



MEET THE CHALLENGE!

OCTOBER

Is the Virginia War Memorial Fundraising Month

**ALL POSTS ARE CHALLENGED
TO MAKE A DONATION OF
2.00 PER MEMBER.**

The Department of Virginia VFW will match all
Donations made by Virginia VFW Posts during the
month of October up to \$25,000.

Send your Checks (postmarked by October 31, 2007)

Earmarked VA War Memorial to:

State Headquarters
403 Lee Jackson Hwy
Staunton, VA 24401

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 3

403 Lee-Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

Service to Others

FAX: 866-416-0586

Website: www.vfwva.org

Email: stateheadquarters@va.vfwwebmail.com

September 1, 2007

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

Articles are listed by number not by pages:

- | | |
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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

We are beginning the last month of the first quarter. Schools are starting back up, so please drive carefully. There are many County Fairs, and "Back to School" sales going on, along with Labor Day activities. These are prime recruiting events. By September 30th, all Posts should be at 75% of their membership goal (Life Membership numbers should post about September 15th). National has asked us to try and get 1,300 new Life, Annual or reinstated members by October 31st. That's a big order, but I know Virginia can handle it!

All June 30 Audits should have been received at State Headquarters by this date. Posts who have not submitted their June 30 audits by this time are in violation of the National By-Laws, and are subject to suspension. It is my sad duty to report to you that four Posts have had their Charter's revoked in the past two months, due to inactivity, non-compliance with National By-Laws and lack of active membership. These are terrible consequences which can be avoided if every member jumps in to support all their Post activities to keep the Post vibrate, active and a source of pride in their respective communities.

If any Post Commander is experiencing problems within their respective Post, they should immediately consult with their District Commander, and seek assistance. The Council of Administration will meet on September 22 at State Headquarters. If anyone has something to bring before the Council, please let your District Commander know. I look forward to seeing many of you at President Ellen Stogsdill and my Homecoming on Saturday, September 8th at Post 1503. Please remember that all we do equates down to, "Service To Others".

Congratulations to our Department Staff and Post 7327, for winning the most outstanding VFW websites in the VFW. Job Well Done!

Jimmy Lee Wallace
State Commander

2. SPECIAL ORDER NO. 354

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 210 of the National By-Laws, the Charter of John Robert Beverly, Jr. Memorial Post No. 3125, Doswell, Virginia mustered May 15, 1987, is hereby canceled and the Post declared defunct.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia, and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws.

By order of
Gary L. Kurpius
Commander-in-Chief

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 355

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 210 of the National By-Laws, the Charter of Grottoes Post No. 4468, Purcellville, Virginia mustered December 18, 1963 is hereby canceled and the Post declared defunct.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia, and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws.

By order of
Gary L. Kurpius
Commander-in-Chief

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 356

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 210 of the National By-Laws, the Charter of Eastern Shore Post No. 4856, Exmore, Virginia mustered November 6, 1945, is hereby canceled and the Post declared defunct.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia, and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws.

By order of
Gary L. Kurpius
Commander-in-Chief

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 369

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 210 of the National By-Laws, the Charter of Grottoes Post No. 4698, Grottoes, Virginia mustered November 16, 1969, is hereby canceled and the Post declared defunct.

The Commander, Department of Virginia, will at once recover the charter, rituals, paraphernalia, and all monies and other property of the Post in accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws.

By order of
Gary L. Kurpius
Commander-in-Chief

3. AUDIT REPORTS:

Attention is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure Duty of Trustees, Form P-113. Trustees Report of Audit must be prepared in detail at the close of each quarter, one of which was June 30 and is now past due. Please submit to State Headquarters. 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 records.

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted an Audit Report for the period ending 6/30/07 as of 8/22/07

DIST. 1	176	8629	9358										
DIST. 3	2239	8046	10654	11124									
DIST. 4	2163												
DIST. 5	7568												
DIST. 6	1033	1444	2157	9877	District								
DIST. 7	6044												
DIST. 8	1811	2524	3103	8208									
DIST. 9	4667												
DIST. 10	7916												
DIST. 11	452	3136	4204	9339	9480								
DIST. 12	8652	District											
DIST. 13	2613	2717	10574										

4. BONDS:

All bonds **EXPIRED August 31, 2007**. Please see attached rate schedule for costs of your bond and return completed form and payment to State Headquarters immediately.

DIST. 1	District	960	3219	6002									
DIST. 2	993	3160											
DIST. 3	2239	2583	4639	8046	8356	8529	9224	9501	10387	10654	11124		
DIST. 4	District	2163	2584	7166	8228	8617	8902						
DIST. 5	4637	7568	8243										
DIST. 6	District	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4165	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	5895
	8184	9877											
DIST. 7	District	621	1150	2123	2447	6044	8613	9292	9760	9872			
DIST. 8	1177	2524	7728	8208									
DIST. 9	District	4667	7136	7360	7969	9640							
DIST. 10	609	3150	5412	7327	8815	9274	9478						
DIST. 11	2424	3060	4204	4989	7814	8644	9339	9480					
DIST. 12	District	3782	8652	9600	9830	10310							
DIST. 13	District	1827	2044	8436	8717	10546	10574						

5. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

<p>1ST- Date: 11-17-07 Time: 11:00 AM Meal to follow Location: Post 3219 Phoebus Rep: State CMDR Jimmy Lee Wallace</p>	<p>Date: 03-09-08 Time: 11:30 am Location: Post 1860 Front Royal Rep: TBA</p>
<p>2ND- Date: 11-17-07 Lunch: Noon Meeting: 1:00 PM Location: Post 3160 Norfolk Rep: State SVC Hal Roesch</p>	<p>Date: 5-18-07 Time: 11:30 am Location: Post 9760 Berryville Rep: TBA</p>
<p>3RD- Date: 11-17-07 Meeting: 10:00 AM Location: 3rd District Headquarters Rep: State Judge Advocate Jim Martin</p>	<p>8TH- Date: 09-16-07 Time: 1:00 PM Location: Post 2524 Culpeper Rep: State Judge Advocate Jim Martin</p>
<p>4TH- Date: 11-18-07 Time: 2:00 PM Location: Post 7166 South Hill Rep: State Chief-of-Staff Roy Swanner</p>	<p>9TH- Date: 09-16-07 Time: 10:30 AM Location: Post 1184 Pulaski Rep: State Chaplain Ray Wells</p>
<p>5TH- Date: 11-18-07 Lunch: 12:30 PM Time: Meeting follows lunch Location: Post 1115 Hillsville Rep: State CMDR Jimmy Lee Wallace</p>	<p>10TH- Date: 12-02-07 Time: 1:00 PM Location: Post 9274 Falls Church Rep: State SVC Hal Roesch</p>
<p>6TH- Date: TBA Time: 2:00 PM Location: VAMC Salem Sponsored by: Post Rep: TBA</p>	<p>11TH- Date: 09-16-07 Lunch: 11:30 AM Time: Meeting follows Lunch Location: Post 2216 Staunton Rep: State JVC Rex Faris</p>
<p>7TH- Date: 09-09-07 Time: 11:30 am Location: Post 9660 Broadway Rep: State CMDR Jimmy Lee Wallace</p>	<p>12TH- Date: 09-15-07 Registration: 10:00 AM Meeting Time: 11:00 AM followed by lunch Sponsored by: Post 1994 Abingdon Location: Washington County Moose Lodge 2 ½ miles North of Abingdon on 19N & Alt 58 on Right Side Rep: State SVC Hal Roesch</p>
<p>Date: 12-09-07 Time: 11:30 am Location: Post 2123 Winchester Rep: TBA</p>	<p>13TH- Date: 09-09-07 Time: 1:00 PM Location: Post 7638 Gordonsville Rep: State C-O-S Roy Swanner</p>

6. IMPORTANT DATES:

September 8, 2007	State Commander Jimmy Lee Wallace and Ladies Auxiliary President Ellen Stogsdill Homecoming. VFW Post 1503 Dale City. Information enclosed.
September 22, 2007	Fall Council Meeting, State Headquarters. Meeting starts 9:00 am. Room Rates \$49.00, Comfort Inn, Staunton, VA, Telephone 540-886-5000. Conference Call Info Enclosed.
November 1-4, 2007	Southern Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC. Room Rates \$102.00 at the Marriott Resort at Grande Dunes, 8400 Costa Verde Dr, Myrtle Beach, SC. Registration form attached. Phone 843-449-8880. Room rates through October 1, 2007.
January 18-20, 2007	Winter Council Meeting, Crowne Plaza Fort Magruder Williamsburg 800-227-6963. Hotel Reservation deadline is December 26, 2007.
February 12, 2008	Commander's Official visit at Martinsburg VAMC. 10:00 am

June 12-15, 2008 State Convention Room Rates \$89.00, Sheraton Richmond West Hotel, Richmond, VA, Telephone 804-285-2000. Room rates through May 21, 2008.

August 16-21, 2008 National VFW Convention, Orlando, FL.

August 15-20, 2009 National VFW Convention, Phoenix, AZ.

7. ROSTER CHANGES:

State CMDR	Jimmy Lee Wallace Fax: 202-547-3196	776	CMDR Gary Harris 1303 Wadsworth St Radford, VA 24141 Phone: 540-641-2590
Buddy Poppy Chairman	Kim A. DeShano Post 993 403 Lee Jackson Highway Staunton, VA 24401 Phone: 540-886-8112 Toll Free: 800-866-3521		SVC Tom Aliff 5902 Izaak Walton league Rd Hiwassee, VA 24347
Grand CMDR MOC	Sterling Moninghoff (H) 703-730-2354 (C) 703-994-9622 Email: moninghoff1@comcast.net		JVC Nick Nickloson 606 Fourth St Radford, VA 24141
Legislative/ Resolutions/ Member	Eric A. Hilleman Post 9274 6300 Stevenson Ave Alexandria, VA 22304	824	Avery Simpkins 7609 Bran Don Rd Radford, VA 24141
MAP Chairman	Graham Leaver Post 4809 2085 Silver Lake Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23464 Home: 757-495-8261 Cell: 757-580-8261	960	QM Thomas Randall PO Box 9368 Hampton 23670 Phone: 757-570-3181
MAP Member	Michael C. Agresti, III Post 3150 828 Slaters Lane #101 Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: 703-706-5828	1184	Meeting Night: 1 st Wednesday
PAC Member	Bob Smith 1211 S Thomas St #A Arlington 22204	1503	Post website: vfw1184@verizon.net
VAVS Mtn Home Rep	Emory Sykes 568 Valley Dr Blountville TN 37617 Post 6975 Phone: 423-323-7620		CMDR Ron Laney (H) 703-878-7139 (W) 202-616-7323 (C) 202-305-5735 Email: ron.laney@usdoj.gov
Dist 13	SVC Gary Myers 2647 Courthouse Rd Louisa, VA 23093 Phone: 540-967-5138		SVC Randy Coker (H) 540-288-9854 (W) 703-767-2821 (C) 571-275-0174 Email: randall.coker_contractor@dtra.mil
			JVC Mike Lowe (H) 540-720-3095 (W) 703-784-0443 (C) 540-538-9139 Email: James.m.lowe.ctr@usmc.mil
			QM Jim Spiker (H) 703-590-3210 (W) 703-670-4124 Email: vfw1503qm@comcast.net

2163	CMDR George Beadles, Jr 10679 W Providence Rd Richmond 23236 Phone: 804-674-8986	7327	SVC Christian E Braun 43137 Holtby Sq Chantilly 20152 (H) 703-327-3446 (W) 703-876-8900 Email: chrisandsharon@aol.com
	SVC Andrew Nummer 10011 Qxbridge Circle Richmond 23236	7568	Post Name: Galax VFW Post 7568 Meeting Time: 1 st Tuesday 7:00 PM Post #: 276-728-3917 Website: vfw7568.org
	QM Isaiah Jefferson 13702 Carriage Ck Pl Midlothian 23112 Phone: 804-744-3845	8046	QM William Kassing 2773 Lake Powell Rd Williamsburg 23185
4165	CMDR Edward O. Shelton 311 Darrell Ln Hurt, VA 24563	8947	Post Address: 201 Mineral Ave
	SVC Lewis D. Frazier 3345 Goodman Xing Rd Lynch Station, VA 24571	10574	JVC Earl Nichols 1038 Albrough Blvd Colonial Beach 22443 Phone: 804-224-1285
	JVC William A. Hall 768 Old Pocket Rd Lynch Station, VA 24571	10840	CMDR Malon I Shelton 460 Cordon Rd Callands 24530 Phone: 434-724-4340
	QM James H. Blevins 74 Clinton Dr Evington, VA 24550		
4989	CMDR H T Smith PO Box 181 Monterey 24465		SVC Randy Lee Williams 8375 Truevine Rd Glade Hill 24092 Phone: 540-576-2500
	QM Herbert Lightner PO Box 485 Monterey 24465		JVC David E Cook 2687 Hatchett Rd Penhook 24137 Phone: 540-576-1741
5313	CMDR Nathaniel Miller Phone: 434-298-3934		
7166	CMDR Robert Raymond Phone: 434-636-2918		QM George R Bowles 4639 Mount Carmel Rd Rocky Mount 24151 Phone: 540-576-2464

8. ALL AMERICAN:

Congratulations to Past Department Commander Charles Crouch for earning the status of All American Department Commander. Our congratulation goes out to District Commander Sam Nealey, and to the following Post Commanders, Douglas R. Keller, Post 392, Gary R. Wheelehan, Post 4809, Joe D. Rasnick, Post 5715, John Miska, Post 8208, and James W. Hicks, Post 8652 for achieving this status. Again, congratulations on a job well done!

