

Department of Oklahoma Peterans of Foreign Pars 1103 N. Blackwelder Ave. OKC. OK 73106 405 525-2680/ www.vfwok.org



#### November 2019

2019-2020 Series

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

President John F. Kennedy

#### DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA HEADQUARTERS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

**General Orders No. 5** 

2019-2020 Series

1. Pursuant to Department of Oklahoma By-Laws, the Department Commander is hereby calling a Council of Administration meeting to be held on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of November at 1000hrs at the Department Headquarters located at 1103 N. Blackwelder Ave. OKC OK.

2. Pursuant to Internal Revenue Services Non-Profit Organization laws, all VFW entities with a non-profit status are to have their tax returns (Form 990) filed no later than 15 November in order to maintain their Non-Profit Status. Failure to file form 990, 990 N etc. for a period of 3 years will have their non-profit status automatically revoked by the IRS. If needed, an extension can be requested by the Non-Profit Organization by filing an IRS Form 8868 and returning it to the IRS.

3. Pursuant to Section 223, National By-Laws & Manual of Procedure, "Each Post shall properly observe commemorative dates as prescribed in the Ritual and Manual of Procedure.

/os/

#### DARRYL MABRY STATE COMMANDER

OFFICIAL: / os /

1

Curtis A. Watts Adjutant

### FROM THE COMMANDER

Comrades and members of our Auxiliary, we are truly blessed as a Department that has such wonderful people and great times together. I send my greetings to all and pray that everyone within our organizations remains well and their loved ones and friends remain safe and healthy. "TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES AND EACH OTHER". We need everyone on the field.

Again, I offer a prayer to all that are afflicted or have loved ones with pains or ailments, I pray for speedy recoveries for all.

We are off and running now and maintaining a great pace. As I mentioned previously, I see the great work being done throughout Oklahoma. I've noticed our increase in community engagements and I'm loving our current status of public outreach. All of our work as definitely shown within the Southern Conference where we currently maintain the lead in membership numbers. Again, I want to give public thanks to all that recruited over fifty (50) members into our folds. Your excellence will be awarded and is greatly appreciated throughout our ranks. "Big Kudos" to you. Everyone else still has an opportunity. For all those that are recruiting, keep up the great work. Hopefully everyone will recruit a few members to assist in us maintaining our numbers. We have to try and make up for the loss of some one thousand, six hundred (1600) members deceased by the national headquarters. So get out and start telling everyone else how great the organization can be if they were a part of it. Let them know that there are benefits for family and non-family members also. Hopefully your post participated in the National C in C's October membership challenge. I hope the \$1000 offered can come to all of our posts. We can do it!

Kudos go out to the all the Comrades, Sisters and Brothers of the Department that attended the Southern Conference Convention in Baton Rouge. We had an outstanding show of members and support. The experiences there hopefully will prepare us for when the Department of Oklahoma hosts the conference in Oct-Nov of 2022. We definitely know that this is an all hands-on deck, ready to rock affair. Comrades Merit and Bassett are leading the charge in regards to this monumental event. So, let's get ready to show our true Oklahoma pride.

Thanks to our Junior-Vice Commander, Jim Bassett we have had and are constantly showing some great Department sponsored and post community engagement events. I'm seeing a definite increase in "Yellow Ribbon" events as well as information booths at sporting events. Some of the Oklahoma teams aren't doing well. However, please show your support to them and our organizations by getting involved and participating in some of our planned events. Who knows, another support and participation credit might be offered; so, check your calendars so you don't miss out.

Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teacher of the Year and the Patriotic Art programs are in full swing. Hopefully we had maximum engagement from all. No is the time to sift through and find ways to award as many participants as we can. Let's communicate and talk to our Brothers and Sisters next door to ensure we can maximize. So let the judging begin and show these student's greatness.

Commanders, as mentioned before; know what the VFW Oklahoma Foundation is for. Learn how you at the Post and District levels can support the foundation. Research and ask how you can help build our foundation so it can help local Veterans and their families and even a post. Remember, donations by Post individuals (Comrades and Auxiliary) to the Oklahoma Foundation will count towards the Post **or** District requirement for All-State recognition provided that person specify whom they are supporting. I still encourage everyone to open your hearts and support the relief efforts of our foundation whether for credit or not. Let's remember what our core existence is. If you can't greet every Veteran you meet and be able to offer the right kind of assistance across the board, then what is your real purpose as a VFW?

I again ask you to emphasize the programs and benefits the VFW offers in all your meetings. Talk about the stock we put into giving to our Veterans, their families and the community. Foster support to all levels of our organization. Spread the knowledge throughout your community so they know what you have to offer so they can help support your post and us as a VFW organization

The only way our organizations can get bigger and better is to become more diverse and remember our Veteran commitment. In remembering our commitment, I would like for us to show solidarity by not only supporting Veterans but also supporting those that support Veterans'. Remember what that relief fund is for. Know how and when to use it. I see that Buddy Poppies have been purchased. The boards will be available at the Fall Festival. Contact the Department Quartermaster, Curt Watts.

Fall-Festival is at the Wyndham Hotel in OKC (Nov 1-3) will be our first progress check. We have planned for a great event. Something different and new to get you all to come and participate and enjoy. It's about us taking care of business with hopefully some hospitality rooms, some relaxing and socializing just like a family should. Plans are to have a tail-gate party that involves a chili cook-off and a karaoke. Hopefully we have a convention type turnout to show our presence within the state. So don't miss out on a great VFW/ Auxiliary time. Prizes will be given. I might even have some surprise giveaways.

Let's remain focused on making your Post, District and Our VFW the best in the nation. Let our focus remain VFW initiatives, programs and ideals not personalities and other things we can control.

As always; be safe, be fun and take care of the business of assisting and providing for those that are having issues as you can.

"ALWAYS A VETERAN, ALWAYS FOR A VETERAN"

### FROM THE SR. VICE COMMANDER

Comrades,

We are now beginning our fifth month into this administrative year. How do your membership numbers look? Even with National making an adjustment to our prior year numbers due to the lifetime membership scrub, we have a long way to make up. I challenge each and everyone of you to help the department as a whole make up the almost 1,600 members that were cleared off of our rosters. How are your programs doing? Did you meet the deadlines for VOD/PP/TOY? I hope we have an amazing turn out for all three of them.

Speaking of which, please remember the following deadlines:

Post Judging Complete Nov. 15th District Judging Complete Dec. 15th District Entries due to Department Dec. 31st.

Attached in the General Orders is a flier for our 100th Anniversary Coin Design Contest. We will be selling the coins starting at the State Convention. There will only be 500 coins. All money raised will go to our 100th Anniversary Celebration the weekend of April 16th, 2021. I know it seems a long way away, but in order to get the design complete, the coins ordered and sold in time, we need to begin now. Each coin will be \$20. Anyone, any Post, District or company interested in sponsoring the production cost of the coins will receive a generous gift for your donations.

Finally, as you read these, hopefully all of you should be making preparations to be or already are at our Fall Festival at the Wyndham Garden in OKC. We came up with a few scheduling issues with the hotel, but hopefully we have been able to accommodate everyone's needs. Additionally, the Auxiliary will be taking care of our entertainment for the weekend. They have put a lot of effort into it, so please, make every effort to participate. Saturday there will be a buffet in the restaurant for \$10.95 for anyone wanting grab lunch there at the hotel. The menu is:

Salad Bar, Meatloaf, Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Brown Gravy, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, 2 Dessert Options

I look forward to seeing everyone at Fall Festival and at the upcoming District Meetings! Keep up the great work!

V/R,

Michael L. Merit State Senior Vice Commander VFW Dept. of Oklahoma

4





## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin Design Contest

Oklahoma VFW turns 100 April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

We will be selling 500 limited-edition 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coins to raise money for Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend Which will be attended by Commander in Chief Hal Roesch

Anyone can enter at no cost! Your entry will be judged by a committee! Winner will be announced at 2020 State Convention Banquet Where the coin will be revealed! Design winner will receive Special Coin Prize!

Please submit all entries to SSVC Mike Merit No later than COB OK Mid-Winter Conference 2020

## FROM THE JR. VICE COMMANDER

State Junior Vice Commander Public Affairs Veterans and Military Services Committee Chair *Jim Bassett* 

## Tis the season to give!



No, I haven't lost my mind, well maybe I have, but it is the time to give. We are entering the holiday seasons. A lot of organizations are already advertising on TV and radio asking you for your money. I'm asking for you to give to an organization that has helped numerous veterans and military members and their families' right here in Oklahoma. Veterans and Military Services (VMS). VMS is the organization that donates money for MAP grants, Unmet Needs, Help-A-Hero Scholarship, and disaster relief. VMS has supported this state with a large amount of money to help us host Adopt-A-Unit and MAP grant events. If you would like to donate to them, please follow this link:

https://vfwprograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw\_programs\_donation

By the way, did I mention that VMS is part of the Veterans of Foreign Wars?

I do have a request, I need your help. I'm looking for your events to add to our online shared calendar. These can be parades, fairs, or any public gathering. I need the event name, location, times, and a person to contact (if available). To view the calendar, go to <u>https://teamup.com/ksjfgock6aemi328ey</u>

Mid-Winter is our next state event. Please keep up with the news in the General Orders as there is a lot of good information.

#### Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities and Events:

6

#### November

1-3: Fall Fest in Oklahoma City

#### December

TBD: Currently we have 3 holiday parties scheduled. One in Mustang, Durant, and Lawton. I anticipate many more. These Holiday Parties are for members of the National Guard and their families. This is a great opportunity to get to know potential VFW and Auxiliary members. The MAP grant request and post event report are fillable on line. <u>https://www.vfw.org/my-vfw/vfw-training-and-support/veterans-and-military-support</u>

The Special Olympics is always looking for volunteers. need coaches, assistants, chaperons, and cheering When you're out volunteering for the VFW, please wear that identifies you as a VFW or Auxiliary member; it helps



They are in sections. something increase

public awareness. Sign up to help, better yet, have your post sign up to support or sponsor them. Apply at <u>https://www.sook.org/</u>.

## Be Visible!

When you're out volunteering for the VFW, please wear something that identifies you as a VFW or Auxiliary member; it helps increase public awareness.

SportClips Help-A-Hero Scholarship is currently taking applications. This is a scholarship that is in addition to any Tuition Assistance or scholarship they may already be receiving. <u>https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support</u>.

#### Jím Bassett

State Jr Vice Commander Department of Oklahoma Veterans of Foreign Wars 1103 N. Blackwelder Oklahoma City Oklahoma 73106 405.664.3929 Bassettj15@yahoo.com http://vfwok.org/





## **News and Reports**

## September 2019



\*\*\*ATTENTION\*\*\* Please support our affiliate in their upcoming fundraising campaign.

Sport Clips' "Help A Hero" fundraising campaign runs from October 15 - November 11

\*\*All Sport Clips locations nationwide\*\*

Funds raised during this campaign are used to support the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship."

## **New VFW Programs Donation Form**

Donations made to replace participation in Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, National Citizenship Education Teachers Award and toward Veterans and Military Support Program Services- will only be accepted through the following link. Do not donate through your Department or by any other means. <u>VFWPrograms.formstack.cm/forms/vfw\_programs\_donation</u>

Per 2019-20 All-American requirements donation amounts to receive full credit for VFW Programs are as follows:
Voice of Democracy \$75.00, Patriot's Pen \$75.00
Teacher of the Year Award Elementary \$75.00 Middle School \$75.00, High School \$75.00
Veterans & Military Support Programs \$100.00
Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year donations must be received by end of the day Oct 31.

Veterans & Military Support Programs donations must be received by end of the day **June 30.** 

## **VMS Programs Formstack Links**

Website Solution:

VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/websolutionapp

<u>Auxiliary Website Solution:</u> <u>VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/auxwebsolutionapp</u>

<u>VMS Chairman Report:</u> <u>VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vms\_chairman\_report</u>

> Map Grant Application: vfw.org/MAPGrantApplication

Map Grant Report: vfw.org/MAPGrantReport

AAU Application: vfw.org/AdoptAUnitApp

AAU Report: vfw.org/AdoptAUnitReport

Forms submitted via fax, mail, or email will not be accepted, and you will be asked to resubmit the form through Formstack.

VMS Chairmen, if you need to update your contact information please click the link below for the Chairman profile form, and submit to Deb Cuno at <u>dcuno@vfw.org</u>. <u>VMS Chairman Profile Form</u>



### Team VMS: PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE

Help us this coming month and get out and encourage our Posts to visit and make plans to help our Sport Clips partners raise funds to support our Help A Hero scholarship. They yearly give us 1.25 million dollars. That's without us helping. Just think, if we normally help 165-185 veterans each semester and we do our part to help them how many of the 600 + veterans who apply Veterans we could help. Let's really step us this year and get out there. Trust me, by showing our friends at Sport Clips how much we care about our own program will go a long ways. Yours in Comradeship, Lynn W. Rolf, III

## **Monthly Reports**

Please click on the links below to download the monthly reports:

VMS Programs Budget / Expenditure Report for September

MAP Grant / AAU / Attendance Report

Veterans & Military Support Chairman Attendance Report

Veterans & Military Support Programs Chairman Report Form \*\*Please submit your completed report by the 15th of the month which covers the prior month's activities.\*\*

\*Do not submit reports if you do not have any attendance to report or have nothing to report.

## **Monthly Assistance Recap by Program**

Virtual Pins: 5,780 Virtual Pins provided <u>MAP/AAU:</u> 11 grants & 5,952 attendance <u>Unmet Needs:</u> 50 grants for \$55,790.61 <u>Help A Hero Scholarship:</u>6 Scholarships refunded for \$12,803.42 <u>Chairman Reports:</u> Event attendance of 6,326 <u>A total of 18 114 votorans</u> military members and their families

A total of 18,114 veterans, military members and their families were supported through Veterans & Military Support Programs during September 2019.

VFW – Veterans & Military Support Programs 406 W 34th Street Kansas City, MO 64111 © 2019 | All rights reserved

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## FROM THE OKLAHOMA VFW FOUNDATION

**OUR MISSION:** The Oklahoma VFW Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, assists Oklahoma veterans and their families, promotes patriotic programs, provides relief for veterans and veterans support organizations, and provides educational scholarships.

Comrades,

The next Board meeting of the Oklahoma VFW Foundation will be during Fall Fest at the Wyndam Garden Hotel in Oklahoma City. The Board meeting will be Friday, November 1st, at 4 PM.

As mentioned in my letter last month, to take the next small step for the Foundation, we need to come up with a couple of programs that we are going to focus on to start with. We can then use those specific programs for fundraising. And, then the future successes from those programs can be used to progress even further to the next level. The Board has been brain-storming a large number of program ideas and at our meeting will narrow these down to just a few to focus on.

Program ideas that our Board will be considering include: Honor Guard assistance and funding, grant program for VFW post relief funds, legal assistance program for veterans in need, fundraising to help support Veteran Service Officers, help fund Posts with patriotic program awards, help fund the Department patriotic programs, veterans memorials assistance and funding, establish a disaster relief fund, and establish a scholarship program. Although these are all very worthy ideas, the Board will choose a few of these to focus on where we feel that based on our available resources, we can make a difference and start building a track record of success. You are welcome to sit in as the Board discusses these options, and I always make sure that there is an agenda item that allows those attending to address the Board.

Don't forget, if your Post is looking at a grant but the donor is restricted to only working with 501(c)(3) organizations, let us know and we will help your Post get those funds. Also, when you purchase from Amazon, do you use Amazon Smile? If not, you should!!! They are the same products and same prices the only difference is that a small portion of the sale gets donated to a non-profit of your choosing and the Oklahoma VFW Foundation is one of their approved non-profits.

I hope to see you at Fall Fest and please feel free to ask me or any of our other Board members any questions you may have on the Foundation.

