



## Monthly Newsletter

**Nashua VFW Post 483**  
**8 E. Pearl Street**  
**Nashua, NH 03060**  
**603-402-2992**  
**nashuavfwpost483@gmail.com**



**MONTH: February 2025**

**ISSUE: 8**

**Christopher DiTullio**  
**Commander**  
**978-987-8009**

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

**Marc Plante**  
**Jr. Vice Commander**  
**603-714-8715**

**Lewis Chipola**  
**Adjutant/Quartermaster**  
**603-521-7708**

**Herbert Townsend**  
**Chaplain**  
**603-424-8219**

**Angelo Ruocco**  
**Judge Advocate**  
**603-888-9522**

**Katie Boots**  
**Surgeon**  
**603-689-4072**

**Lewis Chipola**  
**Service Officer**  
**603-521-7708**

**Robert Anderson**  
**1 Year Trustee**  
**603-402-6520**

**Donald Vincent**  
**2 Year Trustee**  
**603-809-9482**

**Steve Ordway**  
**3 Year Trustee**  
**603-490-2284**

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### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

#### President:

**Brenda Byrne**  
**603-930-0589**

**Sr. Vice President/1 Yr Trustee**

**Diane Ordway**  
**603-882-4838**

**Jr. Vice President/3 Yr Trustee**

**Gloria Kane**  
**603-620-3561**

#### Treasurer/Secretary:

**Renee Plant**  
**603-714-9024**

#### Conductress:

**Carolyn Marineau**  
**603-882-6071**

#### Guard/2Yr Trustee

**Bruce Byrne**  
**603-233-6490**

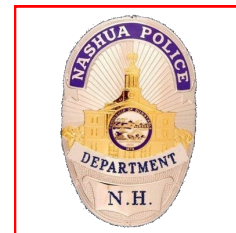
#### Chaplain/Patriotic Instructor

**Loretta Murray**  
**603-320-3560**





## POST COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Comrades,

I hope everyone is staying warm this winter as the temperature has been crazy cold lately. I attended the CofA in January and as you can imagine there were several topics spoken about but two that I want to really bring to your attention. One is membership and the other is the wildfires in California. Our numbers are slowly declining, and we must try to bring those who left back into the fold and recruit new members.

Obviously, it goes without saying that the fires in California have been devastating, and our fellow American are in dire need out there. I am hoping to raise and donate some money for the VFWs out there. At the C of A, the Department voted to donate money to the Department of California, and I would like us to do the same.

After the Cof A, Jr Vice Plante and I attended the Scholastic Banquet to honor those students and teachers. Our Post's selection, Maria Dominguez Diaz, won this year's Teacher of the Year award. We will be honoring her, our First Responders and students at our Loyalty Day Celebration and I would like as many in attendance as possible. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer.

As always, if you have any ideas, comments or concerns please let me know.

Yours in comradeship,

Chris DiTullio

Nashua VFW 483 Commander

District 6 Senior Vice Commander

[Cditullio007@yahoo.com](mailto:Cditullio007@yahoo.com) – Personal

[commander@vfw483.org](mailto:commander@vfw483.org) – Post email

978-987-8009 (cell)





## State Commander's Message



### From the Desk of the Department Commander February 2025



Comrades of Post 483,

I was thinking after I read an article in my local newspaper. It was about a new community refrigerator installed in Woodbury Manor, a Portsmouth Housing Authority neighborhood. Why? Because hunger on the rise. According to Feeding America's 2024 "Map the Meal Gap" database reports 135,200 New Hampshire residents were food insecure, in addition to another 179,680 people living in Maine. Between 2021 and 2023, approximately 42,300 New Hampshire households were food insecure, or roughly 7.4% of all state households, according to the New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute. Twenty percent of households that are supported by Feeding America include a veteran or someone that has served in the military. In fact, 11.1% of veterans between the ages of 18 and 64 struggle to provide food for their families.

Nearly 95,000 NH residents across all corners of the state face food insecurity every day. This includes seniors unable to access enough food because of limited resources and growing levels of isolation, veterans who are struggling to afford basic needs or individuals and families who are unable to make ends meet. The New Hampshire Food Bank's goal is to improve food security with three specific populations – homebound seniors in Greater Manchester and Greater Nashua, veterans facing homelessness and hardship, and NH residents who work with our Community Services program to improve their overall financial situations.

