



# NEW YORK STATE OVERSEAS VETERAN

Official Publication  
Dept. of New York,  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States



2010

Jan./Feb./Mar.

*“Our Country is in Mourning,  
A Soldier Died Today.”*

Volume 29,  
Issue 2

## Allan E. Davenport Department Commander

By the time you get this newspaper, my year as your Commander will almost be over. It went fast; some of the plans went well and some didn't.



We did well in supporting our neighbors, with the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and the Teacher's Awards. We supported our troops with trees

for troops, boxes of goodies and phone cards. We have visited our hospitals, helped get many things done for their benefit and visited many that were sick.

The special project at Parson's Child Care Center is doing fair, but we have time to do better; please help the kids.

We are trying to meet with our legislators in a different way this year, but it is a slow process thus far. Remember the troops who are fighting now – we need to be strong to fight for their benefits in the future.

Our membership isn't doing well – it's at a standstill. Replacing the members we have lost should be a top priority. With deep sadness we need to replace our deceased members. We need to move on and with your support, I know we can do it. I wish we all could get together and make our organization here in New York strong again.

Thanks to all that gave their best and thanks for letting me serve you. Being Commander isn't just waving your hand and greeting comrades. It's a lot of work and it has been an honor to work for you and the great Department of New York.



*Attending Miss Liberty's Birthday Celebration at Ellis Island, October 28, 2009 are Department of NY VFW Commander Allan Davenport with the National Commander-in-Chief, Tommy J. Tradewell, Sr.*

## Dan Meholczo Commander's Special Project Chairman

Commander Allan Davenport has chosen as his Special Project the Parsons Child and Family Center, located at 60 Academy Road in Albany, New York.

Originally called "Society for the Relief of Orphaned and Destitute Children of the City of Albany" when it opened December 2, 1829, it was used to take care of and house children that lived off the streets and had no home. The only support the Home got was from donations from caring citizens, which was hard to come by back then.

Today, Parsons Home does the same thing it did back in 1829. It takes in children that are in need of a home, due to parental neglect or those that have gotten a bad break from life.

The quality of life at Parsons is superior to what most children are used to. They have a controlled environment where they are safe; food, shelter and caring staff that know how to deal with the children's problems. This means a lot to the children that have been abused and neglected; to have someone who actually cares about them and shows them loving kindness, where they do not have any fears of someone hurting

them physically or mentally.

The campus area and the housing buildings are very nice, but like everything else in life, they need repairs and upgrading.

Parsons Child and Family Center is an organization that has no specific state funding. Most of their operations are funded by private donations from caring citizens who want to help care for these special children that just need to be loved and guided in the right direction.

The members of Veterans of Foreign Wars can help take care of these children by donating to the Commanders Special Project – let's take care of our own children that need our help.

Make your checks out to Commander's Special Project and mail them to: VFW Dept. of NY, 1044 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204. Thank you.

**Dan Meholczo, Chairman**  
97 Ridge Road  
Wellsburg, NY 14894  
607-733-3628

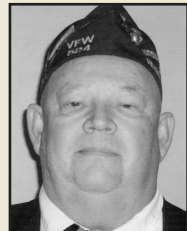
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Doug Herbert

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# New York State Overseas Veteran

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**\*\* Editor** is looking for VFW-oriented newsworthy articles from all levels of our VFW Organization which would be of interest to our members. Examples include: VFW sponsored functions, VFW individuals receiving or presenting awards, VFW community service projects, VFW youth activity awards, etc.

**\*\* PLEASE e-mail your short news articles in MS Word and attach a picture to the e-mail as a separate attachment (if available) in .jpg picture format.** The picture you send can be fully captioned with names and description of event, at the top of your MS Word article. **Please include with the article: The name and phone number of the person sending the news article, in case there are questions.**

**\*\* Editor:** reserves the right to edit any article for length or grammar and to reject any article which may be deemed not to meet current editorial needs.

**\*\* ALL ARTICLES AND PICTURES SHOULD BE E-MAILED TO: [vfwnyeditor@aol.com](mailto:vfwnyeditor@aol.com)** (the above e-mail address is for Overseas Veteran Newspaper information ONLY!) **E-mail subject line should have:** Post number - or - Overseas Veteran Article

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## Jack Veazy Sr. Vice Commander



Comrades, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year Awards programs. Good job done.

Membership and Programs are the backbone of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. When you recruit someone to join the VFW, encourage them to become a Life Member. The information is on the application or you can contact your Quartermaster. He can explain the payment plan and other options.

With another generation of young veterans returning from action in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is these veterans that should be shown that the VFW is a place young veterans can turn to for assistance and guidance. These young veterans are the future leaders of our great organization.

Just a reminder – we will be holding our Spring Conference in Liverpool, New York – March 19-21. I hope to see many of you there. Please step up and introduce yourself to me.

I will be attending the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in March and also the Sr. Vice Commanders Workshop – hoping to bring back a wealth of information.

## Harold Leavor Jr. Vice Commander



Comrades, by the time you receive this news article three quarters of the year will already be gone. Most Posts, Counties and Districts should have all their inspections completed by this time. Also remember to fill out your Community Activity reports and keep a copy on hand in case the IRS audits your records, as they have been around in other Posts across the country checking on records of community involvement, donations, etc. This could jeopardize your tax-exempt status if you did not keep proper proof of records from year to year.

Membership and participation are the backbone of this organization, and we all have to work harder to improve the membership in the Department of New York. Remember to use your dues reserve fund if you have a hospitalized, disabled or sick comrade who cannot pay their dues at the present time.

Hope to see you all at the Spring Conference in Syracuse.



# ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

## Service Officers Raffle

With each New Year comes new ideas. This year we are sponsoring a progressive Service Officer's Raffle. How will that work you ask? The prizes are based on receipt of one thousand dollar (\$1,000) increments. There will be six (6) prizes as follows:

- 1st Place \$200 will be added to this prize for each \$1,000 in donations
- 2nd Place \$100 will be added to this prize for each \$1,000 in donations
- 3rd Place through 6th \$25 will be added to this prize for each \$1,000 in donations
- **There will be four (4) 3rd place prizes.**

**DONATIONS: \$5.00 PER TICKET OR 6 FOR \$25.00.** We will keep you informed of the total prize amount as they grow with the donations received.

There will be two \$50 drawings for the 24 (\$100) Ticket Sellers.

**THE DRAWING WILL BE AT THE JUNE 2010 STATE CONVENTION ON SATURDAY, JUST PRIOR TO THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** You do not need to be present to win.

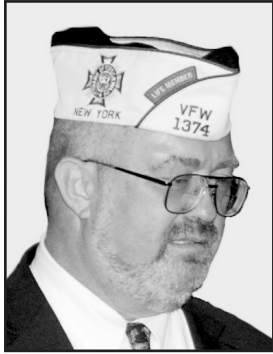
Tickets will be sent to the District, County Council, Posts and Auxiliary by March 1, 2010. Tickets will be available at the Spring Conference or you may call Department Headquarters at 518-463-7427.

**Don Mackey**  
Raffle Chairman



## Karl Rohde

### Department Quartermaster



Comrades, due to unseen forces I was unable to have my last article published in this newspaper. There are a few items that bear mentioning. First the best way to contact me is via e-mail. My e-mail is [QMNY@rocketmail.com](mailto:QMNY@rocketmail.com). This is the fastest way to get in touch with me. Mailing letters to Department will delay my receipt of anything you are

sending to me. This is especially true if it is time sensitive. Along with this, I ask you not to forward audits to my home address; send them directly to headquarters.

In brief, I would like to comment on the fiscal standing of the Department of New York. I have spoken to our Budget and Finance Chairman, accountant and our investment banker several times since taking office. I have looked at the books and the various accounts. The Department of New York is in great financial standing and we have been for some time.

It is apparent that some comrades, especially those holding elective offices, do not always read the Manual of Procedure. It is vital that you familiarize yourself with this document. That is especially true regarding the duties of officers. The point of reference here is the duties of the Quartermaster at all levels of this organization. At all levels, but in varied language, the Quartermaster is the treasurer of all committees handling funds. That should be interpreted to also include the usage of funds and the availability of funds for various projects or events. It is impossible to plan events or projects that are being held in the present administrative year or in a future administrative year without consulting the person responsible for the fiscal health of the organization. The Quartermaster must be consulted. This is just logical and sound business. I urge Commanders and future Commanders on all levels to implement the using of the Quartermaster in this type of scenario.

Again, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

## James Durkin

### Department Inspector

Inspection reports continue to come in. After reviewing these reports, I am truly amazed at the number of Posts that require some type of help from County Commanders or District Commanders. This is the main purpose of inspections: to find weak spots within the Post and correct them to give us stronger Posts across the state.

Many Posts have never filed a 990 to the IRS. This being the third year without filing, some Posts could soon be looking at paying corporate taxes, and even property taxes, when they lose their nonprofit tax exemption.

We still have time to correct what needs to be done. District Commanders each received a copy of areas that need to be corrected for each Post. Please ask your District Commander to share this information. If your Post has not been inspected, contact your County or District Commander to schedule an inspection date. If you are having problems getting inspected, see my contact info below.

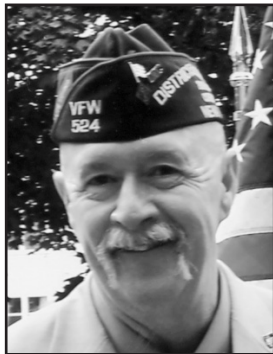
As we start getting closer to the spring conference, we need to finish up the remaining Posts that need to be inspected. County Commanders need 90% of their inspection completed by 28 February to receive travel pay and per diem for the conference.

**Note to Inspectors:** Please review the Post's 990 filing and copy the EIN number from it. One last request of the Inspectors: Please make sure you complete Section 2c (name of Corporation) – we need the full legal name.

Any questions, contact me at: James Durkin, 248 North Bloomfield Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424 or call me at 585-455-5047.

## William "Doc" Schmitz

### Department Surgeon



### A Shot in the Arm

First things first. The Department "Emergency Relief Fund" is broke. YES – little to no monies.

We need your donations, please send them to Department Headquarters in Albany, NY. In the past year, we have been able to help many members and their

families and I'm sure there will be many more in need. Please have a fundraiser and/or take monies from Bingo and Bell Jar and DONATE!

Many projects and changes have been going on in our VA system, and you my fellow Comrades, should be attending any and all VA meetings as to increase our presence, support and obtain information to pass on to your respective Posts, Councils, Districts and Department. We have the ability as an organization to impact our own care and help to insure others continued quality care, but we need you at the many meetings going on around the state. How do you accomplish that? Contact the local VA and inquire about any meetings you can sit in on, ask for a tour of the facility, and of course, WEAR YOUR HAT!! Make notes, ask for explanations and inquire how your Post might help, but please get involved. If you need help, just contact me. I'm sure we can get you sitting in on some meetings and get you involved.

Encourage all veterans to register for care at the VA – numbers equal funding in their respective budgets. Currently, lots of VA monies are going west and south; that's where the registered VA numbers are registered. They don't build hospitals based on potential numbers; they build and expand on actual numbers.

Eat healthy, exercise and be happy in your work. Take care.

## Melvin Garrett

### Department Judge Advocate

Comrades, as we enter into the second half of this term in office, we look back on many things that need our attention. Posts are in trouble and the officers leading them are not adhering to the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and the Ritual.

I have received many calls inquiring about the provisions and the interpretation of the congressional charter and I have also accompanied the State Commander to many areas to help resolve problems associated with the Post.

While many of the problems are somewhat different, basically they all originate from the same source – money, power, control and the lack of knowledge of our congressional charter.

If the leadership in the Post utilize, study and review Article 10, Section 1001, the "Rules of Order" and the officers review Article 2, Section 218, "Duties of Officers," the Post would run a lot smoother and many of the problems that now exist would not arise.

The membership has to burden some of the concerns because they are not questioning reports and are not involved in the day-to-day activities. Permitting a few members to control and handle all or most of the Post business can lead to serious consequences later.

Members are not seeking leadership roles and are complacent with the same leadership for too many years. That doesn't mean a comrade should not be elected for more than one term.

We must find a way to stem the tide of losing members for the many reasons they stop being active. One way is to send out a survey once in awhile.

If we spend valuable time and energy promoting the ideals and purpose of the founding fathers of the VFW, which is to "HONOR THE DEAD BY HELPING THE LIVING," then we will be successful as an organization.

## Dennis Sullivan

### Citizenship Education Community Service Chairman



I would like to compliment the comrades and sisters of our Department of New York for the outstanding community service work covering May 1 to October 31, 2009. All eight Districts participated, and the totals are as follows:

- 203 out of 569 Posts participated
- Total money spent was \$844,780

- Total hours was 129,070

We have doubled our money spent and hours volunteered since a year ago. In the 2009-10 National Community Service six-month total report by National, our state came in the top 10. The next six-month community service reports are due to Department by April 30, 2010. Please send in a timely manner to ensure your Post, and our state, get the proper credit and recognition.

This year, we had three Districts that participated in the Teachers Awards Program. We had nine teacher entries from eight Posts and Ladies Auxiliaries. This year's teacher award winners were:

**Category K-5:** Tracy Morlock, District 6, John F. Ahrens Post 5296-Salamanca

**Category 6-8:** Cheryl Bradley, District 3, Clifton Park/Half Moon Post 1498-Clifton Park

**Category 9-12:** Deborah Cenni, District 6, Lake Chautauqua Memorial Post 8647-Mayville

Each Post and Ladies Auxiliary should start when school reopens in September to encourage the schools to nominate their teachers for the Citizenship Education Teachers Award for 2010-2011.

The remaining programs of 2009-2010 are:

• **Volunteer of the Year** – the qualification for this award is the VFW member must volunteer 100 hours or more.

• **National Citation of Recognition** – The award is to recognize the Post that demonstrated a high level of service to their community.

• **Fred C. Hall Memorial Outstanding Post Special Project Award** – for the Post that conducted a special project that should be nationally recognized.

If anyone has questions on how the program works or what paperwork must be completed, please do not hesitate to contact me at [dmsullivan9@optimum.net](mailto:dmsullivan9@optimum.net)

## Marlene Roll

### Patriotic Instructor

Comrades,

Our United States flag is one of the greatest symbols in the world. So precious to us, as veterans, that the VFW (along with The American Legion) advocated proper respect for the flag resulting in the Flag Code established by Congress in 1942. In my eyes, and maybe yours too, that makes us the "keepers" of that code. It is up to us to educate the public on showing the proper respect and the correct way of displaying our flag.

————— *PATRIOTIC, continued on page 4* —————

## James F. McNally

### Legislative Committee Chairman

Last time, I discussed our Department legislative goals. This time I am going to list some of our National legislative goals.

Leading the list is VA health care. Our main concerns here are ensuring a sufficient VA budget, timely funding and ensuring the unique health care challenges of the Iraq and Afghanistan vets. Specialized health care providers for women veterans needs. Improving

————— *LEGISLATIVE, continued on page 4* —————



**Verl Ringgenberg**  
*Department Boy Scout Chairman*

The mission of the Scouting team of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is to support the programs of the Boy Scouts of America within all VFW Departments, Districts and Posts by promoting our shared values of volunteerism, Americanism and youth development. While many of you and/or your Auxiliary are already sponsoring, supporting financially or providing meeting rooms for Scouting functions, more of us should be.

I am encouraging every Post and Auxiliary to become active in scouting by appointing a Post Boy Scout representative to work directly with their local Scout Troop. Most Posts already have a father or grandfather with a son or daughter in Scouts. Yes, I said daughter. They, too, are Scouts and future leaders. Who better to represent your Post than a father or mother who most likely is already active in their child's scout troop?

The comrades you appoint must be able to work with other organizations, as Scouts are sponsored by any number of community organizations (Legion, churches, Elks, ECT). However, above all else, he or she must be willing to become actively involved with the Scouts.

Your support today represents the VFW in a positive light to a new generation of potential service members – tomorrow's VFW members. Many young people that rise to the challenge of Scouting continue their patriotism by serving in America's armed forces. When these individuals return home as veterans, the positive memories they have of the VFW will lead them to continue their involvement in your Post.

**Eagle Scout Scholarships:** Post's should have judged and forwarded their entry to me, to arrive prior to the 1 April deadline. Department of New York's entry will be selected and forwarded to National prior to 1 May. Our winner will be announced at the State Convention and receive a \$250.00 check, certificate and an Eagle jacket. An invitation will be extended to attend the business session of the State Convention to receive his award and to address the delegates.

**Verl Ringgenberg, PDC**  
 National Scouter Department of NY  
 P.O. Box 33  
 Hortonville, NY 12745  
 845-887-3025  
 vringgenberg@hvc.rr.com

*PATRIOTIC, continued from page 3*

Most *may know* the basics, like it's customary to display the flag from sunrise to sunset. They *may not know* it can be flown 24 hours a day, for a patriotic effect, if it is properly illuminated during hours of darkness. They *may know* the flag can be flown at half-staff. They *may not know* that it is only by orders of the President upon death of a principal figure of the United States (i.e., a former or Vice President, Chief Justice, member of Congress, etc.). They *may know* that you can hang our flag on a wall. They *may not know* that it can only be pinned down by two corners at a time, not all four. It must be allowed to flow free.

I strongly encourage everyone to take the time to read the Flag Code. It is interesting, informative and inspirational. It may even give you a new sense of pride in our flag and the country it represents. Then I'd like to go out and share that pride and information with our youth, using our Flag Education Program in your local schools or institute a Loyalty Day Program (May 1st) in your community. We fought for her once, let's make sure she is kept well.

**"The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing."** –Flag Code, Title 4, Chapter 1, Sub Chapter 8, Item j.

**VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship**

*2009 Winners*



**1st Place** – Ian Turner Gibson is the winner of a \$5,000 VFW Scholarship for being selected as the "VFW Scout of the Year" in the organization's National Competition. Ian was sponsored by the Department of Virginia.



**2nd Place** – Howard Alford Lovejoy IV sponsored by the Department of Georgia, is the winner of a \$3,000 VFW Scholarship.

**How to Enter**

**Deadlines:**

Submit entry to local VFW Post: March 1, 2010

Posts submit local winner to VFW Department: April 1, 2010

Department nominees to VFW National: May 1, 2010

The VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship program provides a \$5,000 award to an outstanding scout who is the recipient of a Boy Scout Eagle Award, a Venture Scouting Silver Award or a Sea Scout Quartermaster

Award. Second-place winner receives a \$3,000 award. Third-place winner receives \$1,000.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or a Sea Scout Ship;
- Has received the Eagle Scout Award, Venture Silver Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award;
- Has demonstrated practical citizenship in school, scouting and the community;
- Has reached his/her 15th birthday and is enrolled in high school at the time of selection; and
- Has submitted his/her completed entry by **March 1, 2010** to a VFW Post in his/her community.

**Note:** All applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. A scout only can enter through ONE VFW Post.

For more information on the scouting award, please contact Susan Wilson, Program Coordinator, VFW Programs, at [swilson@vfw.org](mailto:swilson@vfw.org) or call 816-756-3390, Ext. 220.

**Cub Scout Pack 390 Holds Annual Award Ceremony**

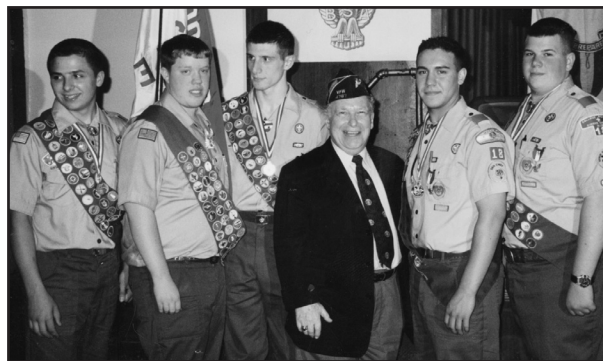
Pack 390 conducted its annual awards ceremony on Friday, February 12, 2010. The awards were presented by representatives of the Pack's sponsoring organizations.

Deacon Robert Abundo represented St. Teresa RC Church and Cubmaster Marvin R. Jeffcoat represented VFW Post 2813.

The boys received a variety of awards, including badges of rank, pins and belt loops for various academic and athletic achievements.

The ceremony was held in St. Teresa's CYO Gym located at 50-20 45th Street, Woodside, New York at 7 p.m.

**Eagle Scouts**



*Eagle Scouts from Post 4787.*

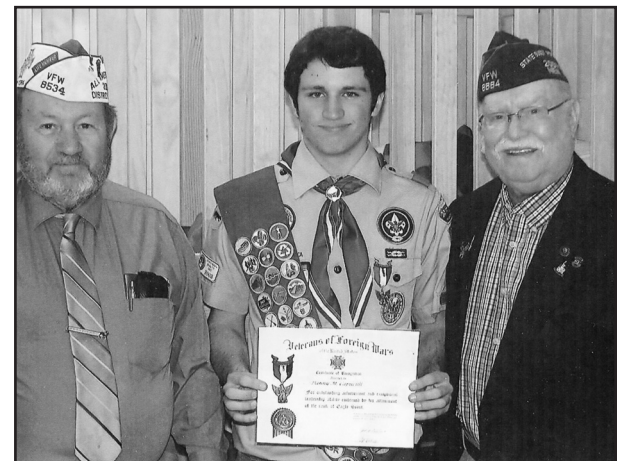
*LEGISLATIVE, continued from page 3*

outreach efforts to reach minority and rural veterans, and advise them of the services available to them.

Our next goal is the ensuring that Congress provides adequate resources to reduce the current backlog of disability claims. We also support efforts to ensure a better quality of life for our Veterans, National Guard and Reserve troops and their families. We still, and always will, support the full accounting of all U.S. military personnel missing from all wars. We urge Congress to immediately address the highest unemployment rates among veterans in recent history.

Our three Department of New York VFW members serving on the national legislative committee will be traveling to Washington in March to remind our national legislators of these priority goals. We encourage each member of our Department to assist us by contacting your Congressman's local office and informing them of these goals. Let them know the veterans are concerned.

**Eagle Scout Award**



*Dan Capucilli III received the VFW Eagle Scout Award during an awards ceremony in his honor on 28 November 2009. The award was presented to Dan by Past 5th District Commander and Camillus Post 8664 representative Ed Fletcher (L), along with Dan's grandfather, Past 5th District Commander Albert Johnston (R). Dan's project was a play area for children at his church in Camillus. Congratulations, Dan!!*

**Inspections Made Easier**

As a Quartermaster for over 30 years, I have found ways to make things easier for me. In view of the new Inspection Forms, it seems appropriate to share them with other Posts.

1. In the front cover of my ledger book I have written our Federal ID # and the date it was issued. This is followed by our Tax Exempt #. Below that is our Dept. address and phone number. Finally, there is our bank account number and our routing number (needed for direct deposit).

2. In the front of the ledger, I keep recent inspections, a couple of tax-exempt certificates, the acknowledgment that we paid our National Convention dues, a sheet showing Life Member dues, a list of our current officers, current Post Election Reports and finally, copies of Community Activity Reports.

3. In the back of my ledger is the 990N receipt, copies of my Quartermaster Bonds, any CDs which we may have, our Corporation Papers and finally, a Buddy Poppy order form.

With this setup, the new Inspection Form is no problem. Everything you need is there. I hope that this will be of help to Posts who may find the new Inspection Form daunting.

**George H. Osborne, Quartermaster**  
 Post 1470-Bath



## Ron Sakonyi

### National Military Service Programs Report

VFW Posts donated \$157,031.67, Auxiliaries donated \$163,306.91 and other individuals and institutions donated \$776,024.79. September through December NMS donations from Department of NY were \$6,184.96; \$2,747.01; and \$4,338.12.

#### Operation Uplink

NMS provided 13,835 telephone cards over these past five months to veterans and active duty personnel. This represents a cost of \$223,089.73 for the value of the cards and value of the free call days.

There were 460,533 telephone connections made during the months September through December. Of these, 448,948 connections were made during the free call days of September 29, October 13, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Over 97% of our service members are making use of the Internet cafes to call home. On these Free Call Dates, service members made 22,231 calls home.

#### Unmet Needs

During the months of September through December, the Unmet Needs Program provided support to 147 families amounting to \$236,747.58 nationwide. During these past four months, two families in NY were provided financial assistance in the amount of \$4,122.94. In October and November, 273,188 military members and their families were supported through National Military Service Programs. I thank all of you for your donations to this very worthwhile program for our military families.

#### Military Assistance Program (MAP)

Under the Military Assistance Programs, 110 events were conducted from September through December consisting of 83,026 attendees and involving 64 Departments at various times. One MAP grant was provided this fiscal year amounting to \$700. William M. Gouse, Jr. Post 3211 of Hicksville held a holiday party for the 800th MP Brigade on December 5th. For their effort, a grant of \$700 was provided by the MAP office for this activity. I thank Post Commander William Walden for his Post's continued support to the 800th MP Brigade.

The new MAP Grant Application FAQ's are now available to download at [www.vfwdepartmentresources.org](http://www.vfwdepartmentresources.org). The FAQ's can be downloaded as a stand-alone document and it is also included in the MAP Grant application. This

## Post 1545

### Wounded Warrior at Windham Mountain

Submitted by Christopher Mattiace, Commander

Members of VFW Post 1545 and its Ladies Auxiliary greeted 27 Wounded Warriors and 37 of their family members who traveled to Windham, NY for three days of skiing, boarding and rest and relaxation beginning on Thursday, January 21, 2010.

This annual event brought together a host of organizations to show support and appreciation for the sacrifices made by the Wounded Warriors in our nation's war on terrorism. The groups involved included the Adaptive Sports Foundation at Windham Mountain who provided instructors, equipment and on the mountain guidance; the New York City Fire Department provided transportation from the Albany airport to Windham and area transport during the weekend; Disabled Sports USA; National Amputation Foundation; the Knights of Columbus, who provided the keynote dinner assisted by the men and women of VFW Post 1545.

The Warriors and their families departed on Sunday, a little tired after their whirlwind weekend, but with smiles on their faces and a renewed sense of accomplishment.

FAQ provides answers to many questions regarding the MAP Grant procedures.

#### Memorial Commendations

Nationwide, we had 163 casualties during the September through December period, with 50 requests for the Memorial Commendation. In our Department alone, we had seven of these requests. Memorial Commendations were presented to seven families of U.S. service members killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan during the period September through December.

They were: USMC CPT Eric A. Jones from Westchester, US Army SSG Amy Tirador from Albany, SSG Keith Bishop from Medford, SSG Luis Manuel Gonzalez from South Ozone Park, PFC Daniel J. Rivera from Rochester, Army Specialist Kevin O. Hill from Brooklyn and U.S. Army Specialist Jason Johnston from Albion.

My thanks to District 1 Quartermaster John Sanford, District 3 Commander Don Mackey, District 8 Commander Keith Krauss, Suffolk County Council Commander Dennis Sullivan, Post 4635 Commander Kevin Christy and John Ambrose of Post 7414 for their assistance in presenting the Memorial Commendation to these families.

A special thanks to Karl Rohde for his assistance in finding a point of contact in Massachusetts for the family of Captain Eric Jones, along with Paul Spera who coordinated with Jim Christoloski, a member of the NMS Committee for Massachusetts, their NMS Chairman, Jorge Castro and their District 17 Commander Tony Manfredi, who also coordinated with the Commander of the Mashpee Post for their assistance in presenting the Memorial Commendation to his family.

In January, we suffered two more losses. US Army PFC Gifford E. Hurt of Yonkers and USMC Lance Corporal Zachary D. Smith from Hornell. My thanks to Commander Joseph Porcelli of Empire Post 375 of Yonkers, and Southern Tier County Council Commander Billy Jo Doell for presenting the Memorial Commendations to the family of our fallen service members.

My condolences are given to their families and friends for their loss. God bless them and all their families for the ultimate sacrifice during the current conflicts.

#### Free Call Dates

The free call dates scheduled thus far for 2010 are: February 14, March 14, April 4, May 9, May 30, June 20, July 4 and August 22. Please communicate these dates to any of our service members who you have contact with. My e-mail is [resakonyi@yahoo.com](mailto:resakonyi@yahoo.com) if you need to contact me or have questions on any of the National Military Service Programs.

## Post 2883



Department Commander Allan Davenport presents a 65-Year Membership Pin to Carl VanSchaffe of the Arcadia Memorial Post 2883 on December 5, 2009.

## Post 1574 Adopts Unit



Dog Company, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment. Submitted by CPT Adam Scher.

## York Post 634 Helps Welcome Home Local Veteran

The members of York Memorial Post 634 in York, NY were recently invited to take part in a Welcome Home Party for a young man returning from service in Afghanistan.

The party, hosted by (former Marine) Kevin P. Sr. and Linda Stone, was held on January 16th at the York Town Hall. VFW members presented the Post Colors, plus the five Service Flags for display; Adjutant Thomas Tiede read an opening prayer and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. After a short review by Tom of the mission and background of our Post, we proceeded with the swearing in of the returning serviceman, Kevin P. Stone, Jr., U.S. Army, who has served one year in Afghanistan and was wounded while on patrol in a vehicle. When the bomb (which had been planted in a sluice under the road) exploded, their vehicle was flipped end over end, causing injury to all of the men on board. With a great deal of luck, and the grace of God, none of the men were killed.

Kevin is presently stationed at Fort Drum and will be receiving the Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medal at a time to be announced. Past District 7 and County Council Commander William Boyd conducted the swearing in ceremony and Kevin was presented by NY State Assemblyman Dan Burling, who attends many of our Post events. Dan was also present when Kevin's cousin, Lyndon Villone, USMC joined our Post about two years ago.

Post members present for the ceremony, besides Adjutant Tiede, were Commander Paul Klock, Quartermaster Joe Vogel, Photographer Jim Shaughnessey, Sgt.-at-Arms Stanley Lubanski and member Kenneth Parnell.

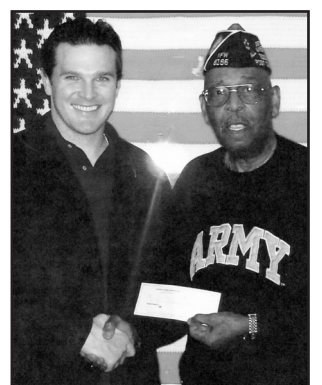


Pictured, L-R: Past District 7 Commander William Boyd, Assemblyman Dan Burling, Kevin P. Stone, Jr., Kevin P. Stone, Sr. and Linda Stone.

## Post 6196-Queensbury

Submitted by Barry W. Cronkite, Quartermaster

Santa came early to VFW Post 6196-Queensbury in the person of Brendan Harris, one of the stars of the Minnesota Twins baseball team and a Queensbury native. He donated \$2,500.00 for our Veterans' causes. We cannot thank him enough and rest assured, his donation will be used wisely.





**Post 433-Sayville**



*Cub Scout Pack 85 leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.*



*Santa and Mrs. Claus thanking members of the 142nd Aviation Battalion for helping out.*

Sayville VFW Post 433 was filled with holiday cheer on Saturday afternoon, December 5, as the Post hosted its 14th Annual Holiday Party for Hospitalized Veterans. Post members and their families were joined by volunteers from the local community, as well as active members of the air national guard and veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan War to recognize and honor the service of veterans from the Northport Veterans Hospital and the Stony Brook State Veterans Home.

For the first time in its 14-year history, veterans of all the United States conflicts since WWII were in attendance. World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan veterans celebrated each other's service and recognized the bond that joins them together. Five generations of servicemen and women, each of whom sacrificed a part of their lives to ensure the freedoms inherent in our country's existence are secured for the generations that follow.

Following a warm welcome from VFW Commander Joe White and a prayer by Chaplain Ron Bergman, the attendees were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Cub Scout Pack 85 of St. Lawrence the Martyr Church in Sayville.

Post 433 cooked up a complete turkey dinner with all the trimmings and the veterans were served their dinners by volunteers from the Cub Scouts, the Sayville High School History Club, members of the Air National Guard 142nd Aviation Brigade, Post 433 members and other family and friends. During dinner, the guests were entertained by the Wednesday Night Line Dancers and VFW Post 433 member Don Valenti. Once again, Don amazed everybody with his repertoire of old favorites, country and western and original songs, and also led the group in a sing-along of Christmas standards.

The highlight of the party, though, was the appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus themselves (Post Commander Joe White and Jr. Vice Commander Joan Furey), who arrived during dessert to hand out presents to both the veterans and volunteers. The veterans were touched by the attention they received and their eyes filled with tears as they thanked everyone for a wonderful day. We had to remind them that it was because of them that we were all there.

