VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

"Every Day is Veterans Day"

NUMBER 5 403 Lee Jackson Highway (540) 886-8112

FAX: 866-416-0586 Website: www.vfwva.org Email: statehq@vfwva.org November 1, 2018 Staunton, Virginia 24401 In Virginia 800-888-3521

WIN ONE OF THREE GREAT GUNS!!! GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!!

VFW Department of Virginia Fund Raising Raffle

1st Prize CZU Hammer Coach Double Barrel 12 Gauge Shotgun 2nd Prize Henry 30-30 Rifle 3rd Prize AR15 5.56

Drawing will be January 12, 2019 at VFW Winter Council in Portsmouth, VA
Tickets \$5.00 each

FOR TICKETS CONTACT

Eric Mallett JVC
James Gierlak District 1
Ronnie Steele District 2
Mark Maggio District 3
Gus Villalobos District 4
Johnny Martin District 5
Jerry Jacobsen District 6
Mitch Rubenstein District 7
Geoff Lyster District 8
Howard Minton District 9
Tom Gimble/Randy Coker District 10
Bob Wyman District 13

GUIDE TO THE GENERAL ORDERS:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

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- 2. District Meetings
- 3. Membership Incentives
- 4. Active Membership
- 5. Buddy Poppy
- 6. By-Laws and Manual of Procedure
- 7. Women Veterans Committee
- 8. Citizenship Education Teacher Award
- 9. Computer Available
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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Hello everyone!

The leaves may change color around this time of the year, but one thing has not changed: VFW Virginia continues to do amazing things! Your support for our neighbors who have been hit with hurricanes, your efforts to help your community, and your efforts to prove that "Every Day Is Veterans Day" continue to amaze and humble me. I thank you for all that you do. I also thank you for reporting the work you do, and I am pleased to say we are 100% for the first half of the year. Continue submitting those reports and, starting on November 1st, you will see them go into the second half of the year.

We have had several events in the last month and I want to thank everyone who travelled, attended, and supported those events. The Homecoming event for the President and I was outstanding. Thanks to everyone who came, from all over the state, and for the gifts you gave both Patty and I. Southern Conference is now behind us and we had a delegation that represented Virginia very well. Thanks to everyone who went to Louisville for that.

Membership is moving forward. Virginia is slightly ahead of this time last year. We had an awesome fair and Association of the U.S. Army conference with nearly 100 members being recruited. Now, we need to focus on the renewals for December as nearly 1,500 members are slated to expire on December 31st. I cannot urge you enough to talk to these members and express how important it is that they renew their dues. We are louder in Congress and more capable in our communities with our members and being a life member shows your commitment to our great organization even more!

I am also pleased to announce that all the work needed to open a new Post has been completed. Lynchburg will be getting the new Post and we are looking to open their doors as soon as we can! I want to thank David and Beth Jarrett for their hard work to make this happen.

To the end that membership is important, I am looking for new ways to entice and excite those who recruit and our Posts and Districts. So, you will see five new chances to <u>WIN CASH</u> for the effort you put into membership! An email was sent on October 21st and article #3 in these General Orders discuss it. As we go into the fall, I urge you to check your All-American and All-State checklists to see where you stand. Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year all have deadlines that are fast approaching.

As we go into November, take a moment to remember our fellow veterans. It is a chance for us to stand tall and to check our buddies to see that they are OK. I think about the Vietnam Veterans who have been my mentors for all these years and serve now on my team. I think about those I served with and all that our generation has accomplished. I think about female veteran, like my grandmother who served in the Korean war and is a life member of Post 2582 in Suffolk, and the amazing accomplishments they can claim. We are a multigenerational organization and that has made us stronger. So, on this upcoming Veterans Day, look to your left and right and make sure our Comrades are OK. And, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for all that you have been and continue to be because of your service in uniform.

Ken Wiseman State Commander Department of Virginia

DISTRICT MEETINGS: 2.

Date:

11/03/18

1st

Lunch: Meeting: Location:	11:00 AM to follow Lunch Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive	8 th	Date: Lunch: Meeting: Location:	11/17/18 12:00 Noon 1:00 PM Post 3103, Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne St
кер.	End Mallett, Jr. vice Commander		Rep:	Tom Gimble, Quartermaster
Date:	11/17/18		•	
Lunch:	12 Noon	9 th	Date:	01/27/19
Meeting:	1:00 PM		Registration:	10:00 AM
Location:	Post 3160, Norfolk		Lunch:	12 Noon
	111 A View Ave		Meeting:	1:00 PM
Rep:	Tom Hines, State Chief of Staff		Location:	Post 7726, Independence 115 Klondike Road
Date:	10/27/2018		Rep:	Ken Wiseman, State Commander
Meeting:	10:00 AM		•	
Lunch:	to follow Meeting	10 th	Date:	12/09/18
Location:	Post 9808, Mechanicsburg		Lunch:	11:30 AM
	7168 Flag Lane		Meeting:	1:00 PM
Rep:	Eddie Reasor, State Surgeon		Location:	Post 8241, McLean
	Meeting: Location: Rep: Date: Lunch: Meeting: Location: Rep: Date: Meeting: Lunch: Location:	Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander Date: 11/17/18 Lunch: 12 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 3160, Norfolk 111 A View Ave Rep: Tom Hines, State Chief of Staff Date: 10/27/2018 Meeting: 10:00 AM Lunch: to follow Meeting Location: Post 9808, Mechanicsburg 7168 Flag Lane	Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander Date: 11/17/18 Lunch: 12 Noon 9th Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 3160, Norfolk 111 A View Ave Rep: Tom Hines, State Chief of Staff Date: 10/27/2018 Meeting: 10:00 AM Lunch: to follow Meeting 10th Location: Post 9808, Mechanicsburg 7168 Flag Lane	Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Location: Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Location: Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander Rep: Date: 11/17/18 Lunch: 12 Noon 9th Date: Meeting: 1:00 PM Registration: Location: Post 3160, Norfolk 111 A View Ave Meeting: Rep: Tom Hines, State Chief of Staff Date: 10/27/2018 Rep: Meeting: 10:00 AM Lunch: to follow Meeting 10th Date: Location: Post 9808, Mechanicsburg 7168 Flag Lane Meeting:

1051 Springhill Rd

4th Date: 11/17/18 Ken Wiseman, State Commander Rep: 1:00 PM Meeting:

Post 7059, Farmville 11th Location: 1/26/19 Date: 1616 Graham Road Lunch: 11:30 AM Rick Raskin, Sr Vice Commander Meeting: 12:30 PM Rep:

Location: Post 632, Harrisonburg 5th Date: 11/17/18 450 Waterman Drive

Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander Lunch: 12:00 Noon Rep:

Meeting: to follow Lunch Post 4637, Martinsville 12th 12/08/18 Location: Date:

2327 Old Chatham Rd Meeting: 10:00 AM

Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander Location: Post 1994, Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway

6th Date: 11/18/18 Rep: Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander

Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: VAMC, Roanoke 13th 12/01/18 Date

1970 Roanoke Blvd, Building 5 Meeting: 12:00 Noon Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander Rep: Lunch: After Meeting

Location: Post 1827 Charlottesville

7th 1170 River Rd Date: 01/19/19

Meeting: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander 11:30 AM Rep: Post 2447, Edinburg Location:

100 Veterans Way

Ken Wiseman, State Commander Rep:

3. **MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES:**

The State Commander has announced additional membership awards for Posts, Districts, and individual recruiters:

- 1) All Posts who make 100% by December 31st will be entered into a drawing. Three (3) Posts will be picked and they will get a personal check from me for \$200. You can put that money towards anything you want. The official membership statistics issued by the National HQs of the VFW, dated December 31st, 2018, will be the information used to determine who enters the drawing.
- 2) The District with the highest percentage gain in membership for the period starting October 21st and ending December 31st will receive a check for \$150. The official membership statistics issued by the National HQs of the VFW, dated December 31st, 2018, will be the information used to determine who enters the drawing. If there is a tie for first place, all Districts in the tie will get a check for \$150.

- 3) The District with the highest numeric gain in membership for the period starting October 21st and ending December 31st will receive a check for \$150. The official membership statistics issued by the National HQs of the VFW, dated December 31st, 2018, will be the information used to determine who enters the drawing. If there is a tie for first place, all Districts in the tie will get a check for \$150.
- 4) The District with the most Posts to make 100% in membership by December 31st, 2018 will get a check for \$150. The official membership statistics issued by the National HQs of the VFW, dated December 31st, 2018, will be the information used to determine who enters the drawing. If there is a tie for first place, all Districts in the tie will get a check for \$150.
- 5) The members who recruit the most from today through December 31st will also get cash prizes. The top five (5) recruiters who recruit at least five (5) new or reinstated members, annual or life, will be awarded \$100. The official recruiting report issued by the National HQs of the VFW, dated December 31st, 2018, will be the information used to determine who wins. This is based on increase over time from today, not including your total as of October 21st. So, someone who has recruited zero as of October 21st, 2018 and recruits five by December 31st, 2018 will have credit for five recruits. Someone who has 61 recruited as of October 21st, 2018 and has recruited 66 as of December 31st, 2018 will have credit for five recruits.

All funding for these contests will come from the State Commander personally.

4. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The National By-Laws provide for only one type of membership: active membership. There are no provisions in the National By-Laws, nor is there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership cards, Associate Member cards, Honorary Membership cards, or any other special cards. Any Post issuing 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 By-Laws or procedures.

5. BUDDY POPPY:

Plans should be done for the Veterans Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. Contact State Headquarters to place your order for Buddy Poppies. Remember that your Poppies should be ordered a minimum of 6 to 8 weeks in advance of your distribution date. Miscellaneous items (coin cans, caps, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at https://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy.

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

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

6. BY-LAWS AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE:

All officers should obtain current 2019 copies of the podium edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2019 revised edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 119th National Convention, which became effective on August 24, 2018.

7. WOMEN VETERANS COMMITTEE:

The Women Veterans Committee will host a meeting on January 12th, 2019 during the Mid-Winter Conference in Portsmouth. All woman who are veterans and members of either the VFW or VFW Auxiliary are invited to attend. As this is a new committee, we will be meeting with each other to discuss future project ideas.

8. CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD:

The deadline for submission of nominations to the Post was **October 31**st. Post judging should be completed and forwarded to District by **November 15th**. District judging should be completed by **December 15th** and nominations forwarded to the Department Chairman no later than **December 20th**.

Posts:

- (1) Nomination letters should be on letterhead paper and signed (original only no copies)
- (2) Ensure packets are complete including the Post Teacher Entry Form. (See attached flyer for more information.
- (3) Include Post information (Post number, contact name and phone number) on the Nomination Form.

Districts:

- (1) Please ensure teacher nominations are complete before forwarding them to Department. By the time I receive the nominations, I do not have the time to go back to the Post to try and get the missing items (resume, photograph, etc.)
- (2) Complete the Post Teacher Entry Form listing all information called for.
- (3) I will be mailing District Chairmen the required report forms shortly. These forms should be submitted with your teacher nominations.
- (4) Submit your winning nominations to the address listed below:

Chris Birch 304 E. Main Street Berryville, VA 22611-1306

If you have any questions, call me at (540) 955-3311/(540) 539-5446 or email me at bigredtruk@comcast.net/cbirch@vfwva.org.

Chris Birch Past State Commander Chairman

9. 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 Sr. Vice Commander

10. CONTROL OF UNITS:

All Commanders are reminded that Section 709, Manual of Procedure - Control of Units, requires that any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or in behalf of a Post, County Council, District or Department shall be at all times under the direct control of such Post, County Council, District or Department and that all money, property or assets of any kind or nature, must be placed in the care and custody of the respective Quartermaster. All Commanders should ensure that all provisions of Section 709 are enforced.

11. DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Members now can 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.

12. 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.

13. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 19**th. 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 Vfw2019# 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 gmpost176@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. IMPORTANT DATES:

January 11-13, 2019 Winter Council, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA. Phone

757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$86.00 per night. Group name "Veterans of Foreign Wars-

Winter Council Meeting". Cut-off Date December 11, 2018.

June 13-16, 2019 State Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, 425 Water Street,

Portsmouth, VA; phone 757-673-3000. Room Rates are \$127.00 per night. Group name

"VFW Department of Virginia Annual Convention"; Cut-off Date May 13, 2019.

16. INCORPORATION:

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

17. IRS FORM 8822-B:

IRS form 8822-B. It is now a requirement by the IRS that all Posts submit this form. This form must be submitted 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.

18. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

<u>Legacy Life Membership:</u> 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.

Enrollm	ent Cost	:	Annual Payouts:	Post:	Department:	National:	
Levels:	Gold- Silver-	\$1200.00 \$800.00 - \$400.00		\$18.00 \$12.00 \$6.00	\$18.00 \$12.00 \$6.00	\$18.00 \$12.00 \$6.00	

What will your Legacy be?

19. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING:

Congratulations to Russell Mitchell Post 609 as the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. Russell Mitchell Post 609 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 75% of their membership goal reported to State Headquarters by the September 28, 2018 deadline.

The next drawing will be October 31st, 2018 for Posts who show at least 85% in membership.

20. MEMBERSHIP:

Commanders and Comrades,

We are doing well in membership so far. As always there are things we can improve, on like renewals. Our largest date for expirations is still December 31st. Now is the time for you to reach out and have them renew before we get into the holiday season. Let's be realistic, from the week before Thanksgiving until after January 1st, not much happens. At this month's meeting go over the ones in your Post that are expiring, their best friend or neighbor may be sitting in the meeting. Ask them to visit the member and persuade them to renew. The reasons they should are endless but keeping support for our future veterans is key. Without their help the VA system may start to disappear.

COMRADES WE HAVE THE NUMBERS TO START THE NEW POST IN LYNCHBURG! David and Beth Jarrett have more than enough recruits with all the required documentation to apply for the charter. We are very grateful to them for the continued commitment for over a year to make this a reality. They have made arrangements to hold their meetings at the new Marine Corp League building. The date for institution will be announced by the State Commander as soon as the details and schedules are worked out. Please show support for this very important event when it happens. It takes a lot of long hours and money out of one's own pocket to start a Post, lets show David and Beth that we are grateful by showing up at the installation.

This year's State Fair was again a success, a special thanks to Kathy Goodall and Commander Ken, for carrying the load. Kathy worked tirelessly during the entire week and one weekend while I was under the weather with the mother

of all chest colds. Thanks to Andy Smith and Fritz Eley for helping for a day. This year the team recruited members into seven Districts and 24 Posts with 11 Post receiving more than one member. As in the past 2 years Fredericksburg Post 3103 got the most with 9. However, Mechanicsville Post 9808 was very close to dethroning them with 8 new members. It will take a while for some to show up because they are life installment recruits. We finished the event with 55 new or reinstated, with quite a few being Life or Life Installment. Always show them the Life Member plans then fall back to annual if necessary to close the deal. It was another great year at the AUSA annual event. Geoff Lyster was awesome and Commander Ken as well. In three days, they signed up 44 members. Great recruiting gentleman!!!

We have a recruiter school scheduled by 1st District Commander Jim Gierlak on November 4th. If anyone is interested in attending contact Jim directly because space is limited. As always, we are here to help you succeed with your membership goals. We have quite a few Post and Districts that are below the State Average of 82%, contact us if you would like us to help. Thanks for the effort so far.

Tom Hines, PDC Chief of Staff Membership Team

21. OFFICE CLOSURE:

The State Headquarters and Hopewell Service Office will be closed November 12, 2018 in observance of Veterans Day and will close at noon on November 21, 2018 and reopen November 26, 2018 for Thanksgiving. The State Commander/Adjutant and Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

22. 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.

23. POST AND DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING:

The State Service Officer, Bobbiejo Lazo, will be leading training for those Post and District Service Officers who are able to attend. The training will be held at the Mid-Winter Conference in Portsmouth on January 12th, 2018. This training fulfills a requirement to offer training but **DOES NOT** meet the requirements for accreditation. The VFW does not accredit Post or District Service Officers. Details on the times and location for the training are in the agenda for the Mid-Winter Conference in the back of the General Orders.

24. PATRIOTS PEN:

The Patriot's Pen competition is an awesome opportunity for Middle School students to express their sense of patriotism. An essay contest by nature, students are offered prizes of various types. This year will be no different and we are looking forward to great entries.

The brochure for the program can be found at https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/Community/Youth-and-Education/Patriots-Pen-Student-Entry-Form-and-Brochure.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20180316T180648Z

Other materials that may be helpful can be found on the VFW's website, www.vfw.org. After you log into the site, click "My VFW", followed by "Training and Support". Last, choose the "Community Service, Scholarships, and Awards" tab and pick Patriot's Pen. You will see several items that might be useful as well as the needed reports.

Please mail your DISTRICT winners to Past State Commander Buddy Weekly at 595 Bowman Rd, Dayton, VA 22821. The due date for submission for State judging is December 20, 2018. You should include your District's "District Reporting Packet" that can be found with the same directions in the previous paragraph.

25. REPORTING:

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.

26. ROSTER UPDATES:

COA Chairman 11th District JVC VFW Post 10826 Commander's email echavis1938@gmail.com

VFW Post 7059 New Quartermaster James Pertuelli 424 Cook Johnson Rd Prospect, VA 23960

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

27. V-MAIL:

Go online to http://www.vfw.com to stay in communication with other Posts as well as with National Headquarters. Check in often for important VFW updates and news from national. The VFW Membership Department will be using this avenue for communication more regularly. If you need assistance logging in or your password, contact Leticia Cortez in the Membership Department at 816-756-3390, ext. 6292.

28. VFW RIDERS:

Comrades,

July 2019 the VFW Riders Virginia are going to ride to the VFW National Convention in Orlando, FL. Our goal is to raise money to carry to the VFW National Convention's Howard E. Vander Clute Ride prior to the start of the Convention. Last year we donated \$15,001 from the Department 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 our veterans through the National Veterans and Military Services program. 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:

Ken Wiseman
Department of Virginia Commander/Adjutant
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

29. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Competition 2018-2019

The Voice of Democracy (VOD) is the VFW's premier scholarship program. Each year over 40,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. This year's theme is "Why My Vote Matters." All program rules, forms and brochures are available at http: www.vfw.org.

2018-2019 Program Reporting Deadlines

November 15 - Completion of Post judging

December 15 - Completion of District judging

December 22 - Department VOD Selection Board

January 10 - Completion of Department judging

January 15 - District Participation Reports due to Department Chairman

January 15 - Department winners due to National

The top three awards will be presented to the Department winners at the Department Winter Council meeting on January 12, 2019. Please be sure to send your District Chairman all the information that is required. This includes the completed Official Student Entry Form. A typed script, audio CD or a flash drive (one student per CD) and a photograph of the District winner. Please verify that your recorded CD plays on a standard CD player. If you do not include the information that is required in the VOD guidelines, your District winner will not be eligible to compete at the Department level. District Chairmen must also complete the District Participation Report. The District first place winning submissions shall be mailed to the Dept VOD Chairman at: **P.O. Box 1196, Warrenton, VA, 20188**. All submissions must be received by December 21, 2018. The Department VOD Selection Board will be held on December 22, 2018 in Warrenton, VA.

Voice of Democracy Department Awards

The top three finalists will be invited to the Winter Council Luncheon in Portsmouth on January 12, 2019. All three finalists will receive their awards and be expected to present their audio essays at the luncheon awards ceremony. The specific places - first, second and third place will be revealed at the awards ceremony. The winning first place student will receive \$2,000.00 from the Department; \$500.00 from the Commander's Club and an additional check from the Auxiliary. The second-place winner will receive \$1,500.00, and the third-place winner will receive \$1,000.00. Each Post that Participates in the Voice of Democracy Program will receive a Department Citation.

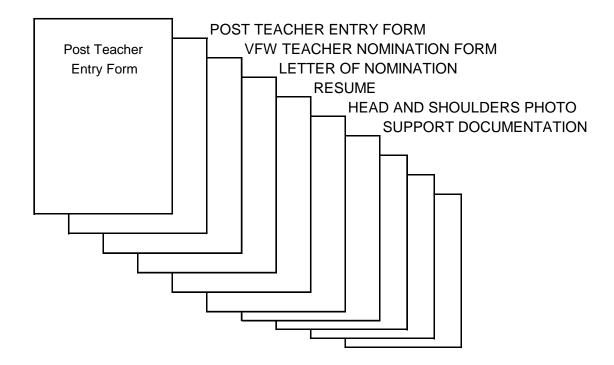
The Post that sponsors the Department's first place winner will be awarded the Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Trophy at the Department Convention on June 13, 2019. If you have any questions regarding this year's VOD program, please let me know. Thanks.

Geoffrey D. Lyster Chairman, Voice of Democracy Program

By Order of:

Ken Wiseman State Commander State Adjutant

VFW TEACHER OF THE YEAR CHECKLIST



- 1 Post Teacher Entry Form. Filled-out, signed at the Post and District Level
- 2 VFW Teacher Nomination Form
- 3 Letter of Nomination: Should be on <u>letterhead</u>, <u>dated</u>, <u>signed</u>. <u>Original only</u>; 350 words
- 4 Resume: 1 page, both sides
- 5 Head and Shoulders Photo: Any size okay no grainy computer pictures
- 6 Support Documentation. Up to 5 pages, both sides. Information to support letter of nomination, i.e. programs, newspaper clippings, etc.

NEATNESS COUNTS

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JANUARY 4th WINTER COUNCIL MEETING

January 11 – 13, 2019
Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel ~ Portsmouth, Virginia ~ 757-673-3000 ~ \$86.00 Per night

(Group Rate Deadline is December 11th)

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR BANQUET TICKET \$45.00

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

Tidewater Buffet

Mixed Greens with assorted dressings / Tangy Cucumber Salad / House Made Coleslaw Shrimp and Roasted Garlic Cavatappi Pasta / Southern Style Fried Chicken Green Beans and Bacon / Wild Rice / Whipped Red Bliss Potatoes Rolls Assorted Pies

Regular & Decaf Coffee, Iced Tea and Water

RETURN THIS PORTION TO STATE HEADQUARTERS BY <u>JANUARY 4, 2019</u> (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Check Discover American Express Visa or MasterCard Accepted

Check, Discover, Amer	ican Express, Visa, or MasterCard Accepted	<i></i>
Person placing the order (name)	Phone:	
Please fill out completely for each person you are registering	including Post number or Auxiliary number:	
Name:	Post/Aux:	
Please charge my card: \$ Name	on Card:	
Please Circle One: Discover American Express MasterCard	d Visa SIGNATURE:	
Card Number:	Exp. Date:Billing	J Zip Code

Mail form to: State Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401

You may also e-mail this form to: statehq@vfwva.org or fax it to: 1-866-416-0586 if paying by Credit Card only

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

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AND VFW AUXILIARY

Winter Council of Administration Meeting
January 11 - January 13, 2019
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
Portsmouth, Virginia
757-673-3000

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2019

Noon	5:00 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
4:30 PM	6:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Line Officers Meeting	Jefferson Room
6:15 PM	7:00 PM	District Presidents' Meeting	Portsmouth V
7:00 PM	9:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting	Portsmouth V
9:00 PM	1:00 AM	VFW Riders Dance	Portsmouth I-III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019

8:00 AM	3:00 PM	VFW Headquarters Table Open	Washington Board Room
8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Commanders Club Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
8:00 AM	8:45 AM	VFW Auxiliary Floor Practice	Portsmouth V
9:15 AM	12:00 PM	VFW Council of Administration Meeting	Portsmouth VI-VIII
9:00 AM	2:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting	Portsmouth V
9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Service Officer Training	Amphitheater
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	VFW Riders Meeting	Madison
1:30 PM	2:00 PM	Women Veterans Workshop	Portsmouth VI-VIII
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	Membership & Recruiting Workshop	Portsmouth VI-VIII
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	VFW Auxiliary Program Chairmen	Portsmouth V
4:00 PM	6:00 PM	VOD & PP BANQUET	Holley Ballroom
7:00 PM	8:00 PM	MOC Meeting	Madison
7:00 PM	8:00 PM	MOCA Meeting	Portsmouth V

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

9:00 AM 9:30 AM Joint Devotional Service Holley Ballroom IV

TEACHER OF THE YEAR, VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, AND PATRIOT'S PEN BANQUET TICKETS: \$45.00 FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE VFW RIDERS

Department Hospitality Room – Commodore Room Tenth District Hospitality Room – Hospitality Suite 715 Hospitality Room – Studio Suite 615

(Tentative schedule subject to change)