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3300 Constitution Ave  
Springfield, IL 62711

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Website: [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org)



Illinois

2022-2023  
General Orders No. 3  
September 2022

*All Correspondence, invitations, letters, etc addressed to State Commander Bobby Edwards should be mailed to 3300 Constitution Dr, Springfield, IL 62711*

### **2022 FALL PROGRAM BOOK**

This year's theme is "VFW Survives Pandemic"

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

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

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

### **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.

### **POST QUARTERMASTERS, COMMANDERS AND TRUSTEES**

Per Section 218-Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligation of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure – trustees shall “within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, properly audit the books and records of the Post Quartermaster, Post Adjutant, and any activity, club room, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or on behalf of the Post and submit a Post Trustee’s Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector”. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact this Headquarters.

Furthermore under part 218 of the Manual of Procedure, Commanders are to insure the audit report is properly completed: “Assure that the Post Trustees have examined the books and records of the Post and prepared the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit no later than the end of the month following the last day of each quarterly period”.

**Election Reports:** National can suspend your charter for failure to submit an Election Report for the current year 2022-2023. If you don’t have one on file please submit to National Headquarters.

**Sale or Disposition of Post Property** - per Section 212 - In all cases of surrender, revocation or forfeiture of a charter, title to all real and personal property shall immediately pass to the Department who shall take possession and control for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration for the purposes set forth in the Congressional Charter. In addition, the books and records of the Post shall be recovered by the Department. In the case of surrender or forfeiture of a charter, the Department Council of Administration in the case of trust funds or trust property or both, shall carry out the intent and purpose of such a trust to the extent of such funds or property, or both.

### **NATIONAL BY-LAWS: POLITICS SEC. 702 - POLITICS.**

No officer or member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall in any manner use the Veterans of Foreign Wars for partisan politics and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any meetings nor shall any nominations, recommendations or endorsements for political office be made, provided this shall not apply to discussion of policies of any organization that seeks to alter our present form of government by force, violence or other unlawful means.

Participation in activities supporting or opposing legislation or administration of laws for veteran's welfare or relating to other matters pertaining to the purposes of the organization shall be permitted. Such participation shall be consistent with the legislative and welfare programs and policies approved by the National Convention.

No Post, County Council, District or Department shall participate in a labor dispute, either on behalf of labor or management. No member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall wear the VFW uniform or VFW cap in any plant or picket line or meeting of employees where a labor dispute arises.

### **ATTN: DISTRICT OFFICERS**

District Meetings are meant to be a school of instruction. District Commanders must make sure instruction is taking place at their meetings. Training is very important to the success of our



organization; without it we lose members and Posts. The national web site, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), contains a great wealth of information that can be used in schools of instruction. Use these materials and more to cause your attendees at District Meetings to leave the meeting knowing more than they did when they arrived. Department representatives are available, from time to time, to provide training at District Meetings or at Schools of Instruction called outside of the normal District Meeting Schedule. Should more than one District decide to join together for a school of instruction a Department Representative is almost sure to attend if invited.

### **BOND APPLICATIONS**

This is a reminder that the application for Post Officer's Bond is available on our State of Illinois Website by going to [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org). Go to Resources and click on "Reports & Forms" on the drop down menu. You will need to print out and complete the form and mail or email it back to Department. **All bonds not renewed will expire on August 31, 2022.**

The bond is issued in the name of the office covered, not in the name of the person holding the office. Important! Too many of our Posts do not keep an accurate set of books; it is very important to keep good records, especially with regard to your pull tab operation, bingo, etc. This could make the difference between having a claim approved or rejected if you do not keep a good accounting of your funds. If you are ever audited by the Internal Revenue Service, and you can't produce an accurate, up to date accounting of your monies, you are going to be in serious trouble. Make sure your cash is accounted for on your ledger and your audit report! Remember, Employee Dishonesty Bonds do NOT bond officers or directors of the Post.

### **NATIONAL BY-LAWS: NEW MEMBERS**

Please take note that ALL new members must be approved by the current Post Membership prior to them becoming members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Additionally, prior to voting to accept the applicant the Post Reviewing Committee should determine eligibility.

#### **Sec. 103 - Election.**

**Applications.** After the applicant has filled out the application card, it should be provided to the Post Adjutant or Quartermaster, together with the dues (and admission fee, if applicable). A receipt shall be given to the applicant. An applicant may be recommended after eligibility has been fully determined by the Post Reviewing Committee. With respect to a Department Member-at-Large, the National Organization and/or the Department Headquarters will be responsible for eligibility determination. The original application of every member will be retained on file with the Adjutant.

**Balloting on Applications.** Before voting on the application during a Post meeting, the Commander shall allow the members present an opportunity to state their objections, if any, to the admission of the applicant. Unless one member present shall request a written ballot, **a vote shall be taken and a majority of the votes cast shall decide acceptance or rejection of the application.**

### **PATRIOT DAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**

Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11 is designated as Patriot Day. The President requests the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff – sunrise to sunset – and a moment of silence be observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on September 11th, 2001 due to terrorists attacks on the United States. You can find a Patriot's Day Speech on the National VFW website [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Once you sign in, click on the tab for "Patriotic Holiday Speeches".

### **NATIONAL POW MIA RECOGNITION DAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022**

Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. You can find a POW/MIA Recognition Day Speech on the National VFW website [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Once you sign in, click on the tab for "Patriotic Holiday Speeches".

### **ILLINOIS DAY AT THE VFW NATIONAL HOME**

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

### **ILLINOIS VFW NEWS, FACEBOOK, WEB PAGE**

Photographs, news, and calendar items can be mailed to Editor Barbara Wilson 802 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Riverton, Illinois 62561. Any items can be sent via e-mail to [barb.wilson2@outlook.com](mailto:barb.wilson2@outlook.com). Pictures should be sent as a JPEG attachment. This is your newspaper, and we want your news items and pictures. I really would like to start changing out photos on the Department web site more often than once a year. When Posts and Districts have events, consider sending high resolution photos to our Illinois VFW News editor – Barb Wilson ([barb.wilson2@outlook.com](mailto:barb.wilson2@outlook.com)) for possible inclusion on our state Facebook page and on the website slider.

### **NEW CENTURY RAFFLE**

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

### **WEEKLY WINNERS**

Date of Drawing	Winner	Seller
08/05/2022	George Moody	No seller listed
08/12/2022	Bernard McCance	Bernard McCance
08/19/2022	Ronnie Martindale	No seller listed
08/26/2022	Timothy Stocks	Timothy Stocks

### **2022 COMMANDER'S CALLS**

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



Illinois

**Schedule**

**September 17, 2022**

Knox County Post 2257  
1001 Michigan Ave  
Galesburg, IL 61401

**September 18, 2022**

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

**October 1, 2022**

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

**October 2, 2022**

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

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

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

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

**VETERAN OF THE MONTH/QUARTER/YEAR**

In an effort to create and maintain a culture of recognition, motivate high performance and reinforce desired behaviors. A new award has been instituted by the Commander and the leadership team to recognize outstanding Comrades who perpetuate the purposes set forth in our Congressional Charter.

Post and District leaders are encouraged to submit to headquarters a narrative write up on a comrade from their area that is leading from the front and supporting one or more of the purposes in Sec. 230102 of our Congressional Charter. Nominations are due by the 25th of each month.

Veteran of the Quarter will be chosen from the 3 monthly awardees for that quarter and the Veteran of the Year will be chosen from the Quarterly awardees. A limited number of "spot awards" will also be available.

The nominations so far have been submitted in a variety of formats. Attached to the General Orders is a new Veteran of the Month Nomination Form and this form will be used for nominations. A copy of the form can also be found on State VFW web site [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org)

August 2022 Veteran of the Month – John “Dutch” DeGroot (Post 1337)

**VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM CHANGES**

Please be advised the top three VFW national Voice of Democracy scholarships have been raised \$5k each, bringing the total national scholarship amount to **\$171,000**.

**1st Place \$35,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship**

**2nd Place \$21,000 Charles Kuralt Memorial Scholarship**

**3rd Place \$15,000 VFW Scholarship**

Attached to this General Order is updated VOD Entry Form. The updated Chairperson Guide and entry form can be found on [vfwil.org](http://vfwil.org) as well. Please pass this information along to your Post and District Chairpersons.

OFFICIAL:



JOE BARTLEY  
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



BOBBY EDWARDS  
State Commander



## **POST SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING**

**This is for ALL Post Service Officers or anyone that might be interested in learning more about what a Post Service Officer does.**

**There will be a training class for Post Service Officers on October 8, 2022 from Noon until 4 pm. This will be a hybrid training course with the in person live training taking place at John H Kraus Post 454, 1006 E Lincoln St, Bloomington, IL 61701. For those that cannot attend in person, the class will be presented on Zoom at the same time. Zoom details and link will be sent out at later date.**

**State Veteran Service Officer Derek Giffin will be instructing the class and covering topics, such as:**

- The duties and responsibilities of the Post Service Officer**
- The DO's and DON'T's of the Post Service Officer**
- Resources for the Post Service Officer**

**This is a great opportunity for your Post Service Officer to get updated information that will help them as they help the veterans in your community. Please plan to attend this FREE training class.**

## VFW 2022-2023 Community Activities, Dept. of IL

<u>District</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Posts Reported</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Community Activities Chairman</u>
3	Chris Garza	1	8%	
4	Stephen MacInnes	4	33%	
5	Kevin Cournoyer	0	0%	
6	Ruben Hernandez	1	6%	Rob Bland
7	Adam Lau	0	0%	
8	Arthur Munos	3	19%	Arthur Munos
9	Christopher Rush	0	0%	
10	Anthony Bellin	0	0%	
11	Rick Hobbs	1	8%	
12	Dustin Dixon	1	6%	
13	Don Porter	1	8%	
14	Rod Thompson	3	18%	John Barrett
15	Christopher Maynor	2	17%	
16	Fred Cagle	1	9%	
17	Sean Conner	0	0%	
18	Todd Latham	1	8%	
19	Bob Zeman	5	22%	

Total Posts 260
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Dashboard Data  
8/31/2022

Department Percentage <b>9%</b>
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Compiled by  
Chuck Ingle





WORKING TOGETHER-SUPPORTING VETERANS.

## **NATIONAL HOME ILLINOIS DAY SEPTEMBER 24**

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

### **LOCATION**

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

### **ACTIVITIES**

WE WILL BEGIN WITH A VISIT TO THE LOCAL CEMETERY (NATIONAL HOME SECTION) AT 0900 LOCAL TIME. AND CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BEGIN AT 10:00 am.

LUNCH IS AT NOON AND THE PROGRAM (HONORING LONG TIME PARTICIPANTS) WILL FOLLOW WITH THE SILVER MARCH.

DEPARTURE IS APPROXIMATELY 2PM.

THE NATIONAL HOME HAS A BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS WITH OVER 600 ACRES. WE WILL HAVE VISITS TO ILLINOIS HOMES 1 AND 2 AS WELL AS THE MUSEUM, GIFT SHOP, AND MONTANA FARMSTED. THERE WILL BE GAMES, POPCORN AND ICE CREAM IN THE GYM.

### **WELCOMING DINNER**

FOR THOSE COMRADES WHO ARRIVE ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, WE WILL HAVE A WELCOMING DINNER AT THE NEARBY, "MAPLE CITY" V.F.W. POST 2406, 695 LANSING ST, CHARLOTTE MI, 517 543 1719.

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

"VERY ENJOYABLE."

## ACCOMODATIONS

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING A GREAT TRIP AND FOR THOSE STAYING  
OVERNITE  
ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN ACCOMODATIONS.  
BLOCKS OF ROOMS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR US. PLEASE  
CALL AND MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE ILLINOIS V.F.W.

COMFORT INN  
1302 PACKARD HWY, CHARLOTTE MI  
517 543 7307

HOLIDAY INN  
500 MEIJER ST CHARLOTTE MIO  
517 541 5000

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AT OUR AUGUST C OF A  
MEETING  
AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE A HEAD COUNT / RSVP SO AS TO ORDER  
ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE.

THANK YOU ALL AND HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

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

Mike McGrath Program Chairman ... Phone 630 357 2680 Email  
mackcav1@sbcglobal.net

Paul Zinck Assistant Chairman ... Phone 618 791 0180 Email pwzinck@gmail.com

**WANT A SNEAK PREVIEW?** go to: <https://vfwnationalhome.org/>

Scroll to "Take a Virtual Tour"



## Program Bulletin VOD August 2022

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

Suggestions for meeting:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## 2022-2023 Theme

### “Why Is The Veteran Important?”

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2022

Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$35,000 Award

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#### What is the Voice of Democracy Program?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 80,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, “Why Is The Veteran Important?”

#### Why Should I Enter?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington DC, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$171,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$35,000.

#### The Rules

##### Who can enter?

The Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9-12 by the Oct. 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are ineligible.

##### What do I need to enter?

Record your original 3-5 minute (+ or - 5 second max.) audio essay on a flash drive, or other electronic device. You will submit the recording, typed essay and this completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or VFW Post for judging. In addition you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at [youthscholarships@vfw.org](mailto:youthscholarships@vfw.org) for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to your name, school, city, state, race, or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership.

#### Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries begin at the VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One winner for every 15 entries from each Post advances to District and one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post, follow these instructions: First, visit this website [vfw.org/FindaPost](http://vfw.org/FindaPost) to “Find A VFW Post.” If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look for “Find a State Contact” to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at [youthscholarships@vfw.org](mailto:youthscholarships@vfw.org)

#### What Is the Deadline for My Entry?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, **Oct. 31, 2022**. It is the responsibility of the student to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

#### What Are the Judging Criteria?

##### Originality is worth 30 points:

Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

##### Content is worth 35 points:

Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to another.

##### Delivery is worth 35 points:

Speak in a clear and credible manner.



# 2022-2023 Official Entry Form Voice of Democracy Competition

Must Be Completed by All Contestants

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

( )

Phone

Email

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

Grade in School

Age

Jacket Size

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and Email (if applicable)

## To Be Completed by Student's Parent/Guardian

(required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

( )

Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone

Parent/Guardian's Email

## Participant Agreement for Students Advancing to National Level

If selected as a first-place state winner, I have the consent of my parent/guardian and school to attend the Voice of Democracy National Finals in Washington, D.C, as a guest of the VFW National Organization. In consideration for permission to participate in the National Voice of Democracy Competition ("Competition") I do hereby, for myself, for my heirs, executors, administrators and assignees, waive, release and discharge all rights and claims which I have or which may hereafter accrue against the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and/or the Departments (state organizations) of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective officers, agents, successors and assigns from any damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my participation in or association with the Competition and/or arising out of any travel related to the Competition. In the event of sickness, accident or injury in connection with the Competition, I consent to and accept the services of a duly licensed medical, surgical or dental specialist selected on my behalf and for such treatments, as they may deem necessary. I understand that VFW will not be liable for such treatment. I further understand that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States retains non-exclusive rights to use my audio file, essay, name and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

## I Have Read and Understand the Rules and Participant Agreement

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed audio/essay entry and that I have only entered the competition once yearly if otherwise eligible. I understand that if it is found that I have entered any other Post's competition or used this essay for another VFW competition, I face elimination from the competition and will return any and all prizes or incentives awarded.

Signature of Student Participant

Date

## To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Voice of Democracy Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairperson's Signature

Post #

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairperson's Signature (if applicable)

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of students participating

No. of winners advanced to District

Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$

## To Be Completed by the VFW District

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Voice of Democracy Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Departments.

District Chairperson's Signature

Dist. #

Address

City, State, Zip

( )

Phone

Email

## To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy Department Competition, is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairperson's Signature

( )

Daytime Phone

Email

The winner  has been  will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on \_\_\_\_\_.

For assistance contact:  
816.756.3390 ext. 6155  
Email: [youthscholarships@vfw.org](mailto:youthscholarships@vfw.org)

Local VFW Post Information:

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time To Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time To Call: \_\_\_\_\_



## SCOUTING

The requirement for Scouts to earn their Eagle, Quartermaster, Summit, and Gold Awards is that the scout must complete a leadership project. There are times when the scout may approach your Post for ideas on a project. This is an opportunity to evaluate the needs of your post or needs in the community that serves veterans and give that scout the opportunity to help our veterans. Below is a link for some projects that have been previously done.

