

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

Series 2020-2021

May, 2021

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

1. The 2021 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 10 – June 12, 2021. Current COVID restriction will not allow us to have hospitality rooms, at least to the extend of past years, but some of the restrictions may be lifted by convention time. More information will be sent to District Quartermasters and posted on the Missouri web once we get closer to convention time. Reservations for sleeping rooms are available. 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. 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. **Post Quartermasters**, you will be receiving a letter in early May concerning your Voting Strength and Delegate Dues owed. **Dues must be paid in order to vote at the Convention.** Don't wait to pay your dues at the convention. Please submit a check to Department Headquarters immediately to avoid last minute chaos and confusion. Everyone wants the elections to go fast and smoothly so the better prepared we are ahead of time the better it will be for everyone.
3. **The 122nd National Convention that was scheduled for July 31 – August 5, 2021 in Baltimore, MD. is OFF.** Due to circumstances beyond its control, the Baltimore Convention Center will not be able to accommodate our contractual needs for the 2021 National Convention. As such, it is not possible to hold the 2021 National Convention in Baltimore. National Headquarters is exploring other feasible options to conduct a convention at alternative locations.
4. 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.
5. 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 2022 dues prior to their annual subscription due date to hold their office for the year they are elected or appointed.**

6. **MEMBERSHIP.** As of today, April 27th. the Department is at 96.11%. 100% is well within our grasp but we need everyone to work hard these last two months if we are going to reach our goal. With the Life Membership incentive currently being offered by Department, all continuous and expired members should be encouraged to purchase a Life Membership. **REMEMBER** anyone joining as a Life Member or upgrades to a Life Member prior to June 30, 2021 will receive a check for \$45 from the Department Quartermaster. **Post Quartermaster's, you must email the State Quartermaster when someone converts to Life Member so he knows to mail the check.**

7. The Missouri Veteran Service Officer Program is vital to our organization. Donations from Posts, Auxiliaries, and individuals on a continuing basis are critical to this program. Without your donations, we cannot continue to provide the service we are now providing to Veterans and their Families. This program is what we are about. The VFW Service Officers are here to assist our members and Veterans in your community in obtaining vital health care and VA benefits. Commanders at all levels should encourage donations from your Post and District. 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. Our Webmaster has made it easy to make your donation on-line. **Simply go to movfw.org; Click on Programs, scroll down to Donations, and "Click here to donate to the VSO".**

8. State Commander Eric Sullivan 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.

9. Proceeds from the Raffle of the Savage rifle are to be used for the 2022 National Convention in Kansas City. The Department of Missouri is the Guest Sponsor so it will require lots of Planning and Money on our part, so we're trying to raise some of the funds now.

Jr Vice Commander Royce Kelb has a list of all the ticket serial numbers and who they were passed out to. All funds or requests for additional tickets are to be mailed to Comrade Kelb at PO Box 103, Lincoln, MO 65338. That way he can account for which tickets have been sold or returned. All proceeds will be turned over to the Department Quartermaster.

10. The District Meetings/Conventions for the month of May of 2021 are listed below.

DIST.	DATE	POST	LOCATION/TIME	OFFICER	REMARKS
3	5/2/21	5717	Kearney, 1 pm		District Convention
5	5/2/21	1738	Independence, 2 pm		District Convention
6	5/2/21	5649	Concordia, 12 pm		District Convention
7	5/8/21	4207	Monett, 10:30 am		District Convention
8	5/2/21	2426	Desloge, 1 pm		District Convention

Official:

Donald L Hentges
Department Adjutant

By Order Of:

Eric Sullivan
Commander