



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA  
2022-2023 ALL-STATE PROGRAM  
AND ANNUAL STATE AWARDS  
(JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023)  
“No One Does More For Veterans”  
Department of Virginia - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

This Membership – Awards Program has been designed with incentives to work on membership, VFW programs, meeting attendance and submission of reports. Post and District membership 100% quotas will be based on the June 30, 2022 membership as adjusted by National Headquarters. Except where noted, the quota will NOT be reduced because of members who die or transfer to another Post. A new Post will be assigned a membership quota of 30 members.

**Department of Virginia’s membership goal percentages and goal dates 2022-2023**

September 15, 2022 Department membership 75%  
December 30, 2022 Department membership 90%  
March 30, 2023 Department membership 95%  
May 12, 2023 Department membership 100%  
June 30, 2023 Department membership 105%

**MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES**

Membership plaques will be presented at the State Convention to the Post with the largest numeric membership increase in each category. The judging will be based on Membership as of May 5, 2023.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250
- d. Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- e. Category E – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD**

A Life Membership increase award and \$200.00 will be awarded at State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in Life members (must be at least 3 new Life members) in each category. The judging will be based on Life Membership as of May 5, 2023.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 75
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 76 thru 150
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 151 thru 250
- d. Category D – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- e. Category E – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWINGS**

There will be four (4) Life Membership drawings. One (1) Post will be selected for each drawing. Posts must meet their membership quota by the day prior to drawing to be eligible. Drawings will be held on the day of awards judging. Posts with 10 thru 75 members will have one (1) chance, Posts with 76 thru 150 members will have two (2) chances, Posts with 151 thru 250 will have (3) chances, Posts with 251 through 500 members will have four (4) chances, and Post with 501 or more members will have five (5) chances.

- a. The first drawing will be held on September 23, 2022 and the Post must have 75% of its 2023 membership quota to participate.
- b. The second drawing will be held on October 28, 2022 and the Post must have 85% of its 2023 membership quota to participate
- c. The third drawing will be held on January 27, 2023 and the Post must have 95% of its 2023 membership quota to participate.
- d. The fourth drawing will be held on March 24, 2023 and the Post must have 100% of its 2023 membership quota to participate.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AWARD**

A Membership Renewal Award will be awarded to each Post that renews ALL viable Annual Members on its unpaid list who were Annual Members the previous year by membership goal by May 12, 2023. Deceased members and conversions to Life Membership will not count against total.

### **POST 100% MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

In addition, the respective Post Commander and Quartermaster will receive 100% Membership Pins and Tumblers if the Post meets its 2022-2023 100% membership goal by May 12, 2023. These awards will be presented at the Posts' respective District meetings.

### **LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

The Post with the largest increase of new Legacy Life Members will receive a check in the amount of \$200.00. The judging will be based on Legacy Life Membership as of May 5, 2023. The award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **2022-2023 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS**

There is no limit on the number of Posts that can be All-State.

All State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2023
2. The Post Quartermaster must be bonded.
3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than 4pm on December 16, 2022, also with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 12, 2023 to complete this requirement.
4. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend each District meeting.

5. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, or Junior Vice Commander must attend the School of Instruction.
6. The Post must send a Post Officer to the State Recruiting School.
7. All Audit Reports must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late report out of the four required.
8. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or fraction thereof.
9. The Post must donate to the Department **Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF)** Posts with:
  - a. 500 or more members - \$135.00
  - b. 100 to 499 members - \$110.00
  - c. 99 members or less - \$85.00
10. The Post must have submitted the following reports at least **ONCE** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **ONCE** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30)
  - a. Hospital Report
  - b. Americanism Report
  - c. Community Activities Report
  - d. Safety Report
  - e. Youth Activities Report
11. The Post must participate in at least 2 of the 3 following programs:
  - a. Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
  - b. Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
  - c. Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)
12. The Post must recruit at least one new member.

**Note1:** Five (5) additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all three programs.

**Note2:** One (1) additional point for each of the submission of an entry for EMT, Fireman, Law Enforcement, and/or Scout of the Year.

**Note3:** Posts will receive additional points towards the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each additional member above 100%.

**Note4:** Posts with less than 50 members are not eligible for the All-State Team. To be eligible Posts must increase their membership to 50 or more members.

**Note5:** A Post with less than 50 members who completes all other requirements of the All State program, achieves 100% in membership, but does not surpass 50 total members will be honored with a certificate and a check for \$300. Posts with less than 50 members are excluded from the requirement to recruit one new member. These Posts will each be known as a "Meritorious Post".

#### **POST ALL STATE TEAM AWARDS**

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all the criteria, including membership, by May 5, 2023 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of

\$300.00, to **assist** in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Commanders who achieve the All-State award by May 5, 2023 and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria except for membership by May 5, 2023 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.

2. All-State Post Quartermasters who have met all the criteria, including membership, by May 5, 2023 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin and citation during the State Convention. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300.00, to **assist** in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention will be presented to those Post Quartermasters who achieve the All-State award by May 5, 2023 and attend all required events at the State Convention. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All-State Quartermasters meeting the criteria except for membership by May 12, 2023 and then meeting the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 will receive a citation and an All-State pin at their next District meeting but will not receive any monetary award nor a cap.

3. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest points in the All-State judging on May 5, 2023 will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the Year 2022-2023. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be the Captains of the All-State Team.

4. The Awards and Citation Committee will break all ties and their decision will be considered the recommendation to the State Commander.

5. The State Commander shall make the final decision for all recommendations of awards and the decision shall be final.

### **2022-2023 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS**

There is no limit on the number of Districts that can be All-State.

All State District Requirements:

1. The District must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2023

2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected; State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than December 16, 2022 with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 5, 2023 to complete this requirement.

3. The District Quartermaster must be properly bonded.

4. All Audit Reports for the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

5. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least **once** during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and **once** during the second half (November 1 thru April 30):

- a. Hospital Report
- b. Americanism Report
- c. Community Activities Report
- d. Safety Report
- e. Youth Activities Report

6. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of September 2022.  
Department led School of Instruction meets the requirement of the terms stated above.

7. The District must donate \$100.00 to the Department Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF).

#### **DISTRICT ALL STATE DISTRICT AWARDS**

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by May 5, 2023 (and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020) will receive an All-State District Commander's cap, an All-State pin and an All-State Citation during the State Convention. All-State Commanders meeting the criteria, except for membership, by May 5, 2023 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2023 will receive an All-State pin and Citation at their next District meeting but will not receive an All-State cap.

2. All-State District Commanders will receive a VFW jacket if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by May 5, 2023

#### **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Reports dated May 5, 2023. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Annual members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will receive:

1. Their Annual Dues (National and Department portions) paid by the Department for the current year.

2. Their name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership.

**Note1:** For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the Life Membership Drawing.

The drawing for *the Life Membership* listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.

Life Members recruiting 5 New or Reinstated Members will receive:

a. Name and membership number will be entered in a drawing for one level of Legacy Life membership equal to \$400.00 or \$200.00 cash if already a Gold member.

**Note2:** For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing.

The drawing for the *Legacy Life Membership* award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging May 5, 2023

Members recruiting five (5) New or Reinstated Members will be entered in a drawing for:

a. Round trip airfare to the 124th National Convention.

b. Expense check in the amount of for \$599.00 to help defray expenses. Additionally, the winner will receive either the cost of round-trip airfare for one person or the actual cost of gas, not to exceed the cost of round-trip airfare for one person.

**Note3:** For each additional five (5) members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing. The drawing for this award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging May 5, 2023.

### **POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

Post Commanders who have their Post 100% in membership by Dec 31, 2022 will receive a Department Commanders jacket. Winners will be announced at Winter Council, jackets will be presented at a District Meeting.

### **INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS**

Individual recruiters will also receive for:

- a. 10 New or Reinstated Members – a Pen and Key Chain Set
- b. 20 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's Challenge Coin
- c. 35 New or Reinstated Members – a Department Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap and citation
- b. 50 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's "Top State Recruiter" shirt
- d. 75 New or Reinstated Members – State Commander's jacket

These awards will be presented at the State Convention.

Note: Recruiters must meet the criteria by May 5, 2023 to receive cap, shirt and jacket at convention.

Note: Recruiters who have previously received an Aide-de-Camp cap will only receive citation

### **THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

First Place: The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who recruits the most new and/or reinstated members of the 2023-2023 Membership Year. They will receive the following:

- a. A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the State Convention.
- b. A Department citation.
- c. A distinctive cap and name badge
- d. A large trophy

There will be **2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners** awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new and/or reinstated member competition of the 2022-2023 Membership Year will receive the following:

- b. A Department citation.
- c. A large trophy

These awards will be presented at the State Convention.

### **THE GEORGE C. DALBY AWARD**

The George C. Dalby Award is presented to any Post member for outstanding participation in VFW programs. Rules for this contest are sent to each Post in the spring. Deadline for submission to State

Headquarters is the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2023. Post and District Commanders are excluded from this award. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **THE W. B. SHAFER, JR. MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

The W.B. Shafer, Jr. Membership Award is presented to the Post making the greatest percentage gain in membership as shown by the State Membership Report dated the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2022. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **THE RICHARD A. (AI) GUAGER AMERICANISM AWARD**

The Richard A. (AI) Guager Americanism Award is presented annually. Rules for this contest are sent to each Post in the spring. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is by the day prior to awards judging May 12, 2023. This award will be presented at the State Convention. Posts placing second through tenth will receive a citation.

