

#### Volume 90, Issue 4

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.



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<u>"Underway</u> <u>Everyday for</u> Veterans"

#### State Commander Lee Hursey

May 2022







# **State Commander**

Comrades,

The end of the year is up on us with a little more than a month to go until the State Convention in Hays. I thank you again for trusting me to once again to be your State Commander. Through the year I have traveled many miles, met with many members, attending Award Ceremonies, Banquets, Post Meetings, and for various other reasons. The year has had its challenges with hard decisions but in the end it has been a very rewarding

experience.

I encourage all members to consider seeking positions within their Post, their District, and the Department. Your voice, your ideas, your dedication can turn into successful meaningful experiences not only for you but also your peers. Don't be afraid to take on the responsibilities of the position you seek, for you have the tools and the wisdom of the Officers that came before you and we want to see that you succeed.

Congratulations to all the Posts that received an All-State Post status. Obtaining 100% in Membership is a great accomplishment along working the required State programs. To acquire this status takes the whole team from the Post. Not one person alone can reach this milestone, it takes a team working together. Also we have a few Posts in the State that will be All-American. Yes the National Commander made the Post work for it and it seems that it was doable. Congratulations to those Post.

The National Convention is being held in Kansas City, Mo. in June. The Convention will never be any closer to Kansas. I would like to see the Kansas delegation support our new Department Commander and attend this Convention. Last year's Convention in Kansas City was toned down because of the Covid-19 epidemic. Well this year will be a full blown Convention. All VFW members are invited to attend all festivities and meetings.

Even though I am becoming the immediate Past State Commander I will still be serving this VFW in the great state of Kansas. Remember you can approach me any time for help or advice. In a few years I will be a candidate for Council of Administration and hopefully have your support.

In Comradeship, Lee Hursey Commander Department of Kansas



## State Sr. Vice Commander



#### Comrades,

The Department of Kansas VFW has entered in to the final quarter of our program year. Many of our programs have been completed and much of the legislative work in the Kansas Statehouse is winding down. This is not the time to become complacent. There are quite a few Posts in the state that are within 10 or fewer membership renewals, several of which have unpaid members that would put them over 100%. For the first time in a very long time the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has fallen below a million total members. The time has come that more and more veteran's issues and benefits may fall by the wayside due

to a perceived lack of dedication of veterans to support and be active in veteran service organizations.

As one of the most recognized Veteran Service Organizations in the country we need to revitalize our membership and improve our recruiting practices. There has been a concentrated effort by VFW Posts around the country to "Publicize our Brand." Many veterans do not know about the variety of things we do in Legislative efforts, supporting community service projects and organizations or participating and supporting youth programs in our communities. They ask us "What can the VFW do for me?" I say let's take the to time make sure "we" all know what we do and are informed enough on these things to tell them exactly what we do and encourage them to add their voice and efforts and ours, join our team! Publicize the activities of your post! Host "Veterans Forums" offering information and advice that will encourage more veterans to become involved. It is a big deal that a lot of our posts have Honor Guard units and without them, many veterans would not receive military honors they have earned upon their death. The Public is not aware of most of them. We all need each other. If veterans don't work to protect and advocate for veteran's issues with a common voice. No One Else Will.

James Ratcliff, State Sr. Vice Commander



#### State Jr. Vice Commander

Comrades of the Dept. of Kansas,

It has been an extreme honor to have served you this year as your JVC. Thank you for your support and your encouragement over the past year.

Thank you to the amazing Department staff that we have who work extremely hard behind the scenes to ensure that every T is crossed and i is dotted. We are truly blessed to have you. Thank you to John Berkley for your many years of service on the Budget and Finance committee. Your knowledge and experience over the years has benefited

the department.

Congratulations to the post who have been chosen as All-State. There are some posts out there than can still achieve All-State. Keep striving for that white hat. Keep on the membership and let us help our Department Commander get 100%

Keep the Community Service reports coming in, the new program year started April 1, 2022. I will be approving the reports until the new JVC is elected in June at the Department convention in Hays. Get your registrations into Department and make hotel reservations straight to the hotel.

