

# **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

**INFORMATION BULLETIN  
SEPTEMBER, 2025**



**DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
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**GRERGORY HARRELL, COMMANDER  
2025 – 2026**

**WHAT POST OR DISTRICT WILL BE FIRST AT 101%  
IN MEMBERSHIP**



# FACT SHEET

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

## THE VFW'S VITAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

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

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

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

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



## 2,162

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

## 308,045

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

## \$14.6 billion

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

## \$1.54 million

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

## 15

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

## \$2.9 million+

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

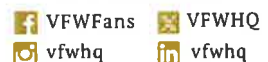
## \$150,352

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



### JOIN THE VFW

Connect With Us



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

Updated December 2024

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



# MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW

## About the VFW

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

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

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



### The VFW by the numbers

**1.4 million+**

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

**5,500+**

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



**1899**

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



### Helping struggling military families

**48**

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

**\$39,737**

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

**24**

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs.



### Cutting red tape

**146,000**

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

**14,000**

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

**20+**

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



### Inspiring patriotism in young people

**26,431**

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

**68,439**

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



### Improving life in America

**5.9 million**

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

**\$50.8 million**

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

### The VFW Relies on Donations

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

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



Source: VFW 2024 Annual Report



**SUPPORT THE VFW**

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

Updated December 2024



# Whitmore's Warriors Class of 2025-2026 Project



LET'S DO MORE  
STOCK THE STORE



V F W

N A T I O N A L H O M E



## Whitmore / Callihan 2025 / 2026

Store Equipment (Refrigerators, freezers, etc and Food)  
Consists of purchasing equipment for the retail section including coolers and freezers for fresh and frozen food, and beverages, dry goods and other sundries that are deemed most useful to residents. This fundraiser will also purchase an honor system point of sale program that allows residents to enter the store with a swipe card, pick out items and pay for them with a credit or debit card both during and after business hours.





## VFW Programs & Projects

*Since its founding, the VFW has been a staple in the community. Troop support, youth activities, volunteering and scholarship programs are a few of the ways the VFW shines in the many communities and cities where Posts are located.*

### Youth Scholarship Programs

- ***Voice of Democracy***

This audio-essay competition annually awards nearly \$3 million in scholarships to students in grades 9-12. The first-place winner receives a \$35,000 scholarship.

- ***Patriot's Pen***

More than \$1.2 million is awarded annually to students in grades 6-8 in this essay contest. The first-place winner receives \$5,000.

- ***Teacher of the Year***

The VFW annually recognizes three exceptional schoolteachers (one from each (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students. Awards include \$1,000 to the teacher of each category and \$1,000 for his/her school, along with an all-expense-paid trip to attend the VFW National Convention.

### Educational Outreach

- ***Echoes From the Wall***

The VFW partnered with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to distribute a curriculum, Echoes From the Wall, to 25,000 public and private high schools and donated \$50,000 to the project.

- ***Educational Brochures***

The VFW produces and distributes a flag brochure and poster.

- ***Veterans in the Classroom***

November is officially known as VFW Veterans in the Classroom Month. Members demonstrate flag etiquette and share their wartime experiences with America's youth.

### Youth Activities

Locally, VFW Posts sponsor various youth sporting programs such as baseball and ice hockey. In addition, many VFW Posts sponsor Boy and Girl Scout troops, Junior Olympics, bike safety, JROTC units, drill teams, color guards and a variety of other programs to build good citizenship and exemplary character in America's youth.

### Community Volunteerism

Each year, VFW members volunteer more than 5 million hours of service to various community endeavors.

- ***Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service***

The VFW was a charter member in 1946. VFW volunteers donate millions of hours of service annually at VA medical facilities.

### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Fax 816.968.1157

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200 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
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Fax 202.545.6719

info@vfw.org  
www.vfw.org

## **Troop Support**

- ***Military Assistance Program (MAP)***

More than 4.1 million service members and their families have been hosted at morale-boosting events sponsored by the VFW since 2005.

- ***Adopt-a-Unit***

More than 3,700 units and ships have been adopted through VFW Posts since 2007. VFW National Headquarters adopted the USS Cole in 2002.

- ***Care Packages***

Posts across the country show their support of America's military by collecting and distributing much-needed personal items for adopted units.

- ***VFW Financial Assistance***

This program administers financial assistance in the form of grants to active-duty service members to include active Guard/Reserves and their families to help cover daily necessities such as residential expenses, vehicle expenses, childcare, food, and more. Since 2004, 11,659 grants have been issued totaling more than \$13 million.

- ***VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"***

Introduced in 2013, this program awards scholarships of up to \$5,000 to qualifying veterans and service members. The program has provided 3,261 scholarships totaling more than \$1.5 million.

- ***Student Veteran Support Grants***

Provides financial grants to VFW Posts, Districts, and Departments to assist with outreach and services to veterans on college campuses around the country.



# Past Commanders-in-Chief

*To honor their service, the past Commanders-in-Chief are listed in chronological order since the inception of the organization.*



## AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE

James C. Putnam*	1899-1900
Maj. Will S. White*	1900-01
Maj. Will S. White*	1901-02
James Romanis*	1902-03
James Romanis*	1903-04
James Romanis*	1904-05
George Metzger*	1905-06
Charles H. Devereaux*	1906-07
David T. Nevin*	1907-08
J. Alfred Judge*	1908-09
J. Alfred Judge*	1909-10
Robert G. Woodside*	1910-11
Robert G. Woodside*	1911-12
Robert G. Woodside*	1912-13

## ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, CUBA AND PUERTO RICO

Gen. Francis V. Greene*	1900-01
Gen. Irving Hale*	1901-02
Gen. Irving Hale*	1902-03
Gen. Charles King*	1903-04
Gen. Wilder S. Metcalf*	1904-05
Col. Alfred S. Frost*	1905-06
Gen. Arthur MacArthur*	1906-07
Capt. H.A. Crow*	1907-08
Maj. P.J.H. Farrell*	1908-09
Col. Charles L. Jewett*	1909-10
A.H. Anderson*	1910-11
F. Warner Karling*	1911-12
F. Warner Karling*	1912-13

## AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE (EASTERN BRANCH)

Capt. Robert S. Hansbury*	1903-04
H.O. Kelley*	1904-05

Rice W. Means,*	Colorado	1913-14	Ray S. Soden,*	Illinois	1973-74
Thomas Crago,*	Pennsylvania	1914-15	John J. Stang,*	Kansas	1974-75
Gus Hartung,*	Colorado	1915-16	Thomas C. Walker,*	Connecticut	1975-76
Albert Rabing,*	New York	1916-17	R.D. (Bulldog) Smith,	Georgia	1976-77
William Ralston,*	Pennsylvania	1917-18	John Wasyluk,*	Ohio	1977-78
F. Warner Karling,*	Missouri	1918-20	Eric Sandstrom,*	Washington	1978-79
Robert G. Woodside,*	Pennsylvania	1920-22	Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.,*	New Jersey	1979-80
Tillinghast Huston,*	New York	1922-23	T.C. Selman,*	Texas (died in office)	1980-81
Lloyd M. Brett,*	Washington, D.C.	1923-24	Arthur J. Fellwock,*	Indiana	1981-82
John H. Dunn,*	Massachusetts	1924-25	James R. Currie,*	Arizona	1982-83
Fred Stover,*	Pennsylvania	1925-26	Clifford G. Olson, Jr.,*	Massachusetts	1983-84
Theodore Stitt,*	New York	1926 -27	Billy Ray Cameron,*	North Carolina	1984-85
Frank T. Strayer,*	Indiana	1927-28	John S. Staum,*	Minnesota	1985-86
Eugene P. Carver,*	Massachusetts	1928-29	Norman G. Staab,*	Kansas	1986-87
Hezekiah N. Duff,*	Michigan	1929-30	Earl L. Stock, Jr.,*	New York	1987-88
Paul C. Wolman,*	Maryland	1930-31	Larry W. Rivers,	Louisiana	1988-89
Darold D. DeCoe,*	California	1931-32	Walter G. Hogan,	Wisconsin	1989-90
Robert E. Coontz,*	Washington, D.C.	1932-33	James L. Kimery,*	New Mexico	1990-91
James E. Van Zandt,*	Pennsylvania	1933-36	Robert E. Wallace,	New Jersey	1991-92
Bernard W. Kearney,*	New York	1936-37	John M. Carney,*	Florida	1992-93
Scott P. Squyres,*	Oklahoma	1937-38	George R. Cramer,	Illinois	1993-94
Eugene I. Van Antwerp,*	Michigan	1938-39	Allen F. Kent,*	Arizona	1994-95
Otis N. Brown,*	North Carolina	1939-40	Paul A. Spera,	Massachusetts	1995-96
Joseph C. Menedez,*	Louisiana	1940-41	James E. Nier,	Texas	1996-97
Max Singer,*	Massachusetts	1941-42	John E. Moon,	Ohio	1997-98
Robert T. Merrill,*	Montana	1942-43	Thomas A. Pouliot,	Montana	1998-99
Carl J. Schoeninger,*	Michigan	1943-44	John W. Smart,	New Hampshire	1999-2000
Jean A. Brunner,*	New York	1944-45	John F. Gwizdak,*	Georgia	2000-01
Joseph M. Stack,*	Pennsylvania	1945-46	James N. Goldsmith,*	Michigan	2001-02
Louis E. Starr,*	Oregon	1946-47	Raymond C. Sisk,*	California	2002-03
Ray H. Brannaman,*	Colorado	1947-48	Edward S. Banas, Sr.,	Connecticut	2003-04
Lyall T. Beggs,*	Wisconsin	1948-49	John Furgess,	Tennessee	2004-05
Clyde A. Lewis,*	New York	1949-50	James R. Mueller,	Missouri	2005-06
Charles C. Ralls,*	Washington	1950-51	Gary Kurpius,	Alaska	2006-07
Frank C. Hilton,*	Pennsylvania	1951-52	George Lisicki,	New Jersey	2007-08
James W. Cothran,*	South Carolina	1952-53	Glen M. Gardner, Jr.,	Texas	2008-09
Wayne E. Richards,*	Kansas	1953-54	Thomas J. Tradewell, Sr.,*	Wisconsin	2009-10
Merton B. Tice,*	South Dakota	1954-55	Richard L. Eubank,	California	2010-11
Timothy J. Murphy,*	Massachusetts	1955-56	Richard L. DeNoyer,	Massachusetts	2011-12
Cooper T. Holt,*	Tennessee	1956-57	John E. Hamilton,	Florida	2012-13
Richard L. Roudebush,*	Indiana	1957-58	William A. Thien,	Indiana	2013-14
John W. Mahan,*	Montana	1958-59	John W. Stroud,	Nevada	2014-15
Louis G. Feldmann,*	Pennsylvania	1959-60	John A. Biedrzycki Jr.,*	Pennsylvania	2015-16
Ted C. Connell,*	Texas	1960-61	Brian Duffy,	Kentucky	2016-17
Robert E. Hansen,*	Minnesota	1961-62	Keith E. Harman,	Ohio	2017-18
Byron B. Gentry,*	California	1962-63	Vincent "B.J." Lawrence,	New Mexico	2018-19
Joseph J. Lombardo,*	New York	1963-64	William J. "Doc" Schmitz,	New York	2019-20
John A. Jenkins,*	Alabama	1964-65	Harold J. "Hal" Roesch II,	Virginia	2020-21
Andy Borg,*	Wisconsin	1965-66	Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic,	Illinois	2021-22
Leslie M. Fry,*	Nevada	1966-67	Timothy M. Borland,	Arizona	2022-23
Joseph A. Scerra,*	Massachusetts	1967-68	Duane Sarrmiento,	New Jersey	2023-24
Richard W. Homan,*	West Virginia	1968-69	Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt,	Georgia	2024-25
Raymond A. Gallagher,*	South Dakota	1969-70			
H.R. Rainwater,*	California	1970-71			
Joseph L. Vicites,*	Pennsylvania	1971-72			
Patrick E. Carr,*	Louisiana	1972-73			

\*Deceased

Updated  
8/25

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Fax 202.545.6719

info@vfw.org  
www.vfw.org

## **FW: Alternative ball caps mockups**

Inbox



**Marc Garduno** Wed, Aug 20, 10:25 AM (5 days ago)

to Department, Dan

Team,

In response to several requests for information through social media channels, attached is a mockup of what the recently approved official alternative cap will look like. It will have all the essential components of the official overseas cap, and the color of the sandwich bill will denote the type of unit (Post-Yellow, District-Green, Department-Red, National-Silver/Grey). We are currently considering options for a unique identifier to help prevent pirating.

A couple pieces of information to share with your Department. First, don't expect to see these on the VFW Store site for purchase until beginning of December at the earliest. Delivery to the consumer will be four to six weeks from order. The only title options will be what's available on the item drop down. It's difficult enough to get some specialized titles on the overseas caps and there is even less space for that on these ballcaps. To help mitigate incorrect assumptions or prevent rumors, please send any questions that reach you to me for clarification. Thanks!

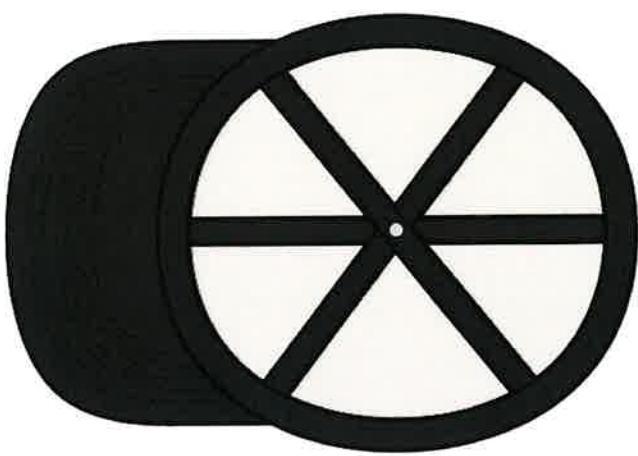
**Marc Garduno**

**Quartermaster General**

**VFW National Headquarters**

**406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
Direct: 816.968.1179  
Fax: 816.968.1189  
[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)**





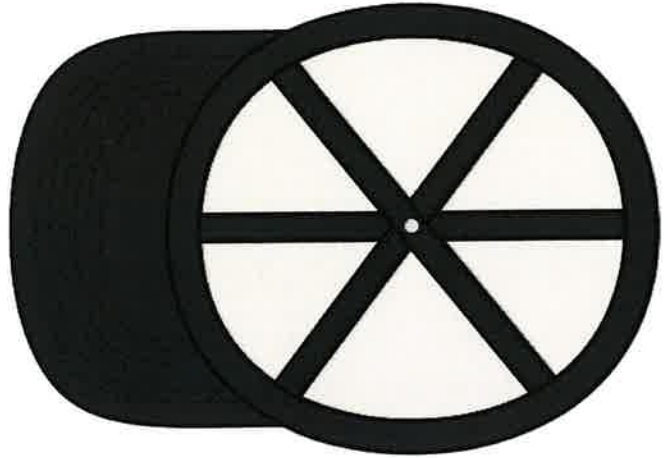
DESCRIPTION	
•	STRUCTURED
•	6 PANEL
•	PRE-CURVED SANDWICH VISOR
•	HOO & LOOP CLOSURE

FLAT STITCH

FLAT STITCH



FLAT STITCH

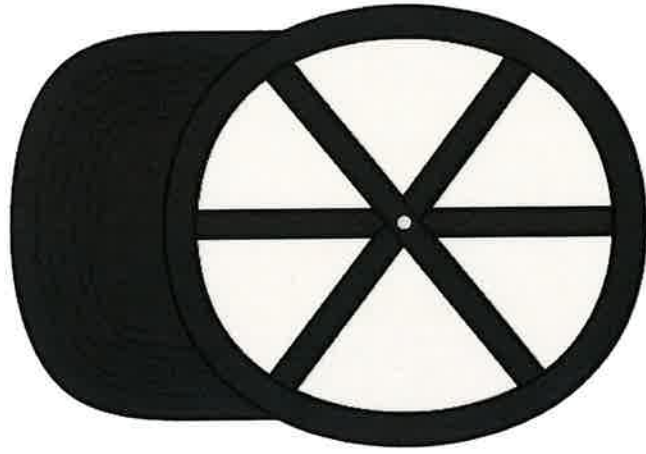


FLAT STITCH

DESCRIPTION	
• STRUCTURED	• 6 PANEL
• PRE-CURVED SANDWICH VISOR	• HOOK & LOOP CLOSURE



FLAT STITCH



FLAT STITCH

DESCRIPTION
• STRUCTURED
• 6 PANEL
• PRE-CURVED SANDWICH VISOR
• HOOK & LOOP CLOSURE





DESCRIPTION
• STRUCTURED
• 6 PANEL
• PRE-CURVED SANDWICH VISOR
• HOOK & LOOP CLOSURE



# ENDLESS HORIZONS. ONE PURPOSE. LET'S RIDE.

JOIN IN HONORING OUR HEROES, NOW THROUGH OCT 31, 2025.

Learn more at [h-d-letsride.com](https://h-d-letsride.com)



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS





In celebration of 125 years of VFW service we're honoring our veterans and those who support them with a very special opportunity.

# VFW 125 Salute to Service / NVS Sweepstakes

# SALUTE TO SERVICE

Scan the QR code and enter to win



For bonus entry  
use keyword: **SERVICE**

## WIN \$10000

If you were a VFW Member prior to 06.20.25 and are chosen as the winner, the **PRIZE WILL BE DOUBLED to \$2000**

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. Void where prohibited. Open only to legal U.S. residents of the 50 United States and Washington, D.C., who are 21 years of age or older at the time of entry. Sweepstakes begins at 9:00 AM ET on June 20, 2025, and ends at 11:59 PM ET on October 6, 2025 ("Entry Period"). To enter, visit a participating VFW post or off-site event during the Entry Period, scan the official VFW 125 Sweepstakes QR Code, and follow the instructions to complete your entry. Standard data rates may apply. Not all devices or service providers are supported. Alternatively, participants can enter by sending an email to [contestentry@mightyloud.com](mailto:contestentry@mightyloud.com) during the Entry Period with the following information: Full Name, Address, Date of Birth, Email Address, and Phone Number. Each email submission will count as one (1) entry into the Sweepstakes. Limit ten (10) entries per person/email address throughout the Entry Period, regardless of entry method. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Winners will be selected via random drawing on or around October 7, 2025. You do not have to be present to win. Prizes: One (1) Grand Prize - VFW 125 \$10000 Salute to Service Grand Prize: \$10000 USD cash; if the winner is a current VFW member prior to June 20, 2025, the prize will be doubled to \$20,000 USD. One (1) Second Prize - VFW Life Membership; if the winner already holds a Life Membership, the prize may be gifted to another eligible person. Winners are solely responsible for any and all applicable federal, state, and local taxes, fees, and expenses associated with accepting and using a prize. Prizes are non-transferable and not redeemable for cash, except where expressly stated. This promotion is sponsored and operated by Mighty Loud Enterprises, 1480 Old 41 Highway NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152, on behalf of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW), 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. Subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws. For complete Official Rules, including eligibility requirements, visit: <https://www.mightyloud.com/vfw-125-salute-to-service-rules>. ©2025 Mighty Loud





# DON'T FEED THE SHARKS



[DontFeedTheSharks.org](http://DontFeedTheSharks.org)

## What we think a "Claim Shark" is:

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

## Some of their predatory practices are:

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

## Who we think the Claim Sharks are:

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| ➤ Trajector Medical      | ➤ Veteran Care Services    |
| ➤ Veteran Benefits Guide | ➤ REE Medical              |
| ➤ Veterans Guardian      | ➤ VA Claims Academy        |
| ➤ VA Claims Insider      | ➤ Vet Assist               |
| ➤ Telemedica             | ➤ Just4Veterans            |
| ➤ Patriot Angels         | ➤ Veterans Disability Help |

## Veterans can protect themselves by:

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

## Who is NOT a Claim Shark?

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

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (First MI Last) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street) \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. / Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

MALE

FEMALE

DECLINE

Dates Of Service (mm/yyyy) to (mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Foreign Service \_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MILITARY SERVICE ACTIVE DUTY VETERAN NAT GUARD/RESERVE

BRANCH OF SERVICE

ARMY NAVY

AIR FORCE

MARINES

COAST GUARD

SPACE FORCE

## QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE:

WW II

OCCUPATIONAL SERVICE

KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954)

KOREA DUTY (1955 - present)

VIETNAM SERVICE

DESERT SHIELD/STORM

BOSNIA/KOSOVO

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM (EXPEDITIONARY)

AFGHANISTAN (2001 - present)

IRAQ (2003 - 2011)

SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA

EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS

INHERENT RESOLVE (2014 - present)

HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PAY

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Dates \_\_\_\_\_

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

## ANNUAL MEMBER (1 Year)

## ANNUAL MEMBER (2 Years)

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

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

## LIFE MEMBER

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

## LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN

By entering into the Installment Plan, I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00. Information about scheduling payments can be found by calling the VFW Member Service Center at 1-833-VFW-VETS. Automatic Payment Plan and Installment options require credit/debit card for processing. By signing this application you acknowledge and agree to the terms and conditions of the Automatic Payment Plan and Installment options, if selected.

