John S. Stewart
VFW Post #1
Regular Meeting held October 11th 2026
Meeting location: VFW Post 1, 841 Santa Fe Dr, Denver, CO 80204
Opening Post Ceremony- 11:00

Roll Call: Officers present and in good standing:

Office	Status	Officer
Commander	Present	R. Enrique Rodriguez
Senior Vice Commander	Present	Brian Asbeck
Junior Vice Commander	Present	Jack Phares
Quartermaster	Present	Darren Schultz
Adjutant	Present	Jesse Eastburn
Surgeon	Excused	Sharon Neila
Judge Advocate	Present	Jim Stevens
Chaplain	Present	John Holland
Benefits Officer	Excused	Bridget Domenighini
Trustee 1	Present	Jonhda Starling
Trustee 2	Present by Zoom	Martha North
Trustee 3	Present	Sherry Wu

Quorum is Established: 10 Members in Person; 5 online

2 Guests: 1 name not recorded from the Philippines VFW and Brad Gallup from Warrior Story Field

Opening Ceremony: 11:00

Guest Speaker: Brad Gallup: Warrior Story Field: Exploring working with VFW Post 1 and the VAC
His contact information bradgallup@warriorstoryfield.org 720-560-1793

Guest Presentation
A representative of the Warrior Story Field in Longmont described its veteran, first-responder, artist, and civilian collaboration; two monumental sculptures nearing completion; and

development of a donated 38-acre property with metal, pottery, and possible woodworking facilities. Post members were invited to visit and explore future collaboration.

Deceased Member Report:

- None

New Members:

Life:

-

Annual:

- Robert Payne
- Aron Bukary

Transfers:

- Cheryl Groves
- Ian A. O'Brien

Motion: Accept the four new members.

Proposed by: John Holland
Seconded by: Brian Asbeck
Discussion Notes: None
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

Meeting Minutes: September 13, 2026, minutes were reviewed. Discussion clarified that the historic-sign motion authorized exploration of a permanent loan so the Post would retain ownership and the ability to recover the sign if the receiving organization dissolves or circumstances change. The membership agreed that the motion had been captured correctly.

Motion: Accept the September 13, 2026, minutes as posted.

Proposed by: John Holland
Seconded by: Jack Phares
Discussion Notes: The permanent-loan wording for the historic sign was clarified. No correction was made.
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

Officer Reports

Quartermaster: **Oct_2026_Quartermaster Report**

The Post reported 789 members paid for 2027, or 91.3 percent of the prior-year total, and 897 members on the complete roster. First Friday attendance was approximately 2,400. Bar receipts were $2,916; $1,030 in art commissions was transferred to the Veterans Arts Council account;

veteran artists earned $5,540 and civilian artists earned $1,240. Bills were current and the quarterly audit awaited one final signature. The September ending balances included approximately $26,051 in operations, $18,129 in the VAC account, $275 in raffle and bingo, $65,561 in savings, $1,427 in relief funds, and $1,070 cash on hand, for a combined balance of approximately $112,513. A $646 semiannual stormwater-cleaning expense will appear on the next report.

Motion: Accept the Quartermaster's Report as presented.

Proposed by: John Holland; amended by Jesse Eastburn
Seconded by: Jack Phares; Amended second by Brian Asbeck
Discussion Notes: The phrase 'subject to audit' was removed from the original motion. The membership then voted on the amended motion.
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

Adjutant: No separate report.

Senior Vice Commander

Recognized the Navy's October 13 birthday, the Lost Battalion during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, and the October 26 National Day of the Deployed.

Junior Vice Commander

Highlighted continuing POW MIA recovery and identification efforts and Operation Just Cause resources for tracking the return of missing service members.

Chaplain

Reported on the Rocky Mountain Honor Flight welcome-home event. The next return is scheduled for November 7, and members were encouraged to attend.

Partner Organization Reports

Post 1 Foundation

No report.

Committee Reports

Veterans Arts Council:

Volunteers are needed during First Friday, especially at the entrance to count attendance and help prevent alcohol from leaving the premises.

Building Report:

The new projecting sign was expected to be ready during the week of October 12. The stucco contractor remained dependent on city permitting, with completion of the facade and sign anticipated by the end of October.

Gaming:

The proposed Tuesday bingo session would require approximately five to ten consistent volunteers. The facility cost was reported at approximately $320 per night. Break-even attendance was estimated at 30 to 35 players, with stronger revenue expected at approximately

50 players. Members were asked to consider whether the Post can sustain weekly staffing before committing.

Founders Day:

Ticket sales were approaching capacity, with approximately $3,000 collected against an estimated $1,700 in event costs. Historical research is being prepared for the VIP presentation, emphasizing Post 1's documented founding history and continuous legacy. Several out-of-state VFW leaders are expected to attend. Remaining VIP ticket availability will be corrected and publicized.

National Home Observance:

The membership recognized the mission of the VFW National Home for Children and offered the prescribed prayer for its children, families, and staff.

Old Business:

Motion: Undrape the charter following the memorial period for Sam Wybenga.

Proposed by: Jesse Eastburn
Seconded by: John Holland
Discussion Notes: None
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

Charter was then Undraped by the Adjutant

Motion: Provide the required advance notice that the membership will vote at the November meeting on changing the December 2026 and January 2027 meeting times.

Proposed by: Commander R. Enrique Rodriguez
Seconded by: John Holland
Discussion Notes: The prior meeting-time vote was not properly noticed. Members will receive notice at least 14 days before the November vote, and the State Adjutant Quartermaster will be advised.
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

New Business:

Motion: Authorize $1,000 for the youth scholarship contests, awarding $500 to the Voice of Democracy first-place winner and $500 to the Patriot's Pen first-place winner, with no second- or third-place Post awards.

Proposed by: Commander R. Enrique Rodriguez
Seconded by: Brian Asbeck
Discussion Notes: The increase from the customary $100 award is intended to improve participation. The Auxiliary will be asked to contribute half of the expense.
Vote type: Voice
Passed (Y/N): Y

Good of the Order

- Senator John Hickenlooper is scheduled to visit Post 1 on Friday, October 16, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The sponsoring group will provide breakfast and $500 in facility revenue. Members were encouraged to RSVP because attendance and security controls are expected.
- Members were encouraged to continue opposing any renewed effort to use veterans' disability-rating changes as a legislative funding mechanism.
- The Post book club will begin with a Colorado-history title by veteran author Aaron Quortz. Books are available for $10, with the Adjutant personally subsidizing the remaining cost. Future selections may include Khadijah Queen's memoir concerning the USS Cole attack.
- The Veterans DJ Collective reported growing participation, with approximately ten attendees at its latest gathering.
- The Department received Meta smart glasses intended to assist blind and low-vision veterans. Jim Stevens received the first pair, and the Post will help document their use for the VFW Foundation's national rollout.
- Members will receive information about the Denver Creative Sustainability Summit and related workshops for artists and creative professionals. A possible film screening and rental at Post 1 is also under discussion.
- Members were asked to identify additional revenue streams that align with Post values and can help sustain the building and veteran programs.

Closing Ceremony

There being no further business, the meeting closed at approximately 11:59 a.m. in accordance with VFW ritual.

Next regular meeting: Sunday, November 15, 2026.

Attested by: Jesse Easburn: Post Adjutant/ Historian with the Assistance of Voice Recording and AI (Chat GPT)