



# NEW YORK STATE OVERSEAS VETERAN

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Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States



January, February, March 2026

Volume 44 Issue 3



**James  
MacArthur**  
**STATE COMMANDER**



Comrades,

Well, here we are, it is Spring and we have just finished our spring conference in Corning New York. It was another outstanding turnout and I want to thank everyone for attending. I must apologize for missing the Saturday events but I am told Jack Sanford, our Sr. Vice Commander, did a wonderful job in my absence. I want to assure everyone that I'm in good health and I will finish my term as your Commander. I thank everyone for attending especially our wonderful Auxiliary lead by President Justine Robles and her crew of excellent members, special shout out to Marcia Williams she always comes up with great ideas for raising money for mine and Justine's special project we could not be where we are without them. I want to thank our special guests for attending: the commander from Pennsylvania Bill Roland and his Chief of Staff, Jr. Vice Commander in Chief Glenn Umburger, Rear Admiral Gary White - Saturday's guest speaker, PCIC Paul Spera, PCIC William "Doc" Schmidt and National Council Member Gene Ratigliano, also Mike Wilson from the National Home and his staff, I thank you for attending our Conference. I almost forgot one special

***State Commander continued on page 2***



**Robert Mitchell**  
**STATE ADJUTANT**



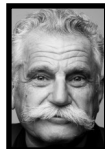
Comrades,

I would like to thank the membership for a very successful Spring Conference in Corning, New York. We were fortunate to have Rear Admiral Garry White, a distinguished military leader, open our General Session as our Key-Note Speaker and set the tone for the event. We were also fortunate to have many of our neighboring Department leadership in attendance. We now move on to the final quarter of our administrative year and I would encourage our members to utilize the Department "Memstats" database to evaluate where your Post stands statistically. This database is a valuable resource that is available to assist you in your efforts to track your membership percentages, confirm your reporting requirements and aid you in your efforts to meet Post minimum requirements for Department All-State consideration. I would also encourage you to also utilize the National "All-American" Dashboard to record your Post's National Reporting requirements and progress towards achieving National All-American for the 2025-2026 membership year. The Department's All-State and National's All-American Programs exist to recognize exceptional leadership,

***State Adjutant continued on page 2***



**Jody Treadway**  
**Editor**



**Richard Tibbetts**  
**State Historian**



**Barbara Bishop**  
**State Photographer**



## New York State Overseas Veteran

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### \*\* ARTICLES:

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

### **State Commander continued from page 1**

guest PCIC Tim Borland who spent nine days on the road with his wife Shannon and me recruiting, we spent two days at Fort Drum and two days at West Point and a quick stop at Camp Smith where we recruited four new members to our department all together we recruited over one hundred new members to our ranks thank you Tim, Bob, Pete, Tom, Mike, and Sharon for your support.

Now on to the rest of the story I have been pretty busy the last few Months I have attended quit a few District meetings. I have also been to a Military Ball which I had a great time and actually recruited a new member, thank you. I have meetings coming up this month and next, plus other meetings so as you can see, I am not finished but I only have nine weeks left in my tenure.

So here is the end I had a zoom meeting yesterday with our Council of Administration at the end of the meeting I stressed this is not the time to slow down we are at 97.82 in membership our goal is 101% we are so close to our goal let us not stop now it is the time to recruit and get new members and recruit those in waiting we have a few Departments that have already met their goal we will show them that the Department of New York is strong and will remain that way in the future I know that we can do it. I have one more recruiting event at Camp Smith on the 20<sup>th</sup> I am not giving up and you should not let's make our whole Department the pride of this organization THANK YOU!

Yours in Comradeship,

Commander James MacArthur

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### **State Adjutant continued from page 1**

teamwork, and accomplishments in membership growth and VFW core programs.

As a reminder and in accordance with our National Bylaws its time again for post-election of officers. Nominations of Post Officers open in March and Post Officers shall be elected in April. It is imperative that Post Quartermasters immediately file a Post Election Report in the National Online Membership System (OMS) following elections. The OMS System allows Post Quartermasters the opportunity to report the Post's newly elected and appointed officers efficiently and effectively. It is important that all Post Election Reports be completed in OMS even if there are no changes in the elected or appointed officers for the ensuing year. When completing the Post Election Report be sure to include all pertinent member information to include current address, telephone contact numbers and email addresses. Failure to complete a timely Post Election Report could result in the Commander-in-Chief to suspend and

**State Adjutant continued on page 4**



**Jack Sanford**  
**SR. VICE**  
**COMMANNER**



**Ben Thompson,**  
**PSC**  
**JUDGE ADVOCATE**



Comrades,

I am going to keep it short. As we approach the end of our 2025 - 2026 year we still have work to do. Commander MacArthur and the Department of New York NEED YOUR HELP! We have to bring home the membership. Jim and his team has worked hard this year in assisting the Districts and Posts in this Department with all your programs and especially Membership. Comrades we are so close there is no reason why we can't make it I believe we can.

Inspections this year were a disgrace only 47% of the Posts were inspected there is no reason why every Post cannot be inspected within 4 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 last year). Remember if your Post has not turned in their Trustee Reports YOU CANNOT VOTE at the State Convention. If Your 990's are not filed it is an IRS ISSUE AND YOU COULD LOSE YOUR EIN NO. AND YOUR NON-FOR-PROFIT STATUS. 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 a Veteran, never limit your opportunities for success!

Jack Sanford  
 Senior Vice Commander

Comrades,

First and foremost, let me thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Judge Advocate. It has been a pleasure and very rewarding helping Comrades navigate and understand the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. I look forward to continuing to assist my Comrades.

Now is the time of year when we elect the new officers for the Post and Districts. It is very important that you take a good look at your membership and find the right person for each position. Speak with your members, especially the newer members regarding moving into leadership positions. Sometimes the future of your Post or District is quietly sitting in the back.

Post Commanders should refer to Sec. 216 and District Commanders Sec. 416 of the Bylaws to determine which positions are elected and which ones are appointed. The positions that may be elected or appointed should be defined by the Post or District Bylaws.

To avoid any embarrassment at a later date, ensure that all persons running for any office or being appointed to an office has paid their membership dues for the year they will be serving. Also ensure their DD214 has been checked and is on file with the Adjutant.

Post Commanders and District Commanders should refer to Sec.213 & Sec.413 respectively as they pertain to Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions. To ensure your vote is counted, make sure the directions in these sections are followed.

All elected or appointed officers at all levels should understand the responsibilities and obligations of their office. The Bylaws and Manual of Procedure prescribe in detail these duties. If there is any doubt or question, don't be afraid to ask questions. Past Commanders at all levels, especially Past State Commanders have a wealth of knowledge and are willing to help Comrades be successful.

