



DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

General Orders #2

“LOOKING OUT FOR VETERANS”

August 1, 2020

1. **Audit Reports – Put This on Your Must Do List:** The quarter ended June 30, 2020. 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 or emailed 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.** However, if the Signer has seen the document they can submit an email authorizing their concurrence and approval which must be submitted with the audit to the Department office.
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, 2020, 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, 2020 and delinquent after this date.
3. **State Fair – Veterans Building closed this year due to Covid-19.**
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 ensure 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 2020 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 2020– 2021. Send the Chairman’s name to Department Headquarters and the Department Chairman, Keith Blume and Co-Chairman Peggy White. Keith’s information is 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 are hereby directed that you 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, 2020 and August 31, 2021**, 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.
14. **Fall Council of Administration** of the Department of South Dakota has been **CANCELED** and HOMECOMING, due to Executive Order #1, from National Headquarters. There will be a virtual (Zoom) meeting and training with schedule to come out later so PLEASE watch for it and plan on attending.
15. **Big 10 Conference:** Members are reminded that the Big 10 Conference will be held in Columbus Ohio on October 16th–18th, 2020. Registration and Hotel forms call State Headquarters.
16. **Sending in Material for General Orders:** All Department Officers, State Chairman and anyone else that wants 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, 2020. Provide date, time and location to Department Headquarters by **August 25th** so we can publish in the September General Orders and ensure a Department Officer is available to inspect and report. **In Accordance With** directions of Executive Order#1, dated July 29th, 2020
18. State Headquarters information: E-Mail is vfwsd@aol.com

Attached is the complete Memorandum and Executive Order #1 issued from National Headquarters.

OFFICIAL:

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

BY ORDER OF:

Cody Mangold
Cody Mangold, Commander
Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars

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

NOTICE: District 10 has planned for their meeting on September 12th, 2020 at 10am, with a picnic to follow at noon.

Greetings,

It has been a very busy month for all of us, and I thank everyone for their understanding. The Veteran's Council decided to not have the building at the State Fair for the safety of everyone, so there will be no activities at the State Fair this year. National VFW has cancelled the Armory at the Sturgis Rally this year, but there will still be a booth for Unmet Needs at the Full Throttle, and a National Recruiter will be present. Fall Council COA, and School of Instruction will be online that same weekend as previously scheduled. I appreciate everyone's understanding and your flexibility with everything going on. Please understand lately information is changing every day. One of my biggest concerns of the members is their Health, and safety, and please know that is kept in mind at all knows. All events that I was to be a part of this month for National has been cancelled. If there are any questions on Executive Order #1 or the Commander in Chief Hal Roesch speech please contact the Department of myself, and there were meetings held for clarity to be given on these items. Please continue checking in on your fellow veteran's, and their families. If able please get the Voice of Democracy, and Patriot pen out to the schools. This is a great time for the youth to show their Patriotism, and Americanism. It feels that if there is anytime right now that needs it more than ever it is now. I will step out and say that I do support the Commander in Chief's statement on equality in all areas. I do not want people to feel that they are not welcome because of their race, gender, or any other reason. We are all Veteran's and we all watched each other's backs at the most trying times of our lives. I want to thank everyone for their continued support for the Veteran's, and their families. Please keep up the good work.

"Looking out for Veteran's"

Cody Mangold
Commander Dept. Of South Dakota
605-770-1030; email: cody.mangold@hotmail.com

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
Dept Sr. Vice Commander - Barbara McKean General Orders Aug 2020**

Reminder, your **Memorial Day reports** are now due. I have already received some. Remember to also send me your Veterans Day and Loyalty Day reports as they become due.

It is not too early to start working on your nominations for the EMT/EMS, Law Enforcement, and Firefighter of the Year.

I will be providing QM and Commander computer and responsibilities training at the Mitchell VFW Post on 22 Aug 2020 starting at 9 a.m. If you plan on attending, please bring your laptop. Enter the VFW through the back-alley door (front door will be locked) and take elevator to 2nd floor. We cover how to maneuver through the OMS website to renew members, pull reports, update addresses, deceased members, etc. We also go over forms on the SSD VFW site, and monthly, quarterly and annual requirements for your posts. Anyone is welcome to attend. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

Barbara McKean
Dept Sr. Vice Commander
504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366
C: 605-630-0771; Email: mckean4@live.com

**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
AUGUST GENERAL ORDERS**

Our first order of business concerning this year's Membership Drive should be **RETENTION**. Every comrade retained is one more Veteran helped.

A review of each Post's Unpaid Roster reveals that we as a Department have approximately 219 comrades with Expired Memberships (District 1-65; 4-61; 6-7; 7-37 & 10-49). These are recent members who have fallen from our rolls. An effort to contact these folks should be made before the VFW becomes a distant memory. If we can Reinstate even 15% to 20% of these former members it is worth the effort.

As a Department we have approximately 62 Unpaid Members (District 1-23; 4-12; 6-2; 7-9 & 10-16) during the First Quarter (Jul-Sep). Do not wait two or three months; contact them now and urge them to pay their dues or convert to Life Membership.

Comrade Lonny Potts and State Adjutant Darwin Tolzin have spent numerous hours scrubbing and updating the At-Large Roster. Addresses and phone numbers have been researched and corrected where possible, deceased removed and the list sorted by Post and/or vicinity. You may have already received or will be receiving soon your portion of this Roster. Please take the time to contact those on your Roster and report your results to Comrade Potts or Adjutant Tolzin. The only way to keep this Roster as current as possible is for each District and Post Commander doing their part. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Membership Plans are trickling in. Formulate a Plan that will work for you and submit it to Department Headquarters. The Form is on the website (www.vfwsd.org). Please forward the name, email and phone number of District and Post Membership Chairpersons to me.

If you need any assistance feel free to contact me.

Tom Hafner
Jr. Vice Commander
tbfhafner@santel.net // 605-661-2750

Memorandum

To: All Posts and Departments
From: Kevin C. Jones, Adjutant General
Date: July 29, 2020

Pursuant to Section 618(a)(4) and the National Council of Administration’s July 27, 2020 concurrence for navigating the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions, the following mandate is hereby issued. This order applies to all levels of the organization and supersedes all other guidance that would otherwise conflict with conducting the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions.

The intent of Executive Order No. 1 is to allow the business of the organization to be continued and conducted in a fair manner that observes the rights of all members while complying with government orders and mandates where COVID-19 restrictions exist. Any attempt to utilize this order to restrict, restrain, or impede the rights of members is strictly prohibited.

This Executive Order is issued under the authority of Commander-in-Chief Roesch as all preceding Executive Orders issued under the authority of Commander-in-Chief Schmitz expired at the end of his term.

This memo along with the Executive Order is available behind the member login at www.vfw.org as well as the document repository.

Executive Order No. 1

July 29, 2020

Pursuant to Section 618(a)(4) and the National Council of Administration's July 27, 2020 concurrence for navigating the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions, the following mandate is hereby issued. This order applies to all levels of the organization and supersedes all other guidance that would otherwise conflict with conducting the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions.

National:

Pursuant to Section 618 (a)(5) of the National Bylaws, the Commander-in-Chief shall "insist that the business and activities of the organization are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance, or regulation or bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on this organization."

Therefore, the Commander-in-Chief at his judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

Departments:

Pursuant to Section 518 (a)(1)(c) of the Manual of Procedure, Department Commanders shall "insist that Department business and activities are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on the Department, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States."

Therefore, Department Commanders at their respective judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

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Anyone interested in the Quartermaster/Adjutant Position please make your intentions known
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ATTEMPTS ARE BEING MADE TO USE SKYPE AS A MEANS OF INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM AND MESSAGING WITHING THE COA. THIS TYPE OF COMMUNICATIONS IS BECOMING NECESSARY IN OUR VFW BUSINESS PLAN AND THIS IS A WAY TO GET COMFORTABLE AND PROFICIENT.

NEW FORMS & DIRECTIONS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND TEACHERS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE VFWSD.ORG WEB SITE
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August 22nd, 2020

Begins at 11:00 AM Rapid City Post 1273
Ends in Custer, with food and beverages

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
\$20 / Rider
\$10 / Passenger

Prizes for Top 3 Hands
Prizes for Bottom 2 Hands



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

SOUTH DAKOTA
VFW RIDERS GROUP