

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

NUMBER 7

403 Lee Jackson Highway
(540) 886-8112

Honor the Past, Focus on the Future

FAX: 866-416-0586

Website: www.vfwva.org

Email: stateheadquarters@va.vfwwebmail.com

January 1, 2011

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

The 2010-2011 year is half over. We are at 87.28% as I write this article, as a Department we met the Commander in Chief's goal of 85% for 20 December 2010. The next gate is 31 December 2010 where we need to be at 95% of our goal. We only need 4426 more members as a whole to meet our goal of 100%. There are 10 times more than that eligible in Virginia and 3 times as many that we let slip out the back door. I want to say congratulations to the following posts: Post 5500 Hampton, 4411 Franklin, 8545 Smithfield, 9808 Mechanicsville, 10387 Petersburg, 8228 Chase City, 5895 Buchanan, 2719 Wytheville, 2044 Earlysville, and 10295 Bowling Green for obtaining 100% or more in membership. We, the leaders at all levels need not only to concentrate on new and reinstated members, but to set up a program within our level to make personal contact with those members who have not paid for this year and to insure that as few as possible and hopefully none slip from our membership rolls. Comrades now that the Holidays are behind us, we need to get on the phone to all members who haven't paid their annual dues.

There is a lot of work to be done on the Community Activity and Hospital reports. Commander's I challenge you to get the reports in before our Winter Council Meeting in Williamsburg. Don't forget the Homeless Veterans report. The work is being done let's get it reported. I hope everyone had a great Holiday. January, as many of you know is a busy month for the Department and it's Auxiliary. We will start off by asking all the Comrades and Sisters that can join us at the State Capitol on the 14th to do so. We want to make Our Day on the Hill a huge success. I also want to remind each of you that there will be Service Officers training on Friday and Saturday at Williamsburg, I encourage that each post sends a representative to attend. Also we will recognize our Teacher of the year and VOD and Patriots Pen winners at the Banquet, I would like to see a better turn out for this event, the showing is poor and it is a shame to see a half empty banquet hall when we recognize these teachers and students for the hard work they do and when these are some of our core programs of the VFW. Richard DeNoyer who is our current National Sr. vice Commander will be our guest in Williamsburg, please take some time to meet him and show him some Virginia hospitality.

The Chief of Staff Tommy Gimble, and Sr. Vice Charlie Absher and I have been busy putting out fires, we still find posts that have members that are not eligible, the post inspections I feel have been being conducted correctly and we are correcting or at least trying to correct deficiencies that have been over looked and gun decked for years, one of the biggest problems we see is that proof of eligibility is not being provided by the applicant and posts are accepting them. Another is as usual is in canteens, non- members being served, and alcohol being purchased and sold to

customers without a license. All I can say is starting a Men's Auxiliary might save you. The Ladies Auxiliary became the VFW's "Partner in Service" in 1914. Since then, their members have contributed thousands of volunteer hours and raised millions of dollars to support programs that benefit veterans who defended our country and assist veterans' families in need of our assistance. Eligibility has changed over the years, but their patriotism and spirit have survived the test of time. They can be a true asset to your post!

In closing, if you need help with anything, want to conduct a recruiting drive or need advice, please do not hesitate to contact the State HQ or one of your State officers, we are here to help you, don't wait until we come knocking on your door and tell you that you are deficient in something, call us and we can prevent a lot of issues, hope you have a great new year, and if you have not seen one of your members in a while, pick up the phone or drop by their place and say hi, and let them know that you are thinking of them. Happy New Year!

James Martin
 Department Of Virginia VFW
 Commander 2010-2011

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1ST - Date: 2/12/11
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 6002, Denbigh
 145 Spur Drive, Newport News
Rep: Kim DeShano, State Adj/Qm

2ND - Date: 3/05/11
Lunch: Noon
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 4411, Franklin
 32414 John Beverly Rose Drive
Rep: Margo Sheridan, State Judge Advocate

3RD - Date: 2/26/11
Meeting: 10 AM lunch to follow
Location: 3rd District Headquarters
 10044 Pamunkey Rd,
 Mechanicsville
Rep: Charlie Absher
 State Sr. Vice Commander

4TH - Date: 2/13/11
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Crewe Volunteer Fire
 Department, sponsored by 7819,
 Crewe
Rep: Jim Martin, State Commander

