



Department of Idaho
1425 South Roosevelt Street
Boise ID 83705
Phone: 208-342-2438

Commander

February 1, 2022

**General Orders #8 2021 – 2022 Series, published monthly
by the VFW Department of Idaho.**

To be read at regular Post meetings, and placed in file for future reference.

1 **Our Mid-Winter Conference was awesome!** Thank you to all who attended. I would like to give a big thank you to **Nate Suekel** and **Cynthia Jones** for being the Mid-Winter Chairpersons and **Melissa Suekel** Homecoming Chairman. Also, I would like to thank **Robert Holmes** for doing the shopping for the hospitality suite and the other miscellaneous preparations for and during the conference. I would also give a huge thank you to **Susan Thompson** for all the hard work completing all necessary materials and the adjustments for the Conference.

2. **US Army owned rifles assigned for Ceremonial use.** If you have ceremonial rifles assigned to your Post and are past due on inventory please contact your District Commander and Senior Vice Commander Bob Tettleton to complete the required inventory. If your Post has ceremonial Rifles it would be a good time to do an inventory now. Inventories are required every three years to be sent to US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command. Please make sure your Post does not become delinquent. These Rifles are US Government property and not Post, District or Department equipment. The organization is required to report the loss of any weapon to local authorities and to US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command within twenty-four hours of discovery.

3. **Congratulations** to Voice of Democracy 1st place winner **Jaylee Ball**, sponsored by Mud Lake Post 8893 and Patriot's Pen 1st place winner **Brindle K. Beckner**, sponsored by Potlatch Post 10300.

The Parade of Winners will be held via Zoom this year due to COVID-19 precautions.

3. **Many of you have already received a letter** from American Life Income with my name signed at the bottom of the letter. The letter is legitimate. If you are interested, fill out the Response Card and mail it. An American Life Income Representative will contact you for an appointment. The Representative will contact you and, due to COVID precautions, usually make an appointment by Zoom or on the phone. They will mail you the certificate after you listen to their insurance offer. I did not find them to be pushy and if you do, let me know.

4. **I would like to thank Junior Vice Commander K.J. Babcock** for being the Master of Ceremonies at the VOD/PP Banquet. A big thank you for **VOD/PP/TOY/Safety Chairman Joe Riener** for all the work he put in to make these programs a tremendous success. I wish to thank **Chief of Staff/National Council Representative Rockey Davis** being the MC for the Homecoming.

5 **The 2022 Idaho State Convention**, hosted by Lewiston's Sourdough Post 10043, will be held in Lewiston, ID, June 9 – 12, 2022, at the Hells Canyon Grand Hotel (Formerly the Red Lion Hotel) in Lewiston. Convention information will be in the March/April General Orders.

6. **Membership: As of 30 January 2022**, Idaho has 7 Posts that are 100% or greater in membership and 4 Districts are at 90% or above. No District is at 100%. The Department is **630** members away from reaching 100% and stands 33rd out of 52 Departments at 90.40%. We need an average of 5 members per day (including Saturday and Sunday) to reach 100% by June 15th. Of course, the more we process per day, the faster we achieve our goal. **Contact your Area Recruiter/Trainer, or Department Membership Chairman Lucky Gallego for assistance.**

We are 214 members "BEHIND" where we were this time last year. Call the members that have not renewed their membership and **urge them to renew NOW**. District 2 is leading the Department in membership.

Post Commanders, Quartermasters and Adjutants need to get on the phone and get the calls made NOW and do not wait until May.

7. **Department Safety Program.** The Department Safety program website has been updated with our 2021-2022 first responder winners.

8. **The 2022 Department Raffle has begun.** Thanks to people purchasing unsold Department Raffle tickets at the Mid-Winter Conference in January the Department sold all of the 6,000 tickets supporting the VFW Department of Idaho Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Program. While there is an incentive if the Post and District that sell their allotted tickets, the purpose to support our students participating in the programs not a fund raiser for the posts and districts. More information on the Raffle can be found on the Department website, www.vfwidaho.org, or contact PSC John Crotinger.

