

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

GENERAL ORDERS #1  
2021-2022

JULY 2021

Congratulations to all newly elected Department of Arkansas Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary Officers.

**Commander Davis**

Comrades

I am humbled and honored to be elected as the Commander of the Department of Arkansas Veterans of Foreign Wars. With that being said, we had an excellent year under Commander Barnes and plans are in the works to keep this Train on track for another year. We cannot do this without your help and support.

This year, I am asking a lot from the Post side because we have a lot of Programs that are in need, including Buddy Poppy, Unmet Needs, Nick Bacon Scholarship, and Youth Programs throughout the state. These are programs that are particularly important to our organization. We must support Veterans and their families.

My motto for this year is "The Last To Let You Down". We must support our Veterans and not forget the families too. If there is anything that my Team cannot take care of, I am here and available at any time to get things going in the right direction.

I am proud to be working with my wife the State Auxiliary President Kim Davis. We have a wonderful project "Warfighters Advance" This is a 1-week program that assist Veterans and First Responders in coping with PTSD and TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) without medication and helps them reclaim the ability to get back out into their community and thrive. I appreciate your support in helping Veterans and their Families live the best life. Please support us and let us have some fun and a great year.

I honestly believe "Team Arkansas" has the best leadership team and membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We are "The Last To Let You Down."

I thank you for your support and look forward to seeing everyone in my travels.

State Commander Mark Davis

The following officers having been duly elected and installed at the 90th State Convention and will be afforded the recognition due them:

Commander Mark Davis, Post 1991, Jonesboro	Cmd@vfw.org
Senior Vice Commander Justin Farrar, Post 4548 Jacksonville	Svc@vfw.org
Junior Vice Commander Jeffrey Byrd, Post 2330, Searcy	Jvc@vfw.org
Quartermaster Christine Oldham, Post 4548, Jacksonville	adjqm@vfw.org
Chaplain Tanya Taylor, Post 6527, Greenwood	
Judge Advocate Teddy Pipkin, Post 2330 Searcy	
Surgeon Elvin Tate, Post 5225, West Memphis	

All previous appointments having expired are declared null and void.

The following appointments are hereby announced:

State Adjutant Christine Oldham, Post 4548, Jacksonville

State Chief-of-Staff Scott Bramlett, Post 4764, Choctaw

State Inspector Johnny Gothard, Post 1322, Van Buren

**Chairmen:**

Commanders Project Shane Perkins, Post 1991, Jonesboro

Teacher Award Matthew Hicks, Post 1322, Van Buren

Youth Programs Teddy Pipkin, Post 2330, Searcy

Patriot's Pen Rodney Wood , Post 7769, Beebe

Voice of Democracy Diana L. Rerucha, Post 1991, Jonesboro

Credentials Todd Willey, Post 4513, Fairfield Bay

Hospital Michael Dobbs, Post 2256, Benton

Legislative Tanya Taylor, Post 6527, Greenwood

Membership Darrell Darner, Post 1674, Siloam Springs

National Home Jeffrey Byrd, Post 2330, Searcy

Nick Bacon Scholarship Todd Willey, Post 4513, Fairfield Bay

**DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS:** Hours of operation - 8:30 - 4:30, Monday through Thursday and 8:30-12:00 Friday, Telephone 501-834-8392, FAX 501-833-0205. Mailing address: 4210 E. Kiehl Ave., Sherwood, AR 72120. *Email:* [adjqm@vfw.org](mailto:adjqm@vfw.org)

**Training July 10, 2021**

Commander and his staff are offering leadership training to include dash board, at the Jacksonville Post, Post 4548 on Saturday July 10 from 10:00 – 1:00 p.m. If you are in the area and want to attend, please contact the state headquarters. Quartermaster training will be available at a later date.

**Junior Vice Commander Notes**

Thank you for having the confidence in me to serve as your state Junior Vice Commander. My goal each and every day will be to reward your faith in me. We have an amazing team of leaders this year and I am truly excited to be a part of the upcoming year. I humbly ask that we have Commander Davis' back to ensure we follow up last years amazing accomplishments. Let's get to work!! Before I forget...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

### **Judge Advocate Notes**

Thank you to all comrades for having the confidence in me to serve you this ensuing year as your Judge Advocate! Let's all stand together and support Commander Davis this year. As always strive to stand up and make the best decisions as we face any obstacles we may encounter in the year ahead.

