



“Of the Veterans and For the Veterans”

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September 1, 2024
Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER’S MESSAGE:

Comrades,

I'm thrilled to share an update on the remarkable progress our Department is making across the state. Despite the annual challenges we face, I'm proud to say that we are more than ready to take on this year's goals and achieve 102% in membership once again.

Our recruitment efforts are in high gear, and we are making up ground rapidly. This is a testament to the unwavering dedication and resilience of our teams. Each year, we rise to the occasion, and this time is no different.

There are numerous events happening throughout the state along with the School of Instruction (SOI) and District meetings are sure to be informative and inspiring. I'm pleased to report that the SOI is already receiving favorable comments from our members. The District Commanders along with the Departments representatives are presenting the material and the results are noticeable. The SOI is designed for our members to attend and earn required credit. However, I encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity, even if they are unable to attend in person. The SOI is conveniently located online on the vfwva website in **Resources**, under **Forms** making it accessible to all. It is there for your continuing knowledge, as well as the new Online Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI) in our Resources library. I am hoping every Post Recruiting Chairperson, or a designated person takes advantage of this option. In person classes will still be available so check the G.O.'s. Inspections are being conducted, it doesn't

hurt to contact your District inspector to setup a pre-inspection to see where you stand, you might have some discrepancies that can be corrected prior to the actual inspection.

I want to give a big shout out (Kudo's) to Post 1503 and their Auxiliary on another great golf outing this year. Carl, you have done a great job, so passing the torch is not an option.

Immediate Past Department Commander Gary Adams has scheduled a Department Charity Golf Tournament on October 8th at the Olde Mill Golf Resort, in Laurel Fork with all proceeds going to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF), see the flyer in the back of the G.O.'s all are invited to play.

Due to the rising costs of planning a Homecoming at Fort McGruder, Dawn and I have decided to have our Homecoming at Post 2447, Edinburg on March 22, 2025, more details to follow as we get closer. I'm honored to witness the incredible work our team is doing, and I'm excited to see what we can achieve together now and throughout the year.

Keep up the great work everyone!

Yours in Comradeship, and Service,
Mitchell "Mitch" Rubenstein
State Commander

2. AUDITS:

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. **Quarters ending September 2023, December 2023, March 2024 and June 2024 are NOW PAST DUE.**

3. BONDS:

All Bonds expired August 31, 2024. Please see July or August General Orders for the rate schedule for the cost of your bond and return completed form(s) and payment to State Headquarters. Please note the Quartermaster Bond rate schedule **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 persons on any and/or all accounts have **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.

4. BUDDY POPPY:

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.

5. CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD:

The VFW Teacher of the Year award contest recognizes three exceptional teachers for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students. Nominations of outstanding teachers are in three categories: grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12.

The program dates for this year are as follows: **October 31st** is the Deadline for teacher nomination by the Post. Post judging should be completed by **November 15th** and winners sent to District. District judging should be completed by **December 15th** and winners forwarded to the Department. Department judging will be held **December 20th** and winners submitted to VFW National Headquarters by **January 15th**. District Chairman should send their District Reports with their District winners to the Department Chairman. Department winners will be honored at the Department Educational Awards Banquet on January 11, 2025, in Williamsburg, VA.

Post Chairmen must be sure to send the original nomination form, essay and official VFW Post teacher entry form of the winner from each grade’s category – along with one-page resume, up to five (5) pages of documentation and a good quality head and shoulders photograph from the winning teachers.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call me (540) 539-5446 or email me bigredtruk@comcast.net.

Chris Birch
Chairman

6. DELINQUENT:

Dist.	Post	Fees	Audits
2	1211		June
3	8529	9.00	
4	7819	6.00	
4	8446		(Not Accepted) March June
5	7854		June
6	5895	3.00	
7	621	15.00	
7	1860	21.00	June
9	4667		(Not Accepted) Sept Dec March June
9	7136		March June
10	609	18.00	
10	5412		June
10	9274		June
12	6975	21.00	
12	9864		June

7. DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Members now have the ability to download their digital version of their membership card. Depending on whether a member has an iPhone or Android, they will be able to download and access their digital membership card from the VFW app.

This will not replace the physical VFW membership card - we will still be sending out membership cards to all our annual and Life members. This is intended as another option for our members' convenience. When asked to show a VFW membership card, a member can either produce their physical card out of their wallet or display their digital card on their smart phone.

8. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1 st	Date: TBD Meeting: TBD Location: TBD Rep:	7 th	Date: 1/18/25 Meeting: 11:30 AM Location: Post 2447 Edinburg 100 Veterans Way Rep:
2 nd	Date: 11/9/24 Meeting: 9:00 AM Location: Post 4411 Franklin 3385 Beaver Dam Road Rep:	8 th	Date: 11/3/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9835 Warrenton Old City Hall, 18 Court St Rep:
3 rd	Date: 11/16/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Lunch: To follow Meeting Location: Post 2239 Colonial Heights 14705 Jefferson Davis Hwy Rep:	9 th	Date: 9/14/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 2719 Wytheville 250 S 4 th Street Rep: State Judge Advocate Charles Bush
4 th	Date: 11/9/24 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8759 Amelia Ct House 16440 Five Forks Road Rep:	10 th	Date: TBD Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1177 Leesburg 401 Old Waterford Rd NW Rep:
5 th	Date: 11/16/24 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 4637 Martinsville 1425 Greensboro Road Rep:	11 th	Date: 1/25/25 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 2216 Staunton 212 Frontier Drive Rep:
6 th	Date: 12/7/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1264 Roanoke 4930 Grandview Avenue NW Rep:	12 th	Date: 11/9/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Location: Post 1994 Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep:
		13 th	Date: 11/23/24 Meeting: 11:00 AM Lunch: Noon Location: Post 8947 Mineral 201 Mineral Ave Rep:

9. DMV CUSTOM PLATES:

There have been several inquiries to headquarters about the VFW license Plates for vehicles. They are still available and there is an additional fee. To purchase these plates you will need a current or life membership card or a recent dated letter on VFW letterhead from a Post Commander, Adjutant or Quartermaster verifying a good standing membership. Details and fees can be found under www.dmv.virginia.gov then Custom Plates.

10. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 21st**. 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 **VFW2024!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

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

adjpost176@vfwva.org
qmpost176@vfwva.org

For District Officers your address will be cdrdist1@vfwva.org for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district # **Please note District Senior Vice Commander's now have an email address**

srvdist1@vfwva.org
adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

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. 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.

13. IMPORTANT DATES:

- October 3 – 6, 2024 The Wall That Heals, Jackson River Sports Complex, 870 W Edgemont Drive, Covington, VA (see August General Orders)
- October 8, 2024 Virginia Veterans Foundation Charity Golf Tournament, Laurel Fork, VA (see attachment)
- November 7 - 9, 2024 Southern Conference, Nashville, TN (see August General Orders)
- January 9 - 12, 2025 Winter Council Meeting, Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA: phone 757-220-2250. Room Rates are \$92.00 per night.
- March 22, 2025 State Commander/President’s Homecoming at Post 2447, Edinburg, Holiday Inn Express, 1130 Motel Drive, Woodstock, VA; phone 540-459-5000. Room Rates are \$110.00 (available for Friday and Saturday nights) Cutoff Date is Saturday, February 1, 2025; more details to come
- June 18 – 23, 2025 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 Thursday, May 22, 2025.
- August 9 - 13, 2025 National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

14. 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.

Here is the link to get the form and instructions – <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822b.pdf>. This will also apply to all Auxiliaries that have their own EIN numbers.

15. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

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

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>	<i>Annual Payouts:</i>		
<i>Levels</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Departments</i>	<i>National</i>
Gold- \$1,200.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Silver- \$800.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bronze- \$400.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

16. MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE:

We completed the Supreme Convention in Louisville in August where our Grand and many of our Pup Tents were selected as All Star Pup Tents. This is similar to the VFW All American recognition with membership and especially Hospital reporting. On the Hospital side our Grand of Virginia completed 1,145 Hospital Visits serving 8,355 patients this past year. The Hospital visits performed by Virginia Cooties comprised 8,186 hours with a total value of \$320,104 in support of Veterans either hospitalized or in need.

If you are interested in joining us in supporting Veterans or would like more information on the Military Order of the Cootie please contact Ken Shannon Grand Commander at kshannon@vfwva.org or grandcdr@vfwva.org.

SS PT 1 Edward Francis	757-418-5566	abeusn@gmail.com
SSPT 2 Christine Hague-Renwick	757-537-5928	christine_hague61@gmail.com
SS PT 5 Jessica Martinez	757-491-3376	rjmartinez99@gmail.com
SS PT 9 Ronnie Steele	619-368-8887	ronnie.d.steele@gmail.com
SS PT 11 Michael Chism	757-438-8300	mchism97@gmail.com
SS PT 13 Joanne Smith	804-339-1810	chief4jo@gmail.com
SS PT 14 Charles Marlowe	540-645-7797	chrismarlowe@yahoo.com
SS PT 17 Richard Bruns	703-408-8880	rjbruns1@verizon.net
SS PT 18 Mike Indyck	508-617-0774	MJIndyck@yahoo.com
SS PT19 Todd Taylor	204-407-5077	todd.taylor@lmco.com

Sincerely,
Ken Shannon
Grand Commander

17. NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, SEPT 20:

Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. For POW/MIA merchandise, click vfwstore.org/category/memorial/pow-mia.

18. OFFICE CLOSURE:

State Headquarters and the Service Officer Offices in Dale City and Smithfield will be closed September 2, 2024, in observance of Labor Day.

State Headquarters will also be closed September 9 and 11, 2024.

Please note the Norfolk Service Office is temporarily closed.

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 book stores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

20. PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM:

Adjutant General Dan West would like you to join with him in supporting the VFW's life-changing programs for veterans, service members and their families and reduce the amount of mail you receive. The VFW has an option that allows you to support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly or yearly basis, as well as reduce expenses and eliminate fundraising mail. It is called Partners in Patriotism. As a member of Partners in Patriotism, you choose a set dollar amount for your donation (minimum amount of \$10) that is either charged to your credit card or set up as an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank account. Once you join the VFW's Partners in Patriotism, you will only receive the Quarterly Supporter newsletters to keep you informed of the many efforts your monthly gifts are making possible and a Year-End Tax Receipt mailed by the end of January. If you are interested in joining Partners in Patriotism, you may contact Donor Services in the VFW Development Department toll-free at 1.833.VFW.GIVE (1.833.839.4483) or email us at partners@vfw.org with "Partners in Patriotism Application" in the subject line.

21. PATRIOT’S DAY:

Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11, is designated as “Patriot Day.” The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States. For flags and other patriotic items, click here vfwstore.org/category/patriotic/miscpatriotic.

22. POST OFFICER’S DUTIES:

Attention of incoming Post Officers is directed to Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure which outlines the duties of various Post Officers.

23. POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY:

POW/MIA Recognition Day is **September 20**. Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. For POW/MIA merchandise, click vfwstore.org/category/memorial/pow-mia.

24. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS:

Section 220 of the National By-Laws, “Vacancies and removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members: states, “Any elective Post officer removed by the State Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post under the provisions of this section, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed.”

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. ROSTER CHANGES:

Twelfth District Adj
Ezra Powers
PO Box 604
Pound, VA 24279
276-337-8588
adjdist12@vfwva.org

757-542-5785
Post 10826 QM
Russell Peters
138 River View Dr
Verona, VA 24482
540-885-3797
qmpost10826@vfwva.org

Post 1184
New Post Number
540-230-2992

Post 12225 JVC
DeForest E. Bowman
PSC 1005 Box 2735
FPO, AA 34009
850-586-1364
debowman3@gmail.com

Post 2424
New location
Salute of Virginia/E-N Computer
215 5th Street
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Post 12225 QM
Bryan J. Hagenberger
PSC 1005 Box 2347
FPO, AA 34009

Post 8545
New Post Number

27. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:

The 2024–25 themes were chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Alfred J. “Al” Lipphardt. The Voice of Democracy theme will be **“Is America Today Our Forefathers’ Vision?”** and the Patriot’s Pen theme will be **“My Voice in America’s Democracy?”**

28. STATE SURGEON:

Greetings fellow Comrades, Post and District Surgeons;

Hope all is well with each of you and your families and your fellow Comrades and Auxiliary within your Post and Districts. As we transition from "vacation" season, back into "school" season, we are all reminded of the season of sickness and germs being brought back home from school. Please stay safe and healthy this fall.

Health Awareness Month: September is *Prostate Cancer Awareness month*.

Prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer (other than non-melanoma skin cancer) diagnosed in men in the United States. Furthermore, it’s the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men, after lung cancer, in the United States.

SCREENING AND INCIDENCE

Screening options for prostate cancer, which includes several different options, including a physical exam, and blood (PSA) test, often catch the disease before it spreads. As a result, the five-year survival rate is 97.5%.

The NCI’s Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program estimates that more than 299,010 men in the United States will receive a diagnosis of prostate cancer in 2024. Furthermore, NCI projects that 35,250 men will die of the disease.

According to SEER, prostate cancer is more common in older men, men with a family history of prostate cancer, and in men of African American descent. Other risk factors for prostate cancer include certain hormones, vitamin E, folic acid, and a high intake of dairy and calcium. In the United States, about 12.8% of men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer at some point during their lifetimes.

African-American men have the highest death rate for prostate cancer of any racial or ethnic group in the United States. Statistics show that in 2018-2022, Black men were twice as likely to die from prostate cancer as white men. Scientists believe the disparity stems from both genetic and socioeconomic factors.

LINK - <https://www.aacr.org/patients-caregivers/cancer/prostate-cancer/>

Randy Coker
Department Surgeon

29. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

During September, a number of significant events occurred involving operations in Vietnam:

September 1950 - The United States establishes the U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group, Indochina (MAAG). The United States limits MAAG’s mission to the provision of material assistance to the French forces and indirect military aid to the forces of the Associated State of Vietnam. U.S. Army Brigadier General Francis G. Brink arrives in Saigon to assume command as the first Chief of MAAG on October 9. The group consists of about 65 men on that date.

