

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Illinois

2023-2024 Series
General Orders No. 11
May 2024

STATE HEADQUARTERS CLOSURE

State Headquarters will be closed on May 27th in observation of Memorial Day.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT PROGRAM CHAIRMEN

All Department Program Chairmen are reminded that most Programs ended officially as of April 30, 2024 and you are therefore requested to type up your Program Award Winners; we must have your Award Winners in State Headquarters by no later than Monday, **May 15, 2024** to enable us to order and prepare your Convention Awards in a timely manner. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 15TH

Posts within the Department of Illinois are hereby instructed to fly their U.S. Flag at "half-staff" on May 15th, 2024 in observance of **Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15th** as authorized by Public Law 103-122. (See law below):

175. *Position and manner of display*

The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag or flags, should be either on the marching right; that is, the flag's own right, or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.

(A)-(1) (Unchanged)

(iii) The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half- staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to Presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of any State, territory, or possession of the United States, that Governor of that State, territory, or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff.

The flag shall be flown at half-staff thirty days from the death of a President or a former President, ten days from the day of death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; from the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice President, or the Governor of a State, territory, or possession; and on the day of death.

IMPORTANT - REPORT OF ELECTION FORM

Per section 213 of the National By-laws, Posts that have not submitted a properly completed Post Election Report by June 1 are in arrears and shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustments of such deficiencies. Posts that have registered delegates for the Department and National Conventions will not receive credentials until the Post has satisfied their arrearage.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

The District Convention is held for the purpose of electing your officers for the upcoming administrative year. Any member, not a member of the District Convention, (Refer to Section 404 of the National By-Laws) may attend the Convention, however, they shall have no voice in business discussions unless requested by the Commander, and shall have no voting privileges. Those on official business shall be recognized by the Commander for the conduct of business. (Article IV, Sec. 403 – Regular, Special and Committee Meetings; Convention; Quorum; Authorized Attendees).

PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIRED FOR ALL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the District Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office. In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold the office shall be forfeited, the office declared vacant and the eligibility qualifications of such officer shall be questioned in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the National By-Laws. **Proof of Eligibility for District Commanders, District Senior Vice Commanders, and District Junior Vice Commanders MUST be furnished to the State Adjutant within thirty (30) days of Election.**

REMINDER – POST/DISTRICT OFFICER CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS

Please note that changes in Post or District Officers must be reported to State Headquarters immediately. Changes in addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses should also be reported immediately – even if changes are made on the Online Membership System (OMS). These changes are not always transmitted to State Headquarters; please help us keep our records current.

DISTRICT ELECTION REPORTS

All District Quartermasters have received a 2024-2025 Report of Election form for the District and they are asked to please submit them as soon as the District election has been held. It is very important that the names, addresses, Post numbers, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are up-to-date. Commanders-elect who may receive mail at a Post Office Box should also include their street address for shipping purposes.

CREDENTIALS – CONVENTION

Sec. 222 - Delegates, District Convention & Meetings, Department and National Conventions.

- (a) Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in accordance with the Manual of Procedure.
- (b) Delegates elected under this section shall not be considered instructed and may exercise full authority in the duty to be performed.
- (c) Each Post will pay, in accordance with its Department Bylaws, a delegate registration fee for each and every delegate to which the Post shall be entitled
- (d) Each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of \$25, which shall entitle the Post to a packet of onvention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a \$10 delegate fee.

2024-2025 OFFICERS-ELECT

District and Post Officers elected or appointed for the 2024-2025 term are reminded that they *will not take office until the Installation of the State Commander on Saturday, June 8, 2024*. You are also reminded that the nomination of officers will be held on Friday afternoon, June 7, 2024 with the election and installation of officers taking place on Saturday afternoon, June 8, 2024. ***DELEGATE REGISTRATION CLOSSES AT 10:00 a.m. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 8th. REGISTER EARLY!!***

FINAL EXPENSE VOUCHER

Reminder for all Officers who have Expense Accounts – the final date for submitting expense voucher for the 2023-2024 term is **Friday, May 31, 2024**. Expense vouchers must be within budget limitations and must be marked FINAL. **Expense Vouchers received after that date will not be honored.**

PROGRAM DIRECTORS REPORTS – STATE CONVENTION

All program directors – please have your reports printed so that you will be able to pass it to the State Adjutant when you finish giving your report to the Convention floor. Please provide a duplicate copy of your report to the State Headquarters and please make sure your name is on your report. **Please remember to keep your reports short and to the point.**

Reminder – the State Convention is also the Annual Meeting of the Corporation. Please be sure to have your correct name and title on your report. Your cooperation in this matter will eliminate the chances of errors in the report and will help Department by having information available for the news media, etc.

DEPARTMENT ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICERS AND DISTRICT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDERS

All newly elected and appointed Department Officers and District Junior Vice Commanders for the 2024-2025 term of office are reminded that according to our National By-Laws all Officers listed above are required to submit proof of eligibility to the Department Adjutant prior to being installed into their respective offices during the State Convention. If you have a question on whether or not you have ever submitted your DD-214 or Proof of Eligibility to the Department, please contact the State Adjutant prior to the convening of the State Convention in June.

DISTRICT CAUCUS DURING STATE CONVENTION

Each District will be responsible for establishing their own District Caucus and it will be their responsibility to contact and invite candidates to address their caucus.

COMMANDERS SPRING MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

We are behind on our recruiting goals for this time in the program year. Recruiting is a grassroots effort from the members to ask people to join the VFW or to reinstate their membership in the VFW. We still have a chance to reach our recruiting goals for the year but it is going to take some serious effort. Every member is asked to get at least one new or reinstated member. We have seen some that have far exceeded that goal and are doing much more. Every member is a recruiter.

RECRUITER CHALLENGE.

We are going to reward the top recruiter for this spring membership challenge.

This membership challenge will run from Feb 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024. The VFW member that recruits the most new or reinstated members during the contest period will receive a specially engraved Henry 22lr Golden Boy Rifle.

The Top Recruiter must be listed as the recruiter on a minimum of 10 applications for new or reinstated members to qualify for the rifle. (Must have FOID card to claim rifle)

If the Top Recruiter has less than 10 new or reinstated members, then they will receive \$300 cash prize.

Every VFW Member that recruits at least 1 new or reinstated member will be placed into a random drawing for other prizes.

Winner of the Henry 22lr Golden Boy Rifle:

Joshua Seed (Post 755-10) 25 members

Specially Engraved Knives

Dustin Dixon (Post 1308-12) 19 members

Gary Holmes (Post 342-6) 12 members

Other prizes to be mailed out.

RUN TO THE END

The Department of is making a push for the end of the Year. Our membership challenge will begin on May 1st and run through June 30th.

We have Post in 11 Divisions based on strength. The challenge is that the top post in each division showing the highest membership percentage increase through May 1st to June 30th, will receive a \$250 check to the post.

STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held on June 6-9, 2024. The hotels for the State Convention are:

President Abe Lincoln Double Tree Hotel
701 E Adams
Springfield, IL 62701
Phone number (217) 544-8800

Wyndham City Center
700 E Adams
Springfield, IL 62701
Phone Number (217) 789-1530

The VFW meetings will be held in the BOS Center at 1 Convention Center Plaza Springfield, IL 62701, which is located conveniently adjacent to both hotels. The VFW Auxiliary meetings will be held in the President Abe Lincoln Double Tree Hotel. Information on reserving your room for the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel or the Wyndham City Centre Hotel will be in upcoming General Orders and on the vfwil.org web page under "Events".

ATTENTION TO EVERYONE PLANNING TO ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

There are detours and traffic pattern changes around the hotels and convention center.

Springfield is part of the high speed rail project. All of the trains in Springfield will eventually be using the tracks on the 10th Street Corridor. Several streets between 9th St and 11th St are currently closed while they build new underpasses, overpasses, and crossings.

If you come into Springfield using Clear Lake Rd, you will have to detour to Carpenter St or Cook St to get around the construction sites.

If you are coming from the North, you can exit on Sangamon Ave (Exit 100) go to Peoria Rd/9th St and go South to convention center and hotels.

If you are coming from the South, you can exit on South Grand (Exit 96) go to 9th St and then North to convention center and hotels.

The other MAJOR change is the change to traffic patterns in downtown Springfield.

For the last 50+ years Springfield has been known for all of its one way streets in downtown Springfield. **Starting May 5, 2024, many of those streets will be changed from one way to two way traffic. This include Adams Street which is the street between the 2 hotels and convention center.**

This change will be as confusing for local residents as it will be for visitors so stay alert for drivers that may be confused.

STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Included in these General Orders is the Advance Registration Form for the State Convention. Delegates can also be registered online by going to www.vfwil.org. The registration fee is \$20.00 until **May 1st 2024**, and will be \$22.00 after **May 1st 2024**.

Letters of registration confirmation will be mailed to registrants after the proper registration fee has been paid. Registrants will be required to present this confirmation when they check in at the convention registration desk at the BOS Center. **Reminder:** Delegates **will not** be allowed to vote until such issues have been resolved; if the Post is in arrears for supplies, poppies or any sort of financial obligation to the Department. The Post must be bonded, inspected, have an election report on file with Department and National Headquarters for the ensuing year, and all audits **including the March 31st, 2024** audit must be submitted and approved. Delegate strength to the convention is based on one delegate and one alternative delegate per thirty members or fraction thereof. Registration will be open in B 11 A/B of the BOS Center:

Thursday June 6, 2024	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday June 7, 2024	8:00am - 5:00 pm
Saturday June 8, 2024	8:00 am - 10:00 am

HOSPITALITY ROOM

This year the joint hospitality rooms have been moved to President Abe Lincoln Double Tree Hotel, 701 E Adams St, Springfield, IL. This hotel is directly across the street from the Wyndham City Center.

The joint hospitality room will be in the Freeport Room and the Governor Yates Room on 2nd Floor

According to the City Fire Code and the hotel rules, there can be NO heating devices or heating elements in the hospitality room. This includes electric hot plates, crock pots, roasters, and definitely nothing that is gas or propane.

You can have a hot box or thermal insulated container if you want to bring in hot foods in order to keep them warm but nothing that has to be plugged in to keep temperature.

ATTENTION POST COMMANDERS

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

“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. Post failing to comply with this requirement shall be considered delinquent and in arrears.

PAST DISTRICT COMMANDER'S ASSOCIATION

The Past District Commander's Association is meeting during the State Convention; there will be a luncheon for the Past District Commanders Association on Friday, June 7, 2024 from 1200-1300 hours. Cost of the luncheon is \$20. Anyone that is a currently serving as District Commander (term ending June 2024) and anyone that has served as a District Commander in the past is eligible to participate in the luncheon. Tickets can be ordered through State HQ

2024 DISTRICT COMMANDER-ELECT CONFERENCE

Once District Elections are held, an invitation will be sent to newly-elected District Commanders for 2024-2025 year. Department Headquarters will provide rooming accommodations for 4 nights (Wednesday-Sunday) for incoming District Commanders at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre, 700 E. Adams Street in Springfield.

We will be conducting a conference to cover their duties and our goals and expectations for the incoming year. This conference will begin Thursday morning, June 6th, 2024 at 8a.m. The agenda is attached.

PLEASE NOTE: District Commanders-Elect should be present during Council of Administration Meeting, June 6th, 2024. Please dress in a *coat, tie and cap* to have your photograph taken. Also, they **must** be present Saturday, June 8th, 2024 during the installation of officers!

Sunday morning, June 9th, there will be a brief Council of Administration meeting to begin at 9a.m. for the purpose of passing an interim budget until the next meeting in August.

COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

On Saturday, June 8, 2024 join the newly installed IL VFW State Commander and IL VFW Auxiliary State President for the Commander and President's Reception.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

This year at State Convention, we have expanded the breakout sessions and seminars that we are offering to attendees. All of this training will be held in BOS Center on Thursday, June 6, 2024 and Friday, June 7, 2024. The tentative schedule is below. Some of this training is specifically for VFW members but some of the training is applicable for both VFW and Auxiliary Members. The classes are annotated to show the audience for the training. Anyone (VFW or Auxiliary) can attend any of the training.

June 6, 2024

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Membership Events (VFW and Aux)

Fundraising Ideas (VFW and Aux)

State Benefit Programs for Veterans (VFW)

How to Get Federal Surplus Property (VFW)

Veterans Assistance Resources and Illinois Joining Forces (VFW)

How to Attract Younger Members (VFW and Aux)

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Post Service Officer Training (VFW)

How VA Assumable Loan works for Estate Planning - passing your benefits to your children (VFW and Aux)

Supporting Women Veterans (VFW)
Onboarding New Members (VFW and Aux)
Working with National Guard and Reserve Units (VFW and Aux)
Tricare and Medicare – How do they work together (VFW)

June 7, 2024

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Recognizing Signs of Suicide and Suicide Prevention (VFW and Aux)
Veterans Rights and Benefits (VFW)
Publicity and Newsletters (VFW and Aux)
Duties and Responsibilities of Post Officers (VFW)
Chaplain Training (VFW)
Pact Act (VFW)

3:00 to 4:30 pm

Post Service Officer Training (VFW)
County Veterans Assistance Commissions (VFW)
Obtaining and Using VA Housing Loan (VFW)
Role of the District, Duties and Responsibilities of District Officers (VFW)
The Role of Auxiliary, Cooties, and Riders Groups (VFW and Aux)
How to Input Program Reporting (VFW)

CONVENTION EXHIBIT BOOTHS

Please let the businesses in your area know exhibit space is available during our 105th Annual State Convention at the BOS Center. Contact State Headquarters at 217-529-6688 for more information. Below is a list of confirmed vendors so far for the State Convention:

VFW Entities

IL VFW – Veterans Service Officers
IL VFW – Emblem and Supply
IL VFW – State Historian
VFW National Home
IL VFW - Riders and Motorcycle Raffle

