

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 4

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

"Every Day is Veterans Day"

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

October 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:

1. Commander's Message
2. District Meetings
3. Active Membership
4. Buddy Poppy
5. By-Laws and Manual of Procedure
6. Candidate for the Office of State Quartermaster
7. Computer Available
8. Control of Units
9. Digital Membership Cards
10. Dues Notice Schedule
11. E-Mail Account Access
12. General Orders
13. Important Dates
14. Incorporation
15. IRS Form 8822-B
16. Legacy Life Membership
17. Membership
18. Office Closure
19. Parliamentary Authority
20. Partners in Patriotism
21. Patriot's Pen
22. Post Officer's Duties
23. Proof of Eligibility
24. Reporting
25. Resolution Decisions
26. Roster Updates
27. Scholarship Themes
28. Teacher of the Year
29. V-MAIL
30. Voice of Democracy
31. Actions of the State Council of Administration
32. Veterans Crises Line and Suicide Prevention Month

1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Hello everyone!

We are moving through this year at a fast pace. We had our Fall Council of Administration meeting and are preparing for the State Fair. Homecoming is just around the corner (please RSVP if you have not done so already) and we will be into the holidays, Southern Conference, and the Mid-Winter Conference before we know it. With time flying by, NOW is the time to get things done!

I want to thank all the people and Posts who helped spread the word on the hurricane and to those Posts who were ready to receive people in their time of need. The VFW is more than just people and we are connected to our communities by more than just a building on Main Street. But it is those members who step up when their community needs them and those buildings that become shelters which solidify our position in the community after an event like this one. We are the VFW and supporting our community is an essential part of who we are.

I would like to say a special thanks to Doug Hoffman of Post 3160. Of the three truckloads of supplies we were able to deliver (in addition to financial support), Doug personally drove two of them. Further, these loads were driven in a truck owned by his company and they were willing to donate the truck for use as well as a significant donation to fill the first load Doug brought all the way from Florida and into North Carolina to deliver. Doug took time off from work to help. It is member like Doug that make us such a strong organization.

Reporting your Post's activities is a major conversation piece this month. **OCTOBER 31ST IS THE DEADLINE FOR REPORTING FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR.** Please get your reports in for all five categories.

Membership is moving along at a steady pace. We have added the largest number of members that we will see in one day and that was our life members. The next largest is more of a flow than a bump. I am talking about the 550 annual members who will all expire on December 31st. They receive their first dues notice in the opening week of October.

Annual membership retention is key, and we are finding that we are a little behind on it. In fact, we can already point to the 218 annual members who have expired since July. When you combine that with the 202 annual members who will expire in October and 185 in November, I cannot stress enough how important it is to work the list of annual members in your Post who need to renew. State HQs does email blasts to try and get some of them to renew and I hope you will help by visiting, calling, and emailing yourself.

The State Council of Administration, comprised of your District Commanders and other senior officers, met in Staunton on September 23rd. I want to urge you to read the section in this edition of the General Orders (Article number 32) that highlights the changes we made which will impact your Posts. I will also repeat my advice in an earlier email and tell you to order the 2019 National By-laws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual as major changes were made at the National Convention this summer.

Finally, congratulations to Tom Gimble on his election to fill the term of State Quartermaster for the remainder of this year. He is doing an outstanding job and is a great battle buddy for me at State HQs. I look forward to finishing the year with him and accomplishing as much as possible.

We are always here to help you in any way we can, and I cannot urge you enough to reach out to us for help. Your District Commander, the other state officers, and I truly care and will do anything we can to help. "Every Day is Veterans Day" in Virginia and it is up to us to keep the VFW strong so that we can continue to prove it!

Ken Wiseman
State Commander
Department of Virginia

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------|---|
| 1 st | Date: 11/3/18 Lunch: 11am Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 176, Newport News 21 Forrest Drive Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Cdr | 8 th | Date: 11/17/18 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 3103, Fredericksburg 2701 Princess Anne St Rep: Tom Gimble, Quartermaster |
| 2 nd | 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 | 9 th | Date: 12/09/18 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 8241, McLean 1051 Springhill Rd Rep: Ken Wiseman, State Commander |
| 3 rd | Date: 10/27/18 Meeting: 10:00 AM Lunch: to follow Meeting Location: Post 9808, Mechanicsville 7168 Flag Lane Rep: Eddie Reasor, State Surgeon | 10 th | Date: 1/26/19 Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting: 12:30 PM Location: Post 632, Harrisonburg 450 Waterman Drive Rep: Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander |
| 4 th | Date: 11/17/18 Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7059, Farmville 1616 Graham Road Rep: Rick Raskin, Sr Vice Commander | 11 th | Date: 12/08/18 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: Post 1994, Abingdon 17581 Lee Highway Rep: Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander |
| 5 th | Date: 11/17/18 Lunch: 12:00 Noon Meeting: to follow Lunch Location: Post 4637, Martinsville 2327 Old Chatham Rd Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Commander | 12 th | Date: 12/01/18 Meeting: 12:00 Noon Lunch: After Meeting Location: Post 1827 Charlottesville 1170 River Rd Rep: Eric Mallett, Jr. Vice Cdr |
| 6 th | Date: 11/18/18 Meeting: 2:00 PM Location: VAMC, Roanoke 1970 Roanoke Blvd, Building 5 Rep: Rick Raskin, Sr. Vice Commander | 13 th | |
| 7 th | Date: 01/19/19 Meeting: 11:30 AM Location: Post 2447, Edinburg 100 Veterans Way | | |

3. 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, 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 By-Laws or procedures.

