



GENERAL ORDERS #8

1 February 2025
2024-2025 Series

TO BE READ AT MEETINGS AND POSTED

1. State Headquarters will be closed Monday, 17 February 2025 to observe President's Day.
2. **Commanders** at all levels should begin organizing their 2025 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. Every Post is urged to order and distribute VFW Buddy Poppies.
3. **Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National By-Laws**, concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post-Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.
4. **Trustees** shall not be eligible to serve as an elected officer, Adjutant or on a committee whose books, records, and accounts are audited by the Trustees. Among the duties of the three (3) elected Post Trustees, they shall:
 - a. At least monthly, review the Monthly Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the Post Quartermaster.
 - b. Within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, properly audit the books and records of the Post Quartermaster, Post Adjutant and any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted, or operated by, for or on behalf of the Post and submit a Post Trustee's Report of Audit to the Department Adjutant for referral to the Department Inspector.
 - c. The Report shall be in accordance with and upon such form as may be prescribed by the Adjutant General. The audit shall be signed by the Post Commander and Trustees, who shall, by their signatures, certify the accuracy of the information contained therein.

- d. Perform such other duties as may be incident to the office or may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

5. Spring Conference and Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year Banquet is 21-23 March 2025.at Indianapolis Marriott East. Please make every effort to attend. The Finance Committee will meet on Friday 21 March at 4pm. The Council of Administration Meeting is on Friday 21 March at 6pm. The business meeting starts at 9am on 22 March and the Banquet will start at 6pm. Please see attached forms.

6. Voice of Democracy winners: 1. Samuel Dusek, Post 1282, 10th District. 2. Cole Lampert, Post 673, 8th District. 3. Micah Abu-Sara, Post 1111, 7th District.

7. Patriot's Pen winners: 1. Corde Leinenbach Post 673, 8th District. 2. Ashley Cochran, Post 6128, 6th District. 3. Kristijan Stojkoski, Post 5365, 1st District.

8. 2025 Online Charity Gaming Training please see the attached forms.

9. State Commander Mahan and State President Hankins Testimonial is set for Saturday, 5 April 2025, at VFW Post 1109, in Richmond, IN. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Cocktail hour will be from 5:00pm – 6:00pm and a pork chop dinner will follow. Tickets will be available at the Spring Conference.

10. 2025 – 2026 Commander Shirt Order Form please see the attached form.

11. Several important documents are attached to these orders. Please review all.

12. 2 February Groundhog Day.

13. 3 February Four Chaplains Day.

14. 8 February Scouting of America Founded (1910).

15. 12 February Lincoln's Birthday.

16. 14 February Valentine's Day.

17. 17 February President's Day.

18. 22 February George Washington's Birthday.

BY ORDER OF:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory Mahan", with a stylized, sweeping underline.

CORY MAHAN
STATE COMMANDER

OFFICIAL:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Murphy", with a stylized, looping underline.

REBECCA MURPHY
STATE ADJUTANT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 February 2025

1. VFW Annual Publications contest is open. Submit your Post/District publication not later than 1 April 2025, to:

Publications Contest
VFW Magazine
406 West 34th Street, Suite 523
Kansas City, MO 64111

All issues and articles published between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024, qualify.

2. PROGRAMS DEADLINE DATES:

Scout of the Year

- 1 March, Scout entries to the Post
- 1 April, Post entries to Department Scouting Chairperson.
- 1 May, Department entry to National from Department Scouting Chairperson.

Community Service

- 31 March, Post Special Project & Fred C. Hall Award Submission Post to Department Chairperson.
- 30 April, National Outstanding Community Service Post Submission (Department to National).

VFW Member of the Year

- 15 April, due to State Headquarters.

Employer of the Year

- 1 April, due to State Headquarters.

JROTC Cadet of the Year

- 30 April, due to State Headquarters.

Loyalty Day Parades

- 20 May, due to the Loyalty Day Chairperson.

Honor/Color Guard Award

- 30 April, due to the State Junior Vice Commander.

James Butter – Post Service Officer Award

- 30 April, due to the Department Service Officer.

Keiston Holloway Chaplain Award

- 30 April, due to the State Chaplain.



Greetings Comrades,

This month was another busy one. I feel like a broken record saying that about every month, but it has been true. This month I was able to attend 2 District Meetings. Districts 1 and 6 were very hospitable and ran a very thorough meeting. I like to see that we are out in the communities helping others. In District 1 they are opening their Posts as warming shelters through these hard winter blasts we have had. Kudos to you!

I had the honor of attending the inauguration of our new Governor in early January. It was humbling to be part of such an important moment in our democracy. The event featured a military band and many heartfelt tributes to our men and women in uniform. In late January I attended the Governors State of the State. I am optimistic about the potential for future legislative improvements to better serve our veterans.

Additionally, many of our state officers were able to attend Indiana's Veterans Legislative Day this year, and it was a resounding success. Many attendees have called it one of the best events we've had. We had productive conversations with key legislators, including Representative Steve Bartels, head of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, along with Representatives Craig Haggard and Chris Judy. It's clear they are committed to supporting veterans. We were also fortunate to meet with Senators Scott and Tomes, who took time out of their busy schedules to speak with us. Don't forget to reach out to your own legislators—make sure they know that veterans vote!

One of the highlights of the day was having Governor Mike Braun personally visit the veterans' area during the event. It's something I haven't seen from a governor before, and it was deeply appreciated.

Looking ahead, be sure to check out the tentative agenda for our Spring Conference. We've packed it with valuable sessions, including some fun—like a round of Parliamentary Jeopardy! This conference will be unlike any other VFW event you've attended in the state. We're focused on making your time at these meetings more beneficial and useful to you and your Post, so we encourage you to attend.

Thank you all for your continued dedication and support. Together, we are making a difference!

Cory Mahan
State Commander
Department of Indiana
Veterans of Foreign Wars

February 2025 Membership Update

CONGRATULATIONS to Post 7850 in Gosport for attaining 104.25% in membership! They will receive \$100.00, two banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will also be recognized at the Spring Conference.

CONGRATULATIONS to District 10 for having every Post have at least 1 new or reinstated member. They will receive \$500.00 to their District Funds. Any District that has every Post have at least 1 new or reinstated member between January 1st and May 1st will receive this award

District 8 is leading the way at 89.59% and the State is currently at 86.36%.

Posts 883 in Elkhart and 9987 in Napoleon are both at 100%. Great job and keep up the good work. You are almost at the 102% goal.

Reminder that if you or someone at your post have earned a Recruiter Award that you must attend a State Function to receive that award (i.e. t-shirt, pin and coin)

Recruiting is the hardest job in the VFW but also the most rewarding. Train and utilize your whole team at the Post level. Membership is a team effort!

Reach out to anyone on the membership team if you need assistance on recruiting and for events.

In Comradeship,

Edie Toll Seiler

Membership Director

2025 Spring Conference Agenda

Friday, March 21, 2025

4:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 PM Council of Administration

Saturday, March 22, 2025

9:00-9:15- Opening

9:15-10:30-

1. Membership
2. Community Service/Dashboard
3. State Legislative/National Legislative
4. National Council Member
5. Shawn Ransford (Service Office Changes)

10:30-11:30- Commander Training (Ken Lange, State Surgeon)
Service Officer Training (Shawn Ransford, State VSO)

11:30-12:30- Lunch

12:30-1:00- Irreverent Warriors/Premier Arms

1:00-2:00- Parliamentary Jeopardy (David Staehlin, VFW MN State CMDR)

2:00-3:00- Quartermaster Training (Michael Jordan, State Quartermaster)
Parliamentary Procedure (David Staehlin, VFW MN State CMDR)

3:00-3:30

1. Redneck Riviera
2. Line Officers
3. National Rep
4. Etc.

3:30- Closing

Immediately Following- Women Veterans Breakout (Laura Mckee)

6:00- Banquet (Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teacher of the Year Awards)

2025 SPRING CONFERENCE BANQUET

INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT EAST HOTEL
22 MARCH 2025, 6:00PM
\$40.00 PER PERSON

MENU

All-American Salad, Buttermilk Ranch Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Chef's Choice of Dessert, Coffee, or Iced Tea

To reserve tickets please complete and send form back with payment.

Make checks payable to: Department of Indiana VFW 9555 E. 59th Street Indianapolis, IN 46216

To pay by Credit Card: (There will be a \$1.00 surcharge for all Credit Card Transaction)

Total Charge \$ _____ Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____

Name on Card: _____

Phone: _____

2025 SPRING CONFERENCE BANQUET

Post: _____ Auxiliary _____

Name: _____ Address _____

Number of Tickets: _____ Amount Enclosed _____

TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN Friday,
14 MARCH 2025.

Reservation Request
Indianapolis Marriott Center East
7202 East 21st Street
Indianapolis, IN 46219
Phone: (317)352-1231
Toll Free: 1-800-228-9290
Fax: (317)222-3339

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Indiana - VFW
Spring Conference.**

Dates: Friday 21 March - Sunday 23 March 2025

ROOM RATES \$127.00 Per Night Marriott
ROOM RATES \$107.00 Per Night Delta

PLEASE APPLY 17% SALES TAX TO THE ABOVE RATES
Cutoff day: Friday, 28 February 2025

Name: (please print) _____
Phone #() _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Marriott Rewards# _____
For arrival on (day/date) _____
Departure on (day/date) _____
Name(s) of person(s) sharing accommodations: _____
Room Type Preference: One (1) King Bed
Two (2) Double Beds
Handicap Accessible
No preference

When requesting a reservation, please note your arrival and departure dates carefully. You understand that you are liable for one night's room and tax in the event you **do not cancel** by 6pm or arrive on the arrival date. This will be deducted from your deposit or billed through your credit card. If more than one room is requested, please enclose a list of names and addresses, indicating which guests share rooms.

Check or Money Order Enclosed for amount of _____
Credit Card Number _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

The Indianapolis Marriott East is pleased you have chosen us for your upcoming visit. Our staff looks forward to serving you in fine Marriott tradition.

Please Note: Hotel checkout time is 11:00am. Hotel check-in time is 4:00pm. RESERVATIONS REQUESTED AFTER THE CUT-OFF DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. ROOMS MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE CUT-OFF DATE; HOWEVER, THE GROUP RATE IS NOT GUARANTEED. PLEASE APPLY 17% SALES TAX TO THE ABOVE RATES.

THIS FORM GOES TO THE MARRIOTT NOT TO THE STATE HEADQUARTERS.



Dennis Mullen
Executive Director

January 01, 2025

2025 Online Charity Gaming Training

The information provided during the seminars is for both those wanting to learn more about charity gaming, as well as for those who are attending as a requirement listed in their organization's Settlement Agreement (disciplinary action) with our division.

For those attending due to a Settlement Agreement Requirement with us...

Within 3 business days after the training session,

- Settlement Agreement attendees are required to send an email attesting to their attendance.
- If the organization attendees attended as a group, *one of the officers that attended must* send an email for the group listing each attendee's name, position, and the organization's name.
- Emails must be sent to Lisa Nichols at lnichols@igc.in.gov.
- Settlement Agreement attendees will receive acknowledgement of their email submission, and a copy will be placed in our records.

General Knowledge (non-settlement) attendees are not required to email us regarding their attendance.

All training sessions will be conducted electronically via Microsoft Teams. This software is free to your organization and is an easy-to-use social media application. This software can be installed on Mac or Windows based devices and may be downloaded to computers and smart phones.

To download Microsoft Teams please go to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/download-app>

- ❖ There will be three separate training sessions on each day listed. All sessions will contain the same information. Training will start at 10:00am, 2:00pm and 6:00pm (Indianapolis Time). The training will last between 60 and 90 minutes.
- ❖ The dates of training are February 19, 2025, May 21, 2025, August 20, 2025, and November 19, 2025

****Please be aware, registrations must be submitted no later than 24 hours before the scheduled training.***

The Registration link and instructions can be found on our webpage.

All attendees that provide a valid email address will receive the presentation slides via email after the training session has ended.

Regards,

Mark R. Mason, Director
Charity Gaming Division

**Indiana Gaming Commission - Charity Gaming Online
Training Registration Form**
**Deadline to register for any training session is no later than
24 hours *before* the scheduled training date.**

On each training date there is a 10:00am session, a 2:00pm session OR a 6:00pm session to choose from; please be aware that all sessions have the same information. **All times are Eastern Standard Time.**

-All training sessions will be conducted via MS Teams App (to download go to: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/download-app>).

Some gaming questions will be answered during the seminar via "chat" feature of the Teams app. Anything specific to a situation or that is lengthy should be called in or emailed to the division (see contact info below) since there could be elements of the situation that need to be clarified before answering.

After you have answered the following registration questions and submit, watch for a "Registration Status" email. If you do not find an email in your Inbox soon, check your spam/junk folders too.

Any detailed gaming activity questions should be emailed to charitygaming@igc.in.gov or called in to 317-232-4646.

Disclaimer: Some email addresses may not receive emails from us due to privacy/spam settings. If you do not receive a Pending email from us, check your spam folder first and if you do not find it there, please email Lisa Nichols directly at the address below.

Any training questions should be emailed to lnichols@igc.in.gov.

Tentative Schedule for June 2025-June 2026

June 2025

28	VFW National Home 100 th Anniversary	Eaton Rapids MI.
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July 2025

4	Independence Day (Office Closed)	
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August 2025

9-14	National Convention	Columbus OH
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22-24	State Golf Outing	Richmond Post 1108
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September 2025

1	Labor Day (Office Closed)	
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5	Council of Administration	Marriott East Indianapolis
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6	School of Instruction	Marriott East Indianapolis
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11	Patriots Day	
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19	POW/MIA Day	War Memorial Indianapolis
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21	Indiana day, National Home	Eaton Rapids MI.
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25-28	Commander-in-Chiefs Homecoming	Des Moines, Iowa
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October 2025

2-4	State Camp Out	Rushville, IN
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5	VFW Day Indiana Veterans Home	Lafayette, IN
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13	Columbus Day (Office Closed)	
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17-19	Big Ten Conference	Bettendorf, Iowa
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31	C of A	Indianapolis, Marriott East
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November 2025

1-2	Fall Conference	Indianapolis, Marriott East
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11	Veterans Day (Office Closed)	
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27-28	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	
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December 2025

7	Pearl Harbor Day	
12-14	Winter team Building	Nashville In.
24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)	
25	Christmas Day (Office Closed)	
31	New Year's Eve (Office Closed)	
January 2026		
1	New Years Day (Office Closed)	
19	Martin Luther King Day (Office Closed)	
February 2026		
16	Presidents Day (Office Closed)	
28	Washington Conference	Washington D.C
March 2026		
1-5	Legislative Conference	Washington D.C.
April 2026		
10	C of A	Indianapolis, Marriott East
11-12	Spring Conference, VOD/PP Banquet	Indianapolis, Marriott East
25	Testimonial	Post 1114 Evansville
30	Awards Deadline to State Headquarters	
May 2026		
1	Loyalty Day	
10	Mother's Day	
25	Memorial Day (Office Closed)	
June 2026		
21	Father's Day	
25	C of A	Indianapolis Marriott East
26-28	State Convention	Indianapolis Marriott East



2025-2026 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA STATE SHIRTS

Order Deadlines:

Orders MUST be received by these deadlines to be delivered at State Conference Events.

