

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA

General Orders No. 2

August 2024
2024-2025 Series

To be read at the next regular meeting.

1. July 1, 2024, marked the beginning of a new administrative year. This means that participation in Department and National programs has "reset". Several changes were made to the Alaska Membership Program, including the scrub of deceased members. Review your membership lists to ensure accuracy. Please review the Department requirements for All-State and the National requirements for All-American and be sure that you're on track with the current year. These programs were discussed at the State Convention and are available online. All these requirements are noted on the **revised** All State Tracker provided at the end of each month's General Orders.
2. **2024 National Convention:** The National Convention Is being held in Louisville, KY July 27th - August 1st. We look forward to a great showing and hope to see you there. If you have not notified us that your attending, please let us know.
3. **2024 Western Conference Honolulu, HI:** October 31, 2024- November 3, 2024. This event is scheduled for in-person attendance. Registration packet attached.
4. **Reminder!!!** to all Post Commanders, Sec. 703 of the National By-Laws requires that each Officer accountable for funds or property shall be bonded. Quartermaster bonding forms were emailed to each Post Commander. Quartermaster bonding: **MINIMUM BOND is \$3,000**
Bonding for \$3,000 - \$25,000 is **\$4.50 per thousand**. All bonds \$26,000 or more will be **\$4.00 per thousand**. Be sure the paperwork is completed in its **entirety (Remember to sign the application)**. Incomplete applications will be returned for corrections. If you did not receive your paperwork or have questions, please contact us at (907) 373-7600. Quartermaster bonding is due to Dept. HQs by **August 15, 2024**.
5. **DEADLINE REMINDERS:**
Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year, and Voice of Democracy deadlines are as follows:
Deadline for submissions to the Post is October 31, 2024
Deadline for submissions to the Department Chairman is December 1, 2024
Patriot's Pen - Bill Yudiskas Post 9785
Teacher Award - Kurt Muller Post 9785
Voice of Democracy - Tony Phillips Post 3629

This year's Voice of Democracy and this year's Patriot's Pen theme is:
VOD- "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"
PP- "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN SHOULD ENSURE THAT ONLINE JUDGING IS COMPLETED NO LATER THAN JAN 1, 2025, AND THAT TOY IS RECEIVED BY DEPARTMENT BY JAN 1, 2025:
500 E PARK AVENUE, WASILLA, AK 99654
Please review the enclosed check sheets to assist you in submitting a **properly completed entry packet**.
6. **Membership!** It is never too early to start your membership program! For assistance or information contact the Department Membership Chairman, Joe Ziegler or the Department Headquarters at vfwstatehq@mtaonline.net.
7. All Posts having special events and desiring a department representative should send the invitation/request to the Department Adjutant/Quartermaster at least three weeks prior to the scheduled event.
8. Department Officers that have information to forward to the Posts on their programs and Posts that wish to make an announcement on an upcoming event; please send **by the 20th of the month** so that it may be announced in the General Orders.
500 E. Park Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-7601, fax
vfwstatehq@mtaonline.net
9. **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS REPORTING:** Your community service must be submitted online through the VFW website at a minimum of once quarterly. Department can however view the submissions from each post, and no longer will

require community service to be submitted to Department. Please ensure you submit your community service. Please get with Tony Phillips with any questions.

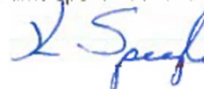
10. **BUDDY POPPY ORDERING:** This year there have been some changes to the buddy poppy order requirements (500 Per Post) for All-American/ All-State. All orders will be made through Department.
11. **NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY:** September 15th. Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure
12. **PATRIOT'S DAY:** Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11th is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States to 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.
13. **MID-WINTER AUCTION:** Mid-Winter is fast approaching, and we need donations for our annual fundraising auction. Attached you will find the donation request letter as well as the donation receipts to provide anyone who donates. All donations can either be brought to headquarters for us to hold till January or you can transport them and give them to us at the conference. If you decide to transport donations to Wasilla Post 9365 yourself, please let us know what was received in donations so we have an idea of what we have to work with. The auction will be held Friday January 10th, 2025. Also please keep in mind that the auxiliary will have their Ways and Means silent auction the following day to raise funds for the incoming president's travel, so if you have anything you would like to contribute the auxiliary would greatly appreciate it.
14. **LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:** Attached is a brochure for Legacy Life. Currently Alaska has 98 Legacy Life Members. Who will be #100? Congratulations to Susitna Post 9365 for being the First Post in Alaska to Achieve the National 25 Member Legacy Benchmark.
15. **LAST ROLL CALL:**

OFFICIAL



Danny Luby
State AQM

BY THE ORDER OF:



Ken Speegle
State Commander