# General Orders

#### OCTOBER 2022



#### BIG TEN CONFERENCE

#### **BIG TEN**

The Big Ten Conference will take place in Milwaukee, WI October 14-16, 2022. If you would like to register, please visit

https://vfwwi.org/di/vfw/v2/defa ult.asp?pid=112914 for more information.

#### FALL COUNCIL

#### **HOMECOMING**

The Department will be hosting the Fall Council / Homecoming October 7-9, 2022 at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center. If you would like to attend, please contact Anna at 605-332-7441 or <a href="mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com">anna@vfwdeptsd.com</a> asap.

#### INSPECTIONS

#### **POST & DISTRICTS**

All Posts and Districts are asked to help the Inspections by making sure all Post books, records, and minutes are available at the time of Inspection. Please instruct the Post Trustees to comply with Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure "Trustees".



#### COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTING

Please report your Community Service through the Department Dashboard. This can be found online at <a href="https://www.vfwsd.org">www.vfwsd.org</a> > Login > Members Only > Community Service Reporting. Your Members ID = VFW Member Number, and Password = Last Name with the first letter capitalized.

General Orders

# **Americanism**

All Posts should be sponsoring vigorous Americanism and Patriotic activities to make strong, direct, and Patriotic impact in our schools or the general public. Patriotic leadership in our communities is important.

Have you considered implementing a program to stop old and tattered US Flags from being flown by informing your community they can leave old Flags at your Post for proper disposal?

www.vfwsd.org



#### **VETERANS DAY**

**VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11** 

Have you appointed your Veterans Day Chairperson yet? Have you started organizing your Veterans Day Program yet? Now is the time!

November 11, 2022 is Veterans Day. According to the Manual of Procedure, Sec. 223 - Commemorative Dates, every Post shall see that suitable arrangements are made for the observance of Veterans Day.

www.vfwsd.org

If you would like to send a submission for the General Orders, please send to Anna at <a href="mailto:anna@vfweptsd.com">anna@vfweptsd.com</a> no later than the 25th of every month.

#### VOD / PP / TEACHERS AWARDS

**PROGRAMS** 

At this time, all Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher's Awards program material should be in the possession of the Posts and schools.

Contact your local schools and make certain the contest is underway. All entries should be at the Post no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Posts should send the entries to the Districts no later than November 31<sup>st</sup>.

www.vfwsd.org

Contact Department VOD / PP / Teachers Award Chair Jerry Seiner at <a href="mailto:jerry.seiner@hotmail.com">jerry.seiner@hotmail.com</a>



Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and EMT of the year are due to the Department Headquarters by January 1, 2023. Please contact the Chairmen, Dave Baumiller at davebaumiller@gmail.com

When sending a voucher to the Department, all receipts need to be attached in order to be for the full amount.













#### **OFFICIAL:**

Anna Arnold

Quartermaster / Adjutant Department of South Dakota VFW

#### BY ORDER OF:

70m Hafner

Commander Department of South Dakota VFW

# DEPARTMENT COMMANDER OCTOBER GENERAL ORDERS

Department Fall Council/Homecoming is scheduled for 7 – 9 October in Oacoma. Every Post is encouraged to have a representative in attendance as Quartermaster, VSO, VOD/PP, Community Service, Dashboard, OMS, Membership & Recruiting Events, and FF/LE/EMT training are all scheduled for a block of instruction on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Committee meetings are on Friday afternoon and the Council of Administration will meet on Sunday morning. If you have not registered please do so as-soon-as possible as the above listed is important to all. In addition, Noon and Banquet Meals on Saturday will be ordered for those who register only and will be a ticketed event. All unregistered participants are on their own for meals. The Agenda and Registration Forms are on the Department website. **Districts are reminded to bring their Colors to Oacoma.** Dress for meetings is Business Casual.

Tradition has been that the Auxiliary selects the theme for the Saturday night Banquet. This year Auxiliary President Patti's theme is "Howling for Veterans" so hunting attire will be the uniform of the day for the Banquet.

The Big 10 Conference is scheduled for 14 – 16 October at the Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee. The Department has our delegates registered. Anyone wishing to attend contact Department Headquarters for additional details.

Districts have started their required Annual Post Inspections. All Posts are encouraged to review your last Inspection Report and have the necessary documents available to make this a smooth process. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Several of our Programs that are be addressed in these General Orders should be taking shape in our Posts. Veterans Day Programs are necessary. The veterans in our communities deserve recognition and all others need a reminder of the importance of this day. Your participation in these activities is the only way they will continue to be successful.

As of this writing we as a Department have exceeded our September Membership Goal and are well on the way to reaching our November 30<sup>th</sup> Goal of 92%. We have two Quota Buster Posts, and three Posts that have reached their Quota. Your Recruiting and Retention efforts in September were outstanding. The Department has over twenty New Members and twelve Reinstated Members. Contact all Unpaid Members and encourage them to remain a member. Personal contact is a highly effective method of retaining our members. Maintain the momentum. Membership requires a Team effort and you have stepped up. Thank you all.

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 Commander tbmhafner@santel.net // 605-661-2750

A recruiting even in Huron SD paid off-we have 9 new members for District 6. Thanks to Glynis Collier, Tom Hafner, Richard Jacobson and Anna Arnold for helping me get my program off the ground. The Stock Show in Rapid City is next--get ready District 10!

Dave Baumiller

Sr. Vice Commander

Greetings Fellow Veterans and Heroes!

September has been a fruitful month! District 6 held a five-day Membership Drive at the SD State Fair in Huron and added more Veterans to our ranks! I would like to thank District 6 CDR Richard Jacobsen for his untiring Leadership and Support to District 6 by being present during the entire Membership Drive. I would also like to give special thanks to SVC Dave Baumiller, ADJ/Quartermaster Anna Arnold and CIC Tom Hafner for the assistance with set up, tear down and recruiting efforts!

Ms. Dottie and I also had the privilege and honor to attend the 2022 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Paralyzed Veteran's Pheasant Hunt at the Top Gun Hunting Lodge in Howard, SD! The day was spent driving paralyzed and disabled Veterans around the lodge hunting grounds while they shot pheasants and our dogs retrieved them. This was an amazing and very well coordinated event! Dottie and I were invited back next year for the 2023 Hunt. We will definitely be attending the event.

District CDRs we continue to have a poor response from a large number of posts regarding their submissions of their Membership Plans. This is just a reminder that your District/Post Membership Plans are due NLT 1 Oct 2022 (By 11:59 PM CST). You WILL NOT be considered for White Hat Selection-No Exceptions if your Membership Plans are not received by the SD Adj/Quartermaster by that date and time.

I am hopeful you will meet this challenge.

The new Department Standings were published September 12, 2022 and South Dakota is 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation regarding Membership Statistics! We are doing a great job as a department by improving and maintaining our Membership goals; yet, we can always do better because we are all in this together. Let's see if we can make to the top 5 in the nation by the Legislative Conference in January!

VFW National Headquarters has published two new membership applications on their website. Just go to either of theses web pages: <a href="https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/MY\_VFW/Training-and-Support/Membership/Membership-Application.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20220823T133309Z">https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/MY\_VFW/Training-and-Support/Membership/Membership-Application.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20220823T133309Z</a> for post membership applications &

https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/MY\_VFW/Training-and-Support/Membership/Membership-at-Large-Application.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20220427T132305Z for membership at large applications.

I have attached a copy of both of these forms in this month's general orders. You can also print out as many as you like right from the website.

If the links do not work for you in this document, simply sign into the VFW site, click on "Membership, Recruiting & Retention" on the left, then click on "Applications and Forms" and the link for each form will be

there for you to print out as many copies as you would like. If your post does not have internet capability then please call me and I will mail you ten copies of each form.

I will also be reviewing updated Post and District Membership Statistics at Fall Council in Oacoma. If there is anything specific you would like me to present, review or explain further regarding membership at that time, please send your requests to me at my email address or call me at the provided phone number if you do not have email capability. They are both provided in my signature block below.

I am here for you if you need anything or have any questions concerning membership. I am here to serve you. Thank You for Everything You Do for Veterans and their Family Members each day! Let's Do This SD VFW! One Team One Fight!

Very Respectfully, Glynis Collier Jr. Vice CDR DEPT of SD VFW dakpatriot@gmail.com Cell #803-466-7031

From the desk of the State Surgeon,

Greetings everyone! Where has summer gone? Semptember is here, kids are back in school. Drive safely when driving around the schools, be on the lookout of kids walking or riding their bicycles on the way to and from school. The same goes for school buses, pay attention to those flashing red and yellow lights on those buses. KIDS are our future, some, maybe one day be a great military leader!

Until next month,

Robert C Harrington

Department Of SD VFW

State Surgeon





## SD Legislative Committee Member General Order - October 2022

Greeting Comrades - I traveled to the National Legislative Committee meeting in Washington, DC, September 12-15, 2022 to discuss the VFW Legislative Priorities (talking points) and VFW Priority Goals with our State Senator's and Representative. I was extremely pleased at how productive both the meetings with the DC VFW Legislative Staff as well as the meetings on veteran's issues with SD's Senators and House Representative went.

I was able to meet with both SD Senators and our House Representative; SD Senator Thune, SD Senator Rounds and SD Representative Johnson. I also was able to meet and discuss veteran issues with all three Congressional Staff member as well as exchange contact information for future correspondence.







My conversation with all emphasized our VFW Legislative Priorities (talking points) on:

- 1) Cracking Down on Predatory Claim Companies The VFW urges Congress to: • Pass H.R. 8736, Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding VA Benefits Act, known as the GUARD VA Benefits Act. This legislation would reinstate penalties for charging veterans and survivors unauthorized fees relating to claims for VA benefits.
- 2) Retirement and Military Personnel
  The VFW urges Congress to: Pass H.R. 1282 / S. 344, Major Richard Star Act, either as a
  standalone bill or via the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, which would
  enable Chapter 61 veterans who sustained combat related injuries to be entitled to DOD
  retirement pay and VA disability compensation without offset.
- 3) Economic Opportunity's Role in Preventing Suicide

The VFW urges Congress to: • Direct VA to incorporate veteran benefit usage into its annual suicide prevention report. This would show the correlation between VA benefits and veterans who die by suicide. • Analyze which benefits have a greater impact on upstream suicide prevention and focus on expanding those benefits to reduce the overall number of veteran suicides.

Our discussions went smooth. All clearly are invested in Veterans issues and concerns. It was surprising to me that not all were aware of these three talking points, so it was nice to be able to discuss and explain each one of them. Our meeting prior to our visits was extremely helpful and important as without it I would not have been able to discuss these priorities in as much detail as they needed.

Senator Thune had also inquired into our VA facility in SF to see how I felt things were going and if improvement were being made. We discussed the changes being made and I thanked him for his continued interest in Veterans issues in SD. I did thank each one of them for their votes on passing the PACT Act.

I did personally hand each Legislator's staff a copy of the VFW Legislative Priorities (talking points) and VFW Priority Goals as well as exchange my business card with their Congressional Staff members.

I was extremely lucky to be able to visit with 2 of the three members in the U.S. Capitol building which allowed me a small tour of a few places inside the U.S. Capitol. I also met a lot of great, helpful, fellow VFW Department Legislative members from several States. The cross-feed of information was invaluable.







I attended the "SFC Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act Congressional Reception," on Wednesday, September 14. It was held on behalf of The Military Officers Association of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Wounded Warrior Project. I was able to socialize with fellow veterans from many different organization from across the Nation.

### VFW Celebrates as Landmark PACT Act is Signed into Law - Aug 10, 2022

WASHINGTON – After years of persistent advocacy, National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Tim Borland, families of loved ones affected by toxic exposures and other veteran service organizations, stood together behind President Joseph Biden at the White House as the *SFC Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022*, the landmark bill focused on assisting toxic-exposed veterans, was signed into law, Wednesday morning.

"What an honorable moment in history for veterans!" exclaimed Borland after the event. "The PACT Act becoming law is the largest expansion of veteran benefits since the creation of the VA. My sincerest thanks to the members of Congress, I am so proud of all the hard work VFW staff, our Action Corps and VFW members everywhere did to push Congress to pass this bill and was honored to represent our organization at the White House on this historic day."

The PACT Act, as it's commonly known, is named after Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson who passed away in 2020 from conditions related to toxic exposure during his service in the military. The comprehensive bill expands health care for generations of veterans who up until now had the arduous task of proving their conditions or illness a result of service-connected exposure to toxic substances or environments, such as the burn pits many Post-9/11 veterans were exposed to during deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill enacts VA provisions for 23 presumptive conditions for rare respiratory diseases and cancers and creates a framework for the establishment of future presumptions of service connection related to toxic exposure.

