



**Munster Indiana Post 2697**  
**VFW**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars**



**PASS THE WORD**  
**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF POST 2697**

**March 2024**

**Next Regular Business Meeting: 21 March @ 1900 hrs**

***Important Dates to Remember:***

3 March – “Star-Spangled Banner” Made U.S. National Anthem (1931)

10 March – Day light savings time begins.

10 March – District 1 meeting at Dyer Post 6448 @ Noon.

12 March – Girl Scouts of the USA formed. (1912)

17 March – St. Patrick’s Day

19 March – Iraq War began (2003)

**21 March – Regular Business Meeting at Munster Town Hall @ 1900 hrs.**

24 March – Kosovo Campaign began (1999)

29 March – National Vietnam War Veteran’s Day (2017)

31 March – Somalia Campaign ended (1995)

**VFW Membership**

Looking outside of our post, VFW numbers are dropping to alarming levels. Every year the VFW of Indiana is losing 2000 members. Currently there are only 24,500 members. Do the math, if one more veteran doesn’t join, then in 12 years there won’t be a VFW in the Hoosier State. Our goal this year is to hit 102% membership. Congratulations to John Sarnecki and Frank Darrington for getting on the recruiter board! Frank is owed a red shirt now....

**March General Orders**

Highlights from the March General Orders are listed below. If you want any further information on anything below, please don’t hesitate to ask and something can be sent out to you specifically.

- ***Spring Conference and Banquet*** – The spring conference is 22-24 March at the Indianapolis Marriott East. Our elementary State teacher of the year will be among the honoree’s at the dinner. Commander-In-Chief Duane Sarmiento will be the National rep at the spring conference.
- ***Post Elections*** – Post elections are coming up. If I remember correctly the nominating committee should be presenting their list of candidates in April with voting taking place in May. (I may be off by a month...)
- ***Membership Updates*** – The state is currently at 92.3% membership as of 29 February.

- ***Cocktails with the Commander*** – State Commander Corcoran will be holding a monthly meeting via zoom that will last 60 minutes. All VFW Department of Indiana members in good standing will be allowed to join. Next meeting will be at 7pm (6pm central time) on 20 March.
- ***End of the Year Programs*** – There are plenty of VFW program deadlines coming up within the next couple months.
  - ***Scout of the Year***
  - ***Community Service***
  - ***All-State***
  - ***James Butters Award for Post Service Officer***
  - ***Keiston Holloway Chaplain of the Year Award***
  - ***Post Publication Award***
  - ***Employer of the Year, JROTC Cadet of the Year and VFW Member of the Year.***
- ***State Commander Corcoran and State President Pickens' Testimonial Dinner*** – The Testimonial dinner is Saturday 20 April at VFW Post 1587 in Indianapolis. If you're interested in going, please let Commander Joe know and he can pick up tickets at the spring conference.

## **Poppy Day Fundraisers**

Calling All Hands! We've secured fundraising dates on the following days.

Munster Strack and Van Til's – Friday and Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

Munster Jewel's – Friday and Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

The times for both stores will be the same, 8-11, 11-2, 2-5. We will have a sign-up sheet available at our business meetings in March and April. We need members to sign-up and work a door. The spring and fall fundraisers are our two major fundraisers of the year.

## **2024-2025 VFW Department of Indiana State Shirts**

If you would like to purchase a VFW State of Indiana shirt, Commander Joe will have the order form available at the March Business Meeting. Depending on sizes, cost is up to \$32 each and will be available for delivery in May or June.

## **Upcoming Post 2697 Events**

- ***Poppy Days*** – May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Sign-ups will be at the remaining regular business meetings.
- ***Memorial Day Remembrance*** – 27 May at the Munster Church, then at the CVM. Details are forthcoming.
- ***4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade*** – Our annual walk in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Just like last year, I'm assuming the VFW will be leading the parade (in front of the fire trucks).
- ***National Night Out Against Crime*** – Will be held on Tuesday, 6 August. This event is annually rated as one of the best Nights Out in the country. Who knows, maybe we'll even make the news.



# FIREFOWER

The more, the merrier.

*"If we desire peace, one of the most powerful institutions of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war."*

*General George Washington*



**VFW**   
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

## Carry On!

Send correspondence

[Commandermunstervfw@gmail.com](mailto:Commandermunstervfw@gmail.com)

3542 44<sup>th</sup> Place, Highland, IN

46322

