

PROCESSING LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Anyone eligible for VFW membership also has the option of becoming a life member. By opting for this membership, individuals save a significant amount compared to renewing annually.

If you have a member of your Post who is interested in life membership, please submit the life membership transmittal form.

Here's what you need to do:

- Complete the Life Member Transmittal Form (see example at right). You may use the Membership Application in place of this form.
- Forward a copy of the Life Membership transmittal, along with fee, to VFW National Headquarters.
- The full fee is required for processing. DO NOT remit short any annual dues paid.
- Retain a copy of the completed life member transmittal form for your Post records.

For our members' convenience, acceptable methods of payment are checks, money orders, American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa credit cards. The payment required in each age category is listed in the box at right.



A Life Member having an "Undeliverable" status for a minimum of one (1) years and the membership record indicates age 80 or older, will have their status changed to "Inactive." Based on this procedure, please make every effort to obtain and forward a current address for your members that are reported as "Undeliverable."

Note: Change of a member's address to the Post address is not accepted.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP CARDS

When life member dues are fully processed, a life membership card is mailed to the member the following business day.

If the life membership card is returned by the post office as undeliverable, the life member will be marked as "U" on the roster.



To replace a lost or damaged life membership card, you may go online to the VFW Web site at www.vfw.org or call 1-800-963-3180, ext. 152.

A Quartermaster has both the fiduciary and ethical obligation to their post, department and national organization to insure every deceased member (annual and life) is purged from the post or department roster in a timely manner. To assist you in this endeavor you will find the Social Security Death Index Interactive Search a vital asset.

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi>

ATTAINED AGE BY DEC 31

Through Age 30
31-40
41-50
51-60
61-70
71-80
81+

LIFE MEMBER FEES

\$425.00
\$410.00
\$375.00
\$335.00
\$290.00
\$225.00
\$170.00

This fee is determined using the applicant's attained age as of Dec. 31 of the calendar year in which the application is submitted.

Some members will question whether or not they receive an annual dues refund, once they have become a life member. A refund will be made if the annual dues and life membership fee are both processed July 1 through Dec. 31. There are no refunds of annual dues paid after Dec. 31.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN

| FEE SCHEDULE | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| ATTAINED AGE BY DEC 31 | ONE TIME PAYMENT LIFE MEMBER FEES | LIFE 12-MONTH PAYMENT PLAN |
| | | \$35 FIRST PAYMENT, PLUS 11 PAYMENTS - |
| Through Age 30 | \$425.00 | \$38.64 |
| 31-40 | \$410.00 | \$37.27 |
| 41-50 | \$375.00 | \$34.09 |
| 51-60 | \$335.00 | \$30.45 |
| 61-70 | \$290.00 | \$26.36 |
| 71-80 | \$225.00 | \$20.45 |
| 81+ | \$170.00 | \$15.45 |

UNDERSTANDING THE LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN

The Life Membership Installment Plan allows a new member or current annual member to obtain a Life Membership by paying the fee in installments. The intent of this program is not to take the place of any existing time payment programs offered by Posts, but is another option in obtaining a Life Membership.

A prospective member or a current annual member (at any time of the year) can join this plan by making an initial payment of \$35.00. The \$35 fee keeps the member in good standing during the installment period and is not applied towards the total amount due. After the initial payment, the member will have 11 payments for the 12-month plan remaining.

The member may choose to have the payments automatically charged monthly to a bank account or credit card account. In this case, they will not receive a monthly billing statement. Instead the payments will be automatically debited or charged to their account until all payments have been made.

Upon enrollment in the Life Membership Installment Plan, the member will receive a membership card, indicating membership in good standing. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued when the Life Membership fees have been paid in full.

To enroll in this plan, the Post Quartermaster should:

- Have the member complete the VFW Membership Application. Indicate "Life 12 Mo Install".
- If the member chooses to have payments automatically deducted from an account, have the member complete and sign the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Payments."
- If paying with credit card, be sure to identify the card (M/C, Visa, Discover, or AMEX), the card number, expiration date and the amount of the payment. The form must be signed by the applicant in order to be processed.
- Forward the application (top copy), \$35 payment (check or credit card), and authorization agreement, if applicable, to the Life Membership Department at VFW National Headquarters.
- Billing reminders will be mailed monthly from National Headquarters directly to the member when the member has elected to be invoiced. No reminders are mailed for the automatic payment option.

Current annual members may also enroll in the Life Membership Installment Plan on-line at www.vfw.org.

*This function is NOT available to Post Quartermasters.



HOW TO TRANSFER A LIFE MEMBERSHIP

According to provisions of Sect. 107 of the *National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure*, life members have the option of transferring membership.

Here's how you can help expedite this:

- The Post to which the member is transferring should complete an MCR form (see p. 35).
- The Quartermaster at the receiving Post must sign the form when reporting life member transfers.
- Forward the member's old life membership card, along with the completed MCR form, to the Life Membership Department at VFW National Headquarters.
- The PT-MD (see p. 36) should be signed by the transferring life member and kept on file indefinitely at the Post.
- A new life membership card, showing affiliation with the new Post, will be mailed to the member.



Please note: Post Quartermasters may now submit non-paying transfers online. Please refer to the Web Sites for Everyday Use on p. 46 for more information.

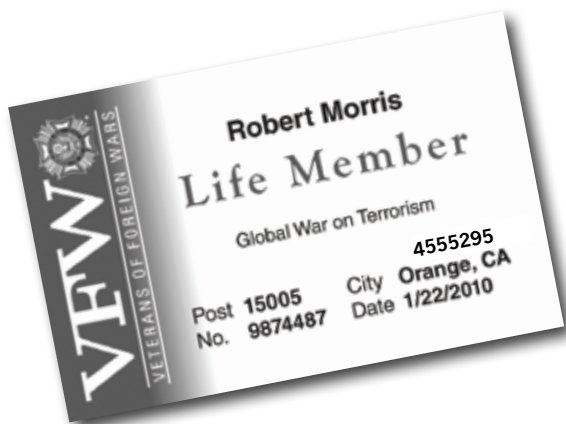
NO COST REPLACEMENT LIFE MEMBER CARD

Use the MCR form (see p. 35) to request a replacement card for a life member.

The Life Membership Department will issue the standard Life Membership card at no charge to the member.

To replace a lost or damaged Life Membership card, you may go online to VFW's Web site at:

www.vfw.org



PERSONALIZED LIFE MEMBER CARDS

The VFW Emblem and Supply Department offers personalized life member cards. These cards are available through the catalog and reflect the chosen branch of service and up to three military actions. **\$5 plus S&H.**



ALUMINUM LIFE MEMBER CARDS

Back by request, for VFW Life Members only. Same weight and artwork as the Aluminum Life Members Cards of the past. Personal and Post information is engraved, rather than stamped and is included in the price of the card. Caution: these cards can set off metal detection alarms. Be sure to include your name, Life Membership number and your VFW Post number. Life Membership will be verified prior to production of this card. **\$10 plus S&H.**



To purchase either a personalized life member card or aluminum life member card, contact the VFW Emblem and Supply Department at 1-800-821-2606 or order online at www.vfwstore.org.



Aluminum Card \$10 plus S&H through Emblem & Supply.

LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

VFW recently launched a new way for life members to leave their mark on VFW. This Legacy Life Membership program offers life members the opportunity to ensure the good work of VFW will continue for generations to come.

Here's how to help your members fill out the form to become a legacy life member:

- Complete the application.
- Select from three categories of membership: Gold, Silver or Bronze, each offering its own package of exclusive benefits. A life member can upgrade to another level at any time by making additional payments.
- Payment options: check or credit card.
- Sign the application.
- Mail application and payment to **VFW National Headquarters, Life Membership Department, 406 W. 34th St., Kansas City, MO 64111.**

Installment options also are available for Legacy Life Membership by making four equal payments. The first payment must accompany this form and be equal to one-fourth (Bronze \$100, Silver \$200, Gold \$300) of the level being purchased. The remaining balance will be billed quarterly by VFW National Headquarters. An automatic payment is also available.

On the enrollment form, be sure to mark whether the member wants a one-time endowment payment or to continue the annual endowment.

In the case of a one-time endowment, the principle amount of the legacy will be paid in equal amounts to your Post, Department and the National organization, as applicable, upon the member's death.

With the annual endowment, the Legacy level payment will continue annually after the member's death.

Once activated, the membership will endow additional income made in the member's name that will provide a stable financial foundation for your Post and VFW overall.



Call the Life Membership Department at **1-800-963-3180** or visit **www.vfw.org** for more information.

VFW LEGACY LIFE MEMBER

Life Member No. _____ Social Security No. _____

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone _____
(Home) (Business or Cell) (E-mail)

Bronze \$400 Silver \$800 Gold \$1200

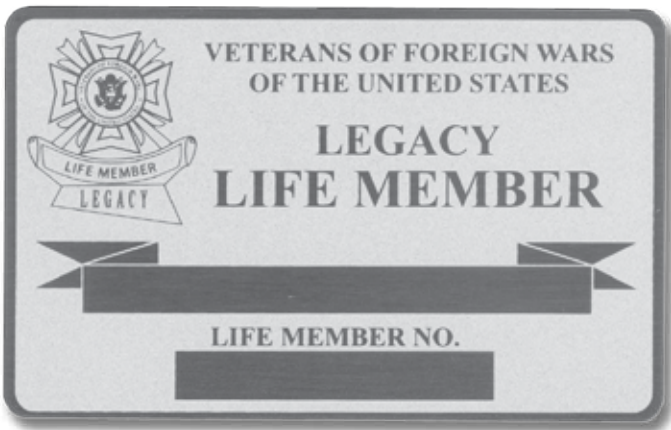
Check Visa MasterCard Discover American Express Installment Plan

Expiration Date: _____
Month _____ Year _____

Upon my demise, make a One-Time Endowment or continue the Annual Endowment
(See Terms and Conditions - item #5 for explanation.)

I hereby agree to the terms and conditions of this Legacy Installment Plan. (over)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



LEGACY LIFE INSTALLMENT PLAN

| | TOTAL | 4 PAYMENTS OF |
|---------------|--------|---------------|
| BRONZE | \$400 | \$100 |
| SILVER | \$800 | \$200 |
| GOLD | \$1200 | \$300 |



••• WEB SITES FOR EVERYDAY USE

Why not save yourself the headache of paperwork and the cost of postage by logging on to VFW's Web site at **www.vfw.org** to submit transmittals via credit card.

Remember, the more you can do to help on your end, the easier it is for the Member Dues Processing staff to process your request.

And of course, you can always call us between **8:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (CST), Mon.-Fri., at 1-800-963-3180.**

- **Additional Member Dues Processing forms can be attained several ways.**
 1. Forms are available online for printing or saving to your computer. Go to www.vfw.org and sign in. Go to the OMS system and click on Leadership Reference Guide and then Forms.
 2. Make a request through your Department Headquarters.
- Dues Processing E-mail Inquiries
memberduesprocessing@vfw.org
- Life Membership E-mail Inquiries
lifememberprocessing@vfw.org

VFW Online Membership System online allows you to perform the following functions:

- Renew Members
- Change Member Addresses
- Decease a Member
- Request a Duplicate Card for a Member
- Convert a Member to Life Membership
- Add New Members (Annual and Life)
- Transfers (Paying and Non-Paying)
- Convert a Member to Legacy Life Membership

To access VFW Membership, follow these steps:

1. Go to **www.vfw.org**.
2. Log in and select Online Membership System.
3. Questions and Answers for using the site are available at one of the tabs.