

APRIL 2017 TALKING POINTS

- 1) Our Membership Standings as of Thursday, April 6, 2017 are the following: MICHIGAN is now in 21st Place in the Nation at 94.38%. We need 2,521 New, Reinstated and Continuous Members to reach 100%. WE CAN DO IT! WE CAN REACH 100% THIS YEAR. The District Standings have changed. District 6 is “now” in 1st Place at 95.88%. District 7 is “now” in 2nd Place at 95.57%. District 4 is “still” in 3rd Place at 95.34%. Which District will be in 1st Place next month? Thank You to EVERY Post, Council and District for your hard work and efforts in Membership!
- 2) WE now have (52) Posts as of April 6, 2017, that have achieved 100% in Membership. CONGRATULATIONS to these (52) Posts on their achievements! I look forward to a Lot More Posts Achieving 100%. You Can Do It!
- 3) Congratulations to our 1st Place Post 8846 Norton Shores in District 12 for signing up (14) New Members, our 2nd Place Posts are 1008 Waterford in District 5 with (13) New Members, and our 3rd Place Post with (12) New Members is 4139 Lapeer in District 10. Thank you to Every Post throughout the Department for signing up New Members. Keep it Up the Great Work!
- 4) The “Department Commander” must review any sale, purchase, transfer or encumbrance to determine whether such transaction serves the purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as prescribed in the Congressional Charter. “Failure to comply with these provisions shall nullify said transaction.” Read Sec. 709 – Control of Units on Pages 39-40. Any questions, contact Department Headquarters.
- 5) Department has signed a contract with PCI to produce a Historical Book of every VFW Member in the Department of Michigan. PCI will be contacting you soon for your participation and information including a picture of yourself. THIS IS “NOT” A SCAM. THIS IS OPTIONAL. But, please participate in this memorable book. You will not regret it. Departments of Texas and New Jersey have already completed their books. Florida is now working on theirs. They are beautiful! We have copies that will be available at the Department Convention for your review. If you have any questions, please contact your “District Commander”. Do Not Call or Contact Department Headquarters. We talked about this book last year, also at the Fall Conference and the Council of Administration including your District Commander voted for it at the Mid-Winter Conference. This History Book is for your generations to have of yourself.

- 6) Rifles are “not” to be returned to Department Headquarters in Lansing. They are to be returned “through” TACOM. See your District Commander for instructions.
- 7) There is NO SMOKING allowed inside VFW Posts. Failure to follow Local and State Laws will result in the Post being closed and placed on Suspension.
- 8) Please promote Camp Trotter for Children. This year’s pamphlets are available from any Camp Trotter Director and will also be available at District Meetings. This year there will be a 13-15-year-old addition from July 5-8, 2017.
- 9) Every Post Commander or his/her Designated Representative must attend all properly called District Meetings and District Convention (Section 218 (k)). Failure to attend (2) two District Meetings will result in the Removal of the Post Commander. Every Post has 13 Elected & Appointed Officers not counting Post Members that can attend District Meetings. Please make sure you have more than one member attending each District Meeting for unforeseen circumstances.
- 10) Post Elections are to be held at the April Post Meetings. Directly after the April Elections, please sent in your Post Election Reports “with” phone numbers and addresses. You must do this for your National, Department and your Incoming District Commander.
- 11) EVERY Post must pay your National and your Department Delegate Dues. It does not matter if your Post attends either of the National and/or State Conventions.
- 12) Delegates must be “elected” at your Post Membership Meetings. You “must” have them listed on your National and Department Delegate Forms. Also, elect “Alternates” in case a Delegate is absent. This way you will be able to vote your Post Delegate Strength at the State Convention.
- 13) Monthly Quartermaster’s Report must be audited and signed by the (3) Elected Trustees. There are “NO” Temporary Trustees or Pro-Tem Trustees. Any Trustee who cannot “attend” and perform the Monthly Quartermaster Audits must be replaced with a Trustee who can attend and perform the Trustee Duties.
- 14) Trustees are to audit “ALL” accounts involving money including counting CASH from ALL accounts (ATM, Canteen, Pull-Tabs, Bingo, Steak Outs, etc.) NO EXCEPTIONS! ALL Cash will be listed on the Monthly Quartermaster’s Report.

- 15) Any Post that is behind in (2) Trustee Quarterly Audits Reports will be placed on Suspension. Please complete your Trustee's Quarterly Audits on time.
- 16) Post Commanders "must" sign the Trustee Quarterly Audits. If Department receives a Trustee Quarterly Audit "without" the Post Commander's Signature, it will be returned to the Post Commander.
- 17) Every Post "must" complete a 990 "every year" to keep your Non-Profit Status.
- 18) Every Post "must" be Incorporated in the State of Michigan and per the VFW National By-Laws.
- 19) Any Unauthorized Money that has been removed from the Post "without" Membership Approval at a Scheduled Post Meeting will "not" be tolerated and action will be taken.
- 20) Activities & Hospital Reports are due at Department Headquarters by the 10th of every month following the completed month either electronically or by hardcopy mail.