

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA**

General Orders No. 3

September 2024
2024-2025 Series

To be read at the next regular meeting.

1. **Commanders / Quartermasters:** Please familiarize yourself with the Department and National Membership programs. These programs highlight the Post requirements for the All-State and All-American programs. You can review these programs on the National website at <https://www.vfw.org/>, and at our Department page www.vfwak.org.
2. **MEMBERSHIP: It's never too early to achieve 102%!**
Now is the time to begin reaching out to your members and encouraging them to convert to Life Membership, Life Legacy Membership, or to simply renew their annual membership. Managing your membership has never been easier. Members can perform all these tasks on their own by creating an account at www.vfw.org. For All-State purposes, membership criteria must be reflected on the MEMSTAT page by April 1, 2024, no exceptions. Review your Membership Program for full details. **See the Mem Stats attachment.**
3. **2024 Western Conference - Honolulu, HI– Oct 31-Nov 3, 2024.**
A full packet is available on our website at www.vfwak.org under the resources > conventions/conferences.
4. **Mid Winter Council of Administration** will be hosted by the Susitna Post 9365, in Wasilla January 10-12, 2025. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. Start getting those auction items ready.
5. **BONDING REMINDER:** Post Commanders shall see that the office of Quartermaster is bonded in accordance with Section 703, National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. **Previous Quartermaster bonding is invalid as of September 1, 2024.** Quartermaster Bonding was sent to each Post Commander and Quartermaster. Contact headquarters with questions or to obtain new forms. A bond certificate should be mailed out to each post shortly so, look for it in the mail.
6. **REMINDER:** Each Post Commander shall ensure that the Trustees Report of Audit is properly prepared and submitted to Department Headquarters each quarter as required by National By-Laws. Next quarter will end on **September 30, 2024.** If you have not sent in your audit for the April- June 2024 quarter, please get it in asap. It is now late.
7. **Post Adjutants / Quartermasters:** Any changes pertaining to Post Officers (elected and appointed), meeting address/date/time, dues, telephone number, etc, require an update to your election report. The Post Quartermaster can do this online, using their OMS account. If you are unfamiliar with this or need assistance, please contact Headquarters. It is imperative that National and State Headquarters have accurate contact information.
8. **Attention:** Post Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen Chairpersons - Personally **contact** the schools in your area and ask that these programs be placed on their schedule of activities. See the enclosed information and forms for additional details. Deadline for submissions to the Post is **October 31, 2024.** **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Everything is electronic and online now for these programs. Contact your chairperson if you have any questions or concerns.
 - (a) This year's Voice of Democracy theme is: "**Is America Today Our Forefathers Vision?**"
 - (b) This year's Patriot's Pen theme is: "**My Voice in America's Democracy?**"

Teacher of the Year

With the new school year approaching, new Teacher of the Year nominations will be made.

The deadline for **POST** submissions is **October 31, 2024**.

The deadline for entries to be to your Department Chairman is **December 1, 2024**.

Don't delay - begin gathering your materials and assembling your packet as soon as possible!

A check sheet was provided in this year's Leadership Manual to assist Posts in submitting a complete and accurate nomination packet. Please review this carefully prior to submitting your final packet to the Department Chairman. Incomplete and/or inaccurate submissions delay the judging process.

All national entries should be submitted by the Department Chairman to Department Headquarters at: 500 E. Park Ave., Wasilla, 99654

9. **National POW/MIA Recognition Day is September 20, 2024.** Please plan to host appropriate ceremonies.
10. **Patriot Day:** Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11th is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States.
11. **Department Officers and Posts:** If you have information to forward on your programs or wish to make an announcement on an upcoming event; please send to 500 E. Park Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654, by **the 20th of the month** so that it may be announced in the General Orders.
12. **Community Projects Reporting:** Please ensure you are reporting your community service online. The Department is no longer allowed to enter these reports so please make sure you are utilizing this process for your community service credit.
13. **Reminder:** Buddy Poppy season is in full swing! Please submit your orders through Department Headquarters using the enclosed form. **Please pay close attention to changes on the form.**

Address: 500 E. Park Avenue
Wasilla, AK 99654

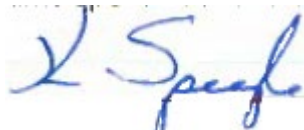
Last Roll Call: David G. Koko Post 5559

OFFICIAL

BY THE ORDER OF:



Danny Luby
State Adjutant



Ken Speegle
State Commander

Please utilize the Department website to access additional forms and information. The new website is still under construction as we transition from the old website. We will have all the program forms and important information added within the next couple of weeks.

www.vfwak.org