

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

**NUMBER 10**

403 Lee Jackson Highway  
Staunton, Virginia 24401

*"Steady the Course"*

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**May 1, 2021**

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In Virginia 800-888-3521

**GUIDE TO THE GO:**

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**1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:**

Comrades,

We're nearing the end of the 2020-2021-year membership is a priority I hope all Posts and Districts are out recruiting. Keep pushing for 100%. For the Posts that have not been recruiting new members try to get at least 2-3 and call the unpaid members. For all the Posts and District at membership goal somewhere between 95% to 99.99% thank you for your support of the Department and the National organization. Keep going get your 100% and for all the Posts and Districts at or above 100% thank you for supporting and showing your leadership skills I salute you. OUTSTANDING job promoting our organization. I hope everyone's goal is 100% in membership if not by May 8<sup>th</sup> keep pushing for June 30<sup>th</sup>.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> we instituted SGT Nicholas C. Mason Memorial Post 12202 in King George. Thanks to everyone who attended or help make this Post happen it's a lot of hard work starting a Post, and TEAM Virginia started 3 this year. Tom Hines and Ken Wiseman worked very hard this year starting Post and revitalizing a few to save them from closure, and District 1 Commander Mark Shockley and His team of officers in starting and revitalizing a Post in their District great work.

Let's all of us work on getting the second half reporting completed so we can have 100% reported the second half. For the Posts that are already 100% reported for the second half thank you all for the hard work. By this time if your quarterly Audit is not marked off as completed its late.

State Convention is approaching, Hal's Homecoming is approaching in July and National Convention later part of July and first week of August make your reservation and register as required soon. Look forward to seeing everyone. Election reports are due if your report is not in yet please get them in.

In closing I want to thank every member for the work they do in their community, hospital, school, scouts and their Post homes. Post Commanders set up a group to call your Post members to accomplish "Buddy Check" find out how they are doing, do they need anything. Find ways to contact our veterans in the VA Hospital even by just a card letting them know we are all thinking of them.

GREAT JOB TEAM Virginia.

Eric Mallett  
State Commander

**2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

- |                 |  |                  |   |
|-----------------|--|------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Date: 5/15/21<br>Meeting: 11:00 AM<br>Location: Post 3219 Phoebus<br>122 E Mellen St, Hampton<br>Rep: Butch Schupska, SVC                      | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Date: 5/15/21<br>Lunch: 11:30 AM<br>Meeting: 12:15 PM<br>Location: Post 9760 Berryville<br>425 S Buckmarsh St<br>Rep: Geoffrey Lyster, State JVC      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Date: 5/8/21<br>Lunch: Noon<br>Meeting: 1:00 PM<br>Location: Post 392 Virginia Beach<br>2408 Bowland Parkway<br>Rep: Butch Schupska, State SVC | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Date: 08/21/21<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: Post 2524 Culpeper<br>12210 Sperryville Pike   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Date: TBD<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: Post 9808 Mechanicsville<br>7168 Flag Lane   | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Date: TBD<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: TBD   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 5/8/21<br>Meeting: 11:30 AM<br>Location: Post 7166 South Hill<br>1472 N Mecklenburg Ave<br>Rep: Tom Hines, PDC                           | 10 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 5/2/21<br>Lunch: 11:30 am<br>Meeting: 1:00 PM<br>Location: Post 1503 Dale City<br>14631 Minnieville Road<br>Rep: Mark Maggio, St Chief-of-Staff |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 5/15/21<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: Post 4637 Martinsville<br>2331 Old Chatham Road<br>Rep: Rick Raskin, PDC                       | 11 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 5/8/21<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: Post 2216 Staunton<br>212 Frontier Drive<br>Rep: Mitch Rubenstein, St Surgeon                          |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 8/7/21<br>Meeting: Noon<br>Location: Post 2157 Bedford<br>29B Omaha Beach  | 12 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 7/10/21<br>Meeting: 11:00 AM<br>Location: Post 1994 Abingdon<br>17581 Lee Highway   |
|                 |  | 13 <sup>th</sup> | Date: 5/8/21<br>Meeting: 10:00 AM<br>Location: Post 8947 Mineral<br>201 Mineral Avenue<br>Rep: Gary Adams, St Judge Advocate                          |

### 3. **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:**

The National Bylaws provide for only one type of membership: active membership. There are no provisions in the National Bylaws, nor is there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership cards, Associate Member cards, Honorary Membership cards, Courtesy Membership cards or any other special type of cards. Any Post issuing such unauthorized cards, or conducting club operations open to the general public, endangers its standing with the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Officers signing outlaw cards admitting non-members to VFW premises are subject to disciplinary action. National and Department officers cannot defend practices that conflict with VFW Bylaws or procedures.

### 4. **AMAZONSMILE:**

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to charitable organizations selected by our customers. Our very own foundation is listed the Virginia Veterans Foundation.

### 5. **AUDITS:**

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

### 6. **CONSOLIDATION:**

General Orders No. 10, 2020-21 series, will announce the consolidation of Leonard E. Mc Coy Post No. 5311, Christiansburg, Virginia and Elliston-Shawsville Post No. 4920, Elliston, Virginia. The consolidated Post is to be known as Leonard E. Mc Coy Post No. 5311, Christiansburg, Virginia. Approved April 7, 2021. The senior muster date is January 4, 1946.

### 7. **DELEGATE FEES:**

In accordance with the National By-Laws Section 222 (C), each Post will pay in accordance with Department By-Laws a delegate registration fee for each delegate to which the Post shall be entitled.

Therefore, you must submit your delegates list to the Department in accordance with Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure (B) along with a check in the amount of \$3.00 for every delegate your Post is entitled to as of membership status of March 31. All delegate list and monies should be sent to Department Headquarters by **May 24th**. Failure to do so will put your Post in arrears to the Department and Post will have no voting strength at the State Convention.

**The Delegate sheet was the front page of the April General Orders.**

### 8. **DISPOSING OF WORN US FLAGS – PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PROCEDURE:**

In August 2000, at the VFW 101<sup>st</sup> National Convention in Milwaukee, VFW delegates passed a resolution establishing a US flag disposal program for Posts to conduct, privately or publicly.

The VFW feels individuals are responsible for maintaining the US flag in their possession, however, as a public service some VFW Posts have special details assigned for gathering and disposing\* of worn national emblems. Some Posts may go further - they make gifts of new flags to groups or provide information on how to order a US flag from the VFW Store.

**\*SUGGESTED PROCEDURE FOR INDIVIDUALS TO USE IN PRIVATE OR PUBLIC FOR DISPOSING OF A TORN, SOILED, OR BADLY FADED US FLAG.**

1. The flag should be folded in its customary manner. (See VFW ritual.)
2. It is important that the fire be sizeable and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.
3. Place the flag on the fire.
4. The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.
5. After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished, and the ashes buried.
6. Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.

## 9. DISTRICT MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS:

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws 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. 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.

## 10. 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.

## 11. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 25<sup>th</sup>**. This will be the primary means of sending correspondence from State Headquarters to Post and District Officers.

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

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

1. Go to Department web site [www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org).
2. Click on Resources, Microsoft 365.
3. The username is your email address; put that on the first line (see below for your new address).
4. Your default password will be **VFW2020!** once you have accessed the mail program you will be asked to change it; it must contain at least one uppercase letter and one number.

For Post Officers, your address will be [cdrpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost176@vfwva.org) where the 176 is you replace it with **your** Post number.

[adjpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost176@vfwva.org)

[qmpost176@vfwva.org](mailto:qmpost176@vfwva.org)

For District Officers your address will be [cdrdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrdist1@vfwva.org) for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district #

[adjdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:adjdist1@vfwva.org)

[qmdist1@vfwva.org](mailto:qmdist1@vfwva.org)

## 12. GENERAL ORDERS:

The cut off for the General Orders is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. No EXCEPTIONS. Subscriptions for hard copy General Orders are \$30.00 for the year (**please note new price**). Contact State Headquarters for more info.

**13. HALF-STAFF:**

The U.S. Flag should be at half-staff on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May (federal holiday - half-staff until noon). Flags available at VFW Store [vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags](http://vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags).

**14. THE HOME DEPOT COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT FOR 2021:**

Information for this Grant can be found in the March and April General Orders. Applications are being taken until December 2021.

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 & External Relations Coordinator, directly at (816) 968-1174 or [jcouch@vfw.org](mailto:jcouch@vfw.org).

Best wishes and good luck!

**15. IMPORTANT DATES:**

June 3-6, 2021	State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$125.00 per night. Group name “Virginia VFW”; Cut-off Date May 3, 2021
July 8-11, 2021	National Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch Homecoming, Portsmouth, VA (a revised packet is in March’s General Orders)
July 31-August 5, 2021	National Convention, Baltimore, MD
November 18-21, 2021	Southern Conference, Hilton Head, South Carolina
January 7-9, 2022	Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$94.00 per night. Group name “VFW Department of Virginia Winter Council Meeting”; Cut-off Date December 6, 2021.

**16. IRS FORM 8822-B:**

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

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

**17. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING:**

Congratulations! Amherst County Post 9877, Amherst, is the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. Amherst County Post 9877 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having a minimum 100% of their membership goal reported to State Headquarters by March 26, 2021 deadline.

**18. LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYOUT:**

As indicated by the attached signed document from the Life Membership Board of Trustees, the following will be the 2022 Life Member payout. The National Council of Administration concurred in that payout at its March 6, 2021 meeting.

- Plan A, B and C - A total payout of \$10.50 for each life member (\$3.50 to each Post, Department and National).
- Plan D - A total payout of \$12.00 for each life member (\$4.00 to each Post, Department and National).
- Plan E - A total payout of \$25.32 for each life member (\$8.44 to each Post, Department and National).

As indicated in the By-Laws, payment will be made in September 2021 for all Life Members recorded as of August 31, 2021. In addition, a payment will be made in January 2022 for all Life Members processed during the period September 1 through December 31.

## **19. MEMBERSHIP:**

Comrades and Commanders,

May is here and we have two months to make this a banner year. Congrats to all that have reached their quota. We are instituting our Third Post this year on May 1st in King George, quite an achievement considering the lockdown.

Also, the numbers run consecutively which means no other Department has opened a Post from October thru April when K.G. received their number, 12202. This should make National Commander Hal very proud of his home Department, however I'm not sure he will be proud of us if we fail on membership. Post and District Commanders, I encourage you to make every effort to reach 100% in membership. We need to average just 24 members a day as I write this to reach 100% on June 30th. We can do that easily if we work hard.

Do not hesitate to ask for assistance. Your Membership Team and State Headquarters are a phone call away.

Tom Hines, PDC  
Membership Team

## **20. NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING AND REGISTRATION:**

122nd National Convention housing is now officially open. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at [vfw.org/convention](http://vfw.org/convention). The convention website will also have general convention information including the registration form and links to other convention related information for Baltimore, MD, July 31 – Aug. 5, 2021, including a tentative agenda.

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

## **21. OFFICE CLOSURE:**

State Headquarters and the Hopewell and Dale City Service Offices will be closed May 31, 2021 in observance of Memorial Day. Also, State Headquarters will be closed June 2 – 7, 2021 for the State Convention. The Adjutant/Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

Please note the Norfolk Service Office is temporarily closed.

## **22. POST ELECTIONS:**

Installing officers are directed to see to it that the Post Election Report forms have been completed and submitted to National Headquarters. If a Post Election Report form has not been forwarded to National Headquarters at the time of installation, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time of the installation of Post Officers no later than June 1. We encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters. Additionally, Section 413 of the National Bylaws requires that a properly completed District Election Report be submitted to National Headquarters prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

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

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

## **23. POSTS IN ARREARS FOR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:**

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

## **24. REPORTING:**

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you should visit the Department website ([www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)).

The website is updated daily. If you have any questions, please call State Headquarters.

There will be no form for Homeless when reporting for assistance to a homeless veteran please put it on a Community Activity report under aid to others.

## **25. SCHOLARSHIP THEMES:**

The 2021-22 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic. The Voice of Democracy theme 8 will be "America: Where do we go from here?" and the Patriot's Pen theme will be "How can I be a good American?"

## **26. STATE CONVENTION:**

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to a successful event.

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1602798939355&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

## 27. TECH4TROOPS:

### Obtaining Laptops from Tech4Troops

Any VFW Virginia Post wishing to obtain laptops from Tech4Troops must contact them directly on their website.

<https://techfortroops.org/contact/>

Their two organizations will take it from there.

Rick Raskin – PDC

## 28. VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION:

On March 29, I attended a ceremony at the Vietnam War Memorial at the Culpeper County Courthouse. The ceremony was well-attended by members not only of the VFW but also the local Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans Association and DAV and numerous citizens and family members. I was able to distribute five lapel pins to veterans who had not yet obtained one and gave brief remarks on being in the audience for one of Bob Hope's shows.

The following historical events for the Vietnam War took place during May:

1954 (May 6): Shortly before the final Viet Minh assault at the battle of Dien Bien Phu, two Civil Air Transport (CAT) pilots, James McGovern and co-pilot Wallace Buford, are killed when Viet Minh ground fire near Dien Bien Phu downs their transport plane. Over the course of the battle, 37 CAT pilots complete 682 airborne supply missions in support of the besieged French garrison.

1961 (May 14): The first unit of the Army Security Agency (ASA) arrives in South Vietnam, establishing headquarters at Tan Son Nhut Air Base. As the U.S. Army's signals intelligence branch, the ASA mission is to intercept Viet Cong and North Vietnamese electronic communications and use them to locate Communist troops. It designates its units as "Radio Research" to conceal their true purpose, and ASA personnel pose as military advisers attached to MAAG, Vietnam. The agency's personnel also train their South Vietnamese counterparts.

1964 (May 22): The CIA's Air America, formerly Civil Air Transport, begins search-and-rescue operations in Laos and North Vietnam. Its first rescue mission, on June 6, is an attempt to recover U.S. Navy aviator Lieutenant Charles F. Klusmann, who is shot down while flying a reconnaissance mission over the Plain of Jars, in Laos. Initial attempts to rescue Klusmann fail, however, and he is captured by the Pathet Lao. Klusmann later escapes and is picked up by Air America after three months in captivity.

1965 (May 3-7): The first U.S. Army ground combat unit to deploy to South Vietnam, the 173d Airborne Brigade, arrives from Okinawa. The brigade is stationed at Bien Hoa Air Base near Saigon. The 173d Airborne Brigade's initial mission is limited to defending U.S. bases and installations, especially Bien Hoa. This mission quickly expands in the following days and weeks to include offensive counterinsurgency operations against Viet Cong forces.

1965 (May 7): American officials and the U.S. Marine Corps restructure and expand Marine forces in Vietnam. The 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade becomes the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF). This force consists of the forward elements of the 3d Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. The III MAF mission is to support the South Vietnamese in the five I Corps provinces, the vulnerable region closest to the DMZ. Before the end of June, 9,000 Marines are added to the Marine Corps forces in Vietnam.

1966 (May 10): The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Point Grey, patrolling off the Ca Mau Peninsula at the southern tip of South Vietnam, encounters a large steel-hulled trawler. The trawler runs aground when challenged. During the ensuing engagement, with assistance from the Coast Guard cutter Point Cypress and U.S. Navy personnel, the



trawler suffers a large internal explosion. Salvage teams later recover tons of war materiel from the wreck of the trawler, which has been supplying Viet Cong troops in the area. It is the most significant known waterborne Viet Cong infiltration attempt since the Vung Ro Bay incident in February 1965. Also on that day, as part of Operation GAME WARDEN, the U.S. Navy establishes Mine Squadron 11, Detachment Alpha, under the command of Task Force 116. The squadron of a dozen minesweeping boats is assigned to keep the Long Tau River shipping channel clear of mines. The shipping channel is a vital avenue for merchant and military vessels heading to Saigon, and Viet Cong mining of the waterway would threaten to damage the economy of South Vietnam as well as the war effort, as the United States relies on the channel heavily to get goods and materials to Saigon.

1967 (May 15): Coast Guard Squadron Three, newly arrived in Vietnam, begins to support the U.S. Navy in Operation MARKET TIME. Squadron Three is equipped with five 311-foot, high-endurance cutters. In addition to providing fire support, Squadron Three interdicts enemy supply vessels and engages in medical and civic action programs. USCG Cutter Barataria conducts the first fire-support mission for Squadron Three on May 22.

1967 (May 31): The CIA's newly developed Lockheed A-12 reconnaissance aircraft flies its first covert surveillance mission over North Vietnam. It is the first of 29 missions named Operation BLACK SHIELD, whose primary objective is to photograph the sites of possible surface-to-surface missile installations. The CIA directs the BLACK SHIELD missions, which are flown by six pilots and three aircraft based in Okinawa. They determine that no surface-to-surface missiles have been placed in North Vietnam.

1968 (May 10): American and North Vietnamese representatives meet in Paris to begin peace negotiations. It is the first-time negotiators from both nations meet face-to-face. Formal negotiations open three days later, but immediately come to a standstill. The two nations continue to hold talks until 1973.