John H. Fischer President/Executive Director Oklahoma Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation 1103 N. Blackwelder Avenue Oklahoma City, OK 73106 Office: (405) 525-2680 (OK-VFW Headquarters) Mobile: (405) 443-7265 Email: okvfwfoundation@outlook.com

#### **Foundation Board Members are:**

John Fischer, Executive Director Weydan Flax, Assistant Executive Director Curt Watts, Secretary/Treasurer, Director Dr. Curtis O. Bohlman, Director Jim Bassett, Director Darryl Mabry, Director Robert (Bob) McGill, Director Michael Merit, Director Ron Slowik, Director

### FROM THE STATE SURGEON

Comrades the winter months are here! I'm asking please check on your Comrades not only for the cold, but the winter months bring holidays and for some Comrades it's a hard time to be alone! Also, as you all know the VOD, Patriot's Pen and the Teacher of the year are due to each Post Nov 1! Now I ask that who is ever judging at the Post level before going to the District, Judge them well. These students that have spent their time and efforts in participating for the VOD and Patriots Pen essay's! I'm asking that ALL of you get out and get these VETERANS (who are eligible) in our Beloved VFW! RECRUITING not only gets these VETERANS involved, but it helps them also in Comradeship!

Lastly I ask that all of you and your Posts, please get your Poppies! Thank you all! Stacy Reddig

Stacy Reddig State Surgeon

### FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER

#### National Council Member Update

Programs Sport Clips Help A Hero. Please help us this coming month and get out and encourage our Posts to visit and make plans to help our Sport Clips partners raise funds to support the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program. They give us 1.25 million dollars yearly. That's without us helping. Just think, if we normally help 165 to 185 veterans a semester and we do our part to help them, how many more of the 600+ veterans who apply we could help. Let's really step up this year and get out there. Development. Last month's campaigns were Oct. 13 Appeal: Thank you eCard to Friends of Freedom identified as a Navy veteran or active military. Oct. 15 Appeal: Quarterly statement to nonmember Partners in Patriotism donors. Calendar package for October lapsed donors. Oct. 16 Appeal: October Sport Clips email to all Friends of Freedom. Oct. 17 Appeal: Veterans Day matching gift email #1 to all Friends of Freedom. Meetings and Events Completed: The 2019 Jr. Vice/Quartermaster meeting. There were a few 'glitches' with the hotel that required focusing on an afternoon conference call on Oct. 15, to review and correct. Overall it was a successful meeting. Preparing to send out agenda (approved by National Convention Chairman Stroud) as a reminder to the 121st local (Reno) convention committee for upcoming Nov. 7, 2019, meeting in Reno. Ongoing updates to 2020 Reno convention documents; e.g., internal working agenda, documents for convention website, etc. Note: first internal convention meeting scheduled for 11/15 to review agenda and specific details for 2020 Reno that will include one additional day to the agenda. Human Resources New Employees: Toni Opella, Member Services Advisor, Member Service Center, Kansas City office Cory Hunt, Associate Director Post Development and Revitalization, Membership, Kansas City office. Ramsey Sulayman, Associate Director of Health, National Legislative Service, Washington, D.C. office. Promotions: Bob Jackson has been promoted to Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs, Washington, D.C. office. Administrative Operations There are currently 50 Posts under suspension, two of which are new. We have lifted two Post suspensions and extended one Post suspension. The organization has 6,167 chartered Posts. Administrative Operations is engaged in 15 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, three administrative actions and 14 membership eligibility challenges. We have 27 Bylaw/Article of Incorporation submissions in for review, five of which are new; current turnaround time on Bylaw/Article of Incorporation submissions is approximately 14 days. Of the 242 Commander-in-Chief-directed Post suspension orders issued on July 2, 2019, for failure to submit an election report by July 1, 2019, there are currently 20 Posts still under suspension and an additional 30 Posts under suspension for reasons other than failing to submit an election report, for a total of 50 Posts under suspension. We are currently working with those Departments affected to either bring these Posts to good working order or revoke their Post charters. **VFW Foundation GolfStatus.org** is a unique online platform that saves time in planning golf outings and increases fundraising dollars. In collaboration with the VFW, the company is offering custom golf event websites, online registration, simple sponsorship management, branded pin flags for golf events (large or small), live leaderboards, and more — 14

all at no upfront cost to VFW Posts. Through the end of 2019, GolfStatus.org will make a \$50 donation to the Post of your choice for every VFW event successfully referred. For more information call 402.440.9307. Approximately 507 BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> franchisee-owned restaurants have signed up to participate in the November Unmet Needs fundraising campaign. Speaking of our friends at BK, it is important to note that this year their McLamore foundation has already awarded \$442,000 in educational scholarships to veteran families (including a \$50,000 Whopper award winner)

