DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES General Orders #7 "Providing Top Cover" January 1, 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Department Commander and his staff extend New Year greetings to all comrades and sisters and their families.

1. Annual Membership: <u>THIS IS IMPORTANT!</u> Members are reminded that their annual membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars may expire December 31, 2018 unless you paid your dues in January 2018 through June 2019 then your dues are due in the month you paid them. For example, if you paid your dues in February of 2018, they will be due in February of 2019. All Officers are encouraged to make every effort to renew the membership of continuous members as soon as possible. Any Post that has an Officer who has not paid his or her dues should collect those dues immediately before their expiration date. Any Officer removed by reason of failure to pay current dues or by vote of the Post, shall not be eligible to serve in any Post Office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed.

Remember any unpaid member who has let their membership expire, his or her Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance becomes void immediately. It is important for all Post Membership Teams to contact these members as soon as possible.

All Post Commanders should familiarize themselves with Section 220 of the National By-Laws on the election of new officers in the event of inactivity or vacancy in the VFW year.

2. Use of Post Relief Funds and Membership: The Department of South Dakota would like your help in taking care of membership dues of long-time members who cannot afford to pay their current dues. Many older veterans, especially our WW II Veterans may no longer realize their dues need to be paid. Check your local nursing homes for eligible veterans who may have been a member in past years. You can use your Post Relief Fund to pay these dues. It will help in our all-out effort to make the State of South Dakota 100% in membership for 2019.

3. Mid-Winter Meetings: District 1 Sun., January 20th 1 PM in Sioux Falls: Dep. Rep. Kenneth Payne District 4 Sun., January 20th 2 PM in Watertown: Dep. Rep. Darwin Tolzin District 6 Sun., February 10th 1 PM in Huron: Dep. Rep. Sean Johnson District 7 Sun., February 13th 2 PM in Lake Andes: Dep. Rep. Kenneth Payne District 10 Sun., January 13th 10 AM in Rapid City: Dep. Rep. Ken Moss

Other dates to remember:

January 14th there is a Buffalo Feed at Ft. Meade Hospital, with a tour available. Anyone planning on attending please let the state office know.

January 15th Visit and Buffalo Feed with the Director of State Home & Dom. At Hot Springs VA. Anyone planning on attending please let the state office know.

4. The Department Council of Administration, Legislative Conference, Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen Banquet has been set for January 27th & 28th, 2018 at the AmericInn, in Ft. Pierre. See enclosed notice for registration, motels, schedule, etc.

5. Loyalty Day: Post Commanders, please appoint a 2019 Loyalty Day Chairperson and forward his or her name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible. Post Commanders; try to plan your Loyalty Day Programs early.

6. Buddy Poppy: Post Commanders, please appoint a 2019 Buddy Poppy Chairperson and forward his/her name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible and make plans for your 2018 distribution. Post Commanders,

this is a reminder that all Poppy orders should be in by April 15, 2019 to count in the "All State Post Commanders" ratings. Order blanks are on the VFW Website.

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

9. Checks Sent to Department Headquarters: All checks sent to the Department Headquarters should be made out to "Department Of South Dakota VFW" and marked as to what purpose each check is for. Do not make checks payable to a special account.

10. The National Voice of Democracy Legislative Conference meeting will be March $2^{nd} - 7^{th}$ 2019 in Washington D.C, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Crystal City, VA. The VOD parade of winners will take place at 6:00 pm on March 4^{th} .

11.Sending in Material for General Orders: All Department Officers, State Chairpersons and anyone else that wants to publish information in the General Orders must submit the material to Department Headquarters by no later than the 25th day of the month preceding the publication of the General Orders.

OFFICIAL:

Darwin Tolzin Darwin Tolzin, Adjutant Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars BY ORDER OF:

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

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota State Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 01/2019

Greeting Comrades,

Happy New Year and we hope everyone arrived in this New Year safely. We're rapidly approaching the end of the 2018-2019 Membership and Recruiting Year. I've realized over the last few months that membership is never easy and seems to get tougher each year. The pressure from National and the Department must feel like a never-ending tug-a-war in our drive to achieve 100% National Membership for the first time since 1992. As the Chief has said repeatedly, we can make this happen!

