

ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

October 2024

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

Membership 73.81%

COMMANDER'S NOTES

Hello Team Arkansas,

The Department of Arkansas just finished a Roundup Tour - visiting a few Posts and proving that the State is solid and moving forward with the mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We love to thank each and every one for everything that you do to show your Love for our State. We would also show our appreciation for the awesome hospitality that you showed your Leadership team by inviting us to join your Post meetings and displaying your abilities that you've got an understanding of all the programs and the deadlines. Continue to stay positive and patient throughout the year and we will meet our goals. I challenge you to continue working with your Amazing Auxiliaries to help you complete the mission. Let's continue to get out in our communities and reach out to see how we can be of assistance, and as the need arises. Let's stay focused on our Membership and recruiting, so that we can reach or exceed our goal. Always remember to log your Community Service information on the Department's dashboard and call State Headquarters if you need a login. This Arkansas Leadership Team will make ourselves available to you at all times and never hesitate to call if you need assistance.

#FightingForOurVeteranCommunities

~Commander Tate

Membership as of 25 September 2024

Posts 102% or Greater

Commander Wally Treece	127.77%	12233	Perryville	District 6
Commander Matthew Masters	110.52%	7518	Berryville	District 1
Commander Howard Schuettpelz	106.66%	8109	Pea Ridge	District 1
Commander Fred Beard	104%	4683	Newport	District 5
Commander Mickchal Carnahan	103.77%	9834	Decatur	District 1

86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
------------------	------------------	---------------------

District 1

1674	SILOAM SPRINGS	29	48	59
2952	SPRINGDALE	131	174	200
3031	ROGERS	33	66	86
10021	KINGSTON	0	4	8

		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
District 2				
1341	BULL SHOALS	0	17	31
2881	HARRISON	0	6	10
3246	MOUNTAIN HOME	0	17	30
3252	MARSHALL	4	8	10
4772	HIGHLAND	7	12	16
7730	CALICO ROCK	0	0	2
7831	MAMMOTH SPRING	2	6	8
8042	EVENING SHADE	1	4	6
9777	SALEM	0	3	7
10417	LEAD HILL	0	3	5
District 4				
		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
1991	JONESBORO	43	79	101
2242	PARAGOULD	26	38	45
4449	MARIANNA	8	11	12
4517	PIGGOTT	7	12	14
4556	POCAHONTAS	9	15	19
4679	HARRISBURG	35	42	46
5225	WEST MEMPHIS	15	40	55
8347	CORNING	6	11	13
10480	RECTOR	0	3	4
District 5				
		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
2330	SEARCY	37	71	91
3543	HEBER SPRINGS	28	53	69
4501	BATESVILLE	14	22	26
4683	NEWPORT	0	0	0
4766	MOUNTAIN VIEW	1	8	12
7514	QUITMAN	12	18	22
7769	BEEBE	204	266	303
10007	BALD KNOB	5	11	15
District 6				
		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
2259	CONWAY	64	91	108
2283	RUSSELLVILLE	0	20	33
3141	DARDANELLE	0	5	9
4453	MORRILTON	18	25	30
4513	FAIRFIELD BAY	23	34	41
4764	CLINTON	31	43	50
8525	PLAINVIEW	0	4	9
12127	LESLIE	9	12	14

District 7		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
1322	VAN BUREN	60	90	107
1345	WALDRON	1	3	5
6527	GREENWOOD	8	28	39
8245	HUNTINGTON	9	17	21
8383	NEW BLAINE	13	18	22
8532	COAL HILL	1	12	19
8845	FORT SMITH	37	57	70
8855	MOUNTAINBURG	8	12	14
District 9		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
2256	BENTON	31	47	57
2278	HOT SPRINGS	18	45	61
2586	MALVERN	19	28	33
4451	MENA	31	42	49
4521	DE QUEEN	21	27	31
10483	HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE	7	20	28
District 10		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
2413	EL DORADO	13	25	32
2746	STAR CITY	12	15	17
4455	PINE BLUFF	38	56	67
4515	MONTICELLO	22	32	37
4554	CAMDEN	14	26	33
4562	TEXARKANA	2	16	24
4564	WARREN	5	7	8
8124	TAYLOR	13	17	19
8671	PRESCOTT	8	14	18
9360	HAMBURG	3	5	7
District 13		86% by Sep 30	96% by Dec 31	102% by March 30
1316	LITTLE ROCK	35	49	57
2935	SHERWOOD	11	18	22
4548	JACKSONVILLE	166	263	321
9095	LITTLE ROCK	31	61	80
10442	NORTH LITTLE ROCK	10	20	25
11474	NORTH LITTLE ROCK	12	24	32

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S NOTES

As a friendly reminder, all officers who are annual members must renew their membership on or before their anniversary. If they do not get this done National will automatically remove them from office. Please ensure all of your officers are paid so they remain a member in good standing. If you have any questions please call Department Headquarters.

