



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

JULY 2017

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 1

1. **GENERAL ORDERS:** Are to be read at the Post Meeting and posted in your Post.
2. Having been elected State Commander and having been installed in office in accordance with the By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I, Jake Gruber, hereby assume command of the Department of Iowa, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

3. The following officers have been duly elected and installed by the Ninety-Sixth Annual State Convention and will be obeyed accordingly:

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER:	Carol Whitmore, whitmorebc@aol.com
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER:	Russell Saffell, resaffell007@yahoo.com
QUARTERMASTER:	Jerry Black, vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.net
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Danny White, xpara173@aol.com
SURGEON:	Roy Shortt, shortt_r@yahoo.com
CHAPLAIN:	Tim Strother, timothy.b.strother.civ@mail.mil
PAST COMMANDER:	Tom Watters, duke_tom2003@yahoo.com
IOWA NATIONAL COUNCILMAN:	Darrell Blasberg, blaze101@netins.net
FIRST DISTRICT:	Victor Goodrich, vfwlady12@gmail.com
SECOND DISTRICT:	Dale Henry, hankdale488@yahoo.com
THIRD DISTRICT:	Scott McDonald, smcdonald275@hotmail.com
FOURTH DISTRICT:	Dan Bru, bruruner@zumatel.net
FIFTH DISTRICT:	Stuart Juarez, stuardjuarez@mchsi.com
SIXTH DISTRICT:	Steve Streeter, cjbrobst@iowatelecom.net
SEVENTH DISTRICT:	Paul Arnold, guns_66@yahoo.com
EIGHTH DISTRICT:	Frank Kofka,
NINTH DISTRICT:	Paul Papin,
TENTH DISTRICT:	David Lee, dalee529@gmail.com

4. All previous appointments have expired and are null and void. The new appointments are as follows:

Adjutant:	Jerry Black, vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.net
Assistant Adjutant/Quartermaster:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
Assistant Chaplain:	Scott McDonald, smcdonald275@hotmail.com
Chief of Staff:	Don Fisher, cathyfisher1948@hotmail.com
Inspector:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com

Historian:	Paul Arnold, guns_66@yahoo.com
Service Officer, Iowa City:	Richard Davis, richard.davis@va.gov
Assist. Service Officer, Des Moines:	
Buddy Poppy Chairman:	Tonielle Parizek, tonielleparizek@yahoo.com
Camp Courageous/Sunnyside Chairman:	Jerry Black, vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.com
Citizenship Education Chairman:	Rick Martin, rickmartin412@aol.com
Community Activities Chairman:	Danny White, xpara173@aol.com
I.T. (Computer) Committee:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
	Robert Forbes, vfwpost9668@gmail.com
Webmaster:	Russell Saffell, resaffell007@yahoo.com
Department Outreach Chairman:	Dennis Abel, abel4isu@mchsi.com
Emergency Disaster Chairman:	Darnell Jones, dsajes@gmail.com
Homeless Veterans:	Jacob Gruber, jbgruber@mchsi.com
Hospital Chairman:	Roy Shortt, shortt_r@yahoo.com
Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs:	Richard "George" Goebel, gulfwar1@msn.com
Iowa Veterans Council Representatives:	Richard "George" Goebel, gulfwar1@msn.com
	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
	Jacob Gruber, jbgruber@mchsi.com
	Larry Larson, larrylarson@ymail.com
Iowa Veterans Council Alternate:	Jerry Black, vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.net
Legislative Chairman:	Carol Whitmore, whitmorebc@aol.com
Life Membership Chairman:	Dennis Abel, abel4isu@mchsi.com
Loyalty Day Chairman:	Steve Streeter, cjbrobst@iowatelecom.net
Membership Chairman:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
Membership Recruiter:	Richard "George" Goebel, gulfwar1@msn.com
National Home Chairman:	Larry Larson, larrylarson@ymail.com
Assistant National Home Chairman:	Darrell Blasberg, blaze101@netins.net
Patriot's Pen Chairman:	Brad Whitmore, whitmorecb@aol.com
POW/MIA:	Larry Winther, lsw@mchsi.com
Public Relations Chairman:	Jerry Black, vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.net
Safety Chairman:	Scott McDonald, smcdonald275@hotmail.com
Scouting Chairman:	Stuart Juarez, stuardjuarez@mchsi.com
Student Veterans of America Liaison	Paul Arnold, guns_66@yahoo.com
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Jack Lingelbach, c.tanker@hotmail.com
Assist Sergeant-at-Arms:	Dennis Abel, abel4isu@mchsi.com
State Fair Booth:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
Assistant State Fair Booth:	Robert Forbes, rforbesvfw2099@gmail.com
State Photographer:	Paul Arnold, guns_66@yahoo.com
Teacher Award Chairman:	Don Fisher, cathyfisher1948@hotmail.com
Veterans Service Chairman:	Richard Davis, richard.davis@va.gov
Veterans & Military Support Chairman:	Patrick Stark, vfw.patstark@gmail.com
VFW Lobbyist:	Carol Whitmore, whitmorebc@aol.com
Voice of Democracy Chairman:	Travis Holden, travis712@mchsi.com
Youth Activities Chairman:	David Lee, dalee529@gmail.com

5. **STATE COMMANDER GRUBER'S HOMECOMING:** Commander Gruber's homecoming will be July 8, 2017 from 11 am to 2 pm at Post 738, 2801 Dean Ave, Des Moines, IA 50317. The meal will be a hog roast with side dishes. All attendees will receive 2 free drink tickets. There will be raffles, games and fun for all.

6. **2017-2018 FLYING SQUADRON:** The 2017 Flying Squadron will be July 15, 2017 at VFW Post 9127 Beaverdale Post, 4029 Urbandale Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310 beginning at 10 am. Uniform will be business casual with VFW Cap, (No T-Shirts, Shorts, Sandals, or Flip-flops).

All Department Chairmen and Council Members are required to attend this meeting as there will be introductions of all chairmen and new Council members.

7. **VFW AUXILIARY PRESIDENT CHAR SCHNEIDER'S HOMECOMING:** Department President Char Schneider's celebration will be Saturday, August 12, 2017 from 11 AM - 3 PM at Post 788 & Auxiliary, 3240 Southgate Place SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

8. **QUARTERMASTER BOND:** The cost of the bond has changed. **THE RATE UP TO AND INCLUDING \$25,000 IS \$6.00 PER THOUSAND. THE RATE FOR \$26,000 AND UP IS \$5.00 PER THOUSAND. THE RATE FOR \$251,000 AND UP IS \$2.00 PER THOUSAND.**

The application for the Quartermaster Surety Bond will be sent out on July 1, 2017 along with a Post bonding information sheet for those not bonding with Department. The Bond is due before September 1, 2017. All bonds will expire on August 31, 2017.

9. **IRS ALERT FOR POSTS WITH NEW QUARTERMASTERS:** A reminder that you must file Form 8822-B within 60 days after the new Quartermaster taking office (July 1, 2017) or if your Post address changes. I have attached a copy of the form and the instructions with these General Orders.

10. **BRANSON VACATION RAFFLE WINNER:** The winner was Kathy Cross from Creston, Iowa and the winning ticket was sold by Denny Abel, Post 1797 Creston. Denny won a 7 day resort vacation anywhere in the world that Armed Forces Vacation Club has a resort. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for supporting the VFW Department of Iowa fundraiser.

11. **STATE COMMANDER JAKE GRUBER'S MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM BOOK:** State Commander Gruber's Program book is now available. We will send it in a separate email and it is also available on the VFW Iowa website at www.vfwiowa.org.

12. **OFFICERS, ELECTED AND APPOINTED:** Section 216 (c) - Post Officers, elected and appointed shall submit proof of eligibility for files to the Post Adjutant following their election or appointment and prior to their installation. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the Post Commander, Post Adjutant and Post Quartermaster. Post Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the Post Adjutant. It is the responsibility of the elected and appointed Officer to obtain and submit this proof of eligibility. Section 414 (c) - District Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the District Adjutant. **Additionally, District Commanders, District Senior Vice Commanders and District Junior Vice Commanders shall submit proof of eligibility to the Department Adjutant.**

13. **118th NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars 118th National Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 22 - 26, 2017. Reservations can now be made on the VFW National Headquarters website www.vfw.org , click on “News & Publications” scroll to the bottom of the page and click on events, click on National Convention. You will also find lots of information about this year’s National Convention.

14. **REGISTRATION - VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION:** In accordance with the requirements of Section 222 of the National Bylaws, which mandates each Post to register at least one delegate to the V.F.W. National Convention. Register a Delegate now for \$25.00. Do not mail the forms to the Department; it should be mailed to the address on the form or electronically on the VFW National website Online Membership System (OMS).