4. BUDDY POPPY:

Contact your Department Quartermaster to place your order for “Buddy”® Poppies. Remember that your Poppies should be ordered a minimum of 12 weeks in advance of your distribution date. *Be sure to specify a date by which the poppies are required; do not use, “ASAP.”* Miscellaneous items (coin cans, caps, buttons, posters, etc.) should be ordered directly from the VFW Store at <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/buddypoppy> or the VFW Store/Emblem and Supply Catalog.

“To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.” The Manual of Procedure provides that Post relief funds may be used for programs such as Voice of Democracy, Youth Essay, 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 provides that non-profit organizations, exempt from taxes under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, may assist with the distribution of “Buddy”® Poppies, provided there shall be no division of proceeds. A donation to these groups may be made from the Post general fund.

5. 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.

6. CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE QUARTERMASTER:

I, Kenneth Wiseman, do hereby announce my candidacy for State Quartermaster for the 2019-2020 year.

I, Tom Ferguson, do hereby announce my candidacy for State Quartermaster for the 2019-2020 year.

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 Sr. Vice Commander

8. 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.

9. 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 on their smart phone.

10. 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.

11. E-MAIL ACCOUNT ACCESS:

All email accounts were reset so the new Officers could take control of their emails as of **June 19th**. 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 cdmpost176@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 cdmdist1@vfwva.org for Districts other than the first just replace the 1 with your district #

adjdist1@vfwva.org
qmdist1@vfwva.org

12. 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.

13. IMPORTANT DATES:

- October 13 State Commander and President’s Homecoming, Crozet, VA. **RSVP NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30TH**. (See Attachment)
- October 18-21 Southern Conference, Louisville, KY
- 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.

14. INCORPORATION:

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

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

15. 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.

16. 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?

17. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades and Commanders,

One fourth of our year is behind us. Our Life Members were added and now you can see exactly where your Post and District stand. I hope all of you look at the National MemStats report, to keep informed on how well you are doing.

Today, September 19th, we have 617 new or reinstated members as a Department and this is great. Out of the 617, we have 136 new Life or Reinstated Life Members and that tells me two things. We as a Department are beginning to recruit for Life Membership as we sign up new members. Secondly, new members signing as Life Members. I encourage you to always say, "LET ME SHOW YOU OUR LIFE MEMBERSHIP PLAN" instead of "OUR ANNUAL DUES ARE".

While we are doing well as a Department so far, there are places to improve. We still have 49 Post that have not recruited any new or reinstated members yet. Congratulations to the 2nd, 8th, and 10th Districts who have all of their Posts with at least one new or reinstated member.

Around the State we have all kinds of events going on this month. The major one being the State Fair of Virginia at Meadow Event Park in Doswell. If you attend the fair stop by our recruiting booth in the Pavilion and say hi. We will be there all ten days. Our State Commander and State Inspector will lead a team to a major event with the Association of the U.S. Army Conference and this was paid for by National Headquarters. Please set up a recruiting table at the events in your area. Thank you to the many that have invited the State Headquarters to attend and help at your locations. We really enjoy the time that we can be with you during your event. Please don't hesitate to call State Headquarters or any member of the Membership Team with questions you may have.

We are very close to having a new Post in Virginia as Lynchburg is almost a reality. With 30 recruits having all the paperwork needed, we need just 5 more to reach the required number. Many thanks to David and Beth Jarrett for spearheading the efforts in Lynchburg. Hopefully before the end of the year our State Commander will be instituting Lynchburg. WHAT A GREAT DEPARTMENT WE HAVE!

As always, we are ready to help you with your Membership, be it is planning or execution, give us a call.

Tom Hines, PDC
Membership Team

18. OFFICE CLOSURE:

The State Headquarters will be closed October 8, 2018 in observance of Columbus Day. The State Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster will be available by phone and email for any issues that may arise.

19. 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.

20. 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 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.

21. 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 also include your District's "District Reporting Packet" which can be found with the same directions listed in the previous paragraph.

22. POST OFFICER'S DUTIES:

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

23. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:

Post, District, Department Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters are reminded of the requirements of sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedure regarding 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.

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).

