

NEW YORK STATE OVERSEAS VETERAN

Official Publication
Dept. of New York,
Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States



July/August/September 2020

Volume 39 Issue 2

Editor's Note: This publication was put together during the coronavirus outbreak. Some of the articles were written before things got severely worse and will appear out of date and can't apply because of the latest orders from President Trump and Governor Cuomo. The *Stay at Home* order changes everything so

we must adjust to this problem and understand everything we are used to and comfortable with just got turned upside down. Please take *special note* of Commander Todaro's article and articles from the State Adjutant, Sr. Vice and Department Surgeon. They are full of critical information for our VFW members.



Thomas Howard

State Commander

Comrades:

As we start a new year, we will be facing a lot of new challenges. We are being forced into the electronic age. For the first six months most communication will be done on zoom. We will not be holding any meeting until January 2021.

As you know, the National Convention has been canceled and the National Homecoming have been postponed until March. Our first C of A will be on zoom.

All we can do is the best we can with what we have. I ask you to call members to check on them to make sure they are safe and healthy. Try to support PSC Mike Burke in the membership drive. It will be a tough year. He will be doing a zoom meeting with the District membership team. I hope everyone enjoyed the OTI training. I encourage the District Commanders to do training at their District meetings please make sure you read the standing orders and do what the governor directives say. If you have any questions call. Be safe and think of the homeless veterans.

Thomas Howard
Commander



Harold Burke Jr.

State Adjutant

Comrades,

This is going to be a very exhilarating year with our newly elected State Commander Thomas Howard

Congratulations to our State Commander, Thomas Howard, State Sr. Vice Commander Michael Hoag, Jr. Vice Commander, Peter Pennelle State Quartermaster, Daniel McMahon, State Surgeon, Dan Kell, State Chaplain Father R.P. Kane and all the newly elected and appointed Department, District, County Council, and Post Officers on their election to office.

Congratulations to PCIC William "Doc" Schmitz on his year as Commander-in-Chief, we are very excited that we had a Commander-in-Chief after 37 years. We all need to continue to work together to support the Eastern States next choice for Commander-in-Chief

I would like to thank State Commander, Thomas Howard for appointing me as the State Adjutant this year. I will continue to do my best to support him, the Department Officers, and the membership of this great State.

Commander Howard is including many innovative initiatives for the membership this coming year.

If you find areas on the Website that need to be improved or are not working please contact Don Mackey at CITAdmin@vfwny.com.

Communication is vital to our State Commander and he plans to provide all the information necessary for you to be successful again this year. Currently, as information is received I am forwarding it to those who we have an e-mail address for. Please provide me with your e-mail address if we do not already have it so you can receive

— STATE ADJUTANT, continued on page 4

VOTE!

Photographer:



Editor:



*INSIDE
this
NYSOV*



Pages 1-3 Officer's Messages
Page 4 Legislative Chair Report
Page 5 Voice of Democracy Report
Page 5 District 4 Briefing
Page 7 Buddy Poppy Report
Page 8 VFW National Home for Children Program Report

New York State Overseas Veteran

The official publication of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New York, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205.

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** ARTICLES:

Articles: Any and all articles involving and/or including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, its members, member communities, awards and activities are welcome.

** SUBMISSION & FORMAT:

Please prepare all articles in Microsoft Word (version 2003 or newer) or plain text. Send JPG/PNG/PDF images with corresponding captions. E-mail articles and pictures as attachments with the sender's name, address and phone number in the base of the e-mail. Submissions from other sources must have complete credits such as publication name, address and dates published.

** EDITORIAL POLICY:

Inappropriate, demeaning, unduly critical articles and/or statements will not be published. Article length, inaccuracies, composition and other miscellaneous errors and/or mistakes may be edited.

Although every effort is made to maintain an honorable and accurate publication, the Department of New York and/or its staff, editor and other publication participants are not responsible for the content, views and/or positions of any article(s)/submissions.

**** ALL ARTICLES AND PICTURES MUST BE E-MAILED TO: CITadmin@VFWNY.com. They become the sole property of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New York.**

** DEADLINE:

Deadline: Articles must be submitted by the 15th of each month...July, October, January and April.

If you are using regular mail, send the items to CITadmin, P.O. Box 116, Carlisle, NY 12031.

** GRAPHIC DESIGN



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Michael Hoag

State Sr. Vice Commander

Whatever I'm sure of today, dealing with technology, it will probably change for the better tomorrow. Being one of those who started out with a black and white Tv and a party line telephone, we've come a long long way. Now the VFW enters an era where people can join a meeting via their computer or smart phone. We can see and hear each other. National VFW has approved doing full meetings this way. Yes, it's because of the COVID-19, but I personally doubt that this way of communicating will ever completely go away.

Again, my personal belief, is that the best and most effective ways we can continue to move our organization forward is by in person meetings. The meetings themselves are better,

— *STATE SR. VICE COMMANDER REPORT, continued on page 6*



Daniel L. Kell

State Surgeon

As this year is upon us I am looking forward to once again have the opportunity to serve as your Department of New York Surgeon and working with the State Officers and comrades of Department of New York, as well as taking on the challenges that will come before me with this position in this upcoming year.

As this year begins we have many challenges ahead of us with the outbreak of COVID-19 still upon us. Even though we continue to move forward on re-opening the State of New York, our posts and holding meetings, we need to continue to follow the guidance set forth by the Governor's mandates and Department of New York. The following are some of the precautions we need to be taking at our posts:

- Complete a Safety Plan for your Post and post it where everyone can see it
- Use of masks to help slow down the spread of COVID-19 and observing social distancing 6 feet in public
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect frequently used spaces

Here is a list of COVID-19 symptoms

Most common symptoms include:

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Tiredness
- Less common symptoms:
- Aches and pains
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Conjunctivitis

— *STATE SURGEON REPORT, continued on page 6*

Patriot's Pen Report

Hello Comrades,

First let me introduce myself. My name is Wayne Campbell, and I'm the Department Patriots Pen Chairman. The reason for this letter is to ask you for your help. Please contact the posts in your District and ask them to promote this very worthwhile program. You can ask your county commanders for their help with contacting them.

There are many ways to get this program out to the public. You can send it to schools, 4-H, Boys and Girl Scouts and there must be newspapers or local flyers in your area. Please

— *PATRIOT'S PEN REPORT, continued on page 3*

— **PATRIOT'S PEN REPORT**, continued from page 2

don't let a child lose out on a chance to get some money they may need for their future.

The Theme for this year is:

"What is Patriotism to me?" and is open to grades 6-8.

The deadlines are as follows:

- Post deadline midnight October 31st
- Post Judging must be completed by November 15th
- December 15th is the completion date for the District

I must have the Department judging completed by **January 10th**.

Please forward the name, address, and phone number of your District Chairman for Patriots Pen. It can be emailed to cscamp2@hotmail.com, or mail to 36 Inslee St. Waterloo, NY 13165. Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours in Comradeship,

Wayne Campbell

Department Patriots Pen Chairman



Mike Webster

Veterans & Military Support Programs

I realize that the COVID-19 virus has caused many things to be turned upside down but the Veterans and Military Support Programs (V & MSP) just keep moving on. Over the past five months since I returned from my winter home in Florida, there were: 19 MAP grants awarded with 6,302 people in attendance, 102 grants awarded for Unmet Needs for \$94,980.99 and 158 "Help a Hero" scholarships granted in June for just a little under \$800,000.00. For that same period of time the total number of veterans, military members and their families supported was 13,076. The need does not go away.

