Department of Nebraska Veterans of Foreign Wars Leadership Manual

2023-2024



Commander Chris Beaty

Department of Nebraska • State Headquarters 2431 N. 48th Street • Lincoln • NE • 68504 402-464-0674•www.vfwne.com•

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June 4th, 2023

To the members of the Department of Nebraska - Veterans of Foreign Wars,

I want to pass on a sincere "Thank You" to the members of the great VFW Department of Nebraska for allowing me to serve with you as your Commander. I cannot do it alone. It takes all of us from the newest recruit to the Commander to support the Veterans that gave us the freedoms we enjoy today. "Let's Make a Difference Together" in the lives of our Veterans, our community, and our youth.

How is the Leadership Manual? Did it streamline the duties of our organization? I have listened to you as members, incoming and outgoing Officers, to improve the inner workings of this great organization with only minor changes made to this manual. Rome was not built in a day. Let's continue to use this manual to guide our Post and Districts to be successful for years to come.

With the use of this Leadership manual, important information is organized, incentives for your ongoing efforts are provided, and it creates a long-term continuity of key VFW operations. It is a guidebook for success of your post, district, and department. Don't keep it a secret, it is something that should be shared with every comrade, from new recruits to past department commanders. "Let's Make a Difference Together" to grow new leadership and perpetuate this great organization.

The VFW Department of Nebraska is a Veteran Service Organization. The VFW along with the Auxiliary are a team to serve our Veterans, our Community, and our Youth. "Let's Make a Difference Together" my moto is to encourage all comrades to espouse "Do not let petty jealousies of trivial personalities influence our deliberations. Let us uphold the obligation of unselfish comradeship and loyalty to our organization and government of the United States of America."

To accomplish this, as Commander Baker said, we need to unite as one post, one auxiliary, one district, one Department, and all service organizations. As a group, we will assist your community's veterans and their families, foster patriotism, provide community service and acts of good will to your neighbors. If your post is too small to put on a VFW'S "#STILLSERVING" event, team with another post, auxiliary, or other Veteran service organizations to accomplish this service.

Thank you for your support in "Let's Making a Difference Together" for our Veterans of Foreign Wars in this great state of Nebraska!

Sincerely,

Chris Beaty

State Commander

Department of Nebraska

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department of Nebraska

Nebraska VFW Headquarters Directory

Main Number (402) 464-0674

Fax Number (402) 464-0675

Jeffrey Baker State Quartermaster/Adjutant

Trudie Hammers Programs/Event Coordinator

Nebraska VFW Auxiliary State Headquarters

Main Number (402) 464-1586

Jean Barton Department Secretary

Sandee Bellows Department Treasurer

National VFW Contact Information

Kansas City Office (833) 839-8387

Washington D.C. Office (202) 543-2239

Emblem & Supply Store (833) VFW-VETS

Member Service Center (833) VFW-VETS

Insurance Program (800) VFW-VETS

Post Insurance (800) 829-8390

VFW Member Services (833) VFW-VETS







DATES TO REMEMBER 2023-2024

2023

June 10th: Officer Training Seminar - Mahoney State Park - Ashland

June 17th: Officer Training Seminar - Bremer Community Center Hastings

June 24th: Officer Training Seminar - NE Community College - Norfolk

July 8th: Officer Training Seminar - Hampton Inn - North Platte

July 21st-27th: National Convention - Phoenix, AZ

Sept. 29th: VFW Birthday

Oct. 6th: State Commander's Homecoming - Omaha, NE

Oct. 7th: Fall Council of Administration Meeting - Omaha, NE

Oct 14th-15th: Nebraska Women Veterans Symposium - Kearney

Oct. 20th-22nd: Big 10 Conference - Itasca, IL

Oct. 31st: Post Inspection Reports due to Department

Nov. 11th: Veterans Day

2024

Feb. 1st: VFW CVSO Symposium - Lincoln, NE

Feb. 2nd-3rd: Mid-Winter Conference - Lincoln, NE

Mar 2nd-Mar 6: Voice of Democracy - Washington, DC

Mar. 3rd-Mar 7: Legislative Conference - Washington, DC

May 24th: Nebraska VFW Birthday

June 7th-9th: State Convention - Columbus, NE

July 27th-Aug 1: National Convention - Louisville, KY

	2023-2024 Deadline Dates
Date	July
31	Deadline (T-1) Trustee Quarterly report to Department (April 1-June 30)
	September
30	Bonds due to Department
30	Delegate Registration due to Department
30	IRS 990 Form due to Department
30	Quarterly Community Service Report (Q-1) due to Department
	October
7	UTV Raffle Drawing
31	Deadline (T-2) Trustee Quarterly report to Department (July 1 - Sept 30)
31	Patriot's Pen, VOD and Teacher to POST level
31	Inspections - 100% District
	November
15	Patriot's Pen, VOD and Teacher to DISTRICT level
	December
15	Patriot's Pen, VOD and Teacher to DEPARTMENT level
31	20 Questions to Department
31	Quarterly Community Service Report (Q-2) due to Department
	January
1	Cut off Date - Battle of Midway Award (Post/District)
1	Public Servant Award (EMT/Fire/Law) to Department
5	Calendar Raffle drawing
15	Patriot's Pen, VOD and Teacher summaries to Department
31	Deadline (T-3) Trustee Quarterly report to Department (Oct. 1 - Dec. 31)
	March
1	Scout of the Year Entry to Post
31	Scholarship Student Applications due to Department
31	Quarterly Community Service Report (Q-3) due to Department
	April
1	Scout of the Year Entry to Department
30	Deadline (T-4) Trustee Quarterly report to Department (Jan 1 - March 31)
30	District VOD/Patriots Pen Contributions due to Department
31	Post/Auxiliary Strategic Review Deadline
	May
1	Cut off Date - Post All-State Commander & Quartermaster Competition
1	Cut off Date - Cliff Polk Membership Memorial Award
1	Deadline for Post/District Election Reports
1	Chaplain Memorial Record to Department Chaplain
1	Community Service Record Book to Department
1	Post Color Guard Report to Department
	June
30	12 month Program Reporting due to Department
30	Cut off Date - All-State District Commander Competition
30	Cut off Date - Outstanding Life Membership Award
30 30	Cut off Date - "Black Jack" Pershing Membership Distinction Award
30	Quarterly Community Service Report (Q-4) due to Department
	9

POST MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

As required by Department or National Bylaws:

2023-2024

AUDITS : All four (4) Trustees' Reports of Audit must have been received at Department.
Each audit must be received within 30 days following the end of the observed quarter and must be completed in full and signed by all three Trustees and Commander. A grace period of up to fifteen (15) days will be extended to allow for Posts that meet later in the month.
QUARTERMASTER BONDING: Post Quartermaster must be bonded through
Department or provide proof of local bonding which must be submitted to Department by September 30th, 2023.
IRS 990 FORM: Must submit copy of 2022 IRS Form 990 to Department Headquarters no later than September 30th, 2023.
INSURANCE: For Posts owning property. A Post must submit a copy of their current Certificate of General Liability Insurance and Liquor Liability Insurance Policy if the Post has a Canteen Policy showing Department and National VFW as additional insured to Department Headquarters by September 30th, 2023.
POST ELECTION REPORT: Submit Post Report of Election of Post Officers for 2024-2025 by May 1st, 2024.
DISTRICT MASSTANC DARTICIDATIONS DO LO COMPANSA DE LA COMPANSA DEL LA COMPANSA DE
DISTRICT MEETING PARTICIPATION: Post Commander or designee must attend and represent the Post at all properly called District meetings, training sessions and conventions.
STATE DELEGATE CREDENTIALS PAYMENT: All State Delegate Credential and new member admission fees must be paid to cast Post delegate votes in ballots at the Annual State Convention. Delegate Dues are to be paid at the time of the Post Inspection based on the June 30th, 2023 membership total.

District Commanders have been directed to complete all Post Inspections for VFW Posts by October 31st, 2023

DEPARTMENT PROGRAM AWARDS

Certificates of Recognition and other prizes will be awarded at State Convention, unless otherwise specified

2023-2024

COMMUNITY SERVICE SCRAPBOOK: Department will recognize and award \$200.00
to the Post that places first in the Community Service Scrapbook competition. Posts who submit a scrapbook will be judged for their community service, volunteerism, and overall community impact of their unique service projects.
SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT (VIRTUAL SCRAPBOOK): Department will recognize and
award \$200.00 to the Post that places first in the Social Media Account competition. Posts who maintain an active social media account will be judged for their community service, volunteerism, and overall community impact of their unique service projects. In addition, accounts will be reviewed for relevant posting of local, state and national events and programs.
NEBRASKA SCOUT OF THE YEAR: Department will recognize it's first place winner
and award \$500.00 to the Scout whose nomination packet is chosen and forwarded on to National VFW for the National Scout of the Year award.
NEBRASKA TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Department will recognize it's first place
winners in National's predesignated categories and award \$200.00 to the Teacher whose nomination packet is chosen and forwarded on to National VFW for the VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.
COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR: Department will annually
recognize the outstanding work of one Nebraska County Veteran Service Officer who goes above and beyond to assist veterans at the local, state and national levels. Award will be presented in conjunction with the CVSOAN Spring Meeting.
PUBLIC SERVANTS AWARD (EMT/FIRE/LAW): Department will recognize
outstanding public servants who demonstrate leadership and selfless service to their community and it's citizens.
POST COLOR GUARD: Department will recognize Post Color Guards who report
activities with a Certificate of Recognition and additional monetary awards of \$100.00,
\$75.00, and \$50.00 for those Posts who best demonstrate outstanding community activities and other color guard involvement.
RICHARD "DICK" MORRISON AWARD FOR LEGISLATIVE DISTINCTION:
Department will recognize an outstanding individual who distinguishes themselves
through their advocacy and commitment to Nebraska's veterans, through their
government service at the local, state or national level. Award to be presented at Mid-Winter Conference.

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2023-2024 BUDDY POPPY PROGRAM

As we enter the **101st** year of the Buddy Poppy Program, we reflect on how it benefits the disabled and needy veterans, also the widows and orphans of deceased veterans. Since 1922 the Buddy Poppy is the VFW's official memorial flower representing blood shed by American service members. It reiterates that the VFW will not forget their sacrifices.

Poppy assembly is great therapy and provides extra money paid to the patients in Veterans Hospitals and homes that assemble these VFW Buddy Poppies. It helps in counseling service for disabled veterans, entertainment of hospital patients, and assistance to servicemen.

The proceeds from the Buddy Poppy donations go into your Post Relief Fund (National By-Laws Section 219 and Manual of Procedure Section 704 and 711). From the relief fund you can help the needy veterans and their families in your local community. Buddy Poppy funds can be expended to purchase educational materials (examples: VOD, Patriot Pen, Citizen Education and Community Service): Note Section 711 of the Manual of Procedure.

I urge all Posts in the Department of Nebraska to participate in this program. Order your poppies and supplies early. The Poppy year runs July 1, 2023 to June 30th, 2024. Good distribution dates are Memorial Day in May and Veterans Day in November. Volunteer your time to distribute poppies. The minimum order is **100** poppies and thereafter in multiples of 50 poppies.

Distribution of Buddy Poppies should be included in every Post, District or Department activity or anything in *which* you participate, membership drives, Patriotic events, even Bingo should include distribution of our favorite flower.

Ideas for poppies: Sell coat hanger wreaths made from poppies; A wall of Remembrance using poppy cards filled with poppies; Poppy center pieces; Speak on poppies at civic organizations and take poppies to collect donations. Take poppies to school and talk about what they mean.

All participants will receive a certificate and the following cash awards in membership division for the greatest numerical increase over a 3-year average:

Division I: Post Membership 1 - 100 Prize: 1st Place - \$75

DIVISION II: Post Membership 101 - 300 Prize: 1st Place - \$75

DIVISION III: Post Membership 301 and Over Prize: 1st Place - \$75

Entries for the Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be judged at State Convention and the program is detailed on following page.

If I can be of any assistance throughout the 2023-2024 program year, please contact me.

Honor the dead by helping the living.

Richard Bock 1008 9th St., Kearney, NE 68845

The Buddy Poppy Display Contest

The 2023-2024 Buddy Poppy Program has the following display contests which each Post and Auxiliary can enter for cash prizes.

Buddy Poppy Display Contest: Rules and Judging in conformance with the National Contest; Judging is to be at Department Convention.

Category 1: Public Promotion of Buddy Poppy Campaign. (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

- A. Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.
- B. At least one (1) Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color with label attached.

Prizes: 1st Place - \$75 2nd Place - \$50

Category 2: Memorial or Inspirational Display (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes).

Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.

a.) At least one (1) Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Prizes: 1st Place - \$75 2nd Place - \$50

Category 3: Artistic or Decorative Use of the Buddy Poppy (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

Any display not meeting the qualifications of Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

At least one **(1)** Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Prizes: 1st Place - \$75 2nd Place - \$50

Poppy Display JUDGING

Judging of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) are entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of poppies used.

DISPLAYS may be entered and set up at any time after 3:00 pm on Friday and no later than 3pm on Saturday, judging to begin by 4:00pm on Saturday. Displays shall be set up in the space provided by the Convention location.

The individual responsible for the display must complete an entry form which will show the category, number of poppies used, the purpose of the display, the Post and or Ladies Auxiliary number and location and the name of the person who will remove the display at close of convention. Entry should be placed in an envelope on the underside of the display, with the envelope CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE CATEGORY NUMBER and NUMBER OF POPPIES USED on the outside of the envelope.

A POST OR AUXILIARY NUMBER OR NAME SHOWING WILL DISQUALIFY THE ENTRY.

DISPLAYS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A WHITE CARD, NOT TO EXCEED 6" X 12" IN SIZE, ON WHICH IS LETTERED IN BLACK INK, AN EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DISPLAY OR OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE VIEWER OR THE JUDGES.

ANY DISPLAYS USED IN PREVIOUS YEARS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

The Department Buddy Poppy Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down or returning displays. (Note: This rule applies at the National Convention.)

Posts that will represent the Department at National Convention in each category must notify the Department Adjutant by **June 15**, **2024**. National contest rules must be followed.

DATE	CONTACT PHONE #	
POST/AUXILIARY NO	THEME DISCRIPTION ATTACHED?	
DO YOU HAVE A DISPLAY FOR: Category I	Category II Category III	_
NUMBER OF POPPIES ORDERED IN 2021-2022	22022-2023	_
NUMBER OF POPPIES ORDERED IN CURRENT	YEAR BY MAY 31st, 2024	_
POST COMMANDER		_
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT		
PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPLAY PICK U	JP	_

Post Forms



QUARTERMASTER'S

QUARTERMASTER'S COPY



DETAIL OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

POST NO. 14001

NO.	RECEIPTS (DETAIL EACH	()		VOUCH	ER		DISE	BURSEMENT	S (DETAIL I	EACH)	
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R 222	R.J. Thomas - Cont. Member	43	00	64	Fi	rst Nationa	l Bank	- Mort		200	00
R 223	Ben Kames - New Member	43	00	65	Na	ational Hea	dquart	ers		265	00
R 224	Jack C. Burton - Cont. Transfer	43	00	66	Na	ational Hea	dquart	ers		93	00
R 225	Edward B. Hurn - Reinstate	43	00	67	W	ater Comp	any			63	75
R 226	Kenneth Price - Life Member	265	00	68	Na	ational Hea	dquart	ers		155	00
R 227	Curtis Hoyle - New Member	43	00								
R 228	Receipts from dinner	215	50								
R 229	Donation from Auxiliary	50	00								
R 230	Chris Smith - New Member	43	00								
R 231	John Boyd - Reinstate	43	00								
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	elief Fund (See Sec. 219, Manual of Procedure,		-	134	89			43	00	134	89
	dome or Building Fund (Including Savings,			710	00					710	00
	Canteen or Club Fund					265	00	265	00		
-	embership Fund										
Other											
		TOTA	LS	2,186	21	826	50	871	28	2,141	43



TRUSTEES' REPORT OF AUDIT of

The Books and Records of the Quartermaster and Adju	itant of	f			14001				
						nty Council/F			
Department of XX		for the	e Fisca	al Quarter	ending	June 3	30	, 20_	XX
FISCAL QUARTERS: Jan 1 to March 31	Anri	l 1 to Ju	ne 30	luly	1 to Sep	t 30 (Oct 1	to Dec. 31	
- Juni to March of	T-00 -00 -00								Fore reasons and
FUNDS:	at B	Cash Bal Beginnin Juarter		Recei During Q 10.		Expendite During Qu 11.		Net Cash Bal at End of Q 12.	
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Post General Fund		1341	<i>00</i> <i>32</i>	382		2416	_	2753	06
4. Post Relief Fund (Poppy Profits, Donations, etc.)		134	89	242		546		2013	43
5. Post Home or Building Fund (Including Savings but Not Real Estate)	U	710	00	55		125		1139	54
6. Post Canteen or Club Fund	_	4900	00	286		1314	89	6448	52
7. Other									
Life Membership			00	26	5 00	265	00		00
8. Bonds and Investments Not Credited to Funds	2	0000	00	1	6 88		00	20016	88
13. TOTALS	: 8 2	7086	21	\$ 1051	99	\$ 5225	77	14. \$ 32371	43
		10	DEC	CONCILL	ATION	LOFCASI		NIV/FCTAAF	NITC
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15. OPERATIONS		Ge	neral I	Fund Checkin	ng Accou	nt Statement <u>\$</u>	1278.	2.21	
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Have payments been made to the proper State				s: Deposits i count Balanc		-		<u> </u>	1.55
and Federal agencies this quarter? Yes								(c)	
Have sales taxes been collected and paid? Yes] 01	her Ch Enc	ecking Acco ling Balance	unts (if a _l Per Bank	pplicable) Statement <u>\$</u>		0	
Are club employees bonded? Yes			Les	s: Outstandi	ng Check	3		0	
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Owed on Mortgages and Loans \$ 0			Bor	nds and Othe	er Investm	ients		20,01	
Value of Personal Property\$ 50,000)		50.	Total Cash				\$ 3237	
Amount of Property Insurance \$ 300,00	0]						¥ ,	
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)		Date	Jul	y 15		, 20 XX	
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This is to certify that we (or qualified accountants) have audited the books	and reco	ras of the	Adjuta	nt and Quarte	rmaster o			Council/Post No.)
for the Fiscal Quarter ending <u>June 30</u> in accordance of t	he Natio	nal Bylav	s and t	hat this Repor	t is a true	and correct stat	ement tl	nereof to the best	of our
knowledge and belief. All Vouchers and Checks have been examined and f	found to	52/90-016 # 152/90-0 # 152/900				3			
Post Quartermaster Joe Honest (Name)		Signe						<u> </u>	
***************************************		Sign	ed6	Sammi	, Duc	an			Trustee
Gordtown, USA (Address)		Sign	ed	Adam	Furst				Trustee
This is to certify that the Office of the Quartermaster is bonded with	AB	C BO!	VDIN	G CO.					in
the amount of \$50,000 untilSeptember	30		20 <i>XX</i>	, and that	this Audit i	is correctly made	out to t	he best of my kno	owledge
and belief.									
		Sian	od:	Ken K	Drice			Com	mandor



TRUSTEES' REPORT OF AUDIT of

	ant of		(Dist	rict/Cou	nty Counci	I/Post No	r.)		
Department of	for the Fiscal Quarter ending, 20								
FISCAL QUARTERS: Jan 1 to March 31							to Dec. 31		
FUNDS:		sh Balances ginning of uarter	Receipts During Quarter 11.		Expenditures During Quarter 12.		Net Cash Balances at End of Quarter 13.		
National and Department Dues (Per Capita Tax)	\$		\$	411	\$		\$		
Admission or Application Fees (Department)	1								
3. Post General Fund									
4. Post Relief Fund (Poppy Profits, Donations, etc.)									
5. Post Dues Reserve Fund (See Sec. 717, Manual of Procedure)				-1111					
6. Post Home or Building Fund (Including Savings but Not Real Estate)									
7. Post Canteen or Club Fund									
8. Other				-	+	-		-	
Bonds and Investments Not Credited to Funds					-	+		+	
							15,		
14. TOTALS:	\$		\$		\$		\$		
Have required payroll deductions been made? Have payments been made to the proper State and Federal agencies this quarter? Have sales taxes been collected and paid? Are club employees bonded? Amount of outstanding bills Value of Real Estate S Amount of liability insurance Owed on Mortgages and Loans Value of Personal Property Amount of Property Insurance \$		General I End Less Plus Acc Other Ch End Less Plus Acc Sav Cas	rund Check ling Balance : Outstance : Deposits count Balance : Outstance : Outstance : Outstance : Deposits count Balan ings Accou h on Hand Total Cash and Oth Total Cash (This figu	ing Accou e Per Band ling Check in Transit ce ounts (if a e Per Bank ling Check in Transit ce nt Balance are Investn e must m	ont c Statement S ppplicable) c Statement S ks	5	\$	LIN F3	
					AUDIT		_, 20		
This is to certify that we (or qualified accountants) have audited the books a	nd record	ls of the Adjuta	nt and Quart	ermaster o					
or the Fiscal Quarter endingin accordance of th	e Nation	al By-Laws and	that this Re	port is a tru	2000	Carlo	Council/Post N thereof to the I	200	
nowledge and belief. All Vouchers and Checks have been examined and fo	und to be	e properly appr	oved and ch	ecks prope	erly countersic	ıned:			
Post Quartermaster		Signed	****					Trust	
(Name)		Signed						Trust	
		Signed						Trust	
(Address)		orgrou							
This is to certify that the Office of the Quartermaster is bonded with									
e amount of \$ until		, 20	, and tha	t this Audit	is correctly m	ade out to t	he best of my l	knowle	

Signed:



FORM NO. 2

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA



Dear Comrade Commander:

Questionnaire for VFW Accountable Officers Crime Coverage

August 1, 2023

One of the most important communications you will receive during the year concerns the bond of your Unit Quartermaster. Section 703 of our National By-Laws requires that each accountable officer shall be bonded with an Indemnity Company as surety and the By-Laws places the responsibility for adequate bonding upon the Commander of the post. In any business it is customary to bond any officer handling funds. THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER MUST BE AUDITED AT LEAST QUARTERLY BY THE TRUSTEES. THIS IS TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 218 OF THE NATIONAL MANUAL OF PROCEDURES.

The Department Headquarters carries a Crime Policy for the bonding of Department and Post Accountable Officers. This Policy runs for a year – from September 1 to August 31 – premium payments are made on that basis. Coverage for all accountable officers expires on August 31 and premium for the New Year is due on September 1.

Any unit may decide whether it prefers to take out a Policy with some other surety company or have its funds protected by the Department Headquarters Crime Policy. But the matter should be given prompt attention because if your Accountable Officer had previously been covered through the National Headquarters, a new premium payment is required by September 1, 2023 and delinquent after this date.

IF THE POLICY IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 9-1-2023, THE POST HAS ONLY 90 DAYS TO SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FOR PRIOR TERM. AFTER 90 DAYS PRIOR COVERAGE CEASES.

COVERAGES OF THE POLICY REQUIRE THAT:

- You agree to make/or cause to be made, at least annually, an audit of your books and accounts, including complete verification of all securities and bank balances pertaining to each "employee and/ or volunteer".
 - If the above is not complied with, the Insurance Company will refuse to honor claim of missing funds which cannot be proven by records. Monthly audits and reconciliation of bank statements may avoid this denial of claim.
- The Insurance Company will not pay for loss resulting from any unauthorized advances made by an "employee" to any member for delinquent dues and assessments.
- 3. "Employee" means any duly elected position, or any appointed officer as listed in the policy schedule.
- 4. POST MUST SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FORM WITHIN 120 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DATE OF DISCOVERY OF THE LOSS. Proof of loss resulting from dishonest acts on the part of the bonded officer is required in settlement of claims.

THIS POLICY IS ONLY FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 TO AUGUST 31, 2024.

The funds of your Post are protected only for that year. Premium for the following year will be due September 1, 2024.

Post # and State

I hereby apply for A1. Employee/Volunteer Theft coverage in the amount of \$ ______ for the position

of ______. For the year from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024.

Number of Persons Bonded: _____ Number of Locations: _____ Post Annual Income: \$ ______ Dated: ______

Has the post had any Crime Coverage losses over the past three years? ______ If yes, provide a description with date and amount of loss on a separate sheet.

DEADLINE FOR COVERAGE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 – AFTER THIS DATE YOU WILL BE DELIQUENT AND NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE VFW BY-LAWS.

Phone Number

Street Address and City

Current Rates VFW Quartermaster Bond 2023-2024

\$5.50 per thousand	\$4.50 per thousand	\$4.00 per thousand	\$3.75 per thousand
\$3000.00=\$16.50	\$26000.00=\$117.00	\$251000=\$1004.00	\$501000=\$1875.75
\$4000.00=\$22.00	\$27000.00=\$121.50	\$252000=\$1008.00	\$502000=\$1882.50
\$5000.00=\$27.50	\$28000.00=\$126.00	\$253000=\$1012.00	\$503000=\$1886.25
\$6000.00=\$33.00	\$29000.00=\$130.50	\$254000=\$1016.00	\$504000=\$1890.00
\$7000.00=\$38.50	\$30000.00=\$135.00	\$255000=\$1020.00	\$505000=\$1893.75
\$8000.00=\$44.00	\$35000.00=\$157.50	\$256000=\$1024.00	\$506000=\$1897.50
\$9000.00=\$49.50	\$40000.00=\$180.00	\$257000=\$1028.00	\$507000=\$1901.25
\$10000.00=\$55.00	\$50000.00=\$225.00	\$258000=\$1032.00	\$508000=\$1905.00
\$11000.00=\$60.50	\$60000.00=\$270.00	\$259000=\$1036.00	\$509000=\$1908.75
\$12000.00=\$66.00	\$70000.00=\$315.00	\$260000=\$1040.00	\$510000=\$1912.50
\$13000.00=\$71.50	\$80000.00=\$360.00	\$270000=\$1080.00	\$520000=\$1950.00
\$14000.00=\$77.00	\$90000.00=\$405.00	\$280000=\$1120.00	\$530000=\$1987.50
\$15000.00=\$82.50	\$100000.00=\$450.00	\$290000=\$1160.00	\$540000=\$2025.00
\$16000.00=\$88.00	\$110000.00=\$495.00	\$300000=\$1200.00	\$550000=\$2062.50
\$17000.00=\$93.50	\$120000.00=\$540.00	\$310000=\$1240.00	\$560000=\$2100.00
\$18000.00=\$99.00	\$130000.00=\$585.00	\$320000=\$1280.00	\$570000=\$2137.50
\$19000.00=\$104.50	\$140000.00=\$630.00	\$330000=\$1320.00	\$580000=\$2175.00
\$20000.00=\$110.00	\$150000.00=\$675.00	\$340000=\$1360.00	\$590000=\$2212.50
\$21000.00=\$115.50	\$160000.00=\$720.00	\$350000=\$1400.00	\$600000=\$2250.00
\$22000.00=\$121.00	\$170000.00=\$765.00	\$360000=\$1440.00	
\$23000.00=\$126.50	\$180000.00=\$810.00	\$370000=\$1480.00	(\$501,000 and up
\$24000.00=\$132.00	\$190000.00=\$855.00	\$380000=\$1520.00	is \$3.75 per thousand)
\$25000.00=\$137.50	\$200000.00=\$900.00	\$390000=\$1560.00	
	\$210000.00=\$945.00	\$400000=\$1600.00	
(\$3,000-\$25,000	\$220000.00=\$990.00	\$410000=\$1640.00	
\$5.50 per thousand)	\$230000.00=\$1035.00	\$420000=\$1680.00	
	\$240000.00=\$1080.00	\$430000=\$1720.00	
	\$250000.00=\$1125.00	\$440000=\$1760.00	
Send to: VFW NE		\$450000=\$1800.00	
PO Box 4552	(\$26,000-\$250,000	\$460000=\$1840.00	
Lincoln, NE 68504	\$4.50 per thousand)	\$470000=\$1880.00	
	23	\$480000=\$1920.00	



