

Membership

Congratulations to VFW National for reaching 100% in membership. In an effort to show significant growth in membership this year, the Commander-in-Chief has announced that the goal for the end of the year is to reach 102% in membership. He asks all Departments to assist in these efforts.

To assist with these efforts, the Commander-in-Chief has laid down a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of June 2019! For the month of June, there will be two separate challenges:

- From June 1 through June 30, the top 10 Posts in each Division that increase their membership percentage the most will be entered into a drawing for \$1,000.
- Every Post who increases their new/reinstated member percentage by at least 2% in June will be entered into a series of drawings for a \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000 prize. For each 2% increase, the Post will receive another entry into the drawings.

Let's Make it Happen!

Attention Department Headquarters: To assist with All-American processing, please share All-State cap size orders with your VFW National Membership Department. Please email these to membership@vfw.org.

WE GOT THE GOODS!

Since the Veterans of Foreign Wars rebranded, we have all new material in the Membership Department. You can find the order form by logging into www.vfw.org and clicking on the Membership Recruiting & Retention section of the Training and Support link. All forms can be downloaded and/or printed, and you can order materials directly to your house for a small fee! The link to the form: https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/MY_VFW/Training-and-Support/Membership/Membership-Order-Form.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20190123T185235Z.

If you need materials from Membership, call or email us at 1.888.JOIN.VFW or membership@vfw.org. If you're needing help to pay for a booth at a local event, call your Department Quartermaster as they have the funds available to help you.

LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

CHECK OUT OUR LEGACY LIFE VIDEO! Go to www.vfw.org, click on JOIN, scroll down to Legacy Life Membership and then click on the video on the right. This prestigious program is available to all Life members and is now available in memoriam for past Life members. There are three levels of membership, each offer their own package of exclusive member benefits. Financial contributions to the Legacy Life member program are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

Enrollment Cost:

Annual Payouts:

<u>Levels</u>		<u>Posts</u>	<u>Departments</u>	<u>National</u>
Gold-	\$1,200.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Silver-	\$800.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bronze-	\$400.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

What will your Legacy be?

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Top Three Recruiters (as of 5/28/19):

Mark A. Short – 509

VFW Post 9400, Dept. of AZ

Carlo S. Davis – 228

VFW Post 9191, Dept. of TX

Joseph T. Allen – 177

VFW Post 3285, Dept. of MD

DEPARTMENTS WITH NEW POSTS:

VFW Post No. 12187 in Mooresville, North Carolina

VFW Post No. 12188 in Moss Point, Mississippi

VFW Post No. 12189 in Berthoud, Colorado

ADDITIONAL REMINDERS & CHANGES

Hip Pocket Training: Login and go online to <https://www.vfw.org/my-vfw/vfw-training-and-support/membership-recruiting-and-retention> to view the latest training videos from the Membership Department.

ALERT! If you have any topics you would like to see us cover, please email them to membership@vfw.org in advance and we will cover them on the next training video. We also post these webinars on our Facebook page! If you're not on Facebook, you can still view the webinars on YouTube here: https://youtu.be/z_5MovJgD6E?list=PLS17GMBtrjUlatKGz_QdpAoUHnXAvaPXi. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us via email at membership@vfw.org or call us at 1.888.564.6839.



LOCAL EYEMART STORES MAY HELP MILITARY FAMILIES IN NEED

Eyemart Express is a national donor to the VFW's Unmet Needs program. If your VFW Post is located near one of their 140 eyewear retail stores in 31 states and you know of a military family in need, please contact the local Eyemart Express store manager. They may be able to assist.

VFW National Convention

Housing opened February 17 and the response, again this year, has been overwhelming! Many Department blocks are now **SOLD OUT**. Where, and if possible, we have secured additional rooms at our official VFW hotels. However, as we have a large number of rooms blocked with the hotels, we are at capacity.

VFW Departments were notified on Thursday, April 25, any remaining rooms available by Friday, May 3, would be put into “free-sell” (one main block) in order to fulfill as many waitlisted reservations as possible. The **June 14** housing reservation deadline was **NOT** a guarantee there would be rooms available in your Department block by that date. Housing reservations are **always first-come, first-served**. Based on our needs, and if available, we will work with an overflow hotel to secure additional rooms as needed. We will keep VFW Departments updated on the housing situation.

