

"One Team One Fight"

NUMBER 12

403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, Virginia 24401

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

June 1, 2026

(540) 886-8112
Hours M – F
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

State Commander	Mark Maggio	mmaggio@vfwva.org	Post 4639
Senior Vice Commander	Charles Bush	cbush@vfwva.org	Post 3103
Junior Vice Commander	Randy Coker	rcoker@vfwva.org	Post 1503
Adjutant/Quartermaster	Ed Mann	adj@vfwva.org	Post 9808
Assist. Adj/QM	Doug Hoffman	dhoffman@vfwva.org	Post 2216
Judge Advocate	Todd A. Taylor	ttaylor@vfwva.org	Post 3103
Surgeon	Beth Ford	inspector@vfwva.org	Post 176
PDC	Doug Hoffman	dhoffman@vfwva.org	Post 2216
Chief of Staff	Tom Gimble	tgimble@vfwva.org	Post 1503
State Chaplain	Robert P. Ruffolo	chaplain@vfwva.org	Post 12218
State Inspector	Patrick Lane	inspector@vfwva.org	Post 8947
District 1 Commander	Joe Perkins	cdrdist1@vfwva.org	Post 176
District 2 Commander	Ronald Riffle	cdrdist2@vfwva.org	Post 4809
District 3 Commander	Glenda Indyck	cdrdist3@vfwva.org	Post 4639
District 4 Commander	Constance Banks	cdrdist4@vfwva.org	Post 8759
District 5 Commander	David Gilleran	cdrdist5@vfwva.org	Post 4637
District 6 Commander	Isaiah Hugger	cdrdist6@vfwva.org	Post 1264
District 7 Commander	Pierre Jutras	cdrdist7@vfwva.org	Post 2447
District 8 Commander	Ashley Gurley	cdrdist8@vfwva.org	Post 12022
District 9 Commander	Dan Boyer	cdrdist9@vfwva.org	Post 7726
District 10 Commander	Nancy Springer	cdrdist10@vfwva.org	Post 3150
District 11 Commander	Isaac Diehl	cdrdist11@vfwva.org	Post 8644
District 12 Commander	Tony Mitchell	cdrdist12@vfwva.org	Post 1994
District 13 Commander	Howard Robertson	cdrdist13@vfwva.org	Post 8947

At the 104th Annual State Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia, held in Harrisonburg, Virginia, May 30, 2026, I, Mark Maggio, being duly elected and installed as State Commander in Accordance with Article V, Section 517 of the National By-Laws, do hereby assume Command.

All previous appointments are hereby declared vacant as of May 30, 2026, except those set forth in the By-Laws.

2. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2026-2027:

COMMITTEES	POSITION	FIRST	Last Name	Post
Audit Committee	Chairman	Eric	Mallett	4809
Audit Committee	Member	James	Adams	7916
Audit Committee	Member	Sheri	Moore	3103
Audit Committee	Member	David	Jarrett	12179
Audit Committee	Member	Kevin	Hebert	392
Awards & Citations	Chairman	Steve	Byrne	9339
Awards & Citations	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809
Awards & Citations	Member	Sandra	Terry	1115
Awards & Citations	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Buddy Poppies	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Budget	Chairman	Gary	Adams	1115
Budget	Member	Mike	Indyck	4639
Budget	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Budget	Member	Randy	Coker	1503
By Laws & SOP	Chairman	Todd	Taylor	3103
By Laws & SOP	Member	Ken	Shannon	4639
By Laws & SOP	Member	Randy	Coker	1503
Community Services	Chairman	Doug	Hoffman	2216
Credentials	Chairman	Glenda	Indyck	4639
Disaster Relief	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Disaster Relief	Member	Doug	Hoffman	2216
Fund Raisers	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Fund Raisers	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Fund Raisers	Member	Mark	Maggio	4639
Gaming Legislation	Chairman	Eric	Mallett	4809
Gaming Legislation	Member	Paul	Smith	9808
Gaming Legislation	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Gaming Legislation	Member	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Gaming Legislation	Member	Dan	Boyer	7726
Gaming Legislation	Member	Chris	Birch	9760
Grave Registrar	Chairman	Robert	Ruffolo	12218
Homecoming Committee	Chairman	Charles	Bush	3103
Homecoming Committee	Member	Joanne	Smith	9808
Homecoming Committee	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Homecoming Committee	Member	Todd	Taylor	3103
Honor Guard	Captain	Patrick	Lane	8947

Hospital/Suicide Prevention	Chairman	Robert	Ruffolo	12218
Hospitality	Chairman	James	Cooper	637
IT/Zoom Committee	Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
IT/Zoom Committee	Member	Todd	Taylor	3103
IT/Zoom Committee	Member	Ronnie	Steele	2582
Joint Leadership Council	Member	Richard	Raskin	7589
Joint Leadership Council	Member	Joanne	Smith	9808
JROTC Committee	Chairman	Deadra	Miller	8169
JROTC Committee	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Legislative Committee – National	Chairman	Tom	Levitt	1503
Legislative Committee – National	Member	Michael	Jeffrey	12218
Legislative Committee – State	Chairman	Ron	Riffle	4809
Legislative Committee	Member	Doc	Crouch	3150
Legislative Committee	Member	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Legislative Committee	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Legislative Committee	Member	Garland	Hamlett	8902
Membership/Life Membership	Chairman	Tom	Hines	12200
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Kathy	Goodall	4809
Membership/Life Membership	Member	Tom	Troy	5412
Membership/Life Membership – South	Member	Troy	Wagers	392
Membership/Life Membership – North	Member	Todd	Taylor	3103
Monuments	Chairman	Ken	Wiseman	1503
Newspaper	Chairman	Rick	Raskin	7589
Parliamentarian	Chairman	Rick	Raskin	7589
Patriots Pen	Member	Benjamin	Guinan	1503
Patriots Pen	Member	Ashley	Gurley	12202
Personnel	Chairman	Ed	Mann	9808
Personnel	Member	John	Smart	1503
Personnel	Member	Tom	Gimble	1503
Personnel	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
POW/MIA Committee	Chairman	Michael	Chism	2582
Programs Scholar's App. Coordinator	Member	Ben	Guinan	1503
Recruiting	Chairman	Tom	Hines	12200
Resolutions Committee	Chairman	M. Conrad	Agresti	3150
Resolutions Committee	Member	Monti	Zimmerman	7589
Resolutions Committee	Member	Rick	Raskin	7589
Resolutions Committee	Member	Ronald	Riffle	4809
Scouting	Chairman	Mike	Indyck	4639
Service Officer	Chairman	Gary	Adams	1115
Southern Conference	Chairman	Paul	Smith	9808
Southern Conference	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Teacher's Recognition	Chairman	Jeff	Dombroff	9835
Teacher's Recognition	Member	Ben	Guinan	1503
Time & Place Committee	Chairman	Jeff	Dombroff	9835

Time & Place Committee	Member	Gary	Adams	1115
Time & Place Committee	Member	Charles	Bush	3103
Time & Place Committee	Member	David	Jarrett	12179
VFW Combat Gaming	Chairman	Ben	Guinan	1503
VFW Combat Gaming	Co Chairman	Robert	Adamczyk	1503
VFW Combat Gaming	Member	Joe	Perkins	3219
VFW Combat Gaming	Member	Beth	Ford	3219
VFW Riders	Chairman	Ed	Hendrickson	4809
Voice of Democracy Committee	Chairman	Ben	Guinan	1503
Voice of Democracy Committee	Member	Glenda	Indyck	4639
Women Veterans Committee	Chairman	Joanne	Smith	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Doris	Wollett	9808
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Tara	Jeffery	12218
Women Veterans Committee	Member	Sandra	Terry	1115

3. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Greetings Comrades,

This is my first opportunity to speak with you since being elected as your Commander for 2026–27. I am truly honored that you have placed your trust in me to lead this organization in the coming year. We have assembled a strong leadership team and dedicated committees, and I believe we are positioned to accomplish great things together.

