

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

**GENERAL ORDERS #5
2021-2022 SERIES**

NOVEMBER 2021

Department 76.05%

**Department Standing
Districts**

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 86.26% | District 1 | Commander Tobey |
| 84.78% | District 4 | Commander Palmer |
| 77.87% | District 9 | Commander LaFond |
| 76.14% | District 10 | Commander Walker |
| 75.59% | District 2 | Commander Lowmon |
| 75.35% | District 6 | Commander Ham |
| 73.44% | District 13 | Commander Callahan |
| 69.92% | District 7 | Commander Strange |
| 67.70% | District 5 | Commander Kidd |

Top 5 Post

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 130.95% | Post 8383 | New Blaine | Commander Hurst |
| 129.41% | Post 4679 | Harrisburg | Commander Palmer |
| 104.83% | Post 2952 | Springdale | Commander Tarrington |
| 103.77% | Post 9834 | Decatur | Commander Carnahan |
| 96.42% | Post 8525 | Plainview | Commander Morris |

Bottom 5 Post

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 36.71% | District 5 | Post 4501 | Batesville |
| 49.16% | District 6 | Post 4764 | Clinton |
| 50.00% | District 10 | Post 2746 | Star City |
| 55.35% | District 2 | Post 4687 | Melbourne |
| 57.89% | District 7 | Post 8245 | Huntington |

Above listed percentages are from 28 October 2021

Senior Vice Commander's Notes

There are a lot of opportunities for each and every VFW Post in Arkansas to be successful. Has your Post paid a visit to the local Guard Unit? Has your Post attempted to cultivate a relationship with the Student Veterans at the local college or university? Did you know that there are funds available through our National Headquarters to offset the cost? All that is needed from your Post is a few members and a viable plan. Is your Post doing something that is helping you be successful? If so, please share with your neighboring Posts. Not sure where to start? Reach out to the A Team! There is no distance too far and nothing we will not do to help you be successful. Call us and we will be glad to assist!

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!!

~ SVC Byrd

Junior Vice Commander's Notes

Veterans Day is fast approaching. I would like to thank each and every one of our members for what they do. Thank you for continuing to serve our veterans. It is because of our members that we have this great organization that continues serving veterans and performing the community service and outreach that the VFW has long been known for. Please continue to support your local communities. There will be many parades and events all over the state in the coming weeks. Please take photos and post to the department Facebook page.

~ JVC Pipkin

Chaplain's Notes

John 16:34

“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!”

~Jesus Christ

Contrary to popular belief, depression and suicide rates do not rise around the holidays. The media often inaccurately reports such a link, and also tends to blame suicides during the holiday season on depression or anxiety directly related to the holidays. However, researchers and studies found that depression rates and suicides actually drop during the winter months and peak in the spring, or warmer months. The in-depth analysis concludes that suicide rates in the United States are lower during the holiday season, perhaps, because of an increase in available emotional support.

With that said, one could conclude, if we continue in that same “spirit” of personally providing an increase of emotional support beyond the holiday season, would not the suicide rate – at minimum – stay at the lower rate and not spike back up in the spring? It’s food for thought.

The best gift you can give this year is your TIME. Be there for each other.

God bless,

~Chaplain Taylor

Service Officer

Spouse's In Phase 2 of the SBC-DIC offset Phased elimination, which begins January 1, 2022, the amount that is offset (deducted) from the spouse's SBP payment will be 1/3 of the DIC payment. January 2022 benefits will be paid on February 1, 2022. Letters will be sent out in December from DFAS explaining.

~Robert Lafond

Hot Spring County, Veterans Service Officer

Mid-Winter Conference

Mid-Winter this year is **January 14 - 15, 2022** at the Airport Holiday Inn. Room Rate is \$90 plus tax. Banquet - early registration is \$40, it will be \$45 once pre-registration ends on January 12, 2022. Registration is \$5 per person.

Buddy Poppy Display Contest: The Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be Category 2 – any questions you may have regarding Buddy Poppies, please contact the Department Headquarters.

CATEGORY 2:

Memorial or Inspirational Displays

(Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

- (a) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.
- (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

National Home for Children Board of Trustee opening

VFW National Home District Trustees hold a vital and prestigious position with a mandate to oversee, guide, promote and support the VFW National Home for Children. The newly elected District 10 Trustee will serve with 11 other elected National Home District Trustees and 5 ex-officio Trustees that include; the VFW Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant General, the Quartermaster General, the National President and the National Secretary/Treasurer.

VFW and VFW Auxiliary members seeking candidacy must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children for at least one year prior to nomination and
- Be a member in good standing of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Auxiliary and
- Be a resident of the National Home District which he/she represents OR reside within a 50-mile commuting distance of the National Home District and
- Obtain the **written endorsement*** of his or her respective Department or Department Auxiliary **The Department Commander and Adjutant or President and Secretary should personally sign the endorsement letter OR include a Cc line notifying each other of the written endorsement.*

The Application is on our web site under resources at vfwar.org if you are interested.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY and PATRIOT'S PEN DEADLINES:

Youth Program Coordinator: Rodney Wood – 245 Swinging Bridge Road, Beebe, AR 72012, 501-658-5519, surgeon@vfwar.org

Voice of Democracy: Diana L. Rerucha – 19975 Legion Road, Harrisburg, AR 72432, 870-680-2936, srerucha@aol.com

Patriots Pin: Rodney Wood – 245 Swinging Bridge Road, Beebe, AR 72012, 501-658-5519, surgeon@vfwar.org

Teacher of the Year: **change** Jeffrey Byrd, 110 Lake Ct, Beebe, AR 72012, 501-743-5235 svc@vfwar.org

Deadline Dates: (VOD and PP)

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Post receiving entries from youth | October 31, 2021 |
| 1 st place Post winners due to District's | November 20, 2021 |
| 1 st Place District winners due to Department Chairman | December 13, 2021 |

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Program Chairmen.

It is recommended that all VOD flash drive's or CD's are one entry per participant. Participants should be encouraged to record their scripts using professional equipment at radio stations.

Veterans Day Event

Please stay tuned to your local news to get details on Veterans Day Events for the State of Arkansas and your local area. Post should conduct the applicable ceremonies.

Membership

National By Laws are published. One of the new changes is 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 new subscription dues plan, an annual members dues expires 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.

Post Commanders and District Commanders and inspecting officers

Your attention is directed to section 703 of the National By-Laws – Bonds. Each Accountable Officer of this organization shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable. Liquid assets are defined as cash on hand or in the bank and other negotiable instruments readily convertible into cash.

Post Commanders

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: None

BY COMMAND OF



Mark Davis
State Commander

OFFICIAL

Christine Oldham
State Adjutant