

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
www.wvfw.org

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3  
SERIES 2016-2017, SEPTEMBER 2016

1. **MEMBERSHIP**: Our membership goal for 2017 is 14,576 members. ***Post 896 Martinsburg has taken the lead in recruiting new members with 19.*** We are lagging behind in reinstated members with only 8 state-wide. There are plenty of former members to recover/reinstate. Remember, membership is something we do for each other. For assistance with membership, contact Vernon Anderson, 79 Blayney Avenue, Triadelphia, WV 26059; Phone: (304) 559-2788. Contact State Headquarters for a list of Members at Large, Post members whose dues have expired or VFW members who have relocated to your area that you can contact and encourage to transfer to your Post.

2. **VFW MENTAL WELLNESS CAMPAIGN**: National Commander-in-Chief Brian Duffy is calling for all Posts to hold a community service event on Saturday, October 8 in tribute to mental health awareness. Posts are strongly encouraged to canvass their community to identify an individual or individuals they may help to meet this campaign requirement. If October 8<sup>th</sup> is not a good day/date for the Post, a day/date of their choosing is acceptable. More information to follow on this event.

3. **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Sep 10, 2016	District 5 School of Instruction, 10 AM Post 5578 Madison
Oct 1, 2016	District 4 School of Instruction, Post 3522 Charles Town
Oct 15, 2016	State School of Instruction, VFW Post 4469 Beckley
Oct 28-30, 2016	Southern Conference, Rogers, AR
Oct 31, 2016	Jul-Sep Post Trustee's Quarterly Report of Audit due to HQS
Nov 1, 2016	Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries due to Posts
Dec 1, 2016	Post Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners to District
Jan 1, 2016	District Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners to State along with summary of Post participation paperwork

4. **DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

*District One	Kingwood	Sep 25 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 pm	Kingsbury	Crouser
*District Two	Parkersburg	Sep 24 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 pm	Kingsbury	King
*District Three	Salem	Sep 24 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 pm	Anderson	Stalnaker
*District Four	Wardensville	Sep 11 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 pm	Pauley	King
*District Five	Madison	Sept 10 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 pm	Kish	King

\* **Districts serve lunch before meeting. Time listed is lunch time. Schedule subject to change.**

5. **DISTRICT COMMANDERS**: In accordance with Section 418 (a)(1)(b), District Commander is to promote schools of instruction for Post officers at District meetings. District schools of instruction will be held on:

District 2 – Immediately following District meeting Saturday, November 19, 2016 at Post 3466 South Charleston. POC District 2 Commander Jeff Elkins (304) 373-9100

District 4 - Saturday, October 1, 2016, at 10 a.m. at Post 3522 Charles Town. POC PSC Doug Knotts, (304) 676-3399.

District 5 - Saturday, September 10, 10 a.m., Post 5578 Madison. POC David Moske, (304) 751-2823

6. **POST COMMANDERS**: In accordance with Section 218(a)(1)(k), Post Commanders are to assure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or

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meetings. In accordance with Section 218(a)(1)(g), Post Commanders are to assure that the office of Quartermaster is bonded according to Section 703 of the By-Laws.

7. **POST INSPECTION REPORTS:** District Commanders are to forward completed Post Inspection reports to State Inspector Bob Haight, PO Box 6912, Wheeling, WV 26003. Phone: (304) 280-8719.
8. **2016-2017 DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY:** Copies of the 2016-2017 Department Directory have been provided to each Post. Please contact State Headquarters for changes. Also, updates to the directory will be included as a separate document accompanying the monthly General Orders.
9. **COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS:** 2016-2017 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 by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. District Commanders are to forward their reports to the Community Service Chairman by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Contact Bob Caruthers, Chairman at (740) 992-6272, or via email at [vfwpost9926@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpost9926@yahoo.com).
10. **SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION REGISTRATION:** Good information, good company and everyone are strongly encouraged to attend. Please see enclosed registration form for more information. If a Post Commander cannot attend, the Senior Vice and/or Junior Vice are highly encouraged to represent the Post.
11. **VETERANS DAY BUDDY POPPY ORDERS:** Now is the time to order your Buddy Poppies for Veterans Day. Buddy Poppy orders by Posts or Auxiliaries must be sent to State Headquarters, who in turn will forward to National Headquarters. Include a full name and physical address (no PO Boxes) of who is to receive the Poppies via UPS. Orders should consider allowing up to four weeks for processing during the September/October timeframe.
12. **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. ***Thanks to Posts 548, 1064, 3647, 4768, 5578, 6327, 6418, 6450, 7048 and 9097 or purchasing ads.***
13. **POST DONATIONS:** Each year we request Posts to donate \$275 to VFW Programs. These donations offset the cost of donations to the VA Medical Centers, Veterans Nursing Home and West Virginia Veterans Home, and help offset the cost of recognition provided to VFW Programs participants. 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 earmarked for VFW Programs. ***Thanks to Posts 548, 578, 826, 1064, 1212, 2716, 3408, 3522, 3647, 3663, 4442, 4768, 4469, 5501, 5578, 6327, 6418, 6450, 6452, 6667, 6669, 7048, 8127, 9097, 9738, 9796 and 9926 for donating.***
14. **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](mailto:info@vfw.org).

OFFICIAL:  
S. KEVIN LIGHT, ADJUTANT  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

BY ORDER OF:  
ROBERT S. KISH, COMMANDER  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA