

Past Commanders-in-Chief



To honor their service, the past Commanders-in-Chief are listed in chronological order since the inception of the organization.

AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE

James C. Putnam*.....1899-1900
 Maj. Will S. White*1900-01
 Maj. Will S. White*1901-02
 James Romanis*1902-03
 James Romanis*1903-04
 James Romanis*1904-05
 George Metzger*1905-06
 Charles H. Devereaux*1906-07
 David T. Nevin*1907-08
 J. Alfred Judge*1908-09
 J. Alfred Judge*1909-10
 Robert G. Woodside*1910-11
 Robert G. Woodside*1911-12
 Robert G. Woodside*1912-13

ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, CUBA AND PUERTO RICO

Gen. Francis V. Greene*.....1900-01
 Gen. Irving Hale*1901-02
 Gen. Irving Hale*1902-03
 Gen. Charles King*1903-04
 Gen. Wilder S. Metcalf*1904-05
 Col. Alfred S. Frost*.....1905-06
 Gen. Arthur MacArthur*1906-07
 Capt. H.A. Crow*1907-08
 Maj. P.J.H. Farrell*.....1908-09
 Col. Charles L. Jewett*1909-10
 A.H. Anderson*1910-11
 F. Warner Karling*1911-12
 F. Warner Karling*1912-13

AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE (EASTERN BRANCH)

Capt. Robert S. Hansbury*1903-04
 H.O. Kelley*1904-05

Rice W. Means,* Colorado 1913-14
 Thomas Crago,* Pennsylvania 1914-15
 Gus Hartung,* Colorado 1915-16
 Albert Rabing,* New York 1916-17
 William Ralston,* Pennsylvania 1917-18
 F. Warner Karling,* Missouri 1918-20
 Robert G. Woodside,* Pennsylvania 1920-22
 Tillinghast Huston,* New York 1922-23
 Lloyd M. Brett,* Washington, D.C. 1923-24
 John H. Dunn,* Massachusetts 1924-25
 Fred Stover,* Pennsylvania 1925-26
 Theodore Stitt,* New York 1926 -27
 Frank T. Strayer,* Indiana 1927-28
 Eugene P. Carver,* Massachusetts 1928-29
 Hezekiah N. Duff,* Michigan 1929-30
 Paul C. Wolman,* Maryland 1930-31
 Darold D. DeCoe,* California 1931-32
 Robert E. Coontz,* Washington, D.C. 1932-33
 James E. Van Zandt,* Pennsylvania 1933-36
 Bernard W. Kearney,* New York 1936-37
 Scott P. Squyres,* Oklahoma 1937-38
 Eugene I. Van Antwerp,* Michigan 1938-39
 Otis N. Brown,* North Carolina 1939-40
 Joseph C. Menedez,* Louisiana 1940-41
 Max Singer,* Massachusetts 1941-42
 Robert T. Merrill,* Montana 1942-43
 Carl J. Schoeninger,* Michigan 1943-44
 Jean A. Brunner,* New York 1944-45
 Joseph M. Stack,* Pennsylvania 1945-46
 Louis E. Starr,* Oregon 1946-47
 Ray H. Brannaman,* Colorado 1947-48
 Lyall T. Beggs,* Wisconsin 1948-49
 Clyde A. Lewis,* New York 1949-50
 Charles C. Ralls,* Washington 1950-51
 Frank C. Hilton,* Pennsylvania 1951-52
 James W. Cothran,* South Carolina 1952-53
 Wayne E. Richards,* Kansas 1953-54
 Merton B. Tice,* South Dakota 1954-55
 Timothy J. Murphy,* Massachusetts 1955-56
 Cooper T. Holt,* Tennessee 1956-57
 Richard L. Roudebush,* Indiana 1957-58
 John W. Mahan,* Montana 1958-59
 Louis G. Feldmann,* Pennsylvania 1959-60
 Ted C. Connell,* Texas 1960-61
 Robert E. Hansen,* Minnesota 1961-62
 Byron B. Gentry,* California 1962-63
 Joseph J. Lombardo,* New York 1963-64
 John A. Jenkins,* Alabama 1964-65
 Andy Borg,* Wisconsin 1965-66
 Leslie M. Fry,* Nevada 1966-67
 Joseph A. Scerra,* Massachusetts 1967-68
 Richard W. Homan,* West Virginia 1968-69
 Raymond A. Gallagher,* South Dakota 1969-70
 H.R. Rainwater,* California 1970-71
 Joseph L. Vicites,* Pennsylvania 1971-72
 Patrick E. Carr,* Louisiana 1972-73
 Ray S. Soden,* Illinois 1973-74
 John J. Stang,* Kansas 1974-75
 Thomas C. Walker,* Connecticut 1975-76
 R.D. (Bulldog) Smith, Georgia 1976-77
 John Wasyluk,* Ohio 1977-78
 Eric Sandstrom,* Washington 1978-79
 Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.,* New Jersey 1979-80
 T.C. Selman,* Texas (died in office) 1980-81
 Arthur J. Fellwock,* Indiana 1981-82
 James R. Curricio,* Arizona 1982-83
 Clifford G. Olson, Jr.,* Massachusetts 1983-84
 Billy Ray Cameron,* North Carolina 1984-85
 John S. Staum,* Minnesota 1985-86
 Norman G. Staab,* Kansas 1986-87
 Earl L. Stock, Jr.,* New York 1987-88
 Larry W. Rivers, Louisiana 1988-89
 Walter G. Hogan, Wisconsin 1989-90
 James L. Kimery,* New Mexico 1990-91
 Robert E. Wallace, New Jersey 1991-92
 John M. Carney,* Florida 1992-93
 George R. Cramer, Illinois 1993-94
 Allen F. Kent,* Arizona 1994-95
 Paul A. Spera, Massachusetts 1995-96
 James E. Nier, Texas 1996-97
 John E. Moon, Ohio 1997-98
 Thomas A. Pouliot, Montana 1998-99
 John W. Smart, New Hampshire 1999-2000
 John F. Gwizdak,* Georgia 2000-01
 James N. Goldsmith,* Michigan 2001-02
 Raymond C. Sisk,* California 2002-03
 Edward S. Banas, Sr.,* Connecticut 2003-04
 John Furgess, Tennessee 2004-05
 James R. Mueller, Missouri 2005-06
 Gary Kurpius, Alaska 2006-07
 George Lisicki, New Jersey 2007-08
 Glen M. Gardner, Jr., Texas 2008-09
 Thomas J. Tradewell, Sr.,* Wisconsin 2009-10
 Richard L. Eubank, California 2010-11
 Richard L. DeNoyer, Massachusetts 2011-12
 John E. Hamilton, Florida 2012-13
 William A. Thien, Indiana 2013-14
 John W. Stroud, Nevada 2014-15
 John A. Biedrzycki Jr.,* Pennsylvania 2015-16
 Brian Duffy, Kentucky 2016-17
 Keith E. Harman, Ohio 2017-18
 Vincent "B.J." Lawrence, New Mexico 2018-19
 William J. "Doc" Schmitz, New York 2019-20
 Harold J. "Hal" Roesch II, Virginia 2020-21
 Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic, Illinois 2021-22
 Timothy M. Borland, Arizona 2022-23
 Duane Sarmiento, New Jersey 2023-24
 Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt, Georgia 2024-25

*Deceased

Updated 5/26

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street Office 816.756.3390
 Kansas City, MO 64111 Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E. Office 202.543.2239
 Washington, D.C. 20002 Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org
 www.vfw.org