

General Orders

JANUARY 2022



LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

ZOOM MEETING

The Legislative Conference scheduled for Ft. Pierre January 30 and 31, 2022 has been rescheduled to a Zoom Meeting January 30th 10-4 pm central time.

LOYALTY DAY

LOYALTY DAY

Post Commanders, please appoint a 2022 Loyalty Day Chairperson and forward the name of that individual to the Department office. Please start planning for this event.

BUDDY POPPY

CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

Post Commanders, please appoint a 2022 Buddy Poppy Chairperson and forward the name of that individual to the Department office. All orders should be in by April 15th, 2022 in order to make All-American.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Members are reminded that their annual membership in the VFW may have expired on December 31, 2021. All officers are encouraged to make every effort to renew the continuous members as soon as possible. "Any Officer removed for 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."

Happy New Year! Here's to living on the edge a little more in 2022. As Hunter S. Thompson said: Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming "Wow! What a Ride!" - State Commander, Barbara McKean



LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

ZOOM MEETING

Council of Administration, Legislative Conference is set for January 30th, 2022 at 10 am to 4 pm central standard time. The agenda is as follows, Zoom Link at the bottom:

Sunday, January 30th, 2022

10:00 a.m.	Announce the VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher Award Winners
10:30 a.m.	By-Law Committee Meeting
11:00 a.m.	Budget & Audit Committees
1:00 a.m.	Legislative & other Committees
1:30 p.m.	Council of Administration meetings
2:00 p.m.	Chairman Reports and Training

CLICK THE LINK BELOW FOR CONNECTION TO THE ZOOM MEETING:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81570575869?pwd=a2NxYTJsYUdLRTRNyTzV2Zms3TjgvZz09>

IRS FORM 990:

All posts with a 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 questions will not be accepted. The IRS will return your form and you will be considered not in compliance. Report must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month following the close of the fiscal year.

SENDING IN MATERIAL FOR THE GENERAL ORDERS

ANYONE CAN PUBLISH INPUT

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

The Department wants YOU to submit items to the General Orders!

District Meetings: Mid-Winter - Jan/Feb 2022

- District #1 - Feb 20 at 1 pm at SF Post (Tom Hafner)
- District #4 - Jan 16 at 2 pm at Watertown (Barbara McKean)
- District #6 - Jan 16 at 1 pm via Zoom (Dave Baumiller)
- District #7 - Feb 6 at 2 pm at Armour Post (Barbara McKean)
- District #10 - Jan 9 at 10 am at RC Post (Keith Blume)

OFFICIAL:

Anna Waltner

Anna Waltner, Quartermaster / Adjutant
Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars

BY ORDER OF:

Barbara McKean

Barbara McKean, State Commander
Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Greeting Comrades,

Happy new year! 2022 is the beginning of a new chapter in this book called life. This is your year. Make it happen. As we look forward to the new year, let's resolve to recommit ourselves to the values we share. Wishing you a fresh start with renewed energy and confidence throughout the New Year.

Commanders Project Raffle Tickets. Please sell the tickets you have in your possession. Ticket stubs and money should be mailed to the Dept office. (flyer for raffle is attached in these GO's).

Please plan on attending our next State Meeting scheduled for Jan 30, 2022 via Zoom.

Reminder, requirements for All-American this year is:

1. Partner together with another organization in your community
2. Increase Community Service hours by 10% from last year
3. Sign up & Report in OMS Dashboard the name of 5 new members to Action Corps (this can be anyone, brother, mother, sister, friends etc. All they need to do is TEXT VFW to 50457).
4. Create & maintain Post Facebook account. Must have 2 administrators and must be active for 6-months prior to judging.
5. Donate \$100 to Veterans Military Service (VMS). This year those payments will be send directing to the SD Department office in Sioux Falls.
6. Achieve 100% +1 in Membership

Need help with the Dashboard updates? Let us know and we will set up a training session. This year **every Post Adjutant MUST** make their own updates in the OMS Dashboard with the number of new sign-ups for the Action Corps and your VOD and Patriots Pen numbers.

The Department of South Dakota VFW office is still featuring our members on the Department of South Dakota website who have proudly worn the uniform of our country and continue that legacy of service in their communities today. Please visit www.vfwsd.org to access this document (Weekly Social Media (Facebook under [Department of South Dakota VFW](#)) Highlight).

If there is anything I can do to assist, please give me a call. Thanks again for your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

Upcoming events:

District Meetings: Mid-Winter - Jan/Feb 2022

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Jan 10, 2022 - Attend POA/MIA at State Capitol at 2 p.m.

Jan 30 - Legislative Conference via Zoom Meeting

Barbara K. McKean

Barbara McKean

Barbara.mckean@ujv.state.sd.us

605-630-0771

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

JANUARY GENERAL ORDERS

The Holidays are in the rear-view mirror for 2021, hopefully everyone had a Safe and Joyful season. Our Legislative Conference is scheduled in the near future. Your attendance is important. The Bylaws Committee is on the agenda. If you have input during this portion of the program, contact a Committee member (Anna, Sean, Cody, Eric, or me) and we will insure it gets discussed. So far, I only have two items up for review, Articles/Sections concerning Baseball and District Commanders. Contact us by email or phone. Adjutant Waltner has a draft SOP she will be presenting that will be helpful to Posts. Thank you for your interest.

Public Servant Awards (Emergency Medical Technicians, Law Enforcement & Firefighters) entries were due to Department Headquarters by January 1st. As of the submission date of these General Orders at least one (with multiple Entries from several Posts) Entry Form has been received from the following Posts: Aberdeen, Brandon, Huron, Mitchell, Parkston, and Sioux Falls. A small turn-out of only 11% of our Posts. With a week before the deadline, we are hopeful that more entries will be submitted.

A reminder that Memorial Day and Veterans Day Reports should be submitted to Department Headquarters as soon as possible. To date **Memorial Reports** have been received from the following Posts: D1-Yankton, Elk Point, Beresford, Vermillion, Canton, Brandon, Alcester; D4-Brookings, Madison, Sisseton, Webster; D6-Aberdeen, Huron, Pierre, Turton, Gettysburg; D7-Marty, Mitchell, Scotland, Lake Andes, Parkston, Winner, Chamberlain, Plankinton, Tyndall, Armour, Wagner, Burke; D10-Sturgis, Custer, Newell, Spearfish, Deadwood, and Quinn. As a Department we stand at just over 64%. **Veterans Day** Reports have been submitted by: D1-Yankton, Elk Point, Beresford, Vermillion; D4-Watertown, Brookings, Madison; D6-Huron, Pierre, Eureka, Gettysburg; D7-Marty, Mitchell, Parkston, Tyndall, Armour, Wagner; D10-Custer, Newell, and Deadwood. Only 37% submission rate. If your Post is not named in both listings, please get your Reports completed. District Commanders please contact your delinquent Posts. Negative Reports are required.

As a Department we have 113 members who will Expire (Not including those members who Expired in November and previous months) between now and January 31st. Saving these members and those who have already Expired should be a top priority. Have your Post Membership Chairperson and his Team contact these Comrades personally and ask them to renew. Thank you.

Please stay connected with our less fortunate and homebound Veterans and families during the upcoming months. Keep in mind you may be their only contact.

If I can be of any assistance contact me at the email or phone number (leave a message if no answer) listed below.

Tom Hafner
Sr. Vice Commander
Perseverance & Integrity
tbmhafner@santel.net // 605-661-2750

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. We are currently at 88.33%, National is 88.59%. I was hoping to be at least 90% by now but maybe by the 1st of the year we'll make it still. The unpaid have not been added in yet, the numbers should increase dramatically when that happens.

This is the new membership program to help with your membership efforts. I believe the life grant should be double but I don't have any say in that. I hope this helps.

Starting January 1, 2022, every VFW Post that signs up and submits full membership dues* for each member will receive a grant based on the type of membership submitted while funds are available.

New/Reinstated Membership Grant initiative for VFW Posts

Member Type	Rebate Amount
New to the VFW Life member and/or any **Reinstated annual to Life with full Life member payment.	\$30.00
New to the VFW Life member and/or any **Reinstated annual to Life Installment Payment	\$20.00
New to the VFW Annual member	\$20.00
**Reinstated Annual member	\$10.00

*Full membership dues include the per capita for National, Department and the Post.

