VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

"One Team One Fight"

NUMBER 5
403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, Virginia 24401

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

November 1, 2026
(540) 886-8112
Hours M – F
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

GUIDE TO THE GO:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

1. Commander's Message
2. Active Membership
3. Audits
4. Bonds
5. Buddy Poppies
6. By-Laws and Manual of Procedure
7. Citizenship Education Teacher Award
8. Delinquent
9. District Meetings
10. Email Account Access
11. General Orders
12. IRS Form 8822-B
13. Important Dates
14. Incorporation
15. Liability Insurance
16. Life Member Drawing
17. Membership
18. Office Closure
19. Parliamentary Authority
20. Reporting
21. Public Servant Awards
22. Roster Changes
23. Scholarship Theme
24. Veterans Day on November 11
25. Virginia Veterans Foundation
26. VVF Community Service Grant
27. VVF Post Improvement and Assistance

1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades,

The weather is getting cooler, and the daytime is getting shorter, but the VFW is hot and we are charging towards the future. I have had the pleasure of driving out west to Districts 9 and 12 to meet with Posts and help recruit new members. I was proud to have dinner at the Bluefield Post and met with Post members from Lebanon, Abingdon, Coeburn, Bluefield and Hillsville. Had a great meeting with Dan Boyer, Commander of District 9 and he filled me in on all the great things his Posts are doing. Citizens of that part of the state are extremely Patriotic and our team which consisted of Randy Coker, Ed Mann, Tommy Hines and myself were treated like old friends by the community. I met a lot of great Post members doing great work in the community and making the VFW proud.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I hope you all have a wonderful holiday and enjoy time with your family and friends. Veterans Day is also approaching and a time to be thankful for those who have served this great country. Even though we look forward to a joyous holiday season, please check on your fellow veterans. Especially those who experienced a change in life situation this year. Divorces, the passing of loved ones, and illness can damper the holiday spirit for some, but a phone call, a text message or even a visit can provide comfort and a feeling that someone cares about them. If possible, ask them to partake in your families' festivities. We are all one team and when one teammate is hurting, we are all hurting.

I have never been so proud to be your Commander. We are a Department that is doing great things in the community and the more I talk to Posts and hear the fantastic things they are doing in the community, my heart swells with pride. Whenever I speak to Commander-in-Chief Geisler or other State Commanders, I brag about the things that we are doing. I'm like the proud father with the long string of pictures that fall out of my wallet when I talk about our Department. We are in second place in the Conference in recruiting thanks to Tommy Hines and his

team of miracle workers. We have exciting things rolling out soon and you should be proud of the work that you are doing to make this Department one of the best in the VFW. Be proud because IM proud. One Team One Fight.

Mark P. Maggio
State Commander

2. 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.

3. AUDITS:

Also, 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 September 30th and is **NOW PAST DUE**.

4. BONDS:

All Bonds expire on August 31, 2026. Please see July or August General Orders for the rate schedule for the cost of your bond and return completed forms and payment to State Headquarters. Please note Quartermaster Bond rate **is for** the Post Officers. There is a separate schedule for your canteen employees and others who are not Post Officers but need to be bonded. Remember that people on any/or all accounts the Post has **MUST BE BONDED.**

EACH PERSON BONDED MUST BE ON A SEPARATE FORM. EXAMPLE DO NOT PUT QM AND COMMANDER ON SAME FORM, THERE MUST BE TWO FORMS COMPLETED BEFORE BONDS CAN BE PROCESSED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHICH FORM YOU SHOULD BE USING CONTACT STATE HEADQUARTERS.

5. BUDDY POPPIES:

Although we emphasize Buddy Poppies on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, it is important to realize that the distribution of Buddy Poppies should be a year-round exercise. Each time a Post participates in an activity where the public will be present, Buddy Poppies should be present as a fundraising tool and simply to recognize our fallen comrades. Where the VFW appears, Buddy Poppies should be a constant reminder that we will never forget those who have perished in the name of liberty. Just as "They Gave, Will You?" is a year-round thing, so should the distribution of VFW Buddy Poppies.

Remember that your poppies should be ordered a minimum of three (3) weeks in advance of your distribution date.

Miscellaneous items (coin cans, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy or by calling Member Service Center at 1.833.839.8387.

The Manual of Procedure provides that Post relief funds may be used for programs such as Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Citizenship Education, and Community Service as long as suggestions in the chairperson's guidebooks are used as an example of promoting these programs.

Posts are further reminded that Section 711 of the Manual of Procedure provides that non-profit organizations, exempt from taxes under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, may assist with the distribution of Buddy Poppies, provided there shall be no division of proceeds. A donation to these groups may be made from the Post general fund.

6. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:

All officers should obtain current 2027 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2027 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 127th National Convention, which became effective on Aug. 28, 2026.

7 CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD:

Posts should complete their reviews/selections and forward their winning candidates to District by November 13. Judging should take place at District level in sufficient time to forward District winners to the Department by December 4. Next month, you will receive guidance on how and where to submit your District winners.

J. I. Dombroff
Chairman

8. DELINQUENT:

District	Post	Fee	Audits	Bonds
2				Need
3	8356			Need
6	776			Need
9	1115			Need
9	9640	20.00		
11	9339		June not accepted	
12	5715		Dec, March, June not accepted	
12	9830	5.00		

9. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1st
Date: 1/23/27
Meeting: 10:00 am
Location: Post 3219 Phoebus
1222 E Mellen Street, Hampton
Rep: St Judge Advocate Todd Taylor

2nd
Date: 11/14/26
Meeting: 9:00 AM
Location: Post 2894 Chesapeake
3329 Battlefield Blvd South
Rep: St Inspector Patrick Lane

3rd
Date: 11/14/26
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: Post 2239 Colonial Heights
14705 Jefferson David Hwy
Rep: State Cmdr Mark Maggio

4th
Date: 11/7/26
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 8759 Amelia
16440 Five Forks Rd
Rep: PSC Doug Hoffman

5th
Date: 11/21/26
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: Post 4637 Martinsville
1425 Greensboro Road
Rep: St JVC Randy Coker

6th
Date: 12/5/26
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 1264 Roanoke
4930 Grandview Ave NW
Rep: St Inspector Patrick Lane

7th
Date: 1/23/27
Meeting: 11:15 AM
Location: Post 2447 Edinburg
100 Veterans Way
Rep: State Cmdr Mark Maggio

8th
Date: 12/5/26
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: Post 12208 King George
Hopyard Farms Clubhouse
5888 Coakley Dr
Rep: St SVC Charles Bush

9th	Date:	1/30/27
	Meeting:	10:00 am
	Location:	Post 1115 Hillsville 701 W Stuart Drive
	Rep:	State SVC Charles Bush
10th	Date:	12/12/26
	Meeting:	10:00 AM
	Location:	Post 1177 Leesburg 401 Old Waterford Rd NW
	Rep:	St Surgeon Paul Smith
11th	Date:	1/9/27
	Meeting:	10:00 AM
	Location:	Post 2216 212 Frontier Dr
	Rep:	St Surgeon Paul Smith
12th	Date:	1/23/27
	Meeting:	11:00 AM
	Location:	Post 8652 Coeburn 4318 Buckingham Rd
	Rep:	St JVC Randy Coker
13th	Date	11/21/26
	Meeting:	11:00 AM
	Location:	Post 8169 Scottsville 2997 W River Rd
	Rep:	PSC Tom Gimble

10. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts have been reset so the new Officers can take control of their emails. 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. 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.

12. 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.

13. IMPORTANT DATES:

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. The links are active until December 13, 2026. Attendee Block: https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=4846767 Staff Block: https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=4846766
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
November 4-7, 2027	Southern Conference Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia
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

14. INCORPORATION:

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

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

15. 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 Ed Mann at State Headquarters.

16. LIFE MEMBER DRAWING:

Congratulations to Loudoun County Post 1177, Leesburg as the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. Loudoun County Post 1177 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 75% of their membership reported to State Headquarters by September 30, 2026, deadline.

17. MEMBERSHIP:

Commanders and Comrades,

We are entering the fall and winter months. This month we have a very special day that recognizes our real heroes. That day is Veterans Day on November 11th. Our Nation owes its very existence to our Veterans, yet there are always those that do not appreciate us. Elected officials are always trying to degrade our entitlements, so I encourage you to vote for those that look out for our interest. We owe it to the veterans that came before us and the ones that will come after us. Make the politicians honor the contract that they made with us.

Membership is doing well so far, and my thanks go out to all that have recruited at least one new member. We all know that membership is the life blood of this organization. Please don't forget to ask veterans to join as you distribute poppies this Veterans Day. Please don't talk to them for 20 minutes and not ask them to join your Post. Believe it or not, this happens more often than you would think.

The State Fair was a success again this year. The Team and members working at the fair recruited a total of 133 new, reinstated, or transfers into our State. Ten Districts, and forty-four Post had at least one new member, with twenty-five Post having multiple members gained. Many thanks to David Jarratt, Kathy Goodall, Melissa Patrick, Ken Wiseman, and Doug Hoffman for working 12 hour days on behalf of the Department of Virginia. We talked to hundreds of veterans and if we couldn't sign them up, we planted the seed for later membership. Again, my thanks to all of you for working for the State as we strive for another year as an All-American Department. Please contact State H.Q. or any member of the Team for assistance with your recruiting efforts.

Tom Hines PSC
Membership Team Chairman

18. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters will be closed November 11, 2026, in observance of Veterans Day and we will also close at noon on November 25 and reopen on November 30, 2026, in observance of Thanksgiving.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster Mann and Assistant Adjutant/Quartermaster Hoffman will be available by phone and email. State Adjutant/Quartermaster Mann 804-304-7726 or adj@vfwva.org and Assistant Adjutant/Quartermaster Hoffman 757-679-2367 or dhoffman@vfwva.org.

19. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

Procedure and Ritual establish that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th 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 bookstores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

20. 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.

21. PUBLIC SERVANT AWARDS:

Posts are asked to submit five nominees (one for each career area) to State Headquarters no later than January 8, 2027.

- Law Enforcement Award
- Firefighter Award
- Emergency Medical Technician Award
- 911 Dispatcher Award
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (E.O.D.T.) Award

VFW PUBLIC SERVANT AWARD CITATION POST ENTRY FORM. This form was developed to assist VFW Post Safety Chairpersons with an entry form to hand out to the local Fire Department, Police Department, etc. to assist interested individuals in nominating one of their own. Once a winner in each category has been chosen, the Post will forward the winning entries on to the next level of judging.

Simply visit vfw.org, log in to My VFW, then look under Member Resources, click on **VFW Training & Support**, then click on **Community Service & Youth Programs**, then look under **Public Servant Program**.

NOTE: Remember, the First Responder Medal is available through the VFW Store. To review this item, please click on the following link: vfwstore.org/products/32134.

22. ROSTER CHANGES:

Post 8467 QM
Chad N. Stevens
96 Community Church Lane
Stuart, VA 24171
276-734-0800
chmstevens@gmail.com

Post 8545 Cmdr
Richard C. Sheldon
757-371-3454
cdrpost8545@vfwva.org

Post 8545 SVC
William C. Constant
757-377-4827
wbill2222@aol.com

Post 9835 Meeting Place
John Barton Payne Building
2 Courthouse Square
Warrenton, VA 20186

Post 9835 SVC
Thomas J. Bilger
11000 Blake Lane
Bealeton, VA 22712
703-906-4661
tjbilger@gmail.com

Post 9835 JVC
Walter B. Lenky
540-216-7204
wblenkyfamily@yahoo.com

Post 9877 Meetings
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm odd months
3rd Tuesday at 11:00 am even months

23. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:

The 2026–27 themes were chosen by Commander-in-Chief Cory Geisler. The Voice of Democracy theme will be "What a Veteran has taught me about America" and the Patriot's Pen theme will also be "What a Veteran has taught me about America".

The new 2026-27 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entry forms are now available on the VFW website.

24. VETEARNS DAY ON NOVEMBER 11:

Organize a community event on Veterans Day honoring all veterans. For a ceremonial procedure, refer to the information found in the VFW Community Activities and citizenship Education VFW Chairperson's Guide. If you should need a Veterans Day speech, please go to: vfw.org/MY-VFW/Patriotic-Holiday-Speeches. The 2026 Veterans Day speech will be available no later than two weeks prior to Nov. 11. Click here for Veterans Day merchandise vfwstore.org/category/more/specials/veteransday.

25. 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. Please make sure when donating online you put Post your Post number so you can get credit (click add note/comment).

26. VVF COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT:

The Virginia Veterans, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, has opened the window to apply for a grant to perform community service. There will ten (10) grants worth up to $500 each for the 2026-2027 year. Should any money remain after the ten grants are paid out, those not selected in the first round of grants will be considered a second time. The requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027, the application is **due no later than December 4, 2026.** Posts **AND** Auxiliaries can apply for this grant, but only one grant will be given to an individual Post or their Auxiliary, regardless of who applies. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

27. VVF POST HOME IMPROVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE GRANT:

The Virginia Veterans, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, as opened the window to apply for a grant to perform improvements on your Post home. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to $1,000 each for the 2026-2027 year. All requirements and the application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027, the **application is due no later than December 4, 2026.** Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

Official:

Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:

Mark Maggio
State Commander

REGISTRATION DEADLINE DECEMBER 22ND

WINTER COUNCIL MEETING

January 14 – 17, 2027
Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley Conference Center ~ Harrisonburg, Virginia ~
540-564-0200
$110.00 Per night

(*Hotel* Group ***Rate Deadline is December 13th***)

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR BANQUET TICKET
$55.00

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

Link to purchase tickets: https://givebutter.com/vfwvawc27

Dinner Menu

Marinated Pork Loin with Apple Cider Reduction

Served with:

Market Fresh Greens

Steamed Broccoli with Lemon Butter Mashed Candied Sweet Potatoes

Freshly Bake Bread and Butter

Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Whipped Cream

Coffee Regular and Decaffeinated Iced Tea Iced Water

RETURN THIS PORTION TO STATE HEADQUARTERS BY DECEMBER 22, 2026 ***(NO EXCEPTIONS)***
Check, Discover, American Express, Visa, or MasterCard Accepted

Person placing the order (name)_____ Phone: _____

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

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux: _____

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

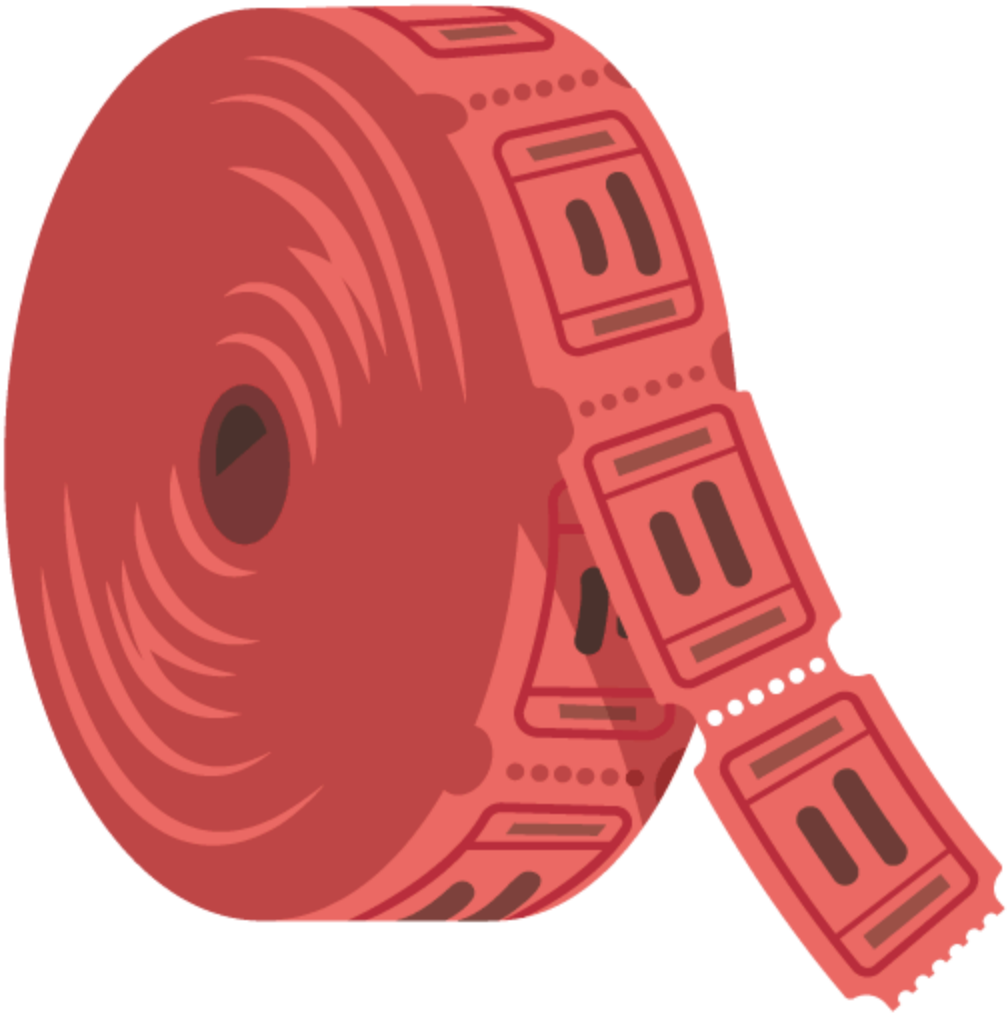
Please Circle One: Discover American Express MasterCard Visa SIGNATURE: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVV Code _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Mail form to: State Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401
You may also e-mail this form to: statehq@vfwva.org or fax it to 1-866-416-0586 if paying by Credit Card only

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



⏰ Raffle Ticket ⏰

🎟 Community
Veterans Day Raffle 🎈
🎟 Support Scholarships, Teachers & Community
🎟 RMZ Church 🎈
2705 Hartman Street
🎟 Drawing Nov 7, 2026, Join Us 🎈
🎟 2:00 PM
🎟 Raffle Tkt Bks $10 🎈
and/or $Turtl7
🎟 Prizes $300,$200 & $100 🎈
🎟. Need not B
present to "Win" 🎈

⏰Questions⏰

Cdr Gloria Kenney 804.759.8209
PCDR Barney Campbell 852-9828
5507 Germain Rd, Rich, VA 23224
VFW Post 10654 (Richmond)
Veterans of Foreign Wars

ARTHUR WILLIAMS MEMORIAL
V.F.W. POST 10654

Raffle Time

Community Veterans Day Raffle

★ Support Scholarships, Teachers & Community ★

RMZ Church
2705 Hartman Street

Drawing Nov 7, 2026, 2:00 PM

Join Us And Pull The Winning Tickets

Raffle Tkt Bks
$10

Accepting cash, checks and/or cashapp $Turtl7

Prizes $300, $200 & $100

★ Need not B present to "Win" ★

Questions?????

CDR Gloria Kenney	804.759.8209
PCDR Barney Campbell	804.852-9828
SRV James Owens	804.405.1371

VFW Post 10654 (Richmond)
Veterans of Foreign Wars



RUN FOR VALOR

SAVE THE DATE!

14 NOVEMBER, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Mark your calendar for our Annual Run for Valor! With a 5K, 10K, 10K Ruck, and 1-Mile Fun Run, this event brings our community together to support and honor our service members, veterans, and first responders.

https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/KingGeorge/RunForValor5K

For more information visit: Valorranch.us

VALOR Ranch
King George, VA

Become A "Run For Valor" Sponsor!

November 14th, 2026

$5,000 — **VALOR CHAMPION** — ONLY ONE!

Name as presenting sponsor on all promotional material, largest logo on event shirts, banners, etc. Business logo and link featured prominently on website and registration page. Mention in all press releases, media appearances, and radio promos. VIP speaking opportunity at race kick off. Premium vendor space at event. And more!

$2,500 — **DEFENDER OF VALOR**

Large logo on event shirts, signage, and mile markers. Logo and link on website and race registration page. Business shoutout in 4 dedicated posts on social media posts. 10'x 10' Vendor booth at the event. Recognition during opening and closing ceremonies. Inclusion in post-event email blast to participants and donors.

$1,000 — **SUPPORTER OF VALOR**

Medium logo on event shirts and signage. Logo listed on website and registration page. Business mentioned in 2 dedicated social media posts. 10'x10' Vendor table at event. Recognition during race day announcements.

$500 — **FRIEND OF VALOR**

Small logo on shirts and signage. Name listed on website and digital event materials. Business mentioned in 1 dedicated social media post. Recognition on event day signage.

Contact Pam Hill at - Pamela.hill@valorranch.us or (301) 466- 5613

ABOUT US

Nestled in the heart of King George, Virginia, Valor Ranch is more than just a ranch- it is a place of restoration, resilience, and community. Our mission is to provide a safe, supportive environment where service members, first responders, veterans and their families can heal, connect, and grow. Through outdoor programs, hands-on activities, and animal therapy, we honor the courage of those who served and create meaningful opportunities for connection and renewal.

As a nonprofit organization, Valor Ranch relies on the generosity of sponsors and community partners to bring our vision to life. With your support, we can expand our programs, maintain our facilities, and continue offering life-changing experiences to the heroes that come to Valor Ranch. Together, we can make a lasting difference for those who have sacrificed so much for us all.

SPONSORSHIP FORM

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

- ☐ **VALOR CHAMPION- $5,000**
- ☐ **SUPPORTER OF VALOR- $1,000**
- ☐ **DEFENDER OF VALOR- $2,500**
- ☐ **FRIEND OF VALOR- $500**
- ☐ **CUSTOM AMOUNT:** _____

PAYMENT METHOD: ☐ **CHECK** ☐ **CASH** ☐ **OTHER**

DATE OF PAYMENT: _____

SCAN ME

***If paying by check, please make checks payable to VALOR RANCH and mail it to:**
Valor Ranch 15360 Sunset Lane, King George, VA 22485



Douglas Hoffman - Candidate for State Quartermaster

Douglas Hoffman proudly served as the **State Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia for the years 2025-2026,** bringing decades of dedicated military and veteran-service leadership to the role.

Doug honorably served **20 years in the United States Navy**, achieving the rank of **Chief Petty Officer**. His distinguished naval career included service aboard **four submarines**, tender duty in **Guam**, and an instructional tour shaping the next generation of sailors in **Charleston**. His time in uniform strengthened his commitment to service, teamwork, and mission excellence—values that continue to guide his leadership today.

His qualifying campaigns for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars include the **Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal** and the **Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal**. He is also a proud **Gold Legacy Life Member** of **VFW Post 2216 Staunton, Virginia**, where he remains actively involved in supporting veterans, families, and the local community.

Doug's leadership within the VFW has been extensive and impactful. His achievements and positions include:

- **All-American State Commander** and **Tiple Crown** recipient.
- **Two-time All-State and All-American Post Commander**, Ocean View Post 3160
- **All-State and All-American District Commander**
- **Treasurer**, VFW Riders of Virginia
- **Member**, Military Order of the Cooties
- **Past Seam Squirrel**, Pup Tent 1

Beyond his professional and organizational accomplishments, Doug's greatest joy is his family. He has been happily married to his wife **Tracy** for 20 years. Together, they share **four grown children** and are blessed with **one granddaughter**. His family, combined with his naval service and VFW experience, reinforces his belief in the importance of unity, strength, and community.

As **State Quartermaster**, he would bring proven statewide **leadership, financial accountability**, and a strong commitment to transparency and compliance. His experience working with Posts, Districts, and state leadership would allow him to provide **clear guidance, strengthen financial practices** across the Department, and **support mission-focused decision-making** that directly benefits Virginia's veterans and their families.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

PATRICK LANE

CANDIDATE FOR DEPARTMENT SURGEON

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA • 2027–2028

A COMMITMENT TO CARE. A LIFETIME OF SERVICE.

I am Patrick Lane, a proud United States Army Veteran, VFW Gold Legacy Life Member, and dedicated servant to our veterans and their families.

I served in the U.S. Army Field Artillery from 1986 to 1991 and earned my VFW eligibility through service in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

My life's work—both in uniform and in our organization—has been about one mission: taking care of those who have taken care of us.

LEADERSHIP ROOTED IN SERVICE

Patrick has served the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the Post, District, Department, and National levels.
His service includes:

- ★ All-American Post Commander
- ★ All-American District Commander
- ★ Captain of the Department of Virginia Honor Guard (2025–Present)
- ★ State Inspector (2026–2027)
- ★ National Aide-de-Camp during the 2020–2021 and 2024–2025 VFW years

I am a Gold Legacy Life Member of VFW Post 8947 in District 13 and remain committed to upholding the highest traditions of our organization.

SERVICE. INTEGRITY. COMPASSION.
That's my promise to you.



★ VFW HIGHLIGHTS ★

- ★ All-American Post Commander
- ★ All-American District Commander
- ★ Captain, Department of Virginia Honor Guard (2025–Present)
- ★ State Inspector (2026–2027)
- ★ National Aide-de-Camp (2020–2021 & 2024–2025)
- ★ Gold Legacy Life Member
  VFW Post 8947, District 13

> *"It is an honor to serve those who have served. Together, we can continue to strengthen our organization and ensure that every veteran and their family receives the care and support they have earned."*

LEADERSHIP • ACCOUNTABILITY • SERVICE

Patrick Lane
Candidate for Department Surgeon
Veterans of Foreign Wars – Department of Virginia

RESPECTFULLY ASKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR VOTE.

HEALTH APPOINTMENT CHECKLIST FOR WOMEN

Before Appointment

- ☐ Write down your questions and the three most important things you would like to discuss with your provider
- ☐ Gather relevant medical records
- ☐ Know your family medical history
- ☐ List medications and/or birth control
- ☐ Track symptoms you are concerned about
- ☐ Check your vaccine history
- ☐ When scheduling the appointment, make any special requests:
  - ☐ Provider of a certain gender
  - ☐ Telehealth appointment
- ☐ Create or update your **MyHealtheVet** profile
- ☐ Verify the purpose of your appointment, as well as date, time, and location
- ☐ If you have a telehealth appointment, confirm you have the link and test your device
- ☐ Call the Women Veterans Call Center **(1-855-VA-WOMEN)** if additional help is needed

During Appointment

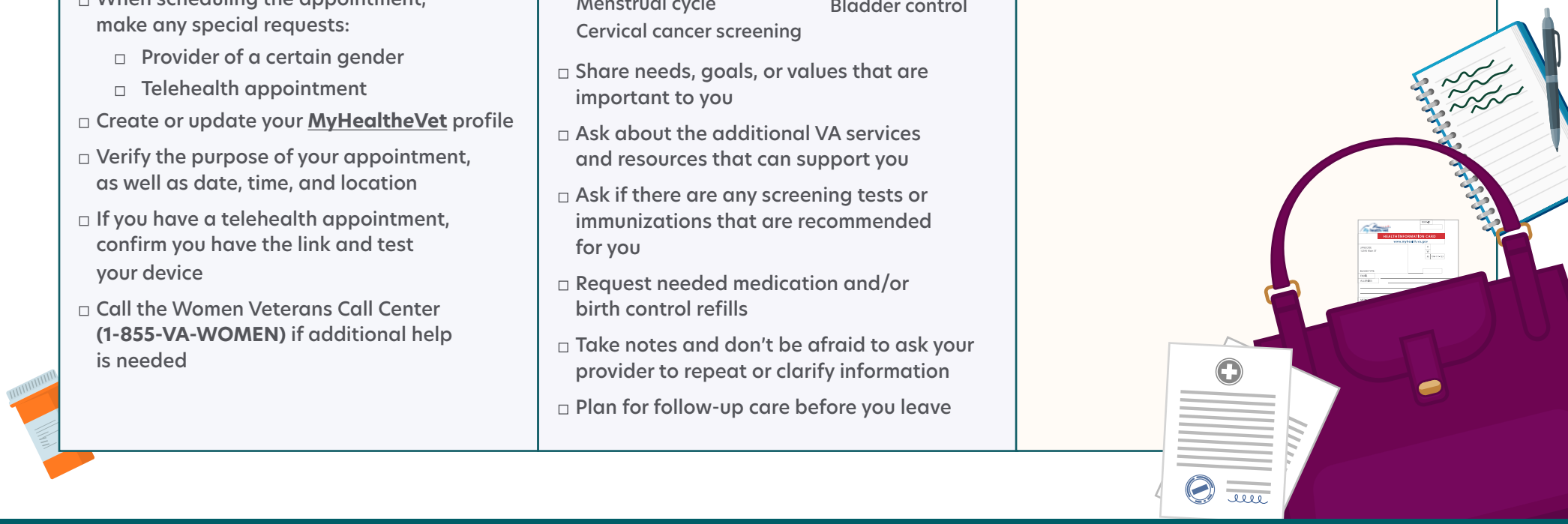
- ☐ Make any requests to help you feel safe and comfortable
- ☐ Consult your list so that you can focus on your priority concerns and questions
- ☐ Be prepared to discuss with your provider:

Deployment history	Breast health
Family medical history	Bone health
Family planning	Heart health
Sexual health	Mental health
Menstrual cycle	Bladder control
Cervical cancer screening	

- ☐ Share needs, goals, or values that are important to you
- ☐ Ask about the additional VA services and resources that can support you
- ☐ Ask if there are any screening tests or immunizations that are recommended for you
- ☐ Request needed medication and/or birth control refills
- ☐ Take notes and don't be afraid to ask your provider to repeat or clarify information
- ☐ Plan for follow-up care before you leave

After Appointment

- ☐ Schedule future VA appointments
- ☐ Pick up prescriptions or request prescriptions in the mail
- ☐ View tests and lab results on **MyHealtheVet**
- ☐ Take advantage of secure messaging online with your VA provider
- ☐ Visit **www.womenshealth.va.gov/** to learn more



DISCUSSING MENOPAUSE WITH YOUR PROVIDER

Use this list of questions to speak with your VA health care provider about menopause, so you know what to expect and how we can support you.

- ☐ **Heart Health:** How does menopause affect my risk for heart disease, and what steps can I take to lower my risk?
- ☐ **Hormone Therapy:** What are the risks and benefits of hormone replacement therapy for me? Are there alternative treatments?
- ☐ **Bone Health:** How can I prevent osteoporosis and maintain bone density as I age? Should I get a bone density scan?
- ☐ **Mental Health and Cognitive Function:** How does menopause impact my mood, memory, and overall mental health? Are there treatments for menopause-related anxiety or depression?
- ☐ **Sleep Disturbances:** How can I improve my sleep if I experience trouble sleeping or night sweats?
- ☐ **Weight and Metabolism Changes:** Why is it harder to maintain my weight, and how can I manage it effectively?
- ☐ **Symptoms and Management:** What symptoms should I expect (hot flashes, night sweats, mood changes, etc.), and what are the best ways to manage them?
- ☐ **Sexual Health and Vaginal Changes:** What can I do about vaginal dryness, pain during sex, or a decrease in libido?
- ☐ **Urinary Health:** How does menopause affect bladder control, and what can I do to prevent or treat incontinence?
- ☐ **Long-term Health Risks:** What long-term health concerns should I be aware of after menopause, and how can I proactively manage them?

If you're currently going through menopause and your symptoms are making you uncomfortable, we offer medication, sleep support, lifestyle counseling, acupuncture, Whole Health, mental health care, and more.

Learn more at **www.womenshealth.va.gov/topics/menopause.asp**

1-855-VA-WOMEN
www.womenshealth.va.gov

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Virginia Department of Veterans Services

Virginia Department of Veterans Services: Honor Guard Grant Program

Program Purpose:
HB108 (2026 Acts of Assembly, Chapter 65) directs DVS to establish a grant program to eligible Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) to support honor guard burial details for Virginia veterans. Funds may be used for training, transportation, food, equipment, and supplies directly tied to funeral honors.

Subject to the availability of funds, DVS shall award and distribute grants to eligible veteran service organizations. The appropriation act (Chapter 1, 2026 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, Item 457) appropriates $25,000 in fiscal year 2027 to carry this out.

1. Grant Structure & Disbursement
DVS will distribute appropriated funds through a structured grant cycle that incorporates:

- Base Grants**:** fixed awards to VSOs that perform honor guard services for period (July 1st, 2026 – June 30th, 2027);
- Variable awards based on the number of funeral services that the honor guard performed from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 in Virginia. At least 25% of these must have been at a state veterans cemetery; and
- Optional: Supplemental funding for VSOs serving remote regions or areas with high funeral frequency.
- All of this is subject to available funding.

2. Eligibility Requirements
To receive a grant, the VSOs must:

- Be a 501(c)(19) non-profit or federally chartered VSO.
- Operate within Virginia.
- Provide honor guard burial details for veterans, which may consist of:
    - Full (flag folding, rifle detail, Taps) or
    - Basic (flag folding, Taps) Military Honors.
- Honor guard burial details will be performed acceptably and in accordance with the National Defense Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-65.)
- Demonstrate expenses directly tied to funeral honors activities.

Application Process
Step 1: Application Release

DVS publishes the annual grant application and guidance on its website and distributes notices to VSOs.

Step 2: VSO Application Submission: Eligible organizations will submit a application containing:

- Proof of organizational eligibility
- Number of veteran funeral honors performed during the applicable reporting period (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)
- Geographic service area
- Description and breakdown of expenses
- Budget identifying how grant funds will support honor guard activities
- Names of veterans served

Step 3: Review & Scoring

DVS evaluates applications using HB108-aligned criteria:

- Number of funeral honors performed
- Geographic coverage and travel burden
- Demonstrated financial need
- Alignment with allowable expenses
- Support provided to the Virginia State Veteran Cemeteries

Step 4: Award Announcement and Distribution: DVS will issue award notifications to selected applicants and distribute grant funds in a single payment per year per qualifying VSO.

DVS Finance will set up grantees in the state's fiscal system.

Grant recipients will be required to submit documentation at the end of FY27 demonstrating use of funds for approved honor guard-related expenses.

Timelines

1. NLT August 21, 2026 – DVS will
    a. Publish guidelines on DVS website
    b. Distribute information to the honor guards that provide services at the three state veterans cemeteries
    c. Distribute information to the VSOs represented on the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service (the JLC) with a request that they distribute through their network
    d. Include article in the DVS eNews
2. October 31, 2026 – VSO applications due to DVS. Application documents will be submitted electronically to HonorGuardGrant@dvs.virginia.gov
3. November 30, 2026 – DVS will complete review of all applications received by October 31. DVS will notify selected VSOs so that the VSOs can be set up in the state fiscal system for payment
4. December 31, 2026 – DVS will award first round of grants

5. December 31, 2026 – if funding is available, DVS will notify VSOs if there will be a second round (new or supplemental) of grant funding
6. February 28, 2027 – if funding is available, second round VSO applications (new or supplemental) due to DVS.

For additional information, contact DVS at HonorGuardGrant@dvs.virginia.gov

THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

VFW Community Service Grant

The purpose of the VFW Community Service Grant is to assist VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in Virginia who need assistance with funding community service projects. Posts who have received a grant within the last three years are not eligible for the grant. There will be ten(10) grants worth up to $500 each for the 2026-2027 year. All requirements must be met, or the grant must be returned, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances. **Grant application is due no later than December 4, 2026.**

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

1) The project must be initiated, completed and receipts submitted in the period of July 1, 2026, through June 1, 2027.
2) The VFW Post or Auxiliary in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Post must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
3) The Post or Auxiliary must be in good standing with the VFW National Headquarters and the Department of Virginia.
4) If the project is hosted at a building, it must be a non-smoking building regardless of the owner's rules for the use of the building.
5) The grant is not to be used for work on a VFW Post home or the property owned by any membership-based organization.
6) Receipts for the project must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion.
7) Should the project costs total less than $500 once completed, the balance of the grant will not be paid. Additional projects may not be added to an approved grant. Alterations to an approved grant require approval by the Virginia Veterans Foundation before the grant can be claimed.
8) The VFW Post or Auxiliary receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
9) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
10) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
11) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.
12) Only one grant per year will be provided to an individual Post or Auxiliary, regardless of who applies for the grant.

THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

VFW Community Service Grant

Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post/Auxiliary: _____

Mailing address: _____

Physical address of the event: _____

Commander/President name, phone number, and email address: _____

_____

Quartermaster/Treasurer name, phone number, and email address: _____

_____

Description of the project to be completed: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Estimated cost of the project: _____

How will labor be provided: _____

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Commander/President: _____ QM/Treasurer: _____

THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant

The purpose of the VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant is to assist VFW Posts in Virginia who need assistance with funding projects to improve, expand, or repair their Post home as well as assisting those Posts in financial need. Posts who have received a Grant within the last three years are not eligible for a Grant. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to $1000 each for the 2026-2027 year. All requirements must be met, or the Post will be required to return the grant, in part or in whole, depending on the circumstances. **Grant application is due no later than December 4, 2026.**

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

1) If funding a project, it must be initiated and completed in the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Post must submit a thorough justification for the grant.
2) If asking for emergency assistance, the Post must explain the reason for the emergency and provide a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.
3) The VFW Post in question must have a current non-profit status on file with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and must provide the IRS paperwork proving this.
4) The Post must be in good standing with the VFW National and Department Headquarters.
5) If funding a project, the Post must own or lease the Post and must provide a copy of the documents showing either ownership or a current lease. For Posts who lease the property, there must be at least 2 years remaining on the lease to receive a grant.
6) The Post must not allow smoking in their Post building but may use the grant to repair damage after voting to ban smoking. A ban on smoking is defined as no smoking allowed inside the building of the Post home. It may be allowed outside of the building.
7) Receipts for the project or bills covered by the assistance requested must be provided and payment of the grant will not occur until this is done with all payments coming after project completion or for bills already paid.
8) Should the project costs or assistance requested total less than $1,000.00 once complete, the balance of the grant will not be paid.
9) The VFW Post receiving the grant must agree to allow the VFW Department of Virginia and Virginia Veterans Foundation the opportunity to promote the funded project on social media, in official communications, and in other forms of marketing.
10) The grant will only cover materials and the Post is responsible for providing labor. This can be done through paying for labor or by doing the work themselves.
11) All decisions on grants are final and will be made by the Board of Directors for the Virginia Veterans Foundation.
12) Funding from this grant program may be combined with other grants but the total of the funding received cannot exceed actual costs and the amount received from this grant may be reduced accordingly.

THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

VFW Post Home Improvement and Assistance Grant

Official Grant Application

(All questions must be answered in full)

Name and number of the Post: _____

Post mailing address: _____

Physical address of the Post: _____

Post Commander name, phone number, and email address: _____

_____

Post Quartermaster name, phone number, and email address: _____

_____

Estimated cost of the project or assistance requested: _____

How will labor be provided: _____

On a separate page, give either a description of the project to be completed or justification for assistance requested. For emergency assistance, also include in your description a plan for how the Post will raise money in the future and prepare for future problems.

By signing below, you acknowledge the requirements of the grant program. Furthermore, you acknowledge that you have provided all needed documents and that the decision on this grant application rests solely with the Virginia Veterans Foundation. Finally, you agree to provide all needed receipts for the project and to cooperate with the Virginia Veterans Foundation and the VFW Department of Virginia in promoting the project and grant.

Post Commander: _____ Post Quartermaster: _____



2027 VFW SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

November 4-7, 2027 • Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia

The 2027 Southern Conference is being hosted by the Department of Virginia

We are looking for Committee Chairs and volunteers to plan and run the conference.

The committees are:

Registration
Welcome
Transportation
Swag/Give Aways
Sponsors and vendors
Banquet
Local events/Excursions
Hospitality Room (committee Chair already volunteered)
Golf Tournament (Committee Chair already volunteered)

Please send me or Kathy an email at: SOCON27@VFWVA.ORG
To sign up as a committee chair
or volunteer to work on a committee.

This is open to VFW and the Auxiliary. One Team

Paul Smith
Department Surgeon
2027 Southern Conference
Event Chairman

Kathy Voss
Department President
2027 Southern Conference
Event Co-Chairman