"Too many of our brothers and sisters have succumbed to illnesses connected to toxic exposure," said Borland. "That is why this bill has been the VFW's #1 priority for the past few years, and we weren't going to give up until it was passed."

Passed by the Senate on Aug. 2, the bill was in limbo for almost a month as procedural hurdles, amendment considerations, and shaky support among some Senators caused the bill to stall before it was passed overwhelmingly with a vote count of 86 - 11. For almost a week leading up to the final vote, VFW members, PACT Act advocates and other veterans held a fire watch on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, holding a constant vigil for six straight days until it was announced the bill passed.

"With one voice, we told Congress 'every veteran counts' and they listened," said Borland. "I encourage every eligible veteran to join the VFW, so we can continue to secure and improve the health and benefits for veterans, service members and their families. The veteran's voice has strength, and it is even stronger when we are all together."

The PACT Act is the latest achievement on the long list of legislative victories the VFW has fought for since its inception, part of the legacy of the VFW's veteran advocacy that continues to carry on into the future.

"After 123 years, the VFW continues to show we are alive and well, and that 'No One Does More for Veterans,' because for the VFW 'EVERY VETERAN COUNTS!" said Borland.

This "trial run" for March was incredibly helpful and I'm so appreciative of the opportunity to attend the National Legislative Conference in Washington D.C., to meet the D.C. VFW Legislative Team, meet with our Legislators and to be my State's Representative for Legislative issues. I'm excited to serve in this position and I look forward to future meetings and opportunities on Legislative issues.

## What can you do?

# Support Today's Veterans and Military

Please contact or visit your congressional representatives and stress that these are the issues we will be fighting for in the 117th Congress. These priority goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary. To find your congressional representatives, visit <a href="https://www.vfw.org/ActionCorps">www.vfw.org/ActionCorps</a>.

# Play a Role in the Process

Be engaged and help us ensure that these priority goals are enacted. Sign up today for the VFW Action Corps Weekly and VFW Action Alerts:

- Visit vfw.org/JoinActionCorps
- Text "VFW" to 50457
- Scan the QR Code

v/r,

Barbara McKean National Legislative Representative - South Dakota

#### Greetings Comrades,

This has been a very busy month filing claims related to the PACT Act. If you were in Vietnam or on the DMZ in Korea when Agent Orange was being utilized and you have hypertension please get your claim filed. If you have any presumptive under the PACT Act please file as that is the direction from the VFW National Veteran Services. It is true that under the PACT Act it states the VA does not have to work those claims until January 1, 2023, but I am seeing those claims that are being filed now getting exams requested and getting a good majority of the work completed prior. With the Camp Lejeune Justice Act I can only caution you and recommend that you do not sign a contract with a law firm. The answers from the VA changed twice while I was at the VFW Service Officer training. I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Council of Administration and Training.

Cody Mangold

Department Service Officer

#### General Orders October 2022

#### District 1

District 1 has completed their fall meeting on Sep 25. A great representation of posts was present. Here are the key things I have charged my posts to work on:

- Membership this is always my #1 item Get plans in and 2 recruiting events
- District By-laws how can we make them better rewrite
- VOD chairman Luke Reimers Post 4726 Brandon
- Be prepared for upcoming post inspections
- Community Involvement

I encourage all my posts to stay involved and make sure you are taking credit for the activities you are doing.

Rick Vanden Hoek

District 1 Commander



# **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Today'e	Data		

Name (First, MI, Last)			EMAIL						
Address (Street)	Apt. / Lot #	City			Sta	to	Zip		
	Apt. / Lot#	City			Sta	te	Σιμ		MALE FEMALE
Dates Of Service (mm / yyyy)	Location of Foreign Service	Date Of Birt	t <b>h</b> (mm/dd/y	уууу)	Phone			_	DECLINE
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QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE:									
WW II OCCUPATIONAL SERVICE	VIETNAM SERVICE DESERT SHIELD/STORM	AFGHANIST IRAQ (2003 -	•	present)			RESOLVE (2	•	,
KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954)	BOSNIA/KOSOVO	SSBN DETE	,	TROL INSI	GNIA				
KOREA DUTY (1955 - present)	, ,		NARY OPE	Location					
		Dates							
Payment Authorization - You may pay	by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will re	eceive a yearly s	tatement by	/ mail. For o	credit card paym	ents, pleas	e complete the	e following	r.
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above for the payment of dues reflected c made on or arround the 1st or the 15th de installment payments. Annual dues are su from the most recent payment. Contact V about or cancel a payment, or to report p ater than 11:59 p.m. Central Time ten bi by your financial institution (e.g., due to i could not be processed, and provide alter may have additional rights and responsib	ditions: You authorize the VFW to initiate electronic deb- in this application. You understand such charges may be ay of the month. This authorization will remain in full for bject to change. By completing this authorization, you ac FW Member Services at 1.833. VFW.VETS (1.833.839.83) roblems such as bank closures, lost or stolen account nun- usiness days prior to the scheduled payment date. If you nsufficient funds, incorrect account information, closed mate payment options. The privilege of making payment filities under the Electronic Funds Transfer Act.	made within 2 vrce until VFW knowledge that 87) or write VFY nbers, closed ac are unaware of account, etc.) the s under this agri	-3 business has receive you will on W Member counts, or the charge ne VFW wi reement ma	s days of paged notificated notificated and receive Services, and unauthorized date for yell contact years be revoluted.	ayment due date ion from you o notice when the 406 W. 34th St., zed transactions rour account, plyou at the addreked by VFW if a	e. For insta f its termine payment Suite 316, . Cancella ease conta ss we have any item is	illment paym nation or upo would differ l Kansas City, I tion requests ct VFW. If a on file, expla not paid upo	ents, char on comple by more the MO 64111 must be re payment in hin why the on present	ges will be tion of the nan \$10.00 to inquire eceived no s returned e payment ation. You
payment of \$45.00 and (11) monthly pays completion of payments. The life member	and Conditions: The VFW life membership installment ments. The member will be issued an annual membership schip fee is determined from the schedule using the appli make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward. M future years annual dues.	card at the time cant's age on De	ne of enroll ecember 31	ment. Â pe of the yea	ermanent life m r in which the a	embership pplication	card will be it is submitted.	issued upo Delinque	on the encies
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The review committee has performed its duties and recommends

Committee Member

Committee Member

Applicant's Signature & Date

rejection.

approval,

Committee Member



Signature of Applicant: \_

# VFW Membership Mail-In Application

Name:				First	M.I.		
Address:				THSU	m.i.		
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E-mail:		Phone: _			<u> </u>		
Birthdate:		Social Se (options					
SERVICE INFORMATION	N □ Army □ Marine Corp	ps 🗖 Navy	☐ Air Force	□ Coast Guard	☐ Space Force		
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☐ Vietnam	☐ Korean Service (7/1/49 to pre		cupation Medal				
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I would like to enroll in the Automatic		71-80 81 and over	\$225.00 \$170.00	\$45.00 \$45.00	\$20.45 \$15.45		
Payment Pla	an.			the VFW to initiate electronic deb	oit entries or affect a charge by any effected on this application. You		
☐ LIFE MEMBER	SHIP (one-time)	understand such charges may made on or around the 1st or from you of its termination or authorization, you acknowledg recent payment. Contact VFW	y be made within 2-3 business da the 15th day of the month. This a upon completion of the installmer ge that you will only receive notice Member Services at 1.833.VFW.	ys of payment due date. For inst authorization will remain in full fo at payments. Annual dues are su when the payment would differ VETS (1.833.839.8387) or write	allment payments, charges will be rice until VFW has received notification bject to change. By completing this by more than \$10.00 from the most VFW Member Services, 406 W. 34th		
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Automatic Payment Plan and Install processing. By signing this applicati	SHIP (installment plan) Iment options require credit/debit card for ion you acknowledge and agree to the terms and int Plan and Installment options, if selected.	contact VFW. If a payment is account, etc.) the VFW will co alternate payment options. The	returned by your financial instituti ntact you at the address we have	on (e.g., due to insufficient funds on file, explain why the payment nder this agreement may be revo	s, incorrect account information, closed could not be processed, and provide oked by VFW if any item is not paid		
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PAYMENT INFORMATIO	•			cover $\square$ AME)	(		
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Date: \_