

ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

December 2024

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

Current membership: Department 80.25%

Department Standings

Current District Standings

District 2	90.96%
District 5	83.25%
District 1	80.83%
District 9	80.43%
District 10	78.87%
District 13	78.09%
District 4	77.36%
District 6	77.32%
District 7	75.85%

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.

There will be no January General Orders

Mid-Winter

!!!MASCOTS!!!

We are looking for school Mascots for Mid-Winter! Please see if you can get your school's mascot to our Mid-Winter banquet, with dinner covered by you or your post. We are working to make this a fun experience for our youth. Please contact State Headquarters if you are able to provide a Mascot!

The time is now to make your reservations for Mid-Winter. The dates are February 14-15, 2025 at the Airport Holiday Inn, Little Rock. You can call 501-490-1000 to make your hotel reservations. Visit our web site 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 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 display)

- (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.

Commander's Notes

Team Arkansas,

The Holiday season is here and I hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

At this time I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I know that you're going to be busy this month, thinking about Family and gifts, but please remember to keep your focus on recruiting new members as well as those that have expired or expiring. Continue to call and do Buddy Checks on the members that are going to be spending the holidays alone. The Leadership Team will always be available for you at all times if you need help with anything. Please reach out to us and don't let a problem fester into something you can't handle. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support and dedication that you show our Beautiful State and organization at all levels.

#FightingForOurVeteranCommunities

~Commander Tate

Senior Vice Commander 's Notes

We have an update to the Arkansas dashboard on vfw.org. We have added Poppy drives and Recruiting drives to the dashboard. We need you to email the Department at adjqm@vfw.org with any of the Poppy Drives and Recruiting Drives that you have done this year. From here forward you need to email the Department so the information can be entered into the Dashboard.

~SVC Wood

Surgeon's Notes

Stay Ahead of Seasonal Respiratory Illnesses

During the fall and winter months, respiratory illnesses such as influenza, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are more common. These viruses spread easily and can lead to severe illness, especially for:

- Older adults
- Infants and young children
- Pregnant women
- Individuals with certain chronic conditions

Protect Yourself and Your Community

Vaccination is the most effective way to reduce your risk of infection, minimize the severity of illness, and prevent the spread of these viruses.

Plan Ahead

Speak with your healthcare provider to determine which vaccines are right for you. By getting vaccinated early, you can ensure protection before these viruses reach their peak during the winter months.

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe

Protect yourself and your loved ones, and enjoy the season with peace of mind.

~SGN Powell

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>.

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

**GENERAL ORDERS #6
2024-2025 SERIES**

DECEMBER 2024

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

BY COMMAND OF

**Elvin Tate
State Commander**

OFFICIAL

**Christine Oldham
State Adjutant**