



DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

General Orders #2

Sean D. Johnson, Commander
“You’re Never Alone”

August 1, 2019

1. **Audit Reports – Put This on Your Must Do List:** The quarter ended June 30, 2019. Post Commanders are reminded that it is their duty to ensure that Post Trustees comply with Section 218, page 74, Manual of Procedures – Duties of Trustees. This section states in part that the Audit Report shall be signed by the Post Commander and the three Post Trustees, who shall by their signatures, “certify to the accuracy of the information contained herein”. **The Audit Report is to be mailed to the Department Adjutant/Quartermaster as soon as possible.** Post Commanders, if you have complied with this section prior to the end of the month following the close of the quarter, thank you. **A Commander is not allowed to appoint an acting Trustee to fill in for a Trustee who is not present or to sign an audit report or any other document.**
2. **Hot Item: Bonds:** In compliance with Section 703, Page 39, National By-Laws, all Post Commanders are advised to have their Quartermaster bonded for a maximum amount of money usually in the treasury of the post at any time. Post Commanders are further reminded that old bonds expire August 31, 2019, regardless of when the bonds were ordered throughout the year. Bonds must be ordered through our State Headquarters, 5009 W. 12th St., Ste. 6A, Sioux Falls, SD 57106 by mandates of the 1974 Department Convention. The cost of Bonds is \$4.50 per \$1,000 coverage up to \$99,000 **with minimum coverage of \$3,000.** \$100,000 to \$349,000 is \$4.00 per \$1,000 and over \$349,000 is \$3.50 per \$1,000. **Special information** concerning Bonds has been mailed to all Post Commanders and Quartermasters with the main concern the due date is moved to September 1, 2019 and delinquent after this date.
3. **State Fair** - District and Post Commanders, make sure that you check out the State Fair schedule and information enclosed in this General Orders. If adjustments are necessary that can be accomplished.
4. **Post Commanders and Quartermasters** should comply with all orders set out under “Duties of Commander and Duties of Quartermasters” Section 218, page 72 and 73, Manual of Procedures. This Section specifically states that all annual dues and life membership fees received by the Post Quartermaster (Department and National) shall be forwarded to National Headquarters, Direct Dues Department, PO Box 119028, Kansas City, Missouri 64171, as prescribed in Section 104, page 10 of the By-Laws.
5. **Post Commanders** whose Posts operate Post Homes are ordered to comply with Section 709, page 40 and 41, By-Laws – Control of Units. Post Commanders are also directed to read Section 710, page 41, By-Laws – Inspection.

6. **Members** are reminded that their conduct in the Post Home should always be respectful. People are quick to criticize unbecoming conduct in the Post Home, which usually finds its way to outside sources and leads to disrespect of the Post. A person who is disrespectful of the Post Home should be removed from the premises so that others can enjoy the facilities without interruption. A poorly operated Post Home only tends to decrease the image of the VFW and negatively influences the Post membership.
7. Post Commanders and Post Hospital Chairmen are urged to insure **Hospital and Safety Reports** are submitted quarterly, four reports per year. Due in July, October, January & April. Report form may be downloaded via www.VFWSD.org.
8. Post Commanders and Post Community Service Chairmen are urged to insure the **Community Service Reports** are submitted quarterly, four reports per year Due in July, October, January & April. Report form may be downloaded via www.VFWSD.org.
9. **Veterans Day:** District and Post Commanders should appoint their 2019 Veterans Day Chairman. Commanders are urged to utilize all Patriotic organizations in your community to take part in the Veterans Day activities. In the event your community is not able to observe Veterans Day, join with a neighboring community and assist them in the observance of this important day. Remember, this is part of our Community Service and Americanism Programs.
10. **Post Commanders** are directed to appoint a Voice of Democracy Chairman and a Patriotic Pen Chairman. Urge your Auxiliary to appoint a Co-chairperson. These are **Post and Auxiliary "Must Programs"** for 2019 – 2020. Send the Chairman's name to Department Headquarters and the Department Chairman, Keith Blume P. O. Box 215, Custer, SD 57730 Home # 605-673-4143, Cell # 605-440-2331. E-Mail: krblume@goldenwest.net
11. **Post Commanders or Chairman** of Post House Committees directed that they will not rent, lease or offer their facilities to any and all Non-American or subversive groups. If such is allowed, the Post involved will be jeopardizing their charters.
12. **Membership:** All life members who are reported deceased between **July 1, 2019 and August 31, 2020**, will be removed from the Post rolls and the Post's prior year membership count will be adjusted accordingly.
13. **Post Chaplains** are reminded to forward the name of each deceased comrade to the Post Quartermaster for reporting online to National and to the State Editor for the TAPS column of the OVERSEAS VETERAN. Reports should be sent to Dick Pickering, Editor, 404 Dogwood Street, Brandon, SD 57072. E-Mail: dickp.signs@gmail.com.
14. **Fall Council of Administration** of the Department of South Dakota, the Commanders and Auxiliary Homecoming, will be held at Cedar Shore Resort, Oacoma South Dakota on October 4th, 5th, & 6th, 2019. The schedule, registration and motel information are on the Web site (vfwsd.org).
15. **Big 10 Conference:** Members are reminded that the Big 10 Conference will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Omaha Downtown, 1616 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE. October 18th–20th, 2019. Registration and Hotel forms call State Headquarters or check the VFWSD.ORG web site.
16. **Sending in Material for General Orders:** All Department Officers, State Chairman and anyone else that wants (as per Commanders direction submission is not mandatory, if you have nothing to say that is okay) to publish information in the General Orders must submit the material to Department Headquarters or the Department Adjutant by no later than the 25th day of the month preceding the publication of the General Orders.
17. **District Commanders:** Please schedule your Fall District meeting ASAP between September 1 and October 31, 2019. Provide date, time and location to Department Headquarters by **ASAP** so we can publish in the September General Orders and ensure a Department Officer is available to inspect and report.

18. **Remember Posts** that have members that need the "Overseas Veteran" mailed to them, as proposed and approved at the State Convention, it is the POST'S responsibility to **print/mail** copies from the website.

19. State Headquarters information: E-Mail is **vfwsd@aol.com**

OFFICIAL:

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

BY ORDER OF:

Sean D. Johnson
Sean D. Johnson, Commander
Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars

****Fall District meeting schedule to be in General Orders**

- District #1 – NS District #4 – NS**
- District #7 – 22 Sept'19 @2pm, American Legion, Parkston**
- District #6 – NS District #10 - NS**

2019 SD State Fair Schedule

- Aug 29th.....District #6 Veterans Day at the Fair.
- Aug. 30th.....District #4.
- Aug. 31st.....Department COA (Chair Judge Advocate)
- Sept 1stDistrict #1.
- Sept 2ndDistrict #7.

Telemarketing from Department of South Dakota

If you receive a telemarketing call raising funds for VFW Department these are the numbers that ONLY calls will be coming from.

605-273-3713, 605-467-2584, 605-574-5996, 605-636-3966

If you get a call from any other number, they are NOT authorized/or legitimate from Department of South Dakota. Please notify the Department Office.

**Cody Mangold, Sr. Vice Commander
August 2019**

Comrades,

This last month seemed to fly by, and I learned more that I hope to bring to the table this year. Please remember to send in your Memorial Day programs.

Please start contacting your local law enforcement, EMT's, and firefighters for this coming year for the awards.

I look forward to getting these and being able to read all of the nominations.

I will be out in Sturgis for the rally again this year recruiting. Also, in attendance will be SD Department Commander Sean Johnson, Commander in Chief "Doc" Schmitz and Sr. Vice Commander in Chief Hal Roesch. I know we will be well represented there this year, and Thank you all in advance to those who are assisting.

I encourage you all to work on the Voice of Democracy, and assist in the Patriots Pen. Please contact your school's or parents in your community for teachers of the year.

Please also get ready for the State Fair.

Ground breaking for the East River Veterans Cemetery is set for September 9th at 0900. We have many things coming up and please assist if you are able.

Yours in comradeship,

Cody Mangold, Sr. Vice Commander

"Looking about For Veterans "

cody.mangold@hotmail.com

1101 Main St.

Tyndall, SD 57066

605-770-1030

**Barbara K. McKean
Jr. Vice Commander
August General Orders**

Please send me your Post Membership Plan by Aug 30, 2019. I will start calling posts the 1st week of September to discuss membership so I'd like your POC by then. Our goal is 100% +1 for each post in South Dakota. Now is the time to start recruiting new members and sending letters to annual members to encourage them to reinstate their membership prior to 1 Jan.

Become familiar with both the National & South Dakota Membership Program along with the Post and District Membership plans. They are all located at our VFW State of SD website:

<https://vfwsd.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp> under Forms.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Yours in comradeship,

Barb

Barbara McKean

Jr. Vice Commander

504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366

C: 605-630-0771 Email: Barbara.mckean@ujs.state.sd.us

**Surgeon
Adam Swift
2019 August General Orders**

Comrades,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy a safe Independence Day weekend! Now that we are in the middle of summer and Mother Nature seems to be cooperating with this idea, I would like to take a moment to give some Summer Safety Reminders!

- Make sure to apply sunscreen with the appropriate SPF levels (minimum SPF 15) as prescribed on the sunscreen bottle.
- Wear protective coverings to help reduce the chance for sunburns.
- Apply insect repellent to provide protection against diseases spread by mosquitos, tick, and other small insects.
- If you are enjoying some time on a boat at the lake, make sure you are equipped with Coast Guard approved life jackets (1 per passenger) and that minors always keep theirs on while aboard the boat.
- **HYDRATE, HYDRATE, HYDRATE!!** Make sure you are consuming enough water to stay sufficiently hydrated this summer! Staying hydrated helps your body pump blood and keeps muscles working efficiently! Remember, **IF YOU GET THIRSTY, YOU ARE ALREADY DEHYDRATED...DRINK!**

Now that we are in August, please make sure I receive your Hospital and Safety Reports by the 10th of the month for full points. The more reports I receive on time, the more accurate of a picture the Department has regarding our participation in these programs. Please discard all previous editions of the Hospital & Safety Reports and replace with the updated ones from the Department website www.vfwsd.org. Remember, I am here to help and answer any questions you may have!

Have you done a "Buddy Check" lately? Call up a fellow Post member or veteran that you know and check on them. Invite them out for coffee or breakfast and remind them that you are there for them if they need you!

Adam Swift

Department Surgeon

605-415-9493

Adam.swift.vfw@gmail.com

"For Our Veterans...We Aim Higher"