

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

**General Orders #1**

**“PROVIDING TOP COVER”**

**July 1, 2018**

Thank you to everyone that helped make the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual SD VFW Convention a celebration of Commander Rick’s success. I would like to especially thank the members and Auxiliary of Posts 3164 and 628. Your unselfish efforts ensured the convention came off without a hitch.

1. Having been duly elected and installed as Commander of the State of South Dakota, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby command. **All previous State appointments are canceled.**
2. All personal communications to the State Commander can be sent to: Danny Frisby-Griffin, 418 NE 5<sup>th</sup> St., Madison, SD 57042. Requests for State Commander or State Officer attendance at events should be coordinated through the State Adjutant’s office to ensure availability and deconfliction.
3. **All OFFICIAL Communications** to the State Headquarters, for the Commander, Sr Vice, Jr Vice and all line officers including the State Adjutant or the State Quartermaster shall be sent to: 3601 South Minnesota Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57105.
4. **Post Commanders:** General Orders will be read at your meetings or printed and passed out, then filed for future use. General Orders will also be posted on the SD VFW Web site- [www.sdvwf.org](http://www.sdvwf.org).
5. Elected Officers for the State of South Dakota, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United State for the year 2018-2019, were elected and installed at the annual convention held in Sioux Falls on June 16, 2018, and all officers appointed are expected to carry out the duties of their respective offices to the best of their abilities. National and State By-Laws outline the duties of the offices.
6. Section 222, Paragraph D, National By-Laws, requires that each Post register at least on delegate for the National Convention. If your Post has not registered one delegate, please do so immediately online at [VFW.Org](http://VFW.Org).
7. It is recommended that all who plan to attend the National Convention in Kansas City, Mo., register in advance online at [VFW.Org](http://VFW.Org). Cost for a Post is \$25.00 and all additional members are \$10.00. If writing a check, make payable to Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and mail to VFW National Headquarters, Attn: Quartermaster General, 406 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.

8. The attention of all Post Commanders is directed to Section 222, paragraph C of the National By-Laws. Delegates will not be recognized at the National Convention unless they personally register with the National Credentials Committee.
9. All District and Post Commanders are asked to select a member or officer to be the Chairperson of VOD, Patriots Pen, Teachers Awards, Buddy Poppy, Veterans & Military Support, Membership, Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT and Scouting citations. Also, appoint a member to be the Post Service Officer and forward the names of these Chairpersons to the State Headquarter along with an email address and phone number.
10. All District Commanders, District Membership Captains, Post Commanders and Post Membership Captains please work to increase your District and Post membership so that you can qualify for the 2018-2019 All-State Team of District and Post Commanders.
11. All Post Commanders are asked to appoint a Chairperson for the observance of Veterans Day 2018. **THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT DAY.**
12. **All Posts:** Report any and all [Community Service](#) projects to the State Judge Advocate, Barbara McKean, 504 S Wallace St., Parkston, SD 57366. Email [mckean4@live.com](mailto:mckean4@live.com).
13. All State, District and Post Officers as well as all VFW members are asked to wear the official VFW cover to all meetings and functions held in their communities.
14. The Fall Council of Administration, Commander and Auxiliary Presidents Homecoming will be held at Oacoma, SD on October 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> 2018.
15. The State Convention will be held June 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Madison, with Post #2638 and Auxiliary as the host Post.
16. Post Homes and Clubroom facilities should be known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars and only the abbreviation in lieu thereof is VFW. The use of names such as VFW Club, and VETS Club, etc., lowers the dignity of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Watch for By-Law changes that may be forthcoming concerning this issue.
17. National and State Constitutions and By-Laws prohibit the use of the Veterans of Foreign Wars name by private business and commercial businesses operating under the name of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is prohibited. Post so operating are hereby directed to take corrective measures to eliminate such practice within 30 days. Again, some of the requirements are being reviewed at the National Convention, so watch for By-Law updates.
18. **The 2019 Membership year officially begins July 1, 2018.** All Districts and Posts are asked to start their kickoff immediately.
19. Membership books for the year 2018-2019 both [State](#) and [National](#) are now on the SD VFW Website. There is also an All-State Post and District [qualification tracking sheet](#) on the website.

20. Under the Direct Dues Program, Post will send payment direct to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.
21. To report continuous, new, reinstated, continuous transfer or non-paying transfers, the DP form will be used or done by direct membership.
22. Check the [SD VFW Baseball Website](#) or [Department of SD VFW Facebook Event Pages](#) for dates and locations of the 2018 VFW State Baseball Tournaments.
23. **Sending In Material For General Orders:** All Department Officers, State Chairman and anyone else that wants to publish information in the General Orders must submit the material to Department Headquarters or the Department Adjutant by no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the publication of the General Orders.
24. **HOT ITEMS COMING UP:** Bonds, State Fair Manning, Veterans Day, Fall Council of Administration, Homecoming, Big 10 Conference, Schedule for District Meetings, etc.

OFFICIAL:

*Darwin Tolzin*

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

BY ORDER OF:

*J. D. Frisby-Griffin*

J. Danny Frisby-Griffin, Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota  
State Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 07/2018**

Greeting Comrades,

Thank you for your past and future support! I welcome your recommendations and suggestions on how to make sure the Department of SD VFW fully "Provides Top Cover" for the veterans across this great state. It is your time and skills that make the VFW the premier veterans service organization across the Nation. This will be a fun and exciting year as we round the corner of innovation, efficiency and fiduciary responsibility. Please have patience as we transition to a new website over the next couple of months. We'll let you know when it is active.

Thank you Rick, for your tireless work on behalf of South Dakota veterans and I look forward to leaning on your experience and mentorship. A special thank you to John M. Bliss VFW Post 628 for hosting the outstanding 88<sup>th</sup> SD VFW Annual Convention. The Post and Auxiliary superbly demonstrated how to take care of veterans and their families.

Now is the time to start working your membership activities. Please take the time to read both the 2018-2019 [National](#) and [SD Membership](#) Plans. They have changed significantly from past plans. Also, checkout this link to track your [All State qualification criteria](#). This year you'll be able to track how you're doing during the year and if something seems off you can get answers early.

I'm disappointed we were unable to convince enough Class AA 10U and 12U baseball teams to enter our state tournament. We had to cancel Class AA baseball for 2018 but plan to get the information out even earlier next year. In fact, it is already on our baseball website. Our tournaments start in only a couple of weeks. If you would like to help out and represent the Department at any of our regional or state tournaments listed on our Facebook event page, please drop me a note or message me on Facebook.

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

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

State Commander, Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin  
[Danny.frisby-griffin@outlook.com](mailto:Danny.frisby-griffin@outlook.com)

**General Orders # 1**  
**Senior Vice Commander**  
**Sean Johnson**

Dear Comrades:

I wish to congratulate you on a successful conference in Sioux Falls! I appreciate your confidence in my ability to continue to serve you as Senior Vice Commander. Under the leadership of Commander Danny Griffin our team is ready to get to work.

July is filled with activities and opportunities to get involved. There are VFW baseball tournaments the second and third weekends in July. If you are able to help and show your support for the teams, please let Danny know.

The National Convention is being held in Kansas City, MO from July 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to meet with our national leaders at national headquarters. I highly encourage all VFW members to attend, if able. This annual convention is filled my quality opportunities for learning and engaging. If you attend, please bring back information and share your experience with your posts.

There will be a Veterans Council Meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss the progress on the veterans cemetery and the endowment fund. We can be proud that we are making a pledge to the endowment fund as a veteran group. We will share information following the meeting.

I challenge each post to elect a membership captain and submit the name to your district. Please review the requirements and due dates in the membership/all state plans.

Enjoy your summer and stay tuned for more updates in the next General Orders.

Thank you,  
Sean Johnson  
Senior Vice Commander

Comrades,

Thank you for entrusting me with another year as a line officer. I humbly accept this position as the Junior Vice Commander for South Dakota. I look forward to another great year and the goal is to have 100% for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row which obviously due to the last 2 years can be done. The recruiting and retaining has been doing well, but we will need to work that much harder this year. This year there are membership captains for the post and the district. The department and myself need those as soon as possible as this is part of your membership plan. Your membership captain for the District and Post for extra point should get their report to me by July 1, 2018. Membership plans are still due by December 31, 2018. Membership plans will continue to be accepted even after December 31, 2018. Please work on Life Membership, and the goal this year is to obtain more Legacy Life Members. The Levels are Bronze-\$400; Silver-800; and Gold 1200. The legacy will give the department and your post money even after you have past on. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Cody Mangold Jr. Vice Commander

[cody.mangold@hotmail.com](mailto:cody.mangold@hotmail.com)

605-770-1030

1101 Main St. Tyndall, SD

**Barbara K. McKean**  
**Judge Advocate**  
**July General Orders**

**We Are the Pillar of Support!** Promoting civic responsibility, patriotism, and supporting youth and local programs in communities across America are just a few of the many ways we give back to those who've afforded us our freedom.

