

**STATE HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**

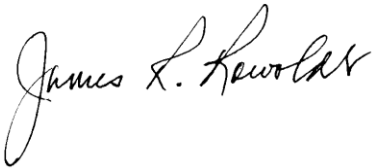
General Orders No. 2 - 2011-2012 Series

1. **Annual Members:** Are reminded that their annual membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars expires December 31, 2011, unless their 2012 dues are paid and reported to Department and National Headquarters. Commanders and Quartermasters are encouraged to make every effort to renew the membership of continuous members prior to January 1, 2012.
2. **Attention Post Commanders:** Post Commanders are directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed in detail at the close of each Quarter, one of which ends December 31, 2011. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster records.
3. **Inspections:** A thorough program of Post inspection is necessary to ensure compliance with National and Department By-Laws and directives. Department Inspectors and Deputies shall make every effort to inspect every Post under their cognizance on an annual basis and correct such discrepancies as may be disclosed.
4. **Attention Post Commanders:** Section 709 of the Manual of Procedure states: The VFW does not own interest in any clubroom, canteen, facility or any fund-raising activity operated by any such charters unit, not are clubrooms, canteens, facilities or other fund-raising activities operated for or on behalf of the VFW. VFW does not derive any profit from such facilities. Clubrooms, canteens, facilities and other fund raising activities or chartered units are carried on by such units in furtherance of the fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable and educational purposes set forth by Congress.
5. **Attention Post Commanders:** Post Commanders are directed to the Commander-in-Chief's decision in response to questions raised concerning alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting as set forth below: It is held to be objectionable and contrary to accepted rules order and proper decorum implicit in the ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to permit alcoholic beverages in the Post meeting room during the Post meeting. Accordingly, the presence, dispensation, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings is unacceptable and prohibited. Any such practice known to exist shall be terminated. It is the intent of the Commander-in-Chief's decision, regarding this response, to include Post, District and Department meetings, whereas it is held to be objectionable. Please refer to Section 1001 (24) of the National Manual of Procedure.
6. Recognition of Merchant Marine Seamen as veterans for the purpose of entitlement programs administered by the Veterans administration does not alter their eligibility status for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
7. **Displaying Military Service Symbols:** Military Service flags, insignias, etc., should be displayed in the following order (Left to Right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

- 8. All Post Commanders:** Should obtain current 2012 copies of the podium edition of the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. Copies of the revised edition are available through the VFW Store at National Headquarters. The 2012 edition reflects the amendments adopted by the 112th National Convention which became effective October 1, 2011.
- 9. Solicitation of Funds:** Post Commanders are directed to strictly comply with the provisions of Section 214 of the Manual of Procedure as it relates:
- a. To the solicitation of funds and conducting fund-raising activities or projects outside the geographical area or community of the Post.
 - b. Any written agreement with fund-raising organizations or individuals must be submitted to the Department Commander for review and approval at least thirty (30) days prior to the Post entering into any such agreement.
 - c. Bonding of any fund-raising organization or individual.

BY COMMAND OF
BOBBY PRICE
STATE COMMANDER

OFFICIAL:



James R. Rowoldt
State Adjutant/Quartermaster