<https://scoutorama.com/100-service-project-ideas>

Ron Milton

Scouting Chair



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

THIS REPORT IS FOR: Illinois Service Office

REPORT MONTH OF: Jul 2022

<b>1. Office Interviews:</b>	<u>179</u>	<b>8. Appeals Actions</b>	
<b>2. Communications:</b>		a. NOD Filed	<u>0</u>
a. Correspondence Recd	<u>90</u>	b. VA Form 9 Filed	<u>0</u>
b. Coor spondence Orig	<u>226</u>	c. DRO:	
c. Emails Received	<u>125</u>	1. Conferences	<u>2</u>
d. Emails Responded to	<u>118</u>	2. Favorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
e. Telephone calls	<u>464</u>	3. Unfavorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
f. Other	<u>36</u>	d. VA Form 646 Filed	<u>0</u>
<b>3. Claims Filed</b>	<u>130</u>	<b>9. Health Care Assistance</b>	
<b>4. Powers of Attorney Filed</b>	<u>87</u>	a. Enroll 10-10EZ Compl	<u>0</u>
<b>5. File Accessed</b>	<u>43</u>	b. Health Care Ref Asst	<u>0</u>
<b>6. Ratings Cleared</b>	<u>110</u>	c. Hospitalized Vets Visit	<u>0</u>
<b>7. Rating Queries</b>	<u>0</u>	<b>Veterans Assisted through</b>	
		<b>10. outreach</b>	<u>7</u>
		<b>11. New VFW Members</b>	<u>0</u>

	<u># Awds Recd</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<b>12. DISABILITY BENEFITS</b>		
a. Compensation	<u>83</u>	<u>2,174,013.12</u>
b. Pension	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>13. DEATH BENEFITS</b>		
a. DIC	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
b. Pension	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
c. Burial	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>14. OTHER BENEFITS</b>		
a. VR & E	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
b. Waivers of Indebt	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>15. C &amp; C Awards</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>16. Lump Sum and Retroactive</b>	<u>27</u>	<u>648,661.84</u>
<b>17. TOTALS</b>	<u>110</u>	<u>2,822,674.96</u>
<b>18. Miscellaneous Comments:</b>		

# COMMANDER'S CHALLENGE

**Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland has issued a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of September 2022!**

It's that time of year; the kids are going back to school and it's time for the VFW to get back to the basics of growing our membership!



To encourage this, for the month of September 2022, \$500 will be awarded to the top Post in each membership division based on recruiting, renewing, and reinstating the most Annual members. This will count New members, Annual members who renew their dues, and lapsed members who pay their Annual dues to the Post. Whether you're out there bringing a new veteran into the organization, encouraging your existing members to continue their membership, or bringing back lapsed members to the Post, we want to see every Post out there making the effort to grow our membership because -

**EVERY VETERAN COUNTS!**



Membership totals will be based on close-of-business totals on August 31st to September 30th.

**Veteran of the Month**  
**Nomination Form**  
**Form must be submitted by the 25th of the month for consideration**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Post #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to [vwil@vwil.org](mailto:vwil@vwil.org)**

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**\*\*\*\*\*DURING THE PAST MONTH\*\*\*\*\***

**Failure to meet this requisite will disqualify the nomination**

1. Explain how this Veteran has made a positive impact on the VFW

2. Explain how this Veteran has made a positive impact in the lives of his/her fellow Veterans

3. Explain how this Veteran has made a positive impact in his/her community.

**Please attach additional pages as necessary!**



# 2022 Special Edition VFW Christmas Cards



**Your NEW Christmas Cards  
will arrive soon!**

The holidays are a clear reminder of the “gift” our veterans and service members have given to us – the gift of freedom! Please help keep our Department Programs strong with your continued support.







# 25<sup>th</sup> Annual POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony

**Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at VFW Post 805,  
223 West 1<sup>st</sup> St, O'Fallon IL**

Please plan to arrive between by 9:45 a.m; Ceremony: 10:00 a.m  
Ceremony lasts about an hour or so, followed by our complementary  
barbeque cookout for our guests and friends

***Help sponsor this year's event with a donation of your  
organizations physical assistance or monetary donation***

**Sponsorship levels: Bronze (Under \$25), Silver (\$25-\$49), Gold (\$50-\$99),  
Platinum (\$100-\$124), and Diamond (\$125 and up)**

Checks may be made payable to: The Scott POW/MIA Council

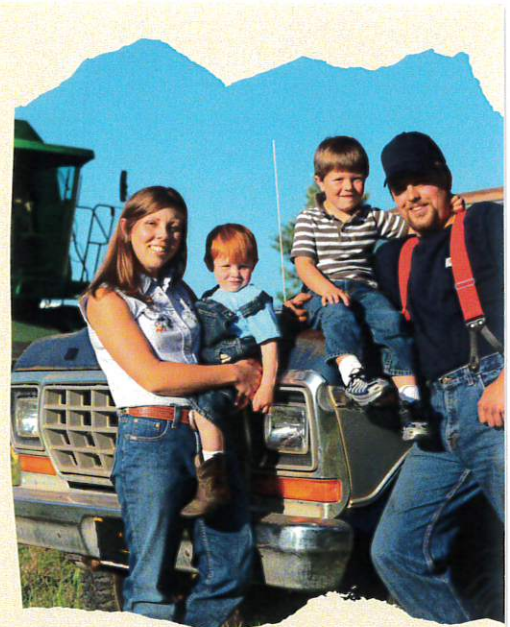
We welcome donations at any time, if you wish to have your name or organization  
listed in the ceremony program, we must receive your donation by September 15, 2016

**Please help us recognize and honor our nation's heroes!**

**RSVP by Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Terry Jenkins at (618) 772-9345, email [JenkinsT4K@yahoo.com](mailto:JenkinsT4K@yahoo.com)  
Fred Schmitt at (618) 698-7285, email [Fschmitt071@yahoo.com](mailto:Fschmitt071@yahoo.com)





## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE FARMER VETERAN COALITION?

Are you looking for the camaraderie you've been missing? Being a member or associate member provides just that! The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Illinois offers resources and support to successfully pursue farming, including:

1. A supportive community that understands you
2. Networking opportunities with farmers, veterans and support organizations
3. Mentorship from other farmer veterans
4. Grassroots advocacy
5. Exclusive access to programs, resources, trainings, and technical assistance
6. Grant opportunities through the FVC National Fellowship Fund
7. Homegrown by Heroes marketing support

## CAN I BE A MEMBER OF THE FARMER VETERAN COALITION OF ILLINOIS?

### MEMBERS

All individuals who are veterans are welcome to become a member, including individuals who are...

- currently farming in Illinois
- interested in finding a job or pursuing a career in agriculture
- considering farming or growing crops in Illinois

Military veterans will be asked to verify their service during the application.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We offer associate membership to those who are not veterans but interested in our mission and to corporations, partnerships, and other entities.

Associate membership is a way to support the mission of the organization, participate in chapter activities and connect with Illinois current and prospective farmer veterans.

LEARN MORE!

[WWW.ILLINOISFARMERVETERANS.ORG](http://WWW.ILLINOISFARMERVETERANS.ORG)



**From:** Robert Couture

**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 11:01 AM

**Subject:** Press Release | Applications Open for 2023 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship



## **Applications Open for 2023 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship**

*Allows select student veteran VFW members to address issues directly with Congress*

**WASHINGTON (Aug. 15, 2022)** - The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Student Veterans of America (SVA) are now accepting applications from student veterans interested in participating in the upcoming 2023 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship program. Now in its ninth year, the fellowship will bring select student veterans—who must be VFW members—to Washington early next March to meet face to face with their members of Congress and senior policy makers.

Student veterans interested in applying for the 2023 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship must complete an application package that includes a 400 – 600-word essay and a short video that proposes legislative improvements to one of four specific veterans' issues:

- Student veteran success on campus and beyond
- Improving veterans' health care and benefits
- Transition from military to civilian life
- Challenges for service members and military families

The essay proposal should include a discussion of why the issue is important to the veterans' community, and how the fellowship candidate plans to address the issue through federal policy solutions and community-based advocacy.

VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship opportunities are open to all currently enrolled student veterans. Fellowship candidates must be VFW members in order to be considered. Eligibility criteria can be [found here](#). Selected fellows will attend and participate in the SVA National Conference in Orlando, Florida, Jan. 5-7, 2023. They will then be flown to Washington, D.C., to ensure the veterans' message is delivered to Capitol Hill alongside 500 fellow advocates as part of the upcoming VFW Legislative Conference, March 5-9, 2023.

All applications must be submitted by midnight on Oct 15. Selected fellows will be notified before Thanksgiving, with a formal announcement of the 2023 fellowship class at the SVA National Conference in Orlando, Florida, in January. For full details about the VFW-SVA fellowship and to apply, visit [VFW.org/StudentFellowship](https://vfw.org/StudentFellowship) or contact Tammy Barlet, VFW, at [tbarlet@vfw.org](mailto:tbarlet@vfw.org) or Lauren Augustine, SVA, at [lauren.augustine@studentveterans.org](mailto:lauren.augustine@studentveterans.org).



We want to say thank you to everyone for being patient while we worked on getting the Programs Reporting (Old X-Sheet) updated and verifying that the reports were posting correctly.

Here are some instructions because you will see noticeable differences.

First, you will need to have the Commander's Leadership Manual available for reference while you work on inputting program reports.

You will need to sign into the Members Only Section of the [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org) website

If you used the Post number as your log in, it will no longer work. All the user IDs associated with Post numbers have been removed. You MUST sign in as a member using you Member ID# and Last name. If you have any problems signing in, please contact Erin at State HQ.

If you look at the dashboard, you will notice it is organized according to the 5 pillars of VFW Programs. The Commander's Leadership Manual is also organized according to the 5 pillars.

Anyone with membership number can input reports now. BUT, we ask that you coordinate with your members so several members don't do reports for the same activity.

You will click on Program Reporting to input reports. You will notice that your Post Number, District Number, and email will already be filled in according to what is on your membership record.

You will enter the date of the activity

Then, Click on which of the 5 pillars that matches up to the activity completed. Once you click on one of the 5 pillars, you will get a menu of activities assigned to that pillar.

Community Service includes

- Americanism
- Community Activities Program
- Disaster Relief
- Flag Etiquette
- Honor Guard
- Public Servant Recognition (LE, FF, EMT)
- Safety Program Activities
- Teacher of the Year
- Other

**Veterans Assistance includes**

- ~ Adopt-a-Unit
- ~ Buddy Poppy Drive
- ~ Claims & Benefits assistance
- ~ Homeless Vets Support
- ~ Hospital
- ~ National Home Support
- ~ Sport Clips Scholarship Submission
- ~ Stand Down Participation
- ~ Unmet Needs/Relief
- ~ Veterans & Military Support (MAP)
- ~ VFW Mental Wellness
- ~ Other

**Legislative includes**

- ~ State
- ~ National
- ~ Other

**Youth Activities includes**

- ~ JROTC, USNSCC, CAP, Etc.
- ~ Patriot's Pen
- ~ Scouting
- ~ Student Scholarships
- ~ Voice of Democracy
- ~ Other

**Finally, Illinois Specific includes**

- ~ Blood Drive
- ~ Units Donated
- ~ Commander's Special Project
- ~ Poppy Order

- POW/MIA
- Service Office Support

Once you click on the correct pillar and the correct sub category, you will enter the cumulative hours you spent on the activity, the number of miles, how many members took part, and any monies expended or donated.

Finally, you will give a description of the activity and provide details on what you did.

When report is complete, press submit. A window will open indicating the report was successfully submitted. Within a few minutes, you will also receive an email—at the email address which appears in the Program Reporting input portal—with the details of the report that you just successfully submitted. You should keep these emails as a record of the report you submitted.

Do not submit reports for the 5 required Program donations; just like in the past. State HQ will submit reports for any Program Donations that you submit to State HQ. This includes Homeless Veterans, National Home, MAP, Commander's Special Project, Service Office Support.

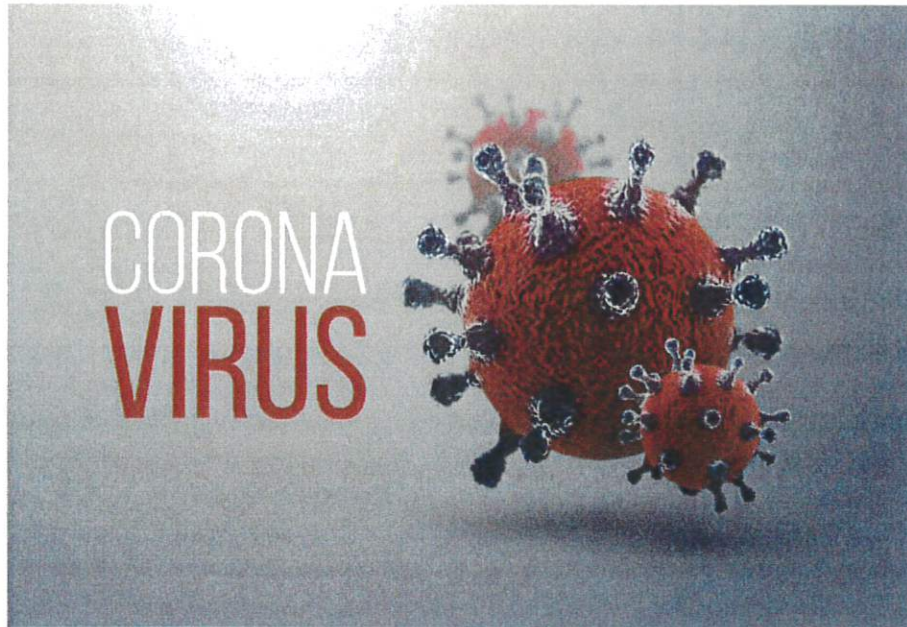
Also just like in the past, State HQ will submit reports on Teacher of the Year, Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Public Service Recognition, Buddy Poppy Purchases based on District Reports on those programs, nominations received, or poppies ordered, so you do not enter reports for these. If you are making donation for Voice of Democracy or Patriot's Pen in lieu of nomination, State HQ will enter report based on monies received.

Blood Donations are a little different. There are two reports. Both reports are under Illinois Specific. The first report is blood drive. This is where you will report the number of hours, miles, and members that participated in blood drive. You will only enter dollars if you purchased something for the blood drive, like snacks or drinks. You will not enter the actual blood donation on this report. The second report is Units Donated. In this report, you will only enter the number of pints donated in the dollars spent/donated box. You will enter the number of units, not the value of the units. You donated 6 pints at the blood drive, then enter 6 in this block. Thus if members participated in a blood drive and donated blood to it, then two reports must be submitted.

If you enter a report and you use the wrong pillar or sub category, the report will be changed before it is approved at State HQ.

If you enter a report for something that is to be entered at State HQ, it will not be approved by State HQ. We will generate report once we process payments or reports for those programs.





# **VFW Survives Pandemic**

Illinois Fall Program Book Order Form

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

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

PLEASE ENCLOSE PAYMENT IN FULL OR  
PAY VIA CREDIT/DEBIT CARD AT [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org)

**BOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN NOVEMBER**

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

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

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

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





# VFW - SURVIVES PANDEMIC

## 2022 ILLINOIS VFW FALL PROGRAM BOOK

### *How did you survive the Pandemic?*

Please send this form with photo to:

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

**Deadline for submission**  
**September 30, 2022**

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

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

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

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

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

#### Current information on person submitting form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Veteran Submission Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in which you served: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Military Unit (or Ship): \_\_\_\_\_

Military Job/Speciality: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Place of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaigns or Operations: \_\_\_\_\_

Awards or Achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

**Proudest or most memorable moment or achievement:**

**What inspired you to join the military:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What VFW Post do you belong to:** \_\_\_\_\_

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



### **The Gold Star Mission:**

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

### **The Gold Star Mission**

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

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

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

### **The Gold Star Mission's 2022 endurance events include:**

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

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

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



***“ALWAYS REMEMBER ~ NEVER FORGET!”***





### The General Logan 200:

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

### The Gold Star 500:

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

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

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

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

### How can you help:

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



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

**“ALWAYS REMEMBER ~ NEVER FORGET!”**



**GOLD  
STAR  
MISSION**



## **SEPTEMBER 20-24, 2022**

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

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



### **2022 520+mi. Route Schedule:**

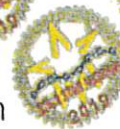
Day 1: Springfield - Rushville - Quincy

Day 2: Quincy - Macomb - Galesburg

Day 3: Galesburg - Rock Island - Rock Falls

Day 4: Rock Falls - Rockford - Woodstock

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



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

For more details and to register or volunteer go to:

<https://goldstarmission.org/>

Click on the Gold Star 500 banner.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER  
NEVER FORGET**



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



Invite You to Join Us  
As We Celebrate  
Our Department President

**Marvie Wisniewski**



# **DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S HALLOWEEN HOMECOMING**

**Saturday,  
October 29, 2022**

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

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

**TICKET: \$20.00**

**TABLE: \$160.00**  
**(includes 8 tickets)**

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

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

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

**TICKET DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2022**

## **ATTIRE**

**Halloween Costumes are encouraged!**

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

