



**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
May 2019 General Orders #11
"Providing Top Cover"**

May 1, 2019

1. **There will be no General Orders for June 2019.** Instead, please submit your report for the 89th Department of SD Annual Convention and Council of Administration **Book of Reports** by **June 3**.
2. **Membership.** All State Officers and District Officers are asked to assist Posts in membership. This is necessary for the Great State of South Dakota to achieve 100% membership this year. We must all work harder this month as time is running short with only 59 days until the end of the membership year. Please help your membership drive by putting on a push now to attain your Post membership quota.
3. **Audit Reports.** Has your Post sent in its last Quarterly Audit Report yet? A review indicated that some Audit Reports are missing, catch them up to date, as they are very important. It is the Post Commander's responsibility to insure that they are sent in on a timely basis. If you don't know what reports you have sent in, call the State Office to find out. If your Post has **not submitted** the Quarterly Audit Reports for the year of 2018-2019, all representation of your Post at the Department Convention shall be deprived until the proper adjustment of such deficiencies are presented to the proper authorities, at such time representation shall be **restored** promptly.
4. **Special Olympics.** Posts are asked to send their 2019 donations for the Special Olympics Fund to VFW Department headquarters. We have donated \$1,390 so far however our goal is \$1,500. All Posts are asked to be generous and put us over the top.
5. **VFW Buddy Poppy** distribution will be conducted under the authority of Section 711, page 98 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure and according to the rules of the National Buddy Poppy Committee. Posts are reminded to order their Buddy Poppies and to complete arrangements for their year's poppy distribution. Order forms are posted on the Web site, vfwsd.org. According to the National By-Laws, Section 219, all net proceeds of the distribution of Buddy Poppies shall be credited to the Post Relief Fund and also deals with authorized expenditures from the Post Relief Fund account.
6. **Installation of Officers.** Attention is called to Section 217, page 71, Manual of Procedure. The Post Commander-elect will select the installing officer who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of Post Commander. Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. The installation may be conducted publicly at an open meeting. Officer-elect who may be absent for good and sufficient reason or cause may be installed at any regular or special meeting prior to the Department convention. If not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant. Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year except that three trustees shall initially be elected for terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years and thereafter one (1) trustee shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years.

7. **District Commanders.** Attention is called to Section 417, Page 79-80 of National Manual of Procedures concerning elected District Officers at the District Convention or Spring Meeting. Nomination, election and installation shall be in a manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure. The District Commanders will be installed again at the Department Convention on June 16, 2019 as a member of the Department Council of Administration.
8. **2019-2020 Post Election Report.** This form was mailed out by National Headquarters to the Posts and with instructions to return the completed document directly to National Headquarters. We are asking the Post to make a copy and send that copy to the State Headquarters so that we will know the election report has been completed. It is very important that the election report forms are completed in the time allowed or your Post or District will be removed from the rosters at National Headquarters. The **deadline is June 1, 2019** and if your election report is not in by the deadline, your Post will be put on the suspension list immediately. There will be no grace period. All positions must be filled and a member is not allowed to hold more than one elected office, see Section 215 and 216, Eligibility for Office and Elected and Appointed Offices, page 15-16. If the election report is not sent in on time the Post and Officers will not receive any information from National and your dues notices will not be sent out to your membership.
9. **Delegates, District Convention & Meetings, Department and National Conventions.** Reference National By-Laws, Section 222, Page 76. Post delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention with one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election. The Department Quartermaster shall verify the delegate strength of each Post using the month-end membership report immediately prior to the convening of the convention or as the Department By-Laws so provide. Delegates and alternates of each Post shall be members in good standing in the respective Post within the Department. Review your meeting date making sure it is at least 30 days prior to June 13.
10. **National Convention Delegates:** Reference National By-Laws, Section 222, page 17. Each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall entitle the Post to a packet of Convention information materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional attending delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10.00) delegate fee.
11. **Judging for the All-State team** of District Commanders, Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters will be on May 4, 2019. All report information must be received at State Headquarters by COB May 3, 2019. Please refer to the 2018-2019 Department Membership Program Booklet for details on these contests. A copy is on the South Dakota VFW web site and may be downloaded by going to vfwsd.org.
12. **2019 Department Convention** will be held on June 13-16, 2019 in Madison, hosted by Post 2638. Convention information is included in the VFW Web site at vfwsd.org.
13. **Commemorative Dates.** Reference Section 223, Page 76-77 of Manual of Procedure. Each Post shall make arrangements for observances of Memorial Day. See that suitable grave markers and United States Flags are placed on the graves of deceased members and if practicable, conduct Memorial Day Services in the cemeteries in its locality. Each Post shall see that suitable arrangements are made for the observance of Loyalty Day, Flag Day and Veterans Day. In addition, the Posts should arrange special ceremonies, and all Commanders should alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of other dates specified in the Ritual. Remember to report details of these events in your Community Service Report.
14. **Peace Officer Memorial Day.** The United States Flag shall be flown at half-mast until noon on May 15, 2019. All Posts are requested to comply with this order.

