



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

2021-2022 Series
General Orders No. 9
March 2022

NEW OFFICERS

Congratulations to the new State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Joe Bartley

Joe was elected State Quartermaster at the February Council of Administration meeting and appointed as the State Adjutant. He is a member of Northenders Post 10302 in Springfield and is also the 10th District Quartermaster.

COMMANDER'S CALLS

There are 2 "Make-up" Commander's Calls scheduled for April 2 and April 3, 2022. Posts that are competing for the All-State Post Award are reminded that they must attend one of these 2 Commander's Calls. Any member of your post may attend for the post to receive credit. These are not required for posts that have already attended a previous Commanders Call.

April 2nd, 12:00-3:00p.m. at VFW Post 7452, 121 N. River St., Montgomery, IL 60538

April 3rd, 12:00-3:00p.m. at VFW Post 10302, 2349 Stockyard Rd., Springfield, IL 62702

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

All correspondence sent via USPS should be mailed to our physical address. Please update your records to reflect the following.

VFW, Department of Illinois
3300 Constitution Drive
Springfield, IL 62711

REMINDER – QUARTERLY AUDITS

Quarterly audits must be signed by the Trustees and Commander prior to submission to the Department. Audits not bearing the required signatures will not be accepted.

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

Pursuant to Section 214 – “Solicitation of Funds” found in the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, fundraising may only be held for sanctioned purposes. This means no member shall use his/her title, position or office in connections with solicitation of funds for any non-VFW related purpose. Violation of this provision may lead to penalties which may include removal from office.

2022 ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION RAFFLE

The 2022 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 11, 2022, 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 this State Headquarters for additional tickets.

GUN RAFFLE

State Headquarters is holding a raffle for a 1911 MIL-SPEC .45 ACP Handgun or \$800 cash prize. Tickets are just \$20 each and only 2,500 tickets will be sold. Each District Commander has been given 96 tickets to sell. To purchase a ticket, contact State Headquarters or your District Commander.

ALL-STATE POST AWARDS

The 2021-2022 All-State Program is designed to recognize exceptional leadership and teamwork, not only in Membership but in overall Post/District development and VFW Programs. If a Post qualifies to be “All-State”, ALL Post members will be recognized for this achievement because THEY ARE A TEAM.

The All State Team of Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters will be made up of Posts who achieve:

- *Membership greater than 100%*
- *Posts must be 100% reported on the X-Sheet*
- *Posts must be in compliance with all questions on the National and Department Inspection Sheets (For example: a post that is not incorporated shall not be eligible until proof is provided that they are in compliance.)*
- *Posts must order a minimum of 1,000 Poppies*
- *Post must have representation at all properly called District conventions and meetings*
- *Posts must have representation at all of their respective Regional Commander Calls (A roll-call will be taken)*
- *Posts must make a \$50 donation to the Service Office Support Program (SOS). This is separate from the Red, White and Blue Program donations.*
- *New Posts need to attain 50 members to become All-State*

The All-State Program runs through June 15, 2022. To receive All-State Awards at the State Convention, the deadline for completion of All-State Criteria is April 30, 2022.

All-State Post Commanders will receive an All-State Post Commanders Cap and Distinguished Service lapel pin.

All-State Post Quartermasters have the option to purchase an All-State Post Quartermaster Cap and will receive a Distinguished Service lapel pin

All-State Post Members have the option to purchase an All-State Team Member cap.

ALL-STATE DISTRICT CRITERIA

The All-State Program runs through June 15, 2021. To receive All-State Awards at the State Convention, the deadline for completion of All State Criteria is April 30, 2021. All-State District Commanders will receive an All-State District Commander's Cap and a Distinguished Service Lapel Pin. There will be no minimum to the number of Districts that can achieve All-State status. The criteria is as follows:

- Membership greater than 100%
- Districts must have 100% of Posts inspected and the inspections must be cleared by the State inspector
- Districts must hold a minimum of one School of Instruction and submit a report to State Headquarters
- Districts must submit 1 of each of the following to Department Headquarters for judging:
 - Teacher of the Year
 - Police Officer of the Year
 - Firefighter of the year

- Districts must forward a record of roll-call of officers and Posts of each District meeting to State Headquarters.

ALL AMERICAN POST LEADERSHIP CRITERIA

- Membership greater than 100%
- Meet the following Program Participation Criteria:
 - Voice of Democracy - Minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Posts can donate \$75 to National Headquarters in lieu of entry)
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging (Overseas Posts can donate \$75 to National Headquarters in lieu of entry)
 - Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services (Minimum of \$100)
 - Partner twice with two separate organizations like Team RWB, Operation Ramp it Up, Operation Gratitude, Team Rubicon, Merging Vets & Players and other VSOs to include our friends at Sports Clips and Burger King (You can submit both online reports through the Dashboard)
 - Create Post social media site or actively maintain existing site
 - 5 new Action Corps Sign-Ups: To sign up: text VFW to 50457 to sign up 5 previously unsubscribed members or VFW supporters
 - Have a 10% increase in total impact in Community Service.
 - (\$ donated + Hours= Total Impact) ** Baseline has been established within the KPI Tools for Community Service.

ALL AMERICAN DISTRICT CRITERIA

- Membership greater than 100%
- Finish in the top 10 Districts in your Division that meet all the following criteria:
 - Voice of Democracy – minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas Posts can donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry.)
 - Patriots Pen – minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging (Overseas Posts can donate \$100 to National in lieu of entry.)

CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

Under the State of Illinois General Not for Profit Corporation Act, the **ANNUAL REPORT** must be properly executed and filed in the Office of the Secretary of State prior to the first day of the corporation’s anniversary month each year (the 19th District charter date is 4/4/—so the District QM must have this report submitted prior to April 1st). If filing on time, a \$10 filing fee only is required by statute. If filed later, a statutory \$3 penalty fee must be added. Annual Reports are mailed to the “registered agent” of record. If you do not receive your annual report renewal, you can contact the Secretary of State at (217)782-7808 or on line at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. (Login, then go to

publications, business, and form C 54-Not for Profit Report). NOTE: filing fee is \$10 by mail and online reporting is \$35.

GOT YOUR 6K

We attempted to have the inaugural 6K Race last year but it was cancelled due to COVID. We are planning the inaugural “Got your 6K” on May 21, 2022 at Field of Dreams Park, 1100 Riverton Rd., Riverton, IL 62561. This is located just a few miles off the northeast corner of Springfield. Dust off your running shoes and get ready to support the VFW. This is a great opportunity for us to showcase the VFW and show our veterans and their families “we got your 6.” For those that don’t want to travel to Riverton, we are working on details for a virtual 6K. Mark your calendars and look for more details in future General Orders.

STATE CONVENTION AD BOOK

The Department of Illinois, VFW, has been given permission by members of the Council of Administration to sign a contract with Golden Rule, Inc. to sell advertising space in our Convention Program Book. Representatives of this company work throughout the State of Illinois to sell advertising; this is a legitimate advertising program and is not a donation. If anyone in your immediate area has a problem with any these representatives, contact Jim Alyea at 1-800-433-4680. The Sales Representatives have received a “Letter of Introduction” and should produce it if asked to do so. This is not a new program and we asked that you help promote this on behalf of the Department of Illinois, VFW. - **Commanders and Quartermasters:** The Program Book Order Form for the 101st Annual State Convention is on the website homepage at www.vfwil.org. Full Page Ads are \$200, Half Page Ads are \$125 and Quarter Page Ads are \$75. Please mail your ad form, picture (*if applicable*) and payment to Editor, State Convention Program Book, 3300 Constitution Drive, Springfield, IL 62711 or e-mail to bwilson@vfwil.org.

Ads must be received in State Headquarters no later than **April 30, 2021** **PAYMENT FOR ADS MUST BE REMITTED AT TIME OF PLACEMENT!**

REGISTRATION – STATE CONVENTION

An Advance Registration Form for the State Convention is on the state website, www.vfwil.org. Scroll down to find the form. Print and fill it out and mail or fax to Headquarters; delegates can also be registered on-line by going to www.vfwil.org, log in to “Report Entry” and click on the Convention Registration tab. The registration fee is \$15.00 until **June 3, 2022**, and is \$17.00 after **June 3, 2022**. 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 Wyndham Springfield City Centre Hotel.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Sec. 413 - Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions.

