



STATE OF ILLINOIS

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2018-2019 Series
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NEW PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING AUDIT REPORTS

The Department of Illinois is no longer accepting audits submitted online at www.vfwil.org. Please submit the audits that bear the signatures of the Commander, Quartermaster and 3 Trustees. A Trustee Pro-tem can be appointed to sign the audit if an elected Trustee is not available. Audits can be submitted by fax, mail, or even through a screenshot sent by email to Mike or Erin. There is a worksheet on the state website that will let you fill out the audit, and it even does the ending column math for you. All you have to do is fill it out, get the proper signatures, and send it to Department. The instructions on how to access the worksheet are below.

1. Go to www.vfwil.org.
2. Click on "Resources" on the top of the home page so a drop down menu appears.
3. Click on "Quartermaster" on the drop down menu.
4. Scroll until you see the **Quartermaster Helpers** menu.
5. Helper 2 is the audit sheet.

*The worksheet will say the Department of Arizona, please change it Illinois when editing the worksheet.

REMINDER – STATE OF ILLINOIS VFW FUNDRAISERS

Sales representatives of Golden Rule Publishing located in Indianapolis will be contacting businesses statewide to sell advertisement for our Mid-Winter Voice of Democracy Book and State Convention Program Book. This is a legitimate fundraiser arranged by our State Headquarters. Businesses or individuals may find their advertisement in the back of our program books. If you have any questions or concerns, call State Headquarters (217) 529-6688. We ask that you support this very important fundraises!

POST COMMANDERS AND POST TRUSTEES

It is the duty of the Post Trustees and the Post Commander to insure that proper deductions have been made and that taxes have been submitted for employee withholding, sales tax, pull-tabs and bingo taxes at state and federal levels. It is crucial to insure these requirements have been met.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

Once again we are drawing your attention 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 to ensure that he or his 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. Post Commanders can appoint any of his members to attend in his/her place if they are not able to attend. *District Commanders are directed to forward a list of Posts that did not attend the District Meeting to Headquarters immediately after the meeting.*

FEBRUARY COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

February 7-10, 2019

President Abraham Lincoln Springfield ó a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
701 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701.

All persons assigned or called-in to report during the February Council of Administration will receive two complimentary room nights from State Headquarters. It is their responsibility to cover any additional expenses ó such as additional nights and incidentals, etc. Those called-in are expected to be in attendance for all meetings and to purchase a banquet ticket for the Voice of Democracy Banquet on Saturday, February 9, 2019.

FEBRUARY HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

ATTENTION: The special room rate of \$95.00/night + 13% tax will be available until January 16th or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. You may call the hotel at (217) 544-8800 to book your reservation. Make sure to mention the group code: ***VVD***.

Reservations can also be made directly with the hotel by going to the website below:

<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SPIASDT-VVD-20190207/index.jhtml>

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings will begin on Friday, February 8, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield. All meetings will run consecutively beginning with the Veterans Service Committee at 1:00 pm. The *Illinois VFW News* Committee and Budget & Finance Committee will follow.

Members of the Veterans Service Committee are as follows:

John Davin, National Council Member, Past State Commander, Chairman
Philip Maughan, Past State Commander
W. Dave Stout, Past State Commander
Jeffrey G. Hastings, Junior Past State Commander
Donald Boyer, State Commander
Bradley Gould, State Senior Vice Commander

Laurie Emmer, State Junior Vice Commander
Michael DeRoss, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

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

Jeffrey G. Hastings, Junior Past State Commander ó Chairman
Glen Goodrich, Past Eleventh District Commander
William Fiegel, Member, Post 2378-4
Thomas Bailey, Past Seventh District Commander
Michael DeRoss, State Adjutant
Donald Boyer, State Commander

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

Gary Stork ó State Chief of Staff - Chairman
Fred Retter ó Member, Post 2876
Philip Maughan ó Past State Commander

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

The Council of Administration will meet on Friday, February 8, 2019 and Saturday, February 9, 2019 in the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield. The meeting will begin Friday at 2:00 pm until approximately 5:00 pm. It will reconvene at 8:30 am on Saturday.

The following state officers and program directors should be prepared to report to the Council

Reverend Donald Meeks, State Chaplain
Gary Stork, State Chief of Staff
Nina Petru, State Surgeon
George Foy, Jr., State Inspector
John Davin, National Council Member
Derek Giffin, State Service Office Director
J.D. Spindler, State Membership Director
Jayson Hoffman, State Student Veterans Liaison
Thomas Davidson, State Americanism Director
Walter Sanders, Jr., State Blood Donor Director
Charles öChuckö Ingle, State Community Activities Director
Paul Bezazian, State Homeless Veterans Director
Harold Olsen, Jr., State Hospital & VAVS Director
C. Victor Smith, State Legislative Director
Michael McGrath, State National Home Director
Carl Sorensen, State Public Relations Director
John H. öDutchö DeGroot, Asst. State Veterans and Military Support Programs Director
P.J. Hymes, Jr., State Operation Uplink Director
Stephanie Kirksey, State Poppy Director
Raymond Bachewicz, State POW/MIA Director
Robert Mattson, State Safety Director
John Jakoby, State VFW/MOC Coordinator
Robert McLeod, State Voice of Democracy Director
James Ellis, Assistant Voice of Democracy Director
David Darte, State Youth Activities Director

John W. Davin, Veterans Service Committee Chairman, PSC
Jeffrey G. Hastings, Illinois VFW News Committee Chairman, PSC

ASSIGNED TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

The following officers are also assigned to this Council of Administration Meeting:

Jack Lamont, State Sergeant-at-Arms
James Danielson, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Daniel Merry, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
William Roy Johnson, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Larry Shaver, State Officer of the Day
Michael Bushey, Aide to the State Commander
James Singler, Aide to the State Commander
Richard Luemen, State Emergency Services Director
Jeffrey Hastings, State Assistant Adjutant-Quartermaster
Jonathan Cooper, State Assistant Adjutant
Lee Morgan, State Assistant Quartermaster
H. George Doeden, State Assistant Quartermaster
Dale Roach, State Photographer
Rodney Thompson, State Photographer

CHURCH SERVICE

Church Service tentatively scheduled for 4:00 pm in the Governor Yates, located on the second floor of the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, on Saturday, February 9, 2019 during the February Council of Administration.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BANQUET

The 72nd Annual State of Illinois Voice of Democracy Banquet will be honoring the District Voice of Democracy Champions and the top three Patriot's Pen Champions! This event will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2019. That night we will announce the state winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Programs! The doors will open at 6:00 pm at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield.

Tickets are \$35 each and may be purchased by mailing a check to State Headquarters, calling the office with a credit card number or going online to the [State of Illinois VFW Website](#). Click on the "Donation" tab. Please make sure to *allocate* your order to the Voice of Democracy Banquet. Tickets are numbered and will be sold on a first come-first serve basis. Payment must be made when you order your tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & PATRIOT'S PEN WINNERS' TRIP TO SPRINGFIELD

Each student will receive accommodations for two nights at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield ó a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 701 E. Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701. If the student would like to stay longer than two nights or would like to book additional rooms, the District should assist in making these arrangements and help cover the costs. District Commanders or Chairmen may call State Headquarters to have these arrangements made.

Upon the students' arrival on Friday, February 8, 2019, State Headquarters will be hosting a pizza party! The following morning, the students will meet in the lobby of the hotel at 8:45 am for the Land of Lincoln Tour. The tour will make the following stops: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, Old State Capitol, Illinois State Capitol, Lincoln's Tomb and the Illinois State Military Museum. Only Students and assigned personnel will be allowed on the bus. Following the 72nd Annual State of Illinois Voice of Democracy Banquet, the students will be invited to enjoy an ice cream bar arranged by State Headquarters.

LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE

The Lincoln Pilgrimage will take place at Lincoln's Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery at 2:00 pm.

AWARDS AND CITATIONS COMMITTEE

Please submit your recommendations for following to State Headquarters: Police Officers, Firemen, Educators, Outstanding in Industrial Field, Legal Professionals, Athletic Field, Governmental Service, Clergy, News Media, Outstanding Citizen, and VFW Special Award. The individuals recommended cannot be VFW members. Entries must be entered by April 1, 2019!

We do not have a form for nominations. Please send a resume and/or letter describing why this individual should be considered as well as how they are qualified for the award. Please include their contact information! Without your support of this program, it wouldn't be success!

PEARL HARBOR DAY – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018

Since Public Law 103-308 passed in 1994, December 7th is designated as *National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day* and requests the United States Flag be flown at half staff from sunrise to sunset in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on December 7, 1941. *You can find a Pearl Harbor Day Speech on the National VFW website.* After logging in, it can be found under Patriotic Holiday Speeches.

CONSOLIDATIONS OF POST CHARTERS

Commander-in-Chief Vincent B. J. Lawrence has approved the consolidation of Niles Memorial Post 3579, Niles, Illinois and Skokie Valley Post 3854, Skokie, Illinois effective November 29, 2018. The consolidated Post is to be known as *Niles Memorial Post 3579, Niles, Illinois*. Please update your records accordingly.

Commander-in-Chief Vincent B. J. Lawrence has approved the consolidation of Lewis P. Schultz Post 1486, Sandwich, Illinois and Kendall County Torch of Liberty Post 8234, Yorkville, Illinois effective November 29, 2018. The consolidated Post is to be known as *Lewis P. Schultz Post 1486, Sandwich, Illinois*. Please update your records accordingly.



*Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a joyful holiday season!
Merry Christmas from VFW State Headquarters*

Mike, Cory, Erin, Linda

OFFICIAL:

MICHAEL A. DE ROSS
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:

DONALD S. BOYER
State Commander