

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 3

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Opportunity to Excel

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September 1, 2009

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

The 110th National Convention is over. Changes to the By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual were adopted at the Convention and will be forthcoming. Each and every Post, Post Officer and dedicated Comrade should acquire a new copy of the By-laws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual as soon as they are available. This is **The Book** which governs the activities of each and every level of the VFW. Posts which go by **The Book** are the Posts that are successful in their efforts to do the business of the VFW. Posts which do not go by **The Book** are those which fall to the wayside. Let us all go by **The Book**.

Membership, membership, membership was the cry throughout the Department of Virginia VFW a few years ago. It is back. Our new Commander in Chief, Tommy J. Treadwell, has made membership the number one priority again. Recruiting one new member is of little value if we allow four continuous members to slip out the Post's back door. In the priority list of C-in-C Treadwell and the Department of Virginia, retaining our continuous members is first followed closely by new and reinstated members.

We are fast approaching the November 1st deadline for first-half reporting. All Posts should be 100% reported by this time. Reporting is how we publicize our efforts and achievements in doing the business of the VFW. This publicity is what is used by our legislative committees to influence federal and state legislative bodies. The best guess on what is reported in the VFW by the Posts is about 40%. Let us all join in the effort to improve this percentage and report all that we do.

Rex Faris, Department Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1ST- Date: TBA
Meeting: 11 AM Meal After
Location: Post 176
24 Forest Dr., Newport News

2ND- Date: TBA
Lunch: 12:00 PM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location:
Rep:

3RD- Date: 9/12/09
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: 3rd District HQ
10044 Pamunkey Rd,
Mechanicsville
Rep: Steve Lassetter, State Judge
Advocate

4TH- Date: 11/08/09
Meeting: 2:00 PM
Location: Post 8163
7488 Highway 15N, Clarksville
Rep:

5TH- Date: TBA
Meeting: Lunch at noon meeting to follow
Location:
Rep:

6TH- Date: TBA
Meeting: 2:00 PM
Location:
Rep:

7th- Date: 09/13/09
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 1860
1847 N Royal Ave, Front Royal
Rep: Margo Sheridan, State Surgeon

8th- Date: 10/25/09
Meeting: 1:00 PM meal after
Location: Post 2524
12210 Sperryville Pike, Culpeper

8th- Date: 1/10/10
Meeting: 1:00 PM meal after
Location: Post 3103
2701 Princess Anne St,
Fredericksburg

8th- Date: 4/11/10
Meeting: 1:00 PM meal after
Location: Post 7589
9304 Centerville Rd, Manassas

9th- Date: 9/27/09
Lunch: 11:30 AM Meeting to follow
Location: Post 1184
2 Dora Hwy, Pulaski
Rep: Rex Faris, State Cmdr

10th- Date: 9/13/09
Meeting: 12:00 PM Joint Meeting
Location: Post 8241
1051 Springhill Rd, McLean
Rep: Charles Absher, State JVC

10th- Date: 12/6/09
Meeting: 12:00 PM Comrades Only
Location: Post 9274
7118 Shreve Rd, Falls Church

10th-Date: 2/21/10
Meeting: 12:00 PM Joint Meeting
Location: Post 7916
204 Mill St, Occoquan

10th-Date: 5/2/10
Meeting: 12:00 PM District Convention
Location: Post 1503
14631 Minnieville Rd, Dale City

11th- Date: 9/13/09
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 12:30 PM
Location: Post 1499
105 Memorial Ln, Lexington
Rep: Roy Swanner, Chief of Staff

12th- Date: 9/12/09
Reg: 10:00 AM
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Hosted by: Post 1994
Abington Elementary School
Elementary Dr, Abington
Rep: Roy Swanner, Chief of Staff

13th- Date: 10/11/09
Meeting: 10:00 AM
Location: Post 8947
102 Mineral Ave, Mineral
Rep: Rex Faris, State Cmdr

3. AMERICANISM REPORT:

September is a great month for Americanism activities. At the top of the list is Patriot's Day (9-11) and POW / MIA Remembrance Day on the 18th. VFW Day on 29 Sep marks the founding of the VFW 110 years ago. Other notable dates include the anniversary of the end of World War II on the 2nd, Citizenship Day and VFW Ladies Auxiliary 95th birthday, both on the 17th, USAF birthday (18 Sep), and Gold Star Mother's Day on the 27th.

On a different topic, if you donate a flag, report it under "Flag Presentation" on your report form. And if you report 400 miles, you should not say "0" as Total Amount of Monies Used". At least multiply 400 by .14 per mile for \$56. It is not cash outlay but also value used and your gas mileage counts.

This report is a bit early this month due to the National Convention.

The following Posts have **not** submitted a report for the first-half as of August 14, 2009.

Dist 1	824	2296	6002	7167	8629	9358							
Dist 2	1211	2582	2894	4809	9382								
Dist 3	2239	8356	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657						
Dist 4	637	2163	5313	7166	9855	9954	10570						
Dist 5	873	7568	7800	8243	10840								
Dist 6	776	1264	1444	2157	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	5895	7854	8184	
Dist 7	2123	6044	9760										
Dist 8	1177	2524	3103	7728	8208	9835							
Dist 9	7328												
Dist 10	609	5412	8469	9274									
Dist 11	452	632	1499	3060	3136	4204	7701	8479					
Dist 12	5715	6975	8979	10310									
Dist 13	1827	2613	8169	8947	10295	10546							

J. Gary Wagner, Chairman

4. AUDIT REPORT:

In accordance with the SOP and the National By-Laws, **three Trustees must sign** the Trustees' Report of Audit before it can be accepted.

