

General Order #4

January 3, 2024

1. Department Raffle Tickets- Time is drawing Nearer-Push for more sales this month, Tickets can be sold to anyone, some Posts buy all the tickets and if they win prizes will raffle them off at post for fundraisers. We prefer for tickets to be turned in sooner rather than later. The deadline for monies and tickets is 22 January. The Department Raffle drawing will be held at the Mid-Winter Council of Administration meeting February 2, 2024. Tickets are priced at \$5.00 each. Each District/post keeps \$1.00 for every initial allotted ticket sold. Post selling (1-500) over their allotted amount of ticket will receive \$2 per ticket. Post/District selling over 500 +tickets over their allotted amounts will receive \$3 per ticket. See the State program book for details.

2. Council of Administration: February 2-4 at the Greensboro Embassy Suites, we hope to see you all there and to make sure you get your rooms by **12 January 2024**.

VOD Banquet is mandatory attendance for all District Commanders. If you cannot make it then your Sr. or Jr. Commanders will need to fill in for the commander to escort your VOD, PP, ToY winners.

Banquet will be \$45 a ticket with a theme of "Puttin on the Ritz". A black tie event.

You can call or email the adjutant or QM to reserve your tickets in advance.

**** Please be reminded that the Hotel has gone cashless, you will no longer be able to pay in cash for anything at the hotel, you will need a debit/credit card****

3. Recruiting-Membership: Thank you to the Post that are bringing in those members and participating in the monthly membership challenges. Continue with your recruiting Drive, we need to work a little harder on membership, I ask that if possible you not wait till crunch time to enter in your membership application, please reach out to those annual members and see if they could pay early, maybe make it a contest and award prizes to those members who renew early.

Dept. Commander is doing monthly membership challenges, with cash incentives. This is free money \$\$\$\$\$\$

National has given the Departments Membership incentive benchmarks: The Department has missed (1) Membership recruiting Benchmark #-1 Nov of 88% and it doesn't look good for Benchmark #2- 1 Feb of 95%. Benchmark #3 is May 31st in which we have to reach 99%.

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But we can still keep reaching for that 102% goal. Each of these Benchmarks comes with a financial award of to the Department of \$2250.00.

4. All Department Officer and District Commander you are hereby mandated to turn in all Department issued laptops. Laptops are to be turned in to room 225 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. If you will not be in attendance, please call State Adjutant to make other turn in arrangements prior to February 02.

5. Legislative Conferences: National in DC, March 2-6.

6. Buddy Poppy Contest: due Jan 9 or can pay \$300 in lieu of entry see program guidelines

7. Dashboard-As a reminder all program entries, recruiting events and community service entries need to be in-putted into the all-state dashboard on vfwnc.com. Also program and recruiting event entries need to be in-putted into the All-American dashboard on vfw.org.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please reach out to the **State Adjutant** for assistance. I want to commend the Post's and District Adjutant/QM's for their improvements in entering dashboard information and sending in quarterly audits. There has been a great improvement over this time last year. Please continue the good work!

8. Elections- Posts- March nominations and election in April per National by-laws. Use time between April to June to train your new officers. Please submit your **election report on time**. If not received, it will disqualify you from voting at Convention. Sec 416 proof of eligibility

9. Trustee Reports- The reports need to be more proficient. Please double check your math and that your bonds are sufficient. There is a fillable form on the Department website, please use it. We prefer you to electronically submit your reports to the department. Contact the Department Quartermaster if you are having issues.

10. Delegate Dues: are due to the Department QM No later than May 15. Dues are \$3.00 per delegate. (1 delegate for every 30 members on role as of April 1, 2024). Delegate forms are on vfwnc.com if you need assistance please contact the Dept. QM. National Convention Fee \$25 paid in advance

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11. Inspections are looking good but we are still missing a few please get the inspections done asap. Reminder 2nd round of Bingo and canteen inspections, please contact State Inspector Mickey Biggs if you have any questions.

12. Programs – Safety, Fireman, Police, and Paramedic- due to Craig Armstrong by January 1st. JROTC, Scout, employer and member of the year are also coming due please see guidelines for submission dates.

13. Scholarships-The Billy Ray/Cameron Scholarship Deadline is Fast approaching February 15, 2024. Please see guidelines on vvwfwncc.com. This is an opportunity to award one of family members.

Send any information corrections to the Department Adjutant at adj@vwfwncc.com.

By Order of:

**Helen Nelson
State Commander
State Adjutant
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US
Department of North Carolina**