

General Orders

APRIL 2024



MEMBERSHIP

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Calling all State, District, and Post Officers to help increase membership this month. Time is running short to achieve 102%!

BUDDY POPPIES

PRICE CHANGE

National has increased the price on Buddy Poppies to \$.30/poppy. This is due to an increase in demand and a decrease in availability. The new Buddy Poppy order form is attached in the back of the General Orders.

AUDIT REPORTS

AUDIT REPORTS NEEDED

Please get your Audit Reports turned in immediately. These are used for All-State Judging and must be accounted for by the IRS.



POST ELECTIONS

Attention is called to Section 217 - Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office:

Post Officers shall be nominated, elected and installed as prescribed in Section 217 of the Manual of Procedure.

Election Report Reminder

We want you to remember that on the 1st of June if the Commander-In-Chief has not received your Post/District Election Report, your Post/District will be suspended. At that time, the Department Commander will issue a follow-up letter to establish a committee to oversee the Post business. All Post business will then need to be overseen by the established committee.



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

SECTION 217, PAGE 72, 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 case may be installed at any regular special meeting prior to the Department Convention. In not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant.

**Roster
Changes:
Please contact
the Department
Headquarters of
any changes to
their Posts.**

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

JUNE 7-9, 2024, SPEARFISH, SD

Attached at the back of the General Orders are Registration, Lodging, Candidate Hospitality Forms, and information about the State Convention 2024.

All Posts, Districts, Candidates for Department Office, and any others who would like to submit a Convention Ad to the Booklet, please contact Commander, Dave Baumiller.

www.vfwsd.org

HELP WANTED! The Commander / President Raffle for the 2023-2024 project, SD Service Dogs and Homeless Veterans needs you to help sell tickets! After sold, please send them to the Department Office in care of Anna Arnold. If you need more tickets, please call 605-332-7441 and we can send you more.

MEMORIAL DAY

The observance of Memorial Day is the obligation of every Post. According to Section 223 - Commemorative Dates: Each Post shall make arrangements for observances of Memorial Day, see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and flags of the United States are placed on the graves of deceased members and, if practicable, conduct Memorial Day Services in the cemeteries in its locality.

Peace Officer Day is to be observed on Monday May 15th, 2023.

District #1: April 28, 2024, at 1:00 pm - Canton

District # 4: April 7, 2024, at 2:00 pm - Watertown

District # 6: April 14, 2024, at 1 pm - Miller

District # 7: April 7, 2024, at 2 pm - Plankinton

District # 10: April 14, 2024, at 10 am - Custer

Delegates at State Convention: Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held NOT LESS THAN 30 DAYS prior to the Department Convention. Posts are entitled to ONE Delegate and ONE 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 to make sure it is AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR to June 8, 2024.



The Department has been approved for the use of our 'VFW Logo' on our South Dakota License Plates starting January 1, 2023. If you would like to purchase a logo, please contact Anna at the Department office. Email anna@vfwdeptsd.com or 605-332-7441. Each sticker is \$10.00.

This is what the sticker looks like:



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Sticker goes here



\$10.00 per sticker

Send check to Department office at:
1600 W Russell St, Ste 135
Sioux Falls, SD 57045

Would make a great Stocking Stuffer for Christmas

Any Comrade interested in placing their name in the nomination for any of these Offices should contact Department Headquarters.

HATS IN THE RING 2024-2025

- Commander – Glynis Collier
- Senior Vice Commander – Dr. Martin Christensen
- Junior Vice Commander – Rob Harrington
- Quartermaster - Anna Arnold
- Chaplain - Russel Dramstad
- Judge Advocate – Rick VandenHoek
- Surgeon – Dale Greenfield
- Inspector - Allan Ochsner

OFFICIAL:



Anna Arnold

Quartermaster / Adjutant
Department of South Dakota
VFW

BY ORDER OF:

Dave Baumiller

Commander
Department of South Dakota
VFW



General orders

I traveled to Washington DC to meet with our senators and a congressman on 4 bills that we're trying to get them to support. Looks like we'll have some success there, stay tuned.

Raffle tickets for a very worthy cause. Unfortunately, we cannot sell them until April 24 so please, if you have them hang on and start selling them on that date. These will help homeless veterans in South Dakota as well as South Dakota Service Dogs.

The upcoming convention in Spearfish SD, June 7-9. I will be sending out with this registration form, the hotel information again and a candidate sign up form.

Thank you, it's a pleasure serving as your commander,
Dave Baumiller

Greetings Fellow Veterans!

March has been a productive month and full of valuable lessons learned.

I attended the Quail and Pheasant Event at the Denny Sanford Center for a Membership Drive on March 1-3, 2024 in Sioux Falls. SD. We gained eight new members and made over \$600.00 in Buddy Poppy donations for our State Relief Fund! I want to thank our State VSO Representatives Dareus "DJ" Montreal and Dave Huntimer for joining us and talking to all of the Veterans who approached our booth concerning their benefits! I would also like to thank Brandon Post for managing the membership drive on Sunday! Way to Go! Go Team SD!

I will be on the road on April 5 attending the Melissa Stockwell Event in Sioux Falls, April 7, attending the District 4 Meeting in Watertown at 2:00 pm and April 18-22, 2024 attending the Sr. Vice Commander's/ADJ Training Session in Kansas City.

I hope you are all planning your Loyalty Day and Day of Service projects occurring on May 1&15, 2024. Below is a link for Day of Service ideas supported by the VFW.

<https://todaysvfw.org/vfw-day-of-service-resources/>

Also, as you all know I will be putting my hat in the ring to be the State Commander for our great organization. If any of you would like to hold a position as a chairperson or committee member on this year's VFW team (that isn't already dictated by the bylaws), please contact me at my email address below. I will be contacting individuals interested until the week before our State Convention, and if elected, I will announce our new team members following the election.

As always, I am honored to be among all of you fellow Veterans and your Family Members fighting the good fight. Please contact me if you need anything at all.

//Original Signed//
Very Respectfully,
Glynis Collier
Sr. Vice CDR

DEPT of SD VFW
dakpatriot@gmail.com Cell #803-466-7031
“One Team, One Fight”

General Orders April 2024: Dept. SD Jr Vice Commander

The Department of SD as of March 28, 2024 has 6080 Life members, 105 new members, 39 reinstated members and 675 continuous paid members. As of Mar28, 2024 we are at 94.28%. We still have 181 unpaid members and 257 expiring members in the Department. Our goal is to reach 102%. So we need 513 more paid members to reach our goal.

I will attend the District 7 meeting in Plankinton, SD on April 7 at 2pm and District 1 in Canton, SD at 1pm on April 28. I plan to discuss membership and recruiting measures. District 7 will have the drawing for their M1 rifle and have elections.

I will be representing Dept SD VFW at the DAV Dept Convention on April 26-27 in Deadwood.

I plan to visit our National Home in Michigan May 16-18.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Dept SD Convention in Spearfish, June 7-8.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Christensen, Dept. SD Jr Vice Commander

Surgeon General Orders

April 2024

Spring is officially here. I know we are all anxious to get outside and enjoy the weather. The problem is, I do not think we have seen the last of winter yet. I am hopeful it is done, but we have been known to have some late winter storms.

With Spring weather on the way, we will be doing more outside activities. Work around the house and yard will begin soon. Do not over do it when working outside. Ask for assistance if there are things you can not do.

The VFW in Brandon, Post 4726, hosted a Veteran's benefit briefing. It was a very educational event. I would encourage other posts to consider hosting this type of event. There are many things I learned, and others learned during this event.

I was unable to attend the VA Stakeholders meeting this month due to a work conflict. The VA is working with the Outreach program regarding Women veterans mental health issues. They will be working with veterans' organizations that support our female veterans.

The VA has many great programs available to the veteran community. I would encourage everyone to utilize this great resource that is provided to us.

Rick Vanden Hoek

Surgeon

KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM!



This year the VFW has seen historic growth that we want to see continue as we strive for that 102% goal!

During the month of April, Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento has laid down a new challenge to our Posts: the Post in each membership division that increases their membership the most from April 1st through April 30th will receive a \$500 award as well as a special Commander's Cutlass, engraved with the Post's name and number to show everyone that you have done the work and MET THE CHALLENGE!



There will only be ELEVEN of these unique swords made, any Post that has one to display will show the world that they are among the elite! Get out there recruiting, renewing, and recovering lapsed members and it could be yours!

We are on track for a record-setting membership year if everyone continues to do their part and puts forth the extra effort! Let's shatter expectations as we go out to
MEET THE CHALLENGE!

**Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary
Convention Registration for the Department of South Dakota
June 7-9, 2024**

Holiday Inn, 305 North 27th Street (I-90, Exit 14), Spearfish, South Dakota 57783

Registration for Convention will be **\$100** per member prior to **May 12, 2024**, and **\$135** after **May 13, 2024**.

Those who have registered by **May 12, 2024**, will have their name entered into an **“Early Bird Drawing”**. Two drawings will be made at the Convention for \$50 each. So, get your registration in by **May 12, 2024** to possibly be a winner. Individual banquet tickets will be sold to nonmembers only for \$35.00 each. This will include a name badge. Name badges will be required for the Hospitality Night and banquet. Cut off time for Banquet Tickets will be 4:00pm on June 7, 2024.

COMPLETE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER ATTENDEE.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Membership: ____ Auxiliary ____ Post. Post or Auxiliary # & Location: _____

Please list the title you want on your badge if you hold an elected office at the Post, Auxiliary, District, or Department level: _____

BANQUET ONLY tickets – PRINT Name: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: VFW Post #5807 Convention Fund
VFW & A Convention 2024
c/o Nila Charles
18489 Twilight Rd.
Newell, SD 57760

Any requested refunds will be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

**** Please use one form for each individual registration****

YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN MOTEL RESERVATIONS, ask for VFW Convention rates. Rates listed do not include tax.

Holiday Inn - Spearfish: 305 North 27th Street, Call 605-642-4683, \$119.99

Fairfield Inn: 2720 1st Avenue, Call 605-221-1925, \$215.00

Hampton Inn: 240 North 27th Street, Call 605-606-2913, \$252.00

Quality Inn: 2725 1st Avenue, Call 605-642-2337, \$116.00

A block of rooms is available at Holiday Inn. You are required to stay at this hotel to receive reimbursement.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN Wars and AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

Friday, June 7, 2024

7:00 p.m. (MST) – 9:00 p.m. (MST)

Light Hors d'evours in conjunction with Hospitality Room

Convention Badges Required

COST: \$100.00 PER CANDIDATE

All Candidates Required To Participate

Payment and Registration Form Due May 12, 2024

Make checks payable to: VFW Post #5807 Convention Fund

Send This Form and Checks to: VFW Post #5807
c/o Nila Charles
18489 Twilight Rd.
Newell, SD 57760

PRINT Candidate Name: _____

For the Office of: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number(s): _____

Tables will be provided for candidates to campaign during the event and to display campaign materials.

If you need something else, please let us know.

If you have questions or concerns about Meet the Candidates Night please contact:

Dave Baumiller at davebaumiller@gmail.com or
Nancy Worth at nworth@rushmore.com



Department of South Dakota

1600 W Russell St, Ste 135

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

605-332-7441

Email: anna@vfwdeptsd.com

To: Post Commanders and Quartermasters

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is a Post Credential Registration Sheet to register your Post's **Delegates** and to register your Post's **Alternates** to the 94th Annual Convention of the Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars to be held June 6-9, 2024, at Spearfish, South Dakota. According to **National Bylaws Section 222 (a)** *the Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. The Delegates and Alternates shall be elected in accordance with the Manual of Procedure.*

Also enclosed is a Delegate fee form. According to **Department Bylaws Article 5: Conventions, Section 6** a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) is required by the Department for each Delegate. Voting strength of each Post is the member who are in good standing at the time of the election. Each Post shall remit fees for any members from their Post who are qualified to receive a vote according to National Bylaws Section 504 Governing Body; Composition and Section 521 Voting. This would be Post members who are serving as a member of the current Department Council of Administration, current National Council of Administration, serving as a Post Commander within the Department and any Past State Commander. Any Post member possessing more than one qualification for voting at the Department Convention shall have no more than one vote.

The Delegate Credential Sheet and Delegate Fee Form **must** be filled out and sent to State Headquarters by May 22, 2024. For example, if your Post is allowed 10 Delegates and only two attend the Convention, the two who do attend the State Convention shall be entitled to vote the full Delegate strength to which the Post is entitled.

Please remember to have your Post Delegate Registration Sheet and your Delegate Fee Form and payment sent to the State Office by May 22, 2024.

Yours in Comradeship,

Anna Arnold
Department of South Dakota VFW
Adjutant / Quartermaster
605-332-7441 (office)
anna@vfwdeptsd.com

**Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Delegate Fee Form**

This form is to be completed by a Post officer and must be in the hands of the Department Quartermaster no later than 15 days before the convening of the State Convention (May 22, 2024)

POST #: _____ CITY POST IS LOCATED: _____

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: _____ AS OF THE DATE OF THE ELECTION

The voting strength of your Post will be according to the **National Bylaws Section: 222 Delegates, District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions**, the Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. Delegates and Alternates shall be elected in accordance with the Manual of Procedure. The Delegate Registration Fee shall be forwarded by every Post regardless of the number of Delegates present at the Annual Department Convention and must be in the hands of the Department Quartermaster not later than fifteen (15) days before the convening of the Department Convention (June 6-9, 2024). Posts failing to forward the full Delegate Registration Fee shall be considered delinquent and in arrears.

Department Bylaws Article 5: Conventions, Sections 6, a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) is required by the Department for each voting Delegate. Voting strength of each Post that has registered Delegates at the Convention shall be based on the Post Membership in good standing at the time of the Election. Each Post should also remit any members from their Post who is serving as a member of the current Council of Administration and for any Past State Commander from their Post.

Post Commander _____ at \$1.00 \$ _____

Membership Total _____ Divided by 30 = _____

Number of Post Delegates _____ at \$1.00 \$ _____

Current Members of Council of Administration who are members of the Post. (Registration and Fee Form)

Name _____ Office Title _____

Name _____ Office Title _____

Name _____ Office Title _____

Total State Officers _____ at \$1.00 \$ _____

Past State Commanders who are members of your Post. (Registration and Fee Form)

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Total Past State Commanders _____ at \$1.00 \$ _____

Total Amount Remitted \$ _____

*****If you have a member who is a Past State Commander AND a member of the Current Council of Administration, please list the member ONLY once for ONE Delegate fee payment******

**Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars**

DELEGATES

The Comrades listed below are the Delegates for Post # _____ located at _____, South Dakota for the 94th Annual Convention of the State of South Dakota. Make sure you have listed a Post member who may qualify as a voting member of Convention as a member of the Council of Administration or as a Past State Commander. This will allow them to pass their vote to the Post if they choose to do so.

List of members who will be registered as Delegates at the Convention:

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ | 30. _____ |

**Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars**

ALTERNATES

List of members who will be registered as Alternates at the Convention:

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ | 30. _____ |

Send to the Department at 1600 W Russell St, Ste 135, Sioux Falls, SD 57104 OR email anna@vfwdeptsd.com