**Community** - The true character of America is measured by her communities and the people who work to improve them. Whether at a national level or in their own backyards, our members dedicate millions of hours each year working to spread patriotism and honor our nation's heroes.

**Youth and Education** - For decades, we've understood that the youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. That's why we remain dedicated to establishing programs designed for young people and educators - offering everything from college scholarships to classroom resources for teachers.

**Troop Support** - As the nation's largest organization of combat veterans, we're dedicated to providing our troops and their families with the support they need during all phases of deployment. Our members understand first-hand the burdens of deployment, and that's why we have troop support programs ready to assist.

**Community Service** - Since 1899, we've fought to preserve the values that make America great because we know how important community service is to America. With volunteerism benefiting education, the environment, health sciences and civic projects, join us in this mission by getting involved in your community and honoring America's veterans.

Thank you for entrusting me to serve you this year in the capacity as Judge Advocate for 2018-2019. It is truly my honor to work alongside my fellow veterans this next year. I learned so much my first year as your State Surgeon and had the opportunity to meet many of you as I traveled the state attending conventions and district meetings, and I look forward to meeting more of you and continuing to learn as I much as I can as I continue down my journey with you.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you this year. My year as Judge Advocate as you can see from above will focus on Community Service and I'm here to assist you with Community Service Projects and your reports. Reports should be sent to me by the 10th of the month following the last month of the Quarter. I do prefer they be emailed to me if possible. Mark your calendars now. The Quarters are: May 1 - Jul 31; Aug 1 - Oct 31; Nov 1 - Jan 31; Feb 1 - Apr 30.

Let's have a fun & successful year comrades! Reports are available on the state website at <http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-forms>.

v/r,  
Barb

*Barbara McKean*

I would like to thank you all for the vote of confidence in electing me as your Department Surgeon. I look forward to the year ahead as we pursue goals, fight for veterans, and hopefully have some fun along the way.

As your surgeon my main focus will be on the Hospital and Safety programs. I would like to see every post in the state participate in these programs this year. As a reminder, reports are due quarterly in August, November, February, and May. To receive maximum points for all-state judging, these reports need to be to me by the tenth of the month for which they are due. Please remember that the hospital and safety report is one report with multiple pages. It is available for download on the state VFW website at [sdvfw.org](http://sdvfw.org) under the forms section.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me via phone/text at (605)464-7544 and/or email at [crize84@gmail.com](mailto:crize84@gmail.com). Again, I look forward to serving as your Department Surgeon and I am here to help.

Colin G. Reisner

"Our Country, Not Ourselves"



Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

Many praiseful thanks to ALL for a wonderful State Convention. I didn't expect, when my day started, end up the way it did. I sat at the inaugural ceremony remembering Vern Hansen swearing me in as District 8 Chaplain some 8 years ago I believe, and Luther Wilhelmsen saying, "here is your next State Chaplain." I sat in that chair awaiting to be precession up to line for the oath. I shuttled back to SF and the farm in Gregory once to do chores and check on mother at assisted living. I had enough of what I needed to stand up. I had dad's shoes, a Dept. Hat, a borrowed jacket from Cody Mangold (new State Jr Vice), my dad's old shirt, and a pair of black Wrangler slacks bought at Sheplers many years ago when Laura said, "you got to get these!" I stood between Darwin and Barb and I heard the words, "you'll be fine!" One puts this all together and you hear ".....love ye one another !....." John 13:34

I know, when all the coals are together on the grill, you can cook the steak. Spread them out, and you couldn't even cook a bug. I know when all the VFW'ers coming together, serving together things can did done. Just as I was assembled for swearing in from a host of people through word and deed.

I had an amazing visit with Todd in the hallway during the election. Jerry gave me the past Chaplain pin and a few lapel decorations and Colin gave me the new Chaplain pin. Right there was more assembly and more molding I accomplished.

I do have a firm faith in GOD and know things are no accident. I currently do nursing home visitation and am a practicing Pentecostal. I spend, usually 4 weekends a year in Oklahoma preaching or singing for the old Military air base preacher. Over 20 years ago, he retired and I retired from the USAF. I found out, we are not retired. I find great joy in "diligently doing thy service unto the LORD..." Colossians 3:23. No matter where that service is, now it is the South Dakota VFW Chaplain.

Thank you ALL,

Thank you LORD,

Mike Boxa

I did not know that our Organization did not have enough personnel to fill the chairs and positions, then let alone have too many to have an election. Todd and I stepped out in the hall together with the escort of DD Couch. Todd and I visited and he looked me right in the eye and told me I am qualified. I just went through the process and know, " a good man's steps are ordered by the Lord " which is Psalm 37:23. Either one us, were to be gracious to accept the position. Needless to say, Todd was a fantastic Chief of Staff and ran a great hospitality room for the convention and wished me the best and the kicker was him presenting me to be sworn in.

The year is already going and Commander Frisbee-Griffith has got me on staff with some marching orders. I will do my best. One of the utmost things I take very seriously is prayer via prayer requests or prayer chain. I am committed to work for the Lord and for our VFW. I am currently the Quartermaster/ADJ of Post 9950 and District 7 Chaplain. I've been a member of VFW since 1991, and it seems longer than that with the folks, (Earl and Betty Boxa) being members 25 years prior. Dad so much enjoyed the Conventions.

With a busy schedule, always there to help!

Prayers Always,

Mike Boxa

# MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW



## The VFW by the numbers

**Nearly 1.7 million**

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

**6,354**

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



## Helping veterans get justice

**101,166**

Number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in 2017.

**16,220**

Number of VA claims filed by the VFW's Pre-Discharge offices in 2017.

**24**

Number of VFW Pre-Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



## Helping struggling military families

**8,864**

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through VFW *Unmet Needs* since 2004.

**\$4,371,904**

Amount of grants provided through VFW *Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

**2,881**

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.



## Improving life in America

**8.8 million**

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

**\$52.1 million**

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.



**1899**

Year the VFW started to fight for veterans, service members and their families.



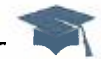
## Honoring the fallen

**9.3 million+**

Number of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

**\$12 million**

Amount raised through the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy program for needy veterans.



## Inspiring patriotism in young people

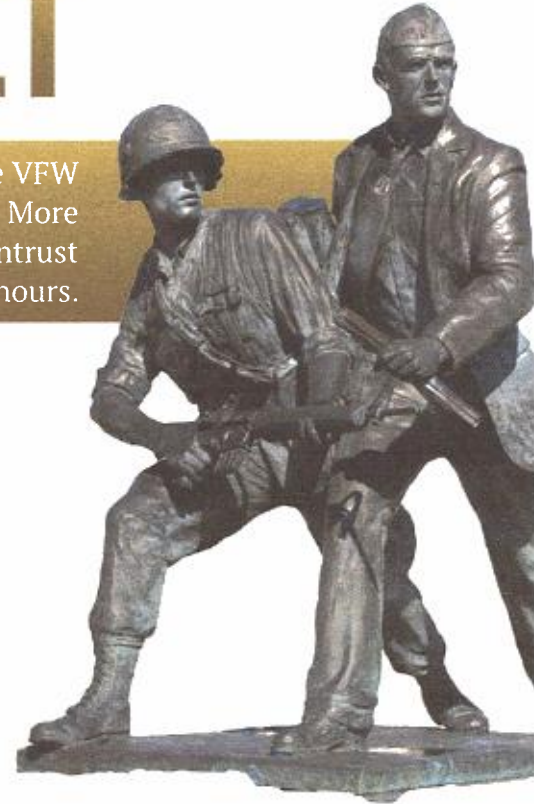
**33,000+**

Number of high school students who competed in the 2017-18 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

**100,000+**

Number of students who competed in the 2017-18 VFW Patriot's Pen competition.

As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.



**YOUR DONATION OF**

**\$20**

**ENSURES THE VFW CAN**

**Educate** a separating service member about his or her well-earned VA benefits through a private benefits counseling session with a VFW Service Officer.

**Provide** training to 4 VFW Service Officers on signs of emotional suffering so they can better direct veterans to programs and services.

**Help** cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

**Serve** 5 morale-boosting "welcome home" meals for service members recently back from combat.

**1,968**

Number of VA-accredited VFW representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

**39**

Number of VFW-SVA Fellows (student veterans) who have traveled to Washington, D.C., to advocate for veterans' rights.

**\$7.7 billion**

The total amount the VFW helped veterans recoup in earned benefits from the VA — which includes \$1.2 billion in new claims in 2017.

**2.2 million+**

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events since 2005.

**35**

Number of times the VFW has testified before Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

**\$3 million**

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

**\$10.1 million+**

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families since 2004 to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 43% of the funds covered basic housing needs.

**\$4.9 million+**

Amount of scholarships awarded to more than 1,115 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.



**2018 Decorated  
Veterans Pheasant  
Hunt Raffle** No. 171

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**2018 Decorated  
Veterans Pheasant  
Hunt Raffle**

17 HMR cal Henry  
Golden Boy rifle

Drawing on Veterans Day  
November 11th, 2018

No. 171



**\$10 per ticket**

*need not be present to win*

**Your help in selling raffle tickets is greatly appreciated !!!**

As of 6-15-18, 24 applications have been received for the 2018 Pheasant Hunt. The hunt will take place in Gettysburg SD, sponsored by Gettysburg VFW Post 8530. The dates are set for November 9th-13th. As a way of defraying a portion of the cost of the hunt, The Department of South Dakota VFW & VFW Post 8530 are jointly holding a raffle for a .17 caliber HMR Henry Golden Boy Rifle. The drawing for the rifle will be on Veterans Day, Nov. 11th 2018. The rifle is being held at a licensed FFL dealer in Gettysburg. The raffle winner will be contacted and the rifle can be shipped to the winners nearest FFL dealer to complete proper paper work.

Department of South Dakota VFW Quartermaster Darwin Tolzin will be administering the funds raised by the raffle. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the SD VFW Post's who have contributed to the past hunts and have sold raffle tickets. Department of South Dakota State Commander Rick Williamson announced that over 70% of our SD Posts helped us last year. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You. Lonny Potts, Post 8530.



**2017 South Dakota Decorated Veteran Pheasant Hunter's**



## **BK<sup>®</sup> Franchisees Spend July Supporting the VFW**

*Donations raised during July support the VFW's Unmet Needs program*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (June 26, 2018)** — The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) is pleased to announce participating BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> franchisees are set to kick off their summer fundraiser to benefit the VFW's Unmet Needs program.

Starting on July 1, patrons are encouraged to visit any of the [nearly 450 participating BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> restaurants](#) located throughout 15 states and donate \$1 or more to the VFW's Unmet Needs program upon checkout. Donations will be accepted until the end of the month.

Established in 2004, the Unmet Needs program assists service members and military families experiencing financial hardship by providing financial assistance grants toward basic life necessities like rent, mortgage and utility payments. Since 2007, BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> franchisees and their customers have contributed more than \$5 million to Unmet Needs, which has provided more than \$10 million in aid to more than 9,000 struggling military and veteran families since its inception.

“America’s heroes and their families have come to rely on the VFW’s Unmet Needs program, but it’s the support from BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> franchisees and their loyal patrons that helps ensure this vital program can continue to help our military and veterans’ families when they need it most,” said VFW National Commander Keith Harman. “I encourage VFW members and all Americans to support our brave heroes by adding a visit to a local participating restaurant to your summer checklist.”

-vfw-

### **About BURGER KING<sup>®</sup>:**

Founded in 1954, the BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> brand is the second largest fast food hamburger chain in the world. The original HOME OF THE WHOPPER<sup>®</sup>, the BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> system operates more than 16,800 locations in more than 100 countries and U.S. territories. Almost 100 percent of BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> restaurants are owned and operated by independent franchisees, many of them family-owned operations that have been in business for decades. To learn more about the BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> brand, please visit the BURGER KING<sup>®</sup> brand website at [www.bk.com](http://www.bk.com) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**About the VFW:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and oldest major war veterans organization. Founded in 1899, the congressionally-chartered VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, Guard and Reserve forces. With 1.7 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in 6,400 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans service organization is proud to proclaim “NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS” than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans’ service,