

THE KANSAS BULLETIN

VFW

THE OLDEST STATE PUBLICATION IN THE VFW

Volume 86, Issue 4

May 2018

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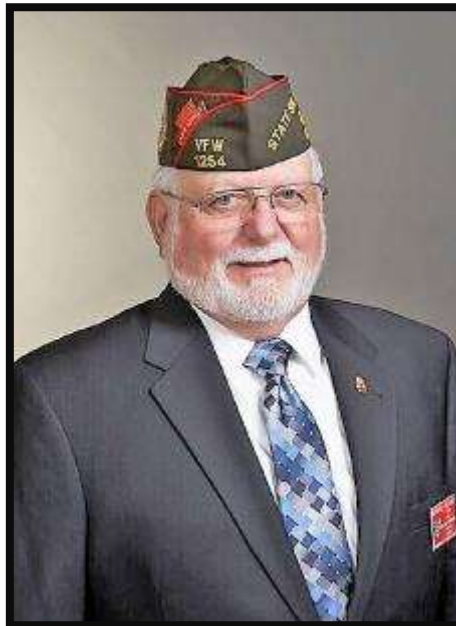


VFW Kansas Website

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State Commander Michael B. Holland





State Commander

“Putting our Veterans and Their Families First”

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Auxiliary:

Always first and foremost, Membership, Membership, Membership! We need it to survive. Don't give up on it. Keep working our programs and keep involved in the community. Let them know we care and are working for them and our Veterans.

This last year has gone by so fast. It has been a productive year and a good year for the VFW, I believe. There are always some road blocks, but we have to work through them. We have for the most part I feel. There seems to always be more that should or could be done, for our organization. You never want to leave things undone, but as “Team Kansas” we have accomplished quite a bit. By the time this is out, all the Spring meetings should be over and new District and Post Officers are elected and installed. I want to wish the best of luck to them in the coming year. Congratulations!! All of our programs should be wrapping up. It has been a good year for our programs, we are starting see more involvement. Which is fantastic.

Coming up is our Department Convention, June 15-17th, in Wichita, Ks. Commander in Chief Keith Harman will be here. Looking forward to that. National Convention will be in Kansas City, Mo., July 21-25th. If you have never been to a National Convention, this would be a good time to go. Kansas is staying in Holiday Inn Aladdin. Hope to see you there.

I have had an exciting and enjoyable time representing the Department of Kansas as your State Commander. It has been an experience that I will never forget. I could not have done my job without the help and support of the Department Officers and all the members of this great organization. “Team Kansas” is the best. We all worked together for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I want to give a special thanks and “shout out” to the amazing staff we have at Headquarters. They do so much for us, I can't say enough. Thank you for all you do!

“No One Does More for Veterans”

Wear RED on Friday, REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED

See ya later,

Yours in Comradeship,

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

michaelbholland@sbcglobal.net





State Sr. Vice Commander

Dear Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

I can't believe that this year is just about gone. I would like to Thank You for your tenacity and dedication to our cause.

I want to personally thank all the elected and appointed Comrades that have stepped up to accept a position for the 2018 – 2019 VFW Year. I would like to remind those who have been elected, those who voted for you will expect YOU to fulfill your OBLIGATION. Also, I remind those who voted, you made your OBLIGATION to SUPPORT your Officers.

We do so many things in our communities in addition to offering varying other humanitarian efforts, and we tell no one about it. **“LET’S GET OUT THEIR AND TELL OUR STORIES. When we are their doing that “DON’T FORGET TO REPORT YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE DAILY”.**

Commanders and Chairmen encourage all your members and family members to sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. This publication is provided to keep up and inform us on items that affect us all.

MEMBERSHIP and RETENTION will be a priority. Without these essential components our organization will cease to exist. **Familiarize yourself with each other’s programs see where we can help each other.** Communicate with each other. This will make all our programs successful. Thanks for all your support and remember: COMMUNICATION – COMUNICATION – COMMUNICATION, VFW and AUXILIARY when we do this **“WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL”.**

I know, just as well as you do, that the young combat veterans that are not yet members are the secret to our longevity. If we **don’t get them into our fold they will pass us by for another organization or none at all.** Our annual members that have not renewed. **We recruited them once, why don’t WE DO IT AGAIN?** Did we not live up to their expectations?

At this time, I would like to express my appreciation to everyone for the friendship and courtesies extended to me during my travels as your State Senior Vice Commander. **It’s** honor for me to act as your representative on behalf of the Department of Kansas VFW.

“REMEMBER, I CAN’T HELP YOU IF YOU DON’T ASK”

Patrick M. Briggs
State Sr. Vice Commander
Department of Kansas



State Jr. Vice Commander

Comrades,

Now we are finished our last fascial year program and beginning a new one we must continue to move forward, carry on, and maintain our excellence in helping our communities through our devoted services. Community Service is an ongoing program that never ceases. As we complete a service by helping in the Community, our Youth, or with Veterans Services, take a moment make a note to yourself to report your activities to your Community Services Chairmen within your **Post. Your Chairmen cannot make assumptions on what you do, and as you make your reports don’t forget to include on who benefitted.** When doing your reporting, do so often and please not hold all your reports till the end of the month.

I thank all the Post who have submitted Community Service reports though the year. With your service the Department of Kansas has acuminated more than 95,337 volunteer hours and \$193,272 in reported accredited funds. We can easily bring these numbers up next year if only everyone reported what they have done.

A big thank you to those Post who submitted Community Service Record Books. Congratulations to VFW Post 6240 Russell, Ks for winning the National Community Service Award and VFW Post 112 Wichita, KS for their Outstanding Community Service Project.

Comrades thank you for having me as your Jr. Vice Commander and allowing me to work for you. I have enjoyed the camaraderie and visits with you throughout the year. Working with you in the past has been a pleasure and I look forward in working with you in the future.

In Comradeship,
Lee Hursey
State Jr. Vice Commander





State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Comrades:

At this time, we still have one Post that is not bonded, and several more that are delinquent in multiple audits. Any Post who is in arrears for Bonds, Audits, owes money for Poppies, or owes money for District per capita tax, will be deprived from representation at District and Department meetings.

As a side note, Posts do not have to Bond through the VW/Tallman Insurance. They can be bonded by an outside Company, but, they must show proof that they are bonded and we need a copy of that proof at Kansas VFW Hq.

Congratulations to the Fifteen Posts whom received All State Recognition for the 2017-18 year. Some of those Posts are eligible for All American as well as a few Posts that did not make All State are still in the running for All American. Now is the time to start preparing to be All State for the 2018-19 year. Part of the All State eligibility involves reporting completed Community Service projects on the Kansas VFW website. The Community Service Reporting year runs from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. Keep your reporting current and it will be easy for your Post to achieve the minimum of six reports in each of the four categories for Community Service. Also, you should be taking program information to your Local Schools, Fire Departments, Law Enforcement Agencies, and Emergency Services Departments so those applicable programs can be completed in a timely fashion next fall.

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
Department of Kansas Adjutant/Quartermaster

2018 State Legislative Bulletin Report

Comrades:

It has been a rather disappointing legislative session so far for Veteran's Legislation in the Kansas Legislature. Two bills were passed out of the Veterans and Military Committee in the House and passed the full House but died in the Senate. Those Bills dealt with Random Drug testing for KCVAO employees and Veterans Service Organizations, (Grant), share of Kansas Lottery Proceedings. We are still working trying to get these bills passed this year!

I would personally like to Thank all of the VFW Officers and members that have logged many miles to represent all Kansas Veterans in both the House and Senate Committee meetings. We were noticed and appreciated!

Make sure that you attend town hall meetings held by State Legislators and U.S. Senators and Representatives. Make sure you take time to introduce yourself before or after the meeting so they know you personally and yes, "Wear your VFW cover", so they know whom you represent. Remember, it is your right to disagree, but do so respectfully!

In Comradeship

Herb Schwartzkopf





State Chaplain

Fellow Kansan VFW members and Auxiliary members,

Veterans and their Families come from many walks of life. Our paths through life takes us down many different paths. We are busy making a living, taking care of our families and serving our fellow comrades through the efforts of the VFW. We can get very busy with the normal routines. I encourage you to set aside time to reflect on who God is and what he is like. In pondering on the Scriptures of the Bible I am reminded of the Greatness of God. That we should continually Praise Him. Psalm 145 says: "I will bless Your name forever and forever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable. . . The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him." May God richly encourage you as you take time to uplift Him in your life.

Chaplain Jim



State Inspector

Comrades,

It has been a pleasure to serve as State Inspector these last three years, and wish to thank you for the support that has been shown to me during this time.

The overall picture this year is the best that it's been this time of the year, all Districts this year have been on top of completing everything on time, with only a couple of posts still in arrears, in each District.

Let's try and get all posts up to date and send Commander Holland out with a Bang.

Ken Allred
State Inspector

Message from State Veterans Service Officer David Kennedy

Requesting, VFW members, to keep looking for Vietnam Veterans, who have never filed a claim. We still see Veterans who have worked their whole lives, retired and never set foot in the VA. Many say I was not injured and the other guy needs the money, while that is honorable, they will not take money away from the other veteran. Also tell the veteran widows, they should check with us and see if they qualify for any survivor benefits.

New VA Appeals Program: Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP)

Some of you, who have filed appeals with the VA, will receive letters, offering you a new appeals program. You will be given 3 choices to speed up the appeals process.

1. Supplemental claim: This requires new evidence. Very few veterans have new and relevant evidence and the VA decides what is "new evidence and relevant", not the veteran. Doctor's statement or spouse statement may, or may not be accepted. More often than not we see VA letters stating, "While you have submitted new evidence it is not considered relevant to the case." So this path is not recommended. In the past, we could always request a Supplemental decision with new evidence, so there is really nothing new.
2. Higher Level Review: With a HLR, you can request a face to face hearing with someone who makes decisions. I would always recommend this path because the VSO and the Veteran can point out things that can be lost in just a file review. The VSO goes with you into the hearing. The only drawback is, you cannot submit any new evidence to a HLR. To me, this just the old DRO hearing, the VA has just changed the name.
3. Or to do nothing and stay on the current, old appeal process. The VA will state that, to stay with the old appeals program, will delay the VA's decision 3-6 years. The VA is hoping that with this threat, you will change to choice 1 or 2 and they can start to whittle down of their backlog of appeals.

What has really changed? The local Regional Office has lost control of their appeals teams and they answer only to the National Appeals team in Washington DC, and will be controlled by the National Work Que,(NWQ) that assigns work to the VA employees nationwide. With computers, location is no longer a consideration on who works your appeal. No one knows who controls the NWQ, so I can only guess, Artificial Intelligence (AI).





State Judge Advocate

Comrades,

As of this bulletin all elections at the post level and district level should be done and an election report filed with the department and national.

Audits for the first quarter of 2018 should have been complete and sent to the district commanders for approval and then to the department inspector for review.

After the state convention and actually before let's all continue to work toward why we are in business to help veterans and their families. Let's all get behind all of the officers at all levels to have a very successful and productive upcoming year.

A big thank you to outgoing officers for the work that they have done this past year and what the new officers will do this year.

Will have more after convention.

Remember to register at least one delegate to the national convention as per the national by-laws at a cost of \$25.00 for the first and \$10.00 for each one there after.

Bob Cox
State Judge



National Council Member

Comrades,

As your National Council member I will tell you that there are going to be some changes at the National level and I believe will be for the betterment of the future of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

A number of resolutions and by-law amendments will be discussed and acted on at the national convention. Some are ones that are put before the floor every year as a continuing resolution to put the pressure on our congress to act and do what is right for the Veterans.

Happy Trails To You until we meet again.

Bob Cox
KSNCM



Candidates Page



Comrades:

At the January meeting of Ransom VFW Post 7972, the members voted unanimously to endorse Comrade Herb Schwartzkopf for the office of Quartermaster for the Department of Kansas VFW.

Comrade Herb has gone through the Post, District, and Department chairs and has held the office of Post Quartermaster twenty-one terms and Post Commander eight terms. During that time period the Post has been All State nineteen times and All American thrice. While Herb was Eighth District Commander, the Eighth District was All State in 1997 and 2011 and All American in 1997. The Department of Kansas was an All American Department for their accomplishments during Comrade

Herb's term as Department Commander in 2008-2009.

Comrade Herb was elected on February 17, 2012, to fill the unexpired term of Department Quartermaster, and re-elected on June 3, 2012 for a full term. We feel Comrade Herb's "Get er Done" attitude and his farmer work ethic is the reason we strongly urge the Department of Kansas to re-elect Herb Schwartzkopf as the Quartermaster for the Department of Kansas for 2018-2019.

In Comradeship
Post Commander of Ransom VFW Post 7972
Alvin R. Folkerts



Todd Hokanson
For
Jr. Vice Commander



David Ebersole
For
State Surgeon



Larry Albright
Lifetime member
Post 1650
Current 1st District
Commander
Running for
State Surgeon
I would appreciate
your vote



Jim Jenkins for Chaplain

Comrades, In June we will be electing Officers for the next year. I will be honored if you so choose to serve another year. I have enjoyed reaching out to many of you these past years and have learned much from you. God has given us all experiences and training that is of great value and as we share what we have learned and helping one another. Together we will fulfill the mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. That is what makes it worthwhile for all of us. So, **let's continue to pull for one another** and have a great year for 2018-2019. Chaplain Jim



Ken Allred
Candidate for
Jr. Vice Commander

I received my eligibility to the VFW for service in Vietnam, Korea, and El Salvador with the US Army where I retired with the rank of Master Sergeant.

During my tenure with the VFW I have held numerous positions at both the post and district level, at the post level I attained both All-State and All-American status as Commander, at district I was Commander during the re-districting. The past three years I have served as the State Inspector.

I have the endorsement of my post and district, and the support of my family.

Ken Allred



Comrades,
I am once again asking for your support and confidence in remaining as YOUR Judge Advocate.

I thank you for all your support over the years and for your support into the future.

Bob Cox
State Judge





1st District Commander

Post and auxiliary members

When you read this, I should be down to around a month left in Command. It's been a honor and I've enjoyed my time. It's been a great year and 1st District will be remembered for this year. I appreciate the confidence you had in me.

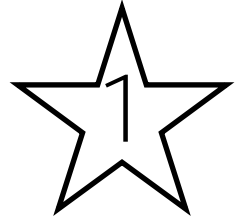
I would like to say congratulations to the in-coming officers for 2018-2019:

Cmdr: Steven Davis; Sr Vice: Mike Hare; Jr Vice: Tom Poulter; Quartermaster: James Worsley; Chaplain: Art Brennon; Surgeon: Ron Robinson; Judge Advocate: Dan Smith; 3 yr Trustee: Larry Albright

We are 1st in the state in membership. This is due to all the hard work from all the posts. Thank you. All the other programs had a good year. Thank you to all the Chairman's for their hard work. Thank you all again for electing me as your Commander and helping 1st District have a great year.

I am running for the State Surgeon position and would appreciate 1st District's support. Thank You

Larry Albright
District 1 Commander

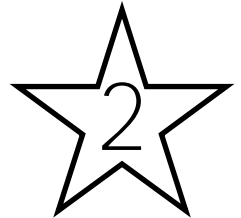


2nd District Commander

Comrades, as always, it has been my honor to serve you as District Commander over this past year. We had a good Spring Convention and I would like to say "thank you" to those of you who took time out of their personal life and busy schedule to attend. I would like to congratulate Kansas City Post 111 for being selected as an "All State" Post. Job well done! Hopefully we will also see an "All American" Post out of our District by the time the VFW year is over. I would like to say a final heartfelt "thank you" to all the District Officers and Chairman who stepped up, took the lead and made things happen. A lot has been accomplished and communicated across the district.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our State Convention this June. Remember, membership is year round so let's continue to work towards 100%. I would like to thank all the Posts for what you do every day and look forward to a great rest of the VFW year.

Dave Cuba
District 2 Commander



3rd District Commander

It has been an honor for me to be your commander during the past year. I am looking forward to the coming year, and hope and pray other comrades will step up to the plate, and join our fine organization.

We need to find better ways to get our younger veterans to commit. Ask yourself who will stand guard when you are gone, if we don't get more veterans to join us. It is time to help our membership grow, so fire away. If every comrade could find one new member in the State of Kansas, we can make our goal, to grow.

Looking forward to our next state convention in Wichita.

Henry A. Gatewood Jr.
Commander
3rd District

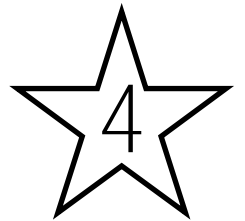




4th District Commander

Hello TEAM KANSAS

God Bless,
Todd Hokanson
4th District Commander



5th District Commander

In Comradeship,
Terry Fletcher
5th District Commander



2018 Department Elections

Section 516 of our National By-laws and Manual of Procedure states, in part: (a) The elective officers of each Department shall be a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon and Chaplain.

In addition to those offices required by our National By-laws to be elected at our annual Department Convention, we will also be electing one 5 year and one 1 year member of the VFW Endowment Association, one 3 year member of the Board of Directors for the Convention Corporation and one 5 year member for the Veterans Service Committee.

Department elections will be held at the State Convention in Wichita on Sunday, June 17, 2018.

Delegate voting strength of a Post is determined by one delegate for each thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of the end of April 2018. Additionally, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Council Members, the Department Commander, all Past Department Commanders (who are members in good standing of Posts within the Department), all elected officers of the Department, the Chief of Staff, the Inspector, all District Commanders and all Post Commanders, shall be entitled to one vote. Any individual possessing more than one qualification to vote at the Department Convention shall have no more than one vote.

Any Post in arrears for National or Department dues, poppy money, supply money, or other financial obligations, failing to have their Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National By-Laws, failing to ensure the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709 or failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit or Post Election Report shall be deprived of all representation at Department Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

The following officers are elected positions to be filled.

Commander

Senior Vice Commander

Junior Vice Commander

Quartermaster

Judge Advocate

Surgeon

Chaplain

Convention Corporation – 3 year

Endowment Association – 5 year, 4 year & 1 year

Veterans Service Committee – 5 year



STATE CONVENTION COMMITTEES – ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY COMMITTEE MEETING

RESOLUTION/BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Chairman – Bobby Cox / Vice – Ken Allred

Larry Albright Terry Fletcher
David Cuba Richard Wahlmeier
Henry Gatewood Jim Langley
Todd Hokanson

RULES OF ORDER COMMITTEE

Chairman – Clyde Lindsey

VETERANS SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman – Patrick Briggs / Vice – Dallas Love

COMMUNITY SERVICE & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman – Lee Hursey / Vice – J.T. Plummer

Ronald Robinson Mike Brunning
Charlie Cravens Vance Hill
David Toelkes Les Wenndt
Randall Alder Dennis Frierson
John Davoren

Allen Barnes Jim Denison
Roy Taylor Fred Churchill
Jim Jenkins Alfred Besser
David Tinsley David Kennedy
Harry Schwarz David Ebersole
Robert Wilson James Ratcliff
Robin Ray Leslie Clayton
Gerald Marvin Bruce Fischbach
Lynn Rolf III Bill Gale

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





Andy Olson
 VFW Post 1650
 Congratulations on
 completing 5,000 hours
 of volunteer work at
 the Topeka VA!!



TOPEKA KS VFW POST 1650 - VENDOR, CRAFT AND

VFW Post 1650 had a Vendor, craft and yard sale on 24 Feb 2018 at 3110 SW Huntoon, Topeka, KS from 8am to 5 pm, rain, snow or sunshine in upscale and historic Westboro Mart. The post provided breakfast biscuits and gravy and lunch was pulled pork with sides in order to replenish the post relief fund. Bill Barker the post JAG put a lot of time and effort to make this happen and the post had over 40 vendors of various businesses: Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Baseball cards, Gourmet Tea, and several small local Topeka business owners participated. The post had a steady stream of visitors come and see what was available for sale by the vendors. The post set up the fund raising table and the post had a successful day all around and will do this event again. The vendors were eager to do this again as this brought many new people into the post to see the VFW is more than a bingo hall and private bar for Veterans. Many thanks were given to all who helped to make this event happen and get vendors into the post. VFW Post 1650 is working hard with the local community to bring in the next generation of veterans and is working hard to modernize the post to get those veterans attention.

CLYDE HATCHER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
 sponsored by VFW Post 1254

3 PERSON SCRAMBLE
\$120.00 PER TEAM
 (PAY BACK WILL BE DETERMINED
 BY NUMBER ENTERED)
 SPRING HILL GOLF COURSE
 ARKANSAS CITY, KS
 620-441-4330
 OR 620-222-4846
SATURDAY JULY 7, 2018
**8:00 AM (SHARP.....DONT BE LATE CAUSE WE WILL
 START WITHOUT YOU)**
 SIGN-UP BY 5:00 PM FRIDAY JULY 6, 2018





Post 1650 assisted 2 units deploying with a MAP grant for their Departure Ceremony at the Expo Center Annex on 6 April 2018 at 10am. Post 1650 had 2 Auxiliary and 4 Post comrades assist the units with the refreshment table. The Buddy poppies were on display for donations and went over well with the crowd of over 4,000. The snacks and refreshment were very much appreciated as unit members began to show up at 6 am. Post 1650 has used the MAP grant several times in the last few months for departure ceremonies, welcome ceremonies and unit Holiday parties.



One of Post 1650 members refueling Air Force One.



DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2018 CONVENTION
JUNE 15-17 - WICHITA, KANSAS

YOU MUST TELEPHONE
THE MOTEL LISTED BELOW FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

(Please state this is for the VFW Department Convention to receive our group rates)

***** RESERVATIONS DEADLINE MAY 31, 2018 *****

HOLIDAY INN
549 S. ROCK ROAD
\$89.00 + TAX
1-316-686-7131

ONLINE LINK AVAILABLE SOON

SAVE THIS TOP PART

MAIL THIS BOTTOM PART

2018 DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS V.F.W. CONVENTION - JUNE 15-17 - WICHITA, KS
PRE-REGISTRATION & TICKETS **MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 28, 2018**

PLEASE REGISTER BY COUPLE (2 WITH SAME LAST NAME) OR 1 INDIVIDUAL PER FORM

PRINT NAME _____ SPOUSE _____
Last First

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ DAY PHONE (____) _____ EMAIL _____

(**CIRCLE AFFILIATION**)

VFW/////AUX POST # _____ TITLE _____

SPOUSE

VFW/////AUX POST # _____ TITLE _____

PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 28TH AND SAVE \$5.00 PER PACKET ONLY - SEND \$35.00

Number of

____ Registration \$ 12.00
____ Saturday Banquet \$ 25.00
____ Saturday Dance \$ 3.00
____ Packet per person \$ 40.00

**MAIL CHECK & REQUEST TO:
DEPARTMENT OF KS, VFW
PO BOX 1008
TOPEKA, KS 66601-1008**

REFUNDS ONLY when CONFIRMED CANCELLATION with DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS by MAY 28th
NO REFUNDS FOR OVERPAYMENTS

REC HQ'S _____ PAID _____ CA/CK # _____ REG # _____



DEPARTMENT CONVENTION - VFW & AUXILIARY

REV 8-1-17

June 15-17, 2018

****TENTATIVE SCHEDULE****

Thursday, June 14, 2018

- 6:30 PM - Budget & Finance Meeting – Oak Room
- 6:30 PM - Auxiliary Audit – Elm Room

Friday, June 15, 2018

- 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Registration – Lobby
- 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Auxiliary Council Meeting – North Room
- IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AUXILIARY COUNCIL MEETING** – Auxiliary Floor Practice – North Room
- 10:00 AM - Buddy Poppy & Record Book Displays – Elm Room
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Convention Corporation Meeting – Oak Room
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Resolution Meeting – South Room
- 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM - Rules of Order Committee – South Room
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM - VFW Council Meeting – South Room
- 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Lunch – On your own
- 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM - VFW Business Meeting – South Room
 - (a) Assign Resolutions - Time & Place for meetings
 - (b) Introductions of guests
 - (c) Nomination of Officers
 - (d) Candidates Forum
- IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BUSINESS MEETING** - Veterans Service Meeting – South Room
- 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – North Room
 - (a) Auxiliary Credentials
 - (b) Opening Ceremony
 - (c) Nomination of Officers
 - (d) Candidates Forum
- 5:00 PM - Hospital Workshop – North Room
- 6:00 PM - VFW District Caucuses – District Commander's Choice
- 6:15 PM - Past State Auxiliary Presidents Dinner – Oak Room
- 8:00 PM - Post 8957 Open

Saturday, June 16, 2018

- 8:00 AM - Memorial Service - VFW & Auxiliary – South Room
- 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Registration – Lobby
- 8:00 AM - Buddy Poppy & Record Book on Display by 12:00 Noon – Elm Room
- 9:00 AM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – North Room
 - (a) Business Meeting Reconvenes
 - (b) Committee Reports
- 9:00 AM - VFW Business Meeting – South Room
 - (a) Committee Reports
 - (b) Introduction of guests
- 11:30 AM - Past State Commanders Luncheon – Center Room
- 11:30 AM - Past Auxiliary Presidents Luncheon – Oak Room
- 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Lunch – On your own
- 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM – Auxiliary Business Meeting – North Room
 - (a) Committee Reports Resume
 - (b) Nomination of Officers
- 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - VFW Business Meeting – South Room
 - (a) Other unfinished business
 - (b) Nomination of Officers
- 3:00 PM - Awards – South Room
- 6:30 PM - Convention Banquet – Grand Ballroom
- 8:00 PM - Dance –

Sunday, June 17, 2018

- 7:30 AM - Past Commanders Club Breakfast – Center Room
- 9:00 AM - Closing of Auxiliary Credentials – North Room
- 9:00 AM - VFW Business Meeting – South Room
 - (a) Nomination, Election & Installation of Officers
- 9:15 AM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – North Room
 - (a) Nomination, Election & Installation of Officers
- IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INSTALLATION OF AUXILIARY OFFICERS**
 - Auxiliary Council of Administration Meeting – North Room
- IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INSTALLATION OF VFW OFFICERS**
 - Endowment Association Meeting – Oak
- 11:00 AM - Convention Corporation Meeting – South Room
- 11:00 AM - Lunch – **on your own**
- 12:00 PM - VFW Department Council of Administration & Luncheon – Elm Room





News from the VFW National Home for Children

Plans for Education and Training Center

The VFW National Home for Children, located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, is surrounded by peaceful farms and small-town neighbors. It is a small community where veteran and veteran connected families have the opportunity to rebuild their lives and focus on the future. The National Home has 42 single-family homes, as well as spacious playgrounds, a licensed daycare, a community center, and recreational facilities for its families.

In addition to these facilities, the National Home is planning on remodeling an existing building on campus to create an Education and Training Center. This will be a huge improvement for the community, giving them more space to provide effective education and training for residents and volunteers throughout the year while also functioning as a center for their many visitors.

Recently, their compassionate and patriotic donors, Jerry and Linda Peterson, made an extremely generous gift of \$30,000 towards this project. Linda and Jerry Peterson both grew up as "Army brats" on military bases around the world. As part of the military community, their early life experiences helped them develop a deeper appreciation of the urgent needs of military and veteran families.

