

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO**

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 11-12-3

SEPTEMBER 2011

1. The **Voice of Democracy** program should receive top priority on the post activity schedule. Preparation should be made now to contact schools in your area. The deadline dates for completion of programs and judging are as follows:

School/Post competition	November 19
District competition	December 3

All district winning tapes, typed essays, photos, entry forms, biological questionnaires, and parent/guardian release forms must be in the hands of Department **Voice of Democracy Chairman Sam Compton** no later than **December 10th**. District Voice of Democracy chairman should assist posts whenever possible in completing their programs.

2. The **Big-Ten Conference** Meeting will be held in Sioux Falls, SD, **October 21-23, 2011**. Hotel reservation forms may be obtained by contacting Department Headquarters.
3. All posts are urged to be preparation of programs for **Veterans Day**, November 11; and **Pearl Harbor Day**, December 7.
4. Attention of post quartermasters is directed to the requirement of the timely filing of IRS Form 990, 990T and 990N, where applicable. Forms may be secured from the internet, local post office or branch of the IRS if they are not mailed to the Post by the IRS.
5. Attention is called to Section 703, National By-Laws, which requires each accountable officer of the organization to be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which, as far as can be anticipated, he may be accountable. The bond premium shall be paid from the funds of the district or the post as the case may be, to which each officer is accountable. The amount of the bond of each accountable officer shall be approved by the respective unit and held by the commanding officer. The commander of each unit shall be responsible for the proper and adequate bonding of all accountable officers of his unit.
6. **Attention all Commanders:** Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure requires the post trustees to properly prepare and submit a quarterly audit, through the post commander, to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector.
7. The Patriot's Pen Contest "**Are You Proud of Your Country?**" School/Post Competition should be by November 1. District completion should be by December 3. All District winning essay, entry form, picture, District Youth Essay Contest Report and District Youth Essay Contest participation summary report must be forwarded and received by Alice Lantz, Department Chairman, no later than **December 10, 2011**.

8. **General Orders Packets** – The General Orders information packets will be mailed out every other month. Posts will receive packets in August, October, December, February, April and June. Chairman wanting information in these packets must have their information to Department Headquarter by the 20th of the preceding month. The Ohio VFW News will be utilized to get time sensitive announcements to the membership. The VFW Department of Ohio has now a website www.ohiovfw.org. We will be utilizing the website also to get time sensitive announcement posted on the bulletin board to the membership.
9. Every Post chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United State will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2011-2012 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, National Citizenship Education Teacher’s Awards, Buddy Poppy and National Military Services. Additionally, it is that all Post and Department Commanders will comply with all provisions of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure and Ritual.
10. State Commander Gerald “Mort” Ward has declared **November 5, 2011** as ***Ruth Fint Day*** in Ohio in honor of our State Ladies Auxiliary President. All posts are asked not to schedule any events that will conflict with the homecoming testimonial to be given for Ruth on this day.

BY ORDER OF:
Gerald “Mort” Ward
State Commander

OFFICIAL:
Robert W. Funk, Jr.
Robert W. Funk Jr.
State Adjutant