

# General Orders

AUGUST 2024



## AUDIT REPORTS

### QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Post Commanders, please ensure the Audits are turned in to the Department office. A Commander is not allowed to appoint an acting Trustee to fill in for a Trustee who is not present to sign an Audit.

## QUARTERMASTER BONDS

### BONDING

Quartermasters are required per Section 703, page 39 of the Bylaws to be bonded. The current bonds expire August 31, 2024. The rates are \$4.50 for \$3,000 to \$25,000, \$3.50 for \$26,000 to \$250,000, \$3.00 for \$251,000 to \$500,000, \$2.75 for \$501,000 to \$600,00 per thousand.

## STATE FAIR

### SD STATE FAIR

The Department VFW will have their own tent, table, and recruiting efforts at the State Fair in the same space as last year. If you would like to volunteer, contact Judge Advocate, Dale Greenfield at 605-350-2319



## COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTING

The online website for the South Dakota Dashboard is up and running. All community service is to be reported online. Log in to [www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org) > Login > Members Only > Member ID# = Member number and Password = Last Name with first letter capitalized.

If you have any problems or need help, please contact Anna Arnold at the Department office 605-332-7441.

## VOD / PP

Commanders, please make sure you have appointed a Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen for the 2024-2025 Command Year. We will be using the Scholar's App website for the students and chairpersons from the Post all the way to National. The Department Chairperson is Dan Klimisch. [danklimisch@gmail.com](mailto:danklimisch@gmail.com) or 605-661-1254.

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



## FALL COUNCIL / HOMECOMING

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2024

Fall Council is scheduled for September 27-29, 2024, at the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Oacoma, SD. The room rates are between \$109 and \$149 per night depending on what size bed and what floor you are on. Please make your reservation as soon as possible.

The registration form will be in the back of these General Orders. You can also find them online at [www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org) > News > Fall Council Registration 2024

**Post Chaplains are reminded to forward deceased names to Post Quartermasters for proper reporting online to National.**

## BIG TEN CONFERENCE

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

Members are reminded that the Big Ten Conference will be held in Indianapolis, IN October 18-20, 2024 at the Marriott Indianapolis East. You are encouraged and welcomed to attend.

If you would like to attend the Big Ten Conference, please look in the back of these General Orders

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

***Baseball Fans! Check out the SD VFW Baseball Website or Department Facebook Event Page for upcoming Tournaments!***

## District Fall Meetings

- District 1 - October 6, 2024 at 2 pm CST in Elk Point
- District 4 -
- District 6 - October 6, 2024 at 1 pm CST in Huron
- District 7 - August 16, 2024, at 5 pm CST in Tyndall
- District 10 - September 15, 2024, at 11:00 am MST picnic first, no need to bring anything, just an appetite then meeting after at Woodland Shelter at Sturgis City Park

**ATTENTION: IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HARD COPY OF THE NATIONAL BYLAWS THAT ARE BEING PRINTED RIGHT NOW, PLEASE CONTACT ANNA AT THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE 605-332-7441 OR [ANNA@VFWDEPTSD.COM](mailto:ANNA@VFWDEPTSD.COM)**

**\*\*\*\*We will order no more than 1 copy per Post\*\*\*\***

**Membership Hot Tip: When looking at MemStats for your records, the "Prior Year" column is how many members your Post or District had on June 30, 2024. That is the amount of people you need to have on your Roster to have 100% on June 30, 2025.**



**OFFICIAL:**



**Anna Arnold**  
Quartermaster/ Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

**BY ORDER OF:**

**Glynis Collier**  
Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars



Greetings Fellow Heroes!

Our first month of this command year has been full of learning experiences. Our district commanders are scheduling the winter district meetings, the COA held its first monthly informal Zoom meeting and our group of state representatives attended the 125<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Louisville, KY.

The next monthly informal Zoom meeting will be held August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Commander pins, coins and shirts are available, and I will pass out pins and coins as I attend the State Fair and individual District and Post meetings across the state. I will also have pins and coins at our Fall Council/Homecoming.