The official hotels selected for the 120th National Convention are: Rosen Centre (VFW Headquarters Hotel) \$129 (single/double) \$149 (triple/Quad); Rosen Plaza (Auxiliary Headquarters Hotel) \$125 (single/double) \$145 (triple/Quad); Rosen Inn at Pointe Orlando \$99 (single/double) \$119 (triple/quad); Rosen Shingle Creek \$129 (single/double) \$149 (triple/quad). Tax rates for Orlando are 12.5% plus 1% Orange County Convention Center. Tax rates are subject to change. For VFW Department housing assignments, refer to the list located on the convention website at www.vfw.org/convention.

For additional information regarding housing, call VFW Housing: 833.277.7335.

Convention Registration: Section 222 of the National Bylaws requires each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of \$25 which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a \$10 delegate fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111, ATTN: Convention Registration or you may register online by going to www.vfw.org.

Development

Show Your Patriotism! – Thanks to the continued support of members like you, veterans receive help filing for their hard-earned VA benefits, receive life-changing assistance and have their voices carried to Capitol Hill to fight for legislation that protects their rights. Late in May, the VFW mailed patriotic address labels and we hope you have received them and are using them with pride. We also hope they inspire you to send a generous donation so we may continue providing much-needed services for our fellow veterans, service members and their families.

Announcing the New 2019-2020 VFW Calendar – The 2019-2020 VFW Calendars will be mailed early in June. Your VFW Calendars include reminders of days to display the United States flag and other important dates in history to remember the sacrifices of America’s veterans. If you do not have a flag to display, you may visit heroes.vfw.org/flag and print a free flag poster to display in your home or office. You will also find useful information on VFW programs available to all veterans, service members and their families throughout the calendars. Additionally, in the back of the calendars you will see the section showing VFW membership eligibility information. We certainly hope you find the information included in the calendars to be helpful. And remember, your VFW Department is counting on you to show your support of the vital programs available to the veterans, service members and their families, right in your state.

Independence Day is Coming Up – The VFW is preparing for a special online celebration of freedom with our annual observance of Independence Day. Please visit vfw.org to find ways you can honor our nation’s veterans and service members by spreading a message of patriotism and remembrance to your friends and family.

Helping the VFW for Generations to Come – One of the easiest ways to continue providing support for your brothers and sisters-in-arms, as well as their families, is to name the VFW in your will or trust. It only takes a few words and you remain in control of your assets during your lifetime. Just a small percentage of your assets could go a long way in helping the VFW continue its mission into the future. Free estate planning information is always available by contacting the VFW Planned Giving Office at 816.968.1119, email plannedgiving@vfw.org or visit vfw.org/plannedgiving.

Have You Heard About the VFW’s Partners in Patriotism? – Would you like to support the VFW’s life-changing programs for veterans, service members and their families and reduce the amount of mail you receive? The VFW has an option that allows you to support VFW programs on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis, as well as reduce expenses and eliminate the fundraising mail. It is called Partners in Patriotism. As a member of Partners in Patriotism, you choose a set dollar amount for your donation (minimum amount of \$10) that is either charged to your credit card or set up as an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank account. Once you join the VFW’s Partners in Patriotism, you will only receive the Quarterly Supporter newsletters to keep you informed of the many efforts your monthly gifts are making possible. If you are interested in joining Partners in Patriotism, you may contact Donor Services in the VFW Development Department at 1.833.VFW.GIVE (1.833.839.4483) or email us at partners@vfw.org with “Partners in Patriotism Application” in the subject line.

VFW Friends of Freedom – If you are not already a member of the VFW’s online community, please visit vfw.org and look for the gold banner that says “Find Out What’s Happening” to sign up. As a member of the VFW’s Friends of Freedom, you will receive special emails with breaking VFW news, legislative alerts and unique opportunities to help the VFW in assisting our nation’s veterans, service members and their families. You may also visit vfw.org/vfwatwork and click on “**Read VFW success stories**” to learn how the VFW is fighting for veterans’ rights, assisting veterans in need, educating our youth and aiding military families across the nation. Check back often to see newly posted stories!

