



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Illinois

2023-2024 Series
General Orders No. 2
August 2023

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, 2023.

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 following 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."

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 105th annual State Convention in June, 2024.

ALL AMERICAN COMMANDERS FOR 2022-2023

Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Commanders listed below who have earned "All American" status:

Steve MacInnes 4th District Commander

Ruben Hernandez 6th District Commander

Larry Carter 10th District Commander

Dustin Dixon 12th District Commander

Rodney Thompson 14th District Commander
Chris Maynor 15th District Commander
Sean Connor 17th District Commander
Joshua Seed, Commander, Post 755
Karen Ridge, Commander, Post 805
Anthony Avers, Commander, Post 976
Matthew Voss, Commander, Post 981
Daniel Tate, Commander, Post 1104
Bradley Lemke, Commander, Post 1241
Tandy Able, Commander, Post 1308
Les Durov, Commander Post 1337
Gregory Kelm, Commander, Post 1461
Mark Ivy, Commander, Post 2055
Michael Magnetta, Commander, Post 2245
Michael Cross, Commander, Post 2671
Ruben Hernandez, Commander, Post 2955
Leonardo Jamie, Commander, Post 3873
Seth Miller, Commander, Post 4183
Seth Floyd, Commander, Post 5346
Daniel Jackson, Commander, Post 5506
Alonzo Skipper, Commander, Post 5691
John Mc Glynn Sr., Commander, Post 5975
Clarence Nail, Commander, Post 6632
Ralph Randolph, Commander, Post 7190
Ronald Knapp, Commander 7678
Euphamiea Louer-Wagoner, Commander, Post 7710
Kyle Zimmerman, Commander, Post 9763
Larry Carter, Commander, Post 10302
Mathius Carter, Commander, Post 12014

AUGUST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

The first Council of Administration Meeting will be held August 25-27, 2023 at the Sheraton Lisle/Naperville, 3000 Warrensville Rd, Lisle, IL. Sleeping rooms are priced at \$114 plus tax per night. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at (630) 505-1000. Our group code is ILVFW. **The cut-off to make reservations is August 11, 2023.**

DISTRICT COMMANDERS/PROGRAM CHAIRMANS

Committee members for Committee meetings must be present. All other Officers and Program Chairmen are expected to be in attendance for all Council of Administration meetings. The committees being called into the August Council of Administration will meet on Friday, August 25, 2023 at 1:00 pm and the August Council of Administration Meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. The meetings will take place at The Sheraton Lisle/Naperville. 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 4, 2023!**

VETERANS SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Veterans Service Committee will meet at 1:00pm... Brad Gould, Chairman
Brett Nila, State Commander
Maurice Bridges, State Senior Vice Commander Eugene Blackwell, State Junior Vice
Commander Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster
Bobby Edwards, Past State Commander
Bobby Welch, Past State Commander
Laurie Emmer, 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

Brett Nila, State Commander

Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

Bob Welch, Historian

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 Sheraton Lisle/Naperville on Friday, August 25, 2023 at 3:00 pm. This meeting should adjourn at approximately 5:30 pm, and reconvene on Saturday, August 26th at 8:30 am. The attire for the entire weekend is VFW Casual, which is VFW Polo shirt with Khakis, Dockers or business slacks.

The following State Officers and Program Chairmen should be prepared to report on Friday, August 25, 2023.

Matt Claussen, National Council Member

Rob Bailey, State Chief of Staff

Clarke Christiansen, State Inspector

Ryan Higginbotham, State Surgeon

Jay Hoffman, State Judge Advocate

Gary Holmes, State Chaplain

John McGlynn, State Membership Chairman

Evamarie Duff, State All-State Program Chairman

Barbara Wilson, State Marketing/Public Relations Chairman

Georges Sanon, State Student Veterans Liaisons
Robert Bland, State Blood Donor Chairman
Stephanie Kirksey, State Buddy Poppy Chairman
Josh Seed, Yellow Ribbon Chairman
Steve Eller, State Community Activities Chairman
Paul Bezazian, State Homeless Veterans Chairman
Dutch Degroot, State Legislative Chairman
Kyna Simpson, State National Home Chairman
Clarence Caraker, State POW/MIA Chairman
Bobby Welch, 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
Doug Jameson, VAC Liaison
Brad Gould, 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
Duane Hisel, Emblem and Supply
Jeff Britt., State Officer of the Day

STATE COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Dinner for Commander Brett Nila will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at VFW Post 3873 908 W. Jackson Ave., Naperville, IL 60540, in conjunction with our First Council of Administration Meeting. *Please look for the flyer on the state website for more information.*

You may purchase your tickets through State Headquarters by calling (217) 529-6688 or making a donation on <http://www.vfwil.org>. Tickets are \$30 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 23, 2023. 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.

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.

2023-2024 Commander's Calls

State Commander Brett Nila will be holding 5 Commander's Calls this fall at Posts around Illinois

Schedule

September 16, 2023

Floyd J Tilton Post 3878
318 4th Ave.
Rochelle, IL 61068

September 17, 2023

Addison Post 7446
446 W. Lake St.
Addison, IL 60101

October 7, 2023

Dow Stepp Memorial Post 5975
112 N. 5th St.
Marshall, IL 62441

October 8, 2023

Kahokian Memorial Post 5691
1234 Vandalia St.
Collinsville, IL 62234

April 13, 2024

LaFore Lock Post 755
2211 Old Jacksonville Rd.
Springfield, IL 62704

All Commanders' 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 2023-2024.

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 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 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.

BIG TEN PROGRAM BOOK AD

If you are wanting to place an ad in the program book for Big 10 conference then you will need to fill out the form and either return it to the State Headquarters with a check or you can email it to vfwil@vfwil.org. The full page ad is \$200.00 ½ page ad is \$125.00 and ¼ page ad is \$75.00. Please make checks payable to:

Department of Illinois VFW
3300 Constitution Dr.
Springfield, IL 62711

All ads will be in full color. The deadline for ads is September 1, 2023. There is a blank form in the back of these General orders.

NEW CENTURY RAFFLE

The New Century Raffle has officially started and will run through June 30, 2024. The tickets are just \$10.00 each. Each ticket entitles you to participate in a weekly drawing of \$100 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Drawings will be held each Friday beginning July 1, 2023, 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 WINNER

<u>Date of Drawing</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
7/7/2023	Larry Holsinger	Larry Holsinger
7/14/2023	Lee Morgan	No seller listed
7/21/2023	John Hollandsworth	John Hollandsworth
7/28/2023	Connie Balsai	No seller listed

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Wayne Kern of Mt. Prospect Post 1337-4 on being selected as the July Veteran of the Month! Thank you to all who submitted nominations for this month, please continue to do so and for those that did not please look for those comrades from your post who stand apart from the rest by serving the community, Veterans and embodying the purposes of our congressional charter: to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead; and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United states from all her enemies.

By Order of:

Official



Joseph H. Bartley

State Adjutant/Quartermaster



Brett Nila

State Commander

August Council of Administration

Tentative Agenda (*Subject to Change*)

Sheraton Lisle Naperville Hotel
3000 Warrenville Rd., Lisle, IL 60532

Friday, August 25, 2023

- 1:00 PM VFW Supply Sales Opens
Arcadia Foyer/Break Area
- 1:00 PM Veterans Service Committee
Illinois VFW News Committee
Budget & Finance Committee
Arcadia Symposium
- 1:00 PM Auxiliary Council Meeting
Savoy Ballroom
- 3:00 PM Council of Administration Meeting
Arcadia Symposium
- 5:00 PM VFW Supply Sales Closes
Arcadia Foyer/Break Area
- 6:00 - 8:00 PM Meet & Greet
Atrium

Saturday, August 26, 2023

- 8:00 AM VFW Supply Sales Opens
Arcadia Foyer/Break Area
- 8:00 AM Auxiliary Council Meeting
Savoy Ballroom
- 8:30 AM Council of Administration Meeting
Arcadia Symposium
- 3:00 PM VFW Supply Sales Closes
Arcadia Foyer/Break Area
- 3:00 PM Church Services
Arcadia Symposium
- 5:00 PM Social Hour Begins
Cmdr. Brett Nila's HC, Post 3873
- 6:00 PM Dinner
Judd Kendall Post 3873
908 Jackson Ave., Naperville, IL 60540

DRESS CODE FOR ALL EVENTS, ALL WEEKEND, WILL BE VFW CASUAL WHICH INCLUDES A VFW POLO SHIRT, KHAKIS, DOCKERS, OR BUSINESS SLACKS.



**HOMECOMING HONORING
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
2023-2024
VFW COMMANDER BRETT NILA**

**AUGUST 26, 2023
5:00 PM COCKTAIL HOUR
6:00 PM DINNER**

**NAPERVILLE VFW POST #3873
908 W. JACKSON AVE
NAPERVILLE, IL 60540
Tickets \$30**

Attire: VFW Casual



Tickets may be purchased via check or online at vfwIL.org. To purchase online, click on the "Donate Now" button and type in "Homecoming".

*To purchase by mail, mail check earmarked
"Homecoming" to:*

*Illinois VFW
3300 Constitution Dr
Springfield, IL 62711*



Program Bulletin August 2023

Comrades, schools will be reopening soon. Please plan ahead to contact schools to promote the Voice of Democracy program. You can reach out to school boards, superintendents, principals, or individual teachers to tell them of the scholarships that are available and the community recognition that students will receive through local news and press releases. Schools, teachers, and administrators likewise get favorable recognition. News media almost always welcomes public interest articles, especially those involving youngsters and are willing to prepare them if you just furnish the where, when, and why information. These articles also bring great awareness of post and auxiliary community service and can be a great recruitment tool.

There are posters available at the VFW store to promote the VOD and Patriot's Pen contest. They can be displayed in local libraries, or local businesses that have a community bulletin board. They can be given to Scouts, church youth groups, etc.

Let's go all out this year to reach as many young Americans and plant the seeds of patriotism which are encouraged by these youth essay contests! Afterall, they are the next leaders of our country. There is no good reason why every post in the Department can't submit at least one entry this year!

ILLINOIS DAY
VFW NATIONAL HOME
EATON RAPIDS, MI
September 23, 2023

Hotels near the VFW National Home

COMFORT INN
1302 PACKARD HWY, CHARLOTTE MI
517 543 7307

HOLIDAY INN
500 MEIJER ST CHARLOTTE MI
517 541 5000

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

"All Gave Some, Some Gave All"



8TH ANNUAL PURPLE HEART DAY CEREMONY

The Hayes/Krell Memorial Chapter 159
of the
Military Order of the Purple Heart
cordially invite you
to the Purple Heart Day Ceremony

Saturday, August 5, 2023
10:00 a.m.

Oak Ridge Cemetery
Purple Heart Memorial

We hope you can join us to honor those who were wounded or
made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and freedom.

Seating is available

"Freedom is Never Free"



JOIN US IN

HONORING WOMEN VETERANS

AND FOR OUR
ANNUAL "ALL IN" CHARITY RIDE

AUG 26, 2023

15014 S. DES PLAINES ST., PLAINFIELD



- 0900 - CHECK IN
- 1000 - ESCORTED RIDE
- 1200 - CEREMONY
- 1300 - LUNCH AND RAFFLES

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUGUST 20



FOR COMPLETE DETAILS, FOLLOW
CORRESPONDING QR CODE



QUESTIONS?

EVENTS@ALLENFORCE.ORG

779-205-3314