September 8, 1954 - At the prompting of U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, a coalition of nations forms the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), intended as a military alliance to check Communist expansion. Among its members are France, Great Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, and Pakistan. Geneva Accords restrictions do not permit South Vietnam, Cambodia, or Laos to participate. But SEATO does include a separate protocol designating the Associated States as areas that must be protected to ensure

the “peace and security” of the signatories. This protocol establishes a foundation for future intervention in Indochina.

September 5, 1964 - South Vietnam signs an agreement with the Republic of Korea (South Korea) by which the Koreans are to operate a mobile army surgical hospital in South Vietnam. On September 13, 34 officers and 96 enlisted men of the South Korean army deploy to Vietnam to staff the hospital unit. Ten Korean Taekwondo instructors arrive at the same time. The United States is to provide logistics and support for the Korean units.

September 29, 1964 - Thailand sends a 16-man Royal Thai Air Force unit to South Vietnam. These men assist the war effort by flying and maintaining South Vietnamese military aircraft and by training South Vietnamese air force pilots to fly jet aircraft.

On September 29, 1965, the first South Korean combat units deployed to Vietnam. The Republic of Korea Army Capital (Tiger) Infantry Division, the 2d Marine (Blue Dragon) Brigade, and supporting elements arrived between September and November 1965. They were based near Qui Nhon and Cam Ranh Bay. By the end of the year, South Korea had nearly 19,000 combat troops in South Vietnam.

During September 1966, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment “Blackhorse” arrived in Vietnam. It was equipped with light tanks, self-propelled howitzers, helicopters, and armored personnel carriers for use in the open terrain of III Corps. The 11th was one of only a few large U.S. armored cavalry units to fight in the war.

Throughout September 1967, the North Vietnamese Army lays siege to the U.S. Marine Corps outpost at Con Thien. The post, which the North Vietnamese have tried to overrun previously, overlooks an important infiltration route into the South. The siege lasts for weeks as Communist forces frequently fire heavy artillery barrages at the outpost. The adjacent bases of Dong Ha, Camp Carroll, Cam Lo, and others are also shelled regularly. As Communist forces prepare for a general offensive and uprising, they launch large-scale diversionary attacks in remote areas to lure U.S. troops out of major cities and towns. In the fall of 1967, North Vietnamese regular troops attack U.S. Marine positions in northern Quang Tri Province with infantry, rocket and mortar barrages, and heavy artillery from North Vietnam. North Vietnamese troops besieging the U.S. Marine battalion at Con Thien initiate one of the heaviest artillery assaults of the war against American troops. Between September 19 and 27, Communist artillery fires approximately 3,000 shells and rockets on the outpost. Heavy fighting continues at Marine-manned outposts near the DMZ. In response, MACV commander General William C. Westmoreland augments U.S. forces under the III Marine Expeditionary Force to counter North Vietnamese army pressure in I Corps. While it drives the North Vietnamese back, it also leaves U.S. forces dispersed outside of the cities.

Beginning on September 4, 1967, Operation SWIFT sees units from the U.S. 5th Marines engage elements of the North Vietnamese 2d Division northwest of Tam Ky in the southern part of I Corps. The U.S. Marines anticipate that with upcoming South Vietnamese national elections, the Communists will try to increase their forces in the area. Their objective in Operation SWIFT is to find and eliminate Communist forces to prevent any disruption and deny them access to food from the area’s extensive rice farms. The operation ends on September 15 after the Marines temporarily curtail Communist activity in the area.

On September 15, the 263d Main Force Viet Cong Battalion attacks a Mobile Riverine Force convoy on the Rach Ba Rai River, in the Mekong Delta. The American force is comprised of a U.S. Army Mobile Riverine brigade and elements of Navy Task Force 117. When the U.S. convoy rounds a bend in the river, the Viet Cong attack with rockets, recoilless rifles, and small arms. They hit 21 boats and kill 7 American servicemen while wounding 123 men. Many of the casualties are Navy Sailors from Task Force 117, making it one of the Navy’s costliest riverine actions to date. The majority of the Viet Cong battalion slips away during the night, leaving behind 79 dead.

On September 25, 1967, General Westmoreland and MACV renamed Task Force OREGON the 23d Infantry Division (Americal). The Americal Division is assembled from multiple Army units already in-theater, much as its World-War-II Pacific Theater namesake had been. The Americal Division spent much of the Vietnam War fighting in I Corps as reinforcements for the Marines closer to the DMZ.

September 16, 1969 - President Nixon orders the withdrawal of an additional 40,500 U.S. troops from Vietnam by mid-December. The Joint Chiefs of Staff argue to Nixon that such a withdrawal is risky and without military justification. The designated units are among the remainder of the 3d Marine Division—part of which redeployed in June—and the 3d Brigade of the Army’s 82d Airborne Division.

September 1, 1970 - The controversial McGovern-Hatfield Amendment—known as an amendment to end the war—fails to pass the Senate. Sponsored by Senators George McGovern (D-SD) and Mark Hatfield (R-OR), the amendment called for the removal of U.S. troops from Vietnam by the end of 1971, the release of POWs, and protection for any Southeast Asians endangered by an American withdrawal. The Nixon administration strongly opposed it.

September 21, 1971 - In extremely poor weather, about 200 fighter-bomber aircraft attack petroleum storage facilities and other targets near Dong Hoi, North Vietnam. Specially equipped F-4 II Phantom pathfinders use Long Range Electronic Navigation (LORAN) beacons to make accurate strikes. No aircraft are lost and the strikes destroy about 350,000 gallons of fuel. LORAN technology employs multiple ground-based transmitters, which communicate with aircrafts’ onboard systems to allow them to fix their position and coordinate attacks. The system is later employed extensively in the LINEBACKER missions. LORAN heralds a significant expansion of U.S. Air Force capabilities in poor-weather and nighttime missions.

September 16, 1972 - South Vietnamese troops recapture Quang Tri City, just south of the DMZ, from the North Vietnamese army. U.S. Marine Corps combat troops and advisers; Army aviators; and Navy crews all provide significant support during the fight to retake the city, which was overrun early in the Easter Offensive. The conclusion of the battle marks the end of over four months of North Vietnamese occupation.

Jeff Dombroff
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman

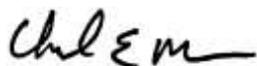
30. VVF COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT:

The Virginia Veterans, the official foundation of the Virginia VFW, as opened the window to apply for a grant to perform community service. There will be of ten (10) grants worth up to \$300 each for the 2024-2025 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, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the application is **due no later than November 30, 2024**. 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.

31. 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 \$500 each for the 2024-2025 year. All requirements and application are in the attachments. While the project can be completed anytime between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024, the **application is due no later than November 30, 2024**. Entries can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to State Headquarters.

Official:



Ed Mann
State Adjutant

By Order of:

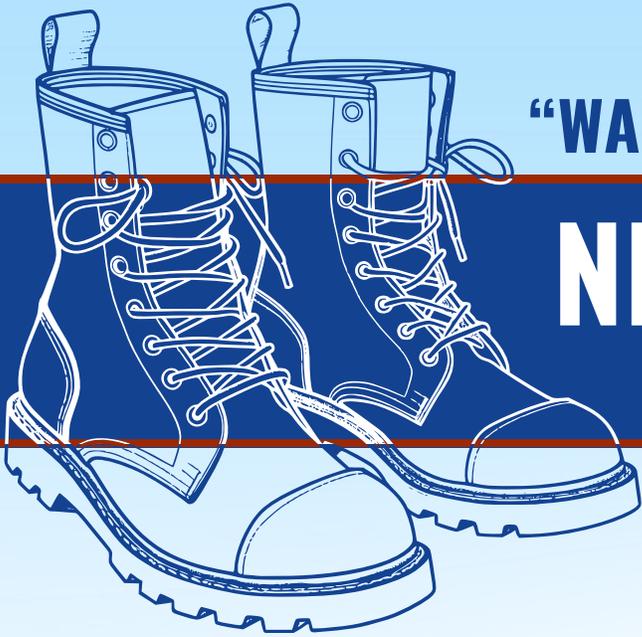


Mitch Rubenstein
State Commander

“WALK IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS”

NEW SHOES DRIVE

FOR VETERANS IN NEED



*Donations will be distributed at the
2024 Winterhaven/Standown on
Saturday, November 2 (9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.).*

**Donate new and unworn shoes and boots
to assist a veteran in transition from
homelessness to housing stability.**

Shoe Sizes Needed: Women’s 6.5-12 | Men’s 9.5-15

For health reasons, donations must have never been worn.

**DROP-OFF/MAIL-IN
BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1:**

**Access Housing, Inc.
C/O: Walter Elmore, VSO
820 Chesapeake Street, SE (Ward 8)
Washington, D.C. 20032**

**For more information and mail-in/drop
off locations, please contact:**

**Jerryl Bennett, HUDVAG
jerryl.e.bennett@hud.gov**

**Walter Elmore, VSO
walter@accesshousing.org**



**SPONSORED BY: HUD Veterans Affinity Group (HUDVAG),
Access Housing, Inc., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C. Medical Center (VAMC), and National
Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS) Chapter #122.**

Learn How to Spot the Phish!

Look for Spelling and Grammar Errors

Unusual language errors can indicate phishing attempts.

Check Sender's Email Address

Scrutinize the sender's email for odd variations or unfamiliar domains; legitimate emails usually have consistent, recognizable addresses.

Assess the Urgency and Tone

Phishing often uses a high-pressure tone demanding immediate action to create a sense of urgency.

Beware of Suspicious Attachments or Links

Do not open attachments or click links unless you're certain of their safety

Scrutinize the Email's Greeting

Impersonal or generic greetings might signal a phishing attempt.



PACT

FOR ANIMALS



WHAT IS PACT FOR ANIMALS?

PACT for Animals is a non-profit that gives peace of mind to military, veterans, and hospital patients by placing their pets into temporary foster homes until their owners can be reunited with the devoted companions they love. Since its founding in 2011, PACT has facilitated the placements of thousands of pets nationwide.



SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

We offer a letter certifying volunteer hours for your MOVSM to any military member who fosters with PACT and help fellow military families.



WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

We are a FREE service that pairs pets with pre-screened and approved fosters across all 50 US states.

As the ONLY nationwide non-profit to manage the entire foster process, every step of the way, we ensure a positive experience for all parties. We coordinate communication between fosters and owners, conduct monthly check-ins, and facilitate reunions.

WHAT NEXT?

The first step in any PACT for Animals process is our online application. This is true for pet owners and those interested in fostering. Once we have that, things move quickly, and we ask that you pay extra close attention to your inbox.



pactforanimals.org

Help your fellow service members

Foster a pet. Make a friend.
Make a difference.

PACT
forAnimals.org

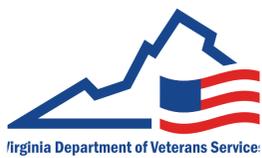
The Virginia Veterans Network is here for you.

Find more information about resources and support at dvs.virginia.gov through the Virginia Veterans Network. Our offerings include:

 Burial Services	 Career Services	 Education	 Entrepreneurship	 Financial Assistance
 Fitness	 Health Services	 Homeless Assistance	 Legal Assistance	 Life Wellness
 Mental Wellness	 Social Life	 Veteran Benefits	 Volunteer Engagements	 Workshops



The Virginia Veterans Network is managed by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.



The Virginia Department of Veterans Services connects Virginia's veterans and their families to the federal and state benefits, support, quality care, and recognition they have earned.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact DVS for assistance at:

 VirginiaVeteransNetwork@dvs.virginia.gov

 804-786-0286

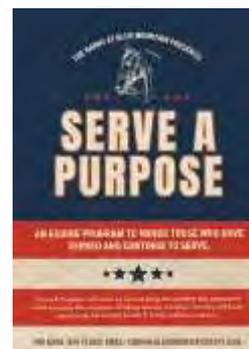
GET CONNECTED.

Here's how: Visit dvs.virginia.gov to create a profile and validate your veteran or service member status. After registering, you'll find services and resources from hundreds of local and nationwide organizations vetted by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS).



Scan QR code to visit the Virginia Veterans Network.

President's Special Project



Please Send donations to Department Treasurer: Cathy Graham 9691 Linden brook Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22031-1132

Facts about The Barns at Blue Mountain: www.barnsatbluemountain.org

They are a 501c3 non-profit, they are a self-sustaining organization that relies on fundraising, donations, and grants to pay staff, care for their horse partners, monthly rent for their facilities, and all other expenses. They do work with Blue Mountain Therapy to provide quality services with their amazing staff. Their services are not billable to insurance companies currently. They are part of an army of equine assisted service providers working hard to supply hard data and results that will push companies to recognize the benefits and pay for these services. This is why they Fundraise so much! Their staff, board members, and volunteers work hard on raising funds all year to help cover the cost of services and care for their horse partners. They ask for no more than 1/3 of the cost of providing an equine assisted service from the family they serve. They have a sliding scale that can take the cost down to as low as \$5 per session. So fundraising and your support makes it possible to provide a trained & healthy equine partner, an equine specialist &/or certified therapeutic riding instructor, a therapist or counsellor in some cases, volunteers or added staff for aid, and the equipment and facility to those benefiting from our programs in your community. They work closely with Physical, occupational, and speech therapists, as well as, behaviour technicians, mental health professionals, and social workers from Blue Mountain Therapy. They collaborate and work closely with Emory & Henry College and their equine, psychology, and therapy departments to both put the most up to date methods into practice and to train upcoming equine assisted services professionals.

Programs they have:

Healing Hooves is a therapeutic riding program serving ages 6& up with a variety of physical & mental disabilities, or cognitive delays.

Changing Strides is an at-risk youth program serving ages 6-19. They work with DSS, foster care agencies, juvenile court, and mental health agencies to provide a safe space for healing and growth. They work on personal growth, healthy relationships and communication, and self-sufficiency.

Serve a Purpose Program serves our veterans, active military, and their families with both community engagement & support, and equine assisted psychotherapy with a mental health professional.

Pony Power Reading Program is for all ages and promotes reading and literacy while being in the calm realm of horses that is judgement free.

Pony Pals Program is an all-inclusive group class that is open to ages 6-15. This group learns horse safety, handling, behaviour, communication, independence, teamwork, social skills, emotional regulation, and leadership.

Barn Buddies Program is for adults with disabilities or cognitive delays to enjoy outdoor and social activities while learning social skills, emotional regulation, and independence.

FOR SALE!

The Department of Virginia Auxiliary has a QuickBooks program (never been used) for sale for \$500.

interested in buying or questions contact our Department Treasurer Cathy Graham

cg12dc12@outlook.com





VALLEY VETERANS



September 7, 2024

New
Location

Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewery
35 Hill View Lane, Raphine, Virginia

Packet pickup / Registration 7-8 am
Begins at 8:30 am

Last rider off: Metric Century 9 am /
Mid 9 am / Short 9:30 am



REGISTER ONLINE
www.ride4heroes.org



RIDING FOR OUR VETERANS

Enjoy either a short, mid, or Metric Century bicycle route through the beauty of the rolling hills and lush fields of the central Shenandoah Valley countryside.



BOULDER CREST
FOUNDATION

RIDING FOR STRENGTH

We ride to support our combat veterans and to raise funds for **Boulder Crest Foundation**, a therapeutic and wellness facility which enables our combat veterans and their families to recover, rest, recharge, and reconnect.



VFW POST
9606



MAJOR SPONSORS





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Valley Veterans Ride for Heroes

- **Bicycle ride sponsored by VFW District 11**
- **Fundraiser to help our combat veterans struggling with wartime trauma**
- **One of the biggest VFW fundraisers in Virginia**

\$215,000 raised over 7 years

- **All proceeds go to Boulder Crest Foundation, enabling combat veterans to attend BCF's "Struggle Well" programs for free**
- **VFW Posts can help by donating to the cause and by promoting the event:**

To contribute:

**Valley Veterans, Inc. is a 501(c)(3)
Tax ID # 93-2389623**

**Mail checks to:
Valley Veterans, Inc.
10 Bagby Street
Staunton, VA 24401**



Ruppert L Sargent Post 3219
Presents

ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC



Hole in One
Grand Prize

\$10,000

**7 SEPTEMBER
2024**

WOODLAND GOLF COURSE

9 Woodland Rd, Hampton, VA 23663
(757) 727-1195

REGISTRATION FEES

Single Player	\$100
4-man Team	\$400
sign up before August 18, 2024	\$360

AGENDA

- 7:00 AM** Registration (beakfast available for purchase at course)
- 8:00 AM** Shotgun Start for All Participants
- 12:00 PM** Luncheon & Prize Awards at

Mulligans available online
and with Raffle Tickets
at Golf Course

VFW Post 3219
122 E Mellen St
Hampton, VA 23663
(757) 723-2667

Register Now

<https://charitygolftoday.com/event?e=11845&ce=fd01c5>

Sgt. Jayton D. Patterson
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
and Auxiliary
Post #4411
3385 Beaverdam Road
Franklin, VA

SEPTEMBER
7
2024

Presents

INAUGURAL POKER RUN



1st prize - \$500
2nd Prize - \$250
Worst Hand \$100

ALL WELCOME!
2-4 WHEEL VEHICLES

Music
Door Prizes

PRE-REGISTRATION
RIDER - \$20
PASSENGERS \$10

RAIN OR SHINE

50/50 Raffle and more...

Day of Rider \$25
Passenger \$10

Deadline August 1

Registration 8 - 11 am

Email Link



REGISTRATION CONTACT;
Darrell at Dnelson973.dn@gmail.com

Proceeds benefit
Portsmouth Fisher House



SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

VFW POST 3103

STAR SPANGLED VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT

LEE'S HILL GOLF CLUB
10200 OLD DOMINION PARKWAY
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22408

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
FREDERICKSBURG AREA
VETERANS.

INDIVIDUAL PLAYER **\$125**

FOURSOME **\$500**



Sponsorship opportunities are available!
For more information go to:
[HTTPS://www.vfw3103.org](https://www.vfw3103.org)
or use the QR Code
Contact us at VFW3103@gmail.com



SCAN ME!!!



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 392

PRESENTS OUR 10TH ANNUAL BATTLESHIP RUN
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – ALL WHEELS WELCOME!

