



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Phone: (217) 529- 6688

Fax: (217) 546-3415

P.O. Box 13206

Springfield, IL 62791-3206

E-mail: [vfwil@vfwil.org](mailto:vfwil@vfwil.org)

Website: [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org)

2020-2021 Series

**General Orders No. 10**

April 2021

**SECTION 213: ARREARAGES, DEFICIENCIES AND OMISSIONS**

Any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council, (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, failing to have the office of the Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Reports of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

**NOMINATIONS FOR VFW MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

***District Commanders are reminded that they are to submit their nominee for VFW Member of the Year to Junior Past State Commander Brad Gould, 1421 Gleason Dr., Rantoul, Illinois 61866. There is no special form to submit with your nominee for this award. However, we will need the nominee's name, address, and telephone number for notification purposes.***

***Please submit the information along with a written statement explaining why you feel your nominee is deserving of this recognition prior to Friday, April 16 2021. This award will be presented during the 100th Annual State Convention in Springfield, Illinois.***

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

Planning for the upcoming Department Convention is an option A/B at this time.

Plan A: a normal/traditional Convention

Plan B: a hybrid Convention. We are asking all District Commanders to provide Dept. HQ with a designated post to serve as a satellite site to provide all posts in the district the opportunity to observe, attend and vote on all issues that could come up during our proceedings. This will also provide a location where districts can caucus. Zoom links will be published as necessary to provide

access to Department Convention Events. **MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT OUT REGARDING CONVENTION APRIL 12, 2021.**

### **VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PARADE OF WINNERS**

This year the VFW will be hosting its first-ever, virtual Parade of Winners at 7:00pm CDT, Live on Facebook.

Join us as VFW and VFW Auxiliary State and National Leadership, representatives from program sponsors Twisted X and Dell, and this year's 52 Voice of Democracy Department (State) winners come together from all over the world as we crown the 2021 national Voice of Democracy first place winner.

Be sure to visit the VFW Facebook Page, select the Virtual Parade of Winners event, tap "interested", then "going" to ensure you stay up-to-date and receive all event notifications and reminders.

### **IMPORTANT - REPORT OF ELECTION FORM**

National Headquarters has mailed all Post Quartermasters a packet which includes the *2021-2022 Report of Election Form* with instructions on how to submit their report online using the Online Membership System (OMS). A blank Post Election Report can also be found in the "Document Repository" section on the Online Membership System. Post Quartermasters having difficulty submitting their election report can call VFW State Headquarters for assistance, (217) 529-6688. Included in this packet is information on how to register your Post for the National Convention along with a room reservation form for the National Convention. The 122<sup>nd</sup> VFW National Convention will be held July 31- August 5, 2021 in Baltimore, Maryland.

### **POLITICS**

Your attention is directed to Section 702 of the National By-Laws regarding Politics:

*"No officer or member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall in any manner use the Veterans of Foreign Wars for partisan politics and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any meetings nor shall any nominations, recommendations or endorsements for political office be made, provided this shall not apply to discussion of policies of any organization that seeks to alter our present form of government by force, violence or other unlawful means.*

*Participation in activities supporting or opposing legislation or administration of laws for veteran's welfare or relating to other matters pertaining to the purposes of the organization shall be permitted. Such participation shall be consistent with the legislative and welfare programs and policies approved by the National Convention.*

*No Post, County Council, District or Department shall participate in a labor dispute, either on behalf of labor or management. No member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall wear the VFW uniform or VFW cap in any plant or picket line or meeting of employees where a labor dispute arises.*

*Nothing contained in this Section shall prevent the organization of a lawful political action committee to further the purposes of the VFW as set forth in Section 230102 of the Congressional Charter, nor prevent any discussion of the activities of such a committee."*

### **ATTENTION PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

Your respective Programs end on April 30, 2021. Please send in your Program award winners to Department Headquarters as soon as they are determined.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS AND CITATIONS**

The deadline for award nominations for our State Convention is April 30, 2021 for the following categories: Outstanding Legislator of the Year, Humanitarian of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Paramedic of the Year, Outstanding Patriotism of the Year, Outstanding Governmental Service of the Year, Clergy of the Year, News Media Professional of the Year, and Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

There is no special form to fill out to nominate an individual. All you would need is the name of the individual, their address, the sponsoring Post and/or Auxiliary, the contact person for the nomination, and why this individual deserves to be recognized.

### **STATE CONVENTION AD BOOK**

The form for the Convention Program Ad Book is on the homepage of our website: [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org). Please print out the form, complete your ad and mail it to State Headquarters with your check. Note that the deadline for receiving your ad is April 30, 2021!

### **STATE AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

Awards will be presented at the time the Program Director makes their final report during the State Convention. Directors must insure their awards are in the stage area prior to making their reports. *Please see agenda for Friday and Saturday for timeframe of when reports will be given.*

### **ATTENTION POST COMMANDERS**

Under the Department of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars By-Laws, Article V - Convention, Section 8 - Registration at Annual Department Convention:

*"Each Post shall register, in advance or at the Convention, at least one delegate to the Department Convention by payment of the advance registration fee in effect for such Convention, which fee shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials. Posts failing to comply with this requirement shall be considered delinquent and in arrears."*

**X-sheet program compliance reporting year end is April 30, 2021. Only 30 days to get your x-sheet items complete. Reminder: You must be 100% on the x-sheet to qualify for All-State status.**

## **ELECTION OF POST DELEGATES**

### **CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER, BY-LAWS, MANUAL OF PROCEDURE AND RITUAL**

#### *Article II – Posts, Section 217*

##### **Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office of Post Officers**

Post officers shall be elected in April. Balloting for Post Officers may be conducted by open vote or written secret ballot (handwritten or printed) at a regular Post meeting, or, if required by Post By-Laws or authorized by Post vote prior to the opening of nominations, by a poll system. Absentee ballots and proxy votes are prohibited. A majority vote of all votes cast, except where otherwise designated, shall be necessary to elect. If there be not election on the first ballot, the name of the comrade receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.

#### *Article II – Posts, Section 222*

##### **Delegates, District Conventions & Meetings, Department and National Conventions**

*Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in **April**. Delegate strength will be based on members in good standing as of March 31<sup>st</sup>.*

Delegates shall not be recognized at the National Convention unless they personally register their completed delegate card with the National Credentials Committee. Posts instituted after strength has been determined, but prior to convening date of the respective convention or district meeting, shall on the day of institution, elect one delegate and one alternate for each thirty names or fraction thereof according to the number of names listed on the charter application.

## **QUARTERMASTER BOND REQUIREMENT**

The books and records of the Quartermaster, and other accountable officers, must be submitted at least quarterly by the Post Trustees. Failure on the part of the Commander to strictly enforce Section 218 of the National Manual of Procedure may release the Bonding Company of all liability in case of a defalcation. National By-Laws require Posts to have a Relief Fund. **Any Audit submitted that does not show an active Relief Fund will not be accepted and will be returned. AUDITS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE THREE POST TRUSTEES AND THE POST COMMANDER PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT.**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

Baltimore, Maryland has been selected to host the 122<sup>nd</sup> VFW National Convention. Housing is open now. Complete and submit the 2021 general housing form and be sure to book your room today.

[General Housing Form](#)

[Tentative Agenda](#)

[Hotel Assignments](#)

[VFW and Auxiliary Hotel Map](#)

[Book your National Convention Hotel Room](#)

[Wheelchair/Scooter Rental and RV Park Information](#)

OFFICIAL:



W. DAVE STOUT  
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



LAURIE EMMER  
State Commander