



Department of Oklahoma
Veterans of Foreign Wars



P.O Box 1126 OKC. OK 73101-1126
405 850-0815/ www.vfwoklahoma.org

February 2022

2021-2022 Series

*“The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain”
Dolly Parton*

DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA HEADQUARTERS
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

General Orders No. 08

2021-2022 Series

1. Attention is directed to Section 217 of the **National Bylaws, Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office.** *Post officers shall be nominated, elected and installed as prescribed in Section 217 of the Manual of Procedure.*

Manual of Procedure, Section 217, Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office:

Nomination: *Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote, provided, however that when a poll system is used, as hereinafter described, nominations must be closed at the meeting prior to the election to allow the Adjutant to prepare a printed ballot.*

Election: *Post Officers shall be elected in April. Balloting for Post officers may be conducted by open vote or written secret ballot (handwritten or printed) at a regular Post meeting, or, if required by Post Bylaws or authorized by Post vote prior to the opening of nominations, by a poll system. Absentee ballots and proxy votes are prohibited.*

2. Attention is directed to: **National By-Laws, Sec 222, Delegates, District Convention & Meetings, Department and National Conventions:** provides that (a) delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. (b) Delegates elected under this section shall not be considered instructed and may exercise full authority in the duty to be performed. (c) Each Post will pay, in accordance with its Department ByLaws, a delegate registration fee for each and every delegate to which the Post shall be entitled. (d) 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 register delegate for the National Convention

Pursuant to MOP, Sec 222, Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected a regular meeting in April. Delegate strength will be based on members in good standing as of March 31st. Delegate and alternates of each Post shall serve as delegates throughout the year provided, they remain members in good standing in the respective Post within the District.

3. Proof of Eligibility Requirements for Officers: All Posts, Districts and Departments should be reminded of the provisions of Sections 216, 416, and 516 of the Manual of Procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted to the respective Adjutant and properly reviewed.

4. Commanders on all levels are reminded that according to Section 105 of the National Bylaws, a member whose dues are unpaid after their anniversary date ceases to be a member in good standing and loses all rights of membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. They shall not attend meetings or conventions and shall not participate in Post, County Council, District, Department or National functions.

/os/

JAMES BASSETT
STATE COMMANDER

OFFICIAL:

/ os /

Curtis A. Watts
Adjutant

Commander Jim Bassett

Oklahoma is 10th out of 14 Departments within the Southern Conference.
Oklahoma is 43rd out of 52 Departments within the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

As of 24 January 2022

This month we will hold our Mid Winter. We are over half way through the year. How are we doing on our membership drives? Retaining our members? Getting word out to the community that we are here, and we are relevant?

Along the lines of membership, National has developed a New and Reinstated Membership Grant initiative for VFW Posts. Starting January 1, 2022, every VFW Post that signs up and submits full membership dues for each member will receive a grant based on the type of membership submitted while funds are available. As of 25 January, national has paid out \$38,390 under the program. This is money for recruiting. Recruiting versus retention. If we retain our members, then we have cut the numbers to recruit in half. Let's make it easy on ourselves. What are you doing to keep your members?

If your post or district has a big signature event, let us know. The department is here to help you. Let us know and we can talk to sponsors or help get word out. We need to be proactive in our communications of events

My class of commanders has created a perpetual Voice of Democracy scholarship. Currently it is only a \$2,000 to the recipient. The more money donated to the scholarship, the more can be awarded to the recipient. To donate to this worthy cause, you can send the money to our department to be collected as a total donation from the department or you can send your donation to:

Class 122 VOD Scholarship
James Lierz
VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816.756.3390

The donation window will permanently close June 30th, 2022.

We meet to *“transact business of mutual benefit. Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations. Let us uphold always the obligations of unselfish comradeship and loyalty to our organization and to the government of the United States of*

America.” Please, let us not forget that. Spreading gossip, rumors, or lies about someone or something does not help any of us.

With the rise Omicron, I want everyone to take the precautions that they feel they need to do to stay healthy. Be it wearing a mask, social distancing, taking the vaccine, or staying home. Do whatever you feel is best for your health and your family. This can be a depressing time of year for many, and it can be made worse by the isolation because of Covid. So, please keep an eye out friends and family, don't be afraid to check with people. Buddy Checks. Stay healthy, stay on top of deadlines, but mostly, remember to have fun. We have many wonderful opportunities out there; we just need to capitalize on them.

WW II Recognition!

World War II veterans are considered “the greatest generation”. Many events and “items” have been scheduled or held to commemorate and honor them. In Oklahoma we worked with VFW National and Dream Flights to provide them with a free flight in a 1947 Boeing Steerman airplane. Let us go over our membership rosters and find our WW II veterans. Maybe we can hold an event and recognize them. Thank them for all they did for us.

Jim Bassett

State Commander
Department of Oklahoma
Veterans of Foreign Wars
P. O. Box 1126
Oklahoma City Oklahoma 73101
405.664.3929
Bassettj15@yahoo.com
<https://vfwoklahoma.org/>

While others talk...do.

While others fear...believe.

While others wait...work.

Rules of Engagement for the Oklahoma VFW/Auxiliary Town Hall.

The Mid Winter Town Hall is for the VFW and Auxiliary. From the VFW we will VFW General Counsel, John Muckelbauer, Department Commander, National Council Member, and Quartermaster will be present.

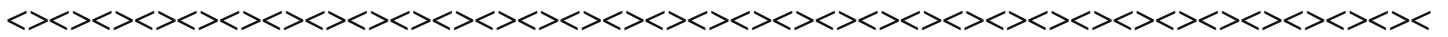
From the Auxiliary we will have National Conductress, Lois Callahan, President, Secretary/Treasurer, and National Council Member will be present.

This is a VFW and Auxiliary Town Hall. Topics will remain within this area, VFW and or Auxiliary. This is an open Town Hall and questions are encouraged. However, questions dealing with a specific disciplinary event will not be discussed.

- When asking a question, state your name and post.
- Be respectful.
- Do not ask personal questions.
- Keep an open mind about answers. People have different opinions and are allowed to say them.
- No political statements.
- No personal attacks.

We request that you enter, go through the reception line, help yourself to a beverage or snack, then take a seat so that we can start quickly.

We would like some questions in advance so that we can share them with our guests.



Department of Oklahoma Shirts update and status.

Covid has struck in several different ways. We all know about the illness. What many of us missed is the shortages of workers in almost all industries. The VFW Store has had issues with shortages of merchandise as well as vendors to provide products. That is where we got trapped. Many vendors were short staffed as well as short product to fulfill orders. We have not placed an order until we could get everything caught up. I am still waiting on several shirts that are on back order.

I have the shirts for the following individuals:

Type	Color	Size	Ordered	Name	Emblem
Tactical	Red	2XL	2	Joseph Delaughter	Cross
Tactical	Royal Blue	2XL	2	Joseph Delaughter	Cross
Two-tone	Black/Gold	2XL	1	Thanitia Wiggins	VFW New
Two-tone	Black/Gold	2XL	1	Michael Paradiso	VFW New
Two-tone	Black/Gold	L	1	Rick Musgrove	OKC Cross Malta
Dress	Burgundy	XL	1	Beverly Hammontree	Aux no outline
Tactical	Graphite	XL	1	Beverly Hammontree	Aux no outline

Please contact me if you have ordered a shirt and have not received it. We will reorder shirts soon.

Ron Albert currently has a list of shirts. We will verify if your shirt is on that list a double order will not happen.

Senior Vice Commander Jeremy Owen

Comrades, I hope these general orders find you healthy, if not I pray for a speedy recovery. We are well into this new year and halfway through our VFW year. We are doing great things for this department and don't need to slow down! Our membership is a little bit down, I know we can pick those numbers up. If you retain annual members, it takes no time at all to reach our numbers. Remember that just a simple phone call can get a member to stay in this great organization! We have our mid-winter conference this month and i hope to see you in attendance. We have our awards banquet during this timeframe, come show these kids your support, after all they're a huge reason why we do what we do.

I want to let everyone know that I am starting to fill next years appointments and would like to extend an invitation to every member in this Department to contact me if you feel there is a position that you have the passion and want to fill!

I will also be starting a raffle for a PitBoss Pro Series 1600 Pellet Grill. The tickets will be sold at 1 for \$5, or 5 for \$20. I should have the tickets at Mid-Winter. If you're interested, please let me know. The drawing is scheduled for our state convention in June.

Have you thought about supporting our very own Oklahoma VFW Foundation? There are several ways to do it: Amazon smile is a great way. Just go to <https://smile.amazon.com> once there then find Oklahoma Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation. Post donations & personal donations are another great way to support our Foundation. Donations are tax deductible. Donating to the Oklahoma VFW Foundation is a way of donating back to Posts within our department and our programs. Donors may also designate where they want their donation dollars to go toward, for instance, Veterans Services, Honor Guards, etc. Donations can be sent to Oklahoma VFW Foundation, [P.O. Box 1126, Oklahoma City, OK](mailto:okvfwfoundation.org) or by visiting the Foundation website at <https://okvfwfoundation.org> and the selecting the donate button.



Jeremy Owen
State Senior Vice Commander
Department of Oklahoma

Junior Vice Commander

Erica Traxler

*Student Veterans of America Liaison
Citizenship Education Chair*

Comrades,

I hope you are happy and healthy. As districts go into their meetings, they will be nominating personnel to fill each position for the upcoming year. Good luck; choose wisely, be open to change, be transparent, and be ready to work. I know the person you elect as your district and post commanders will represent you well as well as represent Oklahoma well. If you are looking to take on more responsibility look to your post and district positions, look to the chair positions at the state level, and reach out to people to inform them that you are interested. If you have not yet held a position start with something small at your post or shadow a person to learn what the responsibilities are.

Social media is a powerful tool that can assist in the successes of every event we host in Oklahoma. Comrade Kinsler does a great job of reaching out to people to get the information so he can share it across the platforms that we use. He gets as much information out as he can, so if you have an event reach out to him so he can share it, but also post it on your social media pages.

Mid-Winter is coming up quick. As some of you know Comrade Owen and myself were invited to the Texas Mid-Winter conference in Corpus Christi, Texas. It was fantastic. We were treated well, educated on many things within the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars, we networked like crazy, and we build long-lasting relationships with our fellow comrades and Auxiliary members. We were treated like family, and I look forward to returning the favor when some of their members attend our state convention. I look forward to seeing each of you at Mid-Winter, catching up, checking in, and having a great time. We are always looking for vendors, so please get them signed up to attend. The only way these conventions can be successful is by people participating. We can learn from one another, assist with events, and help make the team stronger.

Membership is important for multiple reasons. One is that we need the numbers so we can sit in front of Congress. We lobby with Congress to get bills passed into law in order to take care of our fellow comrades and their families. Numbers helps us do that. The second reason is that when we bring in new members it brings in hope for the future of this organization. The more we recruit the more people we have to continue this amazing organization that has been built for us. The third reason is for more volunteers. Nothing happens without volunteers to do the work. If we bring people in from the start, then we have a higher chance of getting them to stay. Show them what we are about, what we do for our communities, what we do to help our

veterans get their disability money, how we lobby congress. By showing you are proving that we are not all talk, but that we take action and actions speak louder than words. As of today we have 10,585 members and are ranked 45th in the nation out of 54 areas. We can do better than this. Our pool of people is 342,816 according to okpolicy.gov. We have many veterans to reach out to, we just have to try. You can do it!

Training is largely important to the success of this organization. Throwing people into a position to see if they sink or swim is not how I want to conduct business. I think we should be teaching, coaching, and mentoring our incoming officers because if they fail, we fail. If they succeed, we succeed. We are a team, so please reach out if you need help or are unsure of something. If there is training being offered, please take advantage of it. You may already know everything that is being covered, so what you can do is offer information, assist your fellow comrades in being successful. If something is unclear, then ask questions. You may not know what is being taught and may learn something.

Traveling can get expensive. I checked with the Lawton Chamber of Commerce, and they work with people and events to help with the cost of different things. I will be attaching the application packet as a reference for this. They can do discounted hotel rooms for a certain number of people, restaurant gift cards, help get venues for events, get guest speakers for events, and so much more. It would be good to know if other Chambers across the state offer anything like this for when we have large events in your town. Examples of events are Schools of Instruction, Commander's Homecoming, Officer Training, Conventions, District meetings, and more. Please reach out if you have anything from your chamber that can benefit the members of the VFW across the state to make their travels easier (and cheaper).

Thank you again for allowing me to serve you as the Oklahoma Junior Vice Commander. This is truly an honor. I look forward to seeing you at Mid-Winter at the Embassy Suites Hotel by Hilton. Please call, text, or email if you need anything.

