

BYLAWS  
1<sup>ST</sup> LT. ALEXANDER BONNYMAN, JR. POST NO. 12135  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

ARTICLE I  
NAME AND LOCATION

Sec. 1. By virtue of charter granted, this post shall be known as 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alexander Bonnyman, Jr. Post No. 12135 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, hereafter referred to as the Post.

Sec. 2. The location of this Post shall be in Tellico Village, County of Loudon, State of Tennessee.

ARTICLE II  
SUBORDINATION

Sec. 1. The supreme power of this association is vested in the National Convention and this Post shall be at all times governed by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Bylaws of the Department of Tennessee, orders issued by authority of the National Convention, National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration and the Commander of the Department of Tennessee. Resolutions adopted by the National Convention are held to be lawful orders.

ARTICLE III  
MEETINGS

Sec. 1. Place: The regular meeting place of this Post shall be at the Tellico Village Yacht Club, 100 Sequoyah Road, Loudon, Tennessee 37774.

In accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 205 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, the Post may, after at least thirty (30) days written notice to the Department Commander and members of the Post, change its chartered location upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present *and voting* at a regular or special meeting.

Sec. 2. Time: The regular meetings of the Post shall be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, to be called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Post may, after at least fourteen (14) days written notice to the Department Commander and the members of the Post, change its meeting place, appointed day or time upon a majority vote of the members present *and voting* at a regular or special meeting called for such purpose in accordance with Article II, Section 203 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 3. Special meetings may be called in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 4. Quorum: Five (5) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 5. The voting membership at all times shall be confined to members in good standing of the Post.

#### ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. Membership in this Post, eligibility to, application for, acquiring and maintenance of, loss of and discipline shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. The *annual dues* of this Post shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) payable in accordance with the National Bylaws.

Sec. 3. The dues of this Post shall never be less than the amount required to cover Department and National dues.

Sec. 4. Proof of eligibility shall be maintained by the Post Adjutant.

ARTICLE V  
OFFICERS

Sec. 1. Eligibility to, nomination, election or appointment, installation and term of office shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. The duties of all officers shall be those prescribed by Department and National Bylaws, lawful orders as the Post may direct and as these Bylaws may provide.

ARTICLE VI  
COMMITTEES AND DUTIES

Sec. 1. All Committees and their chairmen, unless otherwise provided shall be appointed by the Commander as promptly as possible after election to office, and as such shall serve at his/her will and pleasure. The Post Quartermaster, by virtue of office shall be treasurer of all committees handling funds.

Sec. 2. The Standing Committees of the Post shall be as follows:

- (a) Membership
- (b) Relief
- (c) Buddy Poppy
- (d) Publicity
- (e) Core Projects

Sec. 3. Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee shall be chaired by the Senior Vice Commander and shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members in good standing to be appointed by the Commander. The duty of this committee is to organize, promote and conduct membership efforts around retention and recruitment to include conducting membership drives.

Sec. 4. Relief Committee:

The Relief Committee shall consist of the Service Officer, Post Commander and the Post Quartermaster. The Relief Committee shall make monthly reports to the membership showing cases handled, action taken and results. In accordance with Sec. 704 of the Manual of Procedure, the net proceeds of all Poppy Day collections shall be deposited into a separate fund to be known as the Relief Fund.

The Relief Fund shall be used to assist needy veterans, members of the Armed Forces and their families, widows and orphans as outlined in Sec. 704 of the National Bylaws. Monies from the Relief Fund may not be loaned.

Monies in the fund may be invested in government bonds or other approved securities as determined by Post Commander and Post Quartermaster. The Committee shall obtain approval from the membership at a regular business meeting prior to any expenditure in excess of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Sec. 5. Buddy Poppy Committee:

The Buddy Poppy Committee shall consist of a Chairman and a minimum of one (1) additional member in good standing to be appointed by the Commander. The committee shall plan the distribution of poppies on the annual VFW Poppy Days. The Poppy Chairman shall determine that dates of the annual drive, subject to approval by the Post Commander.

Sec. 6. Publicity Committee:

The Publicity Committee shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the Commander and other Post members as deemed appropriate and necessary. With review and concurrence of the Executive Committee, the Publicity Committee shall generate and publish and/or assist the generation and publication of publicity for all Post meetings, events, fundraisers, etc. Duties of the Publicity Committee also include creation and maintenance of a Post Internet website, newsletter, etc. as approved by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 7. Core Projects Committee:

The Core Project Committee shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the Commander and other Post members as deemed appropriate and necessary. With review and concurrence of the Executive Committee, the Core Projects Committee shall administer and produce Post Core Projects to include, but not limited to Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Scout of the Year, Teacher of the Year and Police Officer of the Year.

