

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 23-24-6

DECEMBER 2023

1. The attention of Department, District, and Post Commanders is directed to Section 102, Manual of Procedure, which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new or transfer members must be submitted on an approved, signed application outlining the applicant's honorable service, eligibility and other pertinent information. Proof of service to establish eligibility for membership rests with the applicant. The Post is responsible for assuring the eligibility of every member accepted for membership. DD214 and other qualifying documents are not required to be maintained on file at the Post except for Post Officers holding office for the current year. With respect to active duty/active National Guard & Reserves military personnel currently performing service qualifying for membership, applications may be submitted on their behalf by a member who shall certify the requisite qualifications for membership based on personal knowledge concerning the applicant and shall be acted upon in accordance with (IAW) the provision of Section 103. Military personnel accepted under these conditions shall within a reasonable time sign the application, personally certifying qualifications. The application shall bear the name and ID number of the recommending member and the recommendation of the Post Reviewing Committee.
2. IAW with Section 103, Manual of Procedure, after the applicant has filled out the application card, it should be provided to the Post Adjutant or Quartermaster along with required dues. A receipt shall be provided to the applicant. An applicant may be recommended after eligibility has been fully determined by the Post Reviewing Committee. Original Applications of every member will be kept on file with the Adjutant. At a Post regular or special meeting, a vote shall be taken and the majority of votes cast shall decide acceptance or rejection of the application.
3. Members are reminded that their annual membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars is now subscription based and expires the last day of the month of their anniversary date. All officers are encouraged to make every effort to renew the membership of each and every continuous member prior to their expiration. Reports showing members 30, 60, and 90 days from expiration can be obtained by the Post Quartermaster through the Online Membership System (OMS).
4. Section 220 of the National By-Laws, "Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members" states that "Any elective Post officer removed by the Department Commander, or by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post under the provisions of this section, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed." Posts are also reminded that in order to remove an Officer for "Cause" or other infractions other than illegal activities, a Post must duly pass a motion at the regular/special meeting proposing the removal of the officer or committee member and that a vote for removal will be conducted at the next regular/special meeting. The member holding the office must be given at least seven (7) days' notice in writing prior to the regular/special meeting of which the vote to remove will be conducted.
5. Post Commanders are reminded that Public law 103-308 designates **December 7th** as "National Pearl Harbor Day" and requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day. **January 1** is one of the official days when the Flag of the United States is to be displayed by all Americans.

6. The holiday season is upon us a time for joyfulness and thankfulness. To all comrades of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the Auxiliary, and their families; sincere wishes for a joyous holiday season and a most prosperous New Year.
7. The **125th National Convention**, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, will be held in Louisville, KY. July 27 – August 1, 2024.
8. **Sec. 709 - Control of Units.Para. 4-No Post**, District or Department and no activity, clubroom or holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or on behalf of any Post, District or Department **may own any property jointly or in common with any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other business or charitable entity, except that property may be held jointly or in common a post or unit of a congressionally chartered veterans organization, provided the arrangement allows for the prominent display of the names, trademarks, or service marks of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and is not contrary to any provision of law or these bylaws.**
Sec. 709 - Control of Units, Para, 7- In addition to other legal requirements under existing local laws or Department Bylaws, no Post, District, or any holding company or corporation subordinate thereto, shall purchase, sell or otherwise transfer title or any interest in any real estate unless written notice of such proposal has first been given to each member of said unit ten (10) days prior to such regular or special meeting at which the proposal is to be considered, and then only by two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval of those members present and voting at such regular or special meeting. In addition, **at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting**, notice shall be provided to the **Department Commander who shall review any sale, purchase, transfer or encumbrance to determine whether such transaction serves the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars** of the United States as prescribed in the Congressional Charter. Failure to comply with these provisions shall nullify said transaction.
9. **The Mid-Winter Conference will be held at Marriott Columbus Airport, January 11-14, 2024**
The tentative schedule as of November 1, 2023 is as follows:
 - Thursday January 11, 2023**
 1. *VFWOC Board of Directors Meeting* will convene 10:00 a.m. Thursday
 2. *Veterans Service Committee Meeting* will convene 2:00-3:30 p.m. Thursday
 3. *Finance Committee Meeting* will convene 3:30-5:00 p.m. Thursday
 - Friday, January 12, 2023**
 4. *Council of Administration Meeting (Parade of Checks)* will convene 8:30 a.m. Friday
 5. *Poppy Display 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday*
 6. *Past Commanders Luncheon* 12p.m. (noon) Friday
 7. **Program Reports 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.**
 8. Women Veterans Memorial Special Presentation 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.
 9. *Department SR Vice Meeting with District Sr Vices 4:30 – 5:50 p.m.*
 10. *Deparment Jr Vice Meeting with District JR Vices 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.*
 11. *Auxiliary Mid-Winter Auction 7:00 p.m.*
 12. *Auxiliary Auction* 7:30 p.m. Friday
 - Saturday, January 13, 2023**
 13. **Post Service Officer Training, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.**
 14. *Joint Presentation Echelon Front – Steve Ward, 9;00 – 10:00 A.M.*
 15. *Poppy Display 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.*
 16. *Break 10:00 -10:15 a.m.*
 17. *VFW Ohio Charities School of Instructions* 10:15-11:45 a.m.
 18. Lunch Break 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

19. *Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, Teacher & First Responders Luncheon (Invitation Only) 11:45 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.*
20. *Joint Session - Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, Teacher, Law Enforcement/EMT, Top 3 Awards*
21. *Past Department Commanders and Department Presidents and Honorees Reception – Indentation Only 5:45 – 6:30 p.m.*
22. *General Reception 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.*
23. *Voice of Democracy Banquet 7:00 p.m.*
24. **VFW District 9 POW/MIA Vigil- Midnight**

Sunday, January 14, 2023

25. **Depart for home**

10. The following special events are hereby announced:

District 9 OVH Christmas Party, Sandusky, December 2, 1300 hrs.
District 2 Membership Dinner, VFW Post 3035, Delphos, December 2, 1700 hrs.
District 9 Meeting, VFW Post 3432, Clyde, December 3, 1000 hrs.
District 1 Pearl Harbor Remembrance, VFW Post 2489, December 3, Bryan, 1000 hrs.
District 2 Meeting, VFW Post 9289, St. Mary’s, December 3, 1000 hrs.
District 8 Meeting, VFW Post 3332, Newton Falls, December 3, 1000 hrs.
District 11 Meeting, VFW Post 1060, Newark, December 3, 1000 hrs.
District 3 Meeting, VFW Post 5436, Troy, December 10, 1000 hrs.
District 4 Ohio Veterans Home Christmas, Georgetown, December 20, 1400 hrs.

District 5 VOD Dinner, VFW Post 5108, Marietta, January 6, 1800 hrs.
District 5 Meeting, VFW Post 5108, Marietta, January 7, 1000 hrs.
District 10 Scholarship Banquet, VFW Post 4239, Galion, January 6, 1600 hrs.
Mid-Winter Conference, Columbus, January 11-14, All-Day
District 10 Meeting, VFW Post 9943, Mansfield, January 21, 0930 hrs.
District 12 Meeting, VFW Post 9893, Albany, January 21, 1200 hrs. (Noon)

OFFICIAL:

Richard T. Curry

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 State Adjutant

BY ORDER:
 Colleen Wiley
 State Commander