

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 23-24-07

JANUARY 2024

1. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure **Duties of Trustees**. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed in detail at the close of each Quarter, one of which ends December 31, 2023. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the **Club Manager and Bingo Chairman**. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster records.
2. Post Commanders and Community Activities Chairmen are reminded of the anniversary of the sinking of the **USS Maine** in Havana Harbor, February 15, 1898. A special meeting or a memorial program should be held to honor those Comrades who served in our Nation's cause in the Spanish-American War who formed the Veterans of Foreign Wars 124 years ago.
3. A thorough program of **Post inspection** is necessary to ensure compliance with National and Department By-Laws and directives. Department Inspectors and Deputies shall make every effort to complete their inspection prior to Mid-Winter Conference.
4. The distribution of **VFW Buddy Poppies** will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in Section 711 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Department, District and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of Buddy Poppies for Memorial Day campaign in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the distribution of Buddy Poppies shall be used for the relief of disabled and needy veterans and their dependents. **When ordering poppies delivery time is 6 to 8 weeks before delivery. The department headquarters does not have any poppies in office.**
5. Announcement is made the deadline for submitting **Scouting of the Year** is April 1, 2024 post winners due to **Youth Chairman Andrew Leidigh**.
6. VFW Department of Ohio has entered into a contract with trusted partner, Publishing Concepts Inc. (PCI) to contact our members via mail to provide an opportunity for VFW Ohio members to tell their unique stories of service. This initiative is purely voluntary. Members will receive a postcard in the mail and possibly email with details on how to participate. PCI will collect your oral stories by a telephone interview, and later compile these stories into a publication that will display the rich history of Ohio's veterans from every era, branch and theater. If you are interested in sharing your story of service, please verify your primary contact information by responding to the postcard mailed to you from PCI. Your story is unique and adds to the overall landscape of what service means to the American people, as well as the spirit of the veteran community in Ohio.

A few points that I would like to emphasize:

- Your participation in this program is purely **voluntary**.
 - We engaged in this program out of our sincere desire to give you, our members, an opportunity to share your stories of military service with your family and friends but also with your fellow veterans, who hopefully will also share their stories.
 - Your contact information **will not** be sold to any third party for any reason. It is restricted between PCI and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Your provided contact information will be used to verify and update our existing member database records.
 - Yes, the Department of Ohio VFW will receive a royalty for every book sold under this program to assist us in supporting the many Programs we sponsor.
7. **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

VFWOC Board of Directors Meeting will convene 10:00 a.m. Thursday

Veterans Service Committee Meeting will convene 2:00-3:30 p.m. Thursday

Finance Committee Meeting will convene 3:30-5:00 p.m. Thursday

Friday, January 12, 2023

Council of Administration Meeting (Parade of Checks) will convene 8:30 a.m. Friday

Poppy Display 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday

Past Commanders Luncheon 12p.m. (noon) Friday

Program Reports 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Women Veterans Memorial Special Presentation 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Department SR Vice Meeting with District Sr Vices 4:30 – 5:50 p.m.

Department Jr Vice Meeting with District JR Vices 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Auxiliary Mid-Winter Auction 7:00 p.m.

Auxiliary Auction 7:30 p.m. Friday

Saturday, January 13, 2023

Post Service Officer Training, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Joint Presentation Echelon Front – Steve Ward, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

Poppy Display 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Break 10:00 -10:15 a.m.

VFW Ohio Charities School of Instructions 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Lunch Break 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, Teacher & First Responders Luncheon (Invitation Only) 11:45 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Joint Session - Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, Teacher, Law Enforcement/EMT, Top 3 Awards

Past Department Commanders and Department Presidents and Honorees Reception – Indentation Only 5:45 – 6:30 p.m.

General Reception 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Voice of Democracy Banquet 7:00 p.m.
VFW District 9 POW/MIA Vigil- Midnight

Sunday, January 14, 2023

Depart for home

8. **Posts, Districts**, and Departments of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States **shall** be incorporated within the state where they are located as prescribed in the manual of procedure.
9. The following special events are hereby announced:

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

Richard T. Curry

State Adjutant

BY ORDER:

Colleen Wiley

State Commander