



VFW NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO

Land Of Enchantment

DECEMBER 2025

VOL 49 ISSUE 5



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY



Picture provided by Julia M. Dendinger

LOS LUNAS — After more than six decades, a veterans memorial dating back to World War II has gotten a face lift thanks to a local VFW post and numerous community volunteers.

The inoperable 90mm M1A1 anti-aircraft gun was installed on the southeast corner of Luna Avenue and Main Street in the village of Los Lunas in 1959, “in memory of the veterans of all wars...” It was one of 11 such guns donated to municipalities across the state by the New Mexico National Guard in 1959.

Since then, the drab, olive-green colored gun has sat quietly and for the most part unremarked. That is until the Valencia County Historical Society reached out to Los Lunas Daniel D. Fernandez VFW Post 9676 last year, asking if the post would be interesting in helping to restore the gun and monument.

The project included replacing steel plates on the gun, replacing the commemorative plaque, resurfacing the concrete pad under the gun with artificial turf and “a lot of sandpaper and elbow grease,” said Chet Pino, Los Lunas Daniel D. Fernandez VFW Post 9676 post commander.

RE-DEDICATION & REFURBISHING OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN IN LOS LUNAS

Rudy Chavez, VFW Post 5432 Quartermaster, noted a veteran’s white marble headstone at Corrales San Ysidro Cemetery broken in half. The US Army veteran’s name is Marcos E. Gonzales. Rudy investigated how to obtain a new government issued headstone and ordered a new one. Officers of our post, Commander Pat Orell, Rudy Chavez, Tom Totoris and Terry Brown, installed a concrete foundation and placed the new headstone. That was a proud moment for our post.



Los Lunas Schools Superintendent Susan Chavez and Los Lunas Mayor Charles Griego lay a wreath during the re-dedication ceremony of the World War II M1A2 90mm anti-aircraft gun monument at the southwest corner of Luna Avenue and Main Street in the village of Los Lunas. Restoration of the monument was recently completed and a re-dedication ceremony was held Saturday, Oct. 4.

Julia M. Dendinger

-CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



VFW NATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATES

*Tori
Haddox*



National Council of Administration Update

From National Council Member, Department of New Mexico

Meeting Date: September 21, 2025

Location: Kansas City, Missouri

As one of your National Council Members, I had the honor of representing the Department of New Mexico at the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Council of Administration meeting on September 21, 2025, in Kansas City, Missouri. The National Council serves as the Board of Directors of our great organization, and the decisions made during these sessions directly shape the future of the VFW and our ability to carry out our mission.

This meeting centered on financial stewardship, accountability, and ensuring that every action taken continues to support veterans, their families, and the sustainability of the organization.

Key Highlights from the Meeting.

Financial Commitments to Our Future:

Approved \$100,000 in capital expenditures for upgrades to our Kansas City headquarters.

Increased the budget for the D.C. Memorial Building project to \$19 million, reaffirming our dedication to preserving the legacy of America's veterans in our nation's capital.

Supporting Our People;

Adjusted employee salary brackets by 3.3% to ensure competitiveness and retention of high-quality staff

Approved Jeff Carroll for a five-year term on the Retirement Plan Board beginning March 2026.

Retirement and Compliance Updates:

Confirmed the termination of West Virginia's retirement plan, due to lack of eligible participants.

Directed all units, foundations, and charities using VFW names or marks to submit documentation within 90 days to remain in compliance with VFW policies and trademark standards. This directly effects our foundation. They (we) are currently re establishing a new name even after proving they followed proper guidelines when they were established.

New Partnerships:

Approved a licensing agreement with Torch Drinks LLC, with revenue to be handled in accordance with VFW financial policies.



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.