Government Agencies

IL Department of Corrections
Sangamon County VAC
IL National Guard Casualty Ops
IL National Guard Survivor Outreach
IL State Treasurer
Chez Veterans Center at U of I
IL Department of Veterans Affairs
IL Department of Natural Resources

Not for Profits

Fifth Street Renaissance (CSP 25)
Gold Star Mission
Family Guidance Center
Fox Valley Patriotic Organization
Springfield Cares Soldier Mailing
Gateway Foundation
Rosecrance Behavioral Health
Project Die Hard (PSP 24)
Military Women’s Memorial
Friends of Fisher House Illinois
Featherfist (CSP 25)
Orders and Medals Society of America
Convention of States Action
The Joseph Center (CSP 25)

Commercial

Greco Graphics

Lancaster Bingo

American Income Life

HUMANA AND UNITING TO COMBAT HUNGER GRANT

This year at State Convention, we are expanding the vendor and exhibitor area. We have organizations that provide services to veterans. We have organizations that will work with VFW Posts and Auxiliaries to support veterans or to support community activities. One such vendor is Humana. Humana has been a great supporter of the IL VFW and supports many of our activities. Humana is also a National Sponsor of the VFW and is a major supporter of the Uniting to Combat Hunger (UTCH) Program. At State Convention this year, we are working with Humana to raise awareness about food insecurity but also to promote the UTCH Grant Program and we are inviting everyone to join the fight against food insecurity.

Bring canned goods or non-perishable food items to the Humana Booth in the vendor/exhibitor area. For every 5 items donated, you will receive 1 raffle ticket. In addition, the winner of the raffle will have the opportunity to complete a UTCH Grant Application and their Post or Auxiliary will be submitted for the grant. The amount of food collected will determine the amount of the grant.

The food we collect will be donated to homeless veterans shelters.

Join the Fight for Food Insecurity, help homeless veterans, and earn an opportunity to win up to \$1,500 UTCH Grant for your Post or Auxiliary. See the attached flyer.

SILENT AUCTION

The Annual Silent Auction will be held during the State Convention. Check out your home for items in good condition to donate. Please bring your donated item to the *B-11 A/B* of the BOS Center and make sure to fill out the form given to you. If you have any

questions, please contact State Headquarters. District Commanders are asked to donate an item from their District valued at no less than \$75.

RULES OF THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Chairman, Vince Long, Post 1756-10

Jeff Britt, Post 6865-14

Rick Frank, Post 1461-6

Bill Regan, Post 7452-19

STATE PHOTOGRAPHERS

Room B-10 of the BOS Center will be the base of operations for State Photographer Dutch DeGroot and Public Relations Director Barbara Wilson.

POPPY DISPLAY COMMITTEE

Chairman: Stephanie Kirksey, Post 6504-14

Roger D. Guebert, Post 7980-14

Thomas Cleland, Post 2955-6

John Lenhardt, Post 6504-14

Matthew Willis, Post 6871-10

POPPY DISPLAYS

Poppy Displays will be accepted in B-11 A/B of the BOS Center starting on Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm, and continuing on Friday, June 7, 2024 from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm.

All poppy displays must be picked up from B-11 A/B before 4:00 pm on Saturday, June 8, 2024.

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.

SUPPLY SALES BOOTH

The Supply Sales Booth will be set up in B-11 A/B of the BOS Center starting on Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm The Supply Sales Booth will continue on Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm.

DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMMITTEE

The Distinguished Guest Committee Members will use the VIP Room in the BOS Center as their base of operations for our distinguished guests.

Distinguished Guest Committee:

Brad Gould, Post 630-7

John Davin, Post 5917-18

J.D. Spindler, Post 4549-17

OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO STATE CONVENTION

The officers below are assigned to be present at the Council of Administration Meeting in B-7 of the BOS Center on Thursday, June 6, 2024. They should also be in attendance for the Joint Opening Session on Friday, June 7, 2024 at 8:00 am in B-11 C/D and all business sessions on Friday and Saturday.

Credentials Committee:

Chairman: Scott Holley, Post 3873-19

Joe Wein, Post 2202-4

Officer of the Day, Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms:

Jeff Britt: Post 6865-14, Officer of the day

Raymond Bachewicz: Post 2298-5, Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms

Jack Lamont: Post 3851-13, Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms

Roy Johnson: Post 5220-3, Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms

2024 ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION RAFFLE

The 2024 Convention Raffle Tickets are in the mail!! This year's mailing consists of two sheets of tickets and each sheet has five (5) Convention Raffle Tickets for \$20.00 and two Purple Heart Tickets for \$10.00. The drawing will be held at the VFW State Convention on Saturday, June 8, 2024, in Springfield, Illinois. Grand Prize is \$10,000.00. Second Prize is \$3,000.00, Third Prize is \$2,000.00 and Fourth through Tenth Prize is \$500.00 each. Purple Heart Grand Prize is \$2,000. Please contact State Headquarters for additional tickets.

125th VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

Louisville, KY is the host city for the 125th VFW and 110th Auxiliary National Conventions, which will be held **July 27-August 1, 2024**. Convention housing will open March 18, 2024. Hotel reservations can be booked via the VFW website www.vfw.org .

2024-2025 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT'S PEN

The VFW has announced the topics for the 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth essay competitions.

Voice of Democracy

“Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?”

Patriot's Pen

“My Voice in America's Democracy?”

Posts are encouraged to start distributing this information to the schools in your area now and rather than waiting until fall. Entry forms can be found on either National Headquarters website vfw.org or on Illinois website vfwil.org.

FIRST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING & COMMANDER'S

HOMECOMING

The first Council of Administration Meeting will be held August 16-18, 2004. Please check the June General Orders for more information.

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>
4/5/24	William Broderich	William Broderich
4/12/24	Roger Reed	Roger Reed
4/19/24	Jim Elliott	No Seller Listed
4/26/24	Anthony Quick	No Seller Listed

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Wyvon Stephens of East St. Louis Post 3480 on being selected as the March Veteran of the Month. Wyvon Stephens has shown great dedication to Post 3480. As the current Sr. Vice Commander, Comrade Stephens is familiar with the leadership roles within the Post and sets the example for his future Comrades regarding the tools needed to lead and guide. He has supported the Post by staying in contact with recent events and supported Comrades with the energy needed to complete tasks.

His high morale brings calmness to the Post in stressful times. Wyvon celebrates the accomplishments of his fellow Comrades and assists them when he can. He volunteers at the local homeless veterans' center and shows great humility and dedication. Through these acts, Comrade Wyvon Stephens is being recognized as the March 2024 Veteran of the Month. Thank you to all who submitted nominations for this month; please continue to do so. 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.

CHARTER CANCELLATION

Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento has approved the cancellation of the Charter for Town of Lake Post 5216 on April 5, 2024. Please update your records accordingly.

By Order of:

Official



Joseph H. Bartley
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Brett Nila
State Commander



20__ - __ POST ELECTION REPORT

DATE OF ELECTION:

POST #	DISTRICT #	DEPARTMENT	POST NAME	POST DUES AMOUNT Includes National and Department Per Capita	\$
POST MEETING LOCATION (PHYSICAL ADDRESS)			POST MAILING ADDRESS		
BUILDING NAME (IF NOT POST NAME)			STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
STREET ADDRESS			ADDRESS LINE 2		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
POST E-MAIL ADDRESS			POST MEETING DAY/TIME		
POST WEBSITE			CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:		
POST PHONE #			<input type="checkbox"/> OWN <input type="checkbox"/> RENT <input type="checkbox"/> NO POST HOME <input type="checkbox"/> CANTEEN/CLUBROOM <input type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE HALL RENTALS <input type="checkbox"/> PROVIDE MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS		
FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION # (EIN)					
COMMANDER					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
QUARTERMASTER					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
CHAPLAIN					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
JUDGE ADVOCATE (APPOINTED)					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SURGEON (APPOINTED)					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
1 YEAR TRUSTEE					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
2 YEAR TRUSTEE					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
3 YEAR TRUSTEE					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
ADJUTANT (APPOINTED)					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SERVICE OFFICER (APPOINTED)					
MEMBERSHIP #	NAME		STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX #		
PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

**105th ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

TO: Department Adjutant-Quartermaster
Department of Illinois V.F.W.
3300 Constitution Dr.
Springfield, IL 62711

POST NO: _____

Please register below listed Comrades for the Department Convention being held the week of June 06-09, 2024 in Springfield, Illinois. The registration fee of \$20 per Comrade is enclosed.

NOTE: REGISTRATION FEE AFTER FRIDAY, MAY 01, 2024 WILL INCREASE TO \$22.00 PER PERSON, SO REGISTER EARLY!!!

