



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Illinois

General Orders No. 3
September 2021

***All correspondence, invitations, and etc addressed to
State Commander Bobby Welch should be mailed to
P.O. Box 13206, Springfield, IL 62791-3206***

Fall Program Book

In November 2021, we will publish our Fall Program book - 9/11 – 20 Years Later. This year, our Illinois VFW Fall Program Book will honor the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that shook our nation – the stories of where our members, and future members, were on September 11, 2001. A veteran submission form is included at the end of the General Orders and we’re asking as many members who want to - to fill out and turn in their story (and photos) to be included in “9/11 – 20 Years Later”. Submission is simple – fill out the included form, and return either via mail to State Headquarters, PO Box 13206, Springfield IL 62791 or via email to bwilson@vfwil.org

In addition, Posts, Districts and individuals are invited to submit an ad for inclusion in our Fall Program Book. An ad form is included in the General Orders.

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 2021-2022. 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.

District Meetings

*Your attention is directed to the provisions of our National By-Laws & Manual of Procedure, Section 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations, which states in part under **Commander's***

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

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, 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. Go to "Log In" and click on "Report Entry" on the drop down menu. You will need to Log in on this page by entering the following: username is your Post Number and your password is your District Number. After you have logged in scroll down and click on "Bond Application". Fill it out and hit "Submit". ***All bonds not renewed will expire on August 31, 2021.***

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.**

State Convention Registration

All Post Commanders are reminded that *every Post* must register at least one delegate to the annual State Convention in accordance with *ARTICLE V, Section 8 of the Department By-Laws*. If your Post has not registered a delegate to the 2020-2021 State Convention, please forward your check in the amount of \$17.00 to the State Adjutant-Quartermaster earmarked *2020-2021 State Convention Registration Fee*. Posts failing to comply with this requirement shall be considered delinquent.

Patriot Day, September 11, 2021

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 . Once you sign in, click on the tab for "Patriotic Holiday Speeches".

National POW MIA Recognition Day, September 17, 2021

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 . Once you sign in, click on the tab for "Patriotic Holiday Speeches".

OFFICIAL:



W. DAVE STOUT
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



ROBERT WELCH
State Commander

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

Greetings comrades. The school year is here and I hope that you are eager and prepared to promote the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs in your communities. I sincerely hope we will not face the roadblocks that the pandemic threw at us last year! Comrade Robert McLeod and I have reversed roles as directors this year at the request of Commander Welch. I will assume the position of VOD Director and Robert will be Youth Activities Director. Both, the VOD and PP programs are closely aligned. Robert and I have worked together for a few years and I expect that relationship to continue to be very cohesive. We have developed a contact list for all District Chairperson in both programs as well as at least some of the scouting chairs. I hope that all of those directors have identified all of the post chairpersons in the district that they represent. Effective lines of communication are imperative for success in any endeavor.

There will be some changes this year in the methods of submitting student entries. Namely, we will be requesting electronic reporting because it is more effective, more secure, and expedient. Anyone who is apprehensive about emailing, etc. is asked to recruit someone to help you with the process. I can assure you that you will quickly learn to appreciate this method and the students will be pleased as well. Comrades, be assured that I will take entries the old fashion way if absolutely necessary. No student will be left behind. Please consult the Commanders Leadership Manual for details on all VFW Programs by going to the department website www.vfwil.org. Once there, click on the Resources tab and scroll down to click on the manual where there is a wealth of information on all VFW programs, including VOD and Youth Activities. Also under the resources tab, you will find all the documents are necessary to submit entries in the VOD and PP contests. These documents will all be fillable to ensure legibility and can be downloaded easily. I will be emailing those documents pertinent to VOD directly to District Chairmen and I am confident that Robert will do the same for those relating to Patriot's Pen.

I'm excited to enter this 75th year of the Voice of Democracy Program and look forward to working with all of you. Let's go all out this year comrades to reach as many eligible students as possible. There is currently work underway to develop some social media promotion of our essay contests at the department level. Let's continue our mission to sow the seeds of patriotism in our nation's youth. The VOD and Patriot's Pen contests challenge youngsters to consider the freedoms that they are inheriting from those who have sacrificed so much and encourages them to contemplate their own role in preserving and advancing those freedoms!

God bless you in all that you do for our great organization!

VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

Michael McGrath, Director

37 Sussex Court

Naperville, IL 60540

630 - 357 2680

mackcav1@sbcglobal.net

Paul Zinck, Assistant Director

Illinois Day Saturday September 25 2021.

Comrades, Details are listed in your District Commander's Report as presented at the recent Council of Administration Meeting.

We look forward to a great trip.

* PLEASE NOTE, MICHIGAN IS AN HOUR AHEAD *

* PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN ACCOMODATIONS AT NEARBY MOTELS*

* WE WOULD APPRECIATE A HEAD COUNT FOR FOOD PURPOSES*

AND PLEASE DO REACH OUT IF ANY QUESTIONS, WE ARE GLAD TO HELP!

District Commanders: Please note that our initial goal is to get at least **90%** of the Post reported by 31 Dec. You and your appointed Chairman can help by encouraging Posts, as you distribute the guide printed below, at Post inspections, and District meetings.

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	2	15%	Israel Becerra
4	Stephen MacInnes	5	38%	Richard Wojewnik
5	Dwane Lungren	8	44%	Daniel Pearson
6	Ruben Hernandez	4	24%	Gary Holmes
7	Adam Lau	5	25%	Robert Sable
8	Arthur Munoz	3	19%	Mark W. Sowers
9	Christopher Rush	4	21%	
10	Anthony Bellin	4	25%	Joseph H. Bartley
11	Rick Hobbs	10	77%	
12	Dustin Dixon	5	29%	
13	Christopher Hatcher	3	25%	Elmer McDuffee
14	Ronald Milton	9	53%	Terry Grime
15	William Hatfield	1	8%	Gary Fravel
16	Fred Cagle	1	9%	
17	Sean Conner	3	21%	Dan R. Swaner
18	Todd Latham	4	33%	Alejandro Gutierrez
19	Robert Bailey	9	38%	George R. Cramer

◆Assistant State Chairman

Total Posts
265

X-Sheet Data
30-08-21

Department Percentage
30%

Compiled by
Chuck Ingle

Please contact me with corrections or additions to the Chairman column.

chuck@roscoevfw.com