

## **GENERAL ORDERS #9 13 MARCH 2017**

### **A. DEPARTMENT**

1. Posts are reminded to follow all applicable ALE laws when it comes to canteen business or anything involving the sale of alcohol. This includes following all gambling laws and each post is encouraged to check with their local DA and ALE offices to ensure you are compliant.

2. By this time all posts should have turned in their TOY packets.

3. Men's Auxiliary: As of December 31, 2016 the Men's Auxiliary has been dissolved by an approved change to the National By-Laws. We encourage all former Men's Auxiliary members to apply for membership to the Auxiliary.

4. Our Hurricane Matthew relief effort is continuing, our members are in the process of rebuilding and your Department is supporting their effort thanks to the donations from our Post, Districts, and Auxiliary. We also have received several major donations from other Departments and National. We are not going to forget our veterans in need and we will support them until they are back into their homes. Again thanks to our teams that gave their time and effort to implement our relief program and insure that it was a success.

5. This year's Legislative Day at the NCGA will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the Adjutant Andy Zinkievich by email or phone if you would like to participate.

6. If you are not signed up for the VFW Action Corps, it is suggested you do so to keep up to date with our battle on Capitol Hill. You can sign up at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) under the advocacy tab. The video of the Commander in Chief Brian Duffy testifying can also be viewed there.

### **B. DISTRICT**

1. We hope that all Districts have completed their inspections at this time and submitted the paperwork to our State Inspector, Victor Letourneaut.

2. We want to remind all District that our relief SOP has been approved by the Council and all relief application must follow the chain of command that is detailed in the SOP. No relief funds will be distributed by the Department or the Foundation unless this application is completed and has been review by the District Commander.

3. We are trying to update our website and our Chief of Staff has sent a request to all District Commander for a shoulder to head photo and a short bio. Your cooperation in this would be greatly appreciated to add respectability to our website. I would hate to think what our website would look like if we have to create your bio and use a squirrel for your picture. If you need assistance with this contact our Chief of Staff or Clark Hunter.

### C. POST

1. There are membership recruiting events that have been set up by Membership Chairman Craig Armstrong at places like the Dixie Gun and Knife Show. If this is something your Post would like to take part in please contact Comrade Armstrong.

2. Reminder: All State requirements:

- a. Purchase and distribute 5 Buddy Poppies per members. The monies received from the distribution of the Buddy Poppies, is to be place in your relief fund.
- b. Complete all audits and forward same to the Department no later than 45 days after the end of the quarter.
- c. Forward a completed copy of your election report for 2016-2017 to the Department no later than May 20,2017.
- d. Obtain 100% paid membership by June 20,2017
- e. Make a donation to the Veterans Foundation of NC.
- f. Pass all required post canteen and bingo inspection.
- g. Take part in all programs.

The All State Awards will be presented at the October 2017 CoA.

3. There will be upcoming bills in the NCGA that we will need help from our members in getting passed. Please keep your eye on your email with NCGA updates so you can call your representatives and let them know of the specific bills the VFW wants passed. As of right now our two hot bills we are focusing on are HB 2 (not the one you're thinking of but in the 2017-18 Session) which is a property tax relief bill and also HB 103 which pertains to equal tax treatment of govt retired. More information will follow as we develop our grassroots plan.

By Order of:



Doug Blevins  
Department of NC VFW Commander



Andy Zinkievich  
Dept Adj