



VFW State of West Virginia
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GENERAL ORDERS NO. 5
SERIES 2024-2025, November 2024

All General Orders will be forwarded electronically and posted on the state website at <https://vfwwv.com> under the Resources pulldown tab. Posts or individuals who want a hard copy of the General Orders and accompanying documents, send \$25 to VFW State HQS, PO Box 9431, South Charleston, WV 25309.

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** Keep working membership as membership is the life blood of the organization. Junior Vice Commander Kevin Link has been appointed 2024-2025 Membership Chairman. For assistance with membership, contact Junior Vice Commander Link at 304-703-2771.

Congratulations to the following Posts for already achieving 100%:

3008	Rowlesburg	100%	3757	Burnsville	114.28%	4469	Beckley	105.828%
6454	Petersburg	105.71%	7780	Mathias	100%	6418	St Albans	103.77%
9926	Mason	101.22%	3522	Charles Town	101.24%	6723	Alderson	101.53%

2. **TOP RECRUITERS:** Commander Ogden, Post 3663, 15; Randy DeLawder, Post 3522, 13; Bill Wilson, Post 7048, 7; PSC Corrina Boggess, Post 8363, 6; Tim Ward, Post 4469 Beckley, 6.

3. **2024-2025 DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

Per Section 218(a)(1)k. of the National Manual of Procedure, the Post Commander is to assure the Commander or their representative attends all properly called District Conventions or meetings Districts serve lunch before meetings. Time listed is lunch time.

	Host Post	Date	Time	State Reps	
District 1	Chester	November 3	12 PM	Ogden	Crum
District 3	Grafton	November 16	12 PM	Heaney	Bise

Schedule subject to change.

4. **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

October 31	Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen and Teacher of the Year entries due to Posts.
October 31	<u>July – September Post Trustees Report of Audit due State HQS</u>
November 7-9	Southern Conference Nashville, TN
November 15	IRS Form 990 due for those whose fiscal year ends June 30
November 29	Post Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen winners to District
November 29	Post Teacher of the Year entries to Program Chairman
November 29	Post Public Servant entries to District
December 20	District Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen entries to State HQS
January 17-19, 2025	Mid-Winter Conference Stonewall Resort Roanoke, WV

5. **STATE BYLAWS:** National has approved updates to the State Bylaws approved by the delegates at the State Convention. The Bylaws can be found on our website at <https://vfwwv.com/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=60863>.

6. **DISASTER RELIEF**: We delivered three 26-ft U-Haul trucks full of supplies donated by Posts on October 14. Another trip is planned for November 18. Mostly needed items at the present time are Propane > Small Bottles (20lbs bottles), Propane Heaters > Buddy Heaters or similar, Small Propane Stoves, Generators, Extension Cords, Gas Cans, Drop Cords, Batteries. Flashlights, Gloves, Non Perishable food, Monetary Donations to help buy the above supplies. At this current time they have asked us to hold off on all clothing and water donations!

7. **VFW PROGRAM DONATIONS**: We request Posts and Districts to donate \$275 to help offset the cost of the programs National mandates the State to participate. Last year HQS received \$9,765 in donations, but we spent \$14,417.54 on awards and recognition for the Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teachers of the Year, Scout of the Year, JROTC and Civil Air Patrol programs. We also made annual donations to the National VMS program, Gold Star Families and the National Home West Virginia House. To date, 35 of 70 Posts and 2 of 5 Districts have contributed to this year's programs. If you have not donated already, your donation is greatly appreciated and needed.

8. **2023 FEDERAL INCOME TAX FILING**: Filing deadline for all versions of 2023 Federal Tax Form 990 for most Posts and Districts is November 15th. Make sure your taxes are filed on-time or an extension filed and a copy of proof of filing or the approved extension is sent to State HQS.

9. **SCHOLARSAPP WEBSITE FOR VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, PATRIOT'S PEN ENTRIES**: HQS is monitoring Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries submitted on the Scholarsapp website. Posts will be notified of an electronic entry and will be provided a hard copy of the entry if required, to include a thumb drive of a Voice of Democracy essay.

10. **MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**: The Mid-Winter Conference will be held January 17-19, 2025 at Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV. An agenda, hotel and registration information will be provided by the middle of November.

11. **CHAPLAINS CORNER: Bible Verse*** 1 Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV): (Pray for Those in Authority) *"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."*
***This Bible Verse** offers a pointed proclamation about the importance of praying for leaders. Paul specifically says that we should pray "for kings and all those in authority" and that we should live godly lives. Notice, again, that it doesn't say to pray for those in authority with whom we agree. Thus, it's important to offer prayers for all leaders and prospective leaders and as we get ready for election time, we need to keep everyone in our prayers!

Prayer: Oh God, so many things come to our mind when we pray for our leaders. We pray for their wisdom, we pray for their families, and for their strength. God, we pray that you would help them and all the decisions they make today, and every day to make the correct, and wise decisions for the protection and promotion among all people. Lord, we pray this for all the leaders of the world, for those who are leading this great Country and for those leading The Veterans of Foreign Wars and our Department Leadership. We ask of all these things in Your Great and holy name. Amen!

OFFICIAL: BY ORDER OF:
S. KEVIN LIGHT, ADJUTANT
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

RICHARD E. OGDEN, COMMANDER
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA