



United We Stand



Indiana Combat Veteran

Volume 66 Issue1

January 2024

From the Commanders Desk:



Greetings Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone has had a great holiday season. I hope and pray that 2024 is a prosperous and safe year for all of us and our families. What a busy fall and holiday season we have had. It has been filled with several district meetings and statewide events.

The fall started with a fund raiser for my special project, suicide awareness and prevention. Every year the gun and jewelry store in Brownsburg, Premier Arms, hosts a fund raiser for a not-for-profit. This year for their 22nd anniversary, they selected the VFW and my special project. In one evening, they raised 32,000 dollars. All money collected will be divided between Creative Art for Veterans (CAV) and Mission 22. I want to thank all the individuals, posts and districts that have donated to my special project. There is still room for more donations for these two groups.

The Comrades and Auxiliary visited the National Home and the Indiana Veterans Home in October. We donated \$28,797.98 to the National Home and \$13,500.00 to the Indiana Veterans Home. The Veterans Home money was earmarked to help the Home buy a new bus which was accomplished with the assistance of other service organizations in addition to ourselves.

As State Commander, I have had the honor to represent the VFW at the POW/MIA ceremonies and Veterans Day Parade. I have given speeches at Roubidoux VA-marking the 100th anniversary of Women's health care at the VA and for the FBI recognizing the significance of Veterans on Veterans Day. I have also represented you at Celebrations of Life, our 2023 State Campout, VFW Big Ten Conference and as a member of the IN250 Committee which will recognize and celebrate 250 years of the United States.

Thank you to all the Comrades that have been out in the public working for the VFW. The VFW has been to numerous events for example hockey games, air shows, corn home tournaments, stand downs just to name a few.

Our legislative team has been very busy on the local scene. Working with the Big 4 to create our legislative priorities and creating a "Meet and Greet" with our legislators. Our National legislative Rep is working to ensure we have a very productive meeting when we go to Washington DC in March.

We have many deadlines for programs coming up soon. Reach out to the program chairperson for questions or issues, we don't want you missing a deadline. Thank you for all you do on a daily basis for the VFW. Your hard work may not always be in the spotlight, but it is always appreciated. Do not hesitate to reach out to your Post Commander, District Commander or your Department line officers if you need assistance. We are here to assist you. Thank you for all you do for our Veterans and the VFW.

Yours in Comradeship,

Sheila Corcoran,
Commander
Department of Indiana VFW



Hello Comrades,

I hope everyone had an outstanding Christmas and New Year. I truly appreciate everyone's participation in the deceased comrade's reporting form located on our State VFW website [www.vfwin.org]. This information will assist myself and our department to ensure we know where our brothers & sisters are located. We routinely receive requests from extended family members trying to locate their relatives who have passed. It also provides me with the next of kin's address so I can send a sympathy card.

As we have now entered into 2024, I pray that you and your family are enjoying the new year in good health. It is always a pleasure to participate in our great organizations functions where I get the opportunity to get to know all our members. I enjoy being able to visit our various Districts and Posts in the performance of my Department of Indiana duties as your Chaplain.

I was able to provide our District Chaplains a copy of the Warrior VFW Bible and copies of the VFW Chaplains handbook at the Fall Conference. I am always available to assist our District and Post Chaplains if issues arise. For those Chaplains who have not had an opportunity to attend the National Convention and the National Chaplain workshop, I am pleased to announce that at next year's School of Instruction I will be given the opportunity to hold a class on the duties and responsibilities of Chaplains at the Post and District level. If you are a Post Chaplain and have not received a current copy of the National Chaplains handbook, please Email me [ljpatch@mail.com] and I will send you a copy.

Our organization is special because of the eligibility requirements to join our ranks. As the premier group of Combat Veterans our membership is critical in dealing with the political implications when our Commander in Chief goes in front of our Congressional members to retain and improve benefits for all Veterans. So do your part and try to recruit at least 1 new member. We used to be over 2 million strong, and currently we are scraping to come up with the magic 1 million Member threshold!

Numbers truly do count when we strive to get all the benefits our Veterans deserve!

Yours in LOTCS,

Larry Patch
Department of Indiana Chaplain



2023 Fall Conference



2023 Fall Conference



2023 Fall Conference



Big 10 Conference



Winter C of A



First Place
Ugly Sweater



Winter C of A



Commander in Action



Commander in Action



Commander in Action





Saturday, Sept 9, 2023
@ 4:00 PM

TO **VFW** VETERAN SUICIDE AWARENESS
BENEFIT VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

22 VETERANS DAY COMBAT SUICIDE AWARENESS

BE AN EVENT SPONSOR

Receive Special Recognition at Event & on Radio Aired Call PREMIER ARMS Today to Become a Sponsor!

RED SPONSOR: \$5000

WHITE SPONSOR: \$2500

BLUE SPONSOR: \$1000



FREE POOL
FREE DRINKS!
LIVE MUSIC BY SALLY JOHNSON!
UNBELIEVABLE LIVE AUCTION
SPECTACULAR PRIZE DRAWINGS
FANTASTIC SILENT AUCTION
WORLD FAMOUS PREMIER ARMS
"Mystery Bags"

& MUCH MORE!!

100% of ALL Donations & Sponsorships Will Go to the VFW Dept. of Indiana

SEE YOU @

PREMIER ARMS
3764 S. GREEN RD.
BROWNSBURG, IN 46112
317-696-5000
VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED



PREMIER & P.A. JEWELERS
ARMS BROWNSBURG, IN

\$32,000.00

Raised during our 22nd Anniversary Event for the
Indiana VFW Veteran Suicide Awareness Program

VFW

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



Visit to Indiana Veterans Home



Visit to VFW National Home



Representative Carson presented a Special Female Veterans Award to Commander Sheila Corcoran



MESSAGE FROM THE COOTIES

Hey you lousy Cooties, just wanted to let us know what's going on.

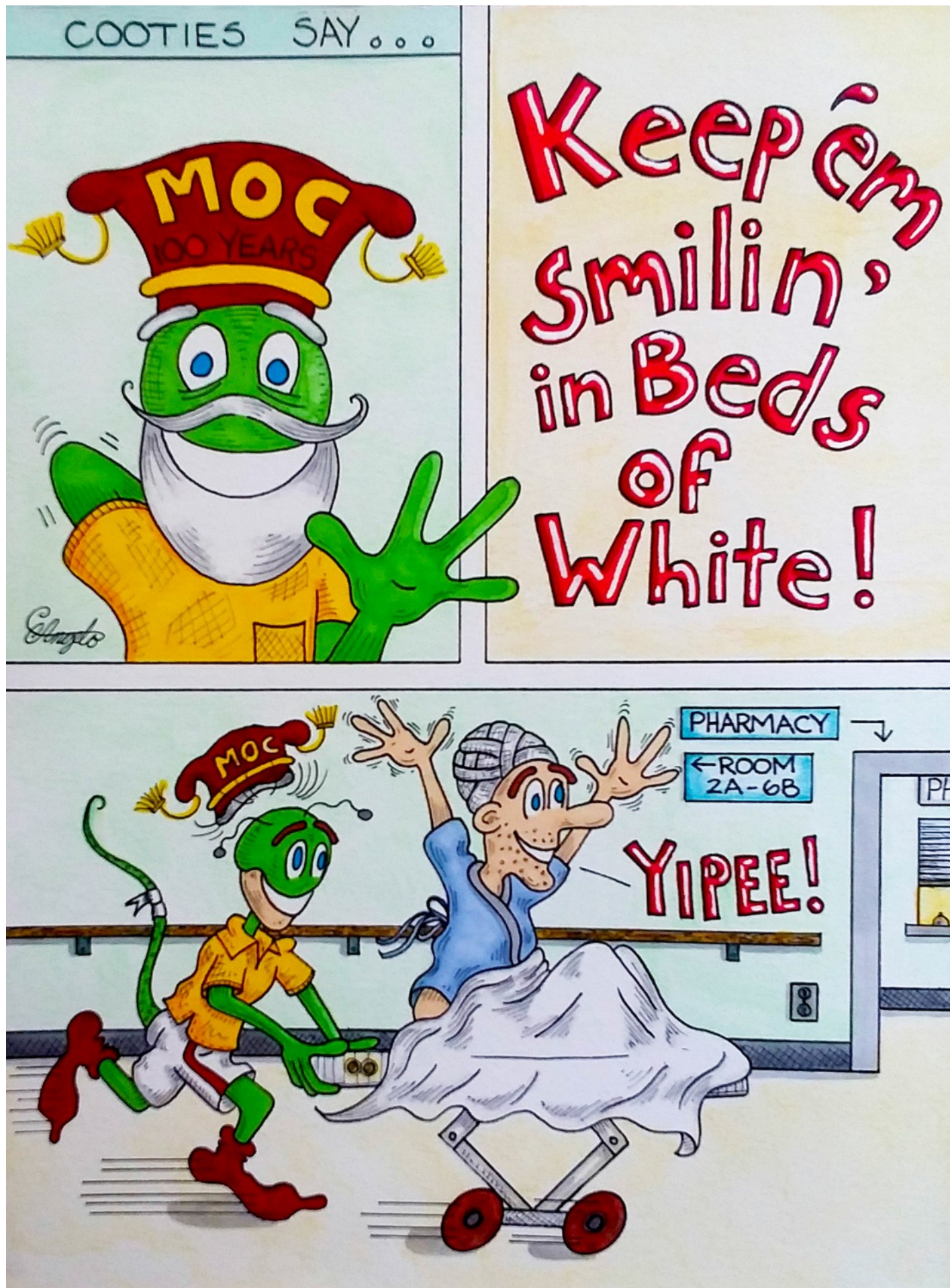
The Scratch for December has been canceled due to the date 12-26-2023 and the holiday season. However we have a joint Holiday party with the MOC/MOCA set for Saturday January 13, 2024 at 1 pm. This will take place at VFW Post 7119, all we're asking is please bring a side dish. Diane Pettit is making a flyer for the event. We will have burgers and dogs. I hope to see everyone there. Have a LOUSY day! If you know of any fellow Cooties/ MOCA members please let them know about this Lousy holiday party.

In LOTCS,

Russell "Gabby" Pryor

Seam Squirrel





DISTRICT 6



Covington Indiana Fountain County Old Guard Post 2395
Grand Reopening!!

DISTRICT 8

Official VFW Post 3281

<  Admin William Thien · Nov 18 · 🌐

VFW Post 3281 donated 1,000.00 each to Shop with a Cop FOP Lodge #99 and # 171 (City and County) and 500.00 to the VFW State Commander Shelia Corcorn's special project Mission 22 to elevate veteran's suicide. Not pictured was also a donation to the Salvation Army of 500.00.



William Thien

Admin Nov 21 · 🌐

VFW Post 3281 donated 500.00 to the Salvation Army. We understand how difficult it is especially this time of year it is for some local families. Pictured from left to right is William Bill Thien and Major Jonathan Fitzgerald of the Salvation Army.



I got in the ring with the champ Larry Holmes

DISTRICT II



Annual Suicide Awareness Walk @ Post 1587

DISTRICT II

Memorial Service for Patrick Mann (Bubbles) @ Post 261



District II Post 1587 Breakfast with Santa



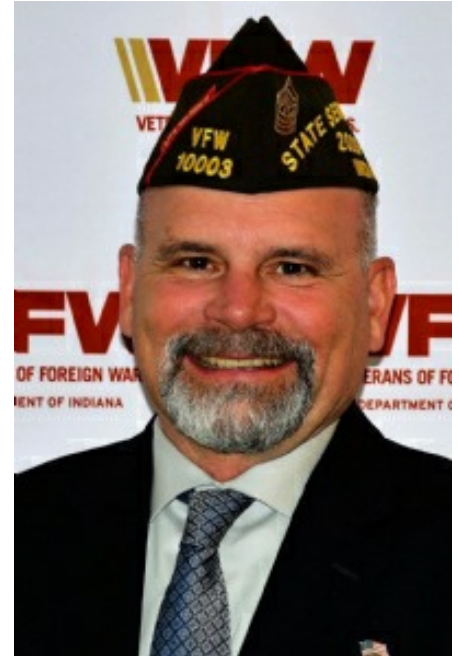
KENNETH (KEN) A. LANGE

Asking for YOUR Support for **SURGEON**

VFW DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA 2024-25

ELIGIBILITY:

- ❖ Desert Storm/Persian Gulf (Post), Yemen, Korea, Iraq, Afghanistan
- ❖ Retired U. S. Marine Corps Sergeant Major (Served close to 29 years from 1983-2012)
- ❖ GOLD LEGACY LIFE MEMBER of VFW Post 10003
- ❖ Life Member of the VFW National Home
- ❖ Member, Military Order of the COOTIE (MOC)



VFW CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS/ROLES:

- Recipient of the:
 - DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA "DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER" LEADERSHIP AWARD 2023
 - All American Post Commander 2022-2023
 - All American Department Membership Chairman 2022-2023
-
- Post Honor Guard Commander 2020-2023
 - Current District 6 Commander
 - Current Department Membership Chairman
 - Department Sgt-at-Arms 2020-2023
 - Department Iraq/Afghanistan Rep and Membership Team Leader (Central) 2021-2022
 - Department Disciplinary Hearing Panel Member 2021 & 2023
 - Department Finance Committee Member 2022-PRESENT
 - VFW Certified National Recruiter 2023-PRESENT
 - National Assistant Inspector General for the Department of Indiana 2021-2022
 - National Convention, "General Resolutions" Council Member 2022
 - National Convention, "National Security & Foreign Affairs" Council Member 2023
 - National Aide-De-Camp 2022-2023

Feel free to contact me anytime at (317) 607-8894 or kenlange64@yahoo.com



Resources for Chaplains

The Chaplain's Corner - by State of Missouri Chaplain and National Chaplain 2021 - 2023 Debb Halter

Good introduction to chaplain's duties.

<https://movfw.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=76106>

Or the easier to remember link: <https://movfw.org/chaplainscorner>

CHAPLAIN'S GUIDE - by State of Pennsylvania Chaplain and Past National Chaplain Peter Hook

Great resource guide for things you will need along the way.

<https://vfwpa.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=88797>

CHAPLAIN'S RESOURCES - by Chaplain (Sky Pilot) Dale A. Iannello, the Military Order of the Cootie

VFW Chaplain material has been consolidated in one location at the national level at: https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html. There you will find a tabbed panel containing information on *Forms*, *Handbook*, *Duties*, *Ethics*, *Memorial*, *Prayer*, *Links* and *Training*.

Find a Mentor:

Find a mentor who you are comfortable calling and working with to improve your skills and to learn from. In fact, have more than one of them. Everyone has something they are good at so you can learn something from everyone. **ASK QUESTIONS!**

I recommend you print the newest **Chaplain's handbook** and read it, highlight it, and share it with fellow Chaplains. The latest version can be found at: https://lotcs.org/Forms/Chaplain/VFW_Chaplain/Manuals/VFW%20Chaplain%20Handbook%202023%20May%20VFW%20Standard.pdf. Chaplain Peter Hook worked hard to expand it this year. It is a work that grows with us.

For updates and information on Chaplain items and Zoom training links, email **Chaplain Peter Hook** at: PeterHook@verizon.net and ask him to put you on the newsletter email distribution list. Good information comes through this email.

It is highly recommended that chaplains attend **ZOOM** training which is held online on the third **Wednesday** of each month at **7:30 p.m. CST** starting in **September 2023**. The Zoom link comes through the Chaplain's newsletter, so get signed up! Also Chaplains can obtain the link under the "Training" tab at: https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html. This gives you an opportunity to get to know other Chaplains and discuss things that are important to our work. **Good ideas are shared!**





VFW members and veterans showed America how they are #StillServing in a powerful way! From coast to coast, and around the world, they united with one another to strengthen bonds in their communities as part of the VFW Day of Service.

It was amazing to see. Now, it's time to gear up for next year and do it all over again!

The third annual VFW Day of Service will kick off May 4, 2024. Be sure this date is noted on your VFW Post's agenda and begin encouraging all members to join in. Let us know you're all in by signing up for 2024 so we can keep you in the loop and track your event!

Sign Up for Day of Service 2024

We'll check back early next year for an update on your planning progress and share more details about VFW Day of Service 2024. In the meantime, check out what other Posts have done in the past to get inspiration for your own service project:

VFW Michigan District 4 Riders provided stuffed animals to local and state police departments and assisted a local nonprofit by building gardening beds.

In Princeton, Texas, VFW Post 9167 did multiple community service projects, ranging from park cleanup, brush clearing to prevent grass fires, meal deliveries with Meals on Wheels and building a home with Habitat for Humanity.

A Veterans Life Center in Butner, North Carolina, was the location for VFW Post 8466's Day of Service project. The group spent the day unloading truckloads of mulch and topsoil to help the facility beautify its grounds.

VFW Post 1145 in Cheyenne, Wyoming hosted a bike roundup by collecting donated bicycles, fixing and selling them. Proceeds from the bike roundup and a corresponding bake sale benefited Veterans Rock, a nonprofit supporting homeless veterans and their families.

What will you plan? We can help you get started!

Don't miss out on your chance to show America how you're #StillServing with your fellow veterans. Start making plans to participate in the 2024 VFW Day of Service today!

COCKTAILS WITH THE COMMANDER

Open Conversation
Ask Your Question
Find Out the Latest

Every Third
Wednesday
7:00 pm EST

See Monthly
GENERAL ORDERS
for Zoom Invite Details



INDIANA

★ 10TH ANNUAL ★

JANUARY 16, 2024

INDIANA STATEHOUSE

200 W. WASHINGTON ST. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE FROM
★ AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

**COFFEE, DONUTS & LUNCH PROVIDED
9AM-1PM**

**10 YEAR
LOOK-BACK
PROGRAM
10:30AM**

**MEET YOUR
LEGISLATORS
★
OVER 50
EXHIBITORS**

Sponsored by Representative John Bartlett &
Todd Huston, Speaker of the House

VeteransLegislativeDay.com



1932 BUDDY POPPY GIRL RETURNS TO NATIONAL HOME



Betty Adamson at 2023 Indiana Day

Betty Christian Adamson still sported her bob, much like the cropped hair in the photo where she handed President Herbert Hoover the first poppy of the year in 1932. Now it's silver, but the spring in her step remains.

