



*Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America*  
1811 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20009  
[www.jwv.org](http://www.jwv.org)

## **Patron Donors**

We appreciate your Post's efforts to increase visibility in the community. You are welcome to enroll any individual who upholds the values of JWV as a Patron. A Patron is not a member, so s/he may not hold any elected office or act as a delegate of any echelon. Ultimately, they are a supporter of the organization and are welcome to take part in our events, volunteer with us, advocate on our behalf, etc.

Some Posts allow Patrons to hold non-voting, appointed positions. So, they cannot, for example, be elected Commander, but they could be appointed Scholarship Fund Chairman. It's up to the Post to decide.

National HQ strongly encourages a Patron to make an annual contribution equal to the Post's annual dues. Upon contributing, the Patron will be issued a Patron ID card from National HQ (like your membership card) and mailings from JWV. But, according to *The Manual of Ceremonies*, a Patron is not obligated to pay anything. The Post should think carefully about how to approach the donation expectations. You might consider having categories, such as:

- National Patron – for those who complete the official Patron application and make an annual donation equal to Post dues
- Post Patron – for those who only register with the Post and help out from time to time. Perhaps suggest an annual donation of \$25. Or ask them to commit to so many hours of volunteer service.
- Honorary Patron – for those in the community you'd like to recognize publically. No dues required.

It's a great idea to award Honorary Patron status to important community figures at least once per year to keep JWV in the news. Consider local religious leaders, government officials, police officers, school teachers, news anchors, or other veteran organizations' leaders. Make a show of it – invite folks to the ceremony. This is a great way to get some publicity. And often times, the honored Patron is compelled to donate, so it's a win-win!

As for recruitment, think of events or places where people can interact with the Post and get interested. It may be harder to recruit Patrons simply by setting up a booth at a local festival (although that's a good idea for recruiting members). Patrons will want to see what the Post does and how it is a positive force in the community. The Post might consider joining a local fundraising effort – for example, the hospital hosts a walk-a-thon to raise money for cancer research. You could research statistics about causes of cancer for in-service members and veterans. Link the local cause to veterans' issues. Then when you interact with other community members, you can begin asking them to join your own Post events. Basically, it's the face-to-face time that's going to get you Patrons.

To access the Patron application, visit:

<http://www.jwv.org/images/uploads/PatronDonorForm.pdf>

To read more about Patron donors, see *The Manual of Ceremonies*, Part III, p. 36:

<http://www.jwv.org/images/uploads/ManualOfCeremonies.pdf>