



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC.
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 5**

Series 18-19

November 2018

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

1. There has been some confusion as to what is required for the Auxiliary to provide to the Post yearly:

ARTICLE XI – AUXILIARY

(f) Reports.

(2) Department. The Department President of the respective Department Auxiliary shall, within thirty (30) days after the induction into office, submit to the Department Commander the last quarterly audit, membership status report, and such additional reports as may be required by the liaison committee of the Department Auxiliary for information and for submission by the Department Commander to the Department Council of Administration.

(3) Districts, County Councils and Posts. The President of the Auxiliary to a District, County Council or Post shall, within thirty (30) days after induction into office, submit to the Commander of the respective District, County Council or Post the last quarterly audit, membership status report and such additional reports as may be required by the liaison committee of the auxiliary. Such reports will be acknowledged by each respective Commander during the next regular meeting and may be read to the members assembled.

2. The 2019 Membership Campaign is off to a slow start. If the Department of Missouri is to enjoy a membership growth this year, a tremendous amount of work must be done. All unpaid 2018 members can assist in this endeavor by prompt payment of their 2019 dues. Now is the time to be writing those letters, making phone calls and knocking on doors. All continuous members should be encouraged to purchase a life membership. Having a good Veterans Service Information Event in November and December is a great opportunity to meet, assist eligible veterans to apply for their VA benefits and welcome new eligible veterans into the Post. **It's not the price they pay to be a member; it's the price they paid to be eligible for membership.**

3. Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year: Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year judging by your Posts should start on November 1st. Post winning entries should be sent to the District for judging by November 15th. District Chairs should send a summary report along with the winning Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entry forms to the Department Chair by December 15th. Program entry forms can be downloaded (copied) from the VFW website: <http://www.vfw.org>. The Program Chairman is Quincy Myrick (ppenyouthchrm@mo.vfwwebmail.com). Entries for the Teachers Awards are also due to the District by November 15th, Department by December 15th. Nancy Cowan is the Chairman (adj@mo.vfwwebmail.com). **Reminder to submit correct forms with all entries!**

4. Posts who have not completed and submitted ALL AUDITS to Dept Hq by state convention WILL NOT be able to vote! Some posts are in arrears for audits from 2017.

5. All District Commanders should strive to complete their Post visits by December 31. Post visit reports should be sent to Department Headquarters immediately following such visits. It's important that you visit the Post early in the year and give them encouragement and offer to assist them in problems they may be having. **Revitalization versus closure is the focus of the Commander-in-Chief!**

6. Section 105 of the National By-Laws is clear on Members in Good Standing in the Post. Members that have not paid their 2019 dues by their expiration date are not in good standing until the dues are paid. Section 220 of the National By-Laws states, "Any elective 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 2019 dues by their expiration date. There's no reason to delay until the last minute. Post Officers failing to pay their 2019 dues by their expiration date will be removed from office and aren't allowed to serve in any office for the remainder of the administrative year. Post Commanders and Quartermasters are encouraged to check their rosters and make sure their officers renew on time.**

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 and this program is what we are about. Remember, they are employed by you, the VFW members in Missouri to assist your members and Veterans in your community in obtaining vital health care and VA benefits. Donations to our VSO Program are down from last year. Commanders at all levels should encourage donations from your Post and District. **Partners in Veterans Service** was established to allow individual members to contribute monthly to the VSO Program. A copy of the brochure is attached. Numerous members have been assisted by the state Veteran Service Officers in your endeavor to establish disability compensation. NOW is the time to give back!!

8. Members who received cards or labels and have not remitted their donation are requested to make payment at the earliest date. All proceeds from these donations, after administrative cost, are returned to the Departments. The revenue derived from this program is vital to the operation of Department programs

9. All Deputy Inspectors should strive to complete their assigned inspections by the end of December 2018. Inspections should be mailed directly to the Department Inspector Paul Frampton at 198 Stoney Pointe Dr, Hollister, MO 63672.

10. The 2018 National By-Laws are now available from the Supply Department at National Headquarters. **Posts are required to have an updated copy at the post.**

11. All should make plans to observe Veterans Day on November 11th. This is a great opportunity to distribute Buddy Poppies and promote your Post and the VFW in the local community.

12. Article X, Sec.1001 – Rules of Order **Governing** all Meetings – Any procedural matter not provided for in the Bylaws and Manual of Procedure shall be governed by **Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised 11th Edition**.

13. The next meeting of the Council of Administration will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO on Saturday February 2, 2019 starting promptly at 8:00 A.M. Council meetings are open to all VFW members and you are encouraged to attend. The highlight of this meeting will be our Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year awards banquet. State winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen programs will be honored and their District Commander and District Auxiliary President will have the honor of escorting the students into the banquet. Workshops will be scheduled for the afternoon session. The schedule of events and banquet information will be sent out as attachments to the December General Orders and posted on the weblog when finalized.

14. The following District meetings for the months of November, December, 2018 and January 2019 are announced:

DIST	POST #	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
18	3009	Mountain View	11/3/18	10 am	Jr Vice Cdr
6	8220	Belton	11/4/18	1:30 pm	State Cdr
8	2593	Arnold	11/4/18	1 pm	Sr Vice Cdr
7	4142	Neosho	11/3/18	10 am	None
2	2654	Moberly	11/10/18	1 pm	State Cdr
12	3944	Overland	12/15/18	11 am	Sr Vice Cdr VOD/PP/TOY
1	858	Chillicothe	1/12/19	11 am	Jr Vice Cdr
3	6860	St Joseph	1/13/18	1 pm	Jr Vice Cdr
9	5077	O'Fallon	1/13/19	Noon	State Cdr VOD/PP/TOY
14	3404	Springfield	1/20/19	12:30 pm	State Cdr VOD/PP/TOY
17	8177	Clarence	1/20/19	Noon	Sr Vice Cdr
5	5789	Lee's Summit	1/26/19	6 pm	State Cdr VOD/PP/TOY
5	5789	Lee's Summit	1/27/19	2 pm	State Cdr
15	3838	Cape Girardeau	1/27/19	Noon	Sr Vice Cdr VOD/PP/TOY

15. 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.

To each and every member of the VFW, Department of Missouri, Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.

Official:

By order of:

Nancy Cowan
 State Adjutant

Jim Thorpe
 Commander