A.1 Employee/Volunteer Theft (Crime Coverage)
VFW QUESTIONAIRE FOR CLUB EMPLOYEES &
BINGO PERSONS TO, BE COMPLETED BY
COVERED INDIVIDUAL

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

Coverage Term: October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024

1. a) Name of Post		Post #	
b) Post Address			
2. a) Name of Person to be Covered_			
3. Position to be Covered			
4. Coverage Amount Requested \$			
5. Number of Persons Covered	1		
6. Number of Locations	1		
7. Post - Annual Income			
Has the post had any crime covera If yes, provide a description alon			
9. a) Have you ever been convicted of example" burglary, robbery, theft or e			ed act, "for
b) If yes, explain			
IF COVERAGE IS NOT RENEWI DATE OF 10-1-2023, THE POST I PRIOR TERM, AFTER 90 DAYS,	HAS ONLY 90 DAYS	TO SUBMIT A PROOF	
If this is a replacement for a curren	ıt position, please advi	ise what person you are	replacing
Signed this day of (Day)	(Month)	Year)	
Signature: Person to be Covered			Form # 4B

VFW Canteen Managers and Canteen Employees, Bingo Managers, Gaming Managers and Gaming Workers Rate

\$6.00 PER THOUSAND	\$4,00 PER THOUSAND	\$3.00 PER THOUSAND
\$ 1,000\$ 6.00	\$26,000\$104.00	\$ 51,000\$153.00
\$ 2,000\$ 12.00	\$27,000\$108.00	\$ 52,000\$156.00
\$ 3,000\$ 18.00	\$28,000\$112.00	\$ 53,000\$159.00
\$ 4,000\$ 24.00	\$29,000\$116.00	\$ 54,000,\$162.00
\$ 5,000\$ 30.00	\$30,000\$120.00	\$ 55,000\$165.00
\$ 6,000\$ 36.00	\$31,000\$124.00	\$ 56,000\$168.00
\$ 7,000\$ 42.00	\$32,000\$128.00	\$ 57,000\$171.00
\$ 8,000\$ 48.00	\$33,000\$132.00	\$ 58,000\$174.00
\$ 9,000\$ 54.00	\$34,000\$136.00	\$ 59,000\$177.00
\$10,000\$ 60.00	\$35,000\$140.00	\$ 60,000\$180.00
\$11,000\$ 66.00	\$36.000\$144.00	\$ 61,000\$183.00
\$12,000\$ 72.00	\$37,000\$148.00	\$ 62,000\$186.00
\$13,000\$ 78.00	\$38,000\$152.00	\$ 63,000\$189.00
\$14,000\$ 84.00	\$39,000\$156.00	\$ 64,000\$192.00
\$15,000\$ 90.00	\$40.000\$160.00	\$ 65,000\$195.00
\$16,000\$ 96.00	\$41,000\$164.00	\$ 66,000\$198.00
\$17,000\$102.00	\$42,000\$168.00	\$ 67,000\$201.00
\$18,000\$108.00	\$43,000\$172.00	\$ 68,000\$204.00
\$19,000\$114.00	\$44,000\$176.00	\$ 69,000\$207.00
\$20,000\$120.00	\$45,000\$180.00	\$ 70,000\$210.00
\$21,000\$126.00	\$46,000\$184.00	\$ 71,000\$213.00
\$22,000\$132.00	\$47,000\$188.00	\$ 72,000\$216.00
\$23,000\$138.00	\$48,000\$192.00	\$ 73,000\$219.00
\$24,000\$144.00	\$49,000\$196.00	\$ 74,000\$222.00
\$25,000\$150.00	\$50,000\$200.00	\$ 75,000\$225.00
		\$ 80,000\$240.00
		\$ 85,000\$255.00
		\$ 90,000\$270.00
		\$ 95,000\$285.00
		\$100,000\$300.00

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES, DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

BUDDY POPPY ORDER BLANK

Purchased Poppies are CREDITED between July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

		DATE OF ORDER
POST#	DATE OF POPPY DISTRIBUTION	
NAME OF POS	ST/AUX LOCATIONDISTRICT NO	<u> </u>
Buddy Poppie	es @ \$300.00 per thousand # ordered	at \$
mir	nimum order is 100 for \$30.00	
NOTE: Price of pop	ppy includes shipping and handling.	
POP	PY POSTERS @ \$.45 cents each # ordered	at \$
The Poppy Co	oin Canisters item and other items are available fr	om VFW National catalog.
TOTAL AMO	OUNT OF ORDER \$	
AMOUNT IN	ICLUDED WITH ORDER \$	
BALANCE D	DUE \$	
Ordered by: _		
SHIP THE ABO	OVE TO:	
TITLE		
ADDRESS		
PLEASE ALL	OW 30 DAYS FOR DELIVERY.	
Mail to:	Department of Nebraska V.F.W.	"BUDDY" POPPY "WEAR IT PROUDLY"
	2431 N. 48th St.	"Buddy" Pop
	Lincoln, NE 68504	y - 4/1

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD EMT/FIRE/LAW ENFORCEMENT

Department of Nebraska - VFW

Emergency Service Award is presented to any individual who actively gives emergency medical treatment, provides rescue service or civil disaster assistance as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to give emergency medical care, provide rescue and civil disaster assistance to our nation's citizens.

Firefighters Award is presented to any individual who actively fights fires as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to fight fires and give assistance to our nation's citizens.

Law Enforcement Award is presented to any individual who serves in a municipal, county, state or federal unit tasked with enforcement of laws pertaining to their area of responsibility. This award does not apply to individuals employed by private companies.

Candidate must have demonstrated: 1.) recognition by their colleagues or those they serve.

2.) Consistent excellence in the performance of their duties. 3.) Consistent dedication to their official responsibilities over a period of years and continuous growth in responsibilities and skill within their profession.

Entered by: _______ Service: EMT/FIRE/LAW (Circle One)

Name of Nominee: _______

Title of Nominee: _______

Address of Nominee: _______ Sponsored by VFW Post: _______

(1.) Resume of Nominee's Overall Background: (Attach required documentation)

The resume of these activities should be contained on one page; therefore, it will be necessary to be concise.

(2.) Resume of Nominee's Background in Emergency Services Work: (Attach required documentation)

The resume of these activities should be contained on one page; therefore, it will be necessary to be concise and highlight major events.

- (3.) Nominee's Accomplishments in the Emergency Services Field: (Attach required documentation) The resume of these activities should be contained on two pages; therefore, it will be necessary to be concise.
- (4.) Photograph of Nominee: (Attach Required Head and Shoulder Photograph)

Send Completed Form, Resumes and Photograph to:

Department of Nebraska
PO Box 4552

Lincoln, NE 68504

Nebraska VFW State Convention Registration Form

\$4.00 per 30 members as of June 30th, 2023

Round up and send to Department by September 30th, 2023

Delegates attending	<u>Address</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	Member No.
Registering of your delegates e You must send in	ensures that your Post is e registration fees re		
Quartermaster		VFW	Post
Membership total on June 30th	n, 2023	Total de	elegates
Enclosed \$	Check #	Date	2
Veterans of Foreign Department of Neb			

Department of Nebraska
By-Laws Article VI-Delegates
Article VI - Section 3:



Each Post will be required to pay four dollars (\$4.00) for each delegate to which the Post is entitled. Post Delegate dues will be paid at the time of the Post Inspection or no later than September 30th based on the previous end of year membership and final reconciliation will be conducted prior to State Convention to determine that the appropriate delegate dues have been paid. Delegates to the State Convention shall not be recognized unless they personally register their completed delegate card with the State VFW Convention staff. Posts failing to comply with provision shall be considered delinquent and in arrears.

Mail completed form to:

VFW Nebraska

PO BOX 4552

Lincoln, NE 68504

20 Questions

Due to Department December 31st, 2024 to receive 10 points towards white hat.

Na	me:Title: Life: Y or N
	Legacy Level?
Po	st #: District #: Phone #:
Em	nail address:
1.	When will white hats be awarded this year?
2.	How much does your Post pay for Delegate Registration and when are they due?
3.	What is the deadline date to have VOD/Patriot's Pen entries to the Department?
4.	How many hours of college credits must have been completed to apply for a VFW scholarship?
5.	Does failure to send in the new election report cause a post to go under suspension? Y or N Month to elect officers: Month to install: Assume office:
6.	Reporting community service to the Department allows a post to maintain their non-profit status. How often does a post need to report these activities?
7.	In a canteen of a VFW club, who is the treasurer for the house committee?
8.	Can Trustees serve on the house committee? Y or N
	Can a post be bonded by a company other than the VFW? Y or N What position is bonded? When are bonds due?
10.	. There are 3 Patriot's Pen District winners invited to Midwinter, how many of the 10 District winners in the V.O.D. competition are invited to Midwinter?
11.	. What are the 3 cost levels of Legacy Life membership?
12.	. What is the membership requirements for white hat? What are a few of the new requirements this year?
13.	. Where will the 2024 State Convention be held?

14.	What is the deadline for White Hat program awards?
15.	How many points does your post get for selling 20 calendars?
	What happens if you sell extra calendars?
16.	In lieu of entries for VOD, Patriot's Pen, and/or Teacher a Post may make a donation to these program
	to receive credit towards a white hat. T or F Does a Post receive full credit? Y or N
17.	When is the Scout of the Year awarded?
18.	Name 3 ways in which a Post can spend money raised with Buddy Poppy donations.
19.	What are the program year for the Bubby Poppy program year and Community Service Reporting
	Year?
20.	What Membership Awards are there this year?
Qu	estions or Comments:
Ple	ase return completed questionnaire to: VFW Department of NE; PO Box 4552; Lincoln, NE 68504
I ha	ave read and understand the VFW Canteen and Club Rules and Regulations.
Sigı	nature: Date:
Cap	o size:

Nebraska VFW

990 Report Form Request

Post Name:	Post #	Aux #
Fed I.D.#		
Address:	_	
City:		_ Zip:
Email Address:		
Contact Phone Number:		
Gross Income: \$ Jul	ly 1 to June 30	
Less than \$50,000 (yes	/ no)	
I request that the Department of Neb Post / Auxiliary 990 information and do party.		_
Signature	Print n	ame
Title	Nate	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GUIDELINES

Constructive community service is a founding VFW tenet with volunteerism benefiting education, the environment, health sciences and civic projects. Projects must be conducted during the current Community Activity year. The year begins July 1st and ends June 30th the following year. **REPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED QUARTERLY** Reports received prior to May 1st will be used for competition and award purposes at State Convention.

Examples

The following are a few examples of program/projects for a Post. This list of suggested activities is by no means a complete list of projects that can be accomplished. Its sole purpose is to stimulate ideas and provide guidelines in your search for projects to perform.

Veteran Service

- A. Veteran Participation Reports
- Buddy Poppy program
- Homeless veteran program
- D. Military support activities
- Burial & Honor Guard Details E
- VA Hospital activities
- G. Financial/equipment support of veteran programs or entities

Community Service

- A. Sponsorship of:
 - 1. Blood drive
 - 2. Food drive
 - 3. Recycling program
 - 4. Food distribution programs
 - 5. Safety program
- B. Flag details for public events
- C. Get out the Vote program
- D. Financial/equipment support of public programs or entities

Youth Service

- A. Conduct a Voice of Democracy program
- B. Conduct a Patriot's Pen program
- Conduct a Patriotic Art program
- D. Sponsor and support of a Scouting or youth unit
- Conduct a Scout of the Year program
- F. Sponsorship of a youth sporting team
- G. Sponsor a youth event;
 - 1. Easter egg hunt
 - 2. Bike safety program
 - 3. Halloween party
 - 4. Christmas party
 - 5. Veterans in classroom
 - 6. Flag etiquette instruction
- H. Support of a Jr. ROTC unit

Americanism Guidelines

For credit in Americanism, a project must be of a patriotic nature. We're looking for things like flag presentations, parades, presentation of patriotic literature, patriotic ceremonies in schools or youth groups, and public observances of national holidays. Each project must benefit the greater community not just the Post or Fundraising projects, even those whose proceeds are earmarked for Americanism programs, are not in themselves creditable Americanism projects. However, the project that receives the funds, when complete and if it meets the Americanism criteria, can qualify for an Americanism credit.

Examples of Disallowed (things that don't count)

Any project for yourself

- Reciting the Pledge to the Flag at a Post monthly meeting. Sending a "Get Well" card to a member of the VFW or Auxiliary
 - a. Shopping for the "Get Well" card above
 - b. Post office visit to mail the "Get Well" card above
- c. Providing the car to deliver the "Get Well" card above
 Any activity that is obviously within the scope of another previously reported project (example, see 3a, 3b, 3c above).
- A flag raising ceremony at the Post, unless attended by persons outside the VFW or Auxiliary
- Purchasing a replacement flag for the Post.
- Running an errand for or giving a ride to a VFW or Auxiliary
- Honor Guard posting colors at a VFW or Auxiliary meeting or ceremony.
- Giving a certificate to a VFW or Auxiliary or member.
- 10. Donation to a VFW or Auxiliary member.
- 11. Fundraising projects, even those whose proceeds are earmarked for community service projects.

KEEP IN MIND THAT your project should be reported only once a month. If the project is allowing the Boy Scouts to use the hall for their weekly meeting, then report it as one project for the month with the total hours and monies donated for the month. If a member volunteers at the V.A. hospital four times a week, then report it as one project for the month with the total hours and monies donated for the month.

Important Note: Each Post can have their non-profit status revoked by the IRS if they "Fail to maintain adequate records to accurately report your exempt purpose and activities that supports your exemption under code section 501 (c) (19)." The first item the IRS will ask for during an audit is evidence of community service. All community service items should be recorded in the Post meeting minutes, which is the second item the IRS will ask for. Those Posts that have maintained a properly organized and complete Community Service Record Book and produced it for the IRS during an audit have never had an issue in verification of fulfilling the objectives of their charter from the National VFW. Each Post should maintain a Community Service Record Book for the purpose of verification to the IRS that the Post is fulfilling the objectives of its charter. These books can also be used very effectively in recruiting and maintaining a history of Post activities year after year as a historical record.

Community Service Activity Report Form INSTRUCTION SHEET

The Department of Nebraska Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliaries will use the attached Activity Report Form to report all activities carried on in Nebraska. Many National and Department VFW requirements, including Internal Revenue Service (IRS) policies, rely upon the accurate description and reporting of your Post community service activities.

Please fill out these forms as completely as possible before sending them to Department Headquarters. REPORTING YEAR: Reports to be credited must have been completed between July 1 and June 30. DISTRICT#: Indicate the District your Post is located in.

POST#: We need your Post # so we can accurately document the activities for your post.

DATE COMPLETED: Indicate the month, day, and year the activity was completed.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION: Please very briefly describe each activity on the lines provided. No attachments.

YOUTH: Place a check mark here if this is considered a youth project.

AMERICANISM: Place a check mark here if this is considered an Americanism project.

HOURS: Please

indicate the total man hours of all volunteers expended on the project. Round up, no minutes.

MONEY: Please indicate the total amount of funds expended by the Post on this project. Round up to whole dollars. Do not calculate hours into a dollar amount, only list money actually spent.

MILEAGE: Please

indicate the total amount of mileage used to complete project. Do not count mileage used to get to or drive home from project.

MEETING RECORD: It is very important that you fill in all spaces at the bottom of the form. These numbers are kept at Department Headquarters and will be reported to National once a year as required by the National organization. The IRS will use your meeting minutes to verify you meet the standards of community service for non-profit organizations. To remain within the spirit and intent of the VFW Charter a Post is granted through the VFW 51% of monetary donations should be to VFW programs, Important Note: Each Post can have their non-profit status revoked by the NDRS if they "Fail to maintain Adequate records to accurately report your exempt purpose and activities that supports your exemption under code section 501 (c) (19). The first item the IRS will ask for during an audit is evidence of community service. All community service items should be recorded in the Post meeting minutes, which is the second item the IRS will ask for. Those Posts that have maintained a properly organized and complete Community Service Record Book and produced it for the IRS during an audit have never had an issue in verification of fulfilling the objectives of their charter from the National VFW. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that each Post maintain a Community Service Record Book for the purpose of verification for the IRS that the Post is fulfilling the objectives of its charter. These books can also be used very effectively in recruiting and maintaining a history of Post activities year after year as a historical record. The District Commander, or his designee, during his annual inspection of the Post will ask to see this book from the previous year.

Submit by ONLY ONE of the two following methods - please do not duplicate reports and jeopardize your IRS Non-Profit Tax Status.

Community Service Reports should be sent by Post Leadership only.

Mail to: Department of Nebraska - VFW
P.O. Box 4552
Lincoln, NE 68504

Community Service Activity Report Form

Reporting Periods: July 1st to June 30th

Online Reporting of Community Service

Community Service Reports <u>MUST</u> be submitted quarterly to qualify for <u>BOTH</u> All-State and All-American Awards

Please note that you must be using at least Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox or Apple Safari browsers for the form to properly function.

In accordance with I.R.S. guidelines the community service reported by me was conducted by VFW and Auxiliary members for the benefit of non-members and the community-at-large for which no reimbursement or payment of any kind was received and has been documented in the Meeting Minutes at the monthly post meeting.

even if you do not receive an automatic reply. No need to resubmit over and over. If you are concerned about

and ask for confirmation.

We are receiving all of your reports

Community Service Questions? Email Trudie at

your report please email

Pı	cograms	Report	ting Fo	orm
Reporting Period:	July 1 to Sept 30 • Oct 1 to	•	0	
Post #	Aux. #	I	District	
Person completing	this report:		Title:	
Phone #:	Email address:			
Programs:	# of Volunteers	Hours	Mileage	\$ Spent
Youth Activities:		-		
Volunteer Vets:				-
Americanism:	-			-
Community Service	e:			

Please consider utilizing the Online Reporting Tool at www.vfwne.com

POST COLOR GUARD

Entry Form from May 1st, 2023 to April 30th, 2024

POST#	LOCATION	DISTRICT	
POST MEMBERSHIP COUNT	DIVISION		
COLOR GUARD NUMBER OF MEMBERS:			
COLOR GUARD MEMBERS TOTAL HOURS:			
COLOR GUARD NUMBER OF FUNERALS:			
COLOR GUARD NUMBER OF PARADES:			
COLOR GUARD MEMORIAL DAY ACTIVITIES: _		_	
COLOR GUARD MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATIC	ON. GIVE A BRIE	F DESCRIPTION:	
Special Event			
RETURN TO:			
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA, VFW			
2431 N. 48 ^{tb} St.			
LINCOLN, NE 68504			DUE BY: May 1st

WINNERS TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATE AND CASH AWARD AT STATE CONVENTION.

Certificate of Recognition to all reporting Color Guard.

Division 1 0 - 250 members

Division 2 251 and up

1st Place Certificate And \$100.00
2nd Place Certificate And \$ 75.00
3rd Place Certificate And \$ 50.00



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

REQUIREMENTS: Generally, qualified, needy applicants must have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours or be a freshman in college attempting their second semesters minimum 12 college credit hours; and be a current member in good standing or be the spouse, child, grandchild, or stepchild of a member in good standing of Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska. Both the Nebraska VFW/Auxiliary member and applicant must be a resident of Nebraska to be eligible for a scholarship. Individual scholarships requirements can be found on the back of this application.

Completed applications must be received and correctly submitted by MARCH 31st, 2024.

☐ Acceptance Letter from College

from the new school.

Required during initial submission only. Students transferring

from another school must provide a new Acceptance Letter

MANDATORY SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

☐ VFW/Auxiliary Member Affiliation Verification Information (If a member is decease)	Member i.e. Teacher, Pastor, Mentor.) Required during initial submission.
and no member number is available, please provide verification letter from the deceased member's former	☐ College Transcript
Post/Auxiliary.)	☐ Fully Complete Scholarship Application
Any submission received with	out the mandatory requirements will not be
considered by	the Scholarship Committee.
Please return completed application and	If you have any questions, contact:
supporting documentation to:	Jeff Baker
Department of Nebraska VFW	Phone: (402) 464-0674
PO BOX 4552	
Lincoln, NE 68504	
I hereby acknowledge th	at I have read, understand, and agree to the policies and procedures
set out in this application. By my signature, I veri	fy that all information presented is accurate and up to date.
Signature	Date
	1 Page

☐ Essay – (Minimum of 300 words, not to

☐ Character Reference Letter (Non-Family

exceed 400 words.)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	
City	State Zip Phone
Email	Veteran (Y/N)
	Nebraska Resident (Y/N)
Marital Status	Dependents Ages
	PARENT(S) INFORMATION
Name	
City	State ZipPhone
Email	Veteran (Y/N) Nebraska Resident (Y/I
Marital Status	Dependents Ages
	ents
	\$
Parent(s) College Con	tribution \$
	W/AUXILIARY MEMBER INFORMATION
	er Name
	ocation
Relationship to Applic	
Life Member (Y/N)	Deceased (Y/N)
Member's Leadership	Roles (Officer, Chairman, etc.)

COLLEGE AND STUDENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

College Name				
Credit Hours Earned	Credit Hou	irs Currently Attempt	ing	
Address				
City	State Zi	p Phone		
Current GPA	_			
Cost/Credit Hour \$		Cost/Year \$	W.	
Current Major				
Student Contribution \$ _				
Student Employer				
Income Past Year \$				
		AL PACKAGE // SCHOOL		
Estimated (\$) Needs AFT	ER Grants, Scholarshi	ps, Loans, etc. \$		
	All Other Aid Receiv	ved for Next Academic \	/ear	
	REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	APPROVED	
				_ _
All VA Benefits (Per Mon				
Date of Benefits/_	EV 29			
Remaining Benefit Mont Other Income \$				
I hereby certify that all of or required documents)		20 20 20		
(Signatu	 re)		(Date)	

INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS OR RESTRICTIONS

Department of Nebraska, VFW State Scholarship:

In-State School

Darrell and Marge Thibault VFW State Memorial Scholarship:

Allows for in/out of State schools

VFW Post 3704 Columbus State Scholarship:

VFW Post 3704, District 15, State

Department of Nebraska, VFW #2 Nuts & Bolts Scholarship:

VFW Post 8334, District 10, State

• Department of Nebraska VFW Kenny Bellows Scholarship:

VFW Post 5289, District 6, State (Allows for in/out of State schools)

VFW Auxiliary 1504 North Platte:

Auxiliary 1504, District 4, State

Marilyn Haines Music Scholarship:

Music Student

VFW Post 6016 Hildreth Scholarship:

Wilcox/Hildreth area, VFW Post 6016, District 13, State

Past State Commanders:

Allows for in/out of state schools

Phillips Scholarship:

No restrictions apply

• VFW Post 2704 & Auxiliary - Irvin Holst Scholarship:

VFW Post/Auxiliary 2704, District 10, State.

VFW Post 2503 Scholarship:

VFW Post 2503, District 10, State

VFW Post 131 Scholarship:

VFW Post 131, District 9, State

Connie Liebsack Memorial Scholarship

VFW Post 1581, District 10, State

Bernie and Carol Brosnihan Scholarship

VFW Post 10727, District 10, State

Kirkpatrick Scholarship

VFW Post 1581, District 10, State

CHAPLAINCY

"To Honor the Dead By Serving the Living"

This is the motto of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Based on the logic that a veteran's organization has the right to existence only if its primary purpose, next to promoting the welfare of the nation, is that of service, or "taking care of its own". Listed below are a few guidelines for Post services to the living, sick and bereaved; and to so honor the blessed memory of deceased comrades.

The Post Commander, with his Chaplain and Service officer, constitutes a knowledgeable committee of leadership in fraternal service. Some guidelines to follow are (A) each Post member is ever on the alert for opportunities for fraternal service and should report these to his Commander or Chaplain; (B) fraternal services are rendered not only to the VFW but also to unaffiliated veterans when in serious need; (C) Commanders and Chaplains should maintain contact with the Auxiliary for purposes of cooperation and coordination.

In case of sickness, the Chaplain should (A) send a get well card in the name of the Commander; (B) call on the family and explore its situation; (C) if need, notify the Service Officer; (D) call on the patient, inquire about his needs; and (E) report his action and findings to the Commander.

Post Chaplains upon notice of a death of one of your members, please send directly to me; Department Chaplain, a Memorial Record Card with all the information necessary about the deceased. Please be sure that the name and address of the next-of-kin are listed correctly. I will send the relative a remembrance card in memory of the deceased comrade, signed by the Department Commander and myself.

All of the Memorial Records are due to the Department Chaplain by May 1st in order to allow time to print the Memorial Booklet.

Nebraska VFW Chaplain Jerry Ludwig, 10533 N 152nd Ave Cir; Bennington, NE 68007

Veterans (of Foreign Wars	of the United State	es Memorial Record
PLEASE PRINT		Date:	
Post No	District No		
Name:		Member No	
Last	First	initial	
Date & Place of Birth:			\\VFW
Date & Place of Death:			VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.
Name & Address, (Next of I	Kin)		Department of Nebraska

2023-2024 Calendar Program

Credit will be given towards the White Hat Competition for all Posts that sell 20 Department of Nebraska Raffle Calendars.

(5 pts. extra for each set of 20 calendar sold (above initial 20 calendars) - 20 pts max)

Send in this form with your calendar money and tickets to:

Department Headquarters

P.O. Box 4552; Lincoln, NE 68504

Post:	Calendars Sold?

The 2024 State Calendar raffle will be held at the Nebraska Department Headquarters on Tuesday January 5th, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. All 365 prizes will be drawn. After each ticket is drawn it will be returned to the drawing drum. You need not be present to win. Each weeks winners will be awarded and mailed on the Friday of that week.

Unclaimed prizes (unable to locate) will be donated to the Nebraska VFW Auxiliary.

Calendars will be available to pick up at Fall District Meetings, Commanders Homecoming or from your District Commander. If you need some mailed to you, call Department Headquarters.

They will be \$20.00 each.

Raffle rules are in accordance with NE State Gaming Statutes. Nebraska License No. 423483.

Selling points

- It is a raffle.
- You have the opportunity to win up to \$500.00 in a day.
- The raffle pays out \$16000.00
- It pays every day. If you win your name still goes back in the drawing so you can win multiple times.
- There are 2 \$500.00 payouts, 8 \$100.00 payouts and 355 \$40.00 payouts.
- Any amount raised over the raffle payout goes to support veterans in need and their families, the hospitals and homes and to scholarship programs.
- They are all drawn on January 5th, 2024 at Department Headquarters.
- The complete listing of winners will be posted on the VFW website by January 9th, 2024.



Required Documents

☐ Post By-Laws, if applicable	☐ Copy of last trustees report filed
☐ Post incorporation document	☐ List of all post assets and their value
☐ Current National and	☐ QM bond
Dept. by-laws	☐ Copy of last IRS 990 filed
☐ Current election report	☐ Post EIN
☐ Officers proof of eligibility	☐ Insurance papers, if applicable
☐ QM ledger	☐ Current activity reports
☐ Last 3 months bank	· ·

statements



VFW Post/Auxi	liary Strategic Review Form	Department of Nebra
Post #:	District #:	Department of Nesia

Please describe what topics were discussed at the Strategic Review Meeting. Who lead the discussion group and what action will be taken for the prosperity and future success of the Post and Auxiliary? Attach supporting document created out of the discussion (if any).

Number of VFW Members present?	
Number of Auxiliary members present?	

Post Commander: _____

Date:

(Post Commander Signature)

Summary & Outcome

Due by April 30th, 2024

District Forms



DISTRICT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

As required by Department or National Bylaws:

2023-2024

AUDITS: Two (2) Trustees' Reports of Audit must have been received at Department. Each audit must be received within 30 days following the regularly scheduled District meeting and must be completed in full and signed by all three Trustees, Quartermaster and Commander.
QUARTERMASTER BONDING: District Quartermaster must be bonded through Department or provide proof of local bonding which must be submitted to Department no later than September 30th, 2023.
IRS 990 FORM: Must submit copy of 2022 IRS Form 990 to Department Headquarters no later than September 30th, 2023.
DISTRICT-WIDE INSPECTIONS: District Commander or designee must complete Post Inspections no later than October 31st, 2023.
DISTRICT ELECTION REPORT: Submit District Report of Election of Post Officers for 2024-2025 no later than May 3rd, 2024.
DISTRICT VOICE OF DEMOCRACY / PATRIOTS PEN CONTRIBUTION: Each District will contribute \$200.00 to Department Headquarters to offset the District winners travel and expenses associated with the VOD/PP Midwinter Banquet. Department will send out invoices with payment due no later than April 30th, 2024.

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT DOCUMENTS

See Page 20 for Trustee's Report of Audit form

See Page 22 for Quartermaster Bonding Information and forms

See Page 34 for information on IRS Form 990

See Page 48 for Calendar Reporting form

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE POSTINSPECTION REPORT

Make every effort to answer each question accurately and completely. Some questions require dollar amounts or dates to be inserted.

The purpose of the Inspection Report is to provide the State Commander and the State Inspector with a factual report on the operating condition of the Post. If you don't complete the report carefully and properly, you are denying the State Commander and State Inspector information they need to do their job.

Question Specific Reminders

- 1. Posts that have adopted additional by-laws need to have a copy on file that indicates the Commander- in-Chief has reviewed for compliance. Verify date of service.
- 2. Posts that have adopted Articles of Incorporation need to have a copy on file that indicates the Commander- in-Chief has reviewed for compliance. Verify date of review, date filed with appropriate state agency, and the name of the incorporated unit. All Posts should be incorporated under the bylaws of their state to protect members' personal assets from seizure and sale.
- 3. Verify the following positions are properly filled: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Chaplain, Surgeon, three (3) Trustees, Adjutant, Officer of the Day, and Service Officer.
- 4. Verify delegates to the District, County Council (if applicable), Department and National Conventions were elected at the time officers of the Post were elected. This can be done by checking the meeting minutes for the month.
- 5. Self-explanatory. Any "NO" answer in this section may be a by-law violation. In addition, item 5f, is verifying the information is present for each officer; you are not verifying the officer is eligible however, if it is not readily apparent that the officer is eligible this should be mentioned on the inspection report.
- 6. Verify, using meeting minutes, that applications for membership are being handled in accordance with Section 103 of the National By-Laws
- 7. The National By-Laws state every Post must hold at least one regular meeting per month.
- 8. Verify, using meeting minutes, that all committee reports are read and approved. This item includes any activity, canteen, clubroom, bingo, etc.
- 9. Activity reports assist the Post when their nonprofit status is being questioned.
- 10. Verify, using meeting minutes, that the Post made arrangements to properly observe Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Flag Day, and Loyalty Day.
- 11. Section 1101 and 1301 of the National By-Laws discusses the formation and control of Auxiliaries.
- 12. Distribution of the VFW Buddy Poppy helps raise monies for the Post's relief fund.
- 13. Self-explanatory.
- 14. Monthly review of Post receipts and expenditures by the Trustees is required in the National ByLaws.
- 15. Quarterly audits are required of all accounts. This item includes any canteen, clubroom, bingo, etc. Post Trustees must complete this audit no later than the month following the last day of each quarterly period. Failure to conduct the audits, as required, will invalidate the Post Quartermaster bond.
- 16. Evidence of checking and savings account balances should be verified from the latest statements, copies of CD's, notes, etc. If the bank balances do not coincide with the books, after adjustments for outstanding checks, etc., this should be reported in detail. Discrepancies should immediately be brought to the attention of the Post Commander and Trustees. The Post Quartermaster must be bonded in a sum equal to the liquid assets for which he is accountable and to which he has access.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE POST INSPECTION REPORT

(continued)

- 17. Verify bonding company and expiration date by viewing a copy of the certificate.
- 18. Reference Section 703 of the National By-Laws.
- 19. Verify all questions in this section by examining quartermaster records, adjutant records and by-laws.

 Remember, Section 709 of the National By-Laws further require that the Post Quartermaster have custody of all funds of the subordinate unit and subject to the same rules and regulation as Post funds.

The Internal Revenue Service requires all VFW Posts to file annually a Form 990 "Exemption from Corporate Income Tax" form. A Post may also have to file a Form 990T and pay certain taxes if it has non-related business income. Failure to file the forms, when required to do so, can result in severe fines and penalties. Enter the date of the last filing; even if the report for the current year has not yet been completed or is not yet due. *Each Post is mandated, by IRS rules, to have their current 990 filing available for public viewing.*

- 20. Expenditure of funds requires a vote on the Post floor and approval by the Post Commander before a Quartermaster can proceed with the disbursement. In some instances, Post by-laws may allow for certain expenditures to be paid without a vote on the floor as these are usually reoccurring bills. If a Post Commander is not approving expenditures he is violating the trust placed in him and is not approving expenditure of Post monies.
- 21. Buddy Poppy distribution net receipts are to be credited to the Relief Fund only [Section 218(a)(5)(g) of the National By-Laws] and used only as stated in Section 704 of the Manual of Procedure.
- 22. The National By-Laws state the Post Quartermaster will disburse funds using acceptable banking practices. The Post Quartermaster may authorize other persons, but they must be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National by-laws. However, if the Post by-laws require the Commander and Quartermaster signatures on checks, they must adhere to the Post by-laws.
- 23. Checks shall never be "pre-signed" by anyofficer.
- 24. Last appraised value or estimated value shall be entered. Monthly payment and amount owed are necessary; mark "NIA" if the amount is zero. Title holder may be a bank or lender. If the property is totally paid for, enter location and holder of the deed. If the Post does not own real property, please note if they rent.
- 25. It is desirable that the Post be covered by adequate liability insurance. If someone suffers an injury on Post property or at a Post sponsored activity a subsequent lawsuit may subject all the assets of the Post and its members to a judgment. The Post officers should be reminded of this potential problem. Any Post owning property and or operating any facility must maintain general liability insurance, including, if necessary or appropriate, liquor liability insurance. Such insurance must name, as additional insured's, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the Department in which the Post is located. Verify by viewing policies).
- 26. Each Department will adopt a document retention policy which complies with federal and state law.
- 27. Every Post is required to have a Federal Employee Identification number.
- 28. Departments may require additional forms for inspecting licensed operations.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES POST INSPECTION FORM

POST NO.	CHARTERED LOCATION (CITY	& STATE)		DISTRICT NO.	DEPARTMENT	INSPECTION DATE
1) Has the	Post adopted Bylaws in accordance with Section	on 202 of the Na	tional Bylaw	s?		YES NO
	a) Date reviewed by the Commander-in-Chie	of:	255			<u> </u>
2) Is the Po	ost incorporated in accordance with Section 709	8 of the National	Bylaws?			YES NO
	 a) Date reviewed by the Commander-in-Chie 					
	b) Date filed with appropriate state officials:				7	
	c) Name of incorporated unit:					
0 0 11	d) Registered Agent of Record:	10 511 51 6	151 6		st updated:	VEO N
	fficer positions filled as prescribed in Section 2					
	t delegates elected in accordance with Section e Post Adjutant	222 of the Natio	nai Bylaws?			YES NO
5) Does the	a) Maintain books and records in a legible ar	ad uniform forma	+2			YES NO
	b) Maintain a file containing a copy of the ori					
	c) Maintain a file of meeting minutes after co					
	d) Maintain a file of current orders or circular					
	e) Maintain a correspondence file?					YES NO
	f) Maintain a file containing proof of eligibility					
1027 FEET 5	g) Maintain a current copy of Post, District (if		Age and the second second	and the same of th		The second secon
	icants for membership reviewed, read and vote					
	Post hold at least one meeting per month with					
	ommittees reporting to the membership at Post					
9) Are Com	nmunity Service/Program (Activity) reports subr	mitted in accorda	ince with De	partment Bylaw	s and guidelines?	YES NO
400 D	a) Date of last submission:		200 511 11	r 101 0		VEO NO
	Post observe commemorative dates as mand					
ii) Does the	e Post have an Auxiliary? a) Is there proper cooperation between the F					
12) Does the	Post distribute Buddy Poppies?					
12) Does the						TLO ITE
13) Does the	Post have a membership committee?					YES NO
.0, _000	a) Does the Post have a viable recruiting and					
14) Do the e	elected Trustees review the monthly report of re					
	elected Trustees audit quarterly all books and re					
holding	company or unit sponsored, conducted or opera	ated by, for or or	behalf of th	e Post?		YES NO
	a) Date of last quarterly audit:					
16) Post fun	ds:					
	a) Balance of all checking accounts	\$	= 10		ınt ledger balances mato econciled bank statemer	1.0
	b) Balance of all savings accounts	\$		Dalance Of 1	econclied bank statemen	YES NO
	c) Balance of all CD and bond accounts	\$	-			and all and a
	d) All other account types	\$			ermaster Bond (f) greate ill accounts (e)?	
	e) Total of all account		- 7	the total of t	in accounts (c):	YES NO
17) Name of	f) Amount of Quartermaster Bond	\$		Expiration date	a of band	
Secretary Secret	f bonding company: tional officers accountable for funds bonded in	accordance with	Section 703	Name of the Control o	TO A CONTROL OF STATE OF THE ST	YES NO
	Post Quartermaster	accordance with	Oecuon 70	of the National	Dylaws:	
10, 2000 111	Maintain books and records in a legible an	nd uniform forma	t?			YES NO
	b) Receive and properly transmit membershi					The same of the sa
	c) Maintain a relief fund in accordance with S	Section 219 of th	e National B	ylaws?		YES NO
	d) Have care and custody of all committee fu	ınds?				YES NO
	e) Report on transactions concerning receipt					
	f) File appropriate forms as required by fede					Service and the service and th
		k) Is the 9	90 filing ava	lable for public	inspection?	YES NO
	deral Employee Identification Number (EIN):	J-Daniel Doubleton		a nethalp to proceed		Ved No
	xpenditures voted on by the Post membership					
	enditures from the relief fund in accordance with					
	ature(s) authorizing the disbursement of funds cks pre-signed by any authorized officer?			The situal of the property of the state of t		CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE
	e Post own real property?					The state of the s
23) Does the	a) Appraised Value: \$N					TLS INC
	b) Title Holder:	nonthly rayment	Ψ		unit Owed. \$	
26) Does the	Post carry all proper types of insurance?	ar which has not been at he made of		skan som samo na kraljima subir		YES NO
	a) Are both the Veterans of Foreign Wars of					
27) Does the	Post retain documents in accordance with the	Department's D	ocument Re	tention Policy?.		YES NO
28) Does the	Post operate a clubroom/canteen or other sta	te licensed entity	y?(Departme	ent Inspection Fo	orm May Be Required)	YES NO
INSPECTOR CO	MMENTS:				- 17 17 - 17 - 17	200
2. 25 151150						
POSTCO	MMA NDED				shall provide a copy of each in	
F03100	MMANDER:		_		istrict Inspector, and Departm	
INSPECTO	OR:				y constructive criticism and re POST FILE AS A PERMANEN	

Patriots Pen DISTRICT REPORTING GUIDELINES

USE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO COMPLETE THE DISTRICT PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT FORM:

The guidelines listed below are intended to help clarify the Patriot's Pen Award reporting process and to ensure that all participation and expenses incurred by Post/Auxiliaries are completely and accurately reported for proper credit.

DISTRICT PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT FORM

POST NUMBER: List each Post by their Post number that participated and submitted a Post winner to District for judging in this box.

POST AUXILARY: Does the Post have an Auxiliary? Indicate with yes or no in this box.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS: Indicate how many students participated in the Post PP program. NUMBER OF POST WINNER ADVANCED: There is one winner for every 15 entries. I.e. 7 entries = 1 winner. 16 entries = 2 winners; 147 entries = 10 winners. Divide number of entries by 15 and round up to get this number. SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: List total of scholarships given to Post winners.

ADDITIONAL MONEY SPENT: Total amount spent to promote program and recognize winners.

GRAND TOTALS SECTION

NUMBER OF POSTS & AUXILIARIES: List total number of Posts and Auxiliaries that participated in their respective box.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS: Add up all the entries submitted to all listed Posts.

TOTAL NUMBER OF WINNERS ADVANCED: Add up all the Post winners advanced to District judging from each Post. A Post may submit one winner for every 15 entries.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ADDITIONAL MONEY SPENT: Total dollar values of awards presented to PP award participants at Post level. All additional money spent in conducting their program (banquet, gifts, medals, citations). MONETARY VALUE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTINOS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIPS: Amount that the District gave in scholarship to the District winner.

DISTRICT ADDITIONAL EXPENSES: All additional money spent in conducting the program at the District level (banquet, gifts, medals, citations, etc.).

SIGNATURES

SIGNITURES OF THE DISTRICT CHAIR, AUXILIARY PRESIDENT AND DISTRICT COMMANDER ARE NEEDED TO VERIFY AND CERTIFY REPORT IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.

District Chairman: The District winner's materials that need to be forwarded to the State Chairmen are:

(Immediately after the district judging is complete)

The completed and signed Post Summary Report Form of every Post in the District that legitimately participated in the PP Program.

District winner's original entry form with all signatures.

District winner's essay.

Good quality head and shoulders 5 x 7 or 8 x 10 color photograph. Emphasis photograph

(Color copies or low grade computer printouts will not be accepted).

The completed and signed District Summary Report Form.

Each District may submit only one winner!

2023-2024 DISTRICT PATRIOT'S PEN PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT

Post #

DISTRICT NO. GRAND TOTALS FOR POST COMPETITION:	Total # of amount of amount of Winners Scholarships Expense \$ \$	VALUE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS	District Additional expense	S	The VFW Posts and Auxiliaries identified in this report participated in the VFW annual Patriot's Pen Program.	Date:	District VOD Committee Chair	Date:	Date:	CHECKLIST Items to send with this report to Department HQ.	Post Summary Report form from every Post listed.	District winner's original entry form with all signatures.	District winner's of essay. Color photograph 5 x 7 or 8 x 10. No computer printouts	l signatures.	Tiems on this list must be submitted with this report to Department HQ by deadline of Decamber 15, 2023. Boiling to cond oil metariole will record in discondification of	entry and no credit on Department status sheet for the Post and/or the District.	Send entire package to your Department Headquarters.	Nebraska VFW • PO Box 4552 • Lincoln, NE • 68504
D TOTALS	Total # of Students	VALUE OF	ships		The VFW Posts and Auxiliaries identified in the VFW annual Patriot's Pen Program.		District VOL	District Auxi	District Commander	C Send with	y Report form	er's original en	er's of essay. anh 5 x 7 or 8	This page completed with all signatures.	nust be submitt	dit on Departm	o your Departm	raska VFW • I
GRAN	#of Auxiliaries	MONETARY	District Scholarships		W Posts and FW annual	By:		By:	By:	Items	Post Summar	District winne	District winner's of essay. Color photograph 5 x 7 or	This page con	ns on this list r	otry and no cre	itire package to	Nebi
	# of Posts	MO		S	The VF in the V	Signed By:		Signed By:	Signed By:	14][j	AllTiten	5	Send er	
Additional money spent	\$14.95															the accuracy of correct	National Administra-	we maintain t allow Posts
Scholarships Amount	\$100																FW National	imperative that forms. Do no
# of Post Winners Advanced	1															e not aware	reports to	orrect report
# of Participating Students	(2)															Most people are not aware how	oviding official	nation on the c
Does Post have a Ladies Auxiliary (Yes or No)	Yes	4														ALERT:	eporting is important for providing official reports to VFW	tion, the LKS, and to our donors and supporters. It is imperative that we maintain accurate and consistent information on the correct report forms. Do not allow Posts
Post#	(334)5															FRAUD	reporting is	accurate an

Must be received by deadline of 5:00 PM December 15, 2023.

to share entries with other Posts that did not work the program as this is a violation of the National By-Laws and IRS regulations

Voice of Democracy DISTRICT REPORTING GUIDELINES

USE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO COMPLETE THE DISTRICT PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT FORM:

The guidelines listed below are intended to help clarify the Voice of Democracy Award reporting process and to ensure that all participation and expenses incurred by Post/Auxiliaries are completely and accurately reported for proper credit.

DISTRICT PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT FORM

POST NUMBER: List each Post by their Post number that participated and submitted a Post winner to District for judging in this box.

POST AUXILARY: Does the Post have an Auxiliary? Indicate with yes or no in this box.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS: Indicate how many students participated in the Post VOD program. NUMBER OF POST WINNER ADVANCED: There is one winner for every 15 entries. I.e. 7 entries = 1 winner. 16 entries = 2 winners; 147 entries = 10 winners. Divide number of entries by 15 and round up to get this number.

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: List total of scholarships given to Post winners.

ADDITIONAL MONEY SPENT: Total amount spent to promote program and recognize winners.

GRAND TOTALS SECTION

NUMBER OF POSTS & AUXILIARIES: List total number of Posts and Auxiliaries that participated in their respective box.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS: Add up all the entries submitted to all listed Posts.

TOTAL NUMBER OF WINNERS ADVANCED: Add up all the Post winners advanced to District judging from each Post. A Post may submit one winner for every 15 entries.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ADDITIONAL MONEY SPENT: Total dollar values of awards presented to VOD award participants at Post level. All additional money spent in conducting their program (banquet, gifts, medals, citations).

MONETARY VALUE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTINOS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIPS: Amount that the District gave in scholarship to the District winner.

DISTRICT ADDITIONAL EXPENSES: All additional money spent in conducting the program at the District level (banquet, gifts, medals, citations, etc.).

SIGNATURES

SIGNITURES OF THE DISTRICT CHAIR, AUXILIARY PRESIDENT AND DISTRICT COMMANDER ARE NEEDED TO VERIFY AND CERTIFY REPORT IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.

District Chairman: The District winner's materials that need to be forwarded to the State Chairmen are:

(Immediately after the district judging is complete)

The completed and signed Post Summary Report Form of every Post in the District that legitimately participated in the VOD Program.

District winner's original entry form with all signatures.

District winner's audio (Cassette Tape or CD) recording of their 3-5 minute essay.

Good quality head and shoulders 5 x 7 or 8 x 10 color photograph. Emphasis photograph

(Color copies or low grade computer printouts will not be accepted).

The completed and signed District Summary Report Form.

Additionally – VOD Student Travel Form and Student's Social Security Number will need to be provided to Department Headquarters by January 12, 2024 if your District winner is selected as one of the top ten in state competition. Social Security Number is used as an identifier for scholarship payments.

Each District may submit only one winner!

2023-2024 DISTRICT VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PARTICIPATION SUMMARY REPORT

DISTRICT NO.	GRAND TOTALS FOR POST COMPETITION:	9	Scholarships Expense	VALUE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS	District Additional expense		The VFW Posts and Auxiliaries identified in this report participated in the VFW annual Voice of Democracy Program.	Date:		Date:	nt	Date:		Items to send with this report to Department HO.	Completed and Signed Post Summary Report from all Posts that Participated.	District winner's original entry form with all signatures. District winner's audio (tape or CD) recording of essay.	Color photograph 5 x 7 or 8 x 10, No computer printouts	This page completed with all signatures. All items on this list must be submitted with this report to Department HO by deadline of	December 15, 2023. Failure to send all materials will result in disqualification of entry and no credit on Department status sheet for the Post and/or the District. Send entire package to your Department Headquarters. Nebraska VFW • PO Box 4552 • Lincoln, NE • 68504	Must be received by deadline of 5:00 PM December 15, 2023
DIST	S FOR PO	Total#of	wmners	FDISTIRIC	IQ	S	ss identified emocracy P		District VOD Committee Chair		District Auxiliary President		District Commander	CHECKLIST with this report	st Summary	entry form w	8 x 10, No co	all signature	sheet for the Iment Headqu	adline of:
	ND TOTAL	Total#of	Students	VALUE O	rships		The VFW Posts and Auxiliaries identified in this r in the VFW annual Voice of Democracy Program.		District V(District Au		District Co	ems to send	nd Signed Po	ner's original 1er's audio (ta	graph 5 x 7 or	This page completed with all signatures. ns on this list must be submitted with this r	December 15, 2023. Failure to send all materials will re and no credit on Department status sheet for the Post at Send entire package to your Department Headquarters. Nebraska VFW • PO Box 4552 • Lin	ved by de
	GRAN	Jo#	Auxillaries	MONETARY	District Scholarships		W Posts an FW annua	By:		By:		By:	2	Ite	Completed a	District win District win	Color photog	This page co	oer 15, 2023. rredit on Dep	t be recei
		# of Posts		MO		8	The VF in the V	Signed Bv:)	Signed By:		Signed By:)					All item	Decemb and no c	Must
Additional money spent		814.95																	re accuracy of correct attional Administrative that we maintain	as this is a violation
Scholarships Amount		\$100								Ĭ					ĺ				Most people are not aware how the accuracy of correct oviding official reports to VFW National Administrators and supporters. It is imperative that we maintain	CO
# of Post Winners	Advanced	I																	are not awar il reports to orters. It is	t work the p
# of Participating	Students	13																	Most people a coviding official operations and supp	osts that did no IRS regulation
Does Post have a Ladies Auxiliary	(Yes or No)	Yes															4		FRAUD ALERT: Most people are not aware how the accuracy of correct re-porting is important for providing official reports to VFW National Administration, the IRS, and to our donors and supporters. It is imperative that we maintain	to share entries with other Posts that did not work the program of the National By-Laws and IRS regulations
F0St #		(2543																	FRAUD re-porting is tion, the IR	to share ent of the Natio

National Programs Forms



PATRIOT'S PEN



2023-2024 Theme

"How are you inspired by America?"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023
Patriotic Written Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$5,000 Award

What is the Patriot's Pen Program?

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 73,000 students who participated last year in this contest.

Why Should I Enter?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, State and national level. Department (State) winners receive a portion of \$55,000 in national awards. National Winners will receive at least \$500. The first-place national award is currently \$5,000.

The Internal Revenue Service requires a recipient awarded more than \$599 be given Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable income. This may require the winner to provide their social security number.

How Does the Contest Work?

All entries begin at the VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post.

The contest consists of four levels. The first level (entry) is sponsored by VFW Posts. Post winners advance, one for every 15 entries, to the VFW District (regional) level where the one first-place winner is advanced to the VFW Department (state) level. The first-place winner at the Department level is then advanced into the VFW national competition.

Who Can Enter?

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th-grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31 deadline in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Home-schooled students also are eligible. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. (Foreign exchange students or former winners that placed in the National contest are ineligible.)

How Do I Get Started?

- Ask a teacher or youth group/club adult leader to supervise the Patriot's Pen writing contest.
- Contact a participating VFW Post and indicate your interest in participating.

- Establish a contact person who is a member of that VFW Post or its VFW Auxiliary.
- Make sure that your essay is submitted to the VFW Post before the contest deadline of October 31, 2023. You can submit your essay and entry form by email upon the Post's approval. Entries sent to the VFW National Headquarters directly will be returned.

How Am I Judged?

Knowledge of the theme is worth 30 points:

You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate you have researched the issue extensively.

Theme development is worth 35 points:

Answer all relevant facts about the theme such as the who, what, where, when and why. Relate the theme to your own experiences.

Clarity of ideas is worth 35 points:

Write your essay in an easy-to-understand format. Leave your reader with a clear understanding of your explanation of the theme.

What Is the Theme?

VFW's Commander-in-Chief annually chooses the year's theme. The 2023-2024 theme is:

"How are you inspired by America?"

Deadline Information.

To qualify, all entries must be submitted to a sponsoring VFW Post by midnight October 31, 2023.

Note:

If you need help finding a participating VFW Post, follow these instructions:

First, visit vfw.org/FindaPost to "Find a VFW Post."

If you don't have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble contacting them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) headquarters office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit **vfw.org/contactus** to look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email.

For assistance contact the VFW National Headquarters at 816.968.1155
Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org

2023-2024 Official Entry Form **Patriot's Pen Competition**

Must Be Complete	ed by All Contestants						
Description of the Asset to			Post Commander/Chairperson Signature Post#				
Name: First, M.I., Last			VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature	(If applicable)			
Address			Post Address				
City, State, Zip			City, State, Zip				
()			-13/				
Phone	Email		VFW Post Email				
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)	Grade in School	Essay Word Count	No. of participants No. of	winners			
School Name, City, State			Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarships awards \$				
Teacher's name and Ema	il (if applicable)		Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (Banquet,	Pins, etc.) \$			
To Be Completed (Required even if student	by Student's Parent/Guardian is 18 or over)		To Be Completed by the VFW District I certify that the student named in the previous s winner of the Patriot's Pen Contest District Comp				
Parent/Guardian Name (I	Printed)		into the Department.				
Parent/Guardian Signatu	re Date		District Chairperson Signature	Dist. #			
() Parent/Guardian's Daytin	ne Phone	-					
r archy oddraidiano buyun	ic i none		Address				
Parent/Guardian's Email	Action -		City, State, Zip				
What Are the	Rules?						
You must write your			Phone Email				
words in length (+ o	e typed in English with no color or grap r - 5 word max). Every word is counted tle (theme) or added footnotes do not o	regardless of	To Be Completed by the VFW Department of the student named in the previous strict-place winner of the Patriot's Pen Department of the National Judging.	ection is the duly selected			
(including, but not li	estants identify themselves within their mited to, your name, school, city, state, not put your name on the essay. The e	, race or	Department Chairperson Signature				
	heet. Secure the Official Student Entry		()				
staple or other faste	ener on top of your essay. Contestants	are allowed to	Daytime Phone Email				
	h year if otherwise eligible (one Post co		The winner ① has been ① will be (check one) no first-place Department winner on	tified that they are the			
contestant's own the should be positive a	contestant's original work and a production inking. The approach to the Patriot's Pound clearly focused. Poetry is not accepted to the control of the contro	en theme otable.	Local VFW Post Information:				
contestant's teache	used sparingly if plainly identified wher r, counselor or parent may check the e rar and/or spelling, but the content mu	ssay for	Ocutosti				
	stants will be judged on the basis of th		Contact:				
and are not required	to present the essay orally. All essays	become the	Phone: Best	Time To Call:			
	ran's of Foreign Wars. The VFW retains your essay and likeness in the promotic						
	anization's programs and activities.	on und	Alternate Contact:				
	ne contest additional participant perso N, photo, etc.) could be requested by th		Phone: Best	Time To Call:			
mormation (i.e. 33)	, prioro, ere., eoula de requestea dy tri	VI VI.					

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

Patriot's Pen Competition.

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level

Signature of Student Participant

I Have Read and Understand the Contest Rules

Date

Twisted X Brands

A Proud Sponsor

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.



Patriot's Pen Scoresheet

Program Year

Theme Knowledge: Shows knowledge of the theme and use of research.

Theme Development: Answers relevant facts - who, what, where, when, and why. Relates to the writer's own experiences.

Clarity of Ideas: Provides a clear explanation of the writer's interpretation of the theme.

		The second second		
Contestant Code Number:	9 9 9			+4
Theme Knowledge (0 to 30 points):				
Theme Development (0 to 35 points):				
Clarity of Ideas (0 to 35 points):				
Total (0 to 100 points):				
Contestant Code Number:				
Theme Knowledge (0 to 30 points):			7E 7	
Theme Development (0 to 35 points):				
Clarity of Ideas (0 to 35 points):				
Total (0 to 100 points):				
		J		ľ
Contestant Code Number:				
Theme Knowledge (0 to 30 points):				
Theme Development (0 to 35 points):				
Clarity of Ideas (0 to 35 points):				
Total (0 to 100 points):				

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY



2023-2024 Theme

"What are the greatest attributes of our Democracy?"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023
Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$35,000 Award

What is the Voice of Democracy Program?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 27,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, "What are the greatest attributes of our Democracy?"

Why Should I Enter?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington DC, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$171,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$35,000.

The Rules

Who can enter?

The Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9-12 by the Oct. 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are ineligible.

What do I need to enter?

Record your original 3-5 minute (+ or – 5 second max.) audio essay on a flash drive, or other electronic device. You will submit the recording, typed essay and this completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or VFW Post for judging. In addition you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at youthscholarships@vfw.org for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to your name, school, city, state, race, or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership.

Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries begin at the VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One winner for every 15 entries from each Post advances to District and one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post, follow these instructions: First, visit this website vfw.org/FindaPost to "Find A VFW Post." If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link https://www.vfw.org/ ContactUs/ and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at youthscholarships@vfw.org

What Is the Deadline for My Entry?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, Oct. 31, 2023. It is the responsibility of the student to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

What Are the Judging Criteria?

Originality is worth 30 points:

Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

Content is worth 35 points:

Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to another.

Delivery is worth 35 points:

Speak in a clear and credible manner.

2023-2024 Official Entry Form **Voice of Democracy Competition**

Must be Completed	DV All Confestants							
made be completed	by All Contestant		Post Commander/Chairperson Signature					
Name: First, M.I., Last		VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature (if applicable)						
Address			Post Address					
City, State, Zip			City, State, Zip					
Phone	Email		VFW Post Email					
	211311							
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)	Grade in School	Age Jacket Size	No. of students participating					
	- Control Control		No. of winners advanced to District					
School Name, City, State			Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$					
Teacher's name and Email (i	if applicable)	Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$						
To Be Completed by	Student's Parent/	Guardian	To Be Completed by the VFW District I certify that the student named in the previous se selected winner of the Voice of Democracy Conte					
(Required even if student is	18 or over)							
Parent/Guardian Name (Prin	ited)		Competition and is our sole entry into the Depart					
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date	District Chairperson Signature					
()								
Parent/Guardian Daytime Pl	hone		Address					
Parent/Guardian Email			City, State, Zip					
			()					
Participant Ag	reement for S	Students	Phone Email					
Advancing to I	National Leve		To Be Completed by the VFW Department Ch					
If selected as a first-pla	ce state winner. I hav	e the consent of my						

parent/guardian and school to attend the Voice of Democracy National Finals in Washington, D.C. as a guest of the VFW National Organization. In consideration for permission to participate in the National Voice of Democracy Competition ("Competition") I do hereby, for myself, for my heirs, executors, administrators and assignees, waive, release and discharge all rights and claims which I have or which may hereafter accrue against the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and/or the Departments (state organizations) of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective officers, agents, successors and assigns from any damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my participation in or association with the Competition and/or arising out of any travel related to the Competition. In the event of sickness, accident or injury in connection with the Competition, I consent to and accept the services of a duly licensed medical, surgical or dental specialist selected on my behalf and for such treatments, as they may deem necessary. I understand that VFW will not be liable for such treatment. I further understand that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States retains non-exclusive rights to use my audio file, essay, name and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

I Have Read and Understand the Rules and Participant Agreement

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed audio/essay entry and that I have only entered the competition once yearly if otherwise eligible. I understand that if it is found that I have entered any other Post's competition or used this essay for another VFW competition, I face elimination from the competition and will return any and all prizes or incentives awarded.

VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature (if applicable)					
Post Address					
City, State, Zip					

Post #

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post

District

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

Level Voice of Democracy Competition.

in the previous section is the duly Democracy Contest District ry into the Departments.

District Chairperson Signat	ure	Dist. #
Address		
City, State, Zip		
()	Fmail	

Department Chairperson

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy Department Competition and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

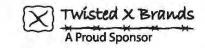
Department Chairperson Signati	ıre
()	<u> </u>
Daytime Phone	Email
The winner O has been O w the first-place Department w	ill be (check one) notified that they are vinner on

For assistance contact: 816.968.1155 Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org

Local VFW Post Information:

Contact:	
Phone:	Best Time To Call:
Alternate Contact:	
Phone:	Best Time To Call:







Voice of Democracy Scoresheet

Program Year

Originality: Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

Content: Ideas are expressed clearly and in an organized manner.

Delivery: Speaking voice is clear and credible.

Contestant Code Number:		
Originality (0 to 30 points):		
Content (0 to 35 points):		
Delivery (0 to 35 points):		
Total (0 to 100 points):		
		X TO THE TAX
Contestant Code Number:		
Originality (0 to 30 points):		
Content (0 to 35 points):		
Delivery (0 to 35 points):		
Total (0 to 100 points):		
Contestant Code Number:		
Originality (0 to 30 points):		
Content (0 to 35 points):		
Delivery (0 to 35 points):		

Date and location of judging

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program



WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. Awards are as follows:

\$5,000 1st place National scholarship \$3,000 2nd place National scholarship \$1,000 3rd place National scholarship

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop,
 Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship at the time the above reward was received.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. There is no minimum age requirement for applicants as long as all other eligibility criteria has been met. The maximum age requirement for applicants is 18 years old. If an applicant reaches their 18th birthday during the nomination year, they remain eligible as long as they are still in high school at the time of the submission deadline. A Scout may enter through only <u>one</u> VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at **vfw.org/FindaPost**.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

- · Deadline for entry to VFW Post is March 1.
- One candidate with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the next level of judging by <u>April 1</u>. The VFW Department Scouting chairman can provide this information.
- The Department winner must be selected and submitted by their Department Scouting chairman to the VFW National Headquarters by <u>May 1</u>.

Questions should be directed to 816.756.3390, ext 6155. during normal business hours Monday through Friday or emailed to scouting@vfw.org.

Official Entry Form

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT and submitted directly to a VFW post in your community.

Name: First, M.I., Last	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
()	Email
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scout/Venture Signature Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout/Venture is an active member of our unit or was when the award was received and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Unit Leader's Signature Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States' Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

VFW DEPARTMENT

SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

SPONSORING \	
POST NUMBER:	
ADDRESS:	
POST COMMANDER'S SIG	NATURE:

IFA	ISTRICT CERTIFICATION PPLICABLE, CHECKWITH THE VFW PARTMENT SCOUTING CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT #:	
DISTRICT CI	OR.:

MUST BE COM	MENT CERTIFICATION PLETED BY DEPARTMENT VFW IRMAN OR DEPT. COMMANDER
DEPARTMENT:	
SUBMITTED BY:	-
SIGNATURE:	

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- Photograph of the Scout must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- School Participation Record a single page, one-sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.
- Scouting Record maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all
 Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit
 or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions
 held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the
 Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold
 Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- Community Service Record a single page, one-sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- Letters of Recommendation Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - · A scout leader.
 - · A community member.
 - · A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
 - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- Completed Entry Form submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

WHO MAKES UP THE VFW SCOUTING TEAM?

The backbone of Scouting in the VFW is the VFW Scouting Team. These VFW members are deeply involved in Scouting, most with decades of experience.

Appointed by their Department Commander, they are responsible for promoting scouting in their state. They are available to encourage Posts to sponsor units, support units and individual Scout projects. They should be the Department's "expert" on all phases of scouting. Many Departments have multiple members of the VFW Scouting Team, but every Department should have at least one individual to promote the values of scouting to youth and to the VFW itself. For more information on the VFW Scouting Team call 816.756.3390, ext 6155, or email scouting@vfw.org



Revised 10/2019

2023-2024 Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award



Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023

What is the Teacher Award Program?

Founded in 1899, the VFW highly supports the education of America's youth. VFW and its Auxiliary have developed a slate of programs dedicated to helping America's educators. VFW Citizenship Education programs stimulate interest in America's history, traditions, Americanism, civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism.

Teachers care deeply about America and its children. They're concerned about the perpetuation of America's noblest traditions and highest ideals. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve? Now you can.

Why Should I Enter?

VFW wants to identify and recognize America's best educators who instill a sense of national pride in students. The national awards include \$1,000 Past Commander-in-Chief John Smart award for each of the top K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 teachers for professional development expenses, \$1,000 award for each winning teacher's school, commemorative plaques and all-expense-paid trip to the VFW National Convention.

Who is Eligible?

All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 are eligible. Previous national VFW winners are ineligible. Nominations can be submitted by themselves, fellow teachers, supervisors, family members or other interested individuals.

How are teachers nominated?

Fill out the nomination form contained in this brochure, and provide a one-page resume as a minimum or up to five pages as a maximum of documentation of their teaching experience (for example: references, news articles, etc.) and a head-and-shoulder photo if available.

Please submit your completed nomination form signed, along with the required documentation to your local VFW Post. Visit vfw.org/FindaPost for Post locations or call VFW Programs Department at 816.756.3390 ext. 6287 to find the Post nearest you.

What Is the Deadline for My Entry?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, Oct. 31, 2023. It is the responsibility of the nominator to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

What Are the Judging Criteria?

Citizenship (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what extent does the teacher encourage and/or model good citizenship and community involvement?

Innovation (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, how much innovation (new ideas, new tools, new resources, and new approaches) does this teacher utilize in the classroom? Does this teacher's effort reflect an ongoing desire to stimulate the students with new things?

Resources (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree has this teacher demonstrated an ability to identify and utilize new and exceptional resources to fund, facilitate and provide materials for his or her classroom? Does this teacher tap into outside agencies, organizations and individuals to acquire materials and expertise in the classroom? As an example – bringing speakers, finding in-kind and monetary donations, or utilizing local opportunities like museums, field trips and local events.

Passion (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree does this teacher appear to be passionate about the profession of teaching? Are they regularly seeking to upgrade their skills? Do they try and find ways to encourage their students? Do they take a personal interest in their student's individual success?

If you have any questions, please call Tammy Beauchamp, 816.756.3390, ext 6287 or **tbeauchamp@vfw.org**.

Contact Phone Best time to call Alternative Contact Phone Best time to call

2023-2024 Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award

2023-2024 Official Entry Form Teacher Award Competition



Entry Deadline: October 31, 2023

Must Be Completed by All Contestants Name: First, M.I., Last Address City, State, Zip Email Phone Grade Level (K-5, 6-8, or 9-12) School Name School City, State To Be Completed by the VFW Post I certify that this teacher has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Teacher Award Competition. Post Commander's/Chairperson's Signature VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairperson's Signature (If Applicable) Post Address City, State, Zip VFW Post Email No. of teachers participating No. of winners advanced to District Amt. of Post /Aux. scholarship awards \$ Amt. of Post /Aux. additional expenses \$

(banquet, pins, etc.)

To Be Completed by the VFW District (If Applicable)	I
certify that the teacher named in the previous section	n
is the duly selected winner of the Teacher Award	
District Competition and is our entry into the	
Department judging.	

District Chairp	erson's Signature	Dist#
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Phone	Email	
To Be Comp	leted by the VFW De	partment Chairperson
section is th Teacher Awa	the teacher named i e duly selected first- ard Department Com ional Judging.	
Department C	hairperson's Signature	
Daytime Phon	e Email	
	has been □ will be (che ace Department winner	ck one) notified that they on

Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries will begin at the local VFW Post level. Individual nominees may submit their entry directly to the Post. This VFW Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One Post winner, in each grade level, advances to District, if applicable, then one District winner, in each grade level, advances to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions: First, visit vfw.org/FindaPost to find your local VFW Post. Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in. If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit vfw.org/ ContactUs and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at tbeauchamp@vfw.org.