Robbie Clark

## FROM THE STATE SERVICE OFFICER

## Service Officer Training!!

District # 5 will host a Post and District Service Officer training in December. The training will be held on December 15th 2019 at J.R. Hopper Memorial Post 2976, 1717 W. Dupont, Claremore, OK from 9am – 2pm. This will be the make-up training class for the upcoming year. District # 5 invites all to attend, and I encourage all Post and District Service Officers who were unable to attend the previous class to attend. Since there has been numerous changes within the VA and the VFW National Program, <u>all Service Officers will be required to attend</u> the training this year even if they have attended training during the past year. James Dockemeyer

### FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

#### Comrades,

As you read this, there are approximately sixty days remaining in the year. Soon, we will be approaching the Christmas season. This is not only a time of giving but a time for potential benefactors to review their charitable donations and make contributions prior to 31 Dec. There is still time to reach out to them, but don't wait until Christmas to do so. You will be faced with additional requests for aid as well. Let potential donors know that their support will allow us to pay it forward to veterans in need.

I have been contacted by a two Posts with regards to the Home Depot grant. We are in the process of researching requirements and preparing applications. It seems there have been few positive responses to the Posts that have applied. If you have been successful in your efforts, please contact me. Your input would be appreciated.

Sharing your successes will not minimize your opportunities but may allow other Posts to benefit from your knowledge and experience. Let us know what works for you.

We are approaching the Thanksgiving season. When you pause to give thanks for your blessings, don't forget those who have blessed you with a contribution. You cannot "Over-thank" a donor. The projects we support at Post 1201 have received over seventy thousand dollars in grant money and contributions since 1 July. A large portion of that was from a foundation that had made a sizeable donation last year. We thanked them at the time but also sent "Progress Reports" on a regular basis to let them know how and where their money was being spent. They were impressed with our results and presented us with another check. You can rest assured that we will continue to communicate with them on a regular basis!

Remember, you are not asking for a handout. You are offering the opportunity to become involved in our mission and assist us in providing for the less fortunate. Be specific. It is much easier to gain support if a donor knows where the money is to be used and what you intend to accomplish. Keep them informed. Let them feel they were involved in your success and they will be inclined to offer support in the future.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our cause. If I can ever be of service, do not hesitate to call.

Gary Miles Community Service Officer 580.761.2431 <u>milesga@cableone.net</u>

## Podium Edition 2020 of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure are available for Purchase from VFW-OK

<u>Comrades, our By-Laws & Manual of Procedures change every year.</u> Therefore, it is imperative that you have the latest copy of the VFW Podium Edition. We at VFW-OK Headquarters have already ordered our initial supply. Departments will receive the Podium Edition prior to individuals. Order yours, your Post or District supply today from the Department. We will take your order and invoice you when we deliver or ship them to you or pick them up at Department Headquarters. Contact Department Adjutant/Quartermaster Curt Watts at <u>vfwhqok@outlook.com</u> or 405 590-8577. Thank you for your support.

### **2020 BUDDY POPPY BOARDS ARE AVAILABLE**

### SEE THE PICTURE INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

### **VFW DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA FALL-FESTIVAL IS COMING!!!**

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Department of Oklahoma Fall Festival Agenda November 1-3, 2019 Wyndham Garden Oklahoma City Airport Hotel 2101 S. Meridian Ave. Oklahoma City, OK 73108

#### **\*\*THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1ST, 2019	
National Representative Reception (Auxiliary Room)	5:30 - 6:15pm
Chili Cookoff/Tailgate Party (Pool Common Area)	7:30 - 9:30pm
Hospitality Rooms	5:00 - Close
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2ND, 2019	
Joint Opening Session with the Auxiliary (Auxiliary Room)	8:30 - 9:30am
Council of Administration (State HQ)	10:00 - 12:00pm
Lunch	12:00 - 1:00pm
MAP Grant/Foundation Grant Application Class (VFW Room)	2:00 – 3:00pm
JVCIC Candidate Forum (VFW Room)	3:15 – 4:15pm
Cootie Grand Scratch (VFW Room)	4:45 - 6:00pm
State Comm./Dept. Pres. Reception/Murder Mystery (VFW & Aux Room)	6:30 - 7:30pm
Entertainment (Aux Room)	8:00 - 12:00am
Hospitality Rooms	12:00 - Close
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3RD, 2019	

VFW/VFWA Chapel Service (Auxiliary Room)

8:30 - 9:30am

Safe travels home and thank you for coming!

#### VFW OKLAHOMA MEETING SCHEDULE 2019-2020

FALL FEST (1-3 NOV 2019) OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

MID-WINTER (14-16 FEB 2020) OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE (1-5 MAR 2020) WASHINGTON, D.C.

STATE CONVENTION (18-21 JUN 2020) OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

17



## VFW OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT FALL-FEST FUNDRAISER

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD 2019-20 NATIONAL COMMANDER'S AND PRESIDENT'S WALK PATH AT THE NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

PARTICIPANTS MUST ENTER NLT 20 OCTOBER. ENTRY FEE IS JUST TEN (\$10) DOLLARS \$5 FOR TASTING KIT. WILL RECEIVE ONE TICKET TO PICK PEOPLE'S CHOISE AWARD JUDGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED (SURPRISE) CHILI MUST BE PREPARED PRIOR OR WITHIN YOUR ROOM

#### CONTACT STATE SENIOR VICE MIKE MERIT (918) 314-3951 FOR ENTRY AND MORE INFO

#### District Meetings for 2018: "<u>Any Changes or corrections to Districts meetings, please notify the State</u> <u>Adjutant ASAP</u>."

D-1 > 09 Nov 19 D-3 > 02 Feb 20 D-4 > 09 Nov 19	<ul> <li>@ 11 am &gt; Salina Post 5307 &gt; Cdr. Darryl Mabry</li> <li>@ 11 am, &gt; Wilburton Post 3649</li> <li>@ 11 am &gt; Ft. Towson Post 5805&gt; Sr. Vice Cdr. Mike Merit</li> </ul>
D-5 > 10 Nov 19	@ 10 am > Skiatook Post 7977 > Cdr. Darryl Mabry & Sr. Vice Cdr Mike Merit
D-7 > 26 Oct 19	@ 11 am > Eufaula Post 8798
D-8 > 10 Nov 19	@ 11am > Ponca City Post 1201 > Jr. Vice Cdr. Jim Bassett & Surgeon Stacy Reddig
D-9 > 09 Nov 19	@ 10am > Chandler Post 1719 > Jr. Vice Cdr. Jim Bassett & Surgeon Stacy Reddig
D-10 > 18 Jan 20	@ 11am> Post 8706, New Hope Christian Church, 12323 S. Pennsylvania, OKC, 73170
D-13 > 25 Jan 20	@ 12:30 am > El Reno Post 382
D-14 >16 Nov 19	@11 am > Duncan Post 1192 >Sr. Vice Cdr. Mike Merit
D-15 > 11 Jan 20	@11 am> Lawton Post 119> Cdr. Darryl Mabry & Sr. Vice Cdr. Jim Bassett

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- 01 Nov> VFW-OK Fall Festival Begins
- 03 Nov> VFW-OK Fall Festival Ends
- 03 Nov> Daylight Saving Time Ends (Set clock back one hour)
- 05 Nov> Election Day
- 10 Nov> U.S. Marine Corps Established (1775)
- 11 Nov> Veterans Day (Signing of WWI Armistice (1918)
- 21 Nov> Grenada Campaign Ended (1983)
- 28 Nov> Thanksgiving Day

