

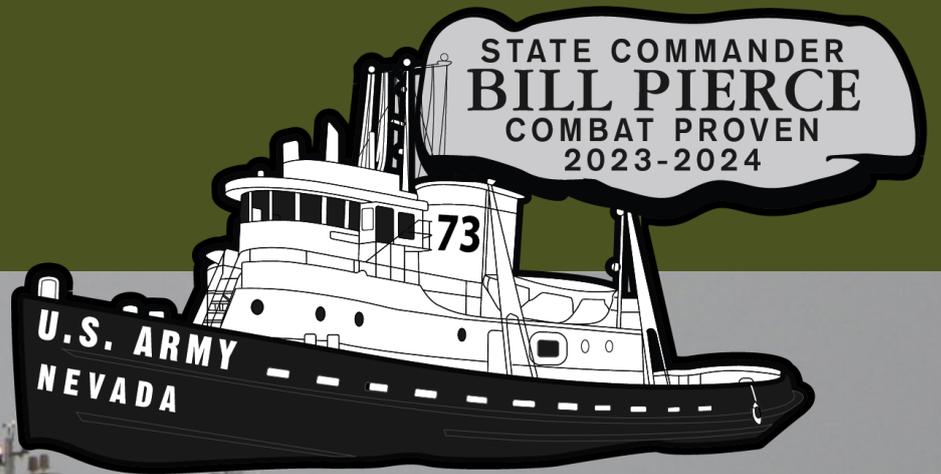
WFW

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

2023-24 PROGRAMS GUIDE

JUNE 17, 2023



Tips for Program Funding -

A Post can use the relief fund for many program uses, to include awards (cash, plaques, ribbons, citations and other gifts) for the Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year. You can make donations to VMS and National Home using relief funds. You can use relief funds to purchase buddy poppies each year.

Every time you have a membership drive, make sure you have buddy poppies available for your fundraiser.

Manual of Procedure Sec. 704 - Relief Fund.

The Quartermaster of the Post shall be the custodian of the relief fund and shall expend monies there from, as directed by the Post, for the following purposes only.

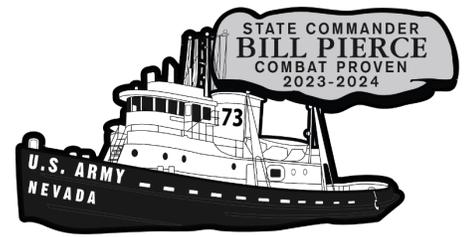
- (a) Aid, assistance, relief, and comfort of needy or disabled veterans or members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, and the surviving spouses and orphans of deceased veterans.
- (b) Maintenance and expansion of the VFW National Home for Children and other facilities devoted exclusively to the benefit and welfare of the dependents, surviving spouses, and orphans of disabled, needy or deceased veterans or members of the Armed Forces.
- (c) Necessary expenses in providing entertainment, care, and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the Armed Forces.
- (d) Veterans rehabilitation, welfare, and service work.
- (e) To perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces, and to comfort their survivors.
- (f) To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.

Relief funds may be invested in approved securities but shall not be loaned to the Post or other units, or transferred from the relief fund in any manner or under any guise, except that relief funds may be transferred to the general fund for remission





Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



2023 - 2024 Programs

June 17, 2023

The All-State program is the cornerstone of the Department programs. We are building from the National Membership program as our foundation for the All-State program. Not all elements of the National program are contained in the state program. The All-State program has been set up so any post can make All-State if they put in the effort.

The All-State program is designed to accomplish many goals: 1) Post participation in key VFW National programs, 2) Post meets policy, procedures, and regulations and 3) Posts meets and exceeds membership goals. Sounds easy, but execution has proven to be very hard in the past. It takes effort for a post to work effectively together to meet all these goals and turn in all reports on time, but a well-run post can do it. Your District and Department officers are here to help you succeed in your efforts to become All-State and All-American. Make sure to voice your questions if you're not sure. If we don't know the right answer, we will find it for you.

This booklet brings together the various Department program instructions, guidance documents, calendars, and other bits and pieces of information you as commanders need to effectively run your Districts and Posts. We have tried to make this as complete as possible. This document is always a work in progress and will improve with your help for each coming year. Please let us know how we can make this document better to serve your needs and future members' needs.

The Department Programs Director is Don Pettyjohn programs@vfwnv.com, 702-538-0873. The file can be found of the Department of Nevada website at: [23-24CombinedProgramFile.pdf \(vfwnv.com\)](https://www.vfwnv.com/23-24CombinedProgramFile.pdf)

BY DIRECTION:

BILL PIERCE
STATE COMMANDER

ATTEST:

DAVID SOUSA
STATE ADJUTANT

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Department Programs Calendar 2023-24

Jul-23

- NLT 7/17/2023 Per Section 1101(f)(3) and 1201 (e) (3) - The Auxiliary and Cootie units will "within 30 days after induction into office, submit to the Commander of the respective Post, the last quarterly audit, membership status report...."
- 7/22-27/2023 National Convention in Phoenix, AZ
- 7/31/2023 April, May, June 4th Quarter Audit due by July 31 to the Department QM.

Aug-23

- 8/25/2023 National Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
- 8/26-27/2023 National Council of Administration Meeting
- 8/31/2023 Per Section 703 - All Accountable Officers to be bonded along with Canteen Workers
- 8/31/2023 Per Department General Order 1 - All COA Officers and Post Commander to sign Department Code of Ethics Policy Acknowledgment Forms
- 8/31/2023 Planning Starts Posts are now 90 days out from the due date for Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen & Teacher of the Year Programs. You need to start preparing to contact schools now. Due to Posts on October 31.
- 8/19/2023 ➤ District 4 Meeting Fallon, NV Post 1002 1PM

Sep-23

- 9/11-14/2023 Fall Legislative Committee Meeting - Washington DC
- 9/16/2023 ➤ District 2 Meeting Eureka, NV Post 8194 1PM
- 9/23/2023 ➤ District 1 Meeting Virginia City, NV Post 3726 10AM
- 9/30/2023 ➤ District 3 Meeting Reno Post 9211 10AM

Oct-23

- 10/12-15/2023 Junior Vice Commanders and Department QM Training
- 10/31/2023 July, August, September 1st Quarter Audit due by October 31 to the Department QM
- 10/31/2023 **Voice of Democracy packages are due to the Post - Post Judging will begin on 1 November**
- 10/31/2023 **Patriot Pen packages are due to the Post - Post Judging will begin on 1 November**
- 10/31/2023 **Teacher of the Year packages are due to the Post - Post Judging will begin on 1 November**
- Planning Starts Public Safety Awards are being accepted for Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and EMS. Packages are due to the Department Chair by December 31, 2022 for award announcement at Mid-Winter.
- 10/7/2023 ➤ District 5 Meeting Las Vegas Post 12093 1pm
- 10/21/2023 ➤ District 6 Meeting Henderson Post 3848 1230pm

Nov-23

- 11/2-5/2023 Western Conference in Salt Lake City, UT
- 11/11/2023 Veterans Day - Have you planned your Buddy Poppy events?
- 11/15/2023 **Voice of Democracy Post Winner(s) due to District**
- 11/15/2023 **Patriot Pen Post Winner(s) due to District**
- 11/15/2023 **Teacher of the Year Winner due to District**
- 11/18/2023 ➤ District 4 Meeting Tonopah Post 1003 1PM

Dec-23

- 12/15/2023 • Department Inspections complete at Posts and Districts.
- 12/15/2023 • **Voice of Democracy District Winner to Department**
- 12/15/2023 • **Patriot Pen District Winner to Department**
- 12/15/2023 • **Teacher of the Year Winner to Department**
- 12/31/2023 • Public Safety (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMS, 911) Packages from Post to Department

Jan-24

- 1/26-28/2024 • Mid-Winter Conference in North Las Vegas, NV
- 1/31/2024 • October, November, December 2nd Quarter Audit Due by January 31 to the Department QM
- 1/26/2024 • VMS minimum \$100.00 donation for Posts and Districts made prior to Mid-Winter
- 1/26/2024 • National Home - Nevada House minimum \$100.00 donation for Posts and District made prior to Mid-Winter
- 1/26/2023 • Department Foundation minimum donation of \$100.00 by Posts and Districts by Mid-Winter
- 1/26/2024 • Buddy Poppy - Posts need to purchase minimum post quantity prior to Mid-Winter
- 1/6/2024 ➤ *District 1 Meeting Topaz Ranch Post 3630 1000am*
- 1/13/2024 ➤ *District 3 Meeting Sparks Post 3396 1000am*
- 1/20/2024 ➤ *District 5 Meeting Beatty Post 12108 1300pm*

Feb-24

- 2/10/2024 ➤ *District 2 Elko Post 2350 1PM*
- 2/24/2024 ➤ *District 6 North Las Vegas Post 12119 1300PM*

Mar-24

- March Post Meetings • Nominations for Elections

Apr-24

- April 31, 2024 • January, February, March 1st Quarter Audit Due by April 31 to the Department QM
- April Post Meetings • Section 217 - Elections Shall be Conducted In April
- 4/1/2024 • National Certificate of Recognition - List Due to National from Department
- 4/25/2024 • Outstanding Community Service Post of the Year Selection made from entries posted by every Post
- 4/6/2024 ➤ *District 5 Convention Pahrump Post 10054 1PM*
- 4/13/2024 ➤ *District 1 Convention Yerington Convention Center Post 8084 10AM*
- 4/20/2024 ➤ *District 4 Convention Hawthorne Post 2313 1PM*
- 4/27/2024 ➤ *District 3 Convention Reno Post 9211 10AM*

May-24

- 5/18/2024 • Armed Forces Day Parade in Hawthorne NV
- 5/4/2024 ➤ *District 3 Convention Reno Post 9211 10AM*
- 5/18/2024 ➤ *District 6 Convention Moapa Valley Post 8336 1230PM*

Jun-24

- 6/1/2023 • Post and District Election Reports due to National
- June 6-8 2024 • State Convention in Sparks NV - Post 3396



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



June 17, 2023

2023-2024 All-State Program

1. Goal: The Department and its subordinate units excel individually and as a group in membership, program execution, and compliance with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual and Department of Nevada By-laws and standing orders.
2. Program Execution: The State Programs Director shall be responsible for execution of the program.
3. All-State Criteria:
 - a. A qualified Post must meet the following qualification criteria to be eligible for All-State honors.
 - i. A Post must be 102% or greater in membership, reported to National membership by June 30, 2024.
 - ii. A Post must have at least one (1) new member.
 - iii. A Post must have completed all required All-State Tasks during the year. These are -
 1. Participate in the Community Service Program as outlined in the community service program,
 2. Donated a minimum of \$100.00 to the National VMS program by Mid-Winter Conference,
 3. Participate in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year Programs. A post can donate \$100.00 per program (\$300.00 total) by October 31, 2023 to the Department in lieu of participating for All-State only. Participation is still required for All-American program by National.
 4. Donate a minimum of \$100.00 to the Department Foundation by Mid-Winter Conference,
 5. Purchase the minimum required Buddy Poppies for your Post by Mid -Winter Conference.
 - iv. A Post must be in good standing with ALL National and Department By-Laws, Post audits, bond, election report, code of ethics, favorable inspection report, and District meeting attendance. All Admin Tasks must be Green for All-State!
 - v. A Post Line Officer (Cdr, SVC, JVC) must attend the 2024 Mid-Winter Conference and 2024 State Convention.
 - b. A qualified District must meet the following criteria to be eligible for All-State honors –
 - i. A District must be 102% or greater in membership, reported to National membership by June 30, 2024.

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- ii. **A District must be in good standing with ALL National and Department By-Laws, audits, bond, election report, code of ethics, favorable inspection report, and meeting attendance. All Admin Tasks must be Green for All-State!**
- iii. **All Posts must have passed Post Inspections in good standing.**
- iv. **The District must have submitted a qualified Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, and a K-12 Citizenship (Teacher of the Year) Entry to Department with all required documents by the required submission date.**
- v. **Submit a qualified entry for the National Member (Vet) of the Year program. This entry will also be judged as an entry for the state Vet of the Year program.**
- vi. **The District must have sent a minimum of \$100.00 to the National VMS Program by the Mid-Winter Conference.**
- vii. **The District must have sent a minimum of \$100.00 to the Department Foundation by the Mid-Winter Conference.**
- viii. **District Commander must attend the 2024 Mid-Winter Conference and 2024 State Convention.**

4. Awards:

- a. Cutoff date for award processing will be May 15, 2024. Posts make Membership by June 30, 2024 will be considered All-State but will not receive any recognition at the State Convention.
- b. Posts: The Posts that meet the above Post criteria will be selected as All-State Posts. Each Post will receive a Commander All-State Pin, and a Post Certificate.
- c. Districts: The Districts will receive a Commander All-State Pin, and a District Certificate.

5. Further information can be obtained from the Programs Director, Don Pettyjohn, programs@vfwnv.com or call (702)538-0873.

5/26/2023		Nevada Admin and All-State Report																									
1	District 1	Green - Qualified for All-State	2nd Qtr (Due 7/31/22)	3rd Qtr (Due 10/31/22)	4th Qtr (Due 1/31/23)	1st Qtr (Due 4/30/23)	2023 Bond (Due 8/31)	IRS 990 Filed for year	Department Inspection (Due by 12/15)	Commander Code of Ethics	District Liability Insurance properly on file	Secretary State Corporate List of Officers	Articles of Incorporation (on File at Department and National)	District Bylaws on File	District Election Report	District Commander at Mid-Winter Conference	1st District Meeting	2nd District Meeting	District Convention	Membership - 102% +	Conduct 2 Recruiting Events	Donation to VMS (Unmet Needs) (Minimum of \$100 by M/W)	Department Foundation - (Minimum of \$100 by M/W)	Voice of Democracy - Entry to Department	Patriot Pen - Entry to Department	Teacher of the Year - Entry to Department	Veteran of the Year - Entry to Department
		Red - Not Qualified for All-State																									
2	District 2																										
3	District 3																										
4	District 4																										
5	District 5																										
6	District 6																										



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



June 17, 2023

2023 - 2024 Membership Program

1. The 2023 – 2024 Membership Program and awards will run from July 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024 and are based on National Memstats. The Department Memstats are directly derived from the National Memstats.
2. **MISSION:** To recruit, retain and mentor a stable membership base including all generations of veterans. To cultivate a membership that is well versed in institutional knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization and in the local community.
3. **BUDDY POPPIES:** Remember, you can have Buddy Poppies at your event at the same time as recruiting. In accordance with Section 704 of the National Bylaws, all proceeds of the distribution of Buddy Poppies shall be credited to the Post Relief Fund.
4. **Department Requirements:**
 - a) Jr. Vice Commander will be the Membership Chair.
 - b) We have two goals to meet **93% by Dec 1, 2023**, and **102%, by the end of June 2024**.
 - c) To help achieve 2 above:
 - a. each post that is at 88% or better by 31 Oct 23 will be in a drawing for **\$500.00**
 - b. each post that is at 95% or better by Jan 31, 24 will be in a drawing for **\$500.00**
 - c. each post that is at 99% or better by May 30,24 will be in a drawing for **\$500.00**
 - d. each post that exceeds 103% by June 29, 24 will be in a drawing for **\$500.00**
 - d) Life membership is preferred, please if you must recruit annual members do the 2yr option only.
 - e) Effective **July 1, 2023**, the department will reimburse **\$30.00** to the post for each new/reinstated annual 2yr option or life membership until **\$4,000.00** is expended. Posts must provide the Programs Director programs@vfwnv.com the names that were new/reinstated with the 2yr option for verification.
 - f) National has made a commitment to fund 3 large convention events.
 - g) Look at NASCAR weekends, Aviation Nation and other high-volume events.
 - h) **All Department recruiting events require preapproval by the Department Commander.**

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- i) I will personally hand the **first district commander** to achieve **102%, \$500, CASH**, at mid-winter, this is in addition to any department awards (just a reminder Commanders this money is presented to the district).
- j) Any district that achieves **102%** 5 days prior to mid-winter will receive **\$500.00**. District commander or line officer must be present at mid-winter conference to receive this award, it will NOT be mailed.
- k) Any post that achieves **102%** 5 days prior to mid-winter will receive **\$250.00**. Post commander or line officer must be present at mid-winter conference to receive this award, it will NOT be mailed.
- l) If any member is given a department or national stipend to attend the National Convention or Legislative Conference, you must recruit at least one new member.
- m) **All District Commanders** that meet the goals outlined in 2 above will receive a **\$599** stipend and airfare to attend the National Convention **if the state makes All-American** (this award is transferable to any district member that has recruited at least 1 member).
- n) National will provide awards to recruiters that recruit 5,10, 20 or above.

5. Membership Recruiting Events:

- a. Districts and Posts are required to have a minimum of two (2) membership recruiting events during the year. These events are to be submitted through the All-American dashboard for credit. This is both an All-American and All-State requirement.
- b. Post Membership Chairpersons are responsible to develop and organize Membership Recruiting Events when you have any outside activities. If you have a Buddy Poppy Drive, an Adopt-a-Unit event, even a dinner that is open to the public at your Post, there is an opportunity for recruiting.

6. Recruiter Awards:

- a. Department Awards - Closeout for Award Determination is June 1, 2024.
- b. Cash Awards will be paid at the Department Convention only.

5	New members recruited = Department Recruiter Pin
25	New members recruited = A \$100 check
50	New members recruited = A \$150 check
75	New members recruited = A \$200 check
100	New members recruited = A \$300 check

c. National Awards –

- **1,5, 10, 15** Corresponding numbered member pin
- **25** CIC coin and Citation
- **50** National Aide-De-Camp cap and Citation
- **75** CIC Medallion Set
- **100** Century cap **or** \$50 VFW Store credit & Citation
- **150** CIC Custom Desk Name Plate

- **Top Department Recruiter**
- The top Recruiter in every Department on July 1, 2024, will receive:
 - **Engraved Navy Cutlass**



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada

June 17, 2023

2023 - 2024 Community Service Program

- 1) The 2023-2024 Community Service Program runs from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 and has the goal to document how our Posts and its Auxiliary's excel in aiding the community, veterans, youth, and our military. Each Post is responsible to appoint a community services chairman to administer the program. If there is not one appointed, the Post Commander is responsible for implementation and reporting of the program to the Department. The program is administered by the Department Community Services Chairman.
- 2) Reporting of a Posts Community Service events with its breakout of individuals, hours, donations, mileage, and description of the event is necessary for IRS (Internal Revenue Service) and VFW National reporting requirements. To assist with reporting, a web-based reporting tool has been developed and is available on the Department website www.vfwnv.com behind the members only login. A tutorial for the Community Service Reporting tool is on the Department website under the **Programs>Community Service** Tab.
 - a) Reporting of your Community Service events is completed by using the online Entry Form. This entry form is the only method used for the community service chairman to enter their community service events into the system.
 - i) **Community Service Program Participation** – Community Service participation is determined by VFW National by the following metric – Community Service Hours x Volunteer Hourly Rate (currently at \$29.95) + Post Donations = Total. The Department will provide all Posts with total hours, donations and community service total accomplished on a reoccurring basis. Posts will be required to equal or exceed their community service total goal to qualify for All-State or All-American status.

(1) Posts are required to submit at least 1 community Service Event every quarter for All-American.

- 3) There are multiple awards programs that Posts are eligible for during the year. These include –
 - a) **National Outstanding Community Service Post Award** – This award is presented by VFW National Headquarters to the Outstanding Post in Nevada selected by the Department. Selection by the Department will occur after April 1, 2024 as this award is due to National in April of each year. The following criteria is utilized for selection by the Community Services Chair for recommendation to the Department Commander:

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1. High positive visibility in the community with civic and patriotic events
2. Active involvement with local military units
3. Support of VFW programs in the local community
4. Effective involvement in schools with scholarship programs and teacher awards to include Veterans in the Classroom.
5. Effective Buddy Poppy Program

Criteria explanation for above categories:

1. **Visibility in community w/civic and patriot events (use Total from CS Report).** This will be the initial scoring criteria to determine the top 5 posts. The five highest total posts using the formula – miles x National volunteer labor hour rate + Donations = Total. The top five Posts will be ranked from 1 to 5 with the top post (1) awarded 40 points and (5) awarded 36 points. This scoring system will apply to the rest of the categories, but the points will be set as shown above.
2. **Active involvement with local military units.** This category will be used to evaluate how posts are involved with our military. While we are wishing to support our local military units through the use of the Adopt-a-Unit program, posts will be evaluated for any support given to military units and personnel deployed.
3. **Support of VFW programs in the local community.** This is where posts are evaluated on how they are supporting all other VFW programs in the community. From providing cemetery services like honor guards, to supporting veterans with food banks, there are many ways a post can support the community. This is only limited to the imagination of the post.
4. **Scholarship programs and Teacher Awards.** Posts will be evaluated by how they place and participate in the VOD, Patriot Pen, and Teacher of the Year programs.
5. **Effective Buddy Poppy Program.** Posts will be evaluated on how they are participating in the Buddy Poppy program, to include the purchase of Buddy Poppies and number of events.

