

Mail Call



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Louisiana

March 2021 | Issue 9

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
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, 2021 Post 8971
Registration 9:00 am
Meeting 10:00 am
Lunch (\$8)

DISTRICT 8 MEETINGS:

April 10, 2021 Post 3693
Registration 9:00 am
Meeting 10:00 am
Lunch (\$7) 12:00noon

DISTRICT 9 MEETINGS:

Jan. 9, 2021 Post 3652
****POSTPONED**

Registration 9:00 am
Joint Meeting 10:00 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch 12:00noon

April 24, 2021 Post 5735

Registration 9:00 am
Joint Meeting 10:00 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch 12:00noon

DISTRICT 10 MEETINGS:

Feb. 13, 2021
Registration 10:00 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch(\$10.00) 12:00noon

May 8, 2021

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

DISTRICT 11 MEETINGS:

May 15, 2021 Post 1809
Registration 10:30 am
Meeting 11:00 am
Lunch (\$10) 12:00noon

DISTRICT 12 MEETINGS:

May 8, 2021 Post 4588
Registration 9:00 a.m.
Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Lunch (\$7) 12:00 noon

DISTRICT DUES:

Post Quartermasters– Make sure your Post pays their District dues to your District Quartermaster for the 2020-2021 year.

District Quartermasters, be sure to report to HQ which Posts have or have not paid their District Dues by May 31, 2021! This counts as an “Arrearage” that the Post must pay before the State Convention.

ARREARAGES

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Constitution and By-Laws concerning arrearages of Post. Not submitting Membership reports, National, Department, or District Dues, National Convention Registration, Buddy Poppy Money, Supply Money, or any other financial obligations; failure to have the office of Quartermaster Bonded, or failure to submit quarterly Post Trustee Reports of Audit. Posts that are delinquent in any of the aforementioned shall be deprived of all representation in **District, Department and National Events**, including Conferences and Conventions. *Arrearage letters will go out the beginning of April.*



The day is quickly approaching. NOW is the time to get your Buddy Poppies ordered. You may order your Poppies on the Department's website www.vfwdeptla.org

*****Reminder: Orders take 10-12 weeks!***

***Cost for BP:
\$13.50 per 100
\$135.00 per 1000
+ cost of shipping.***

DUTY OF TRUSTEES

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed **by the Trustee**, in detail, at the close of each quarter, one of which ends March 31st. **Commanders are also reminded that all funds are to be under the custody and control of the Post Quartermaster.** Persons other than the Post Quartermaster who may handle Post funds, such as the club manager, bingo chairman, or committee chairmen are responsible to the Post Quartermaster to maintain accurate records and accounts and should be properly bonded. Post Trustees are to ensure that the financial records of these special funds are also audited in the same manner as the other accounts of the Post Quartermaster. Post Trustee Report Forms are an emblem and supply order!

VFW Virtual March Legislative Conference

The VFW's Virtual March Legislative Conference provides an opportunity for VFW leaders from each state to virtually meet with their respective lawmakers and advocate for VFW legislative priorities. Though this year is different due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VFW will continue to fight for veterans, while pivoting on how we connect, to ensure that VFW's voice is heard on Capitol Hill. We encourage members to prepare for their meetings with their senators and representatives by familiarizing themselves with the VFW 2021 Legislative Priorities.

The priority goals provide our organization's overview of the areas of focus regarding military benefits and quality of life programs. It is imperative that Congress provide sufficient funding for the DOD and VA programs needed by service members, veterans, and families, and that VA is held accountable for the timeliness and quality of services it delivers to our veterans

Membership

As of March 4, 2021 we are at 97.77%. We need 237 members to make 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.

ROLAND HUSON FROM POST 3106 WAS THE WINNER OF THE STATE COMMANDER'S COMPUTER BAGS FOR BEING THE FIRST TO ANSWER THE QUESTION ON WHAT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 1931 TO OUR DEPARTMENT ?!

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 Max Arends from Post 5951 in Bossier City!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS PLEASE VISIT WWW.VFW.ORG AND CLICK ON THE PROGRAM SECTION! 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

Baltimore, MD

July 22-27 , 2023

Phoenix, AZ

July 16-21, 2022

Kansas City, MO

July 27-Aug 1, 2024

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

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 ALEXANDRIA, LA!**

From the desk of the State Commander...

March has arrived and we need to begin looking forward to the leaders of our Post and Districts for the next year. Comrades, when selecting these leaders let's be proactive and learn from the events of this year, we need to make sure we have Commanders and Quartermasters who have working email addresses and are willing to participate in virtual meetings and conducting these meetings. This is the times we live in and there is no going back to "The Way We Used To Do It", those times are gone and now it is time to step up and modernize.

Comrades the National Commander has a 3 Month Challenge going on to increase membership by working the Lapsed Members Listing, as of 2 March 2021 our Department is in 2nd place of this Challenge after the 1st month, if we continue to work this program we can earn \$5000.00 for the Department by winning, let's win this competition and we can add this money to the Celebration in June for busting through with an outstanding year in Membership. Speaking of membership, we need to press forward and work to reach that 100% for the Department by 31 March 2021. To accomplish this, we need to average 9 a day and it will happen and 11,000+ will be staring us in the eyes. Let's work together as one to make this become reality. Do your buddy checks and also call those members you have not seen or heard from during this Pandemic to make sure everyone is doing ok, do what we do and that is assist our veterans during good times and bad. I have sent emails to the Unpaid/Expired lists from 31 Posts who have not reached 100%. The replies I have received have been very rewarding and also disturbing at the same time. When I get an email from a member stating that he hasn't heard from his Post in over a year and his dues expired in September 2020, this tells me we are not working to check on our members. Please take a look in the mirror and ask yourself if you are doing all you can to assist our brothers and sisters during this trying time.

District Meetings need to be held as scheduled and those who cancelled in January or February need to conduct one virtually to get reports from all the Posts on activities. Thanks to all who participated in the many different Community Service Projects that have been going on and reporting these on the Online Reporting System. Continue to show that presence in your communities and let them know the VFW is more than a smoky bar room and we are there to assist as needed.

The Testimonial for myself and President Fabre will be held on 13 March 2021 at Post 3750 in Luling. Hotel information is on the web site as well as Facebook. We are also going to have a Blind Draw Scramble at Cypress Lakes Golf Course on Friday beginning at 1:00pm, if you are interested in playing please send me an email. Tickets are available from District Commanders, Headquarters, myself and Wanda. Cost is \$25.00 which includes meal, raffle prizes, and a dance beginning at 5:00pm. Program will start at 1:00pm.

See you around the Department and remember I am only a phone call away.



**State Commander
Bobby Lovergne**

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

February has blown through with record low temperatures and snow fall. That along with the ever-present COVID has kept us from doing the things that we want in our communities. But it has not stopped us. The mini-Council of Administration mid-month was successful in getting us together to complete some needed business for the department and showing that we can use technology to have our meeting virtually as well.

As we continue with the restrictions with COVID we have to still get into our communities and do what we can to assist our veterans in crisis. The snow and cold weather brought yet another problem due to power outages and lack of water. Thank you to those that could get out into the community and help those in need. Community service is what we are about.

As we come into March and prepare to vote in next year's Post, District, and Department leadership take the time to think about what is best for the future of the organization and how the incoming leadership will make it better. Do your best to be involved in what is happening. Remember it is your organization and you can make a difference.

With that I will leave you with a quote. "Believe you can and you're halfway there-Theodore Roosevelt"

See you around the state!



**State Sr. Vice Cmdr
Tim Sloan**

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

We are entering the ninth month of our VFW year. Membership, community Service scrap books, awards ceremonies are all on our minds and agendas. It is also time for the nominations of the officers who will lead our posts and districts through the 2021-2022 year.

Every post and every District should take stock of those individuals who have the capacity and desire to push the VFW franchise to a higher position. Our membership needs the power of the VFW more than ever. Electing qualified and committed officers will keep the VFW in a position to promote and demand the help that our Veterans need.

The past 12 months, living with Covid-19, has taught us that leaders with communication skills and commitments can make the VFW more effective than ever. We have seen the need to inform our members in ways that demand knowledge of social media, email and zoom as well as traditional methods of visits and phone calls. It is imperative that our officers in the coming years can engage with the technical communications systems available. The days of not being able to use a computer are gone.

Select and elect your best candidates. Then stand with them and provide the support needed to increase our membership, give robust support to our communities, and instill pride in all our members. In this we continue to say, "No one does more for Veterans" than the VFW.

Thank you one and all for your service to our country and your continued service through the VFW.



**State Jr. Vice Cmdr
Don Reber**



COINS ON A GRAVESTONE....

Have you ever seen a [gravestone](#) covered in coins? It's not unusual while visiting a cemetery to see the stones covered in various amounts of money. So what's the deal with leaving all those mementos in a cemetery? Well, there's actually a distinct meaning.

According to legend, the coin goes on the grave markers of America's [military](#) veterans. Leaving a coin on the headstone lets loved ones of the deceased soldier's family know that someone has come to visit the grave.

Each type of coin holds a different meaning. Leaving a coin means you visited and want to thank the Veteran of the armed forces for their service. A nickel left at a grave means you trained at boot camp with the servicemen, while a dime means you served with him or her. Finally, a quarter signifies if previous visitors were with the soldier when they passed away. It really is a practical way to show up and honor fallen comrades' gravesites on Memorial Day or any other time of the year.

Virtual Parade of Winners

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) will host its first-ever virtual Parade of Winners [live on Facebook](#) April 1, 2021, at 7 p.m. CDT. The event will recognize all state winners of the VFW's Voice of Democracy scholarship competition as well as the national Patriot's Pen contest winner, and will include special guest appearances by those known to the VFW community.

The [virtual Parade of Winners](#), sponsored by [Twisted X](#) and [Dell](#), will culminate with the surprise announcement and onsite presentation of the first place \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship award at the winner's home.

Learn more about this year's event at vfw.org/ParadeofWinners, and be sure to [tap "interested," then "going" on the Facebook event](#) to ensure you stay up-to-date and receive all event notifications.



77th Grand Scratch



57th Grand Convention

**GRAND OF LOUISIANA
MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE
OF THE UNITED STATES**

**FWV Post 6640
2809 Harvard Avenue
Metairie, LA 70006**

April 23-25, 2021

RSVP:

***MOC-Joe Smith golfernla@yahoo.com
MOCA-Kolleen Herndon kkherndon@bellsouth.net***

Reservations:

Sleep Inn & Suite: 4601 Utica Street, Metairie, LA 70006, 504-887-5337

Discount rate: \$75.00 (plus tax) per night for King or Double

\$95.00 (plus tax) per night for a Suite (Suites are King or Double with a pull-out sofa bed)

Use **"MOC Convention"** to reserve your room at this special rate.

Cutoff date: **April 16, 2021**

Friday:

Hospitality Room Open 3:00 p.m. – 'til (Located in the Hotel Breakfast Room)

Registration in the Lobby from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. \$3.00 per MOC/MOCA member

Dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday:

-The hotel offers a "grab & go" bagged breakfast at no cost

-Donuts, coffee and juice at the Post before the Joint Opening

MOC Grand Scratch & MOCA Grand Convention:

FWV Post No. 6640 (Post is approximately two blocks from the hotel)

2809 Harvard Avenue, Metairie, LA 70006

Joint Opening- 10:00 a.m.

Scratch/Meeting- approximately 11:00 a.m.

Installation of Officers to follow the close of the MOC Scratch and the MOCA Meeting.

Saturday afternoon: Past Grand Commanders and Past Grand Presidents Luncheon following Installation - Compliments of MOC & MOCA Grand (***See CCBD Quartermaster Joe Smith or Treasurer Kolleen Herndon for a Ticket***) Location TBD

CALLING ALL SWEETHEARTS,

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: MARCH 13, 2021

State Commander Bobby Lovergne, and I will hold our "Joint Testimonial" reception, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Saturday, March 13, 2021, at VFW Post 3750, located at 140 Angus Drive, Luling, LA. **Everyone is invited to attend!** Y'all come help us celebrate our year "2020-2021", as the leaders of our Department of Louisiana, VFW & Auxiliary.



See my tickets attached, they are \$25 ticket each, which includes food, prizes, and dance band (Junior LaCrosse). A little bird told me that one of the door prizes is a fishing trip for around \$1,000.00. Worth a \$25.00 ticket to purchase and join in the fun, it's time! See your District President and Aux State Officers for tickets OR JUST call me (985-882-9494) to hold your ticket.

Can you help sell some of my RED Testimonial Tickets for me? As many of you know, the testimonial \$\$\$ love gifts help any State President with travels throughout the year. Could each Auxiliary purchase one \$25.00 ticket and send one (1) Auxiliary member to the testimonial, at least? I would so enjoy seeing all my auxiliary members and their families at our celebration of service in Louisiana.

Yep, after last year and the beginning of this one, we ALL deserve some fun, so come on out and pass a good time, "Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler" all of my "Sweethearts" which is all of you, my Auxiliary members.

I can't thank Commander Bobby Lovergne and VFW Post 3750 and Auxiliary members for hosting the Testimonial. I am truly grateful to all and look forward to shaking a leg or at least the fun of dancing awhile! STATE PRESIDENT'S TESTIMONIAL TICKETS ARE RED.
We can hold tickets at the door too! Just call and let us know!

Yours in service.
Wanda Farbe, President
VFWA, Louisiana

121  2020 – 2021 Department of Louisiana VFW and Auxiliary Commander/President Testimonial March 13, 2021 – 1:00pm – 5:00pm VFW Post 3750 – 140 Angus Dr, • Luling, La Ticket includes, food, door prizes and Dance (Junior LaCrosse) \$25.⁰⁰		Name _____
	Address _____	
	City _____	
	LA _____ Zip _____	
	Email _____	
	Phone _____	