

**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Department of North Carolina**

General Order #2

August 4, 2023

1. The following officers have been appointed to Department Positions and committee appointments/changes are stated below.

Aide de Camp	Perry Saunders (6018) 910-973-2016 perry.w.saunders.civ@army.mil
Dept. Service Officer	Tab Brown (2771) 252-933-2040 Fax 336-714-0901 Tab.Brown318@va.gov
Asst Service Officer	Vacant
Asst Service Officer	Vacant
Asst Service Officer	Vacant
Asst Service Officer	Vacant
Claims Assistant	Cindy Hathaway 336-631-5457 Fax 336-714-0901 Cynthia.Hathaway@va.gov

Legislative Liaison State	Elree Smith (10999) 919-772-8425 pastcdrsmith@vfwnc.com Wendy Silvera (9133) 910-581-4254 alotta_usmc@yahoo.com
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2. There will be five (5) department Schools of Instruction sessions conducted (1) Saturday, 5 Aug Post 9960, 246 VFW Road (Swansboro) and (2) 6 Aug Sunday Post 6018, 116 Chance Street (Fayetteville), (3) Saturday 12 August Post 891, 626 New Leicester Highway (Asheville), (4) Saturday 16 September, Post 5352, 618 Edgewood St (Kernersville), (5) Sunday 17 September, 3250 West Franklin Blvd (Gastonia). Times are 1200-1600. All comrades are invited to attend but Each post CDR (SVC in place of or JVC) and QM, Trustee, ADJ must attend for All-State requirements. There will be attendance and sign-in sheets. A training outline will be provided to District Commanders for preparation of training. District Commanders are also encouraged to visit all Posts in their District throughout the year and to provide training and assistance as required. In person attendance is encouraged. A zoom option will be available for those unable to attend in person, log information: Meeting ID 902 251 1354 Passcode 945116. Cameras must be always on during the training Physical attendance will be recorded for credit to be given.
3. Quartermasters at Post and District level must ensure that required bond applications are submitted prior to 31 August 2023. Posts and/or Districts failing to meet the 31 August deadline will be suspended until bond is paid. *Suspension will be lifted upon receipt of payment.*
4. The Fall Council of Administration meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro, NC 204 Centreport Drive, Greensboro. 29 September-1 October. Contact the Embassy Suites hotel for reservations 336-668-4535. Council members and Past Department Commanders reservations will be reserved by the department.
5. Attention of all members is directed to Section 901 of the National Bylaws, "Discipline of Members." Members who have committed offenses recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may be subject to disciplinary action. Members are reminded that acts of Sexual Harassment, Racial or Sexual Discrimination, and all other conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline or conduct determined to be unbecoming of a member will not be condoned. In general, harassment

and discrimination consist of any form of verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive enough to have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or otherwise interfering with another's ability to participate in VFW events. All members will be treated with dignity and respect.

6. For purposes of clarification, we do not operate as a men's organization or a ladies organization, but as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its VFW Auxiliary.
7. Every Post chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2023-24 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, "Buddy"® Poppy and Veterans and Military Support Programs. Additionally, it is necessary that all Post and Department Commanders comply with all provisions of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure and Ritual.
8. Attention of commanders at all levels is directed to Section 703 of the National Bylaws which requires that each accountable officer be bonded with an indemnity company in the sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable.
9. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218(a)(11)(b), Manual of Procedure, Trustees, which states that Post Trustees shall prepare and submit quarterly, through their Post Commander, a Post Trustees' Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector. The first report is due at the close of September. Do not mail these reports to National Headquarters.
10. Attention of Department and Post Commanders is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue Form 990 and 990/T, where applicable. Forms may be secured from your local Post Office or branch office of the Internal Revenue Service.
11. The newly revised 2023-24 Commander, Quartermaster and Trustee guides are now available online. You can access the guides behind the member's "LOGIN" at vfw.org, then navigate to My VFW, Member/Post Resources, Bylaws: Training, Forms & Templates, then Training. The full guides are located in their respective section under "Elected and Appointed Officer-Specific Materials." These guides are a great resource for elected and appointed officers at every level of the organization to assist you in your roles and ensure our continued success.
12. Posts are urged to start planning suitable programs now for the observance of Veterans Day (see Section 223 of the Manual of Procedure).
13. The Manual of Procedure amendment passed by the 119th National Convention modified Section 1001(25) to read, "The dispensation and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or the use of smoking/vaping products in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings are prohibited."
14. A thorough program of Post inspection is necessary to ensure compliance with National and Department Bylaws and directives. District Inspectors shall make every effort to inspect every Post under their cognizance on an annual basis and correct such discrepancies as may be disclosed.

15. U.S. Army ARDEC has issued guidance on the operation and maintenance of the M1 Garand. The manual can be found in the VFW Training & Support section at vfw.org or you can visit the M1 Garand Associated Website: m1garandtraining.com.
16. The distribution of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in Sections 711 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure. Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of "Buddy" Poppies in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the distribution of "Buddy" Poppies shall be used in accordance with Section 704 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure.
17. VMS donations will only be handled through the Dashboard moving forward. An email was sent out on June 29, 2023, annotating this change and explaining the NEW donation page. All Posts have to do is click on the VMS donation tab on the Dashboard to donate. The link will point them to OMS. No more checks to the National Headquarters. If a Post does not use a credit card, the Post will send their donation to their Department HQs and the Department HQs will fill out the donation for their Post. Credit will automatically update on the Dashboard daily. No more weekly updates.
18. Cancellation of Charter have been issued by National Special Order No.352 dated 18 July to: Edwards Clark Messer Post No.5198, Canton, NC.
19. Send any information corrections to the Department Adjutant at adj@vfwnc.com.

By Order of:

Helen Nelson
Commander
Department of North Carolina

Official:

Helen Nelson
Adjutant
Department of North Carolina