

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America
Department of Washington 5213 Pacific Highway East
Fife, Washington 98424
Desk of the State Commander



General Orders Number 9
March 2022

1. Attention of all members is directed to National General Order 1 and Section 901 of the National Bylaws, "Discipline of Members." Members who have committed offenses recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may be subject to disciplinary action. Members are reminded that acts of Sexual Harassment, Racial or Sexual Discrimination, and all other conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline or conduct determined to be unbecoming of a member will not be condoned. In general, harassment and discrimination consist of any form of verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive enough to have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or otherwise interfering with another's ability to participate in VFW events. All members will be treated with dignity and respect.

Voting to discriminate against vaccinated and unvaccinated members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary and not allowing them to hold or attend VFW events is an unlawful vote. Discrimination within the Department of Washington of any kind will not be tolerated.

2. Attention of Commanders is directed to National Bylaws Section 217 – Nomination, Election, and Installation and Term of Office. A member making the nomination of an absentee for any office shall have presented to the Adjutant, in writing, the consent of the member being nominated prior to the opening of nominations.

3. Reminder to Post Commanders, Post Officers shall be elected in April.

4. Reminder to all, Sec 222 National Bylaws Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Delegate strength will be based on members in good standing as of March 31st. Refer to Section 217 for elections.

5. Important Dates in March:

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| March 1 | Department Scout of the Year Entry due from Post to District (District entry due to Department April 1) |
| March 3 | Star Spangled Banner becomes National Anthem in 1931 |
| March 10 | Department Publications Contest entry due to Department |
| March 15 | Veteran of the Year Entries due to Department |
| March 15 | Claude Owens Hospital Volunteer Award due to Department |
| March 19 | Commander's Homecoming at AMVETS Post 1 in Tacoma 4-9:30 PM |

March 19 Iraq War began in 2003
March 24 Kosovo Campaign began in 1999
March 31 Chaplain of the Year nominations due to Department

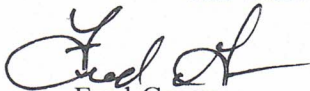
6. The 2021-2022 Virtual VOD Parade of Winners will be streamed on the National Facebook Page at 5 PM, Thursday, April 7th .

I have been amazed at the accomplishments, community projects and joint events, Veteran and community assistance, and so much more, the members of our great organization are doing. Visiting posts and sharing ideas and experiences with them has truly been an honor. Seeing the motivation of the membership after a visit to their Post meeting or event gives great confidence in the direction our Department and the VFW is going. Getting back to the basics of who we are and what we do has recharged the resolve of our membership. We must continue to mentor new members and train them, not only in what is in the bylaws and duties of positions, but the unwritten traditions of our organization as well. I have found in my travels that we have Organizational Traditions, but there are many more Post Traditions. Traditions give us a sense of long-term purpose and pride. So, continue to pass on your knowledge by mentoring and sharing your experience with new members not just in your Post, but throughout your Districts and the Department when the opportunity is there.

Our Commander in Chief testifying in front of Congress recently, reminds us, we need to ensure our voice stays loud and we maintain our membership above 1 million to be able to continue advocating for veterans. As a Department, we need a minimum of 1,576 members to do our part for the Commander in Chief in his goal of maintaining 100% +1 member.

We continue to reach new heights this year as a Department and I am so proud of each Team Century Post and all that you do fulfilling our VFW mission. Thank you! For all you do for Veterans, Military, Community and Families!

“The Time Is Now!”



Fred Green
Department Adjutant

“Carry the Torch!”



Chad Hassebroek
Department Commander