



Department of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars

FEBRUARY 2022
No. 7

GENERAL ORDERS
2021 – 2022 Series

1. The Department of Texas VFW Headquarters office in Austin is currently closed to all visitors until further notice. Currently Austin-Travis County is in Stage 5 restrictions.

2. For Post All-State requirements see page 5 of your Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) All-State Program.

3. District Meetings for February 2022 and March 2022:

- **District 8 Feb 5th Cancelled—due to winter storm**
- District 9 Feb 5th Post 1657-Pampa
- District 16 Feb 5th Post 2438-Bay City
- District 20 Feb 5th Post 8936-San Antonio
- District 28 Feb 6th Post 8787-Austin
- District 2 Feb 12th Post 5621-Liberty
- District 6 Feb 12th Post 2932-Aransas Pass
- District 5 Feb 19th Post 7110-New Braunfels
- District 12 Feb 19th Post 5398-Pittsburg
- District 1 Feb 20th Post 4011-Greenville
- District 3 Feb 20th Post 6796-Dallas
- District 13 Feb 20th Post 3966-Devine
- District 17 March 5th HEARTS Veterans Museum of Texas
463 State Highway 75 North,
Huntsville, Texas, 77320
- District 4 March 19th Post 9187-Houston

4. **District Commanders:** If you are going to cancel a District meeting, please notify not only your Posts respectively but also the State Adjutant, Lupita Perez, as soon as possible so that the Department Representative can be notified. Also, notify the Department of Texas VFW Headquarters the rescheduled District meeting date.

5. Attention Elected Officers who have not paid membership dues:

Post and District officers who are elected and fail to pay their membership dues can be automatically removed from office by National Headquarters.

Commanders and Quartermasters need to verify their roster rolls and send notice to ensure that elected officers are not being removed for failure to pay their membership dues.

6. Candidates for Department Office 2022-2023:

- State Commander, Lynn Toomer, Post 10429, Benbrook, D-21
- State Senior Vice Commander, Larry Sanders, Post 10241, Lytle, D-20
- State Junior Vice Commander, Anson Booker, Post 3892, Harker Heights, D-14
- State Junior Vice Commander, Andrew Camplen, Post 688, Boerne, D-13
- State Junior Vice Commander, Larry Levy, Post 5873, New Boston, D-12
- State Junior Vice Commander, Robert Martinez, Jr., Post 2059, Kirby, D-20
- State Junior Vice Commander, Jack Mageluzzo, Jr., Post 4403, Port Lavaca, D-24
- State Quartermaster, Ben Lowrance, Post 1475, Amarillo, D-9
- State Quartermaster, William “Bill” E. Smith, Post 8541, San Antonio, D-20
- State Chaplain, Timothy Anderson, Post 3894, Waxahachie, D-30
- State Chaplain, Michael “Foy” Day, Post 4692, Bryan, D-17
- State Judge Advocate, Keith King, Post 3278, Brownwood, D-8
- State Judge Advocate, Larry Velasquez, Post 8932, Corpus Christi, D-6
- State Surgeon, Gerard P. “Jerry” Greene, Post 6796, Dallas, D-3
- State Surgeon, Randall Johnston, Post 4376, Seven Points, D-30
- National Council Member, Inge Conley, Post 12075, Humble, D-4
- National Council Member, Keith King, Post 3278, Brownwood, D-8

7. Reminder – Deadline Dates for Veteran Project Participation Reports (VPR’s) to be submitted to the Department of Texas VFW Headquarters:

- **February 25, 2022** – Deadline to receive VPR for Vietnam Peace Accord

8. MEMBERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

This month, the VFW established a grant program to incentivize Posts to sign up New and Reinstated members! For members signed up since January 1st, your Post will receive the amounts noted below:

- New Annual Member \$20.00
- Reinstated Annual Member \$10.00
- New/Reinstated Member, Life Installment \$20.00
- New/Reinstated Member, Life (full) \$30.00

Grants will remain available while funds last. Don't wait until the last minute if you want to take advantage of this program!

