



Department of Washington  
5213 Pacific Ave E  
Fife, WA 98424

**General Order Number 3**  
**September, October, & November 2023**

1. Congratulations to the following Posts who are at 100% membership:

Post 2329	100.00%
Post 1854	101.16%
Post 5760	102.70%
Post 12220	700.00%

2. Reminder that All-American and All-State Requirements for membership is 100.00% +1 member.

3. Congratulations to our current top Recruiters so far:

Steve Woodward	356 Members Recruited
Frank Persa	134 Members Recruited
David Moylan	19 Members Recruited
Keith Wooldridge	17 Members Recruited
Doug White	16 Members Recruited
Alec Haggerty	16 Members Recruited
Don Wischmann	10 Members Recruited
125 Members with	1 to 9 Recruited

4. Attention! Per section 220 of the National Bylaws, "Vacancies and Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members" states that "Any elected Post officer or committee member removed, by reason of failure to pay current dues or under the provisions of this section shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office or committee in the same administrative year in which the officer or committee member is removed."

5. Podium Edition 2024 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the Unites States Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual as amended July 2023, Effective August 22, 2023, is now available to purchase through the VFW store. Podium Edition is embedded in this document.



VFWDigitalPodium  
Edition2024.pdf

6. Reminder of special dates to observe in October thru November:

October 7	Afghanistan War Began (2001)
October 9	Columbus Day Observed (Department HQ Closed)
October 13	U.S. Navy Established in 1775
October 23	Granada Campaign Began (1983)
November 10	Marine Corps Birthday
November 11	Signing of the WWI Armistice 1918 and Veterans Day
November 21	Granada Campaign Ended 1983
November 23	Thanksgiving Day
November 24	Thanksgiving (Department HQ Closed)

7. Department website is continually being updated for post and district in good standing, member input for community service and All-State requirements. Utilize this though the member login for viewing the Dashboard, CSR submissions, and program information. Department and National News updates and other important information will be updated frequently, General Orders, Event Flyers, and Post events will be updated as information is available.

8. Youth Program Reminder, the deadlines are in the Department Roster. Ensure that post and districts report their essay submissions on the roll-up form which should include the student's contact information, how many of each essay type are submitted, and total monies utilized for the program.

9. Remember to keep your Post and District Commanders informed of ongoing actions and activity. We can't help and mentor if we don't know what is needed. Send emails to the Department Adjutant at [ADJ@vfwva.net](mailto:ADJ@vfwva.net)

10. Read up on the 2023 National Bylaw Changes. Take the time to look up the correct answer to questions and problems. Understand your position specific duties and ensure you follow through with those expectations.

11. Definitions of Dress Codes are as follows:

**Business Casual:** defined as: (for men) shirt with collar, slacks with or without sports jacket; (for women) slacks, skirt, or casual dress. No jeans, denim, shorts, or athletic type footwear.

**VFW Casual:** defined as: VFW apparel with slacks or skirt. No jeans, denim, shorts, or athletic type footwear.

**Business:** defined as: (for men) Suit and tie; (for women) Slacks, skirt, or dress with (optional) jacket.

**Formal:** defined as: (for men) a tuxedo; (for women) an evening gown or very smart cocktail dress

**Semi Formal:** defined as: (for men) a suit with vest optional or coat and tie, either bow or straight, and shirt should be simple button down; (for women) a dress, dressy pantsuit, or dress suit.

12. Dress Code for Mid-Winter Conference while in session:

Business for Counsel of Administration Members  
Honor Guard Uniform (Honor Guard)

13. Dress Code for the 2023-2024 Youth Essay and Teacher Awards Banquet:

Formal or Semi Formal attire to enter (all)  
Honor Guard Uniform (Honor Guard)

14. Commanders are reminded of the Public Servant Awards which be submitted to Post by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, and then to Districts by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, then to Department by Jan 1, 2024.

15. Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Wenatchee at the Coast Wenatchee Center 201 N Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee, WA 98801, Dates are 19-21 January 2024. A tentative agenda will be sent out to line officers and post leadership.

16. A visit from the State Commander requires 30 days' notice to attend a post event or community activity. Please contact the Department Headquarters to request a visit. Email the State Adjutant at [ADJ@vfwwa.net](mailto:ADJ@vfwwa.net).

Letter from the State Commander-

Comrades,

The initial three months have been a whirlwind of travel and activity, starting with the 124th National Convention at the end of July. We moved on to State Schools of Instruction in August, followed by a significant mission for two Past State Commanders, an Esteemed Past Post & District Commander, and a State Trustee. In August, we bid them farewell with gratitude for their accomplishments on behalf of veterans.

Numerous official visits and District Inspections were completed as we traversed the state, visiting VA hospitals, clinics, and Soldier Homes, gauging the pulse of care and aid provided to our brothers and sisters. The care of veterans was found to be well-managed, administered with compassion and thoroughness. Staff professionalism and the passion of service providers were evident in their day-to-day interactions.

Stepping back a bit, the Leavenworth Parade saw strong attendance as we welcomed new honor guard members. You'll notice a new mix on the floor at mid-winter and the June Convention.

Throughout the state, Forks, Neah Bay, Port Angeles, and Ritzville posts surrendered their charters. Memberships have the opportunity to transfer from the at-large rank. Brinnon Post joined with Quilcene Post, brightening their future. Port Hadlock Post revitalized its participation and made improvements, leading to the surrender of the District Charter in District 14. The remaining four posts of District 14 are now proud members of District 4, thanks to seamless collaboration between the leadership of both districts.

Anacortes Post 12220, established in the past command cycle, is excelling in its first year. Another new post, yet to be nationalized in Stanwood, is set to happen in the next few months. Stay tuned. Anacortes Post is now the newest member of District 15.

The VFW Western Conference of States in Salt Lake City, Utah, the first week of November, was well-attended. Utah Department Commander Heath Silcox deserves commendation for the organized and welcoming event. The conference was attended by the NCIC Duane Sarmiento and the NCIC Jr. Vice Carol Whitmore.

Veterans Day events in Auburn were well-attended, with over 140 entrants in this year's Veterans Day parade. Three Veterans memorials were commemorated on the Interurban trail between Pacific and Auburn on the 10th. Social media was filled with Veterans Day celebrations from across the state. Well done, one and all! Remember, be excellent to each other as you support veterans in your daily endeavors. A very Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

"IT IS VETERANS WE SERVE."

///Original Signed///

Fred Green

State ADJ/QM

///Original Signed///

Craig Dougherty

State Commander