

ARKANSAS CHRONICLES

November 2025

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

Department 77.1%

TOP DISTRICT AS OF 10/30/2025

District 6 – Wally Treece	92.20%
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TOP 10 POSTS AS OF 10/29/2024

4683	Newport – Brad Johnson	120.31%
10417	Lead Hill – John Hall	119.23%
7514	Quitman – Glen Powell	106%
10007	Bald Knob – Matt Haut	105.88%
12233	Perryville – Wally Treece	105.88%
9834	Decatur – Mickchal Carnahan	105.35%
8525	Plainview – Don Thompson	103.22%
8532	Coal Hill – Valentine McReynolds	102.97%
4766	Mountain View – Michael Burrier	97.26%
3141	Dardanelle – Anthony Cunningham	97.01%

Commander's Notes

It has come to my attention that we have some misinformation out there when it comes to processing new/transfer of membership. I am being told that all a member has to have is his/her signature on the application to become a member of the VFW. This signature is their proof of eligibility. This is NOT true. Sec 101,102,103 and 107 of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure are very specific on the procedures for accepting members. The Post is responsible for assuring the eligibility of every member accepted to membership. Once your membership committee has completed this then the Post must vote on the member to become a member of their Post. Remember to keep the original application of all the members of the Post. Also, make sure to look at the proof of eligibility closely, we have a case in the state that a Post is removing a member because he used a fake 214 when applying for membership. We also had a member from another state just try to transfer. When the post was checking, they found that the person did not qualify to be a member. So, remember that the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure are there for a reason, become familiar with them. If you have anyone come tell you that your Post does not need to vote on new members and they do not have to provide proof of eligibility, please call me so I can make sure the person telling you this is properly trained. If you have any questions please give me a call and I will be happy to discuss this.

~Commander Wood

Senior Vice Commander's Notes

In October, the Commander asked me to attend the Women's Veterans Summit in Hot Springs. It was a great event that was aimed to empower, support, and connect women veterans. I was able to meet several women veterans from all over the state and would encourage all women to attend the next Summit, if you can. Did you know that November is the month for two significant holidays? The first one is Veterans Day which is November 11. There will be parades, ceremonies, and other events recognizing our Veterans. Secondly is Thanksgiving. It is usually celebrated on the Fourth Thursday of November. This day is where we share a meal with family and friends to express our gratitude and our blessings in our lives. Enjoy your time with your family and friends. Happy Veterans Day!!! Happy Thanksgiving!!!!

~SVC Johnson

Judge Advocate's Notes

This month, I'll provide information on the proper procedure for removing an officer from a VFW Post. This procedure is primarily governed by Section 220 of the VFW National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

There are generally two main ways an elected officer or committee member can be removed:

1. Removal by the Post Membership:

- A motion to propose the removal must be passed at a Post meeting.
- The actual vote on removal takes place at the next regular or special meeting.
- The Post can declare the position vacant by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting.
- Removal is for "just cause," which includes:
 - Absenting themselves from two consecutive meetings.
 - Failing to fulfill the duties of office as specified in Section 218 of the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

2. Removal by the Department Commander:

- The Department Commander has the authority to remove any Post officer for cause who fails to fulfill their duties of office as required by Section 218.

Important Procedures and Requirements:

- Appointed Officers: The Post Commander can appoint officers (like the Adjutant or Chaplain) and usually has the authority to remove such appointed officers and committee chairmen at their discretion (without the same formal vote process as elected officers).
- Notification: All removals of elected officers or committee members require written notification (a Special Order) that must detail specifically in what manner the officer failed to perform their duties.
 - Advise the member about their right to appeal the action under Section 109 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
 - Deliver the information personally or by certified or registered mail to the member's last known address.
 - If the removal is due to a recognized offense under Section 902 of the Bylaws (e.g., misconduct), a formal disciplinary action process is initiated. This process includes an investigation and a possible hearing. An officer may be suspended pending the final decision.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

~JA Powell

Surgeon's Notes

The weather is getting cooler, and it is essential that we take care of ourselves. If you haven't received your flu or pneumonia vaccination and typically do so, please proceed with getting them. I would like to be the first to wish you a Happy Veterans Day. I hope you all participate in the celebrations and take advantage of the available discounts. Thank you for your service and continued efforts in supporting our fellow veterans. As the month comes to a close, Thanksgiving will soon be upon us. Enjoy the holiday with family and friends. If you know a veteran who will be alone during the holiday, kindly invite them to join you. My family and I would like to express our gratitude for your service and wish you a happy Thanksgiving.

~SGN Morris

Veterans Day Event

The Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs invites you to join them for their annual Veterans Day Ceremony honoring the men and women who have served our nation.

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery

1501 West Maryland Avenue

North Little Rock, Arkansas

Please stay tuned to your local news to get details on Veterans Day Events in your part of the State.

As a reminder, each Post should ensure proper recognition at your Post home.

Last but not least, Department Headquarters will be closed in Observance of Veteran's Day.

Department Headquarters will be closed November 26-28 for Thanksgiving.

Department Christmas Party

We are bringing the Christmas Party back! December 6, 2025 at Department Headquarters. The time is from 2-5pm. If you would like to participate in the Dirty Santa Gift Exchange, there is a \$25 limit on how much you spend, remember there will be children present. If you are bringing kids and they would like to exchange gifts, there is a \$15 limit on spending for the kids.

The Department will provide Pizza and Soft Drinks, if you would like anything else, you are responsible for providing it yourself. Please see the attached flyer for more information. Check the website and Facebook for more information as it becomes available.

**Mid-Winter Conference
February 6-7, 2026
DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock**

Dress for the Mid-Winter banquet this year is either Business Casual or Semi-Formal, your choice. The meal is a Mexican Buffet. Online registration is available. There is also an Attached registration form if you choose to mail in your registration. Banquet tickets, which include your registration, are \$65.00 in advance, \$70.00 at the door (we have been running out of tickets so be sure to get yours early). If you are not attending the banquet, registration is \$10.00. The room rate for Mid-Winter \$139.00 plus tax per night along with \$8/night parking. Call 501-372-4371 to book your hotel room.

NEW NEW NEW – Due to privacy issues with our youth, Children will no longer be able to be videoed and/or photographed at these premises unless you are the parent of the child being photographed/videoed or Department Staff.

Please see the attachments behind the General Orders for the Registration Form and Agenda.

Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be entries for CATEGORY 2:

Memorial or Inspirational Displays

- (a) The display must honor the dead, inspire devotion to God and country, or dramatize the program's activities.
- (b) At least one (1) of the poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Good Luck All

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

GENERAL ORDERS #5
2025-2026

NOVEMBER 2025

Membership

National By Laws have been published, one of the recent changes, Article II Post Section 203 - Electronic Attendance. Any of the above stated meetings may be conducted or attended electronically that allows participating members to communicate with each other simultaneously.

All Members: Members are reminded that under the subscription dues plan, an annual members dues expire on the last day of their anniversary month. Annual members are encouraged to renew their dues prior to their anniversary date to avoid a lapse in continuous membership. Officers and committee members, whose membership is not in good standing by reason to pay current dues by their anniversary date, shall forfeit eligibility to hold any office the remainder of the administrative year. In addition, every effort should be made to renew the membership of continuous members and sign up new and recover former members at all times during the year

Members

Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms: Sec. 803 - Manufacture and Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms. The seals, uniforms, emblems, badges and insignia of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, or goods bearing same, shall be manufactured only on order of or with the express written consent of the Quartermaster General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Such written consent shall be the sole discretion of the Quartermaster General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States unless otherwise directed by the Commander-in-Chief, the National Council of Administration, or National Convention. No subordinate unit, member or person shall engage, by contract or otherwise, for the manufacture of such seals, uniforms, badges, emblems or insignia, or goods bearing same, unless such written consent has been obtained. No person shall be entitled to use or wear any seal, emblem, badge, insignia, or uniform of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States unless a member in good standing or unless such written consent has been obtained. No member or other person shall use or wear any seal, emblem, badge, insignia or uniform of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States while engaged in any commercial or political activity in such a manner as likely to falsely convey that such activity is approved or endorsed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. The design of seals, uniforms, emblems, badges and insignia and goods and services using such seals, uniforms, badges, emblems or insignia shall be as provided in the Manual of Procedure. Ownership of all seals, badges, emblems and insignia shall remain vested in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the right to use or wear such seals, badges, emblems, insignia or uniforms shall be a license only which shall be automatically revoked when such person ceases to be a member or authorization is revoked.

Membership: Is directed to section 103, Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstating or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting. No Post, County Council, District, Department or National officer, or any other member, has authority to reject the application card of a person who is eligible for membership.

Department Business:

Suspension:
None

BY COMMAND OF

Rodney Wood
State Commander

OFFICIAL

Jeffrey Byrd
State Adjutant

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department of Arkansas

Mid – Winter Banquet

February 6-7, 2026

Saturday Afternoon Banquet is \$65.00 in advance

(This price included your registration)

Deadline for Pre-Registration is Mail In/Phone: Jan. 29, 2026 COB Online: Jan. 31, 2026

(No Exceptions)

Time: Banquet is at 3:30pm Saturday, February 7, 2026

Banquet Dress: Business Casual or Semi Formal, your choice

****ABSOLUTELY NO VIDEOS OR INTERVIEWS DURING MID-WINTER****

Meal : Mexican Buffet to include: Beef and Chicken Fajitas, Cheese Enchilada's, Spanish Rice, Tortillas, and all the fixings

Location:

DoubleTree Hotel

424 W Markham St

Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: 501-372-4371

Room Rate: \$139.00 plus tax/night – Parking \$8 per day

All VFW, VFW Auxiliary, and Guests MUST Register at \$10.00 per person (if purchasing a banquet ticket, the registration is included).

Children 15 and under are free to attend the convention but must pay for the banquet.

Reservation Form

Mid-Winter Conference

February 6-7, 2026

Make your check payable to: VFW Department of Arkansas

Or register online @ vfwar.org

We accept Mastercard, Visa. And Discover

Circle one

Name _____ VFW or Aux Post # _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

No. of Tickets for the Banquet @ \$65 per person, this includes registration (\$70 at the door) _____ \$ _____

No. of Registrations ONLY @ \$10.00 per person _____ \$ _____

Credit Card Number _____ Date of Exp _____ Security Code _____

Please mail to: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept of AR, 4210 E. Kiehl Avenue, Sherwood, Arkansas 72120. Or Call Department Headquarters at: 501-834-8392 to pre-register. Use of this form to purchase your tickets in advance will help you avoid long lines and save you money. The tickets will not be mailed; they will be held in your name and must be picked up at the registration desk. Banquet tickets are non-refundable and we will NOT re-sell them for you.

Mid-Winter Agenda

DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock

Department of Arkansas VFW & Auxiliary
Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Awards Ceremony

All times are tentative. Room locations coming soon

FRIDAY, February 6, 2026

1:00 – 5:00 – Registration –
12:00 – Auxiliary – Ways N Means (Country Store and Baked goods) – NO BASKETS
11:30 – 1:00 – Hospitality room –
1:00 – 5:00 – VFW Training –
4:00-5:00 – Auxiliary Council Meeting –
5:15 – Hospitality room –
6:00 – Auxiliary Dinner Fundraiser – Spaghetti \$10 per plate
7:30 – Hospitality Room open

SATURDAY, February 7, 2026

8:00 – 1:00 – Registration –
8:30 – 2:00 – Ways N Means (Country Store and Baked Goods) – NO BASKETS
9:00 – 10:00 – Joint Openings – All Attendees –
10:15 – 12:00 – VFW Council of Administration
10:15 – 12:00 - Auxiliary Program Training -
12:00 – Buddy Poppy Judging – Category 2 (Ashleigh Bishop--Chairman)
12:00 – 1:00 – Lunch – You are on your own for lunch
12:30 – Riders Group Meeting – ??
1:00 – 2:00 – Cooties meeting ??
3:30 – 6:30 – VOD & PP Awards Banquet – Business Casual or Semi Formal – Your choice
12:00 – Hospitality Room - (closed during all meetings)
6:30 – 8:30??? – Karaoke, Games, and Hospitality

Room rate - \$139 plus tax/night Parking - \$8/day

Registration - \$10

Banquet + Registration - \$65

ALL TIMES AND EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
MEETING ROOM LOCATION COMING SOON

**PLEASE JOIN THE ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS AS WE HONOR OUR
HEROES**

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

NOVEMBER 11, 2025

11:00 AM

ARKANSAS STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY
1501 WEST MARYLAND AVENUE
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR 72120





VFW Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

**Mid-Winter Conference
DoubleTree Hotel
Little Rock**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2026
6:00PM**

Come party with us!

*The VFW Department of Arkansas
invites you to a*

Christmas party

*Saturday, 6 December, 2025
2:00pm to 5:00pm*

*4210 E. Kiehl Ave.
Sherwood, AR 72120*

*Dirty Santa: \$25 limit,
remember there will be kids in
attendance
\$15 limit on the kids exchange
(they have a seperate exchange)*

*The Department will provide
Pizza and soft drinks,
Anything else you are on your
own*