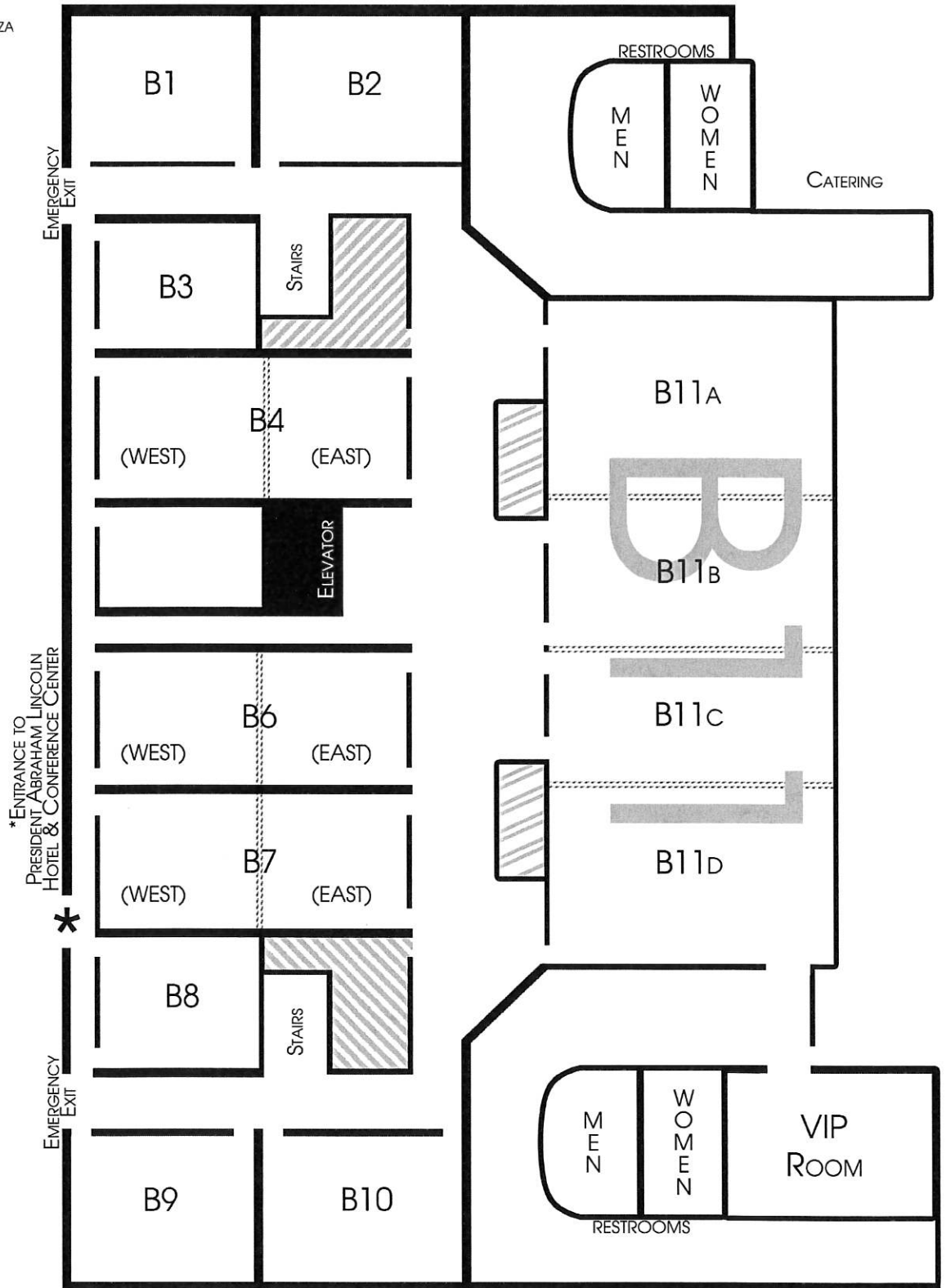
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!!!

	NAME	STREET	CITY	ZIP
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____	_____

This form may be photo-copied for additional names if needed.

LOWER LEVEL DIAGRAM

1 CONVENTION CENTER PLAZA
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701
(P)217.788.8800
(F)217-788-0811



**Tentative Agenda for
State Convention
BOS Center
June 6-9, 2024**

Wednesday, June 5

Set up State HQ Remote Office, Registration Area, Emblem and Supply
No VFW Events Scheduled

Pre-Convention Activities

Thursday, June 6

0800-1200 District Commander Elect Training (BOS B-7)
1200-1300 Membership Challenge Luncheon (By Invite Only) (BOS B-2)
1300-1700 Registration Open (BOS B11A-B)
1300-1700 Exhibitor/Vendor Booths open (BOS B11A-B)
1300-1700 Emblem and Supply Open (BOS B11A-B)
1300-1700 Silent Auction Open (BOS B11A-B)
1300-1700 Poppy Display Open (BOS B11A-B)
1330-1500 Committee Meetings (BOS B-7)
1500-1630 Council of Administration (BOS B-7)
1400-1630 Breakout Sessions (BOS B-4, B-6, BOS 11C-D)
1630-1700 Foundation Meeting (BOS B-7)
1800-1900 Memorial Service (BOS B11C-D)
TBD Hospitality Room Open (PAL Freeport and Governor Yates Rooms)

