



NEW YORK STATE OVERSEAS VETERAN

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Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States



October, November, December 2025

Volume 44 Issue 2



**James
MacArthur**
STATE COMMANDER



Comrades

It is December 2nd and as I sit here at my desk and look out the window it is snowing like hell and I don't live in lake effect territory so winter is here I'm guessing. Hope all of you and your families had a great Thanksgiving. As for me, I am keeping busy attending meetings and doing the business of the VFW. Our Vallone program in NYC is fully staffed now and seems to be doing great things for our Comrades and Veterans in the New York City area. A few weeks ago, Adjutant Mitchell, VSO Collin Anderson and VSO Maddie Fletcher and I attended a Veterans day Ceremony at the Metropolitan Museum of Art if you have never been there, you should make a visit what a wonderful place.

Membership you know we are all about membership and as of today December 2nd we are at 90.38% and we are doing great lets keep up the good work, I have learned that there are young veterans out there that are willing to join our organization we just have to approach them and let them know what we are all about, one example I attended a Military Ball at the VFW Post in Carthage just outside of Fort Drum a Female W4 assigned to Fort Drum was

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Robert Mitchell
STATE ADJUTANT



Comrades,

As the Holiday season approaches and the year comes to an end, I would like to again take the opportunity to thank the membership for another very successful administrative year for the

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Daniel McMahon
STATE QUARTERMASTER



Comrades,

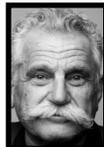
First as always, I am donating the money I would have used for Christmas Cards and postage to the Commander's Special project. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

We are halfway through the 2025-2026 VFW year. It is time to reflect on the Post and District goals

Quartermaster continued on page 3



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Editor



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State Historian



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New York State Overseas Veteran

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Articles: Any and all articles involving and/or including Veterans of Foreign Wars, its members, member communities, awards and activities are welcome.

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Jody Treadway
Editor NYSOV
Department of New York VFW
69 Sand Creek Rd.
Albany, NY 12205

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sitting next to me she is now a member of the VFW, oh one more I went to West Point to a foot ball game two weeks ago recruited a new member in the parking lot so they are out there you just need to ask.

It's VOD Patriot Pen time of the year hope you are doing well and have gotten you Post winners to the District chairman by now and are working on all the other wonderful programs we offer. Don't' forget to order your Poppies and get your Community Service reports in, for Post Commanders reach out to your District Commanders if you have not been inspected and get your inspection done, I still see a lot of red on memstats I know you know what needs to be done let's not sit back and wait until it's to late.

Comrades we are six months into my term it's going pretty fast and I'm still doing a lot of traveling I may not get to your Post but I am getting to every District meeting I can I am proud to represent you as your Commander and proud of the work you do for Veterans and your community keep up the good work, remember January 9th and 10th Mid-Winter council meeting at the Marriott in Albany and March 27th 28th and 29th Spring Conference in Corning hope to see you at one of those meetings.

Yours in Comradeship,

Commander James MacArthur.

State Adjutant continued from page 1

Department of New York. With the start of the new year, it is the perfect time to take advantage of the VFW Foundation's Post Assistance Grant to make some improvements at your Post. This grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts to offset expenses incurred for building repairs and equipment that enhance or restore the Post's ability to serve veterans and their families. Applicants for this grant are limited to receiving one Post Assistance Grant every three years with the 2023-2024 cycle being the inaugural grant year. The maximum grant award is \$2500.00, and the minimum request amount is \$500.00. Post Assistance Grants are now open and applications can be completed on the VFW Programs Dashboard.

As we have reached the deadline for entries at the Post level for our Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Programs, please ensure that your Post completes their entries on the All-American Programs Dashboard. Post entries can be made by the Adjutant, Quartermaster, Commander, Sr. Vice, or Jr. Vice Commanders. These entries are mandatory for a Post to meet the requirements to qualify as an "All-American" Post. The deadline for Posts to make their Dashboard entries for the Voice of

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Quartermaster continued from page 1

and structure. The structure is by-laws, financial and effective officers. During the past few years, we at headquarters have had to deal with many issues which should have been stopped at the Post and or District levels. Posts need to take a long look at where you are today. Posts need to look at where they were 3-5 years ago and ask what has happened. Have we improved, have we lost ground? In either case, Posts need to take actions to continue to grow and prosper. Why am I saying this, too many post issues are arising and when the Department finds out about it the issue is now a major event. The Post and District Quartermasters need to read the manuals and those sections of the By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure pertaining to their office. Funds cannot be disbursed on the sole say so of the commander nor any other officer. We are a very effective organization and with everyone's help we will continue.

Thank you

Daniel B McMahon
Quartermaster
dmcMahon@vfwny.com
518 414-2605



Jack Sanford
SR. VICE
COMMANNER



Comrades,

As the winter Holidays approach, we have an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments we have made, and what lies ahead. First, I would like to wish you all and your Families a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and a Very Happy and Healthy New Year. You all know we still have 6 months ahead of us. So, when January 5th rolls around and we all well rested let's get back to the business of our Posts, Districts and Department. I hope many of you have taken the opportunity to attend your Districts OTI, if not Please plan to attend your District OTI it is well worth it, not just for the information value that you gain, but the interaction and information you gain and share between you and your Comrades throughout your District. By now you should all be on your way to

all be on your way to being Inspected there is no reason why every Post cannot be inspected within the next 3 months the collection of all the information (Bond, 990, Trustee Reports) should take less than a week (there were a number of Post's that were still not inspected by the State Convention). Remember Community Service Reports can be submitted by any Post Member at any time, but the best time is when you have completed your project / program.

As you are all aware by now Commander MacArthur has set as his Membership goal at 101%, which is not an unreasonable goal and is attainable. Let us NOT get caught in a trap of competing with other Posts because every Post has its own unique circumstances let us concentrate on our Post goals and compete within ourselves and making our Post at least 1% better than the year before. Remember as you go out into your community for your programs (Scouting, Legislative, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen just to mention a few DON'T FORGET MEMBERSHIP carry a few membership applications with you so you don't miss any opportunities to Recruit and it couldn't hurt to even have a few Auxiliary Applications. Sometimes when we recruit someone to the Auxiliary you find the eligible Veteran for the VFW never limit your opportunities for success.

Meetings! what can I say about meetings. On the average you will attend 10 Post Meetings a year, 3 District Meetings a year and then there are those of us that will attend 3 or more Department Meetings. I personally look forward to meeting with my Comrades and sharing ideas. Remember meetings are information and information is POWER. When you miss Post or District Meetings you miss your opportunity to gain vital information about your Post or District, and your opportunity to make yourself heard and to express YOUR opinions. The response I most often hear is "Well I go to the meeting via ZOOM". Believe me when I say ZOOM does have its place but you have lost your opportunity to connect and interact with your Comrades on a personnel basis and to share information and opinions with them on what course of action your Post or District will peruse. ZOOM or Networking will never take the place live face to face interaction, but I do encourage you to use all formats of communications available to keep your Comrades informed.

I hope to see as many of my comrades as I can at the Spring Conference and hope you all have a successful year. Let's put New York on top again, because "Who's Better Nobody".

Jack Sanford
Sr. Vice Commander

State Adjutant continued from page 2

Democracy and Patriot’s Pen Programs is January 31, 2026. The National “All-American” Program is designed to recognize exceptional leadership, teamwork, and accomplishments in membership growth and VFW core programs.

Membership, as always, is a priority again this year and Commander MacArthur appreciates your efforts in recruiting and reinstating new members. It is equally important that we work hard to retain our current members. Every member we can recruit or retain will contribute to the overall success and strength of our Department and the VFW.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and a happy and peaceful New Year!

Yours in Comradeship,
Bob Mitchell

attend the Eastern States Conference.



November saw me attending the District 5 meeting and then in December I attended the District 8 meeting.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Holidays.
Yours in Comradeship,
Marcello Rotunda
Jr. Vice Commander



Marcello Rotunda

**JR. VICE
COMMANDER**
VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Comrades,

I have been busy traveling these past three months. In September I attended the District 6 meeting and then flew to Kansas City to attend the Jr. Vice Commander training that was held at the same time as the Department Fall Conference.



Ben Thompson,
PSC

JUDGE ADVOCATE



Comrades,

As we look forward to the Christmas season, we have so much to be thankful for. We look forward to spending time with family and friends, meals with family and exchanging gifts.

This is the time of year that we all must take time to think about those less fortunate than most of us. This is when we all must come together to try to make the holiday season brighter for our fellow Veterans and their families. It doesn’t take a lot to bring a smile to someone’s face. It could be no more than a card, a visit, or a phone call. A program sponsored by the Post and Auxiliary is a way to show support for our Veterans and families that may not have family members nearby. Whatever we do, we need to remember to show our support for all our Veterans.

Judge Advocate continued on page 5



At the end of October it was off to Delaware to

Judge Advocate continued from page 4

Once again, this year, the members of Proctor-Hopson Post #1896, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US and its Auxiliary sponsored our Holiday Cheer/Trees for Troops program, and yes this was our 22nd year. On behalf of the Officers and Members of Proctor-Hopson Post #1896, I would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Proctor-Hopson Post #1896 VFW Military Family Support Center's *Holiday Cheer/Trees for Troops* program. As in the past, the program was a joint venture between Proctor-Hopson Post #1896, Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary, DHL Express, Dee's Nursery, and The American Citizens for Soldiers in Service. It is our goal to try to bring a little taste of home to our troops serving in Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Abu Dhabi, Iraq, Djibouti, and Jordan during the holiday season. Again, this year, we were able to ship over 500 live Christmas trees with lights ornaments and Menorahs to our troops along with cards and gifts.

Again, thank you for your support and for showing our nations servicemen and women, along with their families, **you care.**

Wishing everyone an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

Ben Thompson,
Past State Commander



Harold Patchen
STATE INSPECTOR



Comrades,

I'm pleased to report that the pace of the Post inspections coming into the department is picking up and I thank you. Holding onto them to send in as a group ends up hurting the post and is not a good practice. I've been asked "What is the latest date we can turn the inspections in to the department"? The answer is simple, A.S.A.P. The idea is to get individual inspections in as soon as they are completed, allowing posts time to make the necessary corrections. **District Commanders**, let's try to have all posts inspections in NLT at the end of February. If there are issues or anything that I can help you with, don't wait, call me (518 899 4976) so that we can work it out together.

The most common error I'm finding is Quartermaster reconciliation values on the Quarterly Trustee reports. These errors are very noticeable, ranging from 2 cents (which was approved with a comment that the error needs to be found) to as much as \$10000.00. More than one Trustee report has come in with no reconciliation information at all. This makes me wonder if some, fortunately not many, Post Trustees are "Pencil Whipping" these reports. If Post Trustees don't do a thorough job and down the road money goes missing, the post may very well not get the money back. As Trustees we are basically certifying that the report is correct. Inspectors should take a quick look at the Trustee reports before accepting them from the post QM.

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James Haas
STATE SURGEON



Comrades,

As the Department of New York VFW Surgeon, I am excited to report that much activity has been taking place throughout the VA Medical Centers in the state.

Emmitt Henry VAVS Officer continues to work hard at the VA Medical center Queens. Emmitt received the Honors award at the Queens Borough President's event for his many hours of volunteer service. Congrats to Emmitt

In District 3, VAVS Officer Raymond Thies donated \$1,000 in gift cards to the Albany Va Stratton Medical Center. The donation came from

State Surgeon continued on page 6



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Ray's personal funds. District 3 donated an additional \$250 in gift cards along with the Robert L. Weininger VFW Post 8692 that donated \$1,000 in Gift Cards that will help the VA Medical Center Food Bank. The VA Albany announced it now has a Woman's Veteran's needs closet that will open in December.

District 5 John Shatraw and Mark Johnson, our newly appointed VAVS Officers, report that they are working as Greeters at the Syracuse VA Medical Center and considering doing home visits to the Veterans that are homebound. District 5 reps are also working on securing donations of crafts for the Veterans craft program.

At the Buffalo Medical Center, we have submitted Lance Becker as our Newly Appointed VAVS Officer. We are waiting for approval from National. This will fill the void of a VFW VAVS representative within that area.

We have an opening in District 2 for a VAVS representative. Any member in that district that is interested, please contact the Department of New York VFW.

I again state my commitment to the Surgeon position and wish all Happy and Safe Holidays.

Jim Haas
State Surgeon

State Inspector continued from page 5

Post Commanders should be reminded at the beginning of the inspection that the purpose of these inspections is to find items that could cause the post serious problems, while they are still fixable. We don't want any post to have their charter suspended OR worse yet revoked.

I'd like to wish all VFW and Auxiliary members a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a very Happy New Year. Let's also take time to remember our homebound members, hospitalized members and all military personnel deployed.

In Comradeship,
Harold Patchen
Inspector, Dept. of N.Y.

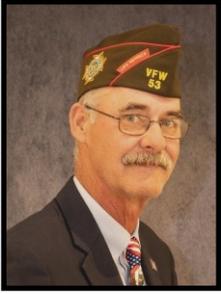
While making plans
for 2026
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your
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to attend the
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Daniel Kell
PAST STATE COMMANDER



Gene Ratigliano,
PSC
NATIONAL COUNCIL
MEMBER



Comrades,

As we approach the end of the year the Department of New York is continuing to move forward as we strive to reach our goals in all categories set forth by National.

With the year in full swing, and the holiday season here I hope everyone is prepared for the winter season, be safe on your travels and the slippery conditions that will come. This is the time of year where we spend time with our Comrades, family, and friends.

As the new year begins, we need to continue to communicate with each other, continue our mission on recruiting new members, reinstating members and letting them know we are a family-oriented organization that not only supports our veterans but our communities as well, we need to continue to work together to make a difference and build membership to include all generations. We are continuing to move forward in membership Currently the Department of New York stands at 90.61% working our way towards Nationals goal of 101% which is very attainable to achieve by June 30, 2025, in getting our State Commander James MacArthur and Department of New York to All-American status.

Let's not forget about the importance of reporting information to the Department of New York and ensure they are entering their program information on the All-American Dashboard for Community Service, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teachers. Also let's not forget about Scouting of the year award for members of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to be recognized for their standout citizenship, patriotism as well as are Safety and Public Servant Service Award for Fireman, Law Enforcement and EMT First Responders.

Mid-Winter Council of Administration Meeting will be held on 9 January 2026 at Albany Marriott. Looking forward to seeing everyone there, working together as a team and communicating from Department level down to the District, Post as well as our Auxiliary to have a successful year.

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Greetings from your National Council Member!

In our last issue of the Overseas Veteran, I reported to you the extensive happenings in the C of A workshop and those motions that were presented and passed during my last visit to National Headquarters in September. There is not very much to report on to you.

We did receive from the Quartermaster General notification that National has wrapped up the financial statement audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2025. The audit conducted by Pickett, Chaney & McMullen went very well again this year. It was a very good year financially for the VFW.

Upcoming soon will be the selection of recipients for the VFW National Awards which will be presented at the 2026 National Convention in Reno pending approval from the National Council of Administration. Recommendations for the following awards are open for nominations.

VFW Distinguished Fraternal Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens who have furthered the aims or ideas of VFW camaraderie. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts to preserve and strengthen a spirit of good friendship and loyalty among VFW members, assisted surviving spouse/orphans of deceased members, or assisted vulnerable and at-risk comrades above and beyond what others would or have done.

VFW Distinguished Patriotic Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens in recognition of their local or national patriotic activities. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts that fostered true patriotism by showing and demonstrating a feeling of passion, devotion, and loyalty to America and extended the institutions, traditions, customs, and establishments of American Freedom above and beyond what others would normally do.

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Past State Commander continued from page 7

I want to wish every comrade and your families a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year, be safe as you travel to be with your families, reach out and check on your comrades and members and let them know we are here and care for them.

Yours in Comradeship
Daniel L. Kell
Immediate Past Commander

NCM Continued from page 7VFW Distinguished Historical Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for contributions to a better understanding of our American way of life, history, and institutions. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts that perpetuated the memory and history of our dead and/or displayed the importance of American history and why that history is important in our institutions above and beyond what others would do.

VFW Distinguished Citizenship Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for service rendered through outstanding charitable endeavors to the country or local efforts. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed a high level of benevolent actions and philanthropic allegiance supporting veterans, civil, political and social rights that exemplifies the duties and privileges of being an American citizen above and beyond what others would do.

VFW Distinguished Education Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for outstanding contribution to the education of the intrinsic values of American freedom and citizenship. Nominations must show how the nominee exemplified through formal, informal or non-formal educational work that teaches the best attributes of patriotism and intrinsic values of knowledge through everyday life above and beyond what others would do.

If you know of a deserving candidate, nominations are due by March 6, 2026, via the Programs Dashboard tool. If you cannot access the Programs Dashboard, work with your District Commander and/or the State Adjutant. For amplifying information or questions, you can

NCM continued on page 9



Colin Anderson

DIRECTOR VETERAN SERVICES



Comrades,

As we wrap up one year and head into another, I would like to review 2025. We began the year with our expansion in New York City. It has come a long way. In January, we had two full-time VSOs working in the Manhattan Regional Office. Both squeezed into a 10ft-by-10ft office. We brought in two more VSOs in April and moved into a large office that easily accommodates all our VSOs. In May, the VSOs along with representatives from the NYC Department of Veterans Services and the VA participated in an outreach event at Citi Field, home of the New York Mets. The event was a great success with close to 300 veterans attending. Also in May, the New York City office was inspected by the VFW's National Veteran Service and received high marks on their report card.

At the national level, the Post/District Service Officer went away. The new position of Post (District) Benefits Advisor was formally adopted at the National Convention in August. The biggest takeaway, the PBA will not handle any Federal (VA) claim related stuff but will be the subject matter expert on local (to include State) benefits available to veterans and families. The updated guide for the Post Benefits Advisor is available on the VFW's website. Nationally, over \$16 billion in veteran's compensation and pension was recovered. In New York State, \$187 million was recouped for veterans and eligible family members represented by the VFW.

As the year ends, we added two more VSOs in NYC and a new VSO in Albany. Another is in the works for NYC to begin the new year. This will give us 12 full time VSOs, a long way from four full time VSOs when I started working for the VFW in 2018. In 2025 the VFW reached an agreement with the National Association of County VSOs for the cross accreditation of their VSOs. This gives us more representation at the local level, expanding our VSO accessibility.

Looking towards 2026, we expect to continue to expand our clientele of veterans and family

Director Veteran Services continued on page 9

Director of Veteran Services continued from page 8

members, assisting them with their VA benefits. The two-year renovation project at the Buffalo VA Regional Office has finally finished. We will be back full-time in our new office with three full-time VSOs daily. For those that are familiar with the old office, the new one is still on the sixth floor, but the VA's Public Contact office is now on the first floor. We are looking forward to 2026 and the continued expansion of the services we provide.

Yours in Comradeship
Colin Anderson
Director of Veterans Services

NCM continued from page 8

email VFW Director of Programs Lynn Rolf III at LRolf@vfw.org.

Just as a reminder the Online Membership System (OMS) will be shutting down at 4:00 PM CST on December 31, 2025, Any transactions that are submitted through OMS on Dec. 31, up to the closing time, will be posted to Memstats and Post Query later that evening and available for viewing the morning of Jan. 6, 2026. Mail received at National Headquarters prior to Dec. 30, 2025, will be processed and counted in the December total. The mail received after that date, regardless of the postmark date, will not be counted in the December total. We suggest you have your Posts mail in their membership as early as possible or take advantage of the Online Membership System tools.

The OMS system will be back online for the submittal of transactions by 4:00 p.m. CST, Jan. 1, 2026; however, membership transactions that are processed will not be posted to Memstats until all pertinent data is secured and verified. This should occur on (or before) Jan. 6, 2026.

National is on track in meeting National Commander Carol Whitmore's goal of 101%. As of this writing, the Department is a 91.32% and we are ahead of last year at this point in time. Keep looking to renew those unpaid members in your Post. It is a difficult time of the year weatherwise and the holidays coming very soon but don't get behind the eight ball on recruiting. If we let up, we get farther behind and it gets very difficult to play catch-up. Some Districts are still holding Officer Training Seminars. If you are looking to make All-State there is still time to meet the end of the year deadline to complete your training requirement.

In closing, I would like to wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Gene Ratigliano, PSC
National Council Member



Jesse Figueroa
COMMANDER
DISTRICT 1



Greetings everyone,

It's been a busy three months here in District 1.

Official Visits for October through December 2025:

Oct 12 – Columbus Day & Veterans visit (Staten Island)

Oct 13 – BK CB10 Meeting: Coffey-Wilson Sq. renaming (Brooklyn)

Oct 20 – NY1 News Interview at VFW Post 551 (Queens)

Oct 25 – Buffalo Soldiers Association Veterans Day Parade (Brooklyn)

Oct 29 – Veterans Appreciation Breakfast, USAG Fort Hamilton (Brooklyn)

Oct 31 – St. Albans VA CLC Halloween Party (Queens)

November

Nov 1 – Veterans Appreciation Parade, Restoration Plaza (Brooklyn)

Nov 6 – Veterans Appreciation Day, Our Lady of Hope Church (Queens)

Nov 9 – Veterans Day Mass & Parade (Queens)

Nov 10 – USMC 250th Birthday & Veterans Day Ceremony, VAMC (Brooklyn)

Commander District 1 Continued on page 10



Commander District 1 continued from page 9

Nov 11 – Veterans Day at VFW Post 150 (Queens) & Post 5806 (Brooklyn)

Nov 12 – Support: AA Flight 587 Memorial (Queens)

Nov 22 – Thanksgiving with VA CLC residents at VFW Post 260 (Queens)

Nov 27 – Thanksgiving at VFW Post 5806 (Brooklyn)

Dec 6 – VFW Post 1574 Meeting (Staten Island)

Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Ceremony & District 1 Meeting, VFW Post 1896 (Queens)

Dec 8 – Trees For Troops (Oceanside → JFK Airport)

Dec 10 – Community Mayors Operation Santa Claus (JFK Airport)

Dec 12 – Visit to VA Outpatient Clinic (Staten Island)

Dec 14 – Support: NY Transit Museum Nostalgia Holiday Train (MTA)

Yours In Comradeship,

Jesse Figueroa
District 1 Commander
VFW Department of New York



Michael Andreadakis
COMMANDER DISTRICT 3



Comrades,

As the Holiday Season approaches, first and foremost I wish you each a joyous holiday celebration. For those that may not be able to celebrate surrounded by family, be assured that you are not forgotten. Thank you for your service.

In my last newsletter article, I spoke about service and comradeship. Since then, I have been pleased as I have visited and communicated with Posts throughout the District to note the following. 1) Many of our Posts are reaching out to invite more veterans to join with us. Either as members if eligible or as fellow veterans with common experiences. Posts have been actively engaging in activities such as trips to West Point for a football game, golf outings, ARMY/Navy football game parties, Veterans Day celebrations, Christmas parties, and appropriate family-centered activities. 2) We have had a considerable amount of participation in the Patriot Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the Year programs. 3) Our posts have organized drives to support food drives locally and for the VA food Pantry at Stratton VA Facility. 4) Our Posts have provided meals for Veterans and as community outreach for the elderly and less fortunate.

It is my desire that all involved realize that you ARE making a difference. Keep up the good work!

Respectfully and gratefully,

Michael Andreadakis

Commander District 3



Sharon Waddell
COMMANDER DISTRICT 2



Comrades,

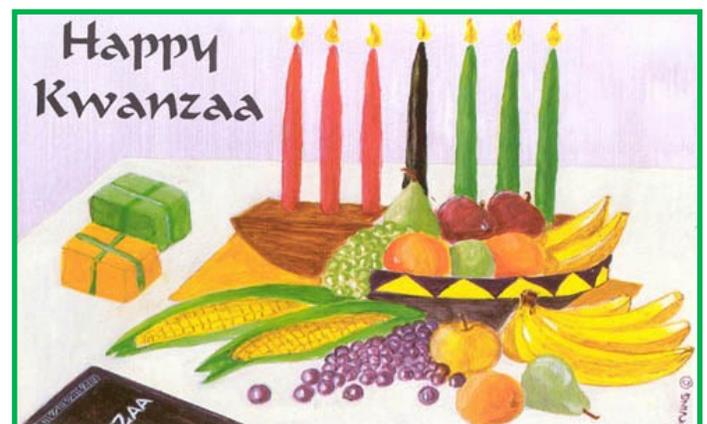
Fall is always a flurry of activities. The district held their first OTI on November 1st; 24 officers and post members received the training. An additional OTI will be held on Sunday, 25 January for anyone still interested in learning more about officers' duties and VFW programs.

Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy competitions were held at both the post and district levels, congratulations to the winners and good luck at the department competition!

The 2025 District 2 winners for Patriot's Pen are:

1ST PLACE: Grace Gordon
So. Orangetown Middle School, Grade 7
Post 1615

District 2 Commander continued on page 12



DISTRICT 2 EVENTS



ON THE ROAD WITH COMMANDER JIM



Eastern Conference, Wilmington, DE



Constantia VFW Post 7325



District 4 Special Meeting



Recruiting at West Point Football



Military Ball VFW Post 7227



Trees For Troops



New York City Veteran's Day Celebration

District 2 Commander continued from page 10

2nd PLACE: Jannessa V. Ras
Wappinger Falls Jr. High School, Grade 7
Post 5913

3rd PLACE: Marie Rose Lehman
West Point Middle School, Grade 8
Post 8858

The 2025 District 2 winners for Voice of Democracy are:

1ST PLACE: Amedeo M. Wassell
Homeschooler/Dover Union Free SD
Post 5444

2nd PLACE: Carlo R. Collarelli
Valley Central High School Grade 11
Post 2064

3rd PLACE: Julian H. Khan
Beacon High School Grade 9
Post 5913

Veterans Day events were many and varied despite the cold weather. VFW Posts 973 and 1161 co-sponsored with the Town of Newburgh their 4th Run/Walk/Crawl to Support Vets 5K race; the joint event promoted awareness of veterans and the VFW.

Pearl Harbor Day was commemorated throughout the district. Post 7765, Red Hook hosted a community dinner with speaker. The guest speaker, Ron Gabriele, spoke of the planning and attack on Pearl Harbor. Post 973 Quartermaster David McTamaneay was the guest speaker at a Pearl Harbor ceremony held on the Newburgh waterfront; over a dozen veterans' organizations and the Newburgh JROTC were present for the ceremony. Wreaths were tossed into the Hudson River as a tribute to those lost.

Yours in Comradeship,
Sharon Waddell
District 2 Commander



Daniel Martin
COMMANDER
DISTRICT 4



Comrades,

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Barben-Jones Post 1400 in Watertown has been a cornerstone of the community for



100 years, providing a place of camaraderie and support for veterans. While many VFW posts across the nation face declining membership, the Watertown post remains vibrant, celebrating a century of service and community involvement. On the weekend of

October 24-26, the Post celebrated a big milestone weekend, it turned 100 years old.

As part of its 100th birthday, the VFW Post recognized World War I soldier Walter Barben, who died on June 7, 1918, while serving in France. The post is named after Barben, who was from Watertown, and Cape Vincent native John Haram Jones, the second man from Jefferson County in the "Great War to End All Wars" who was killed two months later in France.

District 4 welcomed Department Sr. Vice Commander Jack Stanford to our Oct. District meeting, with 100% attendance of all District Posts.

Post reporting has taken a turn for the better as we had 100% Trustee Reports for the July-Sept reporting period, and 71 % of our Posts completing Community Service Reports. We also judged 47 entries for the Patriot's Pen program, and received 4 entries for the Teacher of the Year award.

Yours in Comradeship,
Daniel Martin
District 4 Commander

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
VFW
69 SAND CREEK RD
ALBANY, NY 12205
518-463-7427
518-454-8904 (fax)
www.vfwny.com
www.facebook.com/VFWNewYork



Norbert Neiderer

COMMANDER DISTRICT 9



Comrades,

With winter in full force here in the North Country, District 9 is still working hard. Not only getting ready for the Holiday Season but also fulfilling our Post and District endeavors.

In October we participated in a new program called "Move On NY" which, in conjunction with Fort Drum, allows soldiers contemplating retirement and/or separation from service to come and see communities and what they have to offer. This program is still in its infancy but it seems like it will be a great asset to our communities and the retiring and/or separating service members. We look forward to this program continuing to grow.

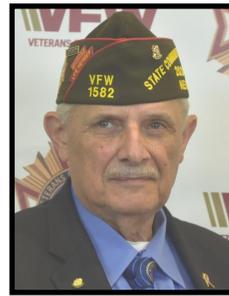
November was also busy. On November 4th we all went out to support one of our freedoms that we all fought for. The Freedom to Vote and elect our peers to run our local and state governments. This year seemed to have a pretty good turnout, especially with the early voting dates.

On November 11th all posts participated in Veterans Day ceremonies. From participating in parades, to going to Elementary School assemblies to talk to the students about Veteran's Day and what it means, to a full fledge ceremony with a free luncheon to all (soldiers, veterans, community)

On November 16th we held our OTI Training and District Meeting. Even though the weather wasn't very cooperative, we trained 30 members in their assigned elected positions. A special Thanks to Joe Fisher & Pat Rourk for being trainers. Also, a special Thank You to Commander MacArthur for attending these events.

Even though the weather doesn't always cooperate, December is another busy month. On December 7th, National Pearl Harbor Day, we will be participating in the annual lighting of the holiday lights around the Gold Star Mothers Monument. We have been supporting this program for 44 years.

District Commander 9 continued on page 15



Ronald Sorrentino

COMMANDER DISTRICT 10



Comrades,

Over the course of October through now, I have actively engaged in a variety of professional and personal activities. During this period, I dedicated myself to advancing my goals, completing important projects, and broadening my skills. My efforts were focused on maintaining steady progress, adapting to new challenges, and fostering meaningful connections. This opening statement provides an overview of my accomplishments and experiences during the final quarter of 2025.

Since our Fall Conference our District has been hard at work, with many projects from helping with the food pantry, to the stand down on November 25, 2025. I have attended some of our post meetings to go over the programs for the remainder of this VFW year.

On October 18 our district held OTI, it was well attended with every post attending. There was a lot of information presented at the OTI and the feedback from all the comrades was great.

Post inspections have been proceeding smoothly, thanks to our district inspector comrade Vitulli.

On October 19 I attended the Town of Hempstead Rock Hall annual county fair and handed out membership application and VFW information sheets.

I attended Veterans Day ceremonies: on November 9, I attended the UVO ceremony at Eisenhower Park, On November 11, I was invited to attend Veterans Day ceremony with the Levittown VFW post 516.

On November 10 I was invited by the Uniondale School District to their annual veteran's day breakfast. The ceremony was outstanding. Led by Major (Retired) Anthony Telesca, U.S. Army SAI, the school JROTC Cadets began the event by presenting the colors and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Also at the ceremony was NYS Senator Siela Bynoe, NYS Assemblyman Noah Burroughs,

District Commander 10 continued on page 15

District Commander 9 continued from page 14

November and December has also been a busy time for posts collecting food, clothing, toys and personal items for both Veterans and Community members. Many Posts are making Holiday Boxes to give to Veterans and Community members in need. It is great to see the faces when we deliver the boxes.

Also, many posts have been visiting their comrades in Nursing Homes, Homes and Hospitals, letting them know that they are not forgotten by their fellow Veterans, Families and Communities for all that they have done. It is great to hear their stories.

As the year comes to a close, I want to wish everyone a Safe and Wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

Yours in Comradeship,
Norbert Neiderer
District 9 Commander

District Commander 10 continued from page 14

and Uniondale school board. I had a chance to speak to both the Senator and Assemblyman about the VFW and some of the legislation in Albany.

On November 17 I and 19 other veterans were honored by Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick at the Senators Veterans Hall of Fame. It was great night The high light during the ceremony was when Two WWII veterans David Marshall 101-year-old where he served at the D-Day invasion on Omaha beach and Eleanor Rizzuto 104-year-old Army nurse who served in North Africa.

The highlight of the month for me is when I was asked by Ed Aulman to be a guest on the UVO TV show veterans news. At first, I was a little hesitant about being on TV and talking about my military service. But Ed Aulman, the host, put me at ease and I think a star was born LOL. It was a great experience.

In closing I want to wish all my comrades a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year

Ronald Sorrentino
District 10 Commander



William Hughes
COMMANDER
DISTRICT 11



Comrades,

As always, the fall is a remarkably busy time in District 11 Veterans of Foreign Wars. I believe that our community involvement at the post level leads to the success of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, military veterans and youth in our communities. To that end, our posts are successful are homing in on community events and highlighting our great district here in Suffolk County New York.

With 27 posts in District 11 it is difficult to keep up with all the events that are successful and currently active. I am going to list a few of the highlighted events that have occurred within our district. On October 20th our Sag Harbor Post had a very successful golf outing at Islands End Golf Course in Sag Harbor and on October 6th, my own post hosted the Westhampton Beach



High School football Team at our Post for dinner. On October 20 a Stop 22 event was held at the

Raynor Country Day School in Speonk NY with great involvement of family, friends and



District Commander 11 continued on page 16

District Commander 11 continued from page 15

students. District 11 held a legislative breakfast on October 25th and it was attended by many of those running for office in Suffolk County New York. Of course, we were very busy getting out to the schools and gathering applications for Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the year along with assembling committees for judging these programs. On November 9th the Islandia Post held its 2nd annual Veterans 5K run/walk and boy do these comrades know how to run an event.



Posts in Rocky Point and Westhampton Beach have counseling available for veterans and families by way of the Babylon Vets Center on a weekly basis. This is one of the many ways we help address problems and demons that some may have in their life because of their service to their country.

November is extremely busy because of Veterans Day. All our posts were engaged in visiting schools for



Veterans Day ceremonies and speaking to classes in elementary through high school. It is so important for the youth in our nation to understand service and what veterans have done and still do now to keep our nation free. Following Veterans Day, a tremendous Warriors Rock concert was held at The Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center highlighting all veterans and first responders in Suffolk County New York.

On November 22nd we held an OTI at the Rocky Point VFW which was a great success and also visited by our Congressman Nicholas LaLota who brought us



up to speed on legislative issues. VFW Post 5350 held its annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning - a great success and we were blessed with clear skies and a great crowd.



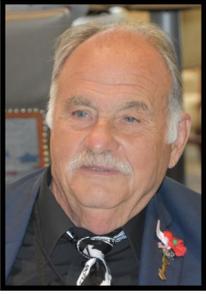
As I write this newsletter, today is December 7th and many of our posts will be involved in Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremonies and with that said, I am off to attend one locally in Hampton Bay, NY.



I wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Yours in Comradeship,
William Hughes
District 11 Commander





Pat Iuliucci

POW/MIA CHAIRMAN



Jeffery Molitor

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN



Sgt. Carl J. Vecchio: A Soldier's Journey from Normandy to Captivity and Home Again

Sgt. Carl J. Vecchio's service record reflects the story of an American soldier whose courage, endurance, and devotion to duty carried him across continents and through some of the most grueling chapters of World War II. His military career—preserved in official documents, wartime correspondence, and a hometown newspaper clipping—reveals a man whose strength under fire and perseverance in captivity left a lasting legacy.

Entering active service on May 15, 1942, Vecchio trained as a Heavy Machine Gunner (MOS 605) and later as an Orientation Specialist (MOS 274). His early training prepared him not only for the technical demands of operating heavy weapons but also for leadership. As a squad leader, he was responsible for instructing other soldiers in the use of the heavy machine gun—duties that required calm under pressure and unwavering competence.

During his time overseas in England and France, Vecchio served with distinction. The record notes his work training various units on the machine gun and carrying out the crucial tasks of front-line combat leadership.

On June 13, 1944, only days after the Allied invasion of Normandy, Sgt. Vecchio was wounded and captured by German forces in France. He was subsequently transported deeper into German territory and held as a Prisoner of War at Stalag 3C, a camp located near Küstrin.

Despite the hardships of captivity, Vecchio maintained communication with his family through censored POW mail. One surviving letter addressed to him carries a cheerful, loving message from home—an emotional reminder of the strength that families offered their imprisoned sons, brothers, and husbands.

After months of imprisonment, Vecchio's ordeal came to an end when Soviet troops liberated Stalag 3C on January 31, 1945. The news quickly traveled back to the United States, where it became the subject of a touching newspaper article.

The newspaper clipping recounts how his mother, Mrs. Mary Vecchio of Brooklyn, received notice of her son's liberation on her birthday, the greatest gift she could have imagined after fearing for his safety for **POW/MIA Chairman continued on page 19**

Comrades,

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has long stood as a beacon of service, advocacy, and camaraderie for America's veterans. Yet, in today's world of fast-moving information and competing organizations, visibility within the community is essential to ensure the VFW continues to grow and thrive.