My kids often call me a history buff, and it's true—you will frequently hear me reference the past to make a point. As I said at the convention, we are the descendants of those who defended Fort McHenry and kept the Stars and Stripes flying during the British bombardment. Although our name reflects service in foreign wars, we represent the few who stand to defend the many. I ask that you keep this in mind as the year unfolds. When we advocate in Richmond and in Washington, we are once again the few fighting on behalf of the many.

When my grandson tells me he hopes to join the Army one day, just like I did, it reminds me why our mission matters. I want to ensure that when his time comes, he will have the same—if not better—opportunities and benefits that we enjoy today. That mission is what drives me, and I am honored to lead it this year.

In the months ahead, I will share my vision for the future of our organization. We will place special emphasis on community reporting and recruiting, because these are the lifeblood of our continued relevance. But I cannot do this alone. We are an organization of 33,000 members, and it will take all of us working together. Our greatest strength lies with you—at the post level. You are the face of the VFW in your communities, and you have the power to shape how people see our organization. You joined because you wanted to make a difference; now you can help inspire other veterans who share that same passion.

My theme for this year is One Team, One Fight. That includes our Auxiliary, which remains vital to our success. Work hand in hand with your Auxiliary, and together you will do great things in your communities. Remember: if you travel alone, you may travel fast, but when we travel together, we travel far.

Have a great month, and let's hit the ground running.

Mark P. Maggio
State Commander

4. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The National Bylaws provide for only one type of membership: active membership. There are no provisions in the National Bylaws, 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 Bylaws or procedures.

5. ALL STATE:

Congratulations to the following District and Posts who made All-State by May 1, 2026. If your Post is not on the list, you still have until June 30th to achieve All State don't stop working on membership.

District 1, Department of Virginia
District 3, Department of Virginia
District 4, Department of Virginia

District 5, Department of Virginia
District 8, Department of Virginia
District 10, Department of Virginia

VFW Post 3219, District 1, Phoebus, VA
VFW Post 8252, District 1, Gloucester, VA
VFW Post 960, District 1, Yorktown, VA
VFW Post 176, District 1, Newport News, VA
VFW Post 2894, District 2, Chesapeake, VA
VFW Post 4411, District 2, Franklin, VA
VFW Post 8545, District 2, Smithfield, VA
VFW Post 12217, District 2, Holland, VA
VFW Post 622, District 3, Petersburg, VA
VFW Post 4639, District 3, Williamsburg, VA
VFW Post 9808, District 3, Mechanicsville, VA
VFW Post 2239, District 3, Colonial Heights, VA
VFW Post 8046, District 3, Norge, VA
VFW Post 9501, District 3, Aylett, VA
VFW Post 10657, District 3, Glen Allen
VFW Post 8163, District 4, Clarksville, VA
VFW Post 7166, District 4, South Hill, VA
VFW Post 9954, District 4, Victoria, VA
VFW Post 7059, District 4, Farmville, VA
VFW Post 10840, District 5, Penhook, VA

VFW Post 647, District 5, Danville, VA
VFW Post 776, District 6, Radford, VA
VFW Post 12179, District 6, Lynchburg, VA
VFW Post 1264, District 6, Roanoke, VA
VFW Post 2123, District 7, Winchester, VA
VFW Post 9660, District 7, Broadway, VA
VFW Post 3103, District 8, Fredericksburg, VA
VFW Post 7728, District 8, Morrisville, VA
VFW Post 12202, District 8, King George, VA
VFW Post 12218, District 8, Haymarket, VA
VFW Post 2719, District 9, Wytheville, VA
VFW Post 9696, District 9, Bluefield, VA
VFW Post 1503, District 10, Dale City, VA
VFW Post 1177, District 10, Leesburg, VA
VFW Post 8469, District 10, Fairfax, VA
VFW Post 7916, District 10, Woodbridge, VA
VFW Post 2424, District 11, Waynesboro, VA
VFW Post 1994, District 12, Abingdon, VA
VFW Post 8652, District 12, Coeburn, VA

6. AUDITS:

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.

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218 (a)(11) of the National Manual of Procedure, Officers: Duties and Obligations. Trustees Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, one of which ended March 31 and is **NOW PAST DUE**.

7. CONSOLIDATION:

This will acknowledge the Post Consolidation Certification received May 5, 2026, transmitting resolutions adopted by the above captioned Posts requesting permission to consolidate under the provisions of Section 209 of the National Bylaws.

The letter of transmittal indicates that the Department Commander has approved the consolidation, and the Commander-in-Chief has also approved it as of this date. A charter certificate will be issued, reciting the facts of the consolidation.

It is noted the consolidated Post is to be known as *Wilkins-Edwards Post No. 176, Newport News, Virginia*. The senior muster date is *April 30, 1920*.

Announcement of the consolidation will appear in General Orders No. 10, 2025-2026 series.

Sincerely,
 Quentin S. Carroll, Director
 Administrative Operations

8. DELINQUENT:

District	Post	Fee	Audits	District	Post	Fee	Bonds	Audits
1	8252	Short \$5.00		9	7136	15.00		Sept March
3	7167	10.00		9	7726			March
4	5313	10.00	March	9	9640	20.00		
4	7819	10.00	March	10	5412	30.00		
4	8446	10.00		10	8241	Short 5.00		
4	9855		Dec, March	10	9274	45.00		
5	873	5.00		11	3060	5.00		
5	7854	Short 5.00	March	11	4204	5.00		
5	8467	5.00		11	9339	5.00	Expired	
6	1264		March	12	5715	15.00		March
6	4299	5.00	March	12	9600	10.00		
6	5895	5.00	Dec, March	12	9830	5.00		
6	9877	10.00		12	9864	10.00		
7	621	25.00	March	13	2044	10.00		
7	1860	35.00	March	13	2613	10.00		
7	8613		Dec, March	13	8947	40.00		Sept, Dec, Mar
7	9292	10.00		13	10574	25.00		March
9	2719	25.00						

9. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1st Date: 8/15/26
 Meeting: 10:00 am
 Location: Post 3219 Phoebus
 1222 E Mellen Street, Hampton
 Rep:

3rd Date: 8/15/26
 Breakfast: 8:00 AM
 Meeting: 10:00 AM
 Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville
 7168 Flag Lane
 Rep:

2nd Date: TBD
 Meeting: 9:00 AM
 Location: TBD
 Rep:

4th Date: 8/8/26
 Meeting: 11:00 AM
 Location: Post 8163 Clarksville
 7488 Hwy 15 N
 Rep:

5 th	Date: 8/15/26 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep:	9 th	Date: 9/26/26 Meeting: 10:00 am Location: Post 7726 Independence 115 Klondike Rd Rep:
6 th	Date: 8/22/26 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1841 Daleville 4902 Roanoke Road Rep:	10 th	Date: TBD Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:
7 th	Date: 8/8/26 Meeting: 11:15 AM Location: Post 9760 Berryville 425 S Buckmarsh Street Rep:	11 th	Date: TBD Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:
8 th	Date: 9/19/26 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 12218 Haymarket 6620 James Madison Hwy Rep:	12 th	Date: 7/18/26 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 18003 Cleveland Church Rd Rep:
		13 th	Date: TBD Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: TBD Rep:

10. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts will reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails the week after the State Convention. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site www.vfwva.org.
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW2026!** 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.

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

District Commanders your address will be cdrdist1@vfwva.org for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district # .

Any questions please contact State Headquarters.

11. **FLAG DAY, JUNE 14:**

All VFW units are reminded to properly display the U.S. Flag on Flag Day, Saturday, June 14 and to conduct a ceremony or program as feasible. You may contact the VFW Communications Department for a Flag Day speech. It is also suggested Posts should award the VFW Patriotic Citizen Award (Product No. 4385) for those who have daily displayed our national flag.

12. **GENERAL ORDERS:**

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

13. **JLC:**

Claim Sharks

We are deeply disappointed that the Legislature failed to advance (HB 1268) that would have banned claim sharks from operating in Virginia. Despite the fact that the Louisiana Supreme Court ruled that these organizations are unconstitutional, and that California banned companies from operating in-state, and that also under Title 38 of the US Code they are illegal, the Virginia Legislature succumbed to the influence of lobbyists and passed legislation (SB315) that would legitimize these illegal operators.

