

# General Orders

SEPTEMBER 2024



## FALL COUNCIL

### HOME COMING

Fall Council is September 27-29, 2024, in Oacoma, SD at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center. Please plan to attend and bring your computer for training.

## POW / MIA DAY

### POW / MIA DAY

The United States' National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of September each year. September 19<sup>th</sup>, please take the time to remember those who were POWs and those MIA, as well as their families.

## PATRIOT DAY

### PATRIOT DAY

September 11<sup>th</sup> is National Patriot Day, and the US Flag is to be flown at half-staff from sunrise until sunset to remember the victims of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania.



## BIG TEN CONFERENCE

The Big Ten Conference will be held in Indianapolis, IN October 18-20, 2024. If you would like to attend, registration forms can be found at the end of these General Orders.

## VOD / PP / Teachers Award

All entries for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teachers Awards should be submitted to the Post level no later than October 31, 2023. All questions should be directed to Chairmen, Dan Klimisch, [danklimisch@hotmail.com](mailto:danklimisch@hotmail.com) or 605-661-1254. VOD/PP must use the Scholar's App for entries.

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



## DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL DUES

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

The total sent to the Department is \$8.00 and National is \$21.50. This means, any amount charged at the Post level above \$29.50, is considered the Post Dues.

All Post, District, and Department Officers who have not paid their VFW membership dues for the Command Year are expected to pay their dues immediately, thereby setting a good example for other members.

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

If you wish to publish something in the **General Orders**, please have it to Anna by the **25<sup>th</sup>** of every month. Please send in a **Microsoft Word** document format to [anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com).

## ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM

### DEPARTMENT DASHBOARD

For reporting online with the Department Dashboard system and you are having a hard time, please call Anna at the Department office 605-332-7441 or email [anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com).

The Department no longer accepts the old Community Service and Hospital & Safety Reports. Everything is on the Department website and should be utilized. All paper forms turned in at the State office will not be used for All-State or All-American entries.

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

*Together, we can do great things!*

**District Fall Meetings - District Commanders, please schedule visits for Post Inspections at this time.**

Dist 1, October 6, 2024, 2 pm, Post #915 Elk Point – CDR Collier

Dist 4, October 13, 2024, 2 pm, Post #750 Watertown – Inspector Ochsner

Dist 6, October 6, 2024, 1 pm, Post #1776 Huron – Sr. Vice Christensen

Dist 7, October 16, 2024, 5 pm, Post #6895 Tyndall – CDR Collier

Dist 10, September 15, 2024, 11 am, Memorial Park, picnic – CDR Collier

All Posts are encouraged to publish a Post publication of some type to be entered into the contest at the end of the Command Year. There are 2 different categories that are judged, Category 1, Publications of 5 or more during the Command Year and Category 2, 4 or less Publications during the Command Year. The POC for this is Allan Ochsner, State Inspector.

**DESECRATION OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG** - Any member who has knowledge of any acts of desecration to the flag of the United States of America is asked to report the same to the State Commander or Department Headquarters.

**\*\*\*\*Have you appointed your Veterans Day Chairperson yet? Try contacting your local Chamber of Commerce or another Organization to coordinate programs in observance of this important day!\*\*\*\***



**OFFICIAL:**

*Anna Arnold*

Quartermaster / Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW

**BY ORDER OF:**

*Glynis Collier*

Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW



Greetings Fellow Heroes!

Our second month of this command year has been full of travel for your Commander. Our District Commanders have scheduled the Winter District Meetings, and your COA held its second monthly informal Zoom meeting on August 28, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

I attended the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and worked as a membership recruiter as well as a breakfast server at the Sturgis Vets Club on two mornings, learned how to be the egg cracker at the Piedmont Pancake Feed at the American Legion one morning, helped Ponch make Sloppy Joes at the Deadwood Post one morning, attended the Custer Post Indian Taco Fundraiser one afternoon, attended the Spearfish Post Steak Feed Fundraiser and was invited to the Sturgis Bike Show Competition at the Buffalo Chip on August 9, 2024. Bob "Cooch" has been running this for years and he honored many of our Veterans on stage! I enjoyed myself getting in the trenches with my fellow Heroes. I was so impressed by their efforts to raise money to keep their Post Canteens operating! I was also honored to attend Riverboat Days in Yankton on August 17, 2024, with a special visit to our Yankton Post. They prepare a cheeseburger and sides meal each year and raise money having a lunch following the Parade to support their post! They are also remodeling their front entrance and have created a very welcoming atmosphere full of light for their customers. I was told the new carpeting will be installed by the time you read this!

Commander pins and shirts are available, and I will pass out pins as I attend the State Fair and individual District and Post meetings across the state. I will also have pins 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  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeve polo and a male short sleeve polo available.

I will be inspecting three of the five Winter District Meetings per CIC Lipphardt's guidance that all State Commanders will visit 1 each of their District Meetings this year.

I attended the funeral of Corporal Robert Bartlett, WWII Veteran MIA on August 9, 2024, in Blunt, SD. His brother (A Marine) was in attendance. Thank you to my fellow Pierre VFW Post members who were in attendance. This is what being a Commander is all about! Having the opportunity to honor a fellow hero in this manner left me humbled and speechless.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Fall Homecoming in Oacoma September 27-29, 2024. Please be sure to register and make your room reservations ASAP.

CIC Lipphardt's Homecoming in Savannah, GA. Aug. 22-25, 2024, was an amazing event. The weather was perfect, the comradery was dynamic and Chief AI was his usual jovial self.

I am going to create a "Where's Your Commander?" Facebook Page in order for you all to follow along on my adventures this year and have a little bit of fun to boot! Be on the lookout!

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 September 2024: Dept. SD Sr Vice Commander

August has been a very busy month. These are some of the events and activities that I accomplished this month:

1. Conducted an ALS/VFW raffle as a fundraiser. Recruited 2 new members and 1 new member for the Auxiliary. We raised over \$3000 for the raffle.
2. Coordinated and organized the Corn Palace Bingo. We worked with the local DAV Chapter 27, American Legion Post 18 and 40&8 and the Auxiliaries of the American Legion Post 18 and VFW Post 2750. We raised over \$5000 and recruited 3 VFW members, 3 American Legion members, 1 DAV member and 2 VFW Auxiliary members. This also was a district 7 recruiting event involving assistance from District 7 members as well as Post 2750 members.
3. I attended a bridge dedication for Gunnar Becker at the 4H building in Forestburg, SD. The family and residents of the community appreciated our attendance.
4. I will attend the SD State Fair and will recruit through the DAV building and assist the VFW in recruiting new members.
5. I was fortunate in that I was able to attend my son's Change of Command at Ft Carson and help his family move to Texas where he will be the commander of 1<sup>st</sup> Med Brigade at Ft Cavasoz, Texas.

I am recovering from COVID. I will be able to attend portions of the Fall Conference and hope to see you all there.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Christensen, Dept. SD Sr Vice Commander

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General Orders  
Junior Vice Commander

I would like to thank all of the post who have submitted their Membership Plans so far. There are many that I am still waiting on. Membership is the foundation of our organization and we need to stay on top of that. I will have a list next month on who I am missing.

The Department along with assistance from several posts did a great job representing the VFW at the Sturgis motorcycle rally and also the State Fair. We need to continue to use events like this to get our name out to people and recruit. There are many local events around the state in our communities we need to take advantage of for recruitment. There has been several missed opportunities also. I would like to see the VFW be involved in county fairs also, especially the bigger ones.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for your continued support during some rough times in our family. Knowing there is support out there is important. I am a firm believer that reaching out and letting people know that you are there for them is important.

Rick Vanden Hoek

Junior Vice Commander

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Greetings Comrades,

September is upon us; school is in session and hunting season is around the corner. It has been a busy summer on the claims side. PACT Act cases continue to be filed and processed. There have been some additions to the PACT Act as far as locations, time frames and conditions. I would like to remind everyone that the PACT Act and Burn Pit/TOXIC Exposure Registry are two different things. When you register for the Burn Pit/Toxic Exposure registry online, you will be set up with an appointment for a screening and exam. That is separate from filing a claim for disability so you will still need to see a Veteran Service Officer to get that completed. Even if you already have a service connection, I highly encourage everyone to register online and get your exam completed. If they add new conditions down the road, it will be easier to get a grant if they have been discussed already in the Burn Pit/TOXIC exposure exam.

