



Indiana

**GENERAL ORDERS #9**

1 March 2026  
2025-2026 Series

**TO BE READ AT MEETINGS AND POSTED**

1. **Commanders** at all levels should begin organizing their 2026 Memorial Day “Buddy” Poppy Campaign. Every Post is urged to order and distribute VFW “Buddy Poppies.” Forms attached.

2. **The 127<sup>th</sup> National Convention** housing will open, Wednesday, 18 March 2026. Housing reservations information will be located on the convention website accessed through the main VFW website at [vfw.org/Convention](http://vfw.org/Convention). The convention website will also have general convention information including the registration form, tentative agenda, and links to other convention related information for Reno, Nevada – 24-20 July 2026.

3. **NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION** – Section 222 of the Manual of Procedures states each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials, and one identified registered delegate for the VFW National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee provided the Post has paid the mandated \$25 advance registration fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. ATTN: Convention Registration. Quartermasters may also register delegates utilizing the online membership system (OMS).

4. **Post Elections** – Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election, and installation of Post Officers. Post Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through OMS or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters **immediately following** the election of Post Officers but not later than 1 June.

5. **Post Delegates** – Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings; Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of 31 March 2026.

6. **Attention of Post Commanders** – is directed to Section 218 (a)(11) of the National Manual of Procedure, Officers: Duties and Obligations. The Trustee Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, one of which ends 31 March 2026.

7. **March 2026 District Meetings** – Schedule is attached.

8. **Spring Conference and Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year Banquet** is 10-12 April 2026 at the Indianapolis Marriott East. Please make every effort to attend. The Finance Committee will meet on Friday 10 April 2026 at TBD. The Council of Administration Meeting is on Friday 10 April at 6pm. The Business meeting will start at 9am on 11 April and the banquet will start at 6pm. Please see the attached Banquet Form. For reservation, please visit VFWIN.org and look for Spring Conference 2026.

9. **UPCOMING Post Quartermaster Training and Q&A Zoom Sessions**  
(All VFW Post and District Officers are welcome to attend.)

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE Training Opportunities and Links, please open your browser to <https://vfw.in.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=155722>

(Or surf to VFWIN.ORG and click to RESOURCES >> TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES)

Each session starts off with a review presentation and then time for Questions and Answers (open topic). Please note that each session has a different link and passcode! Please click on the link below to join (or copy and paste to your browser).

**Tuesday, MARCH 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM Eastern (5:00 PM Central)**

Meeting

URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85350784683?pwd=mkc4Cuwd2UBUcfJZlaPkeXWkoQdB4W.1>

Meeting 853 5078 4683

ID:

Passcode:531724

**Tuesday, APRIL 7, 2026, at 6:00 PM Eastern (5:00 PM Central)**

Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84149924736?pwd=vmO6nadHYS779miRmRM4Z1>

URL: [rEEaOgsJ.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84149924736?pwd=vmO6nadHYS779miRmRM4Z1)

Meeting 841 4992 4736

ID:

Passcod 196447

e:

If you have any questions or any suggestions, please feel free to email the State Quartermaster Michael Jordan at [QM@VFWIN.ORG](mailto:QM@VFWIN.ORG).

11. **Membership Drive: Friday 3 April 2026 at 7pm – Hinkle Fieldhouse – Butler University.** Sixty (60) tickets have been purchased for this event. If you would like to go, please contact the Membership Chairperson Dan Gann at (574)299-1085 or by email: [Gann.danny1sg@gmail.com](mailto:Gann.danny1sg@gmail.com). See the attached flyer.

12. **MOC Put Pent #11 – Non-Perishable Food Drive at the Spring Conference 10-12 April 2026.** See the attached flyer.

13. **State Commander Ferguson and State Auxiliary President Jessie Davenport's Testimonial** will be at VFW Post 6246: 654 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Noblesville, IN on Saturday 25 April 2026. Tickets cost \$20.00. The tickets will be available at the Spring Conference.

14. **State Shirt Order Form 2026-2027** see attached form.

15. 8 March – Daylight Saving Time Begins (**Set Clock Ahead One Hour**).

16. 17 March – St. Patrick's Day.

17. 19 March - Iraq War Began (2003).

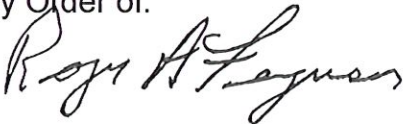
18. 20 March – Spring Begins

19. 24 March – Kosovo Campaign Began (1999).

20. 29 March – National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

21. 31 March – Somalia Campaign Ended (1995).

By Order of:



ROGER FERGUSON  
STATE COMMANDER

Official:



REBECCA MURPHY  
STATE ADJUTANT



Indiana

1 March 2026

My Fellow Combat Veterans,

By the time you are reading this myself, Sr. Vice Dave Hammons and Jr. Vice Ken Lange will be accompanying Indiana's National Legislative team David Capshaw and Richard Leirer along with National Council Member Johnny Capps in our Nation's Capital. We will be joining our brothers and sisters from every state along with Europe and the Pacific areas to lobby for our earned benefits. This was the reason the Veterans of Foreign Wars was formed and still is our number one priority. When asked why membership is so important this is why I give the same answer every time. Numbers equal votes with equal influence. Please wish us luck in D.C.

Post and District leadership make sure all the information in these General Orders get passed down to the membership. If you have any questions or concerns not addressed here feel free to contact any Officer, Committee Chairperson or the Department Headquarters.

At You Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Roger A. Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

ROGER FERGUSON  
STATE COMMANDER  
DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA VFW



1 March 2026

Indiana

To: District Commanders and Department Representatives

Subj: DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2026

District meetings are scheduled as follows: Department Representatives are listed. If assigned Department Representative cannot attend the meeting, please send an alternate member, and update the State Adjutant at 317-377-1795 or at [adj@vfw.in.org](mailto:adj@vfw.in.org).

DISTRICT	DATE	TIME	PLACE OF MEETING	DEPT. REP
ONE	3/15	*12:00pm	Hobart Post 5365	Dan Gann
TWO	3/1	2:00pm	Portage Post 7760	Keith Rohloff
THREE	3/1	1:00pm	Mishawaka Post 360	Shelley Jacobs
FOUR	3/21	3:00pm	New Haven Post 2457	Russell Pryor
FIVE	3/21	12:00pm	Peru Post 2067	Ken Lange
SIX	3/8	11:00am	Lebanon Post 910	Michael Jordan
SEVEN	3/29	10:30am	Oden Post 9627	Roger Ferguson
EIGHT	3/15	9:00am	Fort Branch Post 2714	Michael Jordan
NINE	3/15	1:00pm	Austin Post 6582	Larry Patch
TEN	3/15	1:30pm	Richmond Post 1108	Dave Hammons
Eleven	3/14	10:30am	Indianapolis Post 1587	Edie Seiler

By Order of:

ROGER FERGUSON  
STATE COMMANDER

Official:

REBECCA MURPHY  
STATE ADJUTANT

\*C - Central Time

# YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US

AS WE REMEMBER AND HONOR THEIR SACRIFICES,  
THEIR HEROIC ACTIONS AND A VERY SAD AND DISGRACEFUL  
PERIOD IN THE HISTORY OF OUR MILITARY WORKING DOGS.

**WHEN; K9 VETERANS DAY**

**13 MAR, 2026**

**11:30 - 4 PM**

**PRESENTATION TIMES; 12-1 & 2:30-3:30**

**WHERE; Clay Township Government Center  
10701 N College Ave. Carmel**

If you would like to learn more about the History of Dogs of War and our Military Working Dogs. John Meeks, a Vietnam Scout Dog Handler, will be doing 2 slide presentations. Beginning with the Civil War, he will talk about the dogs in WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam, including his dog and his time in Vietnam. He will also cover Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan. Along the way he will talk about a few K9 Heroes. He will also be bringing his picture display.

