

# ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

## December 2023

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

**Current membership: Department 87.71%**

### Department Standings

### Current District Standings

<b>District 5 - CMD Glen Powell</b>	<b>109.27%</b>	<b>Achieved</b>
<b>District 7</b>	<b>87.88%</b>	
<b>District 6</b>	<b>87.60%</b>	
<b>District 1</b>	<b>87.06%</b>	
<b>District 13</b>	<b>85.69%</b>	
<b>District 2</b>	<b>85.36%</b>	
<b>District 4</b>	<b>82.30%</b>	
<b>District 10</b>	<b>79.34%</b>	
<b>District 9</b>	<b>78.76%</b>	

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

**January General Orders will be published on or before Jan 9, 2024**

### Mid-Winter

The time is now to make your reservations for Mid-Winter. The dates are February 2-3, 2024, at the Airport Holiday Inn, Little Rock. You can call 501-490-1000 to make your hotel reservations. Visit our web site [vfwar.org](http://vfwar.org) under News – Mid-Winter for registration information. The Agenda is attached.

Buddy Poppy Display Contest: The Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be **Category 2** – any questions you may have regarding Buddy Poppies, please contact the Department Headquarters.

### **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. At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

### **Commander's Notes**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Department leadership and staff. We hope that this season brings you many joyous memories with family and friends. Let us not forget those deployed in harms way as well as the veterans and veterans families that are less fortunate. I would like to say thank you for your continue support at all levels. One Family One Fight  
~Commander Pipkin

### **Senior Vice Commander 's Notes**

With the Holidays happening for us right now, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and hope that everyone can keep up the focus on the recruitment of new members and continuing to grow this organization larger in the future. Always remember that we are just a phone call away and don't hesitate to contact us if you're looking for advice.  
#GoTeamArkansas #vfwwar  
~SVC Tate

### **Junior Vice Commander's Notes**

One of the most important things a Commander can do is conduct a meeting. The way you can do this is first and foremost to prepare for the meeting, also become very familiar with any training you are planning on conducting during your meeting. If you are conducting training and have to be corrected during it you will lose credibility. Please test any equipment you are going to use before the meeting. Make sure you show up early enough to be able to do this. When you are conducting your meetings make sure you use Sec 1003- Order of Business-Districts or Sec 1004 – Order of Business-Post both are on page 112-113 of the Manual of Procedure. Post can also go to page 14 of VFW Ritual starting with Opening Post Ceremonies. Making an agenda is a wonderful thing just make sure you make the agenda according to the Manual of Procedure Order of Business or VFW Ritual Order of Business. The success of the meeting is an important way to pass to members confidence in you as the Commander.  
~JVC Wood

### **Central Arkansas Veterans Home**

We have been in communication with the Central Arkansas Veterans Home Activities Director Johnny, he has relayed to us of the 90 residents there are 83 men and 7 women. The needs that they have identified are: electric razors, regular razors as well as hygiene items, (i.e. body wash, deodorant, lotion and so forth). The Department along with some Districts and Posts are raising money to get these razors, you can work on your own or send money to the Department Headquarters, noted Veterans Home, to assist with these needs.

### **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 Training/Workshop**

December 5-7 Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs is conducting their annual training. Please contact Department Headquarters at 501-834-8392 Or Commander Teddy Pipkin @ 501-827-6544 to get registration information.

The Department Commander along with the Department Service Officer are working on a schedule for training throughout the Department as well, stay tuned.

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

**GENERAL ORDERS #6  
2023-2024 SERIES**

**DECEMBER 2023**

## **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 8532 – Coal Hill

Post 4521 - DeQueen

**BY COMMAND OF**

**Teddy Pipkin  
State Commander**

**OFFICIAL**

**Christine Oldham  
State Adjutant**