**Reinstated definition - Anyone that has been a member before, and their dues have been expired for 2 years and 1 day or more is classified as a Reinstated member.

Members submitted prior to January 1st are not eligible for this program.

Current Annual members defined as any member whose dues have not been expired more than two years are not eligible for the grant.

Members at Large are not part of this program.

Dave Baumiller, JVC

Hello Comrades,

December has been a challenging and blessed month. The 7 new Labrador Retrievers are six weeks old and so much Fun! I wish all of you the best New Year Ever! Please remember to assist/thank a Veteran and their Family Members whenever you have the opportunity to do so in the ensuing year.

I would like to remind everyone that the months of January-March have the highest suicide attempt and completion statistical rates following the holiday season. Please watch and listen for the subtle **or** overt signs that may indicate someone is contemplating suicide. Here are some of the most prevalent:

1. Making statements like “I’d be better off dead” or “Everyone would be better off if I weren’t around”.
2. Loss of pleasure in usual activities.
3. Giving away treasured items to family, friends and others in general.
4. Disorganized thought processes or decreased linear and goal directed conversation.
5. Increased use of alcohol or drugs.
6. General irritability with family, friends and co-workers **or** withdrawing nearly completely from family, friends and co-workers.
7. Having access to firearms, lethal means or prescription benzodiazepines & opioids.

*If you recognize these behaviors in someone you know, please do a “buddy check” ask your buddy how they are, if they need help and ask them if they are thinking about harming themselves or others or killing themselves or others. It may be difficult for some of you to ask these questions; yet the individual who is suffering may **NEED** you to ask these questions.

*If the individual says “Yes” to any of the “self-harm or harm to others” questions listed above, **Do Not** Leave Them Alone, **Ensure** You Are Both in a **Safe Environment**, **Take** Your Buddy to the Nearest Emergency Room or Mental Health Treatment Services Office **or** call **911** if you are in a crisis situation and do not feel safe traveling with your buddy.

The “Book of Reports” submissions for the Legislative Conference is due to State HQs **January 4, 2022**, the 2nd Quarter Hospital and Safety Reports are due no later than **January 10, 2022**. I will be checking my email twice daily following January 4th, 2022 and will continue to send updated spreadsheets to HQs to ensure I log all of the 2nd Quarter Reports prior to the conference in order to depict the most up to date information. Let’s rock this report this year! Hooah!

If you need copies of any of this year’s reports, please email me at dakpatriot@gmail.com and I will send them to you.

Thank you for your Service and everything you do each day for Veterans and their Family Members. Happy New Year & Stay Safe!

Very Respectfully,

Glynis Collier
State Surgeon
Dept. of SD, VFW
LPC, SD Lic#: 20200

2021-2022 South Dakota VFW Raffles

Money will be donated to DTOM (Don't Tread on Me) 22/0 to combat veteran PTSD and Suicide Prevention. This is a horse Farm in Warner, SD! Winners will be drawn at State Conventions in June 2022 (return tickets & money to State office 605-332-7441).

1st Raffle
(for Raffles
only \$20)

Gun Raffle \$20 per ticket (3 winning tickets)

#1 – Henry Golden Boy Military Service Tribute – 22 long Rifle

#2 – Browning X-Bolt Hunter LLB - 6.5 Creedmoor

#3 – TriStar Setter ST O/U – 410 Gauge

All winners must be 18 years of age or older & Must pass a NICS Background Check to take possession.

#1



#2



#3



Black Hills Gold Pear Cut Onyx Earrings & Pendant Set Raffle - \$10 (1 Winner)

This beautiful earrings and pendant set features classic Black Hills Gold: a solid 10k gold base with brilliant 12k rose and green foliage accents. A complimentary gold-filled chain is also included.



2nd Raffle
(for Black
Hills Gold
only \$10)

If interested in donating to this raffle, please visit any VFW Post in SD or call Barb at 605-630-0771.
Can also pay using VENMO @Barbara-McKean (and we can fill in your name & phone # for drawing) 🐾