

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT
2011-2012 MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**



**“YES WE CAN” MEMBERSHIP TEAM
STATE COMMANDER MELVIN HEWSTON
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN RICHARD LEUCK
MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRMAN ROBERT FROELICK**

**DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2011-2012 DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

TO: ALL UNITS
FROM: RICHARD LEUCK
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

SUBJECT: 2011-2012 DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

This membership program is designed to recognize and award those Commanders and members who take the extra step in promoting membership in The Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Please don't forget that Membership is the lifeblood of our organization!

To get credit for your efforts, please remember to put your name and VFW ID Card Number on all VFW Membership Application Forms for any New or Reinstated Members you recruit.

With this letter you will receive **Membership Bulletin #1**, listing the 10 membership divisions indicating the membership total of each post as of **30 June 2011**.

NOTE: ALL AWARDS CATEGORIES ARE LISTED IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER BY THE DEADLINE DATES DUE, AND MUST BE POSTED BY 10AM ON THAT DATE AT NATIONAL OR AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

NOTE: ALL AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION AWARDS BREAKFAST UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

DEADLINES: STARTING 30 SEPTEMBER 2011 THROUGH 15 MAY 2012

Entries into the Division and District Commander of the Month Drawing

Division and District Commanders of the Month will be indicated each month beginning with **30 September 2011** and continuing until **15 May 2012**. Standing will be based on the percentage of **2011 Membership** indicated in **Membership Bulletin #1**. Each month the **Division and District Commander of the Month** will have their name entered into a drawing that will be held in accordance with the 15 May 2012 Drawing Deadline Date Section.

DEADLINE: 16 NOVEMBER 2011

State Commander's Special Jacket Award

All District Commanders attaining **at least 87%** in membership by **16 November 2011** will be awarded a distinctive jacket. Jackets will be awarded at the January Council of Administration meeting. **If all six Commanders** achieve their goals and the Department membership average is **at least 87%** overall, then the **Membership Chairman and Co-Chairman** will also be awarded the jackets. **Deadline: 16 November 2011.**

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DEADLINE: 31 JANUARY 2012

Honor Post Commander and Honor District Commander

If the Commanders attain **at least 93%** of the **2011** membership as listed in **Membership Bulletin #1**, a distinctively designed plaque and a \$25.00 Cash Award will be awarded to the:

Commander of the Post in each of the 10 divisions (**Honor Post Commanders**) reporting the greatest percentage of their **2011** Membership. **Deadline: 31 January 2012.**

District Commander of the District that leads the membership race (**Honor District Commander**). **Deadline: 31 January 2012.**

DEADLINE: 15 MARCH 2012

**Past Commander-in-Chief Walker Largest Gain of New Members Award
and**

Past Assistant Adjutant General Burnham Largest gain of Reinstated Members Award

The Divisions for these awards are as follows:

CLASS A - POSTS OVER 801 MEMBERS

CLASS C - POSTS 201 - 500 MEMBERS

CLASS B - POSTS 501 - 800 MEMBERS

CLASS D - POSTS 200 OR LESS MEMBERS

A distinctively designed plaque for the Post and a \$25.00 Cash Award for the Commander of that Post for the:

Walker Award to the Post in each division that reports the largest numerical gain of new members (**must be in excess of 10**). **Deadline: 15 March 2012.**

Burnham Award to the Post in each division that reports the largest numerical gain of reinstated members (**must be in excess of 10**). **Deadline: 15 March 2012.**

DEADLINE: 28 MARCH 2012

State Commander's Special Award to Post Commanders

Any Post Commander attaining 100% in membership by **28 March 2012** will receive a Distinctive Clock. The State Commander at the April Council of Administration Meeting will present the clock. **Deadline: 28 March 2012**

DEADLINE: 15 MAY 2012

All-State Post Commanders Contest

Provided Posts **1)** exceed last year's membership as indicated in **Membership Bulletin #1**, and **2)** complete all the programs listed in the Department's Monthly Activity Report, two Post Commanders in each of the 10 Divisions (or more if there are ties) will be eligible to attain **All-State Post Commander**. In order to be fully credited in the VOD Program and Youth Essay Program the Post must have run a VOD Program submitting a

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contestant tape to its District and run a Youth Essay Program submitting an Essay to its District, or make a cash contribution to its District or to Department Headquarters in the amount of at least \$25.00 for each of these programs. Any delinquency not cleared by **Deadline: 15 May 2012**, will disqualify the Commander of that Post from **All-State Post Commander** competition. After the qualifications have been met, the final decision in the determination of **All-State Post Commander** shall be the membership standing of the Post at **Deadline: 15 May 2012**. **Important Note:** Post Commanders who have earned **Honor Commander Awards** are also eligible for selection as **All-State Post Commanders**. Each **All-State Post Commander** will receive a specially designed cap, a distinctive lapel emblem and a \$25.00 Cash Award.

All-State District Commanders Contest

“All-State District Commanders” will be judged on the same basis as the “All-State Post Commanders, except that the District **must exceed 99%** of last year’s membership as indicated in **Membership Bulletin #1**. “The All-State District Commander” will be presented a distinctive cap bearing that designation and a \$25.00 Cash Award. **Important Note:** The Honor District Commander is also eligible to be designated as “All-State District Commander”. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

Post and District All-State Commander Badge

All Post and District Commanders who attain the “All-State Commander” status will be presented with a distinctive “All-State Commander” Badge. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

All-State Post Quartermaster

The Post Quartermaster of the Post of each “All-State Post Commander” shall be designated as “All-State Post Quartermaster” and will be presented a specially designed lapel emblem and a \$25.00 Cash Award. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

Captain of the All-State Team of Post Commanders

One of the All-State Post Commanders will be selected as the Captain of the All-State Team of Post Commanders. His/her selection will be based on a full evaluation of all the VFW Programs and the Post’s participation in each. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

District Commanders Special Incentive Awards

Any District Commander exceeding **100%** of their total membership goals will win a \$500.00 dollar gift certificate to be used for merchandise in the National VFW Catalog. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

New and Reinstated Life Member Award

The Post signing up the most New and Reinstated Life Members (**must be in excess of 10**) will receive a **\$50.00** Cash Award in each of the following membership categories: 1) **501 Members and above**, 2) **201 - 500 Members**, and 3) **25 - 200 Members**. **Deadline: 15 May 2012**.

George S. French Award

In considering Quartermasters for the George S. French Award, all phases of the Quartermasters duties will be considered, as follows: neatness, completion of all financial reports, audits, and submission of same within the

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due date. The George S. French Award will be a suitable plaque and will be awarded in the below four classes.
Deadline: 15 May 2012.

CLASS A - POSTS OVER 801 MEMBERS
CLASS B - POSTS 501 - 800 MEMBERS

CLASS C - POSTS 201 - 500 MEMBERS
CLASS D - POSTS 200 OR LESS MEMBERS

Division and District Commander of the Month Drawing

All of the names of the monthly Division and District Commanders from 30 September 2011 to 15 May 2012 will be entered into a drawing, from which **Two Division Commanders** and **one District Commander** will be drawn and they will receive two nights free stay during the Annual Convention and two tickets each to the **Annual Awards Breakfast** and the **Annual Convention Banquet**. **Deadline: 15 May 2012.**

DEADLINE: 31 MAY 2012

State Commander's New and Reinstated Life Membership Awards

Every member has a chance to earn a Life Membership, or the Cash Equivalent if he or she is already a Life Member, by recruiting new and reinstated members. Each member will receive one chance for each New and Reinstated Member signed up between **1 July 2011** and **31 May 2012**. There will be five Life Membership Drawings and a member can win only one Life Membership or the Cash Equivalent. **Deadline: 31 May 2012.**

Past Commander-in-Chief Banas Award

A member that signs up **25 New or Reinstated members** or a combination of both between **1 July 2011** and **31 May 2012** will receive a plaque and a Cash Award of \$25.00. **Deadline: 31 May 2012.**

DEADLINE: UP TO 30 JUNE 2012

100% Post Commander, 100% Post Quartermaster, and 100% Post Adjutant Pins

When a Post reaches the **100%** figure of **Membership in Bulletin #1** between **1 July 2011** and **30 June 2012** the Post Commander, Post Quartermaster, and the Post Adjutant will each receive a distinctive **100% Pin**.
Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.

100% Membership Awards

Each Post reporting a **2012** membership equal to or greater than its **2011** membership total listed in **Membership Bulletin #1** between **1 July 2011** and **30 June 2012** will receive a distinctive **100% Plaque**.
Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.

Each District reporting a **2012** membership equal to or greater than its **2011** membership as listed in **Membership Bulletin #1** between **1 July 2011** and **30 June 2012** will receive a distinctive **100% Plaque**.
Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.

State Commander's Special Membership Award

Any member signing up five New or Reinstated members will receive a Distinctive State Commander's

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Challenge Coin. If present, the coin will be presented to the recipient at a district meeting or it will be mailed to their home. One coin will be presented for each five New or Reinstated members. **Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.**

Aide-de-Camp Award

Any member signing up **50 New or Reinstated members** between **1 July 2011** and **30 June 2012** will be awarded a distinctive **Aide de Camp** cap. The cap will be presented at the first **2011-2012 Council of Administration Meeting**. **Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.**

200% Award

Each Post Commander reporting a **2011 -2012** membership of **200%** or more between **1 July 2011** and **30 June 2012** will receive a check for \$200.00. **Deadline: Up to 30 June 2012.**

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is the lifeblood of our organization!**

