

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

**GENERAL ORDERS #4
Series 2020-2021**

OCTOBER 2020

Membership 77.14%

COMMANDERS NOTES

As of this Friday we are at 76.87%, we are doing a good job on new and continuous members. Keep contacting your members to check on them. If you contact a member and they are unable to pay their dues, use your resources at your post and help these members stay current. Life membership just hit so every post knows where they stand on achieving 100%, don't wait till the end of the year, work hard now and make it a smooth year.

Hoping that all that are able will attend our homecoming I am requesting that any donations for me go to Commander's project (Veterans Village of America).

SENIOR VICE COMMANDERS NOTES

We need to encourage our younger Comrades to fill positions within the Post and District Levels as we properly train them to be the future leaders of the VFW. We need to ensure they understand the VFW's mission, vision and core values. So as we get older, the success of this great organization will flourish and continue to work close with our Auxiliary.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDERS NOTES

George S. Patton was a general, which is in fact one of the most important positions of leadership there is. He was responsible for the lives of hundreds of thousands of soldiers during WWII. If his leadership faltered, more than just a project was at risk. He understood that once you have assembled a crack team of experts and provided the right tools for the job, just give them goals and let them get there. That's what they're trained to do. That is what we, as VFW members need to do. We have commanders leading us. They give us the tools and guidance, set their goals and let us get after it. That is what we need to do. We are TEAM ARKANSAS. Let us get this department to a place where WE KNOW IT SHOULD BE!!!! Where should that place be you may ask? That place is at THE TOP!!!! LET'S GO!!!!

~JVC Justin Farrar

SURGEON NOTES

Department has been granted a case of mask, around 8,000 of them, after many discussions we came up with the following idea, we will have them at training next weekend to distribute to some Post to give to the local schools to assist them with getting the Patriots Pen and Voice and Democracy and Teacher, so please pick a few up, while supplies last, while in attendance this weekend.

DEPARTMENT - QUARTERLY AWARDS

Post of the Quarter, District of the Quarter – due to early posting of General Orders announcements will be made at the Council of Administration in regard to these awards and posted in next month's general orders.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Commander Barnes has laid out an annual membership. If you are an annual member and you renew your membership from July 1 till October 1 you will be entered into a contest to win one of 5 gift cards in the value of \$50.00 the names will be drawn at the homecoming on October 3, 2020. As of September 22, 2020, 687 annual members have paid their 2020-2021 dues, pay now to get a chance.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch has laid down a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of September. You still have time. For each Post Division: The Post who increase their membership the most (new, reinstate, renew) will receive a \$500.00 award as well as the Department receiving \$500.00. However, Department is passing the incentive back to the Post. So, if you work your membership now and win this award it is now worth \$1,000.00.

Riders Group Meeting

The fall quarterly Riders Group meeting will be held at Post 4501, Batesville Post, October 17, 2020, meeting starts at 1300hrs. Come out and support and if your post is interested in having a Riders Group please attend to obtain more information.

BUDDY POPPY/FUNDRAISER

Currently there is a shortage of Buddy Poppies to distribute due to the pandemic causing a slow down on production. If your Post is needing to raise some money support the organization along with your Post. You Post can earn money by assembling Buddy Poppies. If your Post is interested, please contact National today. Help the organization while you help your Post at the same time.

Due to the shortage we are asking that Post work within your District if you have an abundance of supply consider assisting fellow Post within your District or Department.

Important Dates

Council of Administration

VFW Council Meeting will be held at 8 am on October 3, 2020 at the Airport Holiday Inn.

Quartermaster Training – October 2 – 1:00 – 5:00 – advanced

October 3 – 10:00 – 3:30- Regular

Leadership Training (A-Team) 1:00 – 3:00 – could be combined with Quartermaster

Commanders & Presidents Homecoming

October 3, 2020 – Airport Holiday Inn 4:00 – till ??

Dinner and Hospitality

There **will not** be a Department Christmas Open House this year. Commander will be coordinating for distribution of gifts to Veterans homes. More information to follow.

Mid-Winter

The dates for the Mid-Winter Convention Department of Arkansas are January 22-23, 2021 at Airport Holiday Inn.

State Convention is June 10-13, 2021 also at the Airport Holiday Inn.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, PATRIOT'S PEN, TEACHER OF THE YEAR, NICK BACON and Scout of the Year DEADLINES:

REMINDER: Department Commander can choose to award bonus points for participation in programs not listed in the All State Programs.

VOD and PP:

October 31, 2020: Student entries to Post

November 15, 2020: Post judging deadline

December 15, 2020: Post should contact District Chairmen to get entries deadlines to District
District Judging deadline

December 20, 2020: District Winners submitted to Department Chairmen

Nick Bacon: March 10, 2020 all entries to Department Chairman

Scout of Year:

March 1, 2021: Scout entries to Post

March 17, 2021: District Judging

April 1, 2021: Entries to Department Chairman

Teacher of the Year:

January 1, 2021: Post winners due to Department Chairman

Winners will be announced at Mid-Winter, presentation will come at a later date in their communities.

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

VOD Chairman -Please send the District VOD winners to Chairman Teddy Pipkin, 3504 Highway 13, McRae, AR 72102 501-827-6544. They must be in his hands no later than December 20, 2020. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Email: post2330vfw@hotmail.com

PP Chairman -Please send the District PP winning entries to Chairman Rodney Wood, 245 Swinging Bridge Road, Beebe, AR 72012, phone 501-658-5516. They must be in his hands no later than December 20, 2020. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Email Rodney.wood@hughes.net.

Nick Bacon Chairman -Please send Nick Bacon Scholarship to Chairman Todd Willey, send to Department 4210 East Kiehl Ave, Sherwood, AR 72120. They must be in his hands no later than March 10, 2020. Email todd.1.willey@gmail.com, phone 479-857-6069. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Scout of the Year Chairman – Please send District winners to Chairman Carder Ferguson, 1030 South 66th Street, email carderman72903@yahoo.com, 479-459-4317.

Teacher of the Year Chairman – Please send all entries to Chairman Matthew Hicks, 1603 Cedar Street, Van Buren, AR 72956, email matthew.hicks@arkansas.gov 479-650-6551.

Gold Badge Chairman - The Chairman for the Public Servant & Safety (Gold Badge) is Jim Lee, 252 South Bowser Road, Monticello, AR 71655, email monticellofem@aol.com, 479-387-6610. Deadline for all entries to be to the Department Chairman, 1 January 2020.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above-mentioned youth programs, please contact the Youth Program Coordinator, Teddy Pipkin, 3504 Highway 13, McRae, AR 72102 501-827-6544.

MEMBERSHIP

Members are reminded that under the subscription dues plan, an annual members' dues expire on their anniversary month. Annual members are encouraged to renew their dues prior to their anniversary month to avoid a lapse in continuous membership. Officers and committee members, whose membership is not in good standing by reason of failure to pay current dues by their anniversary month, shall forfeit eligibility to hold any office the remainder of the administrative year.

In addition, every effort should always be made to renew the membership of continuous members and sign up new and recover former members during the year.

For clarification purposes, use of the VFW Legacy Life Membership card as suitable identification when verifying a member's credentials is permissible, however, the member's original Life Membership card may be required in certain circumstances where state/local laws, or Post rules, require proof of Post affiliation to participate in certain unit activities.

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to the Commander-in-Chief's decision in response to questions raised concerning alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting as set forth below:

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 meeting room during the Post meeting. Accordingly, the presence, dispensation, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings is unacceptable and is prohibited. Any such practice known to exist shall be terminated.

It is the intent of the Commander-in-Chief's decision, regarding this response, to include Post, County Council, District and Department meetings, whereas it is held to be objectionable. Please refer to section 1001 (25) of the National Manual of Procedure.

Department Business:

None

BY COMMAND OF

Don Barnes
State Commander

OFFICIAL

Christine Oldham
State Adjutant

Scheduled District Meetings: Check the Website vfwar.org; News / Calendar