

COLORADO HEADQUARTERS

BULLETIN

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

“Ready Willing Able”

1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80214

April, 2011

PLEASE SHARE The information in this Bulletin is important to ALL of our members. Please help get the information out by reading the appropriate parts at your next meeting and/or publishing appropriate items in your newsletters or bulletin board.

GENERAL ORDERS Commanders and Quartermasters at all levels are hereby directed to review and comply with General Orders published in the *Colorado Veteran*.

Members are reminded that their Annual Membership in the VFW expired December 31, 2010, unless their 2011 dues are paid and reported to Department and National Headquarters. All officers were encouraged to make every effort to renew the membership of continuous members prior to January 1, 2011.

Section 220 of the National By-Laws, “Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers” states that “Any elective Post officer removed by the Department Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post under the provisions of this section, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed.”

ALL ANNUAL VFW MEMBERS should look at their card NOW and make sure it is a 2011 membership card. For the purpose of establishing continuous membership, a member may reimburse Department and National dues for all delinquent years, provided he was a member in good standing for five (5) consecutive years prior to the delinquency.

INSTALLING OFFICERS: VFW Posts hold election of officers in April for 2011-2012 and no later than June 1. Post officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Post Election Reports must be submitted following Post election of officers and no later than June 1 to National Headquarters and to State Headquarters.

DISTRICT OFFICERS: Each District shall hold an annual District convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention. District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed. District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed in accordance with Section 416 of the Manual of Procedure.

LOYALTY DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE: Section 223 of the National by-Laws and Manual of Procedure provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observance of Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and flags of the United States are placed on the graves of deceased veterans.

Department Loyalty Day Parade will be in Calhan, CO May 7, 2011. Parade line up 10:00 am, step off 11:00 am. Contact Jim Crim VFW Post #5221 for information 719-541-2650.

DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VFW STATE CONVENTION WILL BE JUNE 15TH - 18TH, 2011 hosted by VFW Post 3917 and Ladies Auxiliary.

Pre-Registration will be in the May Colorado Veteran. Page 8 is reserved for State Convention information and will be updated as needed. Meeting schedules for the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary will be listed in the May Colorado Veteran.

DELEGATE CARDS: State Convention Delegate cards will be mailed out May 1, 2011 with a bill for the Delegate fees that must be paid prior to State Convention to Department Headquarters.

NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION: Each Post is entitled to one identified registered delegate for a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25). Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Advance Registration should be mailed with each delegate's name and address to Convention Registration, 406 W 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111

ELECTION FORMS: Please send a copy of your Post and District Election Form as soon as possible. Correct spelling of names, address, phone numbers, email address is critical. Without this correct information we cannot publish a correct Roster in a timely manner. Without your officers email address we cannot get critical information to you in a timely manner.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FEE Post Quartermasters, there is a \$1.00 admission fee on ALL NEW MEMBERS to be submitted to Department Headquarters. **THIS ADMISSION FEE DOES NOT GO TO NATIONAL.** The Posts may submit monthly, quarterly or at the end of the year. But please remember the \$1.00 State New Member Admission Fee. Headquarters will be sending out notices, if you do not pay the Admission Fee on New Members.

ALL POST QUARTERMASTERS should order 2011 Congressional Charter By-Laws and Manual of Procedure and Ritual books from VFW Emblem and Supply. All current officers should have a current book for reference and ritual procedures.

DISTRICT INSPECTORS shall make every effort to inspect every Post in their District on an annual basis and correct such discrepancies as may be disclosed. Inspection forms are then sent to Department Headquarters for the State Inspector to review and make recommendations as needed. A signed copy will be returned to the Post for their records.

TRUSTEES REPORT OF AUDIT must be completed in detail at the close of each quarter, one of which ended March 31, 2011. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster records.

BUDDY POPPIES We can ship orders of 250 from Department Headquarters, but all other orders we have to fax to National. Please allow 6 weeks for orders of 500 or more. Please send ALL orders to Department Headquarters. **Memorial Day will soon be here, so place your order now.** The 2011-2012 year for Buddy Poppies will start May 1, 2011 and will end April 30, 2012 for State Awards. Buddy Poppies for All American runs from July 1 - June 30.

The distribution of the VFW Buddy Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in sections 711 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of Buddy Poppies for the Memorial Day campaign in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the distribution of Buddy Poppies shall be used in accordance with sections 219 and 704 of the Manual of Procedure.

COLORADO VETERAN The next Colorado Veteran will be published the first of May 2011. The deadline for articles and pictures was April 1, 2011. Then the next paper will be August 1, 2011. Deadline for articles and pictures is July 1, 2011 for the August paper.

ELECTRONIC AGE Department Headquarters is still working on the establishment of a complete e-mail data base of Post Commanders or Quartermasters or another person in each post that will be responsible for receiving communications from State Headquarters. If you are not receiving e-mails at this time from State Headquarters, please advise the State Quartermaster of an e-mail address that can be added to the data base for your post. E-mail ann@vfwcolodept.org or vfw@vfwcolodept.org and then you can be added to the database. You will save Department postage if we can e-mail you the information. We know that we keep repeating this, but we really do need your e-mail address.

LEATHER SERVICE JACKETS Department Headquarters has a fund raiser and you can wear a Leather Jacket with your branch of service emblem on the back for \$99.99. Please call Headquarters 303-421-1630 with your size and branch of service. We can even keep this a secret if it is an anniversary or birthday present. So tell your spouse, friend or relative that you would like one of these jackets.

Thank You For What You Do For Our Veterans and God Bless America