9. **Posts should begin considering** who will be nominated for **Comrade of the Year** and for the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Winners will be selected at the Convention in June of 2022 in Lewiston. It is not too early to start developing nominations for these awards.

10. **Nominations for Post Officers will be in March with Elections to be held in April.** Post Commanders must ensure that all elected positions are filled. Please ask your members to consider a nomination or appointment for those individuals that would like to help your post to grow and make it strong supporter of Veterans in your community.

11. **Displaying Military Service Symbols.** Military service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order (left to right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force and then Coast Guard.

12. **All American Dashboard.** Military Assistance Program grants have been launched to show Departments and Posts how much in grant assistance that has been received from National HQs to supplement the Unmet Needs financial grants and VFW Sport Clips Help-A-Hero scholarship statistics. The information charts reside on the KPI tools section. Please read the 2021-22 Membership program for more details. Posts need to sign up five new Action Corps subscribers, create a Facebook page, two separate partnering events along with a 10% increase in Community Service Impact from last year. They must submit reports through the dashboard to gain credit.

13. **The All State Matrix.** It is imperative that each Post complete their VOD/PP entries on the All American dashboard, if you have not done so when you read this, do it now. This way the Department can verify the Post has met their eligibility for the VOD/PP programs for All State. If you want to see the All State Matrix please check the Department website at vfwidaho.org.

14. **From the National Commander-in-Chief.** Starting 01 Jan 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 last. Full membership dues include the per capita for National, Department and the Post. New to the VFW Life member or reinstate annual to life with full life member payment, \$30.00 rebate. New to the VFW Life member or reinstate annual to life member installment payment, \$20.00 Rebate. New to the VFW annual member, \$20.00 Rebate. Reinstate Annual member, \$10.00 Rebate



**It is not the price you paid to become a member.
It's the price you paid to become eligible.**

**Honor, Courage
And Commitment**

By order of the Commander

Attested to:

Adjutant/Quartermaster

February 1, 2021

1. Greetings,

ATTENTION: District Commanders: please determine if your Posts are currently 501c319's or what other status they are currently recognized as. Also, determine if they want to change to the 501c319 and are willing and/or able to pay the \$500.00 fee. I need this information by April 1st so it can be discussed at State Convention in June.

Commander's Cocktail Hour will be on February 18 at 1900 Mountain Time on ZOOM. All members are invited to attend the meeting and can get the ZOOM information from their District Commanders.

VMS donations can be made by individual Posts and Districts via the All American Dashboard.

Semper Fi,
Rob Holmes

2. February District Meetings

District 6	February 13	1;00 p.m.	Twin Falls Post 2136
District 8	February 12	Noon	St. Anthony Post 9425

3. News From Adjutant General Kevin Jones

Folks,

Please accept this as my official notice of my intent to retire as Adjutant General, effective at the conclusion of the 123rd National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. It has been my honor to have served this organization as Adjutant General these past 4 years and serving as an employee of the organization for over 26 years. I feel there has been positive change, both fraternally and operationally, during my tenure as Adjutant General. I think it's important to note that this was a

decision that I made. It's time for me to practice what I preach and put my family first. Which hasn't been the case for the past 6 years.

I will continue to dedicate my time and effort in supporting the Commander-in-Chiefs goals and objectives for the remaining time as Adjutant General and will assist in any way possible to identify a potential successor or provide guidance during the future transition period of a new Adjutant General.

Thank you all for your continued support and all that you do for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Best,

Kevin C. Jones

Adjutant General

4. Response From Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland

To all,

First of all, thank you Kevin for all the outstanding years of service with the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I am happy to hear that it's time for family but saddened that an outstanding career is coming to an end, you will be truly missed. After many stressful nights, weeks and Months and a lot of hard thought throughout my decision process for our Adjutant General, I have come to a decision. To help this organization move consistently forward with Kevin's retirement, I have asked Asst. Adjutant General Dan West if he would like to be our Adjutant General next year and he honorably accepted. I feel Dan has been a huge asset in Kansas City already as Asst. Adjutant General and have no doubt he will do the same as our Adjutant General. Dan has assured me 110% support for our upcoming year and will work closely with Kevin to get additional knowledge with filling such a prestigious position. Please understand that this was a very important and tough decision that only I could make, but also listening to my team and peers. Please join me in congratulating Dan West and please give him your full support for the upcoming 2022 – 2023 year. We can only succeed together.

Faithfully Serving

Tim Borland

Sr. Vice Commander in Chief

5. SCOUT OF THE YEAR:

All posts are reminded the Scout of the Year award nominations are due March 1 to your Post. See details under Scouting Programs on the Department website.

Joe Riener, Chairman VFW Scouting Program, Department of Idaho

6. Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen/Teacher of the Year awards presented at Midwinter Conference

Voice of Democracy:

First Place: Jaylee Ball, Post 8893

Second Place: Carina Gonyer, Post 3465

Third Place: Alexandria Maas, Post 3622

Patriot's Pen:

First Place: Brindle Kate Beckner Post 10300

Second Place: Siri Alice Gamett, Post 7131

Third Place: Caleb White, Post 4900

Teacher of the Year

Lisa Russell, Post 5423

7. February Monthly Check List

- _____ Review state incorporation paperwork for your Post. You should get a card from the Secretary of State that must be signed and filled out and returned no later than 60 days from the date on the card. Due this month: Posts 1675, 2738, 3465, 3622, 5423, 8311, 10043.
- _____ Scout of the Year entries due to the Post by March 1st.
- _____ Posts need monthly Community Activity Reports sent to the JVC by the 26th of the month. Email to jvc@vfwid.org.
- _____ Posts need to continue working membership daily.
- _____ National Home for Children's annual awareness week is in March.
- _____ Patriotic Art Contest Due Mar 31st. Check with your Auxiliary because this is one of their projects.
- _____ Remember to check your State income tax form for the Veterans Support Fund.

IDAHO VFW MEMBERSHIP REPORT

PERCENT 90.54%

AS OF

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
889 Coeur d'Alene	2	238	3	1	36	278	309	89.97%	31	46.45
1473 Spirit Lake	0	43	0	0	4	47	61	77.05%	14	17.05
1675 Osburn	2	118	0	1	18	137	152	90.13%	15	22.6
2453 Sandpoint	0	58	1	0	7	66	79	83.54%	13	16.95
2909 Priest River	0	38	0	0	9	47	50	94.00%	3	5.5
3603 Post Falls	0	76	1	0	8	85	99	85.86%	14	18.95
3622 Bonners Ferry	0	36	4	0	4	44	47	93.62%	3	5.35
10320 Clark Fork	0	47	2	0	8	57	66	86.36%	9	12.3
Dist #1 TOT	4	654	11	2	94	761	863	88.18%	102	145.15

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
2905 Moscow	0	55	0	0	6	61	67	91.04%	6	9.35
3296 Orofino	3	149	1	0	36	186	205	90.73%	19	29.25
3520 Grangeville	0	114	1	1	9	125	136	91.91%	11	17.8
3913 Kendrick	1	54	3	0	43	100	97	103.09%	-3	1.85
4902 Cottonwood	1	79	2	0	20	101	109	92.66%	8	13.45
5407 Kamiah	0	69	1	1	8	79	82	96.34%	3	7.1
8311 Elk City	0	52	0	0	10	62	66	93.94%	4	7.3
10043 Lewiston	1	222	4	1	39	266	260	102.31%	-6	7
10300 Potlatch	0	51	6	0	22	79	77	102.60%	-2	1.85
Dist #2 TOT	6	845	18	3	193	1059	1099	96.36%	40	94.95
AREA 1 TOT	10	1499	29	5	287	1820	1962	92.76%	142	240.1

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
2738 Payette	1	200	0	0	27	227	277	81.95%	50	63.85
4900 Emmett	0	84	0	1	11	96	103	93.20%	7	12.15
6232 Midvale	0	39	0	0	5	44	52	84.62%	8	10.6
9036 New Plymouth	0	66	0	0	7	73	81	90.12%	8	12.05
11065 Wilder	1	31	2	0	4	37	40	92.50%	3	5
Dist 4 TOT	2	420	2	1	54	477	553	86.26%	76	103.65

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
63 Boise	2	1027	7	2	99	1135	1206	94.11%	71	131.3
142 Idaho City	0	36	9	0	16	61	90	67.78%	29	33.5
3465 Nampa	1	66	5	1	9	81	89	91.01%	8	12.45
3886 Caldwell	0	117	13	5	37	172	204	84.31%	32	42.2
4000 Meridian	2	167	0	0	29	196	274	71.53%	78	91.7
5423 Mt. Home	0	71	3	0	11	85	100	85.00%	15	20
7019 Kuna	0	82	0	0	9	91	132	68.94%	41	47.6
Dist 5 TOT	5	1566	37	8	210	1821	2095	86.92%	274	378.75
AREA 2 TOT	7	1986	39	9	264	2298	2648	86.78%	350	482.4

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
2136 Twin Falls	1	91	1	2	13	107	115	93.04%	8	13.75
2974 Wendell	0	21	0	0	7	28	27	103.70%	-1	0.35
3001 Jerome	0	71	3	1	44	119	123	96.75%	4	10.15
3043 Burley	0	51	0	0	10	61	67	91.04%	6	9.35
3078 Gooding	0	12	0	0	6	18	17	105.88%	-1	-0.15
3604 Buhl	0	44	0	0	10	54	69	78.26%	15	18.45
3646 Glenss Ferry	0	131	0	1	35	167	185	90.27%	18	27.25
Dist 6 TOT	1	421	4	4	125	554	603	91.87%	49	79.15

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
735 Pocatello	1	116	1	1	15	133	143	93.01%	10	17.15
3884 Montpelier	0	17	2	1	4	24	23	104.35%	-1	0.15
9141 Soda Springs	0	37	0	0	7	44	46	95.65%	2	4.3
9443 Blackfoot	0	23	0	0	5	28	33	84.85%	5	6.65
10323 Preston	0	23	0	0	4	27	29	93.10%	2	3.45
Dist 7 TOT	0	216	3	2	35	256	274	93.43%	18	31.7
Note: The N/R L	0	131	0	1	35	167	185			

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
1004 Rigby	0	161	1	0	2	164	169	97.04%	5	13.45
2146 Idaho Falls	1	172	1	1	27	201	218	92.20%	17	27.9
3012 Rexburg	0	67	0	0	14	81	95	85.26%	14	18.75
5840 Salmon	1	50	1	3	6	60	63	95.24%	3	6.15
7137 Arco	0	45	2	0	4	51	52	98.08%	1	3.6
8893 Mud Lake	0	27	0	0	3	30	28	107.14%	-2	-0.6
9425 Saint Anthony	3	145	0	0	0	145	147	98.64%	2	9.35
Dist 8 TOT	5	667	5	4	56	732	772	94.82%	40	78.6
AREA 3 TOT	6	1304	12	10	216	1542	1649	93.51%	107	189.45

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 18	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%
15013 AT LARGE	4	219	26	2	39	286	308	92.86%	22	37.4

LOCATION	N/R LM	LIFE	NEW	R-NEW	CONT	TOTAL	TOTAL 09	PERCENT	FOR 100%	FOR 105%	
STATE	WELCH	27	5008	106	26	806	5946	6567	90.54%	621	949.35

AREA 1	WELCH	10	1499	29	5	287	1820	1962	92.76%	142	240.1
AREA 2	TETTLETON	7	1986	39	9	264	2298	2648	86.78%	350	482.4
AREA 3	BABCOCK	6	1304	12	10	216	1542	1649	93.51%	107	189.45

DIST 1	English	4	654	11	2	94	761	863	88.18%	102	145.15
DIST 2	Riener	6	845	18	3	193	1059	1099	96.36%	40	94.95
DIST 4	Spurling	2	420	2	1	54	477	553	86.26%	76	103.65
DIST 5	Junier	5	1566	37	8	210	1821	2095	86.92%	274	378.75
DIST 6	Bolich	1	421	4	4	125	554	603	91.87%	49	79.15
DIST 7	Hollingsworth	0	216	3	2	35	256	274	93.43%	18	31.7
DIST 8	Kortright	5	667	5	4	56	732	772	94.82%	40	78.6

Note: The N/R LM numbers are for information only. They have already been added to the above numbers.

**VFW Department of Idaho
Community Service Report**

January 2022

2021-2022 Program Year

Div #	Post #	Location	Total Events	Total Members	Total Hrs	Total Miles	Total Post Donations	Date of Last Entry
DISTRICT ONE								
3	889	Coeur d'Alene	3	7	13	0	\$1,170.00	14-Sep-21
10	1473	Spirit Lake	23	82	357	1875	\$0.00	22-Dec-21
6	1675	Osburn	62	186	495	1364	\$1,920.00	28-Dec-21
8	2453	Sandpoint	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	
10	2909	Priest River	10	95	127	1765	\$380.00	13-Jan-22
8	3603	Post Falls	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	
11	3622	Bonnars Ferry	14	17	311	752	\$1,800.00	26-Aug-21
9	10320	Clark Fork	10	16	172	2822	\$166.00	25-Nov-21
5	D1	TOTALS	122	403	1475	8578	\$5,436.00	
DISTRICT TWO								
9	2905	Moscow	1	1	2	2	\$500.00	18-Jan-22
5	3296	Orofino	61	352	1287	4664	\$8,685.00	25-Jan-22
7	3520	Grangeville	6	6	51	14	\$0.00	3-Sep-21
9	3913	Kendrick	60	172	1998	5084	\$800.00	23-Dec-21
8	4902	Cottonwood	24	77	57	842	\$2,997.09	26-Dec-21
8	5407	Kamiah	2	39	98	445	\$35.00	24-Sep-21
9	8311	Elk City	3	3	20	710	\$319.00	22-Nov-21
4	10043	Lewiston	172	581	2762	9631	\$10,956.00	26-Jan-22
9	10300	Potlatch	77	167	612	4444	\$1,426.52	27-Dec-21
5	D2	TOTALS	406	1398	6887	25836	\$25,718.61	
DISTRICT FOUR								
4	2738	Payette	46	98	142	1142	\$497.50	20-Jan-22
7	4900	Emmett	63	69	332	266	\$5,930.07	26-Jan-22
10	6232	Midvale	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	
9	9036	New Plymouth	48	95	1568	5881	\$12,328.00	26-Jan-22
10	11065	Wilder	8	35	45	75	\$2,127.00	4-Jan-22
6	D4	TOTALS	165	297	2087	7364	\$20,882.57	
DISTRICT FIVE								
1	63	Boise	24	53	262	512	\$848.00	26-Jan-22
9	142	Idaho City	30	230	276	3155	\$5,775.00	25-Jan-22
8	3465	Nampa	21	51	151	612	\$704.26	21-Jan-22
5	3886	Caldwell	8	38	431	992	\$62.75	25-Jan-22
5	4000	Meridian	259	276	901	5270	\$14,591.89	25-Jan-22
8	5423	Mt. Home AFB	9	16	324	632	\$1,665.00	26-Dec-21
9	7019	Kuna	63	99	1211	5233	\$13,349.88	26-Jan-22
3	D5	TOTALS	414	763	3556	16406	\$36,996.78	