"We were fortunate to have extended family available in case of emergencies, and we realize that many service members in today's military do not have that available," says Linda. "The VFW National Home for Children provides a special resource for those in need. We encouraged the Home to use our donation for a special project and to challenge the VFW Posts and Auxiliaries to match our contribution. The new Education and Training Center will allow the Home to reach out, host events, and spread the word about their existence."

The National Home is filled with gratitude for their gift, as it will have an enormous impact on this very important project. Unfortunately, they will need more than double this amount to reach the funding necessary to bring the Education and Training Center to completion.

If you are interested in helping the National Home with this very important project, please send checks to 3573 S Waverly Rd, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827, earmarked "Education and Training Center."



VETERANS TOWN HALL



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD AT VETERANS TOWN HALL MEETING.

VBA CLAIMS CLINIC

31 MAY: 1 - 4 P.M.
ROBERT J. DOLE VAMC AUDITORIUM



THE VETERANS TOWN HALL
VIDEO WILL BE UPLOADED
TO FACEBOOK FOR YOUR
CONVIENCE.

FIND IT AT
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THURSDAY, 31 MAY • WICHITA
1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.

ROBERT J. DOLE VAMC
5500 E. KELLOGG, WICHITA, KS 672 18



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VA



U.S. Department
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Auxiliary News

STATE PRESIDENT



Maren Farr
Department of Kansas Auxiliary President

This year as Department President has passed quickly for me. It is Spring and I am traveling to some conventions. The district hospitality is the greatest. Please continue working on membership. There is still time to collect dues. I have also made trips to all three VA Medical Centers. I had never gone to Wichita VA and it was fun to tour this hospital and see all the clinics plus the new building in progress. I toured Topeka VA and always enjoy that. I still try to serve coffee one day a week in Topeka. I had also previously gone to Leavenworth VA but it was great to tour the entire hospital plus the National Cemetery. The state VFW/VFW Auxiliary Convention is June 15-17, 2018 in Wichita. If you cannot attend the entire convention, try to attend one day. I hope my Senior Vice has as good or better time as I have had in the upcoming year. I have made many new

friends and renewed acquaintances this year.

Thank you to all. Maren Farr



Auxiliary News

STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

The 2017-2018 year is coming to an end and preparations for next year are in full swing with elections and installations. Congratulations to all those elected as officers for 2018-2019 at the Auxiliary and District level, thank you for stepping up to take on these important positions. Please ensure that your installation reports are submitted in a timely manner, if you need assistance please contact Janice Criswell, Department Secretary who will be more than willing to assist you in this matter. I have had a fun year traveling east to west and north to south to District meetings, coffee tours, and Auxiliary events. I have met a lot of members and got to hear about the great things you are doing for our veterans and communities. It has been a pleasure and a learning experience serving as your Department Senior Vice President. I look forward to seeing everyone at Department Convention in Wichita; information is in the Sunflower Express

on the Department website. I would also encourage everyone to plan on attending National Convention in Kansas **City in July; it won't get any closer than this folks. There is so much to see and do; National award presentations, resolutions, guest speakers, elections of National officers, exhibit hall, Supply and Emblem Store, Patriotic Rally, Buddy Poppy displays, Patriotic Art display, and more.**

Load up your vehicles and come for a day or for the whole convention. Check the National website for registration and agenda information. A big thank you to each and every one of you for the work you do for this great organization!!

Kristi Meid
Department Sr Vice President

STATE JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Hello Brothers and Sisters:

What a great year it has been serving as your Junior Vice President! I have traveled around the state to District meetings, established new friendships and heard all the fantastic things Kansas Auxiliaries do for our Veterans, their families and all of your communities. I am very impressed at the number of volunteer hours and amount of money raised to support our Auxiliary programs.

I am looking forward to being able to travel around the state and make many more new friends if I am elected your Senior Vice President. Planning to see all of you at the Department Convention in June at Wichita.

Great job this year!

Gail Vance
Jr Vice President
Dept of KS VFW Auxiliary
Gail Vance

2017-2018 Department Officers

* changes from roster book



2017-2018
 Department
 Officers

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
 Lincolnville 66858
 785-512-0816

Chaplain

Jim Jenkins
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 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

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

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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

