

THE KANSAS BULLETIN

VFW

THE OLDEST STATE PUBLICATION IN THE VFW

Volume 91, Issue 3

February 2023

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



VFW Kansas Website

State Commander James Ratcliff



Inside this issue:

Officer Reports	2-4
Council & District Reports	5-8
Candidate for Jr Vice Commander	9
Cootie Supreme Visit	10
Lottery Information	11
VA Thank You	12
State Convention Awards	13
Pictures	14-15
Honor Flight	16
Auxiliary Council Member	17
Misc.	18
Auxiliary Department Officers	19-20



**“Integrity First,
Service Before
Self”**





State Commander

Comrade Brothers and Sisters,

This is the time of year for all Posts to be working to finish up the Community Service Reporting for this program year. The deadline for getting all your reporting to Department completed is March 31, 2023 for consideration in All State Program. Our reporting system also allows us to accurately report and justify the “matching funds requirement” to the KCVAO for our Veterans Assistance Program Grant (VCAP). The VCAP money we receive is used to pay the wages of Nationally accredited Service Officers and their Administrative Assistants in their respective offices in Wichita, Topeka, and Leavenworth, as well as keeping equipment updated and the necessary office supplies. It also applies to some wages of necessary support and office staff. In Fiscal Year 2022 the Kansas VFW Service Officers work brought in \$ 140,994,282.25 in claim monies to Kansas Veterans. Comrades, your work across the State of Kansas in Community Service Activities is a major part of our ability to maintain the VCAP Grant provided by the State Legislature to assist the Department of Kansas VFW in our ability to assist Veterans in properly filing claims to the VA for service connected disabilities. Thank you for all you do! Great Job!

In Comradeship,
James Ratcliff
Commander
Department of Kansas





State Sr. Vice Commander

Dept of Kansas Comrades,

I hope this finds each of you and your posts healthy and doing well. We as a state are doing well and are striving for that 100%. Currently we are at 95.83%, 631 shy of that 100% mark. Keep up the great work that you have always done and let's get to that goal. Remember, we have until 30 June 2023 to reach that 100%

For you that do not know our QM/ADJ testified in front of the Military and Veterans Committee concerning our grant. With the passage of the PACT ACT, the number of claims are piling up, and as OUTSTANDING as our service officers are, they are over whelmed. The ADJ/QM testimony was to ask for more money to hire more service officers to relieve the pressure of our current staff. Thank you, Herb and all the service officers, for your dedication to the Veterans of Kansas.

We have a Couple Veteran Roundups coming up. One in the 3rd District and one in the 4th District. If you have a recruiting or roundup event, please let us know what we can do to assist. Rick McKenna is willing to assist you in anyway that he can.

We have our National Legislative conference in Washington DC 3-8 March 2023. We will be taking your concerns to the highest level of Govt. Department Convention will be in Garden City 8-11 June 2023 and the National Convention will be in Phoenix, AZ 22-27 July 2023.

I am a Candidate for the Department of Kansas Commander for the 2023-2024 year. Hope to see everyone in Garden City. Again, thank you for your support and encouragement of the last few years.

SVC James SARGE Langley



State Jr. Vice Commander

Greetings Comrades of the VFW and Brothers and Sisters of the VFW Auxiliary,

I want to thank all the Posts that have submitted Community Service Reports. These reports are testimony of what we do everyday for our Veterans and our communities. As the reporting year of 2022-2023 rapidly draws near to the end I encourage you to continue submitting reports. For those Post that have not submitted reports it's not too late. You are out there doing good things, take a few minutes and submit what you are doing. Reports do not need to be lengthy. They can be brief as long as they contain basic information of the event and who

benefited from the event.

Keep up the good work Team Kansas.

Respectfully,

Terry Fletcher

Dept. of KS VFW JVC





State Adjutant/Quartermaster

Comrades:

It is now the stretch drive for Posts to finish up the needed items to compete for All-State and achieve All-American status. They are two completely different programs and have a few similar items but also have different items and some of the similar items have different numbers or dollars needed to qualify.

The deadline for all All-State items except membership is March 31, 2023, while the deadline for most All-American items is June 30, 2023. As far as the All-State qualification goes, if all eleven slots are filled at the April 20th judging, that program will be closed. If they are not all filled the program will continue until June 30th for those Posts only delinquent in membership or until all slots are filled.

Remember, many of the items on your Surgeon's report can now be used on your Community Service reports. The more category one projects you do, (must be a minimum of three), the more points you can accumulate. Also by doing ten approved projects in each of the four Community Service categories will also get you extra points. Also, a reminder, each Veterans Service report turned in helps either the cost or in-kind portion of our matching funds needed to reach the amount needed to complete and exceed what is needed to keep our VCAP grant in tact and to help insure we can get the needed increase asked of the legislature to ensure we can properly take care of our veterans. You can read more about this in the State Legislative Chairman's article in this edition.

The deadline for Endowment Applications has arrived and the Endowment Committee judges will be judging the applications in the next few months. Results should be out in late April or early May.

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

February 2023 State Legislature

Comrades:

The 2023 Kansas Legislative year started in early January and Kansas VFW has attended all Veterans and Military Committee meetings of the Kansas House plus have had personal contact with many House and Senate members. Due to situations beyond our control we were not on the list for approved budget items for the KCVAO budget so we attended and testified at the House Social Services Budget Committee meeting on February 2nd asking them for a proviso for two years which would add an additional \$150,000.00 per year to the Veterans Claims Assistance Program grant, (VCAP), which would bring the VFW VCAP grant total to \$500,000.00 to increase the wages of our Service Officers and hire three more service officers to help with the increase of claims being filed due to the PACT Act and having to man an office at the New Regional office in downtown Wichita. This would give us service officers at the regular office on the Dole V.A. campus plus the regional office to better serve our veterans. The following Monday, February 6th, the House Social Services Budget Committee not only voted to approve the requested proviso but to add another \$50,000.00 to it making a projected VCAP grant budget for Kansas VFW a total of \$550,000.00 for both the 2024 and 2025 fiscal years. The work has just begun as it has to pass through the House Appropriations Committee, the full House, and then the Senate. Because of late notification we were not able to have a presence in any of the key Senate committees but are contacting the key committee chairs to get this passed when the House and Senate get together to match their budgets line item by line item. Make sure your House and Senate member will support the VFW's budget of \$550,000.00 in the VCAP grant budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal years. Will keep you apprised of what happens in future editions of the Bulletin!

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

In Respectful Comradeship
Herb Schwartzkopf
Kansas VFW Legislative Co Chairman





State Judge Advocate

I am once again asking for your support in remaining as YOUR Judge Advocate for the ensuing year. As many of you know I have been the State Judge for 8 yrs now and have been the National Judge Advocate General in 2020/2021.

Have been the 5th District Judge, Past State Commander 2011/2012, Past National Council Member 2016/2020.

Again your support is very much appreciated. And am thanking all of you for your continued support.

Bobby Cox

State Judge Advocate



Past State Commander

Comrades,

It has come to the attention of the Department Senior Leadership that during District Caucuses at the Department Convention there has been discourtesy, rudeness, and disrespect, amongst other things shown toward the candidates visiting the District caucus rooms. Therefore a resolution will come before the Membership on Code of Ethics so these issues can be resolved. No Comrade needs to be treated in such a manner and if it takes a resolution to stop it, so be it.

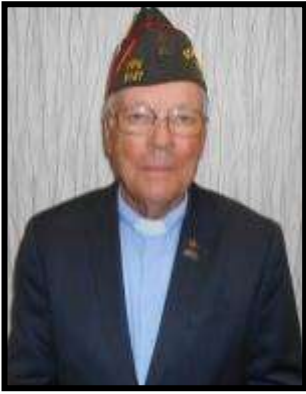
There is still time to announce your candidacy to the upcoming State Elections at the State Convention in Garden City. If any Comrade is interested in an appointment to a position at your Post, in your District, or the State, one needs to approach the candidate running for office and let them know you're interested.

Remember to use the State website often for information pertaining to State meetings, Programs, Calendar dates, Bulletins, and Post information. There is even a step by step instructions for filling out Post Audits correctly under the resources tab. All the information on the site is a tool for anyone to use.

I am available any time to assist you in any way I can. The Kansas Leadership wants to help you to succeed and all you have to do is ask for assistance.

In Comradeship,
Lee Hursey
Past State Commander





State Chaplain

Worshipping God In Spirit and in Truth
John 4:23

The VFW, and other Civic Organizations, for years have tried to make everyone happy and keep our organization together by our by-laws and our constitution. That method worked fairly well until our fear and worship of God started being secular instead of Spiritual.

In other words, the educated mind has vaulted itself to thinking God is not needed nor required since we have been able to evaluate science to a logical standing alone. Why pray when a medical drug can alleviate the problem quick and easy as taking a pill. However, thank God for our Doctors and medicines because if it wasn't for our medical system a lot of us would have died.

But what if prayer doesn't work? Doesn't work according to us or doesn't work according to our expectations? In other words, whose' fault is it that our request was not answered? If, by our own definition, God is all knowing, all powerful, righteous, slow to anger, abounding in love and blessings, then the fault would have to be ours. And as long as I refuse to recognize God as a Spirit and everything coming under Him and through Him to us (humans) I will continue to live a life of confusion and disappointment and forfeit my right to be justified and made righteous for this present life and my afterlife.

Actions have consequences. Adam's sin by eating the forbidden fruit sentenced him to death. Not physical death, but Spiritual death. (Romans 6:23) Because of his action of disobedience, death was passed down to every human being. Consequently, if the sin brought about death spiritually, then the result of death would appear in everything that had been spiritually created. So, from God down, that would set in motion death and decay, or separation from God, for all.

In addition, Man is a created Spiritual being in the image and likeness of God, which adds to man a Soul that is made up of his mind, his will, and his emotions. They too, the Soul, will suffer the separation of God because the man is now in a lost state and unable to redeem Himself.

But God is a Spirit, is all knowing, all powerful, and most of all, He is Love. God is also a man called Jesus and Jesus took on a body through natural birth by way of a virgin and came into the earth to pay Man's disobedience (sin) and redeem mankind or buy back and restore Man to the same level of Spirituality that he had before in the Garden of Eden.

Now man, by believing God and the redemptive work of Jesus, can have his sin forgiven, wiped away, and be made righteous, and can stand before God without a sense of guilt or failure. He is "Born Again, so to speak, into the kingdom of God.

However, the physical part of man, the body, has not been born again and if not fed properly will mature into unrighteous behavior and resist the moving of the Holy Spirit. That is why in a lot of cases when God does perform a miracle, the flesh minded person will dismiss it as coincidence.

This attitude will cause us to look at Jesus as a "Plan B" instead of God's original and complete Plan that God has for us. We continue on this downhill path until our "Born Again" experience is diminished to living and appearing like the rest of the unsaved world who is living in darkness.

We then continue to think we are safe and secure in the Body of Believers and our conduct is no longer a factor.

So we live like the devil during the week and then try and act Holy one day a week. Some of us are so secure, we don't even try and change our behavior. Consequently, we look like the world looks and unfortunately through our actions, most people are unable to tell that we are Christians.

Our solution? Repent and believe in Jesus Christ. Start reading the Bible and turn the news off. Start being a blessing and start serving God. Help others by showing others what it looks like to be a Christian.

Then God will start blessing us, bringing others in, and once again we can turn the world upside down for God and help bring back His creation like it was intended to be.

You have a Blessed Day, In Jesus Name,

Chaplain Terry

- Chaplains! Are you aware that you can now fill out your Monthly Chaplains Report On Line by going to

VFWKS.Org, click on tab "Resources" > Scroll down to "Chaplain's Corner" and click on "Monthly Chaplain Online Report Form." (Should work on Smart phone, tablet, laptop, and desktop.) Fill in the blanks and then "Submit." Please share your ideas and suggestions if you have any with me. Also, visit "TheChaplainsCorner.net" for my Podcasts and articles. (Thank You)





3rd District Commander

Comrades:

I apologize for not submitting many news items during my tenure as 3rd District Commander. Once again we are approaching elections for the VFW in Kansas. I can not stress enough the importance of taking a position not to just fill the position but do the job as best you can. Sadly, there are officers throughout the VFW that take a position just to fill the position. Even if you don't really want the position, do it to the best of your ability.

Some may know I have plans to run for Jr. Vice Commander of the State of Kansas. This is for those that don't know. I promise if I am elected I will not only fill the position, but will do it the best I can. I would appreciate everyone's support.

In comradeship,
Charlie Cravens



4th District Commander

The VFW – KS 4th District has been involved with many things in the past 3 months. The District and Posts have attended many funerals to honor those who served this Nation. I want to thank those that participated. It is always an honor to support our fellow veterans.



We also attended Wreaths Across America and will attend an Eagle Scout ceremony.

Thank you 4th District Posts for all you do for veterans and for Patriotic Events/Programs within your community. Thanks for entering all Community Services online.

Department winners from the 4th District:

Voice of Democracy: 1ST Place – Madelyn Heigert, Post 1786 Manhattan, District 4

Patriot Pen: 2nd Place – Benson Smiley, Post 10509 Chapman, District 4

Thank you all VFW Post Members for attending the Eisenhower Vigil.

Dale Nelson

4th District Commander.

**The
Kansas Bulletin**





5th District Commander

Greetings Comrades and members of the Auxiliary,

I hope everyone is in good health and recovering from the holidays. As we stand today, District 5 is fourth in the department at this point with 95.40% and we are only 100 members away from being 100%! That is very doable.

We have 6 posts needing 10 or less to achieve 100%. Now is the time to reach out to your annual members about renewing. Congratulations to Wellington, Kiowa, Haysville & Stafford for achieving 100% membership, great job Comrades.

We can make 100% happen as a district. If you need help or advice on membership retention or recruiting please do not hesitate to reach out to me, or one of the other district officers; we will help any way we can.

The Endowment Scholarship applications were due to the Department Headquarters by February 1st. Make sure you talk to your new members about this valuable program that all of our Kansas VFW members are eligible for. This is one of many benefits that may assist you in recruiting and retention.

In Comradeship,

Jay Boyle
Commander, District 5
Department of Kansas



7th District Commander

Greetings comrades, brothers and sisters,

We have just finished the Department Mid-Winter in Salina and presented our program awards for Voice of Democracy (Sophia Kasella Post # 770 Ashland won 3rd at Department) and Patriot's Pen (Grayson Maxwell Post # 7271 Larned won 3rd at Department). We also had the Department EMT winner Karen Kreger from Post # 1714 Dodge City). Congratulations to all the Department winners.

Our District # 7 winners were Patriot's Pen 1st Place Grayson Maxwell Post # 7271 Larned, 2nd Place Tanley Johnson Post # 3147 La Crosse and 3rd Place Quinton Randa Post # 7972 Ransom; Voice of Democracy 1st Place Sophia Kassella Post # 7770 Ashland, 2nd Place Lillian Payne Post # 7972 Ransom and 3rd Place Daelyn Katz Post # 1714 Dodge City; Teacher (9-12) Kathy Coy

Post # 3166 Liberal; EMT Karen Kreger Post # 1714 Dodge City; Firefighter Jeremy Paris Post # 3166 Liberal; Law Enforcement Deputy Jacob Pewthers Post # 3166 Liberal.

Time to finish out this year and get our membership to 100%. We can do this. Our 7th District Mid-Winter is in Ransom Post # 7972 on February 4, 2023 at 10:00am with Award winners luncheon to follow. Lots of new information from the VA about Burn Pits, Agent Orange, Suicide and many more things.

Post officer nominations start in March and close in April. Post Election of Officers is in April. Support your Post. Attend the meetings.

Great to see old friends and meet some new friends. Remember 'NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS'

Team Kansas
7th District Commander
Gerald Marvin



Candidate for Jr. Vice Commander 2023-2024

I joined the Army April 15, 1969 and immediately went to Fort Polk, La. for basic training.

I received my HAWK A.I.T at Ft. Bliss, Tx., El Paso.

Because I requested HAWK missiles when I enlisted, I was guaranteed 1 year in Key West, Fl.,
(I served 26 months).

I got bored and volunteered for Korea. I arrived in Korea the 1st time on Christmas eve 1971.
& Left in January 1973.

My next duty station was El Paso, Tx. 1973-1974
While I was there I completed NBC training & the NCO academy @ Ft. Sill, Ok.
I was also the Battery Reenlistment NCO.

My next duty station 1974-1977 was Baumholder, Germany
While in Germany I received the rank of SSG E-6 & served as the Firing PSG For about 1 year.

My next duty station was Homestead, Fla. 1977-1978 where I served as the training NCO
& was awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

My last duty station was Korea 1978-1979 where I served as a firing platoon section chief.
I was awarded the National defense ribbon, 3 good conduct medals, the Korea defense ribbon,
& Army commendation medal.

I left the Army on June 13, 1979 & joined the VFW at Coffeyville, Ks. in 1982.

I became a VFW life member in 1995.

After retiring in January 2009, I moved my membership to the VFW in Arkansas City, Ks.

I was asked to be a trustee at my 1st meeting. (I declined).
I was elected Jr. Vice Commander in 2012 and became post commander in 2014.
(I skipped Sr. Vice Commander).

I have not missed any unexcused meetings since then.
That is where I am today and will stay as long as I am needed.

I have also been honored to have been elected to 5 tenures as
VFW Kansas 3rd District Commander.

Charlie Cravens
Candidate for Jr. Vice Commander
VFW Department of Kansas



Cootie Supreme Dwight Hora visits Pup Tent #2 at VFW Post 56



To any of our VFW members who are also KCVAO or American Legion Veteran Service Officers,

I want to be the first to congratulate you on a job well done in surpassing the 10,000 POA mark for total claimants residing in the State of Kansas. This is not something that should be overlooked. It should be celebrated and shouted from the roof tops, or at least an all hands email sent out saying...Congratulations on your hard work and dedication for taking care of us veterans and our loved ones. Great job y'all!

Semper Fidelis,

Todd Schroeder

Department Service Officer (OGC # 45352)

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Robert J Dole VAMC, Wichita, KS

Ph# 316-688-6801

Fax 316-688-6777



For Any Post who has Kansas Lottery Products or would like to have them.

REMINDER to notify the Kansas Lottery each year after your annual meeting to elect officers.

Just provide a list showing each officer's **First Name & Last Name** and their **current position**; specifically listing the Commander, Vice Commander, Secretary, Treasurer, and the person primarily handling Lottery tickets and \$ale\$, if it's a different person than one of the other four listed of-ficers.

Upon receipt, the Kansas Lottery will send a Personal Data Sheet (PDS) for each of the people on the list to complete and return.

Please know that it is a statutory requirement of each Post to update their records with the Kansas Lottery to complete the required background and tax checks for maintaining approval as a Kansas Lottery Retailer.

If you should have any questions – Contact:

Mike Todd
Kevin Brady
Director of Retailer Development
Retailer Services Manager
& Operations
W#785.296.5753
W#785.296.5757

OR EMAIL: RetailerOperations@kslottery.onmicrosoft.com

Discover the power of PlayCentral EX and start generating revenue for your organization today!

The Kansas Lottery PlayCentral® EX is the Kansas Lottery's small-form, self-service vending machine which features a 23-inch HD touchscreen. This unit allows players to experience the excitement of all draw games. Some of the features of this unit include:

Full-motion video and sound capabilities:

23-inch touch screen advertising display screen with Lottery InMotion™, s-elf-service sale of draw games, Powerball, Mega Millions, Super Kansas Cash Keno, Racetrax and more

Full terminal functionality:

Thermal printer, playslip scanner, barcode reader, and bill acceptor

Numerous payment methods:

Cash, credit/debit, mobile pay (Android/Apple Pay), or coupons
No Debit/Credit fees, all merchant service fees are --absorbed by the Lot-tery
5% Selling Commissions
1% Cashing Commission
2% Cashing Keno/Racetrax
Additional High Tier Selling Bonuses up to 10K for selling the winning Jackpot ticket.