10TH ANNIVERSARY BATTLESHIP RUN

2408 BOWLAND PKWY, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23454

BREAKFAST PROVIDED AT



LUNCH COURTESY OF



ALL VEHICLES WELCOME

**REGISTRATION 8:30AM- 9:45 AM
AT VFW POST 392**

**PRE-REGISTRATION
\$20
RIDER/ DRIVERS
\$10
PASSENGER**

**AT THE DOOR
\$25
RIDER/DRIVER
\$15
PASSENGER**



**NATIONAL ANTHEM
PERFORMED BY**



MUSIC BROUGHT BY



**October 5, 2024
Rain or shine**

PRE-REGISTRATION AND T-SHIRT ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE AT
<https://www.vfw392.org/calendar/calendar.htm>

VFW DEPT OF VA
VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION
CHARITY GOLF
TOURNAMENT

Mulligans
Longest Drive
Closest to the Pin
Beat the pro
Roll the Dice

Lunch at the turn
All proceeds
go to the
Virginia Veterans
Foundation



TUESDAY
OCT 8

OLDE MILL GOLF
RESORT

\$100 / PERSON TEAMS OF 4
DEADLINE TO REGISTER FRIDAY OCTOBER 4

2258 STONE MOUNTAIN RD. LAUREL FORK, VA 24352



VFW Auxiliary Department of Virginia

I would like to begin by thanking Department Commander Rubenstein for letting the VFW Auxiliary Virginia provide Post Commanders and members information about forming a new Auxiliary and recruiting Auxiliary members for existing Auxiliaries.

Starting a New Auxiliary

The first step to institute a new Auxiliary begins with Per VFW Bylaws Section XI - no Auxiliary to a Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall be formed unless approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Post membership present and voting at a regular or special meeting, due notice of the proposed formation of an Auxiliary having been given the entire membership of the Post, in writing at least twenty (20) days prior to a regular meeting, or special meeting called for the aforementioned purpose. The approval to form a new Auxiliary is to be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

Although the process to form a new Auxiliary sound like a challenge, the benefits of having an Auxiliary affiliated with your Post far outweigh the challenge. You will have a partner to work with to assist the VFW to pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families, provide volunteer hours in the VA Medical Centers and local medical facilities, conduct patriotic programs with thousands of students and offer hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. We are there to assist Veterans and their families as well as working with other organizations in our communities.

Existing Auxiliary

If your post has an Auxiliary, you already know the benefits of having an affiliated Auxiliary. If you have not already done so, you can show your support by signing up eligible family members. The best resource for new Auxiliary members (must be minimum of 16 years old), either forming a new Auxiliary (which we need fifteen new members) or an existing Auxiliary is the Post members. Included is the VFW Auxiliary Eligibility which shows the relatives to the Veteran who are eligible to become an auxiliary member. If you would like to sign up new Auxiliary members, please contact the Auxiliary President. He or she will be happy to assist you.

To our "bachelor" posts once your post has approved the formation of the Auxiliary, please contact our Department President Dawn Kuhn or Department Chief of Staff Carol Vangi. We will assist you with the next steps.

Again, thank Commander Rubenstein for allowing us to provide this information.

Dawn Kuhn, Department President
kuhn@comcast.net

Carol Vangi, Chief of Staff
cjonesvangi@gmail.com

VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel



**Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.*

THE VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION

VFW Community Service Grant

The purpose of the VFW Community Service Grant is to assist VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in Virginia who need assistance with funding community service projects. There will be of ten(10) grants worth up to \$300 each for the 2024-2025 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 November 30, 2024.**

The requirements of the grant are as follows:

- 1) The project must be initiated, completed and receipts submitted in the period of July 1, 2024, through June 1, 2025.
- 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 \$300 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. There will be ten (10) grants worth up to \$500 each for the 2024-2025 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 November 30, 2024.**

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, 2024, through June 30, 2025. 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 \$500.00 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: _____

Post/District Commanders, and Comrades,

I wanted to make everyone aware of something that was brought to my attention for discussion and clarification. This is worth getting out now and re-enforced to our District Commanders and Post Commanders before May 2025 so you can plan for it.

One of the All-American Program requirements is to participate in the **VFW Day of Service**. This is how it's worded in the program book:

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. **One of these community service activities must be for the VFW Day of Service.**

Learn more at: <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service/>

Even though it says to "submit a community service report quarterly **to their department**", that's NOT how the VFW Day of Service is going to be recorded or tracked.

As per a conversation with Lynn Rolf, VFW Director of Programs, about what we may need to do to adjust our reporting from Virginia to handle this. He stated that posts will be required to go to <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service/> and enter their event using the "Sign Up Now" button. So, not only do they need to report this directly to National, but it's reported differently than Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, etc. There also will **NOT** be a way of seeing who has or hasn't reported their event on the National Dashboard. Unless something changes at National between now and then, this is how this new requirement will be handled.

The department IT Committee Chairman Robert "Check" Adamczyk updated the All-State and All-American page on the State website to show where to report it, but the key thing is that there isn't going to be a way to track it.

Therefore, consider this message a early "**heads up**" of what to expect in May 2025. Getting this news out to District Commanders and having them make sure the Posts understand this and when they submit the report to National. State Reps. need to remind the Posts/Districts when they do their first District meeting in 2025. **The Day of Service is May 3rd 2025.** Since there will be no way for Districts or Departments to see who has and who hasn't met this requirement, it's going to be even tougher to track than usual.