

ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

APRIL 2025

ALL GENERAL ORDERS MUST BE READ AT POST MEETINGS AND FILED FOR FUTURE REFERENCE, PER THE STATE COMMANDER

Department Membership Standing: 93.09%

District Totals

District 1 – 102.20%	District 5 – 102.31%	District 9 – 92.51%
District 2 – 99.26%	District 6 – 82.57%	District 10 – 90.75%
District 4 – 86.31%	District 7 – 82.69%	District 13 – 96.13%

Top 5 Posts

Post 7518 – Berryville – Commander Masters – 155.26%
Post 12233 – Perryville – Commander Treece – 138.88%
Post 4501 – Batesville – Commander Matheny – 118.91%
Post 4449 – Marianna – Commander Clark – 116.66%
Post 9777 – Salem – Commander Lowmon – 110.60%

A total of **21** Posts have achieved 102% or better, with several others extremely close. Plenty of time to meet Commander Tate's goal!

Commander's Notes

Comrades,

The month of April has come upon us as well as Springtime. That's a great time to get out and work on Membership. With the District Convention coming up with nominations and elections, make sure you get good information from those who are elected or appointed to office for the year of 2025/2026, and make sure that they're eligible for the position. Remember to reach out and help those who are having trouble reaching their goal. There may be competition among us, but we're still one team. Please go vfwar.org to download the All-State checklist to make sure you have done all to make the goal. State Recruiter Darrell Darnier has made it known to give him a call if you need help with membership, and to have a team in place when he comes to help you out. Also, your Leadership Team is always available for you. Thanks for all that you do to support this great organization...#FightingForOurVeteranCommunities

Thanks for all you do,

~Commander Tate

Senior Vice Commander's Notes

Please remember Sec. 216 - Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees. Post officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the Post Adjutant. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office. In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold the office shall be forfeited, the office declared vacant and the eligibility qualifications of such officer shall be questioned in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws.

~SVC Wood

Jr. Vice Commander's Notes

May is the month when all the Junior Vice Commanders from all states go visit the VFW National Home. This year I will have the honor of visiting on May 14–17, 2025. The VFW National Home is available for active- duty, veterans, and relatives of VFW and Auxiliary members. VFW National Home help these families by providing housing (no cost), education, daycare, recreation, and case management. A family can stay at VFW National Home for 3-5 years. There are several ways that you can help with the VFW National Home. Go to vfnationalhome.org and find out how you can help.

~JVC Johnson

Surgeon's Notes

April is Stress Awareness Month. Know the signs of stress: headaches, stomach disorders, anxiety/depression, strokes, and heart disease. Take care of yourself. Eat healthily, exercise, get plenty of sleep, and take a break if you begin to feel stressed. Discuss your problems with a trustworthy source. Recognize the signs if you need more help. Remember, I am here for you.

~SGN Powell

2024-2025 ARKANSAS STATE CONVENTION

June 5-8, 2025

Embassy Suites Hotel

Jonesboro, AR

870-619-4482

All registration information can be found online at vfw.org under News/State Convention. The Agenda can be found attached, for updates please go online to vfw.org.

Room Rate: \$119/night + tax

This Includes:

Free Parking, daily full-service breakfast, 20% off coupon for Houlihan's, and daily drink tickets for complimentary reception.

Friday's Awards/Farewell is \$70 in advance and \$75 at the door.

This price INCLUDES your registration!!

Banquet tickets have been selling out prior to the last few conventions, please purchase ASAP.

The deadline for Pre-Registration is COB May 29th (No Exceptions).

Time: Banquet is at 5:00pm Friday

Banquet Theme: Denim and Diamonds

Meal: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Butter/Herb White Rice, Roasted Vegetable Medley, Salad, and Rolls

Tea, Water and Coffee

Cash Bar

2025 Commander's Cup

Place : Fox Hills Country Club

2005 Country Club

Paragould, AR 72450

Date : June 4th, 2025

Time : 0800 Shotgun Start

Cost : \$300 per team (\$75 per person)

If you do not have a team contact SVC Rodney Wood at (501) 658-5519 and we can see about getting you on one. Remember, this is a Department fundraiser so the more playing the better. Not to mention, it's also a fun way to spend the day. To participate in the Commander's Cup, you must be a VFW or VFW Auxiliary Member.

Buddy Poppy Display contest.

All 3 Categories will be judged. Displays need to be in place by Friday at 1pm. Judging will take place after 1pm Friday and the winners will be announced during the Banquet.

Remember at least one Poppy in the display must remain in its original form.

Category 1: Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign: (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW "Buddy" Poppy.

Category 2: Memorial or Inspirational Displays: (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the "Buddy" Poppy.

Category 3: Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies: (Post Home displays, table center pieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

Saturday Elections – the following guidelines will be followed in order to vote in all elections held this day.

1. To get Commander and delegate vote for any Post you must have at minimum 2 registered delegates attendance during the elections (one of these delegates must have Commander in their title to get the Commander Vote).
2. All Post audits must be current through March 2025.
3. 2025-2026 Election report must be submitted on OMS.
4. Post Delegate form must be submitted to the Department.

We recommend your Post leadership hand carry copies of all above items in case a question is raised.

The following members have announced their candidacy for one of the following offices. More individuals could announce before elections.

*****All Candidates are listed by office in alphabetic order*****

Department Officer Candidates 2025-2026

Commander -- Rodney Wood

Senior Vice Commander – Linda Johnson

Junior Vice Commander – Terry Ham

Quartermaster – Jeffrey Byrd

Judge Advocate – Glen Powell

Surgeon – Marc Calcaterra
Patsy Morris

Chaplain – Doreen Brown

ALLSTATE

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ALL STATE - CHECKLIST MUST BE FILLED OUT.

THIS REQUIREMENT IS FOR POST AND DISTRICT.

ALL CHECKLIST'S MUST BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 21, 2025. POST AND DISTRICT CHECKLISTS CAN BE FOUND AFTER THIS MONTH'S GENERAL ORDERS.

SCOUT OF THE YEAR JUDGING

For those interested in assisting Scout of the Year Chairman Terry Daniell with this year's judging, please come out to VFW Post 9095 on April 21st at 11:00 am. Please direct all inquiries to Chairman Terry Daniell at icoachcats@aol.com.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS GENERAL ORDERS

GENERAL ORDERS #10
2024-2025

April 2025

Article 4- Posts Delegates to Department Convention

Post status in this Department shall be in accordance with and governed by the Congressional Charter and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, as contained in Sections 201 to 222 Paragraph (b) inclusive Paragraph (c) delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention, one delegate and one alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the post at the time of the election. A delegate registration fee of \$5.00 for each post delegate shall be forwarded to the Department Quartermaster not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention and the delegate strength of each post shall be based on the post membership as reported to Department Headquarters on May 31st of each year, and Paragraph (d), (e), and (f) inclusive together with Section 223 inclusive.

Installing Officers: Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 216 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Post-Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than June 1 to the National Headquarters. We highly encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership

Installing officers are directed to see to it that the Post-Election Report form has been completed and submitted to National Headquarters. If a Post-Election Report form has not been forwarded to National Headquarters at the time of installation, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time of the installation of Post Officers no later than June 1. Additionally, Section 413 of the National By-Laws requires that a properly completed District Election Report be submitted to National Headquarters prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

Post-Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than June 1 to the National Headquarters. We encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post-Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters.

Proof of Eligibility on all elected and appointed officers: Post, District, Department Commanders, Adjutants, and Quartermasters are reminded of the requirements of sections 216, 416, and 516 of the Manual of Procedure with regard to proof of eligibility for all newly elected and appointed officers. Post officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the Post Adjutant. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office. In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold the office shall be forfeited, the office declared vacant and the eligibility qualifications of such officer shall be questioned in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws.

Districts

Per Section 403 of the National By-laws, each Districts shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year for purposes of transacting business and conducting schools of instruction. Each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers and for the transaction of business; such Convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

Per section 416 of the National By-Laws District officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the District Adjutant. Additionally, District Commanders, District Senior Vice Commanders, and District Junior Vice Commanders shall submit proof of eligibility to the Department Adjutant. District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the District Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office. In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold the office shall be forfeited, the office declared vacant and the eligibility qualifications of such officer shall be questioned in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the National Bylaws.