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Erica Traxler

Junior Vice Commander, VFW Oklahoma

Student Veterans of America Liaison

Citizenship Education Chair

989-239-5999

ericatraxlervfw@gmail.com

State Adjutant/Quartermaster

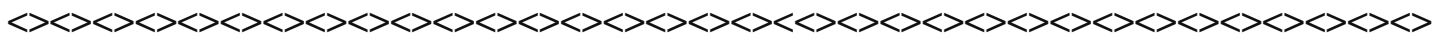
Curt Watts

Department Parliamentarian (RP)

COMMANDERS & ADJUTANTS: Comrades, Please note that we have attached a Delegate worksheet for Posts & Districts with these General Orders. A copy will also be posted in our “members Only” section of our department website at www.vfwoklahoma.org Once delegates are elected at your Post meeting in April, Completed delegate worksheets can be either mailed into the Department Headquarters or emailed to vfwokadj@outlook.com Please ensure the delegate worksheet is signed by both the Post Commander and Adjutant. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Assistant Department Adjutant/Quartermaster: Comrades, I would like to tell you that Comrade Andrea Melcher from Glenpool Post 9126 has agreed to be the Assistant Adjutant/Quartermaster for the remainder of the 2021-2022 year. She is currently serving as Glenpool Post 9126 Adjutant/Quartermaster. Andrea’s email is atherrien83@gmail.com She will be at our Mid-Winter Conference helping perform some of the duties within the department that State Commander Jim Bassett has tasked her to perform. Therefore, when you see or hear from her, please understand she is working as well on behalf of the department. Please don’t hesitate to introduce yourself and say hey.

ALL: If you are planning on attending the Mid-Winter Banquet, please see the enclosed or the attached Mid-Winter Banquet Announcement and Ticket Information. You must choose between either the chicken dish or the pork dish when purchasing your tickets. We hope you will join us for an evening of comradeship and recognition of our awardees.



National Council Member

Curt Watts

Comrades, I trust and pray that you are in good health and spirits as you read these humble words of mine. I do know we have members and others who are down with certain illnesses and injuries, and I ask in the name of comradeship that we continue to reach out to them and their families offering our assistance and prayers. we can also use it as a time to reflect on the past while building on the future with renewed resolutions, promises, and determination.

As your National Council Member, it is my goal and desire to always represent you, speak out for you, and do what we believe is best for the VFW Department of Oklahoma within our National organization.

I wanted to inform you of a few things on the National level.

Retirement of Quartermaster General Debra Anderson:

I have previously sent out an email showing Debra's announcement of her retirement as Quartermaster General effective March 2nd at close of business. Due to her timeline, if the National Council does indeed elect an interim Quartermaster General, it will be by ballot vote. Therefore, it is my desire as your National Council member, to hear which candidate you would prefer that I vote for. In talking to Commander Bassett, we will hold a short discussion at the close of our Joint Session on Saturday morning to discuss this issue allowing you as the members to select your choice. Again, I am attaching the campaign letters/announcements for both candidates, Hal Roesch and Marc Garduno. I would like to point out that there will still be an election for Quartermaster General at our National Convention in July.

Retirement of Adjutant General Kevin Jones:

I hope all of you have seen that I forwarded Comrade Kevin Jones announcing of his retirement at the end of our upcoming National Convention in July. In addition, Sr. Vice Commander in Chief Tim Borland has announced that he would be appointing Assistant Adjutant General Dan West as the incoming Adjutant General. Kevin has done a great job for the VFW over his many years working in Kansas City, and we wish him a happy retirement.

National Legislative Conference: Unfortunately, again this year, due to COVID restrictions, the National Legislative Conference and the Voice of Democracy Parade of Winners will be in virtual settings. This is unfortunate for us, because it is important for our Senators and Representatives on Capital Hill to see us and hear from us face to face! Furthermore, it is great for our department Voice of Democracy to go to Washington D.C. and see for themselves where our Nation conducts its business as a republic. As of today, I am being told that even the Commander-in-Chief's Testimony before Congress has a pretty good chance of being conducted via tele-conference versus in person.

National Legislative Service:

The 117th Congress is now in its second session. Although there were some legislative victories for veterans in 2021, there is still much work to be done. The VFW 2022 Priority Goals focus on Budget; Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs; Education, Employment, and Transition Assistance; Health Care; Military Quality of Life; and National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA. The VFW will continue to work diligently to ensure members of Congress improve care and benefits for veterans, service members, and their families.

The VFW participated in a roundtable, "The True Cost of our Promise to Toxic-Exposed Veterans," hosted by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The discussion focused on H.R.3967, the Honoring our PACT Act of 2021, a comprehensive plan to provide veterans with health care and benefits related to toxic exposures. VFW Legislative Director Pat Murray stated that VA's process in determining presumptive conditions related to toxic exposures should include transparency, timelines, and an independent review board. Watch the roundtable.

The House passed VFW-supported H.R. 4673, the Ensuring Veterans' Smooth Transition (EVEST) Act. This bill would require VA to automatically enroll eligible veterans into its health care system upon receipt of confirmation from DOD. If passed into law, this proposal would provide a seamless transition of health care, unless transitioning service members choose to opt out of the VA health care system. Now the VFW calls upon the Senate to take up this important piece of legislation and pass this bill.

The VFW currently supports 146 bills; and opposes one bill pending before the 117th Congress.

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, PMurray@vfw.org.

VFW Foundation:

The Uniting to Combat Hunger (UTCH) Grant will reopen on Feb. 1, 2022. Through this grant program, Posts and Auxiliaries that donate funds and food to their local food banks, food pantries and community kitchens may apply for up to \$5,000 in grant funding. Posts and Auxiliaries may receive additional funding for hours accumulated by members volunteering at a soup kitchen, food bank or any nonprofit organization program focused on relieving food insecurity. The grant will remain open until July 31, 2022, or whenever the budget for the program has been exhausted. The application form, complete with full guidelines, will be accessible the day the grant opens at vfw.org/UTCH.

Contact: VFW Foundation Administrator Richard Potter, RPotter@vfw.org.

Comrades, feel free to contact me at my email address or my cell number below if desired.
Respectfully,

Curt Watts
National Council of Administration 2021-22
Oklahoma
vfwokncm@outlook.com
405.590.8577

***Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen & Teacher of the Year Chairman
Mike Devenitch***

VFW YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS: Now is the time to showcase your post, district and state winners with pictures, social media posts and newspaper articles. Let your teachers, students and supporters know you will be back next year. Support your winners to the Mid-Winter Conference: Planning on 2nd and 3rd place winners to be presented at the morning Joint Meeting and the 1st place to be recognized at the evening dinner banquet on Saturday, February 19th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman (2501 Conference Dr.).

Oklahoma VFW State Essay Winners:		
Voice of Democracy Winners:		
<u>1st Place</u>	<u>2nd Place</u>	<u>3rd Place</u>
AdyLynn Anderson District 15 Post 1193 Lawton HS	Justin James District 7 Post 8798 Eufaula HS	Mariah Williams District 1 Post 2592 Vinita HS
Patriot Pen Winners:		
<u>1st Place</u>	<u>2nd Place</u>	<u>3rd Place</u>
Andrea Robles District 14 Post 4574 MaDill Middle School	Sophia Highley District 1 Post 2592 Commerce Middle School	Abhimanyu Sukhdial District 8 Post 2027 Stillwater Junior High
Teachers of the Year:		
<u>1st Place</u>	<u>Runner-Up</u>	
Ryanne Foret District 15 Post 4876 Navajo Public Schools (Altus)	Timothy Hagan District 7 Post 474 Ft. Gibson Middle School	
<i>Congratulations to all the winners! The first-place winners will now compete at the National Level.</i>		

Due to the pandemic and the cancellation of Washington meetings, the VFW will host a virtually Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarship awards show, the Parade of Winners. Be sure to check for information on-line to see when the event will be released/hosted. End of February/early March is expected.

We expect the 2022-2023: **Voice of Democracy (VOD)** and the **Patriot's Pen (PP)** youth essay topics to be released sometime next month. See

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships> for more info.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR (ToY): As with the essay, please support your teachers to the Mid-Winter Convention. See <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year> for more info.

VOD/PP/ToY CONTACT: Michael H. Devenitch, (405) 819-9914. 4224 Manhattan Dr. Moore, OK, 73160 sentrymike@yahoo.com



***Veterans and Military Services Committee Chair
Tony McGrew***

Hello Comrades,

VMS Programs are an integral part of the VFW's never-ending obligation to assist members of the active-duty military, National Guard and reserves, as well as their families. VMS is broken down into 3 distinct stand-alone programs.

- Unmet Needs
- Military Assistance Program (MAP)
- VFW "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship" program



* Unmet Needs provides financial assistance to service members, veterans, and their families experiencing a financial hardship directly related to their military service.

* Assistance, not a hand-out.

* The financial assistance is in the form of a one-time grant in an amount up to \$2,500. All grants are paid directly to the "creditor" companies (such as the electric company, mortgage company, landlord, etc.) and not to the individual.

* Funds can be used for rent, car repairs, medical expenses, infant-care items and many other necessities.

* Each case is reviewed individually and acceptance determined by a committee.

* Applied for on line at: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants>

VMS Fund Raisers:

The Department collected \$650 in sales of VMS Pins. Thank you to all those who participated and purchased the pins.

We still have the tickets available to purchase for the upcoming drawing to be held at Mid-Winter for the K-Bar Knives, Bottles of Specialty Whiskey. 30 mm Bottle Popper and small knife.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities and Events:

Oklahoma Army National Guard Crossroads Events

Location: 3535 NE Military Circle, OKC 73111

Date & Time

5 February – 0800hrs.

** Crossroads Events are sponsored by the OKANG and provides information to troops on transitioning to civilian life and their VA Benefits. They are planning on more events in March, April, May, June, July, August and September.

All for One; One for All

Tony McGrew

State VMS Chair

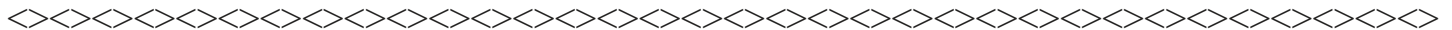
District 10 Commander

Department of Oklahoma

405-820-6467

Tony.vfw8706@gmail.com

<https://www.vfwoklahoma.org>



Scouting Chairman, Clint Stidd

Comrades, Scouting applications are due to the Post by 1 March 2022 and they are due to the Department no later than 15 March 2022. Clint Stidd our Scouting Chairman has asked that Scouting packets be sent directly to him at

Clint Stidd

1606 E. Colonial Dr.

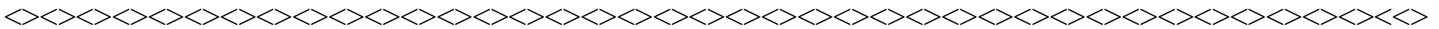
Sallisaw, OK 74955

DISTRICT MEETING INFORMATION

D-1 > 08 Apr 22	1100hrs>Post 5307 Salina>
D-3 > 01 Jun 22	1100hr>Post 4446 Stigler>
D-4 > 05 Feb 22	1100hrs>Post1198 Coalgate > State Cdr. Jim Bassett
D-5 > 06 Feb 22	1000hrs>Post 7977 Skiatook > State Cdr. Jim Bassett
D-7 > 05 Feb 22	1100hrs>Post 8798 Eufaula> St. Surgeon Mike Irons
D-8 > 06 Feb 22	1100hrs>Post 1201 Ponca City> State Quartermaster Curt Watts
D-9 > 12 Feb 22	1000hrs>Post 7740 Crescent> Sr. Vice Owen & Jr. Vice Traxler
D-10 >14 May 22	1000hrs>Post 7192 Midwest City> Jr. Vice Cdr. Erica Traxler
D-13 >07 May 22	1230hrs>Post 6143 Weatherford>
D-14 >05 Feb 22	1100hrs> Post 5263, Ft. Sill> Sr. Vice Owen & Jr. Vice Traxler
D-15 >14 May 22	1100hrs> Post 4876 Altus> Jr. Vice Traxler

DATES TO REEMBER:

01 Feb> National Freedom Day
12 Feb > Lincoln's Birthday
14 Feb> St. Valentine's Day
18 Feb> VFW-OK Mid-Winter Conference 18-20 Feb 22, Embassy Suites, Norman, OK
21 Feb> President's Day
22 Feb> Washington's Birthday



Comrades & Auxiliary Sisters & Brothers,

Our Mid-Winter Conference will be held 18-20 February at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Norman Hotel & Conference Center where we had our Fall-Festival. Please see the information below to book your hotel room plus see the following Banquet Announcement & Ticket Information. The group room rate is available for Thursday through Sunday.

It is always impossible to get this information to everyone in one email, so we ask your help in disseminating this information to all those interested.

Thanks,
Curt, Debra & Darryl

From the Hotel:

Hello there!

We're glad you can join us for the February meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars!

We have a room block reserved at Embassy Suites by Hilton Norman Hotel & Conference Center for February 18, 2022 through February 20, 2022. Booking your room is simple, just select "Book a Room" from the link provided below to receive your group's preferred rate.

We're looking forward to seeing you in February! We hope you enjoy your stay and your group's event!

Book Your Room

Event Dates: February 18, 2022 - February 20, 2022

Book by: January 29, 2022

You may call the hotel to make reservations at 405-364-8040 or use the link below which is the preferred method:

2 Room Suite -1 King Bed-nonsmoking – \$99.00
2 Room Suite -2 Queen Beds-nonsmoking - \$99.00

Group Web Link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/vfwstatemeetingfebruary2022/>

Questions?

Contact:
Curt Watts
Adjutant/Quartermaster
VFW Dept. of Oklahoma
vfwhqokqm@outlook.com
405.590.8577

DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA MID-WINTER CONFERENCE 2022 BANQUET TICKETS NOW ON SALE!!!!

BANQUET WILL BE HELD 6:30PM, SATURDAY 19
FEBRUARY 2022

MENU:

- FRIED HERB CHICKEN W/GRAVY, WHIPPED POTATOES & GREEN BEANS
- OR
- GRILLED PORK CHOP W/GRAVY, WHIPPED POTATOES & GREEN BEANS

ABOVE CHOICES TO BE SERVED WITH CHEF'S CHOICE SALAD & DESSERT, WATER,
ICED TEA & COFFEE

PLEASE NOTE YOUR CHOICE OF MEAT ON YOUR TICKET ORDER!

TICKETS ARE \$39.00 EACH AND CAN BE PAID BY CHECK,
CREDIT CARD OR BY PAYPAL INVOICE TO VFW-OKLAHOMA,
ATTN: QM CURT WATTS@ VFWHQOKQM@OUTLOOK.COM OR
VFWHQOKLAHOMA@OUTLOOK.COM OR (405) 590-8577 OR
(405) 850-0815

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED PRIOR TO CONFERENCE!

(DEADLINE FOR TICKET PURCHASES ARE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MONDAY, 14 FEB 2022.)

NOTES: A SMALL PROCESSING FEE WILL BE APPLIED FOR CREDIT CARD & PAYPAL INVOICE
PAYMENTS. WE APOLOGIZE FOR THIS INCONVENIENCE

VFW OKLAHOMA MID-WINTER 2022 CONFERENCE BANQUET TICKET PURCHASE

As the Oklahoma VFW & VFW Auxiliary prepares for our Annual Mid-Winter Conference in February 2022, we ask for your support by participating in our Mid-Winter Conference Banquet which will be held on Saturday 19 February 2020 at 6:30 pm. The Embassy Suites Norman Hotel will be providing us a meal. It will be a great time as we honor our Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, and Teacher of the Year recipients and hear our National Officer representatives speak to us all.

PRE-PURCHASE BANQUET TICKETS: Banquet tickets are \$39.00 each. Deadline for ticket purchases is close of business Monday, 14 Feb 2020. If you have any questions please feel free to call Curt Watts, Department Adj/QM, at (405) 590-8577 or Department Admin at (405) 850-0815.

Please forward all ticket requests to vfwhqoklahoma@outlook.com or vfwhqokqm@outlook.com or mail to:

VFW Department of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1126
Oklahoma City, OK 73101

Please complete the following page and mail with your payment or let us know and we can invoice you directly via PayPal where you can pay with Credit/Debit Card or with a PayPal Account.

Checks should be made payable to **VFW Dept. of Oklahoma** (Please note “Banquet Ticket” on your check.)

YOUR NAME: _____

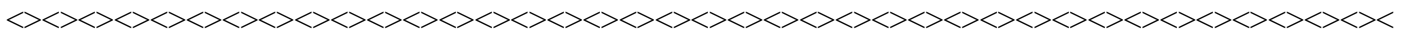
ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ **Email:** _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS TO PURCHASE: _____ **#of CHICKEN** _____ **#of PORK** _____



Secure Payment via PayPal Invoice:

Let us know how many tickets you want, and we can invoice you directly via PayPal. Once your invoice is received you can go on-line and pay for your tickets either with your PayPal account or with a credit or debit card. Please note that a small convenience fee will be applied for credit card & PayPal Invoice payments. We apologize for this inconvenience.

> ***A Challenge!***

The Department of Oklahoma is hosting a challenge. Who will bring in the most food?



Items for this competition?

Nonperishable food items – cans, boxes, or bags.

Who?

Post, Auxiliary, or Post and Auxiliary, anyone that brings in the most food items will win a prize.



Bring the items to Mid-Winter and the winner will be decided.

All donations will go to the American Red Cross food bank in Oklahoma City.