Burger King (Unmet Needs) and Sports Clips (Help a Hero Scholarship Program) donate well to the Veterans and Military Support Programs. Back in May we were asked to support Burger King during the VFW's annual #ThankBK Appreciation Week. If it is possible please show your appreciation by patronizing their businesses and thank them for assisting the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I have the pins and as usual I want them gone by late October. The prices are: Gold \$20. Silver \$10 and Bronze \$5. I can mail them to you but because the postage will be on me I would prefer to mail several at a time. I ordered \$1200 worth of pins and that is the amount I have to send back. Do not get me wrong, I will mail just one. From you I will need a check, made out and mailed to me, Michael W. Webster. Address: 2475 St. Hwy. 58, Edwards, NY 13635; Phone: (H) 315-562-3699, ©315-322-3912; E-mail: mwebster41@hotmail.com

We are veterans helping veterans. As we go forward you can call or e-mail me to inquire as to what I have left. I wish to thank you up front because I have been raising money for the Veterans and Military Support Programs for many years and you have not let me or those veterans, military members and their families down.

As to the regular and year-long donations to V & MSP from Posts, Auxiliaries and individuals, I only had information for March, April and May and the total for New York was \$1080. Do what you can.

— **VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT**, continued on page 4



Dan McMahon

State Quartermaster

Comrades,

I would like to focus this article on the information which is available online to everyone and where one can go for this information at any time.

The information, guidelines and regulations are always available. This may be on the Department website at: www.vfwny.com or the National web site at: www.vfw.org or the IRS. The VFW Stores have books of By-Laws, Manual of Procedures-Ritual Books or CD's available for anyone to purchase. Some local bookstores have the information available to download directly to your computer.

Quartermasters need to download the latest copy of the Quartermaster's Guide 2020-21 for their use during the year. This will, along with other material, will provide the necessary information to enable handling the duties of the Quartermaster considerably easier. The Quartermaster Guide Introduction is a quick overview of the duties and obligations the Quartermaster.

To access these and other documents and training material, please log in at VFW.org under "My VFW" to find the training and support for the links to the training and information library.

Recently, I have attended a couple of meetings where there was a considerable amount of disagreement about information from Department headquarters and about the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. In each case, the objections were due to not understanding the entire document and or the entire section of the By-Law they were referring to. In no case did anyone have the current or any copy of the By-Laws with them.

The solution is to read an entire document before objecting to a single sentence of the letter. The same holds true for the By-Laws, read the entire section before trying to pick a phrase or sentence out of text.

Knowledge and understanding comes from attending meeting, (post, county, District, Department and OTI sessions).

I look forward to seeing everyone as soon as possible. Please, stay safe, contact our elderly members to ensure they are safe. Watch for updates as we move through this terrible disease.

Daniel B. McMahon

Quartermaster

VFW Department of NY

518-414-2605

dcmahon@vfwny.com



Legislative Chair Report

Greetings Comrades,

As this year’s Legislative Chair, I wanted to let you know that with this year’s Covid 19 restrictions it is no time to forget legislation. I ask that everyone make sure they know who their representatives are and the phone number and/or email. Putting pressure on is a lot of times the best way to get things pushed through.

A couple of weeks ago I did send a letter to Governor Cuomo about his directive to lower the American Flag to half-staff “Indefinitely”. While I truly sympathize with why he did it but is clearly outside of his purview to do. I am waiting a response, but also know the chances of that. Clearly the flag is not high on his priority.

The letter was sent out to the Districts and Posts but in case you

have not seen it, here it is below.

Please feel free to circulate it in your community. I will be sharing this with the media...keep your fingers crossed there is more interest than just us.

Please feel free to contact me about anything you feel needs to be addressed this legislative year. Remember, we are here to give voice to those who cannot. I cannot do it all alone, I need you!

May all of you and your families be and stay well.

Marlene Roll
Legislative Chair
Vfwny1516@gmail.com
716-949-7840

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo,

I want to bring to your attention something that has many people talking and not in a positive way. I realize you are a busy man, but I was asked to bring this to your attention under the direction of Thomas Howard, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New York.

The pandemic has changed all our lives and a lot of families have been affected by it. I honestly believe, everyone has lost a family member, friend, or someone they know to this pandemic. As we look for the end to this difficult time, with hopeful optimism, it tends to wear on us. We look to our leaders to provide hope and guidance.

Our greatest symbol of hope, strength and unity has been brought to her knees – OUR American Flag. Respectfully, sir, never in history has she looked so defeated for so long, hanging at half-staff. A position normally reserved for those who gave their lives for this country during service as a principal figure in government or in our military. That power was given to you, the Governor of New York, by U.S. Flag Code, section 7(m) to honor those from this state who have fallen during their service. Again, respectfully, this section does not give you the power to lower the United States Flag outside of this section of the Flag Code. That directive is reserved for the President of the United States, alone.

Please don’t miss understand me, I and many others understand your sympathy for those we have lost to this terrible virus, but what about the returning service members who died for this country, like Army Specialist Vincent Sebastian Iberria who died in Afghanistan on July 3, 2020? You directed the flag to “remain” at half-staff. While that was appreciated, it rang hollow.

On July 17th we lost a U.S. Congressman and staunch civil-rights leader, Mr. John Lewis. On July 18th, the President ordered our American flag to half-staff in honor of Mr. Lewis, but, again, the honor is hollow in New York because she has been down on

“PAUSE” since April 8th, 2020 at your directive of “Indefinitely”. An order never in our Flag’s history has been given by any President. Not during any wars, the great depression, civil rights movement or 9-11 has she been to her knees like you have illegally ordered. No, she has flown high and was the sign of hope the American people took solace in when they saw her to get through the tough times. We voted for you to lead our state through such time and you have, but this directive is illegal and hurtful to the moral of the people of New York.

Governor, if you have noticed, I have referred to our U.S. Flag as “her” or “she”. That is because she represents a living nation, “We the People” of the United States, who live and die as Americans. Not just the people of New York. She is not just some piece of cloth with a pattern of red, white, and blue on her to be used. She is more than that, and as such, is due the simple respect of following the U.S. Flag Code so that she is always properly displayed, collectively for the people of this great nation.

The proper thing to do is lower the New York State flag to half-staff. It represents you and the people of New York. Plain and simple. You can leave our state’s flag down until the pandemic is over, showing our sympathy here in New York. That is your right to do.

Governor Cuomo, on behalf of all U.S. Citizens, the military who defend her, and the veterans who gave us the Flag Code, I very respectfully ask that you return our American Flag to her rightful position at the top of her staff so that she can, once again, be the symbol of hope, strength and unity for the people of New York.

*Respectfully,
Marlene Roll,
V.F.W. Legislative Chair
Department of New York*

— **VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT**, continued from page 3

To help the Department show participation and receive the credit due your Post, or yourself, make the check out to: ”Department of NY VFW” and annotate the memo block with “Veterans and Military Support Programs” and then mail it to the Department. Again, I thank you in advance.

Michael W. Webster (MAP)
Chairman



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



— *STATE ADJUTANT, continued from page 1*

information as we get it at Headquarters.

State Commander, Thomas Howard has placed enormous emphasis on the importance of the Department of New York, VFW to respond to all communications in a timely manner. Therefore, he is requesting that all correspondence regarding VFW matters be sent to the Department of New York Headquarters to assure that we are successful in our quest. Headquarters will confirm the correspondence is properly annotated, distributed and responded to with actions that may be necessary to bring the issue to closure.

As stated, Communication is very important and to assure that the Department of New York is not misquoted we ask that Officers, Members of the Council of Administration, Past State Commanders, Chairman of Committee, Committee Members and Members of the Department of New York Veterans of Foreign Wars should not speak to the news media as an official or unofficial spokesperson of the Department of New York Veterans of Foreign Wars without prior clearance from the Department Commander or Department Adjutant. All inquiries from the media should be referred to the Department Adjutant.

Should you receive a media inquiry, you should respond: "I have no authority to respond to your request". You should refer your question to the Department Adjutant.

