

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS

GENERAL ORDERS #2
2021-2022

AUGUST 2021

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S NOTES

What a great start to the new VFW year! So much activity going on across this great Department. It's truly a joy to be a small part of this Department and I look forward to traveling around to meet as many members as possible. This year I'm honored to be the Department Chairman for the VFW National Home for Children. I humbly ask that you consider donating to this worthy cause. Please read more about their mission here at <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org/>.

In closing, THANK YOU to each and every member for everything you do! As always, I will continue to make myself available at any time to anyone who needs assistance. ARKANSAS STRONG!! ~ JVC Jeffrey Byrd

~ JVC Jeffrey Byrd

ADJUTANT NOTES

Officers and members, during this years building of the directory it was found that many officer's contact information on vfw.org is not correct. Please be sure that you keep your records updated accordingly so that National and Department have the correct contact information.

~ A/Q Christine Oldham

JUDGE ADVOCATE NOTES

The officer's obligation is not to be taken lightly. We see some of the individuals and post not perform the obligation that they have raised there hand to do for the organization. Sometimes this is because of lack of knowledge of what you raised you hand to do. When you take a post office in order for you to preform the duties you have to know what those are. Those individuals that don't know what their obligation is, they are listed in the National By-laws under Section 218: Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations. That is one reason why it is important for the post to have the most up to date copy of the National By-laws.

~ JAG Teddy Pipkin

SURGEON NOTES

Comrades please call and check on all your members, or at least the ones you know for sure you have not heard from. It might be just what they need during these hard times.

~ SURG Elvin Tate

CHAPLAIN'S NOTES

The Bible tells us in Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

The instructions from God are not impossible or unrealistic. Here, Joshua was commanded to be strong and courageous. He was to draw his strength from the Lord God and was not to be dependent on his own brawn or brains. Had Joshua or the people of Israel sought to conquer the Promised Land by means of their own courage and strength they would fail – they were to place their trust in the Lord, who had promised to be with them wherever they went.

Joshua was given this promise after Moses, the servant of the Lord had died. He was about to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land. But Joshua was to be careful to heed all the instructions given to Israel through Moses.

THEN Joshua was reminded, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Comrades, I encourage you to be strong and courageous. PRAY. Pray boldly together, for each other; our families, for our Posts, Districts, Department.... our leaders, our Nation. And remember, God is with you, wherever you go.

Always In His Service,

~ Chaplain Tanya Taylor

COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING FALL Training

This year the Commanders and Presidents homecoming is combined. It will be at the Jonesboro VFW Post 1991, 300 Airport Road, Jonesboro, AR 72401. Hotel is Courtyard Marriott, phone 1-870-206-9500. Deadline September 3, 2021. **No exceptions to receive \$79.00 room rate.**

Director Rolf, Director of Programs at National will be here to give classes on Programs and Dashboard, many updates.

Schedule is as follows:

Friday – September 17, 2021 – meet and greet at Marriott Hotel, evening time

Saturday – Sept 18, 2021 – 9:00 – VFW Commander briefing, introduction of guest

10:00 – Combined training VFW and Aux – Lynn Rolf

11:00 - - Lunch

12:00 – VFW Programs and Dashboard – Lynn Rolf

Post 1991- 4:00 - Homecoming for Commander and President Davis.

Any VFW member coming to training and staying in the hotel, bring your hotel receipt to training, at the conclusion we will give you a \$20 rebate on room, only one rebate per room.

2020-2021 All American Team

All American Department

Commander Don Barnes – Post 8245

All American District

District 1 – Jerry Tobey
District 2 – William Lowman
District 4 – Elvin Tate
District 5 – Rodney Wood
District 6 – Scott Bramlett
District 7 – Adam Strange
District 9 – Linda Johnson
District 10 – Michael Rhodes
District 13 – Terry Callahan

All American Post

Post 1322- Commander Matthew Hicks – Van Buren
Post 1341 – Commander Chuck Kinler – Bull Shoals
Post 1991 – Commander Shane Perkins, Jonesboro
Post 2242 – Commander Darvin Weatherspoon – Paragould
Post 2330 – Commander Teddy Pipkin - Searcy
Post 2256 – Commander Steven Davis - Benton
Post 2952 - Commander Wade Tharrington, Jr. – Springdale
Post 3031 – Commander Al Butler – Rogers
Post 3543 – Commander James Kemp – Heber Springs
Post 4451 – Commander Linda Johnson – Mena
Post 4501 – Commander Curtis Matheny - Batesville
Post 4513 – Commander Todd Willey – Fairfield Bay
Post 4548 – Commander Michael Ritchey – Jacksonville
Post 4679 – Nathan Palmer – Harrisburg
Post 4683 – Commander Fred Beard - Newport
Post 4764 – David Bramlett – Choctaw
Post 4766 – Commander John Powell – Mt View
Post 7514 – Commander Glen Powell - Quitman
Post 7769 Beebe – Commander Rodney Wood –Beebe
Post 8124 – Commander Rickey Wyrick - Taylor
Post 8532 – Commander James Dahlem – Coal Hill
Post 8845 – Commander Leroy Farmer – Fort Smith
Post 9095- Commander Terry Callahan – Little Rock
Post 9777 – Commander William Lowman – Salem
Post 10007- Commander Savannah Breaux – Bald Knob

Triple Crown

Triple Crown is an award for Commanders that have achieved All American at Post, District and Department level, in no particular order. Until now, we have only had two (2):

Past State Commander Raz T. Munholland

Past State Commander Ashley Little.

Congratulations to the New Triple Crown Awardees

Past State Commander Don Barnes

Past State Commander Scott Bramlett

Past State Commander Terry Callahan

Post of the YEAR

Turrell-Franks Post – Post 4679 – Commander Nathan Palmer - Harrisburg

District Commander of the Year

Adam Strange – District 7

Post Commander of the Year

Harris- Hannah Post, Post 6527, Greenwood Post

Commander Richard McKinney

Recruiter of the Year

Century Recruiter

Carlton Rodney – Post 7769 – Beebe

All State Team Captain's

Post 6527 Commander Richard McKinney

District 7 Commander Adam Strange

All State Districts

District 1 – Jerry Tobey

District 2 – William Lowman

District 4 – Elvin Tate

District 5 – Rodney Wood

District 6 – Scott Bramlett

District 7 – Adam Strange

District 9 – Linda Johnson

District 13 – Terry Callahan

All State Post

Post 1322, Post 1341, Post 1991, Post 2242, Post 2256, Post 2330, Post 2952, Post 3031, Post 4451, Post 4521, Post 4548, Post 4554, Post 4679, Post 4764, Post 5225, Post 5413, Post 6527, Post 7514, Post 7769, Post 8245, Post 8532, Post 8845, Post 9095, Post 9777 and Post 10007,

Congratulations to the above-mentioned awardees

Additional Department of Arkansas Chairmen: 2021-2022

AARP Liaison – Robert Fureigh - Post 9095 - Little Rock
Post Revitalization Coordinator – Teddy Pipkin – Post 2330 - Searcy
Action Corps – Patrick Flenniken – Post 2881 - Harrison
Public Servant & Safety – Jim Lee, Post 4515 - Monticello
Scouts – Carder Ferguson – Post 8845 – Fort Smith
ROTC/JROTC – Darrell Darner, Post 1674 - Siloam Springs
Veterans and Military Support – Matthew Hicks - Post 1322 - Van Buren
Americanism – Robert Murphy – Post 1991 - Jonesboro
Buddy Poppy – Ashleigh Bishop – Post 4501 - Batesville
Community Service – Ashley Little – Post 4549 - Jacksonville
POW/MIA – Mike Nuckolls - Post 2330 – Searcy
State Bugler – Mike Nuckolls – Post 2330 - Searcy
By-laws/Resolutions – Will Beams – Post 2278 – Hot Springs
Northwest Veterans Home – Johnny Gothard - Post 1322 - Van Buren
Central Veterans Home – Wesley Jones - Post 2256 - Benton
Motorcycle Group – Greg Birnschein – Post 4548 - Jacksonville

V.A.V.S. Reps

Little Rock/North Little Rock – Wesley Jones – Post 2256 - Benton
Fayetteville – Johnny Gothard – Post 1322 - Van Buren
Memphis – Elvin Tate - Post 5225 - West Memphis
Poplar Bluff – Darvin Weatherspoon - Post 2242 - Paragould
Shreveport - Linda Johnson – Post 4451 - Mena

Service Officer Notes

Just a reminder that when you get a letter, notice, or decision from the VA, be sure to read it and understand what they are saying and or wanting from you, the veteran. Sometimes, you have 30 days to get evidence back to them, fill out form and return. Other times, it may be 60 days, and in some cases, 90 days. Most all decision letters come in and you have 1 year to file any dispute. My experience dictates swift action shows interest in the action. If you wait the year before filing, the decision will be pushed further out. I have had many come in and file a notice of disagreement only to find it to be 13 or 14 months past the decision and therefore passed the deadline. Make yourself aware and save some disappointment.

Robert Lafond

2021-2022 Program's

The Directories can all be found online only at vfw.org. Your District Commander has a printed copy to assist any Post.

BONDING

Current Bonds for Post Quartermaster will expire August 31, 2021, and canteen managers will expire September 30, 2021. All posts should remit the correct amount to Department Headquarters **now**. Amounts: Quartermaster \$4.00 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 the outside company to VFW State Headquarters. These forms were mailed on July 5, 2021 to all Post and District Commanders. They can also be found online at vfw.org, resources under reports and forms.

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 2021-2022 Voice of Democracy Program. This year's theme: "**America: Where do we go from here?**". 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 2021-2022. This year's theme: "**How Can I Be A Good American?**". 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 6 weeks to receive (Orders MUST still come through Department Headquarters). Prices are \$65.00 per 500 and \$125.00 per 1,000. Please plan you Buddy Poppy Drive now.

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>

**2021 Annual Report for Nonprofit Corporation
PAST DUE**

Deadline: August 1, 2021: 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 2020 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 web site vfw.org. Attached please find form for future password protection of certain items on web site, It is not activated yet.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:

Suspension:

Post 8525 Plainview – District 6

BY COMMAND OF

Mark Davis
State Commander

OFFICIAL:
Christine Oldham
State Adjutant