5TH - Date: 2/19/11
Lunch:
Meeting: 12:00 noon
Location: Post 4637, Martinsville
 2285 Old Chatham Road
Rep: Tommy Hines, PDC

6TH - Date: 02/13/11
Meeting: 2:00 PM
Location: Bldg 5 & Chapel
 VA Medical Center, Salem
 Sponsored by Post 4299
Rep: Steve Lasseter,
 State Jr. Vice Commander

7th - Date: 3/13/11
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 9292, Elkton
 13958 Spotswood Trail, Elkton
Rep: Jim Martin, State Commander

8th - Date: 1/09/11
Meeting: TBA
Location: Post 7589, Manassas
 9304 Centerville Rd, Manassas
Rep: Steve Lasseter,
 State Jr. Vice Commander

9th - Date: 1/09/11
Registration: 10 AM
Location: Post 6000, Narrows
 206 Hare Street, Narrows
Rep: Chris Birch, State Surgeon

10th - Date: 2/27/11
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 8241, McLean
 1051 Springhill Road, McLean
Rep: Steve Lasseter,
 State Jr. Vice Commander

11th - Date: 1/09/11
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 12:30 PM
Location: Post 2216, Staunton
 212 Frontier Drive
Rep: Jim Martin, State Commander

12th - Date: 01/08/11
Registration: 10:00 AM
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Abingdon Elementary School
 19431 Woodland Hills Road
 Sponsored by Post 1994,
 Charlie Absher
Rep: State Sr. Vice Commander

13th - Date: 02/11
Lunch: to follow meeting
Meeting: 1:00 PM

Location: Post 8947, Louisa
 102 Mineral Ave, Mineral
Rep: Chris Birch, State Surgeon

3. AMERICANISM REPORT:

103 reports have been received from 42 posts.

The following Posts have **not** submitted a report for the second-half as of December 20, 2010.

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	8629	9358
Dist. 2	993	1211	2582	2894	4809	8545			
Dist. 3	622	1426	2163	2239	4639	7167	8046	8356	8529
	9224	9501	10570	10387	10654				
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7166	7897	8048	8228	8759	8902	9855
Dist. 5	873	2820	7800	7854	8243	8467			
Dist. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491
	4522	4920	5311	5895	8184				
Dist. 7	2123	6044	9760						
Dist. 8	1811	2524	7728	9835					
Dist. 9	1184	4667	7136	7568	7726	7969	9696		
Dist. 10	609	5412	7916	8241	8469				
Dist. 11	452	2216	2424	3060	3136	4805	7701	7814	8279
	8479	8644	9339	9480	10826				
Dist. 12	3782	4301	5715	6975	7360	8652	8979	9830	9864
	10298	10310							
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295
	10546	10574							

First half totals: 145 Post submitted 531 reports, 9 of 13 Districts were 100%. 11 of 156 Post did not submit a report.

Doug Keller, 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 September 30, 2010 and is now **PAST DUE**.

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted an Audit Report for the period ending September 30, 2010

DIST. 1				
DIST. 2				
DIST. 3	2163	9224		
DIST. 4				
DIST. 5				
DIST. 6	4299	4318	8184	
DIST. 7				
DIST. 8				
DIST. 9	7568			
DIST. 10				
DIST. 11	3060			
DIST. 12				
DIST. 13				

5. CLOSINGS:

State Headquarters will be closed on January 17, 2011.

6. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

First half reporting for the VFW Department of Virginia Community Activity has been completed.

The following Posts have **not** submitted a report for the second-half as of December 20, 2010

Dist. 1	176	960	2296	3219	6002	8629	9358			
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	3160	4809	8545		
Dist. 3	622	637	1426	2163	2239	4639	6364	7167	8046	8356
	8529	9224	9501							
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7166	7897	8048	8228	8759	9855	9954	
Dist. 5	873	2820	4165	7800	7854	8243	8467	10840		
Dist. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491	4522
	5311	5895	8184	9877						
Dist. 7	2123	2447	6044	9760						
Dist. 8	1811	2524								
Dist. 9	1184	4667	7136	7568	7726	7969	9696			
Dist. 10	609	5412	7916	8241	8469					
Dist. 11	452	632	3060	3136	4805	7701	7814	8279	8479	8644
	9339	9480	10826							
Dist. 12	1994	3782	4301	5715	6975	7360	8652	8979	9830	10298
	10310									
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10546	10574

Thank you for your support to our organization.
Sterling John Moninghoff
Vice Chairman

7. DUES INCREASE:

At the State Convention, it was voted to increase the State per capita dues by 50 cent, starting January 1, 2011 which takes them from \$8 to \$8.50. National per capita dues are \$11.50. If your Post dues are less than \$20.00, you will need to vote to increase them before January 1, 2011.

8. 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.

9. HOMELESS VETERANS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a 2nd Half Homeless Report for the period ending December 20, 2010

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	8252	8629	9358	
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	4411	4809	8545	9382		
Dist. 3	622	1426	2163	2239	4639	7167	8046	8356	8529	9224	9501
	10387	10570	10654	10657							
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7059	7166	7897	8048	8228	8446	8902	9855	9954
Dist. 5	647	2820	4637	7800	7854	8243	8467	10840			
Dist. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491	4522	4920
	5311	5895	8184	9877							
Dist. 7	2123	2447	6044	8613	9292	9660	9760				
Dist. 8	1811	2524	3103	7589	7728	9835					
Dist. 9	118	2719	4667	6000	7136	7328	7568	7726	7969	9640	9696
Dist. 10	609	1503	5412	7327	7916	8241	869	9274	9478		
Dist. 11	452	632	1499	3060	336	4805	7701	7814	8279	8479	8644
	9339	9480	10826								
Dist. 12	1994	3782	4301	5715	6975	7360	8979	9600	9830	9864	10298
	10310										
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295	10546	10574

Chris Birch, Chairman

10. HOSPITAL REPORT:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a 2nd Half Hospital Report for the period ending December 20, 2010

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	8629	9358
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	289	4411	8545	9382	
Dist. 3	622	1426	2163	2239	4639	7167	8046	8356	8529
	9224	9501	10387	10570	10654	10657			
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7166	7897	8048	8228	8902	9855	9954
Dist. 5	647	873	2820	7800	7854	8163	8243	8467	
Dist. 6	7766	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491
	4522	4920	5311	5895	8184				
Dist. 7	621	1860	2123	2447	6044	9292	9660	9760	
Dist. 8	1811	2524	3103	7589	7728	9835			
Dist. 9	1184	4667	6000	7136	7328	7568	7726	7969	9696
Dist. 10	609	1177	1503	7327	8241	8469	9274	9478	
Dist. 11	452	2216	2424	3060	3136	4805	7701	7814	8279
	8479	8644	9339	9480	10826				
Dist. 12	3782	4301	5715	8979	9600	9830	9864	10298	10310
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295
	10546	10574							

Chris Birch, Chairman

11. IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 14-16, 2011 Council of Administration, Williamsburg, VA Room Rate: \$68.00. The deadline for reservations is December 22, 2010, to insure group rates. Call 800-227-6963.
- February 15, 2011 Department Commander's visit to Martinsburg VA Hospital
- June 9-12, 2011 State Convention. Ramada Plaza Richmond West Hotel, 6624 Broad Street, Richmond, VA, 23230. Phone Number 804-285-2000. Room Rates \$89.00, Reservations must be made by May 8, 2011.
- Aug. 27-Sept. 1, 2011 National Convention, San Antonio, TX

12. INSPECTIONS:

Inspection reports for Districts 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 have been received. Districts 2, 3, 4 not reported inspected.

Not Inspected as of November 19, 2010

Dist. 1			
Dist. 2			
Dist. 3	2163		
Dist. 4			
Dist. 5			
Dist. 6			
Dist. 7	6044		
Dist. 8			
Dist. 9			
Dist. 10			
Dist. 11	3060		
Dist. 12			
Dist. 13			

Happy New Year! May the rest of the year be successful for you and your Posts.

J. Gary Wagner
State Inspector

13. MEMBERSHIP:

A great number of things occur on 1 January: A lot of folks are glad to start a new year, a lot of folks are trying to forget the night before and a lot of folks are trying to take down the Christmas tree between bowl games. One thing is certain though and that's the fact that we are behind in last year's membership. We are almost 1000 behind as I write this message. Some of that has to do with the adjustment that National made in our Life membership, but great deal of it has to do with the fact that our annual members are not renewing their membership. Those members are not just —unpays" now; they are no longer members in good standing. We need to reach out to them NOW and get them to renew. Mailings should have gone out to these former Comrades long ago. It's time to call them on the phone or pay them a visit. Let's find out what's going on in their lives that they're not staying in our VFW family. Each and every VFW member in this Department should adopt a New Year's resolution to get one former member to renew or reinstate their membership or to recruit a new member within the next 30 days. I'm working on doing that, can we count on you?!