We are further disappointed that Governor Spanberger signed SB315 into law. The new law does provide some protection, but I see two issues: (1) the exorbitant fees (5 months of compensation) and (2) the lack of text limiting the contract to the initial filing. That text would prevent charging for future increases, even if the chosen firm took no part in helping the veteran obtain them.

Perhaps it is time to address this issue at the Federal level. There is pending Federal legislation (HR1732) "Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding VA Benefits Act or the GUARD VA Benefits Act" that if passed would ban Claim Sharks nationwide. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1732>. Lobbying is already underway by several VSOs.

Continued funding for VMSDEP

The Virginia Military Survivors and Dependent Education Program (VMSDEP) is funded for the next two years. However, we have been advised that budget impacting issues would be difficult to advance, and that we should consider raising the issue for the 2028 Legislative session.

Charitable Gaming

The Charitable Gaming Board is considering adjusting Use of Proceeds requirements to 10% of adjusted gross for all gaming, including bingo. Also, under consideration is removing responsibility for charitable gaming from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and placing it under the Lottery Commission's jurisdiction. Fortunately, we have VSO representation on the Charitable Gaming Board.

Some additional issues being considered for the 2027 session include:

- Midlife Healthcare Gap for Women Veterans
- Veterans Medical Appointment Access: Reducing Transportation Barriers Statewide
- Expedited professional licenses for military spouses.
- USPHS and NOAA commissioned corps retirees to obtain a state income tax exclusion

The JLC will meet in Richmond on June 10.

Rick Raskin
PSC
JLC Representative

14. IMPORTANT DATES:

July 25 - 29, 2026	National Convention, Reno, Nevada
August 22, 2026	Fall Council and District Commander School, Post 2216, 212 Frontier Drive, Staunton at 9:00 am
October 17, 2026	Mechanicsville Post 9808, 7168 Flag Lane, Mechanicsville, VA at 5:00 pm
October 22 - 25, 2026	Southern Conference, Mobile, Alabama
January 14 - 17, 2027	Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$110.00 per night. Cutoff Date is December 12, 2026, by 5:00 pm.
June 10 - 13, 2027	State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night. Cutoff Date is May 5, 2027, by 5:00 pm.
July 31 - August 4, 2027	National Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
January 13 - 16, 2028	Winter Council, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$119.00 per night. Cutoff Date is December 11, 2027, by 5:00 pm.
June 22 - 25, 2028	State Convention, Hotel Madison Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA: phone 540-564-0200. Room Rates are \$129.00 per night. Cutoff Date is May 20, 2028, by 5:00 pm.
August 5 - 10, 2028	National Convention, San Antonio, Texas

15. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING:

Congratulations to Smithfield Post 8545, Smithfield as the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. Smithfield Post 8545 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 100% of their membership reported to State Headquarters by May 8, 2026, deadline.

16. LIABILITY INSURANCE:

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

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

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

Ed Mann
State Adj/QM

17. IRS FORM 8822-B:

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

18. LIFE MEMBER PAYOUT:

The Life Membership Board of Trustees, with the concurrence of the National Council of Administration, pursuant to Section 111 of the VFW Bylaws, has determined that for the 2026-27 membership year, the Life Membership Fund will pay out as follows:

- Plans A, B, C - A total payout of \$10.50 for each life member (\$3.50 to each Post, Department and National)
- Plan D - A total payout of \$12.54 for each life member (\$4.18 to each Post, Department and National)
- Plan E - A total payout of \$24.30 for each life member (\$8.10 to each Post, Department and National)

Note: At-Large Members are corresponding Plan pay out amount divided by two. For example, Plan ABC At-Large Payout is \$5.25.

Payment will be made in September 2026 for all Life Members recorded as of Aug 31, 2026. In addition, a payment will be made in January 2027 for all Life Members processed during the period Sept. 1 through Dec. 31, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact Marc Garduno, Quartermaster General, MGarduno@vfw.org.

19. MEMBERSHIP:

Commanders and Comrades,

First, I would like to thank all of you for the effort that you unselfishly gave to the State this year. With your effort, we accomplished Commander Hoffman's goal of 101% before the State Convention. As we move into Mark Maggio's year, I encourage you to work just as hard to make him and Virginia, All American. We have established the tradition of excellence and there is no reason to not continue it.

I would like to thank the Membership Team for their unwavering support again this year. Tom Troy and Ken Wiseman for their effort in the Northern Districts. Kathy Goodall and Troy Wagers for their efforts in the Tidewater areas. A special thanks to Melissa Patrick and David Jarrett and Commander Hoffman for stepping up and working at the State Fair. Also, to Ken Wiseman for his efforts at the State Fair and the many Gun Shows that he helped with and his efforts to ensure that the State was once again an All-American Department.

While these individuals did an outstanding job, we couldn't have had another great year without the members of our Post throughout the State. Again, I give my heartfelt thanks to all of you that contributed to our effort this year.

Tom Hines PSC
Membership Team Chairman
Cell. 434 774 7729

20. NATIONAL CONVENTION:

The 127th National Convention housing opened, **Tuesday, March 18, 2026**. Housing reservation information is located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at vfw.org/convention. The convention website also has general convention information including the registration form, tentative agenda, and links to other convention related information for Reno, Nevada – July 24 - 29, 2026.

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 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. ATTN: Convention Registration. Quartermasters may also register delegates utilizing the online membership system (OMS).

21. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters will be closed June 1, 2026, for the State Convention.

State Headquarters will be closed on June 19, 2026, in observance of Juneteenth.

22. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Bylaws 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 County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

23. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:

Post, District, Department Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters are reminded of the requirements of Sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedure with regard to proof of eligibility for all newly-elected and appointed officers. Elected and appointed officers **shall not be installed** or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Failure or refusal to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant.

24. SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION:

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

August 29, 2026	Post 9808, Mechanicsville	7168 Flag Ln, Mechanicsville
September 12, 2026	Post 1503, Dale City	14631 Minnieville Rd, Dale City
September 12, 2026	Post 4809, Norfolk	5728 Bartee St, Norfolk
September 19, 2026	Post 4667, Marion	861 Goolsby St, Marion
September 26, 2026	Post 2216, Staunton	212 Frontier Dr, Staunton

25. REPORTING:

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you should visit the Department website (www.vfwva.org). The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters. There will be no form for Homeless when reporting for assistance to a homeless veteran please put it on a Community Activity report under aid to others.

26. SCHOLARSHIP THEME:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is now accepting entries for its 80th annual Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholarship competitions. The 2026-2027 theme asks America's students **"What a Veteran Taught Me About America."**

Student entries may be submitted (along with a completed entry form) to their local participating VFW Post. The deadline for both contests is **October 31, 2026**. To read more about the contests or download the entry form, visit vfw.org/YouthScholarships.

27. VETERANS YOGA:

Amazing Event coming up in Washington DC
Celebrating 15 years of Veterans Yoga Project

June 26, 2026

Beveridge & Diamond Rooftop
1900 N St NW
Washington, DC

Join supporters, partners, and community leaders for an evening of reflection, connection, and celebration. This flagship gathering honors the impact of the past 15 years while supporting the continued expansion of trauma-informed wellness programming for those who serve.

We are honored to welcome [Colonel Adam Nestor](#) as our featured speaker whose leadership and service reflect the resilience we gather to honor.

June 27, 2026

9AM-11AM
Global War on Terrorism Memorial
Open to All

Bring your mat and join us for a shared practice grounded in connection and presence. This inclusive yoga session welcomes Veterans, families, supporters, and community members to come together in movement, breath, and reflection.

This gathering embodies the heart of Veterans Yoga Project – accessible practices that foster resilience and belonging.

Registration Link below...

<https://veteransyogaproject.org/vyp15/>

Vance J. Row
PHONE: 410-726-2469
EMAIL: vancerow@gmail.com

28. VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION:

The Virginia Veterans Foundation is pleased to announce you may know make your donations online. Go to the Department of Virginia's website – www.vfwva.org, then click on About and then click on Virginia Veterans Foundation. Scroll to middle of the page and click on here to donate and follow the directions.