1. All-State Program – Community Service is an integral part of the All-State program. Without an effective Community Service program, it is impossible to make All-State. Each Post Commander and Post Community Service Chair should be familiar with the Department All-State Program and how the Community Service program is such an important part of your Post programs.
2. The Department Community Service Chair is Carlton Fogg, community@vfwnv.com, 702-809-6403. If you have questions, please ask at any time.

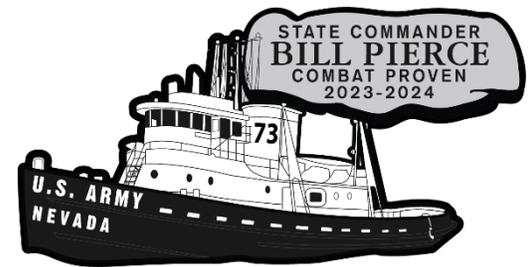
Post Goals for 2023-24 -

Posts	Post Name	Post Goal
1		
3630	TOPAZ RANCH	\$5,000.00
3726	CARSON CITY	\$5,000.00
8071	VIRGINIA CITY	\$10,000.00
8084	YERINGTON	\$5,000.00
8583	GARDNERVILLE	\$5,000.00

2		
2350	ELKO	\$10,000.00
3547	ELY	\$5,000.00
7114	CALIENTE	\$5,000.00
8194	EUREKA	\$5,000.00
9165	BATTLE MOUNTAIN	\$5,000.00
12116	WINNEMUCCA	\$5,000.00
3		
3396	SPARKS	\$10,000.00
9211	RENO	\$10,000.00
10053	VERDI	\$5,000.00
10247	FERNLEY	\$5,000.00
4		
1002	FALLON	\$10,000.00
1103	TONOPAH	\$5,000.00
2313	HAWTHORNE	\$10,000.00
2668	MINA	\$5,000.00
6825	SCHURZ	\$5,000.00
5		
983	HENDERSON	\$5,000.00
10054	PAHRUMP	\$10,000.00
12093	LAS VEGAS	\$10,000.00
12101	LAS VEGAS	\$10,000.00
12108	BEATTY	\$10,000.00
12198	LAS VEGAS	\$5,000.00
6		
36	BOULDER CITY	\$5,000.00
243	LAUGHLIN	\$5,000.00
3848	HENDERSON	\$10,000.00
7385	MESQUITE	\$5,000.00
8336	MOAPA VALLEY	\$10,000.00
10047	NORTH LAS VEGAS	\$10,000.00
10468	SEARCHLIGHT	\$5,000.00
12119	LAS VEGAS	\$5,000.00



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



2023 - 2024 Veteran of the Year National Program

June 17, 2023

1. The 2023 – 2024 Veteran of the Year Program is a National Program that is required for the Department eligibility for the National All-American Program. Each district will be required to submit one entry to remain qualified for All-State. This can be done by having a post in your district submit a qualified entry.

The Department Veteran of the Year Program entry form sponsored by the Past State Commanders Association will be used as the basis for this submission to National. Candidates that meet the below criteria and eligibility will be used for selection.

2. **Purpose:** The award is to recognize a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars who has exemplified in their actions and accomplishments, the true spirit of our Organization in serving the needs of their Post, and Community, and who has dedicated themselves in a professional manner to addressing the Pillars of our Organization. Department leaders are encouraged to submit to VFW Programs office a narrative write up on a comrade from their Department that is leading from the front and supporting one or more of the purposes of our Congressional Charter.
3. **Eligibility:** This award is intended to recognize a member in good standing of the Veterans of Foreign Wars who has been a member a minimum of one full membership year and has received a nomination for their activities during the award Year according to the Award guidelines. Departments are encouraged to submit their winners from their own contest if they have a current member of the year process. **Award candidates holding any of the following elected or appointed offices during the award year, are not eligible. (Specifically-Commander, QM, Adjutant, Service Officer or Chaplain) In addition, Past State Commanders and Past National Council members are ineligible from nomination.**
4. **Type of Recognition:** The award will consist of a National Cap with title of Member of the Year & citation presented at National Convention by the Commander-in-Chief. The award winner will additionally receive full room and travel for the duration of the National Convention for the award presentation. Each department winner will receive a citation from the Commander-in-Chief.
5. **Criteria:** This award recognizes exceptional performance as a member of the VFW. Examples of service that would be considered in judging the nominee include the following:
 - Nominee presents themselves in a professional and helpful manner within the

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Organization and within the Community.

- Nominee shows an active interest in their Department by attending meetings and showing a willingness to consider leadership roles.
- Nominee participates in activities and events within the Department to help raise awareness of the Organization in the Community.
- Nominee has shown a willingness to work together with other VFW, Auxiliary, and Riders Members in a spirit of cooperation to accomplish the same goals.
- Nominee volunteers for and participates in activities and events that address the needs of target groups and individuals in the Community.
- Nominee has demonstrated actions which contribute to improving the quality of life for those we are intended to serve, whether they are children or adults, and whether they are homeless, hospitalized, handicapped, in need of a job or education.
- Nominee encourages members of the Community to support VFW programs and continually encourages others to become members.
- Nominee must have been submitted for #StillServing campaign recognition at <https://todaysvfw.org/>

6. **Process:** Any VFW member in good standing may be nominated as a Member of The Year candidate using the Member of The Year Nomination Form, by the Department Commander. Award candidates holding any of the following elected or appointed office during the award year, are not eligible. (Specifically, the following officers -Commander, QM, Adjutant, Service Officer, or Chaplain). In addition, Past State Commanders and Past National Council members are ineligible from nomination. Nominations are Due April 28th.
7. The Department is planning to utilize eligible candidates from the Department Veteran of the Year program that meet the above criteria. They must not be a Post/District/Department – Commander, QM, Adjutant, Service Officer, or Chaplain, nor a Past State Commander or Past National Council Member.



**Nomination for
Department of Nevada's
2023/24 Veteran of the Year**

(Sponsored by: Past State Commanders Association)



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. **What is the purpose of this award?** To recognize significant contributions to the VFW at the Post, District, and/or Department level during the current and past program years.
2. **Who can be nominated?** Any active Department of Nevada VFW member in good standing who has demonstrated their devotion to the organization by performing over and above expectations in meeting obligations, duties, and programs and projects public goodwill in their community to the credit of the VFW.
3. **Is there anyone who cannot be nominated?**
 - a. No current or Past Department Commander may be nominated.
 - b. No Comrade who has previously accepted this award may be nominated.
4. **Who can initiate/submit a nomination?** Any active Department of Nevada VFW member in good standing can initiate a nomination by completing/signing/submitting the attached form.
5. **Can I submit more than one nomination?** Yes
6. **When is the deadline for nominations?** Postmark no later than 15 March 2023.
7. **Where do I send the nomination form?** Mail to: Jerry Peterson, 1937 Williamsport Street, Henderson, NV 89052-7115.
8. **Who reviews the nominations and selects the winner?** Members of the Past State Commanders Association review the submission and make the selection.
9. **Who will present the award?** A member of the Past State Commanders Association presents the award at the 2023/24 State Convention in June 2023 at Elko, Nevada.

Take a few minutes!

Complete and submit the attached 4-page form.

[Make sure one of your fellow Comrades receives the recognition they deserve!](#)



**Nomination for
Department of Nevada's
2023/24 Veteran of the Year**

(Sponsored by: Past State Commanders Association)



Name of Candidate: _____

VFW Member # _____

Post # _____

Name of Person Nominating: _____

Signature of Person Nominating: _____

Date: _____

Mail the completed form to:

Jerry Peterson
1937 Williamsport St.
Henderson, NV 89052-7115

MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 15th

2023/24 VETERAN OF THE YEAR NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

1. Number of years of membership in the VFW? _____ (1 pt. per year, 10 pts max)

Total: _____

2. Number of years at current Post? _____ (1 pt. per year, 5 pts max)

Total: _____

3. Is the Veteran a Life Member? YES / NO (10 pts Yes, 0 pts No)

Total: _____

4. Is the Veteran a Legacy Member? YES / NO (5 pts Yes, 0 pts No)

Total: _____

5. VFW Committee assignments this year: _____

_____ (1 pt. per committee, 5 max)

Total: _____

6. VFW Offices held this year: _____

_____ (1 pt. per office, 5 max)

Total: _____

7. Participated in the following VFW activities this year: _____

_____ (5 pts per activity, 25 max)

Total: _____

8. Does the candidate participate regularly in civic, community and church activities?

_____ (5 pts each, 15 max)

Total: _____

9. Activities of special note in previous years: _____

(5 pts each, 20 max)

Total: _____

SUB TOTAL: _____

10: Tie Breaker – To what other organizations does the candidate belong? _____

(Remember - We still need your recommendation (Next Page)!



June 17, 2023

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



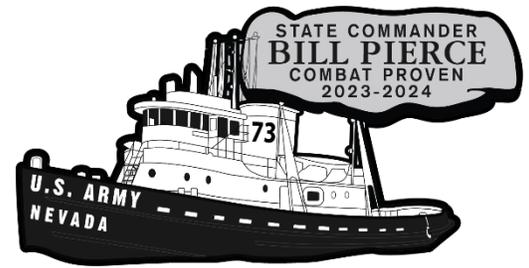
2023 - 2024 Public Safety Program

1. The 2023-2024 Public Safety Program is a VFW Department Award that consists of four categories – Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Technicians, Firefighters, and 911 Dispatchers. This is an optional program but is highly encouraged. The program is administered by the Department Public Safety Chairman.
 - a. **Law Enforcement** – Any individual who serves in a municipal, county, state or federal unit tasked with enforcement of the laws pertaining to their area of responsibility. This award does not apply to individuals employed by private companies or security services.
 - b. **Emergency Medical Technicians** – Any individual who actively gives emergency medical treatment, provides rescue service or civil disaster assistance as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to give emergency medical care, provide rescue and civil disaster assistance to our nation's citizens.
 - c. **Firefighters** – Any individual who actively fight fires as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to fight fires and give assistance to our nation's citizens.
 - d. **911 Dispatcher** – Any individual who serves as a 911 Dispatcher in a municipal, county or state facility.
2. Criteria and documentation required for all candidates –
 - a. Recognition by their colleagues or those they service (can include supervisors).
 - b. Consistent excellence in the performance of their duties
 - c. Consistent dedication to their official responsibilities over a period of years and continuous growth in responsibilities and skills within their profession.
 - d. Nomination letter containing the candidate's name, title, address, telephone, with justification outlining background in field, accomplishments, and awards. Due to sensitivity of this information, work address and phone is satisfactory.
3. Deadlines –
 - a. **Posts shall submit no more than one selection in each category to the Department Public Service Committee Chair by Dec 31, 2023.**
 - b. Department will determine the winner for each category prior to the Mid-Winter Conference and announce the winners then. National level certificates will be provided later after arrival from National.
4. Awards – VFW National will provide a certificate.
5. The Department Public Safety Chair is Carlton Fogg, safety@vfwnv.com, 702-809-6403.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



June 17, 2023

2023 - 2024 JROTC Cadet of the Year

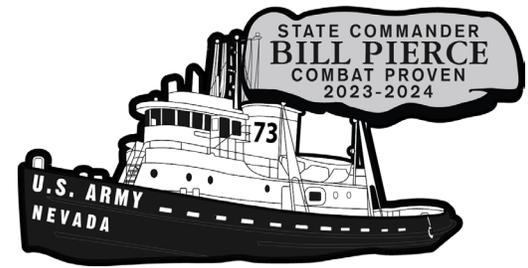
1. The 2023-24 JROTC Cadet of the Year program is a National program that is required for the Department eligibility for the National All-American program.
2. VFW award for special recognition of outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership for Junior ROTC Cadets. This award seeks to recognize a remarkable cadet who will become a leader in their community and serve their country.
3. **Criteria:** Possession of individual characteristics contributing to leadership including:
 - Positive attitude toward the JROTC program
 - Outstanding military bearing and conduct both in and out of uniform
 - Personal attributes (self-confidence, initiative, flexibility, judgement).
 - Patriotism (commander or member of color guard, drill team with or without arms, flag protocol instruction team, and actively promote Americanism). Shows devotion to school, community, America. An individual(s) who practices service through repeated acts of support.
 - Courtesy (dependability, punctuality, human relations, respect, cooperation).
 - Growth potential (capable of assuming high leadership responsibilities in JROTC Unit with additional training and experience).
 - Demonstrated leadership potential, military bearing, and scholastic achievement.
 - Attainment of a grade of "B" in JROTC with an overall average of "C" in all subjects for the previous semester. Must not have a failing grade in any subject for that period of time.
 - Must be active in at least one other student co-curricular activity or club: i.e. music, athletics, student government, junior achievement, etc.
 - Must not have been a previous recipient of the award
4. **Eligibility:** Any 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student that is currently enrolled as a JROTC Cadet actively engaged in the JROTC program, and one who meets the criteria for the award.
5. **Procedure:** Department will submit nominee via this link **NLT May 12, 2024**.
6. **Award:** JROTC cadet of the year selected by National will receive a trip to the National VFW convention to accept the award. Recipient will receive airfare and lodging for two nights.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

7. The Department is planning to utilize eligible candidates from the Post JROTC programs. Posts will submit eligible candidates using the criteria above. The JROTC instructor must provide a letter that all of the above criteria are being met. That package will be what is submitted to National for further judging.
8. Submission of packages will be submitted to the Department Programs Chair for Department Judging and Selection by May 9, 2024.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



June 17, 2023

2023-2024 Voice of Democracy Program

All information pertaining to the theme, judging, eligibility, awards and other aspects of this program are contained in the Veterans of Foreign Wars program booklet for the Voice of Democracy Program. District Commanders are responsible to ensure that their District programs are conducted within these rules and deadlines and can assign a District Chairman to assume these duties. District Chairmen are solely responsible for the conduct of the program within their Districts. Make sure that you distribute copies of your program to all Posts in your District in enough time to ensure successful competition.

The Voice of Democracy Program is a joint program with the VFW Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Nevada. The Auxiliary does not need the permission of a Post to participate in the Voice of Democracy Program. Post and District Chairmen are expected to include their VFW Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs.

1. **Scholars App Usage:** This year will implement the usage of the Scholars App program.

Posts have the option to utilize this program, which gives the Post a new method to allow students to submit their essays. It also gives the Post an easier way to judge submissions and forward to Districts.

