

May 31, 2024

### **Development**

As of last Friday, we not only met but exceeded our monthly goal of \$4.1 million by nearly half a million dollars, with four additional days of deposits still pending.

This week's Development Campaigns are listed below:

- May 27 Appeal:
  - Memorial Day remembrance email to all Friends of Freedom.
- May 29 Appeal:
  - Military Appreciation Month matching gift email #4 to all Friends of Freedom.
- May 31 Appeals:
  - Military Appreciation Month matching gift a.m. email #5 and p.m. email #6.
  - June statements to member and nonmember donors.

Contact: VFW Development Director Kelly Jones, [KellyJones@vfw.org](mailto:KellyJones@vfw.org).

### **Human Resources**

- New Hires:
  - Nia Lambert has returned to the VFW as the Planned Giving Major Gift Coordinator in the Development Department in the K.C. Office.
- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
  - Administrative Assistant, NCRBO – D.C. Office.
  - Administrative Specialist, QMG – K.C. Office.
  - Assistant Director, Administrative Operations – K.C. Office.

Contact: VFW Human Resources Director Sari Maple, [SMaple@vfw.org](mailto:SMaple@vfw.org).

## **Programs**

- VFW National Convention 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament:

Please encourage our members to register teams and participate in the 2nd annual VFW Cornhole Tournament taking place at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville!

The series will take place on Sunday, July 28, and Monday, July 29, 2024. All proceeds from the competition go to VFW PACT Act benefit assistance. For more information and to sign up for this event, visit <https://kccrew.com/leagues/vfvcornholetournament/>.

Contact: VFW Programs Director Lynn W. Rolf, III, [LRolf@vfw.org](mailto:LRolf@vfw.org).

## **Administrative Operations**

- There are currently 39 Posts under suspension. The organization has 5,632 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 25 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, 12 Administrative Removals/Actions and 8 membership eligibility challenges.
- Currently Administrative Operations has 150 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, 26 of which are new; current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately 45-60 days.

## **Department Approved Resolutions and Amendments:**

This is a reminder to please send your Department-approved resolutions and/or amendments that require action to the National Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual Committee prior to the National Convention and immediately following the close of your Department Convention.

In order to meet the requirements mentioned in Article XIV of the National Bylaws/Manual of Procedure, stating “All proposed amendments will be available to Posts by the Adjutant General at least fifteen (15) days before the assembling of the National Convention for those amendments being proposed for consideration at the convention.”

**It is extremely important we receive these documents within two (2) days from the conclusion of your Department Convention. A response is required even if your Department does not have any resolutions/amendments to submit.**

Please send the electronic version (word document) to [TGniotczynski@vfw.org](mailto:TGniotczynski@vfw.org).

## **Election Reports:**

2024-2025 Election reports have been mailed out. Per the Bylaws and Manual of Procedures, Posts should have opened nominations for the upcoming year in March and closed the nominations and elections of Post Officers in April. To access the election report online; sign into VFW.org and proceed to My VFW. Select Online Membership System (OMS), then press the drop-down menu on the left side of the screen for Election Report and select Post Election Report Filing.

**NOTE: The National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure require a properly completed Election Report for the ensuing year to be submitted to Department and National Headquarters by June 1, 2024.**

### **Department Proof of Eligibility:**

With the start of Department Conventions right around the corner I wanted to remind everyone of the requirement to submit proof of eligibility for all newly elected Junior Vice Commanders and any elected Department Quartermasters or appointed Department Adjutants who are new to their position this coming year (2024-25).

Additionally, proof of eligibility for any new Department Commanders or Senior Vice Commanders, who for whatever reason were not in the line of succession the previous year, to which we already have proof of eligibility on file.

This proof of eligibility must be submitted to the Adjutant General pursuant to Section 516 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

This must be done after officers are installed and prior to National Convention and is most easily completed by sending documentation via email to Joseph Wolfgeher at [JWolfgeher@vfw.org](mailto:JWolfgeher@vfw.org).

Contact: VFW Administrative Operations Director Quentin Carroll, [QCarroll@vfw.org](mailto:QCarroll@vfw.org).

### **Membership**

- Join us for another Membership Monday training webinar on June 10, 2:00 p.m. CST, for an interactive discussion on the latest training topics. The topic for June 10 is, “**Mistakes to Avoid at Year-End.**” As you push through the end to finish strong this year, there are some things you can do to make next year even better! Join the webinar to learn those best practices.
- The 2024-2025 VFW National Membership program is now available online. Find next year’s National Membership program on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org), at the top of the Membership Recruiting & Retention Page. **Home>MyVFW>VFW Training & Support.** The current, 2023-2024 National Membership program will remain online until after the National Convention elections in July 2024.

Contact: VFW Membership Interim Director Corey Hunt, [CoreyHunt@vfw.org](mailto:CoreyHunt@vfw.org).

### **VFW Foundation**

- The VFW Foundation has secured \$20,000 from Philips for the 2025 Washington Conference.
- The VFW Foundation has also secured an additional \$15,000 from the Veterans United Foundation.
- The Burger King®/VFW Unmet Needs fundraising campaign continues until May 31. Customers will be able to donate a dollar or round up their purchase price. Since 2007, Burger King Franchisees have raised nearly \$7.5 million in support of the Unmet Needs

program which provides financial aid grants to veterans, service members and their families who are experiencing unexpected financial difficulties. Nearly 1,150 Burger King Franchise restaurants are participating in this year's campaign. [Find a participating restaurant near you across the U.S.](#) Any questions can be directed to VFW Foundation Donation Specialist Renee Martin at [RMartin@vfw.org](mailto:RMartin@vfw.org).

Contact: VFW Foundation Director of Donor Relations Richard Freiburghouse, [RFreiburghouse@vfw.org](mailto:RFreiburghouse@vfw.org).

### **National Legislative Service**

- VA Adds Option for Commemorative Plaque or Urn: Beginning on June 10, 2024, the families of certain cremated veterans may apply to receive a commemorative plaque or urn from VA. Family members are eligible to apply only if they have chosen not to inter a loved one in a VA National Cemetery or receive a government-furnished headstone, marker, or medallion for placement in any cemetery. [Read more](#) about additional eligibility criteria or [burial benefits](#).

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, [PMurray@vfw.org](mailto:PMurray@vfw.org).

### **National Veterans Service**

- NVS participated in Memorial Day Observances at the National Mall and the wreath laying at the Vietnam Memorial.
- NVS leadership met with the VA Under Secretary for Health.
- VFW's NVS Pre-Discharge representatives briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at military installations across the country.
- NVS BDD leadership met with Wounded Warrior Project for the quarterly collaboration.
- NVS BDD leadership conducted training with Qualtrics.
- NVS health team met to collaborate on VA health policy issues.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli, [MFiglioli@vfw.org](mailto:MFiglioli@vfw.org).

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