The Commander of the District in arrears for financial obligations to Department or National, for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, or failing to have the office of the Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the District is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed District Trustees Report of Audit, District Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation at the Department Convention. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

A properly completed District Election Report shall be submitted to National Headquarters prior to the convening of the Department Convention. There is a blank election report at the end of these orders.

Sec. 212 - Defunct Posts

Any Post with less than ten (10) members, or while under suspension the Post fails to establish a meeting quorum or elect the required officers, its charter shall be revoked and declared defunct with the issuance of a special order by the Commander-in-Chief.

Disposition of Property. 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 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 trust to the extent of such funds or property, or both.

Sec. 213 - Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions.

Any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

Sec. 218 (K) - Duties of Commander (Attendance at District Meetings)

Assure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings and County Council meetings (if applicable).

NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Part 222 of the Manual of Procedure

Please note the recent changes in Part 222 of the Manual of Procedure. Delegates to the District, Department and National Convention shall be elected in April.

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

Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Delegate strength will be based on members in good standing as of March 31st.

Delegates shall not be recognized at the National Convention unless they personally register their completed delegate card with the National Credentials Committee.

Posts instituted after delegate strength has been determined, but prior to convening date of the respective convention or district meeting, shall on the day of institution, elect one delegate and one alternate for each thirty names or fraction thereof according to the number of names listed on the charter application.

121st VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

Kansas City, Missouri is the host city for the 123rd VFW and 109th Auxiliary National Conventions. VFW and Auxiliary members will convene at the Kansas City Convention Center, 301 W. 13th St, Kansas City, MO 64105, July 16th-21st, 2022. Convention housing opened on February 17th, 2022 and hotel reservations can be booked via the VFW website www.vfw.org.

Illinois has been assigned lodging at the Marriott Downtown, 200 W. 12th Street.

Housing opened February 17, 2022. Hotel blocks are on a first-come first-serve basis, so register early. All of the information we have for National Convention is included with these orders.

REMINDER – STATE BY-LAW CHANGES

Resolutions having effect on the By-Laws of the Department must be received in State Headquarters by no later than May 1, 2022 so they can be circulated to all Posts within the prescribed time prior to the State Convention. Resolutions affecting Department By-Laws received after that date cannot be considered at this State Convention. ALL RESOLUTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PROPER FORM. Any Resolutions received that are not in proper form will be returned for correction. NOTE: in order for your resolution to be included in the State Convention Resolutions Book, it must be received at State Headquarters no later than **April 30, 2022**.

NOMINATION, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Part 216 of the National By-Laws is quoted below for your information and necessary action. Please note paragraph c.

Sec. 216 - Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

(a) The Post shall elect the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain and three Trustees.

(b) *The Commander shall appoint an Adjutant and Service Officer.*

(c) *The Post may elect or the Post Commander may appoint a Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day and/or Guard if required by Post By-Laws.*

(d) *The Post Commander may appoint such other chairmen and committees as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Post or as may be required by Post By-Laws.*

A number of posts have by-laws that state that Post Officers will be elected in accordance with the National By-Laws or are silent on the election of officers as the National By-Law has precedence. With the change to 216c should review their by-laws and decide if they wish the positions in 216c to be elected or appointed.

Part 416 of the National By-Laws is quoted below for your information and necessary action. Please note paragraph c.

Sec. 416 - Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

(a) The elected officers of each District shall consist of a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, and three (3) Trustees.

(b) *The Commander shall appoint an Adjutant, Service Officer and Inspector.*

(c) The District may elect or the District Commander may appoint a Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chief of Staff or Officer of the Day if required by the District By-Laws.

(d) The District Commander may appoint such other chairmen and committees as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the District or as may be required by District Bylaws.

Paragraph c allows Districts to choose between election or appointment of the listed officers. Should the District wish to appoint a Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chief of Staff or Officer of the Day they need to have this reflected in their by-laws.

Part 417 of the Manual of Procedure

Sec. 417 - Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office. Order of nominations and elections.

The order of nominations and elections shall be Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Surgeon and Trustee(s).

Nomination. A member may be nominated and elected although not present at the meeting. A member making a nomination of an absentee for any office shall have presented to the Adjutant, in writing, the consent of the member being nominated prior to the closing of nominations. Any nominee shall have the opportunity to decline nomination for the office to which they have been nominated before nominations are closed. Nominations shall remain open until the District Convention is ready to vote.

Election. In balloting for District officers, a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for election. If there is no election on the first ballot, the name of the comrade receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.

Challenging Election Results: If irregularities are claimed with respect to the election to any office, such challenge must be made in a writing containing specific details concerning the irregularities, signed by the challenger, and forwarded to the Department Commander, mailed no later than three (3) days after the election.

Installation. District officers shall be installed before the adjournment of the meeting at which elected. The installation shall be conducted by a member in good standing who holds or has held an office equal to or higher than District Commander. The District Commander-elect shall select the installing officer. An officer who may be absent for good and sufficient reason or cause shall be installed at any succeeding regular or special meeting of a unit of the organization, within sixty (60) days of the date of installation. If not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant.

Term of Office. Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year except that three trustees shall initially be elected for terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years and thereafter one (1) trustee shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years. District officers shall take office upon the confirmation of election and installation of the Department Commander by the Department Convention.

INSTALLING OFFICERS:

Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 216 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed.

Post Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than June 1 to the National Headquarters. We highly encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters.

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.

COMMANDERS-ELECT AT ALL LEVELS

Your attention is directed to the fact that the State Commander does NOT ASSIGN a Past Post, District, County Council Commander or a State Officer to be an Installing Officer. This is something that is between you and the Officer you choose.

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.

LOYALTY DAY

Posts and Districts are urged to start planning now for Loyalty Day (May 1, 2022) observances in their community. Go to the VFW Store for Loyalty Day Posters, Award Citations and Brochures and Patriotic Holiday Speeches are available at www.vfw.org.

SPRING POPPY DISTRIBUTION

Commanders on all levels should be organizing their 2022 Memorial Day Poppy Distribution. Promotional material is available from the VFW Store Catalog. Every Post is urged to order and distribute Buddy Poppies; poppies can be ordered and paid for from our website – www.vfwil.org. They are available in multiples of 500 and your order will be shipped from a V.A. Hospital where they are assembled by disabled veterans. All other accessories such as caps, aprons, cans, etc. can be ordered directly from the VFW Store at National Headquarters. **Poppies are priced at \$130.00 per thousand;** please allow eight to ten weeks when ordering your poppies.

Special Note: If you have ordered your poppies from the State website, please do not send a paper copy of your order form with your check. This will eliminate the possibility of a duplication of your order.

STATE CONVENTION LODGING INFORMATION

The Wyndham Springfield City Centre Hotel, located at 700 East Adams Street in Springfield, will be the Convention Headquarters for the VFW. The Auxiliary

Headquarters is the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel; this hotel is located at 701 East Adams Street in Springfield.

CONVENTION AWARDS AND CITATIONS COMMITTEE:

We are accepting nominees to be considered by our Convention Awards & Citations Committee for our State Convention. Categories for these awards are Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer, Firemen, Education, Outstanding in Industrial Field, Legal Profession, Athletic Field, Governmental Service, Clergy, News Media, and Outstanding Citizen or Community.

There is no **form to fill out...just write down the name, address, sponsoring Post Number, Contact Person and the reason why you feel this individual deserves to be recognized. THE DEADLINE DATE IS MAY 1ST, 2022.**

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, 2022 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

and the following day for a Member of Congress. **The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day.**

VFW DAY OF SERVICE

In 2020 the VFW launched the #stillserving campaign to highlight the countless ways veterans continue to serve in communities across America. This year the VFW is introducing VFW Day of Service.

The inaugural VFW Day of Service kicks off the first Saturday of May-- May 7, 2022-- marking the start of veteran-led community service projects to take place throughout the month. We're asking VFW Posts, members, community advocates and veterans of every stripe to band together to host one community service event on May 7, or at another point during the month, to make a meaningful difference in your community.

Posts can sign up to participate or express an interest in participating by visiting <https://todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/>.

Service projects can be any size. After your project is complete, please send information and pictures on how you participated to State and National Headquarters.

MARCH 25TH ... "MEDAL OF HONOR DAY"

A Resolution was passed by the U.S. Senate which designates March 25th as "National Medal of Honor Day". The day is set aside to acknowledge the more than 3,400 individuals who have received the nation's highest honor. The date of March 25th was chosen to highlight this special day because it was on March 25, 1863, that the first Medals of Honor were presented to six members of Andrews' Raiders. According to the Medal of Honor Society, there are only 83 living individuals who have received the 'Medal of Honor' and the Department of Illinois is proud to be "home" to three of them. They are: Harold Fritz, Post 2078-9, Allen Lynch, Post 4308-5 and Sammy Davis, Post 4549-17. Let's all join in recognizing their dedication and service to our country.

VOD AND PATRIOTS PEN PHOTOS

Photos from the VOD and Patriot's Pen Banquet weekend have uploaded to the Illinois VFW [Flickr](#) account.

STATE PATRIOT'S PEN WINNER

Sponsored by Bremen Post Post 2761 and it's Auxiliary in our 16th District, we would like to congratulate Parker Tade as this year's State first place Patriot's Pen winner! Parker is an 8th Grader at Trinity Lutheran School in Tinley Park. He received a \$1,000 cash award and a specially engraved plaque at this year's 75th annual Voice of

Democracy Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois. As one of 54 finalists worldwide, Parker will compete at the National level for individual awards ranging from \$500 to \$5,000.

STATE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CHAMPION

Congratulations to Natalie Sissac on being selected as the 2021-2022 State Voice of Democracy Champion. Natalie is an 11th grade Homeschool student who lives in Batavia. She was sponsored by Niles Memorial Post 3579 located in Niles, Illinois in our Fourth District. She received the \$2,500 first place award and a specially engraved plaque at this year's 75th annual Voice of Democracy Ceremony. As one of 54 finalists worldwide, Natalie will travel to Washington, D.C. and compete at the National level for the first-place prize of a \$30,000 college scholarship.

POST FUNERAL DETAIL HONOR GUARDS

The 85th National Convention adopted a resolution prohibiting VFW Posts from charging fees for military or other funeral services for veterans and that resolution is held to be in full force and effect. All concerned are reminded that any Post found to be in deliberate violation of this Resolution would be subject to discipline and/or censor.

CONSOLIDATION OF POST CHARTER

Commander-in-Chief Fritz Mihelcic has approved the consolidation of Joshua W. Harris Memorial Post 2868 in Brookfield, and North Riverside Post 2378 in North Riverside. The consolidated Post is to be known as Joshua W. Harris Brookfield Memorial Post 2868, Brookfield. Please update your records accordingly

SURRENDER OF POST CHARTER

Commander-in-Chief Fritz Mihelcic has cancelled the charter of Post 5764 in West Frankfort, Illinois effective 02/23/2022.

By Order of:



Joseph H. Bartley
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Official



Bobby Welch
State Commander

Dates to Remember for 2022

March 1, 2022: Scouting Award nominations due to Posts and Districts

March 25, 2022: Medal of Honor Day

April 1, 2022: Scouting Award Nominations due to Department Headquarters

April 30, 2022: Ads for Convention Book due to State Headquarters, Post Election Reports due. Convention Book ad form and blank Post election report are included with these orders. Audits for the quarter ending March 31, 2022 due to State HQ.

May 1, 2022: Nominations for LEO, Firefighter, Education, Outstanding in Industrial Field, Legal Profession, Athletic, Government Service, Clergy, News Media Professional, and Outstanding Citizen of the Year due to State Headquarters.

May 1, 2022: Loyalty Day

May 3, 2022: Community Service Project Books and Nominations due to State Headquarters

May 17, 2022: Cut-off date for lodging at Wyndham, Springfield for State Convention. Reservation form is included with these orders. A link to book reservations online will be posted at a later date.

May 25, 2022: Cut-off date for lodging at President Abraham Lincoln for State Convention. Reservation form is included with these orders. A link to book reservations online will be posted at a later date.

May 30, 2022: District Election Reports, dates and times for District Meetings due to State Headquarters.

