



Monthly Newsletter



Nashua VFW Post 483
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nashuavfwpost483@gmail.com

MONTH: April 2024

ISSUE:10

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President:

Brenda Byrne
603-490-2284

Sr. Vice President:

Diane Ordway
603-505-5758

Jr. Vice President:

Renee Plante
603-714-9024

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Conductress:

Carolyn Marineau
603-882-6071

Guard:

Bruce Byrne
603-233-6490

Chaplain

Patriotic Instructor

Gloria Kane

Noreen Wheeler

603-801-9488

1st Year Trustee:

Renee Plante
603-714-9024

2nd Year Trustee:

Diane Ordway
603-930-0589

3rd Year Trustee:

Noreen Wheeler
603-801-9488

Recording Secretary

Christopher DiTullio
Commander
978-987-8009

James Cline Sr.
Sr. Vice Commander
207-553-0331

Marc Plante
Jr. Vice Commander
603-714-8715

Lewis Chipola
Adjutant/Quartermaster
603-521-7708

Herbert Townsend
Chaplain
603-424-8219

Angelo Ruocco
Judge Advocate
603-888-9522

Katie Boots
Surgeon
603-689-4072

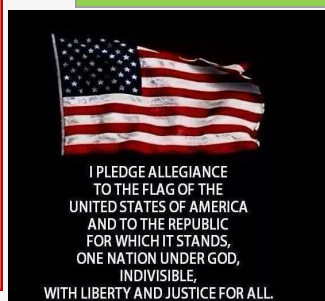
Lewis Chipola
Service Officer
603-521-7708

Steve Ordway
1 Year Trustee
603-490-2284

Robert Anderson
2 Year Trustee
603-402-6520

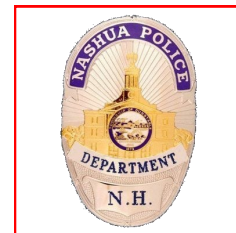
Donald Vincent
3Year Trustee
603-809-9482

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POST COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Comrades,

This past week the Post lost a dear friend, Shirley Labonte. She was a member of our Auxiliary and always there to support us whenever and however she could. She was also one of the first Auxiliary members who welcomed me to the Post when I first joined. She will be sadly missed.

Please continue to sell the Solo Stove raffle tickets. The drawing is May 4th at the Loyalty Day Ceremony and I would like all the tickets to be sold.

Sign-up sheets are now on the front table at the Post for Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Drive. Please sign up for the time slots.

Upcoming dates to remember;

May 4 – Loyalty Day, *All encouraged to attend*

Memorial Day weekend – Buddy Poppy Drive, *volunteers needed*

4th of July – Ceremony in front of City Hall, *All encouraged to attend.*

Yours in comradeship,

Chris DiTullio

Commander

Nashua VFW Post 483

Sr. Vice Commander, District 6

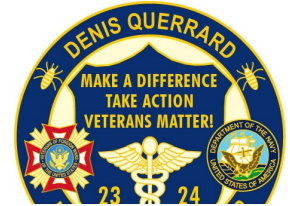
978-987-8009

Cditullio007@yahoo.com





State Commander's Message



Greeting & Salutations from Commander Denis Querrard

Happy Easter!! A contingent of Department of NH VFW Officers went to Washington DC, in early March, to lobby our states Congressional Leaders on veterans' issues and our VFW's Legislative priority goals for 2024. We were well represented, and we were able to accomplish good things for our state! Thank you, AJ Corrow (Dept, SVC), Leon Rideout (NH National Council Member), and Jorg Dreusicke (Legislative chairman) for representing NH VFW.

I had the distinct honor of walking our VOD winner, Thatcher Debowski of Nashua VFW Post 483, to the podium at our National VOD Parade of Winners ceremony with our very own NH Department President Kim Copson.

We are more than half-way through the year, only three months to the finish line... I want to thank everyone in the VFW membership, the Auxiliary who supports the VFW mission, and all the friends and families who support our veterans every day... we are not done, we have a lot of work to do, and not enough hands to do it all...

Thank you for all you do, the Veterans you help, the communities you serve!

After a review of the All-American Dashboard on VFW.ORG it has been noted that Posts and Districts have not updated the Dashboard with their VOD/PP/TOY submissions nor their Recruiting Events. If you have not made your VMS donation, do so on the Dashboard.

<https://VFW.ORG> >>> Membership Quick Links >>> Programs Dashboard Tool

Do you have a VFW member of the year? Please let the Department know who you think is leading from the front and supporting one or more of the purposes of our Congressional Charter.

Do you have a Junior ROTC Cadet who should be recognized for outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership? Please contact Issac Miller (Derry Memorial Post 1617) Email: cath_ike@yahoo.com (720) 580-9593

Please review the awards criteria for nominations in the GO's.

Please start planning for the third annual VFW Day of Service on May 4th 2024 as part of the VFW's #StillServing campaign; lets unite veterans across America to show the nation the impact veterans make in their communities! Sign up here - <https://todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/>

How close is your post to 102%? The Department is only at 93.06%; how is your post doing on membership and when is your next membership drive? Do not wait till June!

Congratulations to Francis P Murphy Post 5388 (Bartlett) for reaching 100%; a Shout-Out to Wood-Guarino Memorial Post 9552 (West Lebanon), who blew by 100% and went straight to 103.7%, for the win! I would like to also congratulate Merrimack Post 8641 for reaching 102.32%!!