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

(Mastercard, Visa, Discover or Amex only)

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

NEW Post # \_\_\_\_\_

FORMER MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSFER from Post # \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ to Post # \_\_\_\_\_

RECRUITER (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_

QUARTERMASTER (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

## Life Member Options

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

**Automatic Payment Plan Terms and Conditions:** You authorize the VFW to initiate electronic debit entries or affect a charge by any other commercially accepted practice to your account set forth above for the payment of dues reflected on this application. You understand such charges may be made within 2-3 business days of payment due date. For installment payments, charges will be made on or around the 1st or the 15th day of the month. This authorization will remain in full force until VFW has received notification from you of its termination or upon completion of the installment payments. Annual dues are subject to change. By completing this authorization, you acknowledge that you will only receive notice when the payment would differ by more than \$10.00 from the most recent payment. Contact VFW Member Services at 1-833-VFW-VETS (1-833-839-8387) or write VFW Member Services, 406 W. 34th St., Suite 316, Kansas City, MO 64111 to inquire about or cancel a payment, or to report problems such as bank closures, lost or stolen account numbers, closed accounts, or unauthorized transactions. Cancellation requests must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Time ten business days prior to the scheduled payment date. If you are unaware of the charge date for your account, please contact VFW. If a payment is returned by your financial institution (e.g., due to insufficient funds, incorrect account information, closed account, etc.) the VFW will contact you at the address we have on file, explain why the payment could not be processed, and provide alternate payment options. The privilege of making payments under this agreement may be revoked by VFW if any item is not paid upon presentation. You may have additional rights and responsibilities under the Electronic Funds Transfer Act.

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

**VFW POST MEMBER TRANSFER DECLARATION** (used for transfers in accordance with Sec. 107 of the Manual of Procedure): I hereby certify by signature on this application that it is my desire to transfer my membership as indicated above. I further certify that I am not indebted to my former Post, be it through oral or written commitment or otherwise, and that to the best of my knowledge no written charges have been preferred against me by my former Post, and I understand that any such indebtedness or charge which may be disclosed at any time hereafter will render this transfer null and void.

**I ATTEST** that I am a veteran of, or am currently serving in, the U.S. Armed Forces, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; (3) I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

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

Applicant's Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

08/22





## HONORING WORLD WAR II KOREAN WAR & VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

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**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO HONOR FLIGHT  
ARIZONA BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MEANS:**

**CASH OR CREDIT CARD / ONE-TIME OR RECURRING  
MEMORIAL GIFT DONATION / WILL OR TRUST GIFT  
BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION GIFT**

**LIFE INSURANCE POLICY BENEFICIARY GIFT  
OR BY OTHER OPTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE DONATE PAGE:**

**[WWW.HONORFLIGHTAZ.ORG](http://WWW.HONORFLIGHTAZ.ORG)**

**HONOR FLIGHT ARIZONA  
8711 PINNACLE PEAK RD. PMB 198  
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255-3517**

**THANK  
YOU!**



**You, a loved one, or a friend has recently experienced an Honor Flight Arizona 3-day journey to Washington, D.C. These are the journeys of thanks and remembrance that are so often described by our returning Veterans as "One of the greatest experiences of my entire life."**

**Please consider helping Honor Flight Arizona and its all-volunteer staff in sending more Arizona Veterans to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C. THANK YOU!**





**WE WELCOME MILITARY RETIREES  
FROM ALL SERVICES AND THEIR  
SPOUSES!**

The 56th Fighter Wing will honor the service of Phoenix area military retirees with the **2025 Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD)** while also providing a look into the mission at Luke AFB: To train the world's greatest fighter pilots and combat-ready Airmen. Available:

- NEXTGEN ID card renewal
- Base Services
- Legal / Personnel
- Finance
- TRICARE
- Immunizations (as avail)

Information providers on site will include VA and Veteran Service Organizations such as VFW, DAV, AMVETS, MOAA, Assoc of USN, and Fleet Reserve Assoc.

IMPORTANT \* \* \* Access to Luke AFB: Visitors (those without DoD IDs) require a pass. All visitors (age 16 or older) are required to be screened and issued appropriate DBIDS (Defense Biometric Identification System) / visitor's passes by security forces prior to gaining access to the installation. For info:

<https://www.luke.af.mil/>



————— ★ ★ ★ —————

**SAVE THE DATE**

**MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY**

**SATURDAY 18 OCT 25 0800 - 1200**

————— ★ ★ ★ —————

**THE NAVY RESERVE CENTER**  
BLDG. 300  
14160 MARAUDER ST.

**LUKE AIR FORCE BASE**  
AZ 85309



**RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE (RAO) AT LUKE AFB:** We, the volunteer staff of Luke AFB RAO, connect retirees of all military and uniformed services, and their surviving spouses / family members / next of kin, with information and assistance on matters pertaining to their benefits and entitlements. Our goal is to provide guidance and referral assistance on military and uniformed service retiree matters.





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.**

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS®**

#### Commander's Message for Suicide Prevention Month

Comrades, families, and friends,

As we begin Suicide Prevention Month, I want to speak from the heart about something that touches every corner of the veteran community. We all know the terrible toll that suicide has taken on our brothers and sisters in arms. Each loss is one too many—and each one leaves a hole that can never be truly filled.

This month, I'm asking all of us to look out for one another a little more closely. Sometimes the strongest among us are the ones struggling in silence. A conversation, a phone call, or even just a simple "How are you doing?" can make a world of difference. Let's remind each other that it's okay to ask for help—and it's always okay to talk about what we're facing.

The VFW exists because we understand the unique challenges veterans face. This is a place where you are never alone, and where someone always has your back. Throughout September, we'll be sharing resources, hosting events, and reaching out to make sure nobody slips through the cracks. If you ever find yourself in need, please know that support is here—today, tomorrow, and as long as you need it.

Let's stand together in hope and solidarity. Let's make it clear that every life is valuable, and that help is always available. If you or someone you know needs to talk, the Veterans Crisis Line is open 24/7—just dial 988 and press 1.

You matter. We're in this together.

Yours in comradeship,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Harrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" and last name "Harrell" clearly distinguishable.

Greg Harrell  
Commander  
Department of Arizona  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
email:cdrazvfw@gmail.com  
cell:520-271-5136

"Veterans First, Families Always, Our Promise"

## **VFW Suicide Prevention Month Outreach Calendar**

### **WEEK 1: Kickoff & Awareness**

- Sept 1: Launch Suicide Prevention Month with a Commander's Message (video or letter) posted on all VFW channels and displayed in the post.
- Sept 2–3: Update post bulletin boards and website with crisis numbers, resource flyers, and the event calendar.
- Sept 4: Social media post: "Know the Signs: Suicide Warning Signs in Veterans." Include infographic and Veterans Crisis Line info.
- Sept 5: Email/newsletter to all members highlighting the month's events, training sign-ups, and resources.

### **WEEK 2: Education, Training & Community Walk**

- Sept 8: Host a QPR/SAVE suicide prevention training for members and families.
- Sept 10 (World Suicide Prevention Day): Candlelight vigil or moment of silence at the post; social media post with photos and a message of hope.
- Sept 11: Partner with a local mental health organization for a "Coffee & Conversation" open house—invite all veterans and their families.
- Sept 12: Community Walk or 5K for suicide prevention. Use proceeds to fund mental health programming or donate to a relevant organization.
- Sept 13: Share a veteran's recovery story (with permission) on social media and in the post newsletter.

### **WEEK 3: Connection & Support**

- Sept 15–19: "Buddy Check Week"—assign teams to call or visit at-risk or isolated members, and encourage everyone to reach out to a veteran friend.
- Sept 16: Social media share: "How to Start the Conversation—Tips for Checking on a Friend."
- Sept 18: Family support workshop—focus on signs to watch for and how to help a loved one in crisis.

### **WEEK 4: Community & Advocacy**

- Sept 22: Family support workshop—focus on signs to watch for and how to help a loved one in crisis.
- Sept 24: Advocacy Day: Encourage members to contact lawmakers about supporting veteran mental health funding—provide a sample letter/email.
- Sept 25: Social media highlight: "Local Resources for Veterans"—list counseling, peer groups, and crisis lines.
- Sept 27: End-of-month BBQ or gathering—celebrate the community and share gratitude for participation; distribute resource cards and encourage ongoing support.

### **ONGOING (ALL MONTH):**



- Weekly social media posts on mental health tips, myths vs facts, and encouragement to seek help.
- Resource table at all events and in the post.
- Encourage open conversations at every meeting.
- Collect feedback and stories to share next month.

## Arizona VFW and the VFW Auxiliary License Plates

The Arizona VFW and the VFW Auxiliary License Plates are live on <https://azdot.gov/> and available at your local DMV office.

The monies received from the VFW plate will be used exclusively to fund the State Service Officer Program.

Monies received from the Auxiliary plate are dedicated to the fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational support to veterans and military members and their families and our communities.

For Questions about the Licences Plates please call your local DMV office.

Get your Arizona VFW and the VFW Auxiliary License Plates Today!!



The advertisement features two license plate designs against a background of a winding road through a forest. The top plate is for the "Veterans of Foreign Wars" and the bottom plate is for the "VFW Auxiliary". Both plates are white with black text and a gold Maltese cross emblem. The word "ARIZONA" is at the top, followed by seven zeros, and the organization name at the bottom. A small "YEAR" box is in the top right corner of each plate.

**ARIZONA** YEAR  
0000000  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Veterans of Foreign Wars

**ARIZONA** YEAR  
0000000  
VFW AUXILIARY

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

**ADOT** **MVD** NOW ORDER SPECIALTY PLATES AT [AZMVDNOW.GOV](https://azmvdnow.gov)



# Traditional Buddy Poppy Order Form

Cost for the Traditional Buddy Poppy has increased significantly.  
Department of Arizona does not receive a commission  
on the new prices from National.

# Needed	Cost	Shipping	Total
500	\$125.00	\$15.95	\$140.95
1000	\$250.00	\$29.95	\$279.95
1500	\$375.00	\$34.95	\$409.95
2000	\$500.00	\$39.95	\$539.95
2500	\$625.00	\$69.95	\$694.95
3000	\$750.00	\$69.95	\$819.95

For quantities higher than  
3000, cost is \$125 per  
500, plus \$69.95 (max)  
for shipping.

Post Number & City \_\_\_\_\_

Date when Poppies are needed\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(Order at least 8 weeks prior to function date)

Make checks payable to "VFW Dept. of AZ"

Mail this order form to:

VFW Dept. of AZ  
6423 S. Ash Ave  
Tempe, AZ 85283

How many Poppies do you Need? \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ship Poppies to (No P.O. Boxes):**

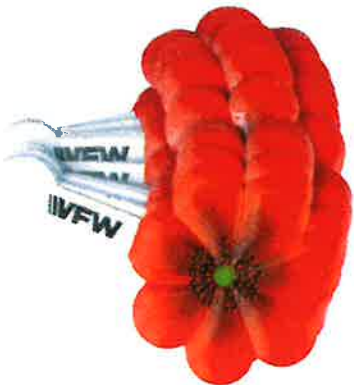
Membership # of Person Requesting Poppies (Required by National)

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address (Poppies cannot be shipped to PO Boxes ) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_





# Tin Tab Buddy Poppy Order Form



Cost for the Traditional Buddy Poppy has increased significantly.  
Department of Arizona does not take a commission  
on the new prices from National.

# Needed	Cost	Shipping	Total
500	\$60.00	\$10.95	\$70.95
1000	\$120.00	\$15.95	\$135.95
1500	\$180.00	\$15.95	\$195.95
2000	\$240.00	\$29.95	\$269.95
2500	\$300.00	\$29.95	\$329.95
3000	\$360.00	\$34.95	\$394.95

For quantities higher than 3000, cost  
is \$60 per 500, plus shipping.  
\$300.01 to \$400.00 ..... \$34.95  
\$400.01 to \$500.00 ..... \$39.95  
\$500.01 & Over ..... \$69.95

Post Number & City \_\_\_\_\_

Date when Poppies are needed\*  
(Order at least 8 weeks prior to function date) \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "VFW Dept. of AZ"

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Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address (Poppies cannot be shipped to PO Boxes) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## DR. DANA LILLESTOL, PHD

Senior Education Advisor | Family Nurse Practitioner (Ret.) | Cannabis Educator



### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dr. Dana Lillestol is a nationally respected educator and retired Family Nurse Practitioner with over 30 years of clinical experience in Family and Internal Medicine. She holds a PhD in Clinical Nursing Research with a minor in Psychology from the University of Arizona. Throughout her career, she has combined academic leadership, patient care, and health education to improve lives through evidence-based, patient-centered approaches.

Dr. Lillestol served as a Clinical Associate Professor at Arizona State University's Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation, where she led the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and mentored advanced practice nursing students. Her dedication to integrating teaching with clinical relevance made her a highly valued voice in nursing education.

### RESEARCH & CLINICAL FOCUS

Dr. Lillestol's doctoral research explored the impact of perceived stress, time pressure, and belief systems on immune function in individuals living with chronic tension-type headaches. Her interdisciplinary focus on behavioral health and psychoneuroimmunology underscored the importance of treating the whole person—physically, emotionally, and cognitively—in the restoration of health.

In her later clinical years, she founded and operated a private functional medicine practice, focusing on uncovering the root causes of illness. She used plant-based therapies, nutrition, and lifestyle interventions to help patients regain balance and reduce reliance on pharmaceuticals, particularly for chronic conditions commonly faced by older adults.

### TRANSITION TO CANNABIS EDUCATION

Frustrated by the limitations of conventional medicine and its focus on symptom management over wellness, Dr. Lillestol transitioned into the field of medical cannabis seven years ago. Since then, she has become a leading voice in cannabis education for older adults and caregivers, delivering presentations in communities for individuals aged 55 and above, senior living facilities, and professional organizations across Arizona.

Though initially trained in addiction medicine and skeptical of cannabis use, her clinical experience and ongoing research led to a profound shift in perspective. Today, she is a strong advocate for the thoughtful, informed use of cannabis as a supportive tool in aging, chronic disease, and wellness care.

### CURRENT ROLE

As the Senior Education Advisor for *Life Is Chill*, Dr. Lillestol delivers engaging, science-driven presentations tailored to older adult populations. She focuses on demystifying cannabis, addressing stigma, and providing practical education around non-intoxicating cannabinoids, delivery methods, dosing considerations, and wellness integration.

### SPEAKING TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Medical Benefits of Cannabis and CBD
- Non-Intoxicating Cannabinoids: CBD, CBG, THCa
- Cannabis for Chronic Pain and Inflammation
- Anxiety and Sleep Support with Cannabis
- Cannabis During Cancer Care
- Brain Health and Aging
- End-of-Life Comfort and Care
- Cannabis Safety, Stigma, and Responsible Use

### PHILOSOPHY OF CARE

Dr. Lillestol believes in the power of education to transform how we approach health, particularly as we age. Her mission is to provide accessible, stigma-free information that empowers older adults to explore plant-based wellness with confidence and clarity.

### EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

**PhD** – Clinical Nursing Research, minor in Psychology,  
*The University of Arizona*

**MS** – Double Major: Community Health Nursing and Family Nurse Practitioner, *Arizona State University*

**BSN** – Nursing, *Montana State University, College of Nursing*

**Certification** – Family Nurse Practitioner (*Former; now retired*)

**Licensure** – Former RN and Advanced Practice License holder; now dedicated fully to cannabis education and advocacy

Senior Education Advisor, Life Is Chill

480-798-1361 [dana@lifeischill.com](mailto:dana@lifeischill.com)



## EDUCATIONAL CANNABIS PRESENTATION FOR YOUR RESIDENTS & STAFF

### To Whom It May Concern,

My name is **Dr. Dana Lillestol, PhD**. I am a retired Family Nurse Practitioner and former professor at Arizona State University with over 30 years of clinical experience. For the past seven years, I've specialized in cannabis education, specifically for older adults.

I offer on-site educational sessions for senior communities, assisted living centers, and caregiving organizations who are seeing a growing curiosity around the topic of cannabis and CBD. These presentations are not product promotions—they are designed to inform, empower, and reduce stigma around cannabis as a wellness tool, especially for issues like chronic pain, sleep, anxiety, and quality of life during aging.

Many communities have found these sessions valuable in helping residents, staff, and families make sense of cannabis in today's healthcare landscape. With more seniors exploring alternative options and caregivers seeking reliable information, they need a trusted, clinical voice to guide the conversation.

### PRESENTATION FORMAT:

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- 45-minute educational talk + 15-minute Q&A
- Clear, evidence-based information on cannabis and CBD
- Tailored to your audience's needs and concerns
- Includes printed handouts and PowerPoint slides (TV/projector requested)

### COMMON TOPICS INCLUDE:

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- Cannabis for Pain and Sleep
- Non-Intoxicating Cannabinoids (CBD, CBG, THCa)
- Managing Anxiety & Mood Naturally
- Reducing Side Effects from Medications
- Cannabis Use in End-of-Life and Memory Support

If your community is open to exploring this topic in a responsible and educational setting, I'd love to schedule a visit. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or to book a presentation.

Warm regards,

**Dr. Dana Lillestol, PhD**

Senior Education Advisor, Life Is Chill

480-798-1361 – [dana@lifeischill.com](mailto:dana@lifeischill.com)

**LIFEISCHILLEDCATION.com**





# COMBAT TESTED GAMING

By the



## THE VFW'S INAUGURAL GAMING LEAGUE EXCLUSIVELY FOR VETERANS.

Join the  
community!



Combat Tested Gaming (CTG) has become the fastest-growing veterans gaming community in America. We are approaching 2,500 veteran gamers on our Discord server and streaming gameplay on our Combat Tested Gaming Twitch channel. Join our Discord community to connect with other veterans and active duty server members who play your game of choice! Subscribe to our Twitch and YouTube channels to watch our gameplay and experience the thrill and camaraderie of our gamers.

## GAMES

- Rocket League
- Call of Duty
- Call of Duty: Warzone
- World of Warcraft
- Valorant
- Madden
- MLB: The Show
- Rainbow Six Siege
- NBA 2K
- Helldivers 2
- Apex Legends
- Fortnite
- League of Legends
- The Finals
- EA Sports FC
- And more! We are adding games consistently.

## IMPACT OVERVIEW

**2,250+**  
Veteran  
gamers.



**DEDICATED VFW  
SERVICE  
OFFICER**



answering VA benefits  
questions daily.

**4 VFW  
POSTS**



have leveraged CTG to start  
gaming nights – one building  
a gaming room to support  
student veterans.

**5 VETERANS'  
LIVES SAVED**



during crisis by  
using connections  
made through CTG.

CTG has quickly succeeded in reaching its early objectives. Now, as we look to the future, we set our sights on becoming THE leader in the veteran gaming space by continuing to promote the program and through partnering with a veteran-owned company which specializes in building the gaming infrastructure needed to support our growth and long-term success.

## Team

I am looking for an interested group or individual that would like to be the State Chairman for this Program.

## **VFW Combat-Tested Gaming Program Strategy and Overview**

The VFW Combat Tested Gaming program has the potential to revolutionize the way the VFW operates and significantly change public perception. The VFW is positioning itself to connect active-duty service members, reserve components, National Guardsmen, and veterans to play video games for stress relief, friendship, and enjoyment. Video games have evolved significantly over the years, transforming from simple recreational activities into powerful tools that offer numerous benefits for individuals of all ages and backgrounds. This VFW Program explores the positive impact video games can have on veterans, focusing on mental health, social engagement, and skill development. By analyzing research studies and testimonies, we aim to illuminate the potential benefits of video games for veterans and the importance of incorporating gaming into their post-military lives. Through stress reduction techniques, therapeutic applications, and camaraderie, video games provide veterans with a supportive and inclusive environment. Additionally, the cognitive and transferable skills gained from gaming can foster personal growth and potentially enhance career opportunities. However, it is essential to address concerns such as addiction, establish a balance between online and offline activities, and ensure accessibility for all veterans. As we continue to explore the potential of video games, it becomes clear that they can serve as valuable tools in the post-military lives of veterans, offering them opportunities for recreation, connection, and personal development.

**Mission:** The VFW ESports league promotes health, wellness, and comradeship through online gaming. The Combat Tested Gaming program aims to provide holistic support to veterans, addressing their unique needs and helping them thrive in their post-service lives.

### **Esports and Gaming**

- The gaming industry is a \$189.3B industry growing at a rate of 19.6%
- 2.3 billion people game worldwide
- Esports revenue in 2019 was \$1.1B with a 37% CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate)
- The esports audience was 500 M+ in 2021 with a CAGR of 11.3%

## Revitalization of VFW Operations opportunity

### 1. Modernizing Engagement:

- **Attracting Younger Veterans:** By embracing esports and gaming, the VFW can appeal to younger veterans who may not be drawn to traditional VFW activities.
- **Digital Community Building:** Utilizing platforms like Discord and Twitch for gaming leagues fosters a sense of community and connection in a digital space, making it easier for veterans to engage from anywhere.

### 2. Expanding Program Offerings:

- **Diverse Activities:** The inclusion of gaming adds a new dimension to VFW's program offerings, catering to a wider range of interests and hobbies.
- **Skill Development:** Gaming can help veterans develop skills such as strategic thinking, teamwork, and communication, which are valuable both in and out of the gaming context.

### 3. Enhancing Mental Health Support:

- **Therapeutic Benefits:** Gaming can serve as a therapeutic outlet, helping veterans manage stress and anxiety through engaging and enjoyable activities.
- **Peer Support:** The gaming community provides a platform for veterans to connect with peers who share similar experiences, fostering mutual support and understanding.

## Key Components of the Combat-Tested Gaming Program

### 1. Mental Wellness:

- **Peer Support:** The program fosters connections among veterans, helping to combat isolation and improve mental health through shared gaming experiences.
- **Therapeutic Benefits:** Gaming serves as a therapeutic outlet, providing stress relief and enhancing mood.

### 2. Social Engagement:

- **Community Building:** The program creates a supportive and inclusive environment where veterans can build camaraderie and connect with peers.
- **Regular Events:** Weekly matches and tournaments are organized to maintain engagement and foster a sense of community.

### 3. Skill Development:



- **Gaming Leagues:** Veterans can participate in gaming leagues for various games like Rocket League and Valorant, which are divided into multiple skill levels.
- **AI Coaching:** The program offers AI coaching to help veterans improve their gameplay and develop valuable skills such as strategic thinking and teamwork.

## Program Structure

### 1. Registration and Participation:

- **Free Registration:** Veterans can register for the gaming leagues at no cost.
- **Discord Community:** The program is hosted on Discord, a popular communication platform used for voice, video, and text chat among gamers.

### 2. Weekly Matches and Tournaments:

- **Seasonal Play:** Each season culminates in a playoff-style tournament bracket, with select matches streamed live.
- **Weekly Prizes:** Participants can win weekly prizes and receive free AI coaching to enhance their gaming skills.

*National Suicide Prevention Month*

# **DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**IROC Community Resource Fair**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH**

**0800 - 1400**

*COMMUNITY RESOURCES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH TABLES AND CHAIRS, MUST BE PRESENT AT 0730*

**ALLEN READINESS CENTER  
PAPAGO PARK MILITARY  
RESERVATION**

**5636 E McDowell Rd, Phoenix, 85008**

**SCAN TO REGISTER  
8 PEOPLE PER TEAM**

**CONTACT RICHARD RICO FOR MORE  
INFORMATION:**

**602-267-2114 (w)**

**480-492-2323 (c)**



**Liability waiver required for all Civilians and Soldiers not on orders**

Image with text overlay: IROC

# LET'S MAKE MEMORIES

Join us for fun at President Brenda's Homecoming



## FAMILY AND FRIENDS REUNION

**Saturday, September 13th**

**From 11:00 am to 4:00 pm - Dinner Served at 1:00**

**Chicken Fried Steak Dinner with all the Trimmings**

**\$25.00 per person**

**Deadline to get tickets August 31, 2025**

**Show Low Elk's Lodge**

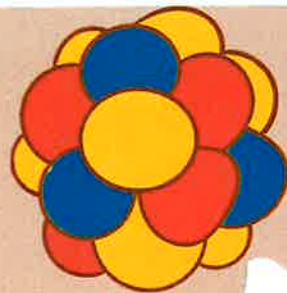
**805 E Whipple, Show Low, Arizona**

**RSVP: Brenda Kinghorn @ [brendakkinghorn@gmail.com](mailto:brendakkinghorn@gmail.com)**

**To Pay for Dinner by Zelle: 1-928-205-1066**

**Send Checks to: Brenda Kinghorn, P.O. Box 1108,  
Pinetop, AZ, 85935-1108**





**USVETS PHOENIX**

# **BUDDY DAY**

**MANDATORY FOR ALL USVETS CLIENTS WITH  
SERVICE ANIMAL / EMOTIONAL SUPPORT DOG**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH**

**10AM-NOON @SLEEP INN**

**OPEN TO ALL VETERANS!**

2621 S. 47<sup>TH</sup> PLACE, PHOENIX 85034 (NEXT TO I-143)

**VETERINARY DOCTOR ONSITE**

**FREE VACCINE SHOTS**

**FREE DOG FOOD**

**FREE TOYS & SUPPLIES**

**FREE DOG SHOES**

**FREE DOG TRAINER CLASSES**

**UPDATE  
RABBIES,  
BORDATELLA,  
PARVO SHOTS**

**SPONSORED BY  
COMPASSION FOR PETS IN CRISIS**

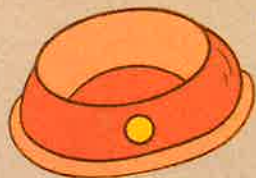
**CARE SURGERY CENTER**

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

**[HTTPS://CARESURGERYCENTER.COM/](https://caresurgerycenter.com/)**

**QUESTIONS SEE EDDIE BOQUILLA  
VETERANS SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

**480-416-4366 | [EBOQUILLA@USVETS.ORG](mailto:EBOQUILLA@USVETS.ORG)**





# 2025 FALL CONFERENCE

OCT 3-5  
2025

BlueWater Resort & Casino

11300 Resort Dr, Parker, AZ 85344

928-669-7777 - Group Code 7847

## Schedule

**Fri: 7 PM** Auxiliary C of A

**Sat: 9 AM** Conference Program

**Sat: 5 PM** Social Hour (Cash Bar)

**Sat: 6 PM** Banquet Dinner

**Sun: 9 AM** VFW Council of Administration

VISIT [VFWAZ.COM](http://VFWAZ.COM) > RESOURCES > CONFERENCE/CONVENTION INFO

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DRESS CODE, AGENDA, BOOKING INFO  
AND BANQUET ORDER FORM

DEPT OF ARIZONA VFW & AUXILIARY  
2025 FALL CONFERENCE  
BLUEWATER RESORT & CASINO  
11300 RESORT DRIVE, PARKER, AZ 85344

**Social Hour & Dinner Buffet**  
**Saturday, October 4, 2025**

**\$25 PER  
PERSON**

Hamburgers  
Hot Dogs  
Potato Salad  
Cowboy Beans  
Cole Slaw  
Chips

Fruit Punch, Water & Iced Tea

*Cash Bar will be Available*

**Order and Pay Online**  
Visit Conference & Con-  
vention Page on the  
Department website.

vfwaz.com > Resources

**Pay by Check**

Complete this form and return entire page with payment to:

VFW Dept of Arizona, 6423 S Ash Ave, Tempe, AZ 85283

**How many Meals?** \_\_\_\_\_

Who is paying? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is picking up? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Post/Auxiliary # \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about any food allergies \_\_\_\_\_



# **VFW District 2 Raffle**

## **36 in. Blackstone Griddle**



**Donation: \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00**

**Drawing Saturday October 18, 2025**

**At District 2 Meeting in Prescott Valley**

**Winner need not be present to win**

**Contact:**

**District 2 Commander**

**Harry Hart**

**928 503-2133**

**Hcubed54@msn.com**

# TOGETHER TO SAVE LIVES

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is holding their annual community walk!

The Out of the Darkness Community Walk gathers many to support the AFSP mission, saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide.

## When and Where?

Saturday, Oct 4, 2025 - Flagstaff  
2400 N Gemini Rd, Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Saturday, Oct 11, 2025 - Prescott  
554 6<sup>th</sup> St, Prescott, AZ 86301

Saturday, Nov 8, 2025 - Tucson  
900 S Randolph Way, Tucson, AZ 85716

Saturday, Nov 15, 2025 - Phoenix  
7555 N Pima Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85258

## What time should I be there?

It starts at 9:00 am, but get there early as registration starts at 8:00 am.

You won't want to miss any booths, including the VFW! If you are interested in helping run the VFW booth, contact Allison Helm for information below!

## What will we be doing?

Dress accordingly, you will be outside!  
Everyone gets together and walks a set path that is about a mile and a half long!

## Want to pre-register online?

This will make it easier to check in on the day of the walk! Use the link below to pre-register!

<https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/>

Then select find community walk

## Questions?

Reach out to Allison Helm  
623-810-6909  
[helm3253@gmail.com](mailto:helm3253@gmail.com)



**Want to donate to AFSP?**

Scan the QR code above to support!

# Why Elder Law Attorneys Would Want to Subscribe with HealthProAssist.com

## 1. Direct Access to Their Ideal Clients

- HPA connects attorneys directly with **seniors, veterans, and caregivers**—the exact people who need elder law services like estate planning, guardianship, Medicaid/ALTCS planning, VA benefits, and probate.
- Instead of cold leads, attorneys are introduced at the moment participants are actively searching for help.

## 2. Stand Out in a Crowded Market

- Many elder law attorneys rely on generic directories (Avvo, FindLaw, etc.), where they're just one name in a long list.
- On HPA, they're **featured in a focused, senior/veteran-specific platform**, so their services don't get lost.

## 3. Veteran & Senior-Centered Branding

- By being on HPA, attorneys align with a **trusted platform dedicated to older adults and veterans**.
- This positioning builds credibility, showing they're committed to serving these vulnerable populations.

## 4. Expand Referral Network

- Attorneys gain visibility not only to families but also to **care providers, case managers, and facilities** using HPA.
- That creates ongoing referral opportunities from professionals who regularly encounter legal needs.

## 5. Cost-Effective Marketing

- Instead of spending thousands on Google ads or referral agencies, a subscription with HPA is a **low-cost, high-trust pipeline** to qualified prospects.
- Attorneys get more control and measurable value from their subscription.



## 6. Educational Value & Authority Building

- Attorneys can share articles, FAQs, or short guides on HPA, positioning themselves as **thought leaders**.
- This not only generates leads but builds trust before the first consultation.

### 🔑 Positioning Statement:

“Elder law attorneys subscribe to HealthProAssist because it puts them **in front of the exact families who need their help**—seniors, veterans, and caregivers—without competing against hundreds of attorneys in generic directories. It’s a trusted, focused way to grow their practice and community presence.”

why seniors should use Healthproassist.com Inbox x



**George Sutherland**  
to George

George A. Sutherland  
[sutherlandinfo@gmail.com](mailto:sutherlandinfo@gmail.com)  
480.694.3935



VFW POST 2364 PINETOP-LAKESIDE  
will conduct a

Prisoner of War / Missing in Action  
National Remembrance Day  
September 19, 2025

11:00 AM

Veterans Memorial Park

Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall  
325 W. White Mountain Blvd.  
Lakeside, AZ 85929



VFW Post 2364 Pinetop/Lakeside



# **VETERANS DAY**

## **REMEMBRANCE CELEBRATION**

**VFW POST 2364 PINETOP-LAKESIDE**

**will conduct a**

**Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony**

**Nov 11, 2025**

**11:00 AM**

**Veterans Memorial Park**

**Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall**

**325 W. White Mountain Blvd. Lakeside, AZ 85929**





# YOU'RE INVITED

VFW Department of Arizona NASCAR Xfinity Series Championship



November 1, 2025

NASCAR Xfinity Series Championship



TICKETS STARTING AT

# \$33

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND  
OF FAST-PACED FUN!







# JOIN US

## 2025 THEME



### 106th Tucson Veterans Day Parade

November 11, 2025  
11 AM

Tucson Convention Center Perimeter



★ 1941 ★



PEARL HARBOR

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
*Remembrance Day*  
7 December

VFW POST 2364  
PINETOP-LAKESIDE  
will conduct a  
**Remembrance Ceremony**  
**December 7, 2025**  
**11:00 AM**  
at the  
**Veterans Memorial Park**  
Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall  
325 W. White Mountain Blvd.  
Lakeside, AZ 85929







———— Honor 9/11 with service ————

# **NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE**

—————

VFW POST 2364 PINETOP-LAKESIDE  
will conduct a

**Flag Ceremony**  
**September 11, 2025**  
**11:00 AM**

**Veterans Memorial Park**

Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall  
325 W. White Mountain Blvd.  
Lakeside, AZ 85929



VFW Post 2364 Pinetop/Lakeside



**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 21, 2025  
2:05 PM**

**WFW**

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

Arizona

**BE SURE TO ARRIVE EARLY &  
LOOK FOR THE TAILGATE PARTY**



SCAN ME



**VS**



**Join veterans at the game  
for a special recognition  
by the Cardinals.**

**Friends and Family  
Welcome**

**All seats are in Section 454**





# Arizona VFW Mandatory Obligations

Bonds Current as of 8/21/25 Audits Current as of 7/30/25		District		25-26 Election Rept		QM Bond		Audits due 45 days after Quarter Closes				26-27 Election Rept		State Delegate Fees	
								Audits due 45 days after Quarter Closes							
								06/30	09/30	12/31	03/31				
Posts	City	District	25-26 Election Rept	QM Bond	06/30	09/30	12/31	03/31	26-27 Election Rept	State Delegate Fees					
40 Avondale		3	X	C	R					TBD					
285 Surprise		3	X	C	R					TBD					
404 Mohave Valley		8	X	C	R					TBD					
541 Prescott		2	X							TBD					
549 Tucson		5	X	A	R					TBD					
720 Phoenix		4	X							TBD					
769 Quartzsite		1	X	C	R					TBD					
836 Bisbee		7	X	C	R					TBD					
1433 Glendale		3	X							TBD					
1677 Casa Grande		10	X	A						TBD					
1704 Globe		6	X							TBD					
1709 Flagstaff		2	X							TBD					
1760 Mesa		4	X	C	R					TBD					
1763 Yuma		1	X	A						TBD					
1796 Black Canyon		4	X	R						TBD					
2066 Nogales		7	X	A						TBD					
2135 Peoria		3	X	A	R					TBD					
2190 Chloride		9	X	A	R					TBD					
2357 Bouse		1	X	R						TBD					
2364 Pinetop-Lakes		6	X	A	R					TBD					
2555 Golden Valley		9	X	C	R					TBD					
2767 Mammoth		5	X	A	R					TBD					
3513 Scottsdale		4	X	A	R					TBD					
3516 Kingman		9	X	A	R					TBD					
3584 Superior		10	X	A	R					TBD					
3632 Tempe		4	X	R						TBD					
3708 Salome		1	X	A						TBD					
3713 Coolidge		10	X	A						TBD					
4903 Tucson		5	X	A	R					TBD					
5990 Marana		5	X	R						TBD					
6271 Benson		7	X	A	R					TBD					
6306 Golden Shores		8	X	A						TBD					
6310 Tolleson		3	X	R						TBD					

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1760 Mesa		4	X	C	R					TBD					
1763 Yuma		1	X	A						TBD					
1796 Black Canyon															

Districts	25-26 Election Rept	QM Bond	Trustee Audits are due 45 days after Quarter Closes			
			06/30	09/30	12/31	03/31
District 1	X	A	R			
District 2	X		R			
District 3	X	A	R			
District 4	X	A				
District 5	X	A	R			
District 6	X	C	R			
District 7	X	C	R			
District 8	X	C	R			
District 9	X					
District 10	X	A				

## Bonding Documentation

Pricing - See Rate Sheet on Dept Website

A = Application Received On Time

C = Certificate Processed and Emailed

X = External Documentation Received

## Trustee Audits

R = Audit Received on Time

RW = Audit Received and Reviewed for accuracy

E = Rcvd with Errors CORRECTIONS NEEDED

## State Delegate Fees-

Annual Mandatory Obligation

\$ = Money Due

If paying all with one check, please attach a note with a breakdown of how much for each item.

Please make all checks payable to:

VFW Dept. of AZ and Mail to:

VFW Dept of AZ

6423 S Ash Ave

Tempe, AZ 85283

POST	CITY	District	INSP	TACOM	QA	POST	CITY	District	INSP	TACOM	QA
<b>DISTRICT 1</b>											
769	Quartzsite	1	NO	N/A		<b>DISTRICT 6</b>					
1763	Yuma	1	NO	N/A		1704	Globe	6	NO	10	
2357	Bouse	1	NO	4/8		2364	Pinetop-Lakeside	6	NO	8	
3708	Salome	1	NO	4		6789	Window Rock	6	NO	7	
6790	Welton	1	NO	N/A		8807	Tonto Basin	6	NO	N/A	
8242	Yuma PG	1	NO	N/A		8987	Eagar	6	NO	4	
<b>DISTRICT 2</b>											
541	Prescott	2	NO	N/A		9907	Show Low	6	NO	9	
1709	Flagstaff	2	NO	N/A		<b>DISTRICT 7</b>					
6739	Camp Verde	2	NO	8		836	Bisbee	7	NO	10	
7400	Cottonwood	2	PASS	6		2066	Nogales	7	NO	9	
9632	Page	2	NO	10		6271	Benson	7	NO	8	
10227	Prescott Valley	2	NO	4		9972	Sierra Vista	7	NO	15	
12128	Williams	2	PASS	N/A		9977	Arizona Sunsites	7	NO	8	
<b>DISTRICT 3</b>											
40	Avondale	3	NO	N/A		10385	Thatcher	7	NO	8	
285	Surprise	3	NO	N/A		<b>DISTRICT 8</b>					
1433	Glendale	3	NO	6		404	Mohave Valley	8	PEND	N/A	QA
2135	Peoria	3	NO	4		6306	Golden Shores	8	PASS	10	
6310	Tolleson	3	NO	10		7061	Parker	8	PEND	N/A	
12098	Buckeye	3	NO	N/A		9401	Lake Havasu City	8	PASS	7	
12210	Glendale	3	NO	N/A		10005	Bullhead City	8	PEND	7	
<b>DISTRICT 4</b>											
720	Phoenix	4	PEND	2		10726	Parker Dam	8	PEND	N/A	
1760	Mesa	4	PASS	5		<b>DISTRICT 9</b>					
1796	Black Canyon City	4	NO	10		2190	Chloride	9	NO	N/A	
3513	Scottsdale	4	PASS	6/13		2555	Golden Valley	9	NO	N/A	
3632	Tempe	4	PASS	3		3516	Kingman	9	NO	10	
7507	Fountain Hills	4	PASS	N/A		9833	Dolan Springs	9	NO	2*	
9400	Sunnyslope	4	PEND	9		10386	Kingman	9	NO	13	
<b>DISTRICT 5</b>											
549	Tucson	5	NO	N/A		11014	Meadview	9	NO	N/A	
2767	Mammoth	5	NO	N/A		<b>DISTRICT 10</b>					
4903	Tucson	5	NO	6		1677	Casa Grande	10	NO	11	
5990	Marana	5	NO	9		3584	Superior	10	NO	1	
10015	Tucson	5	NO	8		3713	Coolidge	10	NO	7	
10254	Three Points	5	NO	N/A		7401	Chandler	10	NO	N/A	
12222	Oro Valley	5	NO	N/A		7968	Apache Junction	10	NO	N/A	
						9399	Apache Junction	10	NO	5	
						12043	Maricopa	10	NO	N/A	
						<b>Department HQ</b>					
						*last reported on-hand 2021, missing as of 2/2025, TACOM reporting in-process					

10

**VFW-AZ INSPECTION**  
**ARREARS 2024-2025**  
**UPDATED: 9/1/2025**

INSPECTION METRICS	
Posts	65
Districts	10
Total	75
Suspended	1
Inspected	15
Complete	9
Incomplete	6
Un-Inspected	59
Inspected %	20.00%
Complete %	12.33%

TACOM METRICS	
Posts (& HQ)	43
Inspected	39
Un-Inspected	4
Complete %	90.70%

Not Inspected	NO
Inspected-Not Complete	PEND
Inspection Complete	PASS
Suspension	SUSP
QA Inspection	QA
Inspected w/ Discrepancy	

# Arizona VFW Bond Tracking

Posts	City	Dist	App Rcvd	QB Entry	Cert Email	Posts	City	Dist	App Rcvd	QB Entry	Cert Email	Districts	App Rcvd	QB Entry	Cert Email
40	Avondale	3	X	X	X	6739	Camp Verde	2	Called	Less than \$1k		District 1	X	X	X
285	Surprise	3	X	X	X	6789	Window Rock	6				District 2	Emailed		
404	Mohave Valley	8	X	X	X	6790	Wellton	1		X		District 3	X	X	X
541	Prescott	2	Emailed			7061	Parker	8	X	X	X	District 4	X	X	X
549	Tucson	5	X	X	X	7400	Cottonwood	2	X	X	X	District 5	X	X	X
720	Phoenix	4	External			7401	Chandler	10	X	X	X	District 6	X	X	X
769	Quartzsite	1	X	X	X	7507	Fountain Hills	4	X	X	X	District 7	X	X	X
836	Bisbee	7	X	X	X	7968	Apache Junction	10	X	X	X	District 8	X	X	X
1433	Glendale	3	X			8242	Yuma (Y.P.G.)	1	X	X	X	District 9	X	X	
1677	Casa Grande	10	X	X	X	8807	Tonto Basin	6	X	X	X	District 10	X	X	X
1704	Globe	6	Emailed			8987	Eagar	6	X	X	X				
1709	Flagstaff	2	Emailed			9399	Apache Junction	10	Emailed						
1760	Mesa	4	X	X	X	9400	Sunnyslope	4	X	X	X				
1763	Yuma	1	X	X	X	9401	Lake Havasu City	8	X	X	X				
1796	Black Canyon City	4	Emailed			9632	Page	2	X	X					
2066	Nogales	7	X	X	X	9833	Dolan Springs	9	X	X	X				
2135	Peoria	3	X	X	X	9907	Show Low	6	X	X	X				
2190	Chloride	9	X	X	X	9972	Sierra Vista	7	X	X	X				
2357	Bouse	1	Emailed			9977	Arizona Sunsites	7	X	X	X				
2364	Pinetop-Lakeside	6	X	X	X	10005	Bullhead City	8	X	X	X				
2555	Golden Valley	9	X	X	X	10015	Tucson	5	X	X					
2767	Mammoth	5	X	X	X	10227	Prescott Valley	2	X	X					
3513	Scottsdale	4	X	X	X	10254	Three Points	5	External						
3516	Kingman	9	X	X	X	10385	Thatcher	7	X	X	X				
3584	Superior	10	X	X	X	10386	Kingman	9	Emailed						
3632	Tempe	4	X	X		10726	Parker Dam	8	X	X	X				
3708	Salome	1	X	X	X	11014	Meadview	9	Emailed						
3713	Coolidge	10	X	X	X	12043	Maricopa	10	X	X	X				
4903	Tucson	5	X	X		12098	Buckeye	3	X	X	X				
5990	Marana	5	Emailed			12128	Williams	2	X	X	X				
6271	Benson	7	X	X	X	12210	Glendale	4	X	X	X				
6306	Golden Shores	8	X	X	X	12222	Oro Valley	5	X	X	X				
6310	Tolleson	3	Emailed												

If your Post/District has an X in the Cert Mailed column, the Certificates were emailed to the Commander and Quartermaster's Election Report email address.

If your Post/District is in Red, I have received no bond applications. Accountable Officer bonds expire on August 31.



Chaplain Report Arrears as of 25 August 2025

POST	DIST	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
40	3	4	4										
285	3	3											
404	8		4										
541	2												
549	5	4	4										
720	4												
769	1	4	4										
836	7	4	4										
1433	3		4										
1677	10												
1704	6	4	4										
1709	2	2	4										
1760	4	4	4										
1763	1	2	4										
1796	4	4	4										
2066	7	4	4										
2135	3	4	4										
2190	9												
2357	1												
2364	6												
2555	9	4	4										
2767	5												
3513	4	4	4										
3516	9	4											
3584	10	4	4										
3632	4												
3708	1	4											
3713	10												
4903	5												
5990	5	1	4										
6271	7	4	4										
6306	8												
6310	3	4	4										
6739	2	4	4										
6789	6												
6790	1												

-21 -20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

POST	DIST	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
7061	8	4	4										
7400	2	2	4										
7401	10		4										
7507	4	4	4										
7968	10	4	4										
8242	1	4	4										
8807	6												
8987	6	4	4										
9399	10	2	4										
9400	4	4											
9401	8	4	4										
9632	2												
9833	9	4	4										
9907	6	2	4x										
9972	7	4											
9977	7	4	4x										
10005	8	4	4										
10015	5	4	4										
10227	2	4	4										
10254	5												
10385	7	4	4										
10386	9												
10726	8		4										
11014	9		X										
12043	10												
12098	3	4	4										
12128	2	4	4										
12210	4	4	4										
12222	5	4	4										

0: No Report

1: Past due w/o Data

2: Past due w/Data

3: On Time w/o Data

4: On Time w/Data

-21 -22 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
1	Service Officer Reports 2025-2026 X= on time L= accepted, but late																												
2	POST	DIST	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June		POST	DIST	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
3	769	1	X													1704	6	X											
4	1763	1														2364	6												
5	2357	1														6789	6												
6	3708	1														8807	6												
7	6790	1														8987	6	X											
8	8242	1	X													9907	6												
9																													
10																836	7	X											
11	541	2														2066	7	X											
12	1709	2	X													6271	7	X											
13	6739	2														9972	7	X											
14	7400	2														9977	7	X											
15	9632	2														10385	7	X											
16	10227	2	X																										
17	12128	2	X													404	8	X											
18																6306	8	X	X										
19	40	3	X													7061	8												
20	285	3														9401	8	X											
21	1433	3	X													10005	8												
22	2135	3	X													10726	8	X											
23	6310	3	X																										
24	12098	3	X													2190	9	L											
25																2555	9	X											
26	720	4														3516	9	L											
27	1760	4														9833	9	X											
28	1796	4	X													10386	9												
29	3513	4	L													11014	9												
30	3632	4																											
31	7507	4	X													1677	10	X											
32	9400	4														3584	10	X											
33	12031	4														3713	10	X											
34	12210	4														7401	10												
35																7968	10	X											
36	549	5														9399	10	L											
37	2767	5														12043	10	L											
38	4903	5																											
39	5990	5																											
40	10015	5	X																										
41	10254	5	X																										
42	12222	5	X																										
43																													



# Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary

*Scenic* **IDAHO**

## Western Conference

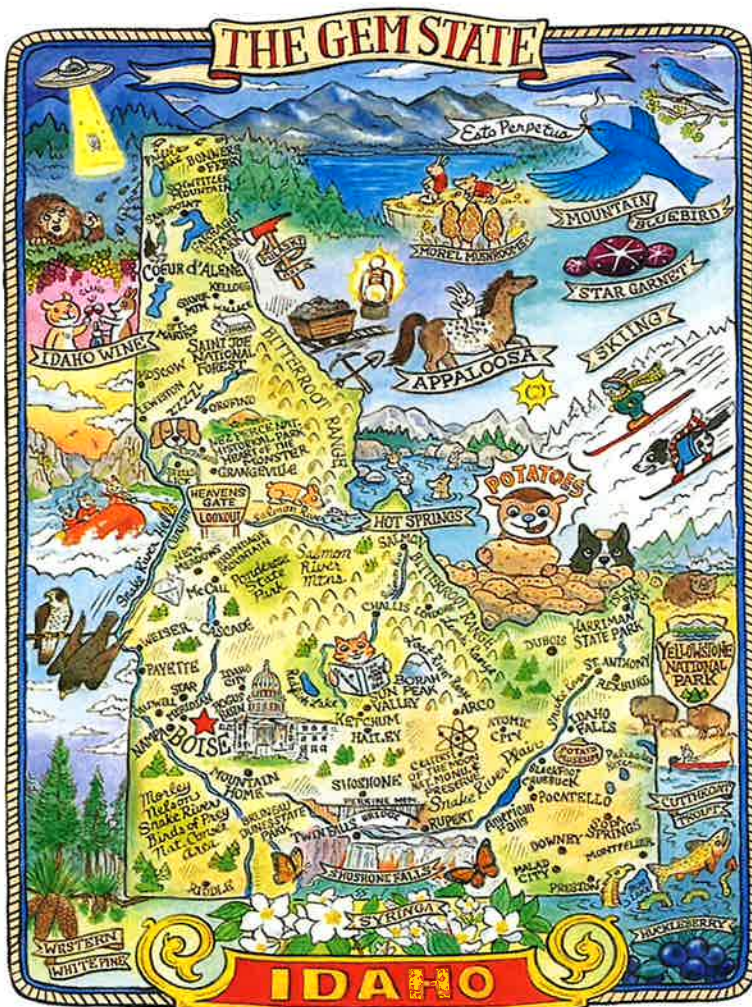


**THE GEM STATE**

**The West is the Best**

**Famous Potatoes**

**2025**



**November 7-9**

**The Riverside Hotel**

**2900 W Chinden Blvd**

**Garden City, ID 83714**







**REGISTRATION**  
**NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025**

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Post#: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Post#: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner Choices (please indicate the number of each meal requested):

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Parmesan \_\_\_\_\_ Pork Loin \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

***Dietary Restrictions:***

***Fees Summary:*** Registration Fee \$170 each X \_\_\_\_\_ = Total Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration includes:**

- Conference Bag
  - Saturday Continental Breakfast
  - Break Snacks/Beverages
  - Saturday Lunch
  - Banquet
  - Hospitality Room on evenings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- o Registration must be received by:**  
**October 20<sup>th</sup>**  
o See separate page for payment Information

**Traveler Information:** Nearest Airport is Boise, Idaho (BOI)

Approximate Arrival Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Driving ☐

Departure Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Flying ☐ Airline/Flight Number: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

## ADVERTISEMENT BOOK FORM NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025

All ads and payments must be received by September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Prices for ads: Full Page - \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Half Page - \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Inside Front and Rear Cover - \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Only full-page and half-page ads accepted to accommodate the format and graphics of the Western Conference Book.

Sponsor of ad information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Graphics provided for ad: Yes ☐  
No ☐

(Attach electronically is  
best, mail in is optional)

Please email ads to Troy Junier at [idahovfw@gmail.com](mailto:idahovfw@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to: VFW Department of Idaho

In memo write: Western Conference Book

Send payment and printed copy to: VFW Department of Idaho  
1425 South Roosevelt Street.  
Boise, Idaho 83705-2025



**PAYMENT INFORMATION**  
NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025

**Payment Instructions:** Make check payable to: **Department of Idaho VFW**

Print and mail Registration & Payment to:

**VFW Department of Idaho**  
Attn: Dept Quartermaster  
1425 S Roosevelt Street  
Boise ID 83705-2025

Pay by Credit Card: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX ☐

Name (as it appears on the card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address for the card: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email complete Registration and Payment pages to:

- 1) [Idahovfw@gmail.com](mailto:Idahovfw@gmail.com) – Attn Department Quartermaster
- 2) [badgerxray@gmail.com](mailto:badgerxray@gmail.com) – Attn Tom Black, Western Conference Chairman, Dept of ID

If Paying by Venmo with your cell phone:

1. Scan the QR Code with your phone Or
2. Open Venmo on your phone
3. Tap Pay/Request at the bottom of the screen
4. Search IDVFW
  - a. Under Businesses selects @IDVFW
5. Enter the total from above and add a memo note "2025 Western Conference"
6. Tap Pay, follow the prompts to get a confirmation screen



**Note:** Print a copy of this form for your records.





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FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

## HOTEL INFORMATION

NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025

### CONFERENCE HOTEL: "VFW Western Conference"

Single Room Rate: \$167.00 (does not include local & city taxes-approx. 13%)

Check in: 4:00 PM MST

(downtown near Boise, Idaho)

Check out: 11:00AM MST

Website: [www.riversideboise.com](http://www.riversideboise.com)

The Riverside Hotel

2900 W Chinden Blvd

Garden City, ID 83714

Contact: 208-343-1871



## FEAST

From sizzling steaks to bacon and eggs, taste our take on the classics.

BAR365 +

RIVERSIDE GRILL +

SANDBAR PATIO & GRILL +

THE SAPPHIRE ROOM +

LING & LOUIE'S +

## Amenities & Conveniences

- Outdoor Saltwater Pool
- Indoor Saltwater Pool
- Indoor Splash Pad
- All-Season Hot Tub
- Fitness Center
- BAR365 Lobby Bar
- Water's Edge Art Gallery
- Guest Laundry
- On-site Restaurants Dry
- Sauna
- Sapphire Room Concert Venue
- Giant Checkers & Chess
- Bicycle Rental
- Sandstone Terrace & Fire Pit
- Business Center
- Greenbelt Access
- Airport Shuttle
- Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Signature Breakfast Buffet
- Marketplace



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FOR UNCOMMON HEROES\*

## TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025

**Preferred Airport:** Boise Idaho (BOI)

**website:** [www.iflyboise.com](http://www.iflyboise.com)

Five (5) miles from the airport to the Riverside Hotel (approx. 10 minutes driving time)

To arrange a ride from the airport to the hotel, **call Riverside Hotel Shuttle at 208-343-1871.**  
Pickup at the **green curb.**

### **Other Ground Transportation:**

Most ground transportation services for Boise Airport are located on the lower-level roadway outside of the baggage claim area, except for Rideshare services. On the lower level, cross to the median and look for the color-coded curbs. Curbside Valet Parking: Upper curb, east end Rideshare (Lyft & Uber): Upper curb, east end

Taxis: Black curb

Courtesy Shuttles: Green curb

Paid Shuttles: Blue curb

Buses: Purple curb

### **Rideshare - Lyft and Uber**

Rideshare operators, Lyft and Uber, have a designated pick-up and drop-off locations at the Boise Airport.

Pick-up Location - Upper Curb, East End

Passengers who have requested rides through an app should follow rideshare wayfinding signage to the second-floor rotunda exit door and follow the curb to the right to meet their driver at one of the shelters labeled "Rideshare Pick-Up Area."

Drop-Off Location - Upper Curb

Passengers arriving at the airport via a rideshare service will be dropped off at their specified airline location on the upper curb.



### **Helpful Tips**

- Wait to request your ride until after you've claimed your luggage at baggage claim or have arrived at the pick-up location.
- Rideshare drivers are not allowed to solicit customers, and payment is made in the mobile app.
- Rides may only be requested through the mobile apps.
- Before you get into a rideshare vehicle, make sure the license plate, car make and model, and driver name match what is in the app.



JNWAVERING SUPPORT



OR UNCOMMON HEROES

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY Western Conference

hosted by

*DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO*

NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> to NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
RIVERSIDE HOTEL BOISE, IDAHO

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Conference Notes -----Tours Available -- See Travel Desk During Registration

Friday, November 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM 5:30 AM - 9:30 PM	Conference Registration Free Time - Excursions Joint Opening Ceremony Dinner on your own, possible event at local Post. Hospitality Room Open
Saturday, November 8 <sup>th</sup>	8 AM - 12 NOON 9AM - 12 NOON  12:00 - 1:30 PM 1:30 PM - 5 PM  5:30 PM - 6:30 PM 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Conference Registration VFW Business Session Auxiliary Business Session Luncheon VFW Business Session Auxiliary Business Session No Host Cocktails --- Banquet Room Conference Banquet Hospitality Room {after banquet concludes)
Sunday, November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Travel Home	HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

Respectfully,  
Tom Black  
VFW Western Conference,  
Convention Chairman





# AFW & AUXILIARY WESTERN CONFERENCE

November 7-9, 2025



## Local Things to Do

### Military/Museums:

Warhawk Air Museum <https://warhawkairmuseum.org/>

Gowen Field Military History Museum <https://museum.mil.idaho.gov/>

Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame, 404 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Boise (208-343-7224)

Boise State University <https://www.boisestate.edu/>

Idaho State Museum <https://history.idaho.gov/museum/>

Basque Museum & Cultural Center <https://basquemuseum.eus/>

Boise Art Museum <https://boiseartmuseum.org/>

Museum of Mining & Geology <https://www.idahomuseum.org/>

Discovery Center of Idaho <https://dcidaho.org/>

### Boise Visitors Guide:

<https://visitboise.com/visitor-guide/#pdfflip-PDFF/1/>

Arts Culture & Parks: <https://downtownboise.org/events/arts-culture-parks>

Sports <https://downtownboise.org/events/sports>

Map of Downtown Boise <https://downtownboise.org/explore/map-of-downtown-boise>

Bike Friendly <https://downtownboise.org/explore/transportation-parking/boise-bike-town>

Top Golf <https://topgolf.com/us/boise/>

Shopping <https://www.boisetownesquare.com/en/>

<https://www.thevillageatmeridian.com/>

The Peregrine Fund's World Center For Birds of Prey <https://peregrinefund.org/plan-your-visit>

Wahooz Family Fun Zone <https://www.wahoozfunzone.com/>

Skyzone Trampoline Park <https://www.skyzone.com/Nampa>

Zoo Boise <https://www.cityofboise.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/facilities/zoo-boise/>

### Visit Boise:

<https://visitboise.com/play/>

### Garden City Guide:

<https://visitgardencity.com/things-to-do/arts-makers/>

<https://visitgardencity.com/things-to-do/craft-beverages/>

Visitors Map: <https://149854433.v2.pressablecdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/GC-Map-2024-8.5x14-01.png>