

**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**

**General Orders #5
“The Future is Now”**

November 1, 2017

Happy Thanksgiving

The Department Commander and his staff extend Thanksgiving greetings to all comrades and sisters and their families. On this special day let us give thanks for the privilege of living in the United States.

1. **Audit Reports:** Another quarter has closed. Posts are reminded that your Post Audit Reports are now due. If you are delinquent in any other quarters, please catch up to date.
2. **Community Service Reports:** Our Department Community Service Chairman is in need of Community Service Reports. A few Posts have submitted their reports, however a majority of the Posts have not submitted a report. Deadline for the Department Chairman to forward the report information to National is in December, so send your Community Service Reports to Sean Johnson 1005 N Main, Aberdeen, SD 57402, as soon as possible.
3. **Education Teacher Award:** The deadline for nomination was November 1, 2017. Post judging should be completed by November 15. Winning entries at the Post level are to be submitted to the Department Chairman, prior to December 15. Each Post is encouraged to have a winner in each of the three categories, K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Post winners should be forwarded to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, P. O. Box 215, Custer, SD 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** Each teacher category will receive a check of \$100. Award presentation will be determined at a later date. A certificate from National will be presented to the school and teacher at the school with a Department representative presenting the award if possible.
4. **Voice of Democracy:** The deadline for Student entries to be submitted to the Posts was by November 1. Post judging should be completed by November 15. District judging should be completed by December 1, 2017. As soon as possible after District judging is completed, the winning entries and tapes are sent to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, PO Box 215, Custer SD, 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** 1st Place - \$500, a March trip to Washington, DC, a June trip to the Freedom’s Foundation and at least a \$1,000 or more scholarship from the National contest. 2nd Place - \$300 Suzie Radigan Memorial scholarship, 3rd Place - \$250 cash, and 4th through 7th Place will receive \$50 cash prize. Each District will send their district winner to Pierre for the presentations of the State winners during the Legislative Conference. Trophies and plaques will be presented to the top three winners at the State level.
5. **Patriots Pen:** The deadline for Student entries to be submitted to the Posts was by November 1. Post judging should be completed by November 15. District judging should be completed by December 1, 2017. As soon as possible after District judging is completed, send the winning entries to the State Chairperson, Keith Blume, PO Box 215, Custer SD, 57730. **Prizes have been set as follows:** 1st Place – the Glenn McFarland Memorial Plaque and \$250 cash; 2nd Place – Daryl and Loretta Halling Memorial Plaque and a \$100 cash, 3rd Place – \$50 cash and 4th through 7th Places - \$25 cash. The top 2 winners in the State will be presented their awards at the Legislative Conference. Plaques will be presented to the top two winners at the State Level.
6. **Veterans in the Classroom:** November is VFW “Veterans In The Classroom Month”. VFW and its Auxiliary members are encouraged to volunteer to be presenters in the classroom.
7. **Veterans Day and Reports:** Posts are urged to start planning a suitable program now for the observance of Veterans Day, November 11. Post Commanders, immediately after Veterans Day, submit a report to the Veterans Day Chairman, Danny Frisby-Griffin, 418 NE Fifth St., Madison, SD 57042. Form can be found on the Web SDVFW.org.
8. **Legislative Conference:** Department Legislative Conference has been set for January 28th and 29th 2017 in Pierre.

9. **Relief Fund:** Section 704, of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, states that a Post or Auxiliary can donate to the National Military Service Program by use of the Relief Fund. These programs were a tremendous success in 2016-2017, thanks to all of you that helped. As our men and women serve and sacrifice, let's ensure they receive the necessary help they need, particularly during the upcoming holiday season. Section 704 further outlines other various things for which the Post Relief Fund can be used for: A few years ago, the phrase, "To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs" was added to this section. This phrase allows the Post to use the Relief Funds for the Voice of Democracy Program or other Americanism programs that are educational. The Relief Fund may not be used for Post building projects, hall remodeling, color guard uniforms or any other expenditure that does not follow the guidelines in Section 704.

10. **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 by no later than the 25th day of the month preceding the publication of the General Orders.

11. **Solicitation of Funds:** A Post or District soliciting funds outside the geographical area of their community must obtain the permission of the Post or District Commander involved. Any requests for soliciting of funds from outside the Department of South Dakota should be disregarded, unless it has been cleared by a memorandum from Department Headquarters. Any such letters or circulars asking for funds should be sent to Department Headquarters.

12. **Inspection of Post Books:** All Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters are reminded that all Post books are subject to inspection According to Section 218, (5) h of the National Manual of Procedures. Department Officers requesting inspections of the books are to be allowed to examine books at a reasonable time at the Post Home.

13. **Dues:** The second membership dues reminder notice for 2018 was mailed to unpaid members in October. Post Officers should conduct a membership campaign to follow up on dues notices.

14. **Dues Reserve Fund:** Reference Section 717, Manual of Procedure and By Laws: A dues reserve fund shall be credited within each Department and Post with not less than fifty percent of its part of the current years' dues paid by each member prior to July 1, including Life Membership dues payouts received from the National Organization. The Quartermaster shall not disburse nor shall an obligation be incurred against this fund until after July 1, at which time it shall be transferred to the general fund and be available for expenditures.

15. **Review Attachments:** Please review all the attachments in this General Orders as there are several with important information.

OFFICIAL:

BY ORDER OF:

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

Rick Williamson
Rick Williamson, Commander
Department of South Dakota
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Commander Rick Williamson

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NOTE: The Department Headquarters office will be closed on Friday November 24th, the day after Thanksgiving.

**Commander Rick Williamson
November 2018 General Orders**

The Big 10 Conference in Bloomington, MN. was a really good time. We had a great turnout from the Department, Thank You to everyone who made the trip. Our CIC, Keith Harman was in attendance and gave a very good speech at the banquet on Saturday evening, we were also blessed to have our Auxiliary National President Dee Guillory there, as always it was wonderful to get to visit with her for a few moments.

By the time you receive this all posts should have their VOD and Patriot Pen entries in hand and getting ready to be judged. Please remember to send all the information requested forward as you send them to the Districts for judging. It is a very tough job to go out and get the information after the fact, make sure you send a Photo, original entry form, and a copy of the essay when forwarding. We will be bringing all 5 District winners of both competitions to Pierre in January for our awards ceremony. Don't forget Teacher of the Year, and get your Recruiting Plan into Sean Johnson now.... He should have had it by Oct 31st.

We are in the busiest time of the year as most of our programs are coming due, please remember to take the time to enjoy what you do for our Veterans, communities, and our youth. I still have that challenge out there to every post to plan something FUN for your workers, I hope you all take me up on that one.

Not a chance that I wouldn't talk about membership, at least not as long we haven't made 100% yet. Sean has sent a list of unpaid members out to each post, please use this list to contact these individuals who at one time were a member, but for some reason chose not to pay their dues. These are the people we need back into our ranks, they at one time wanted to be part of this organization, we need to find out why they chose to leave, make apologies if necessary, ask them to give us another chance, and most importantly make them feel welcome. Please take the time to make contact, I will be randomly calling a few of these people to see if I can convince them to renew their membership and be part of our Department. We have a lot of recruiting pins to give out so please help us help you, go get a member today so I can get off this soapbox. Membership is the Future of this Organization and we need every combat veteran who is eligible to want to belong to us. Be proud of what your VFW does and let everyone know about your VFW, we need to brag more about what we do. Sean Johnson and the membership committee are doing a great job, but they need everyone to help to achieve our goals.

Thank You for all you do, keep up the great work that you do in every post around the state and get a new member. Many hands make light work, we need new members to lighten the load for those of us who have done it all these years. God Bless and I hope to see you soon

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
State Sr. Vice Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin
General Orders 11/17**

Greeting Comrades,

The Department of South Dakota VFW contingent attended the Big 10 Conference in October. National provided Flying Squadron Training and really emphasized membership and programs...but really membership. Sean will be providing recommendations and other tips to increase membership by educating qualified veterans on the importance and value of joining. Look for opportunities for us to set up a tent, table and get our word out...drop us a note with the information so we can help you! Heck, we might even be able to get National's membership division to help with the registration cost.

I'm sure that you've got your Veterans Day program planning underway. Don't forget to get your schedule and agenda out via any media that you can. If you send me images of your programs after your event, I'll try to get them posted to the Department Face Book page. When submitting your images and articles also make sure you send copies to Dick Pickering for the Overseas Veteran. In

addition, please send me your report as soon as you can, but definitely by December 31 so you can get the bonus points.

You'll going to get tired of me hounding you about submitting packages for our Public Servant National Awards (Law Enforcement, Firefighter and Emergency Services). We have to do better than last year! Please take a few moments to complete the [forms](#) located our website link below and send them to me by December 31, 2017. The Department must send our candidate for each of the categories to VFW National Headquarters by February 1.

If your community and/or association is interested in hosting one of the VFW State Tournaments please provide a "bid" package (via email) to me by November 15th. The minimum information required for the Baseball Advisory Committee to fairly evaluate the bids is located here: <http://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/>

As of October 19, 2017, I've received only 22 Memorial Day reports (Brandon, Canton, Elk Point, Sioux Falls, Vermillion, Madison, Milbank, Sisseton, Aberdeen, Gettysburg, Pierre, Armour, Burke, Marty, Mitchell, Parkston, Scotland, Wagner, Custer, Deadwood, Newell and Quinn). Remember to get them turned in prior to December 31 to get your bonus points next May.

Just a reminder, the updated forms and **revised membership books** are on the website (<http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-forms>) and if you have problems with them, drop me a note at the email below explaining exactly what happened.