We are still getting a lot of questions on the conditions listed in the PACT Act. People are just filing claims for all the conditions in the PACT Act and then are upset when those conditions are denied. Just because a condition is a presumptive does not mean you will be automatically granted. You still need to have a diagnosis of having the condition and show that it is an on-going problem. You also need to demonstrate that you were in an approved area at the approved timeframe listed.

Another trend that we have been seeing is people requesting an increase in a condition that they are already service connected for. If that condition has not gotten worse, be very careful about asking for an increase. Check with a VSO and have them check the CFR for your condition and they can tell you what you would need for an increase. Once you open a condition, it can also be DECREASED. If any condition is anything other than 0%, be very careful with re-opening it. If are combined 100% rating, you only have one direction to go and that is down so be careful.

Dj and I will be at Fall Council, so bring us any questions that you may have, and we look forward to seeing you there.

David Huntimer

South Dakota VFW  
Department Service Officer  
[David.huntimer@va.gov](mailto:David.huntimer@va.gov)  
Office: 605-333-6869  
Cell: 605-360-1524

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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**





# VETERANS STAND DOWN

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**Friday Sept. 20th, 2024**

**8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**SD Military Heritage Alliance**

**1600 W. Russell St.**

**Sioux Falls, SD**

## **TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE**

**Shuttle service will be every 1/2 hour starting at  
8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. from the following locations:**

- **Volunteers of America Dakotas (VOA) Veteran Services Center  
@ 14th & Cliff**
- **Sioux Falls VA Health Care System on 22<sup>nd</sup> and Western**
- **Bishop Dudley Hospitality House**
- **Union Gospel Mission**

**On-the-spot help including clothing,  
community housing referrals, medical & dental screening,  
readjustment counseling, Women Veteran services and much more!**

**Brunch will be served from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**For more information call: (605)-336-3230 x 6135**



# FALL COUNCIL HOMECOMING

# REGISTRATION

**Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center**  
**1500 Shoreline Dr, Oacoma, SD 57365 605-234-6376**

**September 27-29, 2024**

Advance Registration \$105

Registration after September 1, 2024 \$125

(Includes breaks, Saturday Lunch & Banquet)

\$35 for Banquet ticket only

Room Rates \$109/night

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

VFW OR AUX: \_\_\_\_\_ POST: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Payable to:**  
**Department of South Dakota VFW**  
**1600 W Russell St, Ste 135**  
**Sioux Falls, SD 57104**

**OR: Venmo**



**venmo**



# FALL COUNCIL HOMECOMING

**Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center  
1500 Shoreline Dr., Oacoma, SD 57365 605-234-6376**

**September 27-29, 2024**

**“One Team, One Fight”**

## **Friday September 27**

3:00-5:00 pm

Early registration (Hallway)

VFW Committee Meetings (Audit, Budget, Membership & Publications Committees) Assigned Meeting Room

5:00-10:00 pm

“One Team, One Fight” Hospitality Social Cedar Shores

## **Saturday September 28**

8:00-8:15 am

Registration (Hallway)

8:20-9:00 am

Opening Remarks (Hale Room)

9:00-9:50 am

Team Building-CDR Collier

9:50-10:00 am

Quartermaster Training-QM Arnold

10:00-10:30 am

Break (snack included in Hallway)

10:30 am-11:30 am

TAPS Presentation (Auxiliary will be sitting in)

VOD/PP Training – Amanda Schwarz and Dan Klimisch

(Auxiliary will be sitting in)

11:30-1:00 pm

Past Commanders/Current & Past District Commanders (In restaurant)

11:30-1:00 pm

Lunch Taco Bar for all registered members (Oacoma Room, must have name badges)

1:00-2:00 pm

Membership & Recruiting Events Training-JVC Vandenhoeck & CDR Collier

2:00-3:00 pm

VSO Training-Dave Huntimer and DJ Montreal

3:00-3:15 pm

Break

3:15-3:45 pm

Dashboard Training-ADJ Arnold

3:45-4:00 pm

Closing Remarks-CDR Collier

5:30-6:30 pm

Social Hour (cash bar)

6:30-9:00 pm

Banquet (Denim & Diamonds!) Tiaras Welcome! Hospitality Room immediately following Banquet (Room 233)



## **Sunday September 29**

9:00-11:00 am

VFW Council of Administration



**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**



**venmo**