

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE US  
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 8**

**MARCH 2011**

1. **Post Nominations:** Attention is called to Section 217 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure which provides that Post Officers shall be elected at the first meeting in April. Elective Post Officers shall be nominated at the regular meeting in March, and nominations remain open into April.
2. **Post Installation of New Officers:** Attention Post Commanders-Elect. Immediately upon election, Post Commanders will select the officer whom they wish to conduct the installation of Post Officers (one who holds or has held rank at least as high as Post Commander). The Post Election Report (mailed from National Headquarters to the post) should be mailed immediately back to National Headquarters with a copy furnished to Department Headquarters.
3. **District Elections:** Each District will hold its annual District Convention (Spring Meeting) for the purpose of electing officers. This date has been so designated as each District's normal April/May district meeting. Immediately following the District Convention, an election report listing the new officers must be made to Department Headquarters. Post will elect delegates and alternates to the District Conventions at a regular meeting of the Post, held no later than thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention - one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing for 2011 at the time of the meeting.
4. **Assuming Office:** The newly elected and installed District and Post Officers shall assume their respective office at the same time the newly elected Department Officers are installed at the Annual Convention on June 18, 2011. The 2010 officers remain in position until that time.
5. **Buddy Poppy Campaign:** Commanders on all levels should begin organizing their 2011 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Sales. Poppies are available from Department Headquarters at \$109.00 per thousand with 500 as the minimum order. Commanders/Quartermasters are cautioned to use the current Buddy Poppy Order Form, and include \$5.00 shipping and handling. Poppy supplies, such as vests or collection cans, are no longer available from Department Headquarters. You need to order these directly from the Emblem & Supply catalog. **NOTE: One of National's Buddy Poppy distribution points has burned down, and National is at least 8 weeks behind in shipping poppies. ORDER MEMORIAL DAY POPPIES NOW!**
6. **State Convention:** The 81st State Convention will be held in Raleigh at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, June 17-19 2011. The telephone number for reservations is 919-878-4914. In order to be reimbursed for hotel room expenses by Department, a Department-level officer or chairman must reside at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel only.
7. **National Convention:** The 112th National Convention will be held in San Antonio, Texas, from 27 August-1 September 2011. To make a reservation, visit the VFW website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) or mail your reservation form to the address on the form or telephone the VFW Housing Bureau. A reservation form is included in this mass mailing. North Carolina state headquarters will be at the Marriot Rivercenter Hotel
8. **Officer Proof of Eligibility Requirements:** All Posts, Districts, and the Department should be reminded of the provisions of Section 216 (c), 414(c), and 515(d) of the National By-Laws and Manual of

Procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of their respective Adjutant.

9. **Reports of Audit:** Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duties of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed by the Trustees, in detail, at the close of each quarter, one of which ends March 31st. Commanders are reminded that all funds are to be under the custody and control of the Post Quartermaster. Persons other than the Post Quartermaster who may handle Post funds, such as the Club Manager, Bingo Chairman, or committee chairmen are responsible to the Post Quartermaster to maintain accurate records and accounts, and should be properly bonded or insured. Post Trustees are to ensure that the financial records of these special funds are also audited in the same manner as the other accounts of the Post Quartermaster.

10. **Resolutions:** All resolutions to be considered by the Department Convention must be submitted to Department Headquarters, in triplicate, not later than May 15, 2011. In order to request a change to the Department By-Laws or National By-Laws, a resolution format must be used. The resolution should be approved on the post floor, be approved on the district floor, and then be submitted to department.

11. **VFW National Publications Contest:** VFW National Headquarters has announced they are now accepting submissions for the 2011 Annual Publications Contest. All District and Post publications (such as newsletters) will be categorized by organization membership size. There are 2 possible categories for NC Districts (medium and small), and 3 possible categories for NC Posts (large, medium, and small). Any or all issues published between 1 Jan 2010 and 31 Dec 2010 are eligible. Districts or Posts interested in competing at the National level must send the one best copy of their newsletter to Department Headquarters no later than 10 March. The Department-level winner in each of the possible 5 categories will be forwarded to National for competition there.

12. **Visitors to Post Canteens:** Posts are under no obligation to serve any persons in their Canteen, except for their own Post comrades and auxiliary members. However, Article 16, Section 9 of the Department By-Laws points out that Posts may (if they wish) also admit other VFW members, armed forces members, Auxiliary members, and bona fide guests. The word "Auxiliary" in that Section now pertains to Men's Auxiliary members as well as Ladies Auxiliary members. If a post normally allows entry and service to visiting VFW comrades or Ladies Auxiliary sisters, they should also allow entry and service to visiting Men's Auxiliary members. In order to prove that a visitor is a member of the VFW or one of its Auxiliaries, he/she should be required to show a valid membership card. Bona fide guests must be signed in a visible book, and the guest's sponsor must be present at all times.

13. **Transfer members vs New members:** Posts are reminded that members transferring from one post to another should be handled the same way as new members, as there is no guarantee that the transfer member is eligible for membership in the VFW. The member desiring to transfer should fill out a Membership Application Form and submit it to the post with his proof of eligibility. The Post Quartermaster submits to VFW National a copy of the Membership Application Form, a VFW Annual/Life Member Change Request Form (MCR), and a copy of the VFW Post Direct Dues Transmittal Summary Form with check. The transferring member also completes a VFW Transfer Member Declaration (a small brown card), which declares he has no debt or obligations to his former post. The receiving Quartermaster retains that declaration for life. If the transferring member is a life member, his life member card must be turned in to the Quartermaster and submitted to National as well. This policy applies to all transfers, including comrades from North Carolina State At Large Post 15034, and comrades living in North Carolina but who are members of out-of-state posts.

14. **State By-Laws:** The new version of the state by-laws (with a gray cover annotated 2010) is available at department headquarters for \$2.00, which includes shipping.

15. **National By-Laws:** The 2010-11 version of the National By-Laws Podium Edition (with a bright blue cover) is available at department headquarters for \$10.00, which includes shipping.

16. **Endorsing Candidates for VFW Offices:** Comrades acting as Department Representatives at District meetings are cautioned that they should not endorse any particular individual running for VFW office, unless they make it clear to all concerned that they are endorsing the person in their capacity as an individual comrade and not in their capacity as a Department Representative. Department Representatives are official stand-in's for the Department Commander, and must reflect the neutrality of his position as the Commander.

17: **Downloadable Online Forms:** Many National and Department forms of interest to Post Quartermasters and Adjutants can now be found at the Department Website at [www.vfwnc.org](http://www.vfwnc.org) under the "Tools" tab.

**18. Roster Changes:**

\*Page 30: The new commander of Post 8094 is Wesley J. Robinson, PO Box 130, Alliance, NC 28509, telephone 252-745-3533.

\*Page 31: The new quartermaster of Post 9810 is George T. Wilson, 2508 W. NC Hwy 2, Warsaw, NC, 28398.

\*Page 56: The new commander of Post 8719 is Ronnie L. Cox, 137 Meadowview Road, Mocksville, NC 27028.

\*Page 65: The new quartermaster of Post 1706 is J. Walter Scism, PO Box 87, Crouse, NC 28033.

\*Page 65: The new commander of Post 1706 is Garry Pratt, 2804 Startown Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092.

**BY ORDER OF:**

**DOUGLAS L. SEAY  
STATE COMMANDER**

**OFFICIAL:**

**M. BRUCE EDWARDS  
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT**