

# ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

## JULY 2024

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

Congratulations to all the newly elected Department of Arkansas Veterans of Foreign Wars Officers.

### **2024-2025 Department Officers**

Commander Elvin Tate, Post 5225, Marion/West Memphis  
Senior Vice Commander Rodney Wood, Post 7769, Beebe  
Junior Vice Commander Linda Johnson, Post 4451, Mena  
Quartermaster Christine Oldham, Post 4548, Jacksonville  
Judge Advocate Terry Ham, Post 2259 Conway  
Surgeon Glen Powell, Post 7514, Quitman  
Chaplain Doreen Brown, Post 5225, Marion/West Memphis

### **The following appointments are hereby announced:**

Adjutant Christine Oldham, Post 4548, Jacksonville  
Chief-of-Staff Ashley Little, Post 4548, Jacksonville  
State Inspector Johnny Gothard, Post 1322, Van Buren

### **Chairmen:**

Commanders Project Ashley Little, Post 4548, Jacksonville

Youth Programs Terry Ham, Post 2259 Conway

### **All State 2023-2024**

Team Captain Commander Mark Davis– Post 2242 – Paragould  
Co Captain Commander Terence Daniell – Post 2278 – Hot Springs

District 1 – Commander Jerry Tobey  
District 4 Commander Johnathon Mullins  
District 5 Commander Glen Powell  
District 6 – Commander Thomas Holt  
District 7 – Commander Chester Starr  
District 10 – Commander Kenneth Walker  
District 13 Commander Tom Thelen

Post 4455 -Pine Bluff – Commander David Kennedy  
Post 7769 – Beebe – Commander Carlton Rodney  
Post 2935 – Sherwood - Commander Steve Huddleston  
Post 1322 - Van Buren Post – Commander Kurt Licari  
Post 4548 – Jacksonville – Commander Marc Calcaterra  
Post 2330 – Searcy – Commander Jeffrey Byrd  
Post 4556 – Pocahontas – Commander Trisha Leslie  
Post 1674 – Siloam Springs – Commander Keith Schultz

Post 8525 – Plainview – Commander Donald Thompson  
Post 2952 – Springdale – Commander Jeffery Hill  
Post 8383 – New Blaine – Commander Robert Hurst  
Post 1991 – Jonesboro – Commander Robert Murphy  
Post 8245 – Huntington Post – Commander Justin Weaver  
Post 4451 – Mena – Commander Linda Johnson  
Post 2256 – Benton Post – Commander Steven Davis  
Post 4683 – Newport – Commander Fred Beard  
Post 8845 – Fort Smith – Commander Leroy Farmer  
Post 6527 – Greenwood – Commander Tanya Taylor  
Post 2259 – Conway – Commander Thomas Holt  
Post 7514 – Quitman – Commander Glen Powell  
Post 4766 – Mountain View – Commander Mike Burrier  
Post 10007 – Bald Knob – Commander Wilbern Marler  
Post 3543 – Heber Springs – Commander Terry Kemp  
Post 1345 – Waldron – Commander Ritchie Mitchell  
Post 2881 – Harrison Post – Commander Aaron Bass  
Post 4501 – Batesville – Curtis Matheny  
Post 1316 – Little Rock – Commander Kenneth Williams

Out of all these Post and District Commanders, two District Commander's and ten Post Commander's received cap's. If your Post and/or District would like to order All-State Caps for any Commander, please contact the Department Headquarters and we will assist you in your order. Please try and contact us prior to October 1, 2024.

**POST OF THE YEAR  
2023-2024**

Alpha Autry Post – Post 2330  
Commander Jeffrey Byrd

**District Commander of the Year**

Commander Glen Powell – District 5

**Post Commander of the Year**

Commander Marc Calcaterra  
Michael W. Ray Post 4548  
Jacksonville

**Member of the Year**

Herbert Burns  
Michael W. Ray Post, Post 4548 - Jacksonville

**Employer of the Year**

JB Hunt

## **Buddy Poppy Display Contest Winners**

Overall winner – going to National to compete

Hubble Delk Post 11474 – Levy

### **Category 1 – Public Promotion**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jack E. Smoot/Ralph G. King Post – Post 2278, Hot Springs

### **Category 2 - Memorial or Inspirational**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hubble Delk Post – Post 11474, Levy

### **Category 3 – Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Michael W. Ray Post – Post 4548, Jacksonville

Many more celebrated Post and Auxiliaries were recognized, there is not enough time in one day congratulations to all and thank you for the hard work.

## **Commanders Notes**

I would love to thank each and everyone of you for putting trust in me by electing me as the 94th Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Arkansas State Commander. We've already gotten our assignments for representing our District meetings. We already know what we have to do this year, like we've done in previous years.

We need to continue getting out there and continue our recruiting efforts. Please start checking the rosters for those members that are about to expire and encourage them to pay their dues early or on time. I'm excited to work alongside the VFW Auxiliary and their President Becky Lamb and I'm sure that we will do an awesome job leading this organization during this 2024-2025 year.

I served in the Army from 1982 to 1992 as an infantry soldier in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. I joined the VFW on 1 September 2005 and became a Life member on 1 December 06. I'm a Gold Legacy Life Member as of 2020. My Commander's project this year is to start a Foundation for the Department of Arkansas to help sustain the for the future of our Department. In closing, I want to make myself fully dedicated to all members of both organizations. I'll be available to all members of the Department at all times. With the support of the VFW and Auxiliary members, we will be "Fighting for our Veterans Communities".

~Commander Elvin Tate

## **Senior Vice Commander Notes**

I would like to thank you, the members, for allowing me to serve as your Senior Vice Commander. I give my word that I will work hard for you this year. You can help me with this by letting us know if your Post needs help with anything in the following year. I know that with Veterans it is hard to ask for help but please reach out if you need it. You may need help because the same 5 members are doing all the work or because you are struggling to have a quorum for meetings, it doesn't matter what the reason is, please reach out to us. It is easier for us to come help before things get to a breaking point. Once again, thank you for entrusting me with becoming your Senior Vice Commander and I look forward to another strong year.

~SVC Rodney Wood

### **Junior Vice Commander Notes**

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2024-2025 State Junior Vice Commander. I will continue to give 100% for you. As a Department, we can accomplish anything as long as we work together. If you need any help with anything, please don't hesitate to call, text, or email me. Thank you again for your vote of confidence .

~JVC Linda Johnson

### **Judge Advocate's Notes**

I just want to say thank you for electing me to serve as your Judge Advocate for the 2024-2025 year. I am confident that our Department is going to have another stellar year with Commander Tate. As always, I am here if you need anything, even if it is to present a Cav hat, just let me know. Again, thank you for choosing me to serve you as your Judge Advocate.

~Judge Advocate Terry Ham

### **Surgeon's Notes**

Comrades, I would like to thank you for electing me as your 2024-2025 Surgeon. Your support means everything to me. I am looking forward to the great year we are going to have with Commander Tate. I am always here if you need anything, just let me know. Again, thank you.

~Surgeon Glen Powell

### **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.

### **Members Only**

On our web site, vfw.org, you now have a directory of all Post, leadership and chairmen and their contact information. You must have a members only account set up through the headquarters to access this information. This information is for personal use only. No one is authorized to give to any third parties for any type of solicitation. If you need an account or need assistance finding these please contact the headquarters at 501-834-8392.

# Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Arkansas General Orders

#1  
2024-2025 Series

July 2024

## BOUNDARIES

Each Post and District is outlined by boundaries. Any Post, District, Riders Group or Foundation must receive permission to solicit or recruit outside your Post boundaries. If you have permission to come into a District or Post area, you can only represent what you are there for. Example: If Post 1234 Riders Group has permission to go to another Post area to recruit riders, they cannot go with the canopy of VFW Post 1234 and recruit and misrepresent, they can only work under Riders Group 1234.

To first obtain approval from the Post and/or District, send a letter to said Post and/or District requesting permission and get a response in writing. If any questions arise, send copies to the Department Headquarters.

## MEMBERS

Attention of all members is directed to the purposes listed within the VFW's Congressional Charter. "To maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom" is one of the VFW's chartered purposes; as such the VFW represents fighting for American rights, civil rights and humanitarian impulses that have always guided the VFW's principles.

Today the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States reaffirms its commitment to that chartered purpose by first recognizing that in order to end racism within our organization, it is not enough to be non-racist/non-discriminatory: we must be proactive. While we focus on education and mentorship we work to identify, address, and eradicate any and all forms of racial bias and discrimination. We will work to eliminate racial injustices and discriminatory practices within our organization. The VFW's leadership is united in the pursuit of ending racial bias and discrimination while empowering our members and the greater veteran community towards this collective goal.

Attention of all members is directed to Section 901 of the National Bylaws, "Discipline of Members." Members who have committed offenses recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may be subject to disciplinary action. Members are reminded that acts of Sexual Harassment, Racial or Sexual Discrimination, and all other conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline or conduct determined to be unbecoming of a member will not be condoned. In general, harassment and discrimination consists of any form of verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive enough to have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or otherwise interfering with another's ability to participate in VFW events. All members will be treated with dignity and respect.

For purposes of clarification, we do not operate as a men's organization or a ladies organization, but as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its VFW Auxiliary

Every Post chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2024-2025 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, "Buddy"® Poppy and Veterans and Military Support Programs. Additionally, it is necessary that all Post and

Department Commanders comply with all provisions of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure and Ritual.

### **Posts**

**Attention** is directed to Section 222 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure, which provides that each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Posts are encouraged to register their Post delegate online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or by submitting their National Convention Post and Delegate Registration form that was mailed to all Posts as part of the Election Report/Convention Registration mailing that went out in February. Advanced registration for the 117th National Convention should be mailed with each delegate's name and address to: Convention Registration, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

### **SECRETARY OF STATE**

2024 Annual Report for Nonprofit Corporation deadline is August 1, 2024. All Quartermasters should have received a postcard in the mail over the past month regarding this. It is a large, white, postcard. On the address label at the top above the name is a filing ID. That is the account number you use when you go to the web site to file. [www.ark.org/sos/corpfiling](http://www.ark.org/sos/corpfiling).

Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National By-Laws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to County Council (if applicable), District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in County Council meetings (if applicable), District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

### **DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

**District meeting are located on VFWAR.org under Resources, District Meetings**

ElvinTate

State Commander

OFFICIAL:

Christine Oldham  
State Adjutant

See Attachment Regarding Homecoming

**TRAINING/HOMECOMING**  
**For Commander Elvin Tate and President Becky Lamb**

When: October 5, 2024

Where: VFW Post 3543  
1989 Heber Springs Rd W  
Tumbling Shoals, AR 72581

Training Start Time: 8:30AM

What is being Trained: Dashboard Training  
Officer Duties and Responsibilities  
Quartermaster Training  
Service Officer Training  
Suicide Prevention  
Life Legacy Training

Lunch will be: Noon – Cold cut sandwiches

Homecoming Start time: 5:30PM

Dinner will be: meal to be announced

Entertainment: Band starts at 8:30pm

Any extra Happenings: There will be a live auction, a silent auction  
Corn Hole, and Horse Shoes

An arm band will be given for Dinner and Band Entry.