



Monthly Newsletter

Nashua VFW Post 483
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MONTH: December 2023

ISSUE: 7

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President:

Brenda Byrne

603-490-2284

Sr. Vice President:

Diane Ordway

603-505-5758

Jr. Vice President:

Renee Plante

603-714-9024

Treasurer:

Shirley Labonte

603-582-3620

Secretary:

Shirley Labonte

603-582-3620

Conductress:

Carolyn Marineau

603-882-6071

Guard:

Bruce Byrne

603-233-6490

Chaplain

Patriotic Instructor

Gloria Kane

Noreen Wheeler

603-801-9488

1st Year Trustee:

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

Steve Ordway
1 Year Trustee
603-490-2284

Robert Anderson
2 Year Trustee
603-402-6520

Donald Vincent
3Year Trustee
603-809-9482

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POST COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Comrades,

It's hard to believe that we are entering December its crazy how fast this year went by. This year has been full of ups and downs, but we managed to get through it by sticking together. I want to take a minute and recognize Lew Chipola for his dedication not only to this Post but to the VFW and to his community. A lot of the work he does behind the scenes doesn't get recognized enough. So, thank you Lew for everything you do every day. Without you the Post would not be as functional as it is.

There are several events in December that I want to mention;

On December 3 at 09:00 hours we will be honoring Pearl Harbor Day at the Main Street bridge. As always there will be coffee and donuts starting around 0800 hours at the Post. All are invited. On December 16 at 18:00 hours, American Legion James Coffee Post 3 Will be hosting their annual Christmas party and members of the VFW and DAV are invited. This is a 21+ event there will be an ugly sweater contest as well as games and prizes. Hope to see you there! Our next post meeting will be December 19 as the 26th being the day after Christmas would not be feasible.

I wish everyone a happy healthy and safe holiday season.

Yours in comradeship,

Chris DiTullio
Commander
Nashua VFW Post 483
978-987-8009
Cditullio007@yahoo.com



State Commander's Message



Greeting & Salutations from Commander Denis Querrard

Happy 385th Birthday Army National Guard on December 13th!

Happy 4th Birthday U.S. Space Force on December 20th!

'A date which will live in infamy' – December 7th 1941

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

I hope everyone has enjoyed their Thanksgiving with family and friends and as we start the holiday season and head into Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year, let us be thankful for those same friends and family who support us in so many ways.

As we close out 2023 and head into 2024, I would like to thank the New Hampshire VFW membership and its Auxiliary for all the hard work they put into our posts, community activities, and taking care of our Veterans. Please report what you do, put it on Facebook, take pictures, and let everyone see how awesome our posts are!!

Start planning for the third annual VFW Day of Service on May 4th 2024 as part of the VFW's #StillServing campaign; lets unite veterans across America showing the nation the impact veterans make in their communities! Sign up here - <https://todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/>

As we close out the year, please make your donations sooner than later... annual budgets for 2024 are determined by the donations received in 2023. Please donate or set up a fundraiser for the Commanders and Presidents Project assisting Homeless Veterans at Liberty House in Manchester; if you organize a fundraiser please reach out and let me know, if possible, I will be there!

Congratulations to Charlestown Memorial Post 8497 for reaching 103.03% and Brown Knight Memorial Post 8268, Bennington, for reaching 100%! They were both in the running for the drawing of \$500 and Brown Knight Memorial Post 8268 Won, Congratulations!!

I would love to see Posts from District 6 get to 100% by the New Year and everybody reach 102% by February 2024! Hampstead Post 11254 & Hollis Post 11373 need less than 10 members to reach 100%. Please go through your list of expired members and reach out, this is a good time of year to do a buddy check and see how these expired members are doing and see if they need assistance. VFW membership goal of 102% is still on the forefront. Please let the Department know if you have any recruiting events planned.

Get your message out there and report what you do!!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Safe travels while enjoying your family and friends,

Best Wishes, from my house to yours!



STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“Challenging the Needs of Our Veterans”

Wow! Here it is December already, I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. Now onto more holiday festivities and celebrations.

I made a visit to N. Haverhill and Franklin in November. Great meetings and many items covered by both auxiliaries. Continue the great work you do. Also, thank you to Franklin for the donation that you presented at your meeting for my special project and also from the member that made a personal donation as well.

I look forward to visiting some more auxiliaries in December as well. I will be in touch with the president's of the Auxiliaries I would like to visit.

I would like to wish all a continued Happy Holiday season with family and friends. Please take a moment to remember all our soldiers, sailors, airman and their families that are not together this holiday season.

As we continue to working together, we will continue to help our veterans, sisters and brothers of this great organization.

**Thanks,
Kim Copson
President
Dept. of NH
2023-2024**



DISTRICT COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Comrades,

I attended the Council of Administration meeting in Kingston and I want to congratulate the posts that made All- American and All- State. Also , I picked up tickets for the 30 guns in 30 day raffle for the Department of New Hampshire. I distributed 25 tickets to each post and I have some left over if needed. If any posts have any leftover to sell, let me know. Please send ticket stubs and money to State Quartermaster, Chris Peirce.

