

Phone: (217) 529-6688
Fax: (217) 546-3415

P.O. Box 13206
Springfield, IL 62791-3206

Email: vfwil@vfwil.org
Website: www.vfwil.org



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

2021-2022
General Orders No. 2
August 2021

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.*

SECTION 709 – CONTROL OF UNITS

We have had a few inquiries from VFW Posts considering the sale of their Post Homes. 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 insure 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.

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 101st annual State Convention in June, 2022.

ALL AMERICAN COMMANDERS FOR 2020-2021

Congratulations to the 2020-2021 Commanders listed below who have earned "All American" status:

Steve Eller, 14th District
Brett Nila, 19th District Commander
Dominic Jaroch, Commander, Alsip Memorial Post 450
Les Durov, Commander, Prospect Post 1337
James Thies, Commander, William E. Sarb, Post 2202
Stephen Joseph, Commander, Post 2245
James Patinka, Commander, Post 5036
Seth Floyd, Commander, Post 5346
Ronny Workman, Commander, Post 6408
Mark Steinheimer, Commander, Post 7710
Christopher Garza, Commander, Post 8821
Howard Kirby, Commander, Post 9773
Matthew Jaeger, Commander, Post 10236
Marie Honeywell, Commander, Post 11020

AUGUST COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING (AUGUST 20-22nd 2021)

Holiday Inn and Suites Joliet Southwest
1471 Rock Creek Blvd., Joliet, Illinois 60431

All officers and directors are expected to be in attendance for all sessions of the Council of Administration. Past Department Commanders who are receiving Department paid rooms are highly encouraged to attend all sessions of the Council of Administration.

The committees being called into the August Council of Administration will meet on Friday, August, 20 2021 at 1:00 pm and the Council of Administration Meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m.

All Program Directors will forward their written reports to Headquarters two weeks prior to the Council of Administration Meeting and are expected to be present to highlight any changes or important information contained within your written report when called upon.

Philip Maughan, National Council Member
Duane Hisel, State Chief of Staff
Clarke Christiansen, State Inspector
Eugene Blackwell, State Surgeon
Reverend Donald Meeks, State Chaplain
Ryan Higginbotham, State Membership Chairman
Barbara Wilson, State Marketing Chairman
Georges Sanon and Jay Hoffman, State Student Veterans Liaisons
Sean Conner, State Americanism Chairman
Robert McLeod., State Blood Donor Chairman
Stephanie Kirksey, State Buddy Poppy Chairman
Steve Eller, State All-State Program Chairman

Charles Ingle, State Community Activities Chairman
Paul Bezazian, State Homeless Veterans Chairman
Harold Olsen, Jr., State Hospital & VAVS Chairman
Jayson Hoffman, State Legislative Chairman
Michael McGrath, State National Home Chairman
Clarence Caraker, State POW/MIA Chairman
John Metzger, State Veterans and Military Support Programs Chairman
Barbara Wilson – State Public Relations Chairman
Les Durov, State Safety Chairman
Dave Darte, State Voice of Democracy Chairman
Robert McLeod, State Youth Activities Chairman
VFW/MOC Coordinator, John Jakoby
Dave Stout, Veterans Service Committee Chairman
Laurie Emmer, Sr., *Illinois VFW News* Committee Chairman
Phil Maughan, Budget & Finance Committee Chairman

These additional State Officers will also be called into the Council of Administration Meeting...

Derek Giffin, State Service Office Director
Lee Morgan, State Assistant Quartermaster
Jeff Britt., State Officer of the Day
Sam Scaife Jr., State Sergeant-at-Arms
Jack Lamont, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Roy Johnson, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Maurice Bridges, State Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Kyna Simpson, State Aide-De-Camp
Dutch DeGroot, State Photographer

STATE COMMANDER/PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Dinner for State Commander Bobby Welch and State President Rhonda Borkgren will be held on Saturday, August 21, 2021, 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 \$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 25, 2021. 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.

2021 FALL PROGRAM BOOK

This year's theme is "9/11 – 20 Years Later"

We can all remember 20 years ago as we watched in horror the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001 unfold in front of our eyes on national television. We can all answer that question – where were you on Sept. 11?

This year, our Illinois VFW Fall Program Book will honor the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that shook our nation – the stories of where our members, and future members, were on September 11, 2001?

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 "9/11 – 20 Years Later". Submission is simple – fill out the included form, and return either via mail to State Headquarters, PO Box 13206, Springfield IL 62791 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. Typically, the State winners will go on to compete at the National Convention Poppy Display Contest. Due to Convention limitations set in place because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, there will be no Poppy Display Contest at National Convention.

Category 1 – Public Promotion of Poppy Sales

Scott Post 4183-14 in Belleville, Illinois

Hometown Murray Post 9773-3 and its Auxiliary, Hometown, Illinois

Category 2 – Memorial or Inspirational Displays

Randolph County Post 2698-14 and its Auxiliary, Sparta, Illinois

Chicago Bridgeport Post 5079-3 and its Auxiliary, Chicago, Illinois

Auxiliary to Roscoe Post 2955-6, Roscoe, Illinois

Category 3 – Artistic of Decorative Use of Poppies

Olney Memorial Post 4226-13 and its Auxiliary, Olney, Illinois

Crawford County Post 4549-17 and its Auxiliary, Robinson, Illinois

SERVICE OFFICER SEMINAR

On Saturday, October 2, 2021, a workshop, "Understanding Veterans Benefits" will be held at Batavia Post 1197, 645 S. River St., Batavia, IL. The program begins at 8:00a.m., and runs until 3:00p.m. Workshop sponsors are District 19, Post 1197 and their Auxiliaries.

The cost is only \$20 and includes breakfast, lunch and all printed materials. Registration information and further details are available at the Workshop website: www.vetworkshop.org.

This program was originally scheduled for 2020 but was delayed and re-scheduled due to Covid-19. No further schedule changes will be made. There are, of course, many such programs about veterans' benefits but what makes this one different and truly outstanding are the program and speakers.

Workshop topics were selected because of current interest to veterans, active duty personnel and the families and friends, all of whom are invited to attend. Our speakers are the "pro's pros" of VA benefits.

As of now they include Barry Walter, Past Director of the VFW Service Office, Department of Illinois and a current VSO with the Department of Michigan, Derek Giffin, current Director of the VFW Service Office, Department of Illinois, Jacob Zimmerman, Superintendent, Veterans Assistance Commission of Kane County and Andrew Tangen, Superintendent, Veterans Assistance Commission of Lake County.

This outstanding team was put together by Program Chair, Steve Fixler, Superintendent, Veterans Assistance Commission of DuPage County and the Workshop Committee Chair, Dutch DeGroot, Service Officer, 4th District and Post 1337. Please encourage your members to strongly consider attending this important Workshop for their benefit and for the benefit of all veterans in their respective Districts and Posts.

OFFICIAL:



W. DAVE STOUT
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



ROBERT WELCH
State Commander



85TH ANNIVERSARY

August 28, 2021

2:00-10:00

You are invited to our celebration.

Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic,
Commander-in-Chief of the
Veterans of Foreign Wars will be
coming home to his home post to
help celebrate the 85th anniversary
of Post 2968's Charter. There will be
plenty of food and drink for everyone
along with live entertainment and
fireworks to conclude the evening. Bring
your lawn chair and enjoy an evening of
fun & camaraderie.

VFW POST 2968

1911 North Market | Sparta, IL

RSVP vfwsparta85th@gmail.com



REMEMBERING
9/11: 20 YEARS LATER

Illinois State Convention Program Book Order Form
Our Post/District/Auxiliary would like to purchase the ad size selected below in the
2021 Fall Program Book - **9/11: 20 YEARS LATER**

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, 2021 Fall Program Book
PO Box 13206
Springfield, IL 62791-3206

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

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021



9/11 - 20 YEARS LATER

2021 ILLINOIS VFW FALL PROGRAM BOOK

Where were you on September 11?

Please send this form with photo to:
Illinois VFW State Headquarters
PO Box 13206
Springfield, Illinois 62791

**Deadline for submission
September 30, 2021**

September 11 marks the 20th anniversary of the Terrorist Attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. This year, the Illinois VFW is seeking to highlight where our members were 20 years ago .

The theme for our 2021 Fall Program Book is “9/11 - 20 Years Later” and will publish stories of where our members, and future members, were on that fateful day.

To be included, please submit a picture with your name printed on the back.

Those wanting photographs mailed back should include a self addressed, stamped envelope with their submission.

Please include the information on the form about your military and VFW service.

Your help is needed to make this project special. While the publication date is still months away, this information is needed so work may begin on this issue.

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: _____

Where were you on Sept. 11?: _____

Program Information-- August 2021

National Home
Mike McGrath, Chairman
37 Sussex Ct., Naperville, IL
(630) 357-2680
Email: mackcav1@sbcglobal.net

Paul Zinck
Assistant Chairman

- Illinois Day at the National Home-

As a reminder, this year Illinois Day is set for Saturday, September 25.

In addition we will have a welcoming dinner and get together at the nearby VFW Post in Charlotte, Michigan on Friday, September 24.

Cold beverages and good cheer from 5:00-8:00 with dinner at 6 Eastern Time. The Charlotte Post is called the "Maple City" Post and is located at 695 Lansing Rd., Charlotte, MI. Phone (517) 543-1719

For those who will be staying overnight on Friday, September 24, blocks of rooms have been set aside at local motels and you can make your own accommodations.

America's Best Value Inn (517) 543-8288
828 E. Shepard St., Charlotte, MI

Holiday Inn (517) 541-5000
500 Meijer St., Charlotte, MI

Comfort Inn (517) 543-7307
1302 Packard Hwy., Charlotte MI

When you call, please tell them you are with the VFW.

Additional information will be distributed at our August Council of Administration Meeting and we'll need head counts for Friday and Saturday.

Call or Email. We are glad to help.

Note: Please do consult the 2021-2022 Commander's Leadership Manual "Mission First- Veterans Always" Pages 41-42 for National Home Program rules and requirements.

Blood Donor
Robert McLeod
Program Director
Email: rock76@yahoo.com

The need for blood is great. I do know that there are members and Posts out there that have done their part and donated already. we still need to do much, much more-- doing blood drives, having more than one member donate and then going back a few months later and donating another pint.

Now is the time to shine as a Department by coming back stronger than ever. Get out there and give the gift of life. you never know who you may help or whose life you may save.

I ask that members that have questions about the program consult the Commanders Leadership Manual first. It does have a lot of good information.

We may have only started the year in reporting, but we need to do more and get those numbers up. Posts and Districts- set a goal for how many pints you want to get this year, and go out there and reach that goal.

Blood is Life.

Youth Activities
Robert McLeod
Program Director
Email: rock76@yahoo.com

So the students are going back to school and the question is- What has the Post or District done to get the word out about the Patriot's Pen program? Now is the time to contact the schools, churches and any other youth organizations. Post Chairmen, remember this is the hardest part of the program, getting the word out of the students. Keep at it.

Posts can still report on Youth Activities or involvement with youth programs such as coaching youth sports or church programs.

Remember that the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Get involved with them.