

10-26-21 Sons of The American Legion VE&E Summary  
Jim Coates, Vice Chairman  
National VE&E Commission

Chairman Joeseph Navarette convened The Sons of The American Legion National Veterans Employment and Education Commission conference call on Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm est. Member reports centered around developing contact lists and identifying Detachments with a VE&E Commission or a VE&E Committee integrated under VA&R.

Goals established for the Commission are:

- to increase Detachment VE&E participation by 10%,
- encourage local job fairs and employment opportunities, and
- to provide resources to end Veteran Homelessness.

The resolution submitted by the National VE&E Commission to present a cap to the winner of Marvin P. Nay Award was approved by the NEC at the Fall NEC Meeting. A cap will be purchased for our winner at the National Convention in Phoenix this past August and future award recipients.

The commission conference call is every third Wednesday of the month at 8pm est. The call-in number is (605) 468-8774, access number 5662904.

Currently I have been able to identify three Detachments in the Eastern Region with VE&E representations either active or in process.

- New Jersey with a Veterans Employment, Homelessness, and Education Commission with active participation with the Atlantic City Regional Stand Down under Detachment Commander Henry Hasselman and VEHE Commission Chairman Andy Malson. NICE JOB GENTLEMEN!!
- New Hampshire is in-process with creating a VE&E sub-committee of VA&R under Detachment Commander John Hook and VA&R Chairman Richard Pond.
- New York, has establish a VE&E Committee under VA&R in 2020 under then Detachment Commander Dennis George and VA&R Chairman Gabe Cinquegrana, and continues under myself as VA&R Chairman and Detachment Commander David Lee.

I am asking all Detachment Commanders to appoint and send me contact information (email and/or phone) for a representative willing and able to pass along VE&E information to your

Detachment. My email address is [coajam1@gmail.com](mailto:coajam1@gmail.com) and can be found in the National Directory. This information is being sent out to our Eastern Region contacts.

Also contained in this summary is a national listing of VA Stand Downs taken from [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless). Stand Downs are typically one- to three-day events during which VA staff and volunteers provide food, clothing and health screenings to homeless and at-risk Veterans. In addition, Veterans also receive referrals for health care, housing solutions, employment, substance use treatment, mental health counseling and other essential services.

Below are upcoming Stand Downs. New events are added regularly, so check this page often for updates. To add upcoming Stand Downs not listed below, please submit a notice of proposed event form to the VA Homeless Coordinator or VA Stand Down point of contact (POC) at your local VA Medical Center.

To participate in an upcoming Stand Down, please contact the VA primary POC listed below.

## National VA Stand Down Listing through November 13<sup>th</sup> (Eastern Region Highlighted)

Date/Location	VA Primary POC	Alternate POC
October 27, 2021 Mercer, PA	Ronald Collett (878) 271-6677 <a href="mailto:Ronald.Collett@va.gov">Ronald.Collett@va.gov</a>	Lori Johnson (724) 342-6222, x14 <a href="mailto:ljohnson@capmercer.org">ljohnson@capmercer.org</a>
October 27, 2021 Winner, SD	Christel Kitzelman (605) 490-0029 <a href="mailto:Christel.Kitzelman@va.gov">Christel.Kitzelman@va.gov</a>	Heidi Rubins (605) 490-3592 <a href="mailto:Heidi.Rubins@va.gov">Heidi.Rubins@va.gov</a>
October 28, 2021 Grand Island, NE	Kathy Foster (402) 489-3802, x6862 <a href="mailto:Kathy.Foster11@va.gov">Kathy.Foster11@va.gov</a>	Kerry Miller Loos (402) 977-4458 <a href="mailto:Kerry.MillerLoos@va.gov">Kerry.MillerLoos@va.gov</a>

October 29, 2021  
**Fort Collins, CO**

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(307) 920-1752  
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Jenny Pickett  
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[Jenny.Pickett82@gmail.com](mailto:Jenny.Pickett82@gmail.com)

October 29, 2021  
**Rockford, IL**

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Melissa Johnson  
(608) 556-8227  
[Melissa.Johnson7@va.gov](mailto:Melissa.Johnson7@va.gov)

## November 2021

November 5, 2021  
**Ames, IA**

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Paulette Anderson  
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November 5, 2021  
**Butler, PA**

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Allyson Rose  
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**Panama City, FL**

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Anthony Harris  
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November 5, 2021  
**San Antonio, TX**

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November 6, 2021  
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November 9, 2021  
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Kate Donaldson  
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November 10,  
2021  
**Kokomo, IN**

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Debbie Norris  
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2021  
**Decatur, IL**

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