



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 9**

Series 2022-2023

March, 2023

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

1. The 2023 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 8 – June 11, 2023. Hospitality room information will be mailed to District Quartermasters and posted on the Missouri web. Reservations for sleeping rooms become available on February 1. Currently, sleeping room reservations are restricted to a three (3) day stay and may be made by calling the hotel direct at 1-888-532-4338 or clicking the link on the attached flyer. Be sure to let them know you are with the VFW. Persons reserving three (3) days and later cancelling one (1) or two (2) will have the entire three (3) days cancelled. We do have an Overflow Hotel if Oasis is full or for anyone wanting to make a reservation for LESS than three (3) days, the hotel is: Holiday Inn & Suites of Springfield and can be reached at 417-865-8600.

2. **Deadline for receipt of Convention Book Ad's is May 12, 2023.** All Post and Districts are encouraged to give recognition to their officers by submitting an Ad for the Convention Book. Add cost are \$100 for Full Page and \$60 for Half Page. The book is being published in ½ size and in house. Please email or Fax Add request information to Angela @ Department HQ's. Her email is hgangela@movfw.org. The fax number is (573) 636-2664

3. Post and District Commanders should be reviewing the All-State program and know where you need to work to meet the requirements. **The program changes each year, so don't just assume you know the requirements.** District and Post All-State requirements are listed in the District/Post Commander handbook. **To qualify, all requirements, except membership goal, must be met and recorded at Department Headquarters by April 30.**

Note: Post All-State Membership requirements have changed. As announced at the Council Meeting on January 28, 2023 you must Meet your July 1, 2022 membership + 1 by June 30, 2023 to qualify for All-State. All Post that meets all requirements by May 1 will receive All-State Honors at the State Convention in June. If membership requirement is met after May 1, 2023, they will be awarded the Post All-State Award at the Fall Council Meeting.

4. Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure covering the nomination election, and installation of Post Officers. Post Commanders are reminded that the annual election of Post Officers must be held during the month of April. Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote at the April meeting. Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention. Newly installed officers do not assume their duties

until the Department Commander is installed at the State Convention. Post-Election Report Forms are being 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, 2023.

5.. 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.

6. 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.”

7. Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31.

8. If your Post has not made a donation to the Veterans Service Officer Program or the Veteran and Military Support Program, please do so ASAP. These are requirements for your Post to earn All-State. **REMEMBER:** VSO checks must be mailed to Department HQs and VMS checks must be mailed to National HQs as stated in your Commander Handbook.

9. The Mid-West Women Veterans Association will be holding their annual women veteran event on April 14-15, 2023. This is a free event and is not limited to only women but is geared toward the unique issues women veterans face. Please see attached flyer for mor information.

10 I want to call your attention to the following section of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Any Post not in compliance is subject to suspension.

Sec. 709 - Control of Units - “Any Post owning and/or operating, directly or by reason of a holding company or other entity substantially controlled by the Post or its members, a canteen, clubroom or other facility available to members or guests must maintain general liability insurance, including, if necessary or appropriate, liquor liability insurance. **Such insurance must be of a type and amount sufficient to protect the Post and must name, as additional insured’s, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the Department in which such Post is located. Post shall ensure policies purchased include these additional insured statements.**

If the Liability and Dram Insurance Blocks on the State Dashboard are **RED** it means we do not have a current “Certificate of Insurance’ on file for your Post. Please forward a copy, or have your agent send a copy, to Department ASAP. You can mail to 3401 Knipp Dr. Jefferson City, MO. 65109 or email to adj@movfw.org or hqangela@vfwmo.org.

11. As of today, February 27, 2023 the Dept. of MO. is at 95.80% in Membership. We are ahead of where we normally are at this time but need to keep working hard. Royce has approximately \$3550 left in the Hospitality Room Fund and to keep the momentum going the Commander has announced a membership incentive. Any Post that is at 100% or greater on January 30, 2023 will have one (1) ticket in a drawing for cash. For every 1% increase in your membership, you will receive an additional entry in the drawing. When your Post reaches 100% you will be entered in the drawing and will receive an additional entry for every 1% increase. Ten (10) entries will be drawn for around \$355 each after the All-State Ceremony at the State Convention. So, keep working on membership. You're Post could win more than once.

12. Anyone requesting a Department Officer to attend a function must submit a **written request** to Department Headquarters at least 30 days prior to the date of the function. An e-mail to the Adjutant at adj@movfw.org is acceptable.

13. The deadline for submitting bids for the 2026 Department Convention is March 15, 2023, as prescribed by the Department By-Laws. Any Post or group of Posts wishing to submit a bid should contact Department Headquarters for the Convention hotel requirements and coordination of the bid request.

14. These are the District Convention scheduled for April and May 2023

DIST.	DATE	POST	LOCATION/TIME	OFFICER	REMARKS
1	4/8/23	6278	Lawson, 10 am		District Convention
2	4/15/23	2025	Rolla, 11 am		District Convention
3	4/16/23	3123	Grant City, 1 pm		District Convention
5	4/16/23	3123	Grant City, 1 pm		District Convention
6	5/7/23	4409	Harrisonville 12 pm		District Convention
7	5/13/23	4207	Monett 10 am		District Convention
8	5/7/23	6883	Bonne Terre, 1 pm		District Convention
9	4/16/23	6133	Owensville, 1 pm		District Convention
12	4/15/23	6274	Ballwin 12 pm		District Convention
14	4/16/23	3404	Springfield 12:30 pm		District Convention
15	4/16/23	6477	Poplar Bluff-12 pm		District Convention
17	4/16/23	2446	Hannibal 12 pm		District Convention
18	4/1/23	3009	Mountain View 10am		District Convention

Official:
Donald L. Hentges
Adjutant

By Order of:
Royce Kelb
Commander