Your order will be placed on the closest deadline after it is received.

Mar 24th (to receive at Convention), May 16th (to receive at School), Aug. 18th (to receive in Oct)

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Post: _____

Address: _____

All shirts will have VFW logo with INDIANA underneath.

Polo

Small to 2XL - \$26.00 3XL - \$30.00 4XL - \$34.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$
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Poplin Short Sleeve Button Down

Small to XL - \$35.00 2XL - \$37.00 3XL - \$40.00 4XL - \$44.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$
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Poplin Long Sleeve Button Down

Small to XL - \$35.00 2XL - \$37.00 3XL - \$40.00 4XL - \$44.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$
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¼ Zip

Small to XL - \$30.00 2XL - \$34.00 3XL - (Men's Only) \$37.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$
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VFW Indiana Logo on Left Chest

Name and VFW Office Embroidered on right chest (Up to 3 lines)

Name _____

Title _____

Post/AUX OR Branch of Service _____

Make Checks payable to VFW Department of Indiana include \$10.00 for shipping.

Credit Card Payments: Name: _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date: _____ CCV _____

Mail Orders to:
VFW Dept. of Indiana
9555 E. 59th St.
Indpls., IN 46216

Fax Orders to: (317)377-1797
E-Mail Orders:
adj@vfwin.org





FASHION SHOW HEALTHY HEART

FEBRUARY 28, 2025

6:00pm-7:00pm

Social Hour with free hors d'oeuvres

7:00pm PROMPTLY

Fashion Show

Free Parking ♥ Free Parking ♥ Free Parking

Indiana Veterans Center

777 North Meridian St Indianapolis

Limited Seating Available

If you have questions contact [Tamara Whitlow](#)

Tamara.whitlow1@va.gov or 317-988-9422

**PROMOTING HEALTHY HEARTS FOR
WOMEN VETERANS**

IDVA



Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs

777 North Meridian St
Indianapolis, IN 46204

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Veteran Health Indiana



**OPERATION:
JOB READY VETERANS**



Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is nothing to skip a beat about especially for women who serve or have served in the military. Studies show women veterans face a higher risk CVD than women who have never served. There are multiple factors behind this elevated risk everyone should know.

While many are familiar with common heart attack symptoms; chest pains, shortness of breath, and dizziness, women often have additional signs which are less commonly identified with having a heart attack. Additional signs include abdominal pain, nausea, and extreme fatigue (to name a few). Many women do not identify these signs as being life threatening and are mistaken for temporary digestive issues. This misdiagnosis can delay essential medical treatment and can result in irreversible damage to the heart or even death.

Missed diagnosis is just one barrier women veterans are challenged with when it comes to CVD. When comparing women veterans to women who have not served in the military, the Veterans Administration (VA) Health Systems Research reports women veterans have a higher rate of obesity and a higher diagnosis of diabetes in every age group. Women veterans also face a higher risk of being homeless, survived sexual assault, and a much higher rate of depression or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder than women who have not served in the military. When compared their male counterparts, women veterans have a lower success rate of quitting smoking.

The Mayo Clinic in an article titled, “Heart disease in women: Understand symptoms and risk factors” acknowledges diabetes, obesity, smoking, and emotional stress and depression are all risk factors for women having CVD.

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs is teaming up with the Roudebush VA Medical Center to raise awareness regarding women veteran heart health during the second annual Healthy Heart Fashion Show. The fashion show is a platform to bring the community together and inform about identifying barriers, eliminating risks, practicing prevention techniques, and seeking treatment for a healthy heart.

Join us Friday, February 28 for the Healthy Heart Fashion Show at 777 North Meridian St. There will be free parking located across the street. The social hour starts at 6:00 p.m. with free hors d’oeuvres and the show starts promptly at 7:00 p.m. showcasing over more than 35 all fitted with a healthy heart tip for attendees.



GENE RICHARDS

Candidate for Surgeon Department of Indiana 2025 - 2026

Leadership in Action!

Military Service

U.S. Army Active Duty: AUG 1989 – JAN 2016; Major - Retired
Enlisted Military Intelligence NCO (O5-H/98-H) 1989 – 1995
Green-to-Gold Scholarship/Distinguished Military Graduate at IU MAY 1998
Army Aviation Officer (15-B: UH-60 Blackhawk Pilot)
6 Qualifying Tours/Deployments for VFW eligibility
Combat Action Badge
Bronze Star Medal
5 Meritorious Service Medals (MSM)
Afghanistan Campaign Medal (25th ID 2011-12)
Korean Defense Service Medal
Numerous other awards and decorations
Flight Platoon Leader, C Co., 5-158 AVN, Germany 2000-01
Deployed to Mali, Africa in 2000
Company Commander, HHC, 1-228th AVN Regt., JTF-B, Honduras 2004-05
Battalion XO, Korean Service Corps BN, Yongsan, Korea 2009-10
Chief of Southeast Asian Exercises, USARPAC (4-Star HQ), Hawaii 2012-16



VFW Service

Joined Post 1154 in Lafayette as a Life Member JUL 2016
Post Jr. Vice Commander 2017-2018
Post Sr. Vice Commander 2018-2019
Post Commander 2019-Present
District 2 Jr. Vice Commander 2020-2022
District 2 Commander 2022-Present
Back-to-Back All-State & All-American Post 2022-2023 and 2023-2024
All-American District 2023-2024
VFW Distinguished Service Award 2024



About Me

Assistant Professor of Military Science at Purdue University Fall 2016
Assistant Professor of Military Science at University of Illinois 2017-2020
Own a small real estate investment/property management company
Live in West Lafayette with my wife, Hyun (Lifetime Auxiliary Member), and three sons; James (22) and Robert (20) who attend Purdue University and Andrew (16) who is a Junior at West Lafayette High School
Financially independent with time to dedicate to improving Indiana's VFW

Keith Rohloff



Candidate for Surgeon Department of Indiana 2025-2026

Qualifications:

Eligibility: Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal-Operation Earnest Will - Persian Gulf (USS California CGN-36) (1987)

Retired Navy Storekeeper Chief Petty Officer (SKC(SW)) (1984-2005)

- VFW Member since 2001, Gold Legacy Life Member
- VFW National Home Centennial Life Member
- American Legion Member (Post 184 Moore Oklahoma)

Member of Henry Dwyer VFW Post 9297 (Crane)(2006-Present)

House Committee (2007-2009)

Post Quartermaster (Feb 2009-2013, 2014-2019)

Post Commander (2013-2014)

Post Trustee/Service Officer (2022-Present)

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Indiana Foundation Secretary/Treasurer (2023 to Present)

Department of Indiana District 7 Commander (2017-2018)

Department of Indiana District 7 Quartermaster/Adjutant (2018-Present)

Various other appointed/elected positions (2010-present)

Department of Indiana

Voice of Democracy Chairperson (2018-Present)

Department Disciplinary Hearing Panel Member

Appointed Administration Board/Trustee Member

National By-law and General Resolutions Committees (2021, 2022, 2024)

Awards

- All-State Post Quartermaster Team Captain (2009-10) (Orval B. Holycross Award)
- All-State Post Quartermaster (2010-11)
- All-American Post Commander (2013-14)
- All-American District Quartermaster (2022-2023)
- National Aide de Camp (2010-11)(2015-2016) and (2016-2017)

I am married to Cyndi, (Retired Navy Chief Petty Officer (NCC(AW/SW) (VFW Life Member) and we have 2 children Britni and Andrew (both Auxiliary Life Members) and I have their full support.