



**DEPARTMENT OF
MASSACHUSETTS
VETERANS OF FOREIGN
WARS**



DECEMBER 2020

GENERAL ORDER No. 6

SPECIAL NOTICES **SPECIAL NOTICES***

Membership Contests / Challenges

Contest Winners

I want to Congratulate the following Massachusetts Posts for winning the Commander-in-Chiefs Membership Challenge for the month of November.

Stephen F. Rutledge Post 864, Brookline, MA District 5

Capt. Albert H. Prouty Post 3439, North Brookfield, MA District 11

Both of these Posts have won \$1000 each.

The Massachusetts Top Recruiter for the month of November is **David Walsh** Halifax Post 6258. David wins a \$75 Gift card and a Commanders Gift set.

The Massachusetts Top Post in New members for November is: Post 6258, Halifax, MA. The Post will receive a \$75 Gift card.

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FYI - Decembers contest winners (Recruiter & Post) will receive a \$100 Gift Card. Let's Get Recruiting!!!

100% Membership Contest

Posts of 50 or more members achieving 100% by December 31st, 2020 will be entered into a drawing to win one of (6) \$300.00 prizes. (6 Winners)

Posts of 49 or less members achieving 100% by December 31st, 2020 will be entered into a drawing to win one of (6) \$75.00 prizes. (6 Winners)

The 1st District to attain 100% membership by December 31, 2020 will be awarded a VFW Canopy Tent from the VFW Store OR a 6' VFW Tablecloth & 7' VFW logo Blade flag.

Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch has laid down a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of December 2020!

For this month's Commander's Challenge, the top Post in each Division with the highest increase in total membership percentage between December 1st and December 31st will receive a \$500 stipend deposited into the Post account.

As we enter the holiday season, we find ourselves focusing on family, friends, and community. These have always been values the VFW holds dear, so make sure during this season that we are checking in on our fellow veterans and letting them know that the VFW is here for them now and throughout the year.

We want to see our Posts reaching out to our members and working hard to show that we are an active and progressive organization that has **20/20 VISION FOR VETERANS!**

Life Membership: The VFW offers the lowest Life Membership fees of most organizations and even offers a 12 month no interest payment plan. It is Easy; It is Cheap, and you never have to worry again. Plan E Life Membership fees shall be charged in accordance with the following Plan E fee schedule effective January 1, 2007:

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Plan E Life	\$425
Attained Age	
Member Fee	
Through 30	
31-40	\$410
41-50	\$375
51-60	\$335
61-70	\$290
71-80 81 & over	\$225 \$170

The applicable fee from the effective life membership fee schedule will be determined using the applicant's attained age as of December 31st of the current calendar year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth.

DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS

#1 – Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen Essay Programs.

All District winners are to be submitted to the Department NLT December 18th. Department winners are due to National January 10, 2021.

#2 – Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award

*January 1, Post winners due to Department

*February 1, Department winners due to National (to guarantee receipt for Department Convention presentation).

Department Chairperson: Craig DeOld, Post 1018, Bostonvfw1018@gmail.com

#3 - Public Servant National Award (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, Emergency Services)

*January 1, Nominations due (from Post to Department)

*February 1, (to guarantee receipt for Department Convention Presentation), Nominations due from Department to National.

Department Chairperson: Delray Dorsey, Post 1399, delraydorsey1399@gmail.com

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Department Provided Email

Each Post has an email provided by the Department through our Go Daddy account.

Here are the step-by-step instructions:

Search for Go Daddy-email-login on the Internet.

Enter email address as Post####@vfwma.org. For example, post9999@vfwma.org.

Then enter the password-vfw2017. If that password does not work, contact PSC Eric Segundo at esegundo@vfwma.org to get a new password.

ORDERS

1. **Expired Members:** Commanders at the Post and District levels are reminded that according to Section 105 of the National Bylaws, a member whose dues are unpaid after their anniversary date ceases to be a member in good standing and loses all rights of membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. They shall not attend meetings or conventions and shall not participate in Post, County Council, District, Department or National functions.
2. **Applications for Membership:** The attention of Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders is directed to Section 103 of the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstated or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting.
3. **Program Reporting by Adjutants:** As per VFW National Headquarters, all reporting will be done electronically to National on the "All American Dashboard" by the State Adjutant. Adjutants are the official corresponding officer for the Post/District/Department and shall attest to all official communications and reports with their signature. The State Adjutant has access to the reporting functions.
4. **Message from David E. Prohaska, VFW Director Member Services:** All Departments. Please be advised that the Online Membership System (OMS) will be shutting down at 4:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020. Any transactions that are submitted through OMS on Dec. 31, up to the closing time, will be posted to Memstats and Post Query later that evening and available for viewing the morning of Jan. 4, 2021. Mail received at the National Headquarters prior to Dec. 30, 2020, will be processed, and counted in the



December total. Mail received after that date, regardless of the postmark date, will not be counted in the

December total. We suggest you have your Posts mail in their membership as early as possible or take advantage of the Online Membership System tools. Please note that email sent to the Member Service Center or its advisors are not guaranteed to be processed due to the closure of VFW National HQ beginning December 24, 2020.

The OMS system will be back online for the submittal of transactions by noon CST, Monday, Jan. 4, 2021; however, membership transactions that are processed will not be posted to Memstats until Jan. 8, 2021.

5. **State Commanders Visit:** Any Post wishing to have the State Commander visit your Post for a function or meeting are to notify the State Adjutant and State Commander so that it can be put on the schedule. The Commander will make every attempt to attend your function.

6. **Council of Administration:** The next CoA meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2021 in District 6 (Location to be determined) as per the Governors restrictions/guidance. Please note that the CoA may be a virtual meeting based on these requirements.
 - VFWMA Foundation Meeting – 9:30am (Foundation Officers and members wishing to attend)
 - CoA Meeting – 10:30am (Council members, Chairmen and members wishing to attend)

BY COMMAND OF:

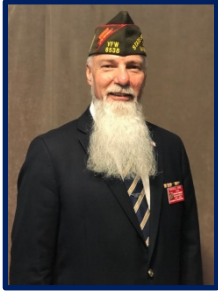


Russell Jobe, Commander

OFFICIAL:



William G. LeBeau, Adjutant

COMMANDERS CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Comrades,

This year has been one for the books and I hope we do not have to re-read the chapter anytime soon. As the Christmas season comes upon us let us not look back at the unwanted things that have happened over the past year but look at the positive, the smiles (behind the masks) and the good we

have done and seen.

Give thanks in your own way and spread a bit of Joy around. Check in on your friends and family and do what you can to help those less fortunate and in need. Let us also remember those who are still serving and guarding the gates of Freedom and cannot be home with their families during the Holidays.

In keeping with the spirit of Veterans, remember, if you cannot wrap Christmas presents well, at least make it look like they put up a good fight. Thank you to all who have helped make this year better and more enjoyable.

Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and Very Happy New Year for 2021!

Russell Jobe