Districts are required to submit the District winner to Department using the Scholars App program.

2. **Eligibility:**

- a. Ninth (9th), Tenth (10th), Eleventh (11th) and Twelfth (12th) grade students in public, private, parochial and home schools in the State of Nevada. Former first place winners at the State and National level competition or any foreign exchange student are not eligible.
- b. Students do not have to be a relative of a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its VFW Auxiliary to participate.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

3. Theme: The 2023-24 theme is: “What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?”

4. Recording:

- a. Recorded scripts must not be less than THREE (3) minutes nor longer than FIVE (5) minutes. A five (5) second variation is acceptable to compensate for the possible deviation in equipment. Scripts **MUST** be recorded on full size standard **FLASH DRIVE** or **may be emailed** to the Post. Record on a single track. Scripts must be recorded without music or background voice. Students must not use their names, the name or location of the sponsoring VFW unit, or the name or location of their school.
- b. Recordings must not include any introduction of the script. The only voice on the recording must be that of the students. Special consideration may be given for students that are speech challenged upon written request through District to Department. Scripts should be recorded using the best possible equipment available.
- c. Every effort should be made to submit the best quality entry possible.
- d. Cassette Tapes or CD’s are no longer accepted by State or National.
- e. Make certain your **Flash Drive** plays on another piece of play back equipment other than on the one it was recorded. Make certain your recording has **absolutely no background noise whatsoever.**

5. Posts:

- a. To receive credit for participation in the Voice of Democracy Program, a Post **MUST** SPONSOR THE PROGRAM IN THEIR COMMUNITY. While it is important to offer the Voice of Democracy Program in our schools, it is not solely a program for the schools. You may offer the competition to any 9 to 12th grade students. Foreign exchange students are not eligible. All entries **MUST** be submitted directly to the Post. They may be sponsored through local schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Church youth groups, Junior ROTC programs, etc. The Post is encouraged to solicit participants from as many sources as possible.
- b. The Post will hold their own judging and may submit to District the number of students permitted by the following breakdown.
 - 1-15 student participants = 1 top Post entry can advance to District
 - 16-30 student participants = 2 top Post entries can advance to District
 - 31-45 student participants = 3 top Post entries can advance to District

- 46-60 student participants = 4 top Post entries can advance to District
 - 61-75 student participants = 5 top Post entries can advance to District
- c. Posts may advance as many winners as they select based on the total number of students participating. Post judging is the responsibility of the Post Chairman and must be conducted in accordance with the National Judging Criteria.
 - d. The Post may forward each 1st place winning entry to District. Each student entry submitted by a Post to District must be an equal 1st place winner. This means each Post student entry sent to District must receive the same award. For example, a Post has 55 student entries is eligible to send four entries to District for judging.
 - e. These four entries must each receive an equal first place award from the Post. If the Post lists them as 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th place, then they can only send in one entry as the 1st place winner.
 - f. **School Option.** A teacher working in cooperation with a Post can elect to hold a competition in the school, judge the participants and advance one student entry for every 15 students to the Post to advance to the District as the "school winner" from each participating school sponsored by the Post.

6. Districts:

- a. Each District shall be responsible for the conduct of the program and judging of entries within their District. District Chairmen are expected to promote the expansion of the program by encouraging the participation of additional Posts. It is not always possible to restrict sponsorship strictly along VFW District boundaries.
- b. Posts may solicit student participation from any geographical area within the State of Nevada as long as they do not interfere with the sponsorship of other Posts. District Chairmen are expected to assist Posts in the coordination of sponsorship of all schools in their District. It is unacceptable that a school is not contacted.
- c. Each District may submit only one entry to the Department for judging. This entry must be certified on the proper National Entry Form by the District Chairman to be the District First Place Winner of the District Program judging.
- d. **The following items MUST accompany the District entry to Department for judging.**
 - **One student script recorded in accordance with the above rules.**
 - **One completed student entry form**
 - **One good quality picture [head-shoulders shot], preferably wallet sized.**

- e. It is the responsibility of the District Chairman to ensure that all materials are included. Any entry that does not include all materials will not be judged.

7. Reporting:

- a. To obtain program credit –
 - Post Chairman portion of the Student Entry Form must be completed and submitted to District with each Post entry.
 - The form must include the number of students participating from the school and the approximate cost for the program and awards for that school. Proper credit cannot be given without this information.
 - Post and District Adjutants are responsible for entering all participation reports from their respective chairmen and entering the data into the All-American Dashboard through the Online Membership System (OMS) no later than January 15, 2024. Failure to enter this data will preclude your Post from eligibility from All-American and All-State programs.

8. Deadlines:

- a. Deadline for Post sponsored program entries is **October 31, 2023**. Post judging may not be held before November 1, 2022 and must be completed in time to ensure that winning entries are delivered to the District Chairmen by **November 15, 2023**.
- b. District judging must be completed in time to ensure that the winning entry with all required materials are delivered to the Department Chairman by **December 15, 2023**. District judging is the responsibility of the District Chairman to be conducted in accordance with the National Judging Criteria.
- c. The Department deadline for District entries is **December 15, 2023**. This deadline is **ABSOLUTE** and it includes all paper work. Department judging will be closed and will be the responsibility of the Department Committee. Be advised that the state judging will be attended only by the VFW Department Committee Members, VFW State Auxiliary Committee Members and the State Judges. The Committee has the sole authority to disqualify from the Department judging any entry which is in violation of the rules as stated in the Department Program and the National Program booklet.

9. Awards:

- a. All Post and District awards are the responsibility of those organizations. **Reminder – In**

accordance with the National Manual of Procedure Section 704(f), educational programs that further patriotism are eligible to utilize Relief funds.

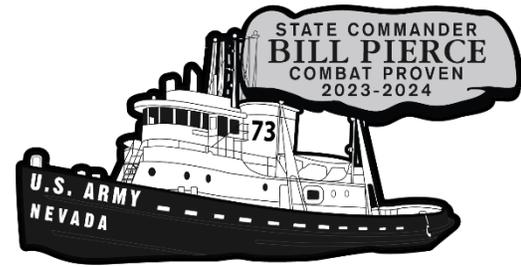
- b. Department awards will be presented at the 2024 Department of Nevada Mid-Winter Conference. Only the first place District winner receiving Department awards will be invited to Mid-Winter Conference and are expected to be present. The Department will assume the cost of winner's Banquet Meals (limit 4 - Winner plus 3 family) and lodging. Department will provide each District winner up to \$50.00 stipend for travel, payable after the event payable to the winners post.
- c. **Notification of Department Winners:** The responsibility of notification of Department winner's rests with the Department program chairman. The Chair will notify the winner and family to advise them, determine their availability, meal selection, and perform all necessary coordination with other department officers.
- d. Department award payout is as follows:
 - 1st Place: \$1,500.00
 - 2nd Place: \$150.00
 - 3rd Place: \$100.00
 - 4th Place: \$50.00
 - 5th Place: \$50.00
 - 6th Place: \$50.00

10. Contact:

Jerry Bouck
VOD Chair
vodpatriotpen@vfwnv.com



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



June 17, 2023

2023-2022 Patriot Pen Program

All information pertaining to the theme, judging, eligibility, awards and other aspects of this program are contained in the Veterans of Foreign Wars program booklet for the Patriot's Pen Essay Program. District Commanders are responsible to ensure that their District programs are conducted within these rules and deadlines and can assign a District Chairman to assume these duties. District Chairmen are solely responsible for the conduct of the program within their Districts. Make sure that you distribute copies of your program to all Posts in your District in enough time to ensure successful competition.