They are in the running for All-American Posts! How close is your post to 102%?

Post leadership, please go through your membership rosters and work through your list of expired members and reach out to them. You need new members to keep your post alive; the Department needs new members to give our organization credibility before the state and federal legislature.



STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“Challenging the Needs of Our Veterans”

Greeting Members,

Here we are in April already. Lots going on this month. There will be elections at the Auxiliary meeting and at the District Encampments. Hope to see all have great and successful elections for next year.

Delegate and Alternate Forms for the District level where sent out last month. They needed to be filled out and sent to the district secretary last month. Hopefully all Auxiliaries where able to get that done.

You will be receiving on April 1st a very important email from the Department Secretary Linda Meader with all the instructions and forms that you need to elect your Delegates & Alternates to both the Department and National Conventions. Please be sure to read this information very carefully and contact Linda with any questions.

Reporting is coming to a close this month, please get the reports in by the deadline. Any questions please contact Tracy Kelley or Trish

St. Germain.

Membership, is slowly getting there, remember if you have not paid your 2024 dues you will need to ASAP.

As we continue to work together, we will continue to help our veterans, sisters and brothers of this great organization.

Thanks,

Kim Copson

President

Dept. of NH

2023-2024



DISTRICT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Elections and Installations are over. Now looking forward to seeing you all at the convention. It will be held the same time as last year from June 7-9. Make sure you have elected your delegates and sent appropriate fees to the Department Quartermaster. The Council of Administration and Commander Testimonial will be held at White Mountain while the Auxiliary will hold theirs in Concord. Thank you for your support this year and I will look forward to your support in 2024-2025.

**Isaac Miller
Commander, District 6
Department of NH**



DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Everyone!! Welcome to April.

District Encampment and Elections

This is the last District meeting of the 2023-2024 year. We will be nominating and voting on officers for the 2024-2023 year. If you or someone you know would like to be part of the District 6 line officers and are not able to attend please send me an email stating you would accept the position or positions.

Merrimack 8641 Sunday April 14th 2024 9:30 am

National President Visits NH

National President Carla Martinez will visit New Hampshire April 7, 8 & 9. Please check your email for additional information.

Training Recap

There was training March 9th on Delegates, alternates, and Installation reports. This was a great and informative training. If you have any questions please reach out.

Important Dates

April 20 2024 C of A VFW Auxiliary 10 am

April 20 2024 Testimonial for Department President Kim

April 13 2024 Testimonial for Department Commander Dennis

Important Dates in Military History

April 5, 2024 – Gold Star Spouses Day

April 14, 2024 – Air Force Reserve Birthday

April 23, 2024 – Army Reserve Birthday

Reporting Reminder

The Program Reporting System will be temporarily shut down on **April 10, 2024** in order to extract and organize the information for the year-end reports to National and to determine the awards to be given at Convention for each program. We are working to have all reports approved this is a manual process so please be patient!

Membership 92.95%. What can I do to help you reach 100% membership?

- Reminder if members are **not paid by 12/31/2023** they are no longer a member in good standing.
- Incentive Reminder- For each Auxiliary who converts or enrolls 10 Life members will be put in a drawing for \$500

Derry 93.13%
Hudson 100.75%
Nashua 92.79%
Pelham 97.06%
Merrimack 85.5%

“Challenging the Needs of Our Veterans” and “Banding Together for Our Veterans”



STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE & CERTIFIED NATIONAL RECRUITER



2024-4 Dept. NH VFW National Legislative Committee Member, VAVS VAMC Manchester VFW Representative, Certified National Recruiter, Homeless Chair

Rev 3-23-24

March 4 to 7, I along with our Dept. NH VFW Cdr. Dennis Querrard, Sr. Vice Cdr. Andy Corrow and National Council Member Leon Rideout attended our VFW Washington DC Legislative Conference. We also attended the ceremonies to honor the VFW National winners of the Patriot Pen (P.P), Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Teacher Awards. Our NH VOD contestant Thatcher Debowski from New Boston NH was awarded \$1,500. Our P.P. Fifth Place Winner Wenonah Brewer-Nyborg, from Franconia, NH, was awarded \$2,500.

At all our legislators' meetings Cdr. Dennis Querrard brought up an issue he was made aware of by the NH Veterans Home (NHVH) Commandant Kim McKay.

As a direct result, Michael Kans, council for US Senator Jeanne Shaheen informed us that he talked to NHVH Commandant Kim MacKay that evening.

She indicated that the NHVH needed immediate help so the VA wouldn't rescind the 2018 grant they received to expand the facility. In fact, she said that the VA had told her that today was the deadline to sign a contract, or they would lose these funds. They've had problems, as noted during yesterday's meeting, with cost growth and the new Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements. The office reached out immediately to the VA last night, and talked to their head of Congressional Affairs who committed to doing everything she could to stop that outcome. Michael touched base with her again this morning, and she said VA HQ stakeholders were having a call this morning.

The next morning, Commandant MacKay called Michael back and shared that the funding for the State Veterans Home will not be yanked. The VA has removed any deadlines for this grant. The VA will allow the State Veterans Home to solicit bids for a 100% design contract (instead of the 30% design contract they put out for bids), and this will allow for more accurate bids.

The VA will not issue blanket BABA waivers but will consider case-by-case waivers. The VA is also actively helping to locate BABA compliant vendors and suppliers. The VA committed to quarterly meetings with Commandant MacKay to make sure all is well with the project.

Finally, they told her that our NHVH project ranks 5th out of 190 and will almost certainly not have its funding threatened.

Counsel Michael Kans thanked Cdr. Querrard for flagging this issue to the Senator so that they could act on it in a timely fashion.

Jörg Dreusicke
VAVS VAMC Manchester VFW Representative
National Legislative Committee Representative
Certified National Recruiter
Homeless Chair
jdreusicke@aol.com
603-553-0395



POST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In Memorium



Shirley Labonte
Past Department of New Hampshire
Auxiliary President
2015-2016

In Loving Memory

YOUR PRESENCE WE MISS,
YOUR MEMORY WE TREASURE.

LOVING YOU ALWAYS,

Forgetting you never.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Greetings:

Hope this report finds everyone doing well. It is with extreme sadness, that I report the loss of past auxiliary President Shirley Labonte. Shirley was a dedicated supporter of the post and worked tirelessly for veterans' causes. Heartfelt condolences go out to her family and friends. She continued to work and hold positions of leadership with the auxiliary. She will be deeply missed.

Get well wishes were sent out to Comrade Chuck Ashworth who is recovering, from recent illness in the Lahey clinic. We all wish Chuck a speedy recovery.

Remember to keep the post advised of any veterans in need of our support. Wishing everyone good health and stay safe.

Yours in Comradeship
Herbert C.T. Townsend
Chaplain Post 483

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Herbert "C.T." Townsend
603-345-5033

Members:

Chris DiTullio Commander
908-987-8009

Lewis Chipola-Quartermaster
603-521-7708

Scott Gagnon
781-983-2876

Steve Ordway

DISTRICT 6 & C of A MEETING SCHEDULE

Council of Administration Meetings

19 August 2023: Littleton Post 816 1000

28 October 2023 Kingston 1300

20 January 2024: TBA 1300

13 April 2024: Mountain View Grand Resort 1000

DISTRICT 6 MEETING SCHEDULE

12 August 2023: Derry 1000

21 October 2023: Hudson 1000

13 January 2024: Merrimack 1000

30 March 2024: Pelham 1000

District 6 Auxiliary Schedule

27 August 2023: Nashua 0930

5 November 2023: Pelham 0930

28 January 2024: Derry 0930

14 April 2024: Merrimack 0930

All District 6 meetings are shown in BLUE and scheduled for 1000 unless otherwise noted, dress is blues and grays unless otherwise notified. Auxiliary meeting shown in GOLD.



MEMBERSHIP



CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	R S	City	State	N/R LM	Prior Annual	Retention
6	123	4	1	50	178	204	87.25%	3		NASH UA	NH	0	72	84.72%

2023-2024 GOAL 102%

RENEW EARLY (IT DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR EXPIRATION DATE)

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

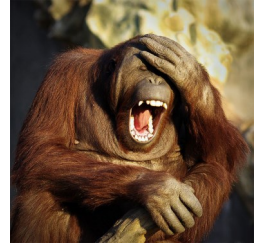
LOCATION	POST #	%	RETENTION
NASHUA	483	87.25%	84.72%
DERRY	1617	95.95%	87.10%
HUDSON	5791	96.95%	74.47%
SALEM	8546	92.19%	87.80%
MERRIMACK	8641	102.33%	89.35%
PELHAM	10722	92.50%	59.46%
HAMPSTEAD	11254	94.74%	50.00%
HOLLIS	11373	100.00%	90.91%
TOTALS		94.74%	77.98%

MEETING REMINDER

- 25 July 2023
- 22 August 2023
- 26 September 2023
- 24 October 2023
- 28 November 2023
- 19 December 2023
- 23 January 2024
- 27 February 2024
- 26 March 2024
- 23 April 2024
- 28 May 2024
- 25 June 2024



FUN PAGE



JOKE OF THE MONTH

Is Google male or female? A: Female, because it doesn't let you finish a sentence before making a suggestion.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

But man is not made for defeat.
A man can be destroyed but
not defeated.

[Ernest Hemingway](#)

DID YOU KNOW

if your DNA was stretched out it
would reach to the moon 6,000
times

MIND TWISTER

A boy is walking down the road with a doctor. While the boy is the doctor's son, the doctor is not the boy's father. Then who is the doctor?

VETERANS INFORMATION

See pages 24-25 for information on the VA's Expanded Health Care Eligibility for Toxic-Exposed Veterans

VFW National Commander Testifies Before Congress: VFW National Commander Duane Sarmiento testified before a joint hearing of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans' Affairs. The VFW delivered its top legislative priorities of cracking down on predatory claims companies, improving VA benefits data sharing for suicide prevention, including accredited claims representatives in transition assistance programs, and removing offsets from concurrent receipt policies. Sarmiento stated the VFW strongly supports the *GUARD VA Benefits Act* to reinstate penalties for charging veterans unauthorized fees for submitting VA claims, and explained that Claim Sharks are spending millions of dollars to lobby against this bill, which is stalling a federal fix. "It's distasteful that these Claim Sharks take money from veterans. But it's disgusting that they take money from survivors," Sarmiento said.

Major Richard Star Act Press Conference: VFW Department of Montana Adjutant/Quartermaster Tim Peters spoke at a press conference on H.R. 1282/S. 344, *Major Richard Star Act*, alongside Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT); Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL-12); Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID); Tonya Star, the widow of Major Richard Star; and other veteran advocates. "Our veterans cannot afford to continue losing their full earned military retirement pay because Congress insists on saving money at their expense," said Peters. "It is time to stop talking about this bill and get it done!" With consistent and overwhelming bipartisan and bicameral support, this legislation would permit combat injured and medically retired veterans with less than 20 years of service to receive their full earned retirement pay and disability compensation without reduction. The press conference was heavily attended by VFW members from across the nation, as it coincided with the annual VFW Washington Conference.


Vet the Vote: March 11-15 is National Civic Learning Week. Participate in this non-partisan event by registering to vote or checking your voter registration status. The program also provides volunteer opportunities for veterans and military families to support their local communities by becoming poll workers in time for election day.



CALENDAR



April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Cootie Pup Tent #1 Meeting 1900	4	5 Post Auxiliary Meeting 1300	6
7 National Auxiliary President's Visit	8 National Auxiliary President's Visit	9 National Auxiliary President's Visit	10	11	12	13 C of A Whitefield 1000 State Commander's Testimonial-Whitefield Former POW Recognition Day Bos-cawen
14	15	16	17	18	19 American Revolution Begins at Lexington-Concord 	20 State President's Testimonial-Concord 1700
21	22	23 Post Meeting 1900	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

ANSWER TO BRAIN TWISTER

The doctor is the boy's mother.

POST NEWS

**BREAKING
NEWS**



IF YOU USE FACEBOOK

GO TO

VFW POST 483 Nashua

We have been invited to attend the baseball game on July 25th at 1800 with the Nashua Silver Knights vs. the War Dogs. The War Dogs is a team made up of veterans who travel the country playing college teams. The Silver Knights will be honoring veterans with a ceremony at the beginning of the game. We have purchased a Luxury Suite at Holman Stadium for the event. The suite only holds 20 people, so the first 20 receive free tickets. All others will have to purchase a ticket for \$6. See flyer on page 21.

The Memorial Day Parade will begin at 1030. Departure from Holman Stadium. Be there by 1000. Prior to the parade we will be doing ceremonies at several cemeteries in Nashua, beginning at 0800. Coffee and donuts at the post at 0700.

State Commander's Testimonial will be held at the Mountain View Grand Resort in Whitefield, NH on 13 April 2024. The event will be preceded by the Council of Administration at 1000.

State Auxiliary President's Testimonial will be held at the Holiday Inn Concord on 20 April 2024. Reception at 1700, dinner at 1800.

We will be holding our Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Drive on 24-26 May. Again we will be at the Market Baskets in South Nashua and Somerset Plaza and the State Liquor Store on Coliseum Ave. We need members to step up and sign up to take a slot at one or more of these locations during the 3 days. Shifts are only 3 hours. Sign-up sheets will be available at March and April post meetings or during the week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1000-1400.



QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER



We have and are in the process of holding a raffle. We have received mediocre support to sell tickets. If we don't do better when we hold raffles, it may jeopardize our financial situation. We cannot depend on Charitable Gaming any longer. We now have to split the proceeds with another non-profit organization. That means we only receive half of what we used to get. This affects our ability to do things that we have done in the past. When we hold fundraisers it is important for our members to stand up and support the program.



Post members at Shirley Labonte's wake. (l to R) Frank Wallent, Kevin McKeating, Clayton Proffer, Steve Ordway, Lew Chipola, Dick Mohrmann, Chris DiTullio and Herbert "C.T." Townsend.

CLASSIFIEDS



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 603.765.8006
 masonry67@gmail.com
 keithleavittmasonry.com



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FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



BATTLE OF THE MONTH



The **siege of Vicksburg** (May 18 – July 4, 1863) was the final major military action in the [Vicksburg campaign](#) of the [American Civil War](#). In a series of maneuvers, [Union Major General Ulysses S. Grant](#) and his [Army of the Tennessee](#) crossed the [Mississippi River](#) and drove the [Confederate Army of Mississippi](#), led by [Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton](#), into the defensive lines surrounding the fortress city of [Vicksburg, Mississippi](#), leading to the successful siege and Confederate surrender.

Vicksburg was the last major [Confederate](#) stronghold on the Mississippi River; therefore, capturing it completed the second part of the Northern strategy, the [Anaconda Plan](#). When two major assaults against the Confederate fortifications, on May 19 and 22, were repulsed with heavy casualties, Grant decided to besiege the city beginning on May 25. After holding out for more than 40 days, with their supplies nearly gone, the garrison surrendered on July 4. The Vicksburg campaign's successful ending significantly degraded the Confederacy's ability to maintain its war effort. This action, combined with the surrender of the downriver [Port Hudson](#) to Major General [Nathaniel P. Banks](#) on July 9, yielded command of the [Mississippi River](#) to the Union forces, which held it for the rest of the conflict.

The Confederate surrender on July 4, 1863, is sometimes considered, combined with General [Robert E. Lee](#)'s defeat at [Gettysburg](#) by Major General [George Meade](#) the previous day, the [war's turning point](#). It cut off the [Trans-Mississippi Department](#) (containing the states of [Arkansas](#), [Texas](#) and part of [Louisiana](#)) from the rest of the Confederate States, effectively splitting the Confederacy in two for the rest of the war. Lincoln called Vicksburg "the key to the war".^[4]





CROSSWORD PUZZLE



3/11/24, 11:39 AM

LA Times, Mon, Mar 11, 2024

The Washington Post

LA Times, Mon, Mar 11, 2024

By Margi Stevenson / Ed. Patti Varol
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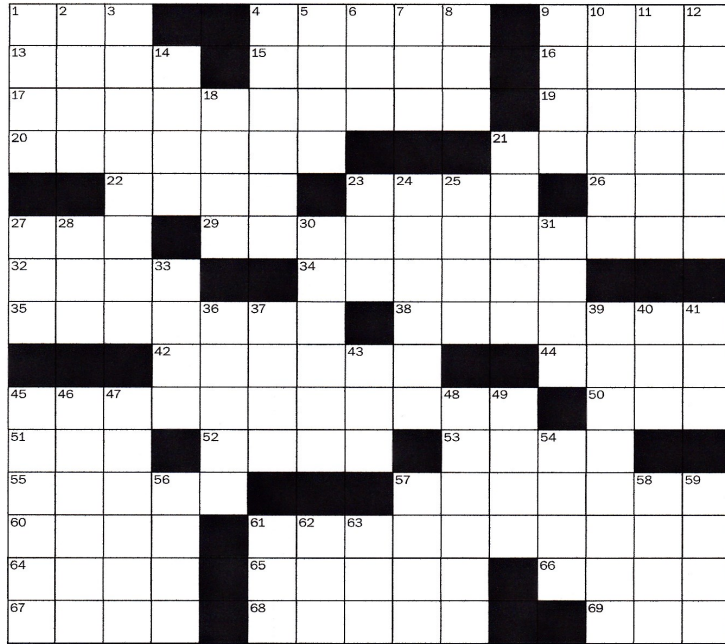
ACROSS

- 1 Was ahead
- 4 ___ eclipse: daytime celestial event
- 9 Iowa State's home
- 13 Opera solo
- 15 Ahead by a small margin
- 16 Discourteous
- 17 Sound of the 1970s
- 19 Radiate
- 20 Pours from one container to another
- 21 Blue Ribbon brewery
- 22 ___ and beans
- 23 Novelist O'Brien
- 26 Early email provider
- 27 Organ with an iris
- 29 Electronic source of percussion
- 32 Cry
- 34 "Heck if I know"
- 35 Looks up to
- 38 Wine shop event
- 42 G major analogue
- 44 Qatari leader
- 45 Unaccredited source of degrees
- 50 Suffix with percent
- 51 Florida NBA team, on scoreboards
- 52 CrossFit units
- 53 Wood stove output
- 55 "Works ___ time"
- 57 Carrying capacity of a cargo ship

- 60 Trig function that models light waves
- 61 Hypothetical space stuff that doesn't interact with light
- 64 Not taken in by
- 65 Figure of speech
- 66 Word repeated after "Que" in a classic song
- 67 Locksmith's supply
- 68 Canadian honker
- 69 Private chats, briefly, and what 17-, 29-, 45-, and 61-Across literally are

DOWN

- 1 Diane of "Chesapeake Shores"
- 2 The "E" of the Great Lakes HOMES mnemonic
- 3 Careful about what one reveals
- 4 Historic fort in South Carolina
- 5 Numbered musical work
- 6 Part of UCLA
- 7 Singer DiFranco
- 8 ___ room: place for a foosball table
- 9 Square footage
- 10 India's largest city
- 11 Inventor Thomas who co-founded General Electric



- 12 Accept, with "for"
- 14 Antioxidant berry
- 18 How software was once sold
- 21 Dueling steps
- 23 Angsty genre
- 24 Composer Shostakovich
- 25 Zero
- 27 Woolly mama
- 28 Agreeable reply
- 30 Open with a pop
- 31 Despise
- 33 Tangerine coat
- 36 Georgia school that's one of the New Ivies
- 37 Play charades, say
- 39 Aped
- 40 Zero
- 41 Test for M.A. hopefuls
- 43 Mantra syllables
- 45 Makes a decent living
- 46 "Trainspotting" novelist Welsh
- 47 More than enough
- 48 YSL men's fragrance
- 49 "Girls" creator Dunham
- 54 Industrious insects
- 56 Vintage Speed Wagons, e.g.
- 57 Boxing match decisions, for short
- 58 Antiseptic target
- 59 Notable times
- 61 Use a shovel
- 62 Ruckus
- 63 Ipanema's city



CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION



3/11/24, 11:39 AM

LA Times, Mon, Mar 11, 2024

The Washington Post

LA Times, Mon, Mar 11, 2024

By Margi Stevenson / Ed. Patti Varol
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ACROSS

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- 21 Blue Ribbon brewery
- 22 ___ and beans
- 23 Novelist O'Brien
- 26 Early email provider
- 27 Organ with an iris
- 29 Electronic source of percussion
- 32 Cry
- 34 "Heck if I know"
- 35 Looks up to
- 38 Wine shop event
- 42 G major analogue
- 44 Qatari leader
- 45 Unaccredited source of degrees
- 50 Suffix with percent
- 51 Florida NBA team, on scoreboards
- 52 CrossFit units
- 53 Wood stove output
- 55 "Works ___ time"
- 57 Carrying capacity of a cargo ship

- 60 Trig function that models light waves
- 61 Hypothetical space stuff that doesn't interact with light
- 64 Not taken in by
- 65 Figure of speech
- 66 Word repeated after "Que" in a classic song
- 67 Locksmith's supply
- 68 Canadian honker
- 69 Private chats, briefly, and what 17-, 29-, 45-, and 61-Across literally are

DOWN

- 1 Diane of "Chesapeake Shores"
- 2 The "E" of the Great Lakes HOMES mnemonic
- 3 Careful about what one reveals
- 4 Historic fort in South Carolina
- 5 Numbered musical work
- 6 Part of UCLA
- 7 Singer DiFranco
- 8 ___ room: place for a foosball table
- 9 Square footage
- 10 India's largest city
- 11 Inventor Thomas who co-founded General Electric

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12					
L	E	D		S	O	L	A	R		A	M	E	S				
13	A	R	I	A	14		15	U	P	O	N	E	16	R	U	D	E
17	D	I	S	C	O	M	U	S	I	C		19	E	M	I	T	
20	D	E	C	A	N	T	S					21	P	A	B	S	T
			22	R	I	C	E		23	24	25		26	A	O	L	
27	E	Y	E		29	D	R	U	M	M	A	C	H	I	N	E	
32	W	E	E	33	P			34	N	O	I	D	E	A			
35	E	S	T	E	E	M	S		38	T	A	S	T	I	N	G	
			42	E	M	I	N	O	R			44	E	M	I	R	
45	D	I	P	L	O	M	A	M	I	L	L	49		50	I	L	E
51	O	R	L		52	R	E	P	S		53	H	E	A	T		
55	E	V	E	R	Y				57	T	O	N	N	A	G	E	
60	S	I	N	E		61	D	A	R	K	M	A	T	T	E	R	
64	O	N	T	O		65	I	D	I	O	M		66	S	E	R	A
67	K	E	Y	S		68	G	O	O	S	E		69	D	M	S	

- 12 Accept, with "for"
- 14 Antioxidant berry
- 18 How software was once sold
- 21 Dueling steps
- 23 Angry genre
- 24 Composer Shostakovich
- 25 Zero
- 27 Woolly mama
- 28 Agreeable reply
- 30 Open with a pop
- 31 Despise
- 33 Tangerine coat
- 36 Georgia school that's one of the New Ivies
- 37 Play charades, say
- 39 Aped
- 40 Zero
- 41 Test for M.A. hopefuls
- 43 Mantra syllables
- 45 Makes a decent living
- 46 "Trainspotting" novelist Welsh
- 47 More than enough
- 48 YSL men's fragrance
- 49 "Girls" creator Dunham
- 54 Industrious insects
- 56 Vintage Speed Wagons, e.g.
- 57 Boxing match decisions, for short
- 58 Antiseptic target
- 59 Notable times
- 61 Use a shovel
- 62 Ruckus
- 63 Ipanema's city



Flyers and posters for your posts events are posted in this section of the newsletter. If you want to advertise your events, please send your flyer or poster via email to the editor to have it posted in this newsletter.



Recruit, Renew, Retire!

Let the Department know if you have any recruiting events planned.

As a grassroots organization, our Posts lead the way in our communities; with so much being done, for so little recognition... Thank you!

Get your message out there and report what you do!!

WARD DOGS

THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE 2024 TOUR

COMING TO HOLMAN STADIUM

JULY 25

OPENING CEREMONY - 6PM | FIRST PITCH - 7PM



U.S. MILITARY WARDOGS

VS.



FOR TICKETS VISIT WWW.NASHUASILVERKNIGHTS.COM OR CALL (603) 718-8883

Get your raffle tickets now for a

 **solo stove**

Bonfire Smokeless Fire Pit Ultimate Bundle 2.0 (Portable)



Included with the stove are . . .

- **Sticks:** Pro-grade tools for fire
- **Shield:** Keep pops and embers from escaping
- **Bonfire Handle:** Move your fire pit with ease
- **Shelter:** Weather resilient fire pit protection
- **Lid:** Place over a cooled fire to keep ash contained or use as temporary protection from the elements
- **Fire Pit Tools:** Tend your fire easily
- **Carrying Case:** Take your fire pit everywhere you go

TICKETS: \$10 each
Only 300 tickets will be sold!

Three easy ways to get your tickets:

- > Scan the QR code
- > See any Post 483 member for tickets.
- > Make your check payable to "VFW Post 483" and note "Stove Raffle" on the check's memo line. Mail your check to 8 E. Pearl Street, Nashua, NH 03060. Tickets will be mailed to you.



Presence not needed to win.

Drawing: Saturday, May 4, 2024

Immediately following the Loyalty Day ceremony at the Nashua Senior Center

Any questions, email nashuavfwpost483@gmail.com

Sponsored by

VFW Post 483



Nashua, NH

*Proceeds benefit the
Nashua VFW Post 483
Veterans Programs*



MOC Pup Tent #NH1

Randall Made Model 14 Attack Knife 0-1 Blade Micarta Handle

Retail Value \$595

Model 14 – Attack

Military Style



Only Two Hundred Tickets To Be Sold
\$20 / Ticket



All proceeds used to
assist veterans in the
homes and the
hospitals

“Keep ‘em Smilin’ in Beds of White!”

Venmo payments to @Jorg-Dreusicke





Expansion of Health Care Eligibility for Toxic-exposed Veterans

Frequently Asked Questions

Background

On August 10, 2022, the Honoring our PACT Act of 2022 ("the PACT Act"; Public Law 117-168) was signed into law. Amendments made by section 103 of this law expanded health care eligibility for three new cohorts of toxic-exposed Veterans. VA is making these changes effective March 5, 2024.

What changed with this expansion of care?