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Douglas Hoffman
State Commander



*"These practices helped
me reconnect with myself
and my family."
~ VYP Veteran*

Resilience Rising

15 Years of Strength, Service, and Shared Purpose

For 15 years, Veterans Yoga Project has cultivated resilience at the cellular level. Alongside Veterans, service members, and their families, we practice Mindful Resilience tools that help people navigate challenges, thrive more fully, and strengthen community connections.

Three Ways to Participate. One Shared Mission.

Skyline Social Resilience Rising: An Evening in Support of Veterans

Friday, June 26, at 1800
Beveridge & Diamond Rooftop
1900 N St NW, Washington, DC



*Scan to support
Veteran resilience*



Yoga on the National Mall Global War on Terrorism Memorial Site

Saturday, June 27, at 0900
Join a symbolic yoga session honoring
service, sacrifice, and resilience.

Resilience Rising Costa Rica Retreat Sweepstakes

Enter to win a transformative
wellness retreat while supporting
Veteran programs.



www.veteransyogaproject.org/vyp15

GENERAL LEWIS B. (CHESTY) PULLER

≡ VFW POST 1503 ≡

2026 GOLF Tournament



HONORING VETERANS • SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



FRIDAY
AUGUST 21, 2026

REGISTRATION: 7:30 AM
SHOTGUN START: 9:00 AM



FOREST GREENS GOLF CLUB

15957 Forest Greens Drive
Triangle, VA 22172



FOREST GREENS GOLF CLUB

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION



REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN
7:30 AM



SHOTGUN START
9:00 AM



FORMAT
CAPTAIN'S CHOICE



PRIZES & GAMES
• 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Teams
• Closest to the Pin
• Longest Drive (Men & Women)
• Putting Contest

ENTRY FEES

\$105
PER PLAYER

OR

\$400
PER TEAM

INCLUDES:

- ✓ 18 HOLES OF GOLF WITH CART
- ✓ RANGE BALLS
- ✓ AWARDS BANQUET

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

SCAN TO DONATE
OR SPONSOR TODAY!



GiveButter

EVERY CONTRIBUTION
MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

SUPER TEAM TICKET – \$100

- ★ 1 Mulligan per player
- ★ 1 Toss per player
- ★ 4 Raffle tickets per player
- ★ 3 Ft of String-cutoff portion to complete put without counting stroke



50/50 CONTESTS

\$5 ENTRY FEE PER EVENT
WINNER GETS HALF OF PROCEEDS
COLLECTED FOR EACH EVENT:

1. Putting Contest
2. Closest to the Pin
3. Closest to Straight Line Drive
4. Long Drive Men
5. Long Drive Women



HECKEL HOLE

\$5 DONATION

Tackle the Heckel Hole challenge and help support our veterans!

All proceeds benefit VFW programs.



BENEFITING OUR
VETERANS
AND VFW PROGRAMS



★ AWARDS CEREMONY FOLLOWING TOURNAMENT AT VFW POST 1503 ★
14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City, VA 22193



POC: George Jordan
(571) 414-1635



VFW Post 1503
(703) 670-4124



★ THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS AND OUR COMMUNITY! ★



VFW Post 3103

★ 4th Annual ★

STAR SPANGLED

VETERANS

★ GOLF TOURNAMENT ★

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026



THE GAUNTLET GOLF COURSE

18 Fairway Dr.

Fredericksburg, VA

★ **Individual Player - \$125**

Team - \$500



Sponsorship opportunities available!

[HTTPS://VFW3103.ORG](https://vfw3103.org)

Scan QR code or email us at:

✉ **vfw3103@gmail.com**

TENTATIVE AGENDA

VFW 127th National Convention Reno, Nevada Reno Sparks Convention Center July 25-29, 2026

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

Friday, July 24, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VFW Pre-Registration	Silver Legacy-Lobby
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	National Veterans Service Advisory Committee	A7-9

Saturday, July 25, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits	Hall 2-3
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Buddy Poppy Display/Silent Auction	Hall 2-3
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Budget and Finance Committee	A7-9
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	VA Walk-in Claims Clinic	Hall 2-3
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Uniting to Combat Hunger (Community Service Activity)	Hall 2-3
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Vander Clute Memorial Ride	Off-Site
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	First Time Attendees Welcome Orientation	Hall 4-5
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	National Council of Administration Meeting	A2-5
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Eastern Conference	A1/A6
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Southern Conference	C1-3
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Big Ten Conference	C4
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Western Conference	D1-3

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits	Hall 2-3
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Buddy Poppy Display/Silent Auction	Hall 2-3
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Joint Memorial Service	Hall 4-5
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	VA Walk-in Claims Clinic	Hall 2-3
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	VFW Riders National Advisory Committee	A7-8
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	District Commander Responsibilities Workshop	A10-11
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Member Rights & Post Commander Authority	A16-17
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	QMG Workshop	A12-13
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Update on VFW Legislative Priority Goals	C3
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Providing Local Benefits Assistance	A18-20
1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	All Committee Member Briefing	Hall 4-5
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Finance and Internal Organization (200 series)	A10-11
1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	General Resolutions (300 Series)	A16-17
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	National Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual	A7-8
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	National Veterans Service Resolutions (600 series)	A12-13
	Sub-committee – Health	
	Sub-committee – Benefits	
	Sub-committee – Economic Opportunity/Other	
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	National Security and Foreign Affairs (400 series)	C3
	Sub-committee – POW/MIA	
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Women's Veterans Committee	A9
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	VFW Programs Town Hall	A1/A6
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Parliamentary Procedure Workshop	C1

TENTATIVE AGENDA

VFW 127th National Convention Reno, Nevada Reno Sparks Convention Center July 25-29, 2026

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

Sunday, July 26, 2026 (cont.)

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	OMS for Quartermasters Workshop	A16-17
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Convention Voting Procedures	A7-8
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	2026-2027 Membership Program Review	A10-11
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	127 th VFW National Convention Awards Banquet <i>(ticketed event)</i>	Silver Legacy Reno Ballroom

Monday, July 27, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits	Hall 2-3
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Joint Opening Session	Hall 4-5
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	VA Walk-in Claims Clinic	Hall 2-3
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VFW Business Session	Hall 4-5
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Cornhole Tournament Championship	TBD

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits <i>(EXHIBIT HALL CLOSSES AT NOON)</i>	Hall 2-3
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	VFW Business Session (Nominations)	Hall 4-5
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	VA Walk-in Claims Clinic	Hall 2-3
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	2026-2027 Department Commanders Luncheon <i>(by invite only)</i>	D4-5
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	2026-2027 Department Sr. Vice Commanders/ Sr. Vice President's Luncheon <i>(by invite only)</i>	D3
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	2026-2027 Department Jr. Vice Commanders/ Jr. Vice President's Luncheon <i>(by invite only)</i>	D2
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	All-American Commanders Luncheon <i>(ticketed event)</i>	C1-3
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Department Adjutant/Quartermasters Association Lunch <i>(by invite only)</i>	D1
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Afghanistan War Commission Briefing	A7-8
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Chaplains Workshop	D7
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Recruiting at the Post Level Workshop	A10-11
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	VFW National Home	A16-17
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	QMG Workshop	A12-13
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Grant Seeking & Fundraising Ideas for VFW & Auxiliary Posts	A1/A6
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Retention and Recovery of Members Workshop	A10-11
5:15 p.m.	Parade Line-up	Hall 2
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Patriotic Rally & Entertainment <i>(concessions available for purchase)</i>	Hall 4-5

TENTATIVE AGENDA

**VFW 127th National Convention
Reno, Nevada
Reno Sparks Convention Center
July 25-29, 2026**

All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.

Times for various functions are subject to change.

Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change.

