

**DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**VFW**

**MEMBERSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**

**2024-2025**



**“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

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# “Together Everyone Achieves More”

## Recruit, Reinstate and Retain

Message from the Department Commander – Barbara "Barb" Loncar

I am deeply honored to lead our VFW Department during the 2024 – 2025 year. Pennsylvania has some of the best VFW leaders in the Nation and we thank you for your dedication and energy to moving our Membership Program to even greater heights.

Over the past years, we have learned that if we pay more attention to recruiting new members; what about memberships that are about to expire, we can easily retain them. Likewise, if their membership has expired, we can reinstate them and retain them. The trick is to be constantly aware of your Post’s annual members’ expiration status. To help with this, make sure that your post has a monthly membership roster, and work that unpaid list on a monthly basis.

Contact the members on your rosters before their memberships lapse. We do a great job in recruiting new members to join our organization, and we need to do a better job of retaining those new members and getting them involved. It is very important that we contact those members; give them a “buddy check” call, text or email.

Also, we need the right mix of ingredients to increase our membership numbers. First, we start with a plan to increase our membership, then we add knowledgeable recruiters to do the job. Secondly, we create recruiting opportunities while adding recruiting incentives. We need to encourage members at large to join/transfer into a local Post. **A member at large listing is available for you if requested from Department Headquarters.**

Membership is **NOT** just the responsibility of the officers of your post, district and/or department. It should be **every** member’s highest priority. I am asking that everyone recruits at least one new member this year.

This Year’s Membership Program is **101%** and the Mandatory All-State worksheet is required to be submitted to Department Headquarters no later than **APRIL 30, 2025**. **National Membership of 102% is our ultimate goal and every Post should try to obtain this goal!**

Our Department Membership team is composed of professionally trained recruiters to help you in your post’s recruiting and retention efforts. If you need assistance, reach out to one of them.

Please remember to practice the three key R’s.....**RECRUIT, REINSTATE, RETAIN!**

Sincerely,

**Barbara “Barb” Loncar**

**Department of Pennsylvania Commander**

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

### **Message from the Department of Pennsylvania Membership Team**

**“Please engage and encourage your members, motivate, mentor and educate your new and younger members, and always strive to increase your membership and expand your involvement in your community.”**

**"Membership"**, that ten letter word that causes most people to cringe during a Post or District meeting. Yet, it is the lifeblood of our organization. Here in PA, we have had a trend of a declining membership for far too long. If each of us attempted to renew, reinstate or recruit just one member, we could more than double the size of our organization in one year.

Obtaining new members and reinstating previous members shouldn't be the only objective. We need to encourage participation in meetings and events. There is nearly a 30-year gap between the Vietnam War and the start of the Global War on Terrorism. The Desert Storm/ Kosovo/ Bosnia and Somalia generation isn't large enough to carry our organization at every level. We should all work to train and mentor the younger veterans and encourage them as they seek responsibilities and opportunities in our post and districts.

Teamwork, mentorship, and a purpose will give our members a reason to want to participate. It is up to us to become the change that we wish to see. We all must make the effort to recruit and reinstate members, mentor them, and make them feel at home in our Posts, Districts and Department. Please contact our Membership Team for assistance.

We wish you all a successful membership and program year!

## **2024-2025 Membership Programs**

### **Special Notes and Exceptions**

Membership Divisions for all posts will be the same as National Divisions.

The membership quota for all Department contests is **101%** unless otherwise noted.

1. Continuous, new, reinstated and Life Members will be verified by National Headquarters for all Department Contests.
2. All Department Membership contests end **April 30, 2025** unless otherwise stated; National contest ends June 30 2025 and requires **102%** in membership.
3. Individuals, Posts and Districts can only win one time in each contest or category unless otherwise stated. The Department will make the final determination of all Department awards.
4. All contest checks will become the property of the Post or District unless otherwise stated. All checks will be made out to the Post or District Quartermaster unless otherwise stated.
5. All requirements for All state Awards must be met by **April 30, 2025.**
6. All membership transmittals for All State Status to receive a cap at Convention must be recorded at Department Headquarters **NO LATER THAN April 30, 2025.**
7. All membership transmittals for All American Status must reach National Headquarters. Submissions must be received NO LATER THAN June 30, 2025.
8. Please note that the requirement for **National membership is 102% and FOUR Community Service Reports (CSR's).**
9. Posts who are in arrears and receive a monetary award, the arrears will be deducted from the award.

# **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

## **Individual Membership Rewards Contest**

**Contest # 1 - "All Got One - Veterans Day"**. Every Member that recruits one new or re-instated VFW Member, verified by the National Membership Program, between **July 1, 2024, and November 11, 2024,** will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership. If the member is already a Life Member, an upgrade to Legacy Life Membership will be awarded. If the member is already a Gold Legacy Life Member, they can choose either a \$250 VFW Store Gift Certificate or they may donate the Life Membership to another member of their choice. Drawing will be held on the next business day after the conclusion of the contest.

**Contest # 2 – “All Got One - State Convention”**. Every Member that recruits five new or recovered VFW Members, verified by the National Membership Program, between **1 February 2025, and 30 April 2025,** will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership. If the member is already a Life Member, an upgrade to Legacy Life Membership will be awarded. If the member is already a Gold Legacy Life Member, they can choose either a \$250.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate or they may donate the Life Membership to another member of their choice. Drawing will be held on the next business day after the conclusion of the contest.

### **Contest # 3 - Helping Hands - “Military Order of the Cootie”**

Every VFW Member that recruits over 5 new or recovered VFW Military Order of the Cootie Member (**between 01 August 2024 through 30 April 2025**) verified by the Grand Quartermaster will be entered into a drawing for a Life Membership. If a member already is a life member then an upgrade to the next level will be awarded. If already a Gold Legacy Member then a \$300 gift certificate to the VFW store will be presented.

### **Contest # 4 - Helping Hands - “VFW Auxiliary”**

Every VFW Member that recruits over 5 new or recovered VFW Auxiliary Members (**between 01 August 2024 through 30 April 2025**) verified by the VFW National Auxiliary will be entered into a drawing for a Life Membership. If a member already is a life member then an upgrade to the next level will be awarded. If already a Gold Legacy Member then a \$300 gift certificate to the VFW store will be presented.

### **Contest # 5 - Helping Hands - “Auxiliary VFW Recruiter”**

The top three (3) Auxiliary Members who recruit the highest number of new and/or reinstated VFW Members by **April 30 2025,** will receive \$100 and a special gift from State Commander Loncar.

- Must have at least 5 Members to qualify.
- Auxiliary members must submit a Membership Program Award Certificate form.

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**Contest # 6 - Life Membership, PTI Attendance.** Award Members that attend Pennsylvania Training Institute sessions will be eligible for a drawing of four (4) life memberships or if already a Life Member, an upgrade to the next tier of Legacy Life membership. If the member is already a Legacy Life Gold member, they will receive a \$ 400.00 Certificate to the VFW Store. Drawing for these memberships will take place at the conclusion of the PTI sessions (validated by Department of PA VFW).

**Contest # 7 - Continuous to Life Membership.** Monthly Award: A special monthly drawing for two (2) life memberships to be awarded each month and will take place from August 2024 through 31 May 2025. Life Membership to Legacy Life Membership Upgrade.

**Contest # 8 - Life Membership to Legacy Life.** Monthly Award: Life Members will be entered into a Legacy Life drawing for two (2) Legacy Life Memberships each month. Bronze and Silver Legacy members are eligible for this contest. If the member is already a Legacy Life Gold, then the winner will receive \$ 250.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate. The contest runs from 1 August 2024 through 31 May 2025.

### **Post Membership Awards**

**2024-2025 Membership Achievement Awards.** Post Level Contests (**Divisions 1-6**) All Posts that properly report **101%** in membership, including 15 new/reinstated members, will receive a life membership and a \$200.00 VFW Store gift certificate.  
See dates listed below:

**Contest # 9** - December 31, 2024

**Contest #10** - February 29, 2025

**Contest #11** - April 30, 2025

### **Grass Roots Posts Contests (Post Divisions 7-11)**

Grass Roots Posts that properly report **101%** in membership, including 10 new/reinstated members, will receive a life membership and a \$200.00 VFW Store gift certificate.  
See dates listed below:

**Contest # 12**      December 31, 2024

**Contest # 13**      February 29, 2025

**Contest # 14**      April 30, 2025

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**Contest # 15 - Lead the Pennsylvania Team** The post in each division with the highest new, continuous and reinstated by **August 31, 2024** will receive a Life Membership or Legacy Life membership.

**Contest # 16- Let's keep pushing on,** Any Post who obtains **97 % by 31 September 2024** will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership. If the member is already a Life Member, or an upgrade to Legacy Life Membership will be awarded.

**Contest # 17- Early Bird Special** All Posts with 101% membership reported by **December 31, 2024,** will receive a bonus of \$.75 cents per member. Post will receive a bonus of \$ 1.00 per member for each member properly reported over 100% as of **December 31, 2024.**

**Contest # 18 - ``March Membership Madness''** To be announced!

### **Contest # 19 - “We did our best” Contest**

Every Post who obtains at least **101%** membership, plus reports all mandatory criteria on Page 10 by **April 30, 2025,** will be entered into a drawing for one (1) of five (5) Life Memberships.

Every Post who obtains at least **101%** membership, plus reports all mandatory criteria on Page 10 by **June 30, 2025,** will be entered into a drawing for one (1) of five (5) Life Memberships.

\* Note: The Post that obtains 101% by April 30, 2025 would be included in the June 30, 2025, but would only be eligible to win one (1) drawing, not both. The worksheet on Page 10 must be completed and sent to Department Headquarters postmarked by June 30, 2025 **for only those Post who need the extra time to make 101%.**

### **Contest # 20**

The Post Commander and Post Quartermaster from each All-State Membership Division with the most new/reinstated members **over the membership goal** by February 29, 2025, will receive a special award from the State Commander.

### **All-State Post Commanders and Quartermasters Contest**

### **Contest # 21**

All-State Post Commanders and Quartermasters will receive a distinctive VFW Cap, All-State Commander’s Pin and special recognition at the State Convention.

An outstanding Post Commander and Post Quartermaster will be selected Captain of the All-State Team based on the scoring of the All-State worksheet & membership over the goal by **April 30, 2025** and will receive a special gift from State Commander Loncar at the State Convention.



**“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**To be considered for All State Status this worksheet must be submitted to  
Department Headquarters, 4002 Fenton Avenue. Harrisburg, PA 17109-5943  
Postmarked no later than April 30, 2023 to receive Cap at Convention  
*ALL STATE WORKSHEET IS MANDATORY***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_ District# \_\_\_\_\_

**Commander’s Hat Size; \_\_\_\_\_ Mandatory Criteria Quartermaster Hat Size: \_\_\_\_\_**

- Membership Properly Reported as attaining percentage goal of 101%
- All Post and Home Association By-Laws (if Applicable) **must** be Current (within 5 years) Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Post/District **must** have Articles of Incorporation on file with Department Headquarters.
- Purchase Buddy Poppies. (minimum 100 Poppies) Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- Voice of Democracy Entry. Yes [  ] No [  ] (Donation of \$250.00 may be made in lieu of entry) (Check Must be sent to Department Headquarters earmarked **Voice of Democracy no later than December 31, 2024**)
- Patriot’s Pen Entry. Yes [  ] No [  ] (Donation of \$250.00 may be made in lieu of entry) (Must be sent to Department Headquarters **earmarked Patriot’s Pen no later than December 31, 2024**)
- Veterans and Military Support Fund Raiser or donation to VMS Fund (**Dept. Division 1-6 \$100 /Dept. Division 7-11 \$50**) (Must be entered on National’s Website Dashboard)
- Must have a least one (1) entry in the State Coloring Contest for Childres by the Deadline set.
- Donation to Commander’s Special Project (**\$100.00 No later April 30, 2025**). Must be sent to Department Headquarters **Earmarked Special Project (VFW Department Headquarters)**. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- VAVS Donation (**\$100.00 No Later than April 30, 2025**) Must be sent to Department Headquarters Earmarked VAVS. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- All Posts must submit a total of four community service reports for 2024-2025: Two separate reports covering the dates 1 July to 31 Dec 2024; Two separate reports covering the dates 1 Jan to 30 April 2025. Posts may submit monthly reports if they choose. The preferred method would be monthly reports. All monthly/quarterly reports must be on file with the department chairman and **NOT WITH THE DEPARTMENT, and also submitted on the Dashboard**).
- Donation to **Arthritis and Diabetes** (All Posts \$50 for each program - \$100 total) Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Post/District must have submission of one EMT or 911 Dispatcher or Firefighter or Police Officer Candidate for Dept. Safety Award (**Entries must be received in Dept. Headquarters by 15 December 2024**)
- All Post Quarterly Trustee Reports Including June 2024 must be on file. Dates Trustee Reports sent to Dept. June: \_\_\_\_\_ September \_\_\_\_\_ December \_\_\_\_\_ March \_\_\_\_\_
- Post must have QM Bonded and on record at Department HQ. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- Post Commander and/or Sr. Vice Commander and/or Jr. Vice Commander and/or Quartermaster **must attend all District Meetings (Post/District CMDR must attend at least attend 50% of ALL District Meetings)**.
- Post/District must have a **registered** Service Officer (**Current Fee Paid**).
- Post/District must not be in arrears for the current or prior year (e.g., dues, audits, Reports, etc.)
- Post Inspection is recorded for 2024-2025 by 31 January 2025 Date Inspected \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_
- Post/District Officers attend (the minimum of 1 elected officer from each Post and 1 elected officer from each District must attend) the Pennsylvania Training Instruction (PTI)
- All-State requirements must be completed July 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, to receive cap at Convention.