Terms and Conditions Apply:

****Membership dues must be paid in full, including National, Department, and Post per capita amounts.***

****"Reinstated" means a member who has been in an Unpaid status for two calendar years.***

****Members submitted before January 1, 2022, are not eligible for this grant program.***

****"New" means a veteran who has never been a member of the VFW before.***

****Members-at-Large are not part of this program.***

9. I am excited to announce that the VFW Post in each Division that shows the greatest growth from February 1, 2022, through March 31, 2022, will receive a Texas Dragoon Sword.

10. Congratulations to our Patriot's Pen winners for 2021-2022:

Karlie A. Barnes, a 6th grader who attends Whitney Middle School in Whitney, Texas, was selected as our 1st Place Patriot's Pen winner. She was sponsored by VFW Post 12176 in Whitney, Texas, and District 29. She received a \$1,000.00 cash award sponsored by VFW Post 6873 in Abilene, Texas.

Our 2nd Place Patriot's Pen winner was **Luke M. Leman** of Iola, Texas. Luke was given a \$1,000.00 cash award sponsored by VFW Post 8930 Memorial Scholarship. He was sponsored by Post 4006, Navasota, and District 17.

Our 3rd Place Patriot's Pen winner was **Riley D. Towell**, of Ponder, Texas. She was given a \$500.00 cash award by the Paul Hayslip Memorial Scholarship, Spring Branch VFW Post 8790 in Houston, Texas. She was sponsored by VFW Post 1475 in Amarillo, Texas, and District 9.

Our 4th Place Patriot's Pen winner was **Bayli R. Yousko** of Whitesboro, Texas. She was given a \$500.00 cash award by Adobe Walls VFW Post 1789-Borger Memorial Scholarship. She was sponsored by VFW Post 1922 in Gainesville, Texas, and District 1.

11. Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year winners for 2021-2022:

Grades K-5 winner, Melissa Funk who teaches at Waters Elementary School in Lubbock, Texas. She was sponsored by VFW Post 2466 in Lubbock, Texas, and District 9. Melissa was also selected as our Teacher of the Year from the Department of Texas VFW for competition at the National level.

Grades 6-8 winner, Dustin B. Lazenby who teaches at Capt. Mark Tyler Voss Middle School in Boerne, Texas. Dustin was sponsored by VFW Post 688 in Boerne, Texas, and District 13.

Grades 9-12 winner, Joseph M. Akers who teaches at Beaumont United High School in Beaumont, Texas. Joseph was sponsored by VFW Post 1806 in Beaumont, Texas, and District 2.

All three Teacher winners received an honorarium in the amount of \$1,000.00 that was sponsored by VFW Post 6970 in Poteet, Texas.

12. Congratulations to our Voice of Democracy student winners for 2021-2022:

1st Place:

Felicity J. Roberts of Southlake, Texas

Homeschooled (12th Grade)

\$10,000.00 V-Sweeps Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 10454-Grapevine and District 21

2nd Place:

Lillian E. Ross of Beaumont, Texas

West Brook Senior High School, Beaumont, Texas (12th Grade)

\$8000.00 Texas VFW Foundation Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 1806-Beaumont and District 2

3rd Place:

Kylee F. Lookabaugh of Ben Wheeler, Texas

Martin's Mill High School, Ben Wheeler, Texas (12th Grade)

\$7,000.00 Department of Texas VFW Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 7103-Athens and District 30

4th Place:

Hannah G. Moreno of Breckenridge, Texas

Moreno Homeschool, Breckenridge, Texas (11th Grade)

\$6,000.00 Per Stirling Capital Management Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 7767-Breckenridge and District 8

5th Place:

Sarah E. Barrow of College Station, Texas

A&M Consolidated High School, College Station, Texas (12th Grade)

\$5,000.00 Thomas “Doc” Howard Post 3359-Garland Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 4692-Bryan and District 17

6th Place:

Ashlyn Stevens of Angleton, Texas

Homeschooled (9th Grade)

\$5,000.00 District 17 Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 8551-Sweeny and District 16

7th Place:

Avica A. Burrill of Corpus Christi, Texas

Port Aransas High School, Port Aransas, Texas (9th Grade)

\$5,000.00 VFW Auxiliary Post 8541-San Antonio Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 8967-Port Aransas and District 6

8th Place:

Elizabeth Miri of Cedar Park, Texas

Homeschooled (10th Grade)

\$4,500.00 District 4 Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 10427-Leander and District 28

9th Place:

Cecilia C. Korzekwa of Stockdale, Texas

Poth High School, Poth, Texas (11th Grade)

\$4,000.00 Texas VFW Motorcycle Group Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 8855-Poth and District 20

10th Place:

Jason M. Durr of Atlanta, Texas

Atlanta High School, Atlanta, Texas (10th Grade)

\$4,000.00 West Brazos VFW Post 8551-Sweeny and its Auxiliary Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 5870-Queen City and District 12

11th Place:

Riley C. Hagdorn of Devine, Texas

Devine High School, Devine, Texas (12th Grade)

\$3,500.00 Adobe Walls VFW Post 1789-Borger Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 3966-Devine and District 13

12th Place:

Chloe M. Gilland of Fort Hood, Texas

Killeen High School, Killeen, Texas (11th Grade)

\$3,500.00 VFW Post 6873-Abilene Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 4008-Belton and District 14

13th Place:

Kylee B. Ryeczyk of Sherman, Texas

Texoma Christian School, Sherman, Texas (12th Grade)

\$3,000.00 Camp Bowie Post 708 and Auxiliary Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 2772-Sherman and District 1

14th Place:

Preston R. Ellis of Humble, Texas

Atascocita High School, Humble, Texas (12th Grade)

\$3,000.00 Stewart-Wendell VFW Post 3904 Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 12075-Humble and District 4

15th Place:

Wesley A. Alberts of Tyler, Texas

Alberts Academy, Tyler, Texas (9th Grade)

\$2,000.00 RVOS Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 3984-Jacksonville and District 19

State Finalists each earning a \$1,000.00 scholarship (in no particular order):

Madison O. Conerly of DeSoto, Texas

The Hockaday School-Dallas, Texas (12th Grade)

\$1,000.00 USAF Chief Master Sgt. Amos Hastings Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 1406-Dallas and District 3

Mikayla M. Lively of Spring Branch, Texas

Smithson Valley High School-Spring Branch, Texas (12th Grade)

\$1,000.00 Humana Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 8800-Startzville and District 5

Kayelyn B. Skorick of Lubbock, Texas

Roosevelt High School-Lubbock, Texas (10th Grade)

\$1,000.00 VFW Auxiliary, Department of Texas, District 16 Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 2466-Lubbock and District 9

Aleah C. Ortiz of El Paso, Texas

Ortiz Academy, El Paso, Texas (11th Grade)

\$1,000.00 Sidney Pierce VFW Post 4476-Taylor Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 9173-El Paso and District 10

Kalynn J. Walker of Penitas, Texas

La Joya Early College-La Joya, Texas (9th Grade)

\$1,000.00 Dallas-Love Field VFW Post 7471 Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 3895-La Joya and District 18

Jacob K. Wachsmuth of Shiner, Texas

Shiner Catholic School, Shiner, Texas (11th Grade)

\$1,000.00 Paul Hayslip Memorial Scholarship, Spring Branch VFW Post 8790

Sponsored by Post 6209-Shiner and District 24

Alexis N. Rudd of Midland, Texas

Legacy Senior High School-Midland, Texas (12th Grade)

\$1,000.00 VFW Post 10428, Kingsland, and Auxiliary Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 7208-Midland and District 25

Benjamin L. Edmiston of Clifton, Texas

Clifton High School, Clifton, Texas (9th Grade)

\$1,000.00 VFW Post 9213, McQueeny Scholarship

Sponsored by Post 8553-Clifton and District 29

13.State Commander Macey's Homecoming:

The State Commander's Homecoming will be held in Porter, Texas, on March 24-26,

2022. Click on link: <https://www.texasvfw.org/2022-state-commander-s-homecoming>

Registration is now open with registration fee of \$40.00 per person. Deadline to register is March 15, 2022. Golf Tournament form is also available.

14. Closing Comments: We will continue to work on “War for Membership.” It is our biggest hope for our future. If we truly believe that “No One Does More for Veterans” we must have members. Contact Eddie Terry, State Membership Chair, for assistance via email: eddie.l.terry@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing everyone at my State Commander Homecoming next month in Porter, Texas. Thank you all for the hard work that everyone puts in on behalf of their respective Posts and Districts.

By order of:

Norman J. Macey

Norman J. Macey, State Commander

Attested By:

Lupita M. Perez

Lupita M. Perez, State Adjutant