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 is June 30, 2009 and is now **DUE**.

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted an Audit Report for the period ending June 30, 2009

Dist 1	8629												
Dist 2	2894	3160											
Dist 3	10387												
Dist 4	2163	10570											
Dist 5	100%												
Dist 6	1841	4299	4318	9877									
Dist 7	621												
Dist 8	1177	8208											
Dist 9	9864												
Dist 10	7327												
Dist 11	452												
Dist 12	3782	8979											
Dist 13	10574												

5. BONDS- SEC. 703 – ATTENTION ALL COMMANDERS:

Each officer accountable for funds or property pursuant to any provision of these By-Laws **shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety** in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which, so far as can be

anticipated, he may be accountable. The bond premium shall be paid from the funds of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department, District, County Council or Post, as the case may be, to which each officer is accountable.

The bonds of such accountable officers, in amount and as to surety, shall be approved by their respective units and held by their respective Commanders. The Commander of each unit shall be responsible for the proper and adequate bonding of all accountable officers in his unit.

An Insurance policy with a employee theft rider is not a Bond and does not meet the requirements of Section 703 and will not be accepted.

All bonds **expired August 31, 2009**. Please see attached rate schedule for costs of your bond and return completed form and payment to State Headquarters immediately. If you have purchased a bond elsewhere please send a copy of the bond.

The following Posts have **NOT** paid for their 2009-2010 Quartermaster bond as of August 21, 2009

Dist 1	Dist	960	3219	5500	7167	9358							
Dist 2	Dist	1211	2894	3160	8545	9382							
Dist 3	Dist	2239	6364	8046	8356	9224	9501	9808	10387				
Dist 4	Dist	637	2163	2584	7166	8228	9855						
Dist 5	Dist	1115	7568	8243	8467								
Dist 6	Dist	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4165	4318	4491	4920	5311	7854
		8184	9877										
Dist 7	Dist	621	2447	6044	8613	9660	9760						
Dist 8		1177	3103	8208									
Dist 9	Dist	1184	7136	7969	9640	9696	9864						
Dist 10		609	3150	5412	7327	8241	9274	9478					
Dist 11		452	1499	3060	4805	7701	8479	9339	10826				
Dist 12	Dist	3782	4301	8652	8979	9600	9830						
Dist 13	Dist	1827	2044	2613	7638	190295	10546	10574					

6. BUDDY POPPY:

REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11 – EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY – WITH A COMMEMORATIVE 9-11 POPPY

Show your support by ordering your 9-11 commemorative poppies today. Commemorative 9-11 poppies (item #9750) are available from the National Emblem and Supply Department at a cost of \$100 per thousand, plus postage and handling. 9-11 Commemorative poppies are red with a black tag.

7. 2009-2010 CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM:

A reminder to all those who attended the School of Instruction, and those who did not, now is the time to start working on this year's Teacher of the Year nominations. All the information is in this year's Service Program Guide. You can also use last year's guide as the information is the same.

Dates To Remember

Required Documents

- | | | |
|--|----|--|
| <u>November 1:</u> Nominations to Post | 1. | Original entry form and essay of 350 words or less signed by the person who has nominated the teacher. All words must be counted including one-letter words. |
| <u>November 15:</u> Post judging completed | 2. | Official Post Teacher Entry Form with signatures at Post, District and Department level. |
| <u>December 1:</u> Post winners to District | 3. | One page resume (no more than two sides) |
| <u>December 15:</u> District judging completed | 4. | Up to 5 pages (both sides) of |

additional documentation.

December 20: District winners to State
Chairman

5. Good quality head & shoulder photograph (no poor quality or computer pictures).

January 4: State judging completed

January 16: State winners receive awards
at Winter COA/Conference in Williamsburg

Two Questions were as asked at State School of Instruction:

1. Home School Teachers – are not eligible primarily because of the half-day in a class room environment requirement teaching citizenship education specific courses.
2. Photograph requirement – is a time factor. The time from when the winners are selected to the time the publicity process begins usually does not allow time to have to go back to the winners and secure a photograph. The size of the photo can vary from wallet size on up to 3" x 5". Please make sure it is a good quality photograph.

If you have trouble getting information on the program or getting any of the necessary forms, please contact me and I will mail you what you need.

Remember: Nominations can be submitted in each of three categories: K-5, 6-8, 9-12.

Chris Birch, Chairman

8. CLOSINGS:

State Headquarters will be closed for Labor Day September 7, 2009

9. COMMANDERS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR DUTIES:

which are outlined in Sec. 218—Officers: Duties and Obligations.

(a) Officers.

(1) **Commander.** Among the duties of a Post Commander, he shall:

a. Preside at all meetings of the Post, conducting such meetings in accordance with Article X of the By-Laws and Manual of Procedure and other applicable parliamentary rules.

b. Enforce strict observance of the laws and usages of this organization, including Post, County Council (if applicable), District and Department By-Laws and the Congressional Charter, National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual and all lawful orders from proper authorities.

c. Insist that Post business and activities be conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment upon the Post, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

d. Decide all questions of law and usage in the Post, subject to appeal pursuant to the By-Laws.

e. Appoint officers, committee chairmen and committees not otherwise provided for. He may remove such appointed officers, committee chairmen and committees at his pleasure. He shall, by virtue of his office, be a member of all committees.

f. Approve all disbursements of funds properly authorized by the Post.

g. Assure that the office of Quartermaster is bonded according to Section 703 of the By-Laws.

h. Assure that all dues and other monies due the National Headquarters and Department are forwarded promptly together with accurate reports and returns pertaining thereto.

i. Assure that all reports are correctly prepared and promptly forwarded, that all the business of the Post is handled with dispatch and that all necessary licenses and permits are obtained for proper operation. Ensure that a properly completed Report of Election of Officers for the ensuing year is submitted to Department and National Headquarters by June 1.

j. Assure that the Post Trustees have examined the books and records of the Post and prepared the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit no later than the end of the month following the last day of each quarterly period. He shall forward a copy to the Department Quartermaster.

k. Assure that he or his representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings and County Council meetings (if applicable).

I. Comply with and perform all of the duties required by the laws and usages of this organization, the provisions of these By-Laws, the Manual of Procedure and Ritual and Department, District, County Council (if applicable) or Post By-Laws pertaining to the duties and obligations of a Post Commander and lawful orders from proper authority and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. Failure without just cause to perform these duties may result in removal from office.

10. COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL BY-LAWS, MOP AND RITUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION RESULTS:

Bylaws

Approved: B-3, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-9, B-10, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-48, B-49, B-53

Rejected: B-1, B-2, B-4, B-8, B-11, B-33, B-39, B-46, B-47, B-50, B-51, B-52

Manual of Procedure

Approved: M-1, M-2, M-6, M-11, M-12, M-13, M-14, M-15, M-16, M-17, M-18, M-19, M-20, M-21, M-22, M-23, M-24, M-25, M-26, M-27, M-28, M-29, M-30, M-31, M-32, M-33, M-34, M-35, M-36, M-38, M-39, M-40, M-41, M-42, M-43, M-44, M-45, M-46, M-47, M-48

Rejected: M-3, M-4, M-5, M-7, M-8, M-9, M-10, M-37, M-49, M-50

Ritual

Approved: R-1, R-2, R-4, R-11, R-13, R-16, R-19, R-21, R-22, R-24, R-25, R-27, R-28, R-29, R-30, R-31

Rejected: R-3, R-5, R-6, R-7, R-8, R-9, R-10, R-12, R-14, R-15, R-17, R-18, R-20, R-23, R-26, R-32

11. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

The following Posts have **not** submitted a report for the first-half as of August 20, 2009.

Dist 1	824	2296	6002	7167	8629	9358						
Dist 2	1211	2582	2894	4809	9382							
Dist 3	2239	4639	8046	8356	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657			
Dist 4	2163	5313	7166	8048	8163	8228	8759	8902	9855	10570		
Dist 5	873	7568	7726	7800	8243	10840						
Dist 6	776	1264	1444	1841	2157	4165	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	5895
Dist 7	621	2123	6044	9660	9760							
Dist 8	1177	2524	3103	7728	8208	9835						
Dist 9	4667	6000	7328	7969	9696							
Dist 10	609	5412	8241	8469	9274							
Dist 11	452	632	1499	2424	3060	3136	4204	4805	7701	7814	8279	8479
	9339	9480										
Dist 12	5715	6975	8652	8979	10298	10310						
Dist 13	1827	8169	8436	8947	10295	10546						

Lynn Harris, Chairman

12. FALL COUNCIL:

The Fall Council Meeting is being held at State Headquarters on September 19th. The meeting is scheduled from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm with lunch scheduled from noon until 1:00 pm. Due to the 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 1:00 pm. You may call again to be reconnected at 1:00pm.

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 or a respective award ceremony. Post Safety Chairman is encouraged to submit a candidate for these awards to Department Headquarters by **November 1, 2008**. Documentation required for all candidates should include the following:

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

15. HOSPITAL REPORT:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a Hospital Report for the period ending Aug. 20, 2009

Dist. 1	2296	6002	7167	8629									
Dist. 2	1211	2582	2894	9382									
Dist. 3	4639	8046	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657						
Dist. 4	2163	7166	8048	8759	10570								
Dist. 5	647	873	7568	7800	8243								
Dist. 6	776	1264	1841	2157	4165	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	7854	8184	
Dist. 7	9660												
Dist. 8	7728	8208											
Dist. 9	7328												
Dist. 10	609	5412	8469	9274									
Dist. 11	452	632	1499	3060	3136	4204	7701	8479	8644	9339	9480	10826	
Dist. 12	5715	6975	8979	9600	10310								
Dist. 13	1827	2613	8436	10295	10546								

16. IMPORTANT DATES:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Sept 19, 2009 | Council of Administration Meeting, Staunton |
| Nov 5-8, 2009 | VFW Southern Conference, Corpus Christi, TX, Bayfront Rooms, \$99.00 |
| Jan 15-18, 2010 | Council of Administration, Williamsburg, VA Room Rate: \$67.00
Deadline for reservations – December 24, 2009 to insure group rates. Call 800-227-6963 |
| Jun 10-13, 2010 | State Convention, Richmond, Rates \$89.00 Reservations by May 10, 2010 |
| Aug 21-26, 2010 | National VFW Convention, Indianapolis, IN |
| Jun 9-12, 2011 | State Convention, Richmond, Rates \$89.00 Reservations by May 9, 2011 |

17. INSPECTION REPORT:

Percentage of Posts Inspected is 24%!!

