

Illinois

2022-2023 Series General Orders No. 6 December 2022

HOLIDAY HOURS

State HQ will be closed on the following days in December/January for holidays:

Christmas December 26

New Year's Day January 02

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING AUDIT REPORTS

<u>Just a reminder</u>: Quarterly audits must bear the signatures of the Commander, Quartermaster and 3 Trustees. A Trustee Pro-tem can be appointed to sign the audit if an elected Trustee is not available. Audits can be submitted by fax, mail, or emailed to State Headquarters.

REMINDER – STATE OF ILLINOIS VFW FUNDRAISERS

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

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
11/04/2022	Kenneth Moore	No seller listed
11/11/2022	Richard McFarlin	Jay Bartley
11/18/2022	Cameron Ziarko	Tom Kelly
11/25/2022	John Maher	John Maher

2023 CONVENTION RAFFLE AND PURPLE HEART TICKETS

Tickets for the 2023 Purple Heart and Convention raffle went out in the December issue of the Illinois VFW newspaper. Included were 2 sheets of 5 tickets (\$20 each) and two Purple Heart tickets (\$5 each). Winners will be randomly selected at our State Convention in June, for the following: \$10,000 grand prize, \$3,000 second prize, \$2,000 third prize, \$500 awarded to fourth through tenth place winners. Purple Heart Raffle:

\$2,000 grand prize. If you have any questions or would like to request more tickets, please contact VFW Department Headquarters.

POST COMMANDERS AND POST TRUSTEES

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

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Alonzo Skipper of Kahokian Memorial Post 5691 on being selected as the November Veteran of the Month!

Veteran of the Quarter for this Quarter is Chris Maynor (Post 7190)

Thank you to all who submitted nominations for this month, please continue to do so and for those that did not please look for those comrades from your post who stand apart from the rest by serving the community, Veterans and embodying the purposes of our congressional charter: to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead; and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

Once again we are drawing your attention to the provisions of our *National By-Laws* and *Manual of Procedure, Section 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations*, which states in part under Commander's Duties and Obligations – "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. Post Commanders can appoint any of his members to attend in his/her place if they are not able to attend. *District Commanders are directed to forward a list of Posts that did not attend the District Meeting to Headquarters immediately after the meeting.*

FEBRUARY COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

February 10-12, 2023 Crowne Plaza 3300 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703.

The February Council of Administration Meeting and 77th Annual Voice of Democracy Banquet will be held February 10-12, 2023 at the Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy., Springfield, Illinois 62703. To reserve a reservation for February, you may call the hotel directly at (217) 529-7777 and give them our group code: <u>V3W</u>. Or you may reserve a room online – go to our website at <u>www.vfwil.org</u>, under News, go to the Events page, click on the link for "VOD and February Council Meeting Room Reservations".

All persons assigned or called-in to report during the February Council of Administration will receive two complimentary room nights from State Headquarters. It is their responsibility to cover any additional expenses – such as additional nights and incidentals, etc. Those called-in are expected to be in attendance for all meetings and to purchase a banquet ticket for the Voice of Democracy Banquet on Saturday, February 11, 2023.

FEBRUARY HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

<u>ATTENTION:</u> The special room rate of \$94.00/night + 13% tax will be available until **January 12th 2023** or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. You may call the hotel directly at (217) 529-7777 to book your reservation. Make sure to mention the group code: *V3W*.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings will begin on Friday, February 10, 2023 at 1:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. All meetings will run consecutively beginning with the Veterans Service Committee at 1:00 pm. The *Illinois VFW News* Committee and Budget & Finance Committee will follow.

Members of the Veterans Service Committee are as follows:

Dave Stout, Past State Commander, Chairman Bobby Welch, Jr. Past State Commander Bobby Edwards, State Commander Bobby Nila, State Senior Vice Commander Maurice Bridges, State Jr. Vice Commander Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

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

Laurie Emmer, Past State Commander – Chairman Barbara Wilson, Illinois VFW News Editor Bobby Edwards, State Commander Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

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

Committee... Phil Maughan, Past State Commander, Chairman Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster, Assistant Chairman

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

The Council of Administration will meet on Friday, February 10, 2023 and Saturday, February 11, 2023 at the Crowne Plaza Springfield. The meeting will begin Friday at 3:00 pm until approximately 5:00 pm. It will reconvene at 8:15 am on Saturday.

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

All Program Directors will forward their written reports to State Headquarters by Wednesday, January 25, 2023 so it can be added to the book of reports to be passed out at the meeting. All Program Directors are expected to be present to highlight any changes or important information contained within your written report when called upon. Please mail, fax (217-546-3415) or e-mail (vfwil@vfwil.org) your reports to this office.

[Intentional Page Break. Please see the next page for the individuals assigned to the February Council Meeting.]

ASSIGNED TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

In addition to the Top 3 Chairs and the 17 District Commanders, the following State Officers and Program Chairmen are called to be at Council of Administration Meeting...

Gary Holmes, State Chaplain

Ryan Higginbotham, State Chief of Staff

Eugene Blackwell, State Surgeon

Rob Bailey, State Inspector

Joe Bartley, State Adjutant-Quartermaster

Jay Hoffman, State Judge Advocate

Philip Maughan, National Council Member

Derek Giffin, State Service Office Director

Matt Willis, State Membership Chairman

Georges Sanon, State Student Veterans Liaison

Sean Conner, State Americanism Chairman

Chris Maynor, State Blood Donor Chairman

Charles "Chuck" Ingle, State Community Activities Chairman

Paul Bezazian, State Homeless Veterans Chairman

Harold Olsen, Jr., State Hospital & VAVS Chairman

Dutch DeGroot, State Assistant Legislative Chairman

Mike McGrath, State National Home Chairman

Steve Eller, State All-State Chairman

Barbara Wilson, State Public Relations Chairman

John Metzger, State Veterans and Military Support Programs Chairman

Stephanie Kirksey, State Poppy Chairman

Clarence Caraker, State POW/MIA Chairman

Les Durov, State Safety Chairman

Josh Seed, State Yellow Ribbon Chairman

PSC Robert Welch, State Historian

John Jakoby, State VFW/MOC Coordinator

Dave Darte, State Voice of Democracy Chairman

Kyna Simpson, State Aide de Camp, Assistant Voice of Democracy Director

PSC Robert Migalich, State Aide de Camp

PSC John Davin, State Youth Activities Chairman

PSC Dave Stout, Veterans Service Committee Chairman

PSC Laurie Emmer, Illinois VFW News Committee Chairman

Sam Scaife Jr., State Sergeant-at-Arms

Jeff Britt, State Officer of the Day

Ron Milton, State Scouting Chairman

Lee Morgan, State Assistant Quartermaster

Michelle Ramlow, State Assistant Youth Activities Chairman

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BANQUET

The State of Illinois VFW will be celebrating its 77th Annual Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Banquet on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, IL. Tickets are available for \$40 per person. Tickets may be ordered online by making a donation at http://vfwil.org/ – and allocating the funds to the *Voice of Democracy Banquet*. You may also call State Headquarters (217) 529-6688. The doors will open at 6:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield.

Tickets are \$40 each and may be purchased by mailing a check to State Headquarters, calling the office with a credit card number or going online to the <u>State of Illinois VFW Website</u>. Click on the "Donation" tab. Please make sure to *allocate* your order to the Voice of Democracy Banquet. Tickets are numbered and will be sold on a first comefirst serve basis. Payment must be made when you order your tickets. <u>No tickets will be sold at the door</u>.

District Prime Tables will once again be available for \$400; they are to be ordered by and paid for by the District Commanders who will decide who will be seated at these tables. **Reminder – these are tables of ten.**

Special Thank You to Humana for being a major sponsor of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Banquet.

Other sponsorships are still available on a first come first serve basis

14th Place – Sponsored by 15th District

15th Place – Sponsored by 11th District

16th Place - \$300

17th Place - \$300

Ice Cream Social for kids - \$300

Pizza Party for kids - \$300

Lunch for kids - \$300

Tours for kids - \$400

Please contact Crystal at State HQ if your District or Post wishes to sponsor any of these events.

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

Each student will receive accommodations for two nights at the Crowne Plaza, 3300 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703. If the student would like to stay longer than two nights or would like to book additional rooms, the District should assist in making these arrangements and help cover the costs. District Commanders or Chairmen may call State Headquarters to have these arrangements made.

Upon the students' arrival on Friday, February 10, 2023, State Headquarters will be hosting a pizza party! The following morning, the students will meet in the lobby of the hotel at 8:45 am for the Land of Lincoln Tour. The tour will make the following stops: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, Old State Capitol, Illinois State Capitol, Lincoln's Tomb and the Illinois State Military Museum. Only Students and assigned personnel will be allowed on the bus. Following the 77th Annual State of Illinois Voice of Democracy Banquet, the students will be invited to enjoy an ice cream bar arranged by State Headquarters.

LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE

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

AWARDS AND CITATIONS COMMITTEE

Please submit your recommendations for following to State Headquarters:

Nominations for Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighter, and Paramedic of the Year, and 911 Dispatchers must be submitted to State HQ by January 1, 2023

Nominations for Educators, Outstanding in Industrial Field, Legal Professionals, Athletic Field, Governmental Service, Clergy, News Media, Outstanding Citizen, and VFW Special Award must be submitted to State HQ by April 1, 2023

The individuals recommended <u>cannot</u> be VFW members.

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

PEARL HARBOR DAY - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022

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

Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland has approved the consolidation of Bolingbrook Post 5917 in Bolingbrook and Carillon Post 12059 in Plainfield. The consolidated Post is to be known as Bolingbrook Post 5917 in Bolingbrook.

Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland has approved the consolidation of Armed Forces Post 8322 in Chicago and Mont Clare-Leyden Post 1284 in Chicago. The consolidated Post is to be known as Armed Forces Post 8322 in Chicago.

Please update your records accordingly.

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

OFFICIAL:

BY ORDER OF:

JOE BARTLEY

State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BOBBY EDWARDS

State Commander

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

THIS REPORT IS FOR:			TH OF: Oct 2022
1. Office Interviews:	228	8. Appeals Actions	
2. Communications:		a. NOD Filed	<u>0</u>
a. Correspondence Recd	<u>153</u>	b. VA Form 9 Filed	<u>0</u>
b. Coo respondence Orig	<u>132</u>	c. DRO:	
c. Emails Received	<u>315</u>	1. Conferences	2
d. Emails Responded to	300	2. Favorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
e. Telephone calls	<u>1026</u>	3. Unfavorable Decisions	<u>0</u>
f. Other	<u>77</u>	d. VA Form 646 Filed	<u>0</u>
3. Claims Filed	<u>157</u>	9. Health Care Assistance	
4. Powers of Attorney Filed	<u>96</u>	a. Enroll 10-10EZ Compl	<u>0</u>
5. File Accessed	<u>56</u>	b. Health Care Ref Asst	<u>0</u>
6. Ratings Cleared	206	c. Hospitalized Vets Visit	<u>0</u>
7. Rating Queries	<u>29</u>	Veterans Assisted through 10.outreach	<u>23</u>
		11.New VFW Members	<u> </u>
			_
		# Awds Recd	Totals
12. DISABILITY BENEFITS		# Awds Recd	Totals
12. DISABILITY BENEFITS a. Compensation		# Awds Recd	3.127.311.60
a. Compensation		126	3.127.311.60
a. Compensationb. Pension		126	3.127.311.60
a. Compensationb. Pension13. DEATH BENEFITS		<u>126</u> Q	3.127.311.60 0.00
a. Compensationb. Pension13. DEATH BENEFITSa. DIC		126 Q	3,127,311.60 0.00 0.00
a. Compensationb. Pension 13. DEATH BENEFITS a. DICb. Pension		126 Q Q Q	3.127.311.60 0.00 0.00 0.00
 a. Compensation b. Pension 13. DEATH BENEFITS a. DIC b. Pension c. Burial 		126 Q Q Q	3.127.311.60 0.00 0.00 0.00
 a. Compensation b. Pension 13. DEATH BENEFITS a. DIC b. Pension c. Burial 14. OTHER BENEFITS 		126 Q Q Q Q	3.127.311.60 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
 a. Compensation b. Pension 13. DEATH BENEFITS a. DIC b. Pension c. Burial 14. OTHER BENEFITS a. VR & E 		126 Q Q Q Q	3.127.311.60 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
 a. Compensation b. Pension 13. DEATH BENEFITS a. DIC b. Pension c. Burial 14. OTHER BENEFITS a. VR & E b. Waivers of Indebt 		126 Q Q Q Q Q	3.127.311.60 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00

VFW 2022-2023 Community Activities, Dept. of IL

				Community Activities
<u>District</u>	<u>Commander</u>	Posts Reported	<u>District</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
3	Chris Garza	1	8%	
4	Stephen MacInnes	5	42%	
5	Kevin Cournoyer	6	35%	
6	Ruben Hernandez	7	41%	Rob Bland
7	Adam Lau	2	11%	
8	Arthur Munos	6	38%	Arthur Munos
9	Christopher Rush	0	0%	
10	Anthony Bellin	4	27%	
11	Rick Hobbs	13	100%	Glen Goodrich
12	Dustin Dixon	17	100%	
13	Don Porter	2	17%	
14	Rod Thompson	11	65%	John Barrett
15	Christopher Maynor	4	33%	
16	Fred Cagle	2	18%	
17	Sean Conner	3	21%	
18	Todd Latham	6	55%	
19	Bob Zeman	9	39%	George Cramer

Total		Department	
Posts	Dashboard Data	Percentage	Compiled by
257	29-11-22	38%	Chuck Ingle



How's it going, collecting all those photos of the Community Activity Events that your Post is doing?

Don't forget about creating your Post Recordbook for entry with Department HQ, by this coming May!



2022-2023 Illinois VFW Commander's Leadership Manual

Report it when it happens on-line or to the:

State of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars 3300 Constitution Dr. Springfield, IL 62711

Community Activities Recordbooks Award

The top Community Activities Recordbook in each Membership Category will receive a \$50.00 Cash Award at the 2023 State Convention.

Membership Category 1 - Up to 150 members Membership Category 2 - 151 to 300 members Membership Category 3 - 301 members and up

RULES FOR THE RECORDBOOKS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Community Service Projects completed between May 1, 2022 and April 30, 2023.
- 2. Book size should be no larger than 12 x 16 inches and no thicker than 3 inches. You may use as many volumes as necessary.
- 3. Book to be separated into 4 Sections, A- B C & D describing each project. Show money spent, and volunteer hours for each project. Also, show total of dollars spent and hours used at the end of each Section
- 4. Clippings or photographs should show dates and captions from newspapers and any other information
- 5. Checks and Photostats should show what the money was spent for, also, total number of volunteer hours for each project.
- 6. Your book must be in State Headquarters by May 5, 2023 for judging on May 8, 2023.
- 7. The Community Activities Record Book Entry Form must be filled out and attached to the inside cover of the record book.
- 8. Pages must be numbered.

BY REPORTING YOUR OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES,
VOLUNTEERS AND HOURS FOR EACH PROJECT WE CAN
CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR FELLOW VETERANS AS WE CONTINUE THE MISSION OF
"WORKING TOGETHER - SUPPORTING VETERANS"





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 3	Post Commander must sig	n this form.		
4. Your	book must be in State Hea	adquarters by May 5,	2023 for judging on May	8, 2023.
Post #	City:	, State:	Zip:	
	Total Projects	Total Hours	Total Funds	
Since 5/1/22	Volunteered	Used/Don	ated \$	
	COMMU	NITY ACTIVITIES C	CHAIRMAN:	
Post Chairpe	erson	Auxiliary Chairper	son	
JUDGES, N	OTE THE FOLLOWING P	ROJECTS:		
	_, Project Name _, Project Name			
	_, Project Name			
Page #	_, Project Name			
Post Comma	nder Signature			
Post Comma	nder's Name (print)			
			Zip:	

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

IF YOUR POST OR DISTRICT DONATED MONEY TO THE V.F.W.

NATIONAL HOME DURING THE SILVER MARCH AT THE STATE CONVENTION IN JUNE, PLEASE NOTIFY THE STATE QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE SO AS TO GET CREDIT FOR THE DONATION.

UNFORTUNATLY THE MONEY FROM THE SILVER MARCH WAS DEPOSITED BEFORE THE REPORT SHOWING WHICH POST OR DISTRICT CONTRIBUTED AND HOW MUCH THEY CONTRIBUTED WAS COMPLETED.

THANK YOU, WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP AND WILL WORK TO GET PROPER CREDIT FOR YOU.

ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL HOME

CURRENTLY THERE ARE 78 CHILDREN AND 49 PARENTS FOR A TOTAL OF 127 RESIDENTS ON CAMPUS WITH BOTH ILLINOIS HOMES I AND II BEING OCCUPIED.

NEXT ON THE AGENDA WILL BE SANTA'S VISIT ON 12/2 AND COOTIE CHRISTMAS ON 12/3. THESE EVENTS ARE ALWAYS WELL ENJOYED AND WE'LL LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE PICTURES NEXT MONTH.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BLESSINGS TO ALL FROM THE VFW NATIONAL HOME.
Mike McGrath
Department Of Illinois
VFWNHC Program Chairman
37 Sussex Court
Naperville, Illinois 60540
Phone 630-357 2680
Email mackcav1@sbcglobal.net

Assistant Chairman Paul Zinck

Program Bulletin VOD December 2022

Comrades, hope you had a great Thanksgiving holiday and I wish you a very Merry Christmas! I hope all who participated in the Voice of Democracy program this year found it to be a personally rewarding experience. Thanks for sharing your time and talents to continue to serve our country by planting the seeds of patriotism in our youth! After all they will be the next generation of citizens and leaders of our great nation. For those who have never attended the State PP/ VOD Awards Banquet in February, you might want to get tickets through Department Headquarters. It is great to see the culmination of the efforts of so many comrades to honor the finalists in these great youth scholarship programs. It is an event that they will never forget, and perhaps you wouldn't either.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

SCOUTNG

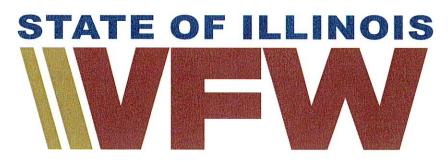
December 2022

The scouting units are in the process of doing their annual rechartering and unfortunately their may be some organizations that decide to not support the scouting program. This is a good opportunity for the VFW Post to step-up and approach your membership to support/charter a scouting unit.

Scouting units can be an asset to your post by helping with veterans ceremonies, providing assistance with community projects and projects around your post.

Ron Milton

Scouting Chair



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

104th

Illinois State Convention Program Book Order Form

Our Post/District/Auxiliary would like to purchase the ad size selected below in the 104th annual Illinois VFW Convention Program Book

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

PLEASE ENCLOSE PAYMENT IN FULL OR PAY VIA CREDIT/DEBIT CARD AT www.vfwil.org

BOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE JUNE 2023 STATE CONVENTION

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

Editor, State Convention Program Book 3300 Constitution Dr. Springfield, IL 62711

or send via email to: bwilson@vfwil.org

Questions? Contact State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS APRIL 30, 2023