



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 7**

Series 2019- 2020

January 2020

(To be read or distributed at a regular Post meeting and filed)

1. The next meeting of the Council of Administration will be held in the Capitol Plaza Hotel, in Jefferson City, on Friday and Saturday, January 31 and February 1, 2020. Friday evening at 7:00 pm we will have Marc Mero, Former WWE Wrestling Champion speak on Suicide Awareness & Prevention, Substance Abuse, and Bullying. This event will be open to the public also. From 4:00 to 7:00 pm. all Chairman will be expected to set up a table, with their Auxiliary counterpart, to explain their Program to the public. (This will be a great opportunity for us to get the word out to the outside community on what the VFW does.) **The Council of Administration meeting will start promptly at 8:00 am Saturday morning.** All meetings are open to the membership and members are encouraged to attend. (Schedule of events is attached) The highlight of the February meeting will be our annual Voice of Democracy Award Banquet. State winners in the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen programs will be honored. Teacher of the Year Award Winners will also be Honored. The Banquet information and Form is attached and will be posted on the website. For room reservations call the Capitol Plaza Hotel at (573) 635-1234. Tell them you are with the VFW.

2. **Deadline for receipt of Program Book Ad's for the February C of A is January 10, 2020.** All Posts and Districts are encouraged to promote their post functions by submitting an ad for the Program Book. (This is a good time to highlight your Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year Award Winners). Campaign ads will be accepted. A letter detailing the size ads accepted, price and deadline is attached. The book is being published in ½ size and in house.

3. The 2019-2020 Membership Campaign is off to a slow start. If the Department of Missouri is to enjoy a membership growth again this year, a tremendous amount of work is still to be done. All unpaid 2020 members can assist in this endeavor by prompt payment of their 2020 dues. Now is the time to be writing those letters, making phone calls, and knocking on doors. 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. As of today, December 17, the Department is at 87.01%. Nationals goal by December 31 is 92%, We can do it.

5. Section 105 of the National By-Laws is clear on Members in Good Standing in the Post. Members that have not paid their 2020 dues by their expiration date are not in good standing until the dues are paid. Section 220 of the National By-Laws states, "Any elected Post Officer removed by the Department Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues ---shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed." **Post Commanders shall ensure that all their Post Officers have paid their 2020 dues by their expiration date. There's no reason to delay until the last minute. (Early payment does not affect your anniversary date). It's not the price they**

pay to be a member; it's the price they paid to be eligible for membership.

6. MAVO Legislative Days at the Capitol are scheduled for January 27 and 28, 2020. The Missouri Veterans Commission meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am. on January 27 in the Jefferson Bldg., followed by the MAVO meeting in the Truman Bldg. at 1:30 pm.

On Tuesday, January 28, there will be coffee and donuts on the third floor of the Rotunda from 8:00 – 10:00am. **Please see attached Flyer.** We need your Post participation to show that veterans care about legislation in the state. Great time to meet you legislators and let them know you care.

7. All District Commanders should make every effort to conclude the inspection program prior to the end of January. Please be sure that you have had a District Inspection Form completed and turned in to the Department Inspector.

8. Congratulations go out to all of the Post Commanders, Quartermasters, and Membership Chairmen that have achieved 100% membership.

9. It is not too early to start looking at the All State competition. Please take a look at your Post Commander and Quartermaster Handbook & Post Membership Program 2019-2020 booklet to see what your Post needs to do. All State determination will be made from data collected by the Department Headquarters on May 1, 2020. **Note: Membership requirements this year are a post must meet their membership on May 1, 2019 by May 1, 2020 to qualify or meet all other All-State requirements by May 1, 2020 and meet their 2019 year ending membership by June 30, 2020.**

10. Quarterly Audit Reports are required to be submitted to Department Headquarters no later than the last day of the month following the quarter. **Per sec. 218 (11) b. it's the duty of the Trustee's to conduct the audit and submit the Trustee Report of the Audit to the Department Quartermaster. Any post failing to submit a Quarterly Audit Report will not be allowed to vote at the upcoming State Convention to be held in June 2020.**

11. Post and District Commanders are reminded that the Department pays the **cost of the meal only for the student to attend the Voice of Democracy banquet.** Meals and lodging for the parents and guests of the student must be arranged through Department Headquarters and paid for by the District or Post, depending on District by-laws or standing rules. A special form to make rooming and meal arrangements for students, their families, and guests will be distributed by the Voice of Democracy Chairman. **It is important that this form be used and returned to Department Headquarters by the date indicated on the form. Credit card information must be included to hold the room. If the hotel doesn't receive a District or Post check at the event, the room will be charged to the credit card listed on the form. DO NOT SEND PAYMENT TO DEPARTMENT FOR DISTRICT WINNER'S ROOM. Please do not make room reservations for the district winner outside the special form explained above. A block of rooms has been set aside for this purpose.** Please contact Nicole at Department Headquarters if you have any questions.

12. The following District Meetings for the month of January are announced:

| DIST | POST # | LOCATION | DATE | TIME | REPRESENTATIVE |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 858 | Chillicothe | 1-11-20 | 11:00 a.m. | Jr. Vice Commander |
| 2 | 2654 | Moberly | 1-25-20 | 10:00 a.m. | Chief of Staff |
| 3 | 6760 | St. Joseph | 1-12-20 | 1:00 p.m.. | Surgeon |
| 9 | 8828 | Troy | 1-12-20 | 1:00 p.m. | State Quartermaster |
| 14 | 3404 | Springfield | 1-19-20 | 1:30 p.m. | Surgeon |
| 17 | 4240 | Monroe City | 1-19-20 | 12:00 Noon | Jr. Vice Commander |
| 5 | 5789 | Lee's Summit (Banquet) | 1-11-20 | 6:00 p.m. | Sr. Vice Commander |
| 5 | 5789 | Lee's Summit (meeting) | 1-12-20 | 2:00 p.m. | Sr. Vice Commander |
| 15 | 3174 | Sikeston | 1-19-20 | 12:00 p.m. | State Commander |

State Commander Williams, the Line Officers and Headquarters Staff wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Official:
Donald L. Hentges
Adjutant

By Order of:
Troy Williams
Commander