



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

2022-2023
General Orders No. 2
August 2022

ALL POST COMMANDERS

Your attention is directed to the provisions of our National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, Section 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations – which states in part under Commander’s Duties and Obligations – *“Assure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings and County Council meetings (if applicable).”* Each State Commander is mandated to uphold the National By-Laws and this is just one small section that is being closely scrutinized by the National Organization. We appreciate the fact that Post Commanders may not always be available when District Meetings are scheduled; he/she can appoint any of his members to attend in his/her place.

SECTION 703 – BONDS

Please refer to Section 703 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure regarding the bonding of officers. We quote in part from Section 703: *“Each officer accountable for funds or property pursuant to any provision of these By-Laws shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which, so far as can be anticipated, he may be accountable.”*

The bonds that are purchased through State HQ expire August 31, 2022.

SECTION 709 – CONTROL OF UNITS

We have had a few inquiries from VFW Posts considering the sale of their Post Homes and or purchasing Real Estate Property. Please be reminded that Section 709 - Control of Units in the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure must be followed in its entirety.

“In addition to other legal requirements under existing local laws or Department By-Laws, no Post, County Council, District, or any holding company or corporation subordinate thereto, shall purchase, sell or otherwise transfer title or any interest in any real estate unless written notice of such proposal has first been given to each member of said unit ten (10) days prior to such regular or special meeting at which the proposal is to be considered, and then only by two-thirds (2/3)

vote of approval of those members present and voting at such regular or special meeting. In addition, at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting, notice shall be provided to the Department Commander who shall review any sale, purchase, transfer or encumbrance to determine whether such transaction serves the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as prescribed in the Congressional Charter. Failure to comply with these provisions shall nullify said transaction.”

REGULARLY HELD POST MEETINGS

“Sec. 203 - Regular, Special and Committee Meetings; Quorum; Authorized Attendees.

Regular Meetings. Posts shall hold at least one regular meeting each month. Failure to comply can result in immediate revocation of the Post Charter notwithstanding the provisions of Section 211 of the Manual of Procedure.”

Posts MUST meet each month. Those that do not comply with this by-law are subject to adverse action. Post and District Commanders are expected to ensure compliance.

MEETING MINUTES

Keeping properly formatted meeting minutes is one of the most important duties you have to your post or district. There have been recent incidents of post meetings being held and important decisions, such as the membership approving to sell property, not being recorded in the minutes. If it is not recorded, it did not happen. Meeting minutes must include the following.

- You need to include the date, time and type of meeting
- Meeting location
- Officers/members present
- Any subject brought to the meeting floor for a vote
 - THE RESULT OF THAT VOTE
- Anything brought to the meeting floor for a discussion

Meeting minutes do not need to be a transcript-- just a summary. Your minutes need to be legible, and your minutes need to be read and approved at the next regular meeting.

For further information on how to properly record meeting minutes please refer to [Roberts Rules of Order \(Newly Revised\)](#) Section 48, paragraphs 1 through 8.

POST PURCHASES AND EXPENDITURES

We have a few inquiries from members and officers regarding the procedures for approval of purchases and expenditures in a Post. Specifically, they inquired about purchases or donations that were made without approval of membership prior to disbursement of funds.

Please refer to Section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.

Sec 218(a)(1)f states that one of the duties of the Commander is “Approve all disbursements of funds properly authorized by the Post by use of voucher or payment order”

Sec 218(a)(5)c states that one of the duties of the Quartermaster is “Disburse funds as properly authorized by the Post using acceptable banking practices.”

In both instances, it is very clear that Post expenditures can only be made after they are properly authorized by the Post, which means approval of the membership.

Please review the procedures that you are follow to ensure all your expenditures and disbursement of funds are in compliance with National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.

DEPARTMENT PURCHASES

“ARTICLE XII — Control of Department Purchases”

No Department Officer, appointive or elective, or Department Committee Chairman or Department Committee member, is authorized to purchase goods or enter into any agreement, expressed or implied, written or oral, providing for or involving the expenditure of Department funds without prior written authorization based on a requisition bearing the signature of the Department Adjutant and the Department Quartermaster.”

SEC. 518 -- OFFICERS: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

(4) Quartermaster. Among the duties of the Department Quartermaster, the Quartermaster shall:

- a. Qualify and secure a bond in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which the Quartermaster may be accountable in accordance with Section 703.
- b. Collect all monies due the Department and have charge of the funds, securities and other property of the Department, all of which shall be placed in their care. The Quartermaster shall be the accountable officer of the Department and the Treasurer of all committees handling funds.
- c. Disburse funds as properly authorized by the Department using accepted banking practices. Unless otherwise provided for in Department By-Laws, all disbursements of Department funds shall bear the signature of the Quartermaster.
- j. Budget. Prepare a tentative balanced budget for the financial operations of the ensuing year. The budget once adopted by the Department Council of Administration shall be forwarded to the Adjutant General by November 1.

RED, WHITE AND BLUE VETERANS SERVICE SUPPORTER PROGRAM

Districts, Posts and Individuals can once again show their support for our Veterans Service programs through our Red, White and Blue Supporter Program. We have established three levels of Sponsorships – Red for those making donations of at least \$1,000; White for those making \$500 donations; and Blue for those making donations of \$250.

Individuals, Posts, Districts and Auxiliaries making donations in the above Supporter Levels will receive a beautiful plaque noting their level of support and signs noting donations will be displayed at the Mid-Winter Conference in February and our 104th annual State Convention in June, 2023.

COMMANDERS AUGUST MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

We have lost a lot of members through the back door. We did not engage the members or get them involved so that they wanted to stay a member of the IL VFW. This month's challenge will focus on efforts to recover those members that have let their membership expire. Call it "REINSTATE to REENERGIZE". These unpaid members already know the VFW, they know the many good things that we are doing. They just need to be reenergized to come back and get involved which in turn will reenergize your Post.

Each member is challenged to reinstate at least 1 member. Every member that recruits and is able to reinstate at least 3 reinstated members will earn a chance to win a Commander's Medallion. You will receive 1 entry for every 3 members that you reinstate. There will be 3 winners drawn and each will receive a "Commander's Medallion" The member that reinstates the most members during the month of August will receive a special "Commander's Knife Set"

Post Challenge – Every Post that reinstates at least 25 members will receive \$50 VFW Store Gift Certificate and if you reinstate at least 50, you will also receive check for the Post for \$100

District Challenge – Every District that reinstates at least 50 members will receive \$100 VFW Store Gift Certificate and if you reinstate 100 members, you will also receive check for the District for \$200

ALL AMERICAN COMMANDERS FOR 2021-2022

Congratulations to the 2021-2022 Commanders listed below who have earned "All American" status:

Dwane Lungren, 5th District Commander
Joseph May, Commander, Post 99
John Pietrusinski, Commander, Post 805
Anthony Avers, Commander, Post 976
Matthew Voss, Commander, Post 981
Jeffrey Swanson, Commander, Post 1197
Les Durov, Commander, Post 1337
Gregory Kelm, Commander, Post 1461
Michael Peck, Commander, Post 2486
Kenneth Hall, Commander, Post 2698
Eric Morales, Commander, Post 2868
Mike Houlihan, Commander, Post 3912
James Patinka, Commander, Post 5036
Seth Floyd, Commander, Post 5346
Alonzo Skipper, Commander, Post 5691
Shawn Schroeder, Commander, Post 5979
Charles Spivey, Commander, Post 7186
Chris Maynor, Commander, Post 7190
Jason Milner, Commander Post 7682
Robert Painter Jr., Commander, Post 10302

AUGUST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

AUGUST 26-27, 2022

Northenders Post 10302
2349 Stockyard Rd, Springfield, IL 62702

Northfield Inn & Suites
3280 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702
217-523-7900

Ramada Springfield North
3281 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702
217-523-4000

*Both hotels are \$85 per night + tax

Group name is VFW to receive special rate.

State HQ will make room reservations for Council of Administration members. All other attendees need to contact hotel direct for room reservations

All details are tentative and *subject to change*, such as meeting location and time.

The cut-off to make reservations is August 4, 2022.

DISTRICT COMMANDERS/PROGRAM CHAIRMANS

All Officers and Program Chairmen are expected to be in attendance for all meetings. The committees being called into the August Council of Administration will meet on Friday, August 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm and the August Council of Administration Meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. The meetings will take place at Northenders VFW Post 10302. All *Program Chairmen* are expected to be present and to introduce themselves and outline their programs giving instruction on how to accomplish program goals.

PROGRAM CHAIRMEN: If you need a PowerPoint presentation or any visual aid, please contact State Headquarters as soon as possible to have arrangements made. If you **have documentation you would like to handout, please forward them to State Headquarters by Friday, August 5, 2022!**

VETERANS SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Veterans Service Committee will meet at 1:00 pm ...

Dave Stout, Chairman

Bobby Edwards, State Commander

Brett Nila, State Senior Vice Commander

Maurice Bridges, State Junior Vice Commander

Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

Bobby Welch, State Junior Past State Commander

ILLINOIS VFW NEWS COMMITTEE

The *Illinois VFW News* Committee will meet following the Veterans Service Committee

Laurie Emmer, Chairman, Past State Commander

Barbara Wilson, *Illinois VFW News* Editor

Bobby Edwards, State Commander

Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Budget & Finance Committee will meet after the *Illinois VFW News* Committee

Phil Maughan - Chairman

Joe Bartley - Assistant Budget and Finance Chairman

AUGUST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

The Council of Administration will meet at the Northenders VFW Post 10302, Springfield, IL on Friday, August 26, 2022 at 3:00 pm. This meeting should adjourn at approximately 5:30 pm, and reconvene on Saturday, August 27th at 8:30 am. The following State Officers and Program Chairmen should be prepared to report on Friday, August 26, 2022

Philip Maughan, National Council Member
Ryan Higginbotham, State Chief of Staff
Rob Bailey, State Inspector
Eugene Blackwell, State Surgeon
Jay Hoffman, State Judge Advocate
Gary Holmes, State Chaplain
Matt Willis, State Membership Chairman
Steve Eller, State All-State Program Chairman
Barbara Wilson, State Marketing/Public Relations Chairman
Georges Sanon, State Student Veterans Liaisons
Sean Conner, State Americanism Chairman
Chris Maynor, State Blood Donor Chairman
Stephanie Kirksey, State Buddy Poppy Chairman
Larry Carter, State Fair Chairman
Josh Seed, Yellow Ribbon Chairman
Charles Ingle, State Community Activities Chairman
Paul Bezazian, State Homeless Veterans Chairman
Harold Olsen, Jr., State Hospital & VAVS Chairman
Michael Peck, State Legislative Chairman
Michael McGrath, State National Home Chairman
Clarence Caraker, State POW/MIA Chairman
John Metzger, State Veterans and Military Support Programs Chairman
Laurie Emmer, *Illinois VFW News* Committee Chairman
Barbara Wilson - *Illinois VFW News* Editor Les
Durov, State Safety Chairman
Dave Darte, State Voice of Democracy Chairman
John Davin, State Youth Activities Chairman
Ron Milton, State Scouting Chairman
John Jakoby, VFW/MOC Coordinator
Dave Stout, Veterans Service Chairman
Phil Maughan, Budget & Finance Committee Chairman

AUGUST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

These additional State Officers will also be called into the Council of Administration Meeting...
Derek Giffin, State Service Office Chairman
Lee Morgan, State Assistant Quartermaster
Jeff Britt., State Officer of the Day
Kyna Simpson, State Aide-De-Camp

STATE COMMANDER/PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Dinner for Commander Bobby Edwards will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2022, in conjunction with our First Council of Administration Meeting.

You may purchase your tickets through State Headquarters by calling (217) 529-6688 or making a donation on <http://www.vfwil.org>. Tickets are \$35.00 each.

ILLINOIS DAY AT THE VFW NATIONAL HOME

“Illinois Day” at the National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, has been set for Saturday, September 24, 2022. We hope to have a large turn-out and would appreciate having a head count of the number of VFW and Auxiliary Members from each Post who will be in attendance. Please see the back of these orders for a list of hotels.

2022 FALL PROGRAM BOOK

This year’s theme is “VFW Survives Pandemic”

In March 2020, our lives changed. COVID became an everyday term. We had lock downs, event cancellations, mask requirements, vaccinations, and restrictions. Our normal way of doing business came to a stop or changed significantly. Visiting veterans became Buddy Checks by phone, email, and texts. Meetings went from in-person to Zoom to Hybrid. However, through it all the Illinois VFW survived and found new and innovative ways to do business. New programs or methods were used.

This year, our Illinois VFW Fall Program Book will honor the members, Posts, and Districts that used the pandemic to look for new ways they could serve veterans, new ways they could promote VFW programs and despite the pandemic prepared the IL VFW to continue to move forward in our service initiatives – the stories of how our members, and future members, dealt with the challenges of the pandemic and prepared us to move beyond the pandemic.

A veteran submission form is included in the General Orders and we’re asking as many members who want to - to fill out and turn in their story (and photos) to be included in “VFW Survives Pandemic”. Submission is simple – fill out the included form, and return either via mail to State Headquarters, 3300 Constitution Ave, Springfield IL 62711 or via email to bwilson@vfwil.org

In addition, Posts, Districts and individuals are invited to submit an ad for inclusion in our Fall Program Book. An ad form is included in these General Orders.

ILLINOIS VFW NEWS

Photographs, news, and calendar items can be mailed to Editor Barbara Wilson 802 N. 3rd Street, Riverton, Illinois 62561. Any items can be sent via e-mail to barb.wilson2@outlook.com. Pictures should be sent as a JPEG attachment. This is your newspaper, and we want your news items and pictures.

STATE CONVENTION FIRST PLACE POPPY DISPLAY WINNERS

Congratulations to the following First Place Poppy Display Winners.

Category 1 – Public Promotion of Poppy Sales

Metzger-Crook Post 6504-14 and its Auxiliary, Waterloo, Illinois
Scott Post 4183-14, Belleville, Illinois

Category 2 – Memorial or Inspirational Displays

Ybarra-Gomez Post 8890-8 and its Auxiliary, East Moline, Illinois
Chicago Bridgeport Post 5079-3 and its Auxiliary, Chicago, Illinois
Hometown Murray Post 9773-3 and its Auxiliary, Hometown, Illinois

Category 3 – Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

Sgt. Charles A. Fricke Post 805-14 Auxiliary, O'Fallon, Illinois
LaFore Lock Post 755-10 and its Auxiliary, Springfield, Illinois

NEW CENTURY RAFFLE

The New Century Raffle has officially started and will run through June 30, 2023. The tickets are just \$10.00 each. Each ticket entitles you to participate in a weekly drawing of \$100 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Drawings will be held each Friday beginning July 1, 2022, with each week's winning ticket being returned to the barrel for the future drawings. This means each ticket has multiple chances to win. The seller of each ticket also has a chance to win \$10.00. If seller prints their name on ticket, they will receive \$10.00. If the seller does not sign the ticket, the \$10.00 will be automatically donated and split between Department's Unmet Needs Program and Children's National Home. Winners will be announced each month in the General Orders and posted on <http://vfwil.org> web site

WEEKLY WINNERS

Date of Drawing	Winner	Seller
07/01/2022	Earl Clemen	No seller listed
07/08/2022	Larry Murdock	Larry Murdock
07/15/2022	Richard Lintzenich	No seller listed
07/22/2022	Steve Pattison	No seller listed
07/29/2022	Paul Havey	Paul Havey

