

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

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 4
SERIES 2017-2018, OCTOBER 2017

General Orders are available by:

- 1) **email**
- 2) **downloaded from the state website www.wvfw.org**
- 3) **send \$25 to VFW State Headquarters, PO Box 9431, South Charleston, WV 25309.**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Mary Stump, wife of Past State Commander and Past State Quartermaster Ralph Stump, who passed away on Monday, September 25th at the age of 89.

VFW of the United States Special Order No. 45 of September 18, 2017 canceled the charter of Ron-Lew Post No. 4940, Lewisburg, WV.

VFW Department of West Virginia Special Order No. 1-18 of September 25, 2017 suspends Meuse-Argonne Post No. 573 Clarksburg, WV for a period of up to 90 days.

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership comparison between September 2016 and September 2017:

	<u>Life</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Reinstated</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>N/R to Life</u>
2016	9342	159	21	1409	10931	75.31%	18
2017	8954	104	29	1402	10489	79.04%	13
Difference	-388	-55	-8	-7	-442	+3.73%	-5

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING POSTS FOR ACHIEVING 100% IN MEMBERSHIP:

6450	Chester	102.45%	8127	Vienna	104.66%	3757	Burnsville	100%
6737	Renick	163.63%						

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. **MEMBERSHIP CONTEST:** For every 5 new or reinstated members one recruits/recovers this year, your name will be placed in a drawing and the winner will be rewarded with:

- Upgrade to Life member if a continuous member
- Upgrade to Bronze Legacy Life member if already a Life member
- One-level Legacy Life upgrade if already Bronze or Silver Legacy Life member
- \$400 if already a Gold Legacy Life member

The drawing will be held at State Headquarters on May 1, 2018.

Entries in the hat so far: Joe Capito, Chester, 5 (28); Greg Smith, Vienna, 2 (14), Ray Varian, Mason, 2 (11), Charlie Butta, Chesapeake, 1 (7).

3. **DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

District One	Kingwood	Dec 3 rd	1:00 pm	Anderson	Sanford
District Two	Parkersburg	Dec 2 nd	12:00 pm	Moske	Crouser
District Three	Buckhannon	Dec 2 nd	1:00 pm	Anderson	King
District Four	Charles Town	Dec 3 rd	1:00 pm	Pauley	Whytsell
District Five	Hurricane	Dec 2 nd	12:00 pm	Kingsbury	Sanford

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

As a reminder, all Post Commanders and Quartermasters must be present at all District meetings or Conventions to qualify for All-State consideration.

4. DATES TO REMEMBER:

5 th of each month	Post Community Service dollars and hours due State Chairman
15 th of each month	District Commander submit District Community Service Report to State Chairman
15 th of each month	Post and District Commander Monthly Activity Report to State HQS
Oct 14-15, 2017	Department School of Instruction, Camp Dawson Kingwood
Oct 28, 2017	A Day to Change Direction, mental health awareness day
Oct 31, 2017	Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries due to Posts
Oct 31, 2017	Citizenship Education Teacher (Teacher of the Year) entries due to Posts
Nov 16, 2017	Post Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year entries to District
Nov 16-19, 2017	Southern Conference, Biloxi, MS
Dec 1, 2017	West Virginia Veteran Newsletter articles to State HQS
Dec 1, 2017	Public Servant of the Year packages to Post
Dec 16, 2017	District Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year packages to VFW Programs Chairman
Dec 16, 2017	Post Public Servant of the Year packages to District,
Dec 29, 2017	District Public Servant of the Year packages to VFW Programs Chairman

5. **POST COMMANDERS:** IAW Section 214 of the Manual of Procedure, Posts may solicit funds or contributions or otherwise engage in fund-raising activities or projects only after a prior vote of the Post agreeing to such solicitations, activities or projects. Fund-raising organizations or individuals conducting solicitations, activities or projects for a profit shall not be engaged or used by any Post without a written agreement, submitted to the Department Commander for review and approval at least thirty (30) days prior to any Post entering into any such agreement.

6. **POST COMMANDERS:** IAW Section 205 of the Manual of Procedure, Posts may, after at least fourteen days written notice to the Department Commander and members of the Post, change its meeting place, appointed day or time upon a majority vote of the members present at a regular or special meeting. Also refer to Section 205 for guidance to change a chartered location.

7. **POST QUARTERMASTERS:** If you have closed the Post Dues Reserve Account, you must submit a new Authorized Agreement for Automatic Deposit (ACH) form to National Headquarters so the Post's share of membership dues is deposited into the correct account. An ACH form accompanies these General Orders.

8. **SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION REGISTRATION:** The next School of Instruction will be held beginning at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 14th until approximately noon on Sunday, October 15th at Camp Dawson, Kingwood, WV. The Operations Department at Camp Dawson requires an access list of all attending the event. **Those planning to attend must complete the attached registration form and return to State Headquarters by Wednesday, October 11th.** All lodging reservations will be handled by State Headquarters. For those desiring to stay overnight in billeting, the room rate is \$58. All rooms have one double bed. Meals for VFW members attending at the galley/chow hall for Saturday lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and lunch will be provided. Those not staying overnight will pay \$16 for breakout refreshments, which is included in the room rate for those staying overnight.

9. **WEST VIRGINIA VETERAN NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** Posts are encouraged to submit an article to be included in the next West Virginia Veteran Newsletter by December 1st. Files in WORD 97-03 format, and pictures in JPEG format can be emailed to vwqgm@frontier.com, or mailed to State HQS.

10. **2018 PODIUM EDITION:** The 2018 version of the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual are now available from the VFW Store. Order online at www.vfwstore.org, or contact the store at 800 821-2606.

11. **VIETNAM VETERANS:** The VFW magazine would like to hear from all Vietnam veterans, non-VFW members included, involved in the 1968 Tet offensive. If you would like to share your experience, contact Dave Spiva with the VFW Magazine at (816) 968-1167.

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

BY ORDER OF:
TODD C. KINGSBURY, COMMANDER
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA