



Department of Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars



Leadership Directory 2025-2026



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State Commander



The road to becoming Commander of the PA Veterans of Foreign Wars was very interesting to say the least. I would like to thank you for the honor and privilege to lead this great organization. I have always believed that when you become a leader, it is not about you but making those around you better. I also realize that I cannot do it alone. Like when we were deployed, everyone accomplished a successful mission.

My motto is **Teach, Coach, Mentorship**. So many times, over the years, I have heard that we elected a member to a position but also heard that they have no experience and are provided with no help. That is where Teach Coach and Mentorship is vital to help them become successful for the District or Post. Leaders cannot let anyone fail. I would like to thank Bill Stellfox for agreeing to assist Posts and Districts if a Quartermaster needs training, I encourage Posts and Districts to reach out to Bill and his team for the training.

I am sure we get tired of hearing about membership, but it is important to every Post, District, and the Department. About half of the Posts in our Department did not recruit one member. This may not hurt a Post with many members, but the Posts that have very few members could result in that Post losing its charter. But more importantly, we have a moral obligation to recruit new members for several reasons.

1. When we go to Washington or Harrisburg to fight for Veterans and the family, it is important to show we represent thousands of members.
2. When a member of the services leaves the service, someone needs to be there for them. That should be us! Tom Sally is leading our membership program. Tom has my support, and we should reach out to him and take our Department to a National Leader where we belong.

Finally, I realize that I cannot do this alone. It will take all of us to move our department forward. I accept this role, as a solemn commitment to serve you, my fellow veterans, with integrity, compassion, and tireless effort.

William Roland

William (Bill) Roland, State Commander 2025-2026

Pennsylvania Map of Districts

WEST:

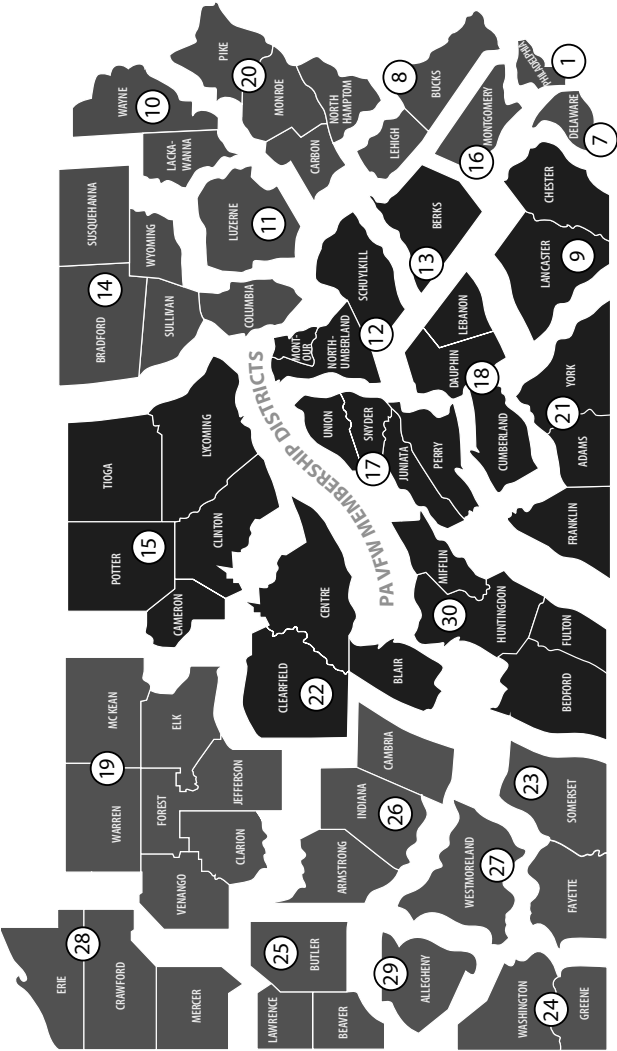
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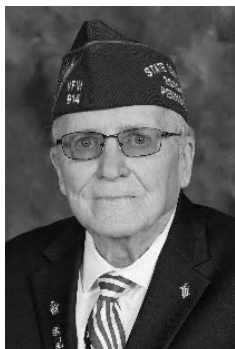
9, 12, 13, 15,
17, 18, 21, 22, 30

EAST:

1, 7, 8, 10,
11, 14, 16, 20



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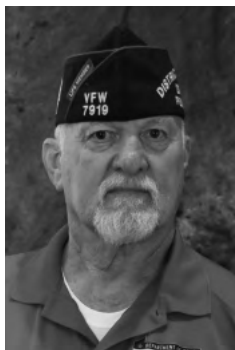


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State Committee Chairpersons ... continued



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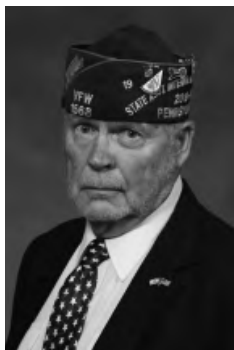


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State Committee Chairpersons ... continued



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State Committee Chairpersons ... continued



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1917-18 – William Ralston
1920-22 – Robert G. Woodside
1925-26 – Fred Stover
1933-36 – James E. Van Zandt
1945-46 – Joseph M. Stack
1951-52 – Frank C. Hilton
1959-60 – Louis G. Feldmann
1971-72 – Joseph L. Vicites
2015-16 – John A. Biedrzycki, Jr.

Past State Commanders

1913-15 – William J. Brawley
1916 – Hugh L. McLaughlin
1915-16 & 1920-21 – E.J. Poole
1921-22 – Edward Rankin
1922-24 – R.J. Walsh
1924-25 – C. Blaine Smathers
1925-27 – Harpur M. Tobin
1927-28 – John L. Bingham
1928-30 – James E. Van Zandt
1930-31 – Aaron R. Gardner
1931-32 – Daniel J.C. O'Donnel
1932-33 – Benjamin Ralsky
1933-34 – Henry Grab

1934-35 – Joseph M. Stack
1935-36 – Raymond E. Conway
1936-37 – Philip A. Burket
1937-38 – John V. Horan
1938-39 – Chester W. Zerbe
1939-40 – Lloyd C. Pike
1940-41 – Leo Moerschbacher
1941-42 – John W. Rankin
1942-43 – William H. Bechtel, Jr.
1943-44 – Earl A. Seitz
1944-45 – James F. Coley
1945-46 – Nelson W. McCloskey
1946-47 – John U. Shrover
1947-48 – Frank C. Hilton
1948-49 – Hiram V. Hartman
1949-50 – G. Lynn Brotherson
1950-51 – Louis G. Feldmann
1951-52 – James J. Davis
1952-53 – Hugh H. Hoke
1953-54 – Elmer D. Christine
1954-55 – Joseph E. Kovach
1955-56 – Marlan O. Walter
1956-57 – Morton Fromm
1957-58 – William J. Tepsic
1958-59 – John C. Cavender
1959-60 – John J. Piparato
1960-61 – Leonard R. Santore

In Memorium ... continued

1961-62 – John T. Radko	1984-85 – Tavio Angelo
1962-63 – Frank J. Zenzer	1985-86 – Ricky DeLoreto
1963-64 – George E. Hartman	1986-87 – Allen Q. Jones
1964-65 – William J. Farley	1987-88 – Jack E. Barger
1965-66 – Joseph L. Vicities	1988-89 – Almon J. Long
1966-67 – Leo L. Woyton	1989-90 – Charles R. Feltenberger
1967-68 – Norman P. McFadden	1990-91 – Frank Fisher
1968-69 – Eugene R. Manfrey	1991-92 – Donald Lehman
1969-70 – Lowell H. Norris	1992-93 – William C. Allen
1970-71 – Ronald G. Tyler, Sr.	1993-94 – Norman F. Rettig
1971-72 – Rudolph E. Shearer	1994-95 – Neale H. Deibler
1972-73 – Michael M. Mullen	1995-96 – Donald J. Mills
1973-74 – Louis Rizzo	1997-98 – Peter Krenitsky
1974-75 – Ervin L. Steele	1998-99 – Albert Thomas, Jr.
1975-76 – Frank E. Rinaldi	1999-2000 – Franklin E. Lopes
1976-77 – Joseph G. Hertzler	2000-01 – George Cain
1977-78 – Mariano J. Badali	2002-03 – John A. Biedrzycki, Jr.
1978-79 – Robert T. May	2003-04 – Charles Prince
1979-80 – Anthony J. Longo	2004-05 – John Brenner
1980-81 – Albert V. Palumbo	2014-15 – Gary Smith
1981-82 – George S. Kosanovich	2017-18 – Dwight R. Fuhrman
1982-83 – Thomas J. Dougherty	2019-20 – Wayne Perry
1983-84 – Raymond C. Mullin	

Past State Commanders

1996-97 Howard L. Adler, Jr. VFW Post 1810 417 Birmingham Avenue Mount Oliver, PA 15210 (412) 885-5412	2005-06 Robert C. Eiler VFW Post 7842 12544 N Lakefront Drive Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 (412) 974-4095 golddust2@peoplepc.com
2001-02 Charlie Beistline 14180 Fox Hill Dr. Gulfport, MS 39503	2006-07 Dominic A. DeFranco VFW Post 764 462 Thompsonville Road McMurray, PA 15317 (724) 941-5921 (412) 613-9528 domde1@comcast.net

Past State Commanders ... continued

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2016-17

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2018-19

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Past State Commanders ... continued

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2021-22

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2022-23

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Department Service Office Locations

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VAMC

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Butler VAMC

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Thurs: 8:30-4:00

Harrisburg: Monday-Friday-8:30-4:00

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Harrisburg: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00

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Travis Cousins

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Reading

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Wilkes-Barre

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Wilkes Barre, PA 18702

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Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00 Closed for Lunch-12:00-1:00

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Phone: 717-234-7927

Fax: 717-234-1955

Web site: www.vfwpa.org

Facebook: On FB site search "VFW Department of PA"

Department Commander

William Roland – billroland5008@yahoo.com

State Adjutant & State Quartermaster

John B. Getz, Jr. – quartermaster@vfwpahq.org

Administrative Assistant

*Buddy Poppies – District Meetings – Bonding –
Audits – Membership*

Joyce Reece – jreece@vfwpahq.org

Patti Stark – pstark@vfwpahq.org

Executive Assistant to the State Commander and State Quartermaster/Adjutant

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Association Articles of Incorporation – Post Service Officer Tests*
Marsha Fuhrman – mfuhrman@vfwpahq.org

Veterans Service Administration Operations Manager

Cynthia Lewis – clewis@vfwpahq.org

Mail Room, Clerical Support, Facebook & Social Media

Felisha Acosta – facosta@vfwpahq.org

***All request for Department Speakers and Department
Leadership to attend a function, must be requested and submitted
on the Departments form. Please send all request by email to
mfuhrman@vfwpahq.org or quartermaster@vfwpahq.org.***

Please request your speaker well in advance of your event.

Important VFW & Auxiliary Dates for 2024-25

2025

June 19	Juneteenth (Department Headquarters Closed)
June 28	VFW National Home, 100th Anniversary Celebration, Eaton Rapids, MI
July 4	Independence Day (Department Headquarters Closed)
July 11	Barger Scholarship Golf Scramble
August 9-13	National Convention, Columbus, OH
September 1	Labor Day (Department Headquarters Closed)
September 11	Patriot's Day
September 19	POW-MIA Day
September 25-28	Commander-in-Chief's Homecoming, De Moines, IA
September 28	Gold Star Mother's Day
October 13	Columbus Day (Department Headquarters closed)
October 24-25	Eastern Conference, Wilmington, DE
Oct 31-Nov 1	Commander's Testimonial, DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh, Cranberry
November 4	Election Day
November 11	Veterans Day (Department Headquarters Closed)
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday (Department Headquarters Closed)

Important VFW & Auxiliary Dates for 2023-24

December 24-26	Christmas Holiday (Department Headquarters Closed)
Dec 31 – Jan 2	New Year’s Holiday (Department Headquarters Closed)
2026	
January 15-18	Mid-Winter Conference, Eisenhower Hotel, Gettysburg, PA
January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr (Department Headquarters Closed)
February 16	President’s Day (Department Headquarters Closed)
Feb 28-Mar 5	Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
March 27-29	Women Veterans Conference, Pittsburgh Marriott North
April 3 -6	Good Friday & Easter Monday (Department Headquarters Closed)
April 10-11	President’s Testimonial, Wyndham Gardens, York
May 1	Loyalty Day
May 25	Memorial Day (Department Headquarters Closed)
June 17-20	Department Convention, DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh, Cranberry
June 22	Juneteenth Observed (Department Headquarters Closed)



VFW Auxiliary Department of Pennsylvania



Leadership Directory 2025-2026

EVERY DAY IS
VETERANS DAY



VFW Auxiliary Department of Pennsylvania
4002 Fenton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109-5943
(717) 232-7604
www.vfwauxpa.org
www.facebook.com/vfwauxpa

From our President:



Welcome to our 2025-2026 Leadership Directory, where you'll find contact information for the talented members who are dedicated to serving the mission of our organization.

Our Department Officers, District Presidents, Program Chairmen, Hospital Representatives and Deputies, and the leaders who have come before us, are excited to share in the Every

Day is Veterans Day year. It's more than a theme to me; it's a reminder. A reminder of the deepest respect we hold for our Veterans. A reminder that the Auxiliary exists because of their heroic service to this great nation. A reminder that leadership, including us as an Auxiliary, is rooted in service, that progress is built on sacrifice, and that excellence demands courage, consistency, and commitment.

We hope that you use this directory to connect with the dedicated members who have stepped up to serve the VFW Auxiliary Department of Pennsylvania this year. We are a team that works collectively towards a common goal, and we are grateful to serve in a way that honors those who have paved the way for our opportunity to be part of this organization, because Every Day is Veterans Day.

Loyally,

Robin

Robin A. Kohler
2025-2026 Department President

Department Officers



President – Aux 8851
Robin Kohler D-18
831 Southern Road
York, PA 17403
717-580-9243 DOB 12/14
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Senior Vice President – Aux 2754
Cecelia Cook D-29
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Secretary-Treasurer – Aux 5956
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Department Officers ... continued



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Carolyn Paccio D-14 (David)
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Department Officers ... continued



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Chief of Staff – Aux 5507
Karen Hoover D18
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National Council Member
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Department Officers ... continued



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Patriotic Instructor – Aux 1785
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Department Officers ... continued

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District Presidents ... continued



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District 10 – Aux 7963
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District Presidents ... continued



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District 20 – Aux 509
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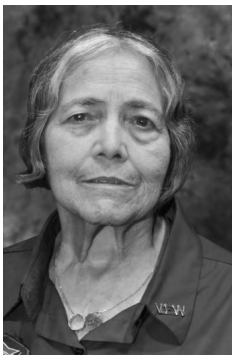


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District Presidents ... continued



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Past Dept. President's/Commander's Club Officers

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Vice President – Mary Jean Mastridge – Aux 6495/D-8
Chaplain – Ace Hanze – Post 7599/D-28
Secretary/Treasurer – Bonnie S. Drake – Aux 531/D-10
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Vice President – Janet Albin – Aux 5265/D-21
Chaplain – Charlotte Lopes – Aux 734/D-27
Secretary/Treasurer – Kathy Jo Reinsmith – Aux. 6168/D-18
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Margaret A. Armstrong –
1914-16-18
Lydia Riegel – 1919-20
Dora E. Raffensperger – 1932
Amelia C. Kane – 1944
Agnes Holz – 1955
Helen I. Harsh – 1995

National Officer

Mabel Love – 1985

Past Department Presidents

Adele Fritsch – 1925-26-28
Bertha W. Lyons – 1927
Lillian Kilgallon – 1929
Ida Stanford – 1930-31
Florence Anderson – 1932-33
Norma Potts – 1934-35
Twillia Bolt – 1938-39
Myrtle Brothwell – 1939-40
Alice Jones – 1941
Angelica Johnston – 1943
Josephine Pike – 1944
Marcella Newman – 1945
Lillian Stevenson – 1946
Evelyn Woods – 1947
Rhea McCloskey – 1948
Rachel Montayne – 1949
Beatrice Sisko – 1950
Emily Markle – 1951
Dorothy Simmons – 1952
Mary H. Lambert – 1953
Agnes Holz – 1954
Rita Brocht – 1955
Mary Kay Duff – 1956
Louise Grimm – 1957
Catherine C. Atticks – 1958
Aldah McDannell – 1959

Ellen Hoover – 1960
Dorothy Hunsicker – 1961
Margaret Smith – 1962
Dorothy Zenzer – 1963
Edna Tepsic – 1964
Anna Herbert – 1965
Vallie D. Steele – 1966
Alma Cartwright – 1968
Betty Henry – 1968
Pearl Shaffer – 1969
Audrey Copeland – 1970
Ann Sechrist – 1971
Martha Z. Arendas – 1973
Marie Sosnowy – 1974
Mable Love – 1977
Helen Ragon – 1978
Rita Graff – 1979
Joyce Patterson – 1980
Dorothy Koons – 1981
Ivy Kelly – 1982
Christine Weir – 1983
Edythe M. Gassert – 1985
Verna Thomas – 1987
Betty Musselman – 1988
Jane Rafferty – 1989
Mary Lou Burd – 1990
Phyllis Schreffler – 1993
Mary Lou Miller – 1994
Betty Gobbel – 2000
Mary Jane Rineer – 2002
Helen L. Harvey – 2016
Sherry J. Stinebiser – 2019
Julia Dever – 2020
Anna Radmore – 2020
Regina Gasior – 2021
Nancy Carol Jones – 2021
Ruth Haldeman – 2021
Helen I. Harsh – 2023
Janice E Holmes - 2023

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