

VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars



**Philip Billard Post # 1650
Topeka**

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS!

WHY JOIN?

PRESENTATION

19 November 2015

Michael L. Slusser, Post Commander

Purpose

-  The purpose of this presentation is to provide information to potential members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars the benefits and rewards of membership.
-  The Veterans of Foreign Wars is an elite organization of those who have served in a foreign war, insurrection, or expedition to serve our Nation.

Agenda

- VFW Mission
- Veteran Camaraderie
- Involvement with Veterans and Communities
- VFW Veteran's Service Officers
- Legislative Awareness and Advocacy
- Educational Assistance

VFW Mission

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States believes America is defined by how it treats those who sacrificed to protect it; we believe in protecting and fighting for those who were brave enough to fight for us. Whether on Capitol Hill or in our communities, the VFW fights and defends the rights of America's veterans by lobbying for Veteran's rights, helping Veterans get the benefits they deserve, and assisting Veterans further their education with scholarships and living assistance for them and their families. To do less, would be an unconscionable betrayal of our responsibilities as Americans and Veterans.

VFW Purpose

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 widows 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 institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies.

Veteran Camaraderie and Family Support

 820 Veteran members spanning every conflict since WW II

- 531 Auxiliary Members

 Post Activities

- Dinners & Dances
- Auxiliary Activities
- Bingo
- Ceremonies honoring our Nation's Wars and those who fought them

 Lower Lounge

- Karaoke
- Drawings & Raffles
- Live Entertainment Weekly

 Honors to our Fallen



Involvement with Veterans and Communities

Youth Development

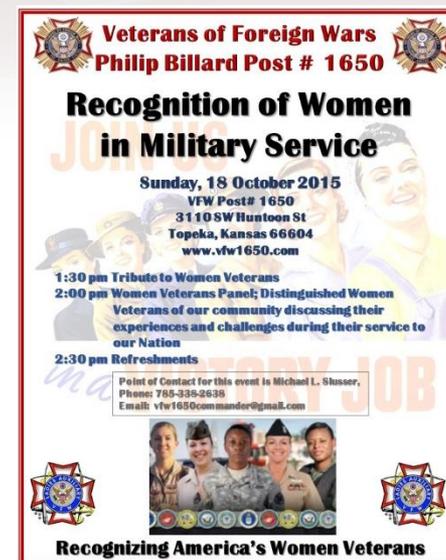
- ❑ Voice of Democracy & Patriots Pen Essay Contests
- ❑ Chartered Organization for Boy Scout Troop
- ❑ Provides facilities for Girl Scout Troop
- ❑ Junior Reserve Officer Training Program Awards
- ❑ Veterans in the Classroom Program

Supporting our Community

- ❑ Law Enforcement Officer, Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Recognition Programs

Supporting Veterans

- ❑ Veterans Recognition Ceremonies
- ❑ Community Veterans Relief Fund
- ❑ Supporting College Veterans Organizations



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Recognition of Women in Military Service

Sunday, 18 October 2015
VFW Post# 1650
3110 SW Huntoon St
Topeka, Kansas 66604
www.vfw1650.com

1:30 pm Tribute to Women Veterans
2:00 pm Women Veterans Panel; Distinguished Women Veterans of our community discussing their experiences and challenges during their service to our Nation
2:30 pm Refreshments

Point of Contact for this event is Michael L. Shusser,
Phone: 785-328-2639
Email: vfw1650Commander@gmail.com

Recognizing America's Women Veterans



Veteran's Service Officers

- ❖ Kansas VFW Service Officers stationed at three Kansas VA Health Care Facilities (Leavenworth, Topeka, & Wichita)
- ❖ Certified Expertise to Assist with VA Benefits and VA Claims
- ❖ Provided by the VFW to ensure our Veterans get the benefits they earned



Legislative Awareness and Advocacy

VFW National Programs

- ❑ VFW Action Corps
 - Grassroots Advocacy
 - Weekly electronic newsletter highlighting VFW advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill
 - Regular “Action Alerts” to help hear Veteran voices
- ❑ VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs
 - POW/MIA Subcommittee Representation
 - National Security & Military Affairs Committee testimony

VFW State Advocacy

- ❑ Participation in the Kansas Veteran’s Service Organization Legislative Storm the Hill Day

VFW Legislative Victories

<p>2003 Concurrent receipt for military retirees rated 50% disabled or more (P.L. 108-136)</p> <p>2004 Full concurrent receipt for military retirees rated 100% disabled (P.L. 108-375)</p> <p>2005 Traumatic Injury Insurance supplemental created</p> <p>2006 Protestors banned from military funerals Stolen Valor Act signed into law</p> <p>2007 VFW calls for VA/military healthcare system review after Walter Reed outpatient debacle</p> <p>2008 Record VA discretionary budget approved GI Bill for the 21st Century signed into law</p> <p>2009 Advance Appropriations for VA becomes law national healthcare law</p> <p>2010 Family Caregiver Legislation signed into law Ensured all VA and DOD health care programs were recognized as meeting minimum coverage standards under</p>	<p>2011 VOW to Hire Heroes Act VFW stopped TRICARE premiums from increasing annually</p> <p>2012 Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act Extended USERRA protections to veterans working for TSA</p> <p>2013 Reinstated military Tuition Assistance programs NewStolen Valor Act signed into law, Stopped Creation of Distinguished Warfare Medal (Drone Medal)</p> <p>2014 Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 In-State Tuition for Post 9/11 GI Bill eligible veterans Veterans Funding First Act: Advance appropriations for VA Benefits, Advance Appropriations for VA mandatory accounts becomes law</p> <p>2015 Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans (SAV) Act</p>
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Educational Assistance

 VFW National “Sport Clips” Veteran’s Scholarships

 Kansas VFW Endowment Scholarships

- ❑ Awarded twice annually for each semester

 Other Educational Assistance

- ❑ Fry Scholarship
- ❑ Rural Benefit
- ❑ Yellow Ribbon
- ❑ Other Scholarships
- ❑ Career Counseling & Educational Services
- ❑ In-State Tuition
- ❑ Hazelwood Act



How to Join

Eligibility

- VFW
- VFW Auxiliary

Contact the Post:

- 3110 SW Huntoon St Office
Hours 9-4 M-F
- 785-235-9073

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ First _____ Middle _____ Last (Suffix - Jr, Sr, etc.) _____ email _____ Gender (M) (F)

Address _____ Home of Record _____
Address Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____ SSN (Optional) _____

Military Service Army Air Force Coast Guard Current Status: Veteran National Guard/Reserve
 Navy Marine Active Duty

Qualifying Service
 Pre-World War II Korea Service 1950 - 54 Desert Shield/Storm 1990 - 1995 Afghanistan 2001 -
 World War II Korea Defense Service 1955 - Bosnia/Kosovo 1995 - Iraq 2003 -
 Post-WWII Occupation 1945 - 55 (Europe, Korea, Japan) Vietnam 1958 - 75 Global War on Terrorism - EXPEDITIONARY 2001 -
 Post-WWII Occupation 1945 - 90 (Berlin) Expeditionary Operations 1958 -

Qualified Recipient Of: Imminent Danger/Hostile Fire Pay* (When) _____ SSBN Nuclear Deterrent Patrol* _____
*Period Covered: _____ (Required for applicants with no other reported qualifying service).

New Post No. _____ Reinstate ID# _____ Annual Life Life 12 Mo Installment
 Transfer From Post No. _____ To Post No. _____

Recruiter (Please Print) _____ Recruiter Card No. _____
 Quartermaster _____ Signature _____ Transfer complies with Sec. 107 Date _____ 05/10

(NATIONAL COPY - SUBMIT WITH TRANSMITTAL FORM)
 I want to pay my membership fee by credit card.
 MASTERCARD VISA DISCOVER AMEX
 CARD NO. _____
 Exp. date _____
 Signature: _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

ATTAINED AGE ON 12/31	ONE TIME PAYMENT	LIFE 12 MONTH PAYMENT PLAN
THROUGH AGE 30	\$425.00	\$38.64
31-40	\$410.00	\$37.27
41-50	\$375.00	\$34.09
51-60	\$335.00	\$30.45
61-70	\$290.00	\$26.36
71-80	\$225.00	\$20.45
81 AND OVER	\$170.00	\$15.45

Payment Plan Terms and Conditions: The VFW Life Membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making either installments after an initial payment of \$35. The member will be issued a membership card and can elect, upon receipt of first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is to be determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement. No refund of any portion of current year annual dues will be made.
 A "payoff amount" will be printed on each monthly invoice, allowing the member the option to pay in full, thereby avoiding additional service fees. If the member pays off early, no additional monthly fees will be collected.
 Delinquencies will be handled as follows:
 Up to 30 days - continue to bill
 31 to 120 days - delinquency can be corrected through make up payment or plan end date pushed forward.
 More than 120 days - member is dropped from the installment plan, all payments made to date, excluding service fees, are applied to future year dues. Any excess amount will remain on the member's account.