15. **FALL POW-WOW:** The Fall Pow-Wow will be Saturday Oct. 7, 2017 – Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017 at Lakeside Casino Hotel, 777 Casino Dr., Osceola, IA 50213. The cost of the rooms will be \$88 plus tax a night and reservations can be made by calling 1-877-477-5253. Be sure to let them know you are with the VFW to get the group rate.

16. **VFW & AUXILIARY FALL 2017 DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

Dist. 1- 2561 Mt. Pleasant Sat. Aug. 26, 2017

Dist. 2 – 828 Davenport Sat., Sept. 30, 2017

Dist. 3 – 1623 Waterloo Sat. Aug. 19, 2017

Dist. 4 – 1655 Newton Sat. Sept. 9, 2017

Dist. 5 – 9662 Des Moines Sat. Sept. 9, 2017

Dist. 6 – 1856 Ft, Dodge Sat. Sept. 23, 2017

Dist. 7 – 7224 Shenandoah Sat. Sept. 16, 2017

Dist. 8 – 580 Sioux City Sat. Sept. 9, 2017
Golden Corral, Sioux City

Dist. 9 – Elkader Sat. Sept. 23, 2017
Johnson Family Restaraunt

Dist. 10 – 2541 Algona Sun. Sept. 10, 2017

17. **2017-2018 VOD & PATRIOT’S PEN THEMES:** The 2017-2018 themes are:

Voice of Democracy Theme: American History: Our Hope for the Future

Patriot’s Pen Theme: America’s Gift to My Generation

18. **ELECTION REPORTS:** Election Report filing was improved this year, Thank you. There are Districts & Posts that have not sent their Election Reports into the Department

Headquarters as of this date, **3rd District:** Post 733, 4th District & 3932, 6th District, **7th District:** Post 737, 8th District, **9th District:** Post 3902 & 5139 . Please get these sent in so that we may begin printing the Department Roster book. The Posts not having their Election Report into National Headquarters by July 1, 2017 will be subject to suspension and possible revocation of their Post Charter.

Department Headquarters must receive the Election Report in order to complete the Roster book for 2017-2018.

19. **APPOINTED OFFICERS:** At the 114th National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, the delegates voted to make the **Surgeon** and **Judge Advocate** appointed positions, at the Post level, to help small Posts in completing their Election Report. These officers are now able to hold two positions on your Election Report.

20. **IOWA STATE FAIR BOOTH:** The VFW will be hosting a booth in the Varied Industries building during the Iowa State Fair. This year the fair will run from August 10 thru August 20, 2017. We are asking Posts or individuals to donate to this great cause. For the posts or auxiliaries willing to donate, please send your checks to Department of Iowa Attn: Jerry Black, QM, 3601 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310. Any donation will be greatly appreciated and help to defer the cost of the booth.

We are the only Veterans Organization there and it is great public relations and lets everyone know that **“No One Does More For Veterans”** than the VFW.

For those volunteering for a shift, you will be parking at the Fairgrounds’ post (Post 738) 2801 Dean Ave, free of charge and will be given an entrance ticket for the day you are working. Post 738 will provide transportation to the Fair and back until 7 pm.

21. **VETERAN’S DAY AT STATE FAIR:** The Veteran’s Day Parade at the Iowa State Fair will be Monday, August 14, 2017. Members participating in the parade will receive free Fair tickets. Discounted tickets may be purchased at Des Moines area stores (Fareway, Dahl’s, and Hy-Vee).

22. **BIG TEN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:** The Big Ten Conference will be held at the Minneapolis Marriott Airport, 2020 American Blvd., Bloomington, MN 55425 October 13-15, 2017.

Please submit your Big Ten Registration and Hotel Reservation as soon as possible, if you are planning on attending. Registration fee is \$115.00 until October 1, 2017. Late Registration is \$125.00 each. Get your reservation in early. Hotel rates are \$109 a night plus tax. The deadline for room rate is Sept. 15, 2017 or the room block fills, whichever occurs first.

23. **VFW DEPARTMENT OF IOWA BRICK FUNDRAISER:** Join us in becoming a part of our history & help us raise money for the VFW Department of Iowa. Your engraved brick purchase can be a lasting memorial for a family member or friend, used to advertise your business name, or used to list your family’s name as a donor. The bricks are \$50 each and an order form will be sent with these General Orders. You may also find the form on the VFW Iowa website at www.vfwiowa.org . The bricks will be placed from the side walk to the flag poles and around the flag pole area in front of the VFW Iowa Headquarters building.

24. **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES REPORT:** Send all Community Activity Reports to Chairman, Danny L. White, 1309 SE University Ave., #207, Waukee, Iowa 50263, PH# 515-369-9096, or email iavfwcars@gmail.com. Please use the new form when reporting your Post activities.
25. **PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM PROGRAM:** This program benefits both Post and Department. You can sign up to donate a minimum of \$10, or more, once a year and the entire proceeds come back to the Department. I have attached a form for your use. Post Commanders please hand this form out at your Post meeting. If every member in the Department of Iowa gave just **\$10 a year** to this program, we would have over \$160,000 to help veterans and their families.
26. **INSPECTIONS:** District Commanders your attention is directed to Section 517 of the Manual of Procedure, which states that each Post shall be inspected at least once during the year. Please make sure all the Posts in your District are inspected and report them in a timely manner rather than accumulating reports for 100% mailing. Please send completed Reports to **State Inspector Travis Holden, 2307 Richland Dr., Des Moines, IA 50317. Please send white copy only.**
27. **DELINQUENT STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION:** There are Posts that haven't paid their State Convention Registration. The registration fee is \$5.00. Please correct this issue **immediately!** Those Posts are: **District 1:** Post 2271 **District 2:** Post 9664 **District 3:** Post 733, **District 4:** Post 3932, **District 6:** Post 1899 **District 8:** Post 5722 & 6129 **District 9:** Post 3902, 5139, & 11503 **District 10:** Post 4244, 4370, 5232, & 5236.
28. **DISPLAY U.S. FLAG ON JULY 27:** The U.S. Flag should be flown on National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, July 27. Please encourage the observance of this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.
29. **GENERAL ORDERS EMAIL:** General Orders will be sent via Email. Please send your e-mail address to Department Headquarters at vfw Iowa@qwestoffice.net if you have not done so and wish to receive them. Post Commanders and Quartermasters please ensure we have your email address on file. If you do not have email, please contact your District Commander for a printed copy.
30. **VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM:** For questions or concerns about connecting with Iowa Military Units, Adopt A Unit, Uplink Phone Calling, Unmet Needs (soldier/military assistance), Post Donor Cards, and MAP Grants for your Post/Auxiliary, contact **VMSP Chairman Pat Stark** at vfw.patstark@gmail.com or **641-780-9929**. Please consider making a donation to Veterans & Military Support Program today.
- Regarding Operation Uplink, contact Uplink Chairman Pat Stark if you request a phone card for a hospitalized veteran who is in any hospital or nursing home other than one of the VAMF's.
31. **BUDDY POPPIES:** Place your orders **EARLY, AT LEAST 90 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF YOUR DISTRIBUTION DATE.** Every Post should be able to receive donations for at least 1,000 Poppies, which is also a requirement for All State Award. Buddy Poppy prices for 500 poppies are \$72.50 and 1,000 are \$145. Many Posts are not sending their orders in early

enough to receive them prior to their scheduled date. **GET THEM IN AT LEAST 90 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF YOUR DISTRIBUTION DATE.**

32. **CHECKS SENT TO DEPARTMENT (STATE) HQ's:** When forwarding your checks to VFW State Headquarters, please make it out to "VFW Iowa" and indicate what the check is to be used for: Hospital Fund, VOD Fund, Disaster Fund, etc. in the **MEMO section at the bottom left of the check.**

33. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

118th VFW National Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 22 - 26, 2017.

2017 VFW Fall Pow Wow will be Saturday Oct. 7, 2017 – Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017 at Lakeside Casino Hotel, 777 Casino Dr., Osceola, IA 50213.

2017 Big Ten Conference will be October 13-15, 2017 at the Minneapolis Marriott Airport Hotel, 2020 American Blvd., Bloomington, MN 55425. Room Rates will be \$109 plus tax.

2018 VFW Iowa Mid-Winter Conference will be Jan. 20 - 21, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, 6111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA 50321.

Department of Iowa 97th Annual State Convention will be June 7 - 10, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, 6111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA 50321. Room rates will be \$99 plus tax.

By Order of:

Jake Gruber

Department Commander
VFW Department of Iowa

OFFICIAL: *Jerry Black*

State Adjutant-Quartermaster
VFW Department of Iowa
JG/jb

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!!

