



"Veterans Serving Veterans"

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March 1, 2018
Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Hopefully, this crazy "Winter-Summer" we are having will end soon and we can enjoy a normal Spring! As of February 22nd, the Department has 24 Post that have reached 100% or greater in membership. Congratulations to the following Posts:

4491	7897	10295	9877
8446	10826	1503	609
3103	7854	3150	9274
8652	8529	1426	3060
4639	9760	8356	1827
5412	10657	5313	2217

The Department membership is at 91.51% and we need 2,765 new and reinstated members to reach 100%. Good news, our daily recruiting/reinstatement number is slowly declining, and we have worked our way from 44th to 36th place as compared to the other 52 Departments. These are positive trends and need to continue. Post Commanders, you should be working your past due member lists to get these members back into your Post and contacting your annual members whose membership will soon expire and get them to renew. You should be planning your recruiting events for the next few months. Remember, as the weather improves so should your recruiting efforts. Gun shows, sporting events, fairs, airshows, community events, etc., are perfect venues for recruiting. Look around; there are opportunities everywhere to engage our eligible veterans!

As of February 22nd, Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 are 100% reported in Community Activity Reporting...way to lead the Department. For everyone else, although you "legally" have until April 30th to complete your Community Activity Reporting, we are trying to have all Districts 100% reported by the end of March. There are only 15 Posts that are not 100% reported, most only need one or two reports and they are done!

We have done much better this quarter in turning in our Post Audits. Only four Posts still haven't submitted their audits yet...Thanks everyone for getting your audits done in a timely fashion. We are still working Post insurance issues. Remember, State HQs needs a copy of your Post insurance declaration page on file at State HQs showing the Department and National VFW as additional insured for those Posts with Post home. Call Kim at State HQ if you have any questions.

Our Tech for Troops Project has officially started. Please read the General Orders for details on how to acquire a free (shipping extra) computer for personal use. Thanks to our Jr. Vice Commander Rick Raskin for shepherding this project and 3rd District Sr. Vice Command Jose Rivera for being the Department POC for this program.

As always, I want to thank you for everything you are doing to help our veterans, families and communities!

Mike Boehme
State Commander
Department of Virginia

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

<p>1st Date: 05/05/18 Meeting: 11:00 AM Lunch: to Follow Meeting Location: Post 3219, Phoebus 122 E. Mellen St., Hampton Rep: Eric Mallett State Judge Advocate</p>	<p>6th Date: 05/20/18 Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: Post 4491, New Castle 295 Hunters Drive Rep: Harold "Butch" Schupska State Surgeon</p>
<p>2nd Date: 03/03/18 Lunch: 12 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8545, Smithfield 223 Washington Street Rep: Rick Raskin State Jr. Vice Commander</p>	<p>7th Date: 05/19/18 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 9760, Berryville 425 S. Buckmarsh St. Rep: Eric Mallett State Judge Advocate</p>
<p>3rd Date: 04/21/18 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 9808, Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: Mike Boehme State Commander</p>	<p>8th Date: 04/22/18 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 2524, Culpeper 1375 Sperryville Pike Rep: Harold "Butch" Schupska State Surgeon</p>
<p>4th Date: 05/05/18 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7166, South Hill 1472 N. Mecklenburg Ave Rep: Ken Wiseman State Sr. Vice Commander</p>	<p>9th Date: 05/19/18 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 9696, Bluefield 131 Lovelane St. Rep: Geoffrey Lyster State Sr. Vice Commander</p>
<p>5th Date: 05/19/18 Meeting: 12:00 Noon Location: Post 4637, Martinsville 2327 Old Chatham Road Rep: Mike Boehme State Commander</p>	<p>10th Date: 03/18/18 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8241, McLean 1051 Springhill Rd. Rep: Mike Boehme State Commander</p>

11th Date: 05/12/18
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 12:30 PM
Location: Post 632, Harrisonburg
450 Waterman Drive
Rep: Rick Raskin
State Jr. Vice Commander

12th Date: 05/12/18
Registration: 10:00 AM
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Lunch: To Follow Meeting
Location: Post 1994, Abingdon
175881 Lee Highway
Rep: Tom Gimble
Past State Commander

13th Date: 05/05/18
Meeting: 12:00 Noon
Location: Post 1827, Charlottesville
1170 River Rd
Rep: Rick Raskin
State Jr. Vice Commander

3. ALL-AMERICAN:

All American requirement for the \$50.00 Donation to National Veterans & Military Support Services, Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to National Veterans & Military Support Services, minimum of \$50. Use this link to submit donation. Have any questions please give me a call. https://heroes.vfw.org/ea-action/action?ea.client.id=1993&ea.campaign.id=52588&ea_redirect=true&sessionId=c4f517e7-4697-4fbe-b724-bb18fbf49749

See the attachment for step-by-step instructions.

Eric Mallet
State Judge Advocate
757-714-9066

4. AWARDS:

MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES

Membership plaques will be presented at the State Convention to the Post with the largest membership increase in each category. The judging will be based on Membership as of May 11, 2018.

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

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE PLAQUES

A Life Membership increase plaque and \$200.00 will be awarded at State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in Life members (must be at least 3 new Life members) in each category. The judging will be based on Life Membership as of May 11, 2018.

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PLAQUE

A Membership Renewal Plaque will be awarded to each Post that renews ALL viable Annual Members on its unpaid list who were Annual Members the previous year. Deceased members and conversions to Life Membership will not count against total.

POST 100% MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Post 100% Membership Banners will be awarded to each Post that meets their 2018 100% membership goal by June 30, 2018. In addition, the respective Post Commander and Quartermaster will receive 100% Membership Pins and Ball Caps. These awards will be presented at the Posts' respective District meetings.

LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Post with the largest increase of new Legacy Life Members will receive a check in the amount of \$200.00. The judging will be based on Legacy Life Membership as of May 11, 2018. The award will be presented at the State Convention.

2017-2018 POST ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

All State Post Requirements:

1. Post must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2018

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

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

2. The Post Quartermaster must be bonded.

3. The Post must have been inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than December 15, 2017.

4. The Post Commander or designated Post Officer must attend each District meeting.

5. The Post Commander or designated Post Officer must attend District School of Instruction.

6. All Audit Reports must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

7. The Post must participate in the following programs:

8. The Post must purchase a minimum of five (5) poppies per member

9. The Post must donate to the Department MAP Fund (500 or more members - \$150.00, 100 to 499 members - \$100.00, 99 or less members - \$50.00).

10. The Post must have a Post Service Officer appointed.

11. The Post must have submitted the following reports at least once during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and once during the second half (November 1 thru April 30)

a. Hospital Report

b. Americanism Report

c. Community Activities Report

d. Safety Report

e. Youth Activities Report

12. The Post must participate in at least 2 of the 3 following programs:

a. Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)

b. Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)

c. Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)

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

Note: Community Service Record Books are optional; However, a Post will receive one point towards Captain of the All-State Team for submitting a Community Service Record Book for judging by 5pm on May 11, 2018. Additional points will be given to first place (5 points), second place (4 points), and third place (3 points).

POST ALL STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All State Post Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by May 11, 2018 will receive a citation, an All State cap, and an All State pin during the State Convention. A check in the amount of \$300.00, **to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention**, will be presented. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All State Commanders meeting the criteria except for membership by May 11, 2018 and then meeting the membership criteria by June 30, 2018 will receive a citation, All State cap, and All State pin at their next District meeting.
2. All State Post Quartermasters who have met all the criteria including membership by May 11, 2018 will receive a citation, an All State cap, and an All State pin. A check in the amount of \$300.00 **to assist in payment of expenses while attending and participating at the State Convention** will be presented. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the Department Commander. All State Quartermasters meeting the criteria except for membership by May 11, 2018 and then meeting the membership criteria by June 30, 2017 will receive: A Citation; an All State cap; and All State pin at their next District meeting.
3. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest points in the All State judging on May 12, 2018 will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the Year 2017-2018. The Commander and Quartermaster of this Post will be the Captains of the All-State Team.
4. The Awards and Citation Committee will break all ties and their decision will be final.

2017-2018 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

All State District Requirements:

1. The District must meet their 100% Membership Quota by June 30, 2018.
2. All Posts in the District must be inspected and the Inspection Reports must be received by State Headquarters no later than December 15, 2017.
3. All Post Quartermasters in the District must be properly bonded.
4. The District Quartermaster must be properly bonded.
5. All Audit Reports for the District and all Posts in the District must be turned into State Headquarters as required by the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
6. All Posts in the District must have submitted the following reports at least once during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and once during the second half (November 1 thru April 30):
 - a. Hospital Report
 - b. Americanism Report
 - c. Community Activities Report
 - d. Safety Report
 - e. Youth Activities Report
7. All Posts in the District must have purchased Buddy Poppies.
8. The District must conduct a District School of Instruction by the end of September 2017.
9. District must make Donate at least \$100 to Department MAP Fund.

DISTRICT ALL STATE DISTRICT AWARDS

1. All State District Commanders who have met all the criteria including membership by May 11, 2018 will receive an All State District Commander's cap and an All State pin during the State Convention. All State Commanders meeting the criteria except for membership by May 11, 2018 and then meet the membership criteria by June 30, 2018 will receive an All State District Commander's cap, and an All State pin at their next District meeting.
2. All State District Commanders will receive a VFW jacket if **all Posts** within the District are 100% or more in membership by June 30, 2018.

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP AWARD

1. A District achieving 100% of their membership goal by June 30, 2018 will receive a citation and \$500.00 check.
2. A District in which all Posts in the District have achieved 100% membership by June 30, 2018 will receive an additional check for \$500.00.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Reports dated May 1, 2018. These awards will be presented at the State Convention.

1. An Annual member who recruits five (5) New or Reinstated Members will receive:

- a. Their Annual Dues (National and Department portions) paid by the Department for the current year.
- b. Their name and membership number will be entered into a drawing for a Life Membership.

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

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

2. A Life Member who recruits 5 New or Reinstated Members will receive:

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

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

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

1. Any member who recruits five (5) New or Reinstated Members will be entered into a drawing for:

- a. Round trip airfare to the 119th National Convention.
- b. Expense check in the amount of \$599.00 to help defray expenses.

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

c. The drawing for this award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.

Commander in Chief Trip

All members who recruits 5 New or Reinstated Members will be entered into a drawing for: The Commander in Chief's annual trip which includes airfare for two. (For each additional 5 members recruited, an additional entry will be made in the drawing). The drawing for this award listed above will be conducted on the day of awards judging.

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS

Individual recruiters will also receive for:

- a. 15 New or Reinstated Members – a Pen and Key Chain Set.
- b. 25 New or Reinstated Members – a Department Aide-de-Camp Recruiting Award with engraved citation, an official cap.

This award will be presented at the State Convention.

THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who recruits the most new and/or reinstated members of the 2017-2018 Membership Year and will receive the following:

- a. Check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the State Convention.
- b. Department citation.
- c. Distinctive cap and name badge

This award will be presented at the State Convention.

THE GEORGE C. DALBY AWARD

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

awards judging. Post and District Commanders are excluded from this award. This award will be presented at the State Convention.

THE W. B. SHAFER, JR. MEMBERSHIP AWARD

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

THE RICHARD A. (AL) GUAGER AMERICANISM AWARD

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

THE GEORGE E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award

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

THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD

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

THE ROBERT H. RINER AWARD

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

WILLIAM T. (BILL) ALLEN HOSPITAL AWARD

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

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK

The Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018 for State judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the State Convention. Special Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth places and all other entries not placing in the top ten will receive a citation. Additionally, an award from National will be presented to the first place entry.

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

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

BUDDY POPPY CITATIONS

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

LOYALTY DAY CITATIONS

Loyalty Day Citations will be presented at State Convention to Districts and Posts participating in Loyalty Day Programs.

BEST NEWSPAPER ARTICLE CITATION

The Best Newspaper Article Citations will be presented at State Convention to the Post who submits the best article for each edition of the State Newspaper.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING AWARDS

Posts reported in 3 categories of Community Activities, 4 categories of Safety, 8 categories of Americanism and 4 categories of Youth Activities during the reporting period of May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 will receive a citation at their next District meeting.

5. CLOSING:

State Headquarters will be closed on Friday, March 30, 2018 for Easter.

6. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

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

M. C. "Connie Agresti
Community Activities Vice Chairman

7. COMPUTERS AVAILABLE:

Do you, your Post or a needy veteran need a computer? How would you like to get one for free? That's right, FREE.

The Tech4Troops Project is now accepting requests. Any veteran is eligible to receive a FREE laptop computer. These are refurbished machines running Windows 7 and a have a free office suite of software installed. There are also some desktop computers available.

All you need to do is contact our point person District 3 Senior Vice Commander Jose Rivera at 804-241-2045 or by email: jose_e_rivera@hotmail.com. Jose will make arrangements with Tech4Troops for delivery to you.

Please do not contact Tech4Troops directly.

I still have some desktop systems available for which you can contact me at 703-369-2732.

Rick Raskin
Department Jr. Vice Commander

8. DELEGATES TO DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT CONVENTION:

Section 222 of the National By-Laws provides that Posts shall elect delegates and alternates to District conventions at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the District convention at which District officers are to be elected: one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election.

Delegates and alternates to the Department conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department convention. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election.

9. 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.

10. DISTRICT MEETINGS AND CONVENTION:

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department convention.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National By-Laws – Regular Meeting, unless otherwise provided for in Department By-Laws, Districts shall hold at least three (3) regular meetings each year for purposes as prescribed in the Manual of Procedure.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Manual of Procedure – Regular Meeting, at least one (1) regular meeting shall be held by the District each year for the purpose of promoting schools of instruction for Post officers.

Pursuant to Section 417 of the National Manual of Procedure, District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed.

District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed in accordance with Section 416 of the Manual of Procedure.

11. DUES NOTICE SCHEDULE:

Annual members will receive a *mailed renewal* notice five months, three months, and one month prior to their subscription end date. Annual members with a valid email address will also receive an *emailed renewal notice* six months, four months, and two months prior to their subscription end date.

Annual members will receive a *mailed lapsed notice* one, three, and five months following their subscription end date.

12. DUTIES OF TRUSTEES:

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

13. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of June 18th. 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 Member Tools, Microsoft 365.
3. The user name is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be Vfw2018# once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

For Post Officers, your address will be cdrpost176@vfwva.org 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 #

adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

14. GENERAL ORDERS:

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

15. HOME DEPOT GRANT:

The Home Depot (HD) has opened their Community Impact Grant for 2018

VFW members can receive up to \$5,000 to fund repairs or construction projects at their Post building.

There are of course are no guarantees to being funded, but several VFW Posts have been awarded this grant.

To begin the process, click on the following link:

<https://corporate.homedepot.com/grants/community-impact-grants>

The application must be submitted online using the posted hyperlink. Telephone calls, emails or written submissions sent to Home Depot will **NOT** be accepted, nor will you be able to turn this application in at your local HD store.

Please find the attachment "HDGrantGuide2018," and carefully read the instructions before attempting to complete the application. We have tried to make the instructions as simple as possible using screen captures and by providing thorough descriptions of how to complete each field. Deviation from this guide could result in the applicant being unable to submit their request.

Pay close attention to the Tax ID Instructions. You will use the Employee Identification Number (EIN) of your Post and upload the Post's 501(c)(19) IRS determination letter at the end of the application. If you cannot locate the Post's 501(c)(19) letter, follow the instructions below under "Lost IRS Determination Letter" on how to request a copy from the IRS.

In previous years, The Home Depot Foundation has accepted the first page of the Post's most recently filed IRS Form 990 tax document in lieu of the IRS determination letter. It is still a good idea to have a copy of your IRS letter, you may need to apply for other possible grants, but your 990 should allow you to complete the application immediately.

If you receive funding it will come in the form of Home Depot gift cards that can be used to buy materials at your local HD store. You will need to recruit Post members and/or other community volunteers as the use of contractors to complete your project is not permitted. The project must be completed within six months. You will also be required to submit a final report. You must be willing to include stories and before-and-after photos of the project. Failure to do so will negatively impact your Post's ability to receive any future funding from The Home Depot Foundation.

After submitting the application, you should receive an email response after six weeks.

Should you have any questions and or concerns, please contact Jason Couch, VFW Foundation Grants Coordinator, directly at (816) 968-1174 or jcouch@vfw.org.

Best wishes and good luck!

P.S. Home Depot has introduced a new requirement to completing the application. They now require a project budget, that must be submitted as a Microsoft Excel file. This new requirement is covered in-depth in the guide. Please note that an additional attachment has been included with this email, "Home Depot Budget Example." This Excel file is a template that Posts can use to complete their own project budgets.

Lost IRS Determination Letter?

If you have misplaced your IRS determination letter, a new copy can be obtained. Most Posts fall under the "Group exemption" of their Department, meaning their Department's IRS determination letter is also theirs. However, each Post has its own unique Employee Identification Number or (EIN). Your Department leadership should know if you fall under a group exemption. You may also call IRS Customer Service for nonprofit organizations at 1-877-829-5500. They should be able to provide you with a new copy of the letter, but often times will refer you to your Department, which is why I recommend you start with your Department.

If the IRS representative is unable to furnish you with a new copy of your letter, you can make a written request by filling out a Form 4506-A, "Request for Public Inspection or Copy of Exempt or Political Organization IRS Form," which can be downloaded at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506a.pdf.

The request can be faxed to the IRS at 513-263-4330 or 513-263-3434, or your request can be mailed to IRS, Room 4024, POB 2508, Cincinnati, OH 45201. Keep in mind that it may take up to 60 days (or more) to fill your request.

16. IMPORTANT DATES:

March 10, 2018	Department Commander's Homecoming, Holiday Inn Express, 7441 Bell Creek Rd, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Phone 804-559-0022. Room Rates \$91.00. Deadline February 16, 2018.
June 14-17, 2018	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA. Phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$125.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia" Cut-off Date May 14, 2018.
July 21-25, 2018	National Convention, Kansas City, MO
September 20-23	National Commander-in-Chief's Homecoming, Albuquerque, NM
October 18-21	Southern Conference, Louisville, KY

17. JR. VICE C-I-C VISIT TO VIRGINIA:

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief, William "Doc" Schmitz will be visiting Virginia for a Membership Round-up, March 18-23, 2018. See the enclosed flyer for more information.

18. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Legacy Life Membership: This prestigious program is available to all Life members and is now available in memoriam for past Life members. Three levels of membership each offer their own package of exclusive member benefits. Financial contributions to the Legacy Life member program are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>	<i>Annual Payouts:</i>	<i>Post:</i>	<i>Department:</i>	<i>National:</i>
Levels: Gold- \$1200.00		\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Silver- \$800.00		\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bronze- \$400.00		\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

What will your Legacy be?

19. LIFE INSTALLMENT PROCESSING:

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

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

Mike Boehme
State Commander
Department of Virginia

20. MEMBERSHIP:

Commanders and Comrades,

The Department is moving forward even though some Posts seem to have trouble keeping up with the State Average of 91.38%. I encourage the Posts that are behind our average to work your expired members list. The weather hasn't been that bad overall yet, sure we have had a few cold and snowy days, but that shouldn't stop one of the best Departments in our Organization. This morning we had 24 Post at or above 100%, we had 46 Post above the State Average. The bad news is we had 61 Post below the Average. District Commanders please contact these Posts and find out why they are having trouble keeping up. We know some Posts are not in very good locations to produce new members, but have you visited all of your expired members yet. You may find that they need a helping hand for one reason or another. Veterans are a proud group of people and do not like to ask for help, but sometimes we all need it. I ask you to check on these expired members.

We have five months left to make the Department 100% plus one, I hope you all we make every effort to accomplish. Don't forget to look at the check list if you are aiming for All State or All American. It's easy to forget something if you aren't careful. The State Team is always ready to help with your efforts. If you need us contact myself or State HQ.

Tom Hines, PDC
Membership Team

21. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING:

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

22. NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION:

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

23. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

Procedure and Ritual establish that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition* shall be the parliamentary authority on procedural matters not governed by VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. This edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* is readily available at local book stores and online retailers such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

24. PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM:

Have You Heard About the VFW's Partners in Patriotism? – Would you like to support the VFW's life-changing programs for veterans, service members and their families without receiving all of the unwanted mail? The VFW has developed an option that lets you support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis, as well as reduce expenses and eliminate unwanted mail. It is called Partners in Patriotism. As a member of Partners in Patriotism, you choose a set dollar amount for your donation (minimum amount of \$10) that is either charged to your credit card or set up as an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank account. If you are interested in joining Partners in Patriotism, you may contact the VFW Development Department Donor Services at 816-756-3390, ext. 6318, or email us at partners@vfw.org with "Partners in Patriotism Application" in the subject line.

25. POST ELECTIONS:

Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election and installation of Post Officers. Post Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters immediately following the election of Post Officers, by not later than June 1st.

26. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

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

27. POW/MIA:

January 12, 2018

MIA Update

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

Army Pfc. Lonnie B.C. Eichelberger, 20, of Waco, Texas, whose identification was previously announced, was buried Jan. 10 in Houston. Eichelberger was assigned to Company I, 371st Infantry Regiment, 92nd Infantry Division — the only African-American division to fight in Europe. As part of Operation Fourth Term, Eichelberger's regiment fought in the hills near the town of Strettoia, Italy. His regiment suffered heavy losses while attacking German defenses. Following the battle, Eichelberger could not be accounted for and was declared missing in action on Feb. 10, 1945.

Marine Corps Pfc. Harold P. Hannon, 28, of Scranton, Pa., whose identification was previously announced, will be buried Jan. 13, in his hometown. Hannon was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. Hannon's unit landed on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll on Nov. 20, 1943, against stiff Japanese resistance. Hannon was killed on the first day of the battle and was originally buried in a battlefield cemetery.

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

Marine Corps Pfc. Harry C. Morrissey was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. On Oct. 9, 1942, Morrissey's unit was part of the main offensive action in the Battle of Guadalcanal. Morrissey was killed in action during the two-month battle. He and two other Marines from his battalion were interred in graves atop Hill 73. Interment services are pending.

Army Pfc. Albert E. Quintero was a member of Battery D, 15th Anti-aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Self-propelled Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. In late November 1950, his unit was assembled with South Korean soldiers in the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River, North Korea, when his unit was attacked by Chinese forces. Quintero was among more than 1,000 members of the RCT killed or captured in enemy territory and was declared missing on Dec. 2, 1950. Interment services are pending.

January 26, 2018

MIA Update

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

Navy Fireman 3rd Class Warren H. Crim was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Crim was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

Navy Fireman 2nd Class Lowell E. Valley was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Valley was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack.

Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. John H. Canty was a member of the 555th Bombardment Squadron, 386th Bombardment Group, IX Bomber Command based at Easton Lodge-Essex, England. On June 22, 1944, Canty's B-26 Marauder was on a nighttime bombing mission against targets near Caen, France, when his plane was shot down between the villages of Baron-sur-Odon and Gavrus, France. Canty and the seven other crewmembers were killed in the incident. Because the location of the crash was in German-held territory, U.S. forces were unable to make a detailed search for the crew at the time of their loss.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Pete W. Simon was a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. In September 1950, his unit participated in a defense of the Pusan Perimeter, a large defensive line west and north of Pusan, South Korea. Simon was reported to have been killed in action on Sept. 5, 1950, but his remains could not be located following the battle. Interment services are pending.

Army Pfc. Lamar E. Newman was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. In November 1950, his unit took part in a defensive operation in the vicinity of the village of Kujang, North Korea. The division suffered heavy losses, with many soldiers going missing or being killed or captured. Newman went missing on Nov. 27, 1950, near the village of Kujang as a result of heavy fighting. Interment services are pending.

February 05, 2018

MIA Update:

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

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

Navy Machinist's Mate 1st Class Arthur Glenn was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when Japanese aircraft attacked his ship on Dec. 7, 1941. Glenn was one of 429 crewmen killed in the attack. Interment services are pending.

Army Pfc. David Baker was a member of Company I, 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. On Nov. 25, 1950, his unit was attacked by Chinese forces while positioned near Yongbyong, North Korea. The battalion suffered heavy casualties and Baker was listed as missing in action on Nov. 28, 1950. Later reports indicated that Baker was, indeed, captured by the enemy. Interment services are pending.

"Until They Are Home"

Joe Martin

Chairman

28. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS:

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

29. 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.

30. ROSTER UPDATES:

New Phone Number
VFW Virginia Service Office
804-452-1437

VFW Post 1994
Corrected New Meeting Location
17581 Lee Highway
Abingdon, VA 24210

New Commander
VFW Post 2719
Michael Melton
1220 Crest View Dr.
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-228-7233

New Sr. Vice Commander
VFW Post 2719
Ronald Gibson
3514 Peppers Ferry Rd.
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-228-3067

New Jr. Vice Commander
VFW Post 2719
Charles Crockett
665 Franklin St.
Wytheville, VA 24382
276-228-5132

New Quartermaster
VFW Post 2719
Roger Blevins
PO Box 242
Max Meadows, VA 24360
276-637-3616

New Sr. Vice Commander
VFW Post 8529
Travis Dillard
181 Dry Bridge Rd.
Sandston, VA 23150
804-338-2791

New Jr. Vice Commander
VFW Post 8529
Philip Arendsen
204 Byrd St.
Hopewell, VA 23860
269-397-0030

New Quartermaster
VFW Post 10574
Lorijean Brady
10297 Woodland Way
King George, VA 22485
540-834-8675

31. SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY THEMES:

The 2018–19 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Vincent “B.J.” Lawrence.

