



**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

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*2020-2021 Series*  
**General Orders No. 7**  
*January 2021*

**STATE CONVENTION**

***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 Double Tree by Hilton Hotel; this hotel is located at 701 East Adams Street in Springfield.***

***This is tentative and subject to change. More information will be in the February General Orders.***

**ALL-STATE POST AWARDS**

The 2020-2021 Membership Program is designed so that if a Post qualifies to be All-State, both the Commander and the Quartermaster 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:

*100% plus 3 in membership*  
*Posts must be 100% reported on the X-sheet*  
*New Posts need to attain 50 members to become All-State*

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 Post

Commanders will receive an All-State Post Commander's Cap and a Distinguished Service Lapel Pin. All-State Post Quartermasters will receive an All-State Post Quartermaster will receive an All-State Post Quartermasters Cap and a Distinguished Service Lapel Pin.

### **ALL-STATE DISTRICT AWARD**

District Commanders who attain 100% plus 10 in membership will achieve All-State status. 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.

The Captain of the All-State Team of District Commanders will be the Commander with the most points, based on the following:

- Each new member = 10 points
- Each new Life member = 10 points
- Each new Legacy Life member = 25 points

The Captain of the All-State Team of District Commanders will receive \$200.

### **POST COMMANDER & QUARTERMASTER AWARD**

Posts recruiting 5% of their Prior Year Membership (as reported on Memstats) in new and reinstated members with a minimum of six by January 15, 2021 – the Post Commander and Quartermaster will receive a special embroidered State Commander's Jacket. *(Partial numbers will be rounded up to the next whole number)*. Jacket size forms will be sent to qualifying Post Commanders and Quartermasters and must be received at State Headquarters no later than February 15, 2021.

### **ALL AMERICAN POST LEADERSHIP CRITERIA**

To achieve All-American status, Posts must:

- Membership greater than 100%
- Finish in the top 25 Posts in your division that meet all the following criteria:
  - Voice of Democracy – minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - Patriots Pen – minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – submit an entry in all three categories (K-5, 6-8, 9-12) advanced to District judging.
  - Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$100
  - National Veterans Service – Appoint a Post service officer.

For more information, go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and click on the link to the National Membership Program.

### **FEBRUARY COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

February 12-13, 2021

Virtually, via ZOOM

All persons assigned to report during the February Council of Administration will receive an email with a link and access instructions, sent from State Headquarters.

***All Program Directors are requested to have written program reports for the Council Meeting. Submit by February 1, 2021, to Headquarters for printing.***

### **PUBLICATION CONTEST**

Editors of Post and District publications are invited to send in a copy of one issue published during 2020 for the Illinois VFW Publications Contest. Please provide the contact information for the Editor, as well as how often the newsletter is published. If you want to send a hard copy – mail to Barbara Wilson, Editor, 802 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Riverton, Illinois 62561. You can also e-mail a copy to [bwilson@vfwil.org](mailto:bwilson@vfwil.org). For more information, please go to the January Program Bulletin.

### **VFW WEB PAGE ([www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org))**

We urge everyone to make it a daily habit to visit our VFW State web page at [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org).

- ❖ By clicking on the “Donation” link, you can pay for poppies and make your donation to Programs such as the Commander’s Special Project, Homeless Veterans, MAP, and National Home.
- ❖ Submit your Bond application or poppy order online
- ❖ See what is going on in your Post, District, State or National by clicking “News & Events”.
- ❖ See the current issue of the *Illinois VFW News* and the Commander’s Leadership Manual. Log In with the Members only tab.

### **DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISING**

As a reminder – **Golden Rule Publishing ad salespersons** are out in our communities throughout Illinois selling advertising for the book. They contact local businesses in your communities to solicit advertising for our three program books throughout the year. **Please let the businesses in your community, Post members and employees know this is a legitimate solicitation on behalf of the Illinois VFW.** Inquiries regarding this Advertising Campaign should be directed to Jim Alyea, Jr. at 800-433-4680 or the VFW State Headquarters.

### **BUDDY POPPIES**

All Posts are urged to promote the use and distribution of Buddy Poppies. These poppies are assembled by hospitalized veterans and all money collected from poppies is to be placed in the Post Relief Fund to aid and assist needy veterans. **ORDER YOUR POPPIES NOW FOR YOUR MEMORIAL DAY DISTRIBUTION!** Please order your poppies 6-8 weeks in advance to insure you receive them before your distribution

### **NOMINATIONS FOR V.F.W. MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

District Commanders are reminded that they are to submit their nominee for “V.F.W. Member of the Year” to Junior Past State Commander Brad Gould, 1421 Gleason Dr, Rantoul, IL 61866. There is no special form to submit your nominee for this award; all you need is a written statement explaining why you feel your nominee is deserving of this recognition. We need the nominee’s name, home address and telephone number for notification purposes. This award will be presented during the 2021 State Convention in June in Springfield.

### **TRUSTEES REPORT OF AUDIT REQUIREMENT**

**ALL POSTS WHO ARE BEHIND IN AUDITS UP TO AND INCLUDING 30 JUNE 2020 WILL BE RECEIVING A LETTER WITH A SUSPENSION DATE OF JANUARY 31, 2021 TO COMPLY WITH NATIONAL BY-LAWS.**

Per Section 218 of the National Manual of Procedure – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations, the **Post Commander** must 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. **Failure on the part of the Commander to strictly enforce Section 218 of the National Manual of Procedure may release the Bonding Company of all liability in case of theft or misuse of funds and subject the Post to suspension.** The **duties** of the **Post Quartermaster** include providing the **Post Trustees** with all records, files and statements required or necessary for the preparation of the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit.

## **INSPECTION**

Attention is directed to the importance of CONSTANT INSPECTION!! District Commanders will exert every effort to have each Post in their District inspected at least once annually. Posts Commanders will insist on Quarterly audits of records and books by Post Trustees, subject to penalties outlined in Section 213 of the National By-Laws. Post Quartermasters are reminded that they are to be bonded in **AN AMOUNT AT LEAST EQUAL TO THEIR LIQUID ASSETS.**

It is important that the District Inspector contact the Post well in advance of their official inspection advising the Quartermaster when they will inspect the Post and what items they will need to conduct the Inspection. Each District will be compensated at the rate of \$10.00 per Post Inspection at the time the District becomes 100% inspected and approved by the Department Inspector.

## **POST INSURANCE-ADDITONAL INSUREDS**

According to VFW By-Laws, each Post is required to maintain adequate liability insurance and **they also require National and Department be listed as "additional insureds" on the Post policy. Posts must have their Insurance Agent send a copy of the Insurance Certificate to both National and Department Headquarters. Posts that do not own property do not have to comply with this request.**

## **X SHEET DONATIONS**

All Posts must donate a minimum of \$50.00 each to VFW State Headquarters for the Military Assistance Program (MAP), Homeless Veterans, Commander's Special Project and National Home to receive credit on the State "X" sheet. On-line donations are encouraged but **don't forget to indicate your Post Number.**

**The Department of Illinois VFW Headquarters and its staff would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year.**

OFFICIAL:



W. DAVE STOUT

State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



LAURIE EMMER

State Commander