Convention Activities

Friday, June 7

0800-1000 JOINT OPENING CEREMONY (BOS B11C-D)
0800-1700 Registration Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1700 Exhibitor/Vendor Booths open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1700 Emblem and Supply Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1700 Silent Auction Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1700 Poppy Display Open (BOS B11A-B)
1000-1200 BUSINESS SESSION (BOS B11C-D)
Rules of Convention, Credentials, Legislative
Guest Speaker
Program Reports
1200-1300 Past District Commander's Association Luncheon (BOS B-2)
1300-1400 BUSINESS SESSION (BOS B11C-D)
Program Reports
1st Nominations
1400-1630 Breakout Sessions (BOS B-4, B-6, B-7, BOS 11C-D)
1630-1700 Church Service (BOS B-7)
1800-1930 Patriotic Rally (BOS B11C-D)
TBD Hospitality Room Open (PAL Freeport and Governor Yates Rooms)

Saturday, June 8

- 0800-1200 BUSINESS SESSION (BOS B11C-D)**
Guests from other Veterans Groups
VA Hospitals
State Veterans Homes
Buddy Poppy Report
National Home Report and Silver March
other Program Reports
- 0800-1000 Registration Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1200 Exhibitor/Vendor Booths open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1200 Emblem and Supply Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1100 Silent Auction Open (BOS B11A-B)
0800-1100 Poppy Display Open (BOS B11A-B)
1200-1300 Past State Commander's Luncheon (BOS B-2)
1300-1500 **BUSINESS SESSION (BOS B11C-D)**
By-Laws and Resolutions
Credentials
Convention Raffle
2nd Nominations
Election
- 1500-1600 JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (BOS B11C-D)**
1800-2000 Commander and President's Reception (Adams St or BOS B11C-D)
TBD Hospitality Room Open (PAL Freeport and Governor Yates Rooms)

Post Convention Activities

Sunday, June 9

- 0900-0930 Council of Administration (PAL)

TENTATIVE AGENDA
District Commander Elect Training
June 6, 2024

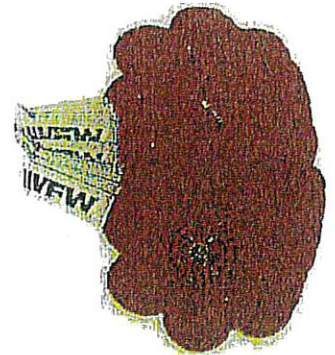
08:00-08:15	Welcome and Introductions, Opening Comments	Adj/QM
08:15-08:30	State Commander and State Senior Vice Commander Welcome	Commander and Sr Vice Commander
08:30-08:45	Role of the VFW Auxiliary	State Aux Vice President Cindy Watters
08:45-09:15	Communication with your District Comrades and Post Commanders	TBD
09:15-09:45	Legislative Committee/Action Alert/Witness Slips	Legislative Team
09:45-10:15	Inspections	Rob Bailey and Cathy Stubbs
10:15-10:30	Break	
10:30-11:00	Parliamentary Procedures	Rob Bland
11:00-11:30	Duties and Responsibilities of District Commander Review of 2024-2025 Commander's Leadership Manual	SVC Maurice Bridges
11:30-11:55	MEMSTATS and Membership	Dustin Dixon
11:55-12:00	Closing Remarks	Adj/QM



Traditional Poppy

POPPY ORDER FORM

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.
3300 CONSTITUTION DRIVE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62711
FAX: 217-546-3415



Metal Poppy

ORDER DATE _____ DATE OF POPPY SALE _____

(Do not leave blank)

POST/AUX NAME _____ NUMBER _____ DISTRICT _____

PLEASE PLACE OUR ORDER FOR THE FOLLOWING:

_____ TRADITIONAL BUDDY POPPIES (\$280.00 PER THOUSAND)\$ _____

_____ METAL BUDDY POPPIES (\$140.00 PER THOUSAND)\$ _____
(ORDER IN INCREMENTS OF 500 ONLY)

(POPPY CANS, POSTERS, ETC. CAN BE ORDERED DIRECTLY FROM THE VFW STORE AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS)

SHIP THE ABOVE TO: _____

(Name - PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

(Title)

(Poppies can only be ordered using a person's name, not the name of the Post or Office)

ADDRESS (UPS Address - **Please no P.O. Box No.**) (City) (Zip Code)

AMOUNT OF ORDER.....\$ _____

SHIPPING AND HANDLING.....\$ _____

AMOUNT INCLUDED WITH ORDER.....\$ _____

BALANCE DUE.....\$ _____

For Department use only:

Date Received	Date Recorded on X Sheet	Date Ordered	Date Shipped or Picked Up	Date Invoiced	Date Paid

PLEASE ALLOW 8 WEEKS WHEN ORDERING YOUR POPPIES!! YOUR POPPY ORDER WILL BE PROCESSED BY STATE HEADQUARTERS THROUGH THE PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS. ONLY RUSH ORDERS WILL BE SHIPPED FROM STATE HEADQUARTERS IF AVAILABLE.