If you would like a Commander's shirt and are not a line officer or on the COA, please email me and I will send you the size chart and pricing schedule. I will also have some shirts available for sale at the Fall Council/Homecoming event. They are teal in color with silver lettering. There is a female ¾ sleeve polo and a male short sleeve polo available.

I will be in Sturgis, SD Aug 5-9, 2024, working membership. I would like one person from each district to attend our membership drive at the Armory in Sturgis on the dates indicated above as an assistant so that I may also perform my CDR duties as prescribed by National HQ. This will be a day trip, and the duty hours will be 9:00 am – 4:00 pm each day. Volunteers will be re-imbursed mileage for the day they volunteer. This will also count as a VFW Post/District membership drive toward the All-State Award. Please submit your name to Chief of Staff Rick Williamson if you would like to help.

I will be attending the funeral of Corporal Robert Bartlett, WWII Veteran MIA August 9, 2024 in Blunt, SD. Corporal Bartlett was originally from Pierre, SD. I have contacted Secretary Whitlock's office and have been informed that all are welcome. More information to follow. If you plan on attending, please email me and we can establish a rally point to attend together and represent the VFW in honoring our Fallen Hero! Corporal Bartlett's story can be viewed on the link below.

<https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/Press-Releases/PressReleaseArticleView/Article/3838980/tanker-accounted-for-from-wwii-bartlett-r/>

Our VFW state Fall Council/Homecoming will be September 27-29, 2024 in Oacoma, SD. This will be our next meeting/business session of our COA. Let's make this a positive event full of team-building opportunities. We are working on the agenda in the state office stay tuned!

Training on the VOD/Patriot's Pen Scholarship online application will be a joint training opportunity with our Auxiliary. Dan Klimisch and Amanda Schwarz will be your trainers.

I will attend CIC Lipphardt's Homecoming in Savannah, GA. Aug. 22-25, 2024.

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  
State Commander

DEPT of SD VFW  
[dakpatriot@gmail.com](mailto:dakpatriot@gmail.com)  
Cell #803-466-7031  
“One Team, One Fight”

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General Orders Aug 2024: Dept. SD Sr Vice Commander

The new year has been busy.

Post 2750 conducted our first recruiting event at County Fair in Mitchell 1 -7 July. We also distributed 500 poppies, raised over \$3000, recruited 2 new life members, transferred 1 life member to our post, converted 2 annual members to life members and recruited 1 member for the Auxiliary. We were assisted by the ALS committee and our Auxiliary.

I attended a bridge dedication near Corsica for CPL John C. McDowell on July 24, 2024. If you've never attended one of these, you should - it was a great ceremony. The MC was Greg Whitlock, Chaplain was Armour Post VFW commander Rob Harrington. Jay VandenHoek, QM for Armour Post and District 7 presented a story about an M-1 Carbine rifle that was raffled with CPL McDowell's name engraved on it. The winner of the raffle was also present and gave it back to CPL McDowell's son.

We completed our first informal COA meeting via Zoom with CDR Collier.

I plan on attending the National Convention July 26-31 in Louisville, KY. At the convention, I will be making a monetary presentation to the National Home from our department.

We are planning a pre-Sturgis rally in Mitchell on 1 Aug 2024. I plan to assist 3-4 Aug 2024 in Sturgis with recruiting there. I plan to recruit at Corn Palace Week 21-25 Aug 2024 in Mitchell and then at the SD State Fair on 29 Aug 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Christensen, Dept. SD Sr Vice Commander

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August General Orders

Jr. Vice Commander

I hope all is well going through the summer. There are many activities happening all around the state. I hope the Posts are taking advantage of these opportunities to get their name out there and recruit new members.

I want to thank the Districts/Posts that have already submitted their recruitment plans. Those who have already submitted plans get a bonus when it comes to All-State voting. The remaining Districts/Posts need to get their recruiting plans to me by 1 September. I will be reaching out to those have not got them to me by then.

There is a National By-Law change introduced this year to expand the eligibility to become a member of the VFW. It would allow veterans who served in certain areas during the Cold War directly deterring Communism an opportunity to be members. I do not know how this vote at the National Convention will go or what the eligibility criteria will be if passed.

The goal of the Department is to get to 102% again this year. That is also the number needed to be eligible for both All-State and All-National. On that note, anyone who is willing to assist at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and the State Fair can get credit for a Post recruiting event. Another good incentive to help your Post and the Department.

If your Post would like some help with recruiting, please reach out to your District recruiting chair or myself. I am willing to assist and brainstorm with ideas on what will help recruit new members. This is a team effort to reach our goals, but more importantly to get more members to assist other veterans.

Rick Vanden Hoek

Jr. Vice Commander

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Greetings Veterans,

My name is DJ Montreal, and I am excited and extremely grateful to be appointed as the new Assistant Department Service Officer. I am looking forward to having the privilege of working with the veterans of our great state. I am a life member of Ernest Bowyer Post 791, where I serve as a Service Officer. I also work for SDDVA, where I am a Field Veterans Service Officer and oversee 13 counties in SE South Dakota.

I do have some information to share that was released in June. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that deceased veterans can opt to receive a commemorative urn or plaque. However, choosing this option comes with specific implications regarding burial eligibility and benefits:

1. Impact on Burial Eligibility:

- If a family chooses to receive a commemorative urn or plaque from the VA, the veteran will no longer be eligible for burial in a VA National Cemetery.
- This decision also affects eligibility for burial in state veterans' cemeteries. For instance, in South Dakota, where the South Dakota Veterans Cemetery follows national cemetery eligibility requirements, choosing the urn or plaque option would also make the veteran ineligible for burial there.

2. Loss of Government-Furnished Benefits:

- Opting for the commemorative urn or plaque means the family cannot receive a government-furnished headstone, marker, niche cover, or medallion for placement in any cemetery, including a private one.

3. Irreversibility of the Decision:

- Families must understand that once they choose to receive the plaque or urn, this decision is permanent and cannot be reversed. There is no pathway to restore eligibility for burial benefits from the VA or state veterans' cemeteries.

Therefore, families must carefully consider their options when the VA offers a commemorative urn or plaque. This choice involves forfeiting burial benefits and eligibility in national and state veterans' cemeteries and providing government-furnished items for any cemetery.

To locate the CVSO/TVSO nearest you, please visit:

<https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteransserviceofficers/locatevso.aspx>

Dareus (DJ) Montreal  
Assistant Department Service Officer  
[Dj.montreal@state.sd.us](mailto:Dj.montreal@state.sd.us)  
605.400.9005

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# BIG 10 Conference

## Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary Department of Indiana

# October 18 – 20, 2024

## Registration Form

Advance Registration: \$160.00 per person

Includes: 2 drink tickets for Friday Night Mixer or Saturday Night Banquet

1 – Ticket for Luncheon (Saturday)

1 – Ticket for Banquet (Saturday)

**Late & On-site Registration is \$180.00 per person after cut-off date Sept 25, 2024**

Please print or Type all information  
(Use a separate form for each registration)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Post#: \_\_\_\_\_ Aux#: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Department of Indiana

Mail Registration Forms and Checks to:

Department of Indiana

9555 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46216





# BIG 10 Conference



Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary  
Department of Indiana

**October 18 – 20, 2024**

Hotel Information:

**Marriot Indianapolis East \* 7202 East 21<sup>st</sup> St  
Indianapolis, IN 46219**

Hotel Reservations open November 6, 2023

Mention 2024 VFW BIG 10 Conference when making reservations.

Regular Room Rate - \$127 per night + 17% tax

Book your group rate for the 2024 VFW BIG 10 Conference

Call toll free (800) 228-9290

Last Day to make Reservations:

**Wednesday September 25, 2024**

