



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 8**

Series 2017-2018

February 2018

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

1. The 2018 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 14 – June 17, 2018. 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. 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 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 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.** Post All-State requirements are listed in the Post Commander and Quartermaster handbook. The District All-State program is listed in the District School of Instruction Manual handed out at the May School of Instruction. **To qualify, all requirements must be met and recorded at Department Headquarters by April 30.**

Note: All-State Membership requirements are: Meeting your May 1, 2017 membership plus one (1) by May 1, 2018. Service Officer Event requirement is two (2) events and recorded with on-line reporting. If a Post meets all requirements by May 1, 2018, and reaches last year's (2017) ending membership total plus (1) by June 30th, 2018, will be awarded the Post All-State Award at the Fall Council Meeting.

3. Post Commanders are reminded that the annual election of Post Officers must be held during the month of April. 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 on June 16, 2018.

4. 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."

5. The deadline for submitting bids for the 2021 Department Convention is March 15, 2018, 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.

6. 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. 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. **Donation to the program is a requirement to qualify for All-State.**

7. All Posts should be making plans for a 2018 Spring Buddy Poppy drive. An order blank is located in the 2017-18 Post Commander and Quartermaster's Handbook. Poppies must be ordered through Department Headquarters and paid in advance. Poppies are shipped direct to you from the factory. **A minimum of six weeks should be allowed for receiving your shipment. Post need to order NOW for their Spring Poppy drive.**

8. Kansas City, MO is the host city to the 118th VFW National Convention, July 21-25, 2018. Convention housing reservation forms will be made available and additional 118th VFW National Convention information will be added to the National Website as it becomes available. Convention registration and related information will be mailed from National Headquarters to the Post. The Post is required to register at least one delegate. The Delegate fee for the 1st delegate will be \$25. A fee of \$10 is due for each additional delegate. **Post Quartermasters, please send in the \$25.00 registration fee and register at least one (1) delegate as soon as you receive the registration forms. Don't wait until July to send in your delegate fee.**

9. State Commander Armenta and the line officers wish to congratulate all the posts that achieved 100% in membership by December 31, 2017. It's your efforts that will keep the VFW strong for the future.

10. The following District Meetings/Banquets for February are announced:

DIST	POST #	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
5	5789	Lee's Summit	02-10-18	6:00 p.m.	State Commander
5	8100	Grandview	02-11-18	2:00 p.m.	State Commander
6	5678	Odessa	02-11-18	12:00 p.m.	Surgeon
7	7630	Webb City	02-11-18	12:00 p.m.	Sr. Vice Commander
8	1831	Desoto	02-11-18	1:00 p.m.	Jr. Vice Commander
18	3009	Mt. View	02-17-18	10:00 a.m.	Surgeon

Official:

By order of:

Christopher Johnston
 Adjutant

Ruben Armenta
 Commander