



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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ESTABLISHED BY PATRIOTS – BLESSED BY POPE PIUS XI – CHARTERED BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS

2025 – 2026 2nd Vice Commander

Membership Program

Point of Contact

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The responsibility of the Second Vice Commander at all levels is to plan and conduct programs to retain present members and recruit new ones. All veterans' organizations have seen a declining membership, and we are no exception, but unlike other VSO's the Catholic War Veterans are bound by our faith and mission to God, Country and Home (FAMILY).

It is critically important to maintain an accurate roster and have a skilled individual who can administer the Post roster in the CWV Admin Data Base. If you or the designated individuals need assistance with access and or instructions on navigating your Post's admin website, please contact me.

Keep your reports up to date. Remember October is when renewals & dues are due. Elections should be completed, and Post/Department Officer Rosters need to be updated whether they have changed or not.

Below are a few ideas to help with recruiting.

National 2nd Vice Commanders Recruitment Plan

1. Create a written plan of your membership efforts and assemble a team to make sure everyone is on board.
2. Set your goals for membership by brainstorming about what you could do.
3. Make an appointment to see your local parish pastors. Explain what we do for a membership poppy drive. Ask what dates are available to speak at Mass. THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO GET NEW MEMBERS.FACE TO FACE...
4. First impressions in welcoming prospective members and our individual knowledge of our organization and handouts ready at hand.
5. The post being invigorated and appreciative of membership in this great Catholic Veterans Organization.
6. Have a vibrant membership committee and promote personal contacts realistically.
7. Create a think tank of previous efforts and productive suggestions to keep in mind and turn into action.
8. It's everyones job to get out there and just do it - recruit.
9. Wear CWV hat or clothing when out to events or just shopping. Advertise, advertise, advertise...
10. Participate in other veteran and community events. Advertise wherever possible ESPECIALLY in parish bulletins.
11. Prioritize a list that you're eager to try out (Your new ideas).
12. Create a written, organized plan in a clear and concise plan that includes a schedule.
13. Place a new member orientation plan into action like requesting rookie integration ideas
14. Listening to members' opinions and concerns,
15. recognizing and socializing with each other. One on one feedback on our posts present and future endeavors.
16. Keep applications at the ready for when someone asks about the organization.
17. Training sessions, special ceremonies in recognition all that have been an integral part of this post's success. 19
18. It's safe to say that if your members don't feel welcome and are part of the chorus, they won't renew. 20.

19. Get members involved at some level without taking up too much of their time. Especially with newer members in a meaningful way.
20. Recognize members as often as possible to show our gratitude for their participation as hard workers.
21. Make sure the job is worthwhile when asking members to volunteer their time.
22. Have a Post SLOGAN
23. Encourage members to use the CWV sticker on their vehicles.
24. Have a series of activities to make up a retention program.
25. Start a regular column in our newsletter for members' involvement. Recognizing by name who had helped the post in some way.
26. How about a six-month "Report Card" for members to grade our organization in several service areas?
27. Before the renewal letters are sent out, how about tell of the great year we had and how we are looking forward to working with them again next year. And what can they expect in the future.
28. Do everything your post can be a reason a member wants to renew.
29. Foremost there is a need for all members to be involved in the recruiting as well as the retention process.
30. Call and write to your local Catholic radio stations. Request and interview or see if they would do an advertisement over the air.
31. If you are doing a special event let the local TV stations know that you are doing one and why they should be broadcasting it.

I. REPORTS

Posts are responsible for submitting two (2) Semi-Annual Post Activities reports. The Membership Officer should assist in filling out **Section 7 – Membership**. Posts wishing to augment their reports with additional detail may do so. The Semi-Annual Report Form can be filled out online through your Post's Admin Website.

Department and National echelons can view lower echelon reports on their respective Admin website, but if so desired, a printed hard copy of these Reports may be sent directly to the higher echelon - one copy each to Chapter, one to Department and one to National for each Reporting Period. Reports can be sent as an e-mail attachment.

Please time your reports to arrive at each higher Echelon as follows:

- First Report (covers July 1 - December 31)
 - o Post Report to all applicable upper Echelons (Chapter, Dept and National)
 - o DUE NO LATER than January 20
- Second Report (Covers January 1- June 30)
 - o Post Report to all applicable upper Echelons (Chapter, Dept and National)
 - o DUE NO LATER than July 20

Department and Chapter Membership Officers should also forward a copy of their Annual Membership Report rendered to delegates at their Convention, immediately thereafter, to the National Membership Officer.

The National 2nd Vice Commander's point of contact information is found at the top of this document.