

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

**General Orders #5
“Providing Top Cover”**

November 1, 2018

Happy Thanksgiving

The Department Commander and his staff extend Thanksgiving greetings to all comrades and sisters and their families. On this special day let us give thanks for the privilege of living in the United States.

1. **Audit Reports:** Another quarter has closed. Posts are reminded that your Post Audit Reports are now due. If you are delinquent in any other quarters, please catch up to date.
2. **Community Service Reports:** Our Department Community Service Chairman is in need of Community Service Reports. A few Posts have submitted their reports, however a majority of the Posts have not submitted a report. Deadline for the Department Chairman to forward the report information to National is in December, so send your Community Service Reports to Barb Mc Kean 504 S Wallace St., Parkston, SD 57366, as soon as possible.
3. **Education Teacher Award:** The deadline for nomination was November 1, 2018. Post judging should be completed by November 15. Winning entries at the Post level are to be submitted to the Department Chairman, prior to December 15. Each Post is encouraged to have a winner in each of the three categories, K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Post winners should be forwarded to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, P. O. Box 215, Custer, SD 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** Each teacher category will receive a check of \$100. Award presentation will be determined at a later date. A certificate from National will be presented to the school and teacher at the school with a Department representative presenting the award if possible.
4. **Voice of Democracy:** The deadline for Student entries to be submitted to the Posts was by November 1. Post judging should be completed by November 15. District judging should be completed by December 1, 2018. As soon as possible after District judging is completed, the winning entries and tapes are sent to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, PO Box 215, Custer SD, 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** 1st Place - \$500, a March trip to Washington, DC, a June trip to the Freedom’s Foundation and at least a \$1,000 or more scholarship from the National contest. 2nd Place - \$300 Suzie Radigan Memorial scholarship, 3rd Place - \$250 cash, and 4th and 5th Place will receive \$100 cash prize. Each District will send their district winner to Pierre for the presentations of the State winners during the Legislative Conference. Trophies and/or plaques will be presented to the top three winners at the State level.
5. **Patriots Pen:** The deadline for Student entries to be submitted to the Posts was by November 1. Post judging should be completed by November 15. District judging should be completed by December 1, 2018. As soon as possible after District judging is completed, send the winning entries to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, PO Box 215, Custer SD, 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** 1st Place – the Glenn McFarland Memorial Plaque and \$250 cash; 2nd Place – Daryl and Loretta Halling Memorial Plaque and a \$100 cash, 3rd Place – \$50 cash and 4th and 5th Places - \$50 cash. The top 5 winners in the State will be presented their awards at the Legislative Conference. Plaques will be presented to the top three winners at the State Level.
6. **Veterans in the Classroom:** November is VFW “Veterans in the Classroom Month”. VFW and its Auxiliary members are encouraged to volunteer to be presenters in the classroom.
7. **Veterans Day and Reports:** Posts are urged to start planning a suitable program now for the observance of Veterans Day, November 11. Post Commanders, immediately after Veterans Day, submit a report to the Veterans Day Chairman, Sean Johnson, 1005 N Main, Aberdeen, SD 57402. Form can be found on the Web SDVFW.org.
8. **Legislative Conference:** Department Legislative Conference has been set for January 28th and 29th 2017 in Pierre.

Legislative Conference is scheduled for 28th & 29th, 2019 at the AmericInn in Pierre. The rooms will be \$119.00, Phone 605-223-2358. A meeting in Pierre is scheduled for November 10th to complete the schedule as the motel has new owners causing changes. A complete schedule is coming.

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
State Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 11/2018**

Greeting Comrades,

We've entered an extra busy season. I'm very excited to meet all the District Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Winners and present the Department winners at our Legislative Conference which is still planned for the last Sunday in January. We're hoping to send out registration information by the middle of November. The reason for the delay is that we just recently learned that the private owner of AmericInn in Pierre sold out to a corporate based in Rapid City and they no longer had our room blocked or conference room reservations on their books...yikes! Thanks to Darwin's hard work, we were able to block out the same timeframe for this year. However, the hotel cost will probably be higher and the catering is a bit more complicated than we expected thus driving the delay. Darwin and I will be meeting with Karen Sharp November 10th in Pierre to finalize everything. Again, sorry for the delay.

Reminder that November is Veterans in the Classroom month. Get out and share your story.

We're still working on getting the word out and really need your help. If you have something that needs to get out to our members, please contact Department Headquarters so the information can be disseminated via Face Book and/or email blast to all the posts. We're relying on Post Commanders and Quartermasters to help get the information out to members. Heck, we may even have to go knock on some doors...after the campaign season is over.

Speaking about the campaign season, I recommend that you start getting the word out if your posts have transportation available to help veterans get to the polls on November 6th. What a great way to have conversations with veterans and their families in your communities. A Department of SD VFW "Veterans to Polls" community service project, may be?

I want to thank everyone who attended the VFW Fall Council and School of Instruction at the Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma. I also want to thank our Department Chaplin, Mike, for the VFW Chapel program on Sunday Morning. I really enjoyed the fellowship, positive message and the music!

I'll be traveling to Parkston November 9 and Rapid City November 10-11 to participate in their Veterans Programs. Then I'll be traveling back to Madison for their program on November 12. If you're speaking at any programs I highly encourage you to talk about service, who we are, what we do and have done. Also, this is the 100th year of WWI and the VFW story linked.

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

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NOVEMBER GENERAL ORDERS

SEAN JOHNSON SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Hello Comrades:

I trust you are all enjoying the nice fall weather, there is a lot to enjoy including getting pumpkins from the pumpkin patch and decorating for the fall events. We have Halloween coming up make sure your kids, and grand kids are safe, scotchlite costumes, an escort, and check their candy.

We had Mental Health Awareness and for Veterans just remember, at 22 a day, we don't have the luxury of a one day or month awareness program. We must be vigilant 24 hours a day 365 days a year reaching out to our comrades, until we are at 0 a day. **To You I Issue a Challenge Call 2 Veterans You Know to see how they are doing, if they are in trouble, help them get help.**

I had a good time at the Big 10 and learned about Membership which is our key topic this year that we need to focus on.

I am in need of quite a few Memorial Day Reports please get them in they still count for your post regardless so get them in. I hope that you are well into the VOD and P.P. process as the dates are coming in quickly for district so we need to really pay attention to the process. We shall soon start the process for Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic, of the Year when your nominations are done they will come to me at:

Sean Johnson
1005 North Main Street
Aberdeen SD 57401

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Cody Mangold Jr. Vice Commander
November 2018

Greetings Comrades-

October has been a busy month for me. I have attended the Fall Council, Jr. Vice training, and the Big Ten. Talk about information overload. I cannot stress enough about membership right now as we are at 82.45% right now and tenth in the Big 10 for membership. I understand how tough membership is, but we need to get out there. It's time to strap on the boots, get down the streets, and knock down those doors. Right now, we even have a post sitting under 10 members which means National could close them down. We need to keep working on membership so these things do NOT happen. Please stay motivated as many posts have increased their membership over the past month. The Goal to reach by the end of November is 85%. We need to be at least 92% by December 31, 2018, but I know we can be higher than that. Please remember we are all in this together and that we all are recruiters, not just 1 or 2 people. If everybody works together we will be All American again this year.

Yours in Comradeship,
Cody Mangold Jr. Vice Commander
1101 Main St. Tyndall, SD 57066
605-770-1030

cody.mangold@hotmail.com

District 1- 491	District 4- 332	District 6- 269	District 7- 180	District 10- 257
Sioux Falls- 339	Watertown- 116	Aberdeen- 134	Marty- 3	Rapid City- 141
Yankton- 18	Brookings- 71	Huron- 20	Mitchell- 54	Sturgis- 8
Elk Point- 7	Madison- 37	Pierre- 35	Scotland- 14	Lemmon- 8
Parker- 9	Sisseton- 19	Mobridge- 4	Lake Andes- 9	Belle Fouché- 15

Beresford- 14	Flandreau- 5	Redfield- 25	Parkston- 13	Custer- 42
Vermillion- 23	Milbank- 18	Faulkton- 14	Winner- 13	Faith- 3
Canton-23	Britton- 21	Miller- 6	Chamberlain- +1	Newell- 2
Freeman-13	Webster- 39	Eureka- 4	Plankinton- 16	Spearfish- 26
Brandon- 8	Summit- 4	Wessington Springs- 13	Tyndall-7	Deadwood- 10
Crooks-10	Goodwin- 3	Turton- 9	Armour- 10	Quinn- 3
Alcester- 18	Dell Rapids- +1	Gettysburg- 5	Wagner- 27	
			Burke- 15	

Summit Has only 9 members need 10 to remain a post.