For Additional information, please contact:

Mike Todd
Director of Retailer Development
& Operations
Kansas Lottery

W#785.296.5757
mike.todd@kslottery.net



The
Kansas Bulletin



Todd Schroeder is the State Service Officer out of Wichita



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center

January 26, 2023

Reply Refer To: 589A7/MCD

Todd Schroeder
Veterans of Foreign Wars
5500 E. Kellogg
Wichita, KS 67218

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

I want to express our thankfulness for the valuable relationship we enjoy with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and your service officers, both in Wichita and across the rest of the state. Here in Kansas, VFW is not just a service organization for Veterans but also a genuine partner in VA's efforts to assist Veterans with securing the benefits they have earned and deserved.

Your organization provides countless briefings and education sessions across this expansive state to thousands of Veterans throughout the year. Beyond the briefings, you provide daily appointment schedules with Veterans, their families, or their survivors, and you support many outreach functions sponsored by VA. Your support is invaluable as it expands our service offerings to Veterans, saving them valuable time and ensuring they receive the support and assistance they need.

By helping over 1,700 claimants statewide and more than 650 in Wichita in 2022, VFW demonstrates daily that working with VA to provide for our Veterans and their families is their highest priority. At the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center, we appreciate your collaboration and consider ourselves fortunate to have strong service officers working alongside us.

Sincerely,

Candace A
IFABIYI 161103
Candace Ifabiyi, MHA, MSBA, FACHE
Medical Center Director

Digitally signed by Candace A
IFABIYI 161103
Date: 2023.01.27 09:24:17 -06'00'

Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center 5500 E. Kellogg Wichita KS 67218 316-685-2221



STATE CONVENTION AWARDS

Wayne E Richards

Paul Saliger

Elmer Jenkins

John Hermreck

Esther McComb

Marsha LaRosh



Corrections to 2022-23 Roster Book

1. Michael B Holland's email address is michaelbholland47@gmail.com
2. Post 7928 Lincoln's post commander is Eric Yates, elyates85@gmail.com—913-227-0135
3. 5th District Brandon Kultgen's phone # is 803-351-7896
4. 5th District Michael Kultgen's phone # is 803-899-3473
5. 5th District Aaron Grunden's last name was spelled incorrectly
6. 5th District Lee Hursey's email is lhursey@cox.net
7. Post 1367 Lester Crawshaw email is lrcrawshaw64@gmail.com 785-554-5790

My sincere apology for any mistakes I made!

**The
Kansas Bulletin**







The
Kansas Bulletin



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: www.kansashonorflight.org 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)



NATIONAL COUNCIL DISTRICT MEMBER #13



We are off to a great start for our 2022-2023 year. The National Convention in Kansas City was a wonderful experience. I have to send a big “Thank You” to all the auxiliary members who worked at the convention to make it be a huge success. A very special “Thank you” needs to go to Jeanette Cox, for organizing things and making it run so efficiently. Kansas you made us proud!

Our National President, Jane Reape’s theme this year, **Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care**, perfectly describes the VFW Auxiliary. We do so much for our veterans and service members, their families, our communities and for each other. Please continue all the wonderful things that you are doing. By working together as one VFW and VFW Auxiliary family, we can do even more!

“We are not a team because we work together, we are a team because we respect, trust, and care for each other.”-Vala Afshar

Loyally,
Jane Ryser
VFW Auxiliary 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



Hello Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters!

We are well into the second half of the program year, and I can't help but wonder how the time has gone by so fast! It will soon be time for District Spring Meetings.

Elections are also coming up soon, and I want to encourage you to consider taking an office or a Program Chairman position in your Auxiliary or District. We need officers who have a heart for our veterans, and are committed to the work we do. There are mentors at every level who are able to help you be successful.

We need to continue to work on Membership. As I'm writing this, the Department Auxiliary stands at 94.78%. It will take all of us to meet our goals! Reach out personally to your unpaid and former members, or hold a membership drive at one of your Auxiliary or Post events. Check out the Membership program section of the Department Auxiliary website for updates and challenges!

Don't forget to submit your Program Reports by March 31 to the Department and District Chairmen. We want to see the great projects and activities you have done, and want to get your hours counted. You may even win an award!

Thank you to everyone for your hard work so far this year, and I look forward to seeing many of you at your District meetings, and at the Department Convention June 8 - 11 in Garden City.

Stay safe and well!

Karol Goodin
Department President
VFW Auxiliary

Auxiliary News

STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Hello Brothers & Sisters!

It was nice to see so many at the Mid Winter Conference in Salina in January. A lot of good information was shared by the Program Chairmen. A refresher course was given on Membership Applications and Secretary's Minutes. The highlight on Saturday evening was being able to meet the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners and hear the winning essays.

I am looking forward to the Senior Vice Training in March, in preparation of serving as the Department Auxiliary President for 2023-24.

Membership is critical in any organization. Continue working to get new members and rejoins. Check your membership wheel, your next member could be that person standing next to you in the grocery line or sitting beside you in the doctor's office.

With Spring, comes District meetings, officer elections for the upcoming year, Patriotic Art and 3-D Patriotic Art judging, and Buddy Poppy Display judging. It's a busy time of year for all and I look forward to seeing everyone at the District meetings.

Loyally,
Mike McCandless
Depart. Sr. Vice President

STATE JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT



Greetings friends,

It is hard to believe we are over half way through our 2022/23 year. Where has the time gone? Well let's see...everyone has been working hard on Membership...getting dues collected and new members signed up. District 4 has been collecting lots of household items for Fort Riley's Soldier Recovery Units. All Districts did well at promoting the VOD and Patriot Pen writing contests as I heard it was quite difficult to pick the lucky Kansas winners! Great job everyone!

Then on Facebook, I saw many Auxiliaries making Valentines for our Veterans both at home and for our 5 Veteran Hospitals in Kansas as well!! The goal was to make 3000 this year for Kansas....I am sure we did that above and beyond that goal!! Well done Kansas!! That is just a tiny speck of what all our Auxiliaries have been doing so far and we have many more activities to complete yet in the coming months.

I have had the thrill to represent President Karol at a couple of earlier District meetings and will have that opportunity again in April. So much happening for our Veterans and Families and so blessed to be a member of this great organization!! Let's all keep the momentum going as we continue to work for the future of our Veterans.

Respectfully,
Marsha LaRosh
Jr. Vice President
2097 W. 100th Dr.
Osborne, KS. 67473
785-346-6040
marsha_larosh@hotmail.com

2022-2023 Department Officers

Commander

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

Sr. Vice Commander

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

Jr. Vice Commander

Terry Fletcher
501 E Pecan Ln
Derby 67037
316-619-8193

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

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

Surgeon

Allen Owens
PO Box 113
Wakefield 67487
785-307-2409

Chaplain

Terry Warner
505 Washington St
LaCrosse 67548
785-259-9193

Chief of Staff

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

Inspector

John Hooker
214 E Ave B
South Hutchinson 67505
620-474-5637

Past Department

Commander

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

District Commanders:

1st District

David Gunn
19447 174th St
Tonganoxie 66086
650-228-3973

2nd District

Jason Parkes
1400 W Virginia Ln
Olathe 66061
334-614-6693

3rd District

Charles Cravens
4769 182nd Rd
Winfield 67156
620-222-4846

4th District

Dale Nelson
225 W 9th St
Chapman 67431
785-922-7180

5th District

James Boyle
11825 W Grant St
Wichita 67209
316-761-3617

6th District

Jerry White
19065 280 Ave
WaKeeney 67672
785-743-8275

7th District

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



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.