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.	VFW Business Session	Hall 4-5
	Election/Installation of National Officers	
TBA	National Council of Administration Meeting	A2-5
	<i>(one-hour following close of the business session)</i>	
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Commander-in-Chief's and National President's Reception	RSCC Ballroom
	<i>(ticketed event)</i>	

2026-2027 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

*****There is no limit on the number of Posts that can earn All-State honors*****

All-State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 100% plus one membership quota by May 6, 2027, to receive their awards at the 2027 State Convention. (**NO EXCEPTIONS**).
2. The Post must retain 80% of the annual membership from the Membership Report dated July 1, 2026.
3. The Post must recruit at least one (1) **NEW or reinstated** life or life installment member. Otherwise, the Post may have one annual member upgrade to life membership.
4. All members of the Post with access to assets must be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
5. The Post must have been inspected, and the inspection report must be received by State HQs no later than 4pm on December 11, 2026, with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 6, 2027.
6. The Post Commander must sign into his\her state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or 8mamggio@vwfva.org no later than Sept 18, 2026. It is the responsibility of each Post Commander to ensure this is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQs website, www.vfwva.org.
7. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend each meeting of their District. More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged to attend.
8. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction (SOI). More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged. These will be held five times on different dates and at different locations around the state. Dates and locations of these will be posted in the General Orders, which are located under the news section of the State HQs website.
9. The Post must have at least one member complete the online Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI). Posts are encouraged to have more than one member complete this training and those who are recruiters your Post's membership and recruiting team or listed in your Post's membership plan are great candidates for this training. Information on where to find this online training will be posted in the General Orders.
10. All audit reports must be submitted to, and accepted by, State HQs as required by Section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late audit out of the four required.
11. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or a fraction thereof. Contact the State HQs to make this purchase.

12. The Post must donate to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for State HQs, and you can contact State HQs to make this donation. Donations are based on the size of each Post and are as follows:

- a. 99 members or less: \$100.00 – *For a donation of \$100 above the donation, the Post earns (5) Team Points toward Captain of the All-State Team.*
- b. 100 to 399 members: \$200.00 – *For a donation of \$200 above the donation, the Post earns (5) Team Points towards Captain of the All-State Team.*
- c. 400 or more members: \$300.00 – *For a donation of \$300 above the donation, the Post earns (5) Team Points toward Captain of the All-State Team.*

13. The Post must submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted **at least once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2026, Dec 31, 2026, Mar 31, 2027, and June 30, 2027, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:

- (1) Americanism Report
- (2) Community Activities Report
- (3) Safety Report
- (4) Youth Activities Report
- (5) Hospital Report

14. The Post must participate in **at least** 3 of the 4 following categories of programs:

Patriot’s Pen Program: Theme: “What a Veteran Taught Me About America” Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than November 13, 2026.

Voice of Democracy Program: Theme: “What a Veteran Taught Me About America” Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than November 13, 2026.

JROTC, Sea Cadets, or Civil Air Patrol: Entries for any **one** of these three programs will earn Post credit for this category. Posts will not receive credit for doing more than one of the three programs in this category. Entries for these programs must be turned into the Post by February 12, 2027. Posts must submit a copy of the Cadets certificate to the State HQs no later than March 5, 2027, to receive credit for the All-State program.

Teacher of the Year Program: Posts must submit at least one teacher to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than Friday, November 13, 2026.

****For Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy, Posts shall use the Scholar App for judging and delivery.**

Posts who complete ALL requirements by May 6, 2027, will receive their awards at the 2027 State Convention. Posts who complete all requirements EXCEPT membership by May 6, 2027, will have until June 30, 2027, to complete ONLY their membership goal of 100% plus one and will receive awards as noted in this document at the first District meeting of the 2027-2028 year.

Note 1: Five (5) additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all four (4) program categories.

Note 2: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being 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% plus one.

Note 3: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State for submitting of entries for Scout of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Emergency Medical Technician of the Year, 911 Dispatcher of the Year, and/or Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician of the Year.

26-27 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

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

1. The District must meet their 100% plus one Membership Quota by June 30, 2027.
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected: State Headquarters must receive the Inspection Reports no later than December 11, 2026, with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 6, 2027, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone else with access to money must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander must sign in to his/her state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.cog or mmaggio@vfwva.org no later than September 18, 2026. It is the responsibility of each District Commander to ensure this requirement is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQ website, www.vfwva.org.
5. All audit reports for the District must be turned into the State Headquarters as required by Section 418 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
6. The District shall ensure that all Posts submit reports of their activities on the online reporting portal of the State Headquarters. The reports must be submitted at least once a quarter by September 30, 2026, December 31, 2026, March 31, 2027, and June 30, 2027, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:
 - A. Americanism Report
 - B. Communities Activities report.
 - C. Safety Report
 - D. Youth Activities Report
 - E. Hospital Report
7. The District must donate at least \$150 to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). Credit card donations must be made on the State website(www.vfwva.org)
8. The District Commander must host at least one District level recruiting event and have either a Post Commander, SVC, or QM from at least 3 Posts helping. The District Commander must submit a detailed after-action report.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
STATE OF VIRGINIA
2026-2027 ALL-STATE PROGRAM**

(JULY 1, 2026– JUNE 30, 2027)

This membership awards program has been designed with incentives to increase life membership, promote VFW programs, and increase both meeting attendance and the submission of reports. Post and District membership 100% plus one requirement will be based on the membership report dated June 30, 2026, as adjusted by National HQs. 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. This requirement of 100 plus one is for both All-State and All-American.

Virginia’s membership goal percentages and goal dates 2026-2027

- September 30, 2026, state membership of 75%
- December 30, 2026, state membership of 88%
- March 31, 2027, state membership of 93%
- April 29, 2027, state membership of 100% plus one.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD AND PLAQUES

A Life Membership Increase Award plaque and \$200.00 will be awarded at the State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in life members (must be at least 3 new life members not including those on payment plans) in each category. The judging will be based on life membership as of May 6, 2027.

- Category A – Posts with membership of 10 thru 75
- Category B – Posts with membership of 76 thru 150
- Category C – Posts with membership of 151 thru 250
- Category D – Posts with membership of 251 thru 500
- 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 a drawing to be eligible. 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.

- The first drawing will be held on September 30, 2026, and the Post must have 75% of their 2027 membership quota to participate.
- The second drawing will be held on December 30, 2026, and the Post must have 88% of their 2027 membership quota to participate.



- The third drawing will be held on March 30, 2027, and the Post must have 93% of their 2027 membership quota to participate.
- The fourth drawing will be held on May 7, 2027, and the Post must have 100% of their 2027 membership quota to participate.

2026-2027 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

*****There is no limit on the number of Posts that can earn All-State honors*****

All-State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 100% plus one membership quota by May 6, 2027, to receive their awards at the 2027 State Convention. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**.
2. The Post must retain 80% of the annual membership from the Membership Report dated July 1, 2026.
3. The Post must recruit at least one (1) **NEW or reinstated** life or life installment member. Otherwise, the Post may have one annual member upgrade to life membership.
4. All members of the Post with access to assets must be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
5. The Post must have been inspected, and the inspection report must be received by State HQs no later than 4pm on, December 11, 2026, with all documented discrepancies corrected by May 6, 2027.
6. The Post Commander must sign into his/her state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or maggio@vwfva.org no later than September 18, 2026. It is the responsibility of each Post Commander to ensure this is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQs website, www.vfwva.org.
7. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend each meeting of their District. More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged to attend.
8. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction (SOI). More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged. These will be held five times on different dates and at different locations around the state. Dates and locations of these will be posted in the General Orders, which are located under the news section of the State HQs website.
9. The Post must have at least one member complete the online Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI). Posts are encouraged to have more than one member complete this training and those who are recruiters on your Post's membership and recruiting team or listed in your Post's membership plan are great candidates for this training. Information on where to find this online training will be posted in the General Orders.



10. All audit reports must be submitted to, and accepted by, State HQs as required by Section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late audit out of the four required.

11. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or a fraction thereof. Contact the State HQs to make this purchase.

