

THE KANSAS BULLETIN

VFW

THE OLDEST STATE PUBLICATION IN THE VFW

Volume 86, Issue 2

November 2017

The Official Publication of the Kansas Department published in August, November, February, and May at Topeka, Kansas by the *Department of Kansas, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, 115 Gage Blvd., P.O. Box 1008, Topeka, KS 66601-1008*, Address all articles for publication to PO Box 1008, Topeka, KS 66601-1008. Make pictures in .jpg format if submitting by e-mail.



VFW Kansas Website

Inside this issue:

Officer Reports	2-4
Council & District Reports/5th District Coffee Tour	5-10
5th District Coffee Tour	11
All American Posts	12
VFW Mid-Winter Representative	13
Mid-Winter Registration	14-15
Pictures	16-17
Auxiliary Officers/ Aux Mid-Winter Representative	18-19
Department Officers	20

State Commander Michael B. Holland





State Commander

“Putting Our Veterans and Their Families First”

Comrades, brothers and sisters of the VFW and Auxiliary;

Looks like membership is moving along pretty well. We are still ahead of our membership challenge state of Georgia so far. Lets keep it that way. Our State Commander and Quartermaster would not look very good in an Atlanta Falcons shirt. So far, it is the State Commander of Georgia who should be wearing a Kansas Jayhawk shirt. Which everyone looks good in a Kansas shirt. So we need to continue to work on our membership, new, reinstate, continuous, and members at large.

We have some posts that are struggling, we have to step up and help them if we can. We have new people in some of these positions, and they are learning their job and need our help and guidance. Be a mentor, not a critic. The base of our organization starts at the post level, then district, then department, and to national. Without a good foundation to build from, there will not be a district, department, or national organization. We are all in this together to support our Veterans, and their families.

The Eisenhower Vigil was a great success, thanks to all the VFW comrades and the Auxiliaries for their help and support. There were 4 members from the state of Arkansas that drove up to participate in the vigil.

From what I see looks like the Fall conventions and inspections are done, and everything is going pretty well.

Western Conference is the first weekend in November, in San Diego.

Veterans Day is just around the corner. Hope everyone takes part in it.

Looking forward to visiting the local High School, and our Veterans Day Parade.

Mid Winter Conference is Jan. 12-14, 2018 in Topeka.

Thanksgiving is coming soon, from my family to yours, we wish you a safe and thankful time with your families.

Remember “No One Does More for Veterans”

Wear RED on Fridays, “Remember Everyone Deployed”

Yours in Comradeship,

Michael B Holland
State Commander
Dept. of Kansas
cell: 620-446-0045

michaelbholland@sbcglobal.net





State Sr. Vice Commander

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

The First Thing I would like to do is Thank TEAM KANSAS for a Great Eisenhower Vigil.

MEMBERSHIP – MEMBERSHIP – MEMBERSHIP

Currently the Department of Kansas is in 6th place on membership with 87.06% attained.

#1. District Commanders have you checked to see if all your Post have their Unpaid/Expiring List. If you have Fantastic.

#2. Post Commanders on your Unpaid/Expiring List those names that have a number beside it is telling you that you have that many days till that Comrade's Membership has expired. **WE DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE THAT ON THE LIST.** If you have one PLEASE CONTACT THEM NOW. (CALL THEM, KNOCK ON THEIR DOORS, WE NEED TO GET FACE TO FACE WITH THEM). No One Does More For Veterans

"REMEMBER I CAN'T HELP YOU COMRADES IT YOU DON'T ASK"

So far throughout my travels, I have Identified a Problem and I feel that it will effect our Post if We Comrades don't get it correct-ed ASAP. The Problem Is **"VOLUNTEER BURNOUT"**. Comrades our current volunteers have done it long enough. I know some of them have been doing it for years now. What would you do if they would not show up, would it effect your post financially as well your community. DO ME A FAVOR COMRADES, LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND ASK YOURSELF HOW CAN I HELP. IF YOU ARE GOING TO TALK THE TALK, LET'S START WALKING THE WALK".

"TEAM KANSAS", GEORGIA IS IN 52nd place with 71.85% attained. **WE CAN'T, WHAT SO EVER, HAVE OUR STATE COMMANDER WEARING A "GEORGIA PUPPY"**.