TEACHER'S AWARD JUDGING SCORE SHEET

TEACHER'S NAME	CITIZENSHIP (1-25 Points)	INNOVATION (1-25 Points)	RESOURCES (1-25 Points)	PASSION (1-25 Points)	TOTAL (Possible 100 Points)
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0

Judging Criteria

Citizenship: (1-25 points)		On a scale of 1-25, to what extent does the teacher encourage and/or model good citizenship and community involvement?				
Innovation: (1-25 points)	On a scale of 1-25, how much innovation (new ideas, new tools, new resources, and new approaches) does this teacher utilize in the classroom? Does this teacher's effort reflect an ongoing desire to stimulate the students with new things?					
Resources: (1-25 points)	new and exceptional resor Does this teacher tap into expertise in the classroom	t degree has this teacher demonstrated urces to fund, facilitate and provide ma outside agencies, organizations and ir n?As an example – bringing speakers, fi al opportunities like museums, field tri	iterials for his adividuals to a anding in-kind	or her classroom? cquire materials and and monetary		
Passion: (1-25 points)	teaching? Are they regula	t degree does this teacher appear to be arly seeking to upgrade their skills? Do ake a personal interest in their student	they try and f	ind ways to encourage		
DATE	POST#	GRADE LEVEL □ K-5	□ 6-8	□ 9-12		
JUDGE'S NAM	IE (Please Print)					
JUDGE'S SIGN	JATURE					

NOTE: Judges should be carefully selected, preferably from individuals who have classroom experience and understand the challenges of teaching. They should never have any affiliation with the nominees or the schools where the nominees teach. While it may be necessary to use VFW and its Auxiliary members, it is preferred that judges come from outside our ranks to avoid the appearance of impropriety. During the judging, the chairperson should facilitate and observe but refrain from offering his or her observations on the candidates. The judges are encouraged to discuss the candidates but must arrive at their own numerical evaluation using the grid above. Make sure all judges are kept aware of the progress of the teachers they have judged and are invited to any awards presentations



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

HELP YOUR KIDS GET A HEAD START ON THEIR FUTURE





An Open Letter to Teachers and Youth Leaders:

Thank you for the time, effort and commitment you invest each year in America's young people. Because of you, our nation continues to produce scholars, dreamers and leaders who benefit the entire world. We, the more than 1.5 million members of the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary share your commitment to America's youth. Each year, we provide millions of dollars worth of awards and college scholarships to students across the U.S. and overseas. The purpose of these awards is to encourage personal growth and foster a greater understanding and appreciation for America, its history and values. This brochure is provided to acquaint you with the VFW's programs that benefit those young lives you touch each day. Again, thank you for all you do. If we can serve you in any way, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Lynn W. Rolf, III Director, VFW Programs

lrolf@vfw.org

Patriots Pen Essay Contest

Patriot's Pen provides 6th, 7th and 8th grade students the opportunity to express their opinion on a patriotic theme and improve their writing skills while they compete for worthwhile awards and prizes. Awards can be given at the local, district and state levels. The state winners compete for \$55,000 in awards at the national level. The first place national winner receives a \$5,000 award. The entry deadline is Oct. 31.

Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) started the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition in 1947. The VFW became a national sponsor in the late 1950s and assumed sole responsibility for the program in 1961. Many notables have participated in Voice of Democracy including journalist Charles Kuralt, Miss America Anita Bryant and U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. The Voice of Democracy competition provides high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to write and record an essay on a patriotic theme, competing for more than \$2 million in college scholarships and incentives. State winners compete for \$154,000 in scholarships - with the first place national winner receiving a \$30,000 scholarship. Deadline is Oct. 31.



Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Program

Each year, the VFW presents an elementary, middle and high school teacher with its Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award to recognize them for their outstanding commitment to teach and promote America's history, traditions and citizenship.

VFW Posts nominate their top local candidate in each category to their (state) Department, which then selects a candidate from each category to submit to VFW National Headquarters. The national Department winners in each grade category will receive a VFW National citation for both themselves, and their school.

All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. From planning field trips to city hall and organizing community volunteer projects, to inviting veterans into the classroom to discuss their military experiences and teachers who foster the development of democratic values and beliefs through unique projects, if you know of such a teacher nominate them today.

Nominations must be submitted to a local VFW Post by Oct. 31. For additional information about our program, please visit our website at vfw.org/TeacheroftheYear.

ON THEIR FUTURE

To encourage as many students as possible to participate, the VFW provides a number of ways to enter.

Submitting Student Entries

Students can enter directly by submitting the required entry form, along with their essay (and in the case of Voice of Democracy, their recording) to a local participating VFW Post.

Your local VFW Post's contact information can be obtained at vfw.org/FindaPost or by calling the VFW National Programs office during normal business hours at 816.756.3390. Entry forms and instructions can be downloaded from the VFW website at vfw.org/YouthScholarships.

PATRIOTIC PROJECTS

Teachers and youth leaders may obtain student entry forms in the manner indicated above. You may then select from the following options:

Patriot's Pen (Grades 6-8)

Write a 300-400 word essay on the annual theme available online at vfw.org/PatriotsPen or by calling 816.756.3390. Use the competition as a patriotic assignment and encourage the students with the best essays to complete the entry form and forward those, along with the essay, to the local VFW Post competition.

Voice of Democracy (Grades 9-12)

Write an essay on the annual theme available online at vfw.org/VOD or by calling 816.756.3390. Again, use the competition as an essay contest and encourage the students with the best essays to record their essays, complete the entry form and forward them, with the recording and typed essay, to the local VFW Post competition.









Local VFW Post Information







Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

VFW Programs
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816.756.3390
youthscholarships@vfw.org
www.vfw.org

Revised 8/20

Miscellaneous Documents



RITUAL FOR CONDUCTING A POST MEETING

The Manual of Procedure contains ritual for every occasion, for example, opening a post meeting, swearing in a new member, presenting a flag, conducting a funeral, etc. Ritual adds both dignity and formality to a meeting. I urge each Post Commander to conduct his meetings in accordance with the ritual contained in the Manual of Procedure. For those Commanders who do not have a Manual available, the following abbreviated guide for conducting a post meeting may be used until such time as your Quartermaster has ordered a Manual from National Headquarters.

A variety of prayers are also in the Manual of Procedure. (Officer & Chairman duties SEC 218)

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Commandei		•	•	ns not members or authorized guests of the VFW s." (Commander ascertains if nonmembers have	
2. Commander	: "By the power and a	uthority vested in me, I	am about to	open	
	(name)	Post No	for the	e transaction of any business that may	
	lawfully come before entitled to remain). Officer of t	he Day (O.O.D.), satisfy yourself that all present are	
	(As cards are ins	spected, members tak	e their seats	S.)	
0.0.D.:	0.0.D.: Comrade Commander, I find all, except those standing, in possession of				
	official VFW dues receipts for the current calendar year. (Commander instructs QM to determine status of members standing. Those who have not paid their current dues will be required to pay said dues or leave the meeting room. Q.M. will report finding to the Commander.)				
Commande	:: "Officer of the Day, yo	ou will prepare the Post	room for the	e salute to the Colors." <i>(Two gavel raps.)</i>	
0.0.D.:	"Salute the colo	rs, one - two" (to use	e appropria	te commands for the Colors.)	
	(Chaplain proceed opens the Bible.	ls to the Altar, taking his	station betw	veen it and Sr. Vice.) Proceeds to face altar and	
Commander	: "Attention, parade real After the pra	st" yer is delivered - -			
Commander:	"Attention, Comrades America. One (pl	•	Pledge of A	Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of	
Commander	: "Officer of the Day" yo	ou will place the colors			
Commander	: "Comrades, we are a	ssembled again to trar	nsact busine	ss of mutual benefit.	
	Do not let petty jea	alousies or trivial perso	onalities influ	uence our deliberations.	
	•	ne obligations of un United States of Ame		mradeship and loyalty to our organization and the	
	I now declare (name) Post No.		duly opened for the transaction	
	of business.				

Commander: Guard, You will admit any in waiting who may be worthy.

Commander: (Leading all members in recitation of Section 230102 of the Congressional Charter.)

"The purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies."

Order of business (Post)

- 3. Calling the roll of Officers.
- 4. Introduction of guests.
- 5. Reading, referring membership applications.
- 6. Report of investigating committee.
- 7. Mustering in of recruits.
- 8. Adjutant report, reading of the minutes. (Are there any corrections or omissions? If not, they will stand approved as read." If corrected, "They will stand approved as corrected.)
- 9. Reading of bills.
- 10. Quartermaster's report: Disbursements.
- 11. Quartermaster's report: Receipts -- Reading of bills.
- 12. Is there a comrade or family of a comrade in distress?
- 13. Report of all committees and reading of related correspondence (Membership, Service officer, House committee, Hospital, Boy Scouts, Relief, Ways and means, Community service, Youth activity, Sports, Employment officer, etc.).
- 14. Remember our National Home. (As close to 9 p.m. as possible.)
- 15. Unfinished business. (A list should be ready, prepared by Adjutant.)
- 16. New business. NOTE: Reading of communications should be read in the order of business it is associated with (Unfinished, New, Good of the Order).
- 17. Balloting for candidates. (See page of the ritual). Nominations, elections, and installation of officers.
- 18. Good of the order. (All guests should be invited to speak.)
- 19. There being no further business, we will have our closing ceremony. (Two raps, all rise.)

CLOSING CEREMONY

Commander: Prepare to retire the colors. (0.0.D. issues the orders) "Comrade Chaplain, you will deliver the closing prayer. Parade rest! Prayer (be sure Chaplain closes Bible).

Commander: Attention! Right hand salute. Two!	
Comrades, I now declare this business session of (nam	e)closed.
Our next regular meeting will be	_(Date and hour). RAP THE GAVEL

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA VFW CANTEEN AND CLUBS RULES & REGULATIONS

- 1. A House Committee shall be elected or appointed by the post members to manage the affairs of the club. It shall consist of not less than three (3) members, one of which shall be elected annually for a three (3) year term. Trustees shall not serve on the House Committee. All other elected post officers are eligible to serve on the House Committee.
- 2. The House Committee shall employ such personnel, including manager, as shall be necessary. No member of the House Committee, including the Post Commander, Post Quartermaster, and Trustees, shall serve as manager.
- **3.** The House Committee shall have the authority to suspend all club privileges of any member or nonmember, for misconduct on club premises, subject to appeal to the post membership.
- **4.** The post membership may overrule any action of the House Committee by regular vote at any post meeting.
- **5.** The manager or employee handling club monies shall be bonded to the post for twice the amount normally handled.
- **6.** The manager shall be responsible to the House Committee and the Post Commander and Post membership for strict enforcement of club regulations, local ordinances and state laws applicable to the operation of clubs.
- **7.** The club manager shall be discharged for violation or permitting violations of any of the above rules or regulations; if House Committee refuses to remove such manager upon proof of such violations, the post may discharge said manager.
- **8.** Elected and Appointed House Committee members may be removed in accordance with Section 220 of the National By-Laws.
- **9.** The House Committee and manager shall keep accurate records open to inspection of the post members at all reasonable times.
- **10.** The club manager shall keep an accurate and approved set of records and accounts.
- **11.** The Club By-Laws may provide the largest sum of which the manager or House Committee may spend without a vote of the post authorizing same. This sum shall be *(to be set by each Post)*.
- **12.** All incomes and profits shall be held or deposited in the name of the post and in no other name.
- **13.** The Post Quartermaster shall act as treasurer of the House Committee.
- **14.** At least once a month, the club manager shall furnish the Post Quartermaster a complete written profit and loss statement, to be read to the post membership and spread on the post bulletin board; all expenditures to be supported by bills and vouchers.

- **15.** All club books and records shall be audited quarterly by the post trustees or qualified accountants approved by them.
- **16.** All club regulations may be amended by the majority vote of the members present at any regular or special post meeting, subject to written notice to members at least three (3) days prior to such meeting and shall be submitted to Department and National for approval.
- **17.** House Committee members missing three (3) consecutive House Committee Meetings without valid excuse will be dismissed from his position by majority vote of the post at a regular meeting. Commander will appoint a new member for the remaining term of office.
- **18.** VFW and Auxiliary members only will be admitted to the club. Nonmembers will not be admitted unless accompanied by a member and registered in the guest book.
- **19.** Infraction of club rules by member's guest(s) shall be considered as an infraction of rules by the member.
- **20.** In accordance with Section 708 and 709 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedures, all clubs incorporated separately from their respective posts shall have Department permission and National approval to do so. They shall be under the direct control of the post membership, Department Commander, Department Council of Administration and Department Convention.
- **21.** These rules and regulations shall be posted in a conspicuous place in all posts operating a club or canteen.

Approved: June 4, 2023 by Council vote.

Jeffrey M. Baker

State Adjutant/Quartermaster Department of Nebraska, VFW

Addresses of your State Elected Senators and Representatives

Senator Deb Fischer United States Senate

454 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

Office Phone #: 1-202-224-6551

Senator Pete Ricketts United States Senate

139 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

Office Phone #: 1-202-224-4224

The Honorable Adrian Smith United States House of Representatives

502 Cannon HOB Washington DC 20515

Office Phone #: 1-202-225-6435

The Honorable Don Bacon United States House of Representatives

2104 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington DC 20515

Office Phone #: 1-202-225-4155

The Honorable Mike Flood United States House of Representatives

343 Cannon House Office Building Washington DC 20515

Office Phone # 1-202-225-4806

Governor Jim Pillen State Capitol

PO Box 94863

Lincoln, NE 68509

Phone #: 402-471-1966

Nebraska Veterans Affairs Director John Hilgert

PO Box 95083 301 Centennial Mall S

Lincoln, NE 68509-5083

Phone#: 402-471-2458

VA Health Care Grand Island VA Health Care (CBOC)

2201 N Broadwell Ave (68803)

308-382-3660

Lincoln VA Clinic (CBOC)

420 Victory Park Drive (68510)

402-489-3802

Holdrege VA Clinic

1118 Burlington St (68949)

402-370-4570

North Platte VA Clinic

600 East Francis, Suite 3 (68701)

308-532-6906

Norfolk Out Patient Clinic

710 S 13th St, Suite 1200 (68701)

402-370-4570

Omaha VA Medical Center

4101 Woolworth Ave (68105)

402-346-8800

Cheyenne VA Medical

2360 E Pershing Blvd (82001-5392)

307-778-7550

Nebraska Veterans Homes

Central NE Veterans Home

4510 E 56th St

Kearney, NE 68847 (308-865-6000)

Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home

12505 S. 40th St

Bellevue, NE 68123 (402-595-2180)

Norfolk Veterans Home

600 E Benjamin Ave

Norfolk, NE 68701-0830 (402-370-3330)

Western NE Veterans Home

1102 W 42nd St

Scottsbluff, NE 69361 (308-631-8772)



HERE ARE JUST A FEW WAYS:

Hosting service members and their families at morale-boosting events
Providing vital financial assistance to military families in need
Helping veterans recoup their earned benefits from the VA
Granting scholarships to student veterans for higher education
Testifying on Capitol Hill, leading the way for veterans legislation
Standing at the forefront in the battle FOR VETERANS



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS



Day or night, the Veterans Crisis Line is here to support you.