12. The Post must donate to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for State HQs. Credit card donations must be made on the State website (www.vfwva.org). Donations are based on the size of each Post and are as follows:

- * 99 members or less - \$100.00 – *For a donation of \$100 above the required donation, the Post earns (5) Team Points towards Captain of the All-State Team.*
- * 100 to 399 members - \$200.00 – *For a donation of \$200 above the required donation, the Post earns (5) Team Points toward Captain of the All-State Team.*
- * 400 or more members - \$300.00 – *For a donation of \$300 above the required donation, the Post earns (5) points toward Captain of the All-State Team*

13. The Post must submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted **at least once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2026, Dec 31, 2026, Mar 31, 2026, and June 30, 2027, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:

- (1) Americanism Report
- (2) Community Activities Report
- (3) Safety Report
- (4) Youth Activities Report
- (5) Hospital Report

14. The Post must participate in **at least** 4 of the 6 following categories of programs:

- **Patriot’s Pen Program**: Theme: “What a Veteran Taught Me About America”

Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than November 13, 2026, an additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of a Patriot Pen entry.

- **Voice of Democracy Program**: Theme: “What a Veteran Taught Me About America.”

Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than November 13, 2026. An additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of a Voice of Democracy entry.

- **Teacher of the Year Program**: Posts must submit at least one teacher to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by October 30, 2026. Posts must submit them to their District no later than November 13, 2026. An additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Teacher of the year.



- **State Scout of the Year:** Submissions must be to the Scouting Committee Chairman by April 1, 2027. An additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Scout of the Year with a maximum of one entry allowed from each Post. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be sent to the Post to be presented at the time and place of the Post's choosing.
- **JROTC, Sea Cadets, or Civil Air Patrol:** Entries for any **one** of these three programs will earn Post credit for this category. Posts will not receive credit for doing more than one of the three programs in this category. Entries for these programs must be turned into the Post by Friday, February 12, 2027. Posts must submit a copy of the Cadets certificate to the State HQs no later than Friday, March 5, 2027, to receive credit for the All-State program.
- **Public Service Law Enforcement, Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician, 911 Dispatcher, or Explosive Disposal Technician:** Entries for any **one** of these six programs will earn Post credit for this category. Posts will not receive credit for doing more than one entry for each of the six programs in this category. Post may not earn more than six points in this category. Entries for these programs must be turned into State Headquarters by January 8, 2027, to receive credit for the All-State program.

**For Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy, Posts shall use the Scholar App for judging and delivery.

Posts who complete ALL requirements by May 6, 2027, will receive their awards at the 2027 State Convention. Posts who complete all requirements EXCEPT membership by May 6, 2027, will have until June 30, 2027, to complete ONLY their membership goal of 100% plus one and will receive awards as noted in this document at the first District meeting of the 2027-2028 year.

Note 1: Five (5) additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all six (6) program categories.

Note 2: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being 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% plus one.

POST ALL-STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by May 6, 2027, and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this commander to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
2. Those Post Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement May 6, 2027..., and then meet their membership requirement by Wednesday, June 30, 2027, will receive a



citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2027-2028 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.

3. All-State Post Quartermasters who have met all criteria, including membership, by May 6, 2027., and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this quartermaster to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
4. Those Post Quartermasters who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by May 6, 2027., and then meet their membership requirement by Wednesday, June 30, 2027, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2027-2028 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.
5. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest number of Team Points in the state on May 6, 2027., will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the 2026-2027 Year. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be Captains of the All-State Team.
6. The Awards and Citations Committee will break all ties, and their decision will be considered their recommendation to the State Commander.
7. The State Commander shall make the final decision on all recommendations for awards, and the State Commander's decision shall be final.

2026-2027 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

****There is no limit on the number of Districts that can earn All-State***

All-State District Requirements:

1. Districts must meet their 100% plus one membership quota by May 6, 2027, to receive their awards at the 2027 State Convention. (**NO EXCEPTIONS**).
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected. State HQs must receive the inspection reports for the District and all Posts in the District no later than December 11, 2026. All documented discrepancies must be corrected by May 6, 2027, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to assets must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander must sign into his/her state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or mmaggio@vwfva.org no later than September 18, 2026. It is the responsibility of each District Commander to ensure this requirement is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQs website, www.vfwva.org.
5. All audit reports for the District must be turned into the State HQs as required by Section 418 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.



6. The District shall ensure that all Posts submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted **at least once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2026, Dec 31, 2026, Mar 31, 2027, and June 30, 2027, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:

- (1) Americanism Report
- (2) Community Activities Report
- (3) Safety Report
- (4) Youth Activities Report
- (5) Hospital Report

7. The District must donate at least \$150 to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for State HQs. credit card donations must be made on the State website (www.vfwva.org)

8. The District Commander must host at least one District level recruiting event and have either a Post Commander, SVC, or QM from at least three Posts in the district helping. Afterwards, submit a detailed report of the results to State HQs with location, date and names of the comrades assisting.

All-State District Awards

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by May 6, 2027. 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 a citation.
2. Those District Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by , May 6, 2027 and then meet their membership requirement by Wednesday, June 30, 2027, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2027-2028 year but will not receive a cap. Caps may be purchased.
3. All-State District Commanders will receive a State Commander's Medallion if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by May 6, 2027.

POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Post Commanders who have their Post at 100% in membership by December 31, 2026, will receive a State Commander's "100 Club" polo shirt. Winners will be announced at the Winter Council of Administration meeting, and shirts will be presented at a District meeting.

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS FOR LIFE MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLANS

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Report dated May 6, 2027. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Individual recruiters will receive for:

- 3 New Life Members – Commander's Challenge Coin
- 15 New Life Members – State Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap & citation.



- 30 New Life Members – \$250.00 and State Commander Medallion

THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

First Place: The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who receives the most points for each type of new member recruited for the 2026-2027 membership year by using the National Recruiter Report dated May 6, 2027. The following points are awarded for each new or reinstated member: 1 point for each annual member recruited, and 3 points for each life member recruited. They will receive the following:

- A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the Convention.
- A citation.
- A distinctive cap and name badge
- State Commanders Medallion
- Commander's "Top Recruiter" Polo Shirt

There will be **2nd and 3rd place** winners awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new member competition of the 2026-2027 Membership Year will receive the following:

- A citation
- State Commanders Medallion

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is presented to the most outstanding law enforcement officer. The deadline for submission to State HQs is January 8, 2027. Send a resume of nominee background, resume of background in law enforcement work, accomplishments in the field of law enforcement, title, and address. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (1) one Team Point will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of one (1) entry.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Firefighter of the Year Award is presented to the most outstanding firefighter. The deadline for submission to State HQs is January 8, 2027. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in fire/emergency safety work, accomplishments in fire/emergency safety field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (1) one Team Point will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of one (1) entry.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Emergency Medical Technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Emergency Medical Technician. The deadline for submission to State HQs is January 8, 2027. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in paramedic work, accomplishment in this professional field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (1) one Team Point will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of one (1) entry.



911 DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 911 Dispatcher of the Year is presented to the most outstanding dispatcher. The deadline for submission to State HQs is January 8, 2027. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in emergency services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (1) one Team Point will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of one (1) entry.

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The EOD Technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Technician. The deadline for submission to State HQs is January 8, 2027. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in EOD services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (1) one Team Point will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of one (1) entry.

LARRY MATTERA MEMORIAL PATRIOT'S PEN AWARD

The Larry Mattera Memorial Patriot's Pen 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.

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 Voice of Democracy winner and is presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet.

Note: The State Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners will receive a plaque and monetary award for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place to be presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet. The first three place winners are expected to attend the banquet where the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be announced, and the 1st place winner will read their essay.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Teachers of the Year awards are presented to the most outstanding teachers. The selectees will receive an award and a check. 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 of Administration banquet. An additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Teacher of the Year with a maximum of one entry allowed.

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 HQs is May 6, 2027. This award will be presented at the 2027 State Convention.



THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD

The W. I. Woodall Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to their Post and the entire state. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for this award. Submission must be received by May 6, 2027. The recipient is to be selected by a committee headed by the State Quartermaster. The award will consist of a citation, plus a check in the amount of \$200 from the State HQs. This award will be presented at the 2027 State Convention.

SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Scout of the Year Award is presented to the State Scout of the Year winner. Submissions must be to the Scouting Committee Chairman by April 1, 2027. An additional (2) two Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Scout of the Year with a maximum of one entry allowed from each Post. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be sent to the Post to be presented at the time and place of the Post's choosing.

THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK

The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2026, to April 30, 2027. for judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the 2027 State Convention. Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth place awardees. Electronic submissions are accepted and must be submitted on a thumb drive. The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book **is not** a requirement to be All-State. All books must be at State Headquarters no later than May 6, 2027.



VFW National Membership Program

2026-2027

Cory Geisler

Commander-in-Chief

“One Team, One Mission, Veterans First”

VERSION DATE: May 5th, 2026

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Commander's Introduction:

Cory Geisler was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. on July 29th, 2026, at the 127th VFW National Convention in Reno, NV. Cory served in the U.S. Army from 2005 to 2012, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Korea and Iraq. In recognition of his service, he received the Army Commendation Medal (three), Army Achievement Medal(seven), Good Conduct Medal, among many others. He joined the VFW in 2008 as a member at large and then transferred to VFW Post #721 in Waukesha WI, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership.

Cory has served at various levels in the post to include his election to Post Commander in 2012. Cory has served as the Post Commander for 12 of his 18 years and is a two-time All-State Post Commander and was an All-American Post Commander in 2019. At the district level Cory was the head of various committees and was the Chief of Staff for 3 different district commanders. Cory was elected the District 2 Commander for 2017 – 2019. During the 2018 – 2019 year District 2 was recognized as an All-State and All-American district. At the department level, Cory was the Department Safety Chairman for 5 years and the Youth Activities Chairman for 3 years. Cory was elected the Department of Wisconsin State Commander for the 2021 – 2022 year. In 2023 he was elected to the National Council of Administration and in 2025 he was elected as the Senior Vice-Commander in Chief.

Commander's Statement:

“Throughout my time in the United States Army, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and at my civilian positions, I have had the honor to serve under some great leadership. I have strived to take the best of these leaders and incorporate that into my leadership style. What I have learned over those years is that leadership is like running an ultra-marathon. It’s not about a burst of brilliance, but it’s about sustained effort, strategic pacing, and emotional resilience. Leadership is ultimately a long-distance commitment. It’s about showing up day after day, leading with humility, adapting when things get tough, and never losing sight of the end goal. Even when the path is unclear.

*“We are united by a common purpose: to serve those who have served. As One Team, we bring our unique skills, perspectives, and dedication together to meet the needs of our nation’s heroes. With One Mission, we remain focused, ensuring veterans receive the care, respect, and opportunities they’ve earned. Every action, every decision, every effort is guided by one core principle: Veterans First. This is not just a motto; it’s a commitment to honor their sacrifices by delivering excellence in every interaction. Together, we stand stronger, driven by purpose, bound by respect, and devoted to those who served. **ONE TEAM, ONE MISSION, VETERANS FIRST.**”*

Membership Mission:

To strengthen the VFW by driving membership growth through comprehensive support for recruiting, retention, recruiter development, ensuring consistent dues processing, and member fulfillment. To empower our Post and Department leaders through specialized training programs that prioritize membership sustainability. To provide necessary insight and guide informed decision-making through data-driven reporting and analysis. To deliver exceptional customer support to our comrades and prospective members, fostering a culture of service and camaraderie that sustains the VFW legacy for future generations.

All-American Program:

The All-American program exists to recognize exceptional leadership and teamwork, authentic accomplishment in membership growth, and participation in VFW core programs.

All-American Post Criteria

All Posts who have met the following criteria as of June 30th, 2027 will be named as All-American Posts:

- Must meet the Divisional Membership Quota as shown on the table on page 5.
- At least 80% retention of prior year Annual members. Definition of retention can be found on page 12.
- Must have a Post election report submitted and be in good standing.
- Must meet the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31, 2027:
 - o Voice of Democracy – minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Posts may donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o Patriot’s Pen – minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Posts may donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o National Citizenship Education Teachers Award –Post must advance a teacher to District; if no District judging applies then advance to Department for judging (Overseas Post donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o Entries **must be submitted via the Programs Dashboard by January 31, 2027 in order to be recognized.**
- National Veterans Service Programs – must donate \$125 via the Programs Dashboard NVS Donation link. Donations will be designated to support the VFW National Veteran Service operations.
- Must make a restricted donation, minimum of \$75, to National in support of DPAA (Defense Personnel POW/MIA Accounting Agency). **Donations must be processed through the Programs Dashboard.**
- Must meet the following Community Service Requirements:
 - o Participation in the VFW Day of Service event held during the month of May. This event may be counted for a Post’s quarterly community service activity.
 - o A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June. Please see page 12 for further details.
 - o A Post must show an increase in total Community Service of at least 5% from the previous year.
- Must purchase at least 5 Buddy Poppies per member, with a minimum of 500.
- Must have been chartered for at least a full calendar year as of July 1st, 2026. Posts that were chartered between July 1st, 2025 and June 30th, 2026 will not be eligible for All-American awards, but may be recognized under the New Post Growth Grant.

All-American Post Award

All Posts that meet the listed criteria will receive: An All-American Post Streamer, a Post Home Citation, and will be recognized in the VFW Magazine.

In addition, the top 20 Posts in each membership division will receive:

- All-American Post Commander's Citation
- All-American Post Commander's Cap
- All-American Post Commander's Badge
- All-American Post Commander's lapel pin

These awards for the top 20 Posts will be presented on stage at the 128th National Convention. All All-American Post Awards will be distributed at the 128th National Convention. Department Quartermasters will be directed to collect and distribute awards for All-American Posts not in attendance.

The Top five Post Commanders in each division will receive a \$1,000 award to recognize their leadership. Commanders must attend the 128th National Convention in order to receive this award.

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership	Membership Quota
1	501	---	103%
2	351	500	104%
3	246	350	105%
4	190	245	106%
5	150	189	107%
6	125	149	108%
7	105	124	109%
8	90	104	110%
9	70	89	111%
10	50	69	112%
11	10	49	113%

All-American District Criteria

All Districts that have met the following criteria as of June 30th, 2027 will be named as All-American Districts:

- Must exceed prior year's membership, based on June 30th, 2026 totals. (100%+1)
- Must finish in the top 20 Districts in their division, based on membership percentage as of June 30th, 2027.
- Must make a restricted donation, minimum of \$100, to National in support of DPAA (Defense Personnel POW/MIA Accounting Agency). **Donations must be processed through the Programs Dashboard.**
- Must have a District election report submitted and be in good standing.
- Must meet the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31, 2027:
 - o Voice of Democracy – minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas Districts may donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o Patriot's Pen – minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas Districts may donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry)
 - o Entries **must be submitted via the Programs Dashboard by January 31, 2027 in order to be recognized.**

All-American District Awards

All Districts that meet the listed criteria will receive an All-American District Streamer, an All-American District Commander's Citation, and recognition in the VFW Magazine.

In addition, the top 10 Districts in each membership division will receive:

- All-American District Commander's Cap
- All-American District Commander's Badge
- All-American District Commander's lapel pin

These awards for the top 10 District Commanders will be presented on stage at the 128th National Convention. All All-American District Awards will be distributed at the 128th National Convention. Department Quartermasters will be directed to collect and distribute awards for All-American Districts not in attendance.

The top two District Commanders in each division will receive a \$1,000 award to recognize their leadership. Commanders must attend the 128th National Convention in order to receive this award.

All-American Department Criteria

All Departments that have met the following criteria as of June 30th, 2027 will be named as All-American Departments:

- Must exceed prior year's membership, based on June 30th, 2026 totals. (100%+1)
- Department must submit Department legislative chairman reports monthly through the Program dashboard tool.
- Must make a restricted donation, minimum of \$200, to National in support of DPAA (Defense Personnel POW/MIA Accounting Agency). **Donations must be processed through the Programs Dashboard.**
- Must meet the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31, 2027:
 - o Voice of Democracy – an entry advanced to National judging
 - o Patriot's Pen – an entry advanced to National judging
 - o Teacher of the Year – an entry advanced to National judging
 - o Entries **must be submitted via the Programs Dashboard by January 31, 2027 in order to be recognized.**
- National Veterans Service fundraiser – must complete State/Department fundraiser with proceeds donated to the National Veterans Service fund via the Programs Dashboard.

All-American Department Awards

All Departments that meet the listed criteria will receive the following:

- All-American Department streamer
- All-American Department Commander's Citation
- All-American Department Commander's Cap
- All-American Department Commander's Badge
- All-American Department Commander's lapel pin
- \$1,000 award to recognize leadership

These awards will be presented on stage at the 128th National Convention.

Triple Crown:

The Triple Crown is one of the most prestigious membership awards that an individual can achieve. It requires being named as an All-American Commander at Post, District, and Department level. Leaders who attain this level of excellence will be recognized at the 128th National Convention with a special Triple Crown pin.

For Departments without Districts, any individual who achieves All-American Commander status twice as a Post Commander and once as Department Commander, or once as a Post Commander and twice as Department Commander will receive this honor as well.

Membership Programs and Awards

Individual Recruiting Awards:

5/10/15 members recruited: corresponding recruiter pin

25 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief's Coin

50 members recruited: 40oz Insulated Tumbler w/CIC Logo

75 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief's Medallion Set

100 members recruited: Century Cap and Citation. Recruiters may opt to receive a \$50 credit to the VFW Store in lieu of a Century Cap.

Individual Recruiting Awards will be sent out regularly during the membership year to the Post, to be given out at a Post meeting to recognize those members who have helped achieve the membership mission.

Early Bird Award:

The top two Posts in each division as of January 1, 2027 will receive reimbursement of up to \$1,000 for a representative of the Post to attend the 2027 VFW Washington Conference.

Legacy Life Membership Acquisition:

Each Post that achieves the cumulative benchmarks of 25, 50 and 75 Legacy Life Members will be awarded a Legacy Society Post Proclamation. Proclamations will be sent out to the Post along with recruiting awards throughout the year.

For each Post that achieves the distinctive benchmark of 100, 250, or 500 Legacy Life members by June 30th, 2027, their commander or Post representative will be reimbursed up to \$1,000 for travel / lodging for the National Convention, reserved seating at the 128th VFW National Convention joint opening session and a Legacy Society Post Proclamation presented at the National Convention.

100+% Membership Streamer:

All Posts, Districts, and Departments that exceed their prior year membership total on or before June 30th, 2027 will receive a distinctive streamer.

New Post Growth Grant:

Any Post chartered in the previous membership year (between July 1, 2025 and June 30th, 2026) that exceeds their prior year membership total (100%+1) and has over 50 members as of June 30th, 2027 will receive a grant of up \$50 per new member (up to \$1,000) between July 1st, 2026 and June 30th, 2027.

Recruiting and Retention Challenge:

The top two Posts in each membership division based on new and reinstated members as well as retention according to the table below will receive a \$1,000 membership grant deposited into the Post's account. Retention calculations are defined on page 12.

Division	Size	New Member Quota	Retention Percentage
1	501+	At least 125 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
2	351-500	At least 100 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
3	246-350	At least 75 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
4	190-245	At least 60 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
5	150-189	At least 50 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
6	125-149	At least 40 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
7	105-124	At least 30 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
8	90-104	At least 20 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
9	70-89	At least 15 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
10	50-69	At least 12 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention
11	Under 50	At least 10 new/reinstated members	At least 80% retention

Department Above & Beyond Award:

Any Department that exceeds their prior year membership total and has at least 75% of the Posts in the Department also exceed their prior year membership total will receive a membership grant as follows:

Small Departments (10,000 and below): \$2,500

Medium Departments (10,001-20,000): \$5,000

Large Departments (20,000 and up): \$7,500

Elite Recruiter:

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new and/or reinstated members as of June 30th, 2027 will receive a \$1,000 award for their achievement, as well as a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge. Awards will be presented at the 128th National Convention.

Recruiter of the Year:

The VFW member who signs up the greatest number of new and/or reinstated members greater than 250 as of June 30th, 2027 will receive a \$1,000 award for their achievement as well as a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge and the Recruiter Of The Year trophy. Awards will be presented at the 128th National Convention.

Life Member Recruiter Award:

Any VFW member who recruits at least 50 new and/or reinstated Life members by June 30th, 2027 or before will receive a special citation from the Commander-in-Chief and a CIC logo travel bag.

New Post Startup Grant:

New Posts chartered between July 1st, 2026 and June 30th, 2027 will receive a \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post. This credit will come in the form of a gift certificate sent out to the Post once a charter has been issued. The Commanders of all Posts chartered during the membership year will also receive an invitation to the 128th VFW National Convention.

Commander-in-Chief’s Challenge:

To emphasize the importance of Life Membership as the backbone of our membership strength, the Commander-in-Chief is issuing the following challenge to all VFW Posts. Each quarter (July-September, October-December, January-March, April-June), Posts will accumulate points as follows:

New Annual Member: 1 point

Annual or Lapsed Member converts to Life Member: 5 points

New Life Member: 10 points

Each quarter, the Post that leads their membership division in points will receive a special award designated by the Commander-in-Chief. In addition, at the end of the year every Post who has led their division in the challenges will be recognized at the 128th National Convention for their achievements.

Post Division Breakdown

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	501	---
2	351	500
3	246	350
4	190	245
5	150	189
6	125	149
7	105	124
8	90	104
9	70	89
10	50	69
11	10	49

District Division Breakdown:

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	2400	---
2	1680	2399
3	1290	1679
4	880	1289
5	600	879
6	10	599

MEMBERSHIP NOTES AND RESOURCES:

- Awards given to a Post may be transferred to any member of that Post.
- Must participate in the VFW Day of Service event held during the month of May and registered at todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/ no later than May 15th. Participation may count as community service for All-American quarterly requirements. The event must meet certain criteria aimed at making a meaningful difference in the community. The criteria and more information can be found here: <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service-faq/>
- Community Service quarterly reports must be submitted via the All-American Dashboard or via the state's Community Service Reporting Portal and must be approved by the Department Adjutant/Quartermaster. Reports must detail individual events, roll-up or summary reports will not be accepted. Posts must be able to provide verifiable documentation of their community service activities. Reports must meet the IRS 990 standards for organizations operating under 501©(19) status.
- **RETENTION DEFINITION: (Prior Year Annual Members In Good Standing – Expired Members) / (Prior Year Annual Members In Good Standing)**
- Posts, Districts, and Departments must show growth in membership to qualify for any award. This does not apply to the Early Bird Award.
- Awards, stipends, and reimbursements paid by the VFW will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099 if the total of payments made to you during any calendar year equals \$2000.00 or more. The reimbursement you receive from the VFW will be deemed by the IRS to be taxable income. Since the circumstances of each individual are different, it is recommended that you consult your tax advisor to determine the effect these payments may have on your personal tax situation. It is your responsibility to keep receipts and other records as you and your accountant and/or tax advisor deem necessary in order to document your expenditures.
- Employees and officers of the VFW National Headquarters are excluded from receiving stipends or awards in this program unless otherwise authorized by the Adjutant General and/or Quartermaster General.

All-American Notes

- Any member of a Post that is named as an All-American Post may purchase a All-American Post Member cap from the VFW Store after the 128th National Convention. Post, District, and Department Quartermasters and Adjutants may purchase an All-American Post Member cap bearing their title. Quartermasters may also purchase an All-American Quartermaster pin from the VFW Store.
- Donations made to replace Program Participation by eligible overseas Posts, Districts, or Departments as well as fundraising donations must be made through the Programs Dashboard, not through any other means.

For information on how to use the Programs Dashboard, scan the QR code below:

Membership Contacts:

David Prohaska, Director – 816-968-1114, dprohaska@vfw.org

Matt Nute, Associate Director – 816-961-1122, mnute@vfw.org

