

Arkansas

Good of the Order

August 2024

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

2024-2025 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Commander-in-Chief Al Lipphardt

COMMANDER'S NOTES

3.74%

A quarter of the year (Because we start at the beginning of June) is almost over and we're starting out great so far. I would like for you all to know that I'm glad that you all took care of that low hanging fruit of getting those annuals to renew their Memberships, but there's lots more work to be done. We have to get our first quarter audits in on time, as well as inspections. Please contact The State Inspector Johnny Gothard. I know times are slow right now but stay motivated and continue to work together as a team in our community. The State Leadership Team is available to you at all times, so if you're having a problem, contact Department Headquarters. #FightingforOurVeteranCommunities

~Commander Tate

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S NOTES

Under the duties and obligations of Commander, the first duty is to Preside at all meetings of the Post, conducting such meetings in accordance with Article X of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure and other applicable parliamentary rules. Article X, for those who have not read it, is an essential part of the bylaws because it will tell you how to run a meeting. It explains the process of making and debating a motion that will come before you. It also states in this Article that No member shall in debate impeach the motives of a fellow member or treat them with disrespect. I know that during some motions people sometimes become very passionate but at no time should a member treat another member with any disrespect. The job of keeping control falls strictly on your shoulders as a Commander. Please read Article X, also make sure that no member is talked to in such a manner that they are disrespected. I want all members to remember the great saying **"It's not the price we pay to be members, It's the price we paid to be eligible."**

~Senior Vice Commander Wood

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S NOTES

Every month I am going to cover different sections from our National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures. I am going to provide a summary and where you can go to get the full information.

This month I am going to discuss Section 220 – Vacancies & Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members

Removal – Post: A Post may propose the removal of an officer or committee with a motion at a general or special meeting. The member shall be notified at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting by registered mail and a copy of the letter should be provided to the Department Commander at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. A removal of an officer requires a minimum of 2/3 vote of the membership present. An officer may be voted out of office for: 1) Absent from two (2) consecutive meetings 2) Failure to fulfill the duties of the office per Section 218 of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.

Please remember to check the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures before beginning any removal process.

~Junior Vice Commander Johnson

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S NOTES

Comrades, we have noticed something at all levels that we need to work within ourselves on. Respect. We are all veterans, members, holding different positions or no position at all. At no time does this allow anyone to disrespect or belittle any member at any time. Please work on yourself or assisting other members. If you are part or bear witness to this happening at any level, please try and assist that member to adjust his/her communications. Remember that we are all volunteers. Opening of meetings: Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations....

~Judge Advocate Ham

SURGEON'S NOTES

Comrades, some jobs stop for nothing – especially not for a little heat. But what happens when that little heat turns into an all-day high paired with overwhelming humidity? It's no secret that working in the heat and against prolonged sun exposure, hot work environments can be extremely dangerous! No matter what view your 'office' has — a construction site, a ranch/farm, or even a factory, you can't work your best outdoors with symptoms that lead to heat cramps, stress, or worse: strokes. Here are 11 tips for staying cool while working in the heat: Know Heat Exhaustion or Stroke Symptoms, Stay Hydrated, Protect your Skin from Harmful UV Rays, Avoid Caffeine and Alcoholic Beverages, Eat Light, Chilled Foods, Take A Break, Use Sunscreen, Chill Your Personal Items, Carry Portable Cooling Devices, Have an Emergency Action Plan.

~Surgeon Powell

COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING

FALL Training

This year the Commander and President's homecoming is combined. VFW Training will be held at Heber Springs VFW Post 3543, 1989 Heber Springs Rd N, Tumbling Shoals, AR 72581 Saturday October 5, 2024 followed by the Homecoming festivities

Training will be on Department Dashboard, Officer Duties and Responsibilities, Quartermaster Training, Service Officer Training, Suicide Prevention, and Life Legacy Training

Schedule is as follows:

Friday - October 04, 2024 details will be announced in September's General Orders

Saturday – October 5, 2024 8:30am – Training

Noon – Lunch will be cold cut sandwiches

That afternoon there will be Competitions between the AUX and VFW

5:30pm - ???- Homecoming for Commander Tate and President Lamb – Post 3543 Heber Springs

*****MID-WINTER*****

Mid-Winter dates have changed!

Mid-Winter will be February 14-15, 2025

Location: Airport Holiday Inn in Little Rock, more details later

Department of Arkansas Chairmen:

a full list can be found on our web site

2024-2025

Post Revitalization Coordinator – Rodney Wood – Beebe – Post 7769
Youth Coordinator – Terry Ham – Conway - Post 2259
Scouts – Terry Daniell – Post 2278 – Hot Springs
ROTC – Darrell Darner, Post 1674 - Siloam Springs
JROTC – Marc Calcaterra – Jacksonville – Post 4548
Veterans and Military Support – Carlton Rodney – Post 7769 - Beebe
Buddy Poppy – Ashleigh Bishop – Post 4501 - Batesville
Community Service – Christine Oldham – Post 4548 - Jacksonville
POW/MIA – Mike Nuckolls - Post 2330 – Searcy
Motorcycle Group –Adam Strange Post 1322 – Van Buren
Commanders Project – Ashley Little – Post 4548 - Jacksonville
M.O.C. Coordinator – Ashleigh Bishop – Post 4501 - Batesville

V.A.V.S. Reps

Little Rock/North Little Rock – Rodney Wood - Post 7769 - Beebe
Fayetteville – Johnny Gothard – Post 1322 - Van Buren
Memphis – Doreen Brown- Post 5225 - West Memphis
Poplar Bluff – Robert Emmons – Post 1991 - Jonesboro

2024-2025 Program's

The Directories can all be found online only at vfw.org. Your District Commander has printed copies to assist any Post. If you have a vfw.org account, a full list of contacts for all post is located there. If you would like an account, it is open to all members, please call the headquarters Tuesday thru Thursday.

BONDING **Web only**

Current Bonds for Post Quartermaster/Officers will expire August 31, 2024, and Canteen Manger/Employee Bonds will expire September 30, 2024. All Posts should remit the correct amount to Department Headquarters now. Amounts: Quartermaster/Officer \$4.50 per thousand minimum of \$2,000. Club manager and all others \$8.00 per thousand minimum of \$1,000. If you are bonding through an outside agency, please forward proof from company to VFW State Headquarters. These forms will be on the web site at VFWAR.org under Resources, Reports and Forms. District Commanders will be emailed a copy of the forms. The bond applications will not be mailed out this year.

Commanders are reminded that all persons handling post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman, shall keep accurate and complete records. Post Trustees shall audit these records in the same manner as Post Quartermaster records.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Just because it is summer doesn't mean that we shouldn't be working on our Youth Programs. There are several activities that the youth of Arkansas are participating in during the summer. Look around, there are VBS, 4H activities, Ball leagues, and summer camps of all types, just for a few examples. With the cost of college going up every year most parents and students are going to need as much help as possible in paying for it. So, let's get out there and promote our programs. Making your programs successful will assist the Post with being successful.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY: Time starts **NOW!** Posts are requested to contact the high school principals and teachers the first week of school to discuss plans to sponsor the 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy Program. This year's theme: "**Is America today our Forefathers' vision?**" All audio CD's or flash drive's and entry forms for District judging must be in the possession of VFW District Chairmen, before the date of the District judging. District Chairmen must notify all Posts and Auxiliaries in their jurisdiction of the date of the District judging and where to send the recorded audio and entry form of the winner of each participating school. Program materials are available from the Department Youth Development, Recognition & Scholarship Chairman.

PATRIOT'S PEN: Time starts **NOW!** Posts are requested to contact school principals and teachers the first week of school to discuss plans to sponsor the 2024-2025. This year's theme: "**My voice in America's Democracy?**" All essays and entry forms for District judging must be in the possession of VFW District Chairmen, before the date of the District judging. District Chairmen must notify all Posts and Auxiliaries in their jurisdiction of the date of the District judging and where to send the essays and entry form of the winner of each participating school. Program materials are available from the Department Youth Development, Recognition & Scholarship Chairman.

BUDDY POPPIES: You are requested to place your order for the Buddy Poppy Program as soon as possible Remember they get shipped directly from National so it takes up to 1 weeks to receive (Orders MUST still come through Department Headquarters.) Prices are \$145.00 per 500 for Legacy Poppies and \$90 per 500 for Tin Poppies. Please plan your Buddy Poppy Drive now. Poppies MUST now be paid for when the order is placed.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS

GENERAL ORDERS #2
2024-2025

AUGUST 2024

POW/MIA Flag

POW/MIA Flag – Official Display Days: Public Law 105-85 (November 16, 1997) indicates the days that federal agencies, military installations and U.S. post offices are required to display the POW/MIA flag. The days are: Veterans Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and National POW/MIA Day.

Control of Units

Section 709 – Control of Units, National By-laws paragraph 6. In addition to other legal requirements under existing local laws or Department By-Laws, no Post, County Council, District, or any holding company or corporation subordinate thereto, shall purchase, sell or otherwise transfer title or any interest in any real estate unless written notice of such proposal has first been given to each member of said unit ten (10) days prior to such regular or special meeting at which the proposal is to be considered and then only by two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval of those members present and voting at such regular or special meeting. In addition, at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting notice shall be provided to the Department Commander who shall review any sale, purchase, transfer or encumbrance to determine whether such transaction serves the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as prescribed in the Congressional Charter. Failure to comply with these provisions shall nullify said transactions.

POST COMMANDERS Notify IRS of Quartermaster Change

In January 2014, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) began requiring entities with and EIN to file IRD Form 8822-B to report the latest change of address or responsible party. Form 8822-B must be files within 60 days of the change. The purpose of Form 8822-B is to notify the IRS of you changes your business mailing address, your business location or the identity of your responsible party. The IRS Form 8822-B and its instructions can be found at the following link: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822b.pdf>

2024 Annual Report for Nonprofit Corporation PAST DUE

Deadline: August 1, 2024: Just received information from the Secretary of the State office that Posts were waiting for the postcard mail out regarding Annual Nonprofit renewals. It is all on line now. Please go to www.sos.arkansas.gov/BCS to file your 2023 report of officers. There is no penalty for being late, but it could hurt the post in the future. Please go online and complete today. If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Julie Wolfe at 501-682-3482, at the Secretary of the State's office.

REMOVAL OF AN OFFICER

Section 220 of the National By-Laws, "Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers" states that "Any elective Post Officer removed by the Department Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post under the provisions of this section, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the Officer is removed."

GENERAL ORDERS: All General Orders are to be read at a regular meeting, acted upon, posted, and filed for future reference. These orders will be published every month except January. They will be with your District Commanders and on the web site **vfwar.org**.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:

None

BY COMMAND OF

Elvin Tate
State Commander

OFFICIAL:
Christine Oldham
State Adjutant