Under the PACT Act, all toxic-exposed Veterans were supposed to become eligible for VA care on a phased-in schedule between now and 2032, but it allowed VA to accelerate this schedule. VA chose to do so, and beginning in March 2024, Veterans who were exposed to toxins or other hazards while serving our country are now eligible for VA care.

This expansion included:

- **Cohort 1:** Veterans who participated in a toxic exposure risk activity (TERA), as defined by law, while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training. Veterans can locate military exposure categories on VA's Public Health website at: www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/.
- **Cohort 2:** Veterans who were assigned to a duty station in (including airspace above) certain locations during specific periods of time:
 - On or after August 2, 1990, in the following countries: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or the United Arab Emirates.
 - On or after September 11, 2001, in the following countries: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Uzbekistan, or any other country determined relevant by VA. (Note: VA has not determined any other country relevant at this time.)
- **Cohort 3:** Veterans who were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Resolute Support Mission.

How could this impact me?

Under these authorities, eligible Veterans can receive hospital care (including mental health services and counseling), medical services, and nursing home care through VA and will be assigned to Priority Group 6 unless eligible for assignment to a higher Priority Group.

If you are an existing VA health care enrollee in Priority Group 7 or 8, you may be eligible for a higher Priority Group if you qualify under one or more of these authorities.

Eligible Veterans are exempt from copayments for VA medical care and medications that could be related to their qualifying service. Care that is determined to be unrelated to qualifying service will be subject to any applicable copayments.

How can I apply?

VA is reviewing its enrollment records to determine if Veterans qualify under Cohort 2 or Cohort 3 (Veterans who served in certain locations during certain time periods since August 1990, or who deployed in support of certain contingency operations). Many of these Veterans do not need to take action; VA will be able to upgrade their Priority Group without further action on the Veteran's part and will notify such Veterans of this change.

If you believe you meet the eligibility criteria for one or more of the cohorts above and you have not been notified by VA that your Priority Group has been upgraded, please complete and submit VA Form 10-10EZR, Health Benefits Update Form, and copies (not originals) of supporting documentation. The most convenient way to send us your VA Form 10-10EZR and supporting documentation is by submitting them online at www.va.gov/health-care/update-health-information/. However, you can send us your completed VA Form 10-10EZR and supporting documentation in one of the following ways:

- Fax to 404-828-5060, or
- In person at your local VA medical facility, or
- Mail to:
Health Eligibility Center
2957 Clairmont Rd NE STE 200
Atlanta GA 30329-1647

Important: When mailing supporting documentation, only submit COPIES, and retain your originals.

If you would like to submit copies of additional supporting documentation, there is no time limit. However, we strongly encourage you to send any additional information as soon as possible.

Supporting documentation for Cohort 1 (TERA) could include:

- What you were potentially exposed to
- When (month and year) and where you were exposed
- Type of activity you were engaged in at the time of each potential exposure, such as basic training, involvement in a test or experiment, or type of work done during service
- Personal statements
- Buddy statements
- Unit histories
- News articles
- Additional evidence (including, but not limited to, a personal journal, diary, and/or photos)

Supporting documentation for Cohort 2 and/or 3 could include:

- DD-214 (Discharge)
- DD-215 (Discharge Update)
- Service records
- Military orders

Where can I get more information?

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call 1-800-MyVA411 (800-598-2411); press Option 2. Representatives are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will be happy to assist you further.



VFW Veterans Dinner – Public Welcome
All proceeds benefit VFW veterans programs.

When: Friday April 5th, 2024
Doors open at 5:30pm,
Dinner served at 6pm.

Where:: VFW Post 10722
6 Main St., Pelham, NH 03076

Admission: Donations accepted

What : Turkey dinner and desserts!



Visit our website at <https://pelhamnhvfw.com/>

Sponsored by John H. Hargreaves Memorial Post 10722 and Auxiliary, Pelham NH

From the desk of....
Brenda Byrne
President - Nashua VFW Auxiliary #483

Sisters and Brothers,

It deeply saddens me to inform you of the sudden passing of our sister, Shirley Labonte, on March 18. Shirley was serving as our Auxiliary Treasurer/Secretary and was our guiding force. Additionally she was a Past President of our auxiliary as well as a Past Department of New Hampshire President. Her knowledge, mentoring and friendship will be sorely missed. For anyone interested and per the request of her family, donations may be made in her memory to:
Nashua VFW Auxiliary #483
8 East Pearl St.
Nashua, NH 03060

We will have no easy task carrying on our mission without Shirley. As your President, I am committed to guide our Auxiliary through the remainder of our current 2023-2024 term and, with your support, into the future.

As a reminder, we meet at the post home on the first Friday of each month. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2024 at 1:00pm. This is an important meeting! We will be draping our charter in memory of Sister Shirley Labonte and Past National President Patti Jankowski. Additionally, it is the time to elect officers for the 2024-2025 term. Newly elected officers will be installed at our meeting in May and will assume their positions after the Department Convention in June and specifically at our July meeting since our June meeting will take place before the convention.

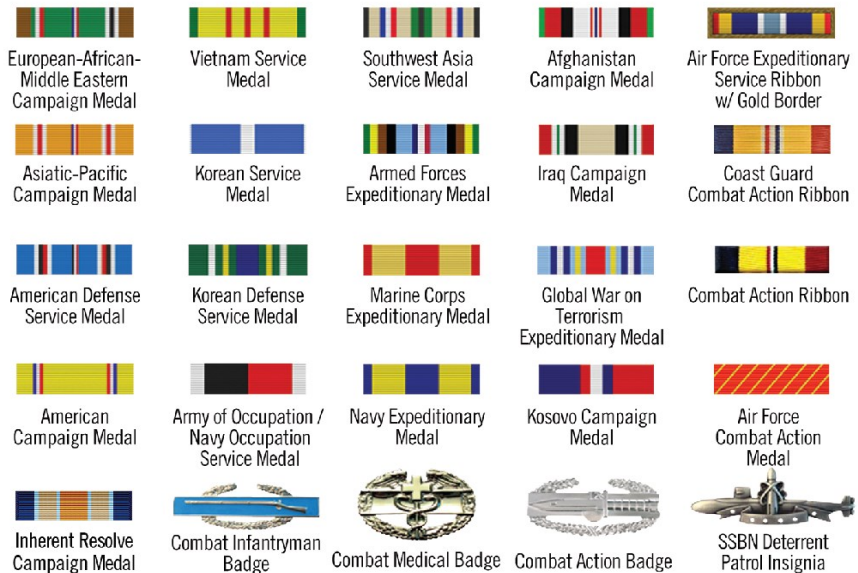
Department secretary and past National President Linda Meader and Department Junior Vice President Tracy Kelley will be attending our meeting on April 5th to offer advice, guidance and support and will be available to answer our questions and concerns. We have a very small group of active members. Please consider getting involved and joining us in our important mission to support our invaluable veterans.

A note of safety....If you plan to view the total eclipse on April 8th you must wear approved glasses for the event to protect your eyes. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO VIEW WITHOUT PROPER PROTECTION. Also, don't try to photograph or video the event with any type of camera or view with a telescope without the appropriate lens covers. Lowes has approved eclipse viewing glasses for as little as \$2.16 per pair. Protect your eyes!

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Respectfully,
Brenda Byrne
President Nashua VFW Auxiliary #483

IF YOU'VE EARNED THESE



THEN YOU BELONG HERE

JOIN THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

PLEASE CONTACT: _____

AT: _____



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

www.vfw.org

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ EMAIL _____
First Middle Initial Last

ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

DATES OF SERVICE _____ to _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ PHONE _____
MM / YY MM / YY MM / DD / YYYY MALE
FEMALE

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

QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE:

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

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 _____ <small>(Please print)</small>	ID# _____
QUARTERMASTER (Signature) _____	

<i>Life Member Options</i>		
AGE as of DECEMBER 31*	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 debt 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.

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

_____	_____	_____
Committee Member	Committee Member	Committee Member

Applicants Signature & Date _____

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

VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

Recruited/Recommended by: _____ Recruiter Member ID _____

Auxiliary No. _____ City _____ State _____ Member ID (if already a member) _____

Annual Membership Life Membership

Rejoin Membership Rejoined Previous Member ID No. _____ Previous Auxiliary _____

Member at Large in Department of _____ Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Male Female

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

POST-AFFILIATED (*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Membership ID _____

LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER Previous Auxiliary _____

ANNUAL TRANSFER Previous Auxiliary _____ Paying Nonpaying

ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE (Fill out Life Membership Information below.) Previous Auxiliary _____

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

NON-AFFILIATED (*Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Post (if applicable) _____

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: _____

Dates of Service: _____ to _____ Location: _____

Investigating Committee Signatures

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. Rejected Accepted Meeting Date _____ Obligated Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY Check here if this is a gift.
Credit cards may NOT be used for initial payment of Annual Dues.

Cash Check Visa MasterCard Discover AMEX

Life Membership Fee _____

Name on credit card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Credit Card No. _____

CVV Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY

ACH (Bank withdraw)

Name of Bank _____

Bank Routing No. _____

Account No. _____

Attach voided check HERE.

(Required)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age by 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

OBLIGATION In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise.

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States or a U.S. National, and am at least 18 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature _____ (Must be signed by all members.)



MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



New Cootie

Reinstated Cootie

Date: _____ Cootie No. _____ Recruited By: _____

Pup Tent Name, Number and Location

Applicant's Name (Print): _____

Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Notify in Emergency: _____

DOB: _____ Branch of Service: _____ Rank (Highest): _____

Enlistment Date: _____ Discharge Date: _____

Hat Size: _____ Present Occupation: _____

Dues paid to December 31, 20 _____ or VFW Life Member # _____

VFW Post Name and Number

Located in: _____
City State Zip

I certify that I am an active member of the VFW of the U.S. and am desirous of becoming a member of the MOC – "The Honor Degree of the VFW". _____ Applicant's Signature	Recommended and Verified (PRINTED) by: _____ Cootie No: _____ _____ Cootie No: _____
	Accepted into Pup Tent on Date: _____ 1 st Degree accepted Date: _____ 2 nd Degree accepted Date: _____ 3 rd Degree received and title of Cootie bestowed on this Date: _____

VFW CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

_____, _____ Located in _____
Post Name Post No. City, State and Zip

This is to certify that Comrade _____
Name of Applicant

Has been a member of the VFW for the preceding six (6) months, and that he has fulfilled one of the following qualifications as indicated:

(1) Held the following Office in the Post: _____
OR

(2) Served on the following Post Committee: _____

Certified to by a majority of the members present at a meeting of this Post held on (Date): _____

Attest:

Post Adjutant (PRINT)

Post Commander (PRINT)

Post Adjutant (Signature)

Post Commander (Signature)