Department Resources – Many great resources are available for your Department to use in promoting fundraising programs. You need only go to heroes.vfw.org/vfwtools. The latest fundraising program information, ideas and promotional tools from the Development Department can be found here. Download ad slicks, ready-to-use articles and other items for your Department publications and/or website. Recent mailings and mailing schedules are also posted on a regular basis. Use the Department Resources tools to help strengthen your Department programs. Check it out today!

VFW Communications

In case you haven’t heard, the VFW has designed a new mobile event app to give attendees the tools needed to make the most out of attending VFW national events. The new VFW Events app allows for attendees of the VFW’s National Convention and Legislative Conference to receive important notifications and reminders throughout the events, gain instant access to the daily agenda, the opportunity to connect with other attendees and more!

Get ready for the 120th VFW National Convention in Orlando, July 20-24, by downloading the VFW Events app today! The app is available for download at both the [Apple App Store](#) and the [Google Play Store](#) by searching “VFW Events,” and users who don’t have a smart phone or tablet can also access the app [here](#).

Veterans & Military Support Programs

Meeting times at the National Convention in Orlando:

Veterans & Military Support Chairman Committee Meeting
Sunday, July 21, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

VFW Programs Workshop - **Open to the public**
Sunday, July 21, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
1:00 - 2:00 Dashboard Overview
2:00 - 3:00 Programs Overview Town Hall
3:00 - 4:00 Dashboard Overview

Be sure to stop by the Veterans & Military Support booth to support the **service challenge and get your “newly designed” Veterans & Military Support lapel pin!**

See you in Orlando!

VFW Programs

DISPLAYING MILITARY SERVICE SYMBOLS. Military service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order (left to right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and then Coast Guard. For military flags, go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/products/GP238>.

WORLD WAR ONE COMMISSION PARTNERSHIP. Any municipal government, individual or organization may apply. Likewise, any individual, organization or company can become a sponsor of this effort, as the more we can raise toward this program, the greater the amount of the matching grant to the winning memorials.

<http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/about-the-program.html>

The VFW role is to help publicize the program and get local Posts (and Auxiliaries) involved.

A sample project is at: <http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/resources.html#project-profiles>. (See the Ocean Springs video.)

A fun starting point is to first find memorials around the country. Information on this is at <http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/memorial-hunters-club-about.html>. Scouting groups and 4-H Clubs can also get involved.

As you know, 2018 marked the centennial of World War I. There is a lot our members can do to help educate the public, commemorate the war, and honor those who served. The World War One Centennial Commission has created a landing page on their website for veterans to simplify navigation to key areas. You’ll find it at www.wwlcc.org/veterans. Here are a few suggestions:

-- **THE WORLD WAR ONE PODCAST** is an award winner! Subscribe here: www.ww1cc.org/cn and become the envy of your friends and colleagues with your knowledge about all matters related to the Great War! Subscribe to the **Dispatch** newsletter to keep up to date. Listen to the Centennial News Podcasts. Podcast #61 features VFW Post 968 in Raymond, Wash., talking about their 100 Cities/100 Memorial project.

--Take advantage of the vast store of **education materials**, and use any meeting opportunity in your community to discuss the war and kindle interest in all matters related to the “War that Changed the World.”

--**Purchase a commemorative US Mint WWI coin** (\$10 from the sale of each coin funds the memorial).

-- **POPPY SEED PACKETS & PROGRAM.**

--The poppy as a symbol of remembrance was first proposed after the war by an American woman, Moina Michael, who wrote “*We shall keep the faith.*”

--Use the WWI poppy program to raise money for your organization and help us build the National Memorial! Flanders poppies are living symbols of the great sacrifice made by the doughboys, marines and sailors. They grow everywhere! Remember the Great War by planting poppies in your community. Go here and learn more: <https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/1881>.

--Make sure your ancestors or family members who served are listed on the **World War I Roll of Honor** and donate in their names toward building the WWI National Memorial with a “digital” remembrance wreath. The Roll of Honor features individual profiles for many of the more than 4 million American service members who responded to the call of “Over There” in support of the war-weary Allies and helped achieve victory. All donations go directly toward funding the memorial.

MEMORIAL HUNTERS -- WE NEED YOUR HELP. Dust off your Indiana Jones outfit - grab your smartphone/camera and get ready to hunt for treasure!

--Beginning 100 years ago at the end of WWI, thousands of local memorials were erected in honor of those who served. The memorials were put up by towns, cities, veterans’ organizations, schools, churches, civic organizations and clubs. Today, there is no national register of these important and long forgotten American cultural and historical treasures.

--Join the Memorial Hunters Club and help us hunt down and catalog this fading national treasure.

--We have already had huge help from the state Centennial teams, especially those in Alabama, Georgia and New Jersey who have cataloged hundreds of WWI memorials for their states.

--When you find some of these gems in your state, go here to register:

<https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/memorial-hunters-club-about.html>

--Get your [anthropology](#) on...It's time to go treasure hunting!

--Raise money for the memorial by supporting the **WWI Poppy Program**.

--**Learn more** about the memorial and see all the resources available at www.ww1cc.org.

For any follow-up questions, please contact Lynn Rolf, Programs Director, at lrolf@vfw.org or 816.968.1116.

WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL NEWS:

WAS YOUR POST NAMED AFTER A WORLD WAR I VETERAN OR VETERANS? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! The U.S. World War One Centennial Commission (WWICC) is seeking information about VFW Posts named in honor of a local or national World War I veteran, along with stories

of his or her service, photographs, newspaper clippings and/or other historical information. WWICC will endeavor to honor these Posts by showcasing this special information on its website and feature highlights in its electronic *Dispatch* newsletter. Please note: any information received will be maintained by the commission and will become part of the U.S. Government's historical (Library of Congress) records/archives upon the expiry of its mandate. The point of contact is David W. Hamon, VSO/Military Director for the commission, at david.hamon@worldwar1centennial.org and/or 540.379.8584.

WWICC has also created a special landing page for veterans, history lovers, family members, friends and community members. At ww1cc.org/veterans, visitors will find "tiles," easy to access and read, in order to educate, commemorate and honor the Great War, as per the commission's congressional mandate and charter.

50TH ANNIVERSARY VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION PROGRAM. The Commemorative Partner Program is designed for federal, state and local communities, veterans' organizations and other non-governmental organizations to assist a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam veterans and their families. As a Commemorative Partner, VFW Posts are encouraged to participate in the Commemoration of the Vietnam War by planning and conducting events and activities that will recognize the Vietnam veterans and their families' service, valor, and sacrifice.

Events and activities should be dignified, memorable occasions that show a sensitivity and appreciation for the solemnity of war and the losses suffered by many. Commemorative Partners should communicate how their events will achieve the congressionally-mandated objectives of the program. Events or activities should meet one or more of the following objectives.

1. To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
2. To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.
3. To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.
4. To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.
5. To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

For the VFW Posts interested in becoming an official Commemorative Partner, they must submit an application and a signed Statement of Understanding.

Applications are available at www.VietnamWar50th.com on the Commemorative Partner Program.

The approval process is usually less than 30 days. Partners will be kept informed through electronic notifications. Once approved as a Partner, the Commemoration will provide organizations with a starter kit of materials for developing and implementing their programs. If you have any questions regarding the Commemorative Partner Program application process, please direct them to: whs.vnwar50th_cpp@mail.mil. For Vietnam War commemorative items, shop the VFW Store at <http://www.vfwstore.org/searchresults?q=vietnam>.

FLAG DAY, JUNE 14. All VFW units are reminded to properly display the U.S. Flag on Flag Day, Thursday, June 14 and to conduct a ceremony or program as feasible. A Flag Day speech is available behind the login at vfw.org under Patriotic Holiday Speeches under Member Resources. It is also suggested Posts

should award the VFW Patriotic Citizen Award (Product No. 4385) for those who have daily displayed our National flag.

PATRIOT DAY, SEPTEMBER 11. Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11 is designated as “Patriot Day.” The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States. For flags and other patriotic items, click here <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/patriotic/miscpatriotic>.

YOUTH PROGRAMS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. Simply visit <https://www.vfw.org/Login.aspx>, log in to My VFW, then click on **VFW Training & Support** under the **Member Resources** heading, then click on **Community Service & Youth Programs and Activities**, then click on **Chairman Manuals** under the **Additional Resources** heading. Here you will find all program materials.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT’S PEN NATIONAL AWARDS. Every Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen first place Department winner will receive a National scholarship or award. The new amount for the Voice of Democracy National Awards now total \$154,000 and the Patriot’s Pen National Awards total is now \$55,000.

NEW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT’S PEN THEMES. The 2019–20 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief William J. “Doc” Schmitz. The Voice of Democracy and the Patriot’s Pen theme will be “What Makes America Great.” The new 2019-20 Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen entry forms are now available on the VFW website.

Additionally, anyone (including students, parents, teachers, and chairmen) can download and print the student entry forms for Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen by visiting the below links:

Voice of Democracy: <http://www.vfw.org/VOD/>

Patriot’s Pen: <http://www.vfw.org/PatriotsPen/>

NEW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT’S PEN BROCHURES. For Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen brochures, posters, awards and more, visit the VFW Store: <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/voiceofdemocracy> for Voice of Democracy and <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/programs/patriotspen> for Patriot’s Pen.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM. This program is designed to provide recognition and awards to VFW members who volunteer their time to outside organizations. Recognition is in the form of certificates and/or lapel pins which are given to volunteers who have completed the number of hours prescribed for those awards. For more information, see the VFW Community Activities and Citizenship Education Chairmen’s Manual or contact Tammy at 816.756.3390, ext. 6287 in the VFW Programs department for a nomination form.

POW/MIA FLAG -- OFFICIAL DISPLAY DAYS. Public Law 105-85 (Nov. 16, 1997) indicates the days that federal agencies, military installations and U.S. post offices are required to display the POW/MIA flag. The days are: Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2020 (third Saturday in May); Memorial Day, May 25, 2020 (last Monday in May); Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; National POW/MIA Day, Sept. 20, 2019 (third Friday in September); and Veterans Day, Nov. 11. To purchase a POW/MIA flag, go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/products/GP237>.

IRS AND VFW AWARD MONIES. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires that any recipient that receives more than a \$599 award should receive a Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable. This will

include the VFW programs Patriot's Pen and Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

VFW Member Benefits

From daily coffee runs to annual road trips, Travel Accident Insurance has you covered.

Accidents can happen whether you are traveling across the world for a once-in-a-lifetime trip, across the country for a family vacation or across town for groceries.

One way to prepare for the chance of an accident is Travel Accident Insurance. Travel Accident Insurance protects your family's financial security in the event of your injury or death from a travel-related accident. Coverage begins the moment you leave your driveway, so you are always protected.

For additional information about Travel Accident coverage, click [here](#) or call 1.877.850.0183.

"Buddy"® Poppy

VFW SILVER, GOLD AND DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY POPPIES. The silver, gold and diamond anniversary Buddy Poppies are only for Posts that are currently in their 25th, 50th, 75th or 100th anniversary years. The anniversary poppies are approximately three times as expensive for us to produce, but because of the small quantities we deal in, we don't pass those costs on to the Posts. Please limit your order of anniversary poppies to 1,000 to ensure stock does not run out. These are ordered through the Department and processed the same as the red poppies. Annotate on the order to National that it is for anniversary poppies and specify which one.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS JOINS "WORLD WAR ONE POPPY PROGRAM." The Veterans of Foreign Wars is joining the U.S. World War One Centennial Commission in announcing the WWI Poppy Program to raise awareness about World War I and generate funds for local VSO chapters all over the country.

The VFW is proud to share with you the WWI Poppy Program; an opportunity to generate resources for your Post while helping to honor the 4.7 million Americans who wore the uniform during WWI.

Poppies grew across the war-torn battlefields of Europe after World War I. From 2017 to 2019, the U.S. World War One Centennial Commission will tell the story of those American veterans, through events, exhibits, and memorial efforts, and the VFW is proud to be a partner in this important commemoration.

Click on the following link to learn about the WWI Poppy Program and how your purchase of a Poppy Kit helps build the new National World War One Memorial in Washington, D.C., while also helping to raise money for your Post.

Link: ww1cc.org/poppy

Here is a quick video that can help people understand why it is so important that we honor those who served during World War I: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_y4l49mZso.

The red poppy is an internationally recognized symbol of veteran remembrance. Its use began in World War I and was captured in the war poem "In Flanders Fields," by Lt. Col. John McCrae.

National Legislative Service/Action Corps

VFW Storms the Hill to #AxeWidowsTax

In May, the VFW joined veteran and survivor organizations, surviving spouses, and dependents to storm Capitol Hill to urge lawmakers to end the disgraceful Widow's Tax. More than 65,000 surviving military spouses and dependents are unjustly penalized because their loved ones made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. America must honor military survivors, NOT tax them! Join the fight and [call on Congress to #AxeWidowsTax](#). Watch the [Senate press conference](#) or the [House press conference](#).

House Passes Blue Water Navy Act

By a vote of 410-0, the House on Tuesday unanimously passed H.R. 299, the *Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019*. "The VFW salutes the united support of the House," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "Your vote will positively impact thousands of lives, and it once again proves that taking care of veterans and their families is a nonpartisan issue." Once signed into law, H.R. 299 will restore VA benefits to thousands of so-called Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans who had their disability eligibility taken away after regulatory changes. Veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving along the Korean DMZ will have an earlier start date to encompass the time frame when various defoliants were tested — from April 1, 1968, to Sept. 1, 1967. Benefits will expand to include children born with spina bifida due to a parent's exposure in Thailand, as well as require VA to report on research being conducted on a broad range of conditions possibly related to service in Southwest Asia. The bill now moves to the Senate, which "failed to pass H.R. 299 in the previous Congress," said Lawrence. "We cannot allow this to happen again, which is why I am urging every veteran, family member and advocate to contact their U.S. senators to get this bill passed and signed into law now!" [Contact your senators](#).

Administrative Operations

In an effort to better serve the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, tools are available at "VFW Training and Support." There you will find Member & Officer Training, Forms and Templates; training material relating to Membership Recruiting and Retention; Community Service & Youth Programs; Communications & Public Affairs; Post Service Officers; and Veterans & Military Support. To utilize these valuable training guides, videos, forms and templates, please login at www.vfw.org, proceed to "My VFW" and click the link "VFW Training and Support."

The online "Document Repository" is a system of managing documents utilized primarily by Department Officers and members of the National Council of Administration.

Important Reminder: The 2019-2020 Department Roster is now an Online Membership System (OMS) submitted report. The interactive report will cover reporting of all Department elected and appointed officers and committee chairmen. In addition, the District Election Report is also contained within the Online Membership System (OMS). Portions of the District report will feed into the Department report (i.e. the District Commander position).

Adjutants and Quartermasters can access the roster by logging into their OMS account under the "Election Report" drop down in the left hand navigation pane. Membership numbers of each elected/appointed officer and/or chairman is needed to complete the report. Your cooperation in completing the roster immediately

following your convention is appreciated. Any additions, corrections or changes will be submitted through OMS as they occur throughout the year.

VFW Store



Flag Day is a great day to recognize those in the community who fly their flag, to educate youth on the history, symbolism and etiquette of the flag, and to replace any flags that are in disrepair. VFW Store can help – go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/more/specials/flagday?page=1&size=100> to see all of our Flag Day items!

Order your patriotic items now for your **4th of July** celebration! VFW Store has table runners, patriotic apparel, flags, jewelry and much more! Go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/more/specials/4thofjuly?page=1&size=100>.



Don't forget your **Officer cap, pins and accessories!** Orders can be placed at www.vfwstore.org or by calling 833.VFW.VETS. We also have a variety of business essentials from business cards to padfolios, ink stamps to award certificates. To see all the options, go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/more/specials/officergiftsandawards?page=1&size=100>.

Roll Call of Departed Comrades

CAIN, JR., WILLIS R. "BILL," Commander, Department of Wyoming, 2017-2018 and a Bronze Legacy Life Member of Lake Guernsey Post 4471, Guernsey, Wyoming, May 1, 2019.

WINTHER, LARRY S., Commander, Department of Iowa, 2012-2013 and a Life Member of Clay County Post 3159, Spencer, Iowa, May 4, 2019.

PHILLIPS, WILLIAM M. "BILL," All American Commander, Department of Illinois, 2011-2012 and a Gold Legacy Life Member of Mendota Post 4079, Mendota, Illinois, May 5, 2019.