



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Illinois
2025-2026 Series
General Orders No. 10
April 2026

IMPORTANT: REPORT OF ELECTION FORM

National Headquarters has mailed all Post Quartermasters a packet, including the 2026-2027 Report of Election Form with instructions on submitting their report online using the Online Membership System (OMS). A blank Post Election Report can also be found in the "Document Repository" section on the Online Membership System (OMS). Post Election Reports must be submitted to the National Headquarters following the post-election of officers in April and no later than June 1st. We encourage all the Post Quartermasters to use the Online Election Report filing process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to Department Headquarters. Additionally, make sure that the meeting dates, time and location are accurate as well as email and phone numbers for the officers.

NOMINATION, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 217 of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure states that prior to the opening of nominations, the Post shall decide which form of election shall be used, unless the post Bylaws specify the manner of election. Any nominee shall have the opportunity to decline nomination for the office to which they have been nominated before nominations are closed. A member making the 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 opening of nominations. Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote, provided, however, that when a poll system is used, nominations must be closed at the meeting prior to the election to allow the Adjutant to prepare a printed ballot.

Post officers shall be elected in April. Balloting for Post Officers may be conducted by open vote or written secret ballot (handwritten or printed) at a regular Post Meeting, or, if required by Post By-laws or authorized by Post vote prior to the opening of nominations, by a poll system and preprinted ballot.

Challenging Election Results. If irregularities are claimed with respect to the election to any office, such challenge must be made prior to the closing of the meeting

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.

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.

VOTING AT DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Section 421 Voting - Each member of a District Convention or District meeting are those persons as defined in Section 404, except delegates elected by the Posts, present at a District Convention or meeting shall be entitled to one vote, and an individual possessing more than one qualification for membership in the District Convention or meeting shall have no more than one vote. The delegate or delegates of a Post present at a District Convention or meeting shall be entitled to vote the full delegate strength to which the Post is entitled. Should there be a division among the delegates representing the Post, each delegate present and voting shall cast their pro rata share of the total voting strength of the Post. For the purpose of this section, a Post Commander shall be considered a delegate. A roll call vote may be required and entered upon the record at the call of any three officers or delegates representing three different Posts.

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 adequately reviewed. Proof of eligibility shall be open to review by the District Commander, Adjutant, and Quartermaster before 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. **Proof of Eligibility for District Commanders, District Senior Vice Commanders, and District Junior Vice Commanders MUST be furnished to the State Adjutant within thirty (30) days of Election.**

REMINDER – POST/DISTRICT OFFICER CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS

Please note that Post or District Officer changes must be reported to State Headquarters immediately. Changes in addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses should also be reported immediately—even if they are made on the Online Membership System (OMS). **These changes are not always transmitted to State Headquarters; please help us keep our records current.**

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Your respective Programs end on **April 30th, 2026**. As soon as your program winners are determined, please send that information to Department Headquarters.

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 Legislator, 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 April 30, 2026**

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AD BOOK

The Program Book Order Form for the 107th Annual State Convention is included in these General Orders. Full Page Ads are \$200, Half Page Ads are \$125, and Quarter Page Ads are \$75. Ads on the inside front cover are \$350, the inside back cover is \$300, and the outside back cover is \$300. (Contact Headquarters Office for availability of Cover Pages) Please mail your ad form, picture (*if applicable*), and payment to the Editor, State Convention Program Book, 3300 Constitution Ave, Springfield, IL 62711, or e-mail to bwilson2@outlook.com.

Ads must be received in State Headquarters no later than **April 15, 2026**. ***PAYMENT FOR ADS MUST BE REMITTED AT THE TIME OF PLACEMENT!***

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECORD BOOK

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." Community service is "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 vital record of their activities in their community. We receive fewer and fewer entries each year for judging; ask for volunteers in your Post to assemble this critical part of your Post's history. Please get in touch with 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, your record book must be at State Headquarters by **May 2, 2026**, judging on **May 5, 2026**

DEPARTMENT BYLAW CHANGES

Resolutions affecting the Bylaws of the Department must be submitted in **proper form** and received by State Headquarters by no later than **May 15, 2026**, so that the resolutions can be circulated to all Posts within the proper time prior to the State Convention. Resolutions concerning the Department By-Laws received after that date cannot be considered at the convention. **If you have questions regarding the proper form, please contact State Headquarters.**

STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held on June 11-14, 2026. The hotel for the State Convention is Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield, IL 62703. If you would like to call the hotel the phone number (217) 529-7777 and the Group code is: V1W. There is a link also located on the state website vfwil.org; to get to the link go to News and then go to Events the link provided takes you directly to our reservation link and you can book your room through there.

STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Included in these General Orders is the Advance Registration Form for the State Convention. Delegates can also be registered online by going to www.vfwil.org, the form is located under resources then reports and forms.. The registration fee is \$20.00 until **May 31, 2026**, and is \$22.00 after **May 31, 2026**. 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 Crowne Plaza.

REMINDER: Delegates **will not** be allowed to vote until such issues have been resolved if the Post is in arrears for supplies, poppies or any sort of financial obligation to the Department. The Post must be bonded, approved inspection, have an election report on file with Department and National Headquarters for the ensuing year, and all audits **including the March 31, 2026 audit** must be submitted

and approved.

Delegate strength for convention is based on one delegate and one alternate delegate per thirty members or fraction thereof.

ATTENTION POST COMMANDERS

Under the Department of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars Bylaws, Article V - Convention Section 8:

“Each Post shall register, in advance or at the Convention, at least one delegate to the Department Convention by payment of the advance registration fee in effect for such Convention. Post failing to comply with this requirement shall be considered delinquent and in arrears.

2026 DISTRICT COMMANDER-ELECT TRAINING

Once District Elections are held, an invitation will be sent to newly elected District Commanders for 2026-2027. Department Headquarters will provide rooming accommodations for 4 nights (Wednesday-Sunday) for incoming District Commanders at the Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway in Springfield.

Mandatory District Commander training will be held on Thursday, June 11th, at 8 am in Ruby Ballroom located on the second floor.

PLEASE NOTE: District Commanders-Elect should be present during the Council of Administration Meeting on June 11th, 2026. The dress code is business casual (Polos and Khakis). They must also be present on Saturday, June 13th, 2026, during the installation of officers!

On Sunday, June 14th, there will be a brief Council of Administration meeting at 9 am to pass an interim budget until the next meeting in August.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Memorial Service will be on Thursday night June 11th at 6:00 pm in the Sapphire/Diamond Ballroom. All District Commanders are required to attend and participate in Memorial Service. If you are unable to attend, you must notify State Headquarters prior to State Convention and you need to have either your Senior Vice Commander or the incoming District Commander Elect to attend in your place. Dress code is suit and tie and appropriate equivalent.

PATRIOTIC RALLY

This year instead of having a Patriotic Rally there will be a parade around the parking lot at the Crowne Plaza. The Parade is Friday night June 12th from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm. All Post, Districts and Auxiliaries will need to bring your colors.

COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

On Saturday, June 13, 2026, join the newly installed Illinois VFW State Commander and Auxiliary State President for the Commander and President's Reception. The reception is being held at Northenders Post 10302 located at 2349 Stockyard Rd, Springfield. The reception starts at 6:00 pm and the cost of tickets are \$25.00, you can send in a check or pay through the "Donate Now" located on the state website homepage vfwil.org

2026 CONVENTION RAFFLE AND PURPLE HEART TICKETS

2026 Purple Heart and Convention raffle were in the January issue of the Illinois VFW newspaper. The Illinois VFW Newspaper is posted online on the state website vfwil.org. You can print the tickets out and fill them out and send them back to State Headquarters. There is 1 sheet of 5 tickets (\$20 for 5 tickets or \$5 a ticket) and two Purple Heart tickets (\$5 each). Winners will be randomly selected at our State Convention in June for a \$10,000 grand prize, a \$3,000 second prize, a \$2,000 third prize, and a \$500 award to fourth through tenth place winners. Purple Heart Raffle: \$2,000 grand prize.

LOYALTY DAY, May 1st

Posts and Districts are urged to start planning now for Loyalty Day (May 1, 2026) observations in their community. Visit the VFW Store for Loyalty Day Posters, Award Citations, and Brochures, and Patriotic Holiday Speeches are available at www.vfw.org.