## **Be sure and visit**

The Clay Township Military Library and Museum  
10801 N. College Ave. Carmel (Right Next Door) 11-5PM

For more information

Please contact President Jon Baldwin USAR (Ret)  
Jonebaldwin@gmail.com (317) 435-7194

# 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE BANQUET

INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT EAST HOTEL  
Saturday 11 April 2026, 6:00PM  
\$40.00 PER PERSON

\*\*\*\*\*

## MENU

All-American Salad, Baked Ranch Crusted Chicken Breast,  
Mashed Red Skin Potatoes w/Gravy, Carrots and Broccoli,  
Chef's Choice of Dessert, Coffee, or Iced Tea

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

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

To pay by Credit Card:

Total Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

2026 SPRING CONFERENCE BANQUET

Post: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY,  
3 APRIL 2026.



**FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 • 7 P.M. ET**  
**HINKLE FIELDHOUSE • BUTLER UNIVERSITY**  
**INDIANAPOLIS**



## **GROUP BENEFITS** **(10+ TICKETS)**

- TICKETS AS LOW AS \$14
- SPECIAL PRICING AND NO TICKET SERVICE FEES
- VIDEOBOARD MENTIONS
- RESERVED SEATING

## **GROUP EXPERIENCES**

### **BALL KIDS EXPERIENCE**

- DEADLINE: MARCH 13
- TOP-SELLING BASKETBALL TEAM WINS (AGES 12-18)
- MINIMUM PURCHASE: 60 TICKETS
- 10-16 KIDS PARTICIPATE
- PLAYER MEET & GREET

### **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE GROUP EXPERIENCE**

- DEADLINE: MARCH 20
- EXCLUSIVE ON-COURT GROUP PHOTO POST-EVENT
- MINIMUM PURCHASE: 60 TICKETS

### **2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE GROUP EXPERIENCES**

- DEADLINE: MARCH 20
- EARLY ENTRY WITH COURTSIDE ACCESS DURING WARM-UPS
- MINIMUM PURCHASE: 40 TICKETS

**BOOK YOUR GROUP TODAY**

CONTACT MIA TORRES • MTORRES@INTERSPORTNET.COM • CALL/TEXT (317) 662-278



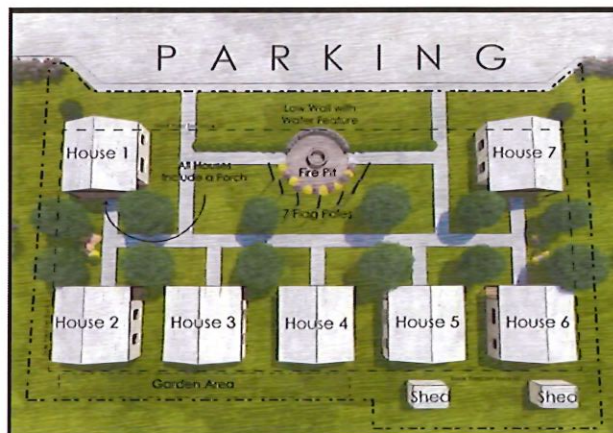
## MOC Pup Tent #11

(Non Perishable) Food Drive

Bring items or donations to the Spring Conference April 10-12 2026

See Russell "Gabby" Pryor – Larry Patch – Dan Gann

For any questions. [mtt@mishawakatrooptown.org](mailto:mtt@mishawakatrooptown.org)





## 2026-2027 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.

**30 March (to receive at Convention), 4 May (to receive at School), 18 Aug (to receive in Oct)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

All shirts will have VFW Indiana in State outline in orange

**Polo**

Small to XL-\$28.00 2XL-\$32.00 3XL-\$32.00 4XL-\$34.00 5XL-\$37.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$