By remaining active and engaged through programs like the annual Poppy Drives, Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and the Teacher of the Year program, the VFW demonstrates its value not only to veterans but also to the wider public. Poppy Drives serve as one of the most recognizable symbols of remembrance, honoring the sacrifices of veterans while raising funds to support them. When VFW members are out in their communities sharing poppies, they remind the public of the enduring cost of freedom and create opportunities to connect with potential new members who share those values of service and sacrifice. The Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarship programs further showcase the VFW's dedication to fostering patriotism among the next generation. By encouraging students to reflect on themes of democracy, freedom, and citizenship, the VFW builds strong ties with families, schools, and civic leaders. This visibility not only highlights the organization's commitment to education and youth but also reinforces its role as a community leader. The Teacher of the Year program adds another dimension to VFW outreach. By recognizing educators who instill patriotism and civic responsibility in their students, the VFW elevates its public profile while fostering goodwill and stronger relationships with schools. These connections often translate into long-term partnerships and community support, while also introducing the VFW to veterans and families who may not have previously been aware of the organization's work.

In short, visibility is the key to sustaining and growing the VFW. By actively engaging in these

Membership Chairman continued on page 19



Raymond Thies
*Buddy Poppy
 Chairman*



Comrades,

We are halfway through the year and we are well on our way to matching our poppy orders from last year. At the beginning of October, we logged 39 of 325 posts purchasing 54,000 poppies, By the end of October, 12 more posts ordered 23,500 poppies, and for November 10 new posts ordered poppies and 2 posts increased the number of poppies they had ordered for an additional total of 13,000 for the month. As I stated we are halfway there, last year 118 posts ordered 183,500 poppies and now we stand at 61 posts ordering 90,500 poppies.

I had the Adjutant send out an open letter to all of our posts urging them to order poppies and/or use relief funds to counter the Federal Government financial shutdown. I will never know if that call did any good but some of our posts must have heard the call and acted. That was prior to the Thanksgiving holiday and now we are entering the end of calendar year season. There are many veterans out there who still need our help. I urge you to do what you can to support them.

I guess the I wear many hats in the VFW, one of them is as VAVS Representative to VAMC Stratton for District 3 and volunteering there. I personally see how much your donations have helped those in need. I urge you to send in your Community Activity Reports to Department to show them and our National organization all of you good work. **No One Does More for Veterans** and that means YOU.

Yours in Comradeship
 Ray Thies



Ronald Sorrentino
**COMMUNITY
 SERVICE CHAIRMAN**



Comrades,

So far this year from July 1 through November 30, 2025, we are little behind from last year at the same time. The Department of New York has the following totals so far by district.

The following is the department report:

Department	District	Total VFW/Aux Volunteer Hours	Value of Hours	Dollars Donated	Total
New York	1	632.00	\$21,987	\$12,886.17	\$34,873.45
New York	2	1,924.50	\$66,953	\$43,029.46	\$109,982.82
New York	3	3,869.00	\$134,603	\$124,445.46	\$259,047.98
New York	4	826.00	\$28,737	\$17,903.07	\$46,639.61
New York	5	602.00	\$20,944	\$13,074.32	\$34,017.90
New York	6	546.80	\$19,023	\$18,714.83	\$37,738.01
New York	7	1,047.75	\$36,451	\$17,463.56	\$53,914.78
New York	8	946.50	\$32,929	\$9,337.59	\$42,266.33
New York	9	957.00	\$33,294	\$89,331.04	\$122,625.07
New York	10	1,981.70	\$68,943	\$22,569.72	\$91,513.08
New York	11	879.50	\$30,598	\$12,954.63	\$43,552.44
	Total	14,213	\$494,462	\$381,709.85	\$876,171.4

This is for the first quarters and two months into the second quarter; we are moving in the right direction but are behind last year's total. I know we could do much better.

On the reporting of community service, you must remember that the VFW year goes from 1 July – 30 June, **to have your reports count it must show that the activity happened within the 1 July – 30 June time frame.** Also, the description on the reports must have more than one word explanation, one word is not a description. The best way to ensure your reports are in the correct time frame is to do the report in the same month you did the activity.

So, with that said, let's continue getting in our community service reports in.

To learn more about Community service download VFW Guide for Community service Best Practices found on the department website.

*Ronald Sorrentino
 Chairperson Community Activity*



Ronald Sorrentino
SERVICE OFFICER
JOURNAL AD
CHAIRMAN



Comrades,

I just want to say **THANK YOU**, we met our goal once more for Service Officers raffle donation. It's hard to say in this article how much we appreciate your great support. If I could shake each person's hand and say thank you to all our comrades who donated it would be my honor. As I always say we know the importance of this program, our Servicicers Officers do so much for all our veterans. It is a tireless and never-ending job, they not only prepare the paperwork, file the paperwork and as we know they follow through to make sure our veterans receive their benefits.

So, this now brings me to the Raffle Tickets and Journal Ad I know its early but like I say it's never to early to remind us about what is coming up.

Continue to show your support for our Service Officers

Santa said, don't forget to purchase the Service Office Raffle Tickets and place an ad in the journal or he may put you on the naughty list.



Santa is watching and checking his list

CHAIRPERSON SERVICE OFFICERS RAFFLE & JOURNAL

RONALD SORRENTINO

Membership Chairman continued from page 17

engaging in these programs, members show the public that the VFW is more than a veterans' club—it is a vital community institution. These efforts not only honor the past but also ensure the future by attracting new members who want to be part of an organization that leads, serves, and inspires.

Yours in Comradeship,
 Jeff Molitor
 Membership Chairman

POW/MAI Chairman continued from page 17
 so long.

The family had been aware that his prison camp was near the advancing Red Army, but confirmation of his freedom brought overwhelming relief.

Following liberation, Sgt. Vecchio returned to the United States and resumed duties as an Orientation Specialist at Camp Croft. His responsibilities included conducting educational discussions, delivering orientation lectures to incoming troops, preparing training materials, and assisting with troop morale and readiness. His work helped returning soldiers transition and new soldiers prepare for overseas deployment.

He was honorably separated from service on October 7, 1945, with an additional brief service entry on November 19, 1920 noted in the document (likely clerical or administrative).

Sgt. Carl J. Vecchio's wartime story—marked by bravery, sacrifice, and resilience—embodies the experiences of countless American servicemen who fought across Europe. From the machine-gun nests of France to the bleak confines of a German POW camp, and finally back to his family in Brooklyn, his journey reflects not only the hardships of war but also the enduring strength of the human spirit.

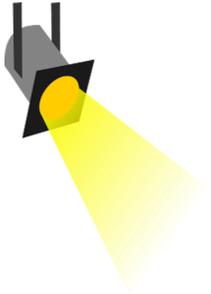
The documents preserved by his family ensure that his service will never be forgotten, allowing future generations to honor a soldier who gave so much in the name of freedom.

REMEMBER!

Pat Iuliucci
 Chairman

VFW Post 7227 Military Ball Saturday, November 8, 2025



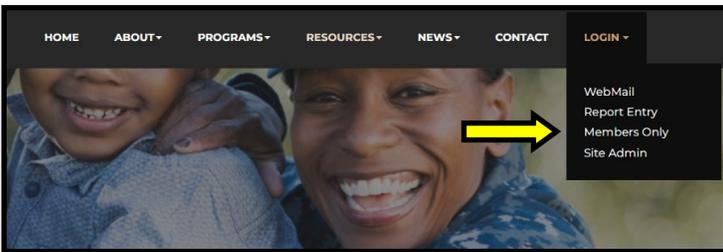


Spotlight on VFWNY.COM

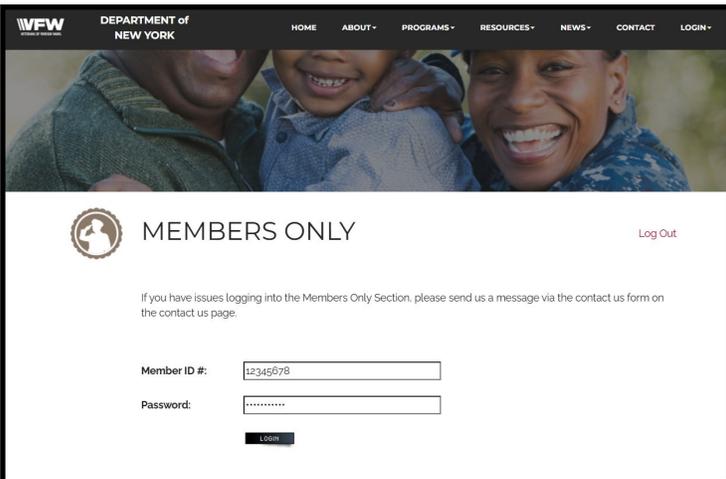
Featuring: *Members Only*

Did you know that the Department's Directory is now available on VFWNY.com through the Members Only portal?