Yours in Comradeship,
C. D. —Dc" Crouch
Membership Committee

14. MEMSTATS:

Memstats will no longer be included in the General Orders. You can view the up to date membership statistics daily on the National Memstats webpage. www.vfwkc.org

15. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT:

The primary purpose of the VFW MAP Grant is to promote VFW Post, District and Department involvement and interaction with the local military community. One item that VFW-National will look for is current Post involvement with the unit. The MAP Grant program is intended as financial assistance for VFW post to sponsor events for military units of the Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Several rules are in place (by National) for a VFW post to obtain funds for a MAP grant. They are

- Use the current application (dated 04-01-10)

- MUST BE SIGN BY POST COMMANDER or POST QUARTERMASTER. No one else can sign for the Commander or the Quartermaster
- Application sent to the Military Service Office at National---faxed or scanned copies with signatures
- Must include an event calculator
- Must have Post Participation at the event
- Send an informational copy to Department HQ and Department MAP Chair---this will aid in follow up on the status for approvals.
- A follow-up report must be completed and sent to National within 30 day of the event along with all receipts for expenditure of the funds.
- Any Grant funds not used for the event must be returned to National

Helping information when submitting the MAP grant:

- Tentative event agenda
- Price estimates/quotes for food, refreshments or other items being purchased for the event, rental cost estimates/quotes for any equipment
- VIP attending---i.e., Department Officers, Local Elected Officials, and High Ranking Military Officers
- Budget Amount for the event and amount of Post funds budget for the event.

Examples of events that may qualify for funding include, but are not limited to:

- VFW Post hosting a Farewell or Welcome Home event for a local military unit
- VFW Post supporting a military unit function, such as a holiday party or Family Readiness Group activity
- VFW Department sponsoring a Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) function for a military unit.

MAP Grant Applications must be submitted faxed to National Headquarters at (816) 968-2779 or mailed to VFW National Headquarters, ATTN: MAP, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Link at ron.link10@gmail.com or by phone 571-921-9220 (o) or 703.673.6046

16. MOTORCYCLE RAFFLE:

Support VFW Programs and purchase your motorcycle raffle ticket \$20.00 each or 6 tickets for \$100.00. The Drawing will be held during the Winter Council Banquet in Williamsburg January 15th at 9pm. Contact your District Commander or State Headquarters for tickets. All tickets sold should be turned into the Department by December 20th.

17. POW/MIA:

November 19, 2010
NEWS ADVISORY

JPAC TO HOST ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR AMERICA'S HEROES DEC. 3
JPAC to honor Missing in Action (MIA) Americans from Vietnam War, World War II

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Nov. 19, 2010) – The U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will host an Arrival Ceremony [Friday](#), Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. in Hangar 35, to honor fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown.

The remains receiving full military honors represent losses associated with the Vietnam War and World War II. An honor detail made up of joint military members will carry five flag-draped transfer cases containing possible human remains from a C-17 to a bus that will transport them to JPAC's laboratory for analyses. The first two transfer cases represent the Vietnam War and were recovered from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The remaining transfer cases were recovered from the Republic of Vanuatu, Germany, and France, and represent World War II losses.

Once the transfer cases arrive at JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory (CIL), the forensic identification process will begin. If and when identifications are established, the names will be announced following next-of-kin notification.

December 02, 2010

U.S. Soldier MIA from Korean War Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army **Sgt. First Class Wallace L. Slight**, 24, of Yates City, Ill., will be buried Dec. 3 in Van Meter, Iowa. On Nov. 1, 1950, Slight was assigned to M Company, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, occupying a defensive position in North Korea, along the Nammyon River, near a bend known as the "Camel's Head." Two enemy elements attacked the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing their perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Almost 400 men, including Slight, were reported missing or killed in action following the battle.

In 1953, a U.S. soldier captured during the same battle reported that a fellow prisoner of war had told him Slight had died on the battlefield during the attack.