Ninety-five-year-old Adamson visited the VFW National Home on September 23 to take part in Indiana Day alongside VFW and Auxiliaries from her home state.

Adamson was one of the first group of children who came to live in the Home not long after it was established in 1925. In 1929 Adamson's father, a World War I veteran, passed away, and she and her two siblings were placed in the VFW National Home by her mother, who was unable to care for them. The siblings would live there for the next 12 years.

1932 Buddy Poppy Child Betty Adamson



"I liked living at the Home. There were lots of other children to play with, and the Home did everything for us," she recalled.

She recounted playing often on the playground, helping her house mother with chores, going to the Methodist Church on Sunday, and enjoying the abundant Cootie Christmases.

"I had two different housemothers during my time there, and they both were wonderful, affectionate, and good cooks," she added with a smile.

Adamson was only four years old when she was selected as the 1932 Buddy Poppy Girl. Her memories are scant about the trip to Washington, D.C., to entertain an audience with the President of the United States.



1932 Buddy Poppy Child Betty Adamson with 2023 Buddy Poppy Child Layla

"I remember more about the long train ride there," she chuckles. "Mr. Adams, the National Home Director at the time, was trying to keep me occupied by teasing that there was a bear out of the window of the train."

Adamson and her siblings left the Home when she was 14 returning to their mother, who had remarried. The former Buddy Poppy Girl enjoyed a happy childhood at the VFW National Home and, as a result, went on to live a full and stable life, married for over 50 years until the death of her husband and raising four children who had 15 children of their own, and 30 great-grandchildren.

"I am so thankful to the VFW National Home," expressed Adamson.

Visit the VFW National Childrens Home website for all the exciting happenings and learn how you can make a difference. www.vfwnationalhome.org

Thanks to your help we presented \$28,797.98 in donations on Indiana Day. Keep up the good work. Don't forget to report it also.

Hope to see you at next year's Indiana Day

at the VFW National Home in September 2024

Happy and safe Holidays to all,

Diane Pettit

State VFW National Home Chairman



TAPS



District 5	Richard L Hamilton Post 1152 10/20/2023
District 5	William T Wyant Post 1152 10/21/2023
District 5	Richard L Mills Post 1152 12/14/2023
District 9	George H Uppling Post 2021 6/3/2023
District 9	James A Redding Post 2021 12/19/2023
District 9	Jeffery L Chew Post 1925 10/24/2023
District 9	Patrick J Fry Post 2021 7/21/2023
District 9	Dennis S Craft Post 2021 10/12/2023
District 10	Kenneth A Harmon Post 1282 9/9/2023
District 10	Lenard F Hobbs Post 1108 8/3/2023
District 10	Lester M Browing Post 2695 11/9/2023
District 10	Mark E Brunton Post 1108 11/17/2023
District 10	Rex E Alexander Post 2695 10/18/2023
District 10	Richard E Gifford Post 1108 11/18/2023
District 10	Larry E Linville Post 2695 11/25/2023
District 10	James A Williams Post 1108 12/17/2023
District 11	Jack E Sandlin Post 1120 9/20/2023
District 11	Patrick Mann Post 261 10/1/2023



**Deadline for the May 2024 Combat Veteran Newsletter
is April 22nd!!**

Let's share our special events to everyone! I will need all articles, pictures and special event fliers to me by **April 22, 2024** for our May 2024 Combat Veteran newsletter! As far as format goes, articles can be in Microsoft word, Email text or Adobe PDF file. Pictures should be in JPEG but I have a pretty large selection of photography programs so I should be able to accommodate most formats. Fliers can be in Word, PDF or any Photo format. Please submit the items for the Newsletter to me at: **(ljpatch@mail.com)** or send to me at 9034 Eiderdown Way, Indianapolis, IN 46234. If you have any questions please Email me or call me (317)450-9408.

Yours in LOTCS,

Larry J Patch

Larry J Patch

Combat Veteran Editor



MILITARY HUMOR

IN-COUNTRY VET



HARD TO EXPLAIN IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN THERE!