



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 11**

Series 2019-2020

May 2020

(To be read or distributed at regular Post Meeting and then filed)

1. The 2020 Department Convention that was to be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 4 – June 7, 2020 has been cancelled. If you have made room reservations you will need to call the hotel and cancel. They will not automatically be cancelled. Please keep in mind that the hotel is running on a limited staff like everyone else so be patient if they can't get to you as fast as you would like.
2. The Council of Administration will meet in Jefferson City, Missouri on Saturday, June 6, 2020 for the purpose of electing Officers for the 2020-21 year. If you are a candidate for any office and have not submitted a Bio to Dept Headquarters you must do so by May 15, 2020. Current Officers who are moving up or running for re-election need not submit another Bio. The Bios I have already are attached.
3. An Awards Ceremony to honor All State and other award winners will be held at a later date, once we can get together again. More to follow on this as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.
4. The 121st VFW National Convention that was scheduled for July 18-23, 2020. in Reno Nevada has been cancelled. If you made a room reservation through Convention housing your room should be automatically cancelled. You should receive an email to that effect.
5. Post-Election Report Forms were mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters **immediately following** the election of Post Officers but not later than June 1, 2020. **(If your Post did not meet and elect new officers due to coronavirus you will still need to submit an election report with the current officers. You can fill out a new one once election is held.)**
6. Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention. **(These District Convention will be held via ZOOM Meeting. District Commanders will coordinate time and necessary information with their Post)**
7. Post and Districts are reminded that sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedures states in part: "----officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the Adjutant. ----officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office." **Officers being installed should be reminded, (if they are an annual member) that they must pay their 2021 dues prior to their annual subscription due date to hold their office for the year they are elected.**

7. Posts are reminded that their support and contributions to our Veteran Service Officer Program is vital. All Posts that have not made a donation are encouraged to do so now. As stated in the State Commander Expectations in the Post Commander & Quartermaster Handbook, it is expected that each post donates at a minimum of \$3.00 per member. Funding of this essential program should be a high priority at your Post. The State Commander asks Posts to be generous and donate from the heart.

10 We need your help with the 2019-2020 Membership Campaign. As of today, April 25, the Department is at 94.48%. We need everyone's help at the District and Post level. Now is the time to be writing those letters, making phone calls. **With things the way they are right now we need to be calling our members to check on them anyway. What better time to tell them how important they are to the VFW and how much we need them as a member. If they are in a financial bind you can use your relief fund to help them with their dues.** All continuous members should pay their dues prior to the expiration date and be encouraged to purchase a life membership.

REMEMBER anyone joining as a Life Member or upgrades to a Life Member prior to June 30, 2020 will receive a check for \$45 from the Department Quartermaster Plus a \$50 credit to the VFW Store. Make sure to notify the State Quartermaster so he knows who to mail the check to.

11. State Commander Williams and the line officers wish to congratulate all the posts that achieved 100% in membership to date. It's your efforts that will keep the VFW strong for the future.

12 The Department Headquarters is operating with some employees working from home part of the time so if you call in and no one answers the phone, please leave a message. We will get back to you. Good luck to everyone. Please stay safe and help each other through these trying times because it is the right thing to do.

13. The following District Meetings for May are announced:

NOTE: Times may change due to ZOOM Schedule. District Commanders will notify you.

DIST	POST #	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	REMARKS
3	10906	Gladstone	5/10/2020	1:00 pm	District Convention
5	8100	Grandview	5/3/2020	2:00 pm	District Convention
6	4052	Lexington	5/3/2020	1:30 p.m.	District Convention
7	4207	Monett	5/9/2020	10:00 a.m..	District Convention
8	6883	Boone Terre	5/3/2020	1:00 p.m.	District Convention
12	3500	Richmond Heights	5/20/2020	7;00 pm	District Convention

Official:

By order of:

Donald L. Hentges
Adjutant

Troy Williams
Commander