June 9-12, 2022: State Convention, Springfield. There will be an incoming District Commander training at Northenders Post 10302 in Springfield.

June 26, 2022: Welcome Home celebration for Gulf War and Global War on Terrorism Veterans, Post 5694. 1900 VFW Rd, Highland, 62249

July 16-21, 2022: National Convention, Kansas City Missouri

August 26-28, 2022: Council of Administration Meeting, Springfield, IL. August 27th will be the date for the State Commanders Homecoming Banquet. Tickets will go on sale at a later date.

September 1, 2022: Quartermaster bonds issued through State Headquarters expire

September 24, 2022: Illinois Day at the National Home (Eaton Rapids, Michigan)



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

101st Annual State Convention
and June Council of Administration

Hotel Reservation Form

June 9-11, 2022

Wyndham Springfield City Centre
700 E. Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701

A block of rooms have been reserved for Wednesday, June 8th 2022 through Sunday, June 12th 2022. The special room rate of \$94.00/night + 13% tax will be available until May 25th, or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first. Check-in time is 4:00p.m., and check out time is 11:00 a.m.

Cut-Off Date: **Tuesday, May 17th 2022**

This form may be mailed to State Headquarters at 3300 Constitution Drive, Springfield, IL 62711 or faxed to (217) 546-3415. Print legibly or type in the information below.

PLEASE NOTE: Only one room/reservation form.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Room Preference: 1 King Bed (Non-Smoking) 2 Double-Beds (Non-Smoking)

Additional Occupants: _____

Special Request(s): _____

PLEASE NOTE: All reservations must be guaranteed by a debit/credit card only!

Card Type: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name Listed on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Please call State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688 if you have any questions or concerns.



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

101st Annual State Convention
and June Council of Administration

Hotel Reservation Form

June 9-11, 2022

President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, a DoubleTree by Hilton
701 E. Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701

A block of rooms have been reserved for Wednesday, June 8th 2022 through Sunday, June 12th 2022. The special room rate of \$94.00/night + 13% tax will be available until May 25th, or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first. Check-in time is 4:00p.m., and check out time is 11:00 a.m.

Cut-Off Date: **Wednesday, May 25th 2022**

This form may be mailed to State Headquarters at 3300 Constitution Drive, Springfield, IL 62711 or faxed to (217) 546-3415. Print legibly or type in the information below.

PLEASE NOTE: Only one room/reservation form.

Name: _____
Phone: _____ Email Address: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____
Room Preference: ___ 1 King Bed (Non-Smoking) ___ 2 Double-Beds (Non-Smoking)
Additional Occupants: _____
Special Request(s): _____

PLEASE NOTE: All reservations must be guaranteed by a debit/credit card only!

Card Type: ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ Discover ___ American Express
Name Listed on Card: _____
Credit Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Please call State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688 if you have any questions or concerns.

**101st ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
VETERANS OF THE FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

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

POST NO: _____

Please register the below listed Comrades for the Department Convention being held the week of June 9-11th, 2022 in Springfield, Illinois. The registration fee of \$15.00 per comrade is enclosed.

NOTE: REGISTRATION FEE AFTER JUNE 3, 2022 WILL INCREASE TO \$17.00 PER PERSON. SO REGISTER EARLY!!!

Name	Street	City	Zipcode
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____	_____

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

Program Information, March 2022 General Orders

Voice of Democracy Program
Dave Darte, Chairman
Email: ddarte@yahoo.com

The virtual 2022 National Parade of Champions, honoring Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy State winners from across the nation, will occur on April 7th, at 7:00p.m.. Let's all tune in to wish our Illinois State Champions the best! Parker Tade from Tinley Park, IL, sponsored by Bremen Post 2791 in the 16th District will be competing for the \$5,000 first prize in the Patriot's Pen contest. Natalie Sissac, of Batavia, IL, sponsored by Niles Memorial Post 3579 in the 4th District, will be competing for the \$30,000 first prize in the Voice of Democracy Contest. There is a total of over \$150,000 in prizes, including the First Place awards.

National Home Program
Mike McGrath, Director
37 Sussex Ct., Naperville, IL 60540
Phone: (630) 357-2680
Paul Zinck, Assistant Director

**** THANK YOU ****

Thank you all for your outstanding support, especially during these challenging times. We are Grateful!

We would like to especially recognize Districts 12 and 14, who are 100% reported on the X-Sheet.

Also, District 19 within 2 Post and Districts 4, 16, 17 and 18 within 3 Posts.

** DID YOU KNOW **

We want every VFW and Auxiliary Member to know that the National Home can help your family.. whether it's you, your children, your grandchildren or even your great-grandchildren.

The need for helping veteran and military families is ever present and the National Home has been helping in many ways since 1925. The National Home Help Line (800) 313-4200 is available to help military and Veteran families wherever they may be.

** REMINDER**

Program year ends 4/30/2022
Program requirement is \$50.00 Per Post
Please enter on X-Sheet for credit

Comrades, please know we are grateful and we are glad to help, so do reach out! Either by phone or email if you have any questions.

ILLINOIS VFW "MISSION FIRST- VETERANS ALWAYS."

[Community Activities – Ingle]

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECORDBOOK

Community service, as defined by the National Community Service Trust Act “encompasses any human act serving the common good; in the interest of the community.” Elsewhere, community service is further defined as “a service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions.”

Annually we ask all VFW Posts to submit record books detailing their Community Service Projects. We encourage Posts to gather pictures, newspaper clippings, letters, receipts, etc. and compile this important record of your Post’s activities in your community. We are receiving fewer and fewer entries each year for judging; ask for volunteers in your Post to assemble this important part of your Post’s history. Please contact State Headquarters if you have any questions.

When the Community Activity Record Books are submitted for judging they must have the official entry form attached to the inside front cover. The Official Entry Form is in the Commander’s Leadership Manual and at the end of these orders and your record book must be at State Headquarters by May 3, 2022, for judging on May 6, 2022.

Community Activities Record Book Entry Form

- 1. This Form must be filled out and attached to the inside cover of the Community Activities Record Book that your Post enters in the Department Community Activities Record Book Contest.**
- 2. All Record Books submitted for Department Judging will be returned to the Post Commander following judging.**
- 3. The Post Commander must sign this form.**
- 4. Your book must be in State Headquarters by May 3, 2022 for judging on May 6, 2022.**

Post # _____ City: _____, State: _____ Zip: _____

Total Projects	Total Hours	Total Funds
Since 5/1/21 _____	Volunteered _____	Used/Donated \$ _____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN:

Post Chairperson _____ Auxiliary Chairperson _____

JUDGES, NOTE THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Page # _____, Project Name _____

Page # _____, Project Name _____

Page # _____, Project Name _____

Page # _____, Project Name _____

Post Commander Signature _____

Post Commander’s Name (print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____ Zip: _____

Comrades, please remind your Post Commanders that in less than two months the reporting period for the current term will expire! Ask them to have their March Audit submitted by then, in addition to being complete with all "X's" by April 30th.

VFW 2021-2022 Community Activities, Dept. of IL

<u>District</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Posts Reported</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Community Activities Chairman</u>
3	Richard Luemen	5	38%	Israel Becerra
4	Stephen MacInnes	9	69%	Richard Wojewnik
5	Dwane Lungren	13	72%	Daniel Pearson
6	Ruben Hernandez	11	65%	Gary Holmes
7	Adam Lau	14	70%	Robert Sable
8	Arthur Munos	7	44%	Mark W. Sowers
9	Christopher Rush	7	37%	
10	Anthony Bellin	9	56%	Joseph H. Bartley
11	Rick Hobbs	13	100%	Glen Goodrich
12	Dustin Dixon	17	100%	
13	Christopher Hatcher	7	58%	Elmer McDuffee
14	Ronald Milton	17	100%	Terry Grime
15	William Hatfield	4	31%	Gary Fravel
16	Fred Cagle	4	36%	
17	Sean Conner	10	71%	Dan R. Swaner
18	Todd Latham	9	75%	Alejandro Gutierrez
19	Robert Bailey	21	88%	George R. Cramer

Total Posts
265

X-Sheet Data
24-02-22

Department Percentage
67%

◆ Assistant State Chairman

Compiled by
Chuck Ingle