

**NUMBER 8**

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*"Veterans Serving Veterans"*

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**February 1, 2018**

Staunton, Virginia 24401  
In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

I hope everyone is having a great new year. Our Department Winter COA was held at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel. Overall, the responses to the new location have been very positive. The rooms, hospitality rooms, meeting rooms and banquet hall were great. The COA was very productive with some Department SOP changes and new Foundation By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation and Mission Statement being approved. In time, the new foundation will generate additional funds for the Department to better support our veterans, their families and our communities. There was a "lively" discussion of a proposed District 4 Resolution concerning the protection of monuments in the Commonwealth. Please educate yourself on the issue as we will most likely take the matter up again at our Convention in June. The banquet on Saturday evening was especially nice. Great atmosphere, food and fellowship followed by awarding our Patriots Pen (Ethan Avery – 1st Place; Anya Ambarish – 2nd Place; and Macon Landis – 3rd Place), Voice of Democracy (Emily Moore – 1st Place; Michael Koch – 2nd Place; and Timothy Cochran – 3rd Place) and Teacher of the Year (Patricia Elder – K thru 5; Sara Gibson – 6 thru 8; and Jeannine Chewning – 9 thru 12) winners. Thanks to everyone who made this awards program possible.

Overall, the Department is in good shape. Our membership goal this year is 32,575+. Currently, we need 3,445 renewals/new/reinstated members to reach this goal, which works out to be 21.66 renewals/new/reinstated members needed each day. Nine Posts have made 100% so far. Congratulation to Posts 7897, 8446, 7854, 4491, 9877, 3103, 5412, 3060 and 10826, you are leading the way! District 10 is ahead of all other Districts with 96.80%. Close behind are Districts 7, 8, 12 and 13...wonder which District will make 100% first? To make All-American this year we need to recruit 5% of the Adjusted Prior Year's membership as new/reinstated members. Currently, the Department stands at 4.12% and needs 288 new/reinstated members to reach 5%. To see where your Post or District stands look at the last column of your MEMSTATS report entitled N/R%. If you are at 3% or greater you are probably on track to make the 5% requirement. If not, you need to work your past due list harder and set-up some additional recruiting events.

As of January 22, Districts 2, 4 and 5 are 100% reported in Community Activity Reporting...way to lead the Department. For everyone else, you have until April 30<sup>th</sup> to complete you Community Activity Reporting. Let's not wait

until the very end to complete this task. You have proven you can do it for the past three halves. You know it is easy to do so let's "get 'er done!"

Looking at the District Performance Reports all the Posts and Districts have been inspected. Make sure you are cleaning up any discrepancies and forwarding any corrected or missing information to your District and State HQs. There are still a handful of Posts that need their Articles of Incorporation and current 990 information forwarded to HQ. This is particularly important and needs to be fixed ASAP. Also, there are 27 Posts with Post homes that State HQs does not have a copy of their insurance declaration page on file showing the Department and National VFW are additional insured. District and Post Commanders let's get this fixed right away. Call Kim at State HQ if you have any questions.

I have saved a special paragraph for audits. We had far too many September audits arrive significantly late to State HQs...this is not acceptable. Our National By-Laws require they be completed by the end of the month following the quarter. Post Commanders, make sure your audits are getting done on time. If a trustee is not available appoint a pro tem trustee. District Commanders, monitor your Post's audits and take action when needed. December audits are due by the end of January. No excuses, let's get them in on time!

We are starting to see this year's finish line. Review your Community and District Reports and make sure you are getting everything done. Monitor the MEMSTATS report and work your unpaid and past due list, and start planning some recruiting events. There is a lot of help available at the District and State levels so don't hesitate to seek assistance.

Thanks for everything you're doing to help our veterans, families and communities!

Mike Boehme  
State Commander  
Department of Virginia

## 2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Date: 02/17/18 Meeting: 11:00 AM Lunch: to Follow Meeting Location: Sponsored by Post 176, 21 Forest Drive, Newport News Rep: Mike Boehme State Commander	5 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 02/17/18 Meeting: 12:00 Noon Location: Post 4637, Martinsville 2327 Old Chatham Road Rep: Phil Arendsen State Inspector
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Date: 03/03/18 Lunch: 12 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8545, Smithfield 223 Washington Street Rep: Rick Raskin State Jr. Vice Commander	6 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 02/18/18 Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: Post 1264, Roanoke 4930 Grandview Ave Rep: Ken Wiseman State Sr. Vice Commander
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Date: 02/17/18 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 622, Petersburg 1925 Johnson Rd Rep: Rick Raskin State Jr. Vice Commander	7 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 05/19/18 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 9760, Berryville 425 S. Buckmarsh St. Rep:
4 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 02/17/18 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8759, Amelia Amelia City Veterans Center Rep: Eric Mallett State Judge Advocate	8 <sup>th</sup>	Date: 02/10/18 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7728, Morrisville 12496 Harpers Run Rd. Rep: Geoffrey Lyster State Chief of Staff

9<sup>th</sup> Date: TBA  
Lunch: 12:00 Noon  
Meeting: 1:00 PM  
Location:  
Rep:

12<sup>th</sup> Date: 02/03/18  
Registration: 10:00 AM  
Meeting: 11:00 AM  
Lunch: To Follow Meeting  
Location: Post 6975, Bristol  
14 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rep: Harold "Butch" Schupska  
State Surgeon

10<sup>th</sup> Date: 03/18/18  
Lunch: 11:30 AM  
Meeting: 1:00 PM  
Location: Post 8241, McLean  
1051 Springhill Rd.  
Rep: Mike Boehme  
State Commander

13<sup>th</sup> Date: 02/10/18  
Meeting: 9:00 AM  
Location: Post 8947, Mineral  
102 Mineral Ave  
Rep: Harold "Butch" Schupska  
State Surgeon

11<sup>th</sup> Date: TBA  
Lunch: 11:30 AM  
Meeting: 12:30 PM  
Location:

### 3. CLOSING:

State Headquarters will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2018 for President's Day.

### 4. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

The second half of the reporting year ends in just three months (30 April). While well on our way towards 100 percent reporting, it is important to remind Posts to include the contributions of their Auxiliary in participant numbers, hours, and mileage summaries of Community Activity reports. Capturing this information casts a truer picture of the VFW's contributions to aid veterans and communities. These numbers are used when lobbying State and National legislatures for their support of spending decisions that assist veteran's causes.

M. C. "Connie Agresti  
Community Activities Vice Chairman

### 5. COMPUTERS AVAILABLE:

Does your Post or a needy veteran need a computer? How would you like to get one for free? That's right, FREE. I have recently received a load of late model desktop PCs and flat screen monitors. These are computers that have been replaced in commercial environments and donated to the VFW. They are fully functional in today's office environment. They are perfect for day to day office use and high-speed Internet. All of them will be loaded with Windows 7 and at least 2 GB of RAM. However, peripherals such as power cables, keyboards and mice might not be included. Please contact me at 703-369-2732 if you are interested.



Rick Raskin  
Department Jr. Vice Commander

## 6. 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.

## 7. 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 subscription end date.

## 8. DUTIES OF TRUSTEES:

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to section 218 of the Manual of Procedure, "Duty of Trustees." Trustees Report of Audit must be completed in detail at the close of each quarter. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster and Adjutant records.

## 9. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of June 18<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 Member Tools, 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 Vfw2018# 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)

## 10. GENERAL ORDERS:

The cut off for the General Orders is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. No EXCEPTIONS. Subscriptions for hard copy via USPS for General Orders are \$24.00 for the year. Please contact State Headquarters for more info.

## 11. IMPORTANT DATES:

March 10, 2018 Department Commander's Homecoming, Holiday Inn Express, 7441 Bell Creek Rd, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Phone 804-559-0022. Room Rates \$91.00. Deadline February 16, 2018.

June 14-17, 2018 State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA. Phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$125.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia" Cut-off Date May 14, 2018.

July 21-25, 2018 National Convention, Kansas City, MO

September 20-23 National Commander-in-Chief's Homecoming, Albuquerque, NM

October 18-21 Southern Conference, Louisville, KY

## 12. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

**Legacy Life Membership:** This prestigious program is available to all Life members and is now available in memoriam for past Life members. 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

*What will your Legacy be?*

## 13. LIFE INSTALLMENT PROCESSING:

There is an important change that just came out for Installment Life processing...the Post Quartermaster can now process the Installment Life membership applications! We don't know if there is a no email option. In the meantime spread the word and please starting using this option. It should speed up the Installment Life processing time for our new members.

"Post level processing of Life member installments: When a Quartermaster signs up a new member there is a new selection for Installment Life. When that is selected the Quartermaster puts in the payment information and it generates an email to the member who must accept the terms from the link in the email. If they don't accept the terms they will be converted to an annual member instead of a Life member. If you have issues, contact Ross Crutcher or Randy Gay in the Member Service Center for help."

Mike Boehme  
State Commander  
Department of Virginia

## **14. MEMBERSHIP:**

Commanders and Comrades,

We are beginning the critical period in our Membership Campaign for Mike's year. With five months remaining to reach 100% plus one, we have a lot of work ahead of us. The Department should be around the 90 percentile point as you read this. As most of you know the last ten percent is the most difficult to achieve. We can make it happen if we pull together as a team. I encourage all Commanders to include membership as a regular part of their meetings. All too often after the call for any applications for membership, nothing else concerning membership is discussed. We have to make membership a part of the agenda for each and every meeting. Commanders ask the members of your Post to help you attain your Post's goal of 100%.

The Membership workshop at the Winter Council was very interesting, as usual the comrades in attendance were very engaged and still asking questions as our time ran out. Many topics were discussed, but the one we spent most time on was the proper completion of the application. There have been changes from National on the electronic side and the paper application. Please make yourself familiar with these changes so you can continue to recruit successfully. Discuss this with your members at the next meeting to dispel any reservations they may have. Remember that many members of your Post working on membership makes your goal of 100% more attainable.

In last month's insert, I asked the District Commanders to present three Posts that we could bring up to or over 50 members to meet Nationals requirement for All American. I realize that not all Districts have a Post below 50 members. Several Commanders have talked to me about their Districts and we have targeted four Posts to work on. In some cases we have had to target a Post without contact with the District Commander; however we are here to assist and hope this will not create a problem. In the Third District we have picked Post 8356 West Point, they need 10 new or reinstated at this point. In the Sixth District we have Post 9877 Amherst, they need 2 new or reinstated. In the Eleventh District we have Post 4204 Hot Springs, they need 12 new or reinstated. In the Thirteenth District we have Post 2044 Earlsyville; they need 10 new or reinstated to reach one over 50. Surely out of these four we can get three over 50 members. Each year this is a requirement, or starting one new Post. Our pool of Post below 50 is getting smaller every year, and there are some Posts that will never reach 50, so in the near future we will have to start a new Post. Please be looking at areas in your Districts that can support a new Post. I think that may be the required next year.

The weather will be disagreeable for a couple of months, so let's review our unpaid list and contact or visit (my preferred method) these members and get them renewed or reinstated. As always the Team is ready and willing to help your Post succeed. Contact State HQ, any Line Officer, or any Team Member for assistance.

Tom Hines, PDC  
Membership Team

## **15. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING:**

119th National Convention housing will officially open February 20, 2018. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). The convention website will also have general convention information including the registration form and links to other convention related information for Kansas City, MO, July 21-25, 2018, including a tentative agenda.

## **16. NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION:**

Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure states each Post will pay, in advance, a national convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the VFW National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the national convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee provided the Post has paid the mandated \$25 advance registration fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111, ATTN: Convention Registration or you may register on-line by going to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

## 17. 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. This edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* is readily available at local book stores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

## 18. 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.

## 19. PATRIOT'S PEN:

Each year more than 132,000 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's **Patriot's Pen** youth essay contest. The national first-place winner wins \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$54,500, with each first-place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level.

The 2017-18 theme is: *America's Gift to My Generation*

Our top 3 entries were invited to the Winter Conference in Portsmouth last weekend and read their essays at the banquet. The Department winner of the Larry Mattera Patriot's Pen scholarship essay contest is:

1<sup>st</sup>. place Ethan Avery, Post 2216, District 11  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Place Anya Ambarish, Post 1177, District 10  
3<sup>rd</sup>. place Macon Landis, Post 7059, District 4

Ethan's entry has been forwarded to National judging.

Joe Martin  
Patriot's Pen Chairman

## 20. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National By-Laws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District meetings, County Council meetings (if applicable), District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

## 21. POW/MIA:

**12/12/2017  
MIA Update**

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced the identification and burial updates of eight American servicemen who had been missing in action from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

**Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Stanley F. Stegnerski**, 25, of Chester, Pa., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 22 in Millsboro, Del. Stegnerski was a P-51D pilot flying out of Royal Air Force Base 244 at East Wretham, Norfolk, England. On Nov. 21, 1944, Stegnerski was flying a bomber escort mission when the

American aircraft were attacked by German fighters over Merseberg, Germany. Stegnerski's group closed in on a group of 20 German fighters and opened fire. He was last seen by his wingman as they prepared to attack the German Focke-Wulf fighters. A German shoot-down report noted a P-51 Mustang with a tail number similar to Stegnerski's had crashed on Nov. 21, 1944. The unidentified remains were buried in Grafentonna. Based on this information, and no information concerning Stegnerski as a prisoner of war, the Secretary of War declared him deceased on Nov. 22, 1945.

**Army Pfc. James J. Leonard, Jr.**, 22, of San Francisco, whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 23 in his hometown. Leonard was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. In the early hours of July 20, 1950, Leonard's regiment arrived east of Yongdong, South Korea, and began preparing to assume the defense of the city. North Korean forces began attacking their positions on July 23 and took control of Yongdong by July 25. Leonard was reported as killed in action on July 25, 1950.

**Navy Reserve Chief Water Tender Paul R. Wright**, 41, of Meadville, Mo., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 25 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. Wright was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Wright was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class John E. Savidge**, 20, of Linden, N.J., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 26 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. Savidge was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Savidge was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

**Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers**, 27, of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 27 in his hometown. Sconiers served as a bombardier on the B-17F Flying Fortress with the 414th Bombardment Squadron, 97th Bombardment Group. On Oct. 21, 1942, his plane was severely damaged during a mission to bomb the German U-boat pens at Lorient, France. The crew parachuted safely and were rescued from the water, only to be turned over to German forces as prisoners of war. Sconiers was transferred to Stalag Luft II in present-day Zagan, Poland, where he remained until 1944. He was admitted to the camp hospital in January 1944 after a fall on ice. He was subsequently transferred to the reserve hospital in Luben, Germany (present-day Lubin, Poland), where he died on Jan. 24, 1944. He was buried by fellow prisoners in the POW section of the municipal cemetery in Luben/Schleswig on Jan. 27, 1944.

**Army Cpl. William C. McDowell** was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, his unit was assembled with South Korean soldiers in the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River, North Korea, when his unit was attacked by Chinese forces. McDowell was among more than 1,000 members of the RCT killed or captured in enemy territory and was declared missing on Dec. 2, 1950. Interment services are pending.

**Navy Fireman 1st Class Chester E. Seaton** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Seaton was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

**Air Force Col. Edgar F. Davis** was a navigator aboard an RF-4C Phantom fighter-bomber aircraft, assigned to the 11th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 432nd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. On Sept. 17, 1968, Davis was on a night photo-reconnaissance mission over Laos when he and his pilot were shot down by anti-aircraft artillery fire. While the pilot ejected and was rescued, no contact was received from Davis. After search and rescue efforts were suspended after failing to locate Davis or the wreckage, Davis was declared missing in action. Interment services are pending.

## December 15, 2017

### MIA Update

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced identification of remains and burial updates of eight American servicemen who had been missing in action from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

**Army Sgt. Kermit J. Lejeune**, 23, of Church Point, La., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Dec. 14 in his hometown. Lejeune was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, his unit engaged with Chinese forces in the vicinity of Unsan County, North Pyongan County, North Korea. Lejeune was reported missing in action on Nov. 28, 1950. Lejeune was later reported to have been captured and died in a North Korean POW camp in early 1951.

**Army Pfc. Albert E. Atkins**, 20, of Belvidere, N.J., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Dec. 15 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. Atkins was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team. His unit attacked enemy forces near Mae-Bong, South Korea, on May 23, 1951, in an attempt to secure Hill 911. As the company prepared to assault the hill, Atkins and two other soldiers from his company were reported missing in action.

**Navy Seaman 2nd Class George J. Wilcox, Jr.**, 19, of Byram, Miss., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Dec. 16 in Evansville, Ind. Wilcox was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was



moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Wilcox was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

**Navy Mess Attendant 2nd Class Archie Callahan, Jr.**, was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Callahan was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

**Navy Storekeeper 1st Class John W. Craig** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Craig was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

**Navy Seaman 1st Class James C. Solomon** was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Solomon was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

**Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Robert R. Keown** was a P-38 pilot assigned to the 36th Fighter Squadron, 8th Fighter Group. On April 16, 1944, Keown and three other aircraft escorted a B-25 medium bomber on an aerial search near the mouth of the Sepik River in Papua New Guinea. The fourship encountered heavy overcast conditions after charting their course home. Heavy rain forced them to turn toward the open ocean, where Keown and his wingman became separated from the other aircraft. His last known location was listed as more than a mile north of Yalu Point. None of the four aircraft returned from the mission. Interment services are pending.

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Milton M. Beed** was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. The unit was supporting South Korean forces in the village of Hoengsong, an area known as the Central Corridor in South Korea, when Chinese forces launched a massive counter-offensive, driving the support force to withdraw to Wonju. Beed could not be accounted for and was declared missing in action as of Feb. 12, 1951. Interment services are pending.

#### **January 05, 2018**

##### **MIA Update**

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced the burial update of one American serviceman who had been missing in action from Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors is:

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Eugene J. Colley**, 48, of Edenton, N.C., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 9 in Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D.C. Colley was a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, his unit was assembled with South Korean soldiers into the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River, North Korea, when his unit was attacked by Chinese forces. Colley was among 1,300 members of the RCT killed or captured in enemy territory and was declared missing on Dec. 2, 1950

#### **January 6, 2018**

##### **Record number of Remains ID'D**

The defense POW / MIA Accounting agency (DPAA) made 201 individual identification remains of U.S. troops in the fiscal year 2017, according to Kelly McKeague, agency director. This sets an agency record, as fiscal year 2016 based in Hawaii saw 164 remains identified. "These numbers are an unprecedented achievement in the accounting mission's history," McKeague told the Honolulu Star/Advertiser. "This is without question a testament to the teamwork and tenacity of the entire DPAA team." McKeague added that DPAA fields more than 600 military and civilian personnel around the world, and is "committed to researching, investigating, recovering and identifying U.S. service members and civilians who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation." Located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, DPAA'S facility also boasts an \$85 million identification laboratory. More than 400 personnel

"Until They Are Home"

Joe Martin

Chairman

## **22. 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 Department 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."

## 23. 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](http://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.

## 24. ROSTER UPDATES:

New Address  
3<sup>rd</sup> District Commander  
Mark Maggio  
6481 Revere Street  
Williamsburg, VA 23188

New Sr. Vice Commander  
VFW Post 176  
Victor Kowalewski  
46 Collier Dr.  
Hampton, VA 23666  
757-243-3366

New Jr. Vice Commander  
VFW Post 176  
Charles Corbon  
2 Fawn Cir.  
Hampton, VA 23666  
757-482-2687

Correct Phone Number  
Quartermaster  
VFW Post 176  
Dennis Walk  
757-874-4660

VFW Post 1994  
New Meeting Location  
175881 Lee Highway  
Abingdon, VA 24210

New Commander  
VFW Post 2424  
Larry Miller  
1301 Maple St.  
Staunton, VA 24401  
540-416-4466

New Quartermaster  
VFW Post 2424  
Martin Corey  
66 Montague Ct. Apt 302  
Stuarts Draft, VA 24477  
540-447-6885

New Jr. Vice Commander  
VFW Post 4809  
Timothy Dawley  
87 Madison Ln. N  
Newport News, VA 23606  
757-591-8908

New Meeting Location  
VFW Post 8243  
Catawba Baptist Church  
1060 Volens Rd  
Nathalie, VA 24577

New Jr. Vice Commander  
VFW Post 8446  
Charles Allen  
1019 Old Tower Hill Rd  
Dillwyn, VA 23936

## 25. SHOP AMAZONSMILE AND DONATE TO THE VFW FOUNDATION:

Even though the holidays have passed, VFW members and supporters can continue to support VFW programs and services by shopping through AmazonSmile and Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Foundation. Purchase items that are eligible for donations are indicated on the products pages. Copy and share the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1758998> with your fellow VFW members and supporters and begin shopping to help support the programs and services of the VFW through the VFW Foundation. Bookmark the AmazonSmile link and support the VFW Foundation every time you shop on Amazon.com.

## 26. SPECIAL ORDER:

### Special Order #146

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National By-Laws 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 Robert L. Hayzlett, Membership No. 10005385, be removed from the rolls of Ford-Stewart Post 4637, Martinsville, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

### Special Order #147

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National By-Laws 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 George W. Friday, Life Membership No. 9496566, be removed from the rolls of Mc Nair-Truehart Post 622, Petersburg, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

### Special Order #151

Their eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National By-Laws 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 Michael A. Yuhas, Life Membership No. 9218943, be removed from the rolls of Martin-Leppert-Sipes Post 9274, Falls Church, Virginia and their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of  
Keith E. Harman  
Commander-in-Chief

## 27. TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

On January 27th, the selection committee met to select the Department winners. The following were selected for each of the three grade levels:

- K-5 Patricia C Elder  
Tarrallton Elementary School  
Norfolk, VA  
Submitted by District 2, Post 3160, Norfolk.
  
- 6-8 Sara Gibson  
Caroline Middle School  
Milford, VA  
Submitted by District 3, Post 8529, Sandston.
  
- 9-12 Jeannine P Chewning  
Hermitage High School  
Henrico, VA  
Submitted by District 3, Post 6364, Richmond

Thank you to all 13 Districts, 52 Posts, 71 schools and 71 teachers who participated in the program.  
Best wishes to our winners at National.

Chris Birch  
Program Chairman

## 28. VFW FRIENDS OF FREEDOM:

If you are not already a member of the VFW's online community, please visit [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and look for the banner that says "Find Out What's Happening" to sign up. As a member of the VFW's Friends of Freedom, you will receive special emails with breaking VFW news, legislative alerts and unique opportunities to help the VFW in assisting our nation's veterans, service members and their families. You may also visit [www.vfw.org/vfwatwork](http://www.vfw.org/vfwatwork) and click on "**Read VFW success stories**" to learn how the VFW is fighting for veterans' rights, assisting veterans in need, educating our youth and aiding military families across the nation. Check back often to see newly posted stories!

## 29. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

2017-2018 Department of Virginia Voice of Democracy – Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Emily R. Moore, Blacksburg H.S., Blacksburg, VA (District 6, Post 776 Radford)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Michael L. Koch, Robert E. Lee H.S., Staunton, VA (District 11, Post 2216 Staunton)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Timothy J. Cochran, William Monroe H.S. Standardsville (District 13, Post 2044 Earlysville)

## 30. WORLD WAR I AND II TOURISM MARKETING GRANTS:

Virginia World War I and World War II Tourism Marketing Program Applications are now open! Deadline is Tuesday, March 27, 2018 by 5:00 PM. Maximum grant is \$10,000.

The Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission (the Commission) was created by the General Assembly to plan, develop, and carry out programs and activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of World War I and the 75th anniversary of World War II.

The purpose of the Virginia World War I and World War II Tourism Marketing Program - administered by the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) - is to assist Virginia communities and related World War I and World War II sites to market commemorative events, locations, and destinations. Electronic submissions of the Virginia World War I and World War II Tourism Marketing Program will NOT be accepted. For more information please visit: <http://www.vatc.org/grants/wwgrants>.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti  
Vice Chairman, Community Activities

Official:



Kim A. DeShano  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Mike Boehme  
State Commander



# State Commander And President's Homecoming



**March 10, 2018**  
**Battlefield Post 9808**  
**7168 Flag Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

**Cocktails at 5 p.m. (Open bar)**  
**Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**  
**DJ at 8 p.m. (Cash bar)**

**RSVP for Commander by March 2nd:**  
**Geoff Lyster – [chiefstaff@vfwva.org](mailto:chiefstaff@vfwva.org)**

**RSVP for President by March 2nd:**  
**Ellie Smith – (703) 791-5110**  
**Or Betty Gimble – 703-851-5819**

**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)**

**Double Beds: \$135.00/night**  
**King Beds: \$91.00/night**  
**Group Rate Deadline is February 16, 2018**





# VFW Riders Virginia



## “Four Seasons” SPRING POKER RUN

**Saturday, 28 APRIL 2018**

**VFW Post 3219; 122 E Mellen St Hampton, Virginia 23663**

**\$15 Per Rider/\$5 Passenger Door Prizes, 50/50, Raffles, Auction**



9am – 1030am: Registration

10am: First Bike Out

**Rain OR Shine**

**“HUGE RAFFLES” .... “HUGE RAFFLES” .... “HUGE RAFFLES” ....**

Contact [VFWRidersOfVirginia@gmail.com](mailto:VFWRidersOfVirginia@gmail.com) with questions

All proceeds go to 2017 Howard E Vander Clute Jr. Memorial ride Fund.

**100% of proceeds benefit Veterans and their Families.**

# Scout of the Year Program



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

girl scouts



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

## WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. Awards are as follows:

- \$5,000 1st place National scholarship
- \$3,000 2nd place National scholarship
- \$1,000 3rd place National scholarship

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship.
- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.
- Have reached his or her 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school or home schooled at the time of selection.

Applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. A Scout may enter through only one VFW Post. Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. A local Post can be identified by zip code at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

## WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

- Deadline for entry to VFW Post is March 1.
- One candidate with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the next level of judging by April 1. The VFW Department (state) Scouting chairman can provide this information.
- The Department winner must be selected and submitted by their Department (state) Scouting chairman to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1.