**“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**To be considered for All State Status the worksheet must be submitted to  
Department Headquarters, 4002 Fenton Avenue. Harrisburg, PA 17109-5943  
Postmarked no later than April 30, 2023  
ALL STATE WORKSHEET IS MANDATORY**

The score will be calculated at Department Headquarters. The points will be used to determine the All-State Captains. **Records must be on file at Department Headquarters to Qualify.**

**POINTED CRITERIA:** \_\_\_\_\_ **POINTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase 10 Buddy Poppies per member	10	_____
Membership 101% goal by Dec. 31, 2024	20	_____
Or Membership 101% goal by Feb. 28, 2025	15	_____
Or Membership 101% goal by Apr. 30, 2025	10	_____
New or Reinstated Member by Dec. 31, 2024 Maximum 75 pts	5 ea	_____
Youth Activities Participation (e.g., Scouts, JROTC, etc.)	10	_____
Participate in the “Smart Maher Teacher” Award (must have entry)	10	_____
Donation to Barger Nursing Scholarship	10	_____
Post/District Officers attend (the min. of 1 person from each Post and each District 1 elected officers must attend) the Pennsylvania Training Instruction (PTI)	10	_____
Post/District Inspection submitted to Department by <b><u>31 January 2025</u></b> (must be on file)	10	_____
Donation to Homeless Veterans Program	10	_____
Voice of Democracy Student (Donations do not qualify)	50	_____
Patriot’s Pen Student (Donations do not qualify)	50	_____
Donation to State Commander’s Special Project	20	_____
Law Enforcement Candidate	30	_____
Fire Fighter Candidate	30	_____
911 Dispatcher Candidate	30	_____
EMT Candidate	30	_____
Entry into the State Coloring Contest for Children	30	_____

**(Department Headquarters Validates all Requirements!)**

**“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**District Awards**

**2024-2025 District Membership Awards**

All Districts that properly report their membership goal of **101%** will receive an award for the district. Dates and awards are listed below.

<b>Contest # 22</b>	<b>December 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$1000</b>
<b>Contest # 23</b>	<b>March 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$700</b>
<b>Contest # 24</b>	<b>May 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$500</b>

**2024-2025 District Life Membership Achievement Award**

All Districts that properly report **20** new Life Members (including annual going life) will receive an award for the district.

<b>Contest # 25</b>	<b>December 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$900</b>
<b>Contest # 26</b>	<b>March 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$600</b>
<b>Contest # 27</b>	<b>May 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$300</b>

**2024-2025 District Commander Awards**

**Contest # 28** All District Commanders and District Quartermasters who have attained their membership goal of **101%** by April 30, 2025 will receive:

- All State District Commander’s Cap at Convention**
- Jacket (Style to be determined by State Commander)**
- Special Recognition at the State Convention**

**Contest # 29** All District Commanders and Quartermasters who have attained their membership goal of **102%** between **May 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025** will receive

- Outstanding District Commander’s Cap**
- Special Recognition at the State Convention**

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

### **Contest #30 “All American Department”**

If we become an All-American Department, all District Commanders, State Membership Team, and Certified National Recruiters will receive an incredibly special reward from State Commander Loncar – (To Be Announced)

### **Contest # 31 - “District Membership Chairman” Contest**

All District Membership Chairman who attain their membership goal of **102%** by April 30, 2025 will be entered in a drawing for a Life Membership. If the member is already a Life Member, an upgrade to Legacy Life Membership will be awarded. If the member is already a Gold Legacy Life Member, they can choose either a \$300 VFW Store Gift Certificate or they may donate the Life Membership to another member of their choice. Drawing will be held on the next business day after the conclusion of the contest.

*Note: In order to Qualify for this award all, the following must be Completed and Submitted to Department: District Inspections, Post Inspections and Post and District Quarterly Audits (including June 2024, District and Post By-Laws (must be updated within the 5 years) and ALL posts/district Quartermaster Bonds.*

### **Membership Plaques and Awards**

#### **Contest # 32 The Joe Salvo Award for Individual Post Members**

A **\$1000.00 cash award** will be presented to the *individual member* who signs up the most new and reinstated members (over 25 members) between July 1, 2024 and April 30, 2025. This award will be presented at the 2025 Department Convention. The National Recruiter Report will be used to verify the member. Membership Teams are not eligible for this award. *Certified National Recruiters do not qualify for this contest.*

#### **Contest # 33 Certified National Recruiter**

Certified National recruiters with the most recruited members according to the membership report will receive a special gift from Commander Loncar and a \$ 200.00 gift certificate for the VFW Store.

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

### **Contest # 34 “Robert Musser Memorial Plaque”**

This plaque will be awarded to the Post having attained the greatest number increase as of April 30, 2025.

### **Contest # 35 “Van Zandt Award”**

To be eligible, a Post must recruit at least 20 *new/reinstated members* prior to April 30, 2025. The Post recruiting the *most new/reinstated members* as a number of existing memberships receives a plaque.

### **Contest # 36 “Chosnyk Plaque”**

This plaque is awarded to the District having the greatest number increase as of 30 April 2025.

### ***Special Note***

***Districts and Posts must meet their membership goal, inspections, and report participation in Community Service, Patriot’s Pen Essay, Voice of Democracy, Safety, Youth Activities, Buddy Poppy, Citizenship Education in the current Commander’s Membership Year to qualify for plaques and awards. The plaques and the Van Zandt Award will be presented at the first general session of the Convention.***

## **2024-2025 Department Membership Team**

### **State Membership Chairman:**

Henry Mannella  
456 Dennison Drive, West Mifflin, PA 15122  
Cell Phone (412) 500-3501

Post 7632  
District 29  
Email: [h.mannella72@yahoo.com](mailto:h.mannella72@yahoo.com)

### **Membership Team**

John Walker  
16 Lukens Mill Drive S  
Coatesville, PA 19064  
Cell Phone: 610-220-5053

Post 928  
District 7  
Email: [fstsgtwalker@comcast.net](mailto:fstsgtwalker@comcast.net)

### **Membership Team**

Craig Fisher  
51 North Wolf Street  
Manheim, PA 17545  
Cell (717) 405-0980

Post 5956  
District 9  
Email: [cofish17@windstream.net](mailto:cofish17@windstream.net)

### **Membership Team**

Joseph Magnotta  
657 Jefferson Ave  
Jermyn, PA 18433  
Cell Phone: (570) 991-7010

Post 4712  
District 16  
Email: [jmatcret@gmail.com](mailto:jmatcret@gmail.com)

### **Membership Team**

Walt Hartnett  
349 Spring Mill Avenue  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Cell Phone: (484) 362-3957

Post 1074  
District 16  
Email: [walt.hartnett4@gmail.com](mailto:walt.hartnett4@gmail.com)

### **Membership Team**

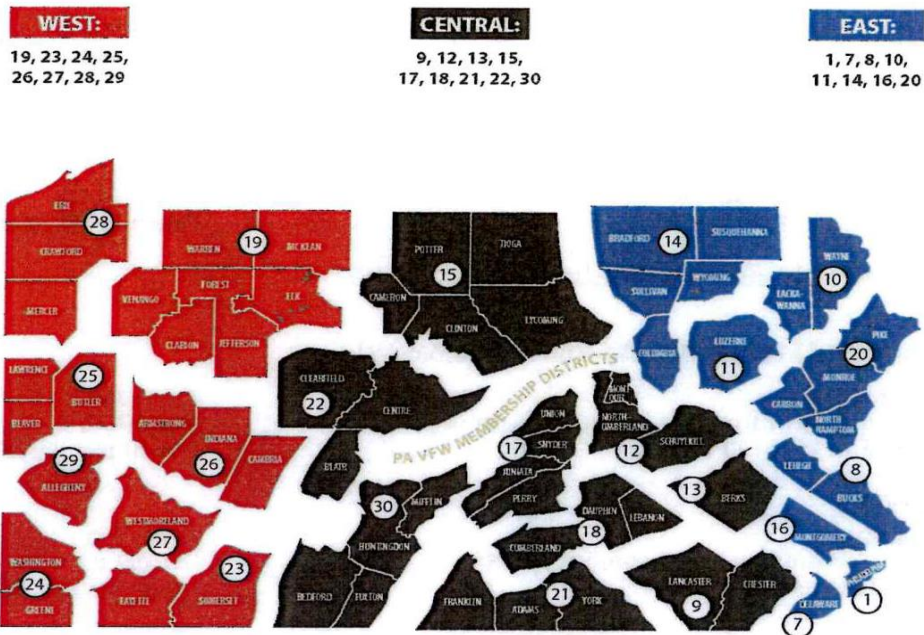
Earl “Greg” Stump  
952 Colman Mills Road  
Post Allegany, PA 16743  
Cell Phone: (760) 443-6811

Post 6391  
District 19  
Email: [gstump.90@gmail.com](mailto:gstump.90@gmail.com)

# “Together Everyone Achieves More”

## ALL-STATE POST DIVISIONS & QUOTA

Division	Membership	Minimum %
<b><u>Division 1</u></b>	<b>951+</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 2</u></b>	<b>750-950</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 3</u></b>	<b>356-749</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 4</u></b>	<b>246-355</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 5</u></b>	<b>185-245</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 6</u></b>	<b>143-184</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 7</u></b>	<b>112-142</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 8</u></b>	<b>88-111</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 9</u></b>	<b>68-87</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 10</u></b>	<b>51-67</b>	<b>101</b>
<b><u>Division 11</u></b>	<b>1-50</b>	<b>101</b>



**“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

**2024-2025 Planning Calendar**

July 4 & 5	Independence Day (Department HQ Closed)
July 20	Eastern PTI - Rising Sun Post #2819 District 1 (8:00 AM) 6850 Martins Mill Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215) 728-9376
July 21	Eastern PTI – Wozniak Pavloski Post #7963 District 10 (8:00AM) 272 Main Street, Eynon, PA 18403 (570) 876-0189
July 22	Eastern PTI Thomas Brill Post# 1532 District 12 (6:00 PM) 141 Shikellamy Ave, Sunbury, PA 17801 (570) 286-4951
July 27-Aug 1	National Convention Louisville, KY
August 9 &10	Department Flying Squadron, Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel 4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111 (Invitation Only)
August 11	Central PTI Allen J. Beck Post #5265 District 21 (8:00 AM) 199 West First Ave, Spring Grove, PA 17362 717-225-4010
August 12	Central PTI Leroy O. Buck Post #7863 District 15 (6:00 PM) 150 Shaffer St, Duboistown, PA 17702 (570) 323-9195
August 17	Western PTI King Dave Post #1132 District 19 (8:00 AM) 95 Wetmore Ave, Kane, PA 16735 (814) 837-6630
August 18	Western PTI Memorial Park Post #764 District 24 (8:00 AM) 460 Valley Brook Rd, McMurray, PA 15317 (724) 941-3358
August 19	Western PTI Garfield Thomas Jr Post #4963 District 26 (6:00 PM) 120 West Sample St, Ebensburg, PA 15931 (814) 472-8833
August 22-25	Commander-in-Chief’s Homecoming, Savannah, GA
September 2:	Labor Day (Department HQ Closed)
September 6-8	National Auxiliary CAFÉ – National Home, Eaton Rapids, MI (Dept of PA VFW Auxiliary Bus Trip)
September 11:	Patriot’s Day
September 20:	POW-MIA Day
September 29:	Gold Star Mother’s Day
October 14:	Columbus Day (Department HQ (Closed))



## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

November 1-3	Eastern States Conference – Burlington, VT
November 5:	Election Day
November 11	Veterans Day (Department HQ Closed)
November 15 &16:	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Department of PA VFW Auxiliary, Harrisburg (VFW & Auxiliary COA meetings will be held)
November 28 -29	Thanksgiving Holiday (Department HQ Closed)
December 24	Christmas Eve (Department HQ Closed)
December 25	Christmas Day (Department HQ Closed)
December 31	New Year’s Eve (Department HQ Closed)

### **2025**

January 1:	New Year’s Day (Department HQ Closed)
January 20:	Martin Luther King Jr (Department HQ Closed)
January 24-25	Mid-Winter Conference: Eisenhower Hotel, Gettysburg, PA
February 17:	President’s Day (Department HQ Closed)
Feb 28-March 4:	Voice of Democracy Celebration: Washington, DC (Tentative)
March 1-5:	Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C. (Tentative)
March 14-16:	Women Veterans Conference/Expo – State College, PA
April 11-12:	Commander & President Joint Testimonial – Eisenhower Hotel, Gettysburg
April 18-21:	Good Friday & Easter Holiday Weekend (Department HQ Closed)
May 1:	Loyalty Day
May 26:	Memorial Day (Department HQ Closed)
June 11-14	Department Convention: Eisenhower Hotel, Gettysburg
June 19:	Juneteenth (Department HQ Closed)
June 28:	VFW National Home 100th Anniversary Celebration, Eaton Rapids, MI

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

### **Tools to Boost Membership: Recruiting Tips**

1. Know the VFW – As a recruiter, being aware of our programs and purpose will prepare you to successfully engage prospective members.
2. Network for Prospects – Ask family, friends and coworkers if they know veterans who may be eligible. Follow up on leads quickly.
3. Make Personal Contact – Try to meet prospective members face-to-face whenever possible.
4. Don't Be Afraid to Ask – Many veterans have never been asked to join the VFW. If you speak up and ask them to join, you may be pleasantly surprised at their response.
5. Be Persistent, Not Pestering – If they decline to join at this time, respect their decision.
6. Look for Common Experiences – Ask questions to learn about military experiences, family, and daily life. Describe the benefits of membership in a way that relates to the prospective member.
7. Listen Carefully – The best salespeople are active listeners. Listen for excuses and objections, and then be prepared to overcome them with facts.
8. Share Your Story – Consider why you are a part of the VFW and tell others why you are so committed to the organization. Your experiences with the VFW are the greatest recruiting tool available.
9. Be Prepared – You may meet potential members anywhere so be sure to keep an application with you at all times. If you use a smartphone, learn about the VFW app and how it can be used to recruit new members. Stay current as VFW National Membership provides updates and assistance on new processes.
10. Enjoy Yourself – If you are enjoying yourself, prospective members will sense your enthusiasm and be more likely to join.

# “Together Everyone Achieves More”

## Successful Membership Booths

**The following is a general outline for setting up a successful membership recruitment booth.**

### **Start Early:**

- This will work best as a joint VFW and Auxiliary operation. Cooperation is key.
- Contact the manager of a shopping mall, trade show, state or county fair, or any place there is a large public gathering. Ask for permission (or pay) for space to set up a membership booth.
- Give advance news releases to your local newspaper and radio stations regarding your membership booth. Place recruiting posters and signs in store windows, post signs at the entrance to your city and along major thoroughfares or any place the public will notice them.
- Obtain an adequate supply of recruiting and informational materials. Some material is available from the Department and National Headquarters. Other material can be obtained from the VFW Store.

### **The Operation:**

- Decorate your booth with recruiting posters. Display informational material on the table. At least one VFW member and one Auxiliary member, wearing VFW caps or ball caps with Post or VFW logo, should be in the booth at all times. Display a sign large enough to let everyone know you are there.
- If local and state laws allow a drawing, get a member or merchant to donate a gift. Prepare tickets with stubs that request name, address and phone number. Hold the drawing for the prize and save the stubs for later contact.
- As eligible veterans visit the booth, inform them of the VFW programs and pass out informational material.
- As eligible veterans visit the booth, have them fill out a form giving information on their military service and whether they are interested in joining the VFW. If they wish to join, **SIGN THEM UP**. If they don't wish to join at this time, don't be discouraged. Make sure you get their name, address and phone number and contact them at a later date.

## **“Together Everyone Achieves More”**

### **The Follow Up:**

- Within a few days, have your membership team contact the eligible veterans and talk to them about joining the VFW. This is the time to verify their eligibility and collect their dues.
- Be sure your membership team is prepared to answer questions about the various programs the VFW sponsors.
- When a veteran joins, make them feel welcome. Ask them to take an active part in the Post and to help recruit others.

**It is not the responsibility of the Post membership team to do all of the work. Every member should be involved and made to feel a part of the membership program. Post activities attract members. A strong, active Post helps promote membership. Some membership builders are:**

- Activities in community service, Americanism and youth programs.
- Capable service officer to assist veterans in the community.
- Dances, dinners and other social functions for VFW members and their guests.
- Publicize all Post events.
- Maintain a clean, well-managed Post home and canteen.
- Hold interesting and informative Post meetings.
- Have active cooperation between your Post and Auxiliary.

# OPERATION: ALL IN



VFW National Membership Program

2024-2025

Al Lipphardt

Commander-in-Chief

*“Believe in what you do, do what you believe in.”*

VERSION DATE: May 6, 2024

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## **I: SITUATION:**

### **Commander's Introduction:**

Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Al served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1979, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968, and from 1970 to 1971. In recognition of his heroic service in combat, he received the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star with "V" device, Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service, Purple Heart Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Silver Star and two Bronze Stars, among many others.

He joined the VFW in 2002 at Post 12002 in North Fulton, Georgia, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. Al is also a Triple Crown Commander, having been named as an All-American Post Commander in 2006, District Commander in 2010, and Department Commander in 2015.

### **Membership Mission:**

To recruit, retain and mentor a stable membership base including all generations of veterans. To cultivate a membership that is well versed in institutional knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization and in the local community. To establish Posts with an established vision of service, leadership, and community outreach.

### **Specific Membership Numbers:**

Our requirement this year is to continue growth and achieve at least 102% in membership. In the simplest of terms, we look at the prior year's total (which is how many individual members paid membership dues last year) and want to see a 2 percent increase. If a member has been lost due to passing away or not renewing their dues, then that means we must fill that gap in addition to recruiting new members to meet the 102% goal. This should serve as an example to prove that we must maintain our focus on retaining and mentoring our existing members as well as bringing in new members to the organization. Bring in the members we need, keep the members we have.

## **II: MISSION:**

### **Membership:**

1. Build a strong organization through recruiting new members while retaining our current membership, creating a solid baseline for the future.
2. Work together to achieve VFW's goals. The VFW National Headquarters staff is available to assist in coordinating programs, developing membership initiatives, and building awareness among our membership and the entire veteran community.

### **Membership Requirements:**

- Achieve 102% in Membership
- For everyone to recruit at least one new member and then mentor that member.
- Increase membership drives and/or events.
- Develop new Posts and/or revitalize existing Posts.
- Increase Life Membership and Legacy Life Membership

**WHO:** All VFW Members, including Post, District, Department, and National leadership.

**WHAT:** To meet the goals of increasing membership through recruiting, retention, and mentorship. To develop a spirit of camaraderie and service to all veterans. To strengthen the Veterans of Foreign Wars through a solid membership base.

**WHERE:** Across the globe with Posts in all 50 states and in overseas countries and territories.

**WHEN:** Beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and continuing through the end of the membership year on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**WHY:** To serve our comrades and their families, to remember and honor those who have come before us, and to live the words of our motto, that ***NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.***



## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S STATEMENT

Comrades of Team Tribe 24-25,

You elected me to lead this organization in accordance with the National Bylaws, Manual of Procedures and Ritual to which I was installed. **LEAD I SHALL.**

### D-Day

*Operation ALL IN* will commence August 1, 2024 @ 1200 Hours

**THIS IS NOT A DRILL,**

**THIS IS NOT AN EXERCISE**

The Alert Order was issued when you were Department and State Junior Vice Commanders, and the Warning Order as Senior Vice Commanders, in order to prepare for *Operation All In*, our All-American Program for Departments, Districts and Posts.

We proudly stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us; the founders from the Spanish American War followed by World War I. World War II, Korea, Vietnam, The Gulf War, along with our continuing Global War on Terrorism and those deployments to many other places under the orders of the President of the United States. We have been preparing for this moment for three years. In 2022-2023 we focused on *Commitment* under the leadership of CIC Tim Borland and "Every Veteran Counts" and we successfully achieved those goals because you came together. You realized how critical the force (membership) is to mission accomplishment. In 2023-2024 we focused on *Credibility* under the leadership of CIC Duane Sarmiento and "Meet the Challenge". Again, you supported the sitting commanders realizing how critical it is for this nation's veterans to know we speak the truth. The principles we were founded upon 125 years ago remain our foundation.

Team Tribe 24-25 Commanders at all levels will focus on *Courage*. Your courage is undeniable. The day you raised your hand and took the oath of enlistment you said four words that sealed your pledge to the people of this nation, "So help me God". When you were ordered to deploy, putting yourself in harm's way, you knew full well the dangers you would face. With changing geo-social-economic conditions and frankly, partisan politics, we have forgotten the most important asset we have. Our nation can never replace the sons and daughters lost in war. Failing to have a clear plan to achieve victory has been our strategy over these last four decades. Our warriors are deployed to be merely pieces on a game board to be used repeatedly without consideration for the toll taken on the warrior and

families at home. The material costs of war and the lifetime of grief and tragedy both physically and mentally to our warriors and their families are quickly forgotten by our nation's leaders.

More dangerous to this nation is the failure by its leaders to keep the promises made to those who have borne the battle. Slowness to grant healthcare and service-connected disabilities is only one part of this failure. We depend on a volunteer military. Recruiting is an issue across all branches of service. Veterans who have deployed to combat have very long memories. The memories I am referring to are those of 1975 and the evacuation of Saigon and when we saw the debacle in Afghanistan at Bagram Air Base as our equipment was left behind but more tragically was witnessing our troops, that is our families (who serve knowing we will never be left behind) and allies abandoned on the ground. Our Warrior Ethos says I will never leave a comrade behind. Our nation's leaders failed to keep that promise.

One of my uncles who served in WWII was with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne landing in Anzio on D-Day. He went on to battles in Bastogne and Market Garden. He was highly decorated. Unfortunately, I was not close to him as he seemed to always be deployed overseas. I remember a conversation that confused me at the time. The talk was about what was I going to do with my life. At age 11, in 1957 America, I didn't know what I was going to do the next 15 minutes much less had I considered my life. But, I did not remember what he said until I heard it again from a Vietnam Veteran and fellow Rotarian. My Uncle Eddie's words were "the talent you have is your gift from God, the use of that talent is your gift to God". As I remembered I thought, did I really hear those words from that rock hard chiseled old soldier. But then I also remember he said, I chose to be a soldier. I chose to be a peacemaker, a Warrior of God. Evil exists and it cannot be appeased, reasoned with, or condoned. Evil is, and there is only one way to eliminate it and that is to destroy it wherever it appears. Like many of you we have seen the face of evil. In closing I am asking you to take up the vision of courage, never, ever, compromise your integrity. Your word is your bond. If you want to know where I am, look to the front, that's where I'll be. Follow Me.

I am proud to serve together with you. Put that vision into action. Embrace the suck, stand rigid for righteousness' sake, never compromise your principles, use the beliefs you held when you lowered your hand as you took the oath, and always be the best you can be as you **"Believe In What You Do – Do What You Believe In"**

### **III: EXECUTION:**

#### **Commander's Intent:**

*"Efforts are to be appreciated. Achievements are to be celebrated."*

To incentivize the necessary tasks of recruiting and retention, which are essential to the continued growth and strength of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a series of award programs will be established and overseen by the Membership Department under the direction of the Adjutant General. These programs will be directly related to membership growth and program participation, and awards will be assigned to those individuals as well as Posts, Districts, and Departments that show excellence above and beyond the standard.

#### **How To Achieve Tasks:**

Focus on the three pillars of membership: *Recruiting, Mentorship, and Retention*

1. Recruiting: We need to bring in new members and recover lapsed members. To do this, we must not only reach out to veterans in our community but also build our VFW Posts into places where veterans can feel at home, find the support and camaraderie they deserve, and be provided with the best service for their family and community.
2. Mentorship: We must engage our membership and keep them active. We must be training the leaders of the future, but also communicating and serving every member of our Posts
3. Retention: We must retain the members currently on our rolls. This means putting an end to cliquishness, welcoming eligible veterans of all generations, backgrounds, and walks of life.

## **IV: SERVICE AND SUPPORT:**

### *Membership Resources:*

In order to assist our Posts, Districts, and Departments in meeting the goals set out by the Commander-in-Chief in this membership program, the National Headquarters has a wealth of resources at your disposal. Many of those are available free of charge to our members.

Membership materials ranging from applications, recruiting brochures, posters, and benefits brochures can be ordered directly from the Membership Department using the Membership Order Form (located under Membership Quick Links once you log into vfw.org )

Resources for Post Development, Membership Campaigns, and Mentorship such as training guides, videos, and webinars are available in the Training & Support section on vfw.org

Promotional tools such as radio spots, sample advertisements, public service announcements, and media kits are all available through the Media Room on vfw.org See the trend? Just about anything you will need is at vfw.org, check it out.

*Department Leadership:* Department officers will provide resources, support, and training where available including Schools of Instruction, Unpaid/Relocated lists, and other tools and incentives to enable membership growth and the mission of recruiting, retention, and mentorship.

*National Headquarters:* The VFW National Headquarters staff is ready and trained to answer any questions you may have concerning membership, VFW programs, or other issues. National Headquarters staff will be available for remote training when necessary, feel free to contact the Membership Department to schedule.

You can contact our Member Service Center directly at [1.833.VFW.VETS](tel:1833VFWVETS) or [msc@vfw.org](mailto:msc@vfw.org), or the Membership Department at [1.888.JOIN.VFW](tel:1888JOINVFW) or [membership@vfw.org](mailto:membership@vfw.org).

## **V: COMMAND AND CONTROL:**

*In order to incentivize growth and provide motivation and recognition for those individuals, Posts, Districts, and Departments that go the extra mile to strengthen and grow the organization, the Membership Department will issue membership awards designated by the Commander-in-Chief.*

### **Awards Program Notes:**

- Awards and stipends given to a Post will be transferrable to another member of that Post.
- No more than one stipend will be awarded to an individual for a given event.
- Post/District/Department: Membership must be a minimum of 102% in order to receive any award or stipend. This does not apply to the Early Bird award.
- NOTE: Reimbursement for travel expenses paid by the VFW will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099 if the total of payments made to you during any calendar year equals \$600.00 or more. Travel expenses paid for a guest or spouse for the award will also be reported to the IRS. The reimbursement you receive from the VFW will be deemed by the IRS to be taxable income. Since the circumstances of each individual are different, it is recommended that you consult your tax advisor to determine the effect these payments may have on your personal tax situation. It is your responsibility to keep receipts and other records as you and your accountant and/or tax advisor deem necessary in order to document your expenditures.
- Employees and officers of the VFW National Headquarters are excluded from receiving stipends unless otherwise authorized by the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General.
- Individuals receiving a 5-night hotel stay for either the VFW National Convention or the Legislative Conference must confirm attendance with the VFW Membership Department. Individuals confirmed who do not attend will be invoiced for half the cost of the reserved room.

## **All-American Program:**

The All-American program exists to recognize exceptional leadership and teamwork, authentic accomplishment in membership growth and VFW core programs.

### *All-American Post Criteria*

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31st, 2025:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Post can donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Donate to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$125
- A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June. One of these community service activities must be for the VFW Day of Service. Learn more at <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service/>
- Must purchase a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies

### *All-American Post Award*

All Posts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American Banner, Post Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 15 Posts in each Division will receive:

- Acknowledgment in VFW Magazine
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention
- All-American Post citation
- All-American Post streamer
- All-American citation - commander
- All-American name badge – commander
- All-American cap (commander only, quartermaster, adjutant, and Post members may purchase cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)

The top five Post commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay\* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

*Division Captains and Co-Captains:* The commander of the top Post in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place commanders designated as Co-Captains. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

#### *All-American District Criteria*

- Membership must be at least 102%
- District-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria by January 31st, 2025:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas District donate \$125 to National in lieu of entry)

#### *All-American District Award*

All Districts that meet the qualifying percentage of 102% and the program participation criteria will receive an All-American District Commander Citation, All-American Streamer and be recognized in the VFW magazine.

The Top 10 Districts in each Division will receive:

- All-American District streamer
- All-American District citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander
- All-American cap (commander only, quartermaster may purchase cap)
- All-American lapel pin (commander only, quartermaster may purchase pin)
- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention

The top two District commanders in each division will also receive five nights paid hotel stay\* at the VFW National Convention and reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.

*Division Captains and Co-Captain:* The commander of the top District in each membership division will be designated as the Team Captain, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place commander designated as Co-Captain. The All-American caps for these Captains and Co-Captains will bear a special designation.

#### *All-American Department Criteria*

- Membership must be at least 102%.
- Department must submit Department legislative chairman reports monthly through the Program dashboard tool.
- Meet all the following Program Participation criteria by January 31st, 2025:
  - Voice of Democracy - An entry advanced to National judging
  - Patriot's Pen - An entry advanced to National judging
  - Veterans & Military Support Programs – Must complete State/Department fundraiser and proceeds donated to Veterans & Military Support Programs, Kansas City, Mo.

#### *All-American Department Award*

- Acknowledgement during the All-American Awards Ceremony at the National Convention
- All-American Department streamer
- All-American Department citation - commander
- All-American name badge - commander
- All-American cap - commander – quartermaster, and adjutant may purchase cap.
- All-American lapel pin - commander - quartermaster may purchase pin.
- Five nights paid hotel stay\* for the 2024-2025 Commander attending the VFW National Convention.
- Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention Joint Opening Session



## **All-American Notes:**

- Any member in a Post that achieves All-American status can purchase a “Post Member” cap. Those members must be in the Post during the membership year. Adjutants may purchase a cap. Quartermasters may purchase a cap and/or Quartermaster Pin. Commanders who were not in the top 15 in their Division may purchase a cap, Commander’s Pin, and/or Post Commander Citation.
- Donations made to replace Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen by eligible overseas Posts, Districts, or Departments must be made through the All-American Dashboard, not through any other means.
- Veterans & Military Support Programs Services Donations for Post/District/Department as listed above will only be accepted only through the All-American Dashboard.

## **MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS AND AWARDS:**

### **Individual Recruiting Awards:**

1/5/10/15 members recruited: recruiting pin  
25 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief’s Coin  
50 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief backpack  
75 members recruited: Commander-in-Chief’s Medallion Set  
100 members recruited: Century Cap or \$50 VFW Store credit & citation

Recruiting Awards will be sent out five times during the year to the Post, to be given out at a Post meeting to those members who have recruited new members. Mailings will take place near the end of October, January, March, May, and then after the end of the membership year.

### **Early Bird Award:**

The top two Posts in each division on Jan. 1, 2025, will each be awarded a 5-night hotel stay for the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. One room will be booked per award/Post.

### **New Member Award:**

Each Post that brings in a total of 15 New members will each be awarded a travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo. A Post may receive this award up to *five times* during the year!

### **“Operation: All In” Award:**

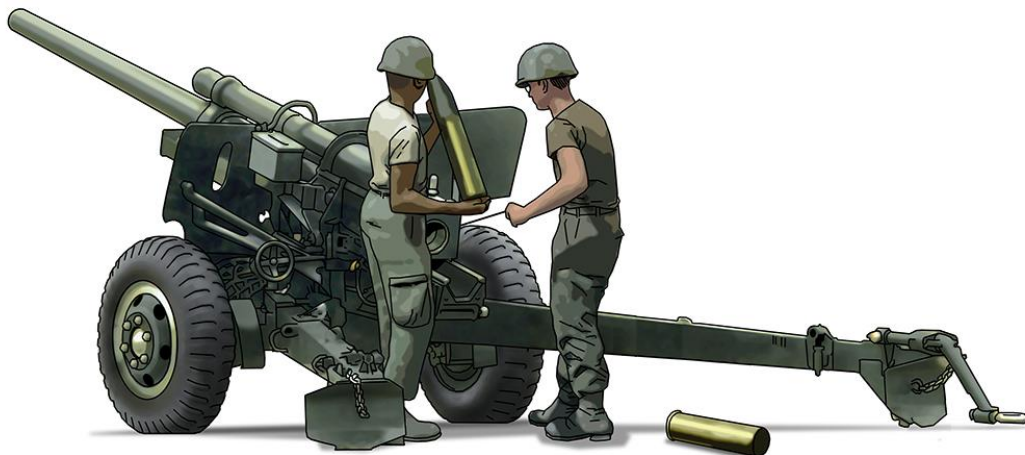
The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 102% membership by June 30th, 2025, will each be awarded a five-night hotel accommodation at the National Convention.

### **102% Post, District & Department:**

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 102% or greater in membership by June 30th, 2025.

### **105% “Above And Beyond” Drawing:**

Each Post and District commander that meets or exceeds 105% in membership by June 30, 2025, will receive an entry in this drawing. Twenty Post commanders and Twelve District commanders will receive a \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.



### **Post Division Recruiting Challenge:**

For every 10 new members recruited between July 1, 2024, and June 30th, 2025, Posts will earn one entry to be entered into a drawing. One Post per division will receive a \$1,000 membership grant deposited into the Post account.

### **Legacy Life Membership Acquisition:**

Each Post that achieves the cumulative benchmarks of 25, 50 and 75 Legacy Life Members will be awarded a Legacy Society Post Proclamation.

Each Post that achieves the distinctive benchmark of 100, 250, or 500 Legacy Life members by June 30th, 2025, commander or Post representative will receive a 5-night hotel accommodation at the VFW National Convention, reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session and a Legacy Society Post Proclamation.

### **Top Department Recruiter:**

The top Recruiter in every Department by June 30th, 2025, will receive an engraved Cavalry Saber. Note: Minimum of 25 new members required to win this award.

### **Elite Recruiter:**

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new members by June 30th, 2025, will receive a 5-night hotel accommodation at the VFW National Convention and a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge. In the event that an Elite Recruiter has already received a 5-night hotel accommodation from another award, a \$1,000 stipend will be issued at the National Convention.

### **Recruiter of the Year:**

The Elite Recruiter who signs up the greatest number of new members greater than 250 by June 30th, 2025, will receive an additional \$1,000 stipend, reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session, a distinctive cap, citation, and name badge, and the Commander-in-Chief's Crystal Eagle trophy.

### **Life Member Recruiter Award:**

Any VFW member who recruits at least 75 New Life members by June 30th, 2025 will receive a special citation from the Commander-in-Chief and a Recruiter Satchel with the Commander-in-Chief's logo.

### **New Post Development Department Grant:**

For each new Post chartered the Department Quartermaster will receive a \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post.

Department Commanders and Quartermasters may apply for this grant directly through the National Membership Department.

### **Commander-in-Chief's Challenge:**

To emphasize the importance of Life Membership as the backbone of our membership strength, the Commander-in-Chief is issuing the following challenge to all VFW Posts. Each month through the year, Posts will accumulate points as follows:

- New Annual Member: 1 point
- Annual or Lapsed Member converts to Life Member: 5 points
- New Life Member: 10 points

Each month, the Post that leads their membership division in points will receive a special award designated by the Commander-in-Chief. In addition, at the end of the year every Post who has led their division in the monthly challenges will be featured on a video display at the National Convention to recognize their achievements.

### **Triple Crown:**

The Triple Crown is one of the most prestigious membership awards that an individual can achieve. It requires being named as an All-American Commander at Post, District, and Department level. Leaders who attain this level of excellence will be recognized at an Awards Banquet at the National Convention with a special Triple Crown pin.

**Post Division Breakdown:**

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	951+	
2	750	950
3	356	749
4	246	355
5	185	245
6	143	184
7	112	142
8	88	111
9	68	87
10	51	67
11	10	50

**District Division Breakdown:**

Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	5000+	
2	3,282	4,999
3	2,172	3,281
4	1,447	2,171
5	906	1,446
6	10	905

**Department Division Breakdown:**

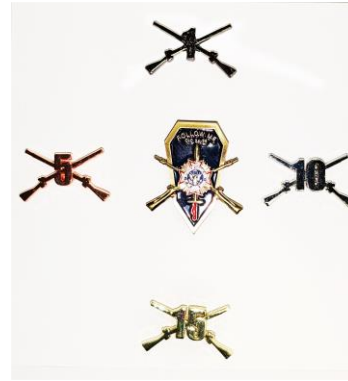
Division	Minimum Membership	Maximum Membership
1	29,000	above
2	15,750	28,999
3	12,000	15,749
4	7,000	11,999
5	2000	6,999

## FRAGO: Items and Materials

Below you will see examples of some of the awards and items mentioned in this program. For more information, contact the VFW Membership Department.



Commander-in-Chief  
Medallion and Coin



Commander-in-Chief Pin  
and Recruiting Pins



Travel Charger



Cavalry Saber



Recruiter Satchel



***NO ONE DOES MORE FOR  
VETERANS***

