# Mail Call



Louisiana

# **April 2021** | **Issue 10**

#### **Upcoming Events:**

State Commander & President's Testimonial March 13, 2021 Post 3750—Luling, LA

> State Convention June 24-27, 2021 Holiday Inn Downtown Alexandria, LA

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"Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler for Veterans"

State Commander Bobby Lovergne



## **District Meeting Dates:**

# DISTRICT 2 MEETINGS: May 15, 2021 Post 3121 Registration 9:00 am

Registration 9:00 am
Meeting 10:00 am
Lunch (\$7) 12:00noon

#### DISTRICT 3 MEETINGS:

May 22, 2021

Registration 9:00 am
Joint Meeting 10:00 am
Meeting 10:30 am
Lunch 12:00noon

#### **DISTRICT 4 MEETINGS:**

Registration 9:00 am
Meeting 10:00 am
Lunch(\$7) 12:00noon

### **DISTRICT 5 MEETINGS:** April 17, 2021 Post 3106

Registration 9:00 am
Meeting 10:00 am
Lunch 11:30 am

#### **DISTRICT 7 MEETINGS:**

May 15, 2021Post 8971Registration9:00 amMeeting10:00 amLunch (\$8)

#### **DISTRICT 8 MEETINGS:**

 April 10, 2021
 Post 3693

 Registration
 9:00 am

 Meeting
 10:00 am

 Lunch (\$7)
 12:00noon

#### **DISTRICT 9 MEETINGS:**

April 24, 2021 Post 5735
Registration 9:00 am
Joint Meeting 10:00 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch 12:00noon

#### **DISTRICT 10 MEETINGS:** May 8, 2021

Registration 10:00 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch(\$10.00) 12:00noon

# DISTRICT 11 MEETINGS:May 15, 2021Post 1809Registration10:30 amMeeting11:00 amLunch (\$10)12:00 noon

#### **DISTRICT 12 MEETINGS:**

May 8, 2021Post 4588Registration9:00 a.m.Meeting10:00 a.m.Lunch (\$7)12:00 noon

### **Desert Storm Picture Request:**

If you served in Desert Storm, please send a copy of a picture during your service to lastatevfw@yahoo.com. We plan to make a special presentation during the 90th State Convention for our Desert Storm Veterans!

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

POST OFFICERS shall be ELECTED in APRIL also DELEGATES to the State Convention shall be ELECTED at same time. Don't forget go online and fill out the election report.

Post and District, Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters are reminded of the requirements of Sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedure with regard to proof of eligibility for all newly-elected and appointed officers. Elected and appointed officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Failure or refusal to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant.

#### 90<sup>th</sup> Annual VFW State Convention Blind Draw Golf Scramble

Oakwing Golf Club – England Air Force base 2345 Vandenburg Dr., Alexandria, La 71303 (318) 561-0260

> Cost - \$45.00 Green Fees + tax \$20.00 Scramble Fee

Blind Draw Scramble with a Blind Handicap after round is complete

Registration will begin at 9:30am Shotgun Start at 11:00am

Let's all get together and have some fun before we get down to business and start celebrating a years worth of success.

## Memorial Day May 31, 2021

HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG. The U.S. Flag should be at half-staff on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May (federal holiday - half-staff until noon). Flags available at VFW Store vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags.

#### **New Post**

On March 20, 2021 a new post in our Department was chartered! Please join us in welcoming Post 12203 in Kinder, LA to our Department!

# Membership

# As of April 5, 2021 we are at 100%!

Sharee Arends-vfwlamembership@gmail.com

#### **Membership Tidbits:**

Membership Processing Recruiting New Members Procedures According to Section 102 – Manual of Procedure Applications – Affiliation of New Members

Every application for membership must be submitted on an approved, signed application outlining the applicant's honorable service, status as a citizen or national of the United States, eligibility and other pertinent information. Proof of service to establish eligibility for membership rests with the applicant. The Post is responsible for assuring the eligibility of every member accepted to membership.