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. RESOLUTION DECISIONS:

Resolution Decisions by VFW National Convention: All comrades interested in seeing the final decisions on VFW Resolutions can find the information on their personal My VFW welcome page after logging onto the National website (<http://vfw.org>). (Scroll down to Member Resources and *119th National Convention Results of Proposed By-Laws, MOP, and Ritual and All National Resolutions*). An updated version of the *National By-Laws, MOP, and Ritual* will incorporate these changes and can be ordered from VFW Emblem and Supply (item # 04108) now for expected shipment in October. A CD/ROM version is also available.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti
Resolutions Committee Chairman

26. ROSTER UPDATES:

District 2 Jr. Vice Commander
Douglas Hoffman
230 Twilley St

VFW Post 10574
New Jr. Vice Commander
Carroll Longerbeam

Norfolk, VA 23503
757-679-2367

917 Garfield Ave
Colonial Beach, VA 22443
804-617-1669

District 2 New Adjuant
Kathy Goodall
3900 Terrywood Dr
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
757-471-4302

District 12 New Commander
Roy "Bud" Davis
216 Elizabethton Hwy
Bluff City, TN 37618
423-967-7223

District 12 New Sr. Vice Commander
David Harwell
965 Pleasant Grove Rd
Bluff City, TN 37618
423-914-2046

District 12 New Jr. Vice Commander
Elizabeth Ann Wicht
29305 Lanier Dr
Meadowview, VA 24361
757-515-6783

District 12 Adjutant
Leon Brimm
14 16th St
Bristol, TN 37620
423-217-9747

VFW Post 5311 New Quartermaster
Elvis Rosario
1300 Bishop Rd
Blacksburg, VA 24060

VFW Post 10574 Commander
James Kilinski
363 Monroe St
Colonial Beach, VA 22443
804-224-3993

VFW Post 10574 Jr. Vice Commander
Carroll Longerbeam
917 Garfield Ave
Colonial Beach, VA 22443
804-617-1669

VFW Post 10574 New QM
Gene Webb
409 Bancroft Ave
Colonial Beach, VA 22443
410-610-6762

VFW Post 12154 Jr Vice Commander
Douglas C. Lucas
1121 Upper Craigs Creek Rd
Catawba, VA 24070
540-765-8721

VFW Post 3160 Commander
New Phone Number
757-647-5976

VFW Post 3160 New Quartermaster
Steven Lindquist
6351 Sangamon Ave
Norfolk, VA 23509
757-510-3075

27. 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."

28. TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

The VFW annually recognizes the nation's top elementary school, middle school and high school teachers for their outstanding commitment to teach Americanism and patriotism to their students. These teachers teach at least half of the school day in a classroom environment and promote America's history, traditions and citizenship education effectively. Check out the Teacher Nomination Form for complete details and the attached flyer for more information. If you need assistance with your program, at any level, please contact me.

Chris Burch
Past State Commander
Chairman

29. 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.

30. 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

October 31 - Student entries to the Post
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 \$1,000.00, and the third-place winner will receive \$500.00. 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

33. ACTIONS OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

During the Fall Council of Administration, the following motions were passed which will impact Posts and Districts:

- 1) The operating hours for State HQs and the Hopewell Service Office will now be Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm.
- 2) Updates to the paper version of reporting forms have been made to align those forms more with the online reporting site. (Copies of the new forms are included as an attachment here and are posted on the state's website, www.vfwva.org)
- 3) The State HQs will operate raffles this year for items other than Bass Pro Shop. The requirements of the raffles are posted on the first page of this month's General Orders

34. VETERNS CRISES LINE AND SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

September is Suicide Prevention Month — which is the perfect time to share a life-saving resource: the Veterans Crisis Line. This confidential, toll-free, 24-hour-a-day hotline serves Veterans and their loved ones year-round. Reach qualified, caring responders

- by phone at 800-273-8255
- <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat>
- by text message at 838255.

By Order of:



Ken Wiseman
State Commander
State Adjutant



2018 HOMECOMING

for

Commander Ken and President Patty

October 13th, 2018

Pro Re Nata Farm Brewery

6135 Rockfish Gap TPKE Crozet, Virginia

4-8pm

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS WITH YOU!

RSVP to adj@vfwva.org by September 30th to attend

VFW POST 4809 (a 501 (c) 19 tax exempt org.)

WITH

“ALLIANCE FOR VETERAN’S HEALTH”

Sponsors A Free
VETERANS HEALTH FAIR



*“AFVH” proudly serves our Veterans
who valiantly fought to protect
this great nation, its people
and our Freedoms!”*

~

VFW POST 4809
5728 BARTEE ST. NORFOLK,
VA 23502

SATURDAY, 6 OCT 2018
FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

Complementary Breakfast and Lunch provided



Veteran Healthcare Screening, Referral and Information Stations:

- Primary care
- Dental
- Mental Health
- Chiropractic
- Physical Therapy
- Dept. of Veteran Services
- Social Worker
- Eyesight
- Women’s Health
- Podiatry
- Hearing (impaired, free phone)
- Interment Counseling
- Hospice Representative
- Home Care Representative
- Employment Opportunities
- And More

Note: Please bring a copy of your Military ID or DD Form 214

Every Veteran will receive a free “THANK YOU” goody bag at the end of their visit!