

**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**

**General Orders #10**

**“Dig In”**

**April 1, 2018**

1. **Membership.** All State, District and Post Officers are asked work harder on membership this month as time is running short. This is necessary for our Great State of South Dakota to achieve 100% membership this year. Please help your membership drive by putting on a **push now** to attain your Posts membership quota.

2. **Special Notice.** 2018-2019 Themes for Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen are: Voice of Democracy – “Why My Vote Matters”. Patriots Pen – “Why I Honor the American Flag”.

3. **Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions. Reference Section 213, Page 15 of National By-Laws.** Any Post in arrears for any financial obligation to District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to assure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed Quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post-Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligation, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

4. **Audit Reports.** Has your Post sent in its last Audit Report yet? A review of the Posts submission of Audit Reports indicates that some are missing. It is the Post Commander’s responsibility to ensure that they are sent in on a timely basis. If you don’t know what reports you have sent in, call the State Office to find out.

5. **IRS Form 990.** All Posts that enjoy tax exemption status are advised that they must answer all questions on pages 1, 2, and 3 of the IRS Form 990. Submitting a copy of the Post Financial Statement in lieu of answering the individual questions is not acceptable. If the questions are not answered the IRS will return Form 990 to the Post. **Report must be filed by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month following the close of the fiscal year.**

6. **Special Olympics.** Our goal this year is \$1,500. Posts are asked to make generous donations to the Special Olympics Fund Program. Send donations to VFW Department headquarters.

7. **Post Elections.** Reference Section 217, page 71, Manual of Procedure, Nomination Election, Installation, of Officers and Term of Office. Officers shall be nominated in March and shall be elected in April. Nominations shall remain open until the Post is ready to vote.

8 **Installation of Officers.** Reference Section 217, page 71, Manual of Procedure. The Post Commander-elect will select the installing officer who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of Post Commander. Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. The installation may be conducted publicly at an open meeting. An Officer-elect who may be absent for good and sufficient reason or cause may be installed at any regular or special meeting prior to the Department convention. If not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant. Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year except that three trustees shall initially be elected for terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years and thereafter one (1) trustee shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years.

9. **District Commanders.** Reference Section 417, Page 20 of National By-Laws. The elected District Officers shall be nominated and elected annually at the District Convention or Spring Meeting. Nomination, election and installation shall be in a manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure. The District Commanders will be installed again at the Department Convention in June, 2017 as a member of the Department Council of Administration, according to Section 522 Council of Administration – Composition, Powers and Duties, Page 27.

10. **2018-2019 Report of Election Forms.** These forms are mailed out by National Headquarters to the Post Adjutants who have been instructed to return the completed document directly to National Headquarters. **Post Adjutants are asked to make a copy** and send it to the State Headquarters so that we will know the election report has been completed. It is very important that you complete these election forms in the time allowed or your Post or District will be removed from the rosters at National Headquarters. The deadline is June 1, 2018 and if your election report is not in by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018,

your post will be put on the suspension list immediately. There will be no grace period as in past years. All positions must be filled and a member is not allowed to hold more than one elected office, see Sections 216, Elected and Appointed Offices, page 16. If the election report is not sent in on time the Post and officers will not receive any information from National and your dues notices will not be sent out to your membership. A copy of the 2018-2019 **Post Election Report** is enclosed in this General Order.

**11. Delegates, District/State Conventions.** Reference National By-Laws, Section 222, and Page 76. Posts shall elect delegates and alternates to District conventions at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention at which District officers are to be elected, one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election. Delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election. **Review your meeting date and make sure it's at least 30 days prior to June 22nd.**

**12. National Convention Delegates.** Reference National By-Laws, Section 222, page 17. Each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall entitle the Post to a packet of Convention information materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional attending delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10.00) delegate fee.

**13. Community Service Record Books.** All Community Service projects completed during the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 should be included when making your Post/Auxiliary record book. Record Books must be received by April 22, 2018 and are to be sent to State Chairman, Sean Johnson, 1005 N Main, Aberdeen SD 57402. Community Service Record Book forms may be downloaded from the Department Web site – [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) .

**14. Judging for the All-State Team of Commanders, District Commanders and Post Quartermasters.** Judging will be on May 9th, 2018, starting at 13:00 in Sioux Falls. All report information must be received at State Headquarters by 5 pm, Tuesday, May 8th, 2018. Please refer to the 2017-2018 Department Membership Program Booklet for details on these contests. A copy may be downloaded from the Department Web site – [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) .

**15. Buddy Poppies.** Posts are reminded to order their Buddy Poppies and poppy supplies and to complete arrangements for their year's poppy distribution. Order forms may be downloaded from the Department Web site – [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) .

**16. Department Convention.** The 2018 Department Convention will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Sioux Falls, SD, hosted by Post 628. For more convention information, i.e., registration, motel information, convention schedule, etc, go to the Home Page at the Department web site – [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) . Convention Ads for the 2018 Convention Booklet is due by May 1, 2018. Convention book ad submission form may be downloaded from the department web site – [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) .

**17. Commemorative Dates. Reference Section 223, Page 77 of Manual of Procedure.** Posts shall make arrangements for observances of Memorial Day. See that suitable grave markers, wreaths and United States flags are placed on the graves of deceased veterans and if practicable, conduct Memorial Day Services at the cemeteries in its locality. Posts shall see that suitable arrangements are made for the observance of Flag Day and Loyalty Day. **Also, Posts** should arrange special ceremonies, and all Commanders should alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of other dates specified in the Ritual. Remember to report details of these events in your Community Service Report.

**18. Spring District Meetings:** See separate sheet on meeting dates, times, place, etc.

OFFICIAL:

*Darwin Tolzin*  
Darwin Tolzin, Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

BY ORDER OF:

*Rick Williamson*  
Rick Williamson, Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

**NOTICE: TO ALL COMMANDERS**

**We will no longer be mailing General Orders out!**

**PLEASE update your email address with the State Headquarters NOW!**

**We will email the orders out OR you can go to the web site sdvfw.org and click on the General Orders for the month and print them off.**

**Thank You in advance for your cooperation on this.**

**\*\*If you don't have an email we can send it to someone in your post by email\*\***

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**Department Judging for All-State Awards for 2017 - 2018**

**Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1300**

**Post 628, 3601 S Minnesota Ave, Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

**All reports must be in to State Headquarters by 5 pm, Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



**Election of Officers for Department**

At this time the following members have announced their candidacy for the 2017-2018 VFW year:

Commander	Danny Frisby-Griffin	Post 2638	Madison
Sr. Vice Commander	Sean Johnson	Post 17	Aberdeen
Jr. Vice Commander	Cody Mangold	Post 791	Yankton
Quartermaster	Darwin Tolzin	Post 2118	Brookings
Chaplain	Colin Reisner	Post 791	Yankton
Judge Advocate	Barbara McKean	Post 3298	Parkston
Surgeon	Tim Brookes	Post 1273	Rapid City

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**District Meeting Schedule**

<b>District 1</b>	<b>April 29, 2018</b>	<b>Yankton, SD at 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Post home #791</b>	<b>Sean Johnson</b>
<b>District 4</b>	<b>April 22, 2018</b>	<b>Watertown, SD at 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Post home #750</b>	<b>Cody Mangold</b>
<b>District 6</b>	<b>April 22, 2018</b>	<b>Faulkton, SD at 2PM</b>	<b>Dot T's</b>	<b>Danny Frisby-Griffin</b>
<b>District 7</b>	<b>April 22, 2018</b>	<b>Burke, SD at 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Post home #9950</b>	<b>Rick Williamson</b>
<b>District 10</b>	<b>April 15, 2018</b>	<b>Sturgis, SD 10 AM, MDT</b>	<b>Post home #2730</b>	<b>Barbara McKean</b>



Loyalty Day is May 1<sup>st</sup>

Please get your reports in ASAP for judging.

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**April 2018 General Orders  
Commander Rick Williamson**

What can I say about membership that hasn't already been said. Sean and DD have been working it very hard and I do appreciate everything that everyone has done, however, please don't let up until the Department makes our goal of 100%. Every new and reinstate member count and ARE the future of this organization.

We had a very nice and productive trip to DC last month. Custer Post was well represented. We visited with all of our legislators at least twice. They know what we expect from them and seem to be on board with the requests of veterans. Senator Rounds was very informative and is doing a great job on his committee assignments. I truly believe he is looking out for not just the veterans of our state, but, for all veterans across our nation. Senator Thune and Representative Noem are also doing everything they can, and pledge to continue to do so. They were all very interested in the Veterans Cemetery Bill and wanted to know how it was proceeding. We had unwavering support from these people and they hoped it would become a reality.

During the VOD March, Carrie and I, had the honor of taking the walk with Ms. Olivia Heineke. What a wonderful young lady, who has such a great plan for her future. I don't know that last time I have seen someone so excited as she was when we finally meet up. She was having a terrific time with the other winners, making new friends, and was already planning for her Valley Forge trip this summer. Olivia represented South Dakota very well and I am extremely proud of this young lady.

Just in case you haven't heard we are now getting the State Veterans Cemetery on the east side of the state. The bill was approved unanimously by both the senate and the house, and the Governor has signed it into law. This is a major victory for the veterans of this state that has been worked on for a very long time. We have the Endowment Fund set up so that donations can be taken and I urge everyone to please make a donation to this great cause. If every veteran in the state of South Dakota donates only \$10.00 to this fund we will have over \$720,000 donated by veterans to this cause and will show the state that we are committed to taking care of each other. There is a link to donate on our VFW website or if you prefer you can send a donation to the Department office with a note indicating that it is for the Cemetery Endowment Fund and we will get it to them. I THANK each of you for your support as we pushed this through the legislative session and am honor to have been your commander when this became a reality. "Nobody does more for Veterans" and we just proved it yet again. Thank You from the bottom of my heart. This has been a great year so far and I have no doubt we will continue to do more wonderful things in the future.

Have a great April, enjoy the spring weather that is coming, I promise it is coming, be safe, and recruit a new member for our VFW. God Bless

Rick Williamson  
Commander  
214 N. Wicker, Canton S.D. 57013

"The Future is Now"  
"Dig In"  
[rick@johnsonfeedinc.com](mailto:rick@johnsonfeedinc.com)

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota  
State Sr. Vice Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 04/18**

Greeting Comrades,

We really need your help! If you live in the Sioux Falls area and are willing to help us run the VFW 10U and 12U State Class AA Baseball Tournaments July 13-15 please get in touch with me. This is the first year back for Class AA and we don't have a host city lined up. We hope a team or city steps up for next year. Post

Commanders with Class AA teams (ADM of 500 or greater), please reach out to them and let them know we're back in business and registration is open.

Class AA 12U information is located here: <https://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/page/show/4048131-2018-12u-class-aa>

Class AA 10U information is located here: <https://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/page/show/4048137-2018-10u-class-aa>

Registration Link is on our home page: <https://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/home>

Please, continue to send me your Memorial and Veterans Day program reports.

As of **March 26, 2018**, I've received 27 Memorial Day reports (Brandon\*, Canton, Elk Point\*, Sioux Falls\*, Vermillion\*, Brookings\*, Madison\*, Milbank\*, Sisseton\*, Aberdeen\*, Gettysburg\*, Pierre\*, Turton\*, Armour\*, Burke\*, Lake Andes\*, Marty\*, Mitchell\*, Parkston\*, Scotland\*, Wagner\*, Winner\*, Custer\*, Deadwood\*, Newell\*, Quinn\* and Rapid City\*).

As of **March 26, 2018**, I've received only 29 Veterans Day reports (Alcester, Brandon\*, Canton, Elk Point\*, Sioux Falls\*, Vermillion\*, Brookings\*, Madison\*, Milbank\*, Sisseton\*, Webster, Aberdeen\*, Gettysburg\*, Pierre\*, Turton\*, Armour\*, Burke\*, Chamberlain, Lake Andes\*, Mitchell\*, Marty\*, Parkston\*, Wagner\*, Winner\*, Custer\*, Deadwood\*, Newell, Quinn and Rapid City\*).

A \* signifies the posts that met the **December 31, 2017** early reporting requirement.

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

State SR Vice Commander, Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin

.....  
**South Dakota VFW**  
**Junior Vice Commander**  
**Sean Johnson**

Hello Comrades:

Time is going by so fast, there is so much to do at the end of the year, to prepare for the end of the year reports. We also have community books, newsletters, and judging for state white hats. The Commanders year has gone by fast and is also coming to an end so if you see him before or at convention make sure to tell him he did a great job this year. I and D.D. Couch have been busy with the District Commanders working membership. We have been steadily going upward to the 97% mark, and we will make that 100% before the end of the year. I want to let you know we need to keep trying, but also how very proud I am of each and every one of you for trying to get this done. This can be a thankless job but a necessary one to survive.

I WANT TO ASK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE FOR ME FOR SENIOR VICE COMMANDER FOR 2018 – 2019. It would be my honor to serve you in this capacity for the up and coming year.

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**Cody Mangold Judge Advocate**

Comrades,

Another month has flown by us. I hope all had a great Easter and are ready for the elections to decide your next leadership at all levels. Reports are coming in and definitely keeping me busy. I am getting reports now from posts that hadn't turned in earlier. Goes to show you, that it's okay to turn them in at any time.

Cody Mangold Judge Advocate  
[cody.mangold@hotmail.com](mailto:cody.mangold@hotmail.com)

605-770-1030

1101 Main St Tyndall, SD 57066

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**Barbara K. McKean  
State Surgeon  
April General Orders**

Are you a life member of the VFW? By becoming a VFW Life member, you make a lifetime commitment to serving your fellow service members and veterans. That's something to take great pride in.

You'll also enjoy many great benefits of being a Life member! You will:

- Avoid annual dues and renewals.
- Maintain your membership in any Post you choose, worldwide!
- Never pay an increase in dues—Guaranteed!
- Receive a 10% discount on exclusive VFW Store merchandise for the first year.

You can become a VFW Life member by making a one-time payment, or you can pay for your Life membership through our installment plan with an initial \$45 payment and the Life membership amount billed over an 11-month period. **Contact your local Quartermaster for assistance.**

You can access the Overseas Veteran <http://www.sdvfw.org/Uploads/documents/27/201707OSV.pdf> . All reports are available on the state website at <http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-forms> .

In addition, the VFW Convention/councils forms are available under VFW Convention at the same website. The 2018 SD Annual Convention and Registration Information link is now live. Dates are June 14-16 at Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls. If you have not attended a convention, I encourage you to attend this one. I attended my first one about 4 years ago and have never looked back. Call me if you have any questions.

I look forward working with you. Please reach out and let me know if there is anything I can do to assist.

Barb

*Barbara McKean*

State Surgeon

504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366

C: 605-630-0771; Email: [mckean4@live.com](mailto:mckean4@live.com)



Please check this report for accuracy for your post, judging is coming SOON!

Dist.	Post #	Post City	Election Report	Delegate Fees	audit 1 Apr-June	audit 2 July- Sept.	audit 3 Oct-Dec	audit 4 Jan-March	Post Insp.	Hospital	Service & Rehab	Memorial Park	Buddy Poppies	Loyalty Day	Veterans Day	Memorial Day	Comm.Service	Membership Plan	Surgon & Safety Rpt		
4	10632	Dell Rapids	x																		
		<b>District 6</b>						x													
6	17	Aberdeen	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	5000	x	x						
6	1776	Huron	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1500								
6	2038	Pierre	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	4500	x	x						
6	2741	Mobridge	x																		
6	2755	Redfield	x	x	x																
6	3179	Faulkton	x																		
6	3214	Miller	x		x			x					700								
6	5126	Eureka	x		x	x	x			x	x	x		x							
6	5548	Wessington Springs	x	x	x	x	x														
6	6481	Turton	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	150	x	x						
6	8530	Gettysburg	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x						
		<b>District 7</b>																			
7	1353	Marty	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	100	x	x						
7	2750	Mitchell	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	2500	x	x						
7	2966	Scotland	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x					
7	3239	Lake Andes	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	250	x	x						
7	3298	Parkston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	380	x	x						
7	4674	Winner	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1000	x	x						
7	6436	Chamberlain	x		x	x	x	x						x							
7	6554	Plankinton	x	x	x	x	x	x					440								
7	6895	Tyndall	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x										
7	6897	Armour	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x						
7	7319	Wagner	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	800	x	x		x				



Please check this report for accuracy for your post, judging is coming SOON!

Dist.	Post #	Post City	Election Report	Delegate Fees	audit 1 Apr-June	audit 2 July- Sept.	audit 3 Oct-Dec	audit 4 Jan-March	Post Insp.	Hospital	Service & Rehab	Memorial Park	Buddy Poppies	Loyalty Day	Veterans Day	Memorial Day	Comm.Service	Membership Plan	Surgon & Safety Rpt		
7	9950	Burke	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	600		x	x					
		<b>District 10</b>																			
10	1273	Rapid City	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	5000		x	x					
10	2730	Sturgis	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	1000								
10	2969	Lemmon	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	1200								
10	3312	Belle Fourche	x		x	x			x	x	x	x									
10	3442	Custer	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	6000		x	x					
10	5751	Faith	x		x	x			x	x	x	x									
10	5807	Newell	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	150		x	x					
10	5860	Spearfish	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	2000								
10	5969	Deadwood	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	2250		x	x					
10	9120	Quinn	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	200		x	x					
10																					