

GENERAL ORDERS #6 4 NOV 2016

A. DEPARTMENT

1. Comrades, You should now have your VFW/Bass Pro Department raffle tickets. If you do not have them contact your District Commanders. This is an excellent opportunity to raise funds for the Department and your Post. This year's grand prize is a Bass Tracker "160" with a 40 HP motor and trailer. As soon as you sell the tickets please return the stubs and money to the Department. **UPDATE: Every Post who turns in all of their original ticket stubs and money by 15 December will be entered in a drawing for \$250. This is only for the original tickets you were given, any extra that you received will not count against your total.**
2. The VOD and PP dates have been delayed due to the Hurricane. Please have all entries into the Post by 15 November, District by 30 November, and Department Chairman by 15 December.
3. Men's Auxiliary: At the July 2016 National Convention a motion was brought to the floor to disband the Men's Auxiliary and it passed. As it stands, the Men's Auxiliary will operate as is until midnight December 31st 2016; after that time all Men's Auxiliary Charters will become null and void. Men's Auxiliary members do not automatically transfer to the Auxiliaries. A new application must be filled out and submitted to the Auxiliary. If you have any questions please contact the Department HQ. Also, due to only a few months left before the implementation of this, the Department HQ will no longer process anymore Men's Auxiliary applications.
4. **THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE HURRICANE MATTHEW RELIEF EFFORTS.** So far over 100 veterans and members have been helped in the devastated areas. Of those veterans helped 40-50 refused any help and wanted it to go to other needy veterans. The Department has entered phase II of its operations in the affected areas which will include additional trips to the hardest hit areas to offer further assistance.
5. When requesting a Department Representative to attend a function please do so with a 30 day notice before the event.
6. The deadline for the next issue of The Leader is December 30, 2016, please have all stories and articles turned in before that date.
7. Craig Armstrong, Commander District 9, is the new Department Membership Chairman. Craig can be reached at 4337 Spring Hill Church Rd. Lillington, NC 27546 phone: 910 585-1245 email: cdrdist9@vfwnc.com Craig has just recently sent out emails to everyone in regards to setting up membership drives at the Dixie Gun and Knife shows! He was able to get the tables for free so please contact him so your post can take advantage of this great opportunity!

8. From all of us here at Department we wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels if you will be out on the road.

9. The February CofA will be held at the Cary Embassy Suites February 3-5th 2017. Please make sure you reserve your rooms and your banquet tickets because this CofA sells out fast!

Furthermore, if you purchase your banquet ticket in advance the cost will only be \$40!! Not only will we be honoring our VOD and PP winners like we have in the past, but our Commander has arranged for every student there to walk away with something (\$\$)! If that wasn't enough, there will also be live music performed by North Carolina's own Rockie Lynne. Rockie is from Statesville, NC, served in the 82nd Airborne, signed by Universal South Records and has made 14 appearances on stage at the Grand Ole Opry. Did I mention this is all included in the early bird \$40 special?

10. There will be training set up at the CofA for all comrades with a multitude of classes to choose from.

11. District Commanders: All inspections must be completed by 15 November 2016.

13. DISTRICT

1. Our goal this year is to provide assistance to all Post to fulfill our mission, "Veterans Helping Veterans." We respectfully ask all Comrades and Officers to follow the "Chain of Command" when assistance is needed. In support of this, our Council of Administration has adopted a SOP for the disbursements of relief funds. The SOP also contains an application to be use to apply for relief. District Commanders you are part of this SOP. Read and understand you role in this SOP. The SOP is published on our website. No action can be taken by the Department or Foundation unless this application has been completed. It is still the responsibility of the Post and Districts to take care of the Veteran in Need in you r District.

2. Please submit all completed reports to our State Inspector Victor Letourneau.

C. POST

1. All Posts will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2016-2017 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teachers' Awards. Schools are in session so it is now time to approach your schools and ensure that they are going to work with you this year. If you have questions please contact the program Chairmen; Patriot Pen: Steve, 336 462-2024. Voice of Democracy Nate, 336 508- 0309.

2. Requirements to obtain Honor Post honors: The post must obtain 100% membership by December 31 2016. The 100% membership status must be on record in the National Memstats as of December 31, 2016. The Honor Plaques will be awarded at the 2017 State Convention in June.

3. Requirement for consideration for "All State" honors will include completing all programs listed in paragraph #1 and the additional requirements.

a. Purchase and distribute 5 Buddy Poppies per member.

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 the Post election report for 2017-2018 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 inspections.

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

4. Quartermasters on the National Website: Post Quartermasters are reminded that they can go to www.vfw.org on the Internet, sign in as the Quartermaster, and have access to numerous data on programs, tools, resources, chairman's guides, etc. If you are a new Quartermaster, go to www.vfw.org, and Login. When you get to the user ID/password blocks, check on complete new account. Your password will always be your VFW membership number.

5. Post are reminded they only have to put in one report per month and the totals, no write-up of individual activities are required. The Department is working to add additional reporting fields so the name of the person submitting the report can be recorded as well as mileage for events.

Currently, there are (3) sections for each report: #Projects, Hours, and value (for now, you can take your number of mileage, multiply it by \$.55 per mile).

There are six (6) different types of reports: CS (Community Service); AM (Americanism); YA Youth Activities; Nat S (National Scholarship); BP (Buddy Poppies); and Mil Act (Military Activities).

All Posts should prepare now for the full transition to the computer age. You can always find a library to get online. All questions should be directed to the Department Webmaster: David Watts (919) 457-8077 or webmaster@vfwnc.com

6. VIDEO / AUDIO SURVEILLANCE AT POSTS

In the interest of security, a number of Posts have or are considering installing surveillance systems. There are Federal and State statutes that address the legality of surveillance systems. North Carolina is a "one party consent" state.

Video: Allowed in a public space.

The interpretation here is that Videotaping is allowed in public settings such as meeting rooms, hallways, canteens, etc. Videotaping is not allowed in areas where privacy is expected, such as bathrooms, changing rooms, etc. The Post is run by the membership. In order to install a surveillance system, the Post membership, at a regularly scheduled meeting, must approve the motion by a majority vote.

Audio: N.C.Gen.Stat § 15A-287. Interception and disclosure of wire, oral, or electronic communications prohibited.

(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Article, a person is guilty of a Class H felony if, without the consent of at least one party to the communication, the person:

- (1) Willfully intercepts, endeavors to intercept, or procures any other person to intercept or endeavor to intercept, any wire, oral, or electronic communication.

Ordered By:

Doug Blevins

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Commander

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department of North Carolina

Andrew Zinkievich

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Adjutant

Veterans of Foreign Wars

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