I have been working in my church's Food Pantry for over 10 years. I know many of you that also do that. The Lee Memorial Post 10676 has been giving to the 3 Food Pantries in our area for as long as I can remember. I encourage your Posts to give to your local Food Pantries. They may support more non-Veterans than Veterans but all need the help.

Ensuring Food Security in Veterans -

[https://www.va.gov/HEALTH/EQUITY/Ensuring\\_Food\\_Security\\_In\\_Veterans.asp](https://www.va.gov/HEALTH/EQUITY/Ensuring_Food_Security_In_Veterans.asp)

Why are so many veterans food insecure?

[https://moveforhunger.org/why-are-so-many-veterans-food-insecure?qad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAhbi8BhDIARIsAJLOludLUp\\_zn43mkRH\\_r7NP4NHJQSSkpGJARVVCv0Hdvi4GhOidUjoExCp8aAtFHEALw\\_wcB](https://moveforhunger.org/why-are-so-many-veterans-food-insecure?qad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAhbi8BhDIARIsAJLOludLUp_zn43mkRH_r7NP4NHJQSSkpGJARVVCv0Hdvi4GhOidUjoExCp8aAtFHEALw_wcB)

Please let me know if you have any questions of me.

Andrew "AJ" Corrow  
Commander, Department of New Hampshire  
United States Army (Retired)  
wfwpost10676@yahoo.com



**POST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



**No Article Submitted**

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Greetings from the Chaplain's desk

Deceased members:

None

Hoping this report finds everyone doing well and coping with this stretch of cold weather. It is winter in New England, but we can look forward to spring, and better weather ahead.

Sending out get well wishes to comrade Angelo Ruocco, who is recovering at home, from recent illness and hospital stay. Join me in wishing Angelo, a speedy recovery.

Remember to continue to look out for our neighbors and fellow veterans during this inclement weather. If you are aware of any of our veterans in distress, please advise the post, so that we may render any assistance they may need.

Wishing everyone continued good health and prosperity in the New Year.

Yours in Comradeship  
Herbert CT Townsend  
Chaplain Post 483

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Herbert "C.T." Townsend

603-345-5033

Members:

Chris DiTullio Commander

908-987-8009

Lewis Chipola-Quartermaster

603-521-7708

Scott Gagnon

781-983-2876

Steve Ordway

## DISTRICT 6 & C of A MEETING SCHEDULE

The District 6 meetings are shown in BLUE and scheduled for 1000 unless otherwise noted, dress is blues and grays unless otherwise notified. Auxiliary meetings are the same dates as the VFW .  
C of A Meeting in Brown

17 Aug. 24: Winchester

19 Oct. 24: Franklin

18 Jan 25: TBD

12 Apr. 25: TBD

6-8 Jun 25: State Convention Shelburne

District Meeting in Blue

Sunday, 8 September 2024 , Hudson

Sunday, 27 October 2024, Derry

Sunday, 26 January 2025, Merrimack

Sunday, 27 April 2025, Pelham (Encampment)



# MEMBERSHIP



## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	R S	City	State	Retention
6	120	3	0	38	161	181	%	6		NASH UA	NH	88.95%

2024-2025 GOAL 102%

RENEW EARLY (IT DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR EXPIRATION DATE)

(Just moves it our one year)

### DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

LOCATION	POST #	%
NASHUA	483	88.95%
DERRY	1617	88.46%
HUDSON	5791	99.38%
SALEM	8546	93.04%
MERRIMACK	8641	97.70%
PELHAM	10722	85.60%
HAMPSTEAD	11254	86.84%
HOLLIS	11373	86.96%
<b>TOTALS</b>		91.87%

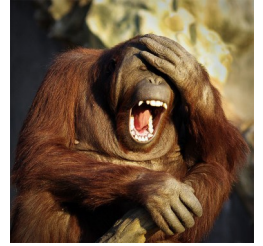


Auxiliary Meeting Dates
5 Jul 24 1300
2 Aug 24 1300
6 Sep 24 1300
4 Oct 24 1300
1 Nov 24 1300
6 Dec 24 1300
4 Jan 25 1000
1 Feb 25 1000
1 Mar 25 1000
5 Apr 25 1000
3 May 25 1000
7 Jun 25 1000

Post Meeting Dates
23 Jul 24 1900
27 Aug 24 1900
24 Sep 24 1900
22 Oct 24 1900
26 Nov 24 1900
23 Dec 24 1900
28 Jan 25 1900
25 Feb 25 1900
25 Mar 25 1900
22 Apr 25 1900
27 May 25 1900
24 Jun 25 1900



## FUN PAGE



## JOKE OF THE MONTH

Wife: "How would you describe me?" Husband: "ABCDEFGHIIJK." Wife: "What does that mean?" Husband: "Adorable, beautiful, cute, delightful, elegant, fashionable, gorgeous, and hot." Wife: "Aw, thank you, but what about IJK?" Husband: "I'm just kidding!"

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Do not mind anything that anyone tells you about anyone else. Judge everyone and everything for yourself.

[Henry James](#)

## DID YOU KNOW

Everyday, more money is printed for Monopoly sets than for the U.S. Treasury

## MIND TWISTER

A man is headed to a mountain along with a lion, a goat, and a basket of vegetables. On the way, he needs to cross a river and the boat can only carry two things at a time. If he takes the vegetables, the lion will eat the goat. If he takes the lion, the goat will eat the vegetables. How does he cross the river?



## VETERANS INFORMATION

**VFW 2025 Priority Goals:** The 119th Congress is now in session. Fortunately, the *Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act* was passed and signed into law in the final days of the previous Congress. This bipartisan, bicameral legislative package was a significant and long overdue victory for transitioning service members, veterans, caretakers, and survivors. However, there was much unfinished work on other important legislation. The [VFW 2025 Priority Goals](#) include many issues that still need to be addressed. We will continue to advocate diligently to ensure the newly seated Congress provides the resources and care our nation's veterans and their families have earned and

**Veterans May Be Eligible for Additional Education Benefits:** VA announced that it will begin authorizing additional education benefits resulting from the April 2024 *Rudisill v. McDonough* Supreme Court decision. The court ruled that veterans who served at least two periods of service — one that qualified for the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) and another that qualified for the Post-9/11 GI Bill (PGIB) — may be able to receive additional GI Bill benefits up to 48 months instead of the previous limit of 36 months. Prior to the Supreme Court's decision, though eligible for both benefits, beneficiaries using their PGIB benefits had to forfeit using any remaining MGIB benefits, even when eligibility was based on separate periods of service. Additionally, beneficiaries who previously used MGIB had their months of entitlement for PGIB limited to the number of remaining MGIB months of entitlement. Approximately 1,040,000 individuals with at least two periods of service may be impacted by these changes.

**VA Establishes Additional Presumptive Service Connections:** As of Jan. 2, 2025, VA has established presumptive service connections from exposure to particulate matter 2.5 for urinary bladder, ureter, and related genitourinary cancers. Eligible veterans must have served on active military, naval, air, or space service in Somalia or the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after Aug. 2, 1990; or in Afghanistan, Syria, Djibouti, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, or Yemen on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This interim final rule will ease the evidentiary burden for VA disability compensation claimants with these conditions.

**Medal of Honor Presented to Army Soldiers:** President Biden recognized seven Army soldiers from the Korean and Vietnam Wars, emphasizing their heroic actions that went above and beyond the call of duty. Five soldiers of the Korean War and one soldier from the Vietnam War were posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for their valor. One Vietnam veteran was presented with the award in person. This recognition is part of an ongoing effort initiated in 2021 by Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin to review military decorations awarded to minority veterans, aiming to ensure that their actions were properly acknowledged.





## CALENDAR



# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Aux Meeting 1000
2	3	4	5 Cootie Meeting 1900	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday Traditional	13	14 Veterans Coffee Talk 0930  Valentine Day	15
16	17 Presidents Day	18	19	20	21	22 Washington's Birth- day Traditional
23	24 Langdon Place 1330	25 Post Meeting 1900	26	27	28	

## ANSWER TO BRAIN TWISTER

**Trip 1:** He takes the goat with him, leaving the lion and the vegetables behind. On reaching the other riverbank, he drops off the goat. **Trip 2:** He then comes back for the lion, leaving the vegetables behind. On reaching the bank this time, he drops the lion, and again takes the goat along. **Trip 3:** He drops off the goat again and takes the vegetables with him to the other shore. **Trip 4:** Lastly, he comes back alone for the goat.



# POST NEWS



**IF YOU USE FACEBOOK  
GO TO  
VFW POST 483 Nashua**



Scan this QR Code and pay your dues with your phone. Just select the membership page on the Zeffy site.