Posts listed below have **NOT** been inspected as of August 19, 2009

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	7167	8252	8629	9358		
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	3160	4411	4809	8545	9382			
Dist. 3	1426	2239	4639	6364	8046	9808	10387	10654	10657				
Dist. 4	622	637	2163	2584	5313	7059	7166	7819	7897	8048	8163	8228	8446
	8759	8902	9855	9954	10570								
Dist 5	4637	7568	7800	8243									
Dist. 6	776		1264	1444	1841	2157	4165	4299	4318	4491	4522	5311	
	7854	8184	9877										
Dist. 7	621	1860	2123	2447	6044	8613	9292	9660	9760				
Dist. 8	1177	1811	2524	3103	7589	7728	8208	9835					
Dist. 9	4667	7136	7360	9696	9864								
Dist. 10	609	1503	3150	5412	7327	8469	9274						
Dist. 11	452	632	2216	2424	3136	4204	4805	7701	7814	8279	8479		
	8644												
Dist. 12	100%												
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295	10546	10574		

William Shifflett, Chairman

18. MEMBERSHIP:

Do you remember that 700 pound gorilla that I wrote to you about awhile back? Rumor has it that he's putting on weight. We really need to start talking to our members about renewing their membership NOW. Don't wait until it's just about to expire. Get them to renew now before they get caught up in the year end rush that has everyone getting ready for the holidays, getting everything ready for winter and looking toward the dreaded taxman. We need to get letters from the Post out to our annual members to encourage them to renew early. To help you in this effort I have provided a sample letter to your District Commanders to share with you. You can use it as written or, take out what you don't care for, add things you think are important that I failed to mention. It's there for you so that you don't have to write one from scratch.

While we need to continue our efforts in recruiting new members and reinstating those who let their membership lapse, we have to get a better handle on keeping those who are already on board. We need to let them know how important their membership is and how it helps us in our efforts to keep moving forward. We are a Veteran's organization and a family, let's make sure that everyone knows we feel that way. Each of your Post members is a valued asset. Let's reach out and make sure that they realize that – an asset that is a Veteran, a Comrade, and not just some statistic.

C. D. "Doc" Crouch, Co-Chair
James Martin, Co-Chair

19. NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE:

VFW National Legislative Service is fighting to protect health care for Veterans and military retirees. With the larger debate about health care reform swirling, the VFW is on top of the issue to ensure that VA health care and TRICARE are NOT IMPACTED by changes to the system. The VFW cannot take a position as a whole, but we are fighting aggressively to ensure Veterans are protected. The proposals are moving targets and nothing is finalized yet. We will continue to monitor and push for pro-Veteran reforms. The President and all in Congress, particularly congressional leadership, know where we stand.

We have received assurances from the President and Congressional leadership that they will work with the VFW to protect Veterans. The VFW has led the fight on three major successes so far: (1) Ensured that Veterans using VA are able to buy into the new health care plan to supplement their own coverage and cover their families; (2) Excluded VA from any wider reforms; in short, VA health care will remain under control of the VA Secretary and **will not change**; (3) Guaranteed that TRICARE operates outside the health care reform process, which means that it **will not change**.

The VFW continues to fight for two other major provisions: (1) Under the draft House plan, the determination of whether VA health care is acceptable coverage does not lay with the V Secretary, but with a different administrator. Under the current proposal it is possible it is possible, but *highly unlikely*, that Veterans, particularly those in lower enrollment categories, could be subject to a penalty tax for lack of coverage. This is unacceptable; VA coverage IS acceptable coverage; (2) the VFW wants VA to be able to bill public insurance options for non-service connected care, otherwise VA loses a valuable source of revenue, which may or may not be made up for by Congressional funding.

C. D. "Doc" Crouch, Chairman

20. PATRIOT'S PEN REPORTING DATES:

6TH through 8th Grade Students

Theme: "When is the Right Time to Honor Our Military Heroes?"

Student Entry:	Deadline: November 1, 2009
Complete Post Judging:	Deadline: November 15, 2009
Complete District Judging:	Deadline: December 6, 2009
Awards to be given to Department Winner:	Winter Council Meeting

All district winner's Essays and District Information must be mailed and received by Don Hall, Department Patriot's Pen Co-Chairman, Department Headquarters, 403 Lee Jackson Hwy, Staunton, VA 24401
By Saturday December 12, 2009.

Be sure you send **ALL** of the District Information that is needed, the Official Student Entry Form, Typed Student Essay and Photo of the District Winner.

Also, you must complete the District Chairman Report Forms that the District Commanders received at the Department Convention.

If this information that is requested according to the guidelines is **not** received, your District Winner will be disqualified.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Department Judging will be held on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at Department Headquarters, Staunton, VA.

Patriot's Pen Department Awards:

1 st Place:	Student will receive \$500.00 and be expected to attend the Winter Council Meeting in Williamsburg on January 16, 2010 to read their entry and receive the award. The student will also receive a check for \$200.00 from the Department of Virginia Commander's Club.
2 nd Place:	Will receive \$300.00 which the Department will mail.
3 rd Place:	Will receive \$200.00 which the Department will mail.

Each Post/Auxiliary that participates in the Patriot's Pen Program will receive a citation.

