



**DANNY FRISBY-GRIFFIN**  
SD STATE CMDR  
PROVIDING  
TOP  
COVER  
2018-2019  
PRES MARY KIRKVOLD





**DANNY FRISBY-GRIFFIN**  
SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE COMMANDER  
PROVIDING  
TOP  
COVER  
2018  
2019  
RECRUITER



**South Dakota  
Overseas Veteran**

Website: [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org)  
**PROVIDING TOP COVER**

October/November/December 2018
The Official Publication of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
Vol. 75 Issue 2

“Providing Top Cover” is what air superiority fighters do. Ensuring the battlefield has freedom of movement and our forces don’t have to worry about an air attack. In this case, providing top cover so our current veterans, as well as future generations, have the tools, resources and benefits they so richly deserve and often require.

## In Memorium - Past State Commander Dennis Sharp



In memory of Past All American (2016-2017) State Commander Dennis Sharp. Dennis passed away peacefully September 29, 2018 after a hard fought battle with ALS. Dennis joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1992. He spent the next 26 years giving dedicated service to all veterans. He was especially proud to serve on the Honor Guard for his comrades, and also took great pride in posting the American flag at Veterans and Memorial Day services. In 2012, Dennis was elected State Surgeon for the Department of SD, thus starting his line officer venture cumulating in his election as SD VFW Commander in Chief for 2016 and 2017. Dennis earned All American Commander status, one of thirteen worldwide, during his tenure.

In the fall of 1964, Dennis enlisted and entered the Navy in June 1966, and served until February 1970. He enjoyed his service tour sailing around two-thirds of the world and serving a year in DeNang VietNam.

Dennis was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, a VFW Gold Legacy member, life member of VFW National Home for Children, life member of DAV, member of American Legion and member of Lutheran Memorial Church.

## Honored at 119th National Convention

Honored in Kansas City during the 119th National Convention: *All American Commanders*, from the Department of South Dakota. The following All-American Commanders Distinguished themselves during the 2017-2018 year.

State Department Commander, Rick L. Williamson (No picture of Cmdr. Rick at the Natl. presentation of awards); District #1 Commander, Colin G. Reisner; Post 17, Aberdeen, Sean D. Johnson; Post 628, Sioux Falls, Diane J. Diekman. Nationally, 21 departments, 99 districts and 199 posts commanders were awarded the All-American Cover (hats). Job well accomplished. Congratulations.



Left to right: Sean Johnson, Colin Reisner, Diane Diekman with National Commander Keith Harman presenting the Award Certificate of Merit.



## Women Forge New Roles

Today’s wars see more and more females taking up arms against the enemy. Making up 15% of active-duty forces, service women of today are changing the way society has traditionally viewed females in war.

Persian Gulf War sees largest deployment of women yet. Female personnel took on important roles during the 1991 campaign in Kuwait and Iraq. Since the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq first began, there have been many firsts for women. Women continue to break new ground in Iraq and Afghanistan: Over 220 thousand have served there. Suddenly, females were thrust into key combat support positions.

Throughout American history, women have been quick to put on a uniform in defense of the nation. Without the service and sacrifice of women throughout the history of our country, female service members likely would not be where they are today. More of those firsts seem like a distant memory today, said one female member of the VFW Post, because things are changing fast for women in the organization.

August 23, 1978 was a landmark day for women veterans in VFW. That is when delegates to the 89th National Convention, adopted a resolution admitting women to the organization. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have left more women eligible to join the VFW. With this expanded eligibility has come increased influence of women in leadership positions at all levels, as well as a boost in the number of women active in the organization as a whole. Soon there will be more women holding offices at the national level, working side-by-side with their male counterparts, as they did serving in the military.

Female impressions of the VFW have changed dramatically. It is more typical, that they really serve the community. And, that there is a certain bond among veterans of foreign wars, especially now that the new wars occurred and brought in a lot more young people, and especially a lot more females.

Recruiting more females is currently a big push in the VFW. For now, women are enjoying playing a larger VFW role. “No matter what uniform you wore, we all end up standing together.” To show younger members that it’s not just the old boys that are running things any more. Many women say their VFW experience has been satisfying.

As members, women share the same types of experiences as the male counterparts; the comradeship is wanted or maybe even needed for everybody. Women have a lot to offer at any level of the VFW...women need to step up to the plate and continue their service as VFW members. “Women just as men, join for the benefits and camaraderie.” Just as the military was once considered a man’s world, VFW was the same way for years.

With the military seeing a larger percentage of women going into combat, we need the educate the public that VFW is no longer just a bunch of men. “VFW can provide guidance for those who are unaware of his or her entitlements as a veteran.” There is no greater feeling than being around people who have similar experiences and have a mutual understanding and respect for one another.

**YOU FOUGHT FOR OUR COUNTRY. NOW, JOIN IN THE FIGHT FOR VETERANS.**



**Learn more about the VFW’s programs and services at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)**



### VFW at a Glance

**Origins:** In 1899, the American Veterans of Foreign Service (Columbus, Ohio) and the National Society of the Army of the Philippines (Denver, Colo.) were organized to secure rights and benefits for veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippines War (1899-1902). These two organizations merged in 1914, creating the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. VFW was chartered by Congress in 1936.

**Membership Eligibility:** Those serving honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in a foreign war or overseas operation recognized by a campaign medal, in Korea after June 30, 1949, and recipients of hostile-fire or imminent danger pay. Veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Persian Gulf, Somalia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq and other smaller expeditionary campaigns, as well as occupation duty, qualify.



**Dick Pickering, Editor**  
**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The mission of this paper is to strengthen the efficiency of the Veterans of Foreign Wars by providing timely, pertinent and accurate information about the decisions and activities of the VFW at the Post, District and Department level; the relevant affairs of the State and Federal governments, and the decisions and activities of the national organization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from members. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of the VFW and its members. We will accept no attacks on any member or leader of the VFW. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letter column and reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the VFW and its policies.

We ask that you keep your articles brief. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We look forward to hearing from you.

The news and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of South Dakota or the National Organization.

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## Commander's Report

### Danny Frisby-Griffin



Greetings Comrades,

I hope everyone had a chance to note the training schedule for our annual School of Instruction Saturday October 6, 2018 at the Cedar Shores. We're going to start the day by trying to get everyone on the same "sheet of music" as far as electronic devices go focusing on the software applications predominantly used by National and the Department such as Skype (video conferencing), Facebook/

Messaging, DropBox, OneNote, ID.me and websites. So, please bring your electronic devices and be ready to experience some "frustration" as we develop the ability to reach out and touch someone.

Now, this is a test...to see if anyone reads past the first paragraph of my section.

Did you notice the change in the Fall Council/School of Instruction registration form from August to September? We've added the choice of only attending the Saturday training session for \$25 (lunch and snacks) as well as a block to identify First Time School of Instruction attendees. Why is this important...because it's one way for us to track who is attending for the first time so they are entered in the First Time Attendee Awards and drawings! So, if you're a first time attendee, please let Darwin or Crystal know so we can make sure you're in the running. In addition, please send us your feedback so we can improve our fall training sessions.

How are the membership round-ups going? Don't forget the headquarters can send you a list of potential transfers from the SD At Large Membership List. You can also call those on your post list that have expired or about to expire. I bet everyone knew, especially the Membership Captains, the National VFW Website has "Hip Pocket" training available? You can find it at [www.vfw.org.my-vfw/vfw-training-and-support/membership-](http://www.vfw.org.my-vfw/vfw-training-and-support/membership-)

recruiting-and-retention and it's well worth the time.

In addition, did you know National has changed the subscription dues process slightly? They have gone to a "DMV" model that allows anyone who becomes a member or renews after July 1, 2018 to transition the expiration until the last day of their 12th month just like your SD driver's license. From now on, the annual membership card will reflect the month and year dues expire so we don't have to chase the member using an exact day.

The 2018 SD VFW Youth Baseball State Tournament season is history and we've already begun the notifications for 2019. You'll be able to find the final results in this edition of the Overseas Veteran. Please stay tuned to the Department Facebook page and our VFW Baseball web page for updates: [www.sdvfwbaseball.com/home](http://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/home).

I would like to highlight two events I was lucky enough to participate in, the first was the National VFW Recruiting event at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. This was also my first trip to the Rally and your department team had a blast. By the end of the Rally, the team had recruited approximately 60 with 15 of them being from SD. Cody, Sean and I had a great time meeting the residents of the VFW Memorial Park Chapel and talking with all the veterans who make the annual trip to Sturgis.

The second event was welcoming Sandi Kriebel, National VFW Auxiliary President to SD. What a welcome with the corridor of flags and SD hugs at the end. It was very special to be there and welcome Sandi. I want to thank all our members and Auxiliary members for their continued support and prayers as we "Provide Top Cover" to our veterans and their families.

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

**Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin**  
**State Commander**

## Women Veterans Services at the Sioux Falls VA

The Sioux Falls VA Medical Center and Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Aberdeen and Watertown, SD and Sioux City Spirit Lake, Iowa have Designated Women's Primary Care Providers (WH-PCP) and nurses who have received specialized training in women's health, are experienced, and interested in providing women's health.

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System is pleased to provide complete primary care for women Veterans that includes services for acute and chronic illnesses, preventive services, gender-specific care, maternity and newborn care, coordination of care, and other specialty services such as care for military sexual trauma, mental health concerns, whole health, integrative health.

Did you know that women make up 9.6 percent of the total Veteran population (source: VA's Center for Women Veterans)? By 2020, women are expected to reach 10.5 percent of the total number of Veterans in the U.S. Since 9/11, nearly 350,000 women have deployed in support of military operations. Those numbers are higher than they have ever been — a sign of the increasing diversity in the United States armed forces.

Among Veterans, women are younger, more ethnically diverse, and

— *WOMEN'S VETERAN SERVICES, continued on pg. 4*

## VFW Women Veterans Advisory Committee



*New members of the VFW Women Veterans Advisory Committee at the 2018 Legislative Conference.*

## Women Veterans Have Risen to the Challenge

Women have served in the military since the American Revolution; and through those centuries, they transitioned from service back into our communities leaving their military days behind them.

During my military career of 33 years, I was fortunate to have served with many women. We're blessed with extraordinary women who risk their lives every day so that each of us can live in peace and freedom.

Today women serve in the United States military in unprecedented numbers --- 15 %. Women have become an integral part of every operation and faction the country has been sent into for decades.

Women veterans are an invaluable human resource—focused, committed, and mission-driven. All of us understand that, but we have to do a better job to ensure women veterans have access to supportive services and benefits they need and earned selflessly serving.

South Dakota is fortunate to have eight female County and Tribal Veterans Service Officers and the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs has five female state veterans service officers that are great resources for female veterans. We encourage all female veterans to contact one of these great resources.

Throughout history, our women veterans took on a variety of roles and rose through the ranks and they served honorably. Let us honor the rich legacy of service women in the past, the valor with which women serve today, and the promise of greatness inherent in the women who dream of serving this great nation in the future.

**Larry Zimmerman, Secretary**  
**South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs**



# WE SUPPORT OUR VETS

## NEWS & PUBLICATION, VFW –Post –Pride: by Editor Dick L. Pickering

Look for VFW/AUX pride [WWW.sdvfw.org](http://WWW.sdvfw.org) This quarterly South Dakota Overseas Veterans publication, District/Posts newsletters and you will see examples of the hard work and support that have made VFW Posts and its Auxiliary in communities for more than 117 years. Many programs/projects and services designed to help service members, veterans and their families, when you think of the voice for veterans – you think of the VFW and its Auxiliary. Everyday, we're on Capital Hill and out in communities across this state ensuring your voice is heard – that your story is being told. If you want to know what is being done, here's the chance to read about everything we've been busy working on. Deadline for the next issue of the SDOV is December First, Two thousand and Eighteen. As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to [dickp.signs@gmail.com](mailto:dickp.signs@gmail.com) or [vfwsd@aol.com](mailto:vfwsd@aol.com)

## Sr. Vice Commander's Report Sean Johnson



Hello Fellow Comrades:

I am pleased to let you know that we had a successful time at the Sturgis Rally we had several of our members help recruit. We were able to recruit 52 new members of the 52, 15 were for South Dakota. We will be doing this venture for the next two years and put it down on your calendars we will need lots of help as we will be manning 2 booths next year.

I want to thank the Post homes in Sturgis, Rapid City, and Spearfish for the welcome they gave us while we visited. We were treated well and we had very good visits and talked to a lot of members.

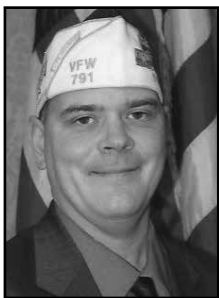
This month we have change in direction and mental health month. Listen I want to tell you that until we end 22 a day,

**Everyday** is mental health day. We should challenge ourselves to call our fellow veterans check on them and if needed help them find the help needed. We owe it to them until we have 0 a day.

I hope to see you and a lot of new faces at fall conference in October in Oacoma. We have a lot of good training and it will be exciting this year. We may be able to finally get some policy ready to go. I hope that you are excited. Before that we have the District meetings I hope that all the posts are represented we need to be represented at 100% by at least 1 person per post.

Please concentrate on all reports due, we have audits, Community Service, Hospital Safety, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and District Dues. I hope that your post can keep up on your reports this year let's give it a try. Remember the numbers from those reports mean something so Commanders keep track and make sure they are done.

## Jr. Vice Commander's Report Cody Mangold



Comrades,

Well it has been a little busy on the recruiting side it appears. We have 2 posts I want to congratulate because as of September 18, 2018, they have reached or broke the quota. First on that is 100% is Dell Rapids. Our second one is Chamberlain at 103.03% already this year. We have 7 posts over 90% so far not including those who

have made 100%. Please remember the district commanders recruiting incentive for new life member, and the levels of legacy life. You will receive a hat for any of those steps. This

year the color has changed from green to blue due to having an Air Force man at the helm. The Sturgis rally recruiting went fairly well, but next year we WILL need more people, please. I understand how difficult it is to make it. This is something that I feel we need to start planning, due to the lessons learned from this year, and possibly housing for individuals. Please keep recruiting as there are plenty of people out there and we can all do it together. A third year in a row of 10% membership would sure be an amazing goal to complete.

Yours in Comradeship,  
**Cody Mangold**  
**Jr. Vice Commander**

## Quartermaster/Adjutant Report Darwin G. Tolzin



To All.....

To let you all know where we, as a Department, stand on the Disaster Relief memo below.

*Commander-in-Chief B.J. Lawrence sends his sincere appreciation to you for your concern for those affected by Hurricane Florence.*

*As a result of last year's string of natural disasters and those currently impacting us, we unfortunately have an extremely low balance in our Disaster Relief Fund. So, I am asking for your help in supplementing our fund to be able to offer support to the areas impacted by Hurricane Florence.*

*The VFW's Disaster Relief Fund, recently combined with the Emergency Relief Fund, provides us a broader relief opportunity and allows us to provide immediate relief to those affected states and territories.*

*Departments, Districts and Posts wishing to contribute to the VFW relief efforts NEEDED FOR THOSE IN THE PATH OF NATURAL DISASTERS are encouraged to donate to the VFW's Disaster Relief Fund.*

*Some have asked if Post Relief Funds can be used to assist with donations...Yes, section 704 (a) of the Manual of Procedure delineates this point clearly.*

*To donate to the VFW Disaster Relief Fund, please send checks payable to VFW, earmarked "Disaster Relief"*

Conversations with the Commander we are doing the following:

— **QUARTERMASTER REPORT, continued on pg. 4**

## State Judge Advocate's Report Barbara McKean



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 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.

— **JUDGE ADVOCATE'S REPORT, continued on pg. 4**

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## Inspector Ken Payne



Greetings Comrades,

Wow!!! Where did the summer go? The State Convention, the National Convention, a vacation to Yellowstone National Park, a few visits to hospitals and doctors with the family, and school has started already. Time flies when you are busy and having fun!

The National Convention was an interesting time. The Trace Adkins concert was awesome. Having the President of the United States speak to our organization was an honor. The meetings and seminars were very informative. There were a lot of changes to the By-laws, Ritual, and Manual of Procedure. Most of them dealt with changing from Demeter's Rules of Order to Robert's Rules of Order. I was on the committee that went

— **INSPECTOR REPORT, continued on pg. 4**

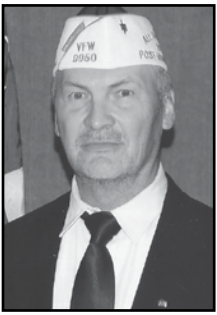


**WHY JOIN THE VFW** - VFW and its Auxiliary strives to do great things for deserving individuals - our veterans, their families, and their communities. From local grassroots ideas to national influences, we work everyday to make a difference. It's our strength as an organization. And, with each additional membership we only grow stronger. Every eligible veteran should consider becoming a member of this elite org. **Our Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

**Our Vision:** Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country. **Our Core Values:** Always put the interest of our members first. Treat donors as partners in our cause. Promote PATRIOTISM. Honor military service. Ensure the care of veterans and their families. Serve our communities. Promote a positive image of the VFW organization. Respect the diversity of veteran opinions.

## State Chaplain's Report

### Mike Boxa



Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

The fall season is upon us. It's a time of holidays. There will be many gatherings for everyone to plan for or attend. May it be a safe season as well as a joyous season for all of us.

My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. As Paul writes down for us; Thessalonians 5:16-18<sup>16</sup> Rejoice evermore.<sup>17</sup> Pray without ceasing.<sup>18</sup> In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I love that, *'in everything'*, Give Thanks. This is in good times and bad times, we are to be thankful.

Long lines at stores for check out, or over the hot stove cooking, or washing the pots and pans later, or spilt gravy or worse human adversity, should not take away the joy or the thankfulness. Everyday is a give thanks day no matter what. It seems we just make it official in the fall during a certain time.

I was stationed in Belgium in 1987. Chaplain Bill Thompson walked up to me and said, "I need a favor". He handed me a numerical Bible verse. I had to go look it up later. He was putting together a little book program of what Christmas and Thanksgiving meant to us, for those stationed at this remote tour. After a moment of apprehensiveness to include "Chaplain I'm not good enough to write about the Lord as I am a sinner." He said, "I got the right guy." My verse, <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11) I went back to my barracks and thought, Oh Lord. I said my prayers and wrote out a paper. Almost like a school assignment, I turned it in the next day at the Chaplains office. It went to print. Chaplain Thompson saw me walking on base weeks later and greeted me. I asked him about my paper. He said, "Great Mike! You were the first one turned in. I had to wait on others, but we got it all done. Off to get the little books now." I was a young non-com and asked, but was mine alright?! Chaplain Thompson said on mine, Oh my yes; I changed one word, child to KING. "A king was born Mike, who is King of Kings." There's a reason for thanks.

Be there for our single and elderly and less fortunate Veteran and Auxiliary members during this season and time of year. Let's be Thankful!

Prayers Always,  
Mike Boxa

## VFW Memorial Park and Chapel



The camping during the 10 days of the Sturgis Rally this year was UP!!! We had RV's from Connecticut 2, Minnesota 1, Nebraska 1, Wyoming 1, South Dakota 4, California 5 and Texas 1. Many will be returning for next year, with their deposit made at the end of Rally.

Memorial Park and Chapel has 10 Camp sites with water, 30 & 50 amp electric service, at each site. There are NO SHOWERS and outdoor bathrooms that are well maintained each day. There has to be a 24 hour caretaker on site during the 10 days of camping. Costs per night per RV is \$35.00 for 2 people, with a \$10 per person charge for

extra people to stay per day.

This year the caretakers were Gary and Lois Knudson from Pierre stayed 2 days, John Datka from Deadwood stayed 1 day, Bill and Elizabeth Hoffman from Parkston stayed 2 days, Shawn Waggner from Rapid City stayed 1 day and I stayed the rest of the time. I cannot say THANK-YOU enough how well all the volunteers that were caretaker covered their time on duty. The camping during Sturgis Rally cannot happen without these members and their spouses giving of their time!!!!

We had the South Dakota VFW Commander, Sr. Vice Commander and Jr. Vice Commander stay at the camp this year while working with the National VFW Membership Team doing recruiting. It was great have them be part of this year Rally Camping.

A HUGE THANK-YOU goes to Comrade Past State Commander Bill Barlow from Custer VFW for use of his RV during the Rally that housed the State Commander and Sr. Vice Commander. Any questions on Rally Camping call or e-mail me.

**Darold D. Couch**  
605 673 4661  
jpcouch@gwtc.net

### — WOMEN'S VETERAN SERVICES, continued from pg. 2

more likely to have served in the Gulf War era or peacetime. Women are the fastest-growing Veteran subpopulation.

The total population of women Veterans is expected to increase at an average rate of about 18,000 women per year for the next 10 years. Women Veterans currently are and will continue to be an important part of the Veteran community and an important part of VA.

The total population of women Veterans in South Dakota as of 9/30/2017 was 6515. (Source: National Center of Enterprise Integration, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, VA Veteran Population Projection Model 2016).

At the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center there is a dedicated women's health clinic with a separate waiting room.

## EXPERIENCE THE WORLD!

**MAY 2019: MEMORIAL DAY ON THE BEACHES OF NORMANDY, FRANCE**  
Followed by Battle of the Bulge sights in Belgium, plus Germany with Remagan Bridge, Hitler's Eagle's Nest, Dachau Concentration Camp  
**Only \$3,000!** (This tour priced out of Chicago O'Hare)

**JULY, 2019: LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN**  
Visiting Iceland, Finland with Lapland

**SEPTEMBER 2019: DESTINATION TOUR OF SWITZERLAND**  
Includes Glacier Express across the Alps



Tours designed and escorted by Vi Ranney, Yankton, tour designer for GRHS.  
For details call Vi at 605-665-3596 or e-mail: [viranney@vyn.midco.net](mailto:viranney@vyn.midco.net). *Everyone Welcome!*

## From the Secretary of South Dakota Veteran Affairs Offices, Larry Zimmerman

### Just get 'ER Done!

Autumn is here, and harvest is just around the corner! These fall days are a great time to complete those cleaning tasks you have been putting off. As a veteran, it's also a great time to review your chore list.

- Locate your discharge papers. These papers are needed to verify military service for healthcare benefits, retirement, employment, education benefits and burial benefits.
- Record your discharge papers with the local county register of deeds. It costs nothing, and they are then on file for you or your family to retrieve when needed.
- Locate and visit your local county or tribal veterans service officer (<https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteransserviceofficers/locatevso.aspx>) or our claims office (2501 W. 22nd Street) in Sioux Falls. Benefits and services are ever-changing. It is important for you to have that constant contact with these experts.
- Study agent orange and burn pit materials. Sign in on the registries. It is important that this exposure is identified and documented.
- Schedule your yearly physical. Don't forget to share information on flashbacks, anxiety and nightmares with your doctor.
- Prepare a will.
- Share your stories. Your stories are a legacy. They can awaken future generations to their potential and provide them with a better understanding of sacrifices made.
- Participate in sendoff and welcome home events. Share those five important words – "thank you for your service." Take advantage of every opportunity to make a positive impact on others. No soldier stands alone. Assist them with transition from military to civilian life.

Combat is a team sport where no one goes it alone. Regardless of rank, branch and specialty, a service member is always a service member. We are all on the same team and we all have the camaraderie of knowing what it is life to put our lives on hold and fight for our country.

**Larry Zimmerman**  
Secretary



## Site Selected for New Location of VA Clinic in Aberdeen

The Sioux Falls Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System has awarded a lease for a new larger site for the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Aberdeen, SD. Plans will now begin for the contractor, Construction Managers of Goldsboro, Inc., to build the new clinic at 909 S. Lamont Street behind Target in Aberdeen.

The current Aberdeen CBOC has 8,141 sq. feet; and the new clinic will add nearly 2,000 sq. feet for primary care, expanded mental health and telehealth services.

Since the VA outpatient clinic opened with contracted staff in 2001, it has continued to grow with support from Aberdeen area Veterans and surrounding communities. During FY 2017, over 2,500 Veterans received health care there.

### — QUARTERMASTER REPORT, continued from pg. 3

Department – we are sending a check for \$1,000.00 to disaster relief (that is money sent by posts to us earmark "Disaster Relief")

District Level – as directed by the District Commanders

Post Level – as directed by the Post Commanders on an individual basis.

Send nothing to the Department for a consolidated report as it takes too long and can be handled by the individual areas.

**Darwin G. Tolzin**  
Quartermaster/Adjutant

**VETERANS DAY – NOV. 11, 2018**

## Department of SD Veterans of Foreign Wars Youth Baseball

### Department of SD Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Announces Results of the 2018 South Dakota VFW Youth Baseball State Tournaments

**Sioux Falls (August 25, 2018)** – Department of SD VFW Baseball Chairman, Danny Frisby-Griffin, released the results of the Program's very successful 2018 SD VFW Youth Baseball State Tournament Season. During the 4 weeks of the season, approximately 9 July to 5 August, 147 teams and 2165 players participated in 16 regional and 8 state tournaments across the 4 age divisions and 2 classes.