Patrick M. Briggs
State Senior Vice Commander
Department of Kansas

Comrades, THIS IS OUR YEAR, LET'S GET'ER DONE AND HAVE SOME FUN DOING IT.



State Jr. Vice Commander

Comrades,

We have now entered our 4th month of the Community Service reporting for this year. So far this year the figures that have been properly reported include 5,460 members volunteering, working 16,018 hours, and driving 81,768 miles at a cost of \$64,024. But still there are a few Post that are constantly having their reports rejected due to not following instructions on the Community Report forms which directly states: Description of Project and Who Benefited. I have been leaving the rejected reports on line for reviewing with my comments for 30 days after rejection to give time for a Post review and to resubmit.

A different Community Service Reporting system will come into effect with the new upcoming Department Web site. I have been working with the developer's letting them know what our needs are. Hopefully they will have the bugs out of the program before we go live, if not we will have a temporary reporting system working.

Any comments, questions, or concerns please contact me.

In Comradeship,
Lee Hursey
Jr. Vice Commander
Department of Kansas





State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Comrades:

The Kansas VFW Headquarters employees are constantly asked certain questions as to why certain things/tasks need to be done in a repetitive manner. The answers have come for some of these questions in real life issues that the Posts involved have really suffered.

1. Why do we have to file a 990 each year? If you fail to file your Post 990 your Post will lose its tax exempt status. The Post involved had to pay property tax at the Commercial rate on their Post Home.

2. We are incorporated, so, why do we have to file and pay incorporation tax each year which costs \$40.00 to the Kansas Secretary of State? If you fail to pay the Incorporation tax, your Post officers are now responsible for the payment of any unpaid bills, especially liabilities to the Kansas Department of Labor for unpaid Unemployment tax and the Kansas Department of Taxation for unpaid liquor tax. The Post involved owes \$30,000.00 plus in back taxes, penalties, and interest! That \$40.00 yearly payment is very inexpensive insurance that your Post officers aren't individually liable.

3. Why does our Post QM and Post employees have to get bonded each year? Again, the amount paid for the bonding is extremely inexpensive insurance just in case an impropriety is involved.

Also, remember to make sure that your Post is on track to be eligible for All State recognition. Several of the Programs are nearing the completion date and make sure you keep your Community Service and Surgeon reports current! Plus, do not forget the number one qualifier for All State is your Post must be at least 100 per cent in membership if not higher.

The employees at Kansas VFW headquarters work for you! If you are having trouble with programs, audits, or other problems pertaining to the VFW, contact us and we will do our best to assist you.

In Comradeship
Herb Schwartzkopf

5th District spread the word:

The Wichita VA Medical and Regional Office Center will be conducting their quarterly Town Hall on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 from 1:00PM-3:00PM, with a concurrent Regional Office Claims Clinic running from 1:00PM-4:00PM. Please note that the time has changed from a 12:30PM start time back to the regularly scheduled 1:00PM.



Great time at West Acres bowling alley at the opening of 5th District annual Youth Bowling. Here's a picture of the District officers and Auxiliary that was present.





State Chaplain

In looking back over some of the previous articles I have written for the Bulletin, I came across this statement in one of my articles: "Psalms 27 verse 1 says 'The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?' With God on our side we have nothing to fear. That is why I am conducting Chaplain's Workshops To better equip our Post and District Chaplains to be God's ministers to be better able to meet the needs of our members."

Even though I wrote this seven years ago, it is still true today. I am still available to offer to conduct the Workshops but am available for counsel as well. Many have shared with me that they have learned much from the workshops. Therefore, I am asking your help to coordinate place and date for another workshop so those who have not had a chance to participate can and for those wanting to join in again may. A Saturday starting at 1:00 or 1:30 PM seems to work out well for most.

I will be at Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka the afternoon of Friday January 12th prior to the regular scheduled meetings to meet with anyone who desires to. I will be in the lobby area. We will look

for a quiet corner to meet.

I am looking forward to seeing you there. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. Remember those who are less fortunate, especially our Veterans.

Chaplain Jim



State Inspector

Comrades,

Quarterly Audits are being submitted on time at a higher rate than last years. A big thank you to all posts who accomplished this, and keep up the good work. More and more posts are sending reports in electronically also.

With some posts closing down within the last quarter, two main themes are apparent in them, fiscal negligence and apathy of membership. Commanders are reminded it is their duty to insure that quarterly audits are conducted by the Post Trustees. It is the Quartermasters responsibility to provide all the records, files and statements necessary for completion of the audit.

Ken Allred
State Inspector



Past State Commander and current Nat'l Programs Director Lynn Rolf III, State Commander Michael B. Holland, National Council Member and State Judge Advocate Bobby Cox and State Quartermaster Herb Schwartzkopf at Western Conference.





State Judge Advocate

Comrades,

As many of you know we are losing posts at an alarming rate and needs the attention of all members of the Kansas VFW to put the brakes on this trend.

One of the reasons I feel for this is that the members of a certain post no longer attend district or state meetings to find out what is happening in the VFW. By not taking an interest in the happenings of the VFW or what is going on at the post level by thinking that all is right in Denmark and nobody **checking the Trustees Report of Audit taking someone else's word for it. Not asking questions of certain things that are noticed in that report can all lead to the demise of the post.**

No one willing to fill the offices of the post, and doing the best job that they can in that position. If all officers at all levels would look in the By--Laws and Manuel of Procedure it outlines your responsibility of that office. If in doubt ask those that have held that position before for their advise on how to do the job that is required. Again care about the works of the VFW so that as a whole we can all help and aid the Veterans and their families.

When the inspectors are doing the inspections notice any little tell tale sign that maybe they do need help. A very good way is to attend the meeting when you are on an inspection tour. Are all the officers there or are they excused how many members are in attendance and do they take an interest in what is happening or are they just there. Sec.218 Details the duties of the officers. Enough on this subject.

The Eisenhower Vigil was again well attended by the VFW and Aux THANK YOU ALL Sr. Vice Pat Briggs Kudos to you.

The Western Conference Meeting will be over when this comes out so won't have anything to report to you until Jan. Mid-Winter.

Talking about the Mid-Winter in Jan. remember to make your reservations and register for this. Remember the banquet is a very large part of why we have the Mid-Winter. It is to honor the students who have taken the time to enter our VOD and PP programs across the state. If you have never heard a speech by the winner you are missing out. Please plan on attending.

A blessed and safe holiday season to all from the Cox family.

National Council Member

Comrades.

As your National Council Member I had the pleasure of going on the Aux. National Presidents tour. It started in Ft. Leavenworth to Holton to Topeka Forbes Field to Post 1650 Topeka on to Bonner Springs and concluded at Lenexa Post. This was on Oct 10th and 11th. The attendance at these functions were not what, in my estimation what should have been.

Sometimes the VFW members have the idea that it is only an Aux function but not true. If we want to be one VFW we need to support each other especially at these kind of events. We can learn different things from each other to make this one VFW. By doing so we strengthen the goals and values of the VFW and it's Aux.

From the Cox Family of which there are lot of us we wish each of you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. Many great things to you in the New Year.

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Bob Cox
KSNCM
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS





State Surgeon

Comrades I see some things on the surgeon report are missing from it, what we are missing memorial, card, and flowers. We just did one for veteran and Comrades of the Abilene Post whom the state took part in honor Gen Eisenhower the 34th president.

The reports I have received so far aren't showing memorial, when you honor a veteran that memorial or when a group of veteran's, it's a memorial to them.

When you send a surgeon report in with 1 hour doing it and 0 in sec. A for for memorial like Oct report it is easy to say it missing man hour, miles number of worker in the block.

David Ebersole



Chief of Staff

Comrades,

We are rolling into the holiday season, it's amazing how fast this year is flying by. I encourage all Posts to share what they may be doing for the holiday's including volunteer programs, especially if you would like State Officer's to attend. We can't attend, if we don't know right? I would like to also thank everyone who attended the Eisenhower Vigil, District Midsummer/fall meeting, including the participation of the Posts with all of our different programs like VOD, Pat's Pen and many more. As always, please continue to encourage membership and set measurable goals so you can reach them as a Post. Each one of us has a story to tell of why we are a member of the VFW, tell it! It only takes one person to hear what the VFW means to you, to join. Last but not least, I would like to update our Comrades on a question that was asked in Parsons about the Red, White and Blue scratch off lotto tickets of where the money goes. Here is a short snippet. The Veteran's Benefit Program, which began in 2004, and has raised a total of \$15,247,631 since June 30, 2017. There are currently two instant scratch games, \$1 Red, White and blue & \$2 Red, White and Blue, in which 100% of the net profits go directly to designated veterans programs. The programs are Veterans Enhanced Service Delivery Program, Kansas National Guard Education Assistance Act Scholarships and Kansas Veteran Homes & Cemeteries. I will also try to provide more information at our next meeting.

As always Comrades, I know we ask a lot of our members and sometimes may not get a chance to say "Thank You" but you are appreciated and without you (our members), our organization wouldn't be as strong as it is today.

In Comradeship,
Marla Urban
Chief of Staff



Presentation of plaque to Sport Clips in Wichita for their donation of \$1000, by 3rd District Commander Cravens, State Jr. Vice Commander Hurshey and State Commander Holland.



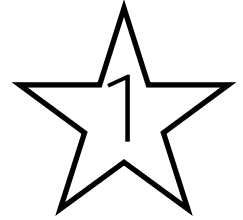


1st District Commander

Comrades

We are now in the holiday season. I would like to wish everyone happy holidays. Once the holidays are over with, it is mid-winter conference in Topeka 12-14 January 2018. I would like to see over 1/2 our posts eligible for all-state. Please also pay attention to deadlines for different programs. Membership, membership, membership. It is our life-blood. Everyone is a recruiter. Community programs are also important for all-state. I believe our district can be 100% membership. I would like to be the top District this year. On community programs voting counts for the legislative category. Remember everyone has to send in a surgeon's report. I will have my inspection 's done by the 1st of December. The post I didn't inspect I will try and make 1 of your post meetings after the holidays. Again I would like to wish everyone happy holidays and would like to see you in January 2018 for the state mid-winter. If you have any questions or concerns call or email me, or you can call or email my District Sr. or Jr Vice Commanders.

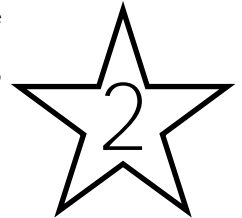
Larry Albright
1st district Commander



2nd District Commander

Comrades, hopefully everyone is enjoying this cooler fall weather before winter sets in. District 2 is off to a great start. We had a good Mid-Summer school of instruction hosted by Overland Park Post 846. I would like to thank all the district comrades who stepped up and volunteered to travel across the district to do Post inspections. Please remember that all inspections need to be sent to the District Commander who will review them and then send them to Department for further review. The deadline to have inspections into Department is December 1st. I have received several already, as of middle of October, so hopefully by the time this newsletter goes out we will be completely done. We had a great showing at the Eisenhower Vigil so thank you to all the Post and Auxiliary members who were able to make it. It is a great honor to stand vigil for Kansas' own former President and 5 star General. Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher award entries were due to the Post end of October so hopefully you made time to get those in for further judging at district. Reminder that EMT, Firefighter and Law Enforcement are due to Post by December 2nd. Also, membership is year round so let's continue to work towards 100%. By the time this bulletin goes out it should be sometime around the middle of November. I would like to thank you all for your service and hope you had a memorable Veteran's Day. I would also like to thank you for what you do every day and wish you a blessed Thanksgiving!

Dave Cuba
District 2 Commander



3rd District Commander

To the 3rd District:

I wish to thank all of you, who made the Eisenhower Vigil, because we are Team Kansas. But most of ALL remember the 3 C's when working with members of your Post, District or State.

- 1 Communicate — To make known, to receive communion, to share
- 2 Coordinate — To work or act together harmoniously
- 3 Cooperate — To act jointly with one another or others.

I wish all comrades to Remember membership, we all are in the business of getting new members and keeping the old ones current.

Thank you for your service and Remember Veterans Day.

Henry A. Gatewood Jr.
3rd District Commander
U.S. Army Retired





4th District Commander

Hello Everyone,

Time sure does fly by. It seemed like just yesterday when I was putting my first news article together for this year. **The Posts in the District have been working hard at preparing for the VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year** packets completed and send up to the District. We wish all of the contestant's **GOOD LUCK!!**

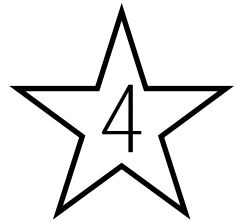
We all are preparing for Veterans Day on November 11. It is a time to remember our fellow Veterans and friends who served our great County. We are ensuring that their families are taken care of also. Are you doing your part to Remember?

As the months are quickly passing, we are also preparing for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. Some of us remember the long days during the holidays away from our families. We knew that they would remember us when they celebrated the seasons. Each holiday was and is a time to reflect back on the year and be thankful for our freedoms that we have each day. Look back on the good things and the bad things and realize that it was all planned. Take the time to reflect and remember. Enjoy the time with family and friends. If you are traveling, please get plenty of rest, take breaks and arrive alive.

We want to recognize a Post and an individual that have made some great achievements. Congratulations to Post 10509, Chapman for achieving **102.22%**. **Congratulations to Jim Ratcliff, Post 7928, Lincoln** for being appointed "Assistant Inspector General" for the 2017-2018 year. This is well deserved.

Again, I want thank all of the Posts and Auxiliaries in the 4th District for a GREAT JOB! The year is not over, and we continue to TAKE CARE OF OUR VETERANS, their FAMILIES, and OUR COMMUNITIES.

Happy Holiday's
Todd L. Hokanson
4th District Commander



5th District Commander

Greetings Comrades and Auxiliary members,
I would first like to thank all of those who participated in the 5th District Coffee Tour. This is something that had not been done in a long time. From the feedback I have received and from what I have witnessed it was a successful Coffee Tour as far as some great camaraderie and getting out and making personal contact with the Posts and Auxiliaries. It really showed at our October District Meeting, there were people there that had never attended a District Meeting and others in attendance that hadn't been in years.

Thanks goes out to all of you again for the excellent turn out by the 5th District at the Eisenhower Vigil. As most of you know the time slots for the Vigil are tied to Membership. Whichever District leads in Membership gets first pick of the time they wish to stand and goes down from there. The better we do in membership the better choice we have in the time slot we stand.

Not everything in the District has been positive. We have had two Post closures, those being Saint John and Hoisington. I debated **whether to add this, but it isn't something you can sweep under the rug and pretend it didn't happen.** Post closures can be a very emotional thing to deal with by both VFW and Auxiliary members. For those Posts out there that may be struggling, reach out for help early. There are plenty of folks in the Department that are willing to assist in righting the ship.

As we approach the Holiday Season please keep our troops at home and abroad in your thoughts and prayers. I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

In Comradeship,
Terry Fletcher
5th District Commander





7th District Commander

Comrades,

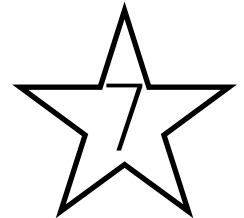
By now the VOD/PP and teacher applications should be at the post level and being graded. If you got these turned outstanding. These programs are an integral part of what the VFW is all about. The FF/EMT/Leo application deadlines at the post level are less than a month away. Get out there and find those heroes that are deserving of being recognized. MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP. Each post member should be actively recruiting 24/7. Post inspections should be on the downhill slide and nearly completed if not already.

The Mid-winter is coming up January 12-14. Get your reservations made as soon as possible. Veterans Day is November 11. Lots of activities going on. In our District, Syracuse is having their post re-dedication ceremony at 6:00 pm mountain/7:00 pm central.

Our District President Brenda Mallory had an accident last month and got her index finger cut off at the knuckle and middle finger cut ¾ off. She was flown to Baylor and got them re-attached. Dr. said she should get 95% usage back. Keep her healing in your prayers.

Going to repeat one more time MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP.

James SARGE Langley
jalangley@linnenergy.com
(620) 952-9161



5TH DISTRICT COFFEE TOUR



5TH DISTRICT COFFEE TOUR (con't)



Continued prayers for all comrades
and auxiliary we have lost and
to all Comrades deployed





Arkalah Parade



Wichita VA Town Hall Meeting

All-American Posts



Past State Commander Gerald Marvin presenting Award and accepting for Post 56 Leavenworth was Past Post Commander Steven Davis.



Past State Commander Gerald Marvin presenting Award and accepting for Post 3279 Abilene was Post Commander Todd Hokanson.





Brian Duffy
Adjutant General
Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
Mid-Winter National Representative



Brian Duffy was appointed Adjutant General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. on July 26, 2017, at the 118th VFW National Convention in New Orleans, La. Prior to this he served as Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars from 2016 to 2017.

Brian served in the U.S. Air Force as a jet engine mechanic on F-4 Phantom fighter aircraft, and later as a flight engineer aboard C-141 Starlifter transport aircraft.

During his service, he deployed in support of several campaigns to include Grenada, Panama, and Operations Desert Shield/Storm in Southwest Asia. His military decorations include the Air Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Upon his return from Grenada in 1983, he joined VFW Post 6590 in Cookstown, N.J. He later transferred his membership to VFW Post 120 in Garden City Park, N.Y., then to VFW Post 1170 in Middletown, Ky., in 1989.

Following his Air Force service, he was employed by several airlines as a flight engineer instructor. He moved to "The Bluegrass State" of Kentucky in 1988 after joining United Parcel Service (UPS) Airlines as a flight engineer instructor. Rising through the ranks, he would retire in 2014 as assistant chief pilot with UPS, having flown worldwide as an instructor/check captain on Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft.

Brian was elected as Commander of the VFW Department of Kentucky in 2006. He achieved All-American status at Post, District and Department levels. His Honor Flight activities were recognized by the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame, the Kentucky Derby Festival as the 2009 "Thunderator," and was a recipient of the 2011 (Louisville) WLKY "Bell Award" for community volunteerism. In 2012, Brian was the recipient of President Obama's Volunteer Service Award after being nominated by UPS to recognize his numerous volunteer activities.

Brian is a Gold Legacy Life member of the VFW, and is a member of the VFW National Home for Children, Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion and AMVETS. He and his wife, Jean, who served three terms as Auxiliary President to VFW Post 1170, have two adult children, Tara and Andrew.

-vfw-



VFW MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

V.F.W. HOST POST 1650

Topeka, Kansas

January 12-14, 2018

FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS TELEPHONE THE HOTEL LISTED BELOW

(Please state this is for the VFW Mid-Winter Meeting)

ALL RESERVATIONS GUARANTEED BY CREDIT CARD OR ADVANCE DEPOSIT

HOTEL ROOM RATE DEADLINE DECEMBER 12, 2017

CAPITOL PLAZA HOTEL
 1717 W Topeka Blvd
 Topeka, Kansas 66612

(785) 431-7200

 \$72.00 + Tax -- 80 Rooms

ONLINE LINK
(Available at a later date)

***** TENTATIVE SCHEDULE ON BACK *****

TICKET RESERVATIONS BY JANUARY 5, 2018

RESERVATIONS BY COUPLE (SAME LAST NAME) OR INDIVIDUAL

PRINT NAME _____ SPOUSE _____
 LAST FIRST CITY
 MAILING ADDRESS _____
 STATE ZIP DAY PHONE # () EMAIL _____

(**CIRCLE AFFILIATION**)
 VFW / AUX / POST # _____ TITLE _____
 SPOUSE
 VFW / AUX / POST # _____ TITLE _____

Number of

_____	Registration	5.00
_____	Saturday Banquet	\$ 25.00
_____	Saturday Dance	\$ 5.00
_____	Packet per person	\$ 35.00

MAIL CHECK & REQUEST TO:
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS VFW
P.O. BOX 1008
TOPEKA, KS 66601

REFUNDS ONLY with 48 hours PRIOR CONFIRMED CANCELLATION by calling:
VFW State Headquarters (785-272-6463)

DATE REC _____ PAID _____ CA/CK # _____ REG # _____



VFW MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
TOPEKA, KANSAS JANUARY 12-14, 2018
******* TENTATIVE SCHEDULE *******

ALL VFW AND AUXILIARY MEETINGS HELD AT THE HOTEL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018

2:30 PM BUDGET & FINANCE MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM TICKET PICK-UP – *Emerald Foyer*
 3:00 PM AUXILIARY AUDIT – *Emerald I & II*
 4:00 PM AUXILIARY FLOOR PRACTICE – *Emerald I & II*
 5:00 PM AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: MENTORING NEW
 MEMBERS, MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT – *Emerald I & II*
 5:00 PM CONVENTION CORPORATION MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 6:00 PM VETERANS SERVICE MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 7:30 PM ENDOWMENT MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 - *Post 1650 Open*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

7:00 AM ONLINE AUXILIARY ACADEMY (Coffee furnished, more
 Floor practice if needed) – *Emerald I - II*
 8:15 AM AUXILIARY COUNCIL MEETING – *Emerald I & II*
Immediately following Auxiliary Council Meeting
 AUXILIARY CONFERENCE MEETING – *Emerald I & II*
 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM TICKET PICK-UP – *Emerald Foyer*
 9:00 AM VFW COUNCIL MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
Immediately following VFW Council Meeting
 VFW CONFERENCE MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 11:30 AM LUNCH - *On your own*
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM SECRETARY'S TRAINING (Q & A) INCLUDES INSTALLATION
 REPORTS AND DELEGATES FOR DISTRICT,
 DEPARTMENT & NATIONAL CONVENTION – *Emerald I & II*
 1:00 PM AUXILIARY CONFERENCE MEETING RESUMES – *Emerald I & II*
 1:00 PM VFW CONFERENCE MEETING RESUMES – *Emerald III-V*
Immediately following VFW Conference Meeting
 PAST COMMANDER'S CLUB MEETING – *Emerald III-V*
 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM OPEN DISCUSSION ON AUXILIARY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS,
 Q & A – *Emerald I & II*
 5:45 PM VOD INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISTRICT WINNERS – *PARTY DECK*
 6:30 PM VOD BANQUET – *Emerald Ballroom*
 8:00 PM DANCE - *Post 1650*

WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ARE PROHIBITED IN ALL MEETING ROOMS





VFW Commander in Chief Keith Harman
Veterans Day Ceremony at Haysville City Hall.



Thank You Jim Denison for all you do!! VFW Member Post 3115



3rd District Commander Henry Gatewood, Department of Kansas Surgeon David Ebersole, Brigadere General Ollie Kingsbury and Department of Kansas Commander Michael B Holland.





VFW Post 1650 Veterans Day Ceremony pictured Steve Watkins, Angela Gray, Andrew Olsen, and Evan Lancaster.

No One Does More For Veterans



Veterans Parade Leavenworth Lynn Rolf Jr. Grand Marshall Member of VFW Post 56.



Auxiliary News

STATE PRESIDENT



Brothers and Sisters:

By this time Fall conferences are over and I hope you were able to attend one. I enjoyed the ones I attended. For the first time I attended the Western Conference, which was in San Diego this year. It was very interesting and I enjoyed it very much. If you look on the Department of Kansas VFW facebook you will see an attractive picture Mike Holland took of us in San Diego.

The Auxiliary is still undergoing a lot of change, but change is inevitable and change is constant. We have made great strides in the last few years and will continue to do so. At the present we are at 79% in membership. We will do our best to make 100% again this year.

Have a happy Veterans Day and a Happy Thanksgiving. Try to do something special for a veteran.

Maren Farr

Department of Kansas Auxiliary President



Jeanette Cox
13th District National Council Member
Mid-Winter Representative

Jeanette Cox, of McPherson, Kansas, represents Colorado and Kansas on the National Council of Administration, which governs the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary between National Conventions.

Installed at the 104th National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, she will serve a two-year term as one of 28 representatives who make up the Council along with the top seven National Officers, the National Chief of Staff and the four Junior Past National Presidents.

A Life Member of Fred E. Ellis Auxiliary 2715, she has served in many capacities for the organization including Auxiliary, District and Department (state) President.

She joined on the eligibility of her husband, Bobby, who served in the U.S. Army from 1965-1991.

In her spare time, Jeanette enjoys watching her grandchildren play sports, attending family functions and taking care of her great-grandson. She also has a lake house where she enjoys fishing and visiting with neighbors. She also enjoys baking and has a small catering business.

Jeanette and her husband have four children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Auxiliary News

STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

It has been a busy couple of months. I have traveled far and wide throughout the state visiting District meetings, hearing about all the wonderful work you are doing in your communities for our veterans and their families. The National President visited in October and everyone that attended the events had a good time, especially exciting was the unauthorized motorcycle ride that National President Dee took from Bonner Springs to Lenexa compliments of the VFW and American Legion Riders. The Eisenhower Vigil was another successful event in October with many Auxiliary members participating. A big thank you goes out to Sherri Anderson, Charlene Wilkinson, and Gigi Gray for taking extra turns standing vigil to help out other Districts. November is upon us and the holidays are just around the corner. Many of you will be hosting Veterans Day events, in addition to thanking our Veterans, these are prime recruiting opportunities, make the most of your events. Let us all take time to think about what we are

thankful for as Thanksgiving approaches and we spend time with family and friends. My blessings to each and every one of you and your family members. Hope to see you all for Mid-Winter Convention at Topeka in January!!!

“Small acts when multiplied by millions of people can transform the world.” – Howard Zinn

Kristi Meid
 Department Sr Vice President
 Dept of KS VFW Auxiliary

STATE JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT



HAPPY FALL TO EVERYONE!!!

Wow has it been busy since the Department Convention! This year is going so fast.

It has been so much fun getting to travel around the great state for Fall District Conventions. You always get to meet new members that may not make it to Department meetings and share delicious lunch. It is so nice to meet the ones that help us do all the things we get to do for our Veterans. Everyone has unique ideas of things that can be done for our wonderful Veterans.

PLEASE respond to the VFW Legislative Alert on TRICARE Changes. Last year’s National Defense Authorization Act contained a number of changes to TRICARE, most of which take effect January 1, 2018. The VFW believes service members, veterans and their families must be able to voice how these changes will impact them. To ensure your views and preferences are heard, the VFW has developed a survey to gauge our members’ awareness of these changes and how they will affect beneficiaries. The data collected will be used to advocate for policy and

legislative changes that are based on the needs of TRICARE beneficiaries.

Help the VFW hold DOD and Congress accountable for fulfilling their mission to provide accessible, affordable health care to service members, veterans and their families by taking a short survey regarding your preferences and thoughts on health care and the upcoming TRICARE changes.

Take the survey here: <https://www.research.net/r/TRICAREChanges>.
 Looking forward to seeing everyone at Mid-Winter in Topeka!

Gail Vance
 Department VFW Auxiliary Jr. Vice President

2017-2018 Department Officers

* changes from roster book



**P
I
N
H
I
T
S
M
E
M
B
E
R
S
O
F
F
I
C
E
R
S**

Commander

Michael Holland
919 N. 11th St
Arkansas City 67005
620-446-0045

Sr. Vice Commander

Patrick Briggs
1018 S Grand Ave
Lyons 67554
620-474-1896

Jr. Vice Commander

Lee Hursey
622 N Young St
Wichita 67212
316-644-4441

Adjutant/ Quartermaster

Herb Schwartzkopf
P.O. Box 1008
Topeka 66601-1008
785-272-6463

Judge Advocate/

National Council Member

Bob Cox
1504 Manchester Street
McPherson 67460
620-241-7475

Surgeon

David Ebersole
PO Box 276
Lincolnton 66858
785-512-0816

Chaplain

Jim Jenkins
647 N. Nettleton Avenue
Bonner Springs 66012
913-441-1234

Chief of Staff

Marla Urban
4211 W 9th St N
Wichita 67212
* 316-871-5995

Inspector

Ken Allred
1452 Melrose Ln
Wichita 67212
316-721-3630

Past Department

Commander

Gerald Marvin
P.O. Box 37
LaCrosse 67548
785-222-6748

District Commanders:

1st District

Larry Albright
340 St Stanton Rd
Tecumseh 66542
785-580-5299

2nd District

David Cuba
8680 Lynne Rd
DeSoto 66018
913-488-5757

3rd District

Henry Gatewood Jr
3130 Grand Ave
Parsons 67357

* 620-421-2998

4th District

Todd Hokanson
202 Summit Dr
Abilene 67410

* 785-263-7321

5th District

Terry Fletcher
501 E Pecan Ln
Derby 67037

* 316-619-8193

6th District

Richard Wahlmeier
PO Box 31
Ellis 67637
785-726-1294

7th District

James Langley
PO Box 5
Rolla 67954
620-544-1786

About Us

Our mission is very simple. We foster camaraderie among United States veterans of conflicts overseas, we serve our veterans, the military, and the communities, and we advocate on behalf of all veterans. We ensure that veterans are respected for their service, receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for their sacrifices that they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Our core values are to put the interests of our members first, to treat donors as partners in our cause. We promote patriotism, honor military service, and ensure the care of veterans and their families, and serve in our communities. We always promote a positive image of the VFW and respect the diversity of veteran opinions.

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Visit us on the Web

VFW

Department of
Kansas

at www.ksvfw.org