Don Hall, Co-Chairman
Joe Martin, Co-Chairman

21. PICTURES:

All photos taken by Doc Crouch, PDC, can now be viewed at www.vfwva.myphotoalbum.com.

22. POW/MIA REPORT:

July 15, 2009

Hanoi, Vietnam – The longstanding cooperation between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) on accounting for Americans missing from the Vietnam War broadened June 11 with the deployment of a U.S. Navy oceanographic survey ship to conduct search operations off the coast of Vietnam. During the 95th search mission in Vietnam, which began May 25 and is scheduled until June 24 2009, representatives from the U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Vietnam Office for Seeking Missing Persons (VNOSMP) boarded the USNS Bruce C. Heezen, an oceanographic survey ship, for the humanitarian operation. Although joint U.S.-SRV search teams have investigated and excavated underwater sites off the coast of Vietnam using Vietnamese boats before, this will be the first time Vietnam has allowed the use of a U.S. navy ship for underwater searches.

July 17 2009

Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii -- The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will conduct an Arrival Ceremony at 9 a.m., Friday, July 17, in Hangar 35, Hickam Air Force Base, to honor fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown.

July 19, 2009

DoD Identifies Operation Enduring Freedom Soldier

The Department of Defense announced today the identity of a soldier listed as Missing-Captured on July 3 while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, 23, of Ketchum, Idaho, was declared Duty Status Whereabouts Unknown (DUSTWUN) on July 1 and his status was changed to "Missing-Captured" on July 3. Pfc. Bergdahl is a member of 1st Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Fort Richardson, Alaska. Gates: U.S. 'Sparing No Effort' To Locate Missing Soldier WASHINGTON, July 20, 2009 - Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said American commanders are "sparing no effort" to locate a U.S. soldier who went missing early this month in Afghanistan. Speaking to reporters today during a Pentagon news conference, Gates also expressed his disgust at the exploitation of Army Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, who the Defense Department identified as the missing soldier and who is featured in a video apparently released yesterday on the Internet by his captors. "Our commanders are sparing no effort to find this young soldier, and I also would say that my personal reaction was one of disgust at the exploitation of this young man," Gates said. In a news release yesterday, the Defense Department identified Bergdahl as the 23-year-old Army private from Ketchum, Idaho, listed as "missing-captured" on July 3 while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Bergdahl is a member of 25th Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, from Fort Richardson, Alaska.

August 02, 2009

Remains Identified as Navy Captain Michael Scott Speicher

The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) has positively identified remains recovered in Iraq as those of Captain Michael Scott Speicher. Captain Speicher was shot down flying a combat mission in an F/A-18 Hornet over west-central Iraq on January 17th, 1991 during Operation Desert Storm. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Captain Speicher's family for the ultimate sacrifice he made for his country," said Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy. "I am also extremely grateful to all those who have worked so tirelessly over the last 18 years to bring Captain Speicher home." "Our Navy will never give up looking for a shipmate, regardless of how long or how difficult that search may be," said Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations. "We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Captain Speicher and his family for the sacrifice they have made for our nation and the example of strength they have set for all of us." Acting on information provided by an Iraqi citizen in early July, US Marines stationed in Al Anbar Province went to a location in the desert which was believed to be the crash site of Captain Speicher's jet. The Iraqi citizen stated he knew of two Iraqi citizens who recalled an American jet impacting the desert and the remains of the pilot being buried in the desert. One of these Iraqi citizens stated that they were present when Captain Speicher was found dead at the crash site by Bedouins and his remains buried. The Iraqi citizens led US Marines to the site who searched the area. Remains were recovered over several days during the past week and flown to Dover Air Force Base for scientific identification by the AFIP's Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner. The recovered remains include bones and multiple skeletal fragments. Positive identification was made by comparing Captain Speicher's dental records with the jawbone recovered at the site. The teeth are a match, both visually and radiographically.

Chairman Joe Martin

23. RECRUITING TIPS:

- I. With every new person you meet ask, “**Are you a veteran?**” and “**Did you serve overseas?**” You can immediately establish a common bond and confirm their eligibility.
- II. Have every member, old and new to complete a list of eligible **family member and friends**. Often, they have never been asked.
- III. Always **visit a prospective member in person**. Calling and writing are great campaign tools, but nothing works better than a handshake and eye-to-eye contact.
- IV. Always **carry an application and a membership brochure**. Insist that everyone on your team carry them too. It is hard to recover a lost opportunity.
- V. Set up **recruiting booths** at malls, department stores, fairs, special public events and other high traffic areas. Use the videotapes available through National Headquarters. Plan your display carefully. Be prepared to follow up.
- VI. Do not overlook **lapsed members**. Their circumstances may have changed and they are ready to return.
- VII. Visit other **Veteran, Fraternal and Civic Organizations**. Let your concern and willingness to help be known and understood by all.
- VIII. Include **membership in other programs**. For example, while promoting Buddy Poppies – don’t forget to ask, “Are you a veteran?” And, “Did you serve overseas?”
- IX. Membership is more than a reflection of recruiting ability. It also **reflects your leadership ability, the quality of your programs and the overall health of the organization**.

24. RESOLUTIONS FROM NATIONAL CONVENTION:

Finance and Internal

Approved: 206,207,208

Rejected: 201, 202, 203, 204, 205

General

Approved: 301, 303, 307

Approved as Amended: 302, 304, 305

Rejected: 306

POW/MIA

Approved: 402, 403, 404, 4905, 406, 407

Approved as Amended: 401

Did not act on: 408, Intent already accomplished.