### **THE GEORGE E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award**

The George E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award is presented to the most outstanding Post Honor Guard/Color Guard. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is by the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2023. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Firefighter of the Year Award is presented to the most outstanding firefighter. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 10, 2023. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in fire/emergency safety work, accomplishments in fire/emergency safety field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is presented to the most outstanding law enforcement officer. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 10, 2023. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in law enforcement work, accomplishment in the field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Emergency Medical technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Emergency Medical Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 10, 2023. Send resume of nominees' background, resume of background in paramedic work, accomplishment in the field, title and address to State Headquarters. This award will be presented at the State Convention or at a local venue.

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

The Teacher of the Year awards are presented to the most outstanding Teachers. The selectees will receive a plaque, citation and a monetary award. There are three winners – Kindergarten through 5th grade, 6th through 8th grade, and 9th through 12th grade. These awards will be presented at the Winter Council or State Convention.

### **THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD**

The W. I. Wooddell Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to his Post and the Department. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for Quartermaster of the year. Submission must be received the day prior to the awards judging May 5, 2023. The recipient is to be selected by a committee headed by the State Quartermaster. The award will consist of a custom lettered citation, plus a check in the amount of \$200.00 from the Department. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

### **THE CLAIR B. POFF PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD**

The Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award is presented to three (3) Posts for the most outstanding newsletter or publication for their size group and then forwarded to National for judging. Group 1:

Membership 99 members or less; Group 2: Membership 100 to 179; and Group 3: Membership 180 or more. To enter, send two different copies of your Post Newsletter to State Headquarters along with the editor's name and address. Deadline for submission to State Headquarters is January 10, 2023. Judging will determine first, second, and third place winners.

#### **THE ROBERT H. RINER AWARD**

The Robert H. Riner Award is presented to the District Commander with the highest percentage gain in membership over the last year. Membership gain will be as shown by the State Membership Report dated the day prior to awards judging May 5, 2023. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

#### **WILLIAM T. (BILL) ALLEN HOSPITAL AWARD**

The William T. (Bill) Allen Hospital Award is presented to Posts with outstanding reporting of hospital work. The winning Posts will be determined by the State Hospital Chairman. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Hospital award categories are:

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 250
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

#### **CLARENCE E. KELLEY MEMORIAL VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AWARD**

The Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place VOD winner and is presented at the Winter Council of Administration Banquet. In addition, each Post participating in the VOD program will receive a citation.

**Note:** The State VOD winners will receive a plaque and monetary award for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to be presented at Winter Council of Administration Awards Banquet. The first three place winners are expected to attend the Banquet where the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will be announced, and the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will read their essay.

#### **LARRY MATTERA MEMORIAL PATRIOT'S PEN AWARD**

The Larry Mattera Memorial Patriot's Pen (PP) Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place Patriot's Pen winner and will be presented at the Winter Council of Administration Banquet. In addition, each Post participating in the PP program will receive a citation.

**Note:** The State Patriots Pen winners will receive a plaque and monetary award for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to be presented at the Winter Council of Administration Banquet. The first three place winners are expected to attend the Banquet where the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> winners will be announced, and the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will read their essay.

#### **SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Scout of the Year Award is presented to the State Scout of the Year winner. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be presented at the State Convention. In addition, each Post participating in the Scout Program will receive a citation.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK**

The Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 for State judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the State Convention. Special Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth places. Electronic submissions will be accepted this year. Electronic entries must be submitted on a thumb drive. All Posts entering a Community Service Record



Book will have a chance to win a monetary award in the amount of \$200.00 if judged best overall entry in their respective membership category. One (1) check will be issued in each membership category.

- a. Category A – Posts with Membership of 10 thru 250
- b. Category B – Posts with Membership of 251 thru 500
- c. Category C – Posts with Membership of 501 or more

#### **BUDDY POPPY CITATIONS**

Buddy Poppy Citations will be presented to the District Commander whose District purchased the most Buddy Poppies and to District Commanders whose Districts had 100% participation in the Buddy Poppy Program. The Post in each District that purchased the most Buddy Poppies will also be presented a citation. These awards will be presented at their next District Meeting.

#### **COMMENTS:**

"This year, I would like to congratulate all of the members of the VFW Department of Virginia on achieving your 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I wish each and every member an excellent year and I hope all of our Posts and Districts reach their goals and strive for achieving All-State and All-American status. Furthermore, I hope that all members will try to recruit or reinstate at least one new member, and our dedicated recruiters will endeavor to achieve new 'personal bests' this year. Your Department Officers are here to assist you in the performance of your duties. We are Veterans Helping Veterans!"

Respectfully,

GEOFFREY D. LYSTER  
State Commander