

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

www.wvfw.org

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 2
SERIES 2015-2016, August 2015

Our thoughts and prayers are with Past State Commander Jim Richison, whose wife Sandy passed away unexpectedly on July 15.

All General Orders will be forwarded electronically and posted on the state website at www.wvfw.org. For those Posts or individuals who want to receive hard copy, send \$25 to VFW State Headquarters, PO Box 9431, South Charleston, WV 25309.

A NOTE FROM THE COMMANDER: Comrades a good start to a new year! We are ranked #4 Nationally and #2 in the Southern Conference! "Membership makes dollars and SENSE". Posts leading the way: Elm Grove 4442 (6 new members) Mason 9926 (8 new members) Rainelle (8 new members and Beckley 4469 (15 new members and 1 reinstate). Sixteen other posts have recruited at least one new member and 7 posts have reinstated 1 or more members. Congratulations to these posts! A special GREAT JOB to those posts who achieved All State Team Status last year. My challenge to you is can you do it again? To our All American Posts a Super Duper Job. Can you do it again? Comrades achieving all state team status means so much not only to your posts but to our communities as well. As we implement our programs, make our donations, and do good things for our communities it certainly speaks to: NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES THAN THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

1. **NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR:** The new membership year is underway. Posts are encouraged to work hard to reinstate those members whose dues have lapsed. For assistance with membership, contact Vernon Anderson, 79 Blayney Avenue, Triadelphia, WV 26059; Phone: (304) 909-0187. For assistance in obtaining a list of unpaid members, past and present, contact State Headquarters at (304) 768-7514.

2. **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Jul 31, 2015	April 1 – June 30 Quarterly Audit Report due State Headquarters
Aug 8, 2015	School of Instruction, VFW Post 9926 Mason (Begins at 9 AM)
Aug 14, 2015	Golf Tournament, Lakeview Resort, Morgantown
Aug 22, 2015	School of Instruction, VW Post 4326 Sophia (Begins at 9 AM)
Aug 31, 2015	Quartermaster bonds expire
Sep 12, 2015	School of Instruction, VFW Post 9916 Westover (Begins at 9 AM)
Sep 15, 2015	Deadline to submit articles for the next edition of the West Virginia Veteran Newsletter
Oct 24, 2015	VFW Auxiliary Department President Harless-Hurley Testimonial, Madison
Nov 1, 2015	Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries to Post
Nov 19-22, 2015	Southern Conference, Savannah, GA
Dec 1, 2015	Post Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winner to District

3. **DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

District One	Sistersville	Sep 27 th	1:00 pm	Kish	Sanford
District Two	3466 Charleston	Sep 26 th	1:00 pm	Hibbs	Harless-Hurley
District Three	Clarksburg	Sep 27 th	1:00 pm	Hibbs	Harless-Hurley
District Four	Ridgeley	Sep 27 th	1:00 pm	Kingsbury	Crouser
District Five	Madison	Sept 26 th	1:00 pm	Pauley	Stalnaker

All Districts serve lunch before meeting. Time listed is lunch time. Schedules are subject to change.

4. **POST MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:** All Post Commanders are to appoint a Post Membership Chairman and provide the Chairman's name, address, telephone number and email address (if applicable) to State Headquarters by 31 August, 2015.

5. **POST OFFICERS:** All Post officers are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Post Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations as outlined in Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure.

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6. **STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT:** The State Golf Tournament will be held at Lakeview Golf Course on Friday, August 14, 2015. Posts are encouraged to contact local businesses to encourage them to sponsor a hole. See the attached hole sponsorship and team registration information.
7. **POST INSPECTION REPORTS:** District Commanders are to forward complete Post Inspection reports to State Inspector Donna Hergenrether, 440 Broadway Avenue, Bridgeport, WV 26330. Phone: (541) 646-2826.
8. **2015-2016 COMMANDER'S MANUAL:** Two copies of the 2015-2016 Commander's Manual, one for the Post Commander and one for the Post Adjutant/Quartermaster, have been provided to all Post Commanders. If you have not received your copies, please contact State Headquarters immediately.
9. **COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS:** 2015-2016 Community Service booklets have been distributed. Posts are strongly encouraged to provide their District Commander the number of hours and dollars spent on a monthly basis. District Commanders are to forward their reports to the Community Service Chairman by the 15th of the month. Contact Bob Caruthers, Chairman at (740) 992-6272, or via email at vfwpost9926@yahoo.com.
10. **SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION REGISTRATION:** Topics to be covered will be, but not limited to, demonstration on conducting a meeting, hands-on instruction on completed a Quarterly Audit Report and Post inspections. Please see enclosed registration form for more information.
11. **SOUTHERN CONFERENCE:** This year's Southern Conference will be held 19-22 November in Savannah, GA. Information on the conference, to include hotel reservations, can be found on-line at <http://vfwga.org/southern-conference-2015/>.
12. **WEST VIRGINIA VETERAN NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** All Council of Administration members are to submit an article for the next West Virginia Veteran Newsletter by September 15, 2015. Any Post, or member, who is interested in providing information on Post or individual achievement or accomplishments are also encouraged to submit an article. Send articles to Trenton Pauley, PO Box 727, Grafton, WV 26354; email a7dpilot@gmail.com.
13. **WEST VIRGINIA VETERAN NEWSLETTER ADS:** To offset the nearly \$24,000 annual cost to print and mail the West Virginia Veteran Newsletter, we are asking each post to purchase an advertisement that will be placed in each copy of the newsletter. The cost for a 1 ½ X 1 ½ inch ad is \$100, and 1 ½ x 3 inch ad \$125. Make checks payable to the VFW State of West Virginia, and include ad information with payment.
14. **POST DONATIONS:** Each year we request Posts to donate \$275 to VFW Programs. The donations have been deposited in the Hospital Fund, Relief/NMS Fund, Youth Essay Programs, Teacher of the Year and Public Servant (Law Enforcement/EMS/Firefighter) of the Year programs. I encourage you to forward your donation as soon as possible. The entire amount does not need to be donated at one time. Forward checks to State Headquarters and identify what program(s) you are donating to.
15. **ONLINE MEMBERSHIP (OMS) HELP LINE:** Post Quartermasters having difficulty logging on to OMS, or processing membership transactions can call the Help Line at 816 968-1176, or you can email your questions to info@vfw.org.

OFFICIAL:
S. KEVIN LIGHT, ADJUTANT
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
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BY ORDER OF:
Elmer R. Hibbs, COMMANDER
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