As a direct result of the escalation of COVID-19 cases around the US and keeping the health and welfare of our members and officers a priority the State Commander Howard has issued DSO No. 13 which **Until further notice all Department Officers and Chairman's Travel is cancelled** and the Commander asks that you follow the Governors mandates.

Dale, Monica, Gene, Don, and I are excited about the New VFW Year and look forward to assisting each of you this coming year.

On Behalf of the Staff and myself, we offer our Best Wishes for a successful year. The staff and I pledge our support to the Officers and members of the Department of New York.

Sincerely,

Hal

**Harold "Hal" Burke Jr., PJAG/PSC/PSQM
State Adjutant**

NYS Teacher of the Year Award 2020-2021

There will be a NYS teacher of the year program this year.

Because of the COVID 19 virus there are some changes. First of all, the applications will originate at the post level as usual, but will come to me directly. Do not send them to the district. You can nominate one teacher for each level (K-5, Middle school 6,7,8 and HS 9-12.) There will be more information on the VFW.Org website. Check it out for the latest requirements.

Send the completed applications to me to the following address: Carl Fosco, 130 John Street, Hudson Falls, NY 12839. Also you can call me at 518 307 7646.

I need the applications by January 1st, 2021 so that I can react back to you if there is a problem. You can also send the applications to the State Headquarters and they will forward them to me but it's best them directly to me. Follow the instructions! Our NYS adjutant has also sent information out to the district commanders to forward to the posts.

District 4 Briefing

It has been quite a challenging time for the past several months for all of us and the Posts in our District.

Memorial Day services were held with limited participation, but services were held in many Towns and Villages of the 4th District.

Many Posts of the 4th District received grants from the National VFW Foundation, Remsen Post 982 used their grant money to help leverage additional funding so that St. Patricks' Church food pantry of Forestport could purchase and install a much-needed power generator. Post 6001, Yorkville, used there grant to help finance their kitchen expansion, Post 5538, Boonville, grant will help to upgrade their restrooms.

Through the efforts of our District membership chairman, and now District Commander James Brooks, and Past District Commander Leslie Crossett our District was able to obtain 100% membership by 30 June 2020.

Our District held an organizational meeting in early August, Committee chairman are in place, Post Inspections and Officer training are all in place.

Thanks to our new District Commander Brooks and other District volunteers we held a very successful (\$\$\$) golf tournament in August.

Voice of Democracy Report



Hello Comrades, Sisters & Friends,

I hope this article finds you safe & healthy. I have been asked by our Department Commander, Tom Howard, to chair this year's Department Voice of Democracy Essay Program. I graciously accepted knowing I can once again count on your support to make this year's program a huge success.

There will be some unique challengers with this year's program. As you know Governor Cuomo has approved schools to open. It remains to be seen whether that means traditional brick & mortar or virtual classes. Keep in mind that the past two years first place winners were home schooled. Our greatest challenge as it usually is will be to make these High School Students aware of our Department's very generous program.

Let us start with a 3 to 5 minute recorded essay on this year's theme: Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?

Next are some very important dates that are set by the National VFW Programmers that must be adhered to:

October 31	All Entries to the Post
November 15	Completion of Post judging
December 15	Completion of District judging
	District winner packet sent to me including students head & shoulder photo
January 10	Completion of Department judging
January 15	District participation reports to me

9 Imperial Ln, Stuyvesant NY 12173

Home phone: 518 828 6298 or e-mail Waldo812@live.com

You, District Chairman, save yourself some \$Doe Ray Me\$ when sending me your winners packet: no need for special mailing. First Class will get to me just as safely.

I have also attached a Press Release that may be helpful to your local news outlet.

— *VOICE OF DEMOCRACY REPORT, continued on page 7*

— STATE SR. VICE COMMANDER
REPORT, continued from page 2

the camaraderie and the interactions before and after the meetings are valuable. We continue to learn from each other!

But let's take a moment to consider the plus side of adding teleconferencing to this mix, not doing one or the other, but doing both all the time.

At the Post Council and District levels in particular, we can offer the opportunity for every one of our members to attend a meeting. The member who is temporarily injured and confined, the elderly who participated their whole lives but now find it difficult to get out. Your member who retired to another state but retains membership in your post and more possible scenarios.

Now if you have them, or eventually the future, a large screen TV can be used to project those members so that the members in physical attendance and the leadership can see them. The device at the Post can be pointed at the head table, audience or some combination of both so all can feel as included as possible.

I believe that we should begin to incorporate these capabilities into our meeting as soon as possible. That may be next month, year or ?. WE are still waiting for some of our Posts to use computers to start with, so I expect this to be an even slower start.

Please don't be that person who will assume that no one will do this, why bother. The decision to or not to is that of the membership, not the leadership! The opportunity should be offered. There is little or no expense, just the effort to notify and set it up.

Whatever we can do with today's technology, there will be more, and better tomorrow, USE IT!

— STATE SURGEON REPORT, continued from page 2

- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- A rash on skin, or discoloration of fingers or toes

Serious symptoms:

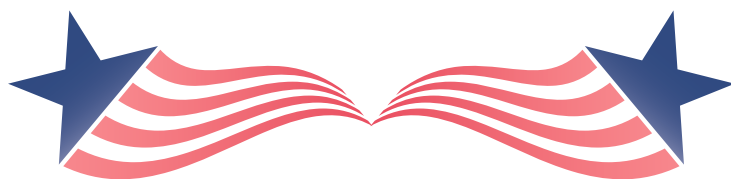
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Chest pain or pressure
- Loss of speech or movement

Seek immediate medical attention if you have serious symptoms. Always call before visiting your doctor or health facility.

On average it takes 5–6 days from when someone is infected with the virus for symptoms to show, however it can take up to 14 days.

I am looking forward to talking to the District Commanders throughout this year as well as contacting the VA Hospitals within the Districts. Again with COVID-19 still here continue to be safe.

Yours in Comradeship;
Daniel L. Kell
Department of New York Surgeon





What is the VFW?



Most people think it's a smokey bar room filled with older vets who want no intrusion or have any place for the younger generation.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The Canteen is open to Veterans of all ages! But beyond this, the true VFW offers so much more. Just a quick overview of the various Programs and features offered.

- Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest for any student grades 9-12
- Patriots Pen Scholarship Contest for any student grades 6-8.
- VFW Scout of the Year Program for girls and boys.
- Public Servant National Awards (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, Emergency Services) for our first responders.
- Health Care awards and Scholarships.
- Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.
- Life Saving Awards.
- Veteran assistance through UnMet Needs Program.
- Citizen and Youth Education
- Community Support
- Recognition of the various Veteran Holidays
- Post and Department Service Officers to assist Veterans of all ages and their families with VA Claims.
- Buddy Poppy Relief Fund.
- Military Transition and Job Placement Assistance.
- Troop Support
- Support for Student Veterans of America
- Programs targeting PTSD, Suicide Prevent and ending Veteran Homelessness.
- Strong Legislative Support for bills concerning Veterans and their families
- Camaraderie with others who have been there, done that ... got the medal!

In short, the VFW is all about: Our Veterans, Our Military, Their Families and Our Communities!
Join today to assist in these worthy programs!
For more information about all the other ways the VFW can help you,
please contact your local VFW post or call 1-833-VFW-VETS.
Thank you for your service!

GOD BLESS AMERICA!






Buddy Poppy Report

Comrades,

I hope this finds everyone in good health, and safe during this time of National Health Issues.

I would like to thank Past Department Commander Tom Todaro and Department Commander Tom Howard for the appointment as Department Poppy Chairperson.

With the current National Health Situation I know that we lost our biggest chance to distribute Buddy Poppies, and as current local situation and the governor's orders for Social Distancing, have reduced our ability to expose the masses to the Story of the Poppies.

Please remember that Poppies may be distributed at any time of the year, at any place where people are gathered, street fairs, Sporting Events, public gatherings. Remember that the Poppy is the Flower of Remembrance, and can be worn at any time, not only for Veterans Day, or Memorial Day, but any day that should be remembered, September 11, Pearl Harbor Day, VE Day, VJ Day, December (Battle of the Bulge), The Month of February (USS Maine Sinking, Iwo Jima). I am sure that you get the idea, that VFW Buddy Poppies can be distributed anytime, anywhere, for any reason.



Due to the current situation, I know last year's Poppy Sales were very low, but I would like to see at least every post order 1000 poppies, that would put our Department over 250,000 poppies for the year. If every post ordered 10 poppies per member that would put our department over 500,000.

Let us push to arrive at this goal to exceed expectations and bring Department of New York back to the forefront of our National Organization.

Remember, you order Poppies from Department of New York and order your supplies from the National Catalog. Good Luck to all in this year's distribution; strive to exceed personal goals.

Richard G. Gales Jr.
Past VFW Nassau County Commander
Past VFW District 1 Commander
Past UVO President Nassau County
Military Order of the Cootie Past Grand Commander

— VOICE OF DEMOCRACY REPORT, continued from page 5

I would now like to thank all those that sent me get well cards while I was undergoing some serious chemo treatments and surgery. I am glad to tell you that I am on the road to a complete recovery. My Nurse & Wife Carol are now working on our Bucket List.

Good luck to all participating Post, remember our goal is to have one of our Department students return home with a \$30,000 scholarship. NO One does more for Students than the VFW.

Yours in Companionship,
Wally Zincio



Veterans & Military Support 2020-2021 Lapel Pins

New Pin Design For 2020-2021



Due to COVID-19 and the national convention being canceled the VMS lapel pins will ONLY be available through the VMS Chairmen so please order accordingly.

All money received from the lapel pins will support the four Veterans & Military Support Programs: Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program, Website Solutions and the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship".

Please contact Linda Ferguson with any questions.
lferguson@vfw.org or 816-968-1102



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

2020-21 Lapel Pin Order Form

Please coordinate and place one order per Department.
Bulk orders will only be available through pre-order form, all orders must be received by May 15.

Department

Name

Phone#

Veterans & Military Support Lapel Pin Premade Bag:

(Select the Qty of full bags you wish to order)

# of Bags: <input type="text"/>	Included in one Premade Bag (Total Value \$400.00)
Value: <input type="text" value="\$ 0.00"/>	Gold - Qty 15 - Value \$300.00
	Silver - Qty 5 - Value \$50.00
	Bronze - Qty 10 - Value \$50.00

Veterans & Military Support Lapel Pin Custom Bag:

(Select the Qty of each Lapel Pin you want to order)

Gold (\$20 / each)	Qty: <input type="text"/>	Value: \$ <input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Total Value: \$ <input type="text" value="\$ 0.00"/>
Silver (\$10 / each)	Qty: <input type="text"/>	Value: \$ <input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Bronze (\$5 / each)	Qty: <input type="text"/>	Value: \$ <input type="text" value="0.00"/>	

All money received from the lapel pins will support the four Veterans & Military Support Programs: Website Solutions, Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program and the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship". This allows us to continue supporting our troops, veterans and their families before, during and after deployments.



*Bring Our Troops
Home Safely!*



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

VFW National Home for Children Program Report

Department of New York VFW and Auxiliary Members,

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees held its June meeting via Zoom over the course of three days. With reference to these trying times, I have asked Fred Puffenberger, Executive Director, if there are any planned projects for the upcoming 2020 Christmas Holiday Season. Fred has responded with:

Hello, from the National Home!

I hope this message finds you and yours safe and healthy. I thank Art Scheuneman, your District Representative on the VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees for the opportunity to share with you a few updates on how we at the National Home are managing during these unprecedented times in our country's history.

Since our inception in 1925, the National Home has remained a non-profit, 100% privately funded entity that receives no government funding.

Primarily funded by the generosity from the caring members of the VFW and its Auxiliary, we are allowed the privilege of delivering on the promise to give our veteran families opportunities for growth and development in a nurturing community, and by doing so, serving as a living memorial to all veterans.

Understandably, the past number of months has been exceptionally challenging. Much like you, we have adhered to the numerous Executive Orders from our Governor's Office, which are designed to minimize the opportunities for us to catch or pass along the Covid-19 virus.

Consequently, all of our on-campus fundraising events and most of our summer programs have been canceled due to the health and safety concerns for residents, staff and visitors. Yes, things are different, very different; however, what has not changed is the need for our program and the faith, hope and service we bring to our veteran families.

While the storm clouds of this pandemic continue to remain in our midst, we have indeed found brightness in our staff and residents. The staff, working primarily remotely, continues to assist our residents on their goals and dreams. The staff's spirits are buoyed by the feedback we receive from those we serve in their deep appreciation to live in such a safe, caring community.

As you know, Christmas is a special time at the VFW National Home for Children, filled with celebrations, parties

and gifts. However, like many holidays this year, the National Home's Christmas is going to look a little different.

This year, the National Home will be purchasing items to put together Christmas Packages for each of our families. These packages, along with other Christmas goodies will include a turkey and all the fixings for scrumptious Christmas dinner!

To do this, I am going to need your help.

Your contributions this season will not only assist us with our Family Christmas Packages but will also help us meet the needs of each family in many other ways. In conjunction with our Family Christmas Package project, your funding will support our Family Support Services Fund, which covers costs specifically related to providing counseling, tutoring and case management for the families and children that we serve.

I know that you all are dealing with challenges of your own. These times you can't plan or prepare for, nor could we.

This year, especially this year, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity of faith, spirit, prayers and, yes, funding to continue our mission of over 90 years.

*Warmest regards,
Frederick Puffenberger*

Make a difference and bring a greater joy this Holiday Season to these families residing on the VFW National Home for Children Campus. Please remit your gift directly to:

**VFW National Home for Children
3573 South Waverly Road
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827**

Not a member of the VFW National Home? A Life Membership is only \$50.00 and makes a wonderful gift for this Holiday Season. An application is on the next page for your convenience.

Thank you for your continued support of the VFW National Home for Children, especially during this pandemic.

Loyally,
Art Scheuneman
District 2 VFW National Home for Children Trustee
VFW National Home for Children Program Chair
Department of New York

— REFER TO PAGE 9 FOR NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBER INFORMATION

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss	Name:	
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Date of birth:	Email:	Phone:
Membership Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (<i>not a member of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (<i>must be a member in good standing of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary or a unit of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. Complete affiliation information below. If no Post or Auxiliary number is provided, an Associate Membership will be issued.</i>)		

VFW & VFW AUXILIARY INFORMATION

(Required if a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member)

- I am a member of VFW Post _____ in the Department of _____ VFW
- I am a member of VFW Auxiliary _____ in the Department of _____ VFW Auxiliary

RECRUITER (Not required)

Recruiter name: Art Scheuneman
NY State National Home Chairman Recruiter Post or Auxiliary number: 4823

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please allow 3-4 weeks for your membership certificate, card and other information to be sent. You can also apply online at: www.vfwnationalhome.org/membership	One time membership fee and Life Member pin \$50	\$50.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed and made payable to VFW National Home for Children <input type="checkbox"/> Charge my <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express	
Name on card:	Card number:	
Signature:	Expiration date:	

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A LIFE MEMBER

BEING A LIFE MEMBER or an Associate Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children is one way you can create a bond between yourself and the mission of the National Home. Your support and encouragement honors our veterans and today's military by helping their children and families in times of need. Life Members in good standing with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary may vote for trustees representing their National Home District and proposed Bylaw or Articles of Incorporation changes.