Comrades, the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure of

***Judge Advocate continued on page 4***

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 518-463-7427  
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**State Adjutant continued from page 2**

eventually revoke a Post Charter. If you require any assistance in the completion of your Post Election Report, please contact Department Headquarters for assistance.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Bob Mitchell  
State Adjutant

**Judge Advocate continued from page 3**

the Veterans of Foreign Wars are our guide for running this organization at all levels. Each member should have a copy so they know and understand the correct way things should be done. If at any time things don't seem correct, ask questions. "Because this is the way we always did it", is not the answer. Doing things the correct way avoids unnecessary headaches at a later date.

As the State Judge Advocate, I am available to assist any Post or Comrade to resolve any issue, keeping in mind that the Judge Advocate does not make decisions, but provides information based on the Bylaws to help you make an informed decision.

Wishing all the newly elected and appointed officers great success,

I remain yours in Comradeship,

Ben Thompson,  
Past State Commander



**Harold Patchen**  
**STATE INSPECTOR**



Comrades,

It's hard to believe that Spring has sprung with all the weather changes Mother Nature has thrown at us recently. Spring is also an important time in the VFW year for **MEMBERSHIP** and for **INSPECTIONS**. The Department inspections stand at 71%, which is good **but** we can do much better. We still have around 2 months to get the job done. District 10, which has been our gold standard all year long, is still leading the pack. I want to commend Districts 2 and 5 for making positive strides.

**State Inspector continued on page 6**



**James Haas**  
**STATE SURGEON**



Comrades,

On February 11, 2026 patients and social workers visited Robert L Weinger Memorial Post 8692 for a craft day and luncheon.



James Haas  
State Surgeon



Annual Legislative  
Breakfast  
Legislative Office Building  
February 11, 2026



**State Inspector continued from page 4**

Some districts still have a lot of work to do. I know that they will come through for our State Commander James MacArthur. He's worked hard and deserves to be an All-American State Commander. LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN.

District #	# posts Inspected	# Posts approved	# Posts to be inspected	% Approved	# Posts in district	IRS-990's Completed	% Posts that have been inspected	Comments
1	16	14	12	50.0	28	18	57.1	
2	31	23	27	39.7	58	42	53.4	Making positive strides. Keep it up.
3	34	26	7	63.4	41	33	82.9	
4	18	17	3	81.0	21	17	85.7	
5	15	4	20	11.4	35	17	42.9	Making positive strides. Keep it up.
6 Not Inspected	29	15	4	45.5	33	23	87.9	
7 Not Inspected	9	6	8	35.3	17	10	52.9	No changes
8	21	7	1	31.8	22	20	95.5	No changes
9	13	6	1	42.9	14	11	92.9	No changes
10	23	23	1	95.8	24	22	95.8	No changes
11	18	15	9	55.6	27	20	66.7	
<b>Total DNY</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>Last update 4/7/2026</b>

Common errors Found:  
 Quarterly Trustee Reports: Boxes #15 and #17 must be the same. Missing 1-3 trustee signatures  
 IRS-990's: Must be no further back than 2024  
 Membership Recruiting and Retention: Every Post MUST HAVE a recruiting and Retention plan.  
 Inspection report MUST be signed by Post Commander or either Vice Commander.  
 NO QM, Adjutant or Trustee can sign a QT report.

Some of the errors I've seen on Post Quarterly Trustee reports are really blatant. Many QTR's have come in with the RECONCILIATION of Funds section marked as N/A, a big no-no. Other QT reports have come in with very different values in Box #15 and box #17. These values MUST be the same. Others have left either the upper or lower section blank. One came in stating that the "balances agree with bank statement".

Another deficiency, although "I commend the posts at fault for their honesty", is not having a membership Recruitment and/or Retention plan of action. Without a viable membership Recruitment and a Retention plan your post isn't long for this world. A post could have their charter either suspended or cancelled for this violation. If these posts and I won't name them, need help, feel free to contact me. I'm here to assist posts so that no post loses their charter.

IRS-990's: Here is an example that I hope will simplify what is and isn't acceptable. For example, IRS-990's for 2023 were acceptable through **November 15, 2025**. After that date only 2024 and 2025 years can be accepted. So, we all need to think ahead (2026-2027 VFW year) because the 2024 IRS-990's will only be acceptable through 11/15/2026 (for inspections only **NOT** for Memstats). I hope makes it understandable for District Inspectors, Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters. My suggestion would be to get as many posts as possible inspected by early November 2026.

**A few FYIs:** - For inspections performed between July 1, 2026 and September 30, 2026 the June 30, 2026

Quarterly Trustee report will be acceptable.  
 -Only elected Trustees are allowed to sign the Quarterly Trustee Report. If someone else signs, the bonding company may or may not pay out.  
 -All three trustees, whose names are on your election report, must sign before the QTR can be acceptable also.  
 -A question that a number of Post Commanders have asked me is why do I need to be inspected now (ex. 9/20/26) when I was already inspected (ex. 4/30/2026)? The answer is every Post and District is required to be inspected every VFW year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.  
 -If any post QM or Commander has questions feel free to contact me any EVENING at 518 899 4976. If I'm out leave a message with your name, Post number, District and a phone number where I can reach you and I will return your call.

Yours in comradeship,  
 Harold Patchen  
 State Inspector



**Daniel Kell**  
**PAST STATE COMMANDER**



Comrades,

With the Legislative Conference over with, I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to our Legislative Team for the outstanding job they did at our National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC in talking with our Senators and Congressman on National Legislative goals and our goals here in New York State. Department of New York Spring Conference ended, and I want to thank the Department of New York Service Officers for their outstanding job and work they do in continuing to serve our veterans in our great state of New York in getting the entitlements they deserve.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all the students who participated in both the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen competition for their essays they wrote. I would like to also congratulate our Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Department of New York Winners and share their essays with us at the Banquet.

**Past State Commander continued on page 7**

**Past State Commander continued from page 6**

With the year coming to an end, 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 96.99% needing 1,043 New or Re-instated members, working our way towards Nationals goal of 101% which is very attainable to achieve by June 30, 2026, 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 prior to 1 May 2026 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.

With the Department of New York State Convention and District Conventions right around the corner lets focus on ending this year strongly and strive for success.

Yours in Comradeship

Daniel L. Kell

Intermediate Past State Commander



**Gene Ratigliano,  
PSC  
NATIONAL COUNCIL  
MEMBER**



Comrades,

I just returned from the Washington Conference whereas your National Council Member and member of the National Budget Committee attended two lengthy workshops as well as a follow-on C of A where a number of motions were presented and passed.

VFW National Commander Carol Whitmore testified before a joint hearing of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs. The VFW delivered its top legislative priorities for 2026 which emphasized holding leaders accountable to "Honor the Contract" in upholding their end of the military service as well as improving the coordination of Community Care and strengthening the TAP Program. A major push was also made for the **Major Richard Star Act** (H.R. 1282/S.344) which will enable Chapter 61 retirees to receive both retired and disability pay without any off set. Unfortunately, while we were at the Conference, word was received that this major piece of legislation failed to get passed again. The Legislative Chairman will delve deeper into these issues during this conference. A unique addition to the Conference this year was the revival of the Bonus March through the monuments to remind everyone that when a nation honors the contract faithfully, it strengthens not only its veterans, but its moral foundation as well.

An extensive workshop was held for National Council members where a comprehensive review of the National budget was reviewed. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the VFW's total unrestricted cash and investments are \$80.7 million which represents an increase of about \$7.9 million since August 31<sup>st</sup>. Fundraising has done very well over the past few months as a result of strong results from fundraising programs. Most budget items are on track and we should be in good shape by the end of the year.

An update was provided on the DC Memorial building renovation project and work is moving along nicely with no surprises to date.

A review of Cash and Investments was provided as well as a report on the Audit Committee recommendations and retirement board actions.

Quartermaster General Garduno made four motions during the C of A, all of which were approved.

1 - Approved a 6% compensation credit to the VFW National HQ Employee Retirement Plan for current eligible employees in the plan

**National Council Member continued on page 9**

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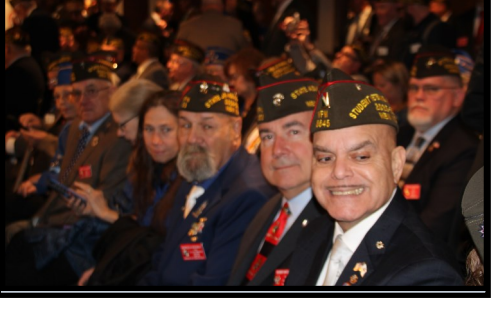
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Washington Legislative  
Conference  
February 28-March 5, 2026



**National Council Member continued from page 7**

2- To accept the VFW's Financial Statement and Report of the Independent CPA's for FY ending August 31, 2025.

3- Approve the engagement of Pickett, Chaney & McMullen for audit and tax services for 25-26

4 - The Council authorized the following Life Membership payouts for the 2025-26 fiscal year:

Plan ABC - A total payout of \$10.50 for each life member (\$3.50 to each Post, Department and National).

Plan D - A total payout of \$12.54 for each life member (\$4.18 to each Post, Department and National).

Plan E - A total payout of \$24.30 for each life member (\$8.10 to each Post, Department and National).

As I prepare this article, the Department of New York is at 97.82%. Last year at this time we were at 96.49%. Spring is before us and many malls are starting to have boat shows, home shows and the like and is a good time to set up a recruiting table to reach those veterans in your community.

As I have also mentioned in my earlier comments to you, it is a good time to review the requirements of the Commander's All-State Program as well as the National Commander's Program if you are looking to become an All-State or All-American Post. The membership program requirements are on the Department of NY website at [www.vfwny.org](http://www.vfwny.org). As we near the end of the membership year MemStats will be updated accordingly.

Nominations for elective office are now being held in the month of March and concluding with the elections in April. To preclude any issues as we move into the new year let's ensure that Post election reports are prepared accurately and entered in the On-Line Membership System (OMS). Additionally, take the time to review the officers who are being elected or appointed and ensure that their dues are paid if they are not currently life members. If you find that an elected or appointed officer has not paid their dues for the upcoming year, have them pay their dues immediately. As I write this article there are currently officers whose membership will expire in April and May, some of which may be elected in April. During the year we had officers who were unpaid and had to vacate their office for the remainder of this administrative year. Let's keep that from happening this coming year. When you hold your election review their dues status and have those who have not paid pay.

If you are planning on attending this year's National Convention in Reno, NV general housing opened on March 18<sup>th</sup>. If you have not made your reservations yet, do so as rooms book up fast.

Your District Commander is the go-to person for assistance if you need it. If there is any way the

Department can assist, do not hesitate to contact the State Adjutant Bob Mitchell or me by phone or e-mail. Keep up the good work that you do!

Yours in Comradeship,

*Gene Ratigliano*

Gene Ratigliano

National Council Member



**Colin Anderson**  
**DIRECTOR VETERAN**  
**SERVICES**



Comrades,

I would like to share a few random things.

Firstly, the Schenectady VA Outpatient Clinic is closing in September. The plan is for the veterans to be seen at nearby clinics. Clifton Park is expected to pick up the majority, but we are not sure if they have the capability at the moment. There is a plan to expand the Clifton Park facility, but there is no clear timeline yet.

We have reached our full capacity of service officers in New York City with our recent seventh hire. They are already providing well-needed services to our comrades and family members in the five boroughs. If you reside in New York City, please let your city council members know how much you appreciate them backing the VFW service officers.

We will be providing a VSO claim clinic at the Department Convention in June. On the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, our VSOs will be available to do your claims, review files and potentially file any needed appeals.

With the expansion of our Service Officer program to twelve full-time VSOs, we are on track for a record-setting year in claims filed and money recouped. This is due to the hard work of our dedicated VSOs. I would like to recognize them for their effort and success over the last year.

Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Department Convention in June.

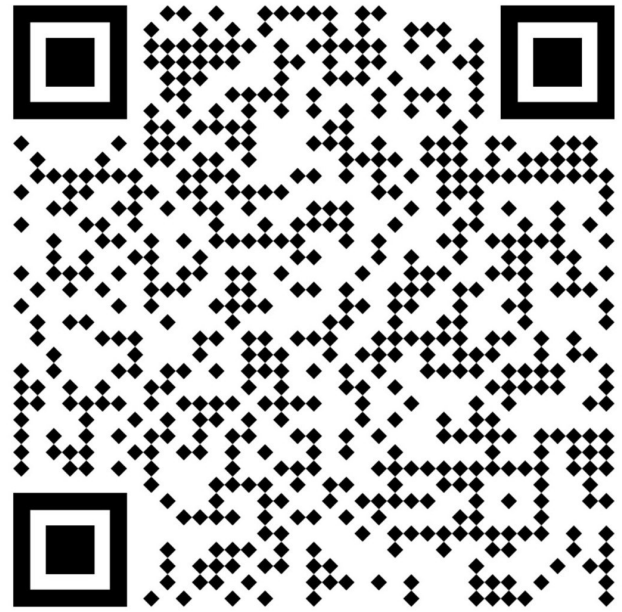
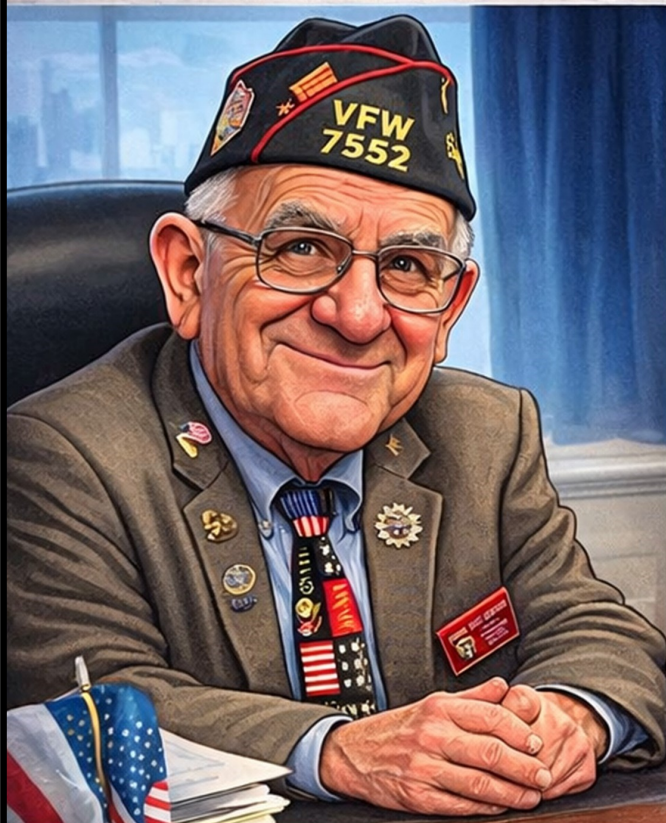
Yours in Comradeship

Colin Anderson

Director, Veterans Service

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

## 2026 STATE CONVENTION



Scan QR code for all information  
on the 2026 State Convention

**JUNE 10TH-14TH** IN ALBANY, NY

**ALBANY MARRIOTT HOTEL**

189 Wolf Rd. Albany, NY 12205

**State Convention Dinner** Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

All VFW Members and Auxiliary Members are welcome to come!

Please RSVP for the Dinner by **May 30th, 2026**

★ **HELPING AND HONORING VETERANS** ★



## Luke Magliaro

### CHIEF OF STAFF



Comrades,

I begin my Article for the Department of New York V.F.W. Overseas Veteran stating it has been my most sincere honor and pleasure to have served as State Chief of Staff for State Commander James Mac Arthur.

As we have entered our final quarter of the 2025-2026 V.F.W. administrative term, we can look back at the many accomplishments we have had thus far, with the many programs we have completed having some with great success while others may have fell short of goals and objectives we hoped to achieve. We, the VFW Department of New York, should be very proud of what we have accomplished thus far. Our Post and District Community Service has been very good thus far, but there are many events that have not yet been reported. The required reports are still coming in, but we need to bring every Post up to date, especially with Trustee Reports and 990's. These are critical reports that must be completed. Don't let your Tax-Exempt Status be revoked, as it is costly and time-consuming to get it reinstated.

Commander Mac Arthur's No-Nonsense, straight forward approach with his "Lead By Example", leadership, especially in Membership with his personal efforts in obtaining new and re-instated members has been off the charts. Let's do our share to ensure we surpass 101% and make commander Mac Arthur and the Department of New York achieve All-American status this year.

In closing, I commend all the District Commanders and their Posts for the great work you have done thus are and call upon all of us at every level to finish up the term with great success, especially those Posts and Districts seeking to attain All-State and All-American status and Don't forget to participate in the VFW Day of Service Program. God Speed! See you at the Department Convention!

Yours In comradeship,

Luke A. Magliaro, Jr.  
Chief of Staff



## Jesse Figueroa

### COMMANDER DISTRICT 1



Greetings everyone,

District 1—representing Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island—opened 2026 with strong participation, disciplined leadership, and a continued commitment to serving veterans across the New York City Metropolitan Area.

January

District officers, State officers, and Committee Chairs attended the Department Midwinter Council of Administration Meeting, ensuring that District 1 and New York City priorities were fully represented at the State level. The District also conducted its annual Officer Training Institute, reinforcing administrative standards, strengthening readiness, and preparing Post leadership for the year ahead.

February

During the severe late February blizzard, District 1 coordinated comprehensive buddy checks across its jurisdiction and throughout the metropolitan area. Comrades—including yours truly—and dedicated volunteers reached out to veterans, families, and caregivers to ensure safety, provide assistance, and maintain connection during the storm. These efforts reflected the core mission of the VFW and the resilience of our Posts and communities.

March

Earlier in the month, District 1 proudly welcomed the VFW Auxiliary National President during her visit to New York City, offering a warm and dignified reception that highlighted the partnership between our organizations—and the 50th birthday of yours truly. The District also maintained a visible presence in Brooklyn during the Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade. Engagement remained strong as District 1 participated in the Department Spring Conference in Corning, contributing to discussions on membership, community outreach, and organizational alignment.

Membership Statistics (3/31/2026)

New Members: 10

**Commander District 1 Continued on page 14**



**Spring Conference  
March 26-29, 2026  
Radisson Hotel  
Corning, NY**





# Sharon Waddell

**COMMANDER  
DISTRICT 2**



Comrades,

Winter months tend to be slower due to the weather, but it never stops Veterans from ensuring their brother and sister Veterans are not forgotten. Posts like Post 1708 in Goshen continued to provide honors at funerals no matter how cold it got.

Winter weather always presents a challenge for training and meetings. District 2 had to reschedule the second Officer Training institute (OTI) due to weather and a weather-related injury of the primary instructor. The OTI was successfully held on February 15<sup>th</sup> at post 1161 in Newburgh; seven quartermasters, seven trustees, six commanders, and two other members were trained on their duties.

District 2 conducted a hybrid Zoom meeting for the Winter meeting. District officers and those who wanted to attend in person met at Post 973 in Newburgh while the rest of the district attended using Zoom. The convenience of attending online resulted in the highest meeting attendance in years and was overall well-received.



As the weather warmed up activities increased. Post 7765 in Red Hook used a grant to install solar panels on their post roof; they expect to achieve significant energy cost savings thanks to the panels.



Post 8328 in Yorktown Heights hosted a round table



event with the Secretary of the Veterans Administration, Doug Collins, and local Congressman, Mike Lawler. The event was attended by Veterans organizations from around the area.



Past District 2 Commander (1998-1999) Al Etkins passed away on 15 April. He served for 26 years at the District 2 Chaplain and Service officer.

As we wind down this year, we have six posts with the potential to earn All-American honors and twelve poised to earn All-State white hats. Eighteen posts have already reached or exceeded the 101% membership goal with three months remaining in the year. In membership, Post 9215 in Nyack is ranked #1 nationally in division 8, Post 5913 in Wappinger Falls is ranked #5 nationally in division 10, and Post 170 in Poughkeepsie is ranked #8

**Commander District 2 Continued on page 14**

**Commander District 1 continued from page 11**

Reinstated Members: 14

Current Membership (3/31/2026): 97%

Percentage to Goal: 101%

Closing Message

District 1 remains steadfast in strengthening our Posts, supporting our comrades, and serving veterans and families across the New York City Metropolitan Area.

Thank you, and God Bless America.

Yours In Comradeship,

Jesse Figueroa  
District 1 Commander  
VFW Department of New York

**Commander District 2 continued from page 13**

nationally in division 7. Our District goal is to exceed the goal of 101% membership; with the enthusiasm and hard work of our 58 District 2 posts I think we will make it!

Yours in Comradeship,  
Sharon Waddell  
District 2 Commander

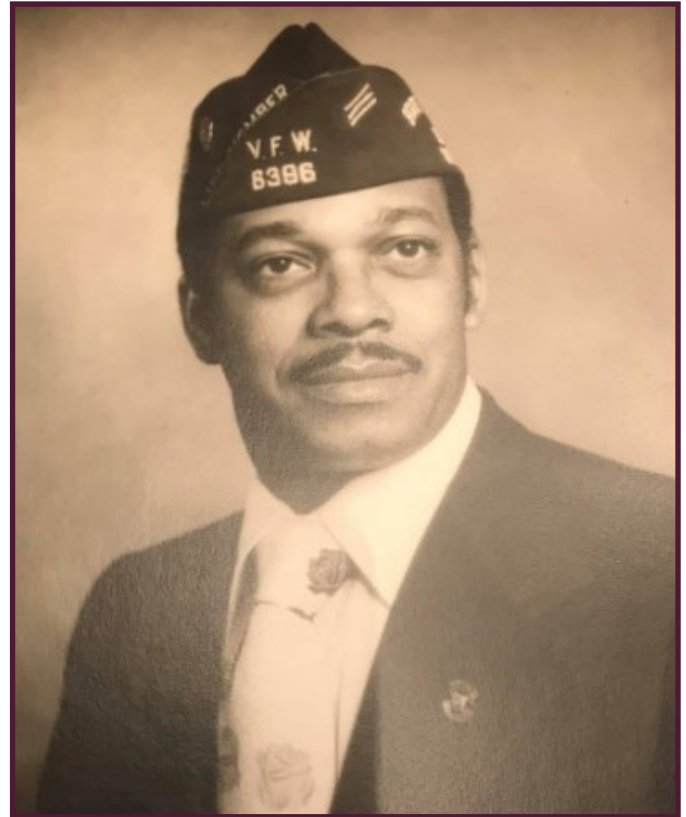
**Do You have Questions or  
Need Help  
With Veteran Service Claim?**

Our Department of New York VSOs will be conducting a claims clinic at the Department Convention in June.

They will be available following the committee meetings on the 11<sup>th</sup> and beginning at 8am on the 12<sup>th</sup>, concurrent with the General Business Session.

Walk-ins are welcome, if you wish for an appointment with a specific VSO, please contact Director Colin Anderson at [colin.anderson@va.gov](mailto:colin.anderson@va.gov) or (518) 903-0074.

They look forward to assisting you!



**MELVIN GARRETT  
PAST STATE COMMANDER  
1981-1982**

February 10, 1928—April 16, 2026

Melvin Garrett entered the military in July 1946 and served with 159th Field Artillery in Nara, Japan as a radio Operator. After being honorably discharged, PSC Garrett joined the VFW in 1952. He first joined VFW Post 2768, the Accie-Jeffress Post in Tuckahoe and later transferred to VFW Post 6396, the Aaron A Lewis Post located in Mount Vernon, NY. PSC Garrett rose through the ranks becoming Commander of his post, county council, district then successfully making All-American as State Commander. As a Life Member, he was selected to serve as a National Council Member 1993-1995, National committees such as Legislative, Veterans Service, Strategic Planning, National Security & Foreign Affairs. PSC Garrett was a member and President for the Board of Trustees of the VFW National Home for Children 2003-2007.

While raising his family with his wife, Rev. Albertha Garrett, PSC Garrett worked at the world famous Consumer Reports Magazine as a Senior Technician for 25 years. PSC Garrett looked forward to every State Convention with a zest unmatched by anyone else.



**Michael Andreadakis**  
**COMMANDER DISTRICT 3**



Comrades,

As we see the events that are occurring and being reported in the news, the first thing that I want to say is "Thank you for your service". You are appreciated and we will not forget your service. The VFW Motto is "No one does more for veterans". We as veterans remember what it is like to be away from home, sometimes in a strange environment doing the best you can to support the USA. You are not forgotten. Sometimes this call to serve means leaving family and loved ones behind. We not only care about you, we care about them. If your family is suffering hardships because of your deployment, have them contact the nearest VFW Post. They can point them in the right direction to get help.

Our VFW Posts are working to be an influence for good in their communities. We are not a group of old people sitting at a bar swapping war stories. We are family oriented. We work hard to support the young people, the first responders, and the teachers of our communities. We do things to teach of the wonderful country we live in and love. We work to support legislation that supports veterans. If you meet the requirements to be a member of the VFW, contact a post near you to join. Let your strengths help us to help others. Do not let the skills that you developed as part of your service to our great country go to waste. Join us in making a difference.

Respectfully and Gratefully,  
Michael Andreadakis  
Commander District 3  
Department of New York



**Daniel Martin**  
**COMMANDER DISTRICT 4**



Comrades,

Spring is in the air! The Posts from District 4 are looking forward to one of our most busy times of the year. We continue with our mission to 'honor the dead by helping the living.' We continue taking care of VFW Programs, with the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the Year, and Scouting being completed.



District 4 is proud to be the home District of the 1<sup>st</sup> place Department VOD winner, Department Teacher of the year winner (Middle school), Department Fire Fighter of the year and Department Law Enforcement

of the year award winners.

District membership is looking good again this year with 8 Post at 100% or higher and many Posts in the high 90% range, we also have 100% of the 21 Posts having completed their Community Service reports and one last note 19 of 21 Trustee Reposts received for the latest reporting period.

My own Post, 6912 of Lowville, NY, will be honoring our long-time Commander Dennis Everson with a dinner in late April.

Posts in the District are reporting good turnouts for the many lunches, dinners and food specials that they offer. At some Post it has become the social event of the week.

I wish to thank our State Inspector Harold Patchen for the help he has given to our District inspector, as of this news article 19 of 21 Posts have been inspected.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Daniel Martin  
District 4 Commander



**Norbert Neiderer**  
**COMMANDER**  
**DISTRICT 9**



Comrades,

According to the calendar, Spring has arrived, however here in the North Country the word has not gone out as we are still below freezing some days and having snow. Even though the weather is not cooperating we are keeping busy within our posts.

VFW Post 125 held its 89<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner/Dance with over 105 people in attendance. VFW Post 6339 held its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner with great success.

We continue to work with the North Country Veterans Association in building and sponsoring the state's largest Military Library and also the Veterans Museum. This facility is helping local High School and College students to get to know what veterans have done and continue to do. They can see displays and even sign out books from the library to help with their research papers. We are also working with the National Gold Star Mothers Association in setting up a display to recognize them within the museum.

Membership has been a push as we now have 12 posts over 91%, with 3 posts over 102%, thus putting District 9 currently at 95.51%.

All posts are holding their annual election of officers for the upcoming year. Best of luck to all comrades running for office and continuing your support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its programs.

Several posts are scheduling their VFW Day of Service activities for May. I would like to thank all posts that are participating; however, I would like to see more posts get involved.

Our District 9 Convention is in two weeks. It is hard to believe that the year has passed and we are electing officers again for the coming year. Best of luck to all comrades running for office.

Memorial Day is fast approaching and most posts are putting together their plans and ceremonies to

**Commander District 9 continued on page 18**



**William Hughes**  
**COMMANDER**  
**DISTRICT 11**



Comrades,

We all had a rough winter in our beautiful New York State but many of us are glad that spring has arrived bringing all the new life and ice turning into warmer waters. Despite this harsh winter, District 11 was active and engaged in by you, our communities. At the mid-winter conference, I made a motion that we as a Department become a part of the celebration of our Nations 250th Anniversary and couple that with highlighting our beloved VFW with a QR link to information and membership by way of Banners and Lawn signs. The motion was for each Post in the Department to get a banner and signs for a percentage of their membership. The motion passed with an overwhelming majority. The intent was to have the project done by the Spring Conference and have all this ready for distribution to all the Districts, this mission was accomplished and it is now up to each Post in our Department to use these items to benefit your Post and the Department. We ask that you display these signs now to get the best possible exposure.

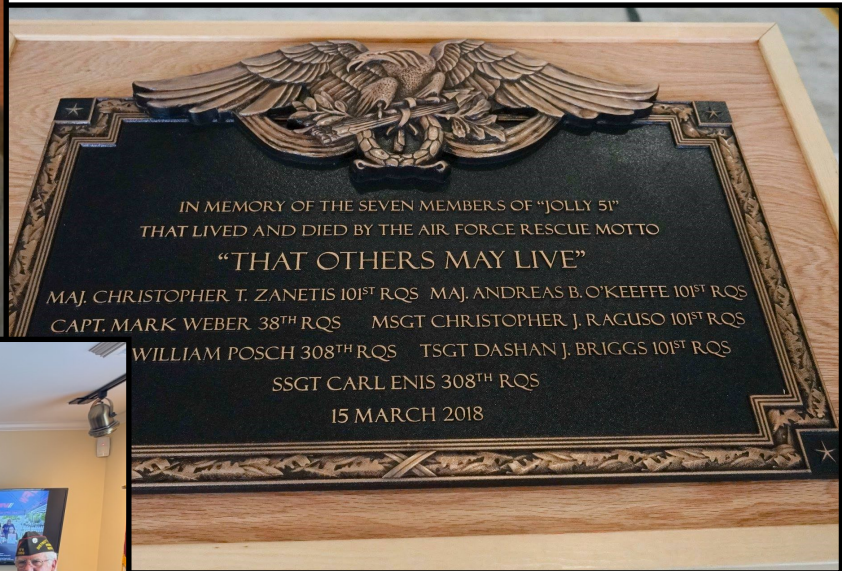
I have another request that all people help support legislation that I wrote and have sponsored in the Senate and the Assembly in New York State. The support is to have every Senator and Assembly member co-sponsor A06001/S7784, we can get this done by calling and writing those elected officials in your legislative district. This bill is no cost to the taxpayer, helps disabled Veterans with mental/physical health and brings positive recognition to the elected. You the Veteran is our best lobbyist.

Requires that the state university of New York's board of trustees and the city university of New York's board of trustees shall each adopt a policy requiring all state university of New York, city university of New York, college, and community college campuses that offer membership programs to the general public for the use of fitness and aquatic facilities, to permit disabled veterans to obtain a membership for the use of fitness and aquatic facilities upon the same terms and conditions as apply to the general public, but without payment of any fees or other charges, or at a discounted rate; defines "disabled veteran".

On MLK Day our Port Jefferson Post dedicated their hall to

**Commander District 11 continued on page 18**

# DISTRICT 11 EVENTS



**Help Vets with Pets  
Pet Food Drive  
JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 20**

The Southampton Town Veterans Affairs Committee, along with Councilmembers Crystal McNameara & Michael Iaselli and the Southampton Animal Shelter, invite the community to support our local veterans and active military by donating food for their four-legged friends.

DONATION ITEMS	DROP-OFF LOCATIONS
• Dry Dog Food	WESTHAMPTON VFW POST 3300 191 Old Riverhead Rd., Westhampton Beach
• Dry Cat Food	HAMPTON BAYS MEDICAL CENTER 55 Pennington Ave., Hampton Bays
• Canned Dog Food	HAMPTON BAYS COMMUNITY CENTER 23 Pennington Ave., Hampton Bays
• Canned Cat Food	DAVID W. CROHAN COMMUNITY CENTER (FLANDERS) 655 Flanders Rd., Flanders
• Seed Mixes	SOUTHAMPTON TOWN HALL 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
• Pet Treats	

COUNCILWOMAN CRYSTAL MCNAMEARA  
& COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL IASSELLI  
Southampton Town Council Office, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton  
www.southamptontown.gov/TownCouncil

SOUTHAMPTON animal shelter  
FOUNDATION



**Commander District 9 continued from page 16**

honor our comrades who have given the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the U.S. Military or after returning from wars and/or conflicts. This year Post 125 will have a Special Guest Speaker from Florida, Chaplain Thomas Azar, USAF Retired.

Finally, I would like to give a special Thank You to District 11 Commander, William Hughes, for taking on the project of getting each district and each post signage for our Nation's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. These banners and yard signs show everyone that we are all working together and believe in what we all fought for. Again Thanks

Yours in Comradeship,

Norbert Neiderer

District 9 Commander

**Commander District 11 continued from page 16**

TSgt. Dashun Briggs who was killed in the crash of Jolly 51 along with six other Airmen on the Iraq/Syrian border supporting operation enduring freedom.

Our Rocky Point and Westhampton Beach Posts continue to have the Babylon Vets Center give counseling at their locations for veterans and families.

Many Department members, including the undersigned, attended the legislative breakfast at our Capital to promote our priorities, as always, this face-to-face lobbying has had an impact.

In February the Westhampton Beach Post held its annual Valentines Luncheon for all our local troops and Coast Guard.

In spite of the heavy snow in late January, District 11 had a productive and well-attended meeting at our Smithtown Post and the Commander and members at that Post did an outstanding job of snow removal and prep for the meeting.

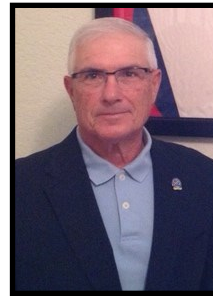
Several of our Posts attended Eagle Scout Courts of Honor in our County, we just need to do a better job getting their applications in for Scout of the Year.

Calverton National Cemetery usually has ceremonies once and month for Veterans with no one in attendance, our District and many others come to this respectful ceremony and pay tribute to our brothers and sisters who have served.

With High School graduations coming later this spring we have several of our Posts contributing to scholarships and ceremonies for those entering the military and attending Academies and ROTC Programs and this is always a great connection that these students will remember.

William Hughes

Commander District 11



**Joseph Taluto,  
MG, Ret., USA**  
New York State Military  
Museum



Greetings VFW members!

I am MG(R) Joe Taluto a proud lifetime member of the VFW. I have been working with your State Commander Jim MacArthur on a very important project: **Recognizing and honoring New York Global War on Terror (GWOT) Veterans and their families!** I was on the ground in NYC for two months after the horrific attack on our Nation commanding our military forces during the 9/11 recovery. Four years later I found myself Commanding the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division in Iraq. I have seen, firsthand, the selfless service and sacrifice our military members and their families have endured over a twenty-year period. Since my retirement I have volunteered much of my time to Veteran causes. Recently I was asked to serve on a non-profit board called "The Friends of the New York State Military Museum". I was pleased to accept as "The Friends" support the preservation and interpretation of NY Military history. In addition to being a board member I was appointed to be Chairman of our newest committee, The New York GWOT Veteran Recognition and honor committee. Please visit our website to understand the entire scope of our campaign. (<https://friendsnysmm.com>) As a 44-year full time New York Army National Guard veteran and former Adjutant General of New York, I am totally dedicated to seeing the accomplishment of these 5 major committee initiatives.

- A first class GWOT exhibit at the NYS Military Museum in Saratoga NY
- A fitting memorial to those that served in the GWOT in close proximity to the Museum
- A mobile GWOT exhibit to be transported to special events and ceremonies
- A traveling oral history program to capture the legacy and service of our NY GWOT veterans

**Joseph Taluto continued on page 19**

**Joseph Taluto continued from page 18**

A traveling lecture series available for special events and conferences to educate all on the GWOT.

For us to accomplish these initiatives we will have to raise funds We are working hard to reach out to veteran support organizations, community organizations, private corporations and to you the individual donor to raise those funds. Donations can be made online at "The Friends" website. GWOT lasted 20 years, the longest war in US history. Sep 2026 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 9/11 attack. It's time to recognize and honor our New York GWOT Veterans and to preserve their legacy.

Thank you!

Joe Taluto



**Rick Campese**  
**Motorcycle Rider**  
**Chairman**



Comrades,

For those of you who are not familiar with our group the VFW Riders is an organization within the VFW that is made up of VFW and Auxiliary members who share a common interest in participating in social and charitable activities involving veterans and motorcycles. Like any other VFW sponsored organization we are a family friendly nonpartisan group. We are not a Motorcycle Club or an "MC". Currently the Department of NY has three District level groups, one in District 11, District 4 and District 3.

The VFW Riders is now defined in Article XIII of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures. Section 1301 of the Bylaws states "The National VFW Riders is a membership association separately constituted as a subordinate unit chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States ..." and "The National VFW Riders shall be governed by such Bylaws and Ritual as may be adopted by it, and by the lawful orders issued by its National Officers ...". Section 1304 states that "The National VFW Riders is authorized to incorporate under appropriate not for profit corporation laws ...". The National Manual of Procedure sets out requirements for the National VFW Riders to authorize Chapters at the Department and Post level and how these Chapters will be incorporated and governed.

Over the past year National has set up a committee of VFW Riders members who have been working on writing a set of Bylaws for the Riders and they expect to have a draft of those Bylaws ready for review by the membership soon. The Riders Group will hold a meeting at the National Convention this year where they plan to vote on these new Bylaws and elect the officers of the VFW Riders National Organization.

The VFW Riders is a valuable part of the VFW. The VFW Riders is one way to offer members an opportunity to participate in a group within the VFW that lets them engage in an activity that they enjoy with other members who share their love for riding motorcycles and supporting

**Motorcycle Riders Chairman continued on page 20**



**Ronald Sorrentino**  
**SERVICE OFFICER**  
**JOURNAL AD**  
**CHAIRMAN**



Comrades,

I just want to say **THANK YOU**, to all our comrades and auxiliary for your participation in the service officer raffle and journal. We try and always set a goal from last year's totals which was \$ 22,300, this year we collected \$ 19,635, as you can see, we missed the goal by \$ 2,665. I know next year will be better; our true goal was to show how much our Service Officers raffle that we support them in all the work they do for our veterans. 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 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.

**Continue to show your support for our Service Officers**

**See you next time for the 2026-2027 Service Officer Program**

**RONALD SORRENTINO**  
**CHAIRPERSON SERVICE OFFICERS RAFFLE & JOURNAL**

**Motorcycle Rider Chairman continued from page 19**

veteran’s causes. In the end, attracting new members and keeping existing members engaged is what we all know we need to do to keep the VFW as a strong and viable organization.

To form a new chapter in your District or Post or for more information contact Rick Campese at [vfwridders.dist3.ny@outlook.com](mailto:vfwridders.dist3.ny@outlook.com) or visit the new website for the VFW National Riders Group at [vfwriddersgroup.org](http://vfwriddersgroup.org).

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Campese

Dept of NY Chairman, VFW Riders Group



**Ronald Sorrentino**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN**



Comrades,

So far this year from July 1 through April 1, 2026, 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	1,237.00	\$43,035	\$52,218.51	\$95,253.75
New York	2	6,042.00	\$210,201	\$89,992.59	\$300,193.78
New York	3	6,002.00	\$208,810	\$190,479.44	\$399,289.03
New York	4	2,033.00	\$70,728	\$30,082.36	\$100,810.44
New York	5	796	\$27,693	\$19,304.70	\$46,997.54
New York	6	1,160.80	\$40,384	\$57,935.72	\$98,319.96
New York	7	1,658.25	\$57,691	\$32,831.65	\$90,522.17
New York	8	1,548.25	\$53,864	\$16,712.63	\$70,576.26
New York	9	1,608.00	\$55,942	\$110,244.84	\$166,187.16
New York	10	4,156.45	\$144,603	\$60,096.66	\$204,699.58
New York	11	5,448.00	\$189,536	\$91,163.85	\$280,699.78
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31,690</b>	<b>\$1,102,487</b>	<b>\$751,062.95</b>	<b>\$1,853,549.45</b>

This is for the Third quarter report. We have one more quarter in this VFW year. So, we have time left to beat 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 Chairman continued on page 21**



**Pat Iuliucci**  
**POW/MIA CHAIRMAN**



Comrades,

POW’s were held in POW camps on Long Island during WWII. Beginning in 1945 mostly German prisoners were held at Camp Upton on Long Island, which is located in the Town of Brookhaven, New York. Camp Upton housed 1,200-1,500 prisoners until they began returning home in the spring of 1946. POW’s incarcerated in local facilities were provided a dental clinic, music program, a library, a theater, sports teams, English language classes, a camp newspaper and a re-education program in hopes of instilling American values. Letters and documents were discovered from Camp Upton’s Intellectual Division, which certified that the POWs had completed a reorientation program in the “American Way” or were “favorably disposed to the American Ideology” before their discharge. Documents were also recovered at Camp Upton of POW rosters and memos related to the creation of Upton’s re-education program. Other historical documents were collected and also found were the memos of Major Edward Davison, director of the Morale Services Division. Multiple old newspaper

**POW/MIA Chairman continued on page 21**

**POW/MIA Chairman continued from page 20**

articles were found related to Upton’s POWs, which include a December 1946 edition featuring a story about job seekers headlined “Vets Turned Down While POWs Work at Upton” and an article from February 1945 highlighting a woman from a nearby Long Island community who was trying to marry an Italian prisoner of war.

Together these papers detail how Upton operated as one of the Army’s reorientation programs for the estimated 425,000 Nazi and Italian POWs held in the United States. The men were becoming increasingly violent with each other in late 1943 according to documents. There was fear amongst camp leaders that should the Allies win the war, the most fervent among the Nazi detainees would eventually go back to Germany and resurrect a defeated Nazi Reich.

The solution was to have prisoners assigned to work details and participate in an Americanization program that taught the core values of democracy. Major Maxwell McKnight, administrator of the Army’s Prisoner of War Camps and Davison created a list of movies that showed “true American life” and included “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” and “Why We Fight”. Davison forged partnerships with various universities to develop courses that focused on American democracy according to the documents uncovered in his papers at Yale’s archives.

Guards and Army personnel assigned to the camps mandated to have experience in the education system, the movie industry and American literature, according to the papers. Declassified documents found in Yale University archives reveal two uncompromising directives given. “Do not hinder the natural intellectual development process of POWs” and “No publicity of the program must be disclosed.”

In a separate memo to assigned camp leaders, it specifically stated; “Any approach which leads to suspect an attempt to propagandize them will render impossible the achievement of the program.” Within these camps, education programs were tailored based on age, maturity and the year the individuals spent under the Nazi and Italian Fascist systems, according to the National Archive Documents.

Part II will appear in the next edition of the OSV.

**Community Service Chairman continued from page 20**

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*



**Stephen Junkins**  
ADSO



VFW Post 9594 Hosts Successful Community Easter Event in Ravena

On Saturday, April 4, 2026, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9594 in Ravena, NY hosted its annual Easter



event at the post on Whitbeck Street, welcoming 375 children from the community.

The event featured a free visit with the Easter Bunny, where each child received a 3-ounce chocolate bunny and a commemorative sticker. Children were also given bubbles, Easter-themed items, veteran coloring books, crayons, and small American flags upon arrival, along with raffle tickets for prize drawings.

**Stephen Junkins continued on page 22**



**Stephen Junkins continued from page 21**

A total of 8,750 eggs were distributed across age-specific hunting areas (0-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12), along with a dedicated sensory-friendly area serving ages 0-18.



The raffle included 115 donated prizes, consisting of 79 Easter baskets, 11 bicycles, 3 wagons, and 22 toys. Contributions were made possible by 28 local businesses and individual donors.



The event was supported by VFW Post and Auxiliary members, AMVETS, and local student volunteers, including six members of the RCS National Honor Society and two Participation in Government students.

Community partnerships played a key role in the event's

success. The Village of Ravena Mayor and DPW provided snow fencing to create safe boundaries for the sensory area, while the Ravena News Herald helped promote the event. The local Little League provided field space for younger age groups, and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School offered use of the gymnasium in case of inclement weather.



Information tables for the VFW, AMVETS, VFW Auxiliary, and the local Head Start Preschool program were also available, connecting families with community resources.

The event highlighted the VFW's continued commitment to supporting veterans, youth, and families within the Ravena community.

Stephen Junkins  
Veteran Service Officer  
VFW Department of New York  
113 Holland Ave  
Albany NY 12208  
m. 838-202-7564

[Stephen.Junkins@va.gov](mailto:Stephen.Junkins@va.gov)





**VFW State Commanders**  
**Save our Veterans Golf Tournament**  
Supporting and bringing awareness to



Homeless Veterans  
And VFW National Home

**Sponsorship Opportunities**

**Platinum** - \$5000 Includes 2 foursomes, Cart Sponsor and Event Signage

**Gold** - \$2500 Includes 1 foursome, Tee Sign and Event Signage

**Silver** - \$1000 Includes 2 Golfer fees, Tee sign and Event Signage

**Bronze** - \$500 Includes Tee Sign and Event Signage

Cart Sponsor (2 Carts) - \$250

Hole Sponsor/Tee Sign - \$100

\*All Sponsorships will be displayed at both Events\*

**SPONSORSHIPS WITH PAYMENT DUE NO LATER THAN April 27, 2026**

**Sponsor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Info:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: VFW DEPARTMENT OF NY**

**MAIL PAYMENT TO:**

**VFW State Headquarters Attn: Jim MacArthur**

**69 Sand Creek Rd, Albany, N.Y**

**Email [Jmackancramhwy@gmail.com](mailto:Jmackancramhwy@gmail.com) Ph. 518-755-8978**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



**VFW State Commanders**  
**Save our Veterans Golf Tournament**

Bringing awareness and support to  
**Homeless Veterans**  
**And VFW National Home**

**Friday, May 8, 2026**  
**9:00 a.m. SHOTGUN START**

**Van Patten Golf Club**  
**924 Main Street, Clifton Park, NY 12065**

**\$135 per person Scramble Format**  
**18 holes with Cart, The Birdie - Prizes**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: April 27, 2026**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Foursome or individual registrations accepted!

Team Members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: VFW DEPARTMENT OF NY**  
**MAIL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT TO:**  
**VFW State Headquarters Attn: Jim MacArthur**  
**69 Sand Creek Rd**  
**Albany, NY 12205 – Phone 518 755 8978**  
**Email- [jmackancramhwy@gmail.com](mailto:jmackancramhwy@gmail.com)**



**VFW State Commanders  
Save our Veterans Golf Tournament**

Bringing awareness and support to  
**Homeless Veterans  
And VFW National Home**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026  
10:00am SHOTGUN START**

**Twin Ponds Golf & Country Club**  
169 Main Street, New York Mills, NY 13417

**\$100.00 per person Scramble Format  
18 holes with Cart, Lunch at the Turn, Italian Buffet Dinner- Prizes**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: April 27, 2026**

<b>NAME:</b>	_____
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	_____ _____
<b>PHONE: ( )</b>	<b>EMAIL:</b> _____

Foursome or individual registrations accepted!

Team Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: VFW DEPARTMENT OF NY**  
**MAIL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT TO:**  
**VFW State Headquarters Attn: Jim MacArthur**  
**69 Sand Creek Rd**  
**Albany, NY 12205**  
**Email: [jmackancramhwy@gmail.com](mailto:jmackancramhwy@gmail.com) Ph 518-755-8978**





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
<b>THROUGH AGE 30</b>	\$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