The Voice of Democracy theme will be “Why My Vote Matters” and the Patriot’s Pen theme will be “Why I Honor the American Flag.”

32. SHOP AMAZONSMILE AND DONATE TO THE VFW FOUNDATION:

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

33. VFW FRIENDS OF FREEDOM:

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

34. VFW RIDERS:

Comrades,

July 2018 the VFW Riders Virginia are going to ride to the VFW National Convention in Kansas City MO. Our goal is to raise money to carry to the VFW National Convention Howard E Vander Clute ride prior to the start of the Convention. Last year we donated \$15,000 from the Dept. of Virginia, various Posts of Virginia and the VFW Riders Virginia. I am asking for donations from you to help us raise money for the Howard E. Vander Clute Jr. Memorial Motorcycle Ride.

The monies raised this year will go to help out our veterans through the National Military Services program (NMS).

This year with your help and monies raised by the VFW Riders Virginia we are hoping to surpass last year’s numbers.

Thank you Comrades for all you do for our veterans.

Please send your donations to
Kim Deshano
Department of Virginia Quartermaster
403 Lee Jackson Highway Staunton, VA 24401.

Earmark your donations **VFW Riders Virginia Howard Vander Clute Memorial Ride.**

William J Shepherd
VFW Riders Virginia Chairman

35. WORLD WAR I AND II TOURISM MARKETING GRANTS:

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

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

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

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

Official:



Kim A. DeShano
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Mike Boehme
State Commander



State Commander And President's Homecoming



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

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

RSVP for Commander by March 2nd:
Geoff Lyster – chiefstaff@vfwva.org

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

Hotel Accommodations:
Holiday Inn Express Mechanicsville
7441 Bell Creek Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111
(804) 559-0022 (804) 559-6810
www.himechanicsville.com

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



National JVCNC William Schmitz to visit Virginia



Commander-in-Chief, Keith Harmon has designated Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief William "Doc" Schmitz to represent the National organization at our Department Membership Roundup, March 19-22, throughout the State of Virginia.

William "Doc" J. Schmitz, of Corning, NY, was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief July 26, 2017, at the 118th VFW National Convention in New Orleans, LA.

Doc joined the United States Navy in 1966. He served in Vietnam as a corpsman attached to USMC infantry and artillery. In recognition of his service, he received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

He joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1971 at Post 524 in Corning, NY, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served as Department Commander, Post Commander, Southern Tier County Council Commander and District 5 Commander. He was also editor of the New York State Overseas Veteran publication for nine years. In 2007, he was elected Department Surgeon for the Department of New York where he served for five consecutive years and served as the national Surgeon General in 2010-2011 and as the national Inspector General in 2015-2016.

Doc worked for the Department of Corrections as a Registered Nurse and Acting Nurse Administrator for 30 years before retiring. He currently is employed as the Director of Veterans Issues for Congressman Tom Reed of the 23rd Congressional District in New York.

Our Roundup will begin at Post 9808 in Mechanicsville on Monday where we will meet Post members over breakfast. Over four days we'll make a circle tour of the State finishing at Manassas Post 7589 on Thursday.

The complete agenda is as follows:

Monday, March 19, 2018

	Arrive	Meal	Depart
Post 9808 Mechanicsville	8:00 AM	Breakfast	9:30 AM
Post 622 Petersburg	10:15 AM		11:15 AM
Post 3219 Phoebus	1:00 PM	Lunch	2:30 PM
Post 3160 Ocean View	3:30 PM		4:30 PM
Post 392 Virginia Beach	5:00 PM	Dinner	

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Post 4411 Franklin	8:00 AM	Breakfast	9:00 AM
Post 7166 South Hill	10:30 AM		11:30 AM
Post 8163 Clarksville	1:30 PM	Lunch	3:00 PM
Post 9954 Victoria	4:15 PM	Dinner	

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Post 4637 Martinsville	9:00 AM		10:00 AM
Post 1115 Hillsville	11:30 AM	Lunch	1:00 PM
Post 1264 Roanoke	2:30 PM		3:30 PM
State HQ	5:00 PM		5:30 PM
Post 1827 Charlottesville	6:15 PM	Dinner	

Thursday, March 22, 2018

Post 7728 Morrisville	9:30 AM		10:30 AM
Post 3103 Fredericksburg	11:15 AM		12:15 PM
Post 7916 Occoquan	1:00 PM	Lunch	2:30 PM
Post 1503 Dale City	3:00 PM		4:00 PM
Post 7589 Manassas	4:30 PM	Dinner	

Members are encouraged to meet Doc at a Post in their area. For further information on accommodation please contact any of the Posts scheduled in this itinerary. Let's show Doc some real Virginia hospitality!

National Veterans & Military Support Services

https://heroes.vfw.org/ea-action/action?ea.client.id=1993&ea.campaign.id=52588&ea_redirect=true&sessionId=c4f517e7-4697-4fbe-b724-bb18fbf49749



VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT



Donate on Behalf of Your Department, District or Post

We appreciate your group donation to **Veterans & Military Support**. Please indicate how you would like your gift designated below. Thank you for your generosity and dedication to helping our heroes.

Select a Program:

Most Urgent Veterans & Military Support Needs ▼

I am making my gift on behalf of my:

- District
- Department
- Post

Please enter the Department, District or Post where this gift should be credited.

VFW District

VFW Department

VFW Post

Gift Information

Donation Amount *

- \$15.00
- \$25.00
- \$50.00
- \$100.00
- \$250.00
- Other

Yes, automatically repeat this gift every month.

Donations to the VFW are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Payment Information

First Name: *

Last Name: *

Street 1: *

Street 2:

City: *

State/Province: *

ZIP/Postal Code: *

Country: *

Email Address: *

Yes, tell me how my contribution is helping America's heroes.

Yes, this is an honor or memorial gift.

Honoree Information

Optional Gift Notification

Billing Information

Credit Card Type *

Credit Card Number: *

Expiration Date *

CVV Number: What is this? *

Please enter the security code in the box.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



State Headquarters
403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, Virginia 24401
www.vfwva.org

Phone: 540-886-8112
800-888-3521
Fax: 866-416-0586
Email: statehq@vfwva.org

Greetings!