Post 433 extends its sincerest thanks to everyone who made this day possible, and while we can't name everyone individually, we do send out a warm thanks to Scoutmaster Joel Buffardi and Cub Scout Pack 85, Ms. Susan Hart and the members of the Sayville High School History Club, the 142nd Aviation Brigade, the Wednesday Night Line Dancers and, of course, our own families, who once again showed why Sayville is the place we all want to live.

**Post 7291-Greenwich**

Greenwich VFW Post 7291 made a visit to the VA Hospital in Albany, New York. Handmade patriot bags were filled with personal care items and blankets were donated for 60 patients, all distributed this past Veterans Day.

Commander Ron Thomas, Quartermaster Miguel Pacheco, Jr. and Mary Pacheco, President of the Ladies Auxiliary were present. A flag was also donated to Karen Convey, Volunteer Manager at VA Hospital.



*Volunteer Manager Karen Convey is presented with a flag by Commander Ron Thomas, Quartermaster Miguel Pacheco, Jr. and Mary Pacheco, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 7291.*

**Post 2472**

*Submitted by John Washington, Public Relations Director*

A memorial was recently erected at a local park, Kenny Field. It honors all of our local heroes who have served in our armed forces. The memorial was dedicated by General Colin Powell on September 18, 2009 in a ceremony featuring many of these local heroes. The memorial features flags of all the branches of service. Plaques on the main wall of the memorial feature the names of those who served under the branch in which they were enlisted.

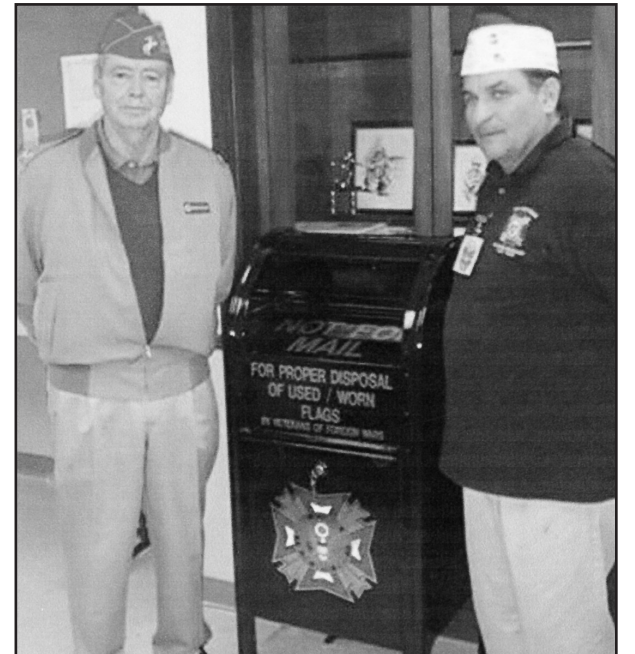
During the past holiday season, some of the members of Post 2472 chose to honor the service of their comrades by hanging holiday wreaths at the memorial. We feel it is important to remember those who have fought, and continue to fight, for our freedom.



**Post 9263**

*Submitted by William Ober, Commandant of Huntington Detachment 792*

VFW Post 9263 Elwood-Commack has been gracious in sharing their Post with the local detachment of Marines. The Marines, in turn, secured a surplus mailbox from the USPS, completely stripped and refurbished it and painted it a stunning VFW blue with gold leaf. It will be used at the Post to collect worn flags for proper disposal.



*Pictured with flag depository are Marine Norman Taylor of Huntington Detachment 792 and VFW Post 9263 Commander Fred Amore. Missing from photo is Marine Dick Tartaglia, who orchestrated the project.*

**Post 3211**

*Submitted by William G. Walden, Commander*

On Saturday, December 5, 2009, the Hicksville VFW, William M. Gouse, Jr. Post 3211, hosted the 800th Military Police Brigade's annual family holiday party. With the aid of the VFW MAP Program, the Post was able to supply food, desserts and small gifts for the families of the 800th.

Approximately 140 members of the 800th and their families attended the event. Home Depot turned our small hall into a Santa's Workshop for the children, helping them assemble and paint their own personal toolboxes. The Town of Oyster Bay donated six children's bicycles that were raffled off to the children. Our large hall was used for dining and dancing. There was even a visit from the jolly old elf himself – Santa Claus – who handed out gifts to all the children.

Over 20 members of the Post and Ladies Auxiliary volunteered to make the day enjoyable for our guests. We have been sponsoring the 800th since 2004, when they returned from Iraq. Post 3211 has, and will continue to support these brave men and women as long as they are willing to have us.

**VFW Change of Address Form**

*(Please Print)*

**Member Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Old Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**New Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** **Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Data Entry  
406 West 34th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111**



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Doug,

Your *NYS Overseas* newspaper needs a SWAP SECTION where members can buy, sell and trade items they are looking for and buy and trade items needed to complete service displays, such as wings, badges, uniforms, foreign awards, photos, etc.

I am a WWII and Korean War vet looking for a few of these items. I have been a Life Member for over 40 years. I am a member of Post 2472 in Kenmore, NY, now down in Florida for R&R.

Thanks.

**Jerry Keohane**  
15 Hidalgo Lane  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952  
772-785-9732

Dear Editor,

I was so pleased to read an article concerning a woman veteran in the Oct/Nov/Dec 2009 *NYS Overseas* paper, especially since she was one of those "Angels" hardly ever mentioned or remembered these days. Thank you, Joan Furey.

Every time I receive my American Legion or VFW magazine, I look to see what, if anything, is said about women veterans. Not much, I'm afraid. I wonder why. I was an Army Nurse in WWII and was proud to serve, even though my heart still hurts when I remember the awful wounds war brings.

Yes, we were often called "Angels" in a most loving way. I have tried many times to find a copy of that book, "We Band of Angels." – and I'm still looking.

**Rosamund Houghton VanNoy**  
rosevn@embarqmail.com

To: General Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs

We oppose plans to take over property at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Veterans Hospital in Montrose, NY and to move much needed veterans services to distant locations so that the scenic, riverside property can be used by profiteers to build luxury housing along the Hudson River.

We support our Veterans and their families and their need for physical care and support in the healing atmosphere provided by the serenity of this site. Many veterans have resided at this facility and have known it as their only home for many years. After all our veterans have given for their country, it is wrong to ask that they and their families be given the added burden of traveling long distances for care and that they be displaced by this unnecessary luxury private housing.

We support keeping the current facility and the property whole to meet the needs of current and future veterans. We also support the refurbishment and improvement of this facility so our veterans can receive inpatient and outpatient care, and elderly and homeless veterans can receive long-term care in the hospital and nursing home facilities on this campus.

These men and women have given their all for our nation. They have traveled far to protect us at home and they should not have to travel even further for the care they have earned and deserve. Luxury real estate at this location will be of no benefit to our veterans, but local health care and the support of all citizens in keeping this hospital facility whole and functioning will benefit those who need care now, as well as the untold numbers who will need care in the future.

We ask that you join us in supporting our veterans and not the profiteers.

**Denise E. McHugh**  
LA VFW President, District 2

## VFW Announces Annual Publications Contest

KANSAS CITY, MO – The VFW Publications Department announced today that it is accepting submissions for VFW's 2010 National Publications Contest. All publications will be categorized by the membership size of the Department, District or Post they represent.

For the contest, **Departments** will be defined as:

- large (25,000 or more members),
- medium (11,000-24,999) and
- small (10,999 or fewer).

**Districts** will be defined as:

- large (4,000 or more),
- medium (2,500-3,999) and
- small (2,499 or fewer).

**Posts** will be defined as:

- large (300 or more),
- medium (200-299) and
- small (199 or fewer).

All national entries must place first in Department-level contests. One copy of each winning Post and District publication – as well as only one issue of the Department newspaper – must be mailed by Department Adjutants, Quartermasters or Department editors, to Kelly Von Lunen ([kvonlunen@vfw.org](mailto:kvonlunen@vfw.org)) in the Publications Department at the National Headquarters address (406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111) by April 5, 2010. Issues published between Jan. 1, 2009, and Dec. 31, 2009 are eligible.

### National Publications Contest Entry Form

**Department Adjutants:** Please include a copy of this form with each winning entry. Include a separate form for each entry. For example: one copy with Department entry, one with District and one with Post. Indicate membership size for each publication.

#### Department Publication

Name of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor's address (street): \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Large (25,000 or more) \_\_\_\_\_ Medium (11,000-24,999) \_\_\_\_\_ Small (10,999 or fewer) \_\_\_\_\_

#### District Publication

Name of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor's address (street): \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Large (4,000 or more) \_\_\_\_\_ Medium (2,500-3,999) \_\_\_\_\_ Small (2,499 or fewer) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Post Publication

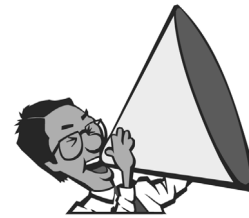
Name of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

Editor's address (street): \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Large (300 or more) \_\_\_\_\_ Medium (200-299) \_\_\_\_\_ Small (199 or fewer) \_\_\_\_\_



## Bulletin Board

### From the Editor

Articles for the next issue (April/May/June 2010) are due to me by May 3, 2010, and please send any photos in JPEG format.

E-mail articles to [vfwnyeditor@aol.com](mailto:vfwnyeditor@aol.com) or mail articles to: Doug Herbert, *OV* Editor, P.O. Box 138, Campbell, NY 14821.

### Veterans Golf Classic

I invite you to join me in Myrtle Beach, SC, this May 23-26 for the Veterans Golf Classic. I've been competing in this event for many years and enjoy taking part with almost 500 veterans from across the country. In addition to the 54-hole, two person team format, the tournament also features a Cup Challenge against The American Legion. Cost for three days of golf, prizes, welcome reception and awards dinner for you and a guest runs no higher than \$250. You can learn more by going to [VeteransClassic.com](http://VeteransClassic.com)

**W. Benny Bachand**  
Dept. of Florida Adjutant/Quartermaster

### Do You Collect Coupons?

There is an overseas coupon program for military families here at Incirlik AFB, Turkey. They will accept manufacturer coupons at the commissary here for up to six months past the expiration date.

Please package your sorted coupons in ziplock bags as it makes for easier distribution here on base. Please send to the address below or e-mail me for more information at [couponladydarlene@gmail.com](mailto:couponladydarlene@gmail.com)

Thanks from all the Air Force families in Incirlik, Turkey.

**Coupon Program**  
39 FSS/FSFR  
Unit 7505, Box 175  
APO, AE 09824

### Vets-Cars.com

**Vets-Cars.com** is a unique Internet-based vehicle buying service for active duty military personnel, United States Veterans and their immediate families.

We have designed a program that addresses the needs of the veteran car buyer that is both practical and respectful.

Vets and their families have two choices: Build and order a vehicle on the site OR our vets can be introduced to one of our local dealer/partners. These dealers have agreed to abide by a strict code of respectful conduct and honest competitive pricing – an approach to veterans not found in many dealerships.

A portion of our revenue goes to the Wounded Warrior Project – our way of saying "thanks and welcome home."

### DSC License Plate

I do not know how many Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) recipients are in New York at this time. Four years ago, I asked the NY State Senate and Assembly to pass a bill adding the DSC to the Legion of Valor Plates of NY. The Medal of Honor is the only one on the list. The Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross and the Navy Cross should also be in that group.

The men that worked to get me this award laid down their blood on a battlefield in Vietnam. It should be displayed on my NY plate in their memory. The pride that is felt when this plate is seen by other New York residents, will not be for me – it will be for our country.

New York needs a DSC/AFC/NC license plate set to add to the Medal of Honor group.

**Claude Quick, Jr.**  
Life Member, Post 6530  
[Cquickjr@aol.com](mailto:Cquickjr@aol.com)

### VA News for February 1, 2010

**New York Governor Proposes Keeping Aid To Local Veterans' Agencies At Current Level.** A *ReadMedia* release from the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs (1/30) announces that Gov. David Paterson proposed to maintain funding for the state's local veterans' service agencies at last year's level of \$1,177,000, which was 42% higher than the previous year's funding.

**Obama To Propose 20 Percent Spending Increase For VA.** *McClatchy* (2/1, Thomma) reports, "President Obama will propose a 2011 federal budget today that would spend \$1.3 trillion more than the government takes in." The proposal reportedly includes a "20 percent increase for the Department of Veterans Affairs." According to *Politico* (2/1, Rogers, 25K), "both Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security, two of the fastest areas of recent spending, are exempted" from a three-year domestic spending freeze Obama recently

———— **BULLETIN BOARD**, continued on page 8





**BULLETIN BOARD,**  
continued from page 7

proposed. Instead, the VA is "slated to get significant new money to speed the processing of claims, and billions more will be requested this year to resolve old disputes related to soldiers and airmen exposed to Agent Orange in the Vietnam War."

**New GI Bill A "Mixed Blessing" For Some.** In continuing coverage, the Lynchburg (VA) News & Advance (1/31, Barry) reported, "This past fall, hundreds of local military veterans returned to college thanks to the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, which expanded the number of people who qualify for benefits. For some veterans, however, the new GI Bill brought a mixed blessing, as late payments from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs put a strain on student pocketbooks. Financial aid officers at five of Lynchburg's colleges and universities reported slow processing times and late payments from the VA in the fall, while noting a faster turn-around time for spring semester."

**VA Researcher's Study Studies Links Between High-Risk Drinking And Social, Financial Factors.** MedIndia (1/30) reports that a study by a senior VA researcher finds that older drinkers who have more money, engage in more social activities, and whose friends approve more of drinking are more likely to engage in excessive or high-risk drinking. The study of linkages between high-risk adult drinking and social and financial factors was authored by VA Health Care System Palo Alto senior research scientist Rudolf H. Moos, and will be published in the April issue of Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research.

**Marines Will Scrutinize Tattoos.** In the Craig (CO) Daily Press (1/30, 3K) military columnist Ed Wilkinson reports that the Marine Corps "has announced that anyone who wants to join the Marines and has more than four tattoos is subject to review."

**TAPS**

October 2009 – February 2010

**Past State Commander**  
Post 7466, T. William Bossidy

**Post 524**  
Lawrence Lewis

**Post 8495**  
Roy E. Bergen  
Daniel Piccarelli  
Kenneth Rutter  
Justin Tubbs  
Howard Williams

**KIA**  
Post 2250, Zachary Smith  
Post 4635, Jason Johnston

**Post 1582**  
Vincent Esposito

**Comrades**  
**Post 307**  
Jim Converse  
Eugene Daszkeiwicz  
Frank Lingard  
Gary Stevens

**Post 7795**  
John E. Kornetka  
Charles W. Spahn

**Post 8534**  
Edward Borget  
Richard Crandall  
Vivian Harvey

**Post 8139**  
Philip T. Chaffee  
Buckley Grover

**Post 9218**  
Bruce Mullenax

<b>Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States</b> <b>SCOUT OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Application Instructions</b>
<p>THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SCOUT OF THE YEAR CANDIDATE:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Section A – HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION RECORD</small></p> <p>Please submit a resume of your High School Activities (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) to include a listing of offices held, honors received and significance of your participation in these activities. The resume of these activities should be contained on <u>one</u> 8 1/2 X 11 inch page. The screening committee at all levels will only consider the information contained on this one page (one side only).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Section B – ENTIRE SCOUTING RECORD</small></p> <p>List your complete scouting record from Cub Scouts on up, to include years of participation, Unit Numbers and Sponsors. Include information on when your Eagle Award, Silver Award, or Quartermaster was received and Palms. Make sure you include any leadership positions held at all levels; list other Scouting activities you have participated in such as Jamborees, Order of the Arrow Conferences, etc. and succinctly describe your Eagle, Venture, or Quartermaster Project. The resume of these activities should be contained on <u>three</u> 8 1/2 X 11 inch pages. The screening committee at all levels will only consider information on these three pages (front side of each sheet only).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Section C – COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD</small></p> <p>Use one page to list community service and religious organizations you have participated in (excluding high school and scouting) and the activities that you were involved with as a part of these organizations. Note any leadership positions held and any accolades received. The resume of these activities should be contained on <u>one</u> 8 1/2 X 11 inch page. The screening committee at all levels will only consider the information contained on this one page (one side only).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Section D – LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION</small></p> <p>The screening committee will carefully review the letters submitted. Only five (5) letters will be allowed. One letter each from your school, community, and scout leader must be submitted. Two additional letters are allowed from other individuals within your community who may have a special knowledge of your abilities and/or accomplishments. The screening committee will only consider five (5) letters at most. (Note: Letters should not exceed 2 pages.)</p> <p>► Please be sure to use only this form when applying. Any other form or format will not be accepted into the competition.          ► Please follow the procedures and requirements as written, to ensure that your application is reviewed and processed as quickly and accurately as possible. (Note: All typewritten entries must be legible and easily read.)          ► Do not send completed application directly to VFW National Headquarters; all applications must be submitted to a VFW Post for initial consideration. The VFW Post will then submit to the Department for consideration as the Department winner.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AUTHORIZATION</b></p> <p><b>SCOUT CERTIFICATION:</b> I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the national winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.</p> <p>SCOUT SIGNATURE _____ Date _____</p> <p><b>SCOUTMASTER OR VENTURE CREW ADVISOR CERTIFICATION:</b> I hereby certify that the above-named Scout is an active member of our unit and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p>SCOUTMASTER OR ADVISOR SIGNATURE _____ Date _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT'S CONSENT</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the national winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.</p> <p>FATHER, MOTHER OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ Date _____</p>

<b>The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States</b> <b>SCOUT OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Entry Form</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><small>Photograph of Scout in complete uniform for their current rank must be attached to this form. Recommended size 3"x5" (No additional photos)</small></p> <p><b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>The Candidate Must:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, or Sea Scout Ship.</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>► Has received the Eagle Scout Award, Venture Silver Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.</li> <li>► Has demonstrated practical citizenship in school, Scouting, and the community.</li> <li>► Has reached his/her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday and is enrolled in high school at the time of selection.</li> <li>► Has submitted his/her complete entry to a VFW Post in his/her community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: All applicants still in high school who reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. And a scout can only enter through ONE VFW Post.</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE NOTE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► A scout can locate a sponsoring VFW Post by contacting their VFW Department (state) Headquarters as listed at: <a href="http://www.vfw.org">www.vfw.org</a></li> <li>► Deadline for entry to VFW Post: March 1.</li> <li>► All candidates with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the Department's (state) National VFW Scouting Team representative or Department Commander by April 1.</li> <li>► The single Department winner must be selected and submitted by their National Scouting Team member to the National VFW organization by May 1.</li> </ul> <p>(VFW Scouting Team member listed below)</p> <p>Name _____          Telephone _____</p>	<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____ (Street)          _____ (City)          _____ (State) _____ (Zip)</p> <p>DOB: _____ SSN: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)</p> <p>Home Phone No.: ( ) _____</p> <p>Scout Troop Number _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUST SUBMIT APPLICATION DIRECTLY TO A VFW POST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPONSORING VFW POST</b></p> <p>_____          (Name of Post)</p> <p>_____          (Post Number)</p> <p>_____          (Street)</p> <p>_____          (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)</p> <p>_____          (Post Commander's Name)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Department Certification</b>          (Must be completed by Dept VFW National Scouting Team Member or Dept. Commander)</p> <p>Department: _____          Submitted by: _____          Signature: _____</p>

**Win a \$10,000 Scholarship!**

**Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest**

**What can I win? In addition to local and state prizes, students are competing for a \$10,000 national scholarship!**

**Who is eligible? Students in grades 9 through 12, including home-schooled students.**

**How do I enter? Contact your local Ladies Auxiliary VFW for details about the local contest and an official application. Go to [www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org) to download an application.**

Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars [www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org)