We'll slowly start to transition to our new web platform this winter/spring. You can check it out here: <u>http://vfwsd.org</u> Yes, the IP address is simply the reverse of our current site and may cause some confusion initially. Hang in there.

2019 VFW Baseball Season is just around the corner! Our annual VFW Baseball Meeting is January 20, 2019 10 AM at Ronald Westby VFW Post 2638, 510 S Washington Ave, Madison. Second Street Diner will cater pastries and coffee. See the agenda later in the general orders. This is going to be an exciting year as we celebrate our 60th year of VFW Baseball.

Reminder, we've changed up the program a bit with the Awards Breakfast Banquet and moving it the Moose Lodge in Pierre. The breakfast banquet will start about 9 AM with the students and teachers heading to the capitol building after. That should free most everyone to travel during daylight hours.

As I stated last month, we're finalizing the 2019 Summer Convention details and plan to brief everyone at the Legislative Conference and then include all the information, registration and ad forms in the February General Orders. I'm even more excited on the changes and opportunities we have working with Dakota State University and can't wait to share them with you.

I really can't emphasize enough the focus we need to put into membership. We're currently ranked 50th out of 53 departments and dead last in the Big 10. Now, there is the challenge...up and onward!

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

January General Orders Senior Vice Commander Sean Johnson

Dear Comrades:

I Hope that you had a Merry Christmas and you were able to enjoy family and friends. I would imagine we all have certain traditions we do at Christmas and throughout the holidays so I hope they were successful as well. As the New Year's approaches, we really need to be aggressive in our goal of recruiting 100% for as many posts as possible. We need to Call, Knock on Doors, Email, Text, send Letters personnel or from the post. We need to use every advantage we have including also newspaper and radio to report the recruitment drive.

I now want to change the topic a little to the elephant in the room that happens every day. We are still losing 22 soldiers a day still, and we have not been able to change the statistics. The key thing is that we have doubled our psychologists and psychiatrists and types of treatments. We have Programs, Facilities, and more help to give and we are so ready to give it. VA Private Programs, Private Hospitals, War Horses for Veterans Equine Therapy, Healing Touch, Give an Hour, Wounded Warrior Project, WRISSC, DVBIC, Operation Rebound for Sports Equipment and Training, AW2 Wounded Warrior Games, these are just a few. We need to get the soldiers who haven't registered with the VA to go and do it even if they are not in the VFW. We need to get them to the help. If we want to bring this number down, we need to actively seek out those in trouble and get the help they need, and deserve it starts with us.

Now that it is winter please drive carefully, try to travel in the day light if possible. Let someone know when you are leaving and suppose to return. Please carry sleeping bags or blankets, candles, Cell Phone Charger MRE or 2 and a roadway safety kit including jumper cables. Really plain and simply put:

Let's Be Careful Out There

See you all at the end of January!!!

January 2019 General Order Cody Mangold Jr. Vice Commander

Greetings all,

I hope the holidays treated you well. WE have a new year which means a new beginning to get the membership going. I cannot stress enough how much we need to work on our Membership. I believe in you all. Now comes the time of the subscription dues which; I understand makes it difficult, but WE can do it together. I want to thank all of you who have been working very hard to get the membership at your posts. I also want to thank those in advance who will be working on the membership at their posts soon. I want you to know that phone calls will be made and some posts will be asked if I may attend their posts meetings based on my schedule.

Cody Mangold Jr. Vice Commander 1101 Main St. Tyndall, SD 57066 605-770-1030 cody.mangold@hotmail.com

Barbara K. McKean State Judge Advocate January General Orders

Community service reports, what do I report and when is it due?

There is so much to record on this report, most falling into a specific quarter. **Once recorded, do not record duplicate information on the next quarter.** Many entries on this report have submission due dates. *Please make sure this information is passed to the Auxiliary. Each post should be submitting only 1 report each quarter with the VFW and their Auxiliary combined.* <u>*Please try to work together.*</u>

Under <u>Community Service</u>, Outstanding Community Service Post Award, Memorial Day & Veterans Day 2018 should be submitted by now. VFW Public Servant Award (LE, Firefighter/EMT Due 1/1/19).

Entries in the <u>Youth and Education</u> should be submitted by now (Scout of the Year due NLT 3/1/19). You only need to report VFW Scout programs sponsored and VFW Baseball sponsored or Other Sports sponsored 1 time, unless changes or additions occur.

<u>Buddy Poppy</u> section should also be submitted by now. You can include new money received from sales on each quarter.

<u>Post Newsletter</u> - indicate how many times you published in that quarter only. Under <u>Other Projects</u>, list these as they occur. <u>Donations</u> on the 2^{nd} page should be submitted by now. If any of these areas were overlooked, just record on your next report.

Each quarter, under <u>Community Service</u>, you should report Americanism: Flags distributed, Funeral Honor Guards or Funeral lunches and Color Guard Presentations, if applicable.

When you add comments in the <u>Add Additional Activities</u> area on the 2nd page, you must total the money, hours and mileage and add to 1st page in the area "Other Community Service Projects totals captured in comment section page 2".

These reports are due May 1 - Jul 31; Aug 1 - Oct 31; Nov 1 - Jan 31; Feb 1 - Apr 30. The deadline to have these reports to me is NLT 10 days after the quarter ends.

Community Service Reports received for the 1st Quarter: (as of 17 Dec)

Dist 1: Sioux Falls, Elk Point, Vermillion, Brandon, Yankton Dist 4: Brookings, Madison, Milbank, Webster Dist 6: Aberdeen, Pierre, Gettysburg Dist 7: Marty, Mitchell, Scotland, Lake Andes, Parkston, Tyndall, Armour, Wagner, Burke Dist 10: Rapid City, Custer, Deadwood

Community Service Reports received for the 2nd Quarter: (as of 17 Dec)

Dist 1: Sioux Falls, Elk Point, Vermillion, Brandon, Alcester, Yankton Dist 4: Brookings, Madison, Milbank, Webster Dist 6: Aberdeen, Pierre, Gettysburg Dist 7: Marty, Mitchell, Scotland, Lake Andes, Parkston, Tyndall, Armour, Wagner, Burke Dist 10: Custer

Barbara McKean State Judge Advocate 504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366; C: 605-630-0771; Email: mckean4@live.com

Comrades,

As the year ends, I wish you all a Happy New Year. I surely hope the new year brings joy and blessings to you all. There is a lot going on as we begin 2019. There will be new year's celebrations, mid-winter meetings, and the legislative conference all this next month or so.

I would like to touch on a newer program the VA has launched to combat the not-so-liked Choice Program. In response to the trouble with Choice, the VA has begun the Care in the Community Program to allow veterans who live outside a forty-mile radius of a VA clinic or hospital to receive care in their local community. With this new program, you simply need to have your current VA primary provider to refer you to the program. Once this is done, the Care in the Community team will contact you and ask where you would like to be seen and by which doctor. I can personally tell you that this program is much more effective and user friendly compared to the Choice Program. My family physician is now my primary VA provider. I also receive my mental health counseling in the local community and my neurology with the doctor of my choice. Since there are twenty veterans a day dying of suicide, I encourage every veteran to seek some form of help through the VA. Of those twenty veterans a day, six are not in the VA health care system. Please let your fellow veterans know that they can register with the VA and see a doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, or specialist of their own choosing in their local community all covered by the VA.

Yours in Comradeship, Sgt. Colin G. Reisner USA (Ret) "Our Country, Not Ourselves"

State Chaplain Mike Boxa Burke Post 9950 SDvfwChaplin2@outlook.com

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

We have projects and due dates and it takes effort to get things accomplished one after the other and to stay on track. I for one, have worked up to reading God's Word, the Bible, twice in one year. It is just amazing how fast the year went and how quickly the pages you turn, get thicker and thicker until you come to the ending. Then start all over again!

One of my favorite verses of God's Word is <u>Psalm 69:17</u> And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily. <u>Psalm 143:7</u> Hear me speedily, O Lord: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. I just love that, HEAR me Speedily, Oh Lord. The Good Lord says it twice to get the point home. We are to cry out! Admit a trouble or problem. The other key word is 'hide' and is in conjunction with the 'my spirit faileth'. I do not think the Lord hides. Many a times, we try to do the hiding. In fact, our own hiding makes us tired and spirit fails within us.

The Lord is always a present help in a time of trouble. Another year comes around and we have to stay on schedule again. We need to keep getting the projects completed in which some seem overwhelming. When you believe and behave, and show that true passion and desire, the Lord answers SPEEDILY and the good part of it is, whether you are in trouble or not.

