

May 2019 General Orders

Department of North Carolina Veterans of Foreign Wars

- Attached you will find the tentative schedule for the Convention. The banquet will be \$45 and the dress will be slacks and polos for the men and summer casual for females. We will be honoring our Fire, EMS, and Police Officer of the year as well as the Scout of the Year at the Banquet, so all are encouraged to come. Please contact the Department HQ to reserve & Pay for your tickets early to ensure you get a seat!
- As of 14 May, the Department is at 99.409% and needs 135 members to reach 100%. Nationally the VFW has reached 100.214%! The first time we have been 100% in 27 years so keep up the good work and lets push North Carolina to 100%!!
- Incoming District Commanders are asked to check and see if they have copies of their District By-laws. If you do not have a copy, check with the Department Headquarters to see if they have a copy in your District folders. If no District By-laws can be found, it is recommended that you work on putting those together in this upcoming year.
- The All-State and All-Ameircan Checklist will be sent out biweekly for the remainder of the month of May and then weekly starting in June. Please go over this list to make sure there are no last minute things that could have been taken care of sooner. Remember, just because you finish all of the requirements for All-American, you still need to finish in the top 50 for Posts and top 25 for Districts in your respective membership divisions so keep an eye on those!
- State Membership Chairman Tim Woods is available to help you plan your recruiting events if you need help. Please utilize this resource! Comrade Woods is very good at what he does and as of 13 May 2019 was ranked #3 in the entire VFW with 120 new members recruited!!
- Convention Dues were emailed out to everyone, please ensure that these forms are being completed and mailed back to the Department HQ with payment. If we do not receive them before the Convention not only can it impact your voting ability in the upcoming elections but you won't have printed out name badges!
- Please do not send National Dues to the Department, they are to go directly to National and can be filled out online.
- District Commanders are reminded to check with State Inspector Jeff Friar and make sure that you are all up to date with your Post Inspections.
- If you have not made your reservations for the June Convention yet, your time is running out!
- Please ensure that your Post and District Elections are being completed and you are filling out the election report on OMS. Once you fill it out and submit it, the Adjutant is emailed a copy from National so there is no need to double send it. Some Posts are filling out election reports and not completing them which will cause them to be kicked back by National. Yes, there are appointed positions but they are still required positions that need to be held. By making them appointed positions, it allows an already elected officer to hold the appointed position as well. If you do not have a completed election report that is

submitted to National, you will be unable to vote in the Department Convention as well as the National Convention so please get those in.

- Don't forget that the Home Depot Grant is open! VFW Posts can receive up to \$5,000 toward maintenance and improvements to their Post building! We encourage all Posts to apply ASAP if you desire to remodel your building. Please note this is a competitive grant program and not all applications will be funded. To make the process easier, the VFW Foundation has once again produced an easy-to-understand how-to-apply guide that will walk Post members through the online application process. For your copy or if you have any questions, email Jason Couch, grants coordinator at JCouch@vfw.org.
- District Commanders are reminded that they will be required to host a School of Instruction for their Posts after the Convention so please start thinking about where you will hold it. If you need any assistance from HQ, please contact Chuck or Andy.
- Post Service Officers are reminded that they must attend a Service Officer training session held by our Department Service Officer Alan Eden. There will be one in June and October (if there is space to hold it) so it's best to make the June one. It will be Saturday June 22nd from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm with a break in the middle for lunch and for Post Service Officers to cast their vote in the election if they are the Post Delegate/Commander.
- Incoming District Commanders are required to attend the District Commanders training session on Sunday June 23rd immediately following the incoming business session. You can ask the hotel for a late check out and they will accommodate you.
- I want to thank VFW Post 7288 Calabash for hosting the Commanders Homecoming, it was a great weekend of comradery and laughs!
- Last but not least, our Comrade Past State Commander and Sergeant at Arms Gary Barringer will be honored at the upcoming National Convention in Orlando for his dedicated years of service as a National Sergeant at Arms! Everyone should be excited for Gary and thank him for his hard work! If you are going to be in Orlando for the National Convention, I am requesting that every able body from NC to be there to watch Gary be awarded this prestigious honor from the Commander-in-Chief!

By Order of:

Allen Payne

Allen Payne

Department Commander

Andrew Zinkievich

Andrew Zinkievich

Department Adjutant