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your families and I hope you have a very Merry Christmas. Let me know of any Christmas parties and I'll try to attend. The next Council of Administration meeting has been posted in the State Commander's general orders as well as the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and teacher's award banquet. I hope to see you all there. Thank you to Nashua, Pelham, Hollis, Hampstead and Derry who submitted entries. Nashua and Pelham stole the show this year with submissions to the Department. Hopefully, the District will have a Department and National winner. Thank you Tracy Kelley for helping me with the District judging.

**Yours in Comradeship,
District Commander
Isaac Miller**



DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy December!

This past month I had the opportunity to visit Pelham. Thank you for making me feel welcome. You had a great meeting!

Can you believe the program year is half over!! We are now in full swing of the holiday season. This can be a difficult time of year for veterans and your members check in on them so they know how much you care. Best Wishes and Happy Holidays to you and your family!

Dates to Remember

- The next C of A will be held January 20 2024 at SNHU 10am . The Scholastic banquet will also be at SNHU beginning at 2pm. More information to come.
- Next District meeting will be held in Derry Sunday January 28th 2024 9:30 am. I can't wait to see everyone!

December Reminders

- December 1, 2023 - Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday
- December 7, 2023 - Pearl Harbor Day
- December 13, 2023 - National Guard Birthday
- December 16, 2023 - National Wreaths Across America
- December 20, 2023 - Space Force Birthday

District Inspections:

Due to scheduling conflicts some visits have changed. Please see below for new dates

TBD - Merrimack January 5th- Nashua

District 6 Meetings 2023-2024

Derry 1617 Sunday January 28th 2024 9:30 am

Merrimack 8641 Sunday April 14th 2024 9:30 am *Encampment

Membership- District 6 is at 76.67%

- Reminder if members are not paid by 12/31/2023 they are no longer active.
- New Incentive- For each Auxiliary who converts or enrolls 10 Life members will be put in a drawing for \$500



School of Instruction-

We have already completed a few schools of instruction on National Programs, Red Flags Auxiliary (Healthy Auxiliary), MALTA, Online Academy, National Programs, Organizational Knowledge. I hope you have found them helpful. Our next school of instruction will be on Delegates/Alternates. Please let me know if there is any other suggestion you have for school of instruction.

"Challenging the Needs of Our Veterans" and "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

Trish St. German District 6 President 603-540-8203 trishvfw@gmail.com



STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE & CERTIFIED NATIONAL RECRUITER



**2023-12 Dept. NH VFW National Legislative Committee Member, VAVS VAMC Manchester
VFW Representative, Certified National Recruiter, Homeless Chair**

Rev 11-21-23

Our Dept. NH VFW Auxiliary Hospital Charman Madeline Dreusicke has drafted me to be her designated driver till she heals enough to drive herself around, so she keeps me busy. One of my many driving assignments was on Monday before Thanksgiving, we delivered 78 Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets that you VFW and Auxiliary folks donated the money for to purchase, to the Sullivan Towers in Manchester where the VASH program is located. There the eight case workers each got their specific number of bags loaded in their cars and they were off distributing your VFW Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets to the families they serve. It took a lot of coordination between the VFW communities to advertise the program, donate the money, purchase the specific items, and then pack the individual bags for each family. Then some "friends of the VFW " donated a company cargo van and driver to help us deliver the bags from our Pelham VFW post to the Manchester VA.

Recently, an elderly local couple had a car that they wanted to donate to a veteran, and because the VFW is very prominent in the area, they called the Pelham VFW. That hasn't happened in a long time, people are not donating cars as often as they used to. As it happens, I just signed up a young female VFW member that has the usual amount of mental and physical baggage combat veterans have to drag around, and she needed a car so she could get back on her feet. Problem solved. She has a car; the donors have a tax write off and are very happy that their car went to a local veteran. Normally I contact the VA when I get a vehicle, they have a list of veterans that need donated cars. PLEASE, if you know someone that has a serviceable vehicle that they want to donate to a veteran, contact me ASAP.

The holiday season brings additional stress to a lot of veterans that have family issues, health issues, money problems, or just about anything that people normally just shrug off. Please, if you have buddies that suddenly act differently, take the time to be a real friend and help them get over these stressful times. All it takes is to pay them a visit or give them a call. Keep your opinions to yourself, and keep your eyes and ears open to listen to their perception of the world they live in. A smile, a hug, and knowing that someone cares go a long way.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all!

Jörg Dreusicke
VAVS VAMC Manchester VFW Representative
National Legislative Committee Representative
Certified National Recruiter
Homeless Chair
jdreusicke@aol.com
603-553-0395

POST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



NO ARTICLE SUBMITTED

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Greetings from the Chaplain's desk:

Deceased comrades:

Condolences and sympathies were sent out to the family of Barney Barbera on his passing. He was past Commander and Financial officer of American Legion Post 3. He was a staunch Supporter of all veterans and worked tirelessly on benefits and programs that affected them. He will be missed.

Hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving, and family get together. Hope everyone continues to enjoy this Holiday season as we celebrate with family and friends and remember to look out for each other.

Wishing everyone a safe and festive Holiday season.

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

Council of Administration Meetings

19 August 2023: Littleton Post 816 1000

28 October 2023 Kingston 1300

20 January 2024: TBA 1300

13 April 2024: Mountain View Grand Resort 1000

DISTRICT 6 MEETING SCHEDULE

12 August 2023: Derry 1000

21 October 2023: Hudson 1000

13 January 2024: Merrimack 1000

30 March 2024: Pelham 1000

District 6 Auxiliary Schedule

27 August 2023: Nashua 0930

5 November 2023: Pelham 0930

28 January 2024: Derry 0930

14 April 2024: Merrimack 0930

All District 6 meetings are shown in BLUE and scheduled for 1000 unless otherwise noted, dress is blues and grays unless otherwise notified. Auxiliary meeting shown in GOLD.



MEMBERSHIP



CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Div	R S	City	State	N/R LM	Prior Annual	Retention
6	123	4	0	38	165	204	80.88%	3		NASH UA	NH	0	72	66.67%

2023-2024 GOAL 102%

RENEW EARLY (IT DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR EXPIRATION DATE)

DISTRICT 6 MEMBERSHIP

LOCATION	POST #	%	RETENTION
NASHUA	483	80.88%	66.67%
DERRY	1617	87.28%	77.42%
HUDSON	5791	89.63%	55.32%
SALEM	8546	75.00%	36.59%
MERRIMACK	8641	90.70%	55.32%
PELHAM	10722	82.50%	40.54%
HAMPSTEAD	11254	78.95%	20.00%
HOLLIS	11373	87.23%	45.45%
TOTALS		84.60%	49.66%

MEETING REMINDER

25 July 2023
 22 August 2023
 26 September 2023
 24 October 2023
 28 November 2023
 19 December 2023
 23 January 2024
 27 February 2024
 26 March 2024
 23 April 2024
 28 May 2024
 25 June 2024



FUN PAGE



JOKE OF THE MONTH

A man's bragging about his promotion to vice president got so out of hand even his wife was annoyed. "Look, being a vice president isn't that special," she said. "They even have a vice president of peas at the supermarket!" Not believing her for one second, the man called the supermarket and demanded, "Get me the vice president of peas!" The clerk replied, "Fresh, canned, or frozen?"

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Believe you can and you're halfway there. Theodore Roosevelt

DID YOU KNOW

the average soccer ball is made up of 32 leather panels and held together by 642 stitches

MIND TWISTER

A lift is on the ground floor. There are four people in the lift including me. When the lift reaches first floor, one person gets out and three people get in. The lift goes up to the second floor, 2 people get out 6 people get in. It then goes up to the next floor up, no-one gets out but 12 people get in. Halfway up to the next floor up the lift cable snaps, it crashes to the floor. Everyone else dies in the lift. How did I survive?

Veteran Information

VFW Participates in Veterans Day Events: VFW National Commander Duane Sarmiento took part in activities in the Washington, D.C., area on Veterans Day, Nov. 11., beginning with a visit to the White House. From there Sarmiento headed to Arlington National Cemetery where he and VFW Auxiliary President Carla Martinez laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The VFW then hosted a reception at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, while VFW Washington Office staff laid a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during an afternoon ceremony.

House Subcommittee Hearing on Pending Legislation: VFW National Legislative Associate Director Quandrea Patterson testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs regarding pending legislation related to fiduciary fraud and VA Board of Appeals processes. She conveyed the VFW's support to restore benefits to veterans and their families when they fall victim to abuse or fraud by fiduciaries. She also spoke about a bill to establish presumptions of service connection for diseases associated with firefighting. Patterson said, "This would prevent PFAS from becoming another situation like Blue Water Navy or Camp Lejeune in which veterans became sick and died waiting decades for their conditions to be properly recognized and appropriately treated." She stated VFW's support for a bill that limits the authority of VA to deny the claim of a veteran for benefits on the sole basis of failure to appear for a medical examination, commenting that "restarting a claim for this reason is unnecessary and veterans would benefit from a process that does not place so much power in a missed appointment."

Don't Feed the Sharks: The VFW has issued a Claim Shark factsheet for you to share with fellow veterans and social media communities. A Claim Shark is an individual or company that charges hefty fees to "assist" or "consult" veterans with filing their VA benefit claims. This practice is illegal! Like the VFW said last year during testimony before Congress, "In our opinion, any group that fails to adhere to VA's well-established standards of accreditation and fee arrangements should be met at the door by Capitol Police, not offered a seat at the same table as hard-working, VA-accredited advocates who are held to professional and ethical standards designed to protect veterans."