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will hold its annual state convention for Virginia June 14-17, 2018 at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel in Portsmouth, Virginia. As part of this, the VFW is looking for supporters and this is an awesome opportunity for you, your Post, Auxiliary or your business to showcase your support to our great organization.

Your level of support means our many programs and expenses related to our Convention are covered and your donation would be tax deductible as the Virginia VFW is a 501(c)19 organization. With more than 33,000 Comrades, over 130 posts and more than 5,000 members of the Auxiliary your support would be seen by many through an advertisement placed into our convention book.

A full-page ad in the book costs just \$75 and there are an unlimited number of ads that can be placed into the book. The deadline for registration is April 1, 2018. All checks would be made payable to "VFW Virginia" and should be returned to the above listed address along with the registration form enclosed. Submissions for the advertisement should be sent electronically to our state headquarters at the email qm@va.vfwwebmail.com as a PDF attachment.

We thank you for your consideration and support in advance and we look forward to working with you.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



State Headquarters
403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, Virginia 24401
www.vfwva.org

Phone: 540-886-8112
800-888-3521
Fax: 866-416-0586
Email: statehq@vfwva.org

Name of company/post/auxiliary/individual _____

Name of contact person from the company/organization _____

Phone number _____

Mailing address _____

Number of ads requested: _____ x \$75 = _____ (enclose a check for this amount)

Cancellations made before the deadline will receive a full refund. After the deadline there will be no refund for your fee because of deadlines with the company printing the convention books.

Make check payable to "VFW Virginia" and return with this application. See above for address. Submit the advertisement to qm@vfwva.org in a PDF format. Final approval for appropriate content in your advertisement shall be the decision of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and their printing partner. All decisions are final. By signing below you give the Virginia VFW permission to use the material listed in the advertisement you provide for the sole purpose of printing in the 2018 State Convention book.

Signature of company/organization/individual attending _____

Date _____

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE POST

RECORD BOOK ENTRY FORM

1. This form must be filled in and attached to the inside cover of the Community Activities Record Book that your Post enters in the Department Community Activities Record Book Contest.
2. Be sure to provide the name, address and zip code of the person to whom the Record Book should be returned following the judging.
3. This form must be signed by the Post Commander

CATEGORIES FOR RECORDING PROJECTS

The Community Activities Program is divided into seven general categories:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Community Involvement | 4. School and Church Assistance |
| 2. Cooperation with other organizations | 5. Safety |
| 3. Aide to others | 6. Americanism |
| | 7. Youth and Voice of Democracy |

Post No. _____ City _____ State _____

Total Projects Since 5/1/17 Total Hours (Volunteered)

Total Funds Used/Donated

Total Post Members as of 4/1/18

Total Auxiliary Members as of 4/1/18

City Population

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

Post _____ Auxiliary _____
(Name of Chairman) (Name of Chairman)

JUDGES, NOTE THE FOLLOWING LEADING PROJECTS

Page _____, _____

Page _____, _____

Page _____, _____

Page _____, _____

RETURN RECORD BOOK TO:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature - Post Commander _____

Post Commander's Name (Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECORD BOOK GUIDELINES

1. Record books should contain community service projects that are completed during the period May 1, through April 30.
2. **FASTENER and COVER:** If books have metal posts, steel is preferable to brass or aluminum. If covers have decals, place self-adhesive clear plastic over the decals so they will not be damaged during shipping and handling. Please use superior quality page dividers and index tabbing; the extensive handling that the record books experience must be considered.
3. **CLIPPINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:** Show dates and captions. Include supporting information.
4. **ACCOUNTING OF EXPENSES:** In a brief statement show how money was spent for each category (one or two pages at the most for each category).
5. **ARRANGEMENT OF BOOK:** Enter each project by category. (Chronological or month by month listing makes your entry more difficult for the judges to evaluate.)
6. **ENTRY FORM:** Complete and fasten inside front cover of volume one.
7. **MAIL OR SHIP RECORD BOOK ENTRY FOR THE DEPARTMENT CONTEST** to your Department Headquarters or the address they designate.
8. Avoid non-community service related items in your record book entry. Pictures of Post Officers, installation of officers, meeting, etc., will not be credited.

(This material should be assembled in a separate section and kept by the Post until the record book is returned after the competition, then it can be added to the record book for permanent reference).

PREPARING A RECORD BOOK

Posts and Auxiliaries carry on many projects which are of public service. The best way to tell the story of your Post and Auxiliary's work in the community is through a Community Activity record book that contains evidence of the many projects and programs your Post and Auxiliary perform.

The contents of your record book should be arranged and in such detail that it tells the story of each project, clearly and completely, to those who may read and judge it.

Posts and Auxiliaries should combine their community activity programs into one book or one set of books the Post and its Auxiliary are judged as a unit.

When making up a record book it is advisable to group your projects and programs into one of the seven categories. If a project qualifies for more than one category, select and list it under one category. It will be given credit, regardless of whether it is listed under the proper category.

For example:

Lite-a-Bike could be listed under categories five or seven.

Do not duplicate your efforts by placing them in each of the categories.

Remember, when compiling your community service record book you are telling a story of your work to judges who generally are not familiar with your efforts or community. The easier it is for the judges to read the facts, the easier it is for them to evaluate your work.

Some Community Activity record book entries have an additional index for each category which lists the subgroups within the categories. Some entries have an index only in the front of volume one.

Remember, also if you enter your record book in other competitions, the judges will be less likely to know about the VFW Community Activities Program. Just like composing a good letter, let your record book present the story so there will be no misunderstanding.

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
AMERICANISM
RECORD BOOK GUIDELINES
Post Americanism Record Book Program**

There will be a Post somewhere that will be recognized for their efforts in Americanism.

How will this recognition be earned? By participating in the Americanism Program and by being the “Outstanding” Americanism Post in the Department. From the entries received the Post selected number one will receive a trophy at Department Convention. The Post placing second through ten will receive a Department Citation.

The rules governing this completion are relatively simple.

1. To qualify a winner at the Department level, the Post must be selected by the Department’s Awards Committee.
2. The entry must include the name and address of the person to whom the entry is to be returned.
3. Selection by the Department shall be based on Americanism projects performed during May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018.
4. For the Post to qualify as an entrant, it must be reported in Americanism for the current year.
5. In order for the judges to have something on which to base their decision, some form of substantiating data (newspaper clippings, photographs, correspondence, etc.,) must accompany each entry. All substantiating data should be organized into a record book format.

You should record the following programs and any other Americanism Projects completed in your entry.

Independence Day

Parades

Loyalty Day

Legislative Program

Buddy Poppy Education Program

Flag Presentation

Voice of Democracy

POW/MIA Program

Veterans Day

Memorial Day Services

Other Patriotic Holidays

Citizenship Education Programs

Flag Day

Post and District Americanism Chairmen have to begin their program early because the Department entry must be received at Department Headquarters no later than May 11, 2018.

For further information contact your Department Chairman.

PREPARING A RESOLUTION TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The policy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is established by resolutions adopted by the delegates attending Department and National Conventions. Most such resolutions originate at the Post level and are passed through the District and Department before being acted upon at a National Convention. Many times, an otherwise worthy idea gets nowhere merely because it is not correctly presented.

A resolution contains two separate parts; a statement of the problem to be solved, and the proposed solution to the problem. The problem is outlined in the "WHEREAS" clauses, and the proposed solution is given in the "RESOLVED" section.

The "RESOLVED" section of a resolution should be complete in itself without depending on the "WHEREAS" clauses to give it meaning.

EXAMPLE:

WHEREAS, the rising cost of living has created an intense hardship on those disabled veterans whose only income is a meager pension check; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we petition Congress to enact legislation which would provide a substantial increase in non-service connected pension rates.

(Note: The "RESOLVED" section has a proposed solution that makes sense and can stand alone without the "WHEREAS" clause giving it meaning.)

A resolution may deal with a local problem. It needs no action on a level higher than that of the Post. If the problem concerns an area larger than that served by the Post, it should, after Post approval, be presented before the District or County Council. All resolutions of statewide, regional or national concern must be acted upon by the Department Convention. Those resolutions approved by a Department Convention, which affect persons or matters *outside the state boundaries*, must be forwarded to the National Convention for final disposition.

When submitting a resolution to the Department Convention, a notation on the bottom should show the previous action taken, such as, approval by Post and, if applicable, by the District. A Post or District submitting a resolution to its Department Convention must follow guidelines established by the Department, which may require submitting the resolution to the Department Adjutant prior to the convening of the convention.

Resolutions not in proper form, unclear as to meaning, or concerning matters clearly not within the scope and purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars cannot be considered by the National Convention.

Resolutions approved by a Department Convention, which affect matters outside state boundaries, must be forwarded by the Department Adjutant to the National Convention for final disposition. Approved resolutions should be sent to national headquarters at the close of the department convention. The Adjutant General requests all resolutions be forwarded to National Headquarters on or before the first working day of July. A resolution disapproved by the Department Convention or not acted upon by the Department Convention will not be considered by the National Convention.

Resolutions may also be originated by Department officers or by the Department Convention itself and acted upon by the Department Convention. A National Officer may originate a resolution concerning National affairs and submit it directly to the National Convention without Department action. Likewise, a National Convention Committee may originate a resolution and present it for approval during the National Convention.

Policy set by the National Convention is binding upon all subordinate units of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. No Post or Department is permitted to take any individual action or espouse any cause contrary to the National By-Laws or to the actions of the National Convention except that it may propose changes in policy by the preparation of a resolution for consideration as outlined herein.

PREPARING PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL BY-LAWS, MANUAL OF PROCEDURE OR RITUAL

By-Laws: Any member in good standing, a Post, a District, or a Department, may propose an amendment to the National By-Laws; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must be approved by a Department Convention. Immediately following a Department Convention, the proposed amendment(s) must be forwarded to National Headquarters.

Manual of Procedure and Ritual: Any Post, District, or Department may propose an amendment to the Manual of Procedure or Ritual; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must have been forwarded, through channel and have been properly approved.

In order to meet National By-Law/Manual of Procedure Article XIV requirements, to provide 15 day notice to all Posts of all amendments, the Adjutant General requests all amendments be forwarded to National Headquarters on or before the first working day of July.

By-Law, Manual of Procedure or Ritual changes not in proper form, unclear as to meaning, or concerning matters clearly not within the scope and purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars cannot be considered by the National Convention.

A proposed change to the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual must be submitted as such, not as a resolution. Proposed amendments must be definite and specific as to the verbiage to be deleted or added. Use of the most recent amended copy of the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual is encouraged, as proposed changes considered by convention delegates cannot be amended on the floor.

EXAMPLE 1:

Proposed Amendment to National By-Laws proposed by Department of _____.

Section 202 - By-Laws

Amend Section 202, National By-Laws, by deleting the words "two-thirds (2/3)" in the first sentence of paragraph one, and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following: "majority".

EXAMPLE 2:

Proposed Amendment to National Manual of Procedure proposed by Department of _____.

Section 518- Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Section 518, Manual of Procedure, by deleting paragraph (a) (1) d. in its entirety and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following: "Plan and organize all social functions."

EXAMPLE 3:

Proposed Amendment to National Ritual proposed by Department of _____.

Amend the Ritual by deleting on page 48, in the last sentence of the Member's Obligation, the words "and a citizen of our great republic." Further amend by placing a period after the word "comrade" in the same sentence.

If you require help composing a proposed change to the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual, please contact Administrative Operations at National Headquarters for advice and assistance in properly preparing a proposed amendment to be voted upon by your department convention.



VFW Riders Virginia



“Four Seasons” SPRING POKER RUN

Saturday, 28 APRIL 2018

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

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



9am – 1030am: Registration

10am: First Bike Out

Rain OR Shine

“HUGE RAFFLES” “HUGE RAFFLES” “HUGE RAFFLES”

Contact VFWRidersOfVirginia@gmail.com with questions

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

100% of proceeds benefit Veterans and their Families.



119th VFW National Convention 2018
July 21-25, 2018 · Kansas City, MO

Official Hotel Reservation Form

INSTRUCTIONS

Reservations can be made in one of the following ways:

INTERNET: Visit the VFW web site at www.vfw.org.

TELEPHONE:

Toll-free US: (877) 464-6840
International: (980) 337-3372
8:30 am to 9:00 pm ET, Mon-Fri

FAX: (816) 691-3880

MAIL:

Visit KC
1321 Baltimore Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64105

EMAIL:

housing@ihs-housingteam.com

DEADLINE

Reservations must be made by phone, fax, mail or internet by **June 18, 2018**. Reservations received after this date will be subject to space and rate availability.

CONFIRMATIONS

Visit KC Housing will send you an e-mail confirmation of your reservation. Please review all information for accuracy. If you do not receive a confirmation or have questions, please call Visit KC Housing at the above listed phone number.

TAX RATE & REQUESTS

All rates are per room and are subject to a room tax up to 18.1% and a city development fee of \$1.75 (subject to change). Special requests cannot be guaranteed; hotels will do their best to honor requests. Hotels will assign specific rooms upon check-in, based on availability.

ROOM DEPOSIT REQUIRED:

Reservations must be accompanied with a \$190 room deposit in the form of a credit card guarantee, money order or cashier's check. Cashier's checks and money orders must be made out to Visit KC. The mailing address is Visit KC 1321 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64105. Forms and deposits must be received by June 18, 2018.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations after **June 18, 2018** will be subject to a \$25 processing fee. Most hotels require cancellations at least 72 hours prior to arrival to avoid additional penalties. Please refer to your confirmation notice for more details.

GUEST INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

FOR BEST AVAILABILITY AND IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE AT www.vfw.org OR BY PHONE AT (877) 464-6840 (toll-free) OR (980) 337-3372 (international).

Arrival Date: _____ **Departure Date:** _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

HOTEL SELECTION

Each state/department has been assigned a hotel with an allocation of rooms. In the event the allotment has been filled, a room will be reserved at another VFW hotel based on your preference of rates or proximity and availability.

If hotel assignment is sold out, which is more important? (*check one*) Room Rate Location

State you reside in: _____

Room Type Requested: One Bed Two Beds

Submit only one room request per form, please make copies if additional forms are needed.

List all room occupants:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Check here if you have special needs and specify below.

Special Requests: _____

NOTE: All hotels are non-smoking properties. All have designated outdoor smoking areas.

DEPOSIT INFORMATION

All reservations requests must be accompanied with a \$190 room deposit in the form of a credit card guarantee, cashier's check or money order. Housing Forms received without a valid guarantee/deposit will not be processed. Cashier's checks and money orders must be mailed with a completed housing form.

Visa American Express Discover MasterCard

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Cardholder's Signature*: _____

** I hereby authorize the participating hotel retain / charge the \$190 deposit or a one night's room & tax, whichever is greater, if I fail to cancel my reservation by my hotel's given cancellation policy as listed on my confirmation.*

Cashier's check or money order deposit of \$190 enclosed and made payable to Visit KC. Mail check or money order with completed housing form to: Visit KC 1321 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64105. Must be received no later than June 18, 2018.

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

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

Saturday, July 21, 2018

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

Sunday, July 22, 2018

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

Committee Meetings:

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

Sunday, July 22, 2018

Resolutions Committees:

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

Monday, July 23, 2018

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

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

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

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

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

Updated: 12/18/2017 11:45 AM



PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE JULY 21-25, 2018

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

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

GETTING TO KANSAS CITY

Car

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

GETTING AROUND KANSAS CITY

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

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

Monday-Thursday: 6AM - Midnight

Friday: 6AM - 2AM

Saturday: 7AM - 2AM

Sunday: 7AM - 10PM

CONVENTION LOCATION

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

WHAT TO WEAR

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

WEATHER

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

For up-to-date weather information, please visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

COMPANY: VFW National Discount

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

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

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

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

https://booking.supershuttle.com/?_ga=2.218474457.1146509480.1511995716-1784955752.1482963717

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

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

Taxi Service

10/10 Taxi - (913) 647-0010

Yellow Cab – 816-471-5000

Checker Cab – 816-444-4444

Airport Car Rental

Alamo - 816-464-5151

Avis - 816-243-5760

Budget - 816-243-5757

Enterprise - 816-464-2500

Hertz - 816-243-5765

National - 816-243-5770

PARKING

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

RV PARKING/CAMPING

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

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

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

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

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

VISITOR INFORMATION

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

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

VISITOR CENTERS:

DOWNTOWN KANSAS CITY

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

UNION STATION

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

NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM VISITORS CENTER

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

MISSOURI WELCOME CENTER

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

REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP

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

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

Auxiliary 'remote' pre-registration:

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

VFW 'remote' pre-registration.

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

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

SHUTTLES

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

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

HOTEL INFORMATION

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

HOTEL PARKING

Check with your assigned hotel for parking costs and details.

LUGGAGE STORAGE

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

GRATUITIES

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

PHONE MESSAGES

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

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

SPECIAL SERVICES

Scooter Rentals

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

Chuck's Mobility – 913-859-0290

Mobility First – 816-350-7600

Special Screenings

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

First Aid Room Location

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

Emergency

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

Religious Services

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

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

VFW MEMORIAL SERVICE

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

VFW PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

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

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

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

AGENDA

See tentative web agenda at www.vfw.org for the 119th National Convention information. A final agenda will be included in the convention event guide and on the convention Mobile App.

CHARITY AUCTION

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

BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

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

THINGS TO DO IN AND AROUND KANSAS CITY

Go to the www.VFW.org and access the Microsite at the convention web page for additional information on what to do, where to go, where to eat in Kansas City.

VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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

For more information:

Refer to the VFW convention web page via www.vfw.org which is updated as new information is added.

1/24/2018 updated

Southern Conference 2018

Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary

October 18-21, 2018

Louisville, Kentucky

Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel

REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-Registration Deadline is October 1, 2018

Name: _____ Title _____

Department: _____ Post/Aux: _____

Registration Fee is \$75.00 per person that will include the banquet, Hospitality Room and Friday night entertainment. (Registration fee at Conference: \$85.00)

BANQUET MENU

PRIME RIB

BAKED POTATO WITH BUTTER & SOUR CREAM

COUNTRY STYLE GREEN BEANS

FARMER'S SALAD W/RANCH OR ITALIAN DRESSING

DESSERT: DERBY PIE & CARAMEL APPLE PIE

COFFEE & TEA

RESERVATIONS AND OTHER INFO. PLEASE GO TO vfwky.org or call Hotel at 1-888-233-9527

Make check payable

Dept. of KY VFW

3031 Poplar Level Road

Louisville, KY 40217

Southern Conference 2018

Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary

October 18-21, 2018

Request for Transportation

A courtesy shuttle will be provided by the Crowne Plaza Hotel to and from Louisville international airport.

Please complete the form below in order for the hotel to make sure they have enough shuttles available to make this transition a smooth one.

Name: _____ Airlines _____

Arrival Date: _____ Time: _____ Flight# _____

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____ Flight# _____

Mail Form to;

Dept. of KY VFW

3031 Poplar Level Road

Louisville, KY 40217

Fax 502-635-2639