**Arkansas Chronicles**

**October 2023**

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

**Membership 79.54%**

**COMMANDER’S NOTES**

Below you will see the goals set by Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento for the 2023-2024 year. By meeting these goals, you will assist National, Department, District and most of all, your Post grow in strength and in numbers. Help your Post by goaling for success and let your community and membership gain the reward of a solid Post to support all. I know this is achievable or I would not ask.

~**Commander Pipkin**

**Membership as of 27 September 2023**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Posts 102% or Greater | | | | |
| Commander Fred Beard | 125.51% | 4683 | Newport | District 5 |
| Commander Jeffrey Byrd | 112.22% | 2330 | Searcy | District 5 |
| Commander Curtis Mathen | 111.29% | 4501 | Batesville | District 5 |
| Commander Mark Davis | 110.29% | 2242 | Paragould | District 4 |
| Commander Glen Powell | 109.09% | 7514 | Quitman | District 5 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District 1** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 1674 | SILOAM SPRINGS | 38 | 65 |
| 2952 | SPRINGDALE | 44 | 90 |
| 3031 | ROGERS | 48 | 98 |
| 7518 | BERRYVILLE | 11 | 16 |
| 8109 | PEA RIDGE | 1 | 5 |
| 9834 | DECATUR | 1 | 9 |
| 10021 | KINGSTON | 4 | 12 |
| **District 2** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 1341 | BULL SHOALS | 24 | 58 |
| 2881 | HARRISON | 0 | 9 |
| 3246 | MOUNTAIN HOME | 21 | 57 |
| 3252 | MARSHALL | 3 | 8 |
| 4772 | HIGHLAND | 12 | 20 |
| 7730 | CALICO ROCK | 0 | 4 |
| 7831 | MAMMOTH SPRING | 10 | 6 |
| 8042 | EVENING SHADE | 8 | 13 |
| 9777 | SALEM | 14 | 25 |
| 10417 | LEAD HILL | 0 | 4 |
| **District 4** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 1991 | JONESBORO | 43 | 93 |
| 4449 | MARIANNA | 9 | 13 |
| 4517 | PIGGOTT | 1 | 7 |
| 4556 | POCAHONTAS | 9 | 18 |
| 4679 | HARRISBURG | 43 | 53 |
| 5225 | WEST MEMPHIS | 16 | 49 |
| 8347 | CORNING | 5 | 10 |
| 10480 | RECTOR | 2 | 6 |
| **District 5** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 3543 | HEBER SPRINGS | 28 | 62 |
|  |  |  |  |
| 4766 | MOUNTAIN VIEW | 6 | 16 |
| 7769 | BEEBE | 0 | 21 |
| 10007 | BALD KNOB | 3 | 11 |
| **District 6** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 2259 | CONWAY | 62 | 100 |
| 2283 | RUSSELLVILLE | 18 | 54 |
| 3141 | DARDANELLE | 0 | 8 |
| 4453 | MORRILTON | 16 | 26 |
| 4513 | FAIRFIELD BAY | 21 | 36 |
| 4764 | CLINTON | 2 | 15 |
| 8525 | PLAINVIEW | 7 | 18 |
| 12127 | LESLIE | 4 | 9 |
| **District 7** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 1322 | VAN BUREN | 16 | 52 |
| 1345 | WALDRON | 0 | 4 |
| 6527 | GREENWOOD | 11 | 38 |
| 8245 | HUNTINGTON | 17 | 27 |
| 8383 | NEW BLAINE | 12 | 19 |
| 8532 | COAL HILL | 8 | 25 |
| 8845 | FORT SMITH | 13 | 38 |
| 8855 | MOUNTAINBURG | 9 | 14 |
| **District 9** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 2256 | BENTON | 25 | 47 |
| 2278 | HOT SPRINGS | 25 | 63 |
| 2586 | MALVERN | 11 | 22 |
| 4451 | MENA | 31 | 46 |
| 4521 | DE QUEEN | 23 | 33 |
| 10483 | HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE | 17 | 37 |
| **District 10** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 2413 | EL DORADO | 11 | 28 |
| 2746 | STAR CITY | 13 | 17 |
| 4455 | PINE BLUFF | 25 | 49 |
| 4515 | MONTICELLO | 22 | 35 |
| 4554 | CAMDEN | 25 | 43 |
| 4562 | TEXARKANA | 7 | 24 |
| 4564 | WARREN | 4 | 7 |
| 8124 | TAYLOR | 15 | 20 |
| 8671 | PRESCOTT | 5 | 14 |
| 9360 | HAMBURG | 7 | 11 |
| **District 13** | | **88% By 1 Nov** | **102% By 30 June** |
| 1316 | LITTLE ROCK | 35 | 53 |
| 2935 | SHERWOOD | 3 | 10 |
| 4548 | JACKSONVILLE | 122 | 239 |
| 9095 | LITTLE ROCK | 33 | 74 |
| 10442 | NORTH LITTLE ROCK | 7 | 20 |
| 11474 | NORTH LITTLE ROCK | 10 | 27 |

**SENIOR VICE COMANDER’S NOTES**

As the year is moving forward, we need to remember that we are in this together. Our Department Commander’s motto is #OneFamilyOneFight. Let’s keep backing up our Leader. Continue to think about the statement that your Commanders read at the beginning of your meetings, whether District or Post. It’s been required that you read the statement, and I quote, from the Bylaws: “Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations. Let us uphold always the obligations pf unselfish comradeship loyalty to our organization and to the government of the United States of America.” Sometimes we take things too personally that we shouldn’t. So, let’s stop concentrating on ourselves and focus on the organization. I’m looking forward to a very successful year and hope that we can help each of you with your needs. #GoTeamArkansas #OneFamilyOneFight #vfwar

**~SVC Tate**

**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER’S NOTES**

As we grow our membership, I notice that some members feel as if their Post might be growing outside the capabilities for our senior members to understand. Once example of this would be that members can now electronically attend meetings. Let us work together to not leave these members behind. The world has changed a lot over the last several years, things that used to work for our Post, now do not. Please work with all membership to embrace change, work together, and come up with solutions that fit a little of the needs of all members. Together we can achieve it all. OneFamilyOneFight

**~JVC Wood**

**Service Officer**

Currently we do not have a seated Department Service Officer. The leadership is working hard on finding a strong candidate to fill the role. If you have needs that need attention, please reach out to your county service officer or ADVA.

**\*\*\*\*BUDDY POPPIES\*\*\*\***

National requires that a Post purchase 3 Poppies per member to qualify for the All-American Program this year.

There are now two different types of poppies: the Legacy and the Tin Tab. The Legacy is the one that we have been using for years. The Tin Tab is small, tin, and has a tab that can be folded over to grasp onto edge of a shirt or hat. The order form has been updated on-line. All orders must be submitted to the Department Headquarters and must be accompanied with your payment Please allow approximately 1-2 weeks for delivery. See below for pricing. Note: National still carries the Anniversary Poppies, please call Department Headquarters for details.

Legacy Poppy: $145 – 500

Tin Tab Poppy: $90 - 500

**DEPARTMENT - QUARTERLY AWARDS**

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**District**

1st Quarter

District 5

Commander Glen Powell

**Post of the Quarter**

**1st Quarter**

Post 2330

Commander Jeffrey Byrd

**Important Dates**

**October**

9 October – Columbus Day – Department Closed

13 October – US Navy’s Birthday

17 October – Mid-Winter tickets go on sale

31 October – Voice of Democracy (VOD), Patriot’s Pen Entries, and Teacher of the Year due to the Post

**November**

1-4 November – Southern Conference – Tulsa, OK

7 November – Election Day

10 November – US Marine’s Birthday

11 November – Veteran’s Day – State Observation 10 November -Department Closed

15 November – VOD, Patriot’s Pen, and Teacher of Year - Post judging complete

20 November – Post VOD and Patriot’s Pen due to District

22-24 November – Thanksgiving – Department Closed

**December**

1 December – Teacher of Year Entries in the hands of the Department Chairman (Linda Johnson)

7 December – Pearl Harbor Day

12 December – District’s judging on VOD and Patriot’s Pen complete

14 December – District’s 1st place VOD and Patriot’s Pen name and contact info due to Department

19 December – 2 January – Christmas Holiday – Department closed

20 December – Space Force Birthday

**Mid-Winter**

Assignment for our Mid-Winter Conference is scheduled to be Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento from the great state of New Jersey, get your tickets early.

The dates for the Mid-Winter Conference for the Department of Arkansas are February 2-3, 2024, at The Airport Holiday Inn in Little Rock. The awards banquet will be Saturday, February 3rd @ 4:30pm. Awards Banquet tickets are $40.00 in advance and $45.00 after the close of business January 31, 2024. Tickets will go on sale October 17, 2023. Again, the cut off for the advanced purchase price is Jan 31, 2024. Hotel rates: $91 per night plus tax. If purchasing Registration only, no banquet, the price is $10 per person. For banquet ticket purchases, registration is built into the price. The meal will be a southern beef steak and chicken options. Dessert will be ice cream sundaes.

It is now time to consider sponsorship of any of the VOD or Patriots Pen places as a Post or as an individual. Call the Department headquarters for more details.

**The Buddy Poppy display category for Mid-Winter will be Category 2– Memorial or Inspirational Displays**

For more information regarding the Mid-Winter Conference, please go to VFWAR.org and look under News for Mid-Winter. This will be updated as more information becomes available.

**State Convention**

**State Convention** – The State Convention will be at the Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, AR May 30 – June 2, 2024. Room rates are $119.00 per night plus tax and a small parking fee. More details to follow.

**VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, PATRIOT’S PEN, TEACHER OF THE YEAR, Nick Bacon and Scout of the Year DEADLINES:**

Please pay Attention to the Department deadline dates.

Youth Programs – Terry Ham – 719-339-6390

Chairmen: Teacher of the Year – Linda Johnson – 956-241-2633 – 1 Dec due to Dept. Chairman

Voice of Democracy – Jerry Tobey – 479-531-8146 – 20 Nov entries to District

Patriots Pen – Terry Ham – 719-339-6390 – 20 Nov entries to District

Public Servant – Adam Strange – 479-213-3211 – 1 Jan to Department Chairman

VFW Member of the Year – Elvin Tate – 870-514-8080 – 28 Feb due to District

JROTC Cadet of the Year – Marc Calcaterra – 479-531-8146 – 28 March due to

Department Chairman

VFW Employer of the Year - Jerry Hulsey - 479-249-2344- 28 March due to

Department Chairman

Nick Bacon – Todd Willey – 479-857-6069 – 1 March deadline to Department

Chairman

The Nick Bacon application is now posted on vfwar.org under Programs. Please pay attention to the new due date, it is due to the Department by 01 March 2024.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above-mentioned youth programs, please contact the Youth Program Coordinator, Terry Ham

**GENERAL ORDERS #4 OCTOBER 2023**

**Series 2023-2024**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Members are reminded that under the subscription dues plan, an annual members’ dues expire on their anniversary month. Annual members are encouraged to renew their dues prior to their anniversary month to avoid a lapse in continuous membership. Officers and committee members, whose membership is not in good standing by reason of failure to pay current dues by their anniversary month, shall forfeit eligibility to hold any office the remainder of the administrative year.

In addition, every effort should always be made to renew the membership of continuous members and sign up new and recover former members during the year.

For clarification purposes, use of the VFW Legacy Life Membership card as suitable identification when verifying a member’s credentials is permissible, however, the member’s original Life Membership card may be required in certain circumstances where state/local laws, or Post rules, require proof of Post affiliation to participate in certain unit activities.

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to the Commander-in-Chief’s decision in response to questions raised concerning alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting as set forth below:

It is held to be objectionable and contrary to accepted rules of order and proper decorum implicit in the ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to permit alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting. Accordingly, the presence, dispensation, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings is unacceptable and is prohibited. Any such practice known to exist shall be terminated.

It is the intent of the Commander-in-Chief’s decision, regarding this response, to include Post, County Council, District and Department meetings, whereas it is held to be objectionable. Please refer to section 1001 (25) of the National Manual of Procedure.

Department Business:

Suspension: Post 8532 – Coal Hill

BY COMMAND OF

Teddy Pipkin

State Commander

OFFICIAL

Christine Oldham

State Adjutant

Scheduled District Meetings: Check the Website vfwar.org; Resources, Officer Assignment