



GENERAL ORDERS #11

1 May 2026

Indiana

2025-2026 Series

TO BE READ AT MEETINGS AND POSTED:

1. **INSTALLING OFFICERS:** WILL SEE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF Section 216 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure are properly conducted and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and reviewed.

Post Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than 1 June to the National Headquarters. We highly encourage all Post Adjutant/Quartermaster's to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post Elections Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters.

2. **POST QUARTERMASTERS:** are reminded that Form 103 & 104 are due annually to your township/county assessor. Forms should be submitted not later than 15 May 2026.

3. **STATE CONVENTION:** will be at Marriott East, Indianapolis, IN. The dates are 25-28 June 2026. Please make note of these important dates, making sure that all Posts are up to date on all reports and monies due to Districts, State and National. See attachment for Room Reservations.

All Commanders/Quartermasters: In accordance with Section 213 of the National Bylaws: 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 Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure 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 and District Meetings; County Council, District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

ALL DEFICIENCIES MUST BE CORRECTED WIT THE STATE ADJUTANT BEFORE NOON ON FIRDAY 26 JUNE 2026.

4. **VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT'S PEN THEME 2026-2027:** "What a Veteran Taught Me About America." The forms are on the State Website, under Programs.

5. **MAY DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE:** See attached.

6. **1 MAY** is Loyalty Day, a day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American Freedom.

7. **HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG:** The U.S. Flag should be at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day (15 May) and Memorial Day, the last Monday in May (Federal Holiday – half-staff until noon). Flags available at the VFW Store www.vfwstore.org.

8. **SCAMMER ALERT:** All VFW members need to be aware of an increase in internet and phone scams that are targeting veterans and members of veteran service organizations. This includes attempted Cyber Attacks on our Organization.

Cybersecurity researchers have already identified multiple scam campaigns referencing the conflict in Iran in emails and messages designed to trick people into sending money or personal information.

One of the most common scams involves someone impersonating a VFW officer, friend, or commander asking members to purchase gift cards, send money or provide financial assistance for an "urgent situation."

NO VFW officer or staff member will ever ask this of you. If you receive a suspicious message, that appears to come from the VFW or one of its officers, contact that person directly using a known phone number before responding.

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 a link below to join (or copy and paste to your browser).

Tuesday, MAY 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM Eastern (5:00 PM Central)

Meeting URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85495544471?pwd=lofv15ykoHTHMCaZx0azRKU66MXfT.1>

Meeting ID: 854 9554 4471

Passcode: 828715

Tuesday, JUNE 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM Eastern (5:00 PM Central)

Meeting URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82418448626?pwd=ZjBBFagmc4QmkUh62Co1TSp9dHt9BB.1>

Meeting ID: 824 1844 8626

Passcode: 249368

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

Meeting URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84038922183?pwd=b3RT7Rc2gC5wgf164cPyGKQWtiUoaj.1>

Meeting ID: 840 3892 2183

Passcode: 886982

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

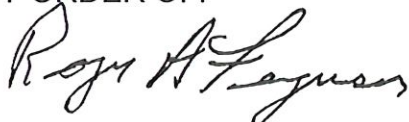
10. 8 May -VE day Declared (1945).

11. 15 May – Women’s Army Corps Founded (1942).

12. 16 May – Armed Force3s Day

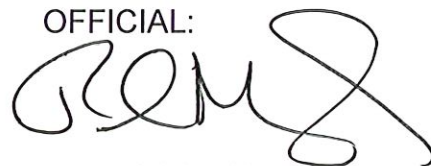
13. 25 May – Memorial Day (Office Closed).

BY ORDER OF:



ROGER FERGUSON
STATE COMMANDER

OFFICIAL:



REBECCA MURPHY
STATE ADJUTANT



Indiana

1 May 2026

Fellow Veterans,

I would like to thank you to those Posts and Districts that have worked so extremely hard on their programs and membership. We have two months to meet our goals. I have faith in each and everyone to make it happen.

May will be a busy month for us with Loyalty Day, Military Spouse Appreciation Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day and VFW Day of Service. That is a lot to do but they are all part of our mission.

Please read the General Orders and never be afraid to reach out for guidance by following the chain of command.

Thanks to all that attended Auxiliary President Jesse Davenport's and my testimonial. It was a wonderful time, and I hope everyone had fun.

THANK YOU

ROGER FERGUSON
STATE COMMANDER



Indiana

1 May 2026

To: District Commanders and Department Representatives

Subj: DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 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.

DISTRICT	DATE	TIME	PLACE OF MEETING	DEPT. REP
ONE	5/17	*12:00pm	Hammond Post 802	Michael Jordan
TWO	5/3	2:00pm	Delphi Post 9383	Russell Pryor
THREE	5/3	1:00pm	Goshen Post 985	Dick Lineberry
FOUR	5/16	3:00pm	Kendallville Post 2749	Shelley Jacobs
FIVE	5/16	11:00am	Huntington Post 2689	Larry Patch
SIX	5/17	11:00am	Terre Haute Post 972	Dave Hammons
SEVEN	5/31	10:30am	Greenwood Post 5864	Keith Rohloff
EIGHT	5/17	10:00am	Huntingburg Post 2366	Roger Ferguson
NINE	5/3	1:00pm	Madison Post 1969	Jerry Blake
TEN	5/3	1:00pm	New Castle Post 1282	Keith Rohloff
Eleven	5/9	10:30am	Indianapolis Post 2999	Ken Lange

By Order of:

ROGER FERGUSON
STATE COMMANDER

Official:

REBECCA MURPHY
STATE ADJUTANT

*C - Central Time



“Race to 15”

National Membership Goal is 101%

Anyone that gets 15 new or reinstates starting May 1st through June 26th will be put into a drawing for \$200.

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
Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Indiana State Convention.
Dates: Thursday 25 June - Sunday 28 June 2026

ROOM RATES \$127.00 Per Night

PLEASE APPLY 17% SALES TAX TO THE ABOVE RATES
Cutoff day: 5:00pm Thursday 4 June 2026

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 12:00 noon. 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.

OFFICIAL DELEGATE LIST FOR STATE CONVENTION

RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT BY 19 JUNE 2026

Date: _____

Post: _____

25-28 JUNE 2026

- A. Date of Post-Election: _____
B. Number of Members per memstats on 31 March 2026. (Make sure OMS reflects this) _____
C. 1 per 30 members divided by 30 _____
D. Number of Post Delegates. $B/30=$ (round up to whole number) _____ ex: (280 members/30=9.34=10 Delegates).
E. Line D, Delegates _____ plus Commander (1) = _____
F. Fee to State. Delegates plus Commander X \$4.00 = _____

(STATE USE ONLY)

Quartermaster Bonded	Y__N__	A. Delegate Fee \$	_____
Officers Elected	Y__N__	B. Admin Fee	\$ _____
Installed	Y__N__	C. Poppies Ordered	Y__ N__
Jun/Sep/Dec/Mar Audits	Y__N__	D. Other \$	_____

Money owed to the State must be paid by **19 June 2026**.

List Delegates Below: ** List Alternates and additional delegates on an attached list.

Commander _____	11. _____
1. _____	12. _____
2. _____	13. _____
3. _____	14. _____
4. _____	15. _____
5. _____	16. _____
6. _____	17. _____
7. _____	18. _____
8. _____	19. _____
9. _____	20. _____
10. _____	21. _____

Certified: _____
Post Adjutant

2026 Department of Indiana VFW



Jim Thiel Memorial

State Golf Outing

Shotgun Start

Both Days 9:00 am

Hosted By:

Host Course:

Lawton-Byrum VFW Post 972
1111 Veterans SQ
Terre Haute IN 47807

Rea Park Golf Course
3500 S 7th St
Terre Haute IN 47802

Friday, August 14th - Practice Round Available - \$31 Fee (cart included)

Practice Round Tee Times Available after 1200 call course to schedule.

Saturday, August 15th - Individual scores to determine Sunday's round.

Sunday, August 16th - A,B,C,D four person scramble, Best Ball Format.

Players are limited to the first 120 VFW and Auxiliary Members with current dues paid.

Entries must be received with payment no later than August 7, 2026

Cost is \$75 per person. To sponsor a hole will be \$100.

Entry Form: Make your own foursome or we will include you in a foursome

NAME	POST NUMBER	MEMBER NBR	POST	AUX

(Bring Membership Card and have ready at check in on first day).

Amount Enclosed

Mail Entries and Checks payable to:

\$75 X _____ = \$ _____

(# of Golfers)

VFW Post 972

ATTN: Quartermaster/ Golf

1111 Veterans SQ

Terre Haute, IN 47807

Hole Sponsor Fee \$ _____

(\$100 per Hole)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Check Number _____

2026 VETERAN JOB FAIR

MAY 07

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

1700 EAST 38TH ST., MARION, IND. 46953



Join Us to find your new career during the VA Northern Indiana Job Fair held in the Marion campus Atrium located in building 172!

- ★ Over 60+ Employers
- ★ Indiana Job Leads
- ★ Networking Opportunities
- ★ Educational Benefits
- ★ Vocational Rehabilitation
- ★ VA Programs & Services

Visit WorkOne and/or VHA Vocational Rehabilitation for **FREE** employment services prior to the event such as resume development and interview tips.

WorkOne:

Adam Colone, 260-234-8688
acolone@dwd.in.gov

VHA Vocational Rehabilitation

Contact the vocational rehab team:
765-674-3321, extension 73702 or
VHANINVocRehab@va.gov

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
VA Northern Indiana Health Care System



Choose VA

Trading Card Event

POKÉMON

SPORTS

ONE PIECE

MAGIC
The Gathering

and MORE!

Free to SHOP & TRADE

WHEN?

ARMED FORCES DAY
Saturday May 16th
9am—6pm

WHERE?

**Mars Hill
VFW**

3011 S Lockburn St
Indianapolis, IN 46241

Off of Kentucky Ave & Holt Rd
across from AutoZone

Family Friendly



JUST SHOW UP!

Call or text questions or
to reserve vending tables:
(219) 363 - 4032





Want to get involved

Contact Chris Brown

Phone; 765-283-5406

Email; cbrown@UALocal440.org

A 501 (C) Organization

(Donations) Fill out checks to **fill the fox hole** and mail to

Local 440 1521 Brookville Crossing Way Indianapolis, IN 46239



Fill the Fox Hole our Mission

Every night, thousands of servicemen and women fall asleep dreaming of home, military life is re-warding, but is often a dangerous and lonely enterprise.

Founded by Ex-military and Local 440 member Ralph Culver and his wife Alice, Fill-The-Foxhole collects, packs, and sends hundreds of care packages to our servicemen and women around the globe. Since 2013, thousands of our troops have discovered a little touch of home in their Christmas time mail. Joined by Plumbers, Steam-fitters, and HVAC-R Service Technicians of Local 440, volunteers give their time to celebrate those who give so much more. Follow us on

Facebook!

What we are needing

If you know anyone who will not be home for the holidays, please provide us with their name, rank, address, (state side), APO or FPO. We will do our best to send them one or more boxes to help them feel more comfortable while they are away.



Donations





SUMMER CAMPOUT 2026

WHERE: Lake Melissa Campground, Quincy Indiana

WHEN: August 21st - 23rd, 2026

FRIDAY NIGHT:

Campfire at the Shelter House

SATURDAY NIGHT:

Dinner Night 1700 (5:00 PM)

Bring a Covered Dish. Fried Chicken will be provided.

Evening Entertainment: A Team Karaoke

SUNDAY MORNING: 0830 (8:30 AM)

Pitch-in Breakfast with Biscuits and Gravy supplied.

Campers Association Meeting will follow breakfast

There will be a \$15 Registration Fee
(All attendees 16 or older. Includes a t-shirt)

**All visitors must stop to register at the office. The owners have asked all campers to PLEASE WATCH THEIR SPEED!!!

**Please call to Make or Confirm Reservations. Sites are LIMITED!!!
DEPOSIT REQUIRED!!!

Call: Jennifer Morris 812-236-4403

April 10, 2026



Subject: Charter - Price Increase

To: Department Commanders, Department Adjutants, and Department Quartermasters

From: Quentin Carroll, Director, Administrative Operations

Comrades:

We wish to inform you of an upcoming revision to the fee structure for charters issued by National Headquarters. This adjustment will apply to requests for replacement charters, as well as the required reissuance of charters due to name changes or charter location changes.

Effective **July 1, 2026**, all requests of this nature will be subject to the updated pricing structure outlined below.

This change reflects the need to better align current fees with the increasing costs associated with materials, printing, shipping, and administrative processing. Over time, these expenses have risen significantly, while the charter fee has remained relatively unchanged.

Additionally, older charters often require more extensive research and manual processing due to their condition, format, and the limited availability of electronic historical records. Accordingly, a tiered pricing structure has been implemented to more accurately reflect the level of effort required.

The updated charter fee structure is as follows:

\$50.00 – Date of Institution from 2003 to present

\$75.00 – Date of Institution from 1980 – 2002

\$100.00 – Date of Institution prior to 1980

This updated structure allows us to continue providing accurate and timely charter processing while accounting for the additional resources required.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement this change. Departments are respectfully requested to disseminate this information to all subordinate levels to ensure broad awareness and understanding throughout the organization.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan West", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Dan West
Adjutant General

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON OFFICE

406 W. 34th Street Office 816.756.3590
Kansas City, MO 64111 Fax 816.968.1157

200 Maryland Ave., N.E. Office 202.543.2239
Washington, D.C. 20002 Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org
www.vfw.org



Bloomington Junior Takes Third in VFW National Competition

Smith receives the third place, \$15,000 scholarship prize

PHILADELPHIA (April 11, 2026) – The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is proud to announce Abigail Smith, a homeschool junior from Bloomington, Indiana, has been named the national third place winner and recipient of the \$15,000 VFW Scholarship award in its 2025-2026 Voice of Democracy® scholarship program. Smith was sponsored by Laurens B. Strain VFW Post 604 in Bloomington.

For the first time in two decades, the national winners were announced at a special 79th annual Parade of Winners ceremony hosted during the winners' trip to Founding Forward's Spirit of America Youth Leadership experience at Valley Forge. The trip, awarded to every VFW Department (state) winner, was sponsored by [Twisted X](#).

VFW Junior Vice Commander Glenn Umberger Jr. and VFW Auxiliary President Lois Callahan were joined by Twisted X Senior Director of Sales Clayton Smith to announce this year's national winners and present Smith with her scholarship.

[Read her full essay here.](#)



Open to eligible high school students in ninth through 12th grades, the Voice of Democracy contest requires entrants to write and record a three- to five-minute essay on a democratic, patriotic theme. Nearly 28,000 high school students entered this year's competition, with 52 national finalists vying for their share of a combined \$1.6 million in local, state and national scholarships and awards.

[See the complete list of 2026 Voice of Democracy national winners.](#)

The Voice of Democracy competition theme for 2026-2027 asks students to answer, "What a Veteran Taught Me About America." To learn more about the programs or to download the entry form, visit vfw.org/YouthScholarships.

-vfw-

About the VFW: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and most established major war veterans organization. Founded in 1899, the congressionally chartered VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, Guard and Reserve forces. With more than 1.3 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in nearly 6,000 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans service organization is proud to proclaim "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS" than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans' service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs. For more information or to join, visit our website at vfw.org.

PHOTO CUTLINE: VFW Junior Vice Commander Glenn Umberger Jr. (left) and VFW Auxiliary President Lois Callahan (right) present Voice of Democracy third place winner Abigail Smith (center) with her \$15,000 scholarship during the 2026 Parade of Winners on April 11, 2026, at the Union League in Philadelphia.

National Home Bus Trip Itinerary

September 19-20, 2026

September 19, 2026

9:30 AM Bus Arrive Brazil VFW Post 1127 (Park on Depot St in front of VFW Post)
303 S Depot Street Brazil 47838

10:00 AM Leave Brazil VFW Post 1127

11:15 AM Arrive Greenwood VFW Post 5864 (Park behind building -VFW Post entrance)
1842 Veterans Way
Greenwood IN 46143
317-888-2488

12:00 PM Depart Greenwood VFW Post 5864

TBD Stop on way for smoke break (Will be determined by riders/bus driver)

4:30 PM Arrive Tru by Hilton
2401 Shirley Drive
Jackson Michigan 49202
517-867-5000

5:30 PM Group Dinner – TBD

September 20, 2026

9:00 AM Depart Hotel to go to
VFW National Home
3573 S Waverly Rd
Eaton Rapids MI 48827
800-424-8360

10:00 – 2:00 PM Tours/Lunch/Program (Driver invited to participate/Driver provided lunch)

2:00 PM Depart VFW National Home

TBD Stop on way for smoke break (Will be determined by riders/bus driver)

6:30 PM Arrived Greenwood VFW Post 5864

6:45 PM Depart Greenwood

8:00 PM Arrive Brazil VFW Post 1127

7th District National Home Bus Trip

19-20 September 2026



V F W
N A T I O N A L H O M E

Contact Keith Rohloff (keith.rohloff@outlook.com) to sign up. Bus leaves Brazil VFW Post @ 1000 and Greenwood VFW Post @ 1200 Saturday September 19th, 2026. Cost is \$170 per person/double occupancy at Tru by Hilton in Jackson. **Deadline to sign up is August 20th** or sooner if bus is full (First 46 paid riders) State pick-up point with payment.

Mail your check to:

Keith Rohloff

100 Brinegar Drive

Springville IN 47462

VETERAN FOR LEADERSHIP

DAN GANN

Experienced. Dedicated. Ready to Serve.



★ VFW ELIGIBILITY:

- Served in Iraq and Kuwait
- Retired U.S. Army Reserve 1SG, served from 1984–2007
- Purple Heart Recipient

★ VFW BILLETS SERVED:

- 2016–2019 Post Quartermaster/Adjutant
- 2018–2019 Team Captain, All State
 - ✦ Recipient of the Holycross Award
- 2019–2020 & 2022–2024 All State Commander
- 2022–2023 All State District Quartermaster
- 2022–2024 All-American Post Commander
- 2024–2026 District Sr. Vice Commander
- 2022–2026 National Aide-De-Camp
- 2026 Appointment to National Bylaws Committee
- 2026–Present Membership Chairman

★ SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

- VFW Member since 2003
- Legacy Gold Member
- Centennial Life Member, National Home
- Life Member, DAV
- Life Member, VFW National Home

★ COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- ✦ Co-Founder, Mishawaka Troop Town
- ✦ Co-Founder, Stop 22 Michiana
- ✦ Recipient of the Drum Major Award (City of Mishawaka)

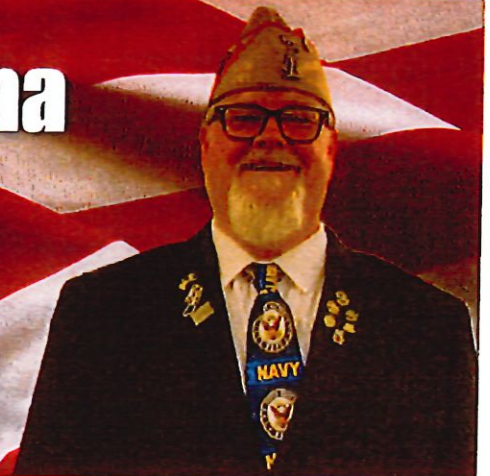
— Vote Dan Gann —
for Department Surgeon

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