

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

GENERAL ORDERS #11
2020-2021 Series

May 2021

**All American Department
101.17%**

As of April 28, 2021

**100% or above by District
41 Post and 6 Districts**

District 1- 104.95%

Post 2952 – Springdale, Post 3031- Rogers, Post 8109- Pea Ridge and Post 9834 – Decatur

District 2 – 94.53%

Post 1341 – Bull Shoals, Post 3252 - Marshall, Post 4687 - Melbourne and Post 9777 – Salem

District 4 – 105.07%

Post 1991 – Jonesboro, Post 2242 – Paragould, Post 4449 – Marianna, Post 4517 – Piggott, Post 4556 – Pocahontas, Post 4679 – Harrisburg and Post 5225 – West Memphis

District 5 – 101.80%

Post 2330 – Searcy, Post 7415 – Quitman, Post 7769 – Beebe and Post 10007 – Bald Knob

District 6 – 101.87 %

Post 2259 – Conway, Post 3141 – Dardanelle, Post 4513 – Fairfield Bay, Post 4764 – Clinton, Post 8525 – Plainview and Post 12127 - Leslie

District 7 – 113.10%

Post 1322 – Van Buren, Post 1345 – Waldron, Post 6527 – Greenwood, Post 8245 – Huntington, Post 8383 – New Blaine, Post 8532 – Coal Hill, Post 8845 – Ft Smith and Post 8855 – Mountainburg

District 9 – 99.12%

Post 2256 – Benton, Post 4451 – Mena, Post 4521 – DeQueen

District 10 – 91.36%

Post 4554 – Camden

District 13 – 101.68%

Post 2935 – Twin City, Post 9095 – Little Rock, Post – 10442 – Rose City and Post 11474 – Levy

All of the above-mentioned Post and Districts over 100% have met the membership criteria for All State and are working towards All-American eligibility. Please check All American programs for specifics and watch your Division standings to stay competitive.

Senior Vice Commanders Notes

I urge everyone to make sure that your Posts and Districts are all up to date with their information, especially election reports. I don't want to see any Arkansas Posts go on suspension for something as simple as an election report. I want congratulate the Posts and Districts for their success throughout the year, meeting their membership goals, holding elections and continuing to serve our veterans and their families though this challenging year.

SVC ~ Mark Davis

Judge Advocate Notes

This is truly an exciting time of year...elections! A huge thank you goes out to anyone who will be taking a leadership position at the post or district levels. Keep this in the back of your head...now is the time to start training your replacement. Set the future leaders up for success, not failure. If you're unsure where to start the "A-Team" is here to assist! I look forward to seeing each and everyone in the coming months.

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!!

JA~ Jeffrey Byrd

Surgeon's Notes

Comrades I know it has been along trying year we are almost at the finish line, with that being said as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars we shall never slow down. You as Officers and members of the greatest Veterans Organization have shown how the #stillserving frame of mind has sent the Department of Arkansas to new heights. This Organization has so much to offer our brothers and sisters we just have to get the information to them. I know that it has been hard but you have never stopped and that is a testament to your belief in this organization. We have all had trying times, for me the Veterans of Foreign Wars has filled a void that I so much needed in my life, that sense of belonging that need to serve, I have found it with the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I would like to thank each and every one of our members for that. Remember we are here for you as always we are just a phone call away.

SGN~ Teddy Pipkin

Veterans Service

I have noticed a benefit that I hadn't heard of. I have had suspicion of this for a time but didn't know how to locate the services. The program is called Veteran Directed Care. Do a search, it is available through 62 VA medical centers across the country. It assist a Veteran to live in home longer and not go to medical facilities as rapidly. Ask about this benefit. Veteran Directed Care.

Robert Lafond
Hot Spring County

All State

Deadline for All State is June 30, 2021. However, the deadline to receive hats at the state convention has passed.

If you receive All State recognition, you can still purchase your hats at the Post and District level through the Department Headquarters. If you obtain 100% in membership go to our web site vfw.org and print off the All State check list and submit completed form to the headquarters. Good luck and let us take our Department to the next level.

Community Service

Commander has selected the Outstanding Community Service Post; The Post will be announced at the State Convention.

National Home

Department Junior Vice Justin is not going to National Home this year, however, if your post has any donations or items to please get them to him TODAY and he will assure that they get to the home.

State Convention

This year the 90th Annual State Convention will be June 10-13, 2021 at the Airport Holiday Inn. (501-490-1000) please go to our web site under events for a full detail of meetings and events.

122th National Convention Change of location

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has announced that the coronavirus pandemic has made it impossible to hold its 122nd VFW National Convention at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland, July 31-August 5, 2021, as originally planned. If you made reservations through the VFW you should have got a cancelation confirmation by email.

This does not mean the convention is cancelled, the National leadership team is working hard on finding a location for the same event. So please keep these dates reserved on your calendar and watch our web site for updates. I am thinking we should hear something by around May 10, 2021.

Memorial Day

Ceremony will be held at the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery Monday, May 31, at 10:00 a.m., they are still working out details on attendees restrictions and picnic, please watch our web site for updated information.

Section 223 of the National By-laws and Manual of Procedures provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observation of Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and United States Flags are placed on the graves of deceased veterans.

Installation

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.

Posts

Post Commanders: Delegate strength will be based on membership on May 15, 2019. Delegates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30)

days prior to the Convention. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post.

Post Commander: PRIOR TO ELECTIONS: VERIFY THAT ALL RUNNING FOR OFFICE ARE PAID MEMBERS. Over the Past several weeks the Department Commander has obtained correspondence from National that individuals that have been elected, are unpaid. If any elected officers are annual members we highly encourage that each quartermaster collect their dues now and pay them so no elected officers will be removed from offices during the 2021-2022 year.

Attention is directed to Section 222 of the National By-Laws This portion of the By-laws states that each post will register one delegate to the National Convention.

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 with correct phone # and addresses on your election report, this will facilitate preparation of the Department directory and USPS listing for mailing of General Orders.

Districts

District/Post Commanders: Proof of Eligibility Requirements for Officers: All Posts, Districts and Departments should be reminded of the provisions of Sections 216, 416, and 516 of the Manual of Procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted to the respective Adjutant and properly reviewed.

All District Commanders are asked to make sure that the District election report is completed with all of the elected and appointed Officers completed and forward to the State Adjutant immediately after the District Convention. This will facilitate the preparation of the Department Directory.

District Meeting Dates for 2021-2022 All newly elected District Commanders are reminded please try within 30 days to submit to the Department Adjutant a list of all meetings for the 2021-2022 year (if you have them). This will help us for planning purposes.

Per Section 403 of the National By-laws, each District should hold two (2) regular meeting for the purpose of transacting business and conducting a school of instruction and each District shall hold an annual District Convention for electing District officers. You can still hold one every quarter if your district desires that.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Department Business:

Suspended Post – Post 300 – Carrollton Post
Post 5742 – Cotter Post
Post 1316 – Little Rock Post

Candidates for Department Officers

Commander –
Mark Davis
Senior Vice Commander –
Justin Farrar
Junior Vice Commander –
Jeffrey Byrd
Quartermaster –
Christine Oldham
Judge Advocate –
Teddy Pipkin
Surgeon –
Elvin Tate
Rodney Wood
Chaplain –
Tanya Taylor

Above are the members that have announced. Members can still announce and run at the Convention. Department wishes all candidates good luck.

OFFICIAL

Christine Oldham
State Adjutant

Don Barnes
State Commander

District Meetings

District meeting dates are listed on the web site, however prior to attending please verify with your District Commanders