The Patriot's Pen Essay Program is a joint program with the VFW Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Nevada. The Auxiliary does not need the permission of a Post to participate in the Patriot's Pen Essay Program. Post and District Chairmen are expected to include their VFW Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs.

1. Scholars App Usage: This year will implement the usage of the Scholars App program.

Posts have the option to utilize this program, which gives the Post a new method to allow students to submit their essays. It also gives the Post an easier way to judge submissions and forward to Districts.

Districts are required to submit the District winner to Department using the Scholars App program.

2. Eligibility:

- a. Sixth (6th), Seventh (7th) and Eighth (8th) grade students in public, private, parochial and home schools in the State of Nevada. **Former first place winners at the State and National level competition or any foreign exchange student are not eligible.**
- b. Students do not have to be a relative of a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its VFW Auxiliary to participate.

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3. Essay:

- a. Essays must be typed, or computer printed in English, between 300-400 words, on a single sheet of paper, with no added color or art.
- b. **Theme: The 2023-24 Theme is “How are you Inspired by America?”**

4. Posts:

- a. To receive credit for participation in the Patriot’s Pen Essay Program, a Post **MUST SPONSOR THE PROGRAM IN THEIR COMMUNITY**. While it is important to offer the Patriot’s Pen Essay Program in our schools, it is not solely a program for the schools. You may offer the competition to any sixth, seventh or eighth grade student. Foreign exchange students are not eligible. All entries **MUST** be submitted directly to the Post. They may be sponsored through local schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Church youth groups, Junior ROTC programs, etc. The Post is encouraged to solicit participants from as many sources as possible.
- b. Starting this year, students are encouraged to use the Scholars App program. Posts will be able to do on-line judging using this program and will submit the winning essay to your district for judging.
- c. The Post will hold their own judging and may submit to District the number of students permitted by the following breakdown.
 - 1-15 student participants = 1 Post entry can advance to District
 - 16-30 student participants = 2 Post entries can advance to District
 - 31-45 student participants = 3 Post entries can advance to District
 - 46-60 student participants = 4 Post entries can advance to District
 - 61-75 student participants = 5 Post entries can advance to District
- d. Posts may advance as many winners as they select based on the total number of students participating. Post judging is the responsibility of the Post Chairman and must be conducted in accordance with the National Judging Criteria.
- e. The Post may forward each 1st place winning entry to District. Each student entry submitted by a Post to District must be an equal 1st place winner. This means each Post student entry sent to District must receive the same award. For example, a Post has 55 student entries is eligible to send four entries to District for judging.
- f. These four entries must each receive an equal first place award from the Post. If the Post lists them as 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th place, then they can only send in one entry as the 1st place winner.

5. Districts:

- a. Districts are required to utilize the Scholars App program for submission to the Department. **If a Post in the District submits a hard copy, it is the responsibility of the District to upload the submission to the Scholars App for judging. Districts who submit a hard copy to the Department is subject to rejection of the District Winner.**
- b. Each District shall be responsible for the conduct of the program and judging of entries within their District. District Chairmen are expected to promote the expansion of the program by encouraging the participation of additional Posts. It is not always possible to restrict sponsorship strictly along VFW District boundaries.
- c. Posts may solicit student participation from any geographical area within the State of Nevada as long as they do not interfere with the sponsorship of other Posts. District Chairmen are expected to assist Posts in the coordination of sponsorship of all schools in their District. It is unacceptable that a school is not contacted.
- d. Each District may submit only one entry to the Department for judging. This entry must be certified on the proper National Entry Form by the District Chairman to the District First Place Winner of the District Program judging.
- e. **The following items MUST accompany the District entry to Department for judging.**
 - **One student essay in accordance with the above rules.**
 - **One completed student entry form**
 - **One good quality picture [head-shoulders shot], preferably wallet sized.**
- f. **It is the responsibility of the District Chairman to ensure that all materials are included. Any entry that does not include all materials will not be judged.**

6. Reporting:

- a. **To obtain program credit –**
 - **Post Chairman portion of the Student Entry Form must be completed and submitted to District with each Post entry.**
 - **The form must include the number of students participating from the school and the approximate cost for the program and awards for that school. Proper credit cannot be given without this information.**
 - **Post and District Adjutants are responsible for entering all participation reports from their respective chairmen and entering the data into the All-American Dashboard through the Online Membership System (OMS) no later than January 15, 2023. Failure to enter this data will preclude your Post or District from eligibility from All-American and All-State programs.**

7. Deadlines:

- a. Deadline for Post sponsored program entries is **October 31, 2023**. Post judging may not be held

before November 1, 2023 and must be completed in time to ensure that winning entries are delivered to the District Chairmen by **November 15, 2023**.

- b. District judging must be completed in time to ensure that the winning entry with all required materials are delivered to the Department Chairman by **December 15, 2023**. District judging is the responsibility of the District Chairman and is to be conducted in accordance with the National Judging Criteria.
- c. The Department deadline for District entries is **December 15, 2023**. This deadline is **ABSOLUTE** and it includes all paper work. Department judging will be closed and will be the responsibility of the Department Committee. Be advised that the state judging will be attended only by the VFW Department Committee Members, VFW State Auxiliary Committee Members and the State Judges. The Committee has the sole authority to disqualify from the Department judging any entry which is in violation of the rules as stated in the Department Program and the National Program booklet.

8. Awards:

- a. All Post and District awards are the responsibility of those organizations. **Reminder – In accordance with the National Manual of Procedure Section 704(f), educational programs that further patriotism are eligible to utilize Relief funds.**
- b. Department awards will be presented at the 2024 Department of Nevada Mid-Winter Conference. The 1st Place District winner receiving Department awards will be invited to Mid-Winter Conference and is expected to be present. The Department will assume the cost of the winner's banquet costs, and lodging. The Department will assume the cost of up to **3 family members plus winner** to include banquet costs. Department will provide the 1st Place District winner up to \$50.00 stipend for travel, payable after the event paid to the winner's post.
- c. **Notification of Department Winners:** The responsibility of notification of Department winner's rests with the Department program chairman. The Chair will notify the winner and family to advise them, determine their availability, meal selection, and perform all necessary coordination with other department officers.
- d. Department award payout is as follows:
 - 1st Place: \$150.00
 - 2nd Place: \$75.00
 - 3rd Place: \$75.00
 - 4th Place: \$50.00
 - 5th Place: \$50.00
 - 6th Place: \$50.00

9. Contact:

Jerry Bouck
Patriot Pen Chair
vodpatriotpen@vfwnv.com



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nevada



2023-2024 Teacher of the Year Program

June 17, 2023

All information pertaining to the theme, judging, eligibility, awards and other aspects of this program are contained in the Veterans of Foreign Wars program booklet for the Teacher of the Year Program. District Commanders are responsible to ensure that their District programs are conducted within these rules and deadlines and can assign a District Chairman to assume these duties. District Chairmen are solely responsible for the conduct of the program within their Districts. Make sure that you distribute copies of your program to all Posts in your District in enough time to ensure successful competition.

The VFW will recognize and honor the top teacher in three categories (K-5, 6-8, 9-12), who teaches citizenship and education topics, and promotes America's history, traditions, and institutions. Attributes considered will be the scope of the teaching on both the students and the community.

The Teacher of the Year Program is a joint program with the VFW Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Nevada. The Auxiliary does not need the permission of a Post to participate in the Teacher of the Year Program. Post and District Chairmen are expected to include their VFW Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs.

1. Eligibility:

- a. Fellow teachers, supervisors, or any other interested individual may submit nominations.
- b. The nominating individual must submit the nominated teacher's name on the completed VFW Teacher Nomination Form. Included with the form a one-page Resume (minimum requirement) Submit these to the local VFW Post no later than **October 31, 2023**.

2. Posts:

- a. Post Commander/Chairman will complete the application by ensuring that the following items are included. This is a must list (without all six items, the application will be considered incomplete, and will not be judged).
 - National Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Advancement Form
 - One-page resume (single sided)
 - Any supporting documents
 - Do Not Exceed five (single sided) 8 ½ x 11 pages of documentation.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

- Good quality head and shoulder photograph. Wallet size preferred.

NOTE to Post Commanders/Chairmen: The above items must be included exactly as stated or your entry may be returned or even disqualified at the District level. Only one nominee will be selected from each of the three categories. Selected applications must be forwarded to District to arrive no later than **November 15, 2023**.

3. Districts:

- a. Each District will then judge and select only one nominee in each of the three categories. **A minimum of 1 entry from each category (may submit all categories) from the District and submitted to the Department. A minimum of 1 entry from the categories must be submitted by the District.**
- b. **District Commander/Chairman will complete the District portion of the "National Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Advancement" Form.**
- c. Selected Post Teacher Entry Forms will be forwarded directly to the Department Chairman. Deadline for receipt of District entries to the Department Chairman is **December 15, 2023**. Applications must include all of the above items. Only entries from the District Commander or District Chairman will be accepted at the Department level. District must include National Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Advancement Form.
- d. **NOTE** to District Chairman: It is your responsibility to ensure that Posts have included all items described above and that they are as specified. If you do not receive the proper documents from Posts, send them back to the Post for correction. **DO NOT** pass them on to Department.
- e. It is also your responsibility to ensure the District Teacher of the Year Award Report Form is filled out properly and submitted to Department. If the above requirements are not met it could result in the disqualification of your Districts entry.

4. Reporting:

- a. **To obtain program credit –**
 - **Post and District Adjutants are responsible for entering all participation reports from their respective chairmen and entering the data into the All-American Dashboard through the Online Membership System (OMS) no later than January 15, 2024. Failure to enter this data will preclude your Post from eligibility from All-American and All-State programs. Districts will be responsible for uploading all required data to the dashboard prior to entry submission to Department.**

5. Deadlines:

- a. Deadline for Post sponsored program entries is **October 31, 2023**. Post judging may not be held before November 1, 2023 and must be completed in time to ensure that winning entries are delivered to the District Chairmen by **November 15, 2023**.
- b. District judging must be completed in time to ensure that the winning entry with all required materials are delivered to the Department Chairman by **December 15, 2023**. District judging is the responsibility of the District Chairman to be conducted in accordance with the National Judging Criteria.
- c. The Department deadline for District entries is **December 15, 2023**. This deadline is **ABSOLUTE** and it includes all paper work. Department judging will be closed and will be the responsibility of the Department Committee. Be advised that the state judging will be attended only by the VFW Department Committee Members, VFW State Auxiliary Committee Members and the State Judges. The Committee has the sole authority to disqualify from the Department judging any entry which is in violation of the rules as stated in the Department Program and the National Program booklet.

6. Awards:

- a. All Post and District awards are the responsibility of those organizations. **Reminder – In accordance with the National Manual of Procedure Section 704(f), educational programs that further patriotism are eligible to utilize Relief funds.**
- b. **Notification of Department Winners:** The responsibility of notification of Department winner's rests with the Department program chairman. The Chair will notify the winner and family to advise them, determine their availability, meal selection, and perform all necessary coordination with other department officers.
- c. Department award as follows:
 - Winner - National Certificate from the Commander-in-Chief
- d. Award presentation will occur at a suitable location after receipt of the award from National.

7. Contacts:

Jerry Bouck
Teacher of the Year Chair
teacherofyear@vfwnv.com

Community Service never ends. While we have cutoff dates due to awards, the community service program always continues and the hours are always accepted 365 days a year. The current programs does not have a beginning, nor an end. A post helps your fellow veterans and your community and reports using the on-line reporting tool at www.vfwnv.com

•Community Service

Hospital Visits (not VA)

Nursing Homes

Elder Assistance

Special Needs

Blood Donations

Safety Activities

Conservation

Charitable Activities/Donations

Health Care

Community Involvement

Teachers Awards

Parades

Flag Disposal Ceremonies

•Veteran & Military

Buddy Poppy (Costs, Hours, Distro)

National Home

VAMS, MAPS

UNMET Needs

Military Scholarship

VSO Activities

Assisting Vets with Travel and Appts

VA Hospital Visits for Vets

Honor Guard

Vets in Classroom

•Youth Activities

Voice of Democracy

Patriot Pen

Scouting

JROTC

Patriotic Art

Sports

Outstanding Youth Volunteer

4H

•Legislative

Voter Awareness

Voter Letter Writing to Elected Officials

Get out the Vote

Poll Workers

**VFW Department of Nevada
Community Service Reporting**

*Please use the form below to enter your activity.
One report for ONE activity.*

Post*	District*	Submitter Email*
<input type="text" value="12093"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text"/>
Date of Activity*		
<input type="text" value="mm/dd/yyyy"/>		
No older than 30 days		
Select a Program*		
<input type="radio"/> Community Service	<input type="radio"/> Veterans and Military Service	<input type="radio"/> Legislative
<input type="radio"/> Youth Activities		
Cumulative Hours*	Miles*	Dollars Spent/Donated*
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<small>Cumulative Hours - total volunteer hours worked.</small>		
Description *		
<input style="width: 100%; height: 50px;" type="text"/>		
<input type="submit" value="SUBMIT"/>		

VFW Section 230102 – Congressional Charter

- . THE PURPOSE OF THIS CORPORATION SHALL BE FRATERNAL, PATRIOTIC, HISTORICAL, CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL;**
- . TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN COMRADESHIP AMONG ITS MEMBERS;**
- . TO ASSIST WORTHY COMRADES;**
- . TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY AND HISTORY OF OUR DEAD, AND TO ASSIST THEIR SURVIVING SPOUSES AND ORPHANS;**
- . TO MAINTAIN TRUE ALLEGIANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND FIDELITY TO ITS CONSTITUTION AND LAWS;**
- . TO FOSTER TRUE PATRIOTISM;**
- . TO MAINTAIN AND EXTEND THE INSTITUTION OF AMERICAN FREEDOM;**
- . AND TO PRESERVE AND DEFEND THE UNITED STATES FROM ALL HER ENEMIES.**