~SVC Wood

SURGEON'S NOTES

Comrades,

For those that were not aware, the budget for the VA benefits was 3 Billion dollars short this year.

There are nearly 7 million veterans who rely on this money to live. This budget that was short includes (but is not limited to) our disability benefits, to include disability compensation, and the GI Bill.

Because of the veteran support we have in Congress, an emergency appropriations bill was passed. Had this not passed, this would have been horrible for so many. Had this bill not passed, the disability compensation that is received on 1 October would not happen.

This is why membership is so important. The greater our membership, the greater our voice. Let's work hard to keep our membership up and our voices heard.

~SGN Powell

****BUDDY POPPIES****

National requires that a Post purchase 500 Poppies 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 will be announced at Training on October 5, 2024 at Jacksonville Post 4548

Homecoming

Change! Change! Change!

New Location

**Jacksonville VFW Post 4548
6704 Old Hwy 67
Cabot, AR 72023**

Friday October 4, 2024 – meet and greet at Post 4548 followed by Karaoke @ 7 pm

Saturday October 5, 2024 – 7:30 Breakfast @ Post 4548

8:30 Joint Training on Scholarships then split up for further training

VFW Training will include: Scholarships, Quartermaster, Post Service Officer, Dashboard, and anything else that the Commander has time for

Homecoming October 5, 2024 – Dinner at 5:30pm followed by the Band – 90 Proof at 8:00pm

Come and join the training and homecoming, there will be a silent auction, a gift baskets fundraiser, and fun and games during the bands breaks. Come to have fun and bring some cash.

Important Dates

October

- 5 October Homecoming/Training – Jacksonville
- 13 October Navy Birthday
- 14 October Columbus Day (observed) – Department Closed
- 31 October Entries for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year need to be turned in to the Post

November

- 5-9 November Southern Conference – Nashville, TN
- 5 November Election Day
- 10 November Marine Birthday
- 11 November Veteran's Day – Department Closed
- 20 November Post Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries due to District
- 27-29 November Thanksgiving – Department Closed

December

- 6 December Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Entries due to Department Chairman
- 7 December Pearl Harbor Day
- 15 December Teacher of the Year due to Department Chairman
- December 19 - Christmas Holiday - Department Closed
- January 1
- 20 December Space Force Birthday

Mid-Winter February 14-15, 2025

The dates for the Mid-Winter Conference for the Department of Arkansas are February 14-15, 2025, at The Airport Holiday Inn in Little Rock. The awards banquet will be Saturday, February 15th. More details to follow in November's General Orders.

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 1 – Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign

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 Embassy Suites Hotel in Jonesboro June 5-8, 2025.

[Any Post and/or District wanting to have a hospitality room at State Convention 2025 in Jonesboro please come to the training this weekend at training, we will have a meeting to discuss. We will make all decisions this day.](#)

**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 – 6 Dec due to Dept. Chairman
Voice of Democracy – Diana Rerucha – 870-680-2936 – 20 Nov Entries to District
Patriots Pen – Marc Calcaterra – 479-531-8146 – 20 Nov entries to District
Public Servant – Adam Strange – 479-213-3211 – 1 Jan to Department Chairman
VFW Member of the Year - Michael Ritchey– 501-398-1677 - 28 February to Department
Headquarters
JROTC Cadet of the Year – Marc Calcaterra – 479-531-8146 – 28 March due to
Department Chairman
VFW Employer of the Year - 28 March due to Department Headquarters
Nick Bacon – Todd Willey – 479-857-6069 – 1 March deadline to Department
Chairman

The Nick Bacon application is now posted on vfw.org under Programs. Please pay attention to the new due date, it is due to the Department by 01 March 2025.

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

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:
None

BY COMMAND OF

Elvin Tate
State Commander

OFFICIAL

Christine Oldham
State Adjutant

Scheduled District Meetings: Check the Website vfw.org; Resources, District Meetings