VFW DAY OF SERVICE, May 2nd

The VFW Day of Service kicks off on Saturday, May 2, 2026, marking the start of veteran-led community service projects that will 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 2nd or at another point during the month to make a meaningful difference in your community. Posts can sign up to participate or express interest by visiting <https://todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/>. Service projects can be of any size. After completing your project, please send information and pictures of your participation to State and National Headquarters, as well to Illinois VFW News Editor Barb Wilson for inclusion in the May issue of the Illinois VFW News. Photos and information can be emailed to Barb at barb.wilson2@outlook.com

ALL-STATE POST AWARDS

The All-State Program runs through June 15th, 2026. **To receive All-State Awards at the State Convention, the deadline to complete All-State Criteria is April 30, 2026.** All State Post Commanders will receive an All State Post Commanders Cap and Distinguished Service lapel pin. All-State Post Quartermasters can 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.

The All-state Team of Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters will be made up of Post who achieves:

- Membership greater than 101%
- Post must hold 1 membership drive/events and submit report to Program Reporting Dashboard
- Post must be 100% reported on the Department Programs Reporting Dashboard
- Post must have submitted all 4 quarterly Trustees Audits and audits were approved
- The post must be in compliance with all questions on the National and Department Inspection Sheets.
- Post must order at least 3 poppies per member with a minimum of 1,000 poppies
- Each post must have one nomination for each of the programs of Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy submitted to the district for judging. Donations to Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen as stated in this manual will be accepted if a Post does not have a nomination
- Post must have one nomination in the following programs: Teacher of the Year or Public Safety (police, fire, EMT, dispatcher, EOD). Donations to any of these programs DO NOT receive credit towards All State Awards
- Post must have representation at all properly called District Conventions and meetings
- Post must have representation at least one of the town hall meetings (Roll Call will be taken)
- The post must make a \$50 donation to the Service Office Support Program (SOS). This is separate from the Red, White, and Blue Program donations
- New Post need a minimum of 35 members to achieve All State

ALL-STATE DISTRICT CRITERIA

All State District Commanders will receive an All-State District Commander's Cap and a Distinguished Service Lapel Pin. There will be no limits to the number of Districts that can achieve All-State status.

The criteria are as follows:

- Membership greater than 101%
- Districts must have 100% of Posts inspected, and the State inspector must clear the inspections by April 30, 2026
- Districts must hold a minimum of one School of Instruction and submit a report to State

Headquarters

- District must hold or participate in 1 membership drive/events and submit report to Programs reporting dashboard
- Districts must submit 1 of each of the following to Department Headquarters for judging:
 - Patriots Pen
 - Voice of Democracy
 - Teacher of the Year
 - Public Safety of the Year (police, fire, EMT, dispatcher, EOD)
- The district must forward a record of the Roll Call of Officers and Posts of each District meeting to State Headquarters.

ALL-AMERICAN POST CRITERIA

All Post who have met the following criteria as of June 30, 2026 will be named as All-American Post

- Membership must be at least 101%, based on adjusted prior year totals
- Must have a post election report submitted and be in good standing
- Meet all of the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31, 2026:
 - Voice of Democracy - Minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
 - Donate to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services (Minimum of \$125)
 - Must participate in the VFW Day of Service event held during the month of May and registered at todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/ no later than May 15th. Participation may count as community service for All-American quarterly requirements. The event must meet certain criteria aimed at making a meaningful difference in the community. The criteria and more information can be found here: <https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service-faq/>
 - A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-September, October-December, January-March, and April-June
 - Buddy Poppy – Purchase a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies

ALL-AMERICAN DISTRICT CRITERIA

- Membership greater than 101%
- District Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all of the following Program Participation Criteria by January 31, 2026:
 - Voice of Democracy - Minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging
 - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to Department judging

127th VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

Reno, NV, is the host city for the 127th VFW and 112th Auxiliary National Conventions, which will be held July 25-29, 2026. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website, accessed through the main VFW website at vfw.org/convention. The convention website will also include general convention information, such as the registration form, tentative agenda and links to Reno attractions. Hotels are first come first serve and not by state this year.

Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure states each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention Registration Fee of \$25 - which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Please note each additional delegate attending the National Convention will have to pay an additional \$10 delegate fee. Information on delegate registration will be available at a later date.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION AND COMMANDERS HOMECOMING

The August Council of Administration and Commanders Homecoming in Joliet is scheduled for August 7-9, 2026. Please save the date; additional information will be provided in the upcoming General Orders.