We asked the Mayor at this month's Mayor's Veteran Council Meeting to allow us to post our Community Service Award sign at the beginning of the Veterans Parkway near the Welcome to Nashua Sign. We are waiting for the City's decision.

Our Loyalty Day Ceremony this year will be on 3 May 2025, at 1000. It will be held at the Nashua Senior Center located at 70 Temple St., Nashua. All members are invited to attend.

- This year we will be honoring the following at our Loyalty Day Ceremony:
- Police Officer of the Year**
  - Firefighter of the Year**
  - Teacher of the Year**
  - Voice of Democracy Student**
  - Patriot Pen Students**





# QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER



Recruiting is still very slow. We need to step it up. If we are going to have a shot at All American this year we need to recruit new members. This can only be done if everyone tries to recruit at least 1 new member. Talk to any veteran you may run into and see if they are eligible to join the VFW. If so, get them to fill out an application form. Everyone should carry one with them at all times. There is a application form attached to this newsletter on page 29.



We have been approved by the Lottery Commission to participate in Charitable Gaming again this year. We are just waiting on dates from Gate City Casino.



Post Commander Chris DiTullio © and Jr. Vice Marc Plante (L) with Maria Dominguez and spouse, who won Teacher of the Year for the 6-8 Grades, at the State Scholastic Bangquet held on 18 January.

# CLASSIFIEDS



**Keith Leavitt Masonry**  
 603.765.8006  
 masonry67@gmail.com  
 keithleavittmasonry.com



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 Owner - Chef

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 Cell (603) 306-3554 • ray@thewhitebirchnh.com  
 www.thewhitebirchnh.com



**PARKER'S MAPLE BARN**

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 Phone: (603) 878-2308 or Toll-Free at: (800) 832-2308  
 Fax: (603) 878-1323  
 Email: customerservice@parkersmaplebarn.com

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 Email johnsr@ebersole.org  
 linkedin.com/pub/john-f-ebersole/14/875/b60

Analyze • Innovate • Communicate • Implement

12/7/17 "Ask me about ~~10~~ for ~~10~~"

*Resume help*



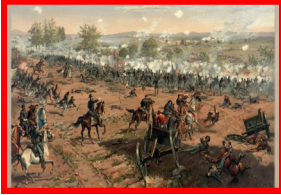
**SUBZERO**  
 ICE CREAM & YOGURT

**Rita and Mark McCabe**  
 Owners/New England Developers

495 Amherst Street, Nashua, NH 03063  
 Tel: 603-327-0694 | Email: subzeronashuanh@aol.com  
 FB: SubZeroNashua  
 www.subzeroicecream.com/nashuanewhampshire

FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE





## BATTLE OF THE MONTH



# Battle of the Java Sea

The Battle of the Java Sea ([Indonesian](#): *Pertempuran Laut Jawa*, [Japanese](#): スラバヤ沖海戦, [romanized](#): *Surabaya oki kaisen*, [lit.](#) 'Surabaya open-sea battle') was a decisive <sup>[2]</sup> [naval battle](#) of the [Pacific campaign](#) of [World War II](#).

[Allied](#) navies suffered a disastrous defeat at the hand of the [Imperial Japanese Navy](#) on 27 February 1942 and in secondary actions over successive days, starting when the main [ABDA](#) fleet strike force of 2 heavy cruisers, 3 light cruisers, and 9 destroyers, led by ABDA fleet's main commander, Admiral [Karel Doorman](#), attempted to intercept a Japanese troop convoy in the [Java Sea](#), only to be intercepted by the convoy's better equipped escort force. The battle started off as a stalemate, but the heavy cruiser [Haguro](#) changed the course of the battle when she crippled the heavy cruiser [HMS Exeter](#) with gunfire, then torpedoed and sank the Dutch destroyer [Kortenaer](#), sending Doorman's fleet into a chaotic frenzy. A gunfight between allied and Japanese destroyers then resulted in the sinking of the [HMS Electra](#), before Doorman's force made a false retreat, ending the daylight engagement.

However, under the cover of night, Admiral Doorman's ships attempted another attack, during which the destroyer [HMS Jupiter](#) accidentally hit a Dutch mine and sank, but the Japanese immediately caught on to their plan, prompting the [Haguro](#) and her sistership [Nachi](#) to ambush the allied fleet with a stealthy long range torpedo attack. One of [Nachi's](#) torpedoes hit the Dutch light cruiser [Java](#), which was instantly blown apart and sank with almost all hands. One of [Haguro's](#) torpedoes then hit the allied flagship, the Dutch light cruiser [De](#)

The aftermath of the battle included several smaller actions around Java, including the smaller but also significant [Battle of Sunda Strait](#), which saw the sinking of the heavy cruiser [USS Houston](#), the light cruiser [HMAS Perth](#), and the destroyer [HNLMS Evertsen](#), and the [second battle of the Java Sea](#), where the still crippled [Exeter](#) and her escorting destroyers were sunk by a Japanese cruiser destroyer squadron, including [Haguro](#). These defeats led to the dissolution of the ABDA fleet as a whole, the scuttling of the Dutch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

305837

[HNLMS De Ruyter](#), Admiral Doorman's flagship



The heavy cruiser [Nachi](#), Admiral Takagi's flagship



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE



1/15/25, 10:24 AM

LA Times, Wed, Jan 15, 2025

## The Washington Post

**LA Times, Wed, Jan 15, 2025**

By Mark McClain / Ed. Patti Varol

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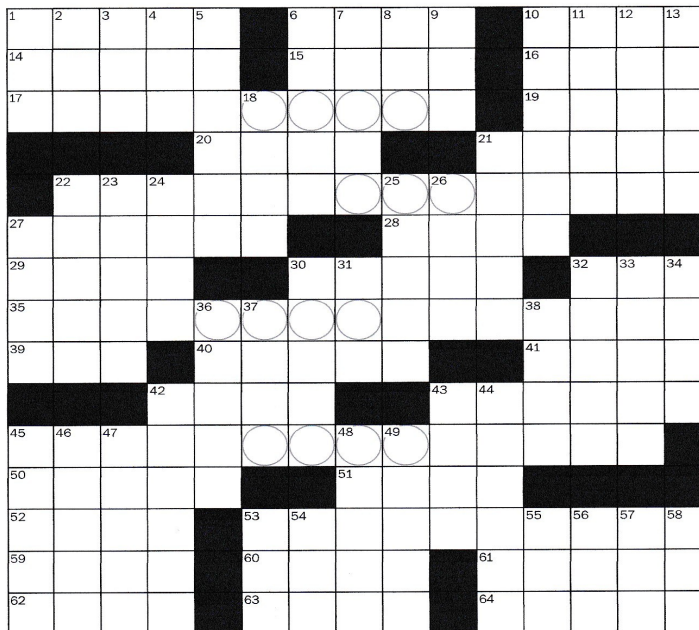
**ACROSS**

- 1 Philosophy test component
- 6 Water conveyer
- 10 Royal \_\_: seabird native to the Americas
- 14 India's first prime minister
- 15 Four or five
- 16 French god
- 17 Sticky stuff in a dispenser
- 19 Seckel, e.g.
- 20 Normandy city
- 21 Competes in a regatta
- 22 Out of this world
- 27 Least likely to be seen
- 28 Family men
- 29 Middle East flyer
- 30 Triangular-stemmed marsh grass
- 32 \_\_ Dhabi
- 35 Cause of some springtime discomfort
- 39 Tunisian tennis pro \_\_ Jabeur
- 40 Tied up in knots
- 41 Country on the Arabian Sea
- 42 Sharpen
- 43 The movie industry
- 45 Fruit from the Sunshine State
- 50 Museum piece

- 51 Zero-star reviews
- 52 Drop out
- 53 Thoroughfare away from the main drag, or what can be found in each set of circled letters
- 59 Symbol of peace
- 60 Garfield's housemate
- 61 Cause for some recalls
- 62 Small notes
- 63 Some imitative software
- 64 Flip out

**DOWN**

- 1 34-Down grad
- 2 "Hold on a \_\_!"
- 3 "Your Honor" airer, briefly
- 4 Museum piece
- 5 Desert bloomers
- 6 Dev of "Hotel Mumbai"
- 7 "Assuming there are some"
- 8 Frisky feeling
- 9 Source of milk for manchego cheese
- 10 Completion worth six points, informally
- 11 "Old MacDonald" letters
- 12 Monarch's territory
- 13 Drink slowly
- 18 Drill command
- 21 Ceremonial feast during Passover



- 22 Hawk's weapon
- 34 Annapolis inst.
- 46 Shade of yellow
- 23 Face-to-face exams
- 36 Code of conduct
- 47 Shade of green
- 24 Spill the beans
- 37 "\_\_ a hand?"
- 48 Footnote abbr.
- 25 Perplex
- 38 Large percussion instrument
- 49 Leaf collectors
- 26 Minimum \_\_
- 42 Drops a line
- 53 Weave's partner
- 27 Credit union seizure
- 43 Beer containers
- 54 "Without further \_\_ ..."
- 30 North Pole VIP
- 44 Foot part
- 55 Classic TV brand
- 31 Couple of fellows?
- 45 Hobbit who inherits the One Ring from Bilbo
- 56 Long, long time
- 32 Singer-songwriter Mann
- 57 Arch Manning's uncle
- 33 Grins broadly
- 58 Start of a pencil game



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION



1/15/25, 10:25 AM

LA Times, Wed, Jan 15, 2025

## The Washington Post

**LA Times, Wed, Jan 15, 2025**

By Mark McClain / Ed. Patti Varol

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1	E	S	S	A	Y		P	I	P	E		T	E	R	N			
14	N	E	H	R	U		A	F	E	W		D	I	E	U			
17	S	C	O	T	C	H	T	A	P	E		P	E	A	R			
					20	C	A	E	N			21	S	A	I	L	S	
		22	23	24						25	26							
		T	O	T	A	L	L	Y	A	W	E	S	O	M	E			
27	R	A	R	E	S	T				28	D	A	D	S				
29	E	L	A	L				30	S	E	D	G	E		32	A	B	U
35	P	O	L	L		36	37					38	G	I	E	S		
39	O	N	S			40							41	O	M	A	N	
					42	W	H	E	T			43	C	I	N	E	M	A
45	F	L	O	R	I	D	A	O	R	A	N	G	E	S				
50	R	E	L	I	C				51	P	A	N	S					
52	O	M	I	T			53	54					55	56	57	58		
59	D	O	V	E			60	O	D	I	E		61	E	C	O	L	I
62	O	N	E	S			63	B	O	T	S		64	P	A	N	I	C

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# Funnies

Beetle Bailey *by Greg Walker, Brian Walker and Neal Walker*



Blondie *by Dean Young*



FORT KNOX

BY PAUL JON





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

# YOU CAN WIN !!!

## ANNOUNCING THE SECOND

### SOUP, CHOWDER & CHILI CON-

### TEST



**You're invited to join us for a Soup, Chowder & Chili Contest  
Please come and make your VOTE count!**

**WHERE:** Franklin Post #1698

**WHEN:** January 25, 2025 - 12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m.

**DONATION:** \$10 per person

**MENU:** Soups, Chowders & Chilies, crackers, bread and desserts. Coffee & Tea

**Contest Prizes for the best in each category of Soup, Chowder and Chili**

**Everyone gets to vote!**

**Prizes Awarded after all have voted  
Door Prize Drawing for those attend-  
ing**

**Basket Raffles Available**

Tickets may be purchased at the door. We want plenty of tastings to vote on, so please let us know if you are planning to attend and/or if you will have an entry!! Please come and taste the best New Hampshire has to offer. We truly appreciate your support. Benefits Ways & Means.

**Contact Info** **entries** or **baskets:**

Tracy Kelley

[Tracyk372@yahoo.com](mailto:Tracyk372@yahoo.com) 603-305-7003

**VA Manchester VA Medic...** 4m ·

Veterans, prepare for #VAsigninchanges in 2025. You'll soon need a [Login.gov](https://login.gov) or ID.me account to sign in to VA and manage your benefits and health care online. Create your account now: [www.va.gov/sign-in-changes](https://www.va.gov/sign-in-changes) #VAMobile



Like Comment Send Share

**Veterans - Did you know!**

**VA Veterans Benefits Ad...** **Follow**  
2d ·

Veterans, do you use a My HealtheVet or DS Logon username and password to manage your VA benefits and health care online? In 2025, you'll need to switch to a [Login.gov](https://login.gov) or ID.me account. Create your account now: [www.va.gov/sign-in-changes](https://www.va.gov/sign-in-changes)

 A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, sitting on a light-colored sofa. She is looking at her smartphone in her right hand. To her left, a laptop is open on a small table, displaying a website. The background shows a blurred indoor setting with a table and chairs.