December 08, 2010

Soldier Missing in Action from World War I Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from World War I, have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army **Private Henry A. Weikel**, 28, of Mt. Carmel, Pa., will be buried on Dec. 9 in Annville, Pa. On Sept. 16, 1918, as part of the 60th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division, his unit encountered heavy enemy artillery barrage and machine gun fire near Jaulny, France, in a wooded area known as Bois de Bonvaux. Weikel was killed during the battle and his remains were buried with two other soldiers in a wooded area between Bois de Bonvaux and Bois de Grand Fontaine. Attempts to locate his remains by U.S. Army Graves Registration personnel following the war were unsuccessful.

18. RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions are the means through which the VFW rank and file can influence the leadership and management policies of the VFW. Most resolutions originate at Posts or during conversations between members. If you have ever asked, "Why don't we do it this way?" you may have the seed for generating a resolution. Now is the time to draft resolutions so that they can be reviewed and approved at the Post level. Although Posts are not required to submit their approved resolutions to the District level, soliciting the support of District leadership and the other Posts in you District will help the Resolution when it comes to a vote before the Department Convention in June. The Resolutions Committee stands ready to review the drafts resolutions and help tailor them, if necessary, by asking hard questions and validating data. Please see additional information appended to the General Orders or ask any of the Resolutions Committee about your thoughts during the Winter Conference.

M. C. "Gonnie" Agresti
Chairman, Resolutions Committee

19. ROSTER CHANGES:

Officers for District 3
Commander
Victor Weaver
7947 Meadow Drive
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Jr Vice Commander
Harold Sayles
7301 Alvis Place
Richmond, VA 23231

Quartermaster
George Farrar
2706 Cottage Cove Drive
Richmond, VA 23233

Quartermaster VFW 1264
Barry Hall
366 Mountain Pass Road
Blue Ridge, VA 24064

Quartermaster VFW 8169
Charles "John" Cooper
5362 Lackey Lane
Covesville, VA 22931
434-979-0854

Commander VFW 8243
Odie Lewis
1023 Cluster Springs Road
South Boston, VA 24592

Quartermaster VFW 10574
David Paige
PO Box 39
Colonial Beach, VA 22443

Officers VFW 9660
Quartermaster
Thomas Ballweg
18501 Rock Gap Road
Fulks Run, VA 22830
540-852-3491

Sr Vice Commander
Spencer White II
11355 Morning View Road
Singers Glen, VA 22850
540-833-2214

Officers VFW 10310
Sr Vice Commander
Darrel "Duke" Parish
PO Box 847
Harrogate, TN 37752

Jr Vice Commander
Lowell Brown, Jr
141 Cadle Lane
Harrogate, TN 37752

20. SAFETY:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a Safety Report for the 2nd half as of December 20, 2010

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	8629	9358		
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	4411	4809	8545	9382		
Dist. 3	1426	2163	2239	4639	7167	8046	8356	8529	9224	9501	10387
	10570	10654									
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7059	7166	7897	8048	8228	8759	9855	9954	
Dist. 5	647	873	2820	4165	4637	7800	7854	8163	8243	8467	10840
Dist. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491	4522	5311
	5895	8184									
Dist. 7	1860	2123	2447	604	8613	9292	9660	9760			
Dist. 8	1811	2524	3103	7589	7728	9835					
Dist. 9	1184	4667	7136	7328	7568	7726	7969	9696			
Dist. 10	609	1177	5412	8241	8469	9274					
Dist. 11	452	632	1499	2216	2424	3060	3136	4805	7701	7814	8279
	8479	8644	9339	9480	10826						
Dist. 12	3782	4301	5715	6975	7630	8979	9830	9864	10298	10310	
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295	10546	10574

Milton Dye, Chairman

21. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Special Order #126:

Pursuant to the voluntary resignation of his membership upon his ascertainment of his ineligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, it is hereby ordered that the name of W. Gene Davis, Life Membership No. 9647507, be removed from the rolls of Chimney Rock, Post No. 9660, Broadway, Virginia, and his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

Special Order #134:

Pursuant to the voluntary resignation of his membership upon his ascertainment of his ineligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, it is hereby ordered that the name of Ricky A Brogden, Membership No. 9642033,

be removed from the rolls of Halifax County, Post No. 8243, Halifax, Virginia, and his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

Special Order #135:

Pursuant to the voluntary resignation of his membership upon his ascertainment of his ineligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, it is hereby ordered that the name of Cary E. Ford, Membership No. 9546476, be removed from the rolls of Halifax County, Post No. 8243, Halifax, Virginia, and his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

By order of
Richard L. Eubanks
Commander-in-Chief

22. TEACHER OF THE YEAR WINNERS:

Elementary School: Janice Halsey, Edgemont Primary, Covington. Sponsored by Post 1033

Middle School: Linda Petzke, S.G. Stewart Middle School, Fort Defiance. Sponsored by Post 10826

High School: Anne Caroll, Seton School, Manassas. Sponsored by Post 7589

23. VA PROCESSES FIRST CLAIMS FOR NEW AGENT ORANGE PRESUMPTIVES:

New Program Speeds Approval for Vietnam Veterans

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has decided more than 28,000 claims in the first six weeks of processing disability compensation applications from Vietnam Veterans with diseases related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange.

“With new technology and ongoing improvements, we are quickly removing roadblocks to processing benefits,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “We are also conducting significant outreach to Vietnam Veterans to encourage them to submit their completed application for this long-awaited benefit.”

VA published a final regulation on Aug. 31 that makes Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam and who have been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, ischemic heart disease, or a B-cell (or hairy-cell) leukemia eligible for health care and disability compensation benefits. With the expiration of the required 60-day congressional review on Oct. 30, VA is now able to process these claims.

Vietnam Veterans covered under the new policy are encouraged to file their claims through a new VA Web portal at www.fasttrack.va.gov. Vietnam Veterans are the first users of this convenient automated claims processing system.

If treated for these diseases outside of VA’s health system, it is important for Veterans to gather medical evidence from their non-VA physicians. VA has made it easy for physicians to supply the clinical findings needed to approve the claim through the new Web portal. These medical forms are also available at www.vba.va.gov/disabilityexams.

The portal guides Veterans through Web-based menus to capture information and medical evidence required for faster claims decisions. While the new system currently is limited to these three disabilities, usage will expand soon to include claims for other conditions.

VA has begun collecting data that recaps its progress in processing claims for new Agent Orange benefits at www.vba.va.gov/VBA/agentorange/reportcard/index.html.

24. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOT'S PEN 2011-2012 THEMES:

Voice of Democracy-Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military?
Patriot's Pen-Are you Proud of Your Country?

25. WARNING TO VETERANS:

Forwarded by Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

An organization called **Veterans Affairs Services (VAS)** is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. **This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way.**
<http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>

VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below.

Michael G. Daugherty
Staff Attorney
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (022G2)
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

26. YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Posts listed below have **NOT** submitted a Youth Activities Report for the period ending December 20, 2010

Dist. 1	176	824	960	2296	3219	5500	6002	8629	9358		
Dist. 2	392	993	1211	2582	2894	4411	4809	8545	9382		
Dist. 3	622	1426	2163	2239	4639	7167	8046	8356	8529	9224	9501
	10387	10570	10654	10657							
Dist. 4	2584	5313	7059	7897	8048	8228	8759	8902	9855	9954	
Dist. 5	647	873	2820	4165	4637	7800	7854	8163	8243	8467	10840
Dist. 6	776	1033	1264	1444	1841	2157	4299	4318	4491	4522	4920
	5311	5895	8184								
Dist. 7	621	1860	2123	2447	6044	9292	9760				
Dist. 8	1811	2524	3103	7728	9835						
Dist. 9	1184	4667	7136	7568	7726	7969	9696				
Dist. 10	609	1503	5412	8241	8469	9274					
Dist. 11	452	632	1499	2216	3060	3136	4805	7701	7814	8279	8479
	8644	9339	9480	10826							
Dist. 12	3782	4301	5715	6975	7360	8979	9830	9864	10298	10310	
Dist. 13	1827	2044	2217	2613	7638	8169	8436	8947	10295	10546	10574

William J. Shepherd, Chairman

Official:



Kim A. DeShano
State Adjutant

By Order of:



James K. Martin
State Commander

**PREPARING PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE
NATIONAL BY-LAWS, MANUAL OF PROCEDURE OR RITUAL**

By-Laws: Any member in good standing, a Post, a District, or a Department, may propose an amendment to the National By-Laws; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must be approved by a Department Convention. Immediately following a Department Convention, the proposed amendment(s) must be forwarded to National Headquarters.

Manual of Procedure and Ritual: Any Post, District, or Department may propose an amendment to the Manual of Procedure or Ritual; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must have been forwarded, through channel and have been properly approved.

In order to meet National By-Law/Manual of Procedure Article XIV requirements, to provide 15 day notice to all Posts of all amendments, the Adjutant General requests all amendments be forwarded to National Headquarters on or before the first working day of July.

By-Law, Manual of Procedure or Ritual changes not in proper form, unclear as to meaning, or concerning matters clearly not within the scope and purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars cannot be considered by the National Convention.

A proposed change to the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual must be submitted as such, not as a resolution. Proposed amendments must be definite and specific as to the verbiage to be deleted or added. Use of the most recent amended copy of the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual is encouraged, as proposed changes considered by convention delegates cannot be amended on the floor.

EXAMPLE 1

Proposed Amendment to National By-Laws proposed by Department of _____.

Section 202 – By-Laws.

Amend Section 202, National By-Laws, by deleting the words “two-thirds (2/3)” in the first sentence of paragraph one, and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following:

“majority”.

EXAMPLE 2

Proposed Amendment to National Manual of Procedure proposed by Department of _____.

Section 518 – Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Section 518, Manual of Procedure, by deleting paragraph (a) (1) d. in its entirety and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following:

“Plan and organize all social functions.”

EXAMPLE 3

Proposed Amendment to National Ritual proposed by Department of _____.

Amend the Ritual by deleting on page 48, in the last sentence of the Member’s Obligation, the words “and a citizen of our great republic.”

Further amend by placing a period after the word “comrade” in the same sentence.

If you require help composing a proposed change to the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual, please contact Administrative Operations at National Headquarters for advice and assistance in properly preparing a proposed amendment to be voted upon by your department convention.

PREPARING A RESOLUTION TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The policy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is established by resolutions adopted by the delegates attending Department and National Conventions. Most such resolutions originate at the Post level and are passed through the District and Department before being acted upon at a National Convention. Many times, an otherwise worthy idea gets nowhere merely because it is not correctly presented.

A resolution contains two separate parts; a statement of the problem to be solved, and the proposed solution to the problem. The problem is outlined in the “*WHEREAS*” clauses, and the proposed solution is given in the “*RESOLVED*” section.

The “*RESOLVED*” section of a resolution should be complete in itself without depending on the “*WHEREAS*” clauses to give it meaning.

EXAMPLE

WHEREAS, the rising cost of living has created an intense hardship on those disabled veterans whose only income is a meager pension check; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we petition Congress to enact legislation which would provide a substantial increase in non-service connected pension rates.

(Note: The “*RESOLVED*” section has a proposed solution that makes sense and can stand alone without the “*WHEREAS*” clause giving it meaning.)

A resolution may deal with a local problem. It needs no action on a level higher than that of the Post. If the problem concerns an area larger than that served by the Post, it should, after Post approval, be presented before the District or County Council. All resolutions of statewide, regional or national concern must be acted upon by the Department Convention. Those resolutions approved by a Department Convention, which affect persons or matters *outside the state boundaries*, must be forwarded to the National Convention for final disposition.

When submitting a resolution to the Department Convention, a notation on the bottom should show the previous action taken, such as, approval by Post and, if applicable, by the District. A Post or District submitting a resolution to its Department Convention must follow guidelines established by the Department, which may require submitting the resolution to the Department Adjutant prior to the convening of the convention.

Resolutions not in proper form, unclear as to meaning, or concerning matters clearly not within the scope and purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars cannot be considered by the National Convention.

Resolutions approved by a Department Convention, which affect matters outside state boundaries, must be forwarded by the Department Adjutant to the National Convention for final disposition. Approved resolutions should be sent to national headquarters at the close of the department convention. The Adjutant General requests all resolutions be forwarded to National Headquarters on or before the first working day of July. A resolution disapproved by the Department Convention or not acted upon by the Department Convention will not be considered by the National Convention.

Resolutions may also be originated by Department officers or by the Department Convention itself and acted upon by the Department Convention. A National Officer may originate a resolution concerning National affairs and submit it directly to the National Convention without Department action. Likewise, a National Convention Committee may originate a resolution and present it for approval during the National Convention.

Policy set by the National Convention is binding upon all subordinate units of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. No Post or Department is permitted to take any individual action or espouse any cause contrary to the National By-Laws or to the actions of the National Convention except that it may propose changes in policy by the preparation of a resolution for consideration as outlined herein.