

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

GENERAL ORDERS #6
2022-2023 SERIES

DECEMBER 2022

Current membership: Department 86.67%

Mid-Winter

Time is now to make reservations for Mid-Winter. Dates are February 3-4, Airport Holiday Inn, Little Rock, 501-490-1000. Visit our web site vfwar.org under news – agenda attached.

Buddy Poppy Display Contest: The Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be Category 1 – any questions you may have regarding Buddy Poppies, please contact the Department Headquarters.

CATEGORY 1

Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.

(b) At least one (1) of the poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Department Standings

District 1 – 81.69%	District 2 – 90.42%	District 4 – 82.51%	District 5 – 84.30%	
District 6 – 86.57%	District 7 – 95.15%	District 9 – 92.21%	District 10 – 84.34%	District 13 – 87.75%

Commanders, please review the criteria for eligibility for Post/District of the Quarter for end of month December. Announcements will be made at the Mid-Winter Council Meeting.

There will be NO January General Orders

Commander's Notes

The VFW Department of Arkansas would like to wish all Veterans, Service Members, and their families best wishes for a jubilant Christmas season filled with joy, love, and happiness.

In this season of giving, might I suggest the gift of an annual VFW membership. Every Veteran Counts so lets welcome all eligible Veterans to our family!

In closing, THANK YOU to each and every member for everything you do! As always, should you need anything from my team or I we will be available at any time to anyone who needs assistance. ARKANSAS STRONG!!

~Commander Byrd ~

Senior Vice Commander's Notes

Please take the time to observe National Pearl Harbor Day on December 7th in honor of the 2,403 killed and 1,178 injured on that infamous day. This is a good time to think of the hardships and ordeals endured by our service men and women every day and everywhere in the world. From my family to yours, we wish you a joyous Christmas filled with love, happiness, and prosperity.

~SVC Pipkin ~

Junior Vice Commander's Notes

Now that we're past Thanksgiving, which I hope all of you enjoyed, we are in the Holiday Season. I hope that everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and please be aware of your surroundings and let us continue on our journey of making this a successful year for the State of Arkansas. Remember, we here at the Department will make ourselves available to you at all times...ususus

~JVC Tate ~

Quartermaster's Notes

You should have received an envelope with a return address to the State Quartermasters Office. It is actually from American Income. It is a type of supplemental Insurance. It also has a \$2,500 accidental life insurance policy that you can fill out and return for free. The Council of Administration voted at the last State Convention to adopt them as a sponsor and allow them to do this mailing. If you have any questions regarding this or any other needs please contact the office @ 501-834-8392.

~QM Oldham~

HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG ON DECEMBER 7

Public Law 103-308, passed in 1994, designates December 7 as "National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day" and requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day. To order a flag, go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/flags/usflags>.

Service Officer

Hello Comrades,

I hope all is well with you and your families. The Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water lawsuit is a mass litigation case. Meaning, Veteran Service Officers will not be filing the claim. We have our own law group that is free to Veterans and I highly suggest you contact them with information below. The commercials you see on TV will take up to 40% of any monies you are owed, while we will do it for free at the same pace. God speed and remember every day is Veteran's Day.

“We don't know how CLCW Lawsuits are going to impact VA Benefits yet. Due to language in the PACT Act, participating in a CLCW lawsuit could cause VA benefits to be offset. We are still waiting to see proposed regulations published so that we will know how those lawsuits will impact a veterans VA benefit. The VFW has a relationship with the law firm Bergmann & Moore (B&M). Veterans and family members interested in a CLCW Lawsuit can contact B&M. B&M will provide a consultation to help determine if joining a lawsuit would be advantageous to Veterans or their family members. To request a free consultation, Veterans and their family members should navigate to the bottom of B&M's website <https://www.vetlawyers.com/>”

Service Officer Training/Workshop

January 20-21, 2023, Monticello VFW Post. On Friday afternoon the Department Service Officer will be conducting training for Service Officers, open to all. On Saturday, a workshop will be conducted to assist any Veterans and/or families that might need guidance or assistance. Open to all

Depending on weather, next to be scheduled at West Memphis and Mt Home area.

Membership

All Members: Commanders on all levels are reminded that according to Section 105 of the National Bylaws, a member whose dues are unpaid after their anniversary date ceases to be a member in good standing and loses all rights of membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. They shall not attend meetings or conventions and shall not participate in Post, County Council, District, Department or National functions.

Post Commanders and District Commanders and inspecting officers

Your attention is directed to section 703 of the National By-Laws - Bonds. Each Accountable Officer of this organization shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable. Liquid assets are defined as cash on hand or in the bank and other negotiable instruments readily convertible into cash.

The attention of Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders is directed to Section 103 of the Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstated or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting.

Department Business:

Suspensions:
Post 10480

BY COMMAND OF

**Jeffrey Byrd
State Commander**

OFFICIAL

**Christine Oldham
State Adjutant**

Mid-Winter Agenda is attached

Mid-Winter Agenda
Airport Holiday Inn, Little Rock
Department of Arkansas VFW & Auxiliary
Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Awards Ceremony
February 3-4, 2023

FRIDAY, February 3, 2023

1:00pm – 5:00pm – Registration - atrium
12:00pm – Auxiliary – Ways N Means - Atrium
11:30am – 1:00pm – Hospitality room – Lindberg – no lunch provided
1:00pm – 3:30pm – Dashboard Training – Sr Vice Cdr Pipkin/QM Oldham – Kitty Hawk
2:00pm – 4:00pm – Auxiliary Treasurer/Secretary Training - Enterprise
4:00pm – 6:00pm – Auxiliary Program Training - Enterprise
4:30pm – Hospitality room – open
6:00pm – Dinner fundraiser – Hosted by Auxiliary – Lindberg
7:30pm – Karaoke- Lindberg

SATURDAY, February 4, 2023

8:00am – 1:00pm – Registration
8:30am – 3:00pm – Ways and Means
9:00am – 10:00am – Joint Openings – All Attendees – Kitty Hawk
10:15am – 12:00pm – VFW Council of Administration Kitty Hawk
10:15am – 12:00pm - Auxiliary Council of Administration- Kitty Hawk
12:00pm – Buddy Poppy Judging – Category 1
12:00pm – 1:00pm – Lunch – VFW fundraiser
TBD – Riders Group Meeting
3:30pm – 5:30pm – VOD and PP Awards Banquet – Business Casual Attire
5:00pm – Hospitality Room - Lindberg
6:30pm – 8:30pm??? – Trivia – Atrium – Prizes

Room rate \$96.00 plus tax

Registration \$5 per person

Banquet: \$32 if purchased before January 31, 2022, \$37 at the door, no exceptions

Banquet dinner is Italian themed.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE