

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5019

2025-2026 Post Objectives and Execution Plan

VFW Mission Statement:

1. To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts.
2. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities.
3. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

VFW Vision Statement:

1. Ensure that veterans are respected for their service.
2. Always receive their earned entitlements.
3. Are Recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Proposed Post 5019 Objectives for 2025:

1. Organizational objectives must enable us to accomplish mission and vision priorities through the focused efforts of our members for the Bedford County Veteran community.
 - a. Objective 1: Focus on our veterans first.
 - b. Objective 2: Increase available revenue to operate and expand.
 - c. Objective 3: Grow our membership.
 - d. Objective 4: Improve our Post and battle space.
2. In order to accomplish our objectives, the Post leadership must develop a comprehensive operational plan that includes the specific and implied tasks to ensure success.

a. Objective 1 tasks:

- Be visible and approachable to our veteran community.
- Identify the actual number of Bedford County veterans we serve. (Approx. 3,000)
- Identify unmet needs within the veteran community.
- Identify and know how to access resources available for veterans.
- Provide a location and atmosphere that fosters veteran camaraderie.
- Establish and cultivate relationships with other veteran and community organizations to increase resource availability for veterans.
- Advocate for veterans to City, County, State, and Federal Government by accurately and consistently telling our story.

b. Objective 2 tasks:

- Sustain existing successful fundraising events while working to reduce overhead costs of conducting the events to maximize funds available for veteran support.
- Develop new fundraising sources.
- Utilize the tools that we own to generate revenue.
- Seek donations by developing relationships with local businesses, community organizations, and local government.

c. Objective 3 tasks:

- Reach out to National Guard/Reserve and develop relationship.
- Call your buddy and get them involved.
- Recognize members who successfully recruit new members.
- Provide a place and atmosphere that veterans want to be a part of.

d. Objective 4 tasks:

- Identify qualified members for leadership roles and provide opportunity for progression in leadership positions.
- Empower members to participate and lead Post efforts through the effective use of Standing Committees.
- Develop the internal committee structure necessary to execute planning and oversight of Post objective requirements.
- Stop checking the box and get serious about being successful, it will only happen with a coherent plan.
- Improve the appearance and maintenance of our Post.
- Recognize and communicate our Post and member history.
- Coordinate with County VSO for support of Veterans Council requirements.
- Use local media resources to tell our story regularly.

2025 - 2026 Leadership Plan

Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office.

Post officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the Post Adjutant.

Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office.

In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold the office shall be forfeited, the office declared vacant, and the eligibility qualifications of such officer shall be questioned in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws.

Order of nominations and elections.

The order of nominations and elections shall be Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and Trustee(s).

Nomination. Prior to the opening of nominations, the Post shall decide which form of election shall be used, unless the Post Bylaws specify the manner of election.

Any nominee shall have the opportunity to decline nomination for the office to which they have been nominated before nominations are closed.

A member making the nomination of an absentee for any office shall have presented to the Adjutant, in writing, the consent of the member being nominated prior to the opening of nominations.

Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote, provided, however, that when a poll system is used, as hereinafter described, nominations must be closed at the meeting prior to the election to allow the Adjutant to prepare a printed ballot.

Election.

Post officers shall be elected in April.

Balloting for Post officers may be conducted by open vote or written secret ballot (handwritten or printed) at a regular Post meeting, or, if required by Post Bylaws or authorized by Post vote prior to the opening of nominations, by a poll system.

Absentee ballots and proxy votes are prohibited.

A majority vote of all votes cast, except where otherwise designated, shall be necessary to elect.

If there be no election on the first ballot, the name of the comrade receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.

Challenging Election Results.

If irregularities are claimed with respect to the election to any office, such challenge must be made prior to the close of the meeting.

Installation of Officers.

The Post Commander-elect will select the installing officer who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of Post Commander.

Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed.

The installation may be conducted publicly at an open meeting.

An officer-elect who may be absent for good and sufficient reason or cause may be installed at any regular or special meetings prior to the Department convention. If not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant.

Term of Office.

Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year except that three (3) Trustees shall initially be elected for terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years and thereafter one (1) Trustee shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years.

Elected Officers:

Commander:

a. Preside at all meetings of the Post, conducting such meetings in accordance with Article X of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure and other applicable parliamentary rules.

b. Enforce strict observance of the laws and usages of this organization, including Post, County Council (if applicable), District and Department Bylaws and the Congressional Charter, National Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual and all lawful orders from proper authorities.

c. Insist that Post business and activities be conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment upon the Post, its

members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

d. Decide all questions of law and usage in the Post, subject to appeal pursuant to the Bylaws.

e. Upon entering into office, appoint all other officers, committee chairmen and committees not otherwise provided for. The Commander may remove such appointed officers, committee chairmen and committees at their pleasure.

f. Approve all disbursements of funds properly authorized by the Post by use of voucher or payment order.

g. Ensure that the office of Quartermaster is bonded according to Section 703 of the Bylaws.

h. Ensure that all dues and other monies due the National Headquarters and Department are forwarded promptly together with accurate reports and returns pertaining thereto.

i. Ensure that all reports are correctly prepared and promptly forwarded, that all business of the Post is handled with dispatch and that all necessary licenses and permits are obtained for proper operation. Ensure that a properly completed Report of Election of Officers for the ensuing year is submitted to Department and National Headquarters by June 1.

j. Ensure that the Post Trustees have examined the books and records of the Post and prepared the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit no later than the end of the month following the last day of each quarterly period.

k. Ensure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings and County Council meetings (if applicable).

l. Comply with and perform all of the duties required by the laws and usages of this organization, the provisions of these Bylaws, the Manual of Procedure and Ritual and Department, District, County Council (if applicable) or Post Bylaws pertaining to the duties and obligations of a Post Commander and lawful orders from proper authority and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

m. Be an ex-officio member of all committees.

1. Tommie Boleyn 2025-2026 _____

2. _____

3. _____

Senior Vice:

a. The Post Senior Vice Commander shall assist the Commander in preserving order.

b. Preside in the absence of the Commander.

c. Provide such advice or assistance as may be required and perform such other duties as are incident to such office or may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Jim Painter 2025-2026 _____

2. _____

3. _____

Junior Vice:

a. The Post Junior Vice Commander shall assist the Commander in preserving order.

b. Preside in the absence of the Commander and Senior Vice Commander.

c. Provide such advice or assistance as may be required and perform such other duties as are incident to such office or may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Bobby Harrison 2025-2026 _____

2. _____

3. _____

Quartermaster:

Sec. 703 - Bonds.

Each officer accountable for funds or property pursuant to any provision of these Bylaws shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which, so far as can be anticipated, they may be accountable.

The bond premium shall be paid from the funds of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department, District, County Council or Post, as the case may be, to which each officer is accountable.

The bonds of such accountable officers, in amount and as to surety, shall be approved by their respective units and held by their respective Commanders.

The Commander of each unit shall be responsible for the proper and adequate bonding of all accountable officers in their unit.

a. Qualify and secure a bond in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which the Quartermaster may be accountable in accordance with Section 703.

b. Collect all monies due the Post, giving receipt therefore, and have charge of the funds, securities and other property of the Post, all of which shall be placed in their care. The Quartermaster shall be the accountable officer of the Post and the Treasurer of all committees handling funds.

c. Disburse funds as properly authorized by the Post using accepted banking practices. Unless otherwise provided for in Post Bylaws, all disbursements of Post funds shall bear the signature of the Quartermaster.

d. Receive annual membership dues (admission fees if applicable) and life membership fees and forward the Department and National dues and life membership fees immediately to National Headquarters as prescribed in Section 104.

e. Provide the Post Trustees with all records, files and statements required or necessary for the preparation of the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit.

f. Reconcile and verify all transactions listed on all bank statements to assure the accuracy of Post records. The books and records of the Quartermaster shall be maintained in a legible and uniform format. Record keeping by electronic means may be used, provided a back-up is maintained. Books and

records shall be available for inspection by authorized officers and Post members at all reasonable times. Unless specifically authorized by the Post to remove such books and records from its facilities, they will be kept at the Post facilities.

g. Provide access and transfer to their successor in office or anyone designated by higher authority, without delay, all books, records, papers, monies, securities and other property of the Post in their possession or under their control.

h. Comply with, and perform all duties required of the Quartermaster by the laws and usages of this organization, applicable Bylaws and orders from lawful authority and perform such other duties as are incident to such office.

i. Report on transactions concerning receipts and expenditures, for any given period, at a regular or special meeting of the Post.

j. File appropriate forms as required by Federal, State and Local Statutes or regulations.

1. David Plumley Sr 2025-2026

2. _____

3. _____

Trustees (x3):

Trustees shall not be eligible to serve as an elected officer, Adjutant or on a committee whose books, records and accounts are audited by the Trustees. Among the duties of Post Trustees, they shall:

a. At least monthly, review the Monthly Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the Post Quartermaster.

b. Within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, properly audit the books and records of the Post Quartermaster, Post Adjutant, and any activity, club room, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or on behalf of the Post and submit a Post Trustee's Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector.

c. The Report shall be in accordance with and upon such form as may be prescribed by the Adjutant General. The audit shall be signed by the Post Commander and Trustees, who shall, by their signatures, certify the accuracy of the information contained therein.

d. Perform such other duties as may be incident to the office or may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Lee Warren 2023-2026
2. Brian Brenton 2024-2027
3. Vacant 2025-2028

Appointed Officers

Adjutant:

a. Be the official corresponding officer for the Post and shall attest to all official communications and reports with their signature.

b. Under the direction of the Commander, prepare all reports and returns required of the Adjutant.

c. Maintain the books and records in a legible and uniform format. Record keeping by electronic means may be used, provided a back-up is maintained. Books and records shall be available for inspection by authorized officers and Post members at all reasonable times. Unless specifically authorized by the Post to remove such books and records from its facilities, they will be kept at the Post facilities.

d. The Post Adjutant shall maintain the following records:

1. A copy of the original application of every member admitted to the Post.

2. Minutes of each Post meeting after correction and approval.

3. All current orders or circulars issued by the Commander-in-Chief, the National Council of Administration, the Department Commander, the District and/or County Council Commander (if applicable) and the Post Commander.

4. A correspondence file.

5. A file containing a copy of the proof of eligibility submitted by officers pursuant to Section 216.

e. Maintain a current copy of the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and copies of the Bylaws of

the Post, Department, District and County Council (if applicable).

f. Transfer to their successor, without delay, all books, papers, records, monies and other records and property of the Post in their possession or under their control.

g. Comply with and perform all duties required of the Adjutant by the laws and usages of this organization, applicable Bylaws and orders from lawful authority and perform such other duties as are incident to such office.

1. Larry Doc Merriott 2025-2026

2. _____

3. _____

Chaplain:

The Post Chaplain shall perform such duties as are incident to the office or as may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Donnie Porter 2025-2026

2. _____

3. _____

Judge Advocate:

The Post Judge Advocate shall perform such duties as may be incident to the office or as may from time to time be required of the Judge Advocate by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Gary Leverette 2025-2026

2. _____

3. _____

Officer of the Day:

The Officer of the Day shall perform such duties as may be incident to the office or may from time to time be required of the Officer of the Day by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Vacant

2. _____

3. _____

Surgeon:

The Post Surgeon shall perform such duties as are incident to the office or as may from time to time be required of the Surgeon by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Vacant
2. _____
3. _____

Service Officer:

The Post Service Officer shall advise members of the Post, their family members and survivors of benefits and services that are available in the local community such as homeless services, employment opportunities, and companies that offer discounted goods or services to veterans.

- a. The Post Service Officer shall direct individuals seeking Federal benefits assistance to the Department Service Officer.
- b. The work of a Post Service Officer shall be performed in accordance with the instructions contained in the VFW Guide for Post Service Officers under the general supervision of the Post Commander.
- c. The Post Service Officer shall perform such other duties as may be incident to the office and as may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

1. Vacant
2. _____
3. _____

Post By-Laws:

The Post Bylaws can cover the gaps left in the National Bylaws and Department Bylaws and Rules. Where the former are the building code, the Post Bylaws are the house plan. They show just what you are trying to accomplish.

The National or the Department Organizations can furnish you with a Post Bylaw template. However, they are the responsibility of the Post and may be set up in the way best suited to the type of operation contemplated by the Post. They cannot permit anything prohibited by National or Department rules, nor can they take away

any of the responsibilities or authority of Post Officers. They can set up general procedures and policies within the Post.

Post Bylaws may provide for the establishment of certain standing committees within the Post, state how they are to be selected and the limits of their powers and duties; they may give authority for the sponsorship of recurring activities; limit the expenditures of funds; establish the procedure for carrying out certain objectives; and provide for their own amendment.

Generally speaking, they set up the policies of the Post and provide for carrying them out. They protect the member against ill-conceived or hasty actions since they generally provide for prior notice and a 2/3 vote for amendment, and they promote a clearer understanding of operating procedures.

Matters of policy are covered in the Bylaws; details of management of a Post Home or Club are left to the Post Club or Home regulations. A standard Bylaws template is available through the Adjutant General's Office or can be printed or downloaded from the training and support section of the National Headquarters website.

Standing Committees: Chair of each committee will be appointed by the Post Commander. Chair will identify number of members required for committee and has the authority to appoint members to the committees to fulfill its designated obligations.

1. Post Committee

- a. Develop plan to maintain the cleanliness and upkeep of Post Quarters and equipment.
- b. Evaluate expenditures for maintenance plan and make recommendations to membership for discussion at regular or special called meetings.
- c. Chair may authorize expenditure not to exceed \$300.00 between any two regular meetings for emergency repair.
- d. Develop plans and estimate costs for replacing or upgrading elements of the Post facility such as roofing, flooring, lighting, paint, kitchen appliances, bathroom fixtures, and furniture to present to membership for discussion at regular or special called meetings.
- e. Recommend fees for rental and rules to request and approve use of VFW Post facilities or equipment.

Committee Chairman 2025-2026: Gary Leverette

Members:

2. Operations Committee

- a. The primary responsibility of the Operations Committee shall be to plan, identify resources, prepare for, and execute all authorized Post events, property rentals, or equipment usage.
- b. Present prepared event or rental plans to members for discussion and approval at regular or special called meetings.
- c. The Committee Chair will have the authority to appoint an event manager selected from active Post members, who possesses the skills and experience necessary to effectively manage an authorized event or rental.
- d. Any appointment of an event manager by the Committee Chair must be approved by a majority vote of membership at the next regular meeting of all Post members.
- e. The Committee will specify event manager responsibilities in accordance with the By-Laws, and coordinate with the Manager on matters of costs, acquisition of supplies, maintenance, services, and equipment repair or replacement of necessary items specific to the event.
- f. Event Managers will report to the Committee Chair for presentation at regular or special called meetings of all matters related to the event.
- g. Event Managers are not authorized to hire paid employees to provide labor or services for any Post authorized or sponsored event unless specifically approved by a vote of Post members at a regular or called special meeting.
- h. When hiring of paid employees for an event is authorized by vote of Post membership, it shall be the duty of the Operations Committee to approve hiring or termination of any employee before they may be hired or terminated by the Event Manager.

Committee Chairman 2025-2026: Tommie Boleyn

Members: Jim Painter, Dave Plumley, Bobby Harrison, Doc Merriott

3. Membership Committee

- a. Develop plans and make recommendations to membership concerning recruiting new members and encouraging inactive members to return to active status.
- b. Plan and execute membership recruiting events
- c. Coordinate with other Veteran Service Organizations for leads on potential new members
- d. Use available print, broadcast, and social media to tell our story.

e. Review membership applications and make recommendation to the body of members to accept or deny membership based on VFW membership rules.

Committee Chairman 2025-2026: Jimmy Huole

Members:

4. Administration Committee

- a. Develop the Post Annual Budget and make quarterly reports to membership
- b. Conduct feasibility and cost analysis of proposed expenditures
- c. Recommend updates to Post By-Laws
- d. Present proposed expenditures to membership for discussion and approval at regular or special called meeting.
- e. Develop plan to solicit funds through donation and present the plan to members for discussion and approval at regular or special called meetings.

Committee Chairman 2025-2026: Blair “Rosco” Ross

Members:

5. Other Committees as Required: