



## DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

### GENERAL ORDERS #9

### "LOOKING OUT FOR VETERANS"

**April 2021**

- 1. Membership.** All State, District and Post Officers are asked work harder on membership this month as time is running short. This is necessary for our Great State of South Dakota to achieve **100%** membership this year. Please help your membership drive by putting on a **push now** to attain your Posts membership quota.
- 2. Special Notice:** 2021-2022 The theme has not been announced yet this year for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen. We will let you know next month what they will be, or you can watch the Voice of Democracy March on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the new theme will be announced.
- 3. Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions. Reference Section 213, Page 15 of National By-Laws.** Any Post in arrears for any financial obligation to District, Department and National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to assure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed Quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post-Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligation, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.
- 4. Audit Reports: THIS IS IMPORTANT!** Has your Post sent in its last Audit Report yet? A review of the Posts submission of Audit Reports indicates that some are missing. You can check the status of your Post at the State Web Site (**VFWS.D.ORG go to RESOURCES then POST PROGRAM STATUS**) to see where your post is at in many areas not just Audits. It is the Post Commander's responsibility to ensure that they are sent in on a timely basis.
- 5. Special Olympics:** Post donations to the Special Olympics Fund are hereby requested to help with the 2021 Special Olympics Program. Posts are asked to be generous and to send their donations to VFW Department Headquarters. Our goal this year is \$3,000, we are at \$1535 and we do know this is energetic. Thank You to those Posts that have already sent in their donations.
- 6. Buddy Poppy:** Post Commanders, please appoint a 2021 Buddy Poppy Chairperson and forward his or her name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible and make plans for your 2021 distribution. Post Commanders, this is a reminder that all Poppy orders (remember 5 poppies per

member) should be in by April 30, 2021 to count in the **“All State Post Commanders”** ratings. Order blanks may be downloaded from the web site - **vfwsd.org**.

### **VFW SILVER, GOLD, AND DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY POPPIES**

We have several Posts with anniversaries upcoming and this is for you.

The silver, gold and diamond anniversary Buddy Poppies are only for Posts that are currently in their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> or 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary years. The anniversary poppies are approximately three times as expensive for us to produce, but because of the small quantities we deal in, we **do not** pass those costs on to the Posts. Please limit your order of anniversary poppies to 1,000 to ensure stock does not run out. These are ordered through the Department Office and processed the same as the red poppies. Annotate on the order to National that it is for anniversary poppies and specify which one.

Good luck in distribution and **“CONGRATULATIONS”** to the anniversary Posts.

**7. IRS Form 990.** All Posts that enjoy tax exemption status are advised that they must answer all questions on pages 1, 2, and 3 of the IRS Form 990. Submitting a copy of the Post Financial Statement in lieu of answering the individual questions is not acceptable. If the questions are not answered the IRS will return Form 990 to the Post. **Report must be filed by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month following the close of the fiscal year.** Please send a copy to Department headquarters so that we can verify your EIN number. (5009 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St., STE 6A, Sioux Falls, SD 57106)

**8. Post Elections:** Attention is called to Section 217, page 71, Manual of Procedure, Nomination Election, Installation, of Officers and Term of Office. Posts will conduct the Election of Officers in accordance with the By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Post Officers shall be nominated in March and shall be elected in April. Nominations shall remain open until the Post is ready to vote.

***\*Remember that on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June if you have not submitted your election report you will receive a letter from the Commander-in-Chief suspending your Post until the election report is sent. At that time, the Department Commander will issue a follow-up letter and establish a committee to oversee the Post business. All Post business must be overseen by the established committee includes any meetings, any disposition of property, any financial transactions, etc. This is an inconvenience for all persons concerned. PLEASE submit your Complete Election Reports timely. (March nominate; April elections; May installation; June take office when Department Commander does)***

By far the easiest way to record and report the Election Results is via the OMS feature of the National Web site. This site allows you to be sure it was correctly accomplished, and a copy is automatically sent to the Department Office.

**9. 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. An 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.

**10. Roster Changes:** Post Commanders are requested to notify Department Headquarters of any roster changes to their Posts.

**11. District Commanders:** Attention is called to Section 417, Page 21 of National By-Laws. The elected District officers shall be nominated and elected annually at the District Convention or Spring Meeting. Nomination, election, and installation shall be in a manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure. The District Commander will be installed again at the Department Convention in June 2021 as a member of the Department Council of Administration.

**12. Department Convention:** The 2021 Department Convention will be held on June 17- 20 in Yankton, hosted by Post 791. For more convention information, i.e.: registration, motel information, convention schedule, etc., go to the Home Page at the Department web site - [vfwsd.org](http://vfwsd.org).  
**\*\*Attached is a copy of Convention Information, at this time this is a working document subject to changes\*\***

**13. HELP!!!!** The Commander/President 2020-2021 project, "**HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS**". Please help by purchasing raffle tickets with multiple prizes. We are well short of the goal so please get onboard. You can get tickets from the Commander or President. Also, there are Auxiliary fundraisers in progress that are supporting the same project. Check with any Auxiliary member or the Auxiliary web site: [//sites.google.com/site/site/sdvfwaux](https://sites.google.com/site/site/sdvfwaux) .

**14. Convention Ads:** All Posts, Districts, Candidates for Department Office, and any others are reminded that the deadline for Ads in the 2021 Convention Booklet is due by May 6th, 2021. Ads need to be in camera ready or submitted in digital format. Convention book ad submission form may be downloaded from the Department web site - [vfwsd.org](http://vfwsd.org).

**15. Community Service Record Books:** Attention Post Commanders & Community Service Chairpersons: Because of the lack of participation in this program the Posts will receive extra credit for submitting a Community Service Book but there will not be any judging. All Community Service projects completed during the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 should be included when making your Post/Auxiliary record book. Record Books must be received by April 20th, 2021. **Send books in digital form to State Office, Via email to [vfwsd@aol.com](mailto:vfwsd@aol.com) or [vwdeptsd@gmail.com](mailto:vwdeptsd@gmail.com). This is a change so please note!!!!** Form for submitting the Record Books may be downloaded from the web site - [vfwsd.org](http://vfwsd.org)

**16. Memorial Day:** The observance of Memorial Day is the obligation of every Post. According to **Section 223- Commemorative Dates**. Each Post shall properly observe commemorative dates, as prescribed in the Ritual and Manual of Procedure. Please plan a suitable observance in your Community. Place American Flags at the gravesites of departed comrades of your Post and Veterans of your Community. Remember to report details of these events in your Community Service Report. Memorial Day report form may be downloaded from the Department web site - [vfwsd.org](http://vfwsd.org).

**17. Peace Officer Memorial Day:** The United States Flag shall be flown at half-mast until noon on May 15, 2020. All Posts are requested to comply with this order.

**18. Spring District Meetings:** See separate sheet on meeting places, dates, and times.

**19. Delegates State Conventions.** 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. Posts are entitled to 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. **Review your meeting date and make sure it is at least 30 days prior to June 18th. Forms are on the Web Site please fill out as required.**

**20. 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 (Normally the Quartermaster) for the National Convention. Each additional attending delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10.00) delegate fee.

**21. Sending Material for General Orders:** All Department Officers, State Chairpersons, and anyone else that wants to publish information in the General Orders must submit the material to Department Headquarters by no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the publication of the General Orders. We do reserve the right to edit or determine if material is appropriate and necessary in this document.

**22. Appointments & Elections for Department Positions 2021-2022:**  
**The Judge Advocate and Surgeon must be appointed for the year 2021-2022. A vote to change this in our Department By-Laws and is on the table to be voted on during the Convention in Yankton in June 2021. Nominees give a brief statement or resume on their intentions to run for each office. The COA will receive inputs for selection. Ultimately, these two positions will be appointed by State Commander.**

OFFICIAL:

*Darwin G. Tolzin*  
Darwin G. Tolzin, Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

BY ORDER OF:

*Cody L. Mangold*  
Cody L. Mangold, Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

\*\*\*\*\*



**SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS**

	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Department Rep</u>
District #1: @the Point 4/18/2021 Elk Point 2PM	Cregg Getman	Tom Hafner, Dept Jr Vice Commander
District #4: 4/18/2021 Watertown VFW 2PM In Person	Bill Orton	Darwin Tolzin, Dept Adjutant
District #6: 4/18/2021 ZOOM 1PM	William Vander Horst	Gordon Paul, Dept Chief of Staff
District #7: 4/18/2021 Wagner American Legion 1PM	William Hoffman	Cody Mangold, Dept Commander
District #10: 4/18/2021-Newell- Time 1pm & ZOOM	Bill Barlow	Dave Baumiller, Dept Judge Advocate

**ITEMS: Conduct District Elections and Installation – District Inspections as needed**

~~~~~

**LOYALTY DAY is May 1<sup>st</sup>  
Please get your reports in ASAP for Judging  
NLT May 6<sup>th</sup>**

~~~~~

**Buddy Poppy Order Changes**

**There will be minor changes in how we distribute Buddy Poppy Orders:  
You will continue to submit orders to Department as in the past just  
DO NOT send payment to Department.  
Poppies will be ordered and delivered to you from National with a bill to pay for the  
Poppies you received.  
The savings will be the postage that we will not have to pay**



# News from the Staff Members and Committee Chair's

## Cody Mangold, Commander

### April General Orders

Greetings,

A new month is upon us, and we are wrapping up a great year. There are a few things left to do to finish out strong. First is of course membership, and as of writing this we are right around 94%. We are getting a few people every day, but we need to make sure we retain who we have and recruit new members. We are at a time to roll up the sleeves and get going. We can do this together as a team. Another thing we can do is also get our reports up to date: Hospital and Safety, Community Service, and the Audit reports. It is time to take credit for all the work you do. It is not about bragging about your work but showing the community what you do. We are immensely proud of you all and what you do. Election is right here and time to set yourself up for success at the post and district levels. The project this year is homeless Veterans, and both the VFW and Auxiliary are running fundraisers for this event. We do have raffle tickets available for the opportunity to win a 6.5 Creedmoor, or a beautiful quilt. Please if you are interested in tickets let me, the department office or department officers know as this would be helpful. On April 1<sup>st</sup> we will learn how the Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy winners did Nationally. Please remember we are all in this together and we can do this. Lastly if you are interested in receiving the Covid Vaccine I would encourage you as the VA is offering the vaccine, along with many more options. Thank you again for everything and keep up the great work.

“Looking out for Veteran’s.”

Cody Mangold Commander

605-770-1030 cody.mangold@hotmail.com





**Senior Vice Commander  
Barbara McKean General Orders April 2021**

Greetings Comrades,

I know the last year has been a difficult time for many people. Together, we will get through this, and come out stronger than before. Continue to conduct “buddy checks.” Reach out to other Veterans to see how they are doing. If you know of a someone that is “High risk” perhaps offer to get them groceries, supplies, etc.

Thanks for all the work you do for the VFW, community and fellow Veterans! Please reach out if there is anything I can do to help you or your post.

v/r,

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sr. Vice Commander Shirts for 2021-2022**

Barb McKean is taking orders for Command Shirts for the 2021-2022 year. The orders MUST be received by April 1st, so they will be here by Cody’s Convention in Yankton in June. Please just email me your name and the size you would like. I have tried on this shirt and the fit is generous. I will collect payment when the shirts arrive.

**Men’s or ladies embroidered left chest your logo only \*\*Ladies small thru 3X\*\***  
**Small thru x large \$24.00**  
**2X \$25.00**  
**3X \$28.00**  
**4X \$29.00**

- 6.5 oz./yd2 / 225 gsm
- 100% polyester Snag Protection Plus jersey
- Moisture-wicking and anti-microbial
- UV 15-39 protection





Barb McKean  
Dept SVC  
605-630-0771  
[barbara.mckean@ujs.state.sd.us](mailto:barbara.mckean@ujs.state.sd.us)

\*\*\*\*\*



**JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER  
April 2021 GENERAL ORDERS**

Three more Posts, Post 4726 Brandon, Post 2750 Mitchell, and Post 2966 Scotland have achieved or exceeded quota, joining Crooks, Dell Rapids, Faith, Lake Andes, Marty, Sisseton, Spearfish, Tyndall, and Wagner as Posts who are at 100% or better of their quota. Great job by all members concerning their membership drives.

Our Membership year is in the last quarter and our National Commander is asking us to focus on Expired and Unpaid members, especially those who dropped off prior to January 1, 2021. Continue to do your best in Reinstating these Veterans. Our future depends on it.

Included in these General Orders are proposed Amendments to the Department and National Bylaws that were submitted to the Resolutions & Bylaws Committee. All Posts and Districts should review these proposals and be prepared to discuss and/or vote on them at the Department Convention in June. If you have additional Amendments or changes you wish considered, submit them to Department HQS immediately.

Thank you for your continued support. If you need assistance feel free to contact me.

Tom Hafner  
Jr. Vice Commander  
[tbfhafner@santel.net](mailto:tbfhafner@santel.net) // 605-661-2750



.....

**Tom Hafner**  
**Resolutions & By-Laws Chairman**

Following are Proposed Amendments to the Department of South Dakota and National Bylaws submitted to the Department Resolutions & Bylaws Committee.

For reference and comparison, the current Department of South Dakota Bylaws are on the Department website ([www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)), under the Resources, Bylaws and Dept. of SD tabs.

*This posting will serve as notification to the VFW Posts of South Dakota in accordance with Article 18 (Amendments) of the Department of South Dakota Bylaws.*

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DEPARTMENT BYLAWS**

Proposed Amendments to Department Bylaws submitted to the Resolutions & Bylaws Committee.

**ARTICLE 5 – DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

**SECTION 1 – Convention Dates amend to add following sentence:**

The Department may be allowed to conduct said Convention using technology, if authorized by the National Bylaws, that allows all participating members to communicate with each other simultaneously.

**ARTICLE 7 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1 – Election of Department Officers amend to read:**

(a) The elected Officers of this Department shall be a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Judge Advocate and Surgeon.

(b) The Department Commander shall appoint an Adjutant, Chief of Staff, Inspector and Service Officer.

(c) The Department Commander may appoint an Officer of the Day and other such chairmen and committees as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Department or as may be required by these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE 9 – COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

**SECTION 2 – Department Districts/Posts amend to read:**

**District 4 – Delete Post 5022 Summit.**

**District 6 – Delete Post 3179 Faulkton.**

**SECTION 4 – Council Meetings amend to add:**

The Council may be allowed to participate in regular and special meetings using technology, if authorized by the National Bylaws, that allows all participating members to communicate with each other simultaneously.

**SECTION 5 – Installation of District Commanders amend to read:**

Change shall to may in line one.

**ARTICLE 10 – STANDING COMMITTEES AND DUTIES**

**SECTION 3 – Audit Committee amend to read:**

(a) The State Commander shall appoint a Committee on Auditing, consisting of the second, third and fourth Past State Commanders, or other VFW members if a Past State Commander cannot fulfill this duty. They shall in addition to the quarterly audit make an annual audit immediately preceding the Convention and shall make a report of same to the Department Convention.

(b) The State Commander and/or three (3) members of the Council of Administration may require an independent audit by a certified outside agency under unusual or exceptional circumstances, such as a change of Quartermaster at the Department level; and are authorized to expend the funds necessary to conduct such audit.

(c) The State Commander and/or three (3) members of the Council of Administration may at their pleasure demand an audit at any time other than set out in this Section.

**SECTION 4 – Membership Committee amend first sentence to read:**

The State Commander shall appoint a Membership Committee consisting of the State Adjutant, State Quartermaster, State Junior Vice Commander, all District Commanders, and any other members he/she may deem appropriate.

**SECTION 7 – Publications Committee amend to read:**

The State Commander shall appoint a Committee on Department Publications consisting of the State Adjutant, the State Quartermaster, the State Inspector, and any other members he/she may deem appropriate. This Committee will formulate and provide oversight on the Department's media plan to include print, broadcast, and social media. The goal of the Department media plan is to provide increased visibility, information sharing, improved communication, and customer service.

**SECTION 8 – Hospital Committee amend to read:**

The State Commander shall appoint a Hospital Committee that consists of the State Surgeon, all Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) representatives and all Veterans Voluntary Service (VVS) representatives. The purpose of the Committee is to communicate with Veterans Administration centers and State of South Dakota facilities to help provide needed voluntary goods and services for Veterans and families.

**SECTION 9 – Veterans Council Committee amend the first sentence to read:**

**The Commander shall appoint a Veterans Council Committee that consists of the State Commander, the State Senior Vice Commander and as a continuing appointment the current State Adjutant.**

**ARTICLE 14 – CONVENTION ENACTMENTS**

**SECTION 3 – Bylaws Distribution amend website in line three to read:**

**([www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org))**

**ARTICLE 15 – DISTRICTS**

**SECTION 1 – District Commander’s Duties amend to add:**

**This Committee may be allowed to participate in regular and special meetings using technology, if authorized by the National Bylaws, that allows all participating members to communicate with each other simultaneously.**

**ARTICLE 16 – MISCELLANEOUS**

**SECTION 1 – General Orders, Special Orders, Memoranda, Bulletins amend website in line three to read:**

**([www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org))**

**SECTION 6 – Amend to add Gender Statement to read:**

**Unless otherwise stated, whenever the masculine or feminine gender is used, both men and women are included.**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL BYLAWS**

**Proposed Amendment to National Bylaws submitted by the Department of South Dakota.**

**ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS**

**SECTION 522 – Council of Administration – Composition, Powers and Duties**

**Amend Section 522 (i) - Council of Administration – Composition. Powers and Duties (Quorum) to read:**

**Quorum. A majority of the members of the Council of Administration shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless the Department Bylaws may prescribe a different number of Council of Administration members required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.**

