

3rd QUARTER TALKING POINTS

REVIEW ALL THE MATERIAL AND MAKE APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR POST OFFICERS: Post Commanders and/or Quartermasters need to ensure your Post Officers have renewed their annual membership before their expiration date. National will automatically remove any officer that has an expired membership card and that officer cannot run for office again until the 2019-2020 term.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT OF AUDIT: Trustee's Report of Audit for the Quarter ending December 2018 and any prior audits were due by January 31st and are considered late.

ALL STATE ENTRY FORMS: Forms are due into State Headquarters by April 1, 2019. Form is on the department website under Resources, Reports & Forms. This form is required if you want to be considered for All State Status.

DISTRICT MEETING REPRESENTATION: Any Post that fails to send a representative (**Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander or Quartermaster**) to the District Meeting may be disqualified from All State Judging.

ARREARAGES: Any Post in arrears for District Dues, National or Department Delegate Fees, Department Obligations and Quarterly Audits will **NOT** be eligible to vote at the District Convention in May or the State Convention in June.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Remember to check all membership cards of the VFW and Auxiliary to make sure they are current. Make sure your bartenders are also checking membership cards. Remember annual membership for members varies monthly.

STATE COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT: The State Commander's Special Project is the replacement of the roof at the VFW Veterans Village Facility. All donations are to be sent to Department Headquarters, 543 NE Sanchez Ave., Ocala, Florida 34470. Be sure and put Commander's (CDR) Special Project on the memo section of your check.

EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR: Nominees for Department Scout of the Year are due to the Post by March 1, 2019. All candidates with full entry criteria must be submitted by the Post to the Department Scout Chairman Bruce A. Sitki by April 1, 2019. State Chairman Bruce Sitki's address is 4111 W. Fair Oaks Ave., Tampa, FL 33611 and is listed under Dept. Committee's on the Dept. website.

PROGRAM REPORTING: Conducting and reporting VFW Programs is integral to our core mission and essential in preserving our non-profit status. Post Commanders should ensure that their program chairperson knows how to report programs and has the tools to do so. Your Post report card will keep you abreast of the programs needed to complete and how many points you get for each report toward your all state status. If you have any questions as to how to report your programs on line via the Department website contact state headquarters for instructions.

GENERAL ORDERS & HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN: All members are encouraged to read the headquarters bulletin and general orders for timely information. Access available on the Department website under resources.

PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM: National has established the Partners in Patriotism to help our heroes by giving a monthly donation. This is the most effective way to help veterans, service members and their families. When you sign up, you support life-changing programs every month of the year. It keeps administrative cost down so more money goes to the programs, allows for better budget planning and program funding to help more veterans, members and their families, cuts down the amount of mail you receive and you will only receive the VFW Supporter Quarterly Newsletters. Flyer is on the Department Website under News and Events.

DEPARTMENT RAFFLE: The department will be holding one (1) raffle to raise funds for the VFW Programs. For Tickets you can contact your District Commander, who received one (1) ticket for every Post in their District or you can get one (1) through Department Headquarters. Raffle tickets will be \$100.00 each; make checks payable to the VFW Department of Florida and mail to State Headquarters, 543 NE Sanchez Ave., Ocala, FL 34470 and a ticket will be sent to you. Drawing will be held at the State Convention on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the conclusion of the Department Banquet. Flyer for the Raffle is on the Department Website under News and Events.

VFW RETIREMENT MEMORIAL BRICK: Get your Memorial Brick for only \$75.00 and/or a baby brick for \$20.00 showing your support for the Veterans Village. More details will be available on the Veterans Village Website.

VFW VETERANS VILLAGE ADOPT-A-ROOM: The Veterans Village still has rooms up for adoption. For \$400.00 your Post or Auxiliary can Adopt-A-Room. You will receive an invitation to the Christmas Dinner to eat with your Adopt-A-Room resident; 4 Tickets Annually to the Veterans Village Picnic in March; Adopt-A-Room Identification on the room door. For more information please contact Veterans Village Board Members, the Staff at the Veterans Village – phone numbers are on the Department website under Department then scroll down to Department Committees. Please contact the Veterans Village on how to receive your 4 free tickets.

VFW VETERANS VILLAGE LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM: Life Membership Program is to show support to The VFW Veterans Village. For \$50.00 you receive a one of a kind Life Member Pin, and your name will be placed on our Website @ vfwveteransvillage.org under Life Member.

CANDIDATES FOR THE VFW VETERANS VILLAGE BOARD: All candidates interested in running for the two 3 year Board of Directors positions that are available in June 2018 are requested to make their intentions known and notify their intentions in writing to the Board of Director President Chester Pyatt and/or Veterans Village Director Al Lugo; at 13005 NE 135th Street, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 This is very important in order to ensure that we inform the VFW Membership so they are aware of their choices, as they select the NEW VFW Veterans Village Board Leadership...Very Important Process as we have come a long way!

VFW VETERANS VILLAGE GOLF TOURNAMENT: The 8th Annual Golf Tournament is Friday, March 29, 2019 at Stone Creek Golf Club, 9676 SW 62nd Loop, Ocala, FL. Cost - \$55.00 per person. Shotgun Start at 1:00 p.m. Visit the Veterans Village website for registration forms and hole sponsorship forms.

VFW VETERANS VILLAGE PICNIC: The 17th Annual Picnic is Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 10:00 – 5:00 p.m. Ticket Donation is \$10.00 per person. Visit the Veterans Village website for ticket order form. 4-Sale: Kenny's famous "Buckets" of Chicken and Pork Butts after 2:30 p.m. Get them to Go. For more information call (352) 236-0823 or visit their website at www.vfwveteransvillage.org

TWO (2) QUARTERMASTER/TRUSTEE SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION: The Department will be holding two (2) Quartermaster/Trustee Schools of Instruction this year for the 2019-2020 term.

Southern Area will be in Ft. Myers, June 2, 2019 at the Holiday Inn, Ft. Myers Airport @ Town Center, 9931 Interstate Commerce Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33913. Non-Smoking Room Rate – Single King or 2 Queen \$114.00 per night + 11% tax. Check in is 3:00 p.m. and checkout by 11:00 a.m. Cut-off date is Friday, May 25, 2018. Must mention VFW Quartermaster School. A registration flyer will be posted on the website at a later date with phone numbers for making your reservations. Registration Fee: \$5.00 per person to be sent in prior to the date of the school.

Northern Area will be June 8, 2019 at the Florida Hotel & Conference Center, 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, FL 32809. Room Rate – Single or Double - \$109.00 per night plus tax. Check in is 4:00 p.m. and checkout by 11:00 a.m. Cut-off date is on or before Saturday, May17, 2019. Must mention Veterans of Foreign Wars to receive room rate. A registration flyer will be posted on the website at a later date with phone numbers for making your reservations. Registration Fee: \$5.00 per person to be sent in prior to the date of the school.

STATE CONVENTION: State Convention is June 20-23, 2019 at the Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld, 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL. Room Rate is \$118.00 plus tax. Cut-off date is Tuesday, May 28, 2019. More information will be posted on the website (myfloridavfw.org) as it becomes available and in future monthly mailouts which are also posted on the Department website and don't forget to check under the Department Events/Announcements for all functions happening in the Department. Banquet information will be provided at a later date. **Please do not call for reservations at this time.**

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: March 2-7, 2019, Washington, DC.

NATIONAL CONVENTION: July 20-24, 2019 in Orlando, Florida. More information will be made available at a later date.