

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

**General Orders #8  
"Dig In"**

**February 1, 2018**

1. **Have you paid Your 2018 Membership Dues Yet? THIS IS IMPORTANT!** Members are reminded that their annual membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars may have expired December 31, 2017, under new subscription dues your dues are due in the month you paid them. For example - you paid your dues in February of 2017 then they will be due in February of 2018. All Officers are encouraged to make every effort to renew the membership of continuous members as soon as possible. Let's wrap up our membership drives as soon as possible and get this great VFW State to 100% in membership.
2. **Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance:** Remember, all unpaid members, lose their Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, unless you renew your membership. It is important for all Post Membership Teams to contact these members as soon as possible. We have only the policy that national provides.
3. **Legislative Conference and Council of Administration:** As this General Order is being received by members, the Department of South Dakota Council of Administration is being held on January 28<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Pierre. Hope you were there to make it successful.
4. **Audit Reports: THIS IS IMPORTANT!** Have you sent in your last Audit Report yet? Maybe you are delinquent on some of the previous audit reports. Catch them up to date, as they are very important.
5. **Loyalty Day:** Post Commanders, please appoint a 2018 Loyalty Day Chairperson and forward his or her name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible. Post Commanders; try to plan your Loyalty Day Programs early.
6. **Buddy Poppy:** Post Commanders, please appoint a 2018 Buddy Poppy Chairperson and forward his or her name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible and make plans for your 2018 distribution. Post Commanders, this is a reminder that all Poppy orders (remember 5 poppies per member) should be in by April 30, 2018 to count in the "All State Post Commanders" ratings. Order blanks may be downloaded from the web site - sdvfw.org.
7. **Community Service Record Books:** Attention Post Commanders & Community Service Chairpersons: Less than 60 days remain in this year's contest for Community Service Record Books. All Community Service projects completed during the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 should be included when making your Post/Auxiliary record book. Record Books must be received by April 18, 2018. Send books to State Chairman, Cody Mangold, 1101 Main Street, Tyndall, SD 57066. Form for submitting the Record Books may be downloaded from the web site - sdvfw.org
8. **The National Legislative and VOD Conference** meeting will be March 3<sup>rd</sup> to March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Washington D.C. The Department Commander and some of his staff will be attending these important functions. Any Post or member who would like to have a problem discussed with our Congressional Delegation should contact the State Commander or State Adjutant giving full details prior to that time.
9. **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. Form 990 must be filed by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month following the close of the fiscal year.

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

11. **Special Olympics:** Please send in your Posts donations for the 2018 South Dakota Special Olympics Program and be generous. Donations should be sent to the VFW Department Headquarters. All donations will be presented during Special Olympics Games to be held in May.

12. **Department Convention:** The 2018 Department Convention will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, in Sioux Falls, hosted by Post 628. “Remember” this is nothing new, but you **MUST** stay at the Headquarters Motel to file a voucher. NO rooms available is **NOT** a good answer. Make reservations earlier

13. **Sending In 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.

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

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## February 2018 General Orders Commander Rick Williamson

We have concluded our Legislative Conference in Pierre, what a great time. Our National Commander-in-Chief Keith Harman was in attendance and as always it was great to have him visit our great Department. More importantly we had to opportunity to recognize our VOD, Patriot Pen, and Teachers of the Year. Congratulations Olivia Heinecke our 1<sup>st</sup> place VOD winner, and congratulations to all the winners, as you all know there are no losers when it comes to these wonderful programs. I believe they all had a great time, and I know our VOD winner Olivia Heinecke was humbled to be our 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner of the VOD. She is already looking forward to her trip to Washington D.C. the first week of March and I am looking forward to being able to escort this remarkable young lady during the March of Champions. I would hope that you would join me in wishing her the very best of luck in the National competition. We had a great turnout for the convention and a Thank You goes out to all in attendance.

We are in full swing with the legislative issues before us for this year. Please give me your support and contact your legislators across this state, and please stand in unity to support our need for an East River Veterans Cemetery. Senate Bill # 91 and #118 lay the ground work to get this done, we have the support of the entire S. D. Veterans Council, and a majority in the Legislature. However, we need every Veteran in the State to get onboard with this endeavor and make your voice heard with your local representatives. This is by no means a slam dunk, it sounds as if it may be possible for this to get held up in committee, so we must let them know that we are ALL in support of what is Right for our men and

women who have served our country. Get on the phone or get on the computer and let them know how you stand. This is still an uphill battle so please don't stand by waiting for someone else to speak for you, let your voice be heard loud and clear, this is the only way we can get this very important piece of legislation thru this session and move forward to finally make this happen. If we drag our feet and let the Administration win on this, we may never have the opportunity to get this done again. I would like to Thank You in advance for assisting us to put some pressure on our leaders in Pierre.

We have now entered that time of the year where many of our programs are completed. We now need to turn our attention to membership. Sean and DD are working this very hard and are there to help you with anything you need to get your Post to 100%. We made it to 100% as a Department last year and we can do it again with the help of everyone. We have so many members who don't renew the annual membership and those are the ones that we can't afford to lose. They, at one time chose to join our ranks, unless we have done something to drive them away they should be able to be convinced that what we do is more than worth the cost to remain a member of this great organization. If you need help getting hold of a current list of expired members, please let us know we will certainly get it for you. Please let us know what we can do to help you, we are there to support you, we work for you the posts and districts of this Department.

Please get all your required reports and obligations current with the chairman, before we know it we will be preparing for All State judging. It helps us so much to be able to look at the requirements of our Posts before the deadline and let you know if your missing something before it is too late. It happens every year that something gets missed, please get it done early and give us the chance to make the corrections that should be done if we need to. I would be grateful for your assistance in this matter.

Thank You for all you do each and every day for the Veterans of our State. I could not be prouder of our Department and of the great people that we have as members. I have seen some very wonderful things happen in the past, and I know that we have even greater things going to happen in the future. Please get out there and get a new member, every member is a recruiter.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Commander  
Rick Williamson

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota  
State Sr. Vice Commander Danny Frisby-Griffin General Orders 02/18**

Greeting Comrades,

Having just completed a very successful Legislative Conference and having identified the comrades running for 2018-2019 positions, I would greatly appreciate your support and vote for Department Commander. I look forward to your help in "Providing Top Cover" for veterans and their families.

Please, continue to send me your Memorial and Veterans Day program reports.

The Public Service Awards Panel evaluated the 14 EMT, Firefighter and Law Enforcement submissions. The winners were announced during the Council of Administration portion of the Legislative Conference.

- EMT: Patricia Pape; Parkston SD; Post 3298; District 7
- Firefighter: Captain Troy Scandin; Sioux Falls SD; Post 628; District 1

- LE: Officer DesaRae' Gravatt; Wagner SD; Post 7319; District 7

The Department submits our candidates for each of the categories to VFW National Headquarters by February 1. The presentations will be 6/16/2018 at the State Convention.

As of **January 20, 2018**, I've received 27 Memorial Day reports (Brandon\*, Canton, Elk Point\*, Sioux Falls\*, Vermillion\*, Brookings\*, Madison\*, Milbank\*, Sisseton\*, Aberdeen\*, Gettysburg\*, Pierre\*, Turton\*, Armour\*, Burke\*, Lake Andes\*, Marty\*, Mitchell\*, Parkston\*, Scotland\*, Wagner\*, Winner\*, Custer\*, Deadwood\*, Newell\*, Quinn\* and Rapid City\*).

As of **January 20, 2018**, I've received only 24 Veterans Day reports (Brandon\*, Canton, Elk Point\*, Sioux Falls\*, Vermillion\*, Brookings\*, Madison\*, Milbank\*, Sisseton\*, Aberdeen\*, Gettysburg\*, Pierre\*, Turton\*, Armour\*, Burke\*, Chamberlain, Lake Andes\*, Marty\*, Parkston\*, Wagner\*, Winner\*, Custer\*, Deadwood\*, Newell and Rapid City\*).

A \* signifies the posts that met the **December 31, 2017** early reporting requirement.

- 2018 Baseball Tournament Host Sites Revealed:
  - **Class A**
    - 16U **8/3-6/2018 (West Central)** (Regions during week of 7/23-27 and must be completed by **7/27**)
    - 14U **7/20-22/2018 (Flandreau)** (Regions during week of 7/9-12 and must be completed by **7/12**)
    - 12U **7/13-15/2018 (Madison)**
    - 10U **7/13-15/2018 (Madison)**
  - **Class B**
    - 16U **8/3-6/2018 (Salem-Montrose)** (Regions during week of 7/23-27 and must be completed by **7/27**)
    - 14U **7/20-22/2018 (Gregory)** (Regions during week of 7/9-12 and must be completed by **7/12**)
    - 12U **7/13-15/2018 (Webster)**
    - 10U **7/13-15/2018 (Platte-Corsica)**
  - **2019** Tournament Dates
    - Class A and B 10U and 12U: **7/12-14/2019**
    - Class A and B 14U: **7/19-21/2019** (Regions must be completed by **7/11**)
    - Class A and B 16U: **8/2-4/2019** (Regions must be completed by **7/26**)
  - **2020** Tournament Dates
    - Class A and B 10U and 12U: **7/10-12/2020**
    - Class A and B 14U: **7/17-19/2020** (Regions must be completed by **7/9**)
    - Class A and B 16U: **7/31-8/2/2020** (Regions must be completed by **7/24**)

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

State SR Vice Commander, Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin



**Cody Mangold Judge Advocate  
General Orders 2/2018**

By the time you get this the Legislative Session for this year would have passed us. I believe we have represented the VFW well this year. I congratulate the winners of the VOD, Patriot Pen, and the Teacher

of the year. Each District has some great competitors this year as always! 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report is already due which I can't really believe. Jeez time is really passing us by. This is the records of who I have for turning in their Community Service Reports. If I missed you, please let me know. These are in no specific order for the Districts. I am Always accepting the reports so please keep them coming.

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

<b>District 1</b>	<b>District 4</b>	<b>District 6</b>	<b>District 7</b>	<b>District 10</b>
Canton	Brookings	Turton	Parkston	Rapid City
Sioux Falls	Madison	Aberdeen	Armour	Custer
Brandon		Huron	Wagner	Sturgis
Yankton		Pierre	Marty	
Brandon			Scotland	
Beresford			Mitchell	
Elk Point			Burke	
Vermillion			Lake Andes	

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

<b>District 1</b>	<b>District 4</b>	<b>District 6</b>	<b>District 7</b>	<b>District 10</b>
Canton	Brookings	Turton	Parkston	Rapid City
Sioux Falls	Madison	Aberdeen	Armour	Custer
Brandon	Milbank	Huron	Wagner	Sturgis
Yankton		Pierre	Marty	
Brandon		Sisseton	Scotland	
Elk Point		Gettysburg	Mitchell	
Vermillion			Burke	
			Lake Andes	

Cody Mangold Judge Advocate  
 605-770-1030 [cody.mangold@hotmail.com](mailto:cody.mangold@hotmail.com)  
 1101 Main Street Tyndall, SD 57066



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

Your 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter reports are due on Feb 10 (approximately 10 days after end of Quarter). For the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, **as of 1/12/18, I have received 26 hospital reports. We were at 46% the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.** District Commanders, give me a call if you want to see any of the reports your posts turned in. Let's work together to bring up our state quarterly percentage rates!

2<sup>nd</sup> qtr. hospital reports rcvd (The \* indicate the submission of the safety report also rcvd):  
 District 1: Alcester, Brandon\*, Canton\*, Elk Point\*, Sioux Falls\*, Vermillion and Yankton\*  
 District 4: Brookings\*, Madison, Milbank\*, Sisseton and Watertown\*

District 6: Aberdeen\*, Gettysburg\*, Huron\*, Pierre\* and Turton  
District 7: Armour\*, Burke\*, Lake Andes\*, Marty\*, Mitchell\*, Parkston\*, Scotland, and  
Wagner\*  
District 10: Deadwood\*; Custer\*\* (only safety report) & Rapid City\*\* (only safety report)

I look forward working with you. Please reach out and let me know if there is anything I can do to assist.

v/r, Barb

*Barbara McKean*  
State Surgeon  
504 S Wallace St, Parkston, SD 57366  
C: 605-630-0771; Email: mckean4@live.com

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**Department of South Dakota VFW is proud to announce the winners of the Public Servant Award**

**EMT:** Patricia Pape; Parkston SD. Post 3298, District 7  
**Firefighter:** Captain Troy Scandin; Sioux Falls SD. Post 628, District 1  
**Law Enforcement:** DesaRae' Gravatt; Wagner SD. Post 7319, District 7

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**Department of South Dakota VOD and Patriot's Pen 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners**

**VOD:** Olivia Heinecke, Sisseton SD, Post 3342  
**Patriot's Pen:** Kathryn Rose Doom, Wagner SD, Post 7319

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**NOTE:** If or when you buy using Amazon.com online please use SMILE.AMAZON.COM and the VFW gets a small rebate.

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Please start using the updated Taps forms included.

