



February 2011

Vol. 37 Issue 3



**Abel Saiz**

Comrades and Sisters;

What an honor it was to be elected as your State Commander for the 2011-2012 administrative year. Long before the State Convention, I spent many hours and made countless phone calls in the selection of your Program Chairman for the year. The Line Officers you elected are highly qualified and knowledgeable, so please do not hesitate to reach out for their assistance. The "flying

## Commander's Message

squadron" school of instruction was well attended this year. Post Commanders who did not attend or failed to send a Post representative have a lot of catching up to do as much information was provided in reference to the All-State Team selection requirements.

General Order #2 has been published and disseminated to all the Posts. Please review the important upcoming dates and events and place these on your calendars. The Department Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the **Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel** in Albuquerque this coming February. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Conference and remind all Post Commanders to attend or have a Post Officer attend. As many of you know, we lost our Post in Roswell; however, Chief of Staff Leon Morris and District Commander Eddie

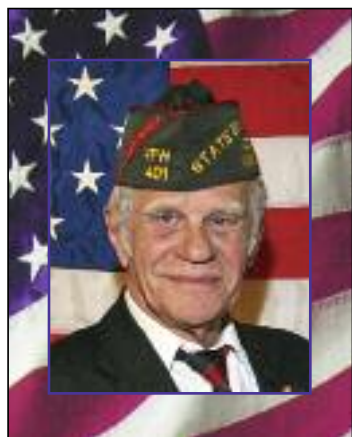
Rodriguez are working very hard to establish a new Post in Roswell. There are many Veterans in the Roswell area and these Veterans deserve a VFW Post.

I would like to thank VFW Post 2890 (Rio Rancho) and 9515 (Portales). Both of these Posts and their Ladies Auxiliaries did an outstanding job of hosting the Flying Squadron meetings and deserve credit for all their hard work and efforts. If you are in need of a Department Representative or have any questions at all, please feel free to call the Department and we will assist you in any way possible. I have already begun to travel around the state this year and would like to remind everyone that you can agree or disagree; but let's all not forget we are Comrades and Sisters. Respect and Comradeship is always in order.

Marcia and I traveled to Santa Fe recently where we witnessed 12 members of VFW Post 2951 help purchase and deliver \$1,147.00 worth of groceries to the firefighters in Los Alamos! It was truly an honor to see the VFW at work in a time of crisis. Great job, Santa Fe, and thank you for your service. I would like to acknowledge and thank Dave Fouse and Leon Morris.

Both of these individuals spend many hours on the telephone and on the road with me and other members of the Department, and sometimes their hard work may go unnoticed; so please, when you see them, say thanks for all they do.

Yours in Comradeship,  
**Abel Saiz**  
State Commander



**George W. Brown**

## Senior Vice Commander's Message

Greetings Comrades and Sisters,

As we start a new administrative year, it is time to roll up our sleeves and get started with programs such as Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teachers Award, etc. Let us all get the message out to the school administrators and counselors. The students deserve a chance to participate in our programs. Again, as you're Department Membership

Chairman, I am asking all District and Post Commanders to beat the bushes once again and keep New Mexico in the Elite 10 at National for Membership.

We have done it for the past few years, and I see no reason why we can't make State Commander Abe Saiz and the Department 100% in membership again this year. What bothers me most is the contin-

uous members that are not renewing their membership. We simply have to do a better job of following up and get them to renew their membership; and as always, recruit new members.

On an encouraging note, as I read the monthly recruiting reports I continue to see more new names as recruiters instead of the same ten or so that are listed every month. I am just a

telephone call away if you're District or Post needs help. Again, thank you for what you do for the Department, your Post and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Keep the troops that are in harm's way and their families in your thoughts.

**George W. Brown**  
State Sr. Vice Commander  
2011-2012



*Leon Morris*

Greetings, Comrades and Ladies:

First, let me say that it was great to see so many of my fellow Comrades, Ladies and friends again at State Convention in Albuquerque, including those from Arizona. Vicki and I

## NEW MEXICO VFW News

Official Publication of the Department of New Mexico Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Annual subscription rates are \$2.75 per member, included in annual dues by convention action. Non-members: \$3 per year.

Three issues: August, February and May. News items and photographs, etc., should be sent to VFW Dept. Editor, #89 Lonesome Dove Lane, Alamogordo, NM 88310 or e-mail to nmvfw1@yahoo.com no later than the 10th day of the month preceding the month of publication. Editor is B.J. Lawrence.

All articles must be typed (please do not use all capital letters) or printed.

The VFW News is produced at American Graphics & Design, 3380 S. 108th St., Greenfield, WI 53227.

President: Jenny DeBack  
Graphic Designer:  
Sarah Scherrman  
Composition Specialist:  
Ellen Imp

www.agad.com

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

## Chief of Staff's Message

had a wonderful time and are already looking forward to the Commander's homecoming in October and Mid-Winter Conference in February. If you don't have plans to attend these events, you still have time to do so. Both events will be informative and fun.

For those who aren't aware, Roswell Post 2575 lost its Charter in June. The Department is in the process of forming a new Post in Roswell and hopefully by Mid-Winter, the new Post will be in place and operational. There are a lot of good Comrades in the Roswell area and we are going to do everything we can to implement the new Post. If you live in the Roswell area and are interested in forming and joining the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in Roswell, contact the Department and we will get you signed up. While we're on the subject...if anyone knows of a location

within the state that might be interested in forming a Post, contact me or the Department.

Following State Convention in June, I attended an after action meeting at which members of the Department and the Ladies Auxiliary were in attendance. There were several issues discussed concerning the Convention, the facility site and the overall experience of those attending. I feel this was a very informative meeting and should continue in the future.

At the after action meeting I placed on the floor for discussion, the possibility of having a hospitality room on Thursday and Friday nights during State Convention and Mid-Winter Conference. The majority in attendance agreed that this would be an excellent way to get our members back together in Comradeship.

The plan is to divide the Department into two groups, four

Districts in each group and have those four Districts host the **hospitality room** on Thursday and the other four on Friday night. I have made it as fair as possible by selecting Districts 1, 3, 4 and 6, which have a total of 24 Posts and 18 Auxiliaries for one group and Districts 2, 5, 7 and 8, which have a total of 23 Posts and 17 Auxiliaries for the other group.

I know how the Ladies like to cook, so the Auxiliaries in each group would be responsible for the food and snack items and the Posts would supply the beverages. A donation of \$100.00 from each Post in the group would be plenty to pay for the beverages and assist the Ladies with food and snack items. I will be available at the Council of Administration prior to the Commanders' homecoming in October to discuss this with anyone who has questions or other ideas that will help bring our Department together so that

we can all have a great time.

I would like to remind all Post and District Commanders to place program dates and deadlines on their calendars as a reminder. We all know how the deadlines sneak up on us; remember that program participation is required for qualifying for All-State Post Commander.

I would like to ask each of you to please work closely with your Ladies Auxiliaries; they do a lot for us and without them, we would have a very large void.

Thanks to Commander Saiz for appointing me Department Chief of Staff. I pledge to do everything I can to help the Department obtain All-American status this year. If I can help any of you as your Department Chief of Staff, please let me know.

**V. Leon Morris**  
**Chief of Staff**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
**Department of New Mexico**



*Kathie D. Schiebel*

Comrades,

Autumn and winter are fast approaching us. This is the time of year that influenza comes around. Here are some facts:

Influenza is an acute viral infection that spreads easily

## State Surgeon's Message

from person to person. It circulates worldwide and can affect anybody in any age group. Influenza causes annual epidemics that peak during winter in temperate regions. Influenza is a serious public health problem that causes severe illnesses and deaths for higher risk populations. An epidemic can take an economic toll through lost workforce productivity, and strain health services. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent infection.

Seasonal influenza is characterized by a sudden onset of high fever, cough (usually dry), headache, muscle and joint pain, severe malaise (feeling unwell), sore throat and runny nose. Most

people recover from fever and other symptoms within a week without requiring medical attention, but influenza can cause severe illness or death in people at high risk (see below). The time from infection to illness, known as the incubation period, is about two days.

Who is at risk? Yearly influenza epidemics can seriously affect all age groups, but the highest risk of complications occur among children younger than age two, adults age 65 or older, and people of any age with certain medical conditions, such as chronic heart, lung, kidney, liver, blood or metabolic diseases (such as diabetes) or weakened immune systems.

The most effective way to prevent the disease or severe outcomes from the illness is vaccination. Safe and effective vaccines have been available and used for more than 60 years. Among healthy adults, influenza vaccine can prevent 70% to 90% of influenza-specific illness. Among the elderly, the vaccine reduces severe illnesses and complications by up to 60% and deaths by 80%. Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of serious influenza, complications, and for people who live with or care for high-risk individuals.

**Kathie D. Schiebel**  
**State Surgeon**

## Scout of the Year Program

The Eagle Scout Program is one of our "forgotten" programs in my opinion. The effort put out by the Post is very simple; the work for the nomination is done mostly by the

Boy Scout Troop Leaders. The entry form can be found on the CD sent to all the Posts by Department headquarters.

The deadline to the Post will be March 1, 2012 and to the

Department by March 15, 2012. A monetary award will be determined by the State Commander in the future.

If you have any questions on this valuable program, please

call or e-mail me.

**Terry Benson, Chairman**  
**Home: 575-437-4760**  
**Cell: 575-430-8219**  
**bensonbubbles@hotmail.com**

## Cannon AFB, Clovis, New Mexico

VFW Post 3280, Clovis, New Mexico received a grant from the National Military Service assistance program for \$1,625.00. The Post donated another \$500.00 to help cover the cost of the 27th Special Operations Maintenance Professional of the Year Banquet 2010. VFW 3280 and its Ladies Auxiliary were invited to attend the event. The guest speaker was Lt. General Leo Marquez (Ret.).



*Pictured, L-R: Colonel Norris (Squadron Commander), Vernon Luce (Past Post Commander), General Marquez, Marci White, Sharon Winn, Suzan Willis and General Select Colonel Stephen Clark (Base Commander).*

## Sacramento Mountain VFW Post 11999 Color Guard



*Pictured, L-R: Post Officers George Hevner, Jack Smith, Larry Drake and John Rider.*

## State Convention 2011



CONVENTION, *continued from page 3*

## Department of New Mexico Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Community Service Report May 1, 2011-August 1, 2011

Post Number	Total Money Expended	Total Volunteer Hours
401	\$2,384.34	47
614	1,422.69	20.5
1131	1,348.82	80
1313	2,423.88	1,076
1389		
1477		
1547		
1793	858.74	335
2182	3,349.04	842
2387	153.80	120.5
2528	1,871.00	305
2575		
2951	616.00	459
3015	6,073.06	167
3099		
3221		
3242		
3259	806.94	500
3271		
3274		
3280		
3317		
3347	133.00	260
3370		
4243		
4384		
5432	821.00	186
5610		
5890		
6216	1,202.48	199
6917		
7686	6,242.51	430
7688		
8448		
8703		
8874		
9477		
9515	1,149.58	269
9516		
9517		
9676	1,189.06	118
10124	5,068.59	48
10763	307.24	13
11999	78.40	22
12008		
12071		
<b>Post Totals</b>	<b>\$37,500.17</b>	<b>5,497</b>
<b>Auxiliary Number</b>	<b>Total Money Expended</b>	<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>
614	\$5,321.81	469
1389	320.74	406
2182		
2528		
2951	1,328.60	1,507
3015		
3242		

REPORT, *continued on page 5*

# District Meeting Schedule with Reps

<b>District No. 1</b>			
<b>September 17, 2011</b>	Post 3221	Grants	1:00 p.m.
Kathie Schiebel			
<b>January 14, 2012</b>	Post 2182	Farmington	1:00 p.m.
Vernon Luce			
<b>April 14, 2012</b>	Post 614	Aztec	1:00 p.m.
Abe Saiz			
<b>District No. 2</b>			
<b>August 6, 2011</b>	Post 5890	Rio Rancho	1:00 p.m.
George Brown			
<b>November 5, 2011</b>	Post 401	Albuquerque	1:00 p.m.
Vernon Luce			
<b>February 4, 2012</b>	Post 2389	Belen	1:00 p.m.
George Brown			
<b>May 5, 2012</b>	Post 6216	Albuquerque	1:00 p.m.
Kathie Schiebel			
<b>District No. 3</b>			
<b>September 18, 2011</b>	Post 4384	Anthony	1:00 p.m.
Don Teweleit			
<b>November 6, 2011</b>	Post 6917	Las Cruces	1:00 p.m.
Kathie Schiebel			
<b>February 19, 2012</b>	Post 3242	Las Cruces	1:00 p.m.
Abe Saiz			
<b>May 20, 2012</b>	Post 7686	Alamogordo	1:00 p.m.
George Brown			
<b>District No. 4</b>			
<b>August 20, 2011</b>	Post 3317	Williamsburg	2:00 p.m.
Kathie Schiebel			
<b>October 15, 2011</b>	Post 3347	Arenas Valley	2:00 p.m.
Vernon Luce			
<b>January 21, 2012</b>	Post 1389	Elephant Butte	2:00 p.m.
George Brown			
<b>April 21, 2012</b>	Post 1477	Deming	2:00 p.m.
Don Teweleit			
<b>District No. 5</b>			
<b>September 17, 2011</b>	Post 9516	Raton	1:00 p.m.
Mike Sing, Jr.			
<b>January 21, 2012</b>	Post 1547	Las Vegas	1:00 p.m.
Abe Saiz			
<b>April 21, 2012</b>	Post 1793	Cerro	1:00 p.m.
Kathie Schiebel			
<b>District No. 6</b>			
<b>September 18, 2011</b>	Post 8448	Tierra Amarilla	1:00 p.m.
Vernon Luce			
<b>January 15, 2012</b>	Post 5610	Espanola	1:00 p.m.
Mike Sing, Jr.			
<b>April 22, 2012</b>	Post 8874	Los Alamos	1:00 p.m.
Abe Saiz			
<b>District No. 7</b>			
<b>August 7, 2011</b>	Post 3274	Hobbs	10:00 a.m.
Mike Sing, Jr.			
<b>November 13, 2011</b>	Post 8703	Carlsbad	10:00 a.m.
Don Teweleit			
<b>February 19, 2012</b>	Post 8703	Carlsbad	10:00 a.m.
Vernon Luce			
<b>May 6, 2012</b>	Post 3274	Hobbs	10:00 a.m.
Mike Sing, Jr.			
<b>District No. 8</b>			
<b>September 18, 2011</b>	Post 2528	Tucumcari	2:00 p.m.
George Brown			
<b>February 19, 2012</b>	Post 9515	Portales	2:00 p.m.
Don Teweleit			
<b>April 22, 2012</b>	Post 3280	Clovis	2:00 p.m.
Mike Sing, Jr.			

Attested by:  
**David Fouse, Adjutant**  
 Department of New Mexico

Approved by:  
**Abel Saiz, State Commander**  
 Department of New Mexico

REPORT, continued from page 4

3280		
7686	657.50	2,132
8874		
10124		
10271		
<b>Auxiliary Totals</b>	<b>\$7,628.65</b>	<b>4,514</b>
<b>New Mexico Totals</b>	<b>\$45,128.82</b>	<b>10,011</b>

Confirmation of Joint Report verified by:  
**Richard Nutt**  
 Community Service Chairman  
 Department of New Mexico

## Military Order of the Cootie Grand of New Mexico

A quick update to what is going on in the Cooties. It appears that the Grand of New Mexico has, for the 4th year in a row, been named an All-Star (All-American) Grand within the Supreme (National) organization. C. Marty Ellingwood will be receiving his 4th All-Star Commander hat and Dave Wimmer will be receiving his 4th All-Star hat in San Antonio, Texas in September.

The Pup Tents (Posts) of the Grand have exceeded all requirements for the last 4 years and are on their way to a 5th All-Star year. Membership is coming in slowly, but as the Quartermaster I feel confident we will exceed 100% for the 5th year in a row.

Our Grand Commander Kathie from VFW 401 is doing a great job and communications have become the key to success. So you know, Rich Nutt from Alamogordo is the Senior Vice and Warren Booker from Alamogordo is the Junior Vice.

On a personal note, my campaign for Supreme Junior Vice Commander in 2012 in Reno is coming along very well. I have been endorsed by Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, Montana, New Mexico and the Pacific Areas. I have also been endorsed by Districts 11, 12, 13 and 15 in Supreme, along with the Department of New Mexico and several Past Supreme Commanders and other Supreme officers. So if the creek doesn't rise, I should win in 2012. I have also been promised support and votes from California.

This year we have Gordon Lam from Clovis running for Supreme office; we wish him success.

Much success to the Department of New Mexico VFW Commander Abe Saiz and his staff, the Military Order of the Cootie-Grand of New Mexico looks for you to wear the All-American hat!

**Dave Wimmer**  
 Grand of New Mexico – Quartermaster/Adjutant

## Allan "Ski" Kuchinsky: Candidate National Council of Administration



- 1994 – 1995 All-American Post Commander
- 1994 – 1995 Captain – All State Post Commander
- 1997 – 1998 All-American District Commander
- 1998 – 1999 MOC Grand Commander
- 1998 – 1999 National Hospital Committee
- 2001 – 2002 All-American State Commander
- 2001 – 2002 National Triple Crown Award
- 2004 – 2005 All-American Post Commander
- 2004 – 2005 Captain – All-State Post Commander
- 2007 – 2008 All-American Post Commander
- 2007 – 2008 Captain – All-State Post Commander
- 2007 – 2008 National Veterans Care Committee
- 2008 – 2009 National Legislative Committee
- 2008 – 2012 National Military Services Chairman

## 112th National Convention Bylaws and Resolution Results

### Bylaws & Manual of Procedure

**Approved:** B-1, M-1, B-2, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-11, M-9, B-12, B-13, M-12, M-13, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, M-14, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, and B-25

**Rejected:** C-1, B-3, B-4, M-2, M-3, M-4, M-5, M-6, B-10, M-7, M-8, B-14, M-10, B-15, M-11, B-16, M-15, B-26, M-16, B-27, M-17, M-18, B-28, M-19, B-29, M-20 and M-21

### Resolutions

#### Finance & Internal Organization

**Approved as amended:** 205

**Rejected:** 201, 202, 203, 204, 206 & 207

#### General

**Approved:** 305 and 307

**Approved as amended:** 309

**Rejected:** 301, 302, 303, 304, 306 and 308

#### National Security & Foreign Affairs

**Approved:** 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 413, 414, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 427, 428, 430, 435

**Approved as amended:** 412, 415, 429, 432

**Rejected:** 431, 433, 434

#### POW/MIA

**Approved:** 423, 424, 426

**Approved as amended:** 422 & 425

#### Veterans Service

**Approved:** 601, 602, 604, 605, 606, 607, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 627, 630, 639, 641, 644, 646, 647

**Approved as Amended:** 603, 608, 625, 626, 628, 629, 631, 632, 635, 636, 637, 642, 645

**Rejected:** 623, 624, 633, 634, 638, 640, 643

## A Valuable Benefit Just for Being VFW Members

The VFW Post Insurance Program gives you a great way to show appreciation to members with our Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage for Post members. It's a valuable addition to the personal accident insurance that members receive from VFW Headquarters with their membership.