1969 (May 10): In Operation APACHE SNOW, elements of the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division, 9th Marine Regiment, and a South Vietnamese infantry regiment move to disrupt North Vietnamese activities in the A Shau Valley. The valley is an important enemy staging area for the Ho Chi Minh Trail. In an assault on Ap Bia Mountain on May 11, allied forces meet heavy resistance from multiple enemy battalions in fortified positions. Allied troops secure the mountain on May 20 after suffering significant casualties. American servicemen and journalists name it the battle of "Hamburger Hill." It is one of the bloodiest engagements of the war. APACHE SNOW concludes on June 7 and succeeds in forcing North Vietnamese troops out of the valley, but they return shortly after U.S. forces leave the area.

1970 (May 1): The U.S. Air Force and Navy fly the first large-scale strikes against targets in North Vietnam since the bombing halt of 1968. President Nixon orders them as "protective reaction strikes" in retaliation for North Vietnamese anti-aircraft and SAM attacks on U.S. reconnaissance aircraft. Almost 500 American aircraft strike missile sites and anti-aircraft emplacements over the course of four days. Officials at the Pentagon publicly acknowledge these strikes on May 3.

1970 (May 4): Antiwar demonstrations erupt on over 400 college and university campuses across the United States in the wake of the Cambodian incursion. Amid protests on the campus of Kent State University in Ohio, National Guardsmen fire at students. Four students are killed and nine are wounded. The shootings at Kent State become a focus of national attention and perhaps trigger as much outrage as the incursion itself, spurring the spread of demonstrations. Protests continue to break out nationwide over the following weeks, reinvigorating the antiwar movement.

1970 (May 9): A SEALORDS combined South Vietnamese-U.S. naval task force proceeds up the Mekong River into Cambodia as part of the Cambodian Incursion. Its main objective is to disrupt North Vietnamese and Viet Cong use of the river as an infiltration route into South Vietnam. The task force consists of river patrol, assault, and transport boats as well as helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. South Vietnamese naval units reach the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh. U.S. personnel are allowed only a short distance into Cambodia and stop halfway to Phnom Penh at Neak Luong, securing the strategic Highway 1 river crossing over the Mekong. U.S. boats return to South Vietnam by the end of June, but South Vietnamese forces continue to guard the Cambodian stretches of the Mekong through the summer.

1970 (May 28): The National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia incorporates in Washington D.C. The league emerges from a movement begun in the late 1960s in California and Virginia by the families of POWs. Its stated objective is “to obtain the release of all prisoners, the fullest possible accounting of the missing, and repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving our nation during the Vietnam War.” The National League of Families becomes the largest of the POW/MIA family organizations and helps focus public attention on prisoner-of-war issues.

1972 (May 2): As part of the Easter Offensive, two North Vietnamese army divisions, supported by tanks and heavy artillery, launch an assault on Kontum, a key provincial capital city in the Central Highlands. The defending South Vietnamese forces are supported by U.S. Air Force air support and U.S. Army advisers, air cavalry, and attack helicopters. After two months of intense fighting, the allied forces defeat the North Vietnamese units and end the siege of the city.

1972 (May 9): In retaliation for the North Vietnamese Easter Offensive, President Nixon orders U.S. aviators flying A-7 Corsairs and A-6 Intruders from the carrier USS *Coral Sea* to begin mining the waters surrounding North Vietnamese seaports, including the vital port of Haiphong. Over 85 percent of the North’s military supplies flow through these ports, and the mines are intended to interdict the materiel powering the Communist offensive. The mining is labeled Operation POCKET MONEY.

1972 (May 10): In response to the Easter Offensive, The U.S. Air Force and Navy begin the massive aerial bombardment of targets in North Vietnam, known as Operation LINEBACKER. The bombings last until October, and their objective is to destroy or interdict North Vietnam’s military supplies in order to turn back the Communist invasion of South Vietnam. Targets include roads, bridges, military bases, power plants, warehouses, and petroleum storage facilities. President Nixon also hopes LINEBACKER will compel the North Vietnamese to negotiate an acceptable peace agreement. In LINEBACKER, U.S. aircraft drop over 150,000 tons of bombs in North Vietnam. The operation is the first sustained bombing campaign to extensively use laser-guided and electro-optically guided munitions. It helps stall the Easter Offensive and is one of the most effective campaigns of the war.

1972 (May 16): MAG 12 deploys to Bien Hoa to help provide air support to those allied forces countering the North Vietnamese Easter Offensive.

Jeff Dombroff  
Vietnam War Commemoration Committee Chairman  
cdrpost9835@vfwva.org

Official:



Ed Mann  
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Eric Mallett  
State Commander











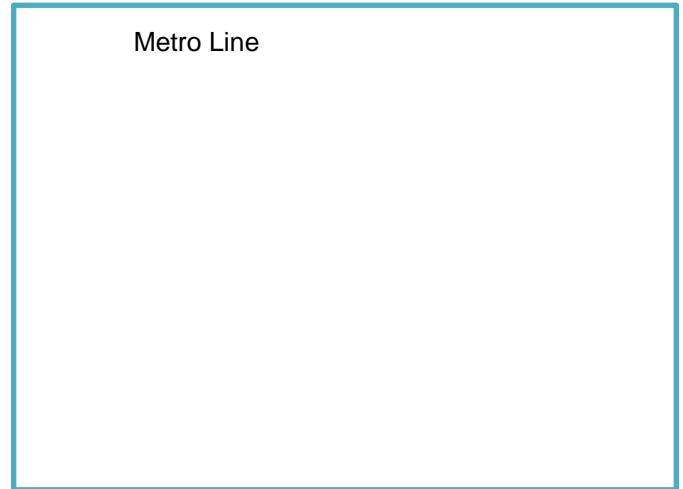








1. Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor (HQ VFW)  
Connected to Convention Center
2. Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor (HQ Auxiliary)  
Connected to Convention Center
3. Sheraton Inner Harbor  
Connected to Convention Center
4. Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards  
1 Block
5. Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel  
2 Blocks





122nd VFW National Convention 2021  
July 31-August 5, 2021 – Baltimore, MD

## 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/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention)

### TELEPHONE:

Toll-free US: 800.282.6632  
International: 410.837.4636  
8:30 am to 5:30 pm EST, Mon-Fri

**FAX:** 410.659.8398

### MAIL:

Visit Baltimore-VFW Housing  
400 East Pratt Street, 10<sup>th</sup> FL  
Baltimore, MD 21202

### EMAIL:

[Conventionhousing@baltimore.org](mailto:Conventionhousing@baltimore.org)

### DEADLINE

Reservations must be made by phone, fax, mail, or internet by **May 27, 2021**. Reservations received after this date will be subject to space and rate availability.

### CONFIRMATIONS

Visit Baltimore 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 Orchid Events at the above listed phone number.

### TAX RATE & REQUESTS

All rates are per room and are subject to a room tax up to 15.5% and a daily 2% tourism surcharge fee (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 will not be accepted without a room deposit of one night's room and tax for each room reserved. Room deposits will be accepted in the form of a valid credit card (preferred) with signature authorizing the credit card guarantee to be charged for the deposit. If the charge to the credit card is denied, we reserve the right to release your reservation. Room Deposits will be accepted by check made payable to "Visit Baltimore" in the amount of one night's room and tax until June 1, 2021.

### CANCELLATION POLICY:

One night's room & tax will be forfeited entirely if cancellation occurs within 72 hours prior to the attendee arrival date and will be charged by your hotel.

### GUEST INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

FOR BEST AVAILABILITY AND IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE AT [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention) OR BY PHONE AT 800.282.6632 (toll-free) OR 410.837.4636 (Intl).

**Arrival Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Departure Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) or similar statutes, by checking this box you are consenting to our use of the information you are providing us solely for the purpose of making a hotel room reservation.

### 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.

Non-Smoking  Smoking

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

### DEPOSIT INFORMATION

All reservations requests must be accompanied with a one night's room and tax room deposit in the form of a credit card guarantee or check. Housing Forms received without a valid guarantee/deposit will not be processed. Check deposits must be mailed with a completed housing form.

Call me for a valid credit card guarantee. Your hotel reserves the right to charge this card a deposit of one night's room and tax to my credit card on and/or after May 27, 2021 and authorize the participating hotel keep the one nights room & tax charge if I fail to cancel my reservation 72 hours prior to my arrival date. This credit card must be valid through August 2021.

Check deposit of one night's room and tax enclosed and made payable to Visit Baltimore. Mail check with completed housing form to: Visit Baltimore-VFW Housing, 400 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 Must be received no later than June 1, 2021.