SD VFW Baseball changed from inning pitched tracking to pitch count to ensure the safety of our young pitchers and throwing arms. The program gained insightful experience and recommendations concerning the pitch count process and plan to make adjustments to the program for 2019. Pitch count as well as other rule adjustments will be discussed at the Annual VFW Baseball Meeting on January 20, 2019 (the third Sunday) at 10 AM in Madison.

The Department of SD VFW and VFW Baseball would like to congratulate all our champions and qualifiers for a spectacular summer of baseball.

**Class A 10U** was played in Madison, SD, July 13-15, 2018:

Champion: Lennox  
Runner Up: West Central Boltz  
3rd Place: Madison Dawgs  
4th Place: Madison DQ

**Class A 12U** was played in Madison, SD, July 13-15, 2018:

Champion: West Central  
Runner Up: Dakota Valley  
3rd Place: Madison Bulldogs  
4th Place: GSN Insurance Madison

**Class A 14U** was played in Flandreau, SD, July 20-22, 2018:

Champion: Volga  
Runner Up: West Central  
3rd Place: Vermillion  
4th Place: Madison Maroon  
Consolation Champion: Wagner  
VFW William Radigan Team Sportsmanship Award: Volga

**Class A 16U** was played in Humboldt and Volga, SD, August 3-5, 2018:

Champion: Volga  
Runner Up: West Central  
3rd Place: Vermillion  
4th Place: Madison Maroon  
Consolation Champion: Wagner  
VFW William Radigan Team Sportsmanship Award: Volga

**Class B 10U** was played in Platte and Corsica, SD, July 13-15, 2018:

Champion: Canistota-Freeman  
Runner Up: Flandreau  
3rd Place: Parkston 10  
4th Place: Kimball-White Lake

**Class B 12U** was played in Webster, SD, July 13-15, 2018:

Champion: Canova  
Runner Up: Bon Homme  
3rd Place: Gregory  
4th Place: Parkston

**Class B 14U** was played in Gregory, SD, July 20-22, 2018:

Champion: Gregory  
Runner Up: Alexandria  
3rd Place: Tyndall  
4th Place: Woolsey-Wessington Springs  
Consolation Champion: Canova  
VFW William Radigan Team Sportsmanship Award: Canova

**Class B 16U** was played in Salem, SD, August 3-5, 2018:

Champion: Baltic  
Runner Up: Parkston  
3rd Place: Kimball-White Lake  
4th Place: Onida Post 79  
Consolation Champion: Tyndall  
VFW William Radigan Team Sportsmanship Award: Parkston

"VFW Baseball Program is changing. For example, we changed to pitch count and added Game Changer Application to help improve and innovate our program as well as updated our web platform," said Frisby-Griffin. "We're very excited about the future of baseball in South Dakota and hope you join us in 2019."

## New Network Director of the VA Midwest Health Network



"We are excited to bring Mr. McDivitt on board as the new Network Director of the VA Midwest Health Network," said Mr. Patrick Kelly, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 23 Acting Director. "His sound leadership qualities and proven experience will be a valuable asset for the health care system, employees, volunteers, and most importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve. We anticipate his arrival in the network within the next 45-60 days to begin his appointment." Mr. McDivitt has been with the Department of Veterans Affairs for over 35 years; 23 years of progressive clinical, administrative, and executive leadership in Veterans Health Administration (VHA). He has developed partnerships with health care industry leaders outside and within VHA. He most recently served as Network Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 10, Ann Arbor, MI.

### — INSPECTOR REPORT, continued from pg. 3

over these changes and there was a lot of discussion on some of the proposals.

Now for a little information on inspections. On the new Post Inspection Form, question #2 talks about being incorporated. This is not new, but the last question asks who the registered agent of record is. For most Posts, the registered agent should be the Commander, but may not be. Post Officers should look into this to verify who the registered agent is, so they know the answer when they get inspected.

As always, I look forward to visiting with everyone at upcoming meetings, and if anyone has a question or comment, contact me.

**Ken Payne**  
Inspector

### — JUDGE ADVOCATE'S REPORT, continued from pg. 3

Contact your local Quartermaster for assistance.

You can access the Overseas Veteran at <http://www.sdvfw.org/Uploadsdocuments/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 2019 SD Annual Convention and registration information link is now live. 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 McKean**  
State Judge Advocate

Wishing you a  
harvest of blessings,  
good health and  
good times.



Happy Thanksgiving!



*Membership*  
It's one thing, to conceive a good  
plan, and another, to execute it.



**Do you know who this is?**  
Answer on page 10

# Highlights Around South Dakota VFW

## Gettysburg, Winston M. Tooney, VFW Post 8530 Receiving a National Award of Excellence

Fred C. Hall Memorial Outstanding Post "Special" Project award. \$5,000 service grant for future community projects. VFW Post was specifically named for the organization of its Decorated Veterans Hunt, which brings five Purple Heart recipients together around Veterans Day for an all-expenses paid, week long pheasant hunt. Lonnie Potts and Bill Gibson received an all expense trip to Kansas City, to receive the award from National Commander Keith Harmon, and saying "good job comrades."



Left to Right: Lonnie Potts, Bill Gibson, accepting the Community Activities National Award of Excellence, "Disabled Veterans Pheasant Hunt" from National Commander Keith Harmon.

## Sioux Falls VA's new décor set at the entrance of the new addition to the hospital

Comrades who are being held as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action. We must not forget the sacrifices these comrades are still making and the suffering they are still enduring for us and our way of life. They must remain alive in our minds and hearts until we know they have returned home to their loved ones or have been called to the bosom of our Heavenly Father. We must continue to give moral support to their families who continue to suffer along with them.



Tribute to Comrades P.O.W. and M.I.A. Set in a theater fashion with the altar a small table at front center to receive the symbolic tribute.



## Great Wagner Parade

State Auxiliary President Mary Kirkvold at the Great Wagner Parade with Robert Folkerts driving his restored 1959 Pontiac.



## Memorial Service at Veterans Park



*Memorial Service – held at the Veterans Park, during the 88th State Convention, in Sioux Falls. Chaplain Jerry Heggstad and Jr. Vice Commander Sean Johnson placing the white flower, symbolizing the purity of purpose that our comrades have in serving under our beautiful flag. The white becomes more stainlessly pure by the motives which impel them, The white flower was placed as a reminder of their unselfish devotion to duty.*

## Korean Ambassador of Peace Medal



Veterans of Foreign Wars District 7 Commander Tom Hafner presented his uncle Ben Hafner the Korean "Ambassador for Peace" Medal. The Medal is presented to "express the everlasting gratitude of the Republic of Korea and our people for the service you and your countrymen have performed in restoring and preserving our freedom and democracy." The official proclamation is endorsed by the minister, patriots and veterans affairs, Republic of Korea. Ben served in Korea as a member of the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division during 1951 and 1952. Ben, formerly of Parkston, who now resides in Glencoe, MN, is a Life member of VFW Post 3298, Parkston.

## We are Proud of our Korean Veterans

## National President Sandi Kriebel's Visit To South Dakota



Right to left, Department of South Dakota President Mary Kirkvold and National President Sandi Kriebel.



