

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 11**

**JUNE 2012**

**1. Blue Expense Reports:** All officers using blue expense reports for travel reimbursement are cautioned that they must have them arrive at Department Headquarters no later than 31 May 2012 if they wish to be paid for expenses incurred during the 2011-12 fiscal year.

**2. State Convention:** The State Convention will be held in Raleigh at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, June 14-17 2012. The outgoing Council of Administration will also meet on Thursday afternoon, the 14<sup>th</sup>. The telephone number for reservations is 1-800-445-8667, and tell the reservations clerk you want code WAR. The hotel deadline date to insure that rooms are available is May 15. There will be no dance at the convention, but there will be an Installation Banquet with a **Luau theme**, and a combined Department/Conferences large hospitality room. Social prices, if desired, are \$35 for a goody bag with banquet ticket and hospitality room entrance bracelet, or \$25 for just a banquet ticket, or \$10 for just a hospitality room entrance lei. Participants may purchase these items in advance from Department at 917 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, 27601, or purchase them at Registration (if any are left available). The Department will accept cash, checks, or credit cards. Both the Banquet and the Hospitality Rooms will be decorated with a Luau theme, and the Banquet will feature Hawaiian dancers. All participants are encouraged to wear tropical shirts or dresses to the Banquet and Hospitality Room. Participants may bring their own, and there will be luau shirts on sale at the Department VFW Store at Registration. Luau shirts from the Department range in cost from \$22.00 to \$28.95 depending on size. If participants wish to view the shirts, they may do so at [www.lavfwnc.org](http://www.lavfwnc.org)

Attendees at the State Convention who are not department-level officers or committee members are reminded that they can be reimbursed for their round-trip mileage at the rate of \$.20 per mile, if they attend convention meetings, to include the incoming Council of Administration meeting on Sunday morning, 17 June. Reimbursement forms will only be distributed to attendees at the meeting Sunday morning, and thus, attendance at this meeting is mandatory in order to be reimbursed. Members do not have to drive their car to be reimbursed.

**3. State Convention Delegate Fees:** Attention is called to Article VIII, Section 4: "Each member of the Department (State) Convention entitled to vote shall pay a registration fee not to exceed \$3.00. Each Post shall pay a registration fee not to exceed \$3.00 for each Post delegate to the Department Convention." Delegate credential forms to the Department Convention were mailed in early April to all Post Quartermasters according to the number of delegate votes to which they are entitled. Posts must register ALL delegates or the Posts may not vote any of them. Also, Posts must pay the Delegate Fees whether or not any delegates attend the Convention. Posts are cautioned that if they are in arrears to the Department, or have not turned in to Department at least the Jan-Feb-Mar 2012 Trustee Report of Audit, or have not submitted their 2012-2013 Post Election Report, they will not be able to vote at the Department Convention.

**4. Convention Committees:** The following individuals have been selected to serve on the 81st Annual State Convention Committees:

**BUDGET:** Ernie Allis, Chairman (9488), J.K. Smith 99010), William Dean (4286), Kenneth Carpunque (7383), Don Woodfield (7318), Arthur Shull (2843), Cleve Cox (7383), Jason Schoolcraft (8073).

**BY-LAWS:** Elree Smith, Chairman (10999), Scott Vanderwerf (9960), Kenneth Sellers (1920), Mary Ann O'Connor (7318), Enrico Dalimonte (9133).

**CREDENTIALS:** M. Bruce Edwards, Chairman (2417), Jack Brimhall (2423), Michael Ayscue (2417), Roland Rochester (6018).

**COLOR GUARD:** James Cacoulidis, Captain (10400), David Holm (4309), Kurbie Whitehead (4309), Bill Hertline (7288), Alex Vanderheide (1142).

**HEADQUARTERS/DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:** James Goins, Chairman (9488), Steve Williams (5464), Frank J. Watley, (5574), Dennis Barnhardt (6480), Curtis Wilkins (7312), James Eason (2057).

**LONG RANGE PLANNING:** John Shelander, Chairman (2615), Russ Burleson (5483), Jonhhy Taylor (10349), Richard Wilkins (7312), Dean Harris (4286), Lawrence Caristo (2573), Richard Rice (9010).

**OFFICERS' REPORTS:** Arthur Shull, Chairman (2843), James McInnis (8073), Juan Eric Cantu (2771), Jack Moody (6812), Dan Efird Jr. (12120).

**RESOLUTIONS:** Jimmie Outlaw, Chairman (9514), Thomas Toler (11119), William Collins (4542), Michael Woody (5202), Scott Lisk (12107).

**RULES:** Roy Meares, Chairman (10400), Euell Griggs (12107), Christopher Sikes (2573), Charles Holden (4309), Lee Heavlin (9100).

**GOLF:** Jason Schoolcraft, Chairman (8073), David Joe Duncan (1160), Ron Lief (7288). (10225).

**SHE SERVES:** Frances Crawford, Chairman (10), Wanda Levin (2423), Dawn Fabrtti (2417).

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:** Gary W. Barringer (9134).

**5. Installation of Post Officers:** Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 217 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post Officers for the current year. **Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Post Adjutant prior to installation.**

The installing officer shall ascertain that a Post Election Report form has been mailed to National Headquarters prior to the installation. If a Post Election Report has not been forwarded to National Headquarters, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time he installs the Post Officers. Attention is directed to see that the proper amount of dues the Post charges is reported to National Headquarters. Post Officers shall be installed into their respective offices at a regular or special meeting not less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed.

**6. District Commanders' Credentials:** District Commanders will insure that a copy of their VFW proof of eligibility is on file with the State Adjutant/Quartermaster prior to their installation on 16 June.

**7. State By-Laws:** The current version of the state by-laws is available at department headquarters for \$2.50, which includes shipping.

**8. National By-Laws:** The current version of the national by-laws and manual of procedure (with a black cover) is available at department headquarters for \$11.00, which includes shipping.

**9. Flying Squadron District/Post Training:** The Council of Administration has approved training for district and post/auxiliary level officers at the Eastern, Central, and Western Conferences of the Department of North Carolina. The training will occur at the following locations: Eastern Conference at Mt. Olive Post 9959 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, 4 August, Central Conference at an undetermined location from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, 11 August, and the Western Conference at Statesville Post 2031 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, 18 August. All District Commanders and Quartermasters and District Presidents and Treasurers are required to attend. District Commanders/Quartermasters and Presidents/Treasurers will receive driver reimbursement for up to two vehicles at \$.30/mile leaving from up to two central locations (since these officers frequently do not reside close to each other). Post Commanders and Quartermasters and Auxiliary Presidents and Treasurers are strongly encouraged to attend, as this "Flying Squadron" training will be counted as their District's required School of Instruction. Posts with one or no Auxiliary will receive driver reimbursement for one vehicle at \$.30/mile from the post home or a central location, and posts with two Auxiliaries will receive driver reimbursement for up to two vehicles at \$.30/mile from the post home or a central location if both Auxiliaries attend. Other post and auxiliary officers are encouraged to attend. A schedule of classes will be published at a future date.

**10. Fund-Raisers:** Posts, Districts, and Conferences are reminded that, in accordance with the National By-Laws, they may only conduct fund-raisers within their geographical boundaries. Posts may conduct fund-raisers only in and around their post membership area. Districts may only conduct fund-raisers within the counties of their district. Conferences may only conduct fund-raisers within the counties of their districts. The Department may only conduct fund-raisers within the state of North Carolina.

**11. Service Officer Class:** State Service Officer Cleo Summers will once again teach his day and a half class for Post Service Officers at the State Convention in Raleigh on 15 and 16 June. If a post does not have a trained service officer, they should send a comrade to this class and consider paying his hotel and mileage costs. The current 2011-2012 Service Officer Manual is available at the Department Headquarters now for \$11.00, which includes shipping, and will be available for purchase at the State Convention site as well.

**12. Downloadable Online Forms:** Many National and Department forms of interest to Post Quartermasters and Adjutants can now be found at the Department Website at [www.vfwnc.org](http://www.vfwnc.org) under the "Tools" tab.

**13. Department Credit Card Capability:** Effective 1 April 2012, the Department Headquarters has acquired the capability to accept credit cards for all types of payments. Comrades, Ladies, and Brothers are able to telephone the Headquarters and pay for transactions with a post or personal credit card. This capability will also be present at all State-level meetings, beginning with the

**Annual State Convention in June 2012. VISA, Mastercard, and Discover Card will be accepted for payments for such items as military or veterans clothing, registration fees, banquet tickets, buddy poppy orders, etc.**

**14. Community Service Reporting:** Posts are cautioned that Community Service Reporting for the 2012-2013 North Carolina Internet Reporting System began on 1 May.

**15. Explanation of Life Member 12-month payment plan:** There has apparently been some confusion at the post level about the VFW's National 12-month payment plan for Life Membership. The plan works as follows: the comrade decides to become a Life Member and wants to pay in installments. The 24-month plan is no longer available. The comrade will submit his application to change from Continuous member to Life Member to the Post Quartermaster with a payment of \$35. The Post Quartermaster will submit the application and funds to National. The \$35 payment is a processing fee and will not count against the total amount of Life Member payments. National will accept the \$35 and the application and will bill the comrade directly for 11 months, with the amount each month being 1/11th of the total fee for the member's age. The comrade will remain a continuous member until all payments are complete, at which time he will be designated as a Life Member.

**16. Workman's Compensation:** Posts are not required to maintain a Workman's Compensation insurance policy in the state of North Carolina unless it employs at least three people, such as canteen manager, bartenders, kitchen manager, etc. However, posts should consider maintaining such a policy even if they have only one or two employees. Most post liability policies, to include the VFW's Lockton Risk Services, do not cover employees under the Liability portion of the policy. That means that if the employee is injured while performing duties as an employee or as the result of being employed at the post, the post is not covered for the employee's medical expenses or if the employee subsequently sues. Visitors to the post or officers of the post are covered by the Liability insurance. The maintenance of a Workman's Compensation policy (which can be obtained through Lockton) will cover the employee's medical expenses and lost wages, which is the first defense against the post spending large amounts of its own money on the employee's behalf. Costs of such a policy begin at \$300-\$500 annually, and increase depending on the post's total gross wages for one year. A policy for two employees would therefore cost less than a policy for five employees.

**17. DEPARTMENT ROSTER: THE 2012-2013 ROSTER WILL BE PUBLISHED NO LATER THAN JUNE 10; THEREFORE, PLEASE HAVE ALL POST ELECTION REPORTS IN TO VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS NOW! THIS YEAR'S ROSTER WILL BE A COMBINED VFW/LADIES AUXILIARY/MEN'S AUXILIARY ROSTER, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON DISK.**

**BY ORDER OF:**

**JASON SCHOOLCRAFT  
STATE COMMANDER**

**OFFICIAL:**

*M. Bruce Edwards*

**M. BRUCE EDWARDS  
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER**