

**TENTATIVE - MICHIGAN VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS  
 Agenda 107<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION  
 Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo  
 June 10 – June 14, 2026**

**VFW Uniform for Convention: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;  
 Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**ROOM**

**Wednesday, June 10**

**VFW Golf Outing**                      **by registration**

**Thursday, June 11**

8:00 am – 11:00 am                      Registration  
 (Registration closes for lunch 11:00am – 12:30pm)

**7:30 – 8:15 am**                      **CofA Breakfast**                      **Meadows**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm                      Program Display Tables                      Great Lakes

8:30 am                      Service Committee Meeting                      Prairies

8:45 am                      Budget & Finance Committee Meeting                      Prairies

9:00 am                      ByLaws & Resolutions Committee Meeting                      Prairies

**10:00 am**                      **Break**

**10:15 am**                      **VFW Council of Administration Meeting**                      **Prairies**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm                      Lunch on your own

12:30 pm – 5:00 pm                      Registration                      Fields

**1:00 pm**                      **Joint VFW / Auxiliary Opening**                      **Glens**  
 (see separate program agenda)

**5:00 pm -**                      **Mandatory practice for Joint Memorial Service**                      **Glens**  
**Required for Dept Line Officers & District Commanders**

6:00 pm – 11:00 pm                      Department Hospitality Room

**Friday, June 12**

8:00 am – 11:00 am                      Registration  
 (Registration closes for lunch 11:00 – 12:30)

8:00 am – 3:00 pm                      Program Display Tables

**8:30 am – Noon**

**Opening Session of 2026 Department Convention**

**Prairies**

Opening Ceremonies  
Roll Call of Officers  
Reading - adoption of Convention Rules  
Registration / credentials report by the Adjutant / Credentials Chairman  
Budget & Finance Committee Report - PSC David Miller  
Service Committee Report – PSC John Griffith, Sidney Love  
Camp Trotter Board Report – Board President  
VFW Charities Board Report – Board President

**Reports of Committees**

All State Director Report, Michael Martin  
Americanism Director Report, Nathan Moran  
Buddy Poppy Director Report, Marilyn Munro  
Cancer Director Report, Mindy Taylor  
Community Service Director Report, Tracy Nagy  
Day of Service Recognition  
Day of Challenge Director Report, Arthur Kreivi  
Homeless Veteran Director Report, Barbara Locke  
Hospital Director Report, Aaron McClung  
Membership Director Report, Orville Beauchamp  
National Home Director Report, James Hubbard  
Pool League Director Report, Don Smith  
Safety Director Report, Jason Wallner  
State Legislative Director Report, Scott Taylor & Derek Blumke  
VMS / Mental Health & Welfare Director Report, Doug Brinker  
Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen / Teacher of the Year Director Report,  
Michael Martin – Presentation of TOY National Citations  
Youth Activities Director Report, Larry Thayer

**12:00 pm**

**Recess Convention for lunch**

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**

**Convention Delegates - Lunch on your own**

12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Registration

**1:00 pm – 2:15 pm**

**Resume Convention Business Session –**

**Prairies**

**Resume Committee Reports**

**2:15 pm**

**Suspend order of business – Opening of Nominations**

Commander  
Sr Vice Commander  
Jr Vice Commander  
Quartermaster  
Judge Advocate  
Surgeon  
Chaplain

**3:15**

**Recess Convention Session**

**3:30 pm – 4:30 pm**                      **Joint VFW / Auxiliary Memorial Service**                      **Glens**  
**VFW Uniform for Memorial Service: CofA Members in CofA Uniform; Chairmen in business casual;**  
**Delegates in VFW polo shirt of choice**

**4:30 pm**                                      **VFW Riders Groups Meeting**                                      **Prairies**

**6:00 pm**                                      **Joint Testimonial**                                      **Arcadia Ballroom**

**VFW Uniform for Testimonial: Casual – slacks and Commander’s / President’s polo shirt optional**

**Saturday, June 13**

**8:00 am – 10:00 am**

Registration

***(REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE PROMPTLY AT 10:00 am)***

**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**                      **Incoming Officer / Director photos - location to be announced**

**8:30 am**                                      **Resume Convention Business Session**                                      **Prairies**

Updated Registration / Credentials Report – Adjutant, Credentials Chairman

**8:45 am**

The below listed awardees may be seated by the Honor Guard in the reserved seating area off of the stage as soon as opening ceremonies are completed. Chairmen are responsible to ensure their awardees are seated.

Youth Activities / Scouting Director, Larry Thayer – presentation of awards  
Boy Scout of the Year – National Citation and Plaque  
Girl Scout of the Year - Plaque  
JROTC Cadet of the Year - Plaque

Safety Director, Jason Wallner – presentation of individual awards  
Law Enforcement of the Year – National Citation & Plaque  
Firefighter of the Year – National Citation & Plaque  
EMT / Paramedic of the Year – National Citation & Plaque  
Dispatcher of the Year – National Citation & Plaque

**Resume Committee Reports**

VFW Rider Group Director Report, Kevin Conklin  
National Legislative Committee Report, Kimberly Napoleon, Ray Lopez  
National Women Veterans Committee Report, Hazel White

**10:30 am**                                      ByLaws & Resolutions Director Report, Kevin Conklin  
(Action as required by Convention delegates)

**12:00 pm**                                      **Recess Convention Session for lunch**

**12:00 – 1:30 pm**                      **Past State Commanders / Past State Presidents Luncheon  
(by invitation)**

**12:00 – 1:30 pm**                      **Convention Delegates - Lunch on your own**

**1:30 pm**                                      **Resume Convention Business Session –**                                      **Prairies**

**Incoming CofA members should come to afternoon CofA session in proper CofA uniform**

**Resume Committee Reports as required**

Final Registration / Credentials Report – Adjutant, Credential Chairman

**Reopening of Nominations – Presentation of Candidates**

**Recess Convention District Caucuses – 30 minutes**

**Resume Convention**

**Election of Officers**

Good of the Order – Comments by distinguished guests  
National candidates  
James Nail – MO  
Chris Haynes -OH  
VFW National Council Member. PSC Kevin Conklin  
VFW National Representative,

**Closing Ceremonies**

**VFW Installation of Officers**                                      **Prairies**

**2026-27 CofA Meeting promptly after Installation**                                      **Prairies**

**6:30 pm – 10:00 pm**                      **Celebration with Department Commander Larry Thayer and  
Department President Jason Manke at Hotel.**                                      **Kalamazoo 1**

**6:30 pm – Doors Open, Cash Bar**  
**7:00 pm - Hors D'Oeuvres Buffet**

**VFW Uniform for Reception: Casual – slacks and Commander's / President's polo shirt optional**

**Sunday**                                      **DRIVE HOME SAFE**

Revised March 22, 2026