*Pictured from left to right: Department of South Dakota Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin, National President Sandi Kriebel and Department of South Dakota President Mary Kirkvold in front of the Jose Foss statue at the Joe Foss airport in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.*



*Pictured from left to right: Auxiliary Member Penny Galinat – Auxiliary #2038, Department of South Dakota Poppy/National Home for Children Chairman Geri Dahlin – Auxiliary #2975, Past Department President Nancy Worth – Auxiliary #2730, Department of South Dakota Guard Pan Vissia – Auxiliary #6554, Department of South Dakota Secretary Cindy Williamson – Auxiliary #3164, Department of South Dakota President Mary Kirkvold – Auxiliary #628 and National President Sandi Kriebel.*



*Group picture in VA waiting area. Back row from left to right: Barb Rose, Department of South Dakota Treasurer Carol Gross, Past Department President Nelda Jorgenson, Department of South Dakota Conductress Patti Mitchell, Department of South Dakota Cindy Williamson, Auxiliary President Kim Vennard, Department of South Dakota Jr. Vice President Donita Mullinix. Second Row from left to right: Department of South Dakota Banner Bearer Deb Fahey, Department of South Dakota Asst. Treasurer Sandy Meisenheimer, National Auxiliary President Sandi Kriebel, Department of South Dakota President Mary Kirkvold, Auxiliary Treasurer Jan Olson, Auxiliary Member Penny Galinat. Front Row from left to right: District 6 President Nancy Chester, Past Department President Nancy Worth, Department of South Dakota Color Bearer #4 Lois Knudson.*

# Highlights Around South Dakota VFW

## South Dakota VFW Youth Baseball



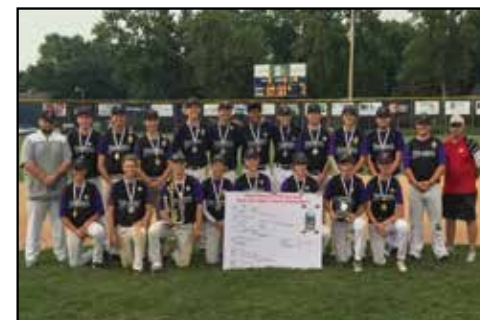
2018 Class A 10U Champion Lennox



2018 Class A 12U Champion West Central



2018 Class A 14U Champion Volga



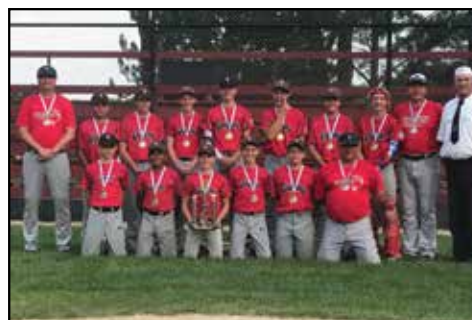
2018 Class A 16U Champion Beresford



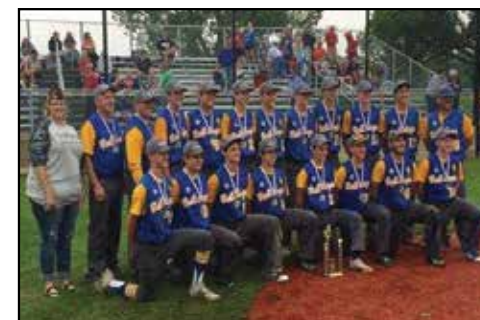
2018 Class B 10U Champion Canistota-Freeman



2018 Class B 12U Champion Canova



2018 Class B 14U Champion Gregory



2018 Class B 16U Champion Baltic

## 88th National Convention Highlights



State Commander, Danny Frisby-Griffin from the Department of South Dakota



South Dakota State Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin and his wife Connie, Sean Johnson, Rick Williamson, Mike Mullin, Nancy Worth, Darwin Tolzin and Vicki Rosse.



Auxiliary Jr. Vice President, Donita Mullinix, Deb Fahy and Karen Sharp, Past State President.



Auxiliary, State Chaplin and District #4 President, Wanda Mix and Auxiliary State President Mary Kirkvold at the National Convention in Kansas City.



Center - Mary Kirkvold and Danny Frisby-Griffin and the delegates of the VFW and its Auxiliary during the 88th National Convention in Kansas City.

## Auxiliary Highlights



Auxiliary Officers pledging "I DO" and, to do their very best for the Veterans, for State President Mary Kirkvold.

Row One of attendants to the Memorial Day Program, Veterans Park, Sioux Falls. Beneath the Red Umbrella, two past State Presidents, Nancy Worth 2015-16 and Mildred Ratigan 1998-99.



Credential Committee Chairman, 2017-18 State Convention Past State Commanders, left to right Gerald Kuecker, 2012-13; Don Dahlin, 2014-15; and Larry Scudder, 1995-96, making sure all post delegates and members are checked in correctly.

## President from Maryland

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary National President Sandi Kriebel was welcomed to South Dakota with an avenue of flags at the Sioux Falls Airport with about 40 members holding flags lined the area at the end of the escalator. She was further honored with a tour of the Royal C. Johnson VA Hospital. The tour was about how the veterans make caskets for veterans and a tour of the museum and Falls Park. Then she was handed off to Nebraska for another visit.



## Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary - Dept. of South Dakota

Auxiliary Home: We are the nation's oldest veterans' service organization auxiliary. For more than 100 years, we have been serving veterans, the military and their families in countless ways.



*Millions of hours, millions of dollars and millions of tributes  
This is Who We Are*



*VFW Auxiliary members are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat. Through our National Programs, we assist the VFW pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families, provide nearly a million volunteer hours in the VA medical system, conduct patriotic programs with thousands of students and offer hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. With more than 4,000 Auxiliaries, there is likely one in your area working to improve the lives of America's uncommon heroes.*

### Auxiliary State President's Report

*Mary Kirkvold*



We had our 4th annual retreat in Grenville, So.Dak, this was our largest Auxiliary group yet. There were 32 members. We are fortunate to have some of our PDP with us, they give us a lot of knowledge. We also had training on our new program, "Building On The VFW Auxiliary Foundations". Not only learning, but we take road trips, this year we added a trip to Ft. Sisseton. Very interesting place.

I just returned from a trip to Hanover Maryland,

for National Department President Sandi Kriebel's Homecoming Celebration along with trips to Ft. McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and CAFE Event - Gettysburg. "Wow What History." We also when to a castle for Medieval Times, very entertaining! In less than a month, I've been to three Old Military Forts.

Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year, deadlines to your Posts is October 31st. You students, still have time to enter. The Theme this year for VOD is, "American History; Our Hope for the Future", the PP theme is, "America's Gift to My Generation." This is such a great opportunity for our youth to show their support for our

military and funds for education.

I went to the State Fair in Huron and was at the Military Building, also road in Sherwin Linton's old car parade, then to Wagner for their parade. I ride in a '59 Pontiac Bonneville, owned by Bob Folkerts from Mitchell. I hear the crowd say "LOOK AT THAT CAR".

We really need to work on getting 100% in Membership, I know we have tried every year to achieve Circle of Excellence. This year I hope we make it. BELIEVE....WE CAN DO IT!!

Thank you for "ALL you do"

### Auxiliary Sr. Vice President's Report

*Sandi Moss*



We are over a quarter of the way into the 2018-2019 year!! This is going to be a banner year under President Mary and Commander Danny. So many great ideas and so many wonderful Volunteers to implement them! National President Sandi Kriebel hit the nail on the head - 'Believe - We Can Do It', and we can! The South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars under Commander Danny are 'Providing Top Cover', President Mary has 'Hats Off to Veterans!' where 'Attitude is a little thing that makes a Big Difference!'. We are on a roll!!

This is one of the years that we need to keep an eye on what is going on in the political ring. There are many elections, locally and nationally, that will affect us and our Veterans. Please read the information that is provided and ask for help, it is very easy to be confused during elections. Decisions are

being made that will affect all of us for years to come. Our Veterans are long overdue assistance in many categories. Unfortunately our Veterans have lived with promises for a long time, we can help make a change. Remember, **No One Does More for our Veterans** than the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary.

I am looking forward to our Fall Council in Oacoma and the Auxiliary School of Instruction. Our Chairmen have been hard at work preparing. It will be a time of learning and renewing friendships and making new friends. I am also looking forward to the homecoming. I hope to see many of you there.

The holidays are fast approaching along with cold weather. Looking forward to the holidays, cold weather - not so much! With cold weather also comes the Stand Downs across the Midwest. Please check your area and prepare to help out this year. Many things are needed for our Veterans and their families. The Stand Down in Rapid City will be 8 November, the Thursday before Veterans Day. Coats, hats, shoes, gloves, under clothes and hygiene products are

needed, to just name a few. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Veterans Day is 11 November and if there is a Parade it starts promptly at 11:01 AM after a minute of silence. This day commemorates Veterans from all wars and representing all branches of the Military. I urge you to attend the Parade if there is one in your town, it may be cold but. . . I thank God every day that neither cold, heat, rain, or snow stopped our Veterans from fighting for the freedom we enjoy each and every day. It isn't much but it something we can do to say 'Thank You' to our Veterans!

It is my pleasure to be Senior Vice President this year and I want to thank the members for this honor. I can be reached at 605-431-6897, my cell phone number if you have any questions. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!! God bless all of you and God bless America!!

Loyally,  
**Sandi Moss**  
**Senior Vice President 2018-2019**

### Auxiliary Jr. Vice President & Membership/Leadership Chairman's Report

*Donita Mullinix*



Welcome to fall (winter, in some parts of our state). This is such a pretty time of year with the changing of the colors. Fall temperatures are so refreshing. Farmers are busy with harvest, schools and churches are busy with activities, and so are the VFW Posts and Auxiliaries.

The National Convention was held in July in Kansas City, MO. It was a wonderful experience. A van loaded with luggage, goodies, ideas and laughter, barely left room for the eleven ladies traveling to the convention in it.

Thank you, Pam and Coleen, for organizing the trip, and to Wanda for getting us there and back safely. We all came back with an abundance of knowledge and stories to share with our Auxiliaries. We had several interesting guest speakers, including President Trump. A free concert was put on by Tracy Atkins.

A month after the National Convention, the VFW Auxiliary held its 4th annual retreat/training secession at the Roost in Greenville, SD. At this retreat, we did a lot of sharing ideas, and information on our programs. A training was given on "Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation" by Nancy Worth. We also did a craft and took tours to the Vinegar Museum, Cookie Jar collection by Patti Mitchell, Fort

Sisseton and the Hill of Honor Veterans Memorial. Thank you, Patti and Skip, for donation the use of your resort for the retreat, and to Carrie for organizing and preparing the meals.

Our Scholarship programs should be out in full force. Information should be in the schools, libraries, home schooled groups, churches, stores and newspapers. While we are attending these activities and promoting our own, don't forget to ask if they could and/or would like to join the VFW or Auxiliary. Many of us will be holding Turkey Trots, Feather Parties, Turkey Bingo, etc. This would be a good time and place to set up a VFW/Auxiliary table. Show some things you have done, make up a colloque of pictures

—AUXILIARY JR. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT, continued on pg. 9

— *AUXILIARY JR. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT, continued from pg. 8*

of things you have done, promote Poppies, and of course, have membership forms and information available. Christmas is just around the corner. A membership would make a nice gift. Remember there are twelve prospective members for each Veteran. What an easy way to shop for Christmas! I would like to see SD reach 100% this year and we have a good start. Let's keep the momentum going. As of Sept. 30, 2018 the VFW Auxiliary is at 84.81%. We are leading the Big 10. WAY TO GO!! WI is right behind us at 82.98%. We can do it.



*In loving memory of our Past  
Department Auxiliary President,  
Evelyn Haynes, "Who went to  
her eternal Home" on Tuesday,  
September 18, 2018 at the age of 90*

Evelyn's love in life has always been for our veterans. When the Ladies Auxiliary to Paul Grosshuesch Post #2966 was chartered in 1947, Evelyn and her mother Emilie were right there, and both remained loyal to the last days of their lives. Not only active in the local Auxiliary and serving in all officer chairs, Evelyn was District President twice. She became a National Aide de camp for initiating 25 new members in one year. For this she earned a trip to California to the national Convention. Evelyn became the State President of the VFW Auxiliary during the Centennial years of 1988-89. Her theme was 'Heart of Gold' which truly she had. She was nominated 'Outstanding President' in August 1987. Whether standing on the street and selling poppies on a Saturday night, organizing the Loyalty Day essay contest, the Veterans Day program, the Memorial Day program, or a memorial service for a departed sister, Evelyn was there and you could count on her!



*Group that went in the van to the National convention. Left to Right, Donita Mullinix, Department Jr. Vice; Pam Vissia, Department Guard; Wanda Mix, Department Chaplain; Sandy Meisenheiner; Jan Endres, Department Chief of Staff; Colleen Foland; Patti Mitchell, Department Conductress. Front Row: Nelda Jorgenson; Mary Kirkvold, Department President, Pat Cerny; and Vickie Rosse, National Hospital Ambassador.*

## Auxiliary Department of South Dakota 2018-2019

### President

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### Secretary

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## The Day County Coyote Hunt



The Day County Coyote Hunt helps support our South Dakota National Guards Family Support Group and takes place the third weekend in January each year (January 18-20, 2019).

This year marks our Twelfth Anniversary and we need it to be the biggest and best yet because, as you know, the Day County Coyote Hunt money goes to any units leaving from South Dakota.

I'm asking you to please help with a cash donation to the Day County Coyote Hunt and by printing out and hanging up posters in your area. This is another great way to get your organization's name out there and show our troops how much you care, because one

hundred percent of this donation money goes directly to the units. Anyone who donates a minimum of \$100.00 will have their name on the back of the t-shirts. My challenge this year is to have 100% participation by all South Dakota Posts and Auxiliaries. We also welcome donations from individuals or businesses so please pass the word.

I can also use help selling raffle tickets for the Henry Golden Boy 22 rifle at \$5 each or 6 for \$20 – just let me know and I will get tickets delivered to you. This is another challenge – for each Post and Auxiliary to sell five books of tickets. The Henry Golden Boy rifles were very popular last year so we are buying another one this year.

Any Post or Auxiliary that sells \$500 in tickets will receive \$100 cash to use any way they want. There is no limit to the amount your Post or Auxiliary can earn. This money comes from an anonymous donor and does not affect the money available to the National Guards units.

Thank you in advance for your tie and generous donation.

**Patti Mitchell**

**State Veterans and Family Support Auxiliary Chairman**



*Department Auxiliary Line Officers: Row One, Sandi Moss, Sr. Vice President; Mary Kirkvold, State President; Donita Mullinix, Jr. Vice President; Carol Gross, Treasurer; Row Two, Patti Mitchell, Conductress; Wanda Mix, Chaplain; Pam Vissia, Guard; Cindy Williamson, Secretary.*



VFW Auxiliary-  
Department of  
South Dakota  
[@DeptofSDVFWAux](mailto:@DeptofSDVFWAux)

**UNWAVERING  
SUPPORT FOR  
UNCOMMON HEROES**

## Women Veterans License Plates are Available

Some may already be aware that South Dakota now offers woman Veteran specialty license plates. Applicants must sign an affidavit stating they are an honorably discharged Veteran who has served on active duty in the armed forces of the U.S. Applicants must pay a \$20 special plate fee, a \$5 mailing fee, and annual vehicle registration fees. To learn more, visit <https://www.state.sd.us/eforms/secure/eforms/E1952V13-SDApplicationForVeteranLicensePlatesAndAffidavit.pdf>

## Ready to Join the VFW and its Auxiliary?

Contact any member or stop by your local Post for additional information or visit us on the web at [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org)

## Caps During Chaplain Prayers

In accordance with the Ritual General Rule 13(b), “members will follow the action of the Chaplain or presiding officer relative to removal of caps during prayers; if uncovering, the hat shall be placed on the extended closed fingers of the right hand in such a way that the cross of Malta is exposed and held over the heart.”

## Combat Hunger’ Campaign

Uniting to Combat Hunger’ Campaign, Sr. Vice Commander, Sean Johnson and jr. Vice Commander, Cody Mangold were assisting the many other supporters to help package potatoes to feed 50,000 meals for Kansas City Residents during the 119th National Convention in Kansas City, MO. “With food insecurity affecting one in four veterans, the VFW couldn’t sit idly,” said VFW Commander Keith Harman, during the convention.



*In remembrance of Veteran/Senator,  
John McCain*

“We are Americans first, Americans last, Americans always. Let us argue our differences. But remember we are not enemies, but comrades in a war against a real enemy, and take courage from the knowledge that our military superiority is matched only by the superiority of our ideals, and our unconquerable love for them”

**Do you know who this is?**  
**Answer: Gary Knudson, Past State  
Commander, 2005-2006,  
VFW Post 2038, Pierre.**



**VETERANS  
DAY  
Honoring all  
who served!**

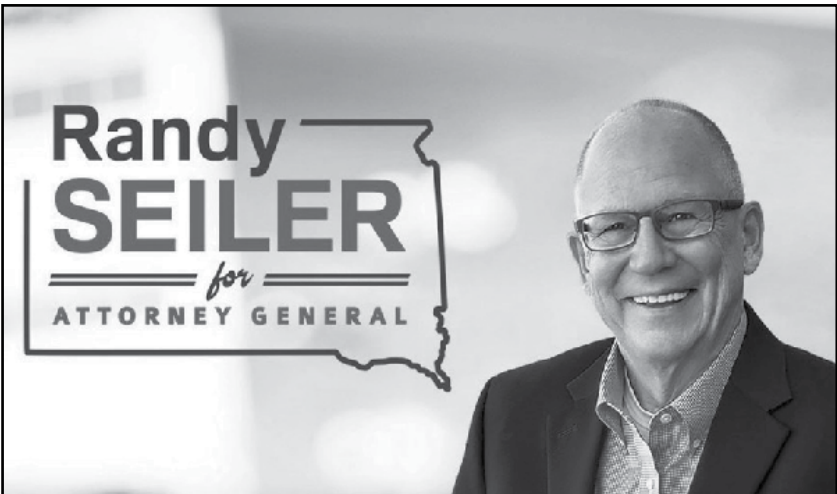
## Salute to Veterans

SDDVA staff, county veterans service officers, and leaders of the veterans service organizations are manning the Veterans Building during the South Dakota State Fair.

Susan Irons, Lincoln and Union County Veterans Service Officers, was the keynote speaker during the Veterans Day salute at the fair.

Representative Larry Zikmund, Senator Jim Stalzer, Terry Paulsen, and Ken Teunissen, were presented the Chet Sorenson Veteran of the Year Award by the South Dakota Veterans Council, in recognition of their commitment and dedication to securing support for a state veterans cemetery. The South Dakota Veterans Council is made up of representative from the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of American and the Vietnam Veterans of America.

In his “salute to veterans,” Governor Daugaard commended SDDVA and their partners for their accomplishments during his terms in office and encouraged veterans to work with these partners to secure their benefits. The Governor closed his remarks by sharing a message Senator John McCain authored before his death. “Do not despair of our present difficulties but believe always in the promise and greatness of America, because nothing is inevitable here. Americans never quit. We never surrender. We never hide from history. We make history.



**Lifetime VFW Member  
Lifelong South Dakotan  
Experience  
Matters**

**Vote Randy Seiler on November 6th**

Paid for by Randy Seiler for Attorney General  
Deb Fischer-Clemens, Treasurer

This is not a VFW Endorsement Ad



*“...that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause  
for which they gave the last full measure of devotion...”*

**TAPS  
may their souls rest in peace.**



### COMRADES, IN DEATH AS IN LIFE, WE SALUTE YOU!

**Mitchell, VFW Post 2750**

Feiner Keith, Korea, USA, Life; Mason Francis, Korea, USA, Life

**Yankton, VFW Post 791**

Quinn Robert, Korea, USA, Life; Matzner, Stanley, Vietnam, USA, Life; Van Arsdale Larry, Korea, USA, Life; Branaugh Patrick, USAF, Life; Huber Bernal, Korea, USA, Life

**Lake Andes, VFW Post 3239**

Weaver Burton, WWII, USAF, Life

**Watertown, VFW Post 750**

Paulson Arnold C., Korea, USA; Krugar Leonard L., Korea, USN; Mann Arlo D., Berlin Occ.; Marlette Merle M., Life; Keller Vernon E., WWII, USA, Life; Schurrer Robert, Korea, USA

**Huron, VFW Post 1776**

Schneider Victor C., WWII, Life

**Eureka, VFW post 5126**

Kaul Donald R., Vietnam, USA, Life

**Parkston, VFW Post 3298**

Kummer Anthony J., Korea, USA, Life

**Vermillion, VFW Post 3061**

Husby Russel, Vietnam, USN

**Madison, VFW Post 2638:** Hansen Stanley G., WWII, USA

**Rapid City, VFW Post 1273**

Myers Dean R., WWII, USAAF, Life; Barker Lyle L., WWII, USA, Life; Schweigman Peter J., WWII, USA Life

**Aberdeen, VFW Post 17**

Barr, James, M., Life; Benson, Roland A.; Borchard, Robert J.; Boyer, Jerry L.; Braun, August J.; Bretsch, Arthur J.; Bulian, Edward O.; Bunsness, Vernon; Fischer, Albert; Ficher, Michael; Fliehs Sr., Harvey R.; Ford, Milton; Geist, Gottlieb; Gilborne, Dean L.; Hanlon, John; Haugen, Elder A.; Herman, Elton M.; Hoffman, Harold J.; Imbery, George J.; Janes, Harvey L.; Kirschenmann, Julius; Lehr, Myron P.; Lipp, Duane; Malsam, Joe G.; Marzenell Jr.; Claude; Mattern, Robert J.; Mitzel, Larry; Myers, Robert C.; Nehls, Richard; Pfeiffer, Herman; Reinbold, Lawrence; Ries, Jean P.; Rystrom, Ray; Sauer, Joe; Schmitt, Alvin E.; Swearingen, Donald; Vetch, Paul P.; Weigel, Francis; Williams, Maris D.

## Cootie Corner



Fellow Lousy Cooties,

Not much has been going on, other than some lousy hospital visits I understand. Please keep visiting the veterans as we all know this is an important part of their day and many of them look forward to the visits. Those cooties that do this on a regular basis please continue. The more hours we have in and the more visits we have show how that WE NEVER FORGET.

Keep 'em Smiling in beds of white,  
Commander Grand Cody Mangold

## Bells for Peace

On November 11 at 11:00 a.m. local time...Americans everywhere and across the nation will toll bells in remembrance of those who served and those who sacrificed in the war that changed the world...

- Pledge to participate (once you PLEDGE, we will send you updates and notices).
- Recruit others including organizations to pledge with you.
- Find out more and see the special landing page here for information and RESOURCES!  
[www.wvlcc.org/bells](http://www.wvlcc.org/bells)

## Disaster Relief Thanks

Commander in Chief B.J. Lawrance sends his sincere appreciation to you for your concern for those affected by Hurricane Florence.

As a result of last year's string of natural disasters and those currently impacting us, we unfortunately have an extremely low balance in our Disaster Relief Fund. So, I am asking for your help in supplementing our fund to be able to offer support to the areas impacted by Hurricane Florence.

The VFW's Disaster Relief Fund, recently combined with the Emergency Relief Fund, provides us a broader relief opportunity and allows us to provide immediate relief to those affected states and territories. Departments, Districts and Posts wishing to contribute to the VFW relief efforts needed for those in the path of natural disasters are encouraged to donate to the VFW's Disaster Relief Fund.

Some have asked if Post Relief Funds can be used to assist with donations...Yes, Section 704 (a) of the Manual of Procedure delineates this point clearly.

To donate to the VFW Disaster Relief Fund, please send checks payable to VFW, earmarked "Disaster Relief."

*Good cheer, great hope and the best  
that the Christmas season  
has to offer for you and your  
family as you celebrate this  
time of togetherness.  
Merry Christmas!*



## Appreciation Notice: From Olivia Heniecke, VOD State Winner 2017-18

Dear South Dakota VFW/Auxiliary,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for giving me the opportunity to participate in the Voice of Democracy. I just returned from my trip to Valley Forge, where I was able to reunite with all my new friends. Valley Forge was an AMAZING experience. I learned a lot from the various speakers, and it was very eye opening to learn about the history of the medal of honor. (I was able to visit the site of South Dakota's Medal of Honor Winners). One of my favorite parts of the trip was touring independence Hall and seeing the room where the Constitution and Declaration of Independence were signed. I am very grateful for this experience and I couldn't send enough thank you's for it!



2017-2018 VOD State Winner, Olivia Heniecke and VFW National Commander, Keith Harman from Delphos, Ohio.

Sincerely,  
Olivia Heniecke

## Post 3061

VFW Post 3061 would like to acknowledge Dr. Jing Williams for her unwavering support of veterans demonstrated in her efforts to preserve the history our nation's fallen heroes. Her first edited book – *Hometown's Fallen: Discovering the Human Aspects of Wars* – chronicles ten biographies of fallen veterans from Clay County, SD. Beginning as a class research project at the University of South Dakota, this book is authored by Dr. Jing Williams and nine of her students, who are future middle/high school social studies teachers.

Past State Commander Rick Williamson found this book to be a very interesting and informative read. "The research and details put into this effort is very professional. I would hope that the memory of every veteran, who paid the ultimate price for the freedoms that we hold so dear, shall never be forgotten. May they forever Rest in Peace."

Andy Howe, Quartermaster of the Post 3061 sees the great value of the book. "Preserving each veteran's history is so much more than simply saying we honor and support our veterans. The deliberate effort to make each story about the individual and the telling of each story with references to home, family, service, and loss goes far beyond a name on a monument or a list in a document that honors that veteran's sacrifice."

With a generous grant from the Cheisman Fund, Dr. Jing Williams was able to print 200 copies of the book, which were donated back to the local community, including but not limited to VFW Post 3061, American Legion Wallace Post 1, Clay County Historical Society, and the W.H. Over Museum. People who are interested in reading the book may contact and purchase a copy from one of these four organizations.