2022 Commander's Calls

State Commander Bobby Edwards will be holding 4 Commander's Calls this fall at Posts around Illinois

Schedule

September 17, 2022

Knox County Post 2257
1001 Michigan Ave
Galesburg, IL 61401

September 18, 2022

Malcolm J Mayo Post 5422
557 W Baltimore St
Wilmington, IL 60481

October 1, 2022

Russell E Dunham Memorial Post 1308
4445 Alby St
Alton, IL 62002

October 2, 2022

Theodore Hoffman Post 1769
2304 S Veterans Dr
Effingham, IL 62401

All Commander's Calls are scheduled for 10 am to 2 pm on the dates and locations above

ALL Veterans of Foreign Wars officers and members are invited to attend and meet with the State Commander and other State Officers and Chairmen of the IL VFW

As a reminder, A Post Commander or representative must attend at least one (1) of the scheduled Commander's Calls in order to be eligible for All-State Post for 2022-2023

POSTS AND DISTRICT BYLAWS

At the 123rd VFW National Convention a bylaw change was approved concerning Section 202 for Posts and Section 402 for Districts: As seen below the word "may" has been replaced with shall. This now means all posts are required to have their own bylaws.

Sec. 202 - Bylaws.

Posts **may**, shall by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting adopt Bylaws provided each member has been notified at least twenty (20) days in advance and, upon request has been provided a copy of the proposed Bylaws. Bylaws approved by a Post shall be forwarded as provided in the Manual of Procedure prior to becoming effective.

Sec. 402 - Bylaws.

The District Convention **may** shall adopt or amend Bylaws governing the District as prescribed in the Manual of Procedure, provided such Bylaws do not conflict with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual or laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States or the Bylaws of the Department having jurisdiction.

If your Post or District does not currently have an approved Bylaws, now is the time to work on those and get them approved before they become a finding on your inspection checklist

Bylaws should be sent to sent to State HQ for review and endorsement to National for approval. Post and District Bylaws MUST be reviewed and approved by Commander-in-Chief after they have been approved by the Posts or Districts.

BY ORDER OF:

OFFICIAL:



BOBBY
EDWARDS
State Commander



JOE BARTLEY
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

August Council of Administration

Tentative Agenda (*Subject to Change*)

Northenders Post 10302
2349 Stockyard Rd., Springfield, IL 62702

Friday, August 26, 2022

- 10:00 AM VFW Supply Sales Opens
Northenders Post 10302
- 1:00 PM Veterans Service Committee
Illinois VFW News Committee
Budget & Finance Committee
Northenders Post 10302
- 3:00 PM Council of Administration Meeting
Northenders Post 10302
- 5:00 PM VFW Supply Sales Closes
Northenders Post 10302
- 6:00 - 8:00 PM Meet & Greet
Northenders Post 10302

Saturday, August 27, 2022

- 8:00 AM VFW Supply Sales Opens
Northenders Post 10302
- 8:30 AM Council of Administration Meeting
Northenders Post 10302
- 3:00 PM VFW Supply Sales Closes
Northenders Post 10302
- 3:00 PM Church Services
Northenders Post 10302
- 5:00 PM Social Hour Begins
Commander Bobby Edwards' Homecoming
- 6:00 PM Dinner
Northenders Post 10302

Program Bulletin VOD August 2022

School openings are just around the corner and this is a good time to advocate for the Voice of Democracy Contest in your local high school(s). Try to schedule an appointment with the principal to talk about VOD and provide him or her with the following link prior to meeting: [Youth Scholarships - VFW](#) (School personnel are incredibly busy the week before and after school resumes and should be avoided)

Suggestions for meeting:

- Let the principle know that the VFW appreciates the difficult task that teachers and administrators have in preparing curriculum to prepare students for their future and are aware of the many mandates that they have competing for classroom time. The task is even more challenging, given the many career paths that are available for students when they graduate. One thing that remains in common for almost all students however, is that they will be the next generation of American citizens and some will be the future leaders of our great country. It is for this reason that the VFW believes that all students can benefit by taking some time to consider the freedoms that they enjoy and to ponder their role in preserving and advancing those freedoms. Simply put, we hope to plant the seeds of patriotism.
- The VOD contest fits well in a variety of core curriculum such as Language Arts, History, Civics, etc. It is a good way to incorporate good citizenship training with essential academic instruction.
- You can tout that there are four levels of judging, and prizes at each level Post, District, State and National. Seventeen District winners advance to State where the prizes range from \$300-\$2500 and an all-expense trip to Springfield for students and their families that include a tour of the sites and an awards banquet. At the national level scholarships range from \$1000-\$30,000 and an exciting trip to Washington D.C.
- Students, teachers, and schools get favorable recognition in the community for their participation in the VOD Contest. Local papers and radio stations love to do community interest stories, especially those involving youngsters. All the post has to provide is the who, what, where, and when.
- This can be a great time to mention the Teacher of the Year Contest also.

- As far as administering the program in the school it is the best scenario for teachers to manage as any other assignment but in accordance with the rules of the contest as outlined on the vfw.org website.
- It is suggested that the school involve as many students as possible in the program. The VFW doesn't expect all to be great spokesman, but again, just trying to advance patriotism. Teachers should select the number of students that you wish to advance to your local judging. In turn, you should select the local winner(s) and advance them to district judging in accordance with contest rules and timelines.

The same bullet points can be used to make a request from a local School Board, or teacher if the principal is reluctant.

There is much information to be gleaned from the Commanders Leadership Manual at the vfwil.org: [5 2022-2023YouthProgramsPillar.pdf \(vfwil.org\)](#)

Much more information is available after logging in to vfw.org website, including news/press releases at: [Community Service, Scholarships & Awards - VFW](#)

Comrades, let's go all out this year to reach as many young Americans as we can in our communities.

This information and more will be disseminated to all Post Commanders in the Department shortly.

From: JOHN DAVIN
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Illinois VFW
Subject: Patriot's Pen "My Pledge to Our Veterans"

By now you should have become familiar with this year programs. You can do so by visiting vfwil.org. Login as member. Login ID is membership number and password is your last name. Next go to resources click on to Commanders Manual. You can review all programs. Share this with your districts and post.

Patriot Pen posters should have been place in areas that students spend their time in for the summer. When school starts this will help refresh their memory..

Start now to get in contact with your school district, scouting organization, as well as the many church groups, on introducing the program. Make sure you know all about the program before you talk about it. Present the program overview and what is needed.

Remember Deadlines:

October 31, 2022 -Student entries essays must be in the hands of the Post Chairman

November 15, 2022 - Post judging completed

November 22, 2022 - Winning entries to District Chairman

~~December 20, 2022~~ - District judging completed

December 20, 2002 - District entry to Department PP Chairman

January 1, 2023 - Department judging completed.

John Davin

WORKING TOGETHER-SUPPORTING VETERANS.

NATIONAL HOME ILLINOIS DAY SEPTEMBER 24

Mike McGrath Program Chairman ... Phone 630 357 2680 Email mackcav1@sbcglobal.net
Paul Zinck Assistant Chairman ... Phone 618 791 0180 Email pwzinck@gmail.com

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ILLINOIS DAY

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL HOME ON SEPTEMBER 24

LOCATION

VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
3573 WAVERLY ROAD
EATON RAPIDS MI 48827
800 424 8360

ACTIVITIES

WE WILL BEGIN WITH A VISIT TO THE LOCAL CEMETERY

(NATIONAL HOME SECTION) AT 0900 LOCAL TIME. AND CAMPUS ACTIVITIES
BEGIN AT 1000 HRS. LUNCH IS AT NOON AND THE PROGRAM WILL FOLLOW WITH
THE SILVER MARCH. DEPARTURE IS APPROXIMATELY 2PM.

THE NATIONAL HOME HAS A BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS WITH OVER 600 ACRES. WE

WILL HAVE VISITS TO ILLINOIS HOMES 1 AND 2 AS WELL AS THE MUSEUM,

GIFT SHOP, AND MONTANA FARMSTED. THERE WILL BE GAMES, POPCORN AND
ICE CREAM IN THE GYM.

WELCOMING DINNER

FOR THOSE COMRADES WHO COME IN ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, WE WILL

HAVE A WELCOMING DINNER AT THE NEARBY, "MAPLE CITY" V.F.W. POST 2406,
695 LANSING ST, CHARLOTTE MI, 517 543 1719.

COLD BEVERAGES AND CAMARADERIE AT 5PM WITH DINNER AT 6.

"VERY ENJOYABLE."

ACCOMODATIONS

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING A GREAT TRIP AND FOR THOSE STAYING
OVERNITE

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN ACCOMODATIONS

AND BLOCKS OF ROOMS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR US. PLEASE

CALL AND MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE ILLINOIS V.F.W.

COMFORT INN
1302 PACKARD HWY, CHARLOTTE MI
517 543 7307

HOLIDAY INN
500 MEIJER ST CHARLOTTE MIO
517 541 5000

AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN
828 E SHEPARD ST CHARLOTTE MI
517 543 8288

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AT OUR AUGUST C OF A
MEETING

AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE A HEAD COUNT / RSVP SO AS TO ORDER
ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE.

THANK YOU ALL AND HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

ILLINOIS V.F.W. NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

From: Michael Peck
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:03 PM
To: vfwil@vfwil.org
Subject: Legislative Report

Illinois resolutions were very successful at the national convention. My biggest concern was getting the Resolution for veteran status for guard/reserve retirees. If passed this resolution give the guard reserve retirees I do not have a DD 214 for active duty veteran status and eligibility for admission to the state veterans homes.

With the exception of a resolution on cemeteries the other four passed which included state Veterans homes, school code, Bill of Rights and the tax credit for caregivers.

On July 24 the legion and VFW riders will ride from Dubuque, Iowa with the US Flag being carried from Oregon to Massachusetts on the now Medal of Honor. US 20. A short ceremony will be conducted in Galena at the grants home.

In lake county we are still pushing our petition to have the lake county board transfer 4.7 acres back to the Sheridan national cemetery.

The Forest Preserve received 250 acres from Army. But insisted that the VA look at other DoD property. But this is the property we want as it is contiguous to the main cemetery. By transferring the 4.7 acres to the VA the county will no longer have to take care of maintenance for the site.

The vote on the transfer will be in September and we urge all veterans to be present for the vote.

The Legislative committee is currently working with the Sangamon County VAC on location for a new CBOC in Springfield. Know details are available yet but a resolution is being produced and when passed will be sent to representative Miller. To introduced a bill into the house.

The legislative Committee is working closely with the Cook County VAC in its reorganization efforts and is urging all VFW post to participate with assigned delegate for the post to report back to the post on the VAC activities.

With the passage of our new bill giving the surviving spouses the homestead grant with their DIC we need to get the word out. I'll post she organize information sessions both on the state laws that we just passed and on the honor the PAC act.

Michael Peck

Sent from my iPhone

VFW 2022-2023 Community Activities, Dept. of IL

<u>District</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Posts Reported</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Community Activities Chairman</u>
3	Chris Garza	1	8%	
4	Stephen MacInnes	2	17%	
5	Kevin Cournoyer	2	12%	
6	Ruben Hernandez	4	24%	Rob Bland
7	Adam Lau	0	0%	
8	Arthur Munos	1	6%	Arthur Munos
9	Christopher Rush	0	0%	
10	Anthony Bellin	2	13%	
11	Rick Hobbs	0	0%	
12	Dustin Dixon	2	12%	
13	Don Porter	1	8%	
14	Rod Thompson	5	29%	John Barrett
15	Christopher Maynor	0	0%	
16	Fred Cagle	0	0%	
17	Sean Conner	0	0%	
18	Todd Latham	2	17%	
19	Bob Zeman	5	22%	

Total Posts 260

X-Sheet Data
28-07-22

Department Percentage 10%
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Compiled by
Chuck Ingle

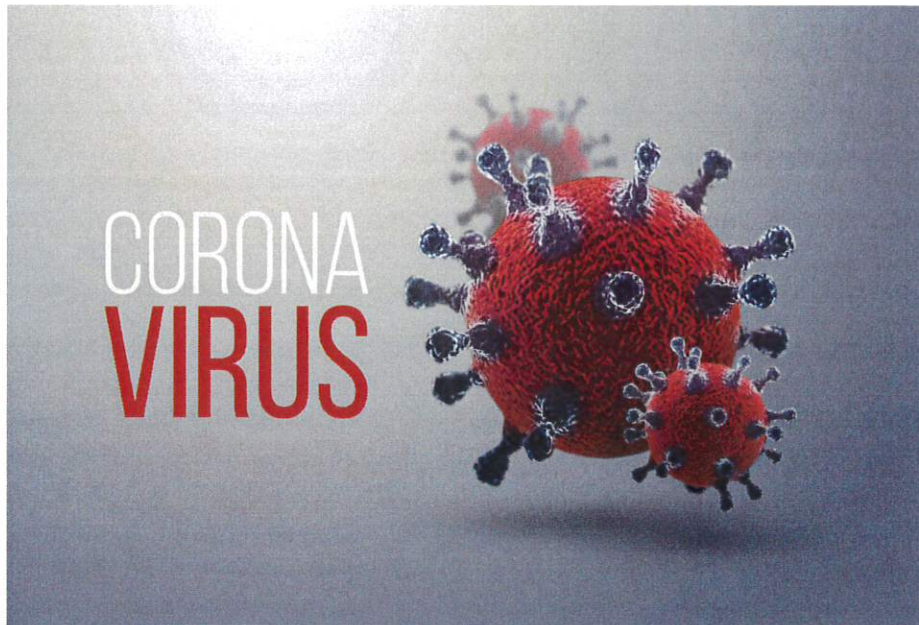
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE
DSO MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

THIS REPORT IS FOR: Illinois Service Office

REPORT MONTH OF: Jun 2022

1. Office Interviews:	<u>190</u>	8. Appeals Actions	
2. Communications:		a. NOD Filed	<u>0</u>
a. Correspondence Recd	<u>142</u>	b. VA Form 9 Filed	<u>0</u>
b. Correspondence Orig	<u>280</u>	c. DRO:	
c. Emails Received	<u>167</u>	1. Conferences	<u>5</u>
d. Emails Responded to	<u>162</u>	2. Favorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
e. Telephone calls	<u>860</u>	3. Unfavorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
f. Other	<u>70</u>	d. VA Form 646 Filed	<u>0</u>
3. Claims Filed	<u>116</u>	9. Health Care Assistance	
4. Powers of Attorney Filed	<u>78</u>	a. Enroll 10-10EZ Compl	<u>1</u>
5. File Accessed	<u>62</u>	b. Health Care Ref Asst	<u>0</u>
6. Ratings Cleared	<u>160</u>	c. Hospitalized Vets Visit	<u>0</u>
7. Rating Queries	<u>7</u>	Veterans Assisted through	
		10. outreach	<u>8</u>
		11. New VFW Members	<u>0</u>

	<u># Awds Recd</u>	<u>Totals</u>
12. DISABILITY BENEFITS		
a. Compensation	<u>137</u>	<u>3,402,490.92</u>
b. Pension	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
13. DEATH BENEFITS		
a. DIC	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
b. Pension	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
c. Burial	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
14. OTHER BENEFITS		
a. VR & E	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
b. Waivers of Indebt	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
15. C & C Awards	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
16. Lump Sum and Retroactive	<u>23</u>	<u>68,654.35</u>
17. TOTALS	<u>160</u>	<u>3,471,145.27</u>
18. Miscellaneous Comments:		



VFW Survives Pandemic

Illinois Fall Program Book Order Form

Our Post/District/Auxiliary would like to purchase the ad size selected below in the
2022 Fall Program Book - **VFW Survives Pandemic**

Full Page - \$200.00 • Half Page - \$125.00 • Quarter Page - \$75.00

PLEASE ENCLOSE PAYMENT IN FULL OR
PAY VIA CREDIT/DEBIT CARD AT www.vfwil.org

BOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN NOVEMBER

Please mail ad copy and any photos your Post/District wants
included in the ad, along with appropriate payment to:

Editor, 2022 Fall Program Book
3300 Constitution Dr.
Springfield, IL 62711

or send via email to: bwilson@vfwil.org
Questions? Contact State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**



VFW - SURVIVES PANDEMIC

2022 ILLINOIS VFW FALL PROGRAM BOOK

How did you survive the Pandemic?

Please send this form with photo to:

Illinois VFW State Headquarters
3300 Constitution Dr.
Springfield, Illinois 62711

Deadline for submission
September 30, 2022

In March 2020, our lives changed. COVID became an everyday term. We had lock downs, event cancellations, mask requirements, vaccinations, and restrictions. Our normal way of doing business came to a stop or changed significantly.

Visiting veterans became Buddy Checks by phone, email, and texts. Meetings went from in-person to Zoom to Hybrid. However, through it all the Illinois VFW survived and found new and innovative ways to do business. New programs or methods were used.

This year, the theme of our 2022 Fall Program Book is VFW Survives Pandemic. The 2022 Fall Program Book will honor the members, Posts, and Districts that used the pandemic to look for new ways they could serve veterans, new ways they could promote VFW programs and despite the pandemic, prepared the Illinois VFW to continue to move forward in our service initiatives – and will tell the stories of how our members, and future members, dealt with the challenges of the pandemic and prepared us to move beyond the pandemic.

We are asking veterans who want to be included to fill out the form, provide a photo, and email to, bring or mail to State Headquarters. Those wanting photos back should include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your submission.

If you have questions, please contact the Illinois VFW State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688.

Current information on person submitting form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State ZIP _____

Phone: _____

Veteran Submission Form

Name: _____ Branch: _____

Years in which you served: _____ Rank: _____

Military Unit (or Ship): _____

Military Job/Speciality: _____

Primary Place of Service: _____

Campaigns or Operations: _____

Awards or Achievements: _____

Proudest or most memorable moment or achievement:

What inspired you to join the military: _____

What VFW Post do you belong to: _____

What did you (or your Post/District) do to continue to serve veterans during COVID?: _____



WHEELERS
FOR  THE
WOUNDED

The logo for "Wheeler's for the Wounded" consists of the words "WHEELERS" at the top, "FOR" on the left, "THE" on the right, and "WOUNDED" at the bottom. In the center, between "FOR" and "THE", is a stylized logo featuring a red and blue "W" shape.

Wheeler's for the Wounded- Midwest Chapter
Free Veterans and Active Duty Off Road Event
First Saturday of August each year. This year is August 6
2022

Wheeler's for the Wounded is a nationwide event of off-roading honoring our Country's Military Veterans and Active Duty Members. Safe trail-rated rigs will be provided and operated by our skilled members

Preregistration is required by emailing wftwilstyle@gmail.com
wftwil@foxriverjeepclub.com

Please let us know in your email if you have any special needs and how many is in your party

Join The Fox River Jeep Club for a day of wheeling, food, music and the great outdoors at the Badlands Off Road Park in Attica, Indiana. Our way of saying thanks to Veterans and Active Duty Military. Check us out on Facebook at WFTW Midwest Chapter



The Gold Star Mission:

They say that “a Hero dies twice ~ once when the last breath leaves their body, and again when their name is spoken for the last time”. The Gold Star Mission strives to preserve the memories and ensure the names of our nearly 300 Fallen Illinois Service Men and Women live on!

The Gold Star Mission

The Gold Star Mission is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that Honors and Supports Gold Star Families by preserving the memory of our Fallen Heroes through service to others in need.

The Gold Star Mission conducts grueling endurance events to raise both awareness of the service and sacrifices of our Fallen Service Members, and also raise funds through generous donations and use the funds to carry on the names and the stories of these Fallen Heroes. The Gold Star Mission intends to help those in need, including the establishment of scholarship opportunities.

What better way is there to preserve and honor the names of our Fallen Service Members than through scholarships? These scholarships, named in honor of the Fallen Illinois Service Members, will assist Gold Star Family members and will help others of whom they likely never knew, thus preserving their name forever, and showing the same act of compassion to others which their service exemplified. In the first four years of existence, The Gold Star Mission has awarded 164 Scholarships in the names of these Fallen Heroes, and anticipates awarding another 35-40 scholarships in March 2022!

The Gold Star Mission’s 2022 endurance events include:

- The Run for the Fallen Half Marathon, 5K, 3K Run/Walk in Rockford (21 May 2022);
- The General Logan 200 endurance bicycling event (8-9 July 2022);
- The Gold Star 500 endurance bicycling event in Northern Illinois (20-24 September 2022).

The Run for the Fallen Half Marathon, 5K, 3K Run/Walk:

This will be the second year the “Gold Star Mission Run for the Fallen” will physically take place in Rockford, IL. The inaugural event, in 2019, achieved tremendous strides in bringing awareness and honoring our local Gold Star Families, and had over 425 participants! The Run for the Fallen in 2020 and 2021 were virtual, due to covid concerns. The Gold Star Mission is eagerly awaiting getting back to this in person event! This event provides a platform to remember and preserve the memory of our Fallen Heroes - some of who are from our local communities. The money raised through fundraising efforts and the race entry fee will be used for scholarships, distributed annually, in the names of the Fallen Soldiers. This race will continue to be an annual, ongoing event for the community of Rockford, IL.



“ALWAYS REMEMBER ~ NEVER FORGET!”



The General Logan 200:

The General Logan 200 is a 200 mile endurance bicycling event, completed in under 20 hours! The ride finishes up, this year at the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Saturday 9 July. The team of nearly a dozen riders and a support team, will be starting in Northern Illinois in the late night hours of 8 July, raising awareness of the service and sacrifices of these Fallen Heroes; their names must live on!

The Gold Star 500:

The Sixth Annual Gold Star 500 – a five day, 520+ mile endurance bicycling event, which honors the service and sacrifice of the nearly 300 Service Men and Women from Illinois who made the ultimate sacrifice in honor of our great nation, since September 11, 2001. The nearly 300 died while protecting and aiding people of foreign lands, people they likely never knew or even met. They died so others could have a better life; their names must live on!

On September 20, 2022, a team of primarily, Veteran and Service Member bicyclists (projected total of 35-40 riders) will begin the 520+ mile journey, with the intent of this ride, to carry the torch of personal sacrifice in honor of these service members, to carry on their stories, their courage, and to honor the legacy of their names. The very abbreviated highlights of the route:

- Day 1: Springfield, Mt. Sterling, to Quincy;
- Day 2: Quincy, Macomb, to Galesburg;
- Day 3: Galesburg, Rock Island, to Rock Falls;
- Day 4: Rock Falls, Rockford, to Woodstock;
- Day 5: Woodstock, Fort Sheridan, to Great Lakes Naval Station.

These events are a way of honoring the service members by assisting Gold Star Families and others in need through scholarship opportunities. This ride will preserve the names of the fallen by honoring their service and sacrifice, for we must Never Forget.

How can you help:

- **Learn** about one of our Fallen Heroes, and **Share** what you've learned;
- **Volunteer** as an event participant, or as part of the support team;
- **Follow** Gold Star Mission on Facebook - share what you learn, encourage others;
- **Donate** – go to goldstarmission.org;
- **Sponsor** a participant - GSM participants are challenged to raise donations, not for their registration fees, but for the scholarship program!



For more information of The Gold Star Mission, please visit the website (goldstarmission.org), Facebook (Gold Star 500), or don't hesitate to contact us at admin@goldstarmission.org.

"ALWAYS REMEMBER ~ NEVER FORGET!"



SEPTEMBER 20-24, 2022

Join us on this 500-mile journey to celebrate our 6th year memorializing our fallen heroes.

The Gold Star Mission 500 is a 5-day, 500-mile journey traveling through Illinois meant to preserve the legacy and honor of those 300 service men and women from Illinois who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



2022 520+mi. Route Schedule:

Day 1: Springfield - Rushville - Quincy

Day 2: Quincy - Macomb - Galesburg

Day 3: Galesburg - Rock Island - Rock Falls

Day 4: Rock Falls - Rockford - Woodstock

Day 5: Woodstock - Fort Sheridan - Great Lakes Naval Station



Proceeds from this ride and other Gold Star Mission sponsored events are used to fund scholarships in the name of our Fallen Heroes, thus preserving their legacy forever.

For more details and to register or volunteer go to:

<https://goldstarmission.org/>

Click on the Gold Star 500 banner.

ALWAYS REMEMBER NEVER FORGET

**THE 3RD DISTRICT VFW AUXILIARY
WITH THE CHICAGO BRIDGEPORT
VFW #5079 AUXILIARY**



Invite You to Join Us
As We Celebrate
Our Department President

Marvie Wisniewski



DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S HALLOWEEN HOMECOMING

**Saturday,
October 29, 2022**

Rhine VFW Post #2729
5858 S. Archer Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. FOOD & FUN!!
*DJ * Cash Bar * Tacos * Gyros
Costume Contest * Photo Booth*

TICKET: \$20.00

TABLE: \$160.00
(includes 8 tickets)

To purchase tickets, make checks payable to "3rd District VFW Auxiliary" and mail to:

Diane Pencak, Ticket Chairman
5100 S. Long Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

Please note Post/Auxiliary # and District when ordering tickets!

TICKET DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2022

ATTIRE

Halloween Costumes are encouraged!

*For those choosing NOT to wear a costume,
casual dress with Department President's shirt is requested.*