CALENDAR



December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Auxiliary Meeting 1300 Pelham Theme Dinner 1730	2
3 Pearl Harbor Ceremony 0900 White River Christmas Party	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8 Veterans Coffee Talk 0930	9
10 NH Vet. Home Christmas Party	11	12	13	14 Winter Fest at the Elm Street School 1730	15	16
17 Manchester VA Christmas Party	18	19 Post Meeting 1900	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Years Eve						

ANSWER TO BRAIN TWISTER

I got out on the second floor!

POST NEWS

**BREAKING
NEWS**



IF YOU USE FACEBOOK

GO TO

VFW POST 483 Nashua

Thank you goes out to all the members that supported our Poppy Drive on 3-5 November. It was a very successful drive to support our Post Relief Fund. It would not have been so successful if the members did not do two shifts apiece, and one member doing three shifts. In the future we will need more members to step up to cover our locations without those who do having to work more than one shift. Without the Relief Fund we could not help veterans in need of assistance.



Dick Mohrmann, 98 yr old WWII veteran with Commander DiTullio accepting a donation.



Frank Wallent and Steve Ordway with little girl making a donation.



Jr. Vice, Marc Plante receiving a donation.

See page 22-23 for more pictures

Meeting date for December is changed to Tuesday, 18 December 2023, at 1900, due to our regular date is the day after Christmas.



QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER



Meeting date for December is changed to Tuesday, 18 December 2023, at 1900, due to our regular date is the day after Christmas.

See page 27 for Camp Resilience's 2024 schedule.

We will have a table at the Elm Street Schools "Winter Fest" on 14 December, at 1730. Again, participating in a community event. Commander DiTullio and I will be there. Anyone who would like to stop by please feel free to do so.

Two new days of observance have been added to next years events. They are: 4th of July, at City Hall, where the preamble of the Declaration of Independence will be read and a Betsy Ross 13 Star Flag will be raised. The second is 9/11, at the Fire and Rescue Headquarters on E. Hollis St. at the 9/11 Memorial. The President's address to the Nation on 9/11/2001 will be read, with Firing detail and Taps.

CLASSIFIEDS



Keith Leavitt Masonry
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masonry67@gmail.com
keithleavittmasonry.com



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[linkedin.com/pub/john-f-ebersole/14/875/b60](https://www.linkedin.com/pub/john-f-ebersole/14/875/b60)

Analyze • Innovate • Communicate • Implement

12/7/17

free
Resume help
"Ask me about ~~10~~ for ~~10~~"



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FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



BATTLE OF THE MONTH



Attack on Pearl Harbor

The **attack on Pearl Harbor**^[nb 3] was a surprise [military strike](#) by the [Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service](#) upon the [United States](#) against the U.S. [naval base](#) at [Pearl Harbor](#) in [Honolulu, Hawaii](#), just before 8:00 a.m. (local time) on Sunday, December 7, 1941. The United States was a [neutral country](#) at the time; the attack led to its formal entry into [World War II](#) on the side of the [Allies](#) the next day. The [Japanese military leadership](#) referred to the attack as the **Hawaii Operation** and **Operation AI**,^[nb 4] and as **Operation Z** during its planning.^{[12][13][14]}

The attack was preceded by months of negotiations between the U.S. and Japan over the future of the Pacific. Japanese demands included that the U.S. [end its sanctions against Japan](#), cease aiding [China](#) in the [Second Sino-Japanese war](#), and allow Japan to access the resources of the [Dutch East Indies](#). Anticipating a negative response from the US, Japan sent out its naval attack groups in November 1941 just prior to receiving the [Hull note](#)—the U.S. demand that Japan withdraw from China and [French Indochina](#). Japan intended the attack as a [preventive](#) action. Its aim was to prevent the [United States Pacific Fleet](#) from interfering with its planned military actions in [Southeast Asia](#) against overseas territories of the [United Kingdom](#), the [Netherlands](#), and those of the United States. Over the course of seven hours there were coordinated Japanese attacks on the U.S.-held [Philippines](#), [Guam](#), and [Wake Island](#) and on the [British Empire](#) in [Malaya](#), [Singapore](#), and [Hong Kong](#).^[15]

The attack commenced at 7:48 a.m. [Hawaiian Time](#) (6:18 p.m. GMT).^[nb 5] The base was attacked by 353 Imperial Japanese aircraft (including [fighters](#), [level and dive bombers](#), and [torpedo bombers](#)) in two waves, launched from six [aircraft carriers](#).^[16] Of the eight U.S. Navy [battleships](#) present, all were damaged, with four sunk. All but [USS Arizona](#) were later raised, and six were returned to service and went on to fight in the war. The Japanese also sank or damaged three [cruisers](#), three [destroyers](#), an anti-aircraft training ship,^[nb 6] and one [minelayer](#). More than 180 US aircraft were destroyed.^[18] A total of 2,403 Americans were killed and 1,178 others were wounded, making it the deadliest event ever recorded in Hawaii.^[19] Important base installations such as the power station, [dry dock](#), [shipyard](#), maintenance, and fuel and torpedo storage facilities, as well as the submarine piers and headquarters building (also home of the [intelligence section](#)) were not attacked. Japanese losses were light: 29 aircraft and five [midget submarines](#) lost, and 64 servicemen killed.^[not verified in body] [Kazuo Sakamaki](#), the commanding officer of one of the submarines, was captured.