I will be a candidate for SVC for 2022-2023. Thank you for your support this year and hopefully your continued support in the upcoming year. Hope to see you in Hays June 10-12 in Hays. As always, if there is anything I can do assist you or your post please do not hesitate to reach out.

James Langley Department Jr. Vice Commander



## State Adjutant/Quartermaster



Comrades:

The updated no-vote list will be out shortly, so if your Post is on it, make sure you quickly take care of the arrearage so your Post will be able to vote at the Department Convention

The Community Service reporting year ended on March 31, 2022, but, the new Community Service reporting year started on April 1, 2022, so we need to continue to report within a reasonable amount of time after the completion of the project. The past several years our Community Service Chairman, (Jr. Vice Commander), has been inundated the last week or so with reports and most of them being up to 11 months old and several of them are redundant.

So, please, when your Post completes a project, report it!

It was election time for Posts during the month of April and the election reports need to be submitted to National. If you have problems with getting your election report submitted on line, contact me and I will assist you in that endeavor.

It is a long time until the Qm Bonds are to be renewed as they expire August 31<sup>st</sup> and if your Post is doing well financially do not hesitate to contact us about increasing your bond. A helpful hint is for example you are currently bonded for \$10,000.00 and your increase in income would dictate that you need to be bonded for \$12,000.00, you only need to buy an additional \$2,000.00 instead of re-bonding for the full amount. Then, when it is time to bond again, in August, you can purchase the full amount of bonding that you think is appropriate for your Post. If you should get a large payment and will be having a similar expenditure shortly afterwards, contact us as it may not be necessary to change your bond status.

Do not hesitate to visit our Kansas VFW Website which is vfwks.org where you can find out information on all of the programs, file a Community Service report, fill out a Post Surgeon's report, fill out a Post audit and find audit training, and many helpful other resources.

The employees at Department Headquarters work for you and are always willing to assist you if at all possible.

In Respectful Comradeship Herb Schwartzkopf Department of Ks. Adjutant/Quartermaster

# **State Legislature**

#### Comrades:

All that is left for the 2022 Kansas Legislative Session is the veto week/session, where legislators work on bills that were vetoed by the Governor.

I want to thank those who contacted their State Legislator when we asked you to on various Veteran's bills and to those that showed up for key votes and testimony especially in the House Veterans and Military Committee meetings.

We will email the District Commanders to disseminate among their District comrades any legislative information that needs to be passed on that we are made aware of. We will also communicate through the District Commanders the need for members to contact their legislators with their feelings on bills. We strive to represent your voice and feelings but the best way that can be done is for you to contact your State representative or Senator and give them your opinion. Remember, anonymous phone calls and letters are best left undone, as they are worthless. If you want to stand for or against a Bill or Resolution, give your name and let your voice be heard.

The employees at Department Hq. work for you and are always willing to assist you if at all possible.

In Respectful Comradeship

Herb Schwartzkopf Department of KS Adjutant/Quartermaster Department Legislative Chairman







# State Chief of Staff



Greetings Comrades..

As the year winds down and my tenure as your State Chief of Staff for the last two years comes to an end, I would like to thank PSC Ken Allred and our current State Commander Lee Hursey for allowing me to serve and contribute to the good of our organization. Thank you and Congratulations to all of the Posts that have reached 100% membership and to those attaining All State status and hopefully on to All American. Your hard work

is not unnoticed and it is great to see how successful all our VFW Programs are being executed. As you know your reporting of what you do on a daily basis is the foundation of justifying our State Grant to take care of our talented and valued Service Officers but we can always do better to capture our miles, money and hours of our community and veteran support.

I wish you all well, especially our newly elected Officers for the 2022-2023 year ahead. Again Thank You for all your hard work taking care of our Veterans, their families and our Kansas Communities.

Lynn Rolf Jr. State Chief of Staff lynnwrolfjr@gmail.com 913-775-1998



#### State Surgeon

Greeting Comrades, brothers and sisters,

I want to first thank all of you who participated in the Surgeons Program this year. There was a lot of activity from Posts throughout the State. Sadly, again this year we were not able to have our Surgeons Tour due to the lingering COVID restrictions. Hopefully as more and more restrictions are being lifted, we can resume it this year.

Last but not least, I want to congratulate all the newly elected Post and District officers and I wish you all a successful year.

It has been a pleasure serving as your State Surgeon and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Hays at our Department Convention in June.

In Comradeship,

Terry Fletcher



# State Chaplain



Is Your Glass Half Full Or Half Empty?

"But thanks be to God! For through what Christ has done, He has triumphed over us so that now wherever we go He uses us to tell others about the Lord and to spread the gospel like a sweet perfume." (The Living Bible, Paraphrased)

Perception? Isn't this what life is all about? Without a doubt, your attitude and character is going to determine your quality of life. Most of us who are reading this are in our mature years and have seen our share of personal battles and our share of defeats in those battles.

We think of our life as winning battles and moving on to the next conflict in our lives and try and win again. But, in Christ, don't we always win? The answer is a resounding, "Yes, we always win."

Life and our struggles are not always a simple matter of victory and defeat. Sometimes we can't tell if we have won or lost or simply transferred our conflict to another more pressing issue.

Looking at the worldly point of view, we see defeat of the common man and victory through dishonest gain of the elite and prideful. Again, life is not about totally winning or being totally defeated. True life is about living in love and fellowshipping and devotion to a God of love.

Since the beginning of time, we have tried to control the other person in anyway we can. Today our world is full of wars and rumors of war, our love for each other has grown cold and hard, we have been invaded with diseases, plagues, viruses, only to have more maladies such as earthquakes and hurricanes added to our mental stress and fatigue. Somehow, we need a break from our "Rinse and Repeat World" but all our effort is turned into one kind of governing future run by a special group or party that is suffering from the same battle. That continuing battle and dilemma is called the "Sin of Mankind" brought upon all of us by Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden.

Well, is there a way of escape? Yes, absolutely there is. It requires a change of the Heart, the inward person, that each of us carry by default. One can escape this terminal disease by accepting Jesus Christ into your heart. By doing this today, our God, will come into your life and make everything work together for your good by cleansing your Spirit and giving you a new heart.

The choice is yours to make today while you are still living. Even though you have had a long hard road, God can turn it around immediately and let you start living in victory. Make today your "Victory Day."

I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Department Chaplain this last year and would appreciate your vote of support again for another year.

Also I am announcing my candidacy for "Western Conference Chaplain" and would appreciate your support.

God Bless You All, Chaplain Terry Warner







# **3rd District**

Spring convention and election of officers for next year in the third district is completed. Congrats LaHarpe post for being 100% in membership and for having 9 members at the district convention. We still have time to get members signed up to help the department be 100%. Thanks for all the work that our members have done this year. Hope to see a lot of our district members at state convention in June at Hays.

Norman Gentry 3rd District Commander



## **5th District**

Greetings Comrades and members of the Auxiliary,

Yesterday April 24, I had my last meeting as District Commander. I would like to thank all my officers and my chairmen for all they did to make this year a good tyear.

We are going to have another coffee tour starting April 29, 30 & May 1. Hope

we have better tour this time, hope to see a lot of comrades and Auxiliary members of all the posts of 5th District.

I would like to congratulate the posts that have made 100%. There is a lot of posts that need very little to make 100%. The district needs 84 members to make 100%. This is very makeable.

Hope to see you in Hays in June. Until then, be safe and hope to see you soon.

John Hooker 5th District Commander

The



# VFW Names 2022 National Youth Scholarship Winners

*New York high school junior takes home first place \$30,000 scholarship* 

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (April 7, 2022) – Tonight, during the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) virtual Parade of Winners, the organization proudly presented more than \$211,000 in scholarships and awards as it named the national winners of **its 2022 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholar**ship competitions.



For the second year in a row, the VFW virtually hosted its Parade of Winners award show, sponsored by  $\underline{\text{Twisted X}}$ , live on Facebook. The event featured the 53 national VFW Department (state) winners, along with a virtual message from the Twisted X CEO and president, Prasad Reddy.

Streaming live from the iconic Statue of Liberty in New York, New York, VFW National Commander Fritz Mihelcic was joined by VFW Auxiliary President Jean Hamil to announce this year's national Voice of Democracy first place winner, Daniela Mare, and award her with the top prize of a \$30,000 scholarship. Mare, a junior at Sachem High School North in Lake Ronkonkoma, New York, was sponsored by VFW Post 9486 and its Auxiliary in Centereach, New York. <u>Watch as she delivered her winning essay</u> during this evening's ceremony on this year's theme, "America: Where Do We Go from Here?"

Second place winner Kinley Bollinger, a senior at Cody High School in Cody, Wyoming, sponsored by VFW Post 2673 and its Auxiliary, located in Cody, Wyoming, was awarded the \$16,000 Charles Kuralt Memorial Scholarship, while Crissa Esse, a senior at Inter-City Baptist in Allen Park, Michigan, who was sponsored by VFW Post 9283 located in Southgate, Michigan, was named the third place winner and awarded the \$10,000 VFW Scholarship. All other state winners received at least a \$1,000 college scholarship. See the complete list of 2022 Voice of Democracy national winners.

"While we weren't able to meet in person again this year, we didn't let that stop us from taking this presentation to Daniela to ensure we celebrated everything this year's winners have accomplished," said VFW National Commander Fritz Mihelcic. "This evening's event successfully shined the spotlight on both Daniela and all of our VFW Department (state) winners across the nation. The VFW was honored to present America's top high school students with more than \$211,000 in scholarships and awards, bringing this year's grand total to more than \$3.4 million presented at the national, state and local levels of our youth essay competitions."

Also featured during tonight's virtual awards ceremony was the 2022 Patriot's Pen first place winner, Syed Ali. Sponsored by VFW Post 1982 in New Iberia, Louisiana, Ali was awarded the top Patriot's Pen award of \$5,000 and <u>delivered his winning essay</u>.

The Patriot's Pen second place winner, Josephine Althoff, sponsored by VFW Post 5331 in Cedar Hill, Missouri, will receive a \$4,000 award, while third place winner Eva Kolomyski, sponsored by VFW Post 9024 in Woodbury, Minnesota, will receive a \$3,500 award. <u>See the complete list of 2022 Patriot's Pen national winners</u>.



Learn more about the VFW Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs here.



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#### 2022 Department Elections

Section 517 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, Chaplain and if election is required by Department By-Laws the 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 member of the VFW Endowment Association, one 3 year member of the Board of Directors for the Convention Corporation, one 5 year member for the Veterans Service Committee and one 4 year member for the Veterans Service Committee.

Department elections will be held at the State Convention in Hays on Sunday, June 12, 2022.

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 March 2022. Additionally, Past Commanders-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 **Ouartermaster** Judge Advocate Surgeon Chaplain Convention Corporation – 3 year Endowment Association - 5 year Veterans Service Committee - 5 year Veterans Service Committee - 4 year

#### 2022 STATE CONVENTION COMMITTEES ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY COMMITTEE MEETING

#### **RESOLUTION/BY-LAW COMMITTEE**

Chairman - Dallas Love / Vice - Bobby Cox Bob Cooper John Hooker Bruce Fischbach Norman Gentry Allen Owens

#### RULES OF ORDER COMMITTEE

Chairman - Clyde Lindsey

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE &** LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman - Jim Langley / Vice - Vance Hill James Speranza **Jason Parkes** Bruce Clemens Dan McDonald

David Calvin Gerald Marvin

#### **VETERANS SERVICE &** MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman - Jim Ratcliff / Vice - Terry Fletcher Jim Denison Allen Barnes Pat Briggs Ken Allred Todd Schroeder David Tinsley David Kennedy Jay Boyle Michael Holland Lynn Rolf, Jr. Rich Wahlmeier

The **Kansas Bulletin** 



Boby McCurry

Terry Warner





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State Convention National VFW Representative

#### John Muckelbauer General Counsel Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

John Muckelbauer serves as the General Counsel of the

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., where he advises the Commander-in-Chief, Quartermaster

General, Adjutant General, and National Council of Administration on all legal matters. Before working at VFW's headquarters, John worked for the U.S. Department of Labor where he served as Chief of Staff and Senior Investigator for the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) from September 2001 to August 2012.

Prior to working at the Department of Labor, John worked in the corporate practice of an international law firm based in Washington, D.C., where he assisted in telecommunications and anti-trust issues.

John first began working for the VFW as a national service officer and military claims consultant, holding that position from 1994 to 1997.



John spent over ten years in the United States Marine Corps and Marine Corp Reserve, serving from 1985 to 1996. Before leaving the Marines as a Staff Sergeant, he served as the Company Gunnery Sergeant for Bravo Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion. He served in combat in Desert Storm with the Fourth Marine Division.

John received his bachelor's degree in International Relations and graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Maryland at Bowie. He received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Baltimore in 2000 where he served as managing editor of the University of Baltimore's *Law Forum* and interned as an assistant state attorney.

John is a member of the Maryland Bar and the American Bar Association. He is a Life member of VFW Post #3712 in Paola, Kan.

-vfw-





UNWAVERING SUPPORT



*State Convention National Auxiliary Representative* 

FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

# Francisca Guilford

Past National President

Francisca Guilford of Anchorage, Alaska continues to serve the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary as a member of the National Advisory Committee.

In 2015-2016 she led the organization under the theme *"Our Veterans – Now and Forever."* She focused on strengthening membership and encouraging Auxiliaries to do all they can for veterans and their families.



A Life Member of Gen. John R. Noyes Auxiliary 9978 in Anchorage since 1989, she joined on the eligibility of her late husband, George, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Since joining, Francisca has served the organization in several capacities - as Auxiliary and Department President, Western States Conference Chairman for the Americanism and "Buddy"® Poppy programs, National Americanism Director/Patriotic Instructor and National District Council Member 16.

She served in all positions in her Department leading up to President, when she was named Runner-Up President of the Year. She served four terms as Chief-of-Staff and held various chairmanships as well.

With a bachelor's degree in Education from Alaska Pacific University, Francisca has been employed by the Anchorage School District for 28 years.

She is a VAVS Deputy Representative and volunteers at the VA Domiciliary. She loves helping veterans pick out gifts for their families for the holidays. She also visits veterans at Providence Extended Care Facility in Anchorage.

She is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children, as well a member of Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary (MOCA), Alaska Disabled Veterans Sports Program and American Legion Auxiliary.

Francisca is blessed with five daughters, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



V.F.W. Post 1432	1108 W. Crawford	Salina, Kansas	August 12-14, 2022

# VFW & AUXILIARY meetings will both be held at POST 1432

#### NO HEADQUARTERS HOTEL BELOW ARE SUGGESTIONS

Baymont Inn 1740 W. Crawford St. 1-866-576-5693 AmericInn 1820 W. Crawford 1-855-680-3239 Comfort Inn & Suites 1949 N. 9th 1-785-502-8007

ABLE TO:
32 VFORD ST.
7401
calling or email m
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#### MID-SUMMER COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING AND DEPARTMENT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

#### SALINA, KANSAS AUGUST 12-14, 2022

#### VFW & AUXILIARY meetings will both be held at POST 1432

Business Casual Attire (No Suits or Uniforms) for VFW Meetings \*\*Business Casual (no official blouse) for Auxiliary meetings

FRIDAY, AUGU	ST 12	, 2022	
12:30 PM	-	3:00 PM	MEETING WITH DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
2:00 PM	-		BUDGET MEETING
2:00 PM	-	4:00 PM	CHAPLAINS WORKSHOP
3:00 PM	-	8:00 PM	TICKET PICK-UP
4:00 PM	-	12:00 AM	VFW POST 1432 OPEN
3:00 PM	-	4:00 PM	CONVENTION CORPORATION
3:30 PM			AUXILIARY AUDIT
5:00 PM	-	7:00 PM	QUARTERMASTER & OFFICER TRAINING
6:00 PM			VFW RIDERS MEET & GREET
7:00 PM			AUXILIARY COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING
7:00 PM	-	8:30 PM	VETERANS SERVICE MEETING

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022

9:00 AM			TICKET PICK-UP
9.00 AM	-	NOON	VFW COUNCIL MEETING
(imm	ediatel	ly following)	VFW SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION BEGINS
8:30 AM		NOON	AUXILIARY OFFICERS TRAINING (PRESIDENTS.
			SECRETARIES, TREASURER, TRUSTEES, CHAPLAINS AND
			HISTORIANS) ALL MEMBERS WELCOME
12:00 PM		1:15 PM	LUNCH VFW POST 1432
1:15 PM	-	4:00 PM	VFW SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION RESUMES
1:15 PM		4:00 PM	AUXILIARY PROGRAM CHAIRMAN PRESENTATIONS
4:00 PM	-	12:00 AM	LOUNGE OPEN
6:00 PM	-	7:30 PM	RECEPTION & BANQUET - SPORTS TEAM THEME
7:30 PM	-		ENTERTAINMENT – VFW Hall

#### AUXILIARY MEETING

CUNDAV	AUCUST 14	2022
SUNDAL.	AUGUST 14,	2022

8:30 AM -

ALL AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT AND OFFICERS MEETING (DISTRICT PRESIDENTS, SR VICE, JR VICE AND AUXILIARY OFFICERS – ALL MEMBERS WELCOME REVIEW QUESTION/ANSWER FORMAT

\*\*\*\* Arrangements will be made if additional time is needed. \*\*\*\*



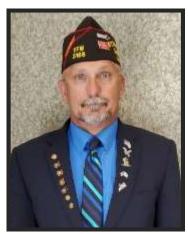




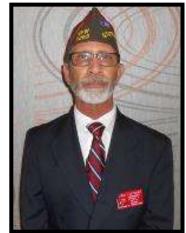
#### CANDIDATES FOR STATE CONVENTION



James Ratcliff for State Commander



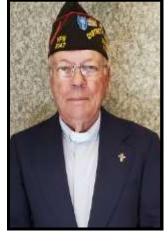
James Langley for Senior Vice Commander



Terry Fletcher for Junior Vice Commander



Herb Schwartzkopf for Quartermaster



Terry Warner for State Chaplain



Allen Owens for State Surgeon



Bobby Cox for Judge Advocate



Lynn Rolf Jr. for Convention Corp



Dallas Love for Veteran Service Committee



Jamie Cox for Veteran Service Committee

Comrades,

I am declaring my candidacy for Department Surgeon. My time in the VFW most likely isn't as extensive as most of you, however I believe that I have the experience and drive to do an excellent job wherever I serve the organization.

Your support in this endeavour would be greatly appreciated! Have a Wonderful day and I'll see you in Hays!!

Allen Owens









# 2022 Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr. Memorial Motorcycle Ride All proceeds go to Veterans and Military Support Programs!



# Kansas City, MO – Saturday, July 16, 2022

Welcome riders, one and all, to support our nation's men and women in uniform and honor the memory of Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr. (Commander-in-Chief 1979-80, Adjutant General 1981-1995). All net proceeds of the ride will be donated to the Veterans & Military Support Programs to benefit those in uniform and their families.

> Registration, Staging and Ride @ VFW Post 56 519 Cherokee St, Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 682-9200

#### Registration/staging opens at 7:30am

Ride begins at 9:30am

Let's show the rest of the VFW what those who ride can do for those in uniform and their families!

> For questions contact Lynn Rolf, Director of VFW Programs Email: LRolf@vfw.org / Phone: 816-968-1116.



#### KANSAS HONOR FLIGHT

MISSION "To transport Kansas veterans who served our country during WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War to Washington, D.C. to visit the Memorials that commemorate their service to our country at no cost to the veteran".



There has been a total of 73 flights that have provided the opportunity for over 2300 of our veterans to visit our nation's capital.

The opportunity for this memorable experience is made possible by a grateful public and a large group of volunteers. There are no tax dollars involved. Financial contributions come from many sources: civic groups, military organizations, students, churches, businesses, and individuals.

Some of our aging veterans need assistance to have a safe and comfortable experience. Guardians or helpers travel with the veterans to assist in any way needed. These guardians make a tax-deductible contribution that covers all of their travel expenses, lodging, and meals. While some of the guardians may be family members or friends, some are willing to help serve to help a total stranger.

Priority is given to the older WW II veterans, then the Korean War veterans, and then the Vietnam War veterans. For each war era, the veterans are called in the order that they've submitted their applications. With a waiting list of over 700 deserving veterans patiently waiting, the program needs the continued support of the public and the efforts of the many volunteers.

Applications are available on the web site: <u>www.kansashonorflight.org</u> or by calling 620-546-2400.

We are requesting that the MISSION of every post in Kansas is to use your INTEL (you know your community and those who would like to sponsor a veteran), and your BOOTS ON THE GROUND to get a sponsor or sponsors, for the KHF Golf Tournament to send one veteran to Washington D.C. The cost to send one veteran to Washington is 800 dollars.

Let's work together to reward our Veterans, most are members of your organization and some are even members of your post. We can get this done.

We have attached information on the golf tournament, tournament sponsorship form, and a registration form to play in the tournament. If you have members of your post that play golf, we would love to have them join us for a wonderful experience.

Thank You

Duane Nickel, Kansas Honor Flight Volunteer (dunick@msn.com)

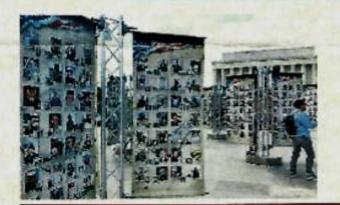






# Remembering Our Fallen

A Photo Exhibit of Those Who Lost Their Lives in the Global War on Terrorism



Museum of the Kansas National Guard 125 SE Airport Dr. Topeka, KS

Noon-Wed, June 9 thru 6 pm Mon, June 14 Free Admission Patriotic Productions, Omaha, NE







# NATIONAL COUNCIL DISTRICT MEMBER #13



Throughout this year, it has come to my attention, that we need to get back to basics on issues concerning our responsibilities as members of the VFW Auxiliary. Our Bylaws are our rules and if we cannot respect them and support them then what do we have? We have turmoil within our Auxiliaries and we let others do just what they intend to do. This is not what the VFW Auxiliary stands for, we are here for our Veterans and we want to help them in anyway we can. These Bylaws were written by auxiliary members that have already lived through some of the things that we are facing today and they wrote these rules to protect us from having to go through some of the same struggles that they had to face. If one thing is clear, that personal differences between auxiliary members stop the instant the gavel goes down to open the meeting. Working together as an auxiliary can be done and it has been proven over and over again. Respect each other and even if

you have a difference of opinion on some issues, it can be taken care of in a diplomatic way with respect. Remember we are here for our Veterans!

Jane Ryser

National Council District Member #13

Kansas and Colorado













# 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. Check with post because of virus 620-624-7447



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







# Auxiliary News

# STATE PRESIDENT



Greetings to all my VFW & Auxiliary family!

It's so hard to believe that this year is almost over. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent our great state during Western Conference held in Sparks, Nevada and the National Mid -Year and Café Event in Melbourne, Florida! Thank you to Commander Hursey and the other VFW Officers for your leadership and support this year, it's been a pleasure to serve with each of you.

Each Auxiliary has accomplished so many things this year to achieve a "Healthy Auxiliary" status. Thank you for your attention to the deadlines that were set. One last deadline coming

up is to have the Installation Reports for your Elected and Appointed Officers entered into MALTA or submitted to Janice Criswell by May 31, 2022.

So far this year we have brought in 238 new/rejoin members! However, we aren't done yet! We are still working towards that 100%+ and only need 471 more annual/new/rejoin members. I know that by working together, we'll be able to achieve this goal.

Thank you for your continued support and service to our Organization. It's because of you that we are able to do what we do for our veterans, active-duty service members, their families and our communities.

Congratulations to all the 2022 – 2023 Elected and Appointed Officers and Chairmen for the VFW and Auxiliary. I wish you all success during your year of service.

Stay safe and healthy and I hope to see you all at the Department Convention in June!

Loyally,

Tessa Butcher Department President

Auxiliary News

## STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



This year has flown by, and it's hard to believe it is already May! I have enjoyed serving as your Auxiliary Department Sr. Vice President. It has been a busy year, filled with a lot of events and activities. As we near the end of the year, Auxiliaries and Districts have elected their new officers. I want to congratulate and thank all those who have volunteered to lead at every level of this great organization.

Congratulations to those Auxiliaries who have reached 100% in Membership! You have all worked hard to help reach our goals,

but we still have work to do. You have also worked hard within our Programs, putting in many hours to help our Veterans, families, and communities. I urge everyone to follow the Auxiliary Department Facebook page, where you can see so many of the projects you have worked on.

Thank you for a wonderful year, and I hope to see you at the Department Convention in Hays, June 10 - 12.

Karol Goodin Department Sr. Vice President

# STATE JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Hello Brothers & Sisters!

I had a great time at the Mid Year and Café Conference in Florida. Enjoyed meeting other Jr. Vice Presidents from around the United States and putting some faces to familiar names. Those who attended the Mid Year Conference had the opportunity to visit several VFW Posts. It was interesting to see their activities. I have had the opportunity to visit Districts 2, 4, and 5 Spring Conventions. Keep working membership. Get those annual renewals in! Thank you for all that you do for our Veterans! Keep up the Good Work!

Loyally, Mike McCandless Dept. Jr. Vice President

# 2021-2022 Department OfficersCommanderLee HurseyPast Department622 N Young StCommanderWichita 67212Ken Allred

316-644-4441 Sr. Vice Commander James Ratcliff 109 E Yauger St Lincoln 67455 620-253-0759 Jr. Vice Commander James Langley PO Box 5 Rolla 67954 620-544-1786 Adjutant/ Quartermaster Herb Schwartzkopf P.O. Box 1008 Topeka 66601-1008 785-272-6463 National Council Member Patrick Briggs 1018 S Grand Ave Lyons 67554 620-474-1896 Judge Advocate Dallas Love 1400 James St Derby 67037 316-518-7170 Surgeon Terry Fletcher 501 E Pecan Ln Derby 67037 316-619-8193 Chaplain Terry Warner 505 Washington St LaCrosse 67548 785-259-9193 **Chief of Staff** Lynn Rolf Jr 31216 203rd St Leavenworth 66048 913-775-1998 Inspector Vance Hill 1550 E Sand Pointe Cir Wichita 67216 316-213-2231

**Past Department** Commander 1452 Melrose Ln Wichita 67212 316-350-9860 **District Commanders: 1st District** Robert Cooper 25902 Metro Ave Tonganoxie 66086 913-709-4720 **2nd District** Bruce Fischbach 14735 S Glen Eyrie St Olathe 66061 913-909-6381 **3rd District** Norman Gentry 304 N 8th St Neodesha 66757 620-330-4065 **4th District** Allen Owens PO Box 113 Wakefield 67487 785-307-2409 **5th District** John Hooker 214 E Ave B South Hutchinson 67505 620-474-5637 **6th District** David Calvin PO Box 543 Stockton 67669 316-761-0600 **7th District** Philip Schuck 12735 W Gano Rd Deerfield 67838 620-805-9785



#### **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.