YOU MAY ALSO ORDER ONLINE AT www.vfwil.org

TENTATIVE AGENDA

VFW 125th National Convention Louisville, KY Kentucky Convention Center July 27-August 1, 2024

*All meetings are held in the convention center unless otherwise noted.
Times for various functions are subject to change.
Meeting rooms will be posted closer to conference dates and are subject to change*

Friday, July 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. –6:00 p.m. **Remote registration** – VFW/Auxiliary – Convention Center -South Pre-Function – Main Concourse

Saturday, July 27, 2024

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW/Registration/Exhibits
8:30 a.m. National Veterans Service Advisory Committee
10:00 a.m. Budget and Finance Committee
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Uniting to Combat Hunger
1:30 p.m. National Council of Administration Meeting
4:00 p.m. Eastern Conference Caucus
4:00 p.m. Southern Conference Caucus
4:00 p.m. Big Ten Conference Caucus
4:00 p.m. Western Conference Caucus

Sunday, July 28, 2024

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:30 a.m. Annual Memorial Service
10:00 a.m. Membership Seminar
10:00 a.m. VFW Programs, VMS Committee
10:00 a.m. VFW Riders National Advisory Committee
10:00 a.m. Post Commander Responsibilities as Non-profit Workshop
10:30 a.m. Parliamentary Procedure Workshop
12N-3:00 p.m. Cornhole Tournament
11:00 a.m. Update on VFW Legislative Priority Goals
11:00 a.m. VFW Post Service Officer Training
12:30 p.m. First Time Attendees Welcome Orientation
1:00 p.m. VFW Programs Town Hall

Committee Meetings:

2:00 p.m. National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual -
2:00 p.m. Finance and Internal Organization (200 series)
2:00 p.m. General Resolutions (300 Series)
2:00 p.m. National Security and Foreign Affairs (400 series)
Sub Committee – POW/MIA
2:00 p.m. National Veterans Service Resolutions (600 series)
Sub-committee – Health
Sub-committee – Benefits
Sub-committee – Economic Opportunity/Other

4:00 p.m. Membership Seminar – Recruiting and Engagement
4:00 p.m. Member Rights & Post Commander Authority Workshop
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Association Meeting
4:30 p.m. District Commander Responsibilities Workshop

Monday, July 29, 2024

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m. Joint Opening Session
(Business session will resume after lunch break)
4:00 p.m. Parliamentary Procedure Workshop
4:00 p.m. District Commander Responsibilities Workshop
4:30 p.m. Department Adjutant Quartermasters Reception *(by invitation)*
5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Cornhole Tournament Championship

Tuesday, July 30, 2024

8:00 a.m.-12N. VFW Health Fair
8:00 a.m.-12N. VFW Registration/Exhibits
8:00 a.m. VFW Business Session
1:00 p.m. 2024-2025 Department Commanders Luncheon – (by invitation) –
1:00 p.m. 2024-2025 Senior Vice Commanders, Senior Vice Presidents Luncheon (by invite only)

1:00 p.m.	2024-2025 Junior Vice Commanders, Junior Vice President's Luncheon (by invite only)
1:00 p.m.	Update on Federal Benefits and Services for Veterans
1:00 p.m.	Grant Seeking & Fundraising Ideas for VFW& Auxiliary Posts
1:00 p.m.	Member Rights & Post Commander Authority
1:00 p.m.	Chaplains Workshop
2:30 p.m.	Post Commander/Quartermaster Responsibilities as a Non-profit
5:15 p.m.	Parade Line-up
6:00 p.m.	Patriotic Celebration

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Business Session /Nomination of Officers
1:00 p.m.	All American Commanders Luncheon (ticketed event)
1:00 p.m.	VFW National Home Workshop

Thursday, August 1, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Business Session: Election/Installation of National Officers National Council of Administration Meeting <i>(Following business session)</i>
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Commander-in-Chief's and National President's Reception (ticketed event) – Kentucky Convention Center

Updated: 3/26/24



TAYLORVILLE VFW RIDERS



PTSD AWARENESS RUN

2023 Golf Cart
Raffle



50/50
RAFFLE

\$15
Per person

July 13th, 2024

ALL VEHICLES WELCOME!

Registration is 10am-12pm
At Taylorville VFW
Kickstands up at 12:15pm



Live DJ!
SIX SHOOTER
KARAOKE

→ JB's Hideout - Blue Mound

→ Buzzards Roost - Mt. Auburn

→ Buckart Tavern - Rochester

→ The Shed - Pawnee

→ VFW Post 4495

Chance to win \$10,000

Only 200 tickets sold!

T-shirts available for purchase

After Party ✦ Live & Silent Auction ✦ Food ✦ Beer ✦ Raffles



PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL VETERANS