9. AMERICANISM:

Besides the occasions behind us, September is one of the best months for Americanism opportunities: 62nd Anniversary of the end of World War II (9-2), Patriot's Day (9-11), Citizenship/Constitution Day and the Ladies Auxiliary 93rd Birthday (9-17), USAF 60th Birthday (9-18), POW/MIA Remembrance Day (9-21), VFW Day - 108th

Birthday of the VFW (9-29), and Gold Star Mothers Day (9-30), to name only some of them. With school starting, this may be a good opportunity to present flags to your local schools. Is there an American flag in every classroom?

Please don't report Veterans Day until the Second Half.

The First Half for reports is now 2/3 of the way through, with about half of the posts reporting so far. Five Districts are over the 50% rate. One hundred ten reports have been received from 79 posts.

J.Gary Wagner
Vice Chairman for Americanism

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted an Americanism Report for the 1st Half as of 8/14/07

DIST.# 1	2296	7167	8629	9358						
DIST.# 2	1211	2582	2894	4411	9382					
DIST.# 3	1426	2239	2583	8046	8529	10387	10654	11124		
DIST.# 4	2163	2584	5313	8048	8228	8617	8759	8902	9855	9954
	10570									
DIST.# 5	873	1115	7568	10840						
DIST.# 6	1033	1444	1841	2157	4522	4920	5311	5895	7854	8184
DIST.# 7	1150	1860	6044	7899	9660	9872				
DIST.# 8	2524	7589	7728	8208						
DIST.# 9	7328	7969	9696							
DIST.# 10	609	8469	8815	9274						
DIST.# 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4204	4805	4989
	7701	8479	8644							
DIST.# 12	3782	6975	8652	8979	10298	10310				
DIST.# 13	1827	2217	2613	7638	8169	8717	10295	10546	10574	

10. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Comrades we are now in the first half of the reporting period, so please submit your reports now. Please do not forget to double check your reports for accuracy and legibility before you send them to State Headquarters.

Lynn Harris
Community Activities
Vice Chairman

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted a Community Activities Report for the 1st Half as of 8/17/07

DIST.# 1	2296	7167	8629							
DIST.# 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	4411				
DIST.# 3	1426	2239	2583	8046	10654					
DIST.# 4	2163	2584	7166	8228	8617	8902	9855	9954	10570	
DIST.# 5	873	7568	10840							
DIST.# 6	1033	1444	1841	2157	4522	4920	5311	7854		
DIST.# 7	1150	1860	6044	7899	9660	9872				
DIST.# 8	1177	2524	7589	7728	8208					
DIST.# 9	7328	9696								
DIST.# 10	609	7916	8469	8815	9274					
DIST.# 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4204	4989	7701
	8279	8479	8644							
DIST.# 12	3782	8652	8979	10298	10310					
DIST.# 13	1827	2217	2613	7638	8717	10295	10546			

11. FLAG PROGRAM:

The Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars has made an arrangement with CVS Wholesale Flags of Indiana where our Posts can purchase flags and flag related items at wholesale prices. Department Headquarters will receive a \$1.00 per flag contribution (excluding stick *flags*) for each flag purchased from CVS through this program. Money from this program will go toward helping the Department fund the many programs we participate in. Commanders will be receiving catalog and pricelist in the mail. In the meantime you may call or order from the website.

How to Use This Program

- You will place your orders directly with CVS; you need not contact Department Headquarters when ordering, unless you have any questions.
- For fax orders, make copies of the order form on the rear of the catalog. Fax your completed order to (765) 668-4290. (when catalogs arrive)
- You may phone your orders in if you prefer (800) 825-1100 ext. 555.
- You may order direct from the CVS web site, www.cvsflags.com
- They offer FREE shipping with orders of one dozen or more flags, mix or match. (Excluding stick flags.)
- Department Posts will be offered Net 15-day terms.
- All flags are **made in the United States**. Typical ship time for most products is 24 hours.
- If you are not satisfied with any product from CVS, simply return it for replacement or full refund. (Does not apply to normal wear)

Please look the program price list over online or when catalog arrives, if it makes economic sense please consider purchasing your flags and flag related items through this program.

12. FALL COUNCIL MEETING:

The Fall Council Meeting is being held at State Headquarters on September 22nd. The meeting is scheduled from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm with lunch schedule from noon until 1:30 pm. Due to space the meeting is being made available to everyone through a conference call. If you would like to be involved with the meeting the conference call number is available beginning at 9:00 am. You may join the call by calling toll-free 1-866-842-9555; you will be prompted for a pass code. At this time enter 7630688 and then press #. You will then be connected to the conference call. The conference call will not be available during the lunch scheduled from noon until 1:30 pm. You may call again to be reconnected at 1:30 pm.

13. GENERAL ORDERS:

The cut off for the General Orders is the 20th of the month. No EXCEPTIONS. If you received a hard copy of the General Orders and have the ability to print satisfactory copies from the internet please call us or email us at stateheadquarters@va.vfwwebmail.com. Subscriptions for General Orders are \$24.00 for the year or \$2.00 per issue.

14. GOLD MEMBER AWARDS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS:

Each year the VFW selects an emergency services person, a law enforcement officer and a firefighter to receive VFW Gold Medal Awards. These three award winners are presented their awards at the VFW State Convention in June/July or a respective award ceremony. Post Safety Chairman is encouraged to submit a candidate for these awards to Department Headquarters by **November 1, 2007**. The Department must select a single candidate for each award and submit those to VFW National Headquarters by November 17, 2007. Documentation required for all candidates should include the following:

- Nomination letter containing the candidate's name, title, address, telephone and identifying the award for which the individual should be considered.
- One page resume of the candidate's overall background.
- One page resume of the candidate's background in their respective field.
- One page listing of the candidate's accomplishment and awards in their field.
- photograph (preferably a head shot) of the candidate.

15. HOMECOMING:

Place: Post 1503 in Dale City

Date: September 8, 2007

Times: Social 18:00 Dinner 19:00 Program 20:00 DJ 21:00

Hotel: Days Inn - on Rt. 234, in Dumfries, VA

Directions to hotel: From the south (on I-95N), take Rt. 234 (exit 153-B) going towards Manassas. The hotel will be on your right - behind the Exxon Station and just after Cracker Barrel. Phone number: 703 221-6300. Mention the VFW party and receive a special rate of \$69.99 per night. A breakfast bar will be provided the following morning.

Reservations will be taken beginning July 1st.

Directions to 1503: From the Days Inn to VFW Post 1503 is approx. 10 minutes. Turn right (west onto 234 from the hotel), turn right on Spriggs Road (**7th traffic light**), then turn right at the second traffic light (Minnieville Rd.). VFW Post 1503 will be directly ahead on your right.

16. HOSPITAL:

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted a Hospital Report for the 1st Half as of 8/17/07

DIST.# 1	2296	7167	8629							
DIST.# 2	392	1211	2582	2894	4411					
DIST.# 3	1426	2583	8046	8529	10654					
DIST.# 4	2163	2584	7166	8228	8617	8902	9954	10570		
DIST.# 5	647	873	7568							
DIST.# 6	1444	1841	2157	4522	4920	5311	7854	8184		
DIST.# 7	1150	2123	6044	7899	9292	9660	9872			
DIST.# 8	1177	2524	3103	7589	7728	8208				
DIST.# 9	7328	9696								
DIST.# 10	609	5412	7916	8469	8815	9274				
DIST.# 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4204	4989	7701
	7814	8479	8644	10826						
DIST.# 12	3782	8652	8979	9600	10298	10310				
DIST.# 13	1827	2217	2613	7638	8436	8717	8947	10295	10546	

17. INSPECTION:

NUMBERS THAT ARE LISTED HAVE NOT BEEN INSPECTED AS OF AUGUST 22, 2007!

Percentage Inspected is 26.7%

Bill Shifflett
Inspector

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted a Community Activities Report for the 1st Half as of 8/22/07

DIST. 1	176	824	960	2296	6002	7167	8252	8629					
DIST. 2	993	1211	2582	2894	3160	4411	4809	8545	9382	District			
DIST. 3	1426	2239	2583	4639	6364	8046	8356	8529	9224	9501	10387	10654	District
DIST. 4	637	2163	2584	5313	7059	7819	7897	8048	8163	8228	8446	8617	8759
	9855	9954	10570	District									
DIST. 5	873	2820	7800	8243	10840								
DIST. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491	4522	5311	7854	8184
	9877	District											
DIST. 7	621	1150	1860	2123	2447	6044	7899	8613	9760	9872	District		
DIST. 8	3103	7728	8208	9835	District								
DIST. 9	1184	6000	7136	7969	9640	9696	9864	District					
DIST. 10	609	1503	3150	5412	7327	7916	8241	8469	8815	9274	9478		
DIST. 11	452	632	1499	2424	3060	3136	4204	4805	7814	8479	8644	9339	9480
	District												
DIST. 12	1994	5715	6975	8652	9600	9830	District						
DIST. 13	1827	2044	7638	8717	10295	10546	10574	District					

18. MEMBERSHIP:

Comrades, we have an opportunity this year that needs to be addressed. Unlike previous years each and every Post and District in the Department can make All American. In past years there have been Posts within our Department who have completed their programs and who have gone forward in membership only to lose out at the last minute because another Post or District did just a little bit better in membership at the end of the year.

