2020-2021
General Orders No. 4
October 2020

THROUGH CHANNELS

District Commanders, County Council Commanders, and Post Commanders must forward all resolutions and/or communications related to: federal legislation, policies, or procedure of the U.S. Veterans Administration – or any other government agency – to State Headquarters for endorsement and referral to the Adjutant General.

VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Posts are urged to start planning suitable programs for the observance of Veterans Day, November 11, 2020 – see Sec. 223 of the Manual of Procedure. National Headquarters will provide an updated speech on their website in early November. Once signed in on http://vfw.org, it can be found under MY VFW by clicking on Patriotic Holiday Speeches.

ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Vote. The United States Presidential Election is scheduled for Tuesday November 3, 2020. It is important that you exercise your right to vote.

STATE PROGRAM BOOKS/ADVERTISEMENT SOLICITATIONS

The State of Illinois VFW has a contract with Golden Rule Publishing – which allows representatives to contact individuals and businesses for the purpose of selling advertisement in our State Convention Program Book, Fall Program Book and our Voice of Democracy Program Book. If individuals or businesses contact you to validate this company, please let them know they are an approved solicitor of the State of Illinois VFW. Golden Rule Publishing has been working with us for years. If you have any questions/concerns, please call State Headquarters at (217) 529-6688.

Due to a change in the print date for the December issue of the Illinois VFW News, the deadline has been moved to Oct. 25, 2020. All news and photos to be included in the December issue should be sent to Barb Wilson, Editor, Illinois VFW News at bwilson@vfwil.org prior to the new deadline.
**DRINKING AND SMOKING**

Section 1001-25 is quoted for your information and necessary action. “25. The dispensation and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or use of smoking/vaping products in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings are prohibited.”

The attention of all Post Commanders is directed to this section and compliance is expected.

**ATTENTION POST QUARTERMASTERS**

The Online Membership System (OMS) – available on [http://vfw.org](http://vfw.org) – is a quick and easy way for you, as a Post Quartermaster, to handle all membership reporting, order new membership cards, update information on your Post members – such as an address change, or report a Post member has passed away. If you are not currently using the OMS, we encourage you to log on and start using the system today. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact National Headquarters at (816) 756-3390 for assistance.

**Commanders and Quartermasters, IRS 990s and IL AG 990s are due by 11/15/2020.**

**BONDING OF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS**

**ATTENTION QUARTERMASTERS:** Sec. 703 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States By-Laws requires each accountable officer to be bonded with an indemnity company in a sum at least equal to the amount of liquid assets for which they may be accountable. Posts that are not properly bonded are subject to disciplinary actions.

If you have yet to submit your bond application, one 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”. Hit the “Add” button, Fill it out and hit “Submit”. **All bonds not renewed expired on August 31, 2020.**

**FOOD DRIVE**

The Department of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary is hosting a food drive which will start immediately and run through November 20, 2020. Please see October Program Bulletin for detailed information.
QUARTERLY REPORT OF AUDIT

Sec. 218 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Manual of Procedure (a) (11) Trustees – Post Trustees shall perform a Trustee’s Report of Audit quarterly – through their Post Commander – to the State Quartermaster for referral to the State Inspector. Reports are due at the end of September, December, March and June of each fiscal year. Every report must be in accordance with and upon such form as may be prescribed by the Adjutant General. Post Leadership, remember that the audit is the tool used to inform the Post Membership of the financial status of the Post. We owe our members an accurate and timely reporting. A thorough, complete audit can prevent financial problems down the road.

NOVEMBER COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

The November Council of Administration Meeting is scheduled November 6-7, 2020 in Sparta, Illinois. SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Additional information will be sent out from Department.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BANQUET

The State of Illinois VFW Annual Voice of Democracy Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, February 13, 2021. Additional information will be sent out from Department.

PODIUM EDITION

The new VFW Podium Edition which contains the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, manual of Procedure and Ritual is available through the VFW Store. In accordance with Section 218(a)(6)e the Adjutant of each Post is to “maintain a current copy of the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars…”

OFFICIAL: 

W. DAVE STOUT
State Adjutant-Quartermaster

BY ORDER OF:

LAURIE EMMER
State Commander