18







#### Department of Oklahoma Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

### 2019-2020 State Raffle Tickets are ONLY \$10

## **GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000**

**Other Prizes** 

## *3 x \$500, 3 x \$250, 5 x \$150, 6 x \$100*

SPECIAL EARLY BIRD DRAWINGS

For tickets purchased and money turned into State Headquarters on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, four prizes of \$100 each will be awarded in January!! (*Early Bird winners are eligible for main drawings*)

## **Individual Prizes for Selling the Most Tickets**

- If at least 800 total tickets are sold, the top two individual sellers will be awarded cash prizes.
- If at least 900 total tickets are sold, the top three individual sellers will be awarded cash prizes.
- If at least 1,000 tickets are sold, the top four individual ticket sellers will be awarded cash prizes.

### **Post/Auxiliary Prizes for Selling the Most Tickets**

- In addition, Post and Auxiliary Units whose members sell tickets will also win prizes....
- 2 Posts/Auxiliaries win prizes if 800 total tickets sold, 3 win if 900 sold, and 4 win if 1,000 sold.
- If 1,000 total tickets sold, a cash prize to the VFW or Auxiliary District who sold the most tickets.

#### Specific Prize Drawing Information:

Early Bird: Drawings for a \$100 winner will be drawn on January 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st, 2019. (Tickets sold and turned in by 12/31/19).

NOTE: For all other drawings, tickets must be sold and turned in to State Headquarters prior to the drawing for that date.

March 2020: \$100 Drawings on Friday, March 6th, 13th, and 20th, 2020. \$250 Drawing on Friday, March 27th, 2020.

April 2020: \$100 Drawings on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. \$250 Drawing on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

May 2020: \$150 Drawings on Friday, May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th, 2020.

Memorial Day 2020: Two \$500 Drawings, exact date to be determined but will be between Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

2020 Oklahoma State Convention: At the banquet, \$1,000 GRAND PRIZE DRAWING, as well as \$500 and \$250 winners.

#### Individual Ticket Seller Prizes:

If at least 800 tickets sold, top seller wins \$250, 2nd place wins \$100. If at least 900 tickets sold, top seller wins \$500, 2nd place wins \$250, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place wins \$100. If at least 1,000 tickets sold, top seller wins \$600, 2<sup>nd</sup> place wins \$300, 3<sup>rd</sup> place wins \$200, and 4<sup>th</sup> place wins \$100.

#### Post / Auxiliary Unit Ticket Seller Prizes:

If at least 800 tickets sold, Post or Auxiliary unit whose members (when totals combined) sold the most tickets wins \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> place wins \$50. If at least 900 tickets sold, top Post or Auxiliary wins \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> place wins \$100 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place wins \$50. If at least 1,000 tickets sold, top Post or Auxiliary winds \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> place wins \$200, 3<sup>rd</sup> place wins \$100 and 4<sup>rd</sup> place wins \$100 and 8<sup>rd</sup> place

If at least 1,000 tickets sold, the VFW or Auxiliary District whose members (when totals combined) sold the most tickets wins \$250.

## Oklahoma VFW Shirts \$40 Department Fundraiser



Moisture wicking polo shirts with left sleeve pen pocket available in multiple colors.

6.5 oz. pique adult tactical wicking polo. Made from a 100% polyester. Polo features anti-microbial BLU-X-DRI protection, stain release, snag resistancy, matching buttons, a rib knit curl-free collar, side vents and hemmed sleeves. It also offers a raglan sleeve, mic clips on the center placket and shoulders, reinforced dual pen pockets on the left sleeve. Comfortable in any environment and meeting IL-50 standards.

Available from men's small to 6 XL.

Available colors are: red, light blue, royal blue, navy blue, hunter green, white, tan, graphite and black.



Contact Jim Bassett (bassettj15@yahoo.com).

# We Shall Keep the Faith

by Moina Michael

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields, Sleep sweet - to rise anew! We caught the torch you threw And holding high, we keep the Faith With All who died.

We cherish, too, the poppy red That grows on fields where valor led; It seems to signal to the skies That blood of heroes never dies, But lends a lustre to the red Of the flower that blooms above the dead In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red We wear in honor of our dead. Fear not that ye have died for naught; We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought In Flanders Fields.