15. **Unpaid Bills & Expense Vouchers.** All members with unpaid bills and expense vouchers that have been incurred during this administration are hereby requested to submit the same for payment by **May 25, 2019** so that payment can be made prior to the closing of the books for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2019.
16. **Contributions.** All Posts that have not done so are urged to contribute \$0.35 cents per member to the Department Hospital Fund, \$0.20 cents per member to the Department Service and Rehabilitation Fund and \$0.10 cents per member to the Memorial Park Fund. All donations should be received at Department Headquarters by **May 3, 2019**.
17. **National By-Laws, Section 213, page 14-15, Arrearages:** Any Post in arrears for any financial obligation to District, Department or National, for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, page 39, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, page 40, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

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

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THIS IS NEW

“EIN”

!!NOTICE!!

The Department of South Dakota State Office is the holder of a group exemption letter for all the Posts in the state that have an “EIN” (Employer identification number) number and the new rule effective immediately is that the “State Office” is responsible for updating the information for each subordinate Post (which is anyone in the State that has an EIN number). We maintain a list of Posts and numbers and now are required to update that list to the Department of the Treasury yearly. They used to send the list to us and we would update it and send it back. We now have to maintain the list and send to the Treasury. If you have an “EIN” number it is necessary that you file a 990 yearly or if you miss 3 consecutive years you will lose your tax exemption. To help us help you it would be nice if you would send us a copy of your 990 when you file yearly so we can help you stay out of trouble. Things we must have we will take off your election report and that being “Post address, city, Post Quartermaster”. This is the result of not submitting:

The IRS must receive the updated information or signed Declaration 90 days before the end of your annual accounting period. FAILURE TO REPLY COULD RESULT IN THE LOSS OF YOUR GROUP EXEMPTION LETTER.

Any questions please call the Department Office 605.332.7441

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Please be sure you are sending all correspondence to the **NEW ADDRESS**; some stuff is still being mailed to the old address yet.

**5009 W. 12th Street
Suite 6A
Sioux Falls, SD 57106**

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NEW Web site: Please start using vfwsd.org for all your state VFW information. The address changed just this month from sdvfw.org to the NEW VFWS.D.ORG

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Department Judging for ALL-STATE AWARDS for 2018-2019

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 1430

5009 W 12th St. Suite 6A, Sioux Falls, SD

All reports must be in to State Headquarters by 5 pm, Friday, May 3rd, 2019

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2019-2020 Post Election Report

The deadline is **June 1, 2019**

Report online to National Headquarters. VFW.ORG

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Election of Officers for Department

At this time the following members have announced their candidacy for the 2019-2020 VFW year:

Commander	Sean Johnson	Post 17	Aberdeen
Sr. Vice Commander	Cody Mangold	Post 791	Yankton
Jr. Vice Commander	Barbara McKean	Post 3298	Parkston
Quartermaster	Darwin Tolzin	Post 2118	Brookings
Chaplain	Mike Boxa	Post 9550	Burke
Judge Advocate	Colin Reisner	Post 791	Yankton
Surgeon			

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Sturgis Bike Rally

Sturgis SD

1-11 August 2019

Please Sign up by Emailing your Name, Phone, Post, Days Available, Needs for Housing to seanjohnson@abe.midco.net or call [605-228-1636](tel:605-228-1636).

The National Recruiter should be there and so will the National Commander-In-Chief Doc Schmidt. This is your chance to meet both so come out and help us recruit.

We plan to do this in 4-hour Segments to not wear any one out to exhaustion. We start by 8:00 a.m. and are usually done by 6:00 p.m.

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Overseas Veteran

We are looking for **SPONSORS** for our paper. We still need your **support** to put it all together and on the web site for everyone to view. Please consider supporting our ongoing newspaper for the next year, your name will then be printed for the next 4 quarters in the paper.

BRONZE Category \$10

SILVER Category \$20

GOLD Category \$30

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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BUDDY POPPIES

GET YOUR POST ORDER IN TO STATE HEADQUARTERS

Order forms are posted on the Web site, vfwsd.org.

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
State Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 05/2019**

Greeting Comrades,

WOW, a month and half until our Department of SD VFW Annual Convention. Please get your reservations, convention book ads and hospitality night information to the convention committee working from the Ronald Westby VFW Post 2638 in Madison. It's important we provide as accurate numbers as possible to DSU and other vendors/businesses around town. We're really looking forward to having everyone visit. Please forgive the mess on the highway out front. That was supposed to be fixed first but the last blizzard of the season totally messed with the schedule to the point we're not even sure when it's going to completely close. Remember we have a lot of parking behind (ease side) of our post home.

As of 4/27/2019, we're still barely holding on to 51st place with 92.81% and over 500 members behind last year at this point and need 654 to make 100%. Please keep working membership and don't be afraid to ask every veteran you meet to see if they are members of the VFW. You just never know.

Just like April, May is an important month since this is when most of the posts will install their officers for the year. It is also the time to submit recommended by-laws and resolutions for both the Department and National. The recommended amendments should be submitted to ensure the Department has enough to meet the by-law submission timeline to ensure they can be brought forward during the annual convention. The Quartermaster will provide more specific guidance. May also has two patriotic events; Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. It's important to report what your posts are doing within and for your communities and veterans. We plan to have All State Judging May 4th so please turn in your reports early.

Remember, the latest information for the convention as well as the 2019-2020 VOD/PP Programs can always be found our NEW website; <http://vfwsd.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=63286>.

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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**GENERAL ORDERS MAY 2019
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
SEAN JOHNSON**

Hello Comrades:

I know the year is quickly coming to an end, and also everyone is working diligently to get all the year-end reports done and turned in. I hope all the Loyalty Day festivities have been planned and are coming together, I will be in Brandon for the parade for my first time before heading to Sioux Falls for yearend scoring for awards. I wish all posts well in their Loyalty Day activities.

We have a little over 40 days until our yearly convention and I hope everyone has made their arrangements to be there. It should be a great convention and I am looking forward to having a good time, and hopefully it goes well for Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin and President Mary Kirkvold. We have many changes coming in 2019-2020.

There are a lot of members running for office and I want to take a moment to offer a sincere good luck to all of them. Sometimes we forget it is a big commitment to run and fulfill a year or more in office, also to do your duties the way they are supposed to be done and well. I want you to know I for one appreciate all of you.

I am running for this Department's highest position Commander. I have spent 4 years moving up through the chairs and I hope that I have gained you're trust and confidence. I will be asking for your vote thank you!

Sean

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**Cody Mangold, Jr. Vice Commander
May 2019 General Orders**

Comrades,

This is a bitter sweet day, as this is the last time, I will be writing to you as the State Junior Vice Commander. I want to take the time to thank you all for putting your trust into me for being a spokesperson for the veterans of South Dakota.

I will be attending the National Home for Children, May 16-18. I am looking forward to this visit and to talk with my fellow Junior Vice Commanders.

This year has been a very difficult year for membership and I know you all have been working very hard to accomplish our goal. The fortunate thing is it's not over. We have until July 1st to complete our goal and as of April 24/2019 we are at 92.51% which makes us 681 members short. We still have time and we can do it. I know it gets tiring hearing about membership, but we would not talk about it so much and work on it if it was not an important issue.

I ask for your support to be the Sr. Vice Commander for the ensuring year of 2019-2020.

Yours in Comradeship,

Cody Mangold

Jr. Vice Commander

cody.mangold@hotmail.com

1101 Main St. Tyndall, SD 57066

605-770-1030

If I do not answer my phone please leave a message.

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**Barbara McKean
State Judge Advocate
May General Orders**

"This Memorial Day, on which we decorate their graves with the tokens of love and affection, is no idle ceremony with us, to pass away an hour; but it brings back to our minds in all their vividness the fearful conflicts of that terrible war in which they fell as victims.... Let us, then, all unite in the solemn feelings of the hour, and tender with our flowers the warmest sympathies of our souls! Let us revive our patriotism and love of country by this act, and strengthen our loyalty by the example of the noble dead around us...." -- General Logan, May 30, 1870

Greetings Comrades,

Department Judging is set for Saturday, May 4th. The time has gone by so fast and there is so much to do at the end of the year, to prepare for the end of the year reports. We also have community books, newsletters, and judging for state white hats. Reports are coming in and are keeping me busy.

I am getting community service reports now from posts that may have missed a quarter earlier I'm glad to help any way I can. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance before the deadline! **All reports must be received by me by 5 pm, Thursday, May 2nd, 2019.**

- ✓ **The posts that have submitted all 4th Qtrs are: (as of 23 Apr):** Aberdeen; Burke (Rcvd 4th Qtr from Auxiliary only); Mitchell; Lake Andes and Parkston!

Community Service Reports NOT received for 2018-2019 are: (as of 23 Apr)

- ❖ **Dist 1:** Alcester - missing 1st Qtr
Missing all 3 Qtrs are:
Parker; Beresford; Canton; Freeman and Crooks
- ❖ **Dist 4: Missing all 3 Qtrs are:**
Watertown; Sisseton; Flandreau; Britton; Summit; Goodwin and Dell Rapids
- ❖ **Dist 6: Missing all 3 Qtrs are:**
Huron; Mobridge; Faulkton; Miller; Eureka; Wessington Springs and Turton
- ❖ **Dist 7:** Chamberlain - missing 1st Qtr
Missing all 3 Qtrs are: Winner and Plankinton
- ❖ **Dist 10:** Rapid City VFW - missing 2nd & 3rd Qtr; Newell 1st & 2nd Qtr
Missing all 3 Qtrs are:
Sturgis VFW; Lemmon; Belle Fourche; Faith; Spearfish and Quinn

Congratulations to all the new District and Post Commanders as well as other officers. What a great opportunity to make a difference. Start now, plan your year and recruit early! Membership is key! **Post Adjutants are asked to make a copy of the election report** and send it to the State Headquarters so that they know the election report has been completed. The deadline to submit this electronic report is June 1, 2019.

- Reports, General Orders, Overseas Veteran are available on the state website at <http://vfwsd.org>
- In addition, the VFW Convention/councils forms are available under VFW Convention at same website. The 2019 Department of SD Annual Convention and Registration Information link is now live. Dates are June 13-16 in Madison.
- 120th VFW National Convention is scheduled July 20-24 in Orlando, FL. Sign up today at <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/120th-vfw-national-convention>

I want to ask you to vote for me for Jr. Vice Commander for 2019-2020. It would be my honor to serve you in this capacity for the upcoming 2019-2020-time frame. I've learned so much this first year as a State Judge Advocate and have gotten to know so many great veterans and their spouses/family. I look forward to working alongside all of you. I appreciate your encouragement and support this past year.

Barb

Barbara McKean

State Surgeon

504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366

C: 605-630-0771; Email: mckean4@live.com

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State Surgeon Colin Reisner
May 2019

Comrades,

Since the reporting year is coming to a close and All-State judging is May 4, I thought I would get the total reports received for the year in this issue. These are the current reports received as of April 25th.

Quarter 1

District 1: Brandon, Canton, Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton

District 4: Brookings, Madison, Milbank, Watertown, Webster

District 6: Aberdeen, Eureka, Gettysburg, Huron, Pierre

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

District 10: Custer, Deadwood, Newell, Rapid City

Quarter 2

District 1: Brandon, Canton, Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton

District 4: Brookings, Madison, Milbank, Watertown, Webster

District 6: Aberdeen, Eureka, Gettysburg, Huron, Pierre

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

District 10: Custer, Deadwood, Newell, Quinn, Rapid City

Quarter 3

District 1: Brandon, Canton, Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton

District 4: Brookings, Madison, Milbank, Watertown, Webster

District 6: Aberdeen, Gettysburg, Huron, Pierre, Redfield

District 7: Burke, Lake Andes, Marty, Mitchell, Parkston, Scotland, Tyndall, Wagner

District 10: Custer, Deadwood, Newell, Rapid City

Quarter 4

District 6: Aberdeen

District 7: Burke, Mitchell, Scotland

District 10: Deadwood

Sgt. Colin G. Reisner USA (Ret)

“Our Country, Not Ourselves”



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

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters,

Just completed District meeting. It was grand to see another VFW Post, that I have never been too. Thank you, Mitchell, for hosting. A new experience and wow, all 26 steps worth. Soon to be 86-year young Howard Martin enjoyed it. He also enjoyed the pickup ride up from Gregory. I signed him out from the Assisted Living.

State Surgeon Colin Reisner gave an informative speech on retaining young people. It is so true on what he stated. Let's not run off new members, let alone the young people. I remember my first state convention, I was preregistered. I stepped up to ask how to sign in. (Crystal, you were not there) Me polite, baby faced Boxa at the time, and a 20-year VFW veteran at that, got the "what are you doing here" treatment. The people at that table never took to mind, a 20-year Military Service Career as well, before the VFW years which included several overseas assignments and deployments. A 20-year military career with task after task after task, responsibility after responsibility after responsibility completed without reservation. In my service in the air force and there are others, you also got a boat load of extra appointments. I was athletic officer, shelter manager, security officer, communication officer, Mobility Team (combat supply transportation), training manager, host of chairman positions to include the SAVINGS BONDS drive. ON and ON and ON! I did have one job I liked, the Christmas Choir director for our squadron. Commander at the time, told me, "we are going caroling, get some people!" Talk about an extra duty. I put together a small singing tour to nursing homes and schools and of course the Altus, Oklahoma VFW VA Hospital Visit. I held down that assignment for 3 years, including the year after I retired and was going to college to complete my degree. Whew.

I inform you this, because there are way more veterans out there. We treat them as the inexperienced, undesirable, as I was treated at the sign in table. A person with a wealth of experience and a can-do attitude and we run them off because they are not in the clique, not part of the MOB, or we perceive they are probably incapable. I just finished reading JOB. There is a vast amount of life lessons in this book. The 3 "miserable comforters" who were friends of Job, got an admonished from JOB with the great line, Job 12:3 **But I have understanding as well as you; I am not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these?** The 3 friends berated Job instead of being kind. As in my Post, I have been called the Moron, Punk, the only Quartermaster in the state that doesn't pay bills from the checkbook because others do it. Oh, that Mob accuses me of spending the money. I only chart the money to at least report to the State Treasurer and local tax office for 990 information. This Mob doesn't even know, **1 Peter 13-14** ¹³ **Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; ¹⁴ Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.** Whether it be a State Law or a VFW Ritual Book or Manual, we are to follow through and obey. No need to be calling names or berating the one responsible for this. I am just following the Law.

When we come across a new potential member or even a longtime service veteran, let it come to mind **Acts 10:34** ³⁴ **Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:** Romans chapter 2 has even more verses on the no respecter of person.

Can we do a heat check on ourselves? Do we really need to get our kicks with self-inducing discrimination? I know the Good Lord saw that Auxiliary at that state convention table. I know the Good Lord sees that Mob in the Post. I know the Good Lord is keeping score so I don't have too, and will set the Books straight in His acceptable time.

Be there for one another!!

Warmest Regards,
Mike Boxa