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

State SR Vice Commander, Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin
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Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota
Sean Johnson Department Junior Vice Commander 2017-2018
General Orders for November 2017

Hello Comrades I am pleased to report that we have accomplished much in the past few months but there is still much to do. Our fall convention attendance was down a little but we were able to conduct business just the same. We need to try for better attendance in the future. We had a National representative Rick Kenna come and put on a class for Membership. The class was well attended and put out some great information.

The Big 10 conference in Minneapolis was well attended and attendance was up from the past year. Most of the National Officers were there to do a flying squadron training which for those who don't know or haven't been to one each part of the Officers do some training it is beneficial. I believe it was successful and it was good to have a meeting with National Jr. Vice Doc Schmitz it was very Productive.

Oct 28 is Change Direction (Mental Health Awareness) Day for VFW if your post does something that day write it up send it to Lynn Rolff at National. If you don't but do it later still write it up and turn it in when you do thanks.

Now I want to mention MEMBERSHIP IT IS TIME! We need to ramp up the campaigns to get out and get the rolls and numbers going upward to the 100% goal. I know you all work very hard but do this in your spare time or if you have a minute, our dedicate so time. Remember the BUCK STOPS WITH US! Thanks for all your help

Sean Johnson
SD State Jr. Vice

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Cody Mangold Judge Advocate

Greetings Comrades,

Please keep sending in your reports for the first quarter. Second quarter is already upon us. Please remember that to receive FULL points for the white hat these reports need to be in by the 10th of the month at the latest. I do enjoy reading through your community service reports and seeing all the great things you do for all of the great South Dakota Communities. Please Keep up the hard work. I know it is very hard at times to take that credit, but sometimes we just need to pat ourselves on the back.

Cody Mangold Judge Advocate

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**Barbara K. McKean
State Surgeon
November General Orders**

Fall is my favorite time of the year with the changing the colors of the leaves and fresh crisp air. By now many of us should be receiving some of the write-ups for the programs; Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen, Teacher of the Year, EMS, Police, Firefighters of the Year, Americanism and School Projects. Please get them in by the due dates. We also get to look forward to Veterans Day on November 11th, 2017! And everyone should continue to focus on Membership!

You don't do it simply for fun — you do it because you believe in our military and know that, if it weren't for the men and women who serve, we would not enjoy the freedom we have today.

Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served. For one glorious day, you are joined by everyone else around the nation who doesn't spend every waking moment breathing this military stuff like you do. For one day, we stand united in respect for our veterans.

This holiday started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service, and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on Nov. 11 because that is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day" in order to account for all veterans in all wars.

Even we veterans who have done our part see young and old service members and veterans — our grandchildren, sons, daughters, wives, husbands and grandparents — and we can't begin to fathom what they've been through in the name of our freedom. The depth of experiences is vast, and the appreciation we have for them on all days, but especially this day, is deep.

Today, we take the charge of Veterans Day to heart and mark the day with celebration, honoring America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

A possible lifesaver.

This comes from Dr. Patrick Teefy, Cardiology Head at the Nuclear Medicine Institute University Hospital, London Ont.

1. Let's say it's 7:25 pm and you're going home after an unusually hard day on the job.
2. You're really tired, upset and frustrated.
3. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five km from the hospital nearest your home.
4. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.
5. You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.
6. HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

- Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.
- 7. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.
- A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.
- A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.
- 8. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm.
- In this way, heart attack victims can get help or to a hospital.
- 9. Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives!
- 10. A cardiologist says: "If everyone who gets this email & kindly sends it to 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life".
- 11. Rather than sending jokes, please contribute by forwarding this email which can save a person's life....
- 12. If this message comes around to you more than once..... please don't get irritated..... U need to be happy that you have many friends who care about you & you are being reminded of how to tackle....
Heart attacks.... when you are alone.

You can access to the Overseas Veteran <http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-overseas-newsletter> . All reports are available on the state website at <http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-forms>. As a reminder, quarterly reports are due by: **Nov 10**; Feb 10 & May 10 (approximately 10 days after end of Quarter). Please mark your calendars now and let's work together to bring up or state quarterly percentage rates! We can do all things with the help of each other!

Barbara McKean
State Surgeon
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Veterans and Military Support

Dale Jensen, Department Chairman

The VFW's Military Assistance Program (MAP) offers grants to Posts and Auxiliaries that participate in military unit functions, such as sponsoring farewell and welcome home activities, Family Readiness group events, or other sponsorship ideas. The program helps pay for events held for active duty, guard, and reserve units. A big thank you to Parkston and Spearfish for holding MAP events for the troops in their area. I know there are additional troops returning home in the future which will be a perfect time to do something for them at some point when they get settled back in to their daily lives. We need to watch and listen so we can be available for assistance. All information and forms for this program can be found at www.vfw.org

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Decorated Veterans Pheasant Hunt

Please get your sold and unsold raffle tickets into State Headquarters by November 8th, we need to take count of everything.

The raffle will be on Veterans Day Saturday 11th.