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

**DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA**

 **General Orders No. 4 October 2023**

2023-2024 Series To be read at the next regular meeting.

1. **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. Managing your membership has never been easier. Members can perform all these tasks on their own by creating an account at www.vfw.org. Adjutant Note: We are well ahead of our goal for membership this year, please check your mem stats on the OMS dashboard.
	1. **Post Quartermasters are working on a new membership roster. Contact your Post Quartermaster if you notice any changes in your membership status or magazine delivery.**
2. **Quarterly Trustee's Report of Audit: In accordance with the National Bylaws Sec. 218 para. (11)b,** the first quarterly audit (quarter ending September 30th) is due to AQM Luby by October 31st. Timely submission is a requirement to receive credit for All-State purposes. Forms are located on our NEW website under resources> forms> trustee report of audit form
3. **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 forms on the website for additional details. Deadline for submissions to the Post is **October 31, 2023.** Deadline to your
	1. Department Chairperson is **December 1, 2023,**
	2. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Contact your chairperson if you have any questions or concerns.
		1. This year’s Voice of Democracy theme is: **"What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"**
		2. This year’s Patriot’s Pen theme is: **"How Are You Inspired by America?"**
	3. A check sheet was provided in this year's Leadership Manual to assist Posts in submitting a complete and accurate scholarship packet. Please review this carefully prior to submitting your final packet to the Department Chairman. Incomplete and/or inaccurate submissions delay the judging process. **They must be 100% complete**!
	4. **Chairman shall submit final entries to Department Headquarters at: 500 E. Park Ave., Wasilla, 99654**
4. **Teacher of the Year:**
	1. With the new school year approaching, new Teacher of the Year nominations will be made.
	2. The deadline for **POST** submissions is **October 31, 2023.**
	3. The deadline for entries to be to your Department Chairman is **December 1, 2023**.
	4. 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.
	5. **Chairman shall submit final entries to Department Headquarters at: 500 E. Park Ave., Wasilla, 99654**
5. **2023 Western Conference** will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah from **Nov 2-5, 2023**. Registration for the Western Conference is due no later than October 16th. Information can be found on the **NEW Department webpage**.
6. **Mid-Winter Conference** – Virl (Pa) Haga Memorial Post 10221, Anchor Point, January 12-13, 2023. Registration is open and the information can be found on the **NEW Department web page**. The Department auction will be held on Friday January 12th. It’s never too early to gather donations!
7. **Announcements:** Department Officers, elected and appointed, and/or any Post that has information on their programs or wishes to make an announcement on an upcoming event; please send to the following by the **20th of the month**:

500 E. Park Avenue,

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 373-7601, fax

vfwstatehq@mtaonline.net

1. **Community Projects Reporting:** Community service reporting will now be done online completely through the new website. A tutorial will be sent out for those that are not familiar with this new process. Please make sure you submit them online using this process. The Department is no longer allowed to enter these reports so please make sure you are utilizing this process for your community service credit.
2. **Fallen Comrades:** To show the proper respect due our fallen comrades, the Department Adjutant is asking all Posts to notify him of the death of any member. Please do so in writing by the 20th of each month so that they can be listed in the Last Roll Call. Please cross-reference your records and amend them accordingly.
3. **Reminder:** Buddy Poppy season is in full swing! The New Buddy Poppy tin tabs will be available for ordering on OMS starting October 1, 2023, submit your orders through Department Headquarters using the enclosed form. **Please pay close attention to changes on the form.**

**LAST ROLL CALL:**

John C. Dowdy VFW Post 3629 (Fairbanks)

Roy D. Leigh VFW Post 3629 (Fairbanks)

James O. Maclean VFW Post 3629 (Fairbanks)

 Tim Armstrong VFW Post 5559 (Juneau)

**OFFICIAL BY THE ORDER OF:**

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|    | A signature on a white background  Description automatically generated |
|  Danny Luby | Bill Yudiskas |
| State Adjutant | 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.**

 **www.vfwak.org**