All District Commanders are asked to make sure that the District election report is completed with all the elected and appointed Officers completed and forward to the State Adjutant immediately after the District Convention. This will facilitate the preparation of the Department Directory.

District Meeting Dates for 2025-2026: All newly elected District Commanders are reminded please try, within thirty (30) days, to submit to the Department Adjutant a list of meetings for the 2025-2026 year. Please review the dates as to not interfere with Department functions. This will help us with planning purposes.

Posts

Attention is directed to Section 222 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure which provides that (a) Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in accordance with the Manual of Procedure. (b) Delegates elected under this section shall not be considered instructed and may exercise full authority in the duty to be performed. (c) Each Post will pay, in accordance with its Department Bylaws, a delegate registration fee for each and every delegate to which the Post shall be entitled. (d) Each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National

Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Posts are encouraged to register their Post delegate online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or by submitting their National Convention Post and Delegate Registration form that was mailed to all Posts as part of the Election Report/Convention Registration mailing that went out in February. Advanced registration for the 126h National Convention should be mailed with each delegate's name and address to: Convention Registration, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

Section 222 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure provides that Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Delegate strength will be based on members in good standing as of March 31st. Delegates and alternates of each Post shall serve as delegates throughout the year provided they remain members in good standing in the respective Post within the District. Delegates shall not be recognized at the National Convention unless they personally register their completed delegate card with the National Credentials Committee. Posts instituted after delegate strength has been determined, but prior to convening date of the respective convention or District meeting, shall on the day of institution, elect one delegate and one alternate for each thirty names or fraction thereof according to the number of names listed on the charter application.

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National By-Laws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department, and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post-Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council and District meetings; County Council, District, Department, and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

For those Post who do not have access to a computer, please forward your election report form to this office (State Adjutant Office) who will file the report for you. Please ensure that all elected and appointed Officers are listed on your election report, this will facilitate complete information of the Department directory.

Buddy Poppies Distribution: The manufacture and/or sale of the trademarked "Buddy Poppy" shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations as prescribed in the Manual of Procedure. A grant in the amount of one and one-half cents of each poppy sold shall be payable to the VFW National Home; any remaining net proceeds from the sales of Buddy Poppies after the costs of producing and distributing the poppies and payment of the grant to the National Home has been deducted shall be allocated to the National Veterans Service Budget. ***NOTE:*** As the upcoming Memorial Day approaches and given the daily hazards confronting our military daily during operations abroad, it is appropriate that we direct as many VFW resources as possible to supporting our troops and their families. In the ongoing effort to provide as much assistance as possible to those serving in the military, we recommend that proceeds or portions from this year's annual poppy distribution be designated for the purpose of providing VFW support to our military. Posts and Departments now have the opportunity to assist qualified military personnel through the VFW Veterans & Military Support programs. In keeping with the intent of Sections 219(a)(c) and 704(a)(c) of the Manual of Procedure "Relief Fund", this year's poppy campaign can play a direct role in demonstrating to those who are charged with protecting and defending our way of life that we appreciate and value their sacrifice.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Suspension:
None

Elvin Tate
State Commander

OFFICIAL
Christine Oldham

State Adjutant

POST _____

Delegate Registration

National By-Laws and Manual of Procedures Section 504.

Each Department shall be governed by a Department Convention. The Department Convention shall consist of:

Paragraph 4

“All Post Commanders throughout the Department. In the absence of the Post Commander, the Post Senior Vice Commander, or, in the Senior Vice Commander’s absence, the Post Junior Vice Commander may be registered and function as a member of the Convention.

Position (Circle one) CMD, SV CMD, JV CMD Name _____

*The name listed above should still be listed as an alternate in the event of a change

Per Department By-Laws Article 4

“Post status in the Department shall be in accordance with and governed by the Congressional Charter, Bylaws and Manual of Procedures as contained in Sections 201 to 222. Delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post in April, with one delegate and one alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31st. A delegate registration fee of \$5.00 for each Post delegate shall be forwarded to the Department Quartermaster not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention and the delegate strength of each Post shall be based on the Post membership as reported to Department Headquarters on March 31st of each year.”

As of March 31, 2025, your Post Membership was at _____ Members which gives you _____ Delegates which total \$_____.

PLEASE PRINT NAMES

Primary

Alternates

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____

If more space is needed for additional Delegates please use the reverse side.

Commanders, you need to be listed as an alternate in the instance you are the only member of your Post in attendance at State Convention and you want to vote your Post delegate strength rather than just getting your Commander vote.

Arkansas Delegate Voting Strength

District	Post	Total	Strength	District	Post	Total	Strength
1	1674	193	7	7	1322	262	9
1	2952	471	16	7	1345	22	1
1	3031	321	11	7	6527	177	6
1	7518	58	2	7	8245	63	3
1	8109	35	2	7	8383	40	2
1	9834	63	3	7	8532	105	4
1	10021	53	2	7	8845	169	6
2	1341	232	8	7	8855	25	1
2	2881	66	3	9	2256	186	7
2	3246	224	8	9	2278	259	9
2	3252	28	1	9	2586	82	3
2	4772	50	2	9	4451	104	4
2	7730	46	2	9	4521	66	3
2	7831	37	2	9	10483	129	5
2	8042	40	2	10	2413	113	4
2	9777	73	3	10	2746	20	1
2	10417	28	1	10	4455	173	6
4	1991	336	12	10	4515	99	4
4	2242	95	4	10	4554	106	4
4	4449	27	1	10	4562	148	5
4	4517	41	2	10	4564	21	1
4	4556	63	3	10	8124	33	2
4	4679	59	2	10	8671	63	3
4	5225	216	8	10	9360	29	1
4	8347	36	2	13	1316	123	5
4	10480	23	1	13	2935	71	3
5	2330	374	13	13	4548	1016	34
5	3543	226	8	13	9095	281	10
5	4501	89	3	13	10442	90	3
5	4683	127	5	13	11474	113	4
5	4766	72	3				
5	7514	52	2				
5	7769	662	23				
5	10007	69	3				
6	2259	207	7				
6	2283	217	8				
6	3141	73	3				
6	4453	73	3				
6	4513	83	3				
6	4764	84	3				
6	8525	92	4				
6	12127	27	1				
6	12233	39	2				

Department of Arkansas Veterans of Foreign Wars
& Its Auxiliary
94th Annual State Convention
2024-2025

BLACK – BOTH

BLUE – VFW

RED - AUXILIARY

Thursday June 5th

1:00pm – 4:30pm - VFW and Auxiliary Convention Registration – Arvest V
1:00pm – 4:30pm – VFW Delegates – Arvest V
1:00pm – 4:30pm – Auxiliary Delegates – Arvest VI
12:00pm – Buddy Poppy Displays Set up – Pre-Convention Area
1:00pm – 4:30pm – Country Store – Arvest VII
4:00pm – Joint Opening/Joint Memorial Service– Arvest III & IV
Directly following Joint Memorial Service – VFW Council of Admin – Arvest I
Directly following Joint Memorial Service – VFW Aux Council of Admin – Arvest II
Evening – VFW Aux Floor Practice – Delta Ballroom

Friday June 6th

8:30am – Buddy Poppy Display Set up – Pre-Convention Area – Must be displayed by 1pm
8:30am – 11:30am & 12:30pm – 3:30pm – VFW and Auxiliary Registration – Arvest V
8:30am – 11:30am & 12:30pm – 3:30pm – VFW Delegates – Arvest V
8:30am – 11:30am & 12:30pm – 3:30pm – Auxiliary Delegates – Arvest VI
8:00am – 3:30 – Country Store – Arvest VII
9:00am – 12:00pm – VFW Business Meeting – Arvest III & IV
9:00am – 12:00pm – VFW Auxiliary Business Meeting – Delta Ballroom
1:00pm – 3:00pm – VFW Quartermaster Training – Arvest II
1:00pm – 3:00pm– Service Officer Training – Arvest I
1:00pm – 3:00pm – 2024-2025 Program Training – Delta Ballroom
Following QM Training – Suicide Prevention Training – Arvest II
After 1pm - Buddy Poppy Judging
5:00pm – 9:00pm Combined Awards/Banquet Farewell to Commander and President
Arvest III & IV (Buddy Poppy winners announced during banquet)

Saturday June 7th

8:00am - 9:00am - Auxiliary Registration Arvest V & Delegates Arvest VI
8:00am – 10:00am – VFW Registration and Delegates – Arvest V
8:00am – 1:00pm – Country Store - Arvest VII
9:00am – VFW Business Session - Arvest III & IV
9:00am – Auxiliary Business Meeting – Delta Ballroom
3 :30pm – Joint Installation – Arvest III and IV
Immediately following Joint Installation – Motorcycle Group Meeting – Arvest I
Immediately following Joint Installation – Cooties Meeting – Arvest II

Sunday Morning June 8th

9:30am – VFW 2024-2025 Council of Administration Meeting – Arvest I
9:30am – VFW Auxiliary 2024-2025 Council of Administration – Arvest II

*Subject to Change

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Arkansas
And Its Auxiliary
94th State Convention
June 5 – 8, 2025

Friday's Awards/Farewell is \$70 in advance and \$75 at the door
This price **INCLUDES** your registration!!

Banquet tickets have been selling out prior to the last few conventions, please purchase ASAP

Deadline for Pre-Registration is COB May 29th (No Exceptions)

Time: Banquet is at 5:00pm Friday

Banquet Theme is: Denim and Diamonds

Meal : Chicken Cordon Bleu, Butter/Herb White Rice, Roasted Vegetable Medley, Salad,
and Rolls

Tea, Water and Coffee

Cash Bar

Location:

Embassy Suites Hotel

223 Red Wolf Blvd

Jonesboro, AR 72401

Phone: 870-619-4482 – Block VFW

Room Rate: Single \$119/night + tax – this includes

Free Parking, full service breakfast daily, 20% off coupon for Houlihan's, and daily drink tickets for complimentary reception

All VFW, VFW Auxiliary, and Guests MUST Register at \$10.00 per person prior to May 29, 2025 COB. If you purchase a banquet ticket, the registration fee is included in the price of the banquet ticket.

Registration and Delegate Dues are NOT the same thing.

Reservation Form
State Convention
June 5- 8, 2025

Make your check payable to: VFW Department of Arkansas

We accept Mastercard, Visa, And Discover

Name _____ Post _____

No. of Tickets for the for the Banquet (registration included in this price) @ \$70.00 per person _____ \$ _____

No. of Registrations (only if not purchasing a banquet ticket) @ \$10.00 per person _____ \$ _____

Credit Card Number _____ Date of Exp _____ Security Code _____

Please mail to: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept of AR, 4210 E. Kiehl Avenue, Sherwood, Arkansas 72120.

You can call Department Headquarters at: 501-834-8392 to pre-register Tuesday - Thursday
Pre-registering will help you avoid long lines and save you money. The tickets will not be mailed; they will be held in your name and must be picked up at the registration desk.

*If you purchase your ticket using a credit card, the charge will show as a PayPal charge on your statement

DENIM
and
DIAMONDS

VFW Dept of Arkansas
and its Auxiliary
94th State Convention

AWARDS AND FAREWELL BANQUET
FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025 @ 5PM
COME DRESSED IN YOUR
DENIM AND SPARKLES

Embassy Suites Hotel

223 Red Wolf Blvd
Jonesboro, AR 72405

Banquet tickets:
\$70 in advance \$75 @ the door

Buddy Poppy Display Contest

94th VFW State
Convention

*Embassy Suites Hotel
Jonesboro, AR*

- Category 1: Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign
- Category 2: Memorial or Inspirational Display
- Category 3: Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

Get your creative juices flowing for our Buddy Poppy Display Contest. State Convention is all 3 Categories. Check the agenda for times and set up location

