

Good morning, comrades!

Previously in our MEMBERSHIP FOCUS email we talked about the Commander-in-Chief's new POT O' GOLD membership contest. This week we're going to address something we've had multiple calls and emails about - the new design of the VFW website at www.vfw.org.

When you go online to www.vfw.org now, you'll notice that the entire layout of the front page has changed. The most important buttons (RENEW and LOGIN) are right up in the top right corner where they've always been, so we'll focus on those.

When you click on LOGIN to, well, log in to the website - you'll get a pop-up message to enter your email address and password. YOUR PASSWORD HAS NOT CHANGED. This is also where new members can go to create a new OMS account.

Once you're logged in, it'll take you to the new MY VFW page. As you can see, the layout here has also changed, but all the pertinent information is still available.

Right under Membership Quick Links, you'll see links to MemStats as well as a number of other membership functions. What you're all interested in, of course, are the functions available to Commanders and Quartermasters.

Those are all located through the MORE MEMBER SERVICES link. When you click on that, it'll take you to a page with all your basic OMS information - every VFW member sees this same page. As Commander or Quartermaster, however, you'll see a list of links and menus on the left hand side. All the functionality that was previously available to you through the QM Tools or the Online Membership System is available there. You can process new members and renewals, request a new card for a member, and update a member's contact information.

Right now, judging by the volume of calls we've received, many of you are asking "But how do I get my Post Roster?" - that's under the REPORTING section of the left-hand menus, and there you will find the Post Query, visible to both Commanders and Quartermasters. You will also see reports such as the Monthly Maintenance Journal (MMJ Online) and your Life/Legacy payouts, as well as a new Accounting Report that you can use to see exactly whose dues have been processed and when.

You may also want to know where your Membership Resources can be found. If you go back to the MY VFW page, scroll on down to the VFW Training & Support link. From there, you'll see links to various areas of VFW training - you'll want to select MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING & RETENTION and there you will be able to access all of our newest brochures, eligibility information, webinars, training videos, and other recruiting tools that we've put together for you. As of today, we are providing the most current information and materials in electronic format in addition to our printed materials, so if you need quick information on putting together a membership campaign or the process for starting a new Post, it's all right there at your fingertips through the website.

I encourage everyone to take some time and explore the new layout of www.vfw.org. Our staff has worked for months to roll out this upgrade and provide the most pertinent and useful information and resources to help you succeed. As well, the VFW website is always the first stop for news and information pertaining to our veterans. Want to know exactly what we're doing locally, globally, and in Washington? You'll find articles on the website telling you what your VFW leadership and comrades are doing on a daily basis.

If you find any bugs or errors with the website, first try reloading the page to see if the error persists. If it does, you can contact the National Headquarters at oms@vfw.org to report an error, and we will endeavor to find a solution as swiftly as possible. Thank you all for your support and patience as we work to provide you with the best and most modernized tools available to show how **NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS**.

If you have any comments or questions, or ideas for future MEMBERSHIP FOCUS emails, please respond and let us know. In addition, we encourage you to make use of the various webinars and training materials that we have provided online at <https://www.vfw.org/MY-VFW/Membership-Recruiting-and-Retention/>. On this page you can also find the current VFW Membership Program which we encourage every Post to become familiar with, as it explains the criteria for various awards and recognition programs such as All-American.

Also, be sure to follow the VFW Membership department's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembership/> where we are constantly posting news and updates concerning VFW events and training.

Until next week, stay focused on membership!

Matt Nute
VFW Membership Department
Ph: 1-888-JOIN-VFW (888-564-6839)