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### **STATE OF ILLINOIS**

#### **General Orders No. 3 September 2018**

**All correspondence, invitations, and etc addressed to  
State Commander Don Boyer should be mailed to  
P.O. Box 13206, Springfield, IL 62791-3206**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN**

Commander Donald Boyer has appointed Charles "Chuck" Ingle as Department Community Activities Chairman to replace the late Tom Denman. Chuck is a member of Roscoe Post 2955, Roscoe, Illinois, and a Past Sixth District Commander.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SERGEAN-AT-ARMS**

Commander Donald Boyer has appointed William R. "Roy" Johnson as an Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.. Roy is a member of Johnson-Phelps Post 5220 and a Past Third District Commander.

#### **ATTENTION QUARTERMASTERS, COMMANDERS AND TRUSTEES!**

Per Section 218-Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligation of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure § trustees shall "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, club room, holding company or unit sponsored, **conducted or operated by, for or on behalf** of the Post and submit a Post Trustees Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector. Included in the General Orders is a list of those Posts that have yet to submit Trustees Reports of Audit. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact this Headquarters.

Furthermore under part 218 of the Manual of Procedure, Commanders are to insure the audit report is properly completed: "Assure that the Post Trustees have examined the books and records of the Post and prepared the Post Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit no later than the end of the month following the last day of each quarterly period.

#### **DISTRICT MEETINGS**

**Your attention is directed to the provisions of our National By-Laws & Manual of Procedure, Section 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations, which states in part under *Commander's Duties*:** Assure that the Commander or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings and County Council meetings (if applicable).

**SECTION 702 OF THE NATIONAL BY-LAWS IS QUOTED BELOW:**

**Sec. 702 - Politics.**

No officer or member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall in any manner use the Veterans of Foreign Wars for partisan politics and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any meetings nor shall any nominations, recommendations or endorsements for political office be made, provided this shall not apply to discussion of policies of any organization that seeks to alter our present form of government by force, violence or other unlawful means.

Participation in activities supporting or opposing legislation or administration of laws for veteran's welfare or relating to other matters pertaining to the purposes of the organization shall be permitted. Such participation shall be consistent with the legislative and welfare programs and policies approved by the National Convention.

No Post, County Council, District or Department shall participate in a labor dispute, either on behalf of labor or management. No member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall wear the VFW uniform or VFW cap in any plant or picket line or meeting of employees where a labor dispute arises.

**ATTENTION DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

District Meetings are meant to be a school of instruction. District Commanders must make sure instruction is taking place at their meetings. Training is very important to the success of our organization; without it we lose members and Posts. The national web site, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), contains a great wealth of information that can be used in schools of instruction. Use these materials and more to cause your attendees at District Meetings to leave the meeting knowing more than they did when they arrived. Department representatives are available, from time to time, to provide training at District Meetings or at Schools of Instruction called outside of the normal District Meeting Schedule. Should more than one District decide to join together for a school of instruction a Department Representative is almost sure to attend if invited.

**PART 103 OF THE MANUAL OF PROCEDURE IS QUOTED BELOW:**

Please take note that ALL new members must be approved by the current Post Membership prior to them becoming members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Additionally, prior to voting to accept the applicant the Post Reviewing Committee should determine eligibility.

**Sec. 103 - Election.**

**Applications.** After the applicant has filled out the application card, it should be provided to the Post Adjutant or Quartermaster, together with the dues (and admission fee, if applicable). A receipt shall be given to the applicant.

An applicant may be recommended after eligibility has been fully determined by the Post Reviewing Committee. With respect to a Department Member-at-Large, the National Organization and/or the Department Headquarters will be responsible for eligibility determination. The original application of every member will be retained on file with the Adjutant.

**Balloting on Applications.** Before voting on the application during a Post meeting, the Commander shall allow the members present an opportunity to state their objections, if any, to the admission of the applicant. Unless one member present shall request a written ballot, **a vote shall be taken and a majority of the votes cast shall decide acceptance or rejection of the application.**

## **TRUSTEES, QUARTERMASTERS AND OTHER INTERESTED COMRADES**

The Department of Illinois will provide Trustee Training in Alton IL on 13 Oct 2018. This training will coincide with the Department President's Homecoming. The training will begin in the morning and will be complete by early afternoon. Please mark your calendars; there is more information forthcoming.

### **DEPARTMENT ROSTER**

The 2018-2019 Department Roster has been distributed to all Post Commanders and Quartermasters, District Commanders and Department Officers. This roster is your own personal property and *under no circumstances* is the information contained in this publication to be used for commercial or political purposes. It is sent to you with the understanding it will be used by you for VFW purposes and will remain in your possession. If you need an additional roster, please contact our State Headquarters.

### **APPLICATION FOR BOND**

This is a reminder that the application for Post Officer's Bond is available on our State of Illinois Website by going to [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org). Go to "Log In" and click on "Report Entry" on the drop down menu. You will need to Log in on this page by entering the following: username is your Post Number and your password is your District Number. After you have logged in scroll down and click on "Bond Application". Fill it out and hit "Submit". ***All bonds not renewed expire on August 31, 2018.***

The bond is issued in the name of the office covered, not in the name of the person holding the office. ***Important!*** Too many of our Posts do not keep an accurate set of books; it is very important to keep good records, *especially with regard to your pull tab operation, bingo, etc.* This could make the difference between having a claim approved or rejected if you do not keep a good accounting of your funds. If you are ever audited by the Internal Revenue Service, and you can't produce an accurate, up to date accounting of your monies, you are going to be in serious trouble. Make sure your cash is accounted for on your ledger and your audit report! Remember, Employee Dishonesty Bonds do NOT bond officers or directors of the Post

### **ILLINOIS DAY AT THE VFW NATIONAL HOME**

Just a reminder that ***Illinois Day*** at the National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids, Michigan will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2018. If your Post is planning to attend, please contact Mike McGrath at 630-357-2680 to let him know how many Comrades and Auxiliary Members will be attending.