Barbara K. McKean
State Judge Advocate
November General Orders

Thanksgiving Day, is a time to gather with family and friends to give thanks for the many blessings enjoyed by these nations and their citizens. Thanksgiving Day elicits a bounty of wonderful memories for many people in the U.S. The crisp air. The smell of a turkey roasting and a pumpkin pie baking. The sound of a cheering crowd at a football game. All these can create warm feelings during this special time of year.

While the Thanksgiving holiday is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S., being thankful for our blessings is a discipline that should not be limited to a single day. Along with expanding our waistlines, our preparation for and celebration of the holiday can be the impetus toward growing an attitude of gratitude that will carry over into the rest of the year. Below are a few ways to share gratitude this Thanksgiving

1. Invite someone new to dinner. Explore ways to invite those who may be alone or far from family to celebrate with you on the holiday.
2. Serve someone. In the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, many agencies serving those in need expand their work. Food banks, churches, and other service organizations supply meals to the hungry on Thanksgiving.
3. Fill a family Thanksgiving box. As part of your Thanksgiving preparation, create a Thanksgiving Box. Each day family members write on slips of paper something for which they are thankful that day and place them in the decorated box. The box will make a nice Thanksgiving table centerpiece, and when opened, a way to remember how blessed we are every day. You could add to it all year too of course.
4. Take time for quiet reflection. As the big day approaches, things get busier. Set aside some time each day to say thank you to God for all he has provided.
5. Share blessings together. When gathered around the table, many families will ask guests to share something for which they are thankful.
6. Create a keepsake of thanks. When you take that group photo around the table or in front of the fireplace, record not only the names of those in attendance, but also something for which each person is thankful. This will be a great item to revisit when everyone gathers again next year.
7. Include children. Involve the children celebrating with you by sharing the Child's Thanksgiving Prayer. Use this prayer at the kids' table as a grace or an after-meal blessing, having one of the

older children lead. Then encourage the kids to write their own Thanksgiving prayers, with which they could lead the adults in prayer later in the day.

8. Voice your gratitude. If your family is musical, consider a Thanksgiving sing-a-long, as you might do with Christmas carols.

You can find ways to give thanks for all blessings throughout your celebration this year. Instill the habit of an attitude of gratitude, which will extend far beyond Thanksgiving Day. Below are a few Thanksgiving project ideas to help your community.

1. Everyone pitches in: Collect nonperishable food items from students & community. Classrooms decorate boxes for the collection. Parents and local grocery stores donate turkeys and the school staff donates pies and breads. Work with the school counselor and the school nurse to determine school's neediest families to receive the baskets. The baskets are delivered the Friday before Thanksgiving.
2. Each grade handles a food group: Host a "Thanks and Giving" Food Drive every year for school families in need. Each grade level is assigned a certain food group. For example, kindergarteners collect canned fruit, grade 1 collects starches, and so on. Monetary donations are accepted as well. The grade with the most donations wins a pizza party. Baskets are made and given to families in need.
3. Donations help area shelters: Do a nonperishable food collection at any Fall Festival and collect items which can be donated to area shelters. This will help show students how fortunate they are.
4. Winter gear collection makes a difference: Work with local community service groups and collect coats, hats, and mittens. Set up collection boxes for students to drop off items.

Community Service Reports received for the 1st Quarter: (as of 18 Oct)

Dist 1: Sioux Falls, Elk Point, Vermillion, Brandon

Dist 4: Brookings, Madison, Webster

Dist 6: Aberdeen, Pierre, Gettysburg

Dist 7: Marty, Mitchell, Scotland, Lake Andes, Parkston, Armour, Wagner, Burke

Dist 10: Rapid City, Custer, Deadwood

Community Service Reports received for the 2nd Quarter: (as of 18 Oct)

Dist 1:

Dist 4:

Dist 6:

Dist 7: Mitchell, Parkston

Dist 10:

Reminder, 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.

//Barbara McKean//

Barbara McKean

Judge Advocate

504 S Wallace St

Parkston, SD 57366

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Colin Reisner, Surgeon
November 2018 General Orders

Comrades,

Hospital and Safety reports have begun to trickle in. Thank you to those of you who have gotten them in to me already. This quarter's reports are due to me by November 10th, but remember, we accept them at any time. Please refer to my information below to get them to me promptly and accurately.

It's flu season again and I would like to take a moment to remind those who know and inform those who don't that no-cost flu shots are available from Walgreens. To receive the free vaccine, you must be enrolled in the VA Healthcare system. That's it! If you don't want to travel to the nearest VA hospital or CBOC, just hit up your nearest Walgreens pharmacy.

I would also like to inform all of you about the VFW Action Corps. You may have seen an invitation to this website from the VFW or from a friend but have not yet acted. The VFW Action Corp is an informative newsletter sent out weekly by the VFW. It contains updates on VA initiatives, what the organization is doing in Washington DC, and my favorite part, the POW/MIA update. In this section you get to see who has been found and identified as POW/MIA in the past week, where they were from, their military service, and where their internment will take place. Please take a moment to investigate this amazing and informative VFW initiative at **<http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup.htm>**

Yours in Comradeship,

Colin G. Reisner

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crize84@gmail.com

(605)464-7544

"Our Country, Not Ourselves"

**State Chaplain
Mike Boxa
Burke Post 9950**

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

Fall Council and School of Instruction in Oacoma has come and gone. I was impressed with the broad curriculum taught. Our National Rep pitched right in and had some fantastic stories. The Suicide counseling class was terrific. On the lighter side I observed with great joy as Darwin traded in his garrison cap for an LA Dodgers cap to wear in the hospitality room. Wow, the visiting and listening to great stories of Gary Kueker, Tom Hafner and Don Dahlin and Nelda Jorgenson and so many others who knew the folks as well. Also note worthy was Wayne and Sharon Mitchell back with us. The conclusion of the banquet and meal was spectacular. I did like that USO theme show. First and Ten, do it **AGAIN!** Go Navy, Chief of Staff !

Many thanks to all, for the attendance at the VFW chapel service. I really didn't know what to do, but quickly remembered my preaching days at the nursing homes while I was in the Air Force. Many a person encouraged me afterwards. I truly appreciate it. Commander Frisby-Griffin amended my book of reports for the quarter, with last line to read, "had chapel in Oacoma." Very nice support and attendance. Scheduling permitted, I am more than glad to hold services again. I even have some help, or another Chaplain for you, lined up to preach. I saw some musical people and would like to get together and work on the old hymns and do some real old time singing. Put the portable piano in the budget, 88 KEYS !!

With help in mind, notification and information is big too. Our Overseas Editor, was asked to make room and coordinate with me, for a column for those in long term care or need of assistance or volunteering. The Cares and Concern was for immediate replies and assistance to get the word out. I read the Cares and Concerns from mother's email and it is terrific. Our Chief of Staff, with confers of others, recommended a place to make, for others in need or ongoing remembrance, as in aka the Hot Springs VA or other facilities, with an address listing in the OVERSEAS Veteran. Room permitting in the paper, and a planning session with Dick Pickering, we should be all set to go.

It was with a sad heart we came together to Fall Council. I remember the passing of Past State Commander Dennis Sharpe. I liked Dennis, and proudly state, he was a **Quartermaster** before he was a State Commander. I pray we assist the family and Karen. It was wonderful to see her to get to Fall Council.

With that, the holiday season is upon us. Let's reach out to the single veterans and family members. **1 Thessalonians 5:11** "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do." Paul later writes in the passage, know those which labour among you. That word labour imparts work, but there is the laboring of just getting through

the day. I ask each and all of us, to look for someone laboring through the day. Give a smile and warm words and follow up with an action of kindness or generosity. ***Be Salt and Light !***

In closing, Darwin, our State Quartermaster furnished the line officers and commanders with laptop computers. I must say, mine hooked up wireless in two different spots without a glitch at all. I guess I got a good one. I wasn't expecting a computer, as I have more than enough to keep up with, on the personal Quartermaster email I get. With that good new technical device, I got an email address: SDvfwChaplin2@outlook.com Please feel free to contact me about any concern, prayer request, or *good report* !

Be there for one another !!

Warmest Regards,

Mike Boxa