

# National Publications Contest Winners Announced for 2023-24

## Publications from across eight VFW Departments have been chosen as this year's winners

Apr 23, 2024

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has announced the winners of the 2024 National Publications Contest. More than six years ago, the contest changed significantly to encourage more participation. This created two new categories: Best Magazine and Best Feature Article. This year's competition retained those changes.

Two non-VFW-affiliated journalism professionals served as judges for the competition. This is designed to guarantee impartiality and objectivity in the judging. To reiterate, VFW staffers play no part in judging the entries.

The winning publications in each category are:

### **Best Magazine**

#### **Grand Award:**

*California Veteran*  
Rodger Meier, Editor

#### **Silver Award:**

N/A

### **Best Feature Article**

#### **Grand Award:**

"Mama Bear"  
Lt. Col. Brad Leighton, *Illinois VFW News*  
Department of Illinois

#### **Silver Award:**

#### **NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

406 W. 34th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
Office 816.756.3390  
Fax 816.968.1157

#### **WASHINGTON OFFICE**

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
Office 202.543.2239  
Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org  
www.vfw.org

“Flag Finds Way Back to Alachua County VFW Post 2811”

Michael P. Mauer, *Alachua County Today*

Department of Florida

**Bronze Award:**

“Shared Link to The Past”

Sara Jane Ruggles, *The Coeur d’Alene Press*

Department of Idaho

**Department Publications**

***Large Frequency (printed 5+ times per year)***

**Grand Award:**

*Illinois VFW News*

Barb Wilson, Editor

***Small Frequency (printed 1-4 times per year)***

**Grand Award:**

*Wisconsin VFW News*

Marla J. Morgan, Editor

**Silver Award:**

*Louisiana Combat Veteran*

Mitchell Cota, Editor

**Bronze Award:**

*Pennsylvania VFW News*

David Gyger, Editor

**District/Post Publications**

***Large Frequency (printed 5+ times per year)***

**Grand Award:**

*Cannon News*

Rick Raskin, Editor

Department of Virginia

**Silver Award:**

*VFW Post 392 Newsletter and Calendar*

Michael T. Marushia Sr., Editor

Department of Virginia

**Bronze Award:**

*The Dispatch*

Stephen Blackwell, Editor

Department of Florida

***Small Frequency (printed 1-4 times per year)***

**Grand Award:**

*VFW SSG Dozier Memorial Post 2894*

Dan Eaker, Editor

Department of Virginia

**Silver Award:**

*Fort Atkinson Post Dispatch (VFW Post 1879)*

Kelly Stine, Editor

Department of Wisconsin

**Bronze Award:**

*VFW Post 2113 & Auxiliary Newsletter*

Randy Hansen, Editor

Department of Wisconsin