**Long Sleeve Check Woven Shirt**

Small to XL-\$48.00 2XL-\$51.00 3XL-\$52.00 4XL-\$54.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$

**¼ Zip**

Small to XL-\$41.00 2XL-\$43.00 3XL-\$46.00 4XL-\$48.00

Men/Ladies	Size	Quantity	Total \$

**VFW Indiana in State outline in orange**

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. 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Indpls., IN 46216

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

# DON'T FEED

# THE SHARKS

We define a **"Claim Shark"** as anyone who:

- Charges hefty fees to "guide, assist, advise or consult" veterans with filing or appealing their VA benefit claims — this practice is illegal!
- Asserts they are an "expert" or "guardian" but **evades the professional and ethical standards of VA accreditation** — their advice can be misleading or even fraudulent!
- **Hooks you** — once you're in, you can't get out and may be subject to new and hidden fees whenever you get a new rating — no matter who does the work!

Some of their predatory practices include:

- Claiming they are an "insider" or have inside information to fast track or maximize your VA disability rating.
- Touting better outcomes because you are paying for services.
- Advertising faster VA claims decisions.
- Requesting login credentials to access sensitive personal information through government websites like VA.gov.
- Using confusing tactics or ambiguous language to mislead claimants or coerce them into signing a contract.
- Telling veterans to forego VA exams and offering health consultations within their own network of doctors.

Here is how veterans can help protect themselves:

- Always ask **"Are you accredited with VA?"**
- Insist on signing a VA Power of Attorney before agreeing to any other terms and conditions.
- Refuse to sign legal waivers of your right to accredited representation.
- Never agree to contingent payments based on your future benefits.
- Avoid medical exams or opinions from doctors affiliated with consultation companies.
- Always attend exams ordered by VA.
- Never provide access to private and secure systems or personal information.
- Always ask **"If I have to appeal VA's decision, will you still help me?"**

Who is **NOT** a Claim Shark?

- VA accredited veterans service organization representatives, like VFW's Accredited Service Officers.
- Private VA accredited agents.
- VA accredited attorneys, to include pro bono law clinics.
- All those who turn up here when searched:  
[www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation](http://www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation).



**Who are the Claim Sharks?**

We used to list the usual Claim Sharks, but it began reading like a phone book. By this point you know the type — all charm up front, hidden fees in the back.

For free, accredited help from VFW's Accredited Service Officers visit

[www.DontFeedTheSharks.org](http://www.DontFeedTheSharks.org)

# JAMES "ROB" LOY



## CANDIDATE FOR VFW DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA SURGEON 2026-2027

### VFW ELIGIBILITY:

SERVED IN KOSOVO

### VFW HIGHLIGHTS AND RECORD OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE:

2017-2024 POST 6246 COMMANDER

2019-2024 SIX TIME ALL AMERICAN COMMANDER

2018-2019 CAPTAIN ALL STATE TEAM

2018-2024 ALL STATE TEAM

2018-2024 ALL AMERICAN TEAM

2022 & 2023 ALL AMERICAN DISTRICT COMMANDER

2020-2021, 2025-2026 NATIONAL AIDE-DE-CAMP

2024-2025 NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

2023-2024 ASSISTANT STATE SGT-AT-ARMS

2024-PRESENT STATE-SGT-AT-ARMS

2022 & 2024-PRESENT STATE LOYALTY DAY CHAIRMAN

### SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

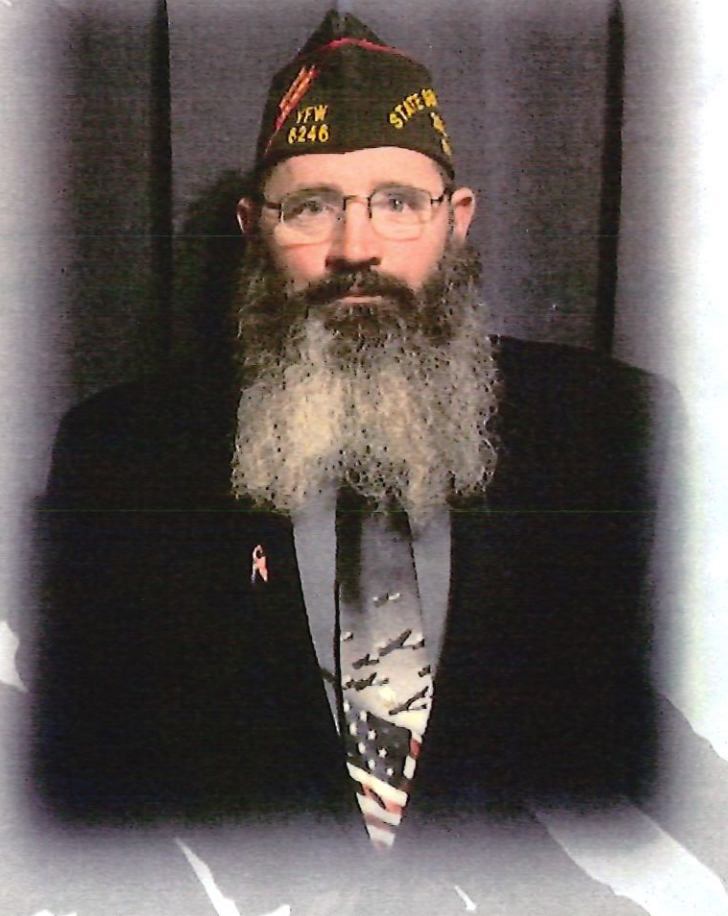
VFW MEMBER SINCE 2005

GOLD LEGACY LIFETIME MEMBER

CENTENNIAL LIFE MEMBER VFW NATIONAL HOME

MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIES

AMERICAN LEGION



# Russell "Gabby" Pryor

**VFW Department of Indiana**

**Candidate For**

**Surgeon 2026 - 2027**



**Thank you for considering me to be your 2026-2027 Department of Indiana Surgeon!**

I am dedicated to serving my fellow Veterans through the VFW and believe strongly in our mission of Serving the Finest! Alongside my wife, Jennifer Pryor, who is actively involved in the VFW Auxiliary, we have raised three wonderful children—Dakota (29), Noah (26), and Savannah (22)—all of whom support our work. Let's move forward with strength and purpose!

#### **VFW ELIGIBILITY**

- OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM - USS ACADIA AD-42
- US NAVY BOATSWAIN'S MATE 3RD CLASS (BM3), (1988-1994)

#### **SERVICE ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

- VFW MEMBER SINCE 2011, SILVER LIFE LEGACY
- NATIONAL HOME CENTENNIAL LIFE MEMBER
- MILITARY ORDER OF COOTIES, RED STAR LIFE MEMBER
- AMERICAN LEGION, DAV

#### **VFW HIGHLIGHTS AND RECORD OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE**

- 2012-2013 POST 5626 COMMANDER
- 2017-2018 ALL STATE & ALL-AMERICAN DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER
- 2017-2018 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, KANSAS CITY TRIP
  - \* 3RD IN DIVISION MEMBERSHIP
- 2017-2018 ROUND ROBIN & EISENHOWER AWARD
- 2017-2019 & 2023-2024 NATIONAL AIDE-DE-CAMP
- 2020-2021 ALL STATE & ALL-AMERICAN POST 261 COMMANDER
- 2022-2025 CERTIFIED NATIONAL RECRUITER
- 2023-2024 CENTURY RECRUITER (recruiting over 100 members)
- 2023-2024 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AWARD
- 2024-2025 DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER

**Cell: 317-937-5521 E-mail: rlpryor613@gmail.com**