

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

Honoring the Dead, Serving the Living and Assisting the Community

NUMBER 8

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February 1, 2012

Staunton, Virginia 24401
In Virginia 800-888-3521

GUIDE TO THE GO:

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1. COMMANDER'S MESSAGE:

Comrades, I want to thank each of you who attended and participated in the Winter Council of Administration meeting. The ones who did not attend missed the opportunity to attend workshops on National Military Services, Service Officer Training, Conducting Post Meetings, and Membership/Recruiting.

There are only 3 months left in our activities reporting year and far too many Posts have done no reports. I will be contacting the District Commanders for their recommendations on correcting this or their recommendation on whether the Post should remain what is called a "VFW Post" when it is not doing the work of VFW.

As of this writing, there are 130 Posts that have not made a National Military Services donation. There is no limit on the amount required and all funds will be used to assist our veterans/families. Checks can be mailed to State Headquarters with a notation NMS.

I have normally recognized the Posts with 100% membership but that list is growing so I will go to the Districts. District 10 is not yet 100% but it is the only District that all Posts have recruited at least one new member. Some of you have been saying you don't have any veterans in your area. How do you know? How many people have you asked? How many community activities have you completed? How many times have you promoted any of the work your Post or Auxiliary has done in the community?

Thanks to all who have been recruiting, completing VFW activities and reports, and for all you do in the community. You are the ones that honor the dead, serve the living, and assist the community. Thank You!

Yours in Comradeship,
Charlie Absher
Department Commander

2. DISTRICT MEETINGS:

1ST - Date: 2/4/2012
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 176, Newport News
21 Forest Drive
Rep: Margo Sheridan,
Department Sr. Vice Commander

2ND - Date: 3/10/12
Lunch: Noon
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 4411, Franklin
32414 John Beverly Rose Drive
Rep: Tom Gimble,
Department Chief of Staff

3RD - Date: 3/17/2012
Meeting: 10 AM lunch to follow
Location: 3rd District Headquarters
10044 Pamunkey Rd,
Mechanicsville
Rep: Chris Birch
Department Jr. Vice Commander

4TH - Date: 2/4/12
Meeting: 2:00 PM
Location: Post 7819, Crewe
Crewe Fire/Rescue Bldg US 460
Rep: Charlie Absher,
Department Commander

5TH - Date: 2/4/2012
Meeting: 12:00 PM
Location: Post 647, Danville
275 VFW Drive
Rep: Buddy Weekley,
Department Judge Advocate

6TH - Date: 2/12/12
Meeting: 2:00 PM
Location: Bldg 5 & Chapel
VA Medical Center, Salem
Sponsored by Post 4920
Rep: Charlie Absher,
Department Commander

7th - Date: 3/11/12
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 8613, Shenandoah
1103 Varina Ave
Rep: Charlie Absher,
Department Commander

8th - Date: 4/22/12
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 2524, Culpeper
12210 Sperryville Pike
Rep: Margo Sheridan,
Department Sr. Vice Commander

9th - Date: 5/20/12
Registration: 10:00 AM
Lunch: 12:00 noon
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 1115, Hillsville
701 W. Stuart Drive
Rep: Charlie Absher,
Department Commander

10th - Date: 2/19/2012
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 1:00 PM
Location: Post 8241, McLean
Rep: Chris Birch
Department Jr. Vice Commander

11th - Date: 5/6/12
Lunch: 11:30 AM
Meeting: 12:30 PM
Location: Post 8644, Bridgewater
118 Dry River Road
Rep: Tom Gimble,
Department Chief of Staff

12th - Date: 2/25/12
Registration: 10:00 AM
Meeting: 11:00 AM
Location: Post 9830, Damascus
29489 Mountain City Hwy
Rep: Margo Sheridan,
Department Sr. Vice Commander

13th - Date: TBA
Meeting:
Location:
Rep:

3. ALL AMERICAN PROGRAM 2011-2012:

Please review and follow the current requirements for this year's program. The deadlines for this year have changed. The deadline for completion of all criteria is June 30, 2012. However, in order to have your awards presented at the National Convention in Reno, all requirements must be met and reported by no later than June 15, 2012.

4. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

Annual members are reminded that their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States expired December 31, 2011, unless their 2012 dues are paid and reported to National Headquarters. Every effort should be made to renew the membership of continuous members and also sign up new and reinstated members.

5. CLOSINGS:

State Headquarters will be closed February 20, 2012 for President's Day.

6. 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.vfwwemail.com. Subscriptions for General Orders are \$24.00 for the year or \$2.00 per issue.

7. IMPORTANT DATES:

June 7-10, 2012 State Convention, Williamsburg, VA Room Rate: \$85.00. The deadline for reservations is May 16, 2012, to insure group rates. Call 800-227-6963.

July 21-25, 2012 National Convention, Reno, NV

8. IRS:

Organizations exempt from income tax under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code are generally required to file Form 990 by the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of their accounting fiscal year. For the 2010 Tax Year (tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010), if the organization's annual gross receipts are normally more than \$50,000, the organization must file Form 990 or 990-EZ. Small tax-exempt organizations whose annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less are required to electronically submit Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard. There is no penalty assessment for late filling the e-Postcard, but an organization that fails to file required information returns for three consecutive years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. The revocation of the organization's tax exempt status will not take place until the filing due date of the third year.

Gross receipts are considered to be normally less than \$50,000 if the organization:

1. Has been in existence for 1 year or less and received, or donors have pledged to give, \$75,000 or less during its first taxable year;
2. Has been in existence between 1 and 3 years and averaged \$60,000 or less in gross receipts during each of its first two tax years; and
3. Is at least 3 years old and averaged \$50,000 or less in gross receipts for the immediately preceding 3 tax years (including the year for which the calculations are being made).

If annual gross receipts are normally more than \$50,000, the organization must file Form 990 or 990-EZ. For the 2010 Tax Year, if an organization has gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000, it may file form 990-EZ. However, if either gross receipts or total assets are above those limits, Form 990 must be filed.

For purposes of filing requirements, gross receipts include: total contributions; gifts and grants; program service revenue; membership dues and assessments; gross investment income (including interest, dividends, gross rents, and other investment income); gross income from the sale of assets other than inventory; gross income from special fundraising events; gross sales net of return allowances; and any other revenue.

IRS regulations require that all tax-exempt organizations make both their Application for Exemption and 990's for the last three years available for public inspection at their principal office and provide copies in response to written requests, subject to the payment of reasonable fees. There are substantial penalties for violation of these regulations.

9. LEGACY LIFE MEMBER CONTEST:

Department Commanders who increase their Legacy Life members in their Department by May 31, 2012, will receive a \$300 cash award. ***A minimum of on new legacy life member per one thousand members in your Department is needed to qualify.

District Commanders that increase the legacy life members in their District by May 31, 2012, will receive a \$200 cash award. ***A minimum of one new legacy life member per number of Posts within your District is needed to qualify.

Post Commanders who sign up new legacy life members by May 31, 2012, will be placed in a drawing and six winners will be selected. ***You will receive on ballot for a new Bronze member, two ballots for new Silver members, three ballots for new Gold members and one ballot for level upgrades. The six winning Commanders will receive round-trip airfare to the National Convention in Reno, Nevada for the Commander and their spouse, \$500 expense stipend, and special seating at the Joint Opening ceremonies on Monday.

10. LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Please pass the word on our Life Legacy Program available to all Life Members. This program offers three levels of membership each offering its own packages of prestigious benefits. Financial contributions to the Legacy Life Member program are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. What Legacy will you leave?

<i>Enrollment Cost:</i>	<i>Annual Payouts</i>
<i>(Natl., Dept. & Post):</i>	

Gold - \$1200	\$18.00
Silver - \$800	\$12.00
Bronze - \$400	\$6.00

11. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING:

Congratulations! General Lewis B. (Chesty) Puller Post 1503 is the winner of a free Life Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Virginia. General Lewis B. (Chesty) Puller Post 1503 was made eligible for this Free Life Membership for having 95% of their membership goal reported to State Headquarters by the January 3, 2012 deadline.

Kim DeShano, State ADJ/QM

12. MEMBERSHIP:

We are over half way through the administrative year and one of the main problems remains to be the **retention** of members. We need to reach out to those annual members who have not renewed and get them to stay with us. At the present time our continuous members are failing to renew for this year in large numbers. We need to turn that around. If we do not keep our membership up or we lose volunteers and without those volunteers we cannot carry out our community programs; we cannot carry out our hospital programs; we lose our ability to reach out and influence our youth in a positive manner; we lose our ability to influence legislation that affects veterans and their families. It is past time to start contacting these folks by letter. Make some phone calls or better yet, dropping by their homes and say "hello". Let's find out why they haven't heard from them lately. We need to keep these Comrades with us – we have to make them feel that they are a valued part of our organization and not just a number. We won't stop recruiting, but it does no good to recruit new members just to have them leave us the following year because they didn't feel like they were a part of our team – our family.

C. D. "Doc" Crouch
Membership Committee

13. PATRIOT'S PEN WINNERS:

The Department judging for the Voice of Democracy was held on Friday, January 6, 2012 and listed below are the results:

1st Place	Post 8243, 5th District	Matthew L. Jones
2 nd Place	Post 10546, 13th District	Nicholas C. Hockaday
3rd Place	Post 1994, 12th District	Kathleen M. Quigley

Thanks to everyone for your participation in the program.

Co-Chairmen
Don Hall and Joe Martin

14. RECRUITER CREDITS:

It is the Quartermaster's responsibility to ensure that all recruiter information is properly recorded. New/Reinstated memberships entered online, or submitted through National Headquarters, without recruiter information will not be changed afterward.

15. RECRUITING:

Just because the weather is not what we would like to have does not mean that we can stop our efforts to recruit new and reinstated members for our Posts. We still need to move forward to get more Comrades into our organization. I just take an extra thermos of coffee with me if I'm recruiting outdoors but there are a lot of indoor opportunities if we look for them: getting permission to address the meetings of other like-minded organizations and civic groups, National Guard drill weekends, and just having an APPLICATION IN YOUR POCKET at all times as you go about your day. You never know when or where you'll meet a fellow veteran. Don't be afraid to ask and don't be caught unprepared.

C. D. "Doc" Crouch
Membership

16. REPORTING:

Comrades to view whether your Post has submitted an Audit Report, Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth or Hospital report you will have to visit the Department website (www.vfwva.org).

We update the website weekly usually on Friday. We hope this will eliminate the confusion of whether or not your Post has been credited with submitting a report. Due to the delay of printing and mailing the monthly General Orders, sometimes, the information is over 3 weeks old in the General Orders. If you have any questions please call State Headquarters.

There will be no form for Homeless when reporting for assistance to a homeless veteran please put it on a Community Activity report under aid to others.

17. ROSTER CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES:

New Commander District 11
Thomas Snook
107 Brian Ave
Bridgewater, VA 22812
540-828-7339

Commander VFW Post 647
Benjamin Baker
337 Hermitage Drive Apt G
Danville, VA 24541
434-793-3954

Sr. Vice Commander VFW Post 647
Robert Branam
593 Gemstone Lane
Danville, VA 24541

Quartermaster VFW Post 647
New Address
Dennis Forslund
4356 Westover Drive
Danville, VA 24541

Quartermaster VFW Post 824
New Address
William Emeny
PO Box 6459
Newport News, VA 23606

Commander VFW Post 1444
Edward L. St Clair
3849 Green Spring Ave NW
Roanoke, VA 24017
540-982-5749

Sr. Vice Commander VFW Post 1444
Brenda Hale
3651 Martinell Ave
Roanoke, VA 24018

Jr. Vice Commander VFW Post 1444
James Lee Williams
611 Leslie Lane NW
Roanoke, VA 24017
540-915-5410

New Mailing Address for VFW 2719
Wythe Post 2719
PO Box 1503
Wytheville, VA 24382-8503
Correct Dues \$25.00

Quartermaster VFW Post 8163
Mark Staehle
750 Laurel Forest Drive
Clarksville, VA 23927
434-374-8863

Quartermaster VFW 9660
New Address
Thomas Ballweg
PO Box 847
Broadway, VA 22815
540-896-3491

VFW Post 9835
New Meeting Location
Virginia National Guard Armory
692 Waterloo Road
Warrenton, VA 20186

New Officers for VFW Post 10574
Commander
Mike Poreda
14360 Round Hill Road
King George, VA 22485

Sr. Vice Commander VFW Post 10574
Mike Bishop
212 Meadow Ave
Colonial Beach, VA 22443

Jr. Vice Commander VFW Post 10574
Dave Paige
PO Box 39
Colonial Beach, VA, 22443

18. SPECIAL ORDERS:

Special Order # 133

Upon the recommendation of the Commander, Department of Virginia, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 211 of the National By-Laws, the charter of Tangier Island Post 9358, Tangier, Virginia mustered November 4, 1967, is hereby cancelled and the Post declared defunct.

Special Order # 142

His eligibility to membership having been questioned under the provisions of Section 108 of the National By-Laws and the veteran having failed to submit proof of campaign medal service which would qualify for membership, it is hereby ordered that the name of Ray T. Wright, Sr., Membership No. 4641551, be removed from the rolls of Withers-Hughes, Post No. 7701, Lovingston, Virginia, and his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States terminated by reason of ineligibility.

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

19. STATE CONVENTION:

The State Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza Fort Magruder in Williamsburg, VA on June 7-10, 2012.

20. TELEVISION RAFFLE:

The winners of the TV raffle were as follows:

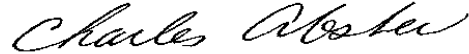
- 1st prize-Toshiba 55 inch LCD/Flat Screen TV- VFW Post 7897, Blackstone, VA
- 2nd prize- Toshiba 46 inch LCD/Flat Screen TV- Milton Moore, Men's Aux, Post 1503
- 3rd prize- Toshiba 40 inch LCD/Flat Screen TV- Jerry Cotter, Bristol, TN

Official:



Kim A. DeShano
State Adjutant

By Order of:



Charles Absher
State Commander

VFW 113th National Convention
Reno, Nevada
Reno/Sparks Convention Center
July 21-25, 2012

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.
Times for various functions are subject to change.
Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

Saturday, July 21, 2012

7:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW/Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.	National Veterans Service Advisory Committee
10:30 a.m.	Budget and Finance Committee
12:00 p.m.	Vander Clute Memorial Ride - Check Presentation
1:30 p.m.-3:30 pm.	National Council of Administration Meeting
3:30 p.m.-5:30p.m.	Conference Meetings
6:00 p.m.	Catholic Mass
7:00 p.m.	Veterans Service Resolutions Committee (for Chairmen)
7:00 p.m.	Past CIC Dinner

Sunday, July 22, 2012

6:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	Membership Workshop
7:00 a.m.	Gold Star Families Reception
7:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Field Competition
7:00 a.m.	Catholic Mass
7:00 a.m.	Protestant Service
8:30 a.m.	Annual Memorial Service
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	NMS Committee meeting
10:00 a.m. – noon	Veterans Benefits Forum
10:00 a.m. – noon	National Legislative Service meeting

Committee Meetings:

1:45 p.m.	Resolutions Committees
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	National Military Services Workshop
2:00 p.m.	National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual

Resolutions Committees:

2:00 p.m.	Finance and Internal Organization (200 series)
2:00 p.m.	General Resolutions (300 Series)
2:00 p.m.	National Security and Foreign Affairs (400 series)

Sunday, July 22, 2012 (cont.)

2:00 p.m.	National Veterans Service Resolutions (600 series) Sub-committee – Medical Programs Sub-committee – Employment Sub-committee –Benefits/Entitlements
6:30 p.m.	VAC Dinner

Monday, July 23, 2012

7:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Field Competition
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Joint Opening Session
1:00-4:00 p.m.	Business Session
12:00-1:00 p.m.	National Outstanding Community Service Post Reception

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

6:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	Chaplains Workshop
6:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	All-American Commanders Breakfast
7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	VFW Health Fair
6:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	VFW National Scouting Team Workshop
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	VFW Business Session
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Incoming CIC (Dept. Cmdrs.) Luncheon
2:00 p.m.	Business Session/Nomination of Officers
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Workshops
	Communications & Public Affairs Workshop
	VFW Programs Workshop
	IAVC Committee meeting
	NWVC Committee meeting
	National Home
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Grants, Financial Assistance and Planned Giving
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	Patriotic Rally

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

8:00 a.m.	Business Session /Installation of Officers
11:00 a.m.	National Council of Administration (immediately following installation)
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Commander-in-Chief's and National President's Reception (Ticketed Event)

Thursday, July 26, 2012

9:00 a.m.	CIC Assignment Meeting
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