Membership

Robert Welch

Greetings Comrades,

Now that the conventions are behind us and, by the time this hits the presses, we will have had our first Council of Administration for the year; it is time to focus on our number two goal in this organization... Membership.

I say number two because taking care of Veterans is our number one priority yet without members we lose our voice to take care of our Veterans.

Membership, Membership, Membership… you have heard that many times before and I am sure it will not be the last time it crosses your path. The membership is the backbone of this organization, it just makes sense that it will be talked about as much as we talk about helping Veterans.

Does it make you cringe when a Department Officer walks into your post to talk about membership? Or are you eager to sit down and talk with that person? Hopefully it's the latter. The department is here to help you attain your membership goals. Whether you need a question answered, recruiting materials, or someone to come out and help you recruit, we are merely a phone call or email away.

Membership is not just something for the elected officers of the post to worry about, it is the responsibility of each and every one of us, as we grow in number we will be ensuring that the Veterans of Foreign Wars will always be the tip of the spear in Veteran advocacy.

It's more than just recruiting new members, it's retaining existing members, reinstating lapsed members and even having an annual member become a life member.

For those of you who have become life members, I salute you.

Do you annual members know that there is a monthly payment option available? You will save money in the long run and show the world that you are committed to Veterans and Veteran advocacy for life.

In closing, thank you for all you do for Veterans on a daily basis and I look forward to seeing you in my travels around the State.

Membership Challenge

At the August 12, 2017 Council of Administration Meeting, State Commander Jeff Hastings unveiled a new Post Membership Challenge. The Post finishing this membership year with the highest Membership Percentage will be awarded a hand made wooden American Flag, along with a "traveling plaque".

ATTENTION: USE THE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP BELOW TO SIGN UP A NEW/RECOVERED MEMBER AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL GIFT FROM STATE COMMANDER JEFF HASTINGS.
APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED TO
STATE HEADQUARTERS - PO BOX 13206 - SPRINGFIELD, IL 62791

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ EMAIL _____
First Middle Initial Last

ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

DATES OF SERVICE _____ (MM / YY) to _____ (MM / YY) DATE OF BIRTH _____ (MM / DD / YYYY) PHONE _____

MILITARY SERVICE ☐ ACTIVE DUTY ☐ VETERAN ☐ NAT. GUARD/RESERVE **BRANCH OF SERVICE** ☐ ARMY ☐ NAVY ☐ AIR FORCE ☐ MARINES ☐ COAST GUARD

QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE:

☐ WW II ☐ OCCUPATIONAL SERVICE ☐ KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954) ☐ KOREA DUTY (1955 - present)
☐ VIETNAM SERVICE ☐ DESERT SHIELD/STORM ☐ BOSNIA/KOSOVO ☐ GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY
☐ AFGHANISTAN (2001 - present) ☐ IRAQ (2003 -2011) ☐ SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA ☐ EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS
☐ HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PAY
Location _____
Dates _____

Payment Authorization - *You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following:*

☐ **ANNUAL MEMBER**

☐ I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account $ _____ on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues.

☐ I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of $ _____

☐ **LIFE MEMBER**

☐ I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of $ _____

☐ **LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN**

☐ I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account $ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of $45.00.

☐ I authorize the VFW to charge the $45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.

Credit Card # _____
(*Mastercard, Visa, Discover or Amex only*)

EXP. DATE _____ AMOUNT $ _____ Signature: _____

☐ NEW Post #_____ ☐ FORMER MEMBER #_____

☐ TRANSFER from Post #_____ State ____ to Post # _____

RECRUITER _____ ID# _____
(Please print)

QUARTERMASTER (Signature) _____

Life Member Options

AGE as of DECEMBER 31st	One-Time Payment	$45 + 11 Payments of
18-30 Years Old	$425.00	$38.64
31-40 Years Old	$410.00	$37.27
41-50 Years Old	$375.00	$34.09
51-60 Years Old	$335.00	$30.45
61-70 Years Old	$290.00	$26.36
71-80 Years Old	$225.00	$20.45
81 Years & Over	$170.00	$15.45

Automatic Payment Plan Terms and Conditions: You authorize the VFW to initiate electronic debit entries or affect a charge by any other commercially accepted practice to your account set forth above for the payment of dues reflected on this application. You understand such charges may be made within 2-3 business days of payment due date. For installment payments, charges will be made on or around the 1st or the 15th day of the month. This authorization will remain in full force until VFW has received notification from you of its termination or upon completion of the installment payments. Annual dues are subject to change. By completing this authorization, you acknowledge that you will only receive notice when the payment would differ by more than $10.00 from the most recent payment. Call VFW Customer Service at 1-800-963-3180 or write to VFW at VFW P.O. Box 119028, Kansas City, MO. 64171 to inquire about or cancel a payment, or to report problems such as bank closures, lost or stolen account numbers, closed accounts or unauthorized transactions. Cancellation requests must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Time ten business days prior to the scheduled payment date. If you are unaware of the charge date for your account, please contact VFW. If a payment is returned by your financial institution (e.g., due to insufficient funds, incorrect account information, closed account, etc.) the VFW will contact you at the address we have on file for you, explaining why the payment could not be processed, and providing alternate payment options. The privilege of making payments under this agreement may be revoked by VFW if any item is not paid upon presentation. You may have additional rights and responsibilities under the Electronic Funds Transfer Act.

Life Membership Installment Plan Terms and Conditions: The VFW Life Membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making an initial payment of $45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an Annual membership card at the time of enrollment. The member may elect to receive a monthly statement by mail or may set up a payment profile to make the monthly payment automatically using a credit/debit card or bank account. A payoff amount will be printed on each monthly invoice, allowing the member the option to pay in full. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon the completion of payments. The Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on December 31 of the year in which the application is submitted.

Delinquencies will be handled as follows: Up to 30 days - continue to bill, 31 to 120 days - delinquency can be corrected through make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward, More than 120 days - member is dropped from the Installment Plan, all monthly payments made to date, are applied to future years annual dues.

VFW PLEDGE I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise and declare that:
I will bear true allegiance -- to the Constitution of the United States of America -- and I will always be loyal thereto. I do further solemnly promise and declare -- that I will comply with the Congressional Charter -- By-Laws and Ritual of this order -- and I will always be loyal thereto -- that I will never wrong or defraud this organization -- nor a member thereof -- nor permit any wrong to be done to either -- if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership -- any person not eligible -- nor one whom I know to be unworthy. I will never make known to anyone -- not authorized to receive it -- any of the work of this order. Should my affiliation -- with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States --cease in any way -- I will consider this pledge -- as binding outside of the order -- as though I had remained a member of same. All this I promise and pledge -- upon the honor of a true comrade -- and a citizen of our great republic.
I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger/Hostile Fire pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

_____
Applicants Signature & Date

$1.98 of your membership dues goes towards your VFW magazine subscription.

The review committee has performed its duties and recommends ☐ *approval,* ☐ *rejection.*

_____ _____ _____
Committee Member Committee Member Committee Member

State Convention

Continued from Page 1

State Membership Recruiters - Lee Wallace – Post 1117-14; Matthew Willis – Post 6871-10

State Student Veterans Liaison – Matthew Claussen – Post 2378-4

State Americanism & Loyalty Director – Thomas Davidson – Post 7712-4

State Assistant Americanism & Loyalty Director – Donald Judd – Post 6190-11

State Blood Donor Director – Walter Sanders, Jr. – Post 311-16

State Assistant Blood Donor Director – Ivery Chambliss – Post 730-11

State Community Activities Director – Thomas Denman – Post 4308-5

State Assistant Community Activities Director – Louis W. "Bill" Brown – Post 454-7

State Homeless Veterans Director – Paul Bezazian – Post 8322-3

State Assistant Homeless Veterans Director – Julius "J.C." Grantham – Post 4183-14

State Hospital & VAVS Director – Harold Olsen, Jr. – Post 4079-9

State Assistant Hospital & VAVS Director – C. Maurice Theriac – Post 2244-13

State Legislative Director – C. Victor Smith – Post 1239-10

State Assistant Legislative Director – Jayson "Jay" Hoffman – Post 4763-10

State National Home Director – Michael McGrath – Post 3873-19

State Assistant National Home Director – Stephen York – Post 2978-3

State Veterans & Military Support Programs Director – John Metzger – Post 2671-15

State Assistant Veterans & Military Support Programs Director – Paul Augsburger – Post 9789-7

State Operation Uplink Director – Paul "P.J." Hymes, Jr. – Post 1303-8

State Photographers - Dale Carstens – Post 886-7; William Fiegel – Post 2992-4

State Poppy Director – Stephanie Kirksey – Post 6504-14

State Assistant Poppy Directors - Matthew McCarthy – Post 4535-13; Paul Marietta – Post 177-3; Roger Guebert – Post 7980-14; Thomas Cleland – Post 2955-6; John Lenhardt – Post 6504-14

State POW/MIA Director – Richard Bukowski – Post 5220-3

State Assistant POW/MIA Director - Robert Hayes – Post 5224-11

State Safety Director – Robert Mattson – Post 5151-4

State Fair Director – Richard Yoakum – Post 10302-10

State Voice of Democracy Director – Robert McLeod – Post 5788-18

State Assistant Voice of Democracy Directors - James Ellis – Post 6750-7; David Darte – Post 3912-12; Wayne Moore – Post 5694-12

State VFW/MOC Coordinator – Willie Nowlin – 1284-3

State Youth Activities Director – Kelly Chapman – Post 2876-17

Deputy/District Inspectors - David J. Edwards – Post 5220-3; Steven Wilson – Post 5151-4; Thomas Denman – Post 4308-5; John Von Guerard – Post 342-6; James Ellis – Post 6750-7; Larry Hines – Post 5083-8; James Rissman – Post 2470-9; Matthew Willis – Post 6871-10; Lowell Spieker – Post 6190-11; Kate Broadhurst – Post 5694-12; Donald Smithenry – Post 4226-13; Cathy Stubbs – Post 7710-14; John Metzger – Post 2671-15; Terrance McDonald – Post 9801-16; Jules D. Spindler – Post 4549-17; Ernest Errico – Post 5788-18; Philip Maughan – Post 3873-19

2017 Special Edition
VFW Christmas Cards

Your NEW Christmas Cards will arrive soon!

The holidays are a clear reminder of the "gift" our veterans and service members have given to us - the gift of freedom! Please help keep our Department Programs strong with your continued support.

VFW VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.
www.vfw.org