"Post 3061 has been cooperating with Dr. Williams since 2015, as it is our hope that her future teachers gain a positive perspective of veterans and become advocates for us in their classrooms," said Jackie Voigt, Post Commander.

## Veterans and Military Support Programs

### VFW's "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship"

The spring 2019 application is now available online at [www.vfw.org/scholarship](http://www.vfw.org/scholarship). Deadline for applications is November 15.

The VFW's "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship" program awarded 172 scholarships totaling over \$790,000 for the 2018 Fall semester. Since beginning the program in January 2014, over 1,100 veterans have been awarded scholarships totaling almost \$5 million.

## Medical Centers of the VA South Dakota Health Care Network

**VA Black Hills Health Care System  
Fort Meade Campus**  
113 Comanche Road  
Fort Meade, SD 57741  
(605) 347-2511  
Toll Free: 1-800-743-1070  
[www.blackhills.va.gov](http://www.blackhills.va.gov)

**VA Black Hills Health Care System  
Hot Springs Campus**  
500 N. Fifth Street  
Hot Springs, SD 57747  
(605) 745-2000  
Toll Free: 1-800-764-5370  
[www.blackhills.va.gov](http://www.blackhills.va.gov)

**Sioux Falls VA Health Care System**  
2501 W. 22nd Street  
PO Box 5046  
Sioux Falls, SD 57717  
(605) 336-3230  
Toll Free: 1-800-316-8387

## NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

VFW National Veterans Service works to ensure veterans receive every benefit available to them from their government. Our nationwide network of service officers was established to help veterans and their families file claims with the VA. This service is available at no charge and made possible through donations. Over the past three years, the VFW has helped more than 284,000 veterans recover nearly \$7 billion in compensation and pension.

Visit [VFW.org/nvs](http://VFW.org/nvs) to find a service officer near you.


## South Dakota Overseas Veteran quarterly publication

At the June 2016 Department State Convention held in Deadwood, SD, it was voted to have the South Dakota Overseas Veteran publication to be posted, reviewed/downloaded on the WEBSITE: [WWW.SDVFW.org](http://WWW.SDVFW.org) Please advise and assist all members of this change.



## WELCOME TO THE SD VFW/AUXILIARY


The South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars has a rich tradition of serving veterans, military families and their local communities. We invite you to explore website [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org) to learn more about our organization.



**We Protect Our Own.**

When you donate to VFW mailings, the money stays in our Department, helping veterans right here at home.

Our programs depend on members like YOU. Please be as generous as you can.



## We're Here for You

Whether you are in need of immediate assistance or just looking for more information – VA is here for you. Our trained professionals, many of whom are Veterans themselves, are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Live 24/7 Chat on VA's homeless Veterans website,  
[www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless)

## Ready to Join the VFW

Contact any member or stop by your local Post for additional information or visit us on the web at [www.sdvfw.org](http://www.sdvfw.org)

**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

**Press 1 for Veterans**

[www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)



We understand the unique bond you share with other veterans of overseas conflicts because we too, have been there. Since 1899, the VFW has been the nation's leading veterans service organization in the fight to better the lives of all those who've worn the uniform of the United States military. No matter which conflict called you to service, we invite you to join us. Stand strong with the other 1.4 million members of the VFW as together, we continue to fight for all that's good **FOR VETERANS.**

## DEADLINE

For the next issue (January 2019) of the South Dakota Overseas Veteran, the deadline is December 2018.

Please submit your articles to me by that date.

Send to: Editor Dick L. Pickering  
404 Dogwood Street  
Brandon, SD 57005.

Or email them to:  
[dickp.signs@gmail.com](mailto:dickp.signs@gmail.com)

Dept. Post Advertisers - Please mention you read their ad

## POST SCHEDULES

### John M. Bliss Post #628

Open to the Public  
Mon-Sat: 0900 a.m. to close  
[www.vfw628.org](http://www.vfw628.org)

Book your wedding reception with us!  
Call 605-338-9421  
Follow us on Facebook at VFW Post 628  
*Serving the Sioux Empire since 1921*

### C.C. CROAL POST #17 ABERDEEN, SD

Post/Auxiliary Meetings  
Second Thursday – 7:30 PM  
Room for Parties  
All Occasions  
**M-S Hours: 2 PM - 2 AM**

### FRANK H. ADAMS POST #750 808 South Broadway Watertown, SD

Open Monday thru Friday  
2:00 p.m. till 2:00 a.m.;  
Saturday 12:00 till 2:00 a.m.  
All Veterans and visiting members welcome

**Post Meeting Nite 3rd Wed.  
Aux. Meeting Nite 2nd Wed.**

### Ernest Bowyer Post No. 791 209 Cedar St. Yankton, SD (605) 665-3562

Open 3 p.m.  
Sun. thru Sat.  
All Veterans and Visiting Members Welcome

**Meeting Night 2nd Tuesday**

### Rushmore - Post #1273 420 Main St., Rapid City, SD 57701 PHONE: 342-9804

Meeting Nights  
MOC/MOCA Pup Tent 17 – First Thursday  
VFW & Auxiliary – Second Thursday  
Joint Meeting – Fifth Thursday of any Month  
With Five Thursdays

Hours of Operation  
Sunday-Friday – 11:00 am to Closing  
Saturday – 10:00 am to Closing  
Sunday – Closed  
Monday-Friday Daily Lunches 11:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Saturday 11:30 am to 1:00 pm  
Hamburgers/Cheesburgers or Chicken Strips and Fries  
Monday Night Family Dinner Starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Friday Night Fish Fry Starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

### Sturgis Veterans' Club 868 Main Street Sturgis, SD

**605-347-4682**

Open Mon. - Fri. 4:00 PM to close  
Sat. noon to closing  
Short orders & dinners available  
**VFW Post #2730 & Auxiliary  
AL Post #33 & Auxiliary  
DAV Chapter 11 & Auxiliary**

### Brookings George Dokken Post #2118

Bingo: Mon., Wed. and Fri.  
Lounge: Bingo nights & Sat.  
Hall: Available for rental

**520 Main Avenue  
605-692-6771**

### Black Hills Post 5969 Deadwood

Wednesday: Hamburger Night  
Friday: Dinners

**Lounge & Gaming**

### THREE RIVERS POST #4726 BRANDON, SD (The most eastern Post in SD)

Interstate 90, Exit 406  
Post Meeting,  
3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m..  
Auxiliary Meeting,  
2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Welcome Veterans & Friends  
to Our Freedom Grill  
and Bar Lounge.**

### Rollie Bucholz Post 7319 Wagner, SD 57380 PHONE: 342-9804

Open Daily: Mon.-Sat. at 5:00

All Veterans & Guests Welcome  
Short Orders served during week.  
Saturday evening special dinners served

Post Meeting - 3rd Tues.  
Auxiliary Meeting - 2nd Tues.

Bingo every Wed. night

### Ronald Westby VFW Post #2638 510 S. Washington Ave. Madison, SD 57042 (605) 256-6771

Open Mon.-Thur. 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Fri-Sat 12 pm to 10 p.m.  
Sun. 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Meeting Nights:**  
VFW 2nd Tuesday - 6 p.m.  
Auxiliary 2nd Monday - 5:15 p.m.  
Brunch 2nd Sunday 10 am - 12:30 p.m.  
**EVERYBODY WELCOME**

### Kenneth Kuper Post #3442

721 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Custer, SD  
605-673-4262

Lounge Opens 2pm

Post & Auxiliary Meetings  
Third Thursday - 7pm

Visit us on your trip to the Hills

## Valued Supporters of the South Dakota Overseas Veteran Publication

The VFW Department of South Dakota has implemented a new program to assist in the cost of the *Overseas Veteran* publication by providing the opportunity for individuals to show their support of the award-winning South Dakota Overseas Veteran paper. Your name will appear in each of the four issues as a valuable supporter under the category of your donation.

The donations are categorized as follows: Bronze, \$10.00 per year; Silver, \$20.00 per year; and Gold, \$30.00 per year.

The following supporters are **GOLD CATEGORY:** Nelda & Kenny Jorgenson, Jonathan Thornburn, Paul and Leanne Payne, Ken and Michelle Payne, Jerry Gillmore, Wayne and Sharon Mitchell, Robert Folkerts, Mitchell VFW Post 2750, Lorene and Pat Ruzicka, Mike Boxa. **SILVER CATEGORY:** Verne & Norma Hansen, Rick & Cindy Williamson.

**BRONZE CATEGORY:** Dick Pickering