The Members Only portal is accessible from the Department's homepage. If you click on LOGIN it is third on the listing.



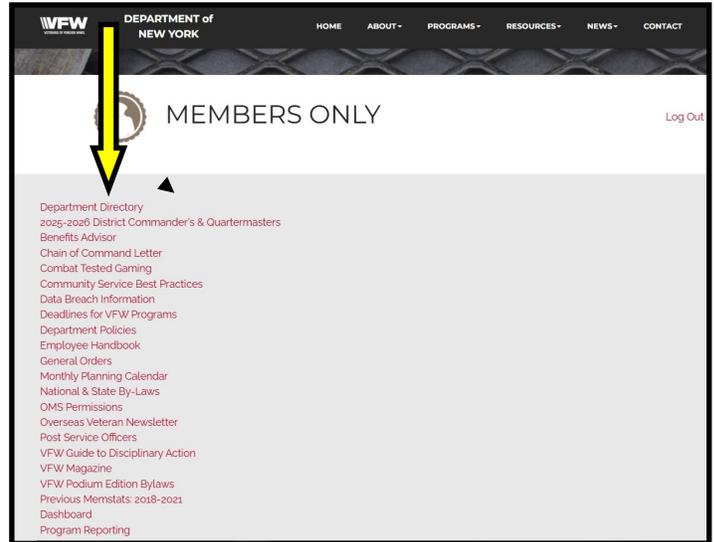
Once you have clicked on LOGIN, the Members Only sign in page will appear. In order to sign in you will need to know your National VFW membership number which you type into the Member ID # box. Your password will be your last name as National spelled it



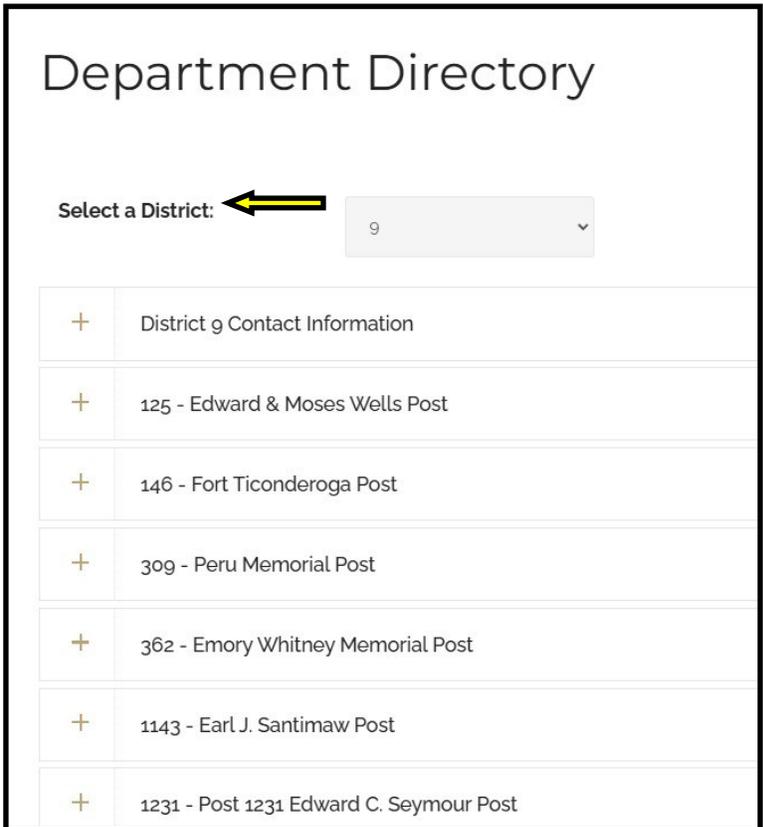
on your membership card. If you have any problems signing in please contact Department Headquarters and we will help you sign in.

Once you have entered your information and clicked the LOGIN button, the MEMBERS ONLY page will appear.

The main page will be a listing of all the topics that are available only to members of the Department of New York VFW.



The Department Directory is the first listing on the main page. Double click on Department Directory and you will see a screen that asks you to select a District from the drop-down menu.



When you have selected a District, the screen will show you a listing that starts with District Contract Information and then lists the posts in the district in numerical order. By clicking on the plus sign in front of the District Contract Information you will see a listing of all the officers and the contact information for them.

Spotlight on VFWNY.com continued on page 22

Spotlight on VFWNY.com continued from page 21

Department Directory

Select a District:

+ District 3 Contact Information

Commander: Michael Andreadakis Phone:	Email:	Officer contact information has been removed for purposes of this article
Senior Vice: Thomas Varmette Phone:	Email:	
Junior Vice Commander: John Heusdens Jr.		
Quartermaster: James Haas Phone:	Email:	
Chaplin: Beth Akulin Phone:	Email:	
Adjutant: James MacArthur Phone:	Email:	
Trustee 1 yr: Robert Mitchell Phone:	Email:	
Trustee 2 Yr: Michael Hoag Phone:	Email:	
Trustee 3 Yr: Harold Patchen Phone:	Email:	
Service Officer: Geary Sheeran Phone:	Email:	
Judge Advocate: Mark Rosenzweig Phone:		
Surgeon: Dennis La Que Phone:	Email:	
Inspector: Harold Patchen Phone:		
Chief of Staff: Thomas Elwood Phone:	Email:	
OOD: Melissa Heusdens		

Each time you file an election report with National, the Department receives a copy of the report and we check the report to see what information has been updated so we can update the directory.

It is our aim to make the directory as up to date as possible. If you have any questions or problems using the directory please call the Department of New York VFW and we will be happy to help you.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Holiday season and a healthy and Happy New Year!



On the post information page you will not only find contact information for the post officers but also their mailing address, meeting address and time and whether or not they have hall rentals.

Department Directory

Select a District:

+ District 10 Contact Information

+ 120 - Garden City Park Post

Mailing Address:
2163 Jericho Tpke
Garden Cty Pk. NY 11040-4705

Meeting Address:
2163 Jericho Tpke
Garden City Park. NY 11040-4705
7:00 PM

We rent out our hall

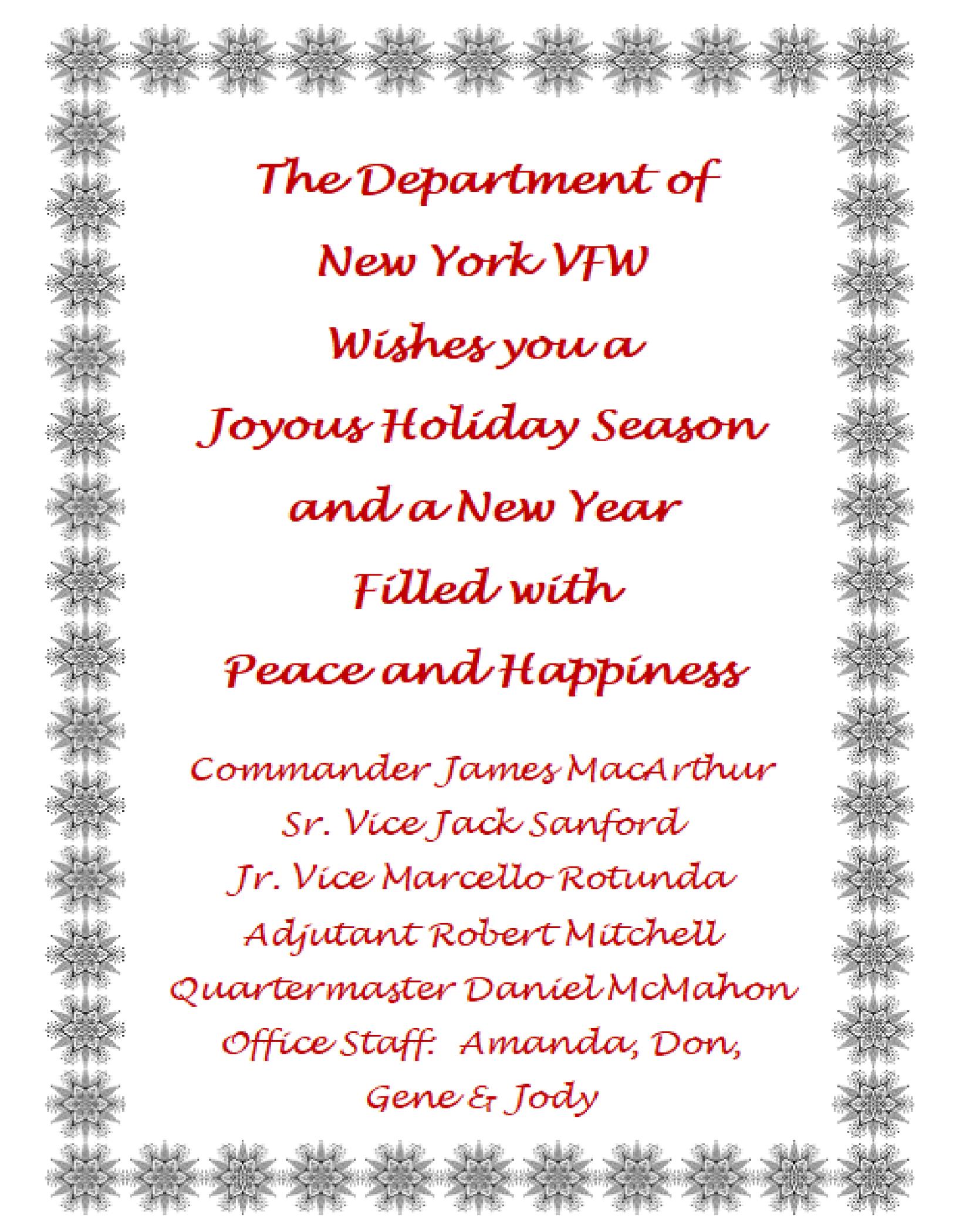
Commander: Richard De Martino **Phone:** 516-456-1116



The information in the directory is derived from the information provided on your post's election reports.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



A decorative border of repeating snowflake patterns surrounds the text. The snowflakes are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with a larger snowflake at the top center and bottom center, and smaller ones filling the rest of the border.

*The Department of
New York VFW
Wishes you a
Joyous Holiday Season
and a New Year
Filled with
Peace and Happiness*

*Commander James MacArthur
Sr. Vice Jack Sanford
Jr. Vice Marcello Rotunda
Adjutant Robert Mitchell
Quartermaster Daniel McMahon
Office Staff: Amanda, Don,
Gene & Jody*



Don't forget to Like and Follow the
Department of New York Veterans of Foreign Wars



@VFWNEWYORK



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

VFW Membership Mail-In Application

Yes! I want to join the VFW as a member-at-large and continue serving my country, my community and my fellow man.

PLEASE ENTER YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Birthdate: _____ Social Security #: _____

SERVICE INFORMATION Army Marine Corps Navy Air Force Coast Guard Space Force

Eligibility (choose all that apply)

- WWII Afghanistan Combat Action Ribbon SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia
- Korean War Iraq Expeditionary Medal Imminent Danger/
- Vietnam Korean Service (7/1/49 to present) Occupation Medal Hostile Fire Pay
- Persian Gulf War Kosovo Inherent Resolve Other: _____

Dates of Service: _____ to _____ Service Location: _____

Name of Campaign Ribbon or Medal: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (please select one)

- ANNUAL (\$45.00)
 - Please bill me annually for my membership.
 - I would like to enroll in the Automatic Payment Plan.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP (one-time)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP (installment plan)

Automatic Payment Plan and Installment options require credit/debit card for processing. By signing this application you acknowledge and agree to the terms and conditions of the Automatic Payment Plan and Installment options, if selected.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

AGE as of Dec. 31st	ONE-TIME PAYMENT	LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN	
		initial payment	11 payments of
THROUGH AGE 30	\$425.00	\$45.00	\$38.64
31-40	\$410.00	\$45.00	\$37.27
41-50	\$375.00	\$45.00	\$34.09
51-60	\$335.00	\$45.00	\$30.45
61-70	\$290.00	\$45.00	\$26.36
71-80	\$225.00	\$45.00	\$20.45
81 AND OVER	\$170.00	\$45.00	\$15.45

Automatic Payment Plan Terms and Conditions: You authorize the VFW to initiate electronic debit entries or affect a charge by any other commercially accepted practice to your account set forth above for the payment of dues reflected on this application. You understand such charges may be made within 2-3 business days of payment due date. For installment payments, charges will be made on or around the 1st or the 15th day of the month. This authorization will remain in full force until VFW has received notification from you of its termination or upon completion of the installment payments. Annual dues are subject to change. By completing this authorization, you acknowledge that you will only receive notice when the payment would differ by more than \$10.00 from the most recent payment. Contact VFW Member Services at 1.833.VFWYETS (1.833.838.8387) or write VFW Member Services, 406 W. 34th St., Suite 316, Kansas City, MO 64111 to inquire about or cancel a payment, or to report problems such as bank closures, lost or stolen account numbers, closed accounts, or unauthorized transactions. Cancellation requests must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Time ten business days prior to the scheduled payment date. If you are unaware of the charge date for your account, please contact VFW. If a payment is returned by your financial institution (e.g., due to insufficient funds, incorrect account information, closed account, etc.) the VFW will contact you at the address we have on file, explain why the payment could not be processed, and provide alternate payment options. The privilege of making payments under this agreement may be revoked by VFW if any item is not paid upon presentation. You may have additional rights and responsibilities under the Electronic Funds Transfer Act.

The VFW life membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a life membership by making an initial payment of \$45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an annual membership card at the time of enrollment. A permanent life membership card will be issued upon the completion of payments. The life membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on December 31 of the year in which the application is submitted. Delinquencies of 31-120 days can be corrected through make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward. Member will be dropped from the installment plan after 120 days delinquent and all monthly payments made to date will be applied to future years annual dues.

PAYMENT INFORMATION Check/Money Order Mastercard VISA Discover AMEX

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____ Amount to be charged: \$ _____
(if using Life Membership installment plan, amount is \$45.00)

VERIFICATION & SIGNATURE

I attest that by forwarding this application that I have confirmed my eligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to verify my eligibility for membership.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Mail form to: Membership Department, VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111
Questions? Call (888) JOIN-VFW (888-564-6839) or email us at membership@vfw.org