



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

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Fife, Washington 98424
Phone (253) 922-2114

General Order Number 5

February 2018

1. Membership:

In reviewing the current Department statistics, we are currently behind last years numbers by 120 members. The time to get out and recruit is now! Spring is close, we need to reach out to the local community events such as Farmer's Markets, Home and Garden Shows, various other spring festivals and parades and last, but not least – the youth baseball season is soon going to be active – get out there and show your support for the families and community. Now is the perfect time to order and replenish you Membership supplies from National – most of the supplies are free, you just need to pay for the shipping cost.

Here is an updated list of Department Post statistics:

Number of post: 106

Posts needing ten (10) or less members	39
Posts needing five (5) or less members	15
Posts currently at or above 100%	13

I strongly encourage all Post and District Commanders to put a push on Membership. I know together we can do better. Remember, if you need guidance or help, Commanders are encouraged to contact the Department Membership Team and they will gladly offer the assistance as needed.

The Department staff has scheduled a National Membership Team Training scheduled for March 24, 2018. Training will be held at VFW Post 969 in Tacoma, start time of 0830 – 1530. Council members are required to attend this training. It

is recommended that the District Commanders bring their Senior Vice Commanders, not only for additional training but continuity for the next upcoming year.

2.) Election related:

Your attention is directed to the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, Article II, Section 217 regarding the nomination, election and installation of Post Officers. Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote in April.

Post Officers shall be elected in April at the regular Post meeting. Absentee ballots and proxy votes are prohibited. A majority vote of all ballots cast shall be necessary to elect. Post Officers are reminded to ensure that annual members elected into office should not allow membership dues to lapse during their term of office.

The Post Commander-elect shall select the installing officer who holds or has held the rank of Post Commander or higher. Post Officers shall be installed prior to the convening of the Department Convention, but not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed.

3.) Delegates:

The National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure provide that Posts shall elect delegates and alternates to the District Convention at a regular meeting of the Post not less than thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention and forward to the District Adjutant. One (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or a fraction thereof in good standing at the time of election.

The National By-Laws require that each District shall hold a District Convention for the purpose of electing District Officers. Such Convention shall not be less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

4.) Awards:

Congratulations go out to the following Award winners at the Mid-Winter Conference Banquet in Spokane:

Teacher of the Year (K-5) Barbara Piscioneri, Post 9430

Teacher of the Year (6-8) Hilary Gibson, Post 4278

Teacher of the Year (9-12) Raymond Brassard, Post 2224

Voice of Democracy:

1st Place: Hannah Doyle, Richland, WA Post 12018

2nd Place: Olivia Olson, Edmonds, WA Post 8870

3rd Place: Anna Pastor, Silverdale, WA Post 4992

4th Place: Carson Holt, Sequim, WA Post 6787

5th Place: Joseph Alfred, Seattle, WA Post 1741

Patriots Pen:

1st Place: Rachael Reed, Ferndale, WA Post 9430

5.) By-Laws and Resolutions

As noted during the Mid-Winter Conference, per the By-Laws and Resolution Chairman, any proposed changes shall be written and approved by the Post, District and then forwarded to the Department Adjutant in triplicate no later than May 7, 2018.

They will be forwarded to the By-Laws committee for review and recommendation prior to the Convention meeting.

6.) Trustees:

Post Commanders attention is directed to the National Manual of Procedure Section 218: Duties and Obligations. Trustees Quarterly Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each Quarter. December 2nd Quarter was due no later than January 30, 2018 and the March 3rd Quarter will be due no later than April 30, 2018.

7.) Department Quartermaster:

The Department Quartermaster is available at Department Headquarters on Thursdays and Fridays each week. If you have questions other than those days, please contact via phone at (509) 979-1627 during working hours.

8.) Candidates:

The following have officially announced themselves as candidates for the following positions:

Commander:	Linda Fairbank, District 2
Senior Vice Commander:	John Rust, District 4
Junior Vice Commander:	Traci Williams, District 11
Chaplain:	Wes Anderson, District 9 Frosty Hulsey, District 11
Quartermaster:	Paul Manly, District 9
Judge Advocate:	Chad Hassebroek, District 11
Surgeon:	Don Wischman, District 1 Keith Wooldridge, District 15 Paul Herrera, District 3

Trustee, 1 Year

Cory Freed, District 4

Trustee 3 Year:

R C Sample, District 11

Western Conference Vice Chairman: Jonathan Hoomanawanui,
Department of Hawaii

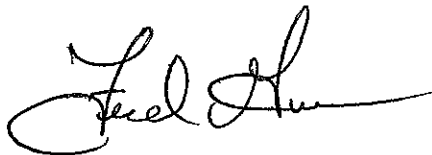
Western Conference Chaplain: Ray Fairbank, District 2

Nat'l Jr. Vice Select:

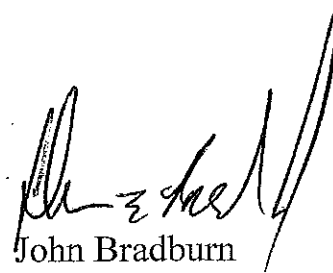
Tim Borland, Department of Arizona

I need to "Thank" everyone who attended the Mid-Winter Conference in Spokane. There was much information provided and many questions answered. We hope that everyone had a great time and made it back home safely.

With the knowledge given and the TEAM effort, we can work towards a strong finish for this year.



Fred Green
State Adjutant



John Bradburn
State Commander