**VFW Department of Idaho
Community Service Report**

January 2022

2021-2022 Program Year

Cat #	Post #	Location	Total Events	Total Members	Total Hrs	Total Miles	Total Post Donations	Date of Last Entry
DISTRICT SIX								
6	2136	Twin Falls	133	472	1908	12511	\$355.00	26-Jan-22
11	2974	Wendell	20	47	167	594	\$2,045.00	6-Jan-22
7	3001	Jerome	71	577	1340	10150	\$712.00	25-Jan-22
9	3043	Burley	11	87	1160	2839	\$52,263.20	15-Jan-22
11	3078	Gooding	1	4	12	4	\$0.00	7-Nov-21
9	3604	Buhl	52	250	739	5029	\$10,866.00	24-Jan-22
5	3646	Glenns Ferry	70	345	1396	3890	\$9,495.78	24-Jan-22
6	D6	TOTALS	358	1782	6722	35017	\$75,736.98	
DISTRICT SEVEN								
6	735	Pocatello	80	448	430	11939	\$7,031.00	25-Jan-22
11	3884	Montpelier	9	87	60	107	\$338.00	26-Jan-22
10	9141	Soda Springs	48	138	391	3020	\$9,241.50	26-Jan-22
11	9443	Blackfoot	8	15	72	590	\$60.00	22-Oct-21
11	10323	Preston	0	0	0	0	\$0.00	
6	D7	TOTALS	145	688	953	15656	\$16,670.50	
DISTRICT EIGHT								
5	1004	Rigby	52	270	1285	10153	\$325.00	15-Jan-22
4	2146	Idaho Falls	8	77	1216	208	\$1,698.47	25-Nov-21
7	3012	Rexburg	15	83	103	710	\$225.00	28-Aug-21
9	5840	Salmon	3	11	8	175	\$0.00	3-Nov-21
10	7137	Arco	20	80	146	1357	\$2,677.88	23-Jan-22
11	8893	Mud Lake	37	104	293	4596	\$890.00	30-Oct-21
6	9425	St. Anthony	30	165	344	2226	\$1,450.00	25-Jan-22
5	D8	TOTALS	165	790	3395	19425	\$7,266.35	
	DEPT	TOTALS	1775	6121	25075	128282	\$188,707.79	

Instructions:

Posts may report activities in several categories, including general community involvement, cooperation with community organizations, aid to others, school and church assistance, safety, Americanism, and youth activities. Report total project volunteer service hours for each project that only benefits the community. Avoid reporting volunteer hours committed to projects and activities benefiting the post and its affiliated units. Do not include the cost of mileage or other travel expenses in the Post report. Report money donated or expended by the post in the performance of the community project. Refer to the State SOP for additional instructions.

Posts are encouraged to submit Community Activities directly to the VFW Idaho website under Members Only: Program Reporting. The website can accept event details as they occur and no longer require a monthly submission. For manual reports, standardized forms are located on the state website, "www.vfwid.org" under "Resources / Forms". Submit electronic forms to jvc@vfwid.org by the 26th of each

Kenneth J. "KJ" Babcock
Jr. Vice Commander - Idaho
Community Activities Chairman
jvc@vfwid.org

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Midwinter Conference, January 7, 2022

The meeting was opened in ritual order by Commander Douglas E. Welch at 3:30 p.m. on January 7, 2022, at The Riverside Hotel, Boise.

Roll Call: All Council members were present except PSC Bill Heyob, Surgeon Dareld Hazeltine, District 4 Commander Owen Spurling, and District 7 Commander Richard Hollingsworth. All were excused.

Commander Welch greeted the members, introduced and welcomed National Council of Administration member PSC Rockey Davis who is the National Representative for this Conference.

Minutes:

PSC Dale Smith moved, and Junior Vice Commander Kenneth J. Babcock seconded, to dispense with reading of the June 12, 2021, minutes because they have been published in the General Orders and are included in the COA packets. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Budget Review

- A. Budget and Audit Reports will be sent on Monday, per Quartermaster Robert Holmes, and will include a summary of income and expenses to date. All details are listed in QuickBooks.
- B. D.A. Davidson is doing a ZOOM meeting the end of January with everyone invited to attend.
- C. Current CDs are static and need to be reviewed before their renewal dates. One option is to move them to a Money Market account. District 2 Commander Joe Riener recommended discussing the CDs with D.A. Davidson. We need their input. It was decided that the COA will have a meeting after the ZOOM meeting to discuss the CDs.
- D. The Department now has a portable credit card processor so monies can be collected outside the office.

Buddy Poppies

QM Holmes reported that the Department has had a good sales year. Many poppies have been sold through Department Headquarters and the Department has to charge \$10.00 per 500 poppies to offset the cost of mailing to Posts. Posts can still get them from National with no shipping cost – this will require advance planning to get them in time for events.

Inspector

Chairman PSC Dale Smith stated that the inspections were the best in 20 years. District Commanders still must go to each of their Posts at least once each year.

Membership

Chairman Lucky Gallego reported that the Department is “down” at the end of six months and will have to work very hard the last six months.

Veterans and Military Support

Due to COVID, there has been little use of funds available this year, according to Chairman Gary Klett. Posts may be reimbursed for activities benefiting VMS. No Posts participated in the Adopt-a-Unit this year. Gary noted that he will assist with the paperwork needed to apply for Unmet Needs funds. He also reminded everyone to support Sport Clips.



Building Committee

Chairman Nate Suekel reported that the new flag poles have been installed and look great. The old flagpole is at Department Headquarters and is free to anyone needing it.

Note: the attached photo has been added to the minutes for those who cannot visit Department Headquarters to see the flags in person. All branches are represented – including Space Force.

Fundraiser:

PSC John Crotinger stated that the raffle has taken in \$51,460, which is a record high right now. Districts 1, 2, 5, and 6 sold all of their allotted tickets.

Note: Winners are listed on the Department website.

District Commanders Reports

Note: the complete written reports are on file at Department Headquarters.

1. District 1 Commander Joe English:
Don Welle sold all raffle tickets and also took care of several internal issues.
2. District 2 Commander Joe Rienr:
The District remains very positive and leads the Department in membership. 5 Posts have earned “gems” status and Potlatch’s revival has been outstanding.
3. District 5 Commander Troy Junier:
In spite of COVID, the District is doing well with Community Activities and veterans assistance programs.
4. District 6 Commander Eric Bolich:
Commander Bolich submitted a report outlining each of the District Posts activities for the year.
5. District 8 Commander Willis Kortright::
Unfortunately, COVID affected all activities. PSC Robert Jones has pneumonia and could not attend the Conference.

Remarks

Commander Welch noted that National Membership has fallen below one million for the first time. The organization needs to work harder recruiting younger veterans.

Junior Vice Commander Babcock noted that Posts need to check the deceased lists and promptly report to national if a comrade is listed in error.

Unfinished Business

The Department has a new Email address. USE IT!

idahovfw@gmail.com

Cableone has shut down the old address and we no longer receive mail there.

New Business

- A. National Representative PSC Davis spoke regarding the following:
 1. He reiterated the need to check the “Scrub List” for names listed as deceased in error.
 2. CET: National is allowing only one Teacher of the Year from each Department this year. This is creating a “hew and cry” from Departments who feel that the three per department is a more balanced way to judge and award teachers. It is unfair for a kindergarten teacher to need to compete against a high school teacher. Therefore,

the National Council of Administration is going to discuss this at their next meeting. PSC Davis requested a consensus that Idaho concurs with returning to 3 winners and he will take that to the next meeting. Members of the COA agreed.

3. There has been little advertising of the VFW by the National Organization and the NCOA will also be discussing this topic.

B. District 5 Commander Troy Junior asked if Idaho could sponsor a house at the National Home for Children. Discussion revealed that this is an expensive and ongoing commitment that the Department of Idaho cannot afford at this time. It is something to look into in the future.

Remarks by Senior Staff

- A. Senior Vice Commander Bobby Tettleton emphasized that the Posts/members need to work membership and especially recruitment and retention of younger veterans.
- B. Junior Vice Commander KJ Babcock stated that activities should be more visible in our communities. Recruitment can be done at the same time in some of the activities. Also, Posts need to use the online tools to record activities often and very descriptively.

Good of the Order

Quartermaster Holmes reported that \$927.25 has been collected and will be sent to National for tornado relief.

The meeting was adjourned in accordance with ritual order.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Thompson, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION
MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
January 8, 2022

The General Session of the Department of Idaho Veterans of Foreign Wars was opened in ritual form by Commander Douglas E. Welch at 10:30 a.m. on January 8, 2022, at The Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho, following Joint Opening ceremonies.

Roll Call was taken and all Council of Administration members were present except PSC Bill Heyob, Surgeon Dareld Hazeltine, District 4 Commander Owen Spurling, and District 7 Commander Richard Hollingsworth. All were excused.

New Business

A. National Representative PSC Rockey Davis addressed the issue of just one Teacher of the Year per Department. The NCOA will discuss returning to 3 levels awarded at Departments and sent to National. District 2 Commander Joe Riener moved to support reinstating Teacher of the Year to three levels. However, only one is needed from a Post to qualify for All State or All American consideration. PSC Davis clarified that the number of Teachers of the Year to qualify for All American is at the discretion of the incoming Commander-in-Chief; the number to qualify for All State is at the discretion of the incoming Department Commander. Judge Advocate Gordon Petrie seconded. Motion passed to support returning to 3 levels of competition.

B. VFW Advertising: Comments included a) move the advertising to social media as that is much larger today; b) Posts, Departments and National need to do more and be more proactive; c) check out free advertising as with community service announcements.

C. Changing Posts from C-4 to C-19 status. Discussion of this yielded that every post in the department must do it at the same time, b) the change can only be done in December, c) it would cost \$500.00 per Post, d) each Post needs to be canvassed to see if that is feasible in December 2022. Discussion led to the District Commanders doing the canvassing and reporting to QM Holms for action. Jim Mariman (Post 63) moved to have the Department Quartermaster survey all Posts to determine the number wanting and able to fund the change. Judge Advocate Petrie added that a notice should be put in the General Orders that QM Holmes directs the District Commanders to do the survey and report to him prior to State Convention. Jim Mariman approved the amended motion. David Frei (Post 4902) seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports, cont.

A. **Service Officer's Report** given by District 2 Commander Joe Riener due to Bill Heyob's absence. The Complete report is in the Idaho Division of Veterans Services Bulletin and is on file at Department Headquarters. It includes:

1. Update on Blue Water Navy claims;
2. The new Service Officer in Pocatello;
3. New presumptives;
4. National Personnel Records Center's increased ability to grant emergency requests associated with claims;
5. BVA backlog;
6. Delta Dental insurance plans.

B. **National Home for Children**, Chairman JVC Babcock announced that personal visits to the home may be allowed this summer.

C. VOD/Patriot's Pen/Teacher of the Year

Chairman Riener reported that all entries were done electronically this year, including judging, and it was very successful. It allowed judges to be selected from all over the state.

D. State Convention

PSC Davis announced that the 2022 State Convention will be held at the Hell's Canyon Grand Hotel in Lewiston ID June 8 13, 2022. Due to new hotel management, details are still being negotiated and final information will be available soon.

The meeting was recessed for lunch.

E. Audit Committee

Chairman PSC Smith stated that the Department finances are in good order.

F. Inspections

Chairman PSC Smith reviewed his report from the Council of Administration meeting and noted that all were completed and there were few "write-ups". Both the Post Commander and the Quartermaster need to be bonded so there is a backup for check writing.

Good of the Order

A. Tim Peters announced his candidacy for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief in 2024 and asked for Idaho's support. He also spoke to the need for leadership to listen to the Posts' needs.

B. PSC Melanie Foster announced that Debra Anderson will be retiring as Quartermaster General and that PCIC Hal Roesch is running for the position. She requested Idaho's support for him. PSC Davis described Marc Garduno's work as Assistant Quartermaster General and stated that he will be also be running for the position.

PSC Smith moved to endorse Tim Peters for JVCIC. Judge Advocate Petrie seconded. Motion passed.

Chaplain Miller moved to support PCIC Roesch for Quartermaster General. PSC Foster seconded. Motion passed.

C. The following announced their intent to run for Department Office:

- a. Commander: Bobby D. Tettleton
- b. Senior Vice Commander: Kenneth J. Babcock
- c. Junior Vice Commander: Joseph D. Riener
- d. Judge Advocate: Gordon W. Petrie
- e. Surgeon: Matthew E, Biggs
- f. Quartermaster: Robert Q. Holmes
- g. Chaplain: Clinton "Chad" Miller
Russell A. Ludlow

D. District 5 Commander Troy Junier presented Humana Representative Karen Haukeli with a plaque honoring her service to the VFW.

The meeting was adjourned according to ritual at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Thompson

Administrative Assistant