Make a point this coming year to commit your ways unto the Lord, not in amiss. Make your requests be known! He will *hear speedily!* It is in His Word. Troubles turn to *JOY* and you get *Victory* over problems and a Good Report is witnessed.

Can't wait to visit those at Legislative Convention. Please make an attempt to get to Ft. Pierre and then the capital to support all involved end of this January month. That sure goes along way for our organization and to exhort one another.

Be there for one another!! Warmest Regards, Mike Boxa

VFW BASEALL ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA HELD AT VFW Post 2638 Madison, SD Sunday, January 20, 2019

- 1. Opening Ceremony
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Call to Order
- 4. Introductions and Roll Call
 - 4.1. VFW Baseball Organizational Structure 4.2. Roll Call/sign-in
- 5. Read minutes
- 6. Financial Report
- 7. Unfinished Business
 - 7.1. 2018 Tournament Report: 148 Teams participated or registered for 2018 VFW Baseball Tournaments 7.1.1. 2018
 - 7.1.1.1. 16U: Class A 16 teams; Class B 21 teams (+3)
 - 7.1.1.2. 14U: Class A **19** teams; Class B **32** teams (-2)
 - 7.1.1.3. 12U: Class A 14 teams; Class B 18 teams (-1)
 - 7.1.1.4. 10U: Class A 12 teams; Class B 16 teams (+3)

7.1.2. **2017**

- 7.1.2.1. 16U: Class A 16 teams; Class B 19 teams
- 7.1.2.2. 14U: Class A 27 teams; Class B 26 teams
- 7.1.2.3. 12U: Class A 15 teams; Class B 18 teams
- 7.1.2.4. 10U: Class A 13 teams; Class B 12 teams
- 8. New Business
 - 8.1. Website Presentation (http://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/home)
 - 8.1.1. 2019 Tournament Registration
 - 8.1.1.1. Fee Structure Change and timing
 - 8.1.1.2. Registration form simpler?
 - 8.1.2. Gamechanger required use discussion
 - 8.1.3. VFW Youth Baseball Sponsor/Partnership Program Update
 - 8.2. Rule Changes Submitted (bold items below to be voted on)
 - 8.2.1. Season start for 14U and 16U
 - 8.2.2. Decision not to play 14U or 16U regional championship game
 - 8.2.3. Equipment: simplification of bat standard
 - 8.2.4. Pitch Count modifications (lessons learned from 2018)
 - 8.2.5. Other rules as highlighted

8.3. 2019 Tournament Checklist Review and Recommendations

8.4. 2019 Tournament Host Sites Reveal

- 8.4.1. Class AA (tentative)
 - 8.4.1.1. Class AA 12U: 7/12-14/2019
 - 8.4.1.2. Class AA 10U: 7/12-14/2019
- 8.4.2. Class A
 - 8.4.2.1. Class A 16U: 8/2-4/2019: TBD (Regions should be completed by 7/26)
 - 8.4.2.2. Class A 14U: 7/19-21/2019: TBD (Regions should be completed by 7/11)
 - 8.4.2.3. Class A 12U: 7/12-14/2019: TBD
 - 8.4.2.4. Class A 10U: 7/12-14/2019: TBD

8.4.3. Class B

- 8.4.3.1. Class B 16U: 8/2-4/2019: TBD (Regions should be completed by 7/26)
- 8.4.3.2. Class B 14U: 7/19-21/2019: TBD (Regions should be completed by 7/11)
- 8.4.3.3. Class B 12U: 7/12-14/2019: TBD
- 8.4.3.4. Class B 10U: 7/12-14/2019: TBD
- 8.4.4. **2020** Tournament Dates
 - 8.4.4.1. Class AA, A and B 10U and 12U: 7/10-12/2020
 - 8.4.4.2. Class A and B 14U: 7/17-19/2020 (Regions should be completed by 7/9)
 - 8.4.4.3. Class A and B 16U: 7/31-8/2/2020 (Regions should be completed by 7/24)
- 8.4.5. 2021 Tournament Dates
 - 8.4.5.1. Class AA, A and B 10U and 12U: 7/16-18/2021
 - 8.4.5.2. Class A and B 14U: 7/23-25/2021 (Regions should be completed by 7/15)
 - 8.4.5.3. Class A and B 16U: 8/6-8/2021 (Regions should be completed by 7/30)
- 8.4.6. **2022** Tournament Dates
 - 8.4.6.1. Class AA, A and B 10U and 12U: 7/15-17/2022
 - 8.4.6.2. Class A and B 14U: 7/22-24/2022 (Regions should be completed by 7/14)
 - 8.4.6.3. Class A and B 16U: 8/5-7/2022 (Regions should be completed by 7/29)
- 8.4.7. 2023 Tournament Dates
 - 8.4.7.1. Class AA, A and B 10U and 12U: 7/14-16/2023
 - 8.4.7.2. Class A and B 14U: 7/21-23/2023 (Regions should be completed by 7/13)
 - 8.4.7.3. Class A and B 16U: 8/4-6/2023 (Regions should be completed by 7/28)
- 8.5. VFW Youth Baseball Grant Program Update: 2018 Webster, Selby and Dell Rapids
- 8.6. VFW Youth Baseball Community of the Year Recognition Update: **2018**—Madison; **2018** Friends of VFW Baseball Recognition: Chamberlain Baseball Association and Volga Baseball Association
- 8.7. VFW Youth Baseball Veterans Program Donation Program Update: 2018—SD Veterans Cemetery and VFW National Disaster Relief Fund
- 8.8. Any other new business
- 9. For the Good of VFW Youth Baseball

9.1. Remarks: Department of SD Commander, Danny Frisby-Griffin

10. Close

- 10.1. Minutes and updated rules: hopefully posted by 2/1/2019
- 10.2. Next annual meeting: 1/19/2020 at 10 AM
- 10.3. Update Sign-in/Contact list before leaving

Official: By Order of:

Danny Frisby-Griffin, Baseball Chairman Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Rob Lind, Director of VFW Baseball Operations Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND AUXILIARY

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE /COUNCILS OF ADMINISTRATION AND VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AWARDS BANQUET

January 27th and January 28th, 2019

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th, 2019

Registration Starts at 10:00 a.m. Foyer of the Teton Conference Center

The VFW will have the Legislative Committee meeting starting at 11:00 a.m. (Teton Conference Center)

The Auxiliary will have Audit meeting starting at 10:30 a.m. (Teton Conference Center)

12:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. **COUNCIL MEETING VFW and AUXILIARY** in the Teton Conference Center (Walden & Scotty Room)

4:30 p.m. **JOINT SESSION** if required (Walden Room)

5:00 p.m. **Soup and Sandwich bar/social** served in Teton Conference Center (Leighten Room)

MONDAY, January 28th, 2019

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, PATRIOT'S PEN AND TEACHERS BREAKFAST BANQUET

9:00 a.m. (upstairs Old VFW Building Pierre)

11:30 a.m. to done VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teachers visit the State Capital

Safe travels home!

REGISTRATION \$45.00

(Separate meals \$15.00 each)

(Includes Sunday Soup/Sandwich, Monday Breakfast Banquet & Helps with our guests' meals/lodging)

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Department of South Dakota VFW

MAIL TO: Department of South Dakota VFW 5009 W12th St Suite 6A, Sioux Falls, SD 57106 Attn: Crystal

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TITLE:

ADDRESS:

VFW/AUX #: CITY:

> **Registration Amount:** Number of Extra Meals for • TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED:

YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN MOTEL RESERVATIONS. Ask for VFW rates.

Days Inn: 520 W. Sioux Ave. call 605-224-0411, Room fee \$55 (Military/gov rate) after Jan. 6th charges will go up Governors Inn: 700 W. Sioux Ave. call 605 224 4200, Room fee \$74 (Veteran rate) after Jan. 8th charges will go up **Baymont Inn:** 713 W. Sioux Ave. call 605-224-4140, Room fee \$65 sgl/\$70 dbl after Jan. 6th charges will go up AmericInn: 312 Island Drive, Fort Pierre, Call 605-223-2358, Room fee \$119.99 after Jan. 1st charges will go up

Rooms are limited at the AmericInn: You should make reservations as soon as possible and especially before January 1st, 2019. Room rates may go up after that date for all rooms.

Fill out Registration Form for each individual attending the Conference.

VFW: Department officers authorized for reimbursement will only be covered for Sunday to Monday. Exceptions need to be coordinated with the Department Quartermaster.