ARTICLE VII  
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Sec. 1. Expenditure of funds shall be made only after prior authorization by the Post and on proper voucher drawn by the Adjutant and approved by the Commander. All checks for the expenditure of Post funds shall be numbered in sequence, the number of each check to correspond with the voucher authorizing the same, other expenditures may be made using acceptable banking practices. All disbursements of Post funds shall bear the signature of the Quartermaster or other person(s) authorized by the Quartermaster. Such other authorized person(s) shall be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. The adoption of this Article shall constitute authorization by the Post on the specific authorization of the Post in each and every case, *not to exceed an amount previously established by the Post.*

Sec. 3. No other payment or expenditure shall be made except on the specific authorization of the Post in each and every case.

Sec. 4. Post Relief Fund monies shall be maintained in a bank account with a unique number and separate from all Post monies.

The Post Quartermaster's monthly report shall include an itemization of all Post funds expended the previous month pursuant to this Section. All expenditures made pursuant to this Section shall be put to a vote of the general Post membership at the next regularly scheduled Post meeting.

ARTICLE VIII  
COMPENSATION

Sec. 1. No compensation shall be paid to any officer of this Post for their services as such officer, except as hereafter may be provided.

ARTICLE IX  
FUNDRAISING PROMOTIONS/SOLICITATIONS

Sec. 1. This Post shall solicit funds or donations only by prior vote of the members agreeing to the proposition. It shall not solicit funds or donations or otherwise engage in fundraising activities or projects outside the immediate geographical area or community of the Post.

Sec. 2. This Post shall not enter into any agreement with a promoter for the purpose of raising funds unless the said promoter shall have first furnished a good and sufficient surety bond in a principal sum sufficient to give the Post ample protection in the particular circumstances. The said bond shall be subject to the approval of the Post Advocate, bear the endorsement of the Post Commander and be kept in the possession of the Post Quartermaster. The bond will be conditioned on the payment to the Post Quartermaster of all monies due the Post as a result of the solicitation within thirty (30) days of the close of the campaign. If the promoter has made satisfactory settlement within the thirty day period, then surety will be determined to be discharged, otherwise the bond will remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 3. If the bond cannot be furnished, then all collections shall be made by the members of the Post sponsoring the campaign or entertainment and said funds shall be paid to a bonded officer of the Post who shall hold the funds in their custody pending proper pro rata distribution.

Sec. 4. Fundraising organizations or individuals conducting solicitations, activities or projects for a profit shall not be engaged or used by the Post for such purpose unless such engagement is made by written agreement between the Post and the organization or individuals providing those services. The form of any such written agreement must be submitted to the Department Commander for review at least thirty (30) days prior to any Post entering into any such agreement.

Sec. 5. Unless previously authorized by a majority vote of the Post, no solicitations or ticket sales shall be permitted in the Post quarters or at socials or meetings unless such solicitations or ticket sales shall have been approved by the Post.

#### ARTICLE X MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 1. Every member of this Post shall keep the Post Adjutant and Quartermaster advised of their current address by promptly reporting any change of same.

Sec. 2. One copy of these Bylaws shall be issued to each elected and appointed officer of this Post.

Sec. 3. In all Post procedures not provided for by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws or these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the authority, and it shall be the duty of the Judge Advocate, in an advisory way, when called upon to do so by the Post Commander to advise the Post Commander on the proper rule(s).

Sec. 4. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold or consumed at the Post regular monthly or special meeting.

ARTICLE XI  
AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1. These Bylaws shall become effective after adoption by this Post and after review by the Commander of the Department and Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Sec. 2. These Bylaws may be amended by the Post by a two-thirds vote of the members present *and voting* at a meeting, provided each member had been notified at least twenty (20) days in advance and upon request provided a copy of the proposed amendments.

Sec. 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this Post as though written herein.

These Bylaws were adopted, subject to the review of the Commander-in-Chief and the Commander of the Department of Tennessee, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on May 10, 2019, August 19, 2020 and November 18, 2020 day at a regular meeting of this Post in the Tellico Village and County of Loudon, State of Tennessee.

1<sup>ST</sup> LT. ALEXANDER BONNYMAN, JR. POST NO. 12135  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commander

OFFICIAL:

By

*Brian Mitchell*

Adjutant

APPROVED:

FOR THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

*John Scott*

Dept. Adjutant



REVIEWED **APR 15 2021**  
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

\_\_\_\_\_  
BY JOHNATHAN R. DUNCAN, DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS