

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

GENERAL ORDERS #12
2019-2020 SERIES

June 2020

Department Membership Standing: 95.92%

As of May 30, 2020, the Department of Arkansas has 38 Post and 2 Districts that achieved 100% or better in membership for this year. Congrats to those post and keep up the good work.

The membership year does not end till June 30, 2020. Don't stop now. Continue to push to the finish line. Current membership for the Department is 10420.

State Convention

This year the State Convention will be June 13, 2020, at the State Headquarters. For hotel registrations please call 501-490-1000, room rate \$86.00 (Airport Holiday Inn). Courtesy of the Department Quartermaster, there will be Department Meet-n-Greet at her home in Cabot, Arkansas, on 12 June 2020. For more information please contact Christine to RSVP and for further details. The Council meeting will be held at 10:00 am. This is for Council 2019-2020. The Convention meeting will begin sharply at 11:00 a.m., and the Installation will be at 2:30. Lunch will be provided. (Smoking Buns BBQ) The Military Order of the Cooties will also hold their elections during the lunch break.

Following Health Department Guidelines set we are allowed to have 50 people in the meeting, 12 feet from head table, then we will have area in the parking lot set aside for more attendees. The zoom will be authorized for all attendees, however the only votes that can be cast will be the physical present Post, to include the parking lot. Zoom meeting ID: **823 5347 8565 no password needed**. We are limited to the amount of attendees so we are asking that you try to get into groups by Post and/or Districts and enter convention one time for several people.

Download zoom. Click on join a meeting. Type in above meeting ID, as soon as you join place mic on mute and say yes to audio and visual. Hope to see you there.

*****ALIBI*****

There will be NO NEW NATIONAL BY-LAWS PODIUM this year. The 2020 National By-Laws podium edition will remain in effect until the 2021 National Convention can be held.

*****DELEGATE DUES*****

The following posts (by district) have not paid their delegate dues. These dues must be paid in order for the post to have a vote at the State Convention.

DISTRICT	POST NUMBER	LOCATION
1	7518	Berryville
1	8109	Pea Ridge
2	1341	Bull Shoals
2	2881	Harrison
2	3246	Mountain Home
2	3252	Marshall
2	4687	Melbourne
2	5742	Cotter
2	7730	Calico Rock
4	2242	Paragould
4	4449	Marianna
4	4517	Piggot
4	4556	Pocahontas
4	4566	Wynne
4	4679	Harrisburg
4	5225	West Memphis ?????
4	8347	Corning
4	10480	Rector
5	3543	Heber Springs
5	4501	Batesville
5	4683	Newport
5	4766	Mountain View
5	7514	Quitman
5	10007	Bald Knob
6	2259	Conway
6	2283	Russellville
6	4513	Fairfield Bay
6	4764	Clinton
6	8525	Plainview
6	12127	Leslie
7	1322	Van Buren
7	8845	Fort Smith
9	2278	Hot Springs
9	2586	Malvern
9	4521	DeQueen
9	10483	Hot Springs Village
10	2746	Star City
10	4455	Pine Bluff
10	4515	Monticello
10	4562	Texarkana
10	4564	Warren
10	8124	Taylor
10	9360	Hamburg
13	9095	Little Rock

****If any of the above post are in question, please contact the Dept. Quartermaster prior to June 13th.****

Installing Officers: Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 216 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Post-Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers in April and no later than June 1 to the National Headquarters. We highly encourage all Post Quartermasters to use the online Election Report process featured in the Online Membership System (OMS). Post-Election Reports received electronically will be forwarded to the Department Headquarters.

Post/District Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters: Are reminded of the requirements of sections 216 and 416 of the Manual of Procedures with regard to proof of eligibility for all newly elected and appointed officers. Elected and appointed officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Failure or refusal to submit proof of eligibility within sixty (60) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant.

Flag Day, June 14: All VFW units are reminded to properly display the U.S. Flag on Flag Day, Sunday, June 14th and to conduct a ceremony or program as feasible. You may contact the VFW Communications Department for a Flag Day speech or log on the National VFW website www.vfw.org and print a holiday speech. It is also suggested Posts should award the VFW Patriotic Citizen Award for those who have daily displayed our National flag.

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.

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.

For those Post who do not have computers to please forward your election report form to

this office (State Adjutant Office) who will file the report for you. Please ensure that all elected and appointed Officers are listed on your election report, this will facilitate complete of the Department directory and USPS listing for mailing of General Orders.

Buddy Poppies Distribution: The distribution of VFW “Buddy”® Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in Section 711 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure. Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of “Buddy” Poppies in their respective areas. Given the daily hazards confronting our military during operations in Afghanistan, it is appropriate that we direct as many VFW resources as possible to supporting our troops and their families. In the ongoing effort to provide as much assistance as possible to those serving in the military, we recommend that proceeds or portions from this year’s annual poppy distribution be designated for the purpose of providing VFW support to our military. Posts and Departments now have the opportunity to assist qualified military personnel through the VFW Veterans & Military Support programs. In keeping with the intent of Sections 219(a)(c) and 704(a)(c) of the Manual of Procedure “Relief Fund,” this year’s poppy campaign can play a direct role in demonstrating to those who are charged with protecting and defending our way of life that we appreciate and value their sacrifice.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Suspension:

Post 4687 - Melbourne

Will Beams

State Commander

OFFICIAL:

Christine Oldham
State Adjutant