



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 2**

Series 08 - 09

August 2008

(To be read at a regular Post meeting and filed)

1. The next meeting of the Council of Administration will be held at the St. Louis Airport Marriott, St. Louis, on Saturday, September 20, 2008, beginning at 8:00 a.m. All members of the Council, as well as Committees and Chairpersons should make every effort to attend and be prepared to report in accordance with the agenda which will be provided prior to the meeting. Room reservations must be made through the hotel by calling 1-314-423-9700 no later than August 28, 2008. A flat rate of \$89.00 (plus tax) has been given to the VFW. Please be sure to tell the reservationist that you are with the *Missouri VFW State Homecoming group* to receive this rate. Banquet reservations must be made in advance on the attached reservation form. Please mail the form to Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 26, Jefferson City, MO 65102.
2. The 2008 Big 10 Conference will be hosted by the Department of Missouri, 17 October 2008, in St Louis Missouri. Advertisement information on the conference is attached to these General Orders. The information booklet is located on the weblog in its entirety.
3. The annual trip to the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan is scheduled for October 23 - 26, 2008. A registration form and other information are attached to these General Orders.
4. Posts that have not registered at least one (1) delegate to the National Convention should do so immediately. Section 222, Manual of Procedure, mandates each Post to register one (1) delegate to each National Convention. Failure to do so will be in violation of Section 213--Arrearages, By-Laws. The registration fee is \$10.00 and should be mailed to: 109th National Convention, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City MO 64111.
5. All posts are now required to file a Federal Income Tax return. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Posts may obtain forms 990EZ, 990 and/or 990T from any IRS Office or "On Line" at <http://www.irs.gov>. Posts with a year end of 30 June must file with the IRS prior to 15 November 2008. If your gross income (from all sources) is less than \$25,000.00 per year, you will file form 990N "On Line" from now on. Go on line to the IRS site, <http://www.ephcard.form99.org/> and follow the three (3) steps to sign up and file. If you need assistance, call the State Quartermaster at 800-903-3370, pin number 00.
6. Article VII sec. 704 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedures establishes the requirement for all Posts to establish and maintain a Relief Fund. Expenditures from the relief fund shall be as prescribed in section 704 of the Manual of Procedures. Expenditures authorized include donations to Veteran Service, National Home and support of the National

Guard and their families. Audit Reports received at Department Headquarters indicate that many Posts may not be meeting this requirement. All Posts are to review their accounting practices and ensure they are meeting this requirement.

7. All inspection reports should be mailed directly to the Department Inspector, Jim Gill, 7798 Co. Rd. 407, Fulton, MO 65251. If a Deputy Inspector wishes to claim mileage for travel in connection with the inspections, he must submit his voucher to the Department Inspector for approval.
8. Commander Tom Hartman, Line Officers, and staff at Department Headquarters wish to congratulate the following Post Commanders on earning the unique status of All American Post Commander to James D. Atkinson, Shell Knob Post 2203; John S. Holton, Parkville Post 7356 and James Lorenz, Maxville Post 2593. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.
9. The 2009 Membership campaign is now underway. All 2008 members are urged to renew as soon as possible. Dues Reminder Notices were mailed by National Headquarters to all 2008 members during the latter part of June. The next dues reminder notice will be mailed in September.
10. The National By-Laws and the Missouri All-State Program require the Post Commander or a Post Representative attend all meetings called by the District Commander. Post Commanders should familiarize themselves with Article II sec. 218 – Officers: Duties and Obligations and ensure they are meeting their Obligations.
11. Reminder to Posts and Districts. The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Scholarship program urgently needs your support. Ten Patriot's Pen scholarships and one Voice of Democracy scholarship expired with the completion of the February 2008 Awards Banquet. If your Post or Ladies Auxiliary would be interested in (co)sponsoring a scholarship, please forward \$500.00 to Department Headquarters prior to September 30, 2008. Payments will be accepted in full amount or monthly installments. **A total of \$500.00 must be received by September 30, 2008, for the 2009 Scholarship Program.** Scholarships will be paid out over a five year period to district winners. Scholarship sponsor's name(s) will be listed in the banquet program each year. Letters were mailed to Posts that had scholarship funds expire in 2008. Those Posts, if renewing their scholarship, may comply with the amount stated in the original letter or the above changes.
12. The deadline for articles to be submitted into Department for the VFW Missourian is August 15, 2008. Email: adj@mo.vfwwebmail.com; fax: 1-573-636-2664; mail: P.O. Box 26, Jefferson City, MO 65102.
13. The 2008-09 Post Commander and Quartermaster Handbook and Post Membership Program booklet provided by State Headquarters is in the process of being printed. They will be mailed to all Post Commanders and Quartermasters as soon as they are received.
14. In addition to appointments listed in the July General Orders, Don Pinckard has been appointed Assistant Chief of Staff. This was inadvertently missed in the July General Orders.

15. When requesting a Department Officer to attend any function, a **written request** must be submitted to Department Headquarters at least 45 days prior to the date of the function.

16. The following District meetings are announced for the month of August. **ALL DISTRICT MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS PASSED OUT AT THE DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

DIST	POST #	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
3	12053	Amazonia	08-10-08	1:00 p.m.	Bob Wonnell
5	7900	Kansas City	08-03-08	2:00 p.m.	Bob Wonnell
6	4409	Harrisonville	08-03-08	12:00 p.m.	Joe Lundy
7	5525	Stockton	08-10-08	12:30 p.m.	Tom Hartman
9	2657	Fulton	08-10-08	1:00 p.m.	Jessie Jones
12	6274	Ballwin	08-10-08	1:00 p.m.	Joe Lundy
14	9638	Galmey	08-10-08	12:30 p.m.	Paul Connors
18	3770	Mountain Grove	08-02-08	10:00 a.m.	Tom Hartman

Please note: All Department Officers will be attending the National Convention in Orlando, Florida, August 16 – 21, 2008.

Official:
Jessie L. Jones
Department Adjutant

By Order Of:
Tom Hartman
Commander