Questions should be directed to **Kris Harmer at 816-756-3390 ext 6117 or emailed to [kharter@vfw.org](mailto:kharter@vfw.org).**

## WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- **Photograph of the Scout** — must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- **High School Participation Record** — a single page, one sided resume of the candidate's high school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.

## Official Entry Form

# VFW Scout of the Year Program

**MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT**  
and submitted **DIRECTLY TO A VFW POST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.**

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

( )

Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

## SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

## UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout/Venture is an active member of our unit and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

## PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States' Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



# Scout of the Year Program

### VFW DEPARTMENT (STATE) SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

### SPONSORING VFW POST

POST NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### POST COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

### DISTRICT CERTIFICATION IF APPLICABLE, CHECK WITH THE VFW DEPARTMENT (STATE) SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT #: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT CDR.: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION

MUST BE COMPLETED BY DEPT (STATE) VFW SCOUTING CHAIRMAN OR DEPT. COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
  - A scout leader.
  - A community member.
  - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
  - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** – submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

## WHO MAKES UP THE VFW SCOUTING TEAM?

The backbone of Scouting in the VFW is the VFW Scouting Team. These VFW members are deeply involved in Scouting, most with decades of experience.

Appointed by their Department commander, they are responsible for promoting Scouting in their state. They are available to encourage Posts to sponsor units, support units and individual Scout projects. They should be the Department's "expert" on all phases of Scouting. Many Departments have multiple members of the VFW Scouting Team, but every Department should have at least one individual to promote the values of Scouting to youth and to the VFW itself. For more information on the VFW Scouting Team call 816-756-3390 ext 6117 or e-mail [kharmer@vfw.org](mailto:kharmer@vfw.org).



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-756-3390 ext 6117



**VFW 119th National Convention**  
**Kansas City, MO**  
**Kansas City Convention Center –Bartle Hall**  
**TENTATIVE July 21-25, 2018**

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.*  
*Meetings/times for various functions are subject to change.*  
*Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

**Saturday, July 21, 2018**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW/Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.	National Veterans Service Advisory Committee
9:00 a.m.	Vander Clute Memorial Motorcycle Ride
10:30 a.m.	Budget and Finance Committee
1:30 p.m.-3:30 pm.	National Council of Administration Meeting
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Conference Meetings
6:00 p.m.	Catholic Mass
6:00 p.m.	Protestant Service
7:00 p.m.	Veterans Service Resolutions Committee (for Chairmen)

**Sunday, July 22, 2018**

7:00 a.m.	Gold Star Families Reception
7:00 a.m.	Catholic Mass
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:30 a.m.	Joint Memorial Service
10:00 a.m.-12Noon	VFW Riders Meeting
10:00 a.m.-Noon	Membership Workshop
10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.	Veterans and Military Support Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Noon	Veterans Benefits Forum
10:00 a.m. – Noon	National Legislative Service Meeting
11:00 a.m. - Noon	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Attendees Reception ( <i>Meet &amp; Greet First time Convention attendees</i> )
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	VFW Programs Workshop <i>Town Hall</i>

**Committee Meetings:**

1:45 p.m.	Resolutions Committees
2:00 p.m.	National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual

## Sunday, July 22, 2018

### Resolutions Committees:

2:00 p.m.	Finance and Internal Organization (200 series)
2:00 p.m.	General Resolutions (300 Series)
2:00 p.m.	National Security and Foreign Affairs (400 series)
2:00 p.m.	National Veterans Service Resolutions (600 series) Sub-committee I – Health Sub-committee II– Benefits Sub-committee III–Economic Opportunities/Other
3:30 p.m.	Membership Recruiting Seminar

## Monday, July 23, 2018

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Joint Opening Session
12Noon - 1:00 p. m.	National Outstanding Community Service Post Reception
1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.	Business Session

## Tuesday, July 24, 2018

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	VFW Business Session
12:45 p. m.-2:30 p.m.	<b>2018-2019</b> Incoming CIC ( <i>Dept. Cmdrs.</i> ) Luncheon <i>by invitation</i>
12:45 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	All-American Commanders Lunch <i>ticketed event</i>
1:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m.	<b>2018-2019</b> Senior Vice Commander/Senior Vice President lunch <i>by invitation</i>
1:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m.	<b>2018-2019</b> Junior Vice Commander/Junior Vice President lunch <i>by invitation</i>
2:00 p.m. -3:00 p. m.	Planning Your Legacy
2:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.	Women Veterans: Strong and Growing
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Chaplains Workshop
2:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m.	Grants and Fundraising Ideas for Posts
3:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m.	OMS User Feedback
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	National Home
6:00 p.m.	Patriotic Celebration ( <i>date and time subject to change</i> )

**Wednesday, July 25, 2018**

8:00 a.m.	Business Session /Nomination/Election/Installation of Officers
11:00 a.m.	National Council of Administration (immediately following installation)
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Commander-in-Chief's and National President's Reception (Ticketed Event) - KC Marriott Downtown

*Updated: 12/18/2017 11:45 AM*



## PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE JULY 21-25, 2018

Welcome to Kansas City, the City of Fountains! Kansas City will host the 119<sup>th</sup> VFW and 105<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary national conventions July 21-24, 2018.

Kansas City sits on Missouri's western edge, straddling the border with Kansas. It's known for its barbecue, jazz heritage and fountains. Downtown, the American Jazz Museum shares a building with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in the historic 18th & Vine Jazz District. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, with giant shuttlecocks out front, houses nearly 40,000 works of art, from ancient to contemporary collections.

### GETTING TO KANSAS CITY

#### **Car**

To determine driving distance between your city and Kansas City, go to: <http://www.travelmath.com/driving-time/>

### GETTING AROUND KANSAS CITY

Ride KC Fares: \$1.50 one-way. Or buy \$3 All Day Pass on buses. Wheelchair accessible buses. For route information or easy, convenient online trip planning, go to [www.RideKC.org](http://www.RideKC.org). Or call 816-221-0660.

Kansas City Street Car – **Free to ride**. Runs from the City Market to Crown Center (on Main Street) go to <http://kcstreetcar.org/>

Monday-Thursday: 6AM - Midnight

Friday: 6AM - 2AM

Saturday: 7AM - 2AM

Sunday: 7AM - 10PM

### CONVENTION LOCATION

Convention activities will take place at the Kansas City Convention Center, located at 301 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO

### WHAT TO WEAR

A general guideline for attire for the convention is business casual for meetings. For VFW members, it is always appropriate to have your cap on hand for meetings. Jackets are not required unless you are an award recipient (e.g. Community Service Post, All American Commanders). You may be on stage to receive your award as photographs are taken. You may wish to bring and wear patriotic themed apparel for the Patriotic Celebration. *(See Patriotic Celebration information in this document).*

## WEATHER

July weather in Kansas City on the average high temperatures around 90°F and daily low temperatures round 72°F.

For up-to-date weather information, please visit the National Weather Service website at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov).

## AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

### **COMPANY: VFW National Discount**

**LINK :** <http://www.supershuttle.com/default.aspx?GC=VFWUS>

**NOTE:** Please update your browser if the above link does not work or go through Google Chrome. Also, you can go directly to [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) and enter the code **VFWUS**

**DISCOUNT:** Your discount gives you **10% off your roundtrip reservation**. Discount does not apply to pre-existing reservations. **Discounts cannot be applied retroactively**. Your travelers can use this code on both ends of their travel: at airport of origin and at their destination airport.

**QUOTE:** How much does it cost? To get a Fare Quote, go the bottom of our home page, and click Fare Quote. Select an airport and destination to generate your fare quote. Link:

[https://booking.supershuttle.com/?\\_ga=2.218474457.1146509480.1511995716-1784955752.1482963717](https://booking.supershuttle.com/?_ga=2.218474457.1146509480.1511995716-1784955752.1482963717)

**RESERVATIONS:** For special reservation questions call 1-800 BLUE VAN ([800-258-3826](tel:800-258-3826)) or customer service, available 24/7. Please note that if you call in your reservation instead of booking and paying online with your discount code, a \$3 call center fee applies. All of our other contact numbers are on our website at:

<http://www.supershuttle.com/Locations>

### **Taxi Service**

10/10 Taxi - (913) 647-0010

Yellow Cab – 816-471-5000

Checker Cab – 816-444-4444

### **Airport Car Rental**

Alamo - 816-464-5151

Avis - 816-243-5760

Budget - 816-243-5757

Enterprise - 816-464-2500

Hertz - 816-243-5765

National - 816-243-5770

## PARKING

Parking information, costs etc., for the convention center will be available at a later date. Watch for updates on the convention webpage at [WWW.VFW.ORG](http://WWW.VFW.ORG) under News and Publications/Events

## RV PARKING/CAMPING

Worlds of Fun Village 4545 Worlds Of Fun Ave., Kansas City, MO 64161, (816) 335-1290

Stadium RV Park 10109 E US Hwy 40, Independence, MO 64055, (816) 353-0242

Autumn Falls Park, 9601 E US Hwy 40, Independence, MO 64055 (816) 356-4663

Trailside RV Park, I 70 & Grain Valley, Blue Springs, MO 64014, (816) 229-2267

Doc's RV Park, 1600 Southview Dr., Liberty, MO 64068, (816) 429-1163

## VISITOR INFORMATION

If you have access, visit [www.visitkc.com/tourism](http://www.visitkc.com/tourism) to plan your trip or request an Official Visitor Guide. See the following link for a digital copy of the Visitors Guide.

<http://www.myvirtualpaper.com/doc/MaddenMedia/kansas-city-mokcvg17/2017020701/#0>

## **VISITOR CENTERS:**

### **DOWNTOWN KANSAS CITY**

Visit KC Offices, Kansas City Power & Light District, 1321 Baltimore Ave., Kansas City, Mo. 64105  
800-767-7700 (24-hour visitor info.) or 816-221-5242  
Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri., Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Closed Sun.

### **UNION STATION**

30 W Pershing Rd., Kansas City, Mo. 64105  
816-460-2020  
Open 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. and noon-5 p.m. Sun.

### **NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM VISITORS CENTER**

100 W 26th St., Kansas City, MO  
816-460-2048  
Open 10 a.m.- 5.p.m Tue.-Sun. and daily Memorial Day-Labor Day.

### **MISSOURI WELCOME CENTER**

4010 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Kansas City, MO  
816-889-3330  
Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., seven days a week through season.

## **REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP**

See on site convention agenda (event guide distributed on-site on 7/21/18) for times and locations of registration/packet pick-up. Registration for both VFW and Auxiliary will be located in Exhibit Halls BCD of the Kansas City Convention Center

***Note:** Want to get register early? Try Remote Registration.” This year both the VFW and Auxiliary will have remote registration for those who are **pre-registered** and want to pick up their name badges early. You will be able to do that at the VFW Headquarter hotel, Marriott Downtown and the Auxiliary Headquarter hotel, Westin Crown Center. **PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES ONLY.** If you haven't yet registered, you will need to do that beginning on Saturday, 7/21/18, 8a at the Convention center.*

### **Auxiliary 'remote' pre-registration:**

Westin Crown Center - Locations/times: **To be advised.**

### **VFW 'remote' pre-registration.**

Westin Crown Center - Locations/times: **To be advised.**

**Note:** On-site (not pre-registered) registration **must** be done at Kansas City Convention Center - Exhibit Hall BCD beginning Saturday, July 21 at 8a.

## **SHUTTLES**

A shuttle schedule will be provided closer to the July convention dates.

If you require special transportation (handicap/scooter/wheelchair), contact the shuttle provider at the number on your event schedule (**obtained on-site**). A final shuttle schedule will be included in the on-site event guide and will be updated on the VFW convention web page prior to the convention dates.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Housing opens February 21 – you may access housing information and the reservation form beginning February 21 by going to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) at the convention website. VFW Department hotels/housing assignments may also be found at the website beginning February 21.

### **HOTEL PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel for parking costs and details.

### **LUGGAGE STORAGE**

If you wish to store your luggage at the hotel before you check in, or after checking out before departure, please make arrangements with guest services.

### **GRATUITIES**

You are responsible for all gratuities during your stay. Tipping is personal, however as a guideline, we recommend gratuities of \$1-\$2 per day for your housekeeper and \$1 per bag for ground transportation providers and hotel bell staff.

### **PHONE MESSAGES**

Messages may be left with the hotel operator, who will make sure you get them as soon as you return to your hotel. In case of emergency, call the VFW National Headquarters 816-756-3390. We encourage you to provide your emergency contact information when you pick-up your registration materials at the convention center.

### **SAFETY TIPS** *(See hotel information located in room)*

### **SPECIAL SERVICES**

#### **Scooter Rentals**

We encourage individuals requiring scooters to make those arrangements prior to arriving on-site in Kansas City as scooter rentals are based on availability and first-come, first-served. Please contact the company below to confirm pricing and availability.

Chuck's Mobility – 913-859-0290

Mobility First – 816-350-7600

#### **Special Screenings**

(Information available on-site at Health Fair located at Kansas City Convention Center (Halls BCD) - check event guide for location and times)

#### **First Aid Room Location**

Kansas City Convention Center; open during convention hours, Saturday, July 21 -Wednesday, July 25 (6p)

#### **Emergency**

Emergency after hour's numbers will be provided before convention or call 911.

#### **Religious Services**

Catholic Mass is scheduled for Saturday, July 21 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 22 at 7:00 a.m. at the Kansas City Convention Center. *Check event guide for room locations*

Protestant Services are scheduled for Saturday, July 21 at 6p. *Check event guide for room locations.*

### **VFW MEMORIAL SERVICE**

The joint VFW/Auxiliary Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, July 23 at 8:30 a.m. at the Kansas City Convention Center (Bartle Hall) – Exhibit Hall E

### **VFW PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION**

The 2018 details will be disseminated closer to the July event.

To keep the Patriotic Spirit of this yearly event, check out the patriotic apparel at VFW Store.

<http://www.vfwstore.org/?Action=SkipLogin>

## AGENDA

See tentative web agenda at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) for the 119<sup>th</sup> National Convention information. A final agenda will be included in the convention event guide and on the convention Mobile App.

## CHARITY AUCTION

The VFW will hold a silent auction Saturday, July 21 through Monday, July 23 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Exhibit Hall BCD of the convention center. Winners will be listed at the "Buddy"® Poppy/Silent Auction desk on Tuesday morning, July 24. **All items must be paid for and picked up during the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. on July 24.** Payment will be accepted via check, cash (*in exact amount*) or credit card (Visa, Master Card or Discover). If an item has NOT been picked up prior to 3:30 p.m., it will be shipped to National Headquarters to be dispersed from there. The winners will be contacted for a shipping address and shipping costs will be applied to their bid. Silent auction items are donated by VFW Departments, individual members and vendors. Auction proceeds will benefit **The VFW National Home for Children.**

## BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

The annual "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest will be held in Exhibit Hall BCD of the Kansas City convention center. Entries will be accepted for registration and may be set up beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, **July 21**, until noon on Monday, **July 23**. Once judging is completed, winning displays will be identified with appropriate ribbons on Tuesday morning, **7/24** and winners will also be announced on the Convention floor during the day. Please remember the sponsoring unit is responsible for the shipping to and from convention (to include all costs) and the assembly/disassembly of the displays. In addition, the displays **must be removed prior to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday** otherwise, they may be removed by the convention personnel and destroyed.

## THINGS TO DO IN AND AROUND KANSAS CITY

Go to the [www.VFW.org](http://www.VFW.org) and access the Microsite at the convention web page for additional information on what to do, where to go, where to eat in Kansas City.

## VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Self-guided tours of the VFW National Headquarters will be offered on Monday, July 23, Tuesday, July 24 and Wednesday, July 25 (dates times subject to change). Additional information will be provided closer to the convention dates.

### **For more information:**

Refer to the VFW convention web page via [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) which is updated as new information is added.

*1/24/2018 updated*