

**DRAFT AGENDA                      VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**  
**47th ANNUAL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**  
**JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

**THURSDAY JANUARY 29, 2026**

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room	Room
7:00 p.m.	COMMANDER'S DINNER WITH SR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF (by invitation)	Brick & Brine

**FRIDAY JANUARY 30, 2026**

**DRESS CODE of the DAY: CASUAL, VFW COMMANDER'S POLO & GREY SLACKS**

**PICK UP PRE-PURCHASED BANQUET TICKETS (Pickup at Auxiliary Registration)**

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration (Closed for Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.)	
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Program Display tables	Great Lakes
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m	VFW & Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Displays	Great Lakes
8:30 a.m.	VFW Service Committee Meeting Chairman, PSC John Griffith	Prairies
9:00 a.m.	VFW Budget & Finance Committee Meeting Chairman, PSC David Miller	Prairies
9:30 a.m.	VFW Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Meeting Chairman, PSC Kevin Conklin	Prairies
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
10:15 a.m.	Post Inspections & Audits (Lessons Learned) Dept Inspector, Butch Ogden	Prairies
10:30 a.m.	Department All-State / All-American Program Review Director, Mike Martin	Prairies
10:45 a.m.	Department Membership Program Review Director, Orville Beauchamp	Prairies
11:00 a.m.	Youth Activities Program, Applications Preparation Department Director, Larry Thayer	Prairies
11:15 a.m.	VFW State Legislative Updates State Legislative Directors, Scott Taylor & Derek Blumke	Prairies
<b>12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</b>	
1:00 p.m.	VFW National Legislative Priorities Update National Legislative Cmte Members, Kimberly Napoleon & Ray Lopez	Prairies
2:00 p.m.	Community Service – National Day of Service Department Director, Tracy Nagy	Prairies
2:15 p.m.	Americanism – POW/MIA Program Updates Department Director, Nathan Moran	Prairies

<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>2:45 p.m.</b>	<b>(break out meetings)</b> <b>Dept &amp; District Senior Vice Commanders</b> <b>Dept &amp; District Junior Vice Commanders</b> <b>Dept Riders Groups</b>	Meadows Fields Oaks
2:45 p.m.	Post Benefits Advisor School, VA updates Service Office Director, Sidney Love	Prairies
3:15 p.m.	Hospital Program Reporting (Lessons learned) Department Surgeon, Aaron McClung	Prairies
3:30 p.m.	Activity Reporting, (Lessons Learned) Activity Evaluations Director, Bob Lutz	Prairies
3:45 p.m.	Presentation - HUMANA and VFW Partnership	Prairies
4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks, Department Officers	Prairies
5:00 p.m.	Students Meet & Greet with National Representative	Prairies
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room	
6:30 p.m.	DINNER WITH SR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND DEPARTMENT CofA MEMBERS, Cash Bar	Meadows

### **SATURDAY JANUARY 31, 2026**

**DRESS CODE of the DAY:**            **VFW CofA UNIFORM for COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
**VFW COMMANDER'S POLO for VFW MEMBERS**

**ALL BANQUET TICKETS MUST BE PICKED UP BY 10:00 A.M.**

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Registration	
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Program Display tables	Great Lakes
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	VFW / Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Displays	Great Lakes
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Council of Administration Breakfast	Meadows
9:10 a.m. -	Council of Administration Meeting Program Director Reports as requested by the Commander	Prairies

### **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	VFW Auxiliary VOD/PP/TOY Reception	Glens
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	VOD/Patriot's Pen Students/ Reception	Meadows
4:50 p.m.	Head table and TOY meet for line up	Arcadia Foyer
4:50 p.m.	Students and District Commanders/Presidents line up	Kalamazoo Foyer

**VFW BANQUET DRESS – HEAD TABLE BLACK JACKET FORMAL**  
**VFW MEMBERS ATTENDING – SUIT & TIE**

**5:00 p.m.**                            **VOD/Patriot's Pen/Teacher of the Year Banquet**  
**Arcadia Ballroom**  
**(Doors open at 4:45 pm for seating) (Tickets must have been purchased in advance)**

**Revised    12/19/2025**