

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO**

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 24-25-8

FEBRUARY 2025

1. Commanders at all levels should begin organizing their 2025 Memorial Day “Buddy” ® Poppy Campaign. Every Post is urged to order and distribute VFW “Buddy” Poppies. Posts are urged to plan early to ensure timely delivery of poppies. Please allow at least 6 to 8 weeks for delivery. Poppy order forms are available on the website (www.vfwoh.org)
2. Announcement is made the annual **Convention** for the Department of Ohio will be held **June 5 – June 8, 2025**, in Sandusky. Hotel Reservation forms will be on the Ohio VFW website (www.vfwoh.org). **All reservations must go through the VFW Dept. of Ohio for the annual convention.** Information will be available on our website Late March or Early April
3. The **126th National Convention**, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, will be held in Columbus, OH, August 8 – 14 2025. Reservation forms will be posted on the website when we receive them From National
4. Attention is directed to Section 213 of the National Bylaws concerning any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post-Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District meetings; District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies
5. **ATTENTION ALL STATE DEADLINES:** Due to the Annual June Convention to be held June 5-8, 2025. **ALL STATE POST & DISTRICT COMMANDERS & POST & DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN DEADLINE** will be **April 30, 2025** for **Membership and Programs**.
6. Section 703 of the National by laws, (2020 edition page 39) specifically requires that Officers accountable for funds or property are bonded with an Indemnity Company with Surety equal to the amount of funds they are accountable for. (See Note #7) (**Surety Bond** are the operative words)

Employee Theft, while a good Idea, does not satisfy the By Laws.
The difference: with employee theft insurance you must first prosecute and prove in a court of law that the person is guilty. This may take years and even if proved guilty, you may not recover your money.
(Note #7) A **Surety Bond** will pay you immediately if you can prove there is a reasonable expectation that theft accrued. Then they recover their costs through prosecution.
7. **Section 218 (a) para 5, specifically states that the Post Quartermaster Shall Have Charge of all funds of the Post and Shall be the Accountable Officer and Treasurer of all committees handling funds. This includes the Canteen.**

8. Trustees shall not be eligible to serve as an elected officer, Adjutant or on a committee whose books, records and accounts are audited by the Trustees. Among the duties of the three (3) elected Post Trustees, they shall:
 - a. At least monthly, review the Monthly Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the Post Quartermaster.
 - b. Within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, properly audit the books and records of the Post Quartermaster, Post Adjutant and any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted, or operated by, for or on behalf of the Post Trustee's Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector.
 - c. The Report shall be in accordance with and upon such form as may be prescribed by the Adjutant General. The audit shall be signed by the Post Commander and Trustees, who shall, by their signatures, certify the accuracy of the information contained therein.
 - d. Perform such other duties as may be incident to the office or may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of the organization or lawful orders from proper authority.
9. The following special events are hereby announced:

District 7 Meeting, VFW Post 3345, Strongsville, Feb 16th, 0930 hrs.
District 6 Meeting, VFW Post 1445, New Philadelphia, Feb 23, 1000 hrs.
VFW National Voice of Democracy, Washington DC, March 1-3, 2025
VFW National Legislative Conference, Washington DC, March 3, 2025
District 1 Meeting, VFW Post 7424, Wauseun, Mar 2, 1000 hrs.
District 8 Meeting, VFW Post 1055, Ravenna, Mar 2, 1000 hrs.
District 9 Meeting, VFW Post TBA, 1000 hrs.
10. Districts and Posts are reminded to conduct a Commemorative Tribute on/around February 15th for the Sinking of the USS Maine, 1898. This is a significant event to the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
11. Post Quartermasters and Trustees are again reminded to use vfwohioaudits@gmail.com when forwarding Quarterly Trustee Reports of Audits via email.

BY ORDER OF
Kari E. Pfeifer
State Commander

OFFICIAL:

Richard T. Curry
Richard T. Curry
State Adjutant