Section 103 - Election

An applicant may be recommended after eligibility has been fully determined by the Post Reviewing Committee. With respect to Department Member-at-Large, the National Organization and/or the Department Headquarters will be responsible for eligibility determination.

## VFW Foundation Post Pandemic Grant:

The VFW National Foundation Post Pandemic Grant is still open for Post to apply. Please visit www.vfw.org/grants for more information.

The updated PPRG application, with details on the revised eligibility criteria, is available to download at

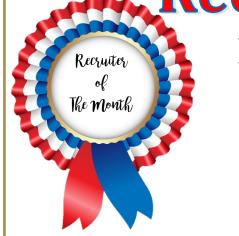
Www.vfw.org/grants

Questions regarding the PPRG may be directed to Jason Couch: jcouch@vfw.org or 816-968-1174.

#### **Department COVID Relief Grant:**

The Department COVID Relief Grant is still open for Post to apply. Contact Department for more information.

Recruiter Spotlight:



Recruiter of the month is Jesse Curry from Post 2130 in Lake Charles, LA!

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS PLEASE VIS-IT <u>WWW.VFW.ORG</u> AND CLICK ON THE PROGRAM SEC-TION! Note all deadline dates!

THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW ON FACEBOOK, PLEASE GO LIKE OUR PAGE TO BE UPDATED WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



#### **Future National Convention Dates:**

July 31-Aug 5, 2021 July 16-21, 2022

Baltimore, MD Kansas City, MO

July 22-27, 2023 July 27-Aug 1, 2024

Phoenix, AZ Louisville, KY

#### **Community Service Reporting:**

All reports to be submitted online. Any questions contact State Chairman, Tim Sloan - vfwlacommunityservice@gmail.com

\*Any National Veterans & Military Service reporting information, please send a copy to State Chairman, Paul Hamburger 173 Cherokee Dr., Abita Springs, LA 70420 Email: vfwlanvms@gmail.com

## VFW Department of Louisiana Headquarters CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office- 225-928-5025 | Fax- 225-928-5095

#### State QTM/ADJ:

Precilla Wilkewitz Email: lavfw@aol.com

Elliali: laviw@aoi.com

#### State Administrative Assistant:

Tori LeBlanc

Email: lastatevfw@yahoo.com

#### State Commander:

Bobby Lovergne Cell: 504-251-5628

Email: bobbylovergne@yahoo.com

# Post Activity Report Update:

To view the Department
Dashboard please visit
www.vfwdeptla.org Click the
Login, Members Only.

Member ID: This will be your Membership Number

Password: This will be your last name in lower case

#### Department Conference/ Convention Dates:

2020-2021

SC- June 24-27, 2021

2021-2022

CofA- August 13-15, 2021

MW- January 27-30, 2022

SC- June 16-19, 2022

2022-2023

CofA- August 12-14, 2022

MW- January 26-29, 2023

SC- June 15-18, 2023

2023-2024

CofA- August 11-13, 2023

MW-January 25-28, 2024

SC- June 27-30, 2024

\*\*All the above Conferences/ Conventions will be held at the HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN ALEXANDRIA, LA! From the desk of the State Commander...

Thank You Department of Louisiana VFW members for working as hard as you did to make our Department successful in reaching the goal I set for us to make 100% Membership by 31 March 2021, you stepped up and completed your Mission by helping us reach that target on 24 March 2021. Being only 1 of the 2 Departments to reach 100% has brought us National attention for your efforts to improve our standings in Membership from the National Headquarters. Speaking of membership, we need to press forward and work to reach that 11,000+ goal. As I write this we need 311 to make that happen, what does that mean for you, if we average 5 a day renewals, reinstates or recruits we can reach it within 60 days. That means the entire month of June we could relax and refuel to get ready for the 2021-2022 year and have one hell of a Celebration at the Department Convention in June.

Peaking of the Department Convention, stay tuned for the Agenda to be released soon and you will notice quite a few changes that will be happening, it is time to bring fun back to our Conventions and



State Commander Bobby Lovergne

Conferences and I plan to begin that trend. We will be hosting a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for our Desert Storm Veterans during the Convention, there are many activities scheduled for this and we are selling shirts to support our DS Veterans. Our banquet for the All-State Team and other major Awards should be a great event with a few surprises during the night. Make your reservations early to make sure you have a room.

District Conventions should be in the planning stages and if any dates are changed please let COS Lee Daigle know so the Command Staff Calendar can be updated and a Department Rep assigned in a timely manner.

We have opened various new doors with different recruiting events to include a Veterans Golf Tour in South Louisiana, as these events are happening we are having recruiting booths, veterans owned businesses, services for veterans all present. If an event is happening in your area, I will contact the nearest Post and the District to let you know the dates and courses they are happening at.

The Top Recruiter competition is coming to a close and our Top 9 will be invited to a chartered fishing trip and night's stay at the lodge prior to fishing, we have some outstanding and deserving individuals who have worked very hard this year recruiting and reinstating members into our ranks. There will be more events like this happening next year under the new Membership Program.

Thanks to all of you who attended the Testimonial for myself and President Fabre, we had a tremendous turnout and appreciate all the gifts and well wishes we received. Thanks to Post 3750 for hosting and handling the details of the event.

Look forward to seeing many of you in June to Celebrate the 2020-2021 Year.

A note from the State Sr. Vice Commander

I would like to congratulate Commander Lovergne on the Department reaching 100% in membership, with his leadership we will continue to strive for greatness and meet the goals we have set forth for the rest of the year. I would also like to thank the members for all the hard work that has been put into the programs and getting out into the community doing health and welfare checks on our comrades and recruiting new members. This is how we grow our tribe and make the department better for tomorrows veterans and beyond.

As we move into April and continue with the nominations of our Leadership for next year, remember that we should be voting for comrades that will sustain the organization and strive to make it better. Our choices will form the foundation of the department for the next year and will help to form the way that we do business in our department in the future as COVID has forced us to change the way that we do business from the past.

As the COVID restrictions start to lift please remain vigilant with your health. Continue to do monthly health and welfare checks on those that you have not see or heard from in a while. Human connection can do wonders for someone's mental health. We should strive for suicide prevention every day. A phone call, email, or text could save a life. Be the conduit for helping someone.

Continue to get out into the community and do great things. Afterwards, document it on our department website in the members only section. Get credit for what you are doing. Also do not forget to continue to work on your community service record books. Not only is it an All-State requirement but it will help you if you are ever audited by the IRS.

With that I will leave you with a quote. "Somewhere inside of all of us is the power to change the world." – **Roald Dahl** See you around the state!



State Sr. Vice Cmdr Tim Sloan

A note from the State Jr. Vice Commander....

Honor the past, serve the present and prepare for the future.

The VFW would not exist today if those warriors who have gone before us did not continue to serve veterans and their country even after their military service. We have given their names to the thousands of Posts that exist today. We have sped rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans, assisted veterans' widows and orphans and the dependents of needy or disabled veterans, and promoted Americanism by means of education in patriotism and by constructive service to local communities. We have helped create national holidays for veterans and continue to support those holidays in our communities with parades, Buddy Poppies and other celebrations.

Today the VFW is extremely involved in legislative issues that need to be addressed by congress. We are heavy in recruiting those veterans who have not yet become a part of our organization to strengthen our voice. We provide comfort to our comrades by giving them a place where the conversation is understood by those who have shared in our military experiences. We are changing to a family friendly place with no smoking and providing wi-fi. We are partnering with our community leaders and organizations to provide more for our veterans and our communities. We are learning new ways of communicating, using modern technology. We are still serving.

What will our future look like? We can determine this by planning and engaging input from our younger veterans and community or we can just let others decide our future for us. I chose for us to do the planning. As we are electing our officers for the 2021-2022 year, do not stop there. If you are elected as an officer, put your team together to build a plan for where you want your post to be a year from now. If you are not elected to an office, join that planning team, and help strengthen your post. Prepare a five-year plan also. What can your post do to encourage more veterans to join? What can your post do to



State Jr. Vice Cmdr Don Reber

make your post more attractive and accessible? Who are the people, companies and organizations in your community that you can partner with?

Honor the past, serve the present and prepare for the future. Thank you one and all for your service to our country and your continued service through the VFW.

Our Department reached the 100% goal. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!





#### 10185 Mammoth Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814

#### Desert Storm 30th Anniversary T-shirt

Help us celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of all of our Desert Storm Veterans! Purchase your T-shirt for the 90<sup>th</sup> State Convention in Alexandria, LA. Men, Women, and Children can wear the shirt!

Youth: \$15.00 S-XL

Price: \$15.00 M-XL

\$18.00 2Xl-3XL

#### \*Please make checks payable to VFW Dept. of Louisiana

Send order form with payment to: VFW Department Headquarters

10185 Mammoth Ave.

Baton Rouge, LA 70814

NOTE: The shirts will be ready for pickup at the State Convention!

For Dept. use only			
Date Received:	_ Check #:	Cash:	Amount:

### VFW State Convention Delegate and Alternate Form

Post #:	City:				
One (1) Delegate and One (1) Alternate for each thirty (30) Members or Fraction Thereof. Delegate Fees: \$5.00 per Delegate, Plus \$5.00 for Post Commander. Make checks payable to: VFW, Department of Louisiana. Mail form to: VFW, Department of Louisiana, 10185 Mammoth Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70814.  Deadline Date is June 1st. Please only send a list of names of those Delegates and Alternates that will be attending the Convention. Use a Separate page if more space is needed.					
Delegates - Please Print	Alternates - Please Print				
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Signed – CDR.:	Adj:				
Post must pay for all Delegates that are entitled to vote or it loses all votes. If the Post is entitled to 10 + 1 votes and yet only pays for 3, it then losses all votes. The Post must pay for all 10 votes which would be \$50.00 rather than 3 x \$5.00 = \$15.00.					
For Dept. Use Only:					
Department Received:	Check #: Amount:				



# Desert Storm 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration June 26, 2021 Anniversary Book

The Department Headquarters request that all Auxiliaries, Posts, Districts, Departments, members and friends that wish to place congratulatory messages or advertisements in the Desert Storm 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book.

#### **Questions regarding Ad Information, Contact:** Please send Ad with Payment to: VFW Dept. of Louisiana Headquarters Bobby Lovergne: 504-251-5628 Lorna Mills- 337-298-4943 10185 Mammoth Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814 **Cost of Ads:** $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" \$100.00 **Full Page** $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " One Half (½) Page \$ 75.00 One Forth (1/4) Page \$ 50.00 $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " (See Booster Advertisement Form on the next page) Advertising Order must be received by Deadline: May 21, 2021 Name\_\_\_\_\_Aux/Post\_\_\_\_\_ City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_ Size Price Cash Check

Please attach the camera-ready advertisement or message to this page. Please make checks payable to **VFW Department of Louisiana!** 



#### Desert Storm 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration June 26, 2021 Anniversary Book

#### **Boosters - \$5.00 Per Line**

#### Booster Ads must be received by DEADLINE: May 21, 2021

Please type or print legibly. (Copy Form for Additional Ads) Thank you.

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#### Please send Ad with Payment to:

VFW Dept. of Louisiana Headquarters 10185 Mammoth Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814

#### **Questions regarding Ad Information, Contact:**

Bobby Lovergne: 504-251-5628 Lorna Mills- 337-298-4943

### 90<sup>th</sup> Annual VFW State Convention Blind Draw Golf Scramble

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Cost - \$45.00 Green Fees + tax \$20.00 Scramble Fee

Blind Draw Scramble with a Blind Handicap after round is complete

Registration will begin at 9:30am

Shotgun Start at 11:00am



