



Department of Hawaii General Orders # 002

Series 2024-2025

July 22, 2024

1. Commander's Moment Vision for this year:

As we begin my tenure as commander with enthusiasm and hope for a successful 2024-2025 at the VFW Department of Hawaii. I have issued G.O.#1 with our officers and staff, whom I believe are highly capable of meeting the challenges ahead.

Membership is crucial for maintaining our influence and advocating for veterans' benefits. Without our over 1 million members nationwide, the PACT Act wouldn't have passed. I am committed to visiting every Post for meetings or fundraising events. Please contact my Adjutant, Ron Lockwood to schedule a visit alongside your annual Post inspection.

Start canvassing for Youth Education programs such as Patriot Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year awards. We have great talent in our state that can win these competitions, so let's showcase Hawaii in 2025.

We're privileged to host the 2024 Western Conference from October 31 to November 3rd. I encourage all VFW hawaii members to support this event and share your Hookipa with our mainland comrades. I promise a "Spooktacular" time!

Stay healthy, happy, and always be ready to help a veteran in need!

*Benedict Lui Lea'ana Fuata
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Hawaii Commander*

Polynesian Pride ~ "Where Veterans Matter Most!"

1. The following appointments are hereby made:

Assistant Membership

J.Frank Bragg.

Post 12138

2. Upcoming Events. Per a request at the July COA, recommend more event dates for members. Below are a few events the Department is aware of; this is NOT an all inclusive list.

27 July – 1 August National Convention in Louisville KY

4 August U.S. Coast Guard birthday



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18 August U.S. Air Force birthday

Wednesday, 21 August @1300 Services for U.S.S. Oklahoma F2c CARROLL at Punchbowl

22-25 August. Homecoming for CIC in Savannah GA

22-25 August. Golden Age Games in Salt Lake City, UT

20 September at 1000 POW/MIA Ceremony at Punchbowl

21 September, COA at 0900. OVC

Wednesday, 9 October at 1030. Services for U.S.S Oklahoma sailor BOCK at Punchbowl

16 November **Training Day** at OVC 0900 QM, Adjutants and Commanders

7 December Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

8 December, Auxiliary COA at OVC at 0900

14 December, VFW COA at OVC at 0900

7 February 2025 Homecoming for Fuata and Shiroma

8 February COA at OVC at 0900/ Luncheon VoD and Patriot Pen winners

April TBD **Training Day** for QMs, Adjutants and Commanders

18 April Ernie Pyle 80th Anniversary at Punchbowl

3. **Post Inspection Schedule.** Inspectors will be visiting Posts to inspect books during you meetings. IF YOU ARE NOT READY, bring the QM and the books to a COA or Training Session as above. Inspectors will need current information on your post adjutant and quartermaster to make arrangements to inspect.

SEPTEMBER POSTS 110, 2875, 3830, and 10154

OCTOBER POSTS 94, 352, 849, 970, 1540, 3850, 3875, 8616 and 10276

NOVEMBER POSTS 1572, 3292, and 12122

DECEMBER POSTS 3855, and 3870

APRIL 2025 POST 3391

4. POST BOND & TRUSTEE REPORT DEADLINE.

Every person that can sign Post checks or is responsible for Post property must be bonded. Bonds run from 1 September 2024 through 31 August 2025. Please submit your bond forms, one per person with a check by 15 August. Mahalo.

Each Officer accountable for funds or property under the National Bylaws must be bonded in an approved amount and surety by their respective Department.

Forms and rate sheet will be sent out as soon as they are received from the Surety company.

Post Commanders shall submit Trustee Report of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for the 4th quarter ending June 30, 2024; 1st quarter ending in September 30, 2024; 2nd quarter ending December 31, 2024; and 3rd quarter ending March 31, 2025. The deadline for the last quarterly report will be April 30, 2025. Each report must include a copy of the bank statement or other supporting documents.

5. **Kapolei CBOC (Community Based Outpatient Clinic) Service Office.** This new office is located at 91-1051 Franklin Roosevelt Avenue Room 1K106. The available hours are 0900-1100 and the telephone number is 808-433-0494.

6. **WESTERN CONFERENCE.** The conference will be held 31 October – 3 November at the Ala Moana Hotel

To register go to our website vfwhi.org

7. **Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen.** Themes: for Voice of Democracy, *“Is America Today Our Forefathers’ Vision”?* Patriot Pen theme is: *“My Voice in America’s Democracy”?* Brochures are available at VFW Hawaii department headquarters and on the vfwhi.org website so let your teachers know ASAP. The luncheon for the winners will be in February after the COA.

8. Commanders Membership incentive:

a. Membership Incentive for October 2024

1. \$5.00 for each new or reinstated annual member signed up in October
2. \$10.00 for each new life member signed up in October



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- b. The Department's Membership Plan is being updated to better align with with the National Commander-in-Chief's All-American Plan.

9. **Commander's Homecoming.**

- a. Date: Friday, 7 February
- b. Time: 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- c. Location: Natsunoya Tea House
- d. More details will be provided later.

10. **This year's COAs are currently scheduled:**

September 21, 2024

December 14, 2024

February 8, 2025

June 14, 2025

- 11. **National Home.** The National Commander-in-Chief and Auxiliary President will dedicate a monument to honor the 100th anniversary. The cost for the memorial its \$85,000. Through various fundraising efforts, over \$54,00 has been raised. Therefore our VFW National CIC and Auxiliary President have asked each department to contribute a total of \$1200. (\$600 each). The Department of Hawaii Commander and Auxiliary President have each pledged \$100 each, and challenged all VFW Hawaii Posts and Auxiliary to contribute. Any funds raised beyond the the \$1200 goal will be directed to the Hawaii House at the VFW National Home.

12. **Elected officers and Committee members?**

Any Officer or committee member who fails to pay current dues by their anniversary date will forfeit eligibility to hold any office in that administrative year.

- 13. **Posted office hours for the Department of Hawaii, Headquarters office** are 11:00 to 15:00 Monday through Friday. Contact information (808)-946-7250. E-mail vfwhawaii@yahoo.com.

- 14. **Posted office hours, for the Department of Hawaii, Service Office,** are 09:00 to 13:00 Monday through Friday. The Department Service Office is found at TAMC, E-wing Room 1C104, 459 Patterson Road, Honolulu Hawaii 96819. Email- vfw.vbahon@va.gov. Office phone (808)-433-0494/0495. ***DO NOT LEAVE any personally identifiable information***



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such as social security numbers as part of any message you leave.

15. **Community Service Reporting: Post Adjutants** are required to submit Community Service Reports on the All-American Dashboard at least monthly. Total money expended, Volunteer Hours, Total Volunteers, Mileage, and Event Explanation is required for each volunteering opportunity. Reports sent into Department will be entered into the Dashboard for the Post. Community Service Chairman Ronald Lockwood. Phone number (808)227-3773 or email to lockwood0849@gmail.com.

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

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

By Direction of:

Ben Fuata.

State Commander

OFFICIAL:

Ronald Lockwood
State Adjutant