BUDDY POPPY PROGRAM

Order your poppies now for your Memorial Day distribution or for your Poppy Display. You can order electronically from our webpage - <http://www.vfwil.org>, using the Donate Now button on the homepage. All orders must be paid in full including shipping cost before your order is mailed

Please keep in mind:

- You can order in increments of 500.
- Your poppies should be ordered 6 to 8 weeks before your distribution.
- Your order will be shipped to the name of the person who ordered them and the address submitted with the order.
- Poppies can be paid for by check or by credit card.
- Poppy cans, caps, table covers, vests, aprons, etc., are ordered directly from the [VFW Store](#) at National Headquarters.

MEMBERSHIP TRAINING AND RETENTION

At the Mid-Winter conference and VOD weekend Ed Stefanak from the National membership team gave a presentation on Recruiting and Retention. The link for the video is located at the bottom of the homepage of the state website [vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org).

2026 ILLINOIS VFW CALENDAR

The calendar raffle began on Jan. 1, 2026, and will run daily through Dec. 31, 2026. The winning ticket will be returned to the drawing, so you may be able to win multiple times throughout 2026. State Headquarters has developed a prize structure and incentive package for Posts that sell calendars. Approximately \$21,500 in prizes will be awarded. The winners will be posted weekly on the Department website (www.vfwil.org), it can be found under "news" then 2026 Calendar raffle.

DAILY WINNERS

Date of Drawing	Winner	Amount
03/01/2026	Ann Bud	\$50.00
03/02/2026	Scott Kirch	\$25.00
03/03/2026	Gary Buehnerkemper	\$25.00
03/04/2026	Dave Smith	\$25.00
03/05/2026	Shawn Miller	\$25.00
03/06/2026	Herbert Bolding	\$25.00
03/07/2026	Frank Henry	\$25.00
03/08/2026	Greg Watson	\$50.00
03/09/2026	Paul Braun	\$25.00
03/10/2026	Sally Henderson	\$25.00
03/11/2026	Sandra Woolley	\$25.00
03/12/2026	Jake Watts	\$25.00
03/13/2026	Steve Elliot	\$25.00
03/14/2026	Jerri Bethard	\$25.00
03/15/2026	Greg Parkhurst	\$50.00
03/16/2026	Phillip Quandt	\$25.00
03/17/2026	Joseph Waters	\$25.00
03/18/2026	Rosa Wisler	\$25.00

03/19/2026	James Block	\$25.00
03/20/2026	Sabrina Grissom	\$25.00
03/21/2026	Rob Pilch	\$25.00
03/22/2026	Janet Szczepanski	\$50.00
03/23/2026	Don Mull	\$25.00
03/24/2026	Stacy Hall	\$25.00
03/25/2026	Carl Anderson	\$25.00
03/26/2026	Mel Foster	\$25.00
03/27/2026	Bobby Edwards	\$25.00
03/28/2026	Bob Grybos	\$25.00
03/29/2026	Karen Buehnerkemper	\$50.00
03/30/2026	Richard Perry	\$25.00
03/31/2026	Billy Smith	\$25.00

NEW CENTURY RAFFLE

The New Century Raffle has officially started and will run through June 30, 2026. The tickets are just \$10.00 each. Each ticket entitles you to participate in a weekly drawing of \$100 from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. Drawings will be held every Friday. The winning ticket will be returned to the barrel for 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 the seller prints their name on the ticket, they will receive \$10.00. If the seller does not sign the ticket, the \$10.00 will be automatically donated and split between the Department's Unmet Needs Program and Children's National Home. Winners will be announced each month in the General Orders and posted on the <http://vfwil.org> website

WEEKLY WINNER

Date of Drawing	Winner	Seller
3/6/2026	Tom Fronczak	Tom Fronczak
3/13/2026	Dale Lane	Dale Lane
3/20/2026	William J Brown	No Seller Listed
3/27/2026	Paul Kinser	No Seller Listed

By Order of:

Official

Joseph "Scott" Swinford
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Eugene Blackwell
State Commander

Program Bulletin VOD April 2026

The theme for the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy for the 2026-2027 Cycle has been released. It is "What a Veteran Taught Me About America". The same theme is used for both contests.

The National Awards Program for the PP/VOD contests will be conducted at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania this year April 8-11. Department VOD winners and the national PP winner will enjoy exciting times including a tour of historic Philadelphia. National winners will be announced Saturday April 10th at an Awards Banquet beginning at 1:00pm (cst). The program will be streamed live at the national website (www.vfw.org). Tune in to see how our Illinois Champions finished.

Department of Illinois
107th Annual State Convention

Tentative Agenda (May be subject to change.)

Crowne Plaza
3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703

June 11-14, 2026

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Dress Code for Training & Council Meeting will be Business Casual (Polos)

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	District Commander-Elect Training <i>Ruby (2nd Floor)</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Membership Luncheon <i>*Invite Only</i> <i>Plaza A (1st Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	VSO Office <i>Opal Room (2nd Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	VFW Registration <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	VFW Sales <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Vendor Booths <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Silent Auction <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Poppy Displays <i>Capital 6 (3rd Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Breakout Sessions <i>Capital 1, 2, & 3 (3rd Floor)</i>
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Bylaws & Resolutions Meeting <i>Ruby (2nd Floor)</i>
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Final 2025-2026 Council Meeting <i>Ruby (2nd Floor)</i>
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Memorial Service (Coat & Tie or equivalent.) <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
Hospitality Rooms	<i>Governor, Illinois, Sangamon, & Springfield (3rd Floor)</i>

Department of Illinois
107th Annual State Convention

Tentative Agenda (May be subject to change.)

Crowne Plaza

3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703

June 11-14, 2026

Friday, June 12, 2026

Dress Code for Business Session will be Coat & Tie

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Joint Opening Ceremony with Guest Speakers & Special Presentations <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	<i>VSO Office</i> <i>Opal Room (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	VFW Registration <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Vendor Booths <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	VFW Sales <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Silent Auction <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Poppy Displays <i>Capital 6 (3rd Floor)</i>
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Past Dist. Commander's Assoc. Luncheon <i>Plaza A (1st Floor), cost is \$25.</i>
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Breakout Sessions <i>Capital 1, 2, & 3 (3rd Floor)</i>
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Rules of the Convention, Credentials, Legislative. with Guest Speakers & Program Reports <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	1st Nominations for 2026-27 State Officers <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Patriotic Rally (Bring Post or District Colors) <i>Crowne Plaza Parking Lot *weather permitting</i>
Hospitality Rooms	<i>Governor, Illinois, Sangamon, & Springfield (3rd Floor)</i>

**Department of Illinois
107th Annual State Convention**

Tentative Agenda (May be subject to change.)

Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy., Springfield, IL 62703

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Dress Code for Business Session will be Coat & Tie

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Prayer Service <i>Plaza C (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Guests from Veteran's Groups <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	VFW Registration <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	VSO Office <i>Opal Room (2nd Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Vendor Booths <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	VFW Sales <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Silent Auction <i>Plaza H (1st Floor)</i>
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Poppy Displays <i>Capitol 6 (3rd Floor)</i>
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Buddy Poppy Report, Ntl. Home Report, Silver March & Other Program Reports <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<i>Past State Commander's Luncheon Plaza A (1st Floor), cost is \$25.</i>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	By-Laws & Resolutions, Credentials, Convention Raffle, 2nd Nominations, & Elections <i>Sapphire/Diamond (2nd Floor)</i>
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Joint Installation of 2026-27 State Officers <i>Sapphire, Diamond, Emerald (2nd Floor)</i>
6:00 PM	Commander & President's Reception <i>Northenders Post 10302, Cost is \$25.00</i>
Hospitality Rooms	<i>Governor, Illinois, Sangamon, & Springfield (3rd Floor)</i>

Sunday, June 14, 2026

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Council of Administration Meeting <i>Capital 6 (3rd Floor)</i>
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DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS RECEPTION
STATE COMMANDER ROB BAILEY
&
STATE PRESIDENT DANIELLE KRULL
Saturday, June 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

VFW Post 10302



2349 Stockyard Road
Springfield, IL



Cost \$25.00

Please join Rob and Danielle as they celebrate the beginning of the 2026-2027 year under their leadership. The evening will start with a wonderful barbeque dinner with all the fixins! Followed by live music & dancing outside, under the stars. If dancing isn't your thing there will be bags and other games available. There will be chairs but if you have a favorite lawn chair bring it along.