VFW NATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATES

Policy and Travel Matters:

Discussed travel policy implementation and reimbursement guidelines, including limits and eligibility requirements. Considered—but ultimately did not approve—a motion to expand reimbursements for past Commanders-in-Chief. The Council reaffirmed the importance of fiscal responsibility, fairness, and accountability in all travel-related expenditures

A Message of Unity and Accountability:

The Junior and Senior Vice Commanders-in-Chief concluded the meeting by expressing deep gratitude for the professionalism and leadership demonstrated by the Council. They emphasized the importance of unity, transparency, and integrity as we continue moving the VFW forward.

Why This Work Matters:

As I reflect on this meeting, I am reminded of why I ran for the Council of Administration. Our strength does not come solely from the motions we pass, but from how we carry out our mission at every level—every Post, every District, every Department, and every community we serve.

Leadership in the VFW must be: Service-driven. Accountable. Forward-thinking.

This meeting underscored the responsibility we share to protect the legacy of those who came before us and to build a stronger organization for those who will follow.

Moving Forward Together

The National Council of Administration reaffirmed our collective commitment to serving veterans, upholding our mission, and ensuring that the Veterans of Foreign Wars remains strong, relevant, and resilient for generations to come.

*Jim
Haddox*



Greetings New Mexico Comrades and Auxiliary members!

Well, we have made it to the next phase of the VFW year, and we have had some great success!

We had great results from the International Balloon Fiesta with 98 comrades and 15 Auxiliary members recruited! Our national representative was Ed Stefanak, and he helped to train us in how to recruit more effectively. He left with new ideas and how we can hopefully partner with National for the next year!

The Southern New Mexico fair had great results, and the organization made another impact at the Roswell Air Races! These events and others like them add to our visibility to the public and increase awareness of our mission of assisting Veterans.

The homeless outreach was completed in Las Cruces and was well represented by members in the area. It's another great thing that we do and is making impacts all around. We completed Department training at Post 401. We then had our Fall Council of Administration and the Commanders Homecoming in Albuquerque. Thanks to Mike Perez and his staff for cooking all the food. I really enjoyed it and the fellowship of those who came. Thanks for being a part of it all.

Our membership numbers continue to increase due to all the hard work of our members that recruit. Keep up the good work! Our path to at least 101% is well on its way!

November is our food drive event for the department. Please participate and fill the food pantries for your community, especially during this holiday season!

Mid-winter is coming soon, so keep an eye out for the link to register.

I hope your holidays are filled with joy and blessings. Take care of yourself and others this season. May God bless you, our Veterans, and the United States of America.

Thanks,
Jim Haddox
State Commander

SR. VICE COMMANDER



*Mack
Dyer*

Membership 2025–2026: Rally to 101%

Comrades,

We're nearing the halfway mark of our VFW year, and the momentum is building. As of today, we stand strong at 91.18% membership — just 805 comrades away from reaching our goal of 101%. That's not just a number. That's a louder voice, a stronger presence, and a deeper impact for veterans across New Mexico and beyond. We've seen incredible recruiting efforts so far, and it's time to recognize those leading the charge: Victoria Haddox — National Council Member, Past State Commander, Department Adjutant — blazing the trail with 22 recruits. District 7, and Post 12184 Commander Jason Burke — bringing in 18. State Commander and National Legislative Representative Jim Haddox — rallying 13. Post 2951 Commander Gilbert Romero — adding 10 to our ranks.

Outstanding work by these top recruiters! Your dedication sets the standard. In total, 58 of our teammates have recruited at least one new member this year — but that's still less than 1% of our force. Imagine the impact if each of us brought in just one new comrade. Every member strengthens our advocacy at the local, state, and national levels. Every voice matters — especially now, as we defend the benefits our veterans have earned.

So here's the challenge: Bring in one new member before year's end. Let's grow our ranks, amplify our voice, and show what unity looks like.

Let's talk about Life Membership — the cornerstone of our future. Life members free up time and resources so we can focus on what matters most: serving veterans. Encourage upgrades. Promote the Life Member Installment Plan. Recruit with purpose.

Let's do something extraordinary. Let's hit 101% before Mid-Winter Conference and claim victory in our friendly wager against the Department of Utah. Bragging rights are on the line — and so is our legacy.

