



Department of Hawaii General Orders # 005

Series 2020-2021

October 7, 2020

**Commander's Corner,
Fundraising, membership drives, and the easing of COVID restrictions on Oahu.**

Our Department Fundraiser will be mailed out soon. Please be generous. Our tickets are \$10.00 each or \$25.00 for three, think about throwing in the extra \$5.00 as a donation. Our programs will thank you.

Membership: We have the Commander-in-Chief's challenge for October. Look at your reinstates, those annual members you are expiring within 6 months, and as always new members. This challenge is winnable; Post 8616 won \$1000.00 last year.

While I enjoy visiting Posts via Zoom; visiting y'all in real life is the best. Hopefully, O'ahu people will learn to behave so we can have our COA in December as scheduled and in person. A contingent of National VFW and Auxiliary Officers will be in town for the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremonies and will attend our COA.

Community Service continues and you need to document and send me the numbers. I am proud of the assistance VFW members have provided distributing food, supporting COVID testing and assistance at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home. My hat is off to you, but not my mask! Stay safe, as I'd like to see you all when allowed.

Ron Lockwood, Commander

- 1. With the upcoming general election, VFW members are reminded that they cannot endorse or actively campaign against candidates on behalf of the VFW, Department of Hawaii or your Post. Don't wear your VFW cap when actively campaigning for or against a candidate; such as soliciting donations or knocking on doors when asking people to pledge their vote for a candidate. This includes using mailing lists obtained while in the VFW to either campaign for or against candidates.**
- 2. The following Department Appointments are hereby made:**

Webmaster

George Barlett

Post 10154



- 3. National by-laws stipulate that elected and appointed officers shall not assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and reviewed. Failure or refusal to submit the same within sixty (60) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant. Proof of eligibility will be submitted to the office of State Adjutant.**
- 4. Post Commanders are reminded that any Post in arrears to Department or National for fees, other financial obligations or administrative requirements including Election and Trustee Audit Reports will be deprived of representation at the Department Council of Administration.**
- 5. Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch has laid down a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of October 2020! This month, it's time to use the TRICKS of recruiting and retention to earn the TREAT of a \$1000 stipend for your Post!
For this month's Commander's Challenge, the top Post in each Division with the highest increase in total membership percentage between October 1st and October 31st will receive a \$1000 stipend deposited into the Post account.
Sign up new members, reinstate lapsed members, and collect dues from your Annual members who are coming up for renewal, and your Post could be one of those eligible for this incentive! Get that membership drive going and show our veterans that we have 20/20 VISION FOR VETERANS!**
- 6. Any officer or committee member whose membership is not in good standing by reason of failure to pay current dues by their anniversary date shall forfeit eligibility to hold any office in that administrative year.**
- 7. The COVID-19 guidelines allow for electronic signatures for documents submitted to the Department. We need to be able to validate the signatures. Electronic signature programs provide an authenticity or validation certificate. Either this certificate, a screenshot showing the document was signed or an E-mail from the signatories e-mail account stating they signed the document needs to be included with the documents.**
- 8. Post Commanders shall submit Trustee Reports of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for 4th quarter ending June 30, 2020, 1st quarter ending September 30, 2020, 2nd quarter ending December 31, 2020 and 3rd quarter ending March 31, 2021. The deadline for the last Trustee Report will be April 30, 2021.**



9. It is recommended that all Posts review their Post By-laws and incorporate language that allows for electronic attendance at Post meetings in accordance with National By-Laws Section 203.

10. Check on your members and verify your Post rosters. Compare last year's roster to this year's roster and ensure no one was accidentally dropped off your roles. Relief funds may be used with Post membership concurrence to pay membership dues for members in need.

11. The Council of Administration will meet on December 5, 2020. Time 0900 on Oahu exact location TBD. All committee chairmen are requested to submit written reports by December 1, 2020 for distribution. Please plan accordingly.

12. The Post Inspection schedule 2020-2021 VFW Administrative year follows. Inspector Assignments and further guidance on procedures, criteria, and documentation requirements will be sent to Commanders, Adjutants and Quartermasters later in September. This schedule will allow for follow-on training, document recovery and additional inspection visits as required.
 - a. October 2020 Posts 94, 970,110,352, 1540, 3850, 3875
 - b. November 2020 Posts 849, 2875, 3391, 3292, 3855, 8616, 12122
 - c. December 2020 Posts 10276, 121238, 1572, 3830,3870

If you need to reschedule your inspection contact State Inspector Sean Matimoe or the State Adjutant George Barlett.

13. Submit your Community Service report monthly to the Community Service Chairman Ronald Lockwood. Send it in monthly. Phone number (808)227-3773 or email to lockwood0849@gmail.com.

14. Teacher of the Year: Teacher of the Year is now a Departmental Program. Deadline for submission of entries to Department for judging is January 1, 2021. Teacher of the year is an All-State program. Judging will be done by three to five judges. Winning entries will be submitted to National by February 1, 2021. State awards will be presented at either the State Convention or at the VOD/PP luncheon.



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15. New Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Themes:

- a. Voice of Democracy: "Is this the Country the Founders Envisioned?"
- b. Patriot's Pen: "What is Patriotism to Me?"

Recommended deadline for entries to be submitted to Posts is November 25, 2020.

Deadline for submission of entries to Department for judging is December 5, 2020.

16. The State Commander and Adjutant will be informed of all official neighbor island trips.

17. The State Commander, State Adjutant and Chief of Staff will be cc'd on all reports sent to National or sent for further distribution.

By Order of:

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**Ronald Lockwood
State Commander**

OFFICIAL:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Barlett", is positioned below the "OFFICIAL:" text.

**George Barlett
State Adjutant**