National Security & Foreign Affairs

Approved: 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 436, 437, 438, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449

Approved as amended: 421, 440

Rejected: 435 (in favor of 447), 439

Veterans Service

Approved: 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 610, 611, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 631, 635, 636, 637, 638, 6490, 642, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651

Approved as Amended: 608, 609, 613, 626, 628, 639

Rejected: 612, 625, 627, 629, 630, 632, 633, 634, 641, 643, 644, 645, 646

25. ROSTER CHANGES:

District 11: Jack Flick
540-234-9432

Military Order of the Cootie:

Gary Dressel, Grand CMDR
703-497-7507

PDC: Jimmy Lee Wallace
jlwallace@hotmail.com

POW/MIA COMMITTEE:

Member:
Glenn Holman
Post 3160
1328 Carlton Ct
Norfolk, VA 23503

State Recruiting Coordinator:

District 1 and Post 824
Thomas E. Randall, Adj/QM
757-838-3181 (h)
757-570-3181 (c)

993: Joe Wilson, QM
263 GreenPoint LN
Portsmouth VA 23702

1115: Jimmy Williams, QM
PO Box 1952
Hillsville VA 24343
276-238-1315

1211: Richard L Forrest, QM
1577 Back Bay Landing Rd
Virginia Beach, VA 23457
Also Mailing Address for Post

1841: Dana L Gibson, CMDR
120 Black Hill Ln
Troutville, VA 24175
540-992-4945

1841: Raymond T Snyder, SVC
199 Gravel Dr
Troutville, VA 24175
540-992-4945

4805: Buena Vista
Meeting Place:
Stone Grey Pub
2234 Beech Ave
Buena Vista, VA 24416
1st Tuesday

7167: Robert G. Hayden, QM
804-445-5076

8446: William Davis, JVC

9382: Thomas R Dodson, CMDR
22 Maurice Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23701

9382: Richard J Lauver, SVC
5908 Wayne Ave
Suffolk, VA 23435

9382: Robert F Turner, QM
4313 Templar Dr
Portsmouth, VA 23703
757-484-0924

9808: David L Jonker, QM
7168 Flag Ln
Mechanicsville, VA 23111
804-730-2117

10657: Craig Knepp, CMDR
10346 Rapidan Ct
Ashland, VA 23005
804-550-7495

10657: Richard Crane, SVC
17096 Beaverdam Rd
Beaverdam, VA 23015
804-883-5907
804-241-8182 (W)

26. SAFETY:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a Safety Report for the 1st half as of August 18, 2009

Dist 1	2296	6002	7160	8629						
Dist 2	1211	2582	2894	4411	4809	9382				
Dist 3	2239	4639	8046	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657		
Dist 4	2163	7166	8048	8163	8228	9954	10570			
Dist 5	647	873	7568	7800	8243					
Dist 6	776	1264	2157	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	7854	8184
Dist 7	1860	6044	9292	9760						
Dist 8	1811	7728	8208	9835						

Dist 9	7328										
Dist 10	609	5412	8469	9274							
Dist 11	452	632	1499	2424	3060	3136	4204	7701	7814	8479	
	8644	9339	9480								
Dist 12	3782	5715	6975	8979	10310						
Dist 13	1827	2613	8169	2029	10546						

Milton Dye, Chairman

27. YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a Youth Activities Report for the period ending August 21, 2009

Dist. 1	824	2296	6002	7167	8629	9358							
Dist. 2	12111	2582	2894	4411	4809	9382							
Dist. 3	2239	8046	8356	8529	9501	10387	10654	10657					
Dist. 4	2163	5313	8048	8228	8759	8902	9855	8759	8902	9855	9954	10570	
Dist 5	873	7568	7800	8243	10840								
Dist. 6	776	1264	1444	2157	4299	4318	4522	4920	5311	5895	7854	8184	
Dist. 7	2123	6044	9660	9760									
Dist. 8	1177	1811	2524	3103	7728	8208	9835						
Dist. 9	7328	7360											
Dist. 10	609	5412	8469	9274									
Dist. 11	452	632	1499	2424	3060	3136	4204	7701	7814	8479	8644	9339	9480
Dist. 12	5715	6975	8979	10310									
Dist. 13	1827	2613	8169	8947	10295	10546							

William J. Shepherd, Chairman

Official:



Kim A. DeShano
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Rex Faris
State Commander



DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



Dear Comrade Commander:

August 1, 2009

One of the most important communications you will receive during the year concerns the bond of your Unit Quartermaster. Section 703 of our National By-Laws requires that each accountable officer shall be bonded with an Indemnity Company as surety and the By-Laws places the responsibility for adequate bonding upon the Commander of the post. In any business it is customary to bond any officer handling funds. **THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE QUARTERMASTER MUST BE AUDITED AT LEAST QUARTERLY BY THE TRUSTEES. THIS IS TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 218 OF THE NATIONAL MANUAL OF PROCEDURES.**

The Department Headquarters carries a schedule bond for the bonding of Department and Post accountable officers. This bond runs for a year – from September 1 to August 31 – and premium payments are made on that basis. All bonds expire on August 31 and the premium for the new year is due on September 1.

Any unit may decide whether it prefers to take out a bond with some other surety company or have its funds protected by the Department Headquarters schedule bond. But the matter should be given prompt attention because if your Unit Quartermaster had previously been bonded through the National Headquarters, a new premium payment is required on September 1, 2009

To take advantage of Department coverage, all you have to do is to determine what amount of bond is necessary, fill out and detach the application below and mail it with a check for the proper amount of annual premium to your DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER.

COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRE THAT:

1. You agree to make/or cause to be made, at least annually, an audit of your books and accounts, including complete verification of all securities and bank balances pertaining to each “employee”.
If the above is not complied with, the Surety Company will refuse to honor claim of missing funds which cannot be proven by records. Monthly audits and reconciliation of bank statements may avoid this denial of claim.
2. The Surety Company will not pay for loss resulting from any unauthorized advances made by an “employee” to any member for delinquent dues and assessments.
3. “Employee” means any duly elected position, as listed in the policy schedule.
4. Proof of loss resulting from dishonest acts on the part of the bonded officer is required in settlement of claims. Post must submit a proof of loss form within 120 days from the first date of discovery of the loss.

THIS BOND IS ONLY FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 TO AUGUST 31, 2010.

The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2010.

DETACH AND RETURN THIS SECTION WITH YOUR PREMIUM CHECK TO YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

APPLICATION FOR V.F.W. OFFICERS BOND – SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 TO AUGUST 31, 2010

Give Name, Number, and Location of Post

TO DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER:

(Dated) _____

I hereby apply for bond in the principal sum of \$ _____ for the Quartermaster of the above Unit for the fiscal year from September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010. Premium in the amount of \$ _____ is herewith enclosed.

Commander

Street and City

VFW QUARTERMASTER BOND --- ALL STATES

\$3.00 Per Thousand

\$ 3,000.-----\$ 9.00
 \$ 4,000.-----\$12.00
 \$ 5,000.-----\$15.00
 \$ 6,000.-----\$18.00
 \$ 7,000.-----\$21.00
 \$ 8,000.-----\$24.00
 \$ 9,000.-----\$27.00
 \$10,000.-----\$30.00
 \$11,000.-----\$33.00
 \$12,000.-----\$36.00
 \$13,000.-----\$39.00
 \$14,000.-----\$42.00
 \$15,000.-----\$45.00
 \$16,000.-----\$48.00
 \$17,000.-----\$51.00
 \$18,000.-----\$54.00
 \$19,000.-----\$57.00
 \$20,000.-----\$60.00
 \$21,000.-----\$63.00
 \$22,000.-----\$66.00
 \$23,000.-----\$69.00
 \$24,000.-----\$72.00
 \$25,000.-----\$75.00

(\$3,000. To \$25,000.)

\$3.00 Per Thousand

\$2.50 Per Thousand

\$ 26,000.-----\$ 65.00
 \$ 27,000.-----\$ 67.50
 \$ 28,000.-----\$ 70.00
 \$ 29,000.-----\$ 72.50
 \$ 30,000.-----\$ 75.00
 \$ 40,000.-----\$100.00
 \$ 50,000.-----\$125.00
 \$ 60,000.-----\$150.00
 \$ 70,000.-----\$175.00
 \$ 80,000.-----\$200.00
 \$ 90,000.-----\$225.00
 \$100,000.-----\$250.00
 \$110,000.-----\$275.00
 \$120,000.-----\$300.00
 \$130,000.-----\$325.00
 \$140,000.-----\$350.00
 \$150,000.-----\$375.00
 \$160,000.-----\$400.00
 \$170,000.-----\$425.00
 \$180,000.-----\$450.00
 \$190,000.-----\$475.00
 \$200,000.-----\$500.00
 \$210,000.-----\$525.00
 \$220,000.-----\$550.00
 \$230,000.-----\$575.00
 \$240,000.-----\$600.00
 \$250,000.-----\$625.00

(\$26,000. To \$250,000.)

\$2.50 Per Thousand

\$2.00 Per Thousand

\$251,000.-----\$ 502.00
 \$252,000.-----\$ 504.00
 \$253,000.-----\$ 506.00
 \$254,000.-----\$ 508.00
 \$255,000.-----\$ 510.00
 \$256,000.-----\$ 512.00
 \$257,000.-----\$ 514.00
 \$258,000.-----\$ 516.00
 \$259,000.-----\$ 518.00
 \$260,000.-----\$ 520.00
 \$270,000.-----\$ 540.00
 \$280,000.-----\$ 560.00
 \$290,000.-----\$ 580.00
 \$300,000.-----\$ 600.00
 \$310,000.-----\$ 620.00
 \$320,000.-----\$ 640.00
 \$330,000.-----\$ 660.00
 \$340,000.-----\$ 680.00
 \$350,000.-----\$ 700.00
 \$360,000.-----\$ 720.00
 \$370,000.-----\$ 740.00
 \$380,000.-----\$ 760.00
 \$390,000.-----\$ 780.00
 \$400,000.-----\$ 800.00
 \$410,000.-----\$ 820.00
 \$420,000.-----\$ 840.00
 \$430,000.-----\$ 860.00
 \$440,000.-----\$ 880.00
 \$450,000.-----\$ 900.00
 \$460,000.-----\$ 920.00
 \$470,000.-----\$ 940.00
 \$480,000.-----\$ 960.00
 \$490,000.-----\$ 980.00
 \$500,000.-----\$1,000.00

(\$251,000. To \$500,000.)

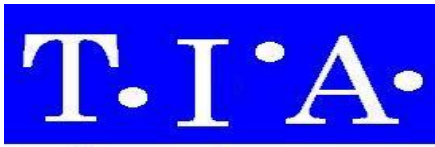
\$2.00 Per Thousand

\$1.75 Per Thousand

\$501,000.-----\$ 876.75
 \$502,000.-----\$ 878.50
 \$503,000.-----\$ 880.25
 \$504,000.-----\$ 882.00
 \$505,000.-----\$ 883.75
 \$506,000.-----\$ 885.50
 \$507,000.-----\$ 887.25
 \$508,000.-----\$ 889.00
 \$509,000.-----\$ 890.85
 \$510,000.-----\$ 892.50
 \$520,000.-----\$ 910.00
 \$530,000.-----\$ 927.50
 \$540,000.-----\$ 945.00
 \$550,000.-----\$ 962.50
 \$560,000.-----\$ 980.00
 \$570,000.-----\$ 997.50
 \$580,000.-----\$1,015.00
 \$590,000.-----\$1,032.50
 \$600,000.-----\$1,050.00

(\$501,000. And UP)

\$1.75 Per Thousand



Tallman Insurance

APPLICATION FOR DISHONESTY BOND TO BE COMPLETED BY BONDED INDIVIDUAL

- 1. a) Name of Post Post # b) Post Address
2. a) Name of Person to be Bonded b) Residence Address c) Social Security #
3. Position to be Bonded Bond Amount \$
4. Largest amount of cash or check at one time? \$ Amount Monthly? \$
5. How frequently will such cash or checks be audited or reconciled?
6. Are you authorized to sign checks? If yes, will check be countersigned?
7. Is the audit done by an independent CPA or Public Accountant?
8. a) Have you ever been discharged from any position b) If yes, please explain
9. a) Have you ever been bankrupt or insolvent? b) If yes, please give details in a separate confidential letter to the Insurance Company.
10. a) Have you ever been refused a bond? b) When c) What Company
11. a) Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor? (Other than Traffic Violations) b) If yes, explain

The foregoing answers, statements and representations are made with the intent to induce The Travelers Insurance Company to execute the policy described herein and are true to the best of our/my knowledge and belief.

Signed this day of , . (day) (month) (year)

Signature: Person to be Bonded

VFW CLUB MANAGERS AND BINGO RATE SCHEDULE

\$ 3,000.----- \$ 21.00 Minimum Premium

Rates \$4,000. And Over - \$7.00 Per Thousand

\$ 4,000.-----	\$ 28.00
\$ 5,000.-----	\$ 35.00
\$ 6,000.-----	\$ 42.00
\$ 7,000.-----	\$ 49.00
\$ 8,000.-----	\$ 56.00
\$ 9,000.-----	\$ 63.00
\$ 10,000.-----	\$ 70.00
\$ 15,000.-----	\$105.00
\$ 20,000.-----	\$140.00

Rates \$25,000. And Over - \$5.00 Per Thousand

\$ 25,000.-----	\$125.00
\$ 30,000.-----	\$150.00
\$ 35,000.-----	\$175.00
\$ 40,000.-----	\$200.00

Rates \$50,000. And Over - \$4.00 Per Thousand

\$ 50,000.-----	\$200.00
\$ 55,000.-----	\$220.00
\$ 60,000.-----	\$240.00
\$ 65,000.-----	\$260.00
\$ 70,000.-----	\$280.00
\$ 75,000.-----	\$320.00
\$ 80,000.-----	\$320.00
\$ 85,000.-----	\$340.00
\$ 90,000.-----	\$360.00
\$100,000.-----	\$400.00

Form (9/00)

Enclosure 4

RECOGNITION

GOLD MEDAL AWARDS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selects an emergency services person, a law enforcement officer and a firefighter to receive VFW Gold Medal Awards. The presentation of these awards is made at the VFW Department Convention in June/July or a respective award ceremony. Post Safety Chairmen are encouraged to submit a candidate for these awards to their Department Headquarters by November 1. The Department must select a single candidate for each award and submit those to VFW National Headquarters by November 17. Eligible candidates for each award are as follows:

Emergency Medical Technician Gold Medal

Any individual who actively gives emergency medical treatment, provides rescue service or civil disaster assistance as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to give emergency medical care, provide rescue and civil disaster assistance to our nation's citizens.

Law Enforcement Gold Medal

Any individual who serves in a municipal, county, state or federal unit tasked with enforcement of the laws pertaining to their area of responsibility. This award does not apply to individual employed by private companies or security services.

Firefighters Gold Medal

Any individual who actively fights fires as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to fight fires and give assistance to our nation's citizens.

Criteria for all Gold Medal Awards:

Candidates must have demonstrated:

- Recognition by their colleagues or those they serve.
- Consistent excellence in the performance of their duties.
- Consistent dedication to their official responsibilities over a period of years and continuous growth in responsibilities and skills within their profession.

Documentation required for all candidates:

- 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 field.
- One page listing of the candidate's accomplishment and awards in their field.
- Photograph (preferably a head shot) of the candidate.

Nomination:

Post Safety Chairmen should send the above information to their Department Headquarters to arrive no later than November 1. Departments should forward their candidate and documentation to arrive no later than November 17 to:

VFW National Headquarters, Attn: Programs – Gold Medal Award, 406 W 34 St
Kansas City, MO 64111