



TOPEKA, KANSAS

# NEWS & VIEWS

Department of Kansas  
P.O. Box 1008, Topeka, Kansas 66601-1008

MAILED MONTHLY VOL 99-4

OCTOBER 2019

National's Position on Political Events It has always been our position that political candidates can address VFW members as, for example, during a General Election year, we had both candidates for President address us at the National Convention. There is no prohibition on our members from being at or hosting political events as long as they are not espousing a position that is clearly partisan in nature or implying an official VFW endorsement.

All members are encouraged to vote and actively campaign for the candidate(s) of their choice, if so desired. They are also permitted to wear their VFW caps as visible reminders that veterans' issues and votes matter. They are there as individuals who happen to be members of the VFW; they are not and should never misrepresent themselves or their presence as an endorsement by any official entity of the VFW. Of course, we have to initially rely on our individuals' good and professional judgment that they understand not to involve the VFW's name in partisanship activities.

October 31 - is Halloween. Is your Post planning a Youth Halloween Party?

Audits - September 30th ended a quarter and Post Trustees Report of Audit is now due. Audit reports must be signed by "All 3" Trustees and the Commander or they will not be considered valid submissions.

Reminder – Post inspections are due to Department by December 1<sup>st</sup>. All Inspections are to be sent directly to District Commanders who will then review and send directly to Department.

Buddy Poppies - Now is the time to order Buddy Poppies for fall distribution. Poppies cost \$115.00 per thousand. All orders to be mailed to Department Headquarters. Increments of less than 1,000 are \$15.00 per hundred.

National By-Laws - and Ritual are being revised due to changes at National Convention. It is suggested that all Posts order the 2020 edition. Orders will be filled as soon as the new edition is received from the printer. All orders should be sent to National Emblem & Supply or order online [www.vfwstore.org](http://www.vfwstore.org).

Schools - are now open. Promote the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs. See Administrators and students about the Teacher Program.

Veteran's Day - is November 11th and all Posts should be planning some activities within your city to let the citizens know there are veterans willing and able to help the community be a better place to live.

Endowment -Completed forms must be returned to Department Headquarters no later than February 1, 2020.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen - Post deadline is October 31, 2019. Entries should be sent to District Chairman by November 15, 2019. **For eligibility for All State a Post could need an entry from either one or both of these programs, this is part of the three of twelve. There is "NO" Buyout for All State eligibility. For All American eligibility a Post must have an entry from each one of these programs or the Post can Buyout on either one or both with a \$75.00 Donation to the National Programs Department. The Buyout checks must be received by October 31<sup>st</sup> at NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS PROGRAM Department with explanation in the check memo as to which Program is relevant.**

Teacher Program – NEW DEADLINES FOR THIS PROGRAM. Post deadline is October 31, 2019, entries to District Chairman by December 2, 2019. For eligibility for All State a Post could need one entry from any of the three categories as this is part of the three of twelve. There is “NO” Buyout for All State eligibility. For All American eligibility a Post needs one entry from all three of the categories. For All American a Post can buy out with a \$75.00 Donation to National Programs Department for each category they want to fill without an entry. The Buyout checks must be received by October 31<sup>st</sup> at NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS PROGRAM Department with an explanation in the check memo as to which category is relevant.

Veterans & Military Services Donation – To be eligible for All State and All American a Post needs to donate \$100.00 to the National Veterans & Military Services Department. In the past buying a VMS pin at the National Convention or from the State VMS Chairman qualified for all or part of this donation. This no longer is the case, so now a \$100.00 donation must be made to VMS regardless of how many pins were purchased by your Post members.

All American Dashboard – Please check the All American Dashboard on “NATIONAL’S WEB SITE” periodically to see if your Post’s activities are current.

Deceased Life Member List – By this time your Post Quartermaster should have received a letter from the National Adjutant General, (if this applies to your Post), explaining that they have deceased 88,000 plus members nationwide that research seemed to deem these life members deceased and they were listed on the back of the letter and your Quartermaster was asked to contact National only if any of these members were still living. Your Post will not be paid for them this year but your Post will not be liable for them for your Post to achieve 100%.

Robert’s Rules of Order – is now the official Parliamentary Procedure Book, as voted at the 2017 National Convention. It replaces Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary Law & Procedure. It is not available at the VFW Store.

Reminder to all Posts, Surgeon reports must be sent by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to your District Surgeon. This gives them time to report to the Department Surgeon by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.