

THE KANSAS BULLETIN

VFW

THE OLDEST STATE PUBLICATION IN THE VFW

Volume 87, Issue 3

State Commander
Patrick Briggs

February 2019

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VFW Kansas Website

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State Commander

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers

I can't believe that 2018 – 2019 is half over. We just had our Mid-Winter Conference and a lot of good things were brought up, talked about so that we can continue to show National Headquarters what **“TEAM KANSAS” is all about.** I only hope that the Comrades that were able to attend returned to their Post and Districts and shared the information with their Comrades. **Communicating is a “MUST” and “TEAM KANSAS” is doing it the right way.** Look at the accomplishments to date:

“Membership – Membership – Membership”, as I type this The Department of Kansas has attained 96.28% of our goal. District #1 has attained 95.40% of their goal, District #2 has attained 95.52% of their goal, District #3 has attained 96.37% of their goal, District #4 has attained 96.38% of their goal, District #5 has attained 98.07% of their goal, District #6 has attained 96.59% of their goal and District #7 has attained 100.79% of their goal.

We currently have 37 post at 100% and there are 51 post that have 10 members or less and will be at 100%. **Comrades “I Salute You” for all your dedication, professionalism and positive attitudes you are displaying towards helping our Veterans and their families. “We Are Making It Happen” and we need to continue working hard on Membership. “Membership” is the Heart of Our Organization and your dues is the primary source of income which drives the budget for our organization.**

Let's get our Community Service done and REPORTED. Also, we need to work on our UNPAID Comrades. Go Door Knocking and Making Those Phone Calls. **We can't afford letting them EXPIRE.** If that occurs we are not helping our veterans and their families. To get those lists contact your District Commanders. Comrade Lee Hursey our Department Senior Vice Commander sends it to them towards the end of every month.

Once Again Comrades Thanks and Lets Keep “Sliding and Gliding”. Remember “I CAN'T HELP YOU IF YOU DON'T ASK”.

Patrick M. Briggs
State Commander
Department of Kansas





State Sr. Vice Commander

Comrades,

We are now mid-year in membership. Presently the State is 96% in membership. The Department only needs 775 new or reinstate members to obtain 100%.

Membership is the Life Blood of our Post. Your Post Quartermaster can obtain the unpaid members list for your Post on the National Website. If you are having trouble obtaining the unpaid members list for your Post do not hesitate to contact me for I will be more than pleased to send it to you so you can make your Post 100%. RETENTION.... **Don't let your membership slip away from you.**

Congratulation to all Post and to District 7 for reaching 100%

	Dist	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Prior Year	Percent
District Totals	1	2669	90	10	417	3186	3348	95.16%
District Totals	2	2351	39	12	329	2731	2863	95.38%
District Totals	3	2329	27	8	281	2645	2761	95.79%
District Totals	4	2499	27	3	294	2823	2932	96.28%
District Totals	5	2361	49	13	376	2799	2864	97.73%
District Totals	6	1271	4	0	113	1388	1438	96.52%
District Totals	7	1418	12	2	97	1529	1517	100.79%

We have many Post that are now eligible for All-State. Look over the Requirements needed. Extra Points are available for your Post to earn. One extra point may decide if your Post will obtain the All-State status.

I am here for you. I am not able to assist you if you don't ask.

In Comradeship,
Lee Hursey
Sr. Vice Commander



State Jr. Vice Commander

Comrades,

I would like to start off by apologizing to the Comrades in Seventh District. I reported at Mid-Winter that they were at 74% for reporting but they were actually 100%. Great job Seventh.

Overall the Community Service programs look good in the community and veterans areas, but the Legislative and Youth Development look bleak. With both a primary and general election last year not many comrades voted. With many bills in Congress affecting veterans the numbers should be much higher than reported. Posts should reevaluate where they stand and report them. Youth activities are also down this year with many posts not reporting their Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen entries and speakers in local schools for Veterans Day programs.

Last but not least is the closing of the year 2400 hours 31 March 2019. No reports sent in after this date will be accepted. **Don't wait until the last minute to go over your activities for the past year. Report them now.**

Ken Allred
JR Vice Commander





State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Comrades:

Please, double check a possible motion before you make it, to make sure it complies with the By-Laws of National VFW, Department of Kansas VFW, and your Post By-Laws. This sure beats having a motion pass only to find out it is null and void because it does not fit within the parameters of a By-Law.

To Quote Department Commander Briggs, “I can’t help you if you don’t ask”, is an understatement. Please, if you need help contact our officers or Kansas State VFW Headquarters. It is much simpler for all if it is done right the first time.

We are here to help our members with all aspects of the VFW, from membership/eligibility questions to program information and monthly/quarterly duties of different officers for reports and etc.

Your State Quartermaster tracks All State eligibility for Posts and Districts on a daily basis so that he can assist you in completing the needed items on your All State list to help you be successful in attaining your goal! We will also assist you with **understanding National VFW’s All American Program and helping you be successful in attaining that goal, too!** We will help provide you with the education, you and your Post/District will then have to complete the tasks necessary to achieve those goals!

As a repeat side note, Posts do not have to Bond through the VFW/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.

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 Respectful Comradeship
Herb Schwartzkopf
Department of Kansas Adjutant/Quartermaster





State Chaplain

Comrades,

Greetings as we approach the election of officers for upcoming year. I encourage you to not select a Chaplain on basis of just needing someone to fill the position. Elect one who is well respected in the community as well within your Post. He/she should be one who is hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout and self-controlled. Your Chaplain is there to encourage you, to pray with the sick and those who have lost a loved one, to promote a positive image upon your community in behalf of your Post. If your present Chaplains possesses these qualities, that is great, may he/she continue to serve in your Post or to mentor their replacement. I am here to assist your Chaplains with any issues or questions that they may encounter.

Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice, be made complete, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. II Cor. 13:11

Grace be with you all.

Chaplain Jim

913-302-7620 kschaplain@att.net



State Inspector

Comrades,

We half completed half of the Program Year for the Department of Kansas VFW. We are having a great year. District 7 is at 100 % and the other Districts are all at 95% or higher. We have 37 Posts that are at 100% or higher. Our Department Mid-Winter Meetings were very successful and informative. I enjoyed talking with many of you over that weekend and thank you all for your contributions and attendance.

I would like to thank the District Commanders and District Inspectors for a job well done. All Posts in the State had been inspected by the December 1st deadline and all Inspection Reports have been received.

We are well on our way to completing the 3rd Quarter Trustee Audit period. Many of the audits have been completed and submitted to the Department. There are some common mistakes that are trending on the audit forms. The most important part of the audit is the reconciliation in block 17. The Total of block 17 should match the Total in block 15 above exactly like one would reconcile a bank statement with a personal checkbook each month. Every effort should be made to have all three elected Trustees conduct the audits and sign the forms. If a trustee is unavailable the Commander should appoint an interim trustee to complete the audit in a timely manner. Finally, the Commander signature is the final step as it is his/her signature that attests to the process being completed to ensure accuracy and integrity of the results.

When I have completed the review of all the 4th Quarter Trustee Audits I will be sending the District Commanders a report on the specific common errors to look for without singling out specific posts as my intent is to provide education and training in a manner that improves the process and benefits the organization. I will be seeking input and advice from the Posts and Districts so as to develop a better training plan for the School of Instruction at District and Department levels next year.

James Ratcliff

State Inspector



The
Kansas Bulletin





State Judge Advocate

Comrades,

It has come to my attention that there has been some discussion on the NEW MEMBER admission fee. Back in 1999 it states under Article I

Sec. 104 Admission Fees and Dues.

Each Post shall fix the admission fees and annual dues to be charged it's members, provided the admission fees and dues shall not be less than that prescribed in the Department By-Laws and in these By-Laws. The Post shall also collect and remit, for each member of the post, Department admission fees, and dues and National Organization dues in the amount and in the manner prescribed in the Department By-Laws and in these By-Laws and in the Manuel of Procedure. Admission fees and dues collected by the Department and National Organization are, and become, the property of the respective Department or the National Organization upon receipt by the Post.

Since that time it has been put into

Article II POSTS

Sec. 204. Post Admission Fees and Dues.

Each Post shall determine its annual dues and establish an admission fee to be charged it's new members as prescribed in the Department and National By-Laws. Admission fees and dues collected for the Department and National Organization are, and become, the property of the respective Department or the National Organization upon receipt of the Post.

As you can see this has been a part of the National By-Laws and Manuel of Procedure for quite sometime. For the new member it is absorbed in most cases by the Post because normally you may have only one or two new members. If the Post would like to have the New Member pay for this raise your yearly dues to cover this. But then by doing this you are still absorbing the cost and realizing more money for the Post.

You should be careful in this so that you don't lose members because of the increase. Maybe some annual members are on a tight budget and the additional cost maybe to much for them to handle. Just take in to account everything before acting.

Thank You for all that you do each and every day for the Veterans of this great Nation.

Bob Cox
State Judge

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

National Council Member

Comrades,

At Mid Winter it was brought up about the generous donations that Sport Clips and Burger King donate each year to help with the Unmet needs and Scholarships for needy and worthy veterans. Remember if you are near a Sport Clips or Burger King stop in and say thank you on behalf of all veterans.

Sr. Vice Commander "Doc" Schmitz had a very meaningful message about membership, about our programs that we should all try to support when possible.

We wish our VOD winner the best in Washington D.C. in March.

The weather was not the best again but everyone should try to attend these conferences. Maybe some info will be put out that will be helpful to you. Who knows maybe you will learn something new. I know that even in my prior job when I went to the different conferences even thou some of it was basically the same I always learned something that maybe I had missed in the past. You can learn something new everyday if you want to.

Enough said. Hopefully after the Washington Legislative Conference I will have more to report on.

Thank You all
HAPPY TRAILS UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN
Bob Cox
KSNCM

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS





State Chief of Staff

The year is starting to move real fast. Legislative meeting with our State Congress members is complete with positive feedback. Now for Veterans Committee meetings and more input for Veterans needs. We all need to go to town hall meetings with our elected officials and press them on veteran issues. Each member needs to know the basic information about rules and regulations for the Post from National, State, District and Post By-Laws.

Post nominations in March and April. Post elections in April. Election report due to National by June 1, 2019. Keep the press on for membership.

Continue to work the Programs and prepare for your Post and District Elections.

Hope to see all of you at Department Convention in Hutchinson, Kansas

Gerald Marvin
Chief of Staff



Past State Commander

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

Here we are in 2019, wow, time sure slips away. Seems to go by in a hurry. The Department Mid Winter Meeting has come and gone. We seem to be on the right track to getting our programs a boost and heading in the right direction. It was good to see the **National Sr. Vice Commander in Chief "Doc" Schmitz at the conference, along with VFW National Director of Programs, Lynn Rolf III.** It was a great VOD Banquet and meeting. The 3rd District just had there Mid Winter Meeting in Coffeyville. We need to have more members attend these meetings. It was brought to every ones attention how important,

Surgeons Report and Community Service reports are. They are vital to our VCAP and Veterans Service Officers. People are participating in the programs, they just need to report it. Helping Veterans is important because it is helping the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Looking forward to Spring Conventions and election of District Officers. Department Convention is just around the corner.

We are "TEAM KANSAS"

"Remember Everyone Deployed" wear RED on Friday.

Yours in Comradeship,
Michael B Holland,
Past State Commander





1st District Commander

Who else besides me is ready for spring? I think we've all had enough of the cold and snow and are ready for warmer weather. It's time to put away the Chiefs jerseys and bring out the Royals shirts!

Many of the Posts in 1st District have recently hosted recognition ceremonies for the local winners of Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teachers Award, and First Responders. It was great to see the engagement with our local communities and this should continue into the spring with our Scouting recognition and other awards and scholarship programs. Our Posts have also been able to host special recognition ceremonies for members. Post 11499, Basehor, celebrated the birthdays of a World War II Veteran and a Korean War Veteran during their scholarship presentations. Post 1650 in Topeka just celebrated their 90th Anniversary with a Founders Day ceremony. Post 56, Leavenworth and Post 5531, Wathena both hosted Chili Cook-Offs during the Super Bowl. Post 10815, Meriden, hosts monthly meals for local Veterans. These are just some of the events happening throughout the District.

As we move towards warmer weather we will be focusing on membership retention and recruiting, hosting recruiting events at our Post Homes and throughout our communities. Four of our Posts have already reached or exceeded 100% membership – congrats to Valley Falls, St Mary's, Meriden, and Basehor! Additionally, two of the 1st District Posts have voted to consolidate, Post 12073 and Post 56 are in the final stages of combining under the Post 56 banner. This is a win-win for both Posts.

We are also making a push to capitalize on the use of technology for Post management using the Department and National websites and through the use of social media. Over half of our Posts have a Facebook page and are using them to communicate with members, share information, and let potential members know about the great things our Posts are doing.

Our current goals are to continue support to Veterans and their families in our local communities and to get as many Posts as possible eligible for All-State and All-American recognition.

In comradeship,
Steve Davis, 1st District Commander

{ 1 }



2nd District Commander

Comrades

As our VFW Year winds down let's finish Strong as we close in on 100% plus on both Post and District Membership. Get out and recruit.

Remember you still have your Scout of the year to turn in. See you all April 27th for District Meeting in Lenexa.

Yours in Comradeship
Big Mike Petersen
VFW District 2 Commander

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3rd District Commander

I wish to thank all the Comrades that attended the 3rd District Mid-Winter conference @ Coffeyville on January 26th. Those that didn't attend I am sure had a good reason. With the loss of Baxter Springs, we now have 2754 members in the 3rd district with 32 members attending the conference on January 26. Conferences and meetings in the District are important for the posts to keep updated on the happenings in our VFW. Also, I consider it an honor to the post for hosting these events. Therefore, any post not sending representatives will not be afforded the opportunity to host meetings in the future as long as I am District Commander. We will be needing to fill at least 2 positions in the District for the upcoming year. Any comrade wishing to be involved needs to attend the Spring Convention in Parsons on the weekend of April 27, 2019. Parsons will be having a fish fry on that Friday April 25th, a dance and presentation of VOD & PP awards to the top winners on Saturday April 26th at the banquet, with the 3rd District Spring meeting to elect new officers will be on Sunday April 27, 2019. Parsons will be sending registration forms for that weekend soon. This is YOUR VFW and although it is a volunteer organization, if you take a position, (whether it was your plans or not), please perform your duties to the best of your abilities. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in April.

Yours in Comradeship,

Charlie Cravens
District 3 Commander

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4th District Commander

Hello Comrades,

Everyone is doing good this Quarter. We have gotten in all our Audits, Bonds and Inspections. The membership does need work, but we are not doing bad. I have been out to see most of the posts and I plan on hitting the rest of you as soon as the time is available. If you need me to visit sooner, then please call me and I will move things around and get out to see you.

Just as a reminder there is an incentive I would love to give away for membership. First one to 100% with 5 new or reinstated members will receive \$100, 2nd \$75, and 3rd receives \$50. The SR Vice and JR Vice need to know if there is anything we need to spend more time on training.

Yours truly
Vince Van Cleave, 4th District Commander

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7th District Commander

Comrades and Sisters of the 7th District,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your hard work this year. At the time of this newsletter, the 7th District is at 100.79% and sitting 9th in our division for All-American District. We need to stay in the top 25.

Just as it was when we all were wearing the uniform, everything we do is in support of the Commander. We still need to work on membership to get the Department Commander Patrick Briggs to 100%. Each new or reinstate member not only helps the District but also helps Department. Been a long time since the Department of Kansas was 100%. Keep up the good work.

We had to change the date of our Spring Convention. Our 7th District convention will be April 13th beginning at 10:00 AM at Post 3166 in Liberal. For you that wish to come in Friday evening, Post 3166 has some of the best TACOS you will ever have.

See everyone in Liberal on 13 April 19 for our Spring Convention and Elections. We will have a District Memorial Service at the beginning of the convention.

James SARGE Langley
7th District Commander
VFW POST 3166 JVC
(620) 544-1786
jlangle1966@gmail.com

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2018 State Legislative Bulletin Report

Comrades:

There haven't been a lot of bills in the Kansas House Veterans and Military committee so far that pertain to veterans issues, but those that have, are being prudently worked by that committee with a sincere commitment.

House Bill 2037 is a bill concerning the amount of money guaranteed Veterans Organizations by the Kansas Lottery. This Bill was passed by the House last year and died in the Senate, but Senator Tom Hawks added it as a proviso on the last day which would make it good for two years. It is back on the docket again to get it passed where it is State Statute/Law. Your VFW officers have been very busy negotiating/lobbying with

Kansas legislators not just at the American Legion Legislative Party in January but at committee meetings at least weekly if not twice weekly to ensure the passage of this bill. It would help ensure the consistency to the budget of the KCVAO which would make sure the Winfield Veterans Home and Fort Dodge Soldiers Home are adequately funded along with many other needed expenditures to help our Kansas Veterans.

Also of concern, is the fact that Kansas VFW applied with the American Legion for an increase in the VCAP amount from \$600,00.00 to 700,000.00 which is split equally between the VFW and American Legion to fund our Service Offices which assist veterans in filing claims. Your Kansas Legislative Chairman provided written testimony that was read in both the House and Senate budget meetings. Our request was cut in half by the respective committees and the amount of \$650,000.00 to be split equally will be voted on by the full Senate and House and if passed will go to the Governor for her approval. It will be a small victory and much appreciated, but, rest assured if this does pass, we will be back next year asking for an additional \$25,000.00 per for the VFW and American Legion. This program is essential to all Kansas Veterans as it allows them the opportunity to get trained assistance from a professional in filing claims or appeals.

These Committee meetings are open to all and the House Veterans and Military Committee meets in room 218 N of the Capitol on **Tuesday and Thursdays at nine o'clock a.m.** If you are interested in attending, contact Carol Robinson at Carol.Robertson@house.ks.gov. and ask her to be put on the email list which will include the venue for each meeting so you will know if it is worth your time to attend.

To repeat from earlier articles, 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
Kansas VFW Legislative Chairman



MARCH 3rd-6th 2019

· Hosted by [Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW](#)

VFW Legislative Conference

Mar 3 at 8 AM – Mar 6 at 7 PM

406 W 34th St, Kansas City, Missouri
64111



FEDERAL CIRCUIT RULES IN FAVOR OF BLUE WATER CLAIMANT IN HERBICIDE EXPOSURE CASE

On January 29, 2019, the Federal Circuit, in a decision *Procopio v. Wilkie*, (<https://www.va.gov/shiplist-agent-orange.pdf>) overturned their previous decision in *Haas v. Peake*, restoring presumptive service connected compensation for herbicide related conditions to Blue Water Navy Veterans who served within the territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

This means that any veteran who can show they served within the 12 nautical miles of the landmass of Vietnam during the presumptive period (January 9, 1962 through May 7, 1975), is once again eligible for presumptive service connection for any of the herbicide-related diseases listed in 38 CFR 3.309(e).

The court reasoned that Congress intended in the Agent Orange Act of 1991 to include veterans who served in the territorial seas **in the definition of “service in the Republic of Vietnam”, so the *Nehmer* effective date rules should also apply to these veterans.** The court stated that their colleagues on the court in 2007 failed to consider all the applicable law and had made the wrong decision over a decade ago in *Haas*.

If this ruling stands, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans will be entitled to receive the same presumptive compensation benefits, DIC, health care and ancillary benefits just as “boots on the ground” Vietnam Veterans.

However, VA may choose to appeal to the Supreme Court. In that case, all such cases should be “stayed” at the VA, meaning they will not be worked on or decided until the Supreme Court declines to review or makes a decision.

We will provide further updates when VA announces it will appeal this ruling or not. If VA does not appeal the ruling, we should see additions to the M21-1 and/or proposed regulations to define how VA will be adjudicating claims and appeals for Blue Water Navy veterans.

What this means for you:

This case adds presumptive service connection for Blue Water Navy veterans. Unless and until other action is taken by VA to appeal, or Congress to change the law, this is the law of the land.

Please take action to CONTINUE all appeals that are currently pending for Blue Water Navy veterans, whether they are in RAMP or the Legacy appeals process.

Please FILE or REOPEN claims for herbicide related diseases for Blue Water Navy veterans.

Please REFERENCE this case if you have a hearing coming up or are filing paperwork on such a claim.

Some practical considerations:

You may need proof that your veteran served within the territorial seas (12 nautical miles) of Vietnam. VA’s [Agent Orange Ships List](https://www.va.gov/shiplist-agent-orange.pdf) (<https://www.va.gov/shiplist-agent-orange.pdf>) includes many ships that docked in Vietnam. Veterans who went ashore were previously covered by the presumption, but now any veteran aboard those ships is eligible.

Veterans whose ships docked in Vietnamese harbors such as Da Nang, Qui Nhon, Ganh Rai, Nha Trang, Vung Tau, and An Thoi, will be covered.

Veterans whose ships were involved in combat operations providing gunfire support and coastal interdiction will most likely be covered as they were close to shore.

Veterans who can prove their ship was in the territorial seas, by using ship logs, will be covered.

What about the bills pending in Congress?

The court case does not include any expansions of the law for veterans who served in Thailand, the Korean DMZ, or locations more than 12 miles offshore of the landmass of Vietnam.

The currently pending bill in Congress, “Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019”, [H.R. 299](https://www.congress.gov/bills/116th-congress/house-bill/299/text), (<https://www.congress.gov/bills/116th-congress/house-bill/299/text>) is more expansive, and includes presumptive service connection for additional Korean DMZ veterans during the Vietnam War, and includes spina bifida benefits for children of veterans with Thailand service during the Vietnam War. It also requires VA to provide updated research on Gulf War related illnesses. This bill still needs support to assist those veterans.

David Kennedy
VFW Veterans Svc Officer
5500 E. Kellogg, Wichita, KS 67208
(316)688-6801
david.kennedy6@va.gov



2019
VFW CONVENTION



Department of Kansas, VFW
P.O. Box 1008
Topeka, KS 66601-1008
PH: 785-272-6463

This is a great way for Posts, Auxiliaries, individuals & businesses, to support the State Convention by advertising in the Annual State Convention Program Book.

Advertising space is provided in the 2018 VFW State Convention Souvenir Program Book. Advertising copy must reach Department Headquarters by **April 15, 2019**

PLEASE NOTE! ADD \$10.00 PER PHOTO TO COST OF AD

DO NOT TAPE OR STAPLE AD
ORDER FORM

SOLD

_____	Outside Back Cover -	\$300.00
_____	Inside Back Cover -	\$200.00
_____	Inside Front Cover -	\$200.00
_____	Full Page Inside -	\$100.00
_____	1/2 Page Inside -	\$ 50.00
_____	1/4 Page Inside -	\$ 30.00
_____	Business Card -	\$ 20.00
_____	PHOTO	- \$ 10.00 EACH

ADVERTISEMENT FOR: **COMPANY NAME, PERSONS NAME, POST/AUX # & NAME**

_____ CITY: _____

Signature _____ (_____) _____
(Person placing ad & phone number)

Make checks payable to **Department of Kansas, VFW** and mail to Post Office Box 1008, Topeka, Kansas 66601-1008.

Signature _____
(Person selling advertisement)

— AD SIZES ON REVERSE —

DEPT HQ USE ONLY

REC HQS _____ PAID _____ CA/CK# _____



The
Kansas Bulletin

Suggestions of copy points to include in your ad

Visit our website at _____
_____ years in business
Visa and Mastercard accepted
Hours of operation
Featured products and services-Name Brands
Directions to locations
Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc
Specializing in _____
Warranties, guarantees
See our ad in the Yellow Pages
_____ salutes our Veterans
_____ welcomes VFW Convention
members
Your Copy Points _____

PLEASE NOTE!
ADD \$10.00 FOR EACH PHOTO

2019 VFW CONVENTION AD BOOK BOOSTER PAGE

Each booster space may contain up to *30 characters and spaces* for the cost of \$5.00 per line. Please make checks payable to the Department of Kansas VFW and send to P.O. Box 1008, Topeka, KS 66601-1008.

Please fill out the form below for INDIVIDUAL NAMES, POSTS and/or AUXILIARIES and BUSINESSES. This is a great way to support the State Convention. Deadline is April 15, 2019.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

DEPT HQ USE ONLY REC _____ REC FROM _____ PAID _____ CK#CA _____



DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2019 CONVENTION
JUNE 7-9 - HUTCHINSON, 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 23, 2019 *****

Atrium Hotel
1400 North Lorraine
\$65.00 + TAX
1-800-362-5018

SAVE THIS TOP PART

MAIL THIS BOTTOM PART

2019 DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS V.F.W. CONVENTION - JUNE 7-9 - HUTCHINSON, KS

PRE-REGISTRATION & TICKETS **MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 24, 2019**

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 24TH AND SAVE \$5.00 PER PACKET ONLY - SEND \$40.00

Number of

_____ Registration	\$ 15.00
_____ Saturday Banquet	\$ 25.00
_____ Saturday Dance	\$ 5.00
_____ Packet per person	\$ 45.00

**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 24th
NO REFUNDS FOR OVERPAYMENTS

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



The
Kansas Bulletin

June 7-9, 2019

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 6, 2019

- 6:30 PM - Budget & Finance Meeting - *Ambassador*
 6:30 PM - Auxiliary Audit - *Apollo II*

Friday, June 7, 2019

- 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Registration –
 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Auxiliary Council Meeting – *Endeavor III*
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AUXILIARY COUNCIL MEETING – Auxiliary Floor Practice – *Endeavor III*
 10:00 AM - Buddy Poppy & Record Book Displays – *Mercury*
 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Convention Corporation Meeting – *Ambassador*
 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Resolution Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM - Rules of Order Committee – *Endeavor I*
 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM - VFW Council Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 12:00 PM - Lunch – *Buffet Available at Hotel \$10.00*
 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM - VFW Business Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 (a) Assign Resolutions - Time & Place for meetings
 (b) Introductions of guests
 (c) Nomination of Officers
 (d) Candidates Forum
 4:00 PM - Veterans Service Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – *Endeavor III*
 (a) Auxiliary Credentials
 (b) Opening Ceremony
 (c) Nomination of Officers
 (d) Candidates Forum
 5:00 PM - Hospital Workshop – *Endeavor III*
 6:00 PM - VFW District Caucuses – **District Commander's Choice**
 6:15 PM - Past State Auxiliary Presidents Dinner – *Ambassador*
 8:00 PM - *Post 1361 Open*

Saturday, June 8, 2019

- 8:00 AM - Memorial Service - VFW & Auxiliary – *Endeavor II*
 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Registration –
 8:00 AM - Buddy Poppy & Record Book on Display by 12:00 Noon – *Mercury*
 9:00 AM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – *Endeavor III*
 (a) Business Meeting Reconvenes
 (b) Committee Reports
 9:00 AM - VFW Business Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 (a) Committee Reports
 (b) Introduction of guests
 11:30 AM - Past State Commanders Luncheon – *Ambassador*
 12:00 PM - Lunch – *Buffet Available at Hotel \$10.00*
 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM – Auxiliary Business Meeting – *Endeavor III*
 (a) Committee Reports Resume
 (b) Nomination of Officers
 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - VFW Business Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 (a) Other unfinished business
 (b) Nomination of Officers
 3:00 PM - Awards – *Endeavor I*
 6:30 PM - Convention Banquet – *Endeavor II*
 8:00 PM - Dance – *Post 1361*

Sunday, June 9, 2019

- 7:30 AM - Past Commanders Club Breakfast – *Apollo II*
 9:00 AM - Closing of Auxiliary Credentials – *Endeavor III*
 9:00 AM - VFW Business Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 (a) Nomination, Election & Installation of Officers
 9:15 AM - Auxiliary Business Meeting – *Endeavor III*
 (a) Nomination, Election & Installation of Officers
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INSTALLATION OF AUXILIARY OFFICERS
 - Auxiliary Council of Administration Meeting – *Endeavor III*
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INSTALLATION OF VFW OFFICERS
 - Endowment Association Meeting – *Ambassador*
 11:00 AM - Convention Corporation Meeting – *Endeavor I*
 11:00 AM - Lunch – On your own
 12:00 PM - VFW Department Council of Administration & Luncheon – *Mercury*



Become A Hospice Volunteer



We are seeking Volunteers for our Hospice Volunteer Program. You can assist the patients/ their families/ caretakers by sharing your compassion in several ways:



- ❖ Sing or play an instrument for them
- ❖ Just be present with the patient
- ❖ Assist with administrative tasks at Phoenix office

- ❖ Provide companionship
- ❖ Perform small household chores or run errands
- ❖ Read a book, watch TV or movies

They are especially looking for veterans to visit with veteran patients



PHOENIX
HOME CARE & HOSPICE
New Beginnings and Dignity in Life's Journey...

For more information call:
Annette Ettinger, Volunteer Coordinator, 913-384-2273,
or visit our website at:
www.phoenixhomehc.com

At bottom of web page, under "Quick Links" – click on Phoenix Hospice Volunteer Program



Our State Service Officer David Kennedy receiving the Robert J Dole Service Award from KPTS Channel 8. "I very humbly received this award for all of us, and the VFW. The award was presented by Jim Lehrer of the old News Hour. I grew up watching him on TV. The award looks like a coat rack with a glass ball hanging from it."





VFW Post 1650 added Memorial or honor bricks to their Veterans Wall at the VFW in Topeka, KS as 9 bricks were added. This was a modified Veterans Day ceremony as the weather was cool and the post was involved with several events over the weekend. In the photo are Art Brennan-Chaplain, Angie Gray- Commander, Bill Barker, Andy Olson - Trustee, Jim Worsley - District-, Brian Tritsch- Adjutant.



Kansas Honor Flight is excited to have new volunteer Mike Casquino on board! Mike is a supporter through Humana as well as [South Hutchinson VFW Post 12157](#). Looking forward to working together!



VFW Post 1650 were key players in the Gage War Memorial Veterans Day Ceremony, that honored WWI veterans on the 100th Anniversary of the ending of WWI. The Emcee for the event was the VFW Post 1650 Commander Angie Gray and Andy Olson - Former All American District Commander of District 1 was another keynote speaker after Dr. Mark Hull, Andy spoke about George S. Robb a Medal of Honor recipient from WWI, Robb was a member of VFW Post 1650.





Mid-Winter in Junction City



Mid-Winter Junction City

Congratulations to the following 2019 State Program winners!

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

- 1st Place – Alyssa Troyer, Post 1786 Manhattan – District 4
2nd Place – Grace Peitsch, Post 1175 Atchison – District 1
3rd Place – Stephanie Wilson, Post 3018 Fredonia – District 3

PATRIOT'S PEN

- 1st Place – Malachi Feil, Post 6957 Haysville – District 5
2nd Place – Adelle Higbie, Post 5901 Ottawa – District 2
3rd Place – Ariana Armstrong, Post 6242 Beloit – District 4

TEACHER Awards

- K-5 Kala Dawn Blochlinger, Post 1133 Goodland – District 6
6-8 Kylan Collins, Post 3115 Wichita – District 5
9-12 Robin Lynn Sides, Post 8873 Stockton – District 6

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- EMT – Lt. Scott Goodson, Post 7253 Derby – District 5
Law Enforcement – Detective Alvin Babcock, Post 8773 Junction City – District 4
Firefighter – Kenneth Linot, Post 7253 Derby – District 5





VFW Post 3166 Liberal Kansas

Texas Holdem at the VFW every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Starts at 7. Food served most nights starting at 6.



VFW Post 7397 Car & Bike Show
Saturday June 1 10:00 am



Last Call Lounge at
VFW Post 1650





On 2 February 2019 at 11 VFW Post 1650 held their 90th Founders Day event at VFW Post 1650. It had two parts. We honored the post's winning VOD and Patriots Pen winners with having them read there winning theme and then get their award. Jim Worsley was Master of Ceremonies and Andy Olsen was a guest speaker to honor our charter members. We also had State Junior Vice Commander Kenneth Allred say a few word and he was given the post's challenge coin. We handed out around 20 pins and patches ranging from 5 to 40 years. We had 70 people in attendance. We had a light lunch of subway sandwiches and cake. It was a wonderful time.

Dear VFW friends,

Your kindness and sympathy are more deeply appreciated than any word of thanks can ever express. You did so much to make his services special to us and a service that would have made him humble by the honor. We will forever be thankful to all of you.

The Plummer Family

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



Auxiliary News

STATE PRESIDENT



Greetings Auxiliary Members:

Thank you to all those who braved the weather to attend the Department Mid-Winter Convention in Junction City. A fun time was had by all and we heard an awesome speech by the Voice of Democracy winner, Alyssa Troyer from District 4. Half the year is already behind us, it has gone by very fast. I have had an opportunity to attend numerous Auxiliary events and it truly amazing to see and hear about the work you do to assist our Veterans and their families, our communities, and our youth.

So here we go Team Kansas with the second half of the year. Membership is at 96.07% as I write this and we only need 449 more members to be 100% plus. Contact unpaid members to collect their dues, reach out to those lapsed members to see if they want to rejoin, and keep on recruiting new members. You can do it!! Put me in that pink sparkly dress at Department Convention in June!!! The new Community Outreach initiative is an excellent way to get the word out into your community about the VFW Auxiliary and our programs. Check the National VFW Auxiliary website under Resources for more information about this program and how to implement it in your area.

We have tried to make our Department Facebook page more interesting with program information, Auxiliary events, Red Friday reminders, and some fun stuff; all of which you can share with your own Auxiliary members and your friends - please check it out - VFW Auxiliary Department of Kansas on Facebook.

Election of 2019-2020 Officers will be upon us before you know it, make sure your Auxiliary Delegate sheets are completed for District, Department, and National Conventions so your vote gets counted. Consider stepping up to be an Officer or Program Chair, there is a wealth of information available on the Department and National websites to assist you as well as many seasoned members willing to be mentors.

Hope to see you at District Spring meetings or at Department Convention in June!! Keep up the good work Team Kansas!!! Thank you again to each of you for your dedication and loyalty to our great organization!

HOORAH!!!!

Kristi Meid
Department President

Auxiliary News

STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Hello Team Kansas:

Wow we are over half way through our year! Where did it go so fast?

We are so close to becoming 100% plus in membership so please continue to contact those prospective members so we may reach our goals on the VFW and Auxiliary. If anyone needs anything please contact any of the officers. We are here to assist in **anyway we can. "WE CAN DO IT!!!"** 100% plus by our spring conferences would be fantastic.

Looking forward to traveling around to Spring District Meetings. Elections of new officers is always an exciting time. It is wonderful when we have all Auxiliaries represented at these important meetings. Love seeing all of the wonderful members of our great organization! Don't forget to get your reports into the district and department chairmen in on time. Department Chairmen have deadlines also to get our final numbers in to National.

Please keep up the great work you are doing to support our Veterans, their families and all of your communities.

God Bless You All!

Gail Vance
Sr. Vice President
Dept of KS VFW Auxiliary

STATE JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Greetings Brothers and Sisters:
Happy February!

With this year moving so fast it is hard to keep up with all the routine do's and other things that have to be done!

Midwinter is behind us now, so we have some important things to get done before spring time and elections. Have you got all your monetary obligations and donations taken care of? Things like National Home, Health and Happiness, General Hospital Fund and the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund to name a few, if not please do so because every penny helps! Get those projects for those programs finished soon because we have another report due March 31 to all the District and Department Chairmen. Please start working on them so we can have 100% reporting!

Election time is fast approaching please be prepared to say "Yes" to any position that may become vacant this will help bring a new light to some auxiliaries! Please encourage our younger members to come to your meetings, they have new ideas and can really give a spark and excitement to our membership.

Thanks to everyone for all the work that you do for our Veterans!

Jane Ryser
Jr. Vice President
Dept of Kansas

2018-2019 Department Officers

Commander

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

Sr. Vice Commander

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

Jr. Vice Commander

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

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

Robin Ray
701 E 56th St S
Wichita 67216
316-522-7483

Chaplain

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

Chief of Staff

Gerald Marvin
PO Box 37
LaCrosse 67548
785-222-6748

Inspector

James Ratcliff
109 E Yauger St
Lincoln 67455
620-253-0759

Past Department

Commander

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

District Commanders:

1st District

Steven Davis
2124 S 19th St
Leavenworth 66048
913-775-3840

2nd District

"Big" Mike Petersen
14622 W 85th Ter
Lenexa 66215
913-636-1527

3rd District

Charles Cravens
4769 182nd Rd
Winfield 67256
620-222-4846

4th District

Vince VanCleave
1513 Bel Air Dr
Junction City 66441
785-375-9442

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.