Not so this year! The requirements for making All American are goal oriented instead of being a competition. If you meet your program requirements, Buddy Poppy requirements and membership requirements you make All American regardless of what others do. However, it's still an undertaking that requires hard work and a key part of that is membership. The goals are set forth for each size Post and District in the National Membership Awards Program 2007-2008. Each Post should have a copy and a copy is available on the Department web site.

Recruiting of new and reinstated members and retention of current members needs to get more intense starting now – not next month or the month after, but NOW! The more you wait the more difficult it becomes. The goals set forth are not easy, but they are goals that can be met. We need to take advantage of this opportunity to make each and every Post and District within the Department shine as an example to others. We can succeed. Let's go recruiting NOW!

Yours in Comradeship,
C. D. "Doc" Crouch
Assistant Membership Chairman

19. NVLSP WINS RULING IN THE 9TH CIRCUIT REQUIRING VA TO PAY RETROACTIVE:

On July 19, 2007, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled in favor of Vietnam veterans in the latest chapter of *Nehmer v. Department of Veterans Affairs*. The Court of Appeals sided with NVLSP in affirming the ruling of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California that required the VA to pay retroactive benefits for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). The decision is a huge victory for veterans and their families.

Previously, the earliest effective date the VA would assign for CLL-related claims based on Agent Orange exposure was October 16, 2003, the date of the VA's regulation presumptively service-connecting CLL. Now, pursuant to the Court's ruling, Vietnam veterans or their survivors are entitled to benefits retroactive to the date of their first claim based on CLL, even if the claim was made prior to October 16, 2003.

20. OPERATION UPLINK:

-VFW Faces Significant Challenge in Troop-Support Effort; Demand for Operation Uplink Phone Cards Surpasses Supply

KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 19, 2007--The VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary are challenging its members to raise money for Operation Uplink the VFW's premier military-support program that provides free phone cards to deployed service members and hospitalized veterans.

Responding to an immediate large-scale need for phone cards to our deployed troops in Iraq, the Ladies Auxiliary is promising matching funds-up to \$125,000-for every dollar VFW members raise for the Operation Uplink campaign.

Mike Penney, director for the VFW's Military Assistance Program reiterated the importance of the popular phone-card program and its link to enhancing the morale and well-being of America's servicemen and women.

"That's what the VFW is all about," Penny said. "Taking care of the troops. Without a doubt, Operation Uplink is a huge part of that mission, which is why the VFW's immediate challenge is to replenish our phone-card supply."

Funded solely by donations, Operation Uplink's coffer is depleted because of an unexpected surge in demand. According to VFW Adjutant General Allen "Gunner" Kent, weekly phone card requests now average 10,000-15,000, compared to last year's average of 5,000 to 8,000 requests.

"At the present, we simply cannot keep up with the demand and therefore are having difficulty fulfilling phone cards requests," Kent said.

The VFW assists all veterans and their families in obtaining veterans' entitlements and other services. In addition, the organization works for the well being of those serving on active duty, in the National Guard and the Reserves. Annually, the VFW contributes more than 14 million volunteer hours and more than \$50 million toward community service projects. The VFW was founded in 1899. There are 2.4 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries located in approximately 8,500 Posts worldwide.

So I ask each Post in the Department of Virginia to make a donation to this important project, you can send your donation directly to National or send it to State Headquarters earmarked Operation Uplink.

Operation Uplink Chairman
Kim DeShano

21. 3rd DISTRICT OPERATION UPLINK FUNDRAISER CRUISE:

Join the Operation Uplink fundraiser cruise sponsored by the 3rd District on Sunday October 5, 2008. Please see attached information for itinerary and costs.

22. PATRIOT'S PEN :

THEME: "WHY I AM AN AMERICAN PATRIOT"

Student Entry Deadline:	November 1, 2007
Complete Post Judging: Deadline:	November 15, 2007
Complete District Judging Deadline:	December 6, 2007
Complete Department Judging Deadline:	January 7, 2008
Dept Winner to National Deadline:	January 15, 2008
Department report to National Deadline:	January 31, 2008
Awards to Dept Winner:	Winter Council Meeting

The District Winner must be mailed to:
Don Hall, Dept Patriot's Pen Chairman
VFW Department Headquarters
403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, VA. 24401

and must be in my hands BEFORE midnight December 28, 2007

Be sure you send ALL of the information that is needed:

1. The official student entry form
2. The typed essay
3. A head and shoulders photo of the winner (not computer or faxed generated)
4. Both (2) completed District Report Forms

There is no time allowed for follow-up phone calls so none will be made.