**Effective 1/31/2025!!**

**PLEASE SHARE THIS INFO WITH**



**“20” In front of the Extension you are trying to reach.**

---

 **Manchester VA Medic...**   

10h · 

The VA Manchester Healthcare System is making improvements to ... See more

**VA Manchester Healthcare System  
is now using a  
6-digit phone extension!**

**Main Number:  
603-624-4366  
then press  
20 + Extension**





# FACT SHEET

As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4.4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.

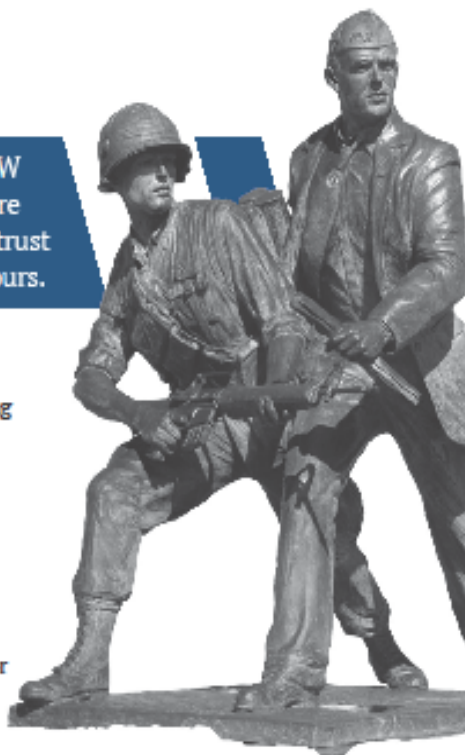
## THE VFW'S VITAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

**Educate** separating service members about their well-earned VA benefits through private benefits counseling sessions with a VFW Accredited Service Officer.

**Advocate** for America's veterans and their families on Capitol Hill, ensuring *promises made* to veterans are *promises kept*.

**Help** cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

**Deliver** morale-boosting "welcome home" celebrations for service members who have returned from combat.



### 2,162

Number of VFW Accredited Service Officers across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

### 308,045

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events.

### \$14.6 billion

The total annual amount the VFW helped veterans recoup in VA disability compensation and pension benefits in fiscal year 2024.

### \$1.54 million

Amount of academic scholarships awarded to 337 veterans and service members.

### 15

Number of times the VFW testified to Congress in fiscal year 2024. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

### \$2.9 million+

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

### \$150,352

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 26% of the funds covered basic housing needs in fiscal year 2024.



#### JOIN THE VFW

Connect With Us



All figures are based on fiscal year 2024 totals unless otherwise stated.

Updated December 2024

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).



# MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW

## About the VFW

We trace our roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves. In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations that would eventually band together and become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

**Our Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

**Our Vision:** Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.



### The VFW by the numbers

**1.4 million+**

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

**5,500+**

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



### Helping struggling military families

**48**

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Unmet Needs*.

**\$39,737**

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families.

**24**

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs.



### Cutting red tape

**146,000**

Approximate number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in fiscal year 2024.

**14,000**

Number of VA claims filed by the VFW's Pre-Discharge offices in fiscal year 2024 resulting in more than \$110 million in disability compensation.

**20+**

Number of VFW Pre-Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



**1899**

Year the VFW started to fight for veterans, service members and their families.



### Inspiring patriotism in young people

**26,431**

Number of high school students who competed in the 2023-24 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

**68,439**

Number of students who competed in the 2023-24 VFW Patriot's Pen competition.



### Improving life in America

**5.9 million**

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

**\$50.8 million**

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.

### The VFW Relies on Donations

The VFW is a 501(c), and programs are made possible through membership dues and tax-deductible donations from good-hearted Americans.

**Cost of VFW Program Services:  
\$58.9 Million**



Source: VFW 2024 Annual Report

Updated December 2024



**SUPPORT THE VFW**

Learn more about the VFW at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).



# IF YOU'VE EARNED THESE



# THEN YOU BELONG HERE

**JOIN THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

**PLEASE CONTACT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AT:** \_\_\_\_\_



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

*www.vfw.org*

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

# VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

DATES OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
MM / YY MM / YY MM / DD / YYYY

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

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

**Payment Authorization** - You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following:

**ANNUAL MEMBER**

I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues.

I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBER**

I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN**

I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00.

I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mastercard, Visa, Discover or Amex only)

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW Post # \_\_\_\_\_ FORMER MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_  
 TRANSFER from Post # \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ to Post # \_\_\_\_\_  
 RECRUITER \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)  
 QUARTERMASTER \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

<i>Life Member Options</i>		
AGE as of DECEMBER 31*	One-Time Payment	\$45 + 11 Payments of
18-30 Years Old	\$425.00	\$38.64
31-40 Years Old	\$410.00	\$37.27
41-50 Years Old	\$375.00	\$34.09
51-60 Years Old	\$335.00	\$30.45
61-70 Years Old	\$290.00	\$26.36
71-80 Years Old	\$225.00	\$20.45
81 Years & Over	\$170.00	\$15.45

**Automatic Payment Plan Terms and Conditions:** You authorize the VFW to initiate electronic 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. Call VFW Customer Service at 1-800-963-3180 or write to VFW at VFW P.O. Box 119028, Kansas City, MO. 64171 to inquire about or cancel a payment, or to report problems such as bank closures, lost or stolen account numbers, closed accounts or unauthorized transactions. Cancellation requests must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Time ten business days prior to the scheduled payment date. If you are unaware of the charge date for your account, please contact VFW. If a payment is returned by your financial institution (e.g., due to insufficient funds, incorrect account information, closed account, etc.) the VFW will contact you at the address we have on file for you, explaining why the payment could not be processed, and providing alternate payment options. The privilege of making payments under this agreement may be revoked by VFW if any item is not paid upon presentation. You may have additional rights and responsibilities under the Electronic Funds Transfer Act.

**Life Membership Installment Plan Terms and Conditions:** The VFW Life Membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making an initial payment of \$45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an Annual membership card at the time of enrollment. The member may elect to receive a monthly statement by mail or may set up a payment profile to make the monthly payment automatically using a credit/debit card or bank account. A payoff amount will be printed on each monthly invoice, allowing the member the option to pay in full. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon the completion of payments. The Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on December 31 of the year in which the application is submitted.

**Delinquencies will be handled as follows:** Up to 30 days - continue to bill, 31 to 120 days - delinquency can be corrected through make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward, More than 120 days - member is dropped from the Installment Plan, all monthly payments made to date, are applied to future years annual dues.

**VFW PLEDGE** I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise and declare that:

I will bear true allegiance -- to the Constitution of the United States of America -- and I will always be loyal thereto. I do further solemnly promise and declare -- that I will comply with the Congressional Charter -- By-Laws and Ritual of this order -- and I will always be loyal thereto -- that I will never wrong or defraud this organization -- nor a member thereof -- nor permit any wrong to be done to either -- if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership -- any person not eligible -- nor one whom I know to be unworthy. I will never make known to anyone -- not authorized to receive it -- any of the work of this order. Should my affiliation -- with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States -- cease in any way -- I will consider this pledge -- as binding outside of the order -- as though I had remained a member of same. All this I promise and pledge -- upon the honor of a true comrade -- and a citizen of our great republic.

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger/Hostile Fire pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Committee Member                      Committee Member                      Committee Member

Applicants Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

## VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

Recruited/Recommended by:  Recruiter Member ID   
 Auxiliary No.  City  State  Member ID (if already a member)   
 Annual Membership  Life Membership  
 Rejoin Membership Rejoined Previous Member ID No.  Previous Auxiliary   
 Member at Large in Department of   Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

**THESE FIELDS REQUIRED**

Name  Date of Birth   
 Address   Male  Female  
 City  State  ZIP   
 Phone  Email

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

Relationship  to Eligible Veteran\*  VFW Membership ID

**LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary

**ANNUAL TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary   Paying  Nonpaying

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

**THESE FIELDS REQUIRED**

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

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

Name of campaign ribbons or medals:

Dates of Service:  to  Location:

**Investigating Committee Signatures**

1   2   3

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

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

Cash  Check  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AMEX

Life Membership Fee

Name on credit card

Billing address for card

City  State  ZIP

Credit Card No.

CVV Code  Exp. Date

Signature   Date

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY**

ACH (Bank withdraw)

Name of Bank

Bank Routing No.

Account No.

Attach voided check HERE.  
 (Required)

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

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

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

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

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

Signature   (Must be signed by all members.)