~ Judge Advocate Teddy Pipkin

### **Surgeons Notes**

We're in the mist of Summer and Independence Day is around the corner, when we will be celebrating our Country's Independence. Remember to check on each other, stay safe out there, especially with the fireworks and help out in your community in some way, whether it be with Mental health, physically, or by some type of donation. Everything counts. Enjoy your Holiday and the rest of the Summer.

~ Surgeon Elvin Tate

### **Service Officers**

I hope everyone is well. Just to help in understanding the CFR as it pertains to your veterans case. Read the narrative carefully it will have all the information on how the decision was made and the applicable CFR to check the accuracy. You can use this information when filling the appeal by noting the Dr. report and see if it matches the primary care physicians opinion or second opinion if veteran wishes to appeal with relevant rebuttal. Do your homework.

Veterans Service Officer  
Robert Lafond

### **ALL MEMBERSHIP**

**ON LINE TOOLS:** National's web site will be down for quartermaster tools, the first week of July. This year there will be no amnesty program for deceasing members.

**Attention is directed to Section 803 of the National By-laws and Manual of Procedures** in regard to Manufacture and Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms.

**2021 Annual Report for Nonprofit Corporation  
Deadline: August 1, 2021**

All Post and Districts need to go online at [www.sos.arkansas.gov/BCS](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/BCS) and update their 2021 annual nonprofit Corporation Report. This is due by August 1, 2021. If you have concerns or need assistance please contact the Secretary of State office at 501-682-3409. If you got your notice in the mail. There is a very small print about the address that has your filing number.

**DISTRICT COMMANDERS**

It is your responsibility to verify that all Posts within your District have received copies of the General Orders. If they do not go online, it is your responsibility to get copies to them.

**DISTRICT COMMANDERS** are reminded that notice of District Meetings should be at Department Headquarters no later than the 25th of the month, in order to get published on our web site for everyone's information.

I am still pending several proofs of eligibility of several District Commanders and Chairmen, please forward ASAP and Commander Davis will be reviewing this month. Please forward them to Department.

**COMMANDER AND PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING**

This year the Commanders and Presidents homecoming is combined September 18, 2021. It will be at the Post Home of Post 1991. Lodging is Courtyard by Marriott, 4811 E. Johnson, Jonesboro, AR \$79.00, 870-206-9500. There will be no Council meeting, however details are being worked out to have National Director of Programs Lynn Rolf conducting training, more details to follow.

**POST COMMANDERS**

All General Orders **must** and will be read during your Post meeting. They must also be placed on Post bulletin board and filed for future reference.

It is the responsibility of each Post Commander to assure that each Post has representation at each and every District meeting being held.

**PROGRAMS GUIDE:** Please be aware Program Guides. You should be receiving a Commander and Quartermaster guide from National as we speak. Commander Davis Programs will be placed on the web site by August 15, 2021. District Commanders will be getting a Program book from the Department to assist the Post within their Districts. All the same information will be posted on the web site.

Your attention is directed to Sections 218 By-Laws and Manual of Procedures. Your duties and those of the post officers are outlined.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE POST MEETING**

“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, District and Department meeting rooms during official meeting. Accordingly, the presence, dispensation, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Post, a District and Department meeting is unacceptable and shall be terminated immediately.”

**QUARTERMASTER BONDS - AUDITS:** It is the duty of the Post Commander (reference Article VII, Section 703 to see that the office of the Post Quartermaster is bonded and that trustees report of audits are completed and mailed to the Department Headquarters at the end of each quarter, June 30th, September 30th, December 31st and March 31st. All Quartermaster bonds carried by the Department expire August 31 every year. Quartermasters must be bonded in a sum equal to or greater than the amount of the liquid assets of the Post. Bonds are \$4.00 per thousand. The minimum bond is \$2,000.00 and \$8.00 per thousand for employees.

**ALL CHANGES:** Changes in names, addresses and telephone numbers of Post Officers, dates, and meeting places should be reported immediately to Department Headquarters and National Headquarters.

**IRS REQUIREMENT:** All posts with a gross income normally \$50,000.00 or less must file an annual electronic notice, form 990-n (e-postcard). All other Go to [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo) for more info.

Department Business: None

#### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

5 July- Department Closed  
10 July – Freedom Festival – Jacksonville Post 4548  
30 July – 2 Aug – Department Closed  
31 July – Aug 3 – National Convention- Kansas City, MO  
1 Aug- Annual Report for Non-profit Corp. Deadline

BY COMMAND OF

Mark Davis  
State Commander

OFFICIAL:

Christine Oldham  
State Adjutant