#### Benefits of this AD & D coverage to members include:

- Accidental Death benefit of \$1,050
- Benefit doubles to \$2,100 if the accident occurs on the Post premises or at a Post event
- Benefits are also provided for accidental loss of limb(s) or sight
- If a Post purchases this coverage, all members of the Post are included in the policy automatically
- The cost of this coverage is very affordable at \$1.35 per member per year. To enroll your Post, call the VFW Post Insurance Program at 1-800-829-8390 or visit the Post AD & D page at [www.vfwinsurance.com](http://www.vfwinsurance.com)

We thank you for supporting the National Programs.

Daphne Sajovic  
VFW National Headquarters  
406 W. 34th Street, 11th Floor  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
1-800-821-2606

## VFW Post 7686 Veteran Selected as Department Representative on National OIF/OEF Committee

VFW Post 7686 Veteran Warren Booker has been selected by VFW National Headquarters to be the Department of New Mexico Representative on the National Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans Committee (OIF/OEF). The Committee was formed in 2010 and has 54 members, consisting of one member from each Department. The Committee members serve for a period of three years.

The purpose of the committee is to bring together a diverse group of current conflict veterans to the VFW organization. The Committee has been tasked to identify ideas and programs at the Post, Department and National level that will increase the membership level of current conflict veterans, while maintaining the heritage and traditions of the VFW.

Thus far, Comrade Booker has represented the Department at the 112th National Convention in San Antonio, Texas. He will represent the Department at future National Committee Meetings. Warren Booker joined the VFW in 2010 and is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has held numerous Post, District and Department positions and is currently Post 7686 Sr. Vice Commander.

## National Convention Summary

*B.J. Lawrence, Editor*

The 112th VFW National Convention was held in San Antonio, Texas August 27-September 1, 2011. The Department of New Mexico had approximately 50 members in attendance and several Commanders were recognized as All-American Commanders during the Joint opening session. All-American Commanders receiving their awards from the Commander-in-Chief were Cathy Brock (All-American State Commander), Tyrand Teel (All-American Post Commander), William Robinson (All-American Post Commander) and I, as an All-American Post Commander.

Several National Bylaw and Manual of Procedure changes were voted and passed during the Convention. A complete list of the Amendments and resolutions that were passed or rejected can be found on the VFW National Web site at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), and by clicking on the Convention Bylaws and Resolutions summary link. Some of the significant changes are as follows:

#### • Sec. 105 – Members in Good Standing

Amend Sec. 105 – Members in Good Standing, National Bylaws, by adding the following third paragraph:

“**Subscription Dues.** Effective no later than January 2014, a member's dues will be for a full twelve (12) months based on the actual month that the member paid.”

#### • Sec. 212 – Defunct Posts

Amend Sec. 212 – Defunct Posts, National Bylaws, by deleting the second paragraph and replacing with the following:

“**Disposition of Property.** In all cases of surrender, revocation or forfeiture of a charter, title to all real and personal property shall immediately pass to the Department who shall take possession and control for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration for the purposes set forth in the Congressional Charter. In addition, the books and records of the Post shall be recovered by the Department. In case of surrender or forfeiture of a Charter, the Department Council of Administration in the case of trust funds or trust property, or both, shall carry out the intent and purpose of such trust to the extent of such funds or property, or both.”

#### • Sec. 220 – Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members

Amend Sec. 220 – Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members, National Bylaws, by substituting with the following after “Vacancies...”:

“**Vacancies.** All vacancies occurring in the elective offices of the Post shall be filled in accordance with Section 220 of the Manual of Procedure at the next stated meeting of the Post or special meeting called for such purpose as prescribed in Section 203 of the Manual of Procedure.”

#### • Sec. 403 – Regular, Special and Committee Meetings; Convention; Quorum; Auth-ORIZED Attendees

Amend Sec. 403 – Regular, Special and Committee Meetings; Convention; Quorum;

SUMMARY, continued on page 7

SUMMARY, *continued from page 6*

Authorized Attendees, National Bylaws, in the fourth paragraph titled “Convention”, by replacing “seventy-five (75)” with “forty-five (45)”.

• **Sec. 412 – Defunct Districts**

Amend Sec. 412 – Defunct Districts, National Bylaws, by deleting the second paragraph and adding the following:

“**Disposition of Property.** In all cases of surrender, revocation or forfeiture of a charter, title to all real and personal property shall immediately pass to the Department who shall take possession and control for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration for the purposes set forth in the Congressional Charter. In addition, the books and records of the District shall be recovered by the Department.

In case of surrender or forfeiture of a charter, the Department Council of Administration in the case of trust funds or trust property, or both, shall carry out the intent and purpose of such trust to the extent of such funds or property, or both.

• **Sec. 420 (Districts) Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members.**

Amend Sec. 420 – Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members, National Bylaws, by substituting with the following in the first paragraph titled “Vacancies...”:

“**Vacancies.** All vacancies occurring in the elective offices of the District shall be filled in accordance with Section 420 of the Manual of Procedure at the next stated meeting of the District or special meeting called for such purposes as prescribed in Section 403 of the Manual of Procedure.”

• **Sec. 518 (Departments) Officers: Duties and Obligations**

Amend Sec. 518 – Officers: Duties and Obligations, Manual of Procedure, by replacing under (4) Quartermaster, the duties of the Department **Quartermaster**, section “k.” titled “**Budget**”, in its entirety with the following:

“Prepare a tentative balanced budget for the financial operations of the ensuing year. The budget once adopted by the Department Council of Administration shall be forwarded to the Adjutant General within 15 days.”

As you can see from the examples given above, numerous changes which will affect all of us were made at the National Convention. A change to the National Council of Administration was made which resulted in an entire overhaul of the Council. Effective at our 2012 State Convention in Albuquerque, we will need to elect a National Council Member who will represent only New Mexico on the National Council of Administration. Our National Council Member will no longer represent Arizona and New Mexico as each Department will have their own individual Council Members. The Department National Council Member will now serve a term of **Four Years**. There were many areas of debate and discussion concerning changes made at the National Convention. In the end, the changes made were the changes the Delegates of the National Convention voted in support of. I urge each of you to review carefully all changes made at the National Convention as many of the changes made will result in a change to the way we conduct business at the Post, District, Department and National Levels.

## Disability Compensation

### What is VA Disability Compensation?

Disability Compensation is a benefit paid to a veteran because of injuries or diseases that happened while on active duty, or were made worse by active duty military service. It is also paid to certain veterans disabled from VA health care. The benefits are tax-free.

### Who is Eligible?

You may be eligible for disability compensation if you have a service-related disability and you were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

### How Much Does VA Pay?

The amount of basic benefit paid ranges from \$123.00 to \$2,673 per month, depending on how disabled you are.

**Note:** You may be paid additional amounts, in certain instances, if: you have very severe disabilities or \* loss of limb(s) \* you have a spouse, child(ren), or dependent parent(s) \* you have a seriously disabled spouse.

### How Can You Apply?

You can apply by filling out VA Form 21-526, Veterans Application for Compensation and/or Pension. If you have any of the following material, please attach it to your application:

- Discharge or Separation papers (DD214 or equivalent)
- Dependency records (marriage and children’s birth certificates)
- Medical Evidence (doctor and hospital reports)

## POW/MIA Recovery Teams Search for Missing Americans

### JPAC teams search for unaccounted-for Americans from the Vietnam War, World War II

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Aug. 12, 2011) – Several archeological recovery and investigation teams from the U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) recently deployed to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Canada, the Republic of Vanuatu, the Federal Republic of Germany, and the Independent State of Papua, New Guinea searching for Americans that remain unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War and World War II. About 100 JPAC team members deployed from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, to investigate and excavate several ground and aircraft crash sites in search of more than 35 Americans.

Recovery teams search for human remains, life support items and other material evidence (personal and military issued items) that may lead to the identification of Americans missing from past U.S. conflicts. Investigation teams authenticate leads from eyewitnesses, conduct field research and gather information throughout the various locations to determine whether or not there will be a return visit for excavation at a later date.

Vietnam: Approximately 35 JPAC team members will excavate multiple sites associated with Vietnam War losses. Three recovery teams will search in the Quang Tri, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai provinces at burial and aircraft crash sites for five Americans. The approximately 35-day long undertaking marks the 104th Joint Field Activity in Vietnam.

Canada: More than 25 personnel from JPAC and the U.S. Navy’s Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit Two, Company 2-5, from Virginia Beach, Virginia, deployed to Botwood Harbor recently to search for three Americans that remain unaccounted-for from World War II. The team will conduct underwater excavations for 30 days at an aircraft crash site just north of Botwood in the Newfoundland province.

Vanuatu: A JPAC recovery team will search at two sites in Espiritu Santo for about 45 days. The team will excavate two aircraft crash sites in search of nine Americans that have been missing for more than 65 years.

Germany: A JPAC recovery team will excavate an aircraft crash site near the town of Bettenfeld for about 30 days in search of two Americans that have been missing for more than 65 years. In addition to JPAC members, military and civilian volunteers from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, have volunteered to assist the team with excavation and logistical operations.

Papua New Guinea: Two JPAC teams will investigate and excavate multiple sites in the Morobe and East Sepik provinces which are associated with World War II losses. An investigation team will authenticate eyewitness leads generated through historical research and conduct field research for 10 cases and more than 30 individuals in the East Sepik province. The recovery team will search an aircraft crash site in the Morobe province where nine Americans may have perished.

These missions were the last scheduled missions to deploy for Fiscal Year 2011.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has, with its predecessor organizations, investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970s.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America’s heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation’s past conflicts.

“Until They Are Home”

You can also apply online through the VA Web site at  
<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp>

### Related Benefits:

- Priority Medical Care
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Clothing Allowance
- Grants for Specially Adapted Housing
- Automobile Grant and Adaptive Equipment
- Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance
- Federal Employment Preference
- State and Local Benefits
- Military Exchange and Commissary Privileges

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-827-1000  
or visit the VA Web site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

# The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies' Auxiliary 2011 Western Conference Ogden, Utah November 3-6, 2011

The Ogden Marriott Hotel is located 42 miles from the Salt Lake City International Airport.

If you are traveling as a group, it is probably less expensive to rent a car.

Transportation from the airport to the hotel will be provided by:

**City Express Transportation**  
<http://www.cityexpresstransportation.com>  
866-385-2489

Pricing: \$34 per person, each way  
Please make your own reservations.

We have also arranged for discount car rental rates through Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

Hotel:  
**Ogden Marriott Hotel**  
247 24th Street  
Ogden, UT 84401

Make your own room reservations.  
The rate for the rooms is \$102.00 per night + 12.10% tax.  
The cutoff date for reservations is October 13, 2011

The link to make hotel reservations is:  
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/slcog?groupCode=warwara&app=resvlink&fromDate=11/3/11&toDate=11/6/11>

The phone number for Marriott hotel reservations is: **1-888-236-2427**  
Mention Code: **WARWARA** or Veterans of Foreign Wars Western Conference.



## The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies' Auxiliary 2011 Western Conference Ogden, Utah November 3-6, 2011



**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUEST**



*(One Registration Per Sheet – Please Print Clearly or Type)*

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle One** Post/Aux # \_\_\_\_\_

Department # \_\_\_\_\_

Cost per person: \$75.00 by October 16, 2011. \$85.00 after October 16, 2011.

Please make checks payable to: VFW – Department of Utah

**Mail check and registration request to:**  
**Dennis Parizek**  
**Assistant Quartermaster – VFW Department of Utah**  
**3394 N. 1000 E**  
**North Ogden, UT 84414-1788**

If you have any questions, please call Dennis Parizek at **801-695-5741 (cell)** or e-mail: [djdparizek@aol.com](mailto:djdparizek@aol.com)

Attendees flying in for the conference should fly into the Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC). Please complete the following if you are traveling by air:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Time \_\_\_\_\_

Airline \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Number \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Time \_\_\_\_\_

Airline \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Number \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like updated conference information as it becomes available, please provide your e-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_