



VFW Department of West Virginia  
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GENERAL ORDERS NO. 11  
 SERIES 2019-2020, MAY 2020

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** Due to the Governor's Stay at Home Executive Order, now is the time to check up on your members, especially the elderly. Posts are strongly encouraged to use their Relief Fund for those unpaid members who have been impacted economically by the current situation.

**Congratulations to the following Posts for obtaining 100% in membership:**

6450 Chester	105.79%	9926 Mason	104.66%	9666 Sugar Grove	102.32%
3757 Burnsville	100%	5583 Coalton	100%	3522 Charles Town	114.78%
826 Kingwood	104%	5469 Glenville	107.14%	3008 Rowlesburg	105.88%
1976 Weston	100%	2102 Wardensville	100%	6669 Ravenswood	100.76
8363 Chesapeake	108.69%	8364 Oceana	100%	9097 Hurricane	100.92%
578 Terra Alta	101.70%	2523 Bruceton Mills	101.81%	3526 New Cumberland	101.05%
7048 East Fairmont	100.33%	8516 Elkview	100%	896 Martinsburg	100.30%
1101 Romney	100.84%	4019 Berkeley Springs	101.00%	6452 Ridgeley	100%

Membership comparison between March 2019 and March 2020:

	<u>Life</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Reinstated</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>N/R to Life</u>
2020	8576	298	47	2,677	11,598	95.44%	77
2019	<u>9272</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>2,948</u>	<u>12,661</u>	<u>97.40%</u>	<u>70</u>
Difference	-696	-43	-53	-271	-1,063	-1.96%	+7

**Recruiting Award:** For every 5 new or reinstated members one recruits or recovers their name placed in a drawing and the winner will be rewarded with an upgrade in membership or \$400 if already a Gold Legacy Life member. The drawing will be held at Department HQS on May 1, 2020.

**Recruit and/or Reinstated Members contest leaders:**

Joe Capito, Post 6450 Chester, 41 (8); Bud Casto, Post 3522 Charles Town, 26 (5); Joe Creager, Post 3522 Charles Town, 17 (3); Ray Varian, Post 9926 Mason, 16 (3); Randy DeLawder, Post 3522 Charles Town, 14 (2); Charlie Butta, Post 8363 Chesapeake, 14 (2); Bill Wilson, Post 7048 Fairmont, 13 (2); Bill Cusson, Post 4469 Beckley, 10 (2); Vern Anderson, Post 4442, 9 (1); Walter Wright, Post 1212 Parkersburg, 9 (1); Kevin Link, Post 2102 Wardensville, 7 (1); Jim Talerico, Post 573, 6 (1); Tim Sions, Post 9606 Moorefield, 6 (1); Dean Moyers, Post 2523 Bruceton Mills, 6 (1); Chuck Laugh, Post 6327 Sistersville, 5 (1); Scott Bitner, Post 3081 Grafton 5(1); Dale Way, Post 4326 Sofia, 5 (1); Mark Harry, Post 9796 Milton, 5 (1).

2. **2020 DISTRICT CONVENTIONS:**

The Department Commander has appointed a committee to provide the Council of Administration options to select whether to hold District Conventions or cancel them. All Posts will receive notification of the Council of Administration's determination no later than May 20<sup>th</sup>. As it stands, the following is the scheduled District Conventions:

District One	Kingwood	<b>May 31</b>	1:00 pm	Moske	Whytsell
District Two	Chesapeake	<b>May 30</b>	12:00 pm	<b>Anderson</b>	Chipps
District Three	Quinwood	<b>May 30</b>	1:00 pm	Elkins	Crouser
District Four	Wardensville	<b>May 31</b>	1:00 pm	Elkins	Creager
District Five	Madison	<b>May 30</b>	12:00 pm	Moske	Whytsell

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

**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 meetings.**

### **3. DATES TO REMEMBER:**

5 <sup>th</sup> of each month	Post Community Service reports to District Commander
15 <sup>th</sup> of each month	District CDR submit consolidated Community Service report to State HQS
May 1, 2020	Bob and Rosa Kusterer JROTC Cadet of the Year nominations to Dept HQS
May 15, 2020	Rich Homan Award nominations to Department HQS
May 15, 2020	All-State Team selection
Jun 1, 2020	Complete Post Election Reports to National and Department HQS
Jun 18-21, 2020	Department Convention, Glade Springs Resort Daniels, WV

4. **NATIONAL CONVENTION CANCELED:** The National Convention scheduled for Reno, NV has been canceled. If you reserved a hotel room through Orchid Events, your room has automatically canceled. If you reserved your room by another means, you must cancel your reservation. Posts who have paid their mandated Convention registration will likely be reimbursed.

5. **CONVENTION AND YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE:** Myself, National Council Member Kingsbury, Senior Vice Commander Moske, Junior Vice Commander Elkins and Adjutant/Quartermaster Light have been involved in video conferences with our National Headquarters, and have received several updates to VFW operations due to the current pandemic. I have appointed a committee tasked to provide options regarding the District Convention, Department Convention and Youth Camp by May 15<sup>th</sup>. These options will be provided to the Council of Administration to vote. I anticipate providing every Post with the Councils decision no later than May 20<sup>th</sup>, along with guidance to Posts and Districts. In the meantime:

- Posts are highly encouraged to find an innovative way to hold a meeting for the purpose of conducting elections. Meet via video/teleconference, somewhere where you can observe the 6-foot rule (parking lot, properly spaced seats at the Post, etc.)
- Post Commanders are highly encouraged to ensure the Adjutant and Quartermaster provide the necessary documentation to the Post Trustees to complete their Quarterly Audit.

6. **CHANGES TO THE ALL-AMERICAN PROGRAM:** Post All-American, the requirement to purchase Buddy Poppies has been waived, due to the current inability to fulfill orders. Department All-American: waived the requirement to establish one new Post or raise three Posts that began the year under 50 members to above 50 members.

Department All-American: membership percentage quotas have been adjusted to 98%.

***Posts and Auxiliaries are encouraged to continue to order Buddy Poppies. Orders will be filled on a first come, first serve basis once the centers open back up.***

8. **2020-2021 LIFE MEMBER PAYOUTS:** The National Council of Administration has approved the 2020-2021 Life Member payouts as follows:

Plan ABC - \$3.50 to each Post and Department

Plan D - \$3.84 to each Post and Department

Plan E - \$7.94 to each Post and Department

(Department and National).

9. **2020 NATIONAL CENSUS:** Due to the current pandemic, the deadline to complete the 2020 National Census has been extended to October 31<sup>st</sup>. The West Virginia response rate is currently at 41.3%. Please take the time to complete the 2020 National Census. If you did not receive a notice in the mail, go to <https://2020census.gov> or call 844-330-2020 to complete the census.

OFFICIAL:

S. KEVIN LIGHT, ADJUTANT  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPT OF WEST VIRGINIA

BY ORDER OF:

VERNON ANDERSON, COMMANDER  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPT OF WEST VIRGINIA