

COLORADO HEADQUARTERS

BULLETIN

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

TEAM COLORADO

1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80214

April, 2009

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*.

INSTALLING OFFICERS: Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices at a regular or special meeting held not less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. The installing officer shall be conducted by a member in good standing, who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of the Post Commander.

District officers shall be installed in their respective offices at a regular meeting 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. The installing officer shall be conducted by a member in good standing, who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of the District Commander.

Post Officers and District Officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed.

ELECTION REPORT: Post Quartermasters should have received a large white envelope from National Headquarters containing the Election Form for 2009-2010 Officers elected. **Please forward a filled in copy to Department Headquarters ASAP.** Please print or type and spell name and address correctly. This is the information that is used for the 2009-2010 Department Roster. If this information is not received by July 1, 2009 your Post Officers will not be listed in the 2009-2010 Roster. Election reports can be transmitted to National thru Post Query.

NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE REGISTRATION: Post Quartermasters, when you received the large white envelope from National Headquarters, you also received the form to register at least one member as a delegate to the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. Cost is \$10.00. **Every VFW Post MUST register at least one member, no exceptions.**

LOYALTY DAY: Department of Colorado Loyalty Day Parade will be held in Calhan, Colorado May 2, 2009. Theme for the parade is "Honoring our Founding Fathers". Parade lineup is at 10:00 am, parade steps off at 11:00 am. Contact Jim Crim 719-541-2650 or Rowland Hannon 719-347-2522 to enter a marching unit, float, etc.

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 **PLEASE PLACE YOUR BUDDY POPPY ORDER NOW.**

NEW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT'S PEN THEMES. The 2009-2010 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Thomas Tradewell, Sr. The Voice of Democracy theme will be "Does America Still Have Heroes?" and the Patriot's Pen Theme will be "When is the Right Time to Honor Our Military Heroes?".

STATE CONVENTION IS JUNE 10 - 13, 2009, VFW Post 6624 Evans will be our Host. We will have a schedule for the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary in the March Colorado Veteran, page 8 and also pre-registration forms. Please plan on attending, understand there is also a Pajama Party planned for Thursday evening June 11, 2009, 8:30 pm, so you can attend and already be ready for bed.

DISPLAYING MILITARY SERVICE SYMBOLS: Military Service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order (Left to Right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and then Coast Guard.

HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG: The U.S. Flag should be at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day on the 15th of May and the last Monday in May for Memorial Day.

ALL-STATE COMMANDERS AND QUARTERMASTERS: Your Post must be 100% +1 in membership to qualify for All-State by April 30, 2009. Forms will be mailed to Post Commanders, Quartermasters and District Commanders that have attained 100%+1 by that date. Post Commanders and District Commanders, please wait for the entry form and mail it with your Commander's book to Department Headquarters or you can bring it to Headquarters by May 11th. Post Quartermasters will be mailed and form to be returned by May 11th to Headquarters.

COLORADO VETERAN The next Colorado Veteran will be published the first of May 2009. The deadline for articles and pictures was April 1, 2009. **Then the next paper will be August 1, 2009. Deadline for articles and pictures is July 1, 2009 for the August paper. VFW Members wishing to run for office should submit their ads for the May Colorado Veteran.**

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FEE Please remind Post Quartermasters that 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.

LATE FILING OR FAILURE TO FILE THE E-POSTCARD: If you do not file your e-Postcard on time, the IRS will send you a reminder notice but you will not be assessed a penalty for late filing the e-Postcard. However, an organization that fails to file required e-Postcards (or information returns - Forms 990 or 990-EZ) for three consecutive years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. The revocation of the organization's tax exempt status will not take place until the filing due date of the third year. If your tax exempt status is revoked by the IRS, you will have to apply and pay a fee, this would be very costly to any Post that does not file their E-Postcard, Form 990 or 990-EZ

By now ALL VFW Posts should have filed the above forms. If you need help filing the e-Postcard contact Ann at Department Headquarters and she is a registered filer and will file for you if your gross income for year is \$25,000 or less.

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. Thank You!

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