### **BIG TEN CONFERENCE**

The fall meeting of the Big Ten Conference is scheduled for October 19-21, 2018 and will be hosted this year by the Department of Missouri. All activities, meetings and meals will be held at the Hilton St. Louis Airport, 1033 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, Missouri.

Visit [www.vfwmo.org](http://www.vfwmo.org) for registration and room reservation information. Room reservation cut-off date is September 18, 2018.

### **REGISTRATION AT STATE CONVENTION**

All Post Commanders are reminded that *every Post* must register at least one delegate to the annual State Convention in accordance with *ARTICLE V, Section 8 of the Department By-Laws*. If your Post has not registered a delegate to the 2017-2018 State Convention, please forward your check in the amount of \$17.00 to the State Adjutant-Quartermaster earmarked *2017-2018 State Convention Registration Fee*. Posts failing to comply with this requirement shall be considered delinquent.

### **REMINDER - ANNUAL SERVICE OFFICER SEMINAR**

This seminar will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2018, at the Holiday Inn & Suites East Peoria, 101 Holiday Street, East Peoria, Illinois 61611. The registration fee is \$25 per person and includes the cost of the luncheon at 12:00 p.m. and all training materials. Registration can be paid by check or credit card (by allocating an online donation to Service Office Seminar ó [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org) and click on öDonateö tab). For more information, please see the flyers in this General Orders. If you have any questions, please contact the Service Office at (312) 980-4284.

Room reservations at the Holiday Inn & Suites can be made directly with the hotel by clicking on this link: [VFW - Service Officer Seminar](#). All you need to do is click on the link and you will be taken directly to the Holiday Inn website. From this point, you just need to enter your arrival and departure dates and then click on the Check Availability button. This will pull the rooms and rates directly from the contracted block. Please be advised that this link is not compatible with some mobile devices and will not display the contracted rate.

### **PATRIOT DAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11 is designated as *Patriot Day*. The President requests the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff ó *sunrise to sunset* ó and a moment of silence be observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 due to terrorists attacks on the United States. You can find a Patriotø Day Speech on the National VFW website [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Once you sign in, click on the tab for öPatriotic Holiday Speechesö.

### **NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018**

Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure. You can find a POW/MIA Recognition Day Speech on the National VFW website [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Once you sign in, click on the tab for öPatriotic Holiday Speechesö.

### **BUDDY POPPY**

Plans should be under way for your Veterans Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. Please contact this office by phone, fax, or a mailed hard copy to place your order for buddy poppies. They can also be ordered from our website [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org). Go to öLog Inö and click on öReport Entryö in the drop down box. Click on the tab for öPoppy Orderö. *Please order six to eight weeks in advance of your sale date to guarantee your poppies will arrive on time.* Be sure to put an actual sale date on your order; do not put RUSH or ASAP. Items such as coin cans, buttons, posters, etc. should be ordered directly from the VFW Store. Please send your payment with your order or pay promptly when invoiced.

### **CHANGES TO NATIONAL BY-LAWS & MANUAL OF PROCEDURE**

The 119<sup>th</sup> National Convention made a number of changes in our National By-laws and Manual of Procedure. These changes can be found in the General Orders found in the Members Only section of the state website. Please order new copies of the by-laws.

### **NOVEMBER MINI COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING/ MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR**

The November Council of Administration Meeting/Membership seminar will be held on Saturday, November 3, 2018, at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 101 Holiday Street, East Peoria, Illinois. The meeting will start at 11:00 am and the following officers are called in to this Council Meeting.

Donald Boyer, State Commander  
Bradley Gould, State Senior Vice Commander

Laurie Emmer, State Junior Vice Commander  
Michael DeRoss, State Adjutant/Quartermaster  
Victor Smith, Judge Advocate  
Nina Petru, Surgeon  
George Foy, Jr., Inspector  
Rev. Donald Meeks, Chaplain  
Gary Stork, Chief of Staff  
Samuel Scaife, Jr., District Three Commander  
Joseph Scanlon, District Four Commander  
Raymond Rigsby, District Five Commander  
Gary Holmes, District Six Commander  
Robert Sable, District Seven Commander  
Russell öPeteö Mosher, District Eight Commander  
David öScottö Buennemeyer, District Nine Commander  
Michelle Ramlow, District Ten Commander  
Joseph öScottö Swinford, District Eleven Commander  
Christopher Retzer, District Twelve Commander  
Christopher Hatcher, District Thirteen Commander  
Maurice Bridges, District Fourteen Commander  
Clarence Caraker, District Fifteen Commander  
Eugene Blackwell, District Sixteen Commander  
Sean Conner, District Seventeen Commander  
Robert Adame, District Eighteen Commander  
Robert Zeman, District Nineteen Commander  
J.D. Spindler, Membership Director  
Larry Shaver, Office of the Day

We have a block of rooms reserved for Saturday night, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, at the Holiday Inn & Suites in East Peoria. Room reservations can be made by going to this link: [VFW - Membership Seminar](#).

OFFICIAL:



MICHAEL A. DE ROSS  
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:



DONALD BOYER  
State Commander