraiser-dinner>

Event hosted by VFW Posts 2894 and 4809.