Japan [announced declarations of war](#) on the United States and the British Empire later that day (December 8 in Tokyo), but the declarations were not delivered until the following day. The British government [declared war on Japan](#) immediately after learning that their territory had also been attacked, while the following day (December 8) the United States Congress [declared war](#) on Japan. On December 11, though they had no formal obligation to do so under the [Tripartite Pact](#) with Japan, [Germany](#) and [Italy](#) each declared war on the U.S., which responded with a [declaration of war against Germany](#) and [Italy](#). There were numerous historical precedents for the unannounced military action by Japan, but the lack of any formal warning (required by part III of the [Hague Convention of 1907](#)), particularly while negotiations were still apparently ongoing, led President [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) to proclaim December 7, 1941, "[a date which will live in infamy](#)".





CROSSWORD PUZZLE



11/15/23, 1:40 PM

LA Times, Wed, Nov 15, 2023

The Washington Post

LA Times, Wed, Nov 15, 2023

By Barbara Lin & Carly Schuna / Ed. Patti Varol

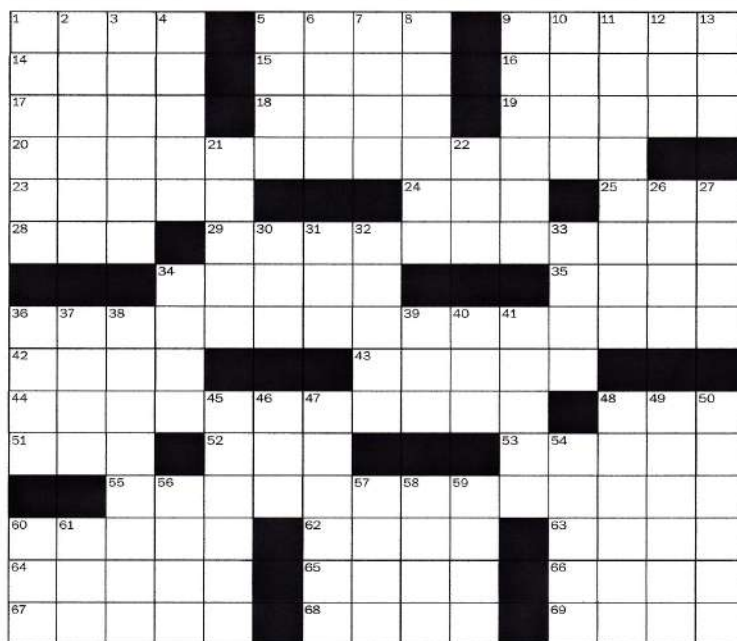
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ACROSS

- 1 Crunchy sandwiches with mayo
5 Prepare, as avocados for guacamole
9 Impulsive speed
14 Uncommon
15 ___ gobi: vegetarian curry dish
16 Grouch on TV
17 Off-Broadway award
18 Prefix with second or bot
19 Beach shoe
20 Present surroundings?
23 Taco topping
24 Lav
25 Faux ___
28 Sci-fi aviators
29 Audio cassette successor
34 Common ___
35 Little bit
36 Jeans option
42 Away from shore
43 Nose-in-the-air type
44 One with pressing needs?
48 Fuss
51 Horn-heavy genre
52 Communication syst. in which an ILY gesture means "I love you"
- 53 Rubber-___ shoes
55 Shredded, or an apt description of 20-, 29-, 36-, and 44-Across
60 Slacks alternative
62 Sweetheart
63 Ductwork sealer
64 Frenemy, maybe
65 Start of a German count?
66 Decorates, as cookies
67 "Hello" Grammy winner
68 Film scene shot without interruption
69 Amazon icon

DOWN

- 1 Window-shop
2 Animal in many 3-Down
3 Experiments
4 Trickles (in)
5 Finger painting, for short?
6 Ruck of HBO's "Succession"
7 "Hello," for one
8 Hullabaloo
9 Communal Asian meal with simmering broth
10 Tennis legend Arthur
11 Desert stinger
12 Beach tone
13 Unit of energy



- 21 Indiana cager
22 NYC rep since 2019
26 Italian wine region
27 Bamboozle
30 Four quarters
31 Bks. in progress
32 "Special Topics in Calamity Physics" novelist Marisha
33 Food plan
34 Airbnb visit, say
36 Finger-paints, perhaps
37 Doesn't seem to be hurt
38 Tranquillizer
39 Cut off
40 Mama deer
41 Latissimus ___: back muscle
45 Skirmish
46 Team with four Women's World Cup titles
47 "Yeah, right!"
48 Vicuña descendant
49 More meaningful
50 Most peculiar
54 Eye-related
56 ___ history
57 A Skywalker twin
58 Hard pull
59 Subterfuge
60 Mme., in Madrid
61 Minor character?



CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION



11/15/23, 1:41 PM

LA Times, Wed, Nov 15, 2023

The Washington Post

LA Times, Wed, Nov 15, 2023

By Barbara Lin & Carly Schuna / Ed. Patti Varol

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ACROSS

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- 28 Sci-fi aviators
- 29 Audio cassette successor
- 34 Common ___
- 35 Little bit
- 36 Jeans option
- 42 Away from shore
- 43 Nose-in-the-air type
- 44 One with pressing needs?
- 48 Fuss
- 51 Horn-heavy genre
- 52 Communication syst. in which an ILY gesture means "I love you"
- 53 Rubber-___ shoes
- 55 Shredded, or an apt description of 20-, 29-, 36-, and 44-Across
- 60 Slacks alternative
- 62 Sweetheart
- 63 Ductwork sealer
- 64 Frenemy, maybe
- 65 Start of a German count?
- 66 Decorates, as cookies
- 67 "Hello" Grammy winner
- 68 Film scene shot without interruption
- 69 Amazon icon

DOWN

- 1 Window-shop
- 2 Animal in many 3-Down
- 3 Experiments
- 4 Trickles (in)
- 5 Finger painting, for short?
- 6 Ruck of HBO's "Succession"
- 7 "Hello," for one
- 8 Hullabaloo
- 9 Communal Asian meal with simmering broth
- 10 Tennis legend Arthur
- 11 Desert stinger
- 12 Beach tone
- 13 Unit of energy



- 21 Indiana cager
- 22 NYC rep since 2019
- 26 Italian wine region
- 27 Bamboozle
- 30 Four quarters
- 31 Bks. in progress
- 32 "Special Topics in Calamity Physics" novelist Marisha
- 33 Food plan
- 34 Airbnb visit, say
- 36 Finger-paints, perhaps
- 37 Doesn't seem to be hurt
- 38 Tranquillizer
- 39 Cut off
- 40 Mama deer
- 41 Latissimus ___: back muscle
- 45 Skirmish
- 46 Team with four Women's World Cup titles
- 47 "Yeah, right!"
- 48 Vicuña descendant
- 49 More meaningful
- 50 Most peculiar
- 54 Eye-related
- 56 ___ history
- 57 A Skywalker twin
- 58 Hard pull
- 59 Subterfuge
- 60 Mme., in Madrid
- 61 Minor character?



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.



Adam Vanderbos receiving a donation.



Steve Ordway receiving a donation.



Frank Wallent receiving a donation with another lady waiting to donate.



Lew Chipola receiving a donation.



Frank Wallent, Steve Ordway and Commander Chris DiTullio at Barney Barbera's Wake



Dick Mohrmann at Barney Barbera's Wake

Nashua VFW Post 483 Voice of Democracy and Teacher winners for 2023-2024. They won at Post and District 6, now go on to State competition.



Voice of Democracy winner Thatcher Debowski



Teacher winner Msgt Nick Ellis



American Legion and VFW Post 483 members at Barney Barbera's Wake

BIRCH HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



Principal Teeboom introduced each service member and veteran. Here, you see Nashua VFW Post 483 member, Dick Mohrmann (our 98-year-old World War II veteran) waving to the children, and they are all respectfully waving back!



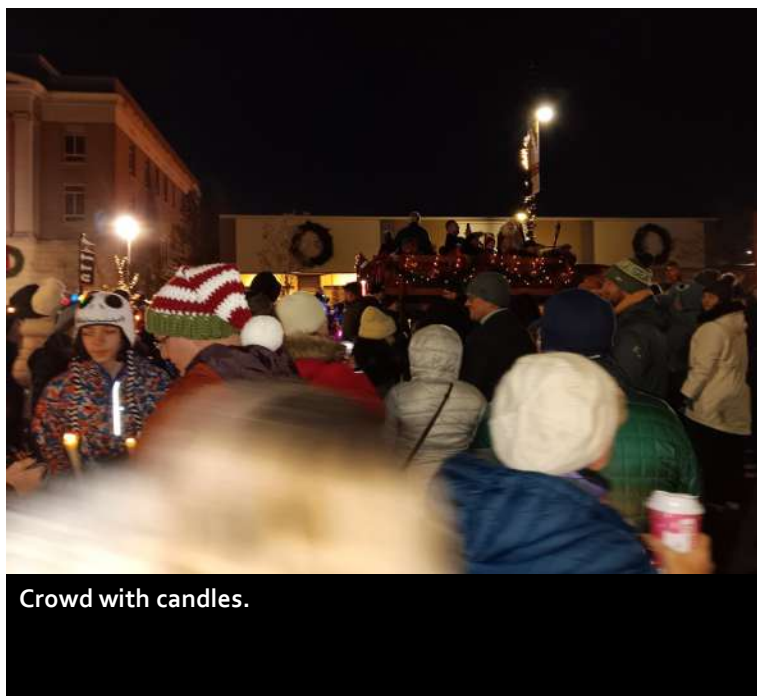
Nashua Winter Holiday Stroll



Booth at Nashua's Winter Holiday Stroll. Commander DiTullio, Past Post Commander Anderson, Quartermaster Chipola and Jr. Vice Plante.



Ice Sculptures in front of City Hall



Crowd with candles.



Some of the crowd forming in front of City Hall

As you know, the VFW has been a vocal opponent of predatory claim shark companies who charge veterans illegal fees for sub-par VA benefit claims assistance. Make no mistake, the proliferation of these illicit organizations is a threat not only to the VFW's cornerstone Veterans Service program, but an even greater threat to the VA benefits system as we know it. Over the last few months, we have ratcheted up the pressure on these companies by passing legislation to crack down on their practices at the state level and working to help veterans bring litigation against them. We have trained your service officers to know how to handle claim sharks and continue to seek out veterans who need help getting out of these predatory contracts.

The Claim Sharks felt the pressure from the VFW and this week launched their latest salvo, trying to normalize and legitimize their financial exploitation of our nation's disabled veterans – they even named VSOs like the VFW as their “threats.” While we should be flattered that they recognize the threat we pose, now is the time where we come together to decisively defeat this scourge. Like the VFW said last year before Congress, “any group that fails to adhere to VA's well-established standards of accreditation and fee arrangements should be greeted at the door by Capitol Police, not offered a seat at the same table as VA-accredited representatives who are held to certain professional and ethical standards.”

Bottom line: Predatory claim shark companies are engaging in illegal activities. There is no gray area here, no matter how much money they want to throw at it. Their latest collusion is a desperate attempt to avoid accountability.

Your VFW has aggressively pursued this issue in all corners of government, solidifying the veterans' community's stance on this issue. You will see more from the VFW in the coming weeks, asking you to take action with your Congressional representatives, your state legislatures, and your communities. In the meantime, please read up on the facts and familiarize yourself with this issue, if you have not already. I have attached a branded VFW Fact Sheet on claim sharks for you to use and distribute widely to veterans. Please feel free to post the dark version on your social media and print off the light version for use in your community.

For more than a century, your VFW has been on the forefront of advocating for veterans and their earned benefits. In the last year alone, more than 550,000 veterans received more than \$13 billion in benefits from VA through the diligence and professionalism of the VFW's global network of VA-accredited service officers. Not a penny of this \$13 billion went to line the pockets of the VFW. It all went to the veterans, as the law requires.

Comrades: This fight may get a little messy in the coming weeks, but we will uphold the principles of our charter “to assist worthy comrades...and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans.” The VFW will stop Claim Sharks and we are eager to serve alongside you in this fight.

Yours in Comradeship,

Duane Sarmiento
Commander-in-Chief



DON'T FEED THE SHARKS



DontFeedTheSharks.org

What is a "Claim Shark"?

- A Claim Shark is an individual or company that charges hefty fees to "assist" or "consult" veterans with filing their VA benefit claims – this practice is illegal!
- Claim Sharks are not VA accredited, meaning they aren't required to adhere to the well-established professional and ethical standards of VA accreditation, so their advice can often be misleading or even fraudulent.
- Like a "Loan Shark," once you're in, you can't get out, and may be subject to new and hidden fees whenever you get a new rating, no matter who does the work.

Some of their predatory practices are:

- Promising or guaranteeing an increased disability rating or percentage increase.
- Advertising expedited VA claims decisions.
- Requesting login credentials to access a veteran's personal information through secure VA websites like eBenefits or VA.gov.
- Using confusing tactics or ambiguous language to mislead claimants or coerce them into signing a contract.
- Telling veterans to forego VA exams and offering health consultations within their own network of doctors.

Who are the Claim Sharks?

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Trajector Medical | ➤ Patriot Angels |
| ➤ Vet Benefits Guide | ➤ Veteran Care Services |
| ➤ Veterans Guardian | ➤ VetComm |
| ➤ VA Claims Insider | ➤ VA Claims Academy |
| ➤ Telemedica | ➤ Vet Assist |

Veterans can protect themselves by:

- Always working with VA accredited representatives.
- Attending all exams ordered by VA.
- Not signing contracts.
- Not agreeing to fees or payments from future benefits.
- Not agreeing to pay for medical consultations or opinions.
- Not providing access to Protected Health Information or Personal Identifiable Information.

Who is NOT a Claim Shark?

- VA accredited veterans service organization representatives, like the VFW
- VA accredited claims agents
- VA accredited attorneys
- Attorneys assisting with Camp Lejeune lawsuits who do not charge excessive fees



sneak preview of the fabulous 2024 retreat lineup.

- Jan 26 – 28: Veteran Winter Retreat
- Feb 16 – 18: Veteran Couples ❤️
- Feb 16 – 18: Veteran Winter Retreat
- Feb 27 – Mar 1: 🛡️ First Responder Armor Up!
- Mar 8 – 10: Veteran Women 🕊️
- Mar 22 – 24: Veteran Resiliency & Wellness
- Apr 12 – 14: Veteran Resiliency & Wellness
- Apr 23 – 26: 🛡️ First Responder Armor Up!
- May 14 – 17: 🛡️ First Responder Retiree Armor Up!
- Jun 4 – 7: 🛡️ First Responder Armor Up!
- Jun 21 – 23: Veteran Family 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦
- Jul 18 – 20: 🐎 Veteran Equine Assisted Learning
- Aug 6 – 9: Veteran Caregiver
- Aug 16 – 18: Veteran Family 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦
- Sept 12 – 15: Veteran Couples ❤️
- Oct 3 – 5: 🐎 Veteran Equine Assisted Learning
- Oct 11 – 13: Veteran Couples
- Oct 15 – 18: 🛡️ First Responder Peer Support
- Oct 28 – 31: Veteran Women 🕊️
- Nov 5 – 8: Veteran Resiliency & Wellness
- Nov 22 – 24: Veterans Creative Wellness



For More Info?

DREED@
CAMP-RESILIENCE.ORG

THE CAMP RESILIENCE QUARTERLY NOV '23
(978) 219-4003
WWW.CAMP-RESILIENCE.ORG



**Need Info
on Requests?**

crayjr@gmail.com



MOC Pup Tent #NH1

Randall Made Model 14 Attack Knife 0-1 Blade Micarta Handle

Retail Value \$595

Model 14 – Attack

Military Style



Only Two Hundred Tickets To Be Sold
\$20 / Ticket



All proceeds used to
assist veterans in the
homes and the
hospitals

“Keep ‘em Smilin’ in Beds of White!”

Venmo payments to @Jorg-Dreusicke





Veterans Benefit Dinner Public Welcome All proceeds benefit veterans programs.

When: Friday December 1st, 2023
Doors open at 5:30pm,
Dinner served at 6pm.

Where:: VFW Post
6 Main St., Pelham, NH 03076

Admission: \$8 per adult
Children are free.

What : Italian dinner, salad and desserts!



**Ugly
Sweater
Contest!**



Visit our website at <https://pelhamnhvfw.com/>

Sponsored by John H. Hargreaves Memorial Post 10722 and Auxiliary, Pelham NH

IF YOU'VE EARNED THESE



European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal



Vietnam Service Medal



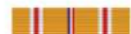
Southwest Asia Service Medal



Afghanistan Campaign Medal



Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon w/ Gold Border



Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal



Korean Service Medal



Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal



Iraq Campaign Medal



Coast Guard Combat Action Ribbon



American Defense Service Medal



Korean Defense Service Medal



Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal



Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal



Combat Action Ribbon



American Campaign Medal



Army of Occupation / Navy Occupation Service Medal



Navy Expeditionary Medal



Kosovo Campaign Medal



Air Force Combat Action Medal



Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal



Combat Infantryman Badge



Combat Medical Badge



Combat Action Badge



SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia

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	Dates _____
KOREA DUTY (1955 - present)	GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY	EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS	

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) _____

Life Member Options

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.

Applicants Signature & Date _____

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

Committee Member _____ Committee Member _____ Committee Member _____

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 withdrawal)

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.)



MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



New Cootie

Reinstated Cootie

Date: _____ Cootie No. _____ Recruited By: _____

Pup Tent Name, Number and Location

Applicant's Name (Print): _____

Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Notify in Emergency: _____

DOB: _____ Branch of Service: _____ Rank (Highest): _____

Enlistment Date: _____ Discharge Date: _____

Hat Size: _____ Present Occupation: _____

Dues paid to December 31, 20____ or VFW Life Member # _____

VFW Post Name and Number

Located in: _____
City State Zip

I certify that I am an active member of the VFW of the U.S.
and am desirous of becoming a member of the MOC –
"The Honor Degree of the VFW".

Applicant's Signature

Recommended and Verified (PRINTED) by:

Cootie No: _____

Cootie No: _____

Accepted into Pup Tent on Date: _____

1st Degree accepted Date: _____2nd Degree accepted Date: _____3rd Degree received and title of Cootie bestowed
on this Date: _____

VFW CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

_____, _____ Located in _____
Post Name Post No. City, State and Zip

This is to certify that Comrade _____

Name of Applicant

Has been a member of the VFW for the preceding six (6) months, and that he has fulfilled one of the
following qualifications as indicated:

(1) Held the following Office in the Post: _____

OR

(2) Served on the following Post Committee: _____

Certified to by a majority of the members present at a meeting of this Post held on (Date): _____

Attest:

Post Adjutant (PRINT)

Post Commander (PRINT)

Post Adjutant (Signature)

Post Commander (Signature)