If you do not have all of the information requested, your District Winner will **NOT BE ELIGIBLE** Department Judging will be held on December 29, 2007 at Dept Headquarters at 1 P.M.

Department Awards:

1~ Place Winner: Student will receive \$500.00 and be expected to attend the Winter Council Meeting to read their essay and receive the award.

2~ Place Winner: Student will receive \$300.00, which the Department will mail.

3~ Place Winner: Student will receive \$200.00, which the Department will mail. **Although not required the sponsoring Post/Auxiliary will be expected to provide one(1) night's lodging and one (1) banquet ticket for the Dept. Winner at the Winter Conference.**

23. POW/MIA:

WWII missing in action are identified

Pvt. Lawrence P. Burkett, U.S. Army, of Jefferson, N.C, Company A, 357th Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division

Fireman 3rd Class Alfred E. Livingston, U.S. Navy, of Worthington, Ind. Livingston was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma.

U.S. Searching for Iwo Jima Marine

Sgt. William H. Genoust, who was killed in action after filming the flag-raising atop Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi.

Missing In Action From Korean War are Identified

Pfc. Domenico S. Di Salvo, U.S. Marine Corps, of Akron, Ohio. Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Regiment, of the 1st Marine Division

Sgt. Donald C. Trent, of Crab Orchard, W. Va. Army, 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division.

Cpl. Robert K. Imrie, of Randolph, Mass. Army, 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division.

Cpl. Samuel Wirrick of Lancaster, Pa. Army, 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division.

Sgt. Frank Bunchuk, of Medina, N.Y. army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

Missing in Action From Vietnam War Is Identified

Cpl. Jim E. Moshier of Bakersfield, Calif, U.S. Marine Corps, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam.

Lt. Col. James H. Ayres, of Pampa, Texas, U S Air Force, Savannakhet Province, Laos

Lt. Col. Charles W. Stratton, of Dallas, U S Air Force, Savannakhet Province, Laos.

Chief Warrant Officer Dennis C. Hamilton, of Barnes City, Iowa; U.S. Army Savannakhet Province, Laos

Chief Warrant Officer Sheldon D. Schultz, of Altoona, Pa.; U.S. Army Savannakhet Province, Laos

Sgt. 1st Class Ernest F. Briggs Jr., of San Antonio, Texas; U.S. Army Savannakhet Province, Laos

Sgt. 1st Class John T. Gallagher, of Hamden, Conn.; U.S. Army Savannakhet Province, Laos

Sgt. 1st Class James D. Williamson, of Olympia, Wash. U.S. Army Savannakhet Province, Laos

Lt. Col. Alton C. Rockett, Jr., of Birmingham, Ala. U S Air Force, Quang Binh Province, North Vietnam

DoD Announces Soldiers Status as Missing-Captured

Operation Iraqi Freedom Duty Status Unknown

Pvt. Byron W. Fouty, 19, of Waterford, Mich. 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division

24. SAFETY:

All of the Safety reports that have been received to this point in time are listed on the matrix. All of the Posts that have submitted Safety reports have been removed from the chart. Those that have not submitted Safety reports are still listed. As you are all aware, this is a required report for All-State competition.

Steve Lasseter
Safety Vice Chairman

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted a Safety Report for the 1st Half as of 8/17/07

DIST. 1	2296	7167	8629										
DIST. 2	993	1211	2582	2894	4411	9382							
DIST. 3	1426	2239	2583	8046	10654								
DIST. 4	2163	2584	7166	8048	8163	8228	8617	8902	9855	10570			
DIST. 5	647	873	7568	8467	10840								
DIST. 6	1033	1444	1841	2157	4165	4522	4920	5311	7854	8184			
DIST. 7	1150	1860	2123	6044	7899	9660	9872						
DIST. 8	1177	1811	2524	7589	7728	8208							
DIST. 9	7328	9696											
DIST. 10	609	5412	7916	8469	8815	9274							
DIST. 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4204	4989	7701	8479	8644	
DIST. 12	3782	8652	8979	10298	10310								
DIST. 13	1827	2217	2613	7638	8436	8717	8947	10295	10546				

25. SUPPORT DAN BOYER SHIRTS:

Everyone who will be attending the Southern Conference will receive a free Support Dan Boyer Shirt. You will be able to pick your shirt up at the Southern Conference, however you must let us know your requested size to State Headquarters. A form is attached or you may submit your Name, Post/Aux Affiliation, and size requests by email to stateheadquarters@va.vfwwebmail.com. Requests must be received by October 18, 2007.

26. VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL:

During the State Convention it was announced that the Joint Leadership Council lobbied the General Assembly to provide \$3.5 Million to fund the construction of a much needed education center at the Virginia War Memorial. The General Assembly committed the State of Virginia to provide the money, but the Virginia War Memorial must first raise \$2.0 million. It was discussed and voted on and passed at the State Convention that the month of October be designated Virginia War Memorial Fundraising Month.

At the COA meeting immediately following the Convention it was voted on and passed that the Department of Virginia, VFW will match all Donations made by Virginia VFW Posts during the month of October up to \$25,000. A challenge has gone out to all Post's to make a donation of \$2 per member. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

27. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:

9th through 12th Grade Students
"My Role in Honoring America's Veterans"

Student Entry	Deadline: November 1, 2007
Complete Post Judging	Deadline: November 15, 2007
Complete District Judging	Deadline: December 6, 2007
Awards to be Given to Department Winner	Winter Council Meeting

The District Winner must be mailed and received by Earle (Buddy) P. Weekley, Jr., State Voice of Democracy Chairman, 595 Bowman Road, Dayton, VA 22821 by **Wednesday, December 12, 2007.**

No exceptions!

Be sure you send all of the District information that is needed. This means the Official Student Entry Form, a Typed Script and Recorded Cassette/CD and a photo of District Winner. If you do not have the District information that is requested according to the guidelines, your District winner will not be eligible. **Also, you must complete the District Chairman Report Form (which you will receive from National Headquarters in November) and send to me by January 10, 2008.** National Headquarters will obtain all other information from the Department winning student.

State Judging will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Myers-Hodges VFW Post 8644 in Bridgewater, Virginia.

Voice of Democracy Department Awards:

1 st Place Winner	Student will receive \$1,000.00 and be expected to attend the Winter Council Meeting to be held in Williamsburg on January 19, 2008, to read their entry and receive this award. In addition, student will receive a check for \$500.00 from the Department of Virginia Commanders Club.
2 nd Place Winner	Will receive \$600.00 which the Department will mail
3 rd Place Winner	Will receive \$400.00 which the Department will mail

The Voice of Democracy Chairman of the Post that sponsors the Department Winner will receive one night's lodging and a Banquet Ticket to attend the Community Service Conference in Washington, D.C. (Duplicate award will not be given if the chairman receives a National Appointment.)

Each Post that participates in the Voice of Democracy Program will receive a Citation.

The Post that sponsors the Department's 1st Place Winner will be awarded the Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Trophy and will be presented at the Awards Ceremony at the State Convention in June 2008.

Earle P. (Buddy) Weekley, VFW Chairman
Ellen Carleton, Ladies Auxiliary Chairwoman

28. 2007 WEBSITE COMPETITION WINNER:

Kansas City, MO, August 16, 2007-- The first-place winners in the VFW Communication Department's annual website competition are the [Department of Virginia](#) and [VFW Post 7327](#) (Springfield, Virginia.) The winning entries were judged exceptional because of their professional and aesthetically pleasing design, current information and well-written content, quick load time and well-designed navigation.

There were two divisions: Department and District/Post. The winning websites were chosen from 47 entries.

Second-place winners are the [Department of Louisiana](#) and [VFW Post 11435](#) (Okinawa)
<http://www.vfwva.org> Department of Virginia
<http://www.vfwpost7327.org> VFW Post 7327
<http://www.louisianavfw.org> Department of Louisiana
<http://www.vfwpost11435.org> VFW Post 11435

Thanks to all who participated, and congratulations to the winners! We look forward to seeing your entry in next year's contest.

29. YOUTH ACTIVITES:

Comrades the mere act of calling a school, to set up a visit to the classes, counts as an activity as well as that Visit!

John Miska
Youth Activities Chairman

Posts listed below **HAVE NOT** submitted a Youth Activities Report for the 1st Half as of 8/17/07

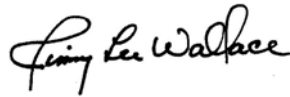
DIST. 1	176	2296	6002	7167	8629	9358							
DIST. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	4411	4809	9382					
DIST. 3	1426	2239	2583	4639	8046	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657	11124		
DIST. 4	2163	2584	5313	7166	8048	8228	8617	8759	8902	9855	9954	10570	
DIST. 5	647	873	7568	7800	8467	10840							
DIST. 6	1033	1444	1841	2157	4165	4318	4522	4920	5311	5895	7854	8184	
DIST. 7	621	1150	2123	2447	6044	7899	9660	9872					
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DIST. 9	7328	7969	9696										
DIST. 10	609	5412	7916	8469	8815	9274							
DIST. 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4204	4805	4989	7701	8479	8644
DIST. 12	3782	6975	8652	8979	10298	10310							
DIST. 13	1827	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8717	8947	10295	10546	10574		

Official:



Kim A. DeShano
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Jimmy Lee Wallace
State Commander