Thank you to every comrade who's stepped up. Let's keep pushing. Let's finish strong. Let's make history.

For veterans. For unity. For a lasting impact on this Department.

Mack Dyer

Senior Vice Commander

State Membership Chair

Department of New Mexico



JR. VICE COMMANDER

Mark
Bowman



Dear Comrades and Auxiliary of the VFW Department of New Mexico,

As we approach our Mid-Winter Conference next month, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support and dedication. Your commitment and hard work have been instrumental in the success of our programs and the advancement of our mission throughout the year.

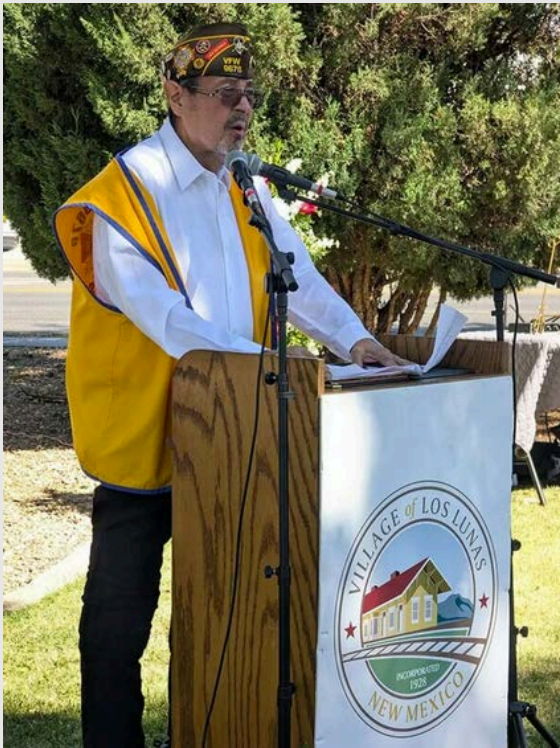
Together, we have made a meaningful impact on the lives of our veterans, their families, and our community. Your continued involvement and enthusiasm inspire all of us to strive for excellence as we look forward to gathering and collaborating at the upcoming conference.

Thank you once again for your steadfast support and for embodying the spirit of service that defines the VFW. I look forward to seeing you all next month as we continue our important work together.

With sincere appreciation,
Mark B.



LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS VETERANS MEMORIAL



Jack Lovato Jr., the Los Lunas Daniel D. Fernandez VFW Post 9676 post quartermaster and gun memorial restoration committee co-chairman, speaks about the role his father — Jack Lovato — played in establishing the monument in 1959.

Julia M. Dendinger



Picture provided by

Julia M. Dendinger

When it was all said and done, the gun and monument have been brought back to life and a re-dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, Oct. 4, honoring all who have served.

Seeing the restored monument brought back childhood memories, said Los Lunas Mayor Charles Griego.

“Memories and a reminder of the commitment made to all who served,” Griego said. “Thank you to Post 9676 and all who worked on this. Thank you for caring for the memories of Los Lunas.”

The small grassy area where the monument sits is called Solomon Luna Park and is part of the Los Lunas Schools property.

During Saturday’s ceremony, Susan Chavez, Los Lunas Schools superintendent, said her family has a significant history of military service, including both her grandfathers and great uncles, her uncle and father-in-law.

“Preserving this means so much to so many,” Chavez said. “Thank you for bringing it back to life.”

In a proclamation passed by the Los Lunas Village Council, the monument was re-dedicated as the Los Lunas Schools Veterans Memorial.

When local author and Valencia County Historical Society President John Taylor reached out to VFW Post 9676 about the restoration project, post Quartermaster Jack Lovato Jr. knew they would answer the call, especially him.

His father, Jack Lovato, was the vice-commander of American Legion Post 85 when the National Guard offered the gun and he accepted the monument on behalf of the village and school district.

“He was directly involved in establishing the monument in 1959 and played a significant role in bringing the monument to life,” Lovato Jr. said Saturday.

The nine-ton gun was installed on a concrete slab provided by the American Legion Post 85. The installation originally included a flagpole and a plaque, and the entire display was fenced.

LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS VETERANS MEMORIAL

“I ask those who walk or drive by the monument to see it not as an implement of war but rather a memorial that honors all veterans who have taken a solemn oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies..” Lovato Jr. said. “This is to honor the service and sacrifice of all veterans.”

He was the co-chairman of the memorial restoration committee, working hand-in-hand with Raymond Sanchez on the months-long project.

Memorials to veterans and the wars they fought in are common sites across the U.S. and Europe, Taylor said. So common they often become part of the everyday landscape and their significance diminishes. “This installation is dedicated to all who served their country in war and in peace,” Taylor said. “These memorials represent our collective memories of times that are important. How soon new crises arise and life intrudes but the passing of time doesn’t lessen the importance of the people and events these memorials were installed for.”



Picture provided by

Julia M. Dendinger

VFW POST 11999

VFW Post 11999 Honors Cloudercroft Essay

Winners

By Paul Benshoof



Commander, VFW Post 11999

VFW Post 11999 kicked off November with one of our favorite traditions—the Veterans Day Spaghetti Dinner, held on Saturday, November 8th at the Cloudercroft Senior Center. With help from our local Scouts, who volunteered as table servers, we served more than 60 meals.

During the dinner, we drew the winning ticket for our highly anticipated Henry VFW .22LR Tribute Edition Rifle, complete with a display case. This collectible generated excitement, and proceeds from both the raffle and the dinner support veteran assistance and community service projects here in Cloudercroft. This year's winner was David Dale of Bangs, TX.

In addition to our charitable and patriotic missions, VFW Post 11999 fosters civic engagement and patriotism among young people through our annual essay contests: Patriot's Pen for middle school students and Voice of Democracy for high school students. This year's theme was "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"

Cloudercroft students submitted 40 middle school and 27 high school essays, each reflecting thoughtfulness, intelligence, and a strong sense of community. Selecting just three winners in each category was no easy task.

Patriot's Pen winners:

- 1st Place: Logan Meszler
- 2nd Place: Natalie Loper-Flores
- 3rd Place: Tatum Robb

Voice of Democracy winners:

- 1st Place: Hannah Ferdetta
- 2nd Place: Carolina Loper-Flores
- 3rd Place: Alyssa Singer



VFW POST 11999

The winners were recognized and awarded during Cloudcroft High School's outstanding Veteran's Day assembly, highlighting both their accomplishments and the service of those who defend our country. Congratulations to all our winners—you represent the best of Cloudcroft: thoughtful, articulate, and engaged young citizens.

To close out November, the Post partnered with Summit Christian Fellowship to provide Thanksgiving blessings to local families. We donated 30 turkeys to accompany well-stocked food baskets prepared and distributed by the church, helping ensure every household enjoys a warm meal and a reminder of the blessings we share—even in challenging times.

VFW Post 11999 is deeply grateful for the continued support of the Cloudcroft community. Your generosity enables us to serve—not only our fellow veterans, but also our neighbors and friends—and we look forward to carrying this spirit of service into the holiday season and beyond.



STATE COMMANDER CANDIDATE



*Mack
Dyer*

Candidate for State Commander Department of New Mexico 2026-2027

U.S. Army 1988-2001, Desert Storm/Iraqi Freedom/Korean Defense
All American Post Commander Co- Captain 2024-2025, All American Post Commander 2023-2024
Department Top Recruiter 2023-2025
National-Aide-De-Camp 2023-2024, National-Aide-De-Camp Recruiting 2023-2024
All-State Co-Captain 2023-2024, State Legislative Chair 2024-2026

I am a proud Gold Legacy Life Member of VFW Post 12184 in Roswell, NM, and a Centennial Life Member of the VFW National Home. My journey with the VFW began in 2003 as a Life Member of Post 10223 in South Korea. I later joined Post 8703 in Carlsbad before transferring to my current home at Post 12184.

I've been blessed to share life with my wife, Allison, since 2008. Together, we are the proud parents of our son Chase, a Junior Cadet at New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI).

My military career began in 1988 when I enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Specialist. I retired in 2009 as a Sergeant First Class, having served nearly 21 years of active duty. My eligibility for the VFW is rooted in honorable service during Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Korean Defense.

Currently, I serve as the Department Senior Vice Commander (2025–2026). My previous roles include Department Junior Vice Commander, Department Chaplain, Junior Vice Commander of District 7 and Commander of Post 12184 .

I believe the Veterans of Foreign Wars is the greatest Combat Veteran Service Organization in the world. It has provided me—and thousands of others—a safe haven to navigate the lasting impact of our service. I am committed to building upon the strong foundation laid by past Department Commanders and believe we can continue to achieve great things together. My guiding principles are simple but powerful: Recruit, Retain, Educate, and Elevate.

- **Recruit:** We are all recruiters—through our words, actions, and presence in our communities.
- **Retain:** Every veteran has a story. By honoring their uniqueness, we strengthen our team.
- **Educate:** We must inform our members, eligible veterans, and the public about the VFW's mission and impact.
- **Elevate:** When we recruit, retain, and educate, we elevate this organization—and each other.

Let us never forget the power of lifting one another up. Together, we can continue to grow, serve, and lead with purpose.

Thank you for your support as your Department Senior Vice Commander. I hope to earn your trust once again as your Department Commander in 2026–2027.

Mack Dyer

Candidate for State Commander 2026–2027, Department of New Mexico

STATE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER CANDIDATE



*Mark
Bowman*

Candidate for
State Senior Vice Commander
Department of New Mexico
2026-2027

Dear Members of the VFW Department of New Mexico,

As the Mid-Winter Conference approaches, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your unwavering commitment and support. Your dedication has been instrumental in the successful advancement of our initiatives and the fulfillment of our organizational mission throughout the past year.

It has been a privilege to collaborate with you positively impacting the lives of our veterans, their families, and the broader community. Your active participation and enthusiasm continually motivate me and reinforce our collective dedication to service.

As we look forward to convening, I respectfully request your consideration and support for my candidacy as Department Sr Vice Commander for the 2026-2027 term. I am dedicated to building upon our established achievements and fostering continued growth and effectiveness within our organization. Working together, we can further enhance the service and excellence for which the VFW is known.

Thank you for your confidence, your commitment to service, and your ongoing involvement. I anticipate seeing each of you next month and welcome the opportunity to serve in this new role.

With genuine appreciation,

Mark Bowman

State Sr. Vice Commander Candidate

VFW POST 12184

Roswell VFW Post 12184: A Place to Call Home

After six years of unwavering dedication, the members of VFW Post 12184 have achieved a powerful milestone — a permanent home to serve and support veterans from Roswell and surrounding communities. This space is more than just a building. It's a symbol of perseverance, unity, and purpose.

Securing a permanent post is no small feat, especially for newer posts. It takes grit, teamwork, and a shared commitment to our mission. While our space may be modest in size, our vision is bold and ambitious.



Post 12184 is striving to build a modern, digital-forward post — one that opens its doors to:

- Community events for all veterans
- Youth engagement and mentorship
- A veteran food pantry
- Job skill workshops
- PTSD and mental health counseling
- VSO benefits assistance
- Combat Tested Gaming
- Suicide prevention training
- Financial planning support
- Stand downs for homeless veterans
- Warm meals for those facing food insecurity



These initiatives won't happen overnight, but with the continued passion and hard work of our comrades, we will grow into a premier veteran organization — one deeply rooted in service and partnership with our community.

We extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us along this journey. Our post was chartered during the leadership of Past National Commander-in-Chief BJ Lawrence and Past State Commander Mark Decker, both of whom continue to mentor and uplift our leaders. Their guidance has been instrumental in helping us reach this moment.

SCOUT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



The Veterans of Foreign Wars have supported the Scouting America (Boy Scouts of America) since the inception of the VFW. During World War I and II, Boy Scouts played a major part in the troops in the war. Since that time, Scouting has continued to be a supporter of the VFW and Scouts have grown up, joined the military, fought in wars and subsequently become members of the VFW.

ABOUT THE SCOUTING PROGRAM Scouts who are registered, active Boy or Girl members of a Scouting America, and the Girl Scouts, who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award are eligible (note: New Mexico does not have a Sea Scout program). Scouts must be 15 years of age and have demonstrated practical citizenship in school, scouting and the community. Scouts must be enrolled in high school at the time of selection. Note: All applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified.

HOW TO ENTER: Scouts must download and submit the completed VFW Scouting Scholarship form from the vfw.org website. The submittal requires a resume of high school activities, scouting record, community service record and letters of recommendation to a local VFW Post no later than March 1. Note: A Scout can enter through ONE VFW Post only.

HOW IT WORKS: VFW Posts receive nominations, and select one winner then submit their winning candidate with full entry criteria to their respective District. If the district does not have a Scout Program, you submit your post winner to VFW Department Chair, Terry Brown, by April 1. From there, the Department selects a winner and forwards the entry to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1 for national-level judging. Recognition for the Department winner is normally held during the Department Annual Convention generally held in June and a \$1,000 award is provided to the recipient. This is a great opportunity for the Scout to see the VFW in action. If anyone has questions about this process, please call.

As your Department Scouting Team Chair, I encourage local Posts to incorporate Scouting into your Youth Activities Programs.

Terrance "Terry" Brown, FAIA
VFW NM Department Scouting Chairman
tblazestar@aol.com

PO Box 1
Corrales, NM 87048
505-350-1641

VFW POST 5432



VFW POST 5432 REPLACED DAMAGED VETERAN HEADSTONE.

Rudy Chavez, VFW Post 5432 Quartermaster, noted a veteran's white marble headstone at Corrales San Ysidro Cemetery broken in half. The US Army veteran's name is Marcos E. Gonzales. Rudy investigated how to obtain a new government issued headstone and ordered a new one. Officers of our post, Commander Pat Orell, Rudy Chavez, Tom Totoris and Terry Brown, installed a concrete foundation and placed the new headstone. That was a proud moment for our post.

MID-WINTER

Comrades,

Great news — the Mid-Winter Registration Form are available! We're excited and looking forward to seeing everyone together again. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to reach out.

Important Hotel Deadline:

Please remember that hotel reservations must be made by December 15, 2026. After this date, room availability and rates are not guaranteed, so be sure to book early!

Note: All monies must be sent to our Quartermaster, Dave Fouse, at:

PO Box 1084

Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346

You may also email him at vfwnmhq@gmail.com.

Can't wait to see you all at Mid-Winter!

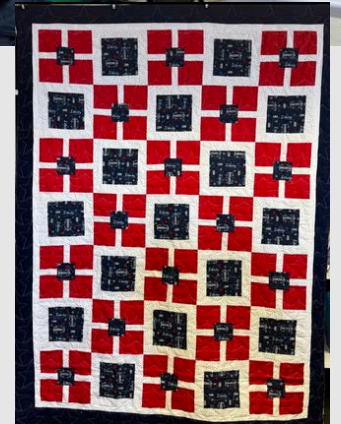
VFW POST 9515



VFW POST 9515 SEWING / QUILTING GROUP

Members of VFW Post 9515 launched a sewing and quilting group in February 2025, gathering monthly at Post 9515, situated at 316 S. Main St in Portales.

Initially focused on creating walker bags for donation to a local nursing home, the group has since expanded its efforts to include quilt-making, with the aim of donating these quilts to Veterans. They are also offering free sewing and quilting classes.



Post 9515 has also arranged a First Responders' meal to support not only the first responders in Portales but also the volunteer fire departments in Dora, Causey, Elida, and neighboring areas.





VFW VSO

Our Department VSOs are Louis Rossi and Katlin Jaramillo.

There contact information is

VFW.VBAALB@VA.GOV

LOUIS.ROSSI@VA.GOV

505-346-4881

Please contact them for your all of your Veteran Services needs.

CAM RAHN BAY AIR BASE

Any Service member stationed at Cam Rahn Bay Air Base, Vietnam from 1962-1975 a reunion is being scheduled in Colorado Springs, Co for late September or early October 2026. Dates are being worked out. Contact dicancook@gmail.com for information/registration forms after 1 February 2026.



VFW FOUNDATION

New Name Announcement

New Mexico Veterans and Families Assistance Foundation

Effective February 1, 2026, the VFW New Mexico Foundation will officially adopt a new name:

New Mexico Veterans and Families Assistance Foundation.

This rebranding reflects our expanded mission to serve not only veterans, but also service members and their families throughout New Mexico.

The new name more clearly communicates the scope of our assistance programs and strengthens our ability to partner, grow, and operate independently within the nonprofit community.

What's Changing?

Discontinuation of the VFW name and marks, per national guidelines

Updated branding across all communications, documents, and platforms

A broader, more inclusive identity that better represents the communities we support.

What's Staying the Same?

Our mission of providing direct assistance and support to New Mexico veterans and families.

All existing programs, grants, and services.

Our leadership, board structure, and commitment to transparency.

Why It Matters

This name change allows the Foundation to increase visibility, strengthen donor confidence, and expand statewide impact. It reinforces our continued dedication to supporting veterans and families—today and in the years ahead.

For questions or transition details, contact:

Len Hampton, ED - vfwnm12@gmail.com

Victoria Haddox, President - torihdx@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM DAVE FOUSE



In the fall of 2004, I was volun-told to run for the Quartermaster position at VFW Post 7686; thanks Kelly, BJ and Bubbles! When I was sworn in, I never would have believed in June of 2007, I would become the Department of New Mexico's Adjutant/Quartermaster. It has been a journey of much joy, many frustrations, dedication, accomplishments, failures, growth, and a lifetime of memories and friends that have become family.

I have been blessed to work with some of the best of the best over the last 19 years. My wife Kelly and I are very grateful for the last 20 years plus of amazing adventures - man what a journey! As with all things, there is a beginning and ending. My journey as a VFW Department Officer is now at its ending, as of the last day of the June State Convention. With that said, it is not the end of my journey with the VFW. I will continue to mentor and be there for the newly elected Quartermaster, and any others that ask for my assistance/opinion. Kelly and I are at the point in our life, we want to step back from so much responsibility and just enjoy being a part of our great NM VFW/VFWA. We are both sincerely grateful for each and every one of you. We sincerely believe, that both sides of the house, have wonderfully competent and passionate people, that will be leading the way to the future.



A MESSAGE FROM DAVE FOUSE

We very much look forward to watching from the sidelines, as mentors-when requested, as the VFW/VFWA of NM continues to grow and thrive! Ironically, our first State Convention in the VFW was at the Embassy Suites in Albuquerque, and our last before we truly become, “has-beens”, will be at Embassy Suites in Albuquerque. We haven’t been there since the 2005/2006 Convention. The only thing left to say is THANK YOU, and we will see everyone in January.

On a personal note; our family wishes to extend our deepest appreciation for all of the phone calls, texts, emails and cards received on the passing of our father, Robert Fouse. He was a proud Marine (Semper Fi), and a Vietnam Veteran. For those of you that have had the pleasure of meeting him, on his several trips to the Post, I am sure he left a lasting impression. He was proud of his Life Membership in 7686, and truly enjoyed the friendships he made at the Post and on Facebook through the NM VFW/VFWA.

In Comradeship,
Dave Fouse
State Quartermaster