



DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

GENERAL ORDERS #1 JULY 2026

General Orders are to be read at each Post Meeting and placed on file.

1) Having been elected State Commander and having been installed in office in accordance with the by-laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I, Timm Grant do hereby assume command of the Department of New Hampshire, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

2) At the 106th Annual State Convention of the Department of New Hampshire, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. held in Shelburne, NH on June 7, 2026, the following officers were elected or appointed and duly installed and will be accorded the recognition due them:

Commander: Timm Grant
Sr. Vice: Jason Kelley
Jr. Vice: Dennis Manning
Quartermaster: Paul Lloyd
Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce
Surgeon: Monique Hashimoto
Chaplain: Steve Veinotte
Past State Commander: Darwin Beeman
District #1 Commander: Mackensie Southard
District #4 Commander: Steve Soule
District #5 Commander: Thomas St. Pierre
District #6 Commander: Charles "Chuck" Chapman
District #7 Commander: Scott Moreau
National Council Member: Leon Rideout

3) All previous appointments are hereby canceled, and I declare them null and void.

4) The following appointments are hereby announced:

Adjutant	Paul Lloyd
Chief of Staff	AJ Corrow
Deputy Chief of Staff	Leon Rideout
Inspector	Andy Lane
Service Officer	John Barrett
Membership Chairman	Dennis Manning
National Recruiter	Dennis Manning
Homeless Veterans	

Hospital Chair	Surgeon
Buddy Poppy	Paul Lloyd
Women Veterans Ombudsman	Monique Hashimoto
POW/MIA	Dan Beliveau
Americanism/Loyalty Day	Dan Beliveau
Legislative (State and National)	Andrew Corrow
Publicity	AJ and Leon
Veterans/Mil Support	Denis Querrard
Webmaster	Jo Zurwell
Vets Home Board of Managers	Paul Lloyd
Vets Home Board of Managers	Susan Cuddy
Veterans Home Activities Chairman	Ashley Covert
VAVS Manchester	Kenneth Stanley
Deputy VAVS Manchester	Larry French
VAVS White River	Dale Peirson
Community Service	Jason Kelley
Fire/EMT/Police Safety Chairman	Chris Ditullio
National Home	Darwin Beeman
Youth/Scouting	Chuck Chapman
VoD/PP/teachers/Banquet	Mackensie Southard
SVA Liaison	Dennis Manning
MOC Liaison	Leon Rideout
CDR's Testimonial	AJ Corrow
State Convention	Joe Clark
State Picnic	Franklin- Brian Fox
Special Project	
Sergeant at Arms	Mark McCabe
OTI Chairman	Glenn Del Monica
Trustee 3 yr	Tim O'Hearn
Trustee 2 yr	Mike Cabral
Trustee 1 yr	Greg Lynch

5) **2024-2025 Tentative Schedule is attached.**

6) **JOINT STATE OUTING 2025:** The Annual Joint State Outing will be at Franklin VFW on Saturday August 8. Deadline for tickets is July 26. More Information attached.

7) **COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:** The Council of Administration will be at the Franklin VFW Saturday August 8, at 10:00 AM, Finance Committee meetings at 9:00 AM, Veterans Service Committee at 0930. State Outing starts at noon. **UNIFORM OF THE DAY WILL BE CASUAL**

8) **Trustee reports are due by 30 July.**

9) **National Convention is July 24-29 in Reno. Posts should register for the National Convention on OMS (When OMS comes back up after July 6, 2026)**

10) District Meetings:

District 1	July 11	White Mountain Post (Berlin) 2520	10am	CDR Grant
District 4	July 18	Franklin Post 1698	10am	CDR Grant



Paul Lloyd

Department Adjutant



Timm Grant

Department Commander

Fellow Comrades,

I would like to congratulate all the newly elected and appointed VFW officers. I am looking forward to working with each one of you, plus our Auxiliary leadership team.

In addition, I would like to extend my special thanks to past Dept. Commander Dawrin Beaman, and Auxiliary President Tracy Kelly for an outstanding year.

The Dept. would like to thank past C.I.C John Smart, Sr. Vice C.I.C Cory Geisler, and past National Auxiliary President Ann Panteleakos, for attending our State Convention, and supporting our mission.

I am eager to hit the trails, and with your support we will continue to exhibit why the Veterans of Foreign Wars of New Hampshire is second to none.

THE OBSTACLE IS THE way

TIMM GRANT
VFW Dept. Commander
New Hampshire



From the desk of the Department Sr. Vice Commander

Comrades,

June is here, the days are longer and the weather is warmer. I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer so far. Department Convention is past and we have elected new officers to lead us this year. Congratulations to the officers at all levels in our organization that have been elected to lead your Posts, Districts and our Department. I am looking forward to continuing my visits with your posts on an informal basis.

National Convention is coming up in Reno, Nevada and I am looking forward to being one of your representatives at this important event and casting votes for changes to the Bylaws, Ritual and Manual of Procedure that move our organization forward in a positive way. We will also be voting for National officers for the coming year.

Lastly, I hope that everyone has done everything they could to get the Department to 100% for Commander Darwin. He really deserves that and it would be awesome if we can make that happen. Thank you for all you do and I look forward to seeing you in my travels.

Jason Kelley

Sr. Vice Commander



DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER



Greetings Comrades,

Department Convention has come and gone, your state officers elected and installed, and a new membership year ahead of us starting July 1st. Thank you for your confidence and trust in electing me your Junior Vice Commander for the ensuing year. I also remain the Membership Chair this next year with much on my list to accomplish, which I will incorporate in my JVC duties and expectations. More to follow!



I attached this photo, taken from the VFW.Org homepage, to illustrate a few points and my appeal to you all to look at our organization with refreshed eyes. Things are getting serious in D.C., Veterans benefits are on the line with the VFW and DAV leading the way in the fight. I stated, “refreshed eyes,” as things are not the status quo or the “Good Ole Days,” we need to adopt a new vigor with how we do business here in New Hampshire.

Membership is imperative to maintaining our voice in the halls of Congress, but so is our own participation. We have a few challenges coming into the new year with meeting our membership goals and seating officers at all levels, Post, District, and State.

With 2026-27 officers in place, VFW year 2027-28 is right around the corner, and the bullpen is light. I’m sure our State SVC Jason Kelley will be soliciting comrades to fill officer seats and state appointments, as will I. Post Commanders, I ask you all to encourage your membership to become more involved at the District and State levels. Your voices are best heard at your District meetings whereby the District Commanders are State officers and convey the health of the posts at our Councils of Administration. Again, the best way to get in the fight is to simply join it at all levels. Thank you all in advance for your attention to this matter!

Putting on my membership hat, congratulations to all the posts who attained and/or exceeded 100% thus far. Unfortunately, though, only half our posts have done so. As of 22 June, the State is at 97.33% mission accomplished with an insufficient number of expiring members to get us to 100%. This year has been a tough one to say the least.

Lemony Snicket's "A Series of Unfortunate Events" comes to mind considering this past year, with the number of posts decreasing, individual post concerns, and potential redistricting catalyzing the need for changing how we do business. Again, more to follow.

I look forward to collaborating with you all by figuring things out and making our State VFW stronger than ever. It can be done, but it needs to and is going to be a group effort. For starters, I ask you all to get involved in your community's National Night Out on 4 August. This event is sponsored by your local police departments and involves many other municipal and private entities.

If your interested in giving me a hand in recruiting efforts and/or enjoying the festivities, please consider attending SWAM "Mission 250" event on July 12th at Tuscan Village in Salem. I will have the VFW Tent set up with information and membership applications from 13:00-21:00.



Thank you for bearing with me to this point, I assure you all my heart is "In it to Win it," and that I will work extremely hard to help you all to help yourselves.

Happy 250th Anniversary America, and many more!

Be well Comrades,

Dennis Manning
Jr Vice Commander, VFW State of NH
Membership Chair, VFW State of NH

Hi all,

Thank you so much for your support as I move into the State Surgeon role. I am looking forward to learning from all involved in the NH VFW.

As our nation celebrates its 250th birthday, we have a unique opportunity to reflect on the remarkable journey of the United States of America. Since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, our country has grown from thirteen colonies into a nation that has influenced the course of history through its commitment to liberty, democracy, and opportunity. This milestone is not only a celebration of our past but also a recognition of the generations of Americans whose hard work, courage, and sacrifice helped build and strengthen our nation.

Over the past two and a half centuries, the United States has faced significant challenges, including wars, economic hardships, and social struggles. Through each trial, Americans have demonstrated resilience and determination, striving to create a more perfect union. While our history includes both great achievements and difficult lessons, it is through learning from our experiences that we continue to move forward and grow as a people.

The 250th anniversary is also a time to celebrate the values that unite us. Freedom, equality, innovation, and civic responsibility remain at the heart of the American experience. As we honor our nation's heritage, we can also recognize the diversity of backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives that contribute to the strength of our democracy and enrich our communities across the country.

As we look toward the future, may this historic anniversary inspire us to work together in service of our nation and future generations. Let us celebrate the accomplishments of the past 250 years while renewing our commitment to the ideals upon which America was founded.

With gratitude for those who came before us and hope for those who will follow, I wish everyone a great July 4th.

Regards,

Monique Hashimoto
NH State Surgeon



Department of New Hampshire National Legislative Committee Member Monthly Legislative Report July 2026

Comrades,

My column is long this month. Please take a look though as this issue may effect 1.5 million Veterans and their benefits. This is one of the reasons we exist...to fight inappropriate cuts to Veterans benefits. Help us advocate for them!

As discussion surrounding the *Take Care of America's Veterans Act* continues to grow, so do the questions, comments, and misinformation being shared online.

Attached is a Quick Response Guide containing answers to many of the most common questions and arguments being raised about the legislation. Please review it and keep it handy as discussions continue. Veterans are looking for answers right now. They are looking for leaders they trust. That is you.

If we don't engage, others will define this issue.

If we don't explain what's at stake, others will.

If we don't organize and mobilize veterans to speak out, no one will do it for us.

I am asking each of you to please:

Share the Action Alert.

Post about this issue on your personal and Post social media pages.

Respond to questions and comments when misinformation or confusion appears.

Tag your Senators and Representative when appropriate.

Encourage your members to like, comment on, and share VFW content.

Amplify content from National, Departments, Districts, Posts.

Action Alert:

<https://votervoice.net/VFW/Campaigns/138035/Respond>

Every action matters.

Every veteran who takes action matters.

Every comment, share, reaction, and tag helps ensure veterans' voices are heard by Congress and their staff.

As leaders, you also set the tone for the conversation. Please remain respectful and professional in your engagement. We are not trying to win arguments. We are trying to educate veterans, inform policymakers, and build support for protecting earned benefits.

Our position is simple:

We support the Major Richard Star Act.

We support strengthening programs and services for veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors.

We oppose paying for those priorities by reducing earned disability compensation for future veterans. Veterans should not be asked to pay for veterans' benefits.

The VFW has always been strongest when veterans answer the call to serve others.

The veterans in the Districts and Posts need informed, engaged leaders willing to step forward and help guide this effort. That is exactly who you have proven yourselves to be.

Thank you for everything you are doing to ensure veterans' voices are heard.

TCAVA Quick Response Guide

Q1: "VA already said this is happening anyway. Why fight it?"

A: VA's own spokesman said this week that "no changes are planned or imminent" and that the 2022 proposal would require significant changes before it could even be finalized. That's not a done deal.

A: The proposal received thousands of critical comments from veterans organizations, including the VFW, and remains unresolved. Veterans have stopped bad proposals before.

A: Even if VA eventually changes the rating schedule, Congress shouldn't use projected cuts to future veterans' disability compensation as a funding source today. Those are two separate issues.

A: "VA might do it someday" is not a reason for Congress to lock it into law today. VA itself says nothing is final and nothing is imminent.

A: The people claiming this is already happening are making a stronger argument than VA is. VA says it's still under review.

Q2: "Didn't a VA official testify that these rating changes are coming, regardless of this bill?"

A: A VA official said VA "anticipates" finishing some rating schedule updates by the end of this fiscal year, but that statement was about a decades-overdue modernization covering several unrelated conditions, not a confirmation that tinnitus and sleep apnea cuts are locked in or that VA endorses using them to fund a bill. "Anticipates" isn't "will." VA has walked back proposed rules before when veterans pushed back, as recently as this past February. Nothing here is inevitable.

Q3: "Ratings change. VFW has to accept that. And tinnitus and sleep apnea aren't that serious."

A: The issue isn't whether ratings should ever be updated. The issue is whether the proposed changes accurately reflect the disabilities.

Q4: The Interim Final Rule on medication that VA reversed was very different.

A: Not true. This is a similar attack on VA compensation. Reducing ratings based on medication use is very similar to reducing ratings for medical intervention or prosthetics like CPAPs. Our fight against this is the same. No reduction of benefits. Honor the Contract.

Q5: "Isn't VFW overplaying this? Won't it look bad if the cuts happen anyway and veterans got nothing?"

A: It's better to fight for the right outcome — like the standalone Major Richard Star Act, funded the right way — than accept a worse deal because someone says the alternative is inevitable. We've watched VA reverse course before. We're not betting on inevitability. We're betting on pressure working, because it has.

Q6: "There's already a clean path for the Major Richard Star Act — why does Congress need this bigger bill at all?"

A: There is a clean path, and it's closer than it's ever been. The discharge petition for the standalone Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282) is currently five signatures short of the 218 needed to force a floor vote. Better that Congress advances that clean bill than tie it to cuts in other veterans' benefits.

Q7: "I just want the Major Richard Star Act passed and TCAVA is the way to do it.

A: The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) includes *a version* of the Star Act, not the full, clean bill that veterans have spent years fighting for.

The real Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 2102) provides full concurrent receipt for all eligible combat-disabled Chapter 61 retirees (retired pay + VA compensation), allows veterans a choice between CRSC and concurrent receipt, begins the month after enactment, and doesn't reduce benefits for any other veterans.

Section 101 of TCAVA creates separate benefit calculations based on years of service, subjects retirees with fewer than 20 years to a limiting formula, and delays implementation until January 1, 2027. So if you think this will finally get the Major Richard Star Act done, it's not the full version and some veterans will not get what they should.

Q8: "Does VFW actually oppose helping veterans, survivors, and caregivers — or is this just about money?"

A: We simply oppose how these benefits would be paid for. We won't accept to cut disability compensation for tinnitus and sleep apnea — conditions tied directly to combat poly-trauma. As VFW National Commander Carol Whitmore put it: *"We have long maintained that veterans' benefits are an earned obligation of the nation, a promise made through the military service contract, and should not be financed through offsets, fee increases or reductions that place additional burdens on veterans, military families and survivors."*

There's also a structural problem most people don't think about: this bill uses projected savings from veterans' disability compensation (Title 38) to help fund what's fundamentally a military retirement pay fix (Title 10). Those are two different obligations to two different groups of people. Solving one by quietly taking from the other isn't a fix — it's a transfer.

So no — we're not against the help. We're against how it will be paid for.

Q9: "Is this just VFW staff's opinion, or do the members actually back this position?"

A: VFW members gave staff their marching orders. VFW Resolution 601, "Protecting Health Care and Benefits," passed at the VFW National Convention by VFW members, lays it out directly: after a century of fighting to secure benefits for veterans, survivors, and families — and watching the same tired ideas surface again and again, things like means-testing disability compensation or cutting ratings for "minor" disabilities — the membership resolved that VFW urge the President, Congress, VA, and DOD to "Honor the Contract" and protect the current suite of veterans' benefits.

That's not new language written for this fight. That's the standing principle of our members. This bill is just the latest test of it.

Q10: "Why fight so hard over this one pay-for? Isn't this a one-time thing?"

A: It's never just a one-time thing. VFW Resolution 601, passed by the membership, specifically calls out that the Congressional Budget Office has repeatedly floated ideas like means-testing service-connected disability, cutting off TDIU ratings for elderly veterans, or suspending paid ratings for "minor" disabilities. These proposals don't disappear — they resurface every budget cycle looking for a bill to ride on.

Once Congress establishes that veterans' disability ratings are a legitimate place to find savings, there's no principled reason it stops at tinnitus and sleep apnea. Today it's these

If you have questions, please contact the NH VFW or me at vfwpost10676@yahoo.com.

**Andrew "AJ" Corrow
National Legislative Committee Member
United States Army (Retired)
vfwpost10676@yahoo.com**





**DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.
2026-2027
"TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS"**

June 5-7	State Convention, Town and Country, Shelburne
July 25-30	National Convention- Reno NV
August 8	Council Meeting – Franklin VFW
August 8	State Picnic – Franklin VFW
August 9	Cootie Picnic
August 20-22	National Council of Administration-KC
September 3-5	National President's visit
September 10-13	Department ADJ/QM Training-KC
September 14-17	Fall Legislative Conference-DC
September 18	POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 24-27	CIC Homecoming, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
October 1-4	Department JVC Training-KC
October 18	Council of Administration Meeting, Milton (Yes, it's a Sunday)
November 1-9	Eastern Conference- Garmisch Germany
January 16, 2027	Council of Administration Meeting, Concord
January 16, 2027	Scholastic Awards Banquet, (VOD) Doubletree Concord
February 27-March 4	Washington Conference- DC
March 18-21	SVP and Sec Training
April 15 -18	Department SVC Training-KC
April 24	Council of Administration Meeting-Laconia VFW
April 24	State Commander /President's Testimonial – Laconia VFW
May 13-17	JVC and JVP National Home visit and Training
May 30	Memorial Day (American Legion hosts)
June 4-6	State Convention, Town and Country, Shelburne
July 31 – Aug 4	National Convention Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ANNUAL SUMMIT SALUTE

JULY 19, 2026

**An incredible day of recognition and appreciation for our Veterans,
Active Service Members and their immediate families at the base of Mt. Washington!**



TIME: 2PM-SUNSET - Rain or Shine!!
We have a really big tent!!

INVITED: All Veterans and Active Service Members
and their immediate families.
Proof of military service and pre-registration
required.

Event and cookout are FREE!

Ride to the Summit for Sunset \$10.00 per person.
Tickets available at event only, first come, event
attendees only.



DISTINGUISHED GUEST
Captain Robin Tyner
USN, Retired

h

Hike, Bike and Play at the Mt. Washington Auto Road
Military Resources • Amazing Cookout • Music and Prizes
Sunset Ride to the Top of Mt. Washington

CALL 603-915-1246 TO REGISTER

Questions or Donations, please contact:

Al or Kate Duncan (603) 915-6867 or (603) 915-1246



*This year's event is dedicated to
Women in the Military
Past and Present*



*Presented by
Volunteers for Veterans Inc.
a 501c3 non-profit*

VFW State Picnic



August 8, 2026

Location: Franklin VFW Post 1698,
26 Peabody Pl, Franklin NH



Live Music by Whiskey Rain Band 2pm - 5pm
Please RSVP by July 26, 2026

Picnic Menu

\$25.00 per person

Morning Breakfast Serving

- Breakfast Sandwiches
- Quiche
- Donuts and Pastries
- Coffee
- Juice

Afternoon Cookout Serving

- Chicken
- Ribs
- Fruit and Veggie Platters
- Potato Salad
- Pasta Salad
- Cole Slaw
- Corn on the Cob
- Desserts

Please send RSVP to Franklin VFW Post 1698, PO Box 143, Franklin NH 03235

Name: _____ Post Number: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number Attending: _____ Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Choice of Chicken or Ribs - Circle One