



## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

APRIL 2018

GENERAL ORDERS

No.10

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1. **GENERAL ORDERS:** Are to be read at the Post Meeting and posted in your Post.
2. **MEMBERSHIP:** The Department is at 94.03% as of March 28, 2018. We are in 7<sup>th</sup> place in the Big Ten and 30<sup>th</sup> place out of 53 Departments in membership.

Congratulations to the following Posts for achieving 100% or better: **District 1:** Post 2537 **District 2:** Post 4077 **District 3:** Post 3914 & 4069 **District 4:** Post 3932 **District 5:** Post 674, 738, 2060, 4123, 8142, & 11517 **District 6:** Post 3930, & 9599 **District 7:** Post 2265, 7224, & 11355 **District 8:** Post 4704 & 6537 **District 9:** Post 5139 & 5603 **District 10:** Post 642, 3533, 5236, & 5515.

3. **SCOUT OF THE YEAR:** The Department Scout of the Year Chairman is Stuart Juarez, 1125 Frazier Ave, Des Moines, IA 50315. The deadline for Scout of the Year award is as follows:

Entry to Dept. – April 2, 2018  
Entry to Nat'l – May 1, 2018

4. **IOWA GRAND COOTIE CONVENTION:** The Iowa Grand Cootie Convention will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at the Airport Holiday Inn Conference Center, 6111 Fleur Dr., Des Moines, Iowa 50321. The Convention will begin at 10 am in the Ballroom South room.
5. **2018 VFW STATE CONVENTION:** The 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Iowa State Convention will be June 7 thru June 10, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, 6111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA 50321.

Room rates are \$99 plus tax. Please call 515-287-2400 to reserve your room. Be sure to mention you are with VFW Department of Iowa Convention. The cutoff date for this rate is May 17, 2018.

6. **STATE CONVENTION:** Post Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than 30 days prior to the State Convention, and one (1) delegate and alternate for each thirty (30) members, or fraction thereof, **in good standing** in the post at the time of the election or as the Department (State) Bylaws may provide. This will be strictly enforced at the State Convention. Post must submit the names of delegates and alternates to State Headquarters, along with \$5 convention fee, by **April 20, 2018.**

Posts failing to submit their list of delegates and alternates, or pay the convention fee of \$5 per Post, shall be denied voting privileges at State Convention. The Delegate /Alternate sheet will be sent to all VFW Posts with the General Orders.

**ARREARS. POSTS THAT ARE IN ARREARS, FOR ANY REASON, WILL NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE AT STATE CONVENTION AND THEY CANNOT QUALIFY FOR ALL-STATE AWARDS.**

7. **STATE CONVENTION RAFFLE:** There will be a drawing at the State Convention banquet for cash prizes of \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second and \$100 for third, fourth and fifth. Raffle tickets will be \$10 each and will be distributed to Posts at their Spring District Meetings. You need not be present to win.

8. **REMINDER - IMPORTANT TASKS TO ACCOMPLISH BEFORE STATE CONVENTION:**

1) Ensure Hospital, Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Disaster Fund, & National Home contributions, Post assessments and Convention registrations, State & National, have been paid. Make sure all payments have been remitted and poppies ordered (for All-State).

2) Ensure all Quarterly reports of audit are filed with the Department.

3) Be sure your completely filled out Post & District election reports have been filed with National and the Department!

4) Make sure the Department has your list of Delegates for the upcoming elections at State Convention and send in All-State application if you're eligible.

9. **ALL STATE POST & DISTRICT COMMANDER & QUARTERMASTER:** The worksheet for All State Post & District Commander & Quartermaster & the requirements has been sent out. Please be sure to fill it out COMPLETELY and include Commander & Quartermaster Hat size, if they are first time winners, and if they are a Life Member or Gold Legacy Life member and return to Headquarters prior to May 02, 2018. If you meet all the requirements but do not have 100% plus in membership, turn in your application so they can be judged. We will check Membership Statistics on May 10, 2018 for those to be awarded at State Convention and on June 30, 2018 for those to be awarded at their District meeting.

**Posts wanting to be considered for All State must have their Election Report in by Guidon Day, May 10, 2018.**

10. **RESOLUTIONS:** Posts desiring to submit resolutions for consideration by their District prior to the convening of the State Convention, must present said resolution to their District in time for their Spring meeting, and upon approval by the Districts, copies of the resolution must reach State Headquarters in time to be prepared for the State Convention.

11. **DISTRICT ELECTION REPORT:** District Commanders and Adjutants, your attention is directed to Section 413 of the National By-Laws which requires ALL DISTRICTS to submit a properly completed "District Election Report" to National Headquarters prior to the convening of the Department Convention. You are also requested to submit a copy of your 2018-2019 District Election Report to VFW State Headquarters no later than May 20, 2018. Please ensure all chairman positions are filled before sending in the election report.

12. **DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE:** District Commanders please ensure that Department Headquarters receives your District Meeting Notice form so that the Rep has the information on time and location of your meeting.

13. **SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

District 1 – 2561 Mount Pleasant,	Sat. Apr. 14, 2018	Russ Saffell, State Jr. Vice Cmdr Jeanette Henry, Aux. Conductress
District 2 – 4077 Anamosa,	Sat. Apr. 21, 2018	Tom Watters, Past State Commander Kathy McDonald, Aux Jr. Vice Pres.
District 3 – 6779 Northwood,	Sat. Apr. 21, 2018	Carol Whitmore, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Mary Shortt, Auxiliary Guard
District 4 – 1797 Creston,	Sat. Apr. 21, 2018	Jake Gruber, State Commander Charlene Schneider, Aux. President
District 5 – 3519 Knoxville,	Sat. Apr. 14, 2018	Danny White, Past State Commander Sandy Weldon, Auxiliary Chaplain
District 6- 2504 Denison,	Sat. Apr. 14, 2018	Travis Holden, Past State Cmdr. Wilma Fickess, Aux. Sr. Vice Pres.
District 7 – 5949 Oakland,	Sat. Apr. 14, 2018	Carol Whitmore, Sr. Vice Cmdr Kathy McDonald, Aux. Jr. Vice Pres
District 8 – 1973 Sioux City, Sioux City Golden Corral	Sat. May 5, 2018	Russ Saffell, State Jr. Vice Cmdr. Cathy Fisher, Past Dept. President
District 9 – Elkader,	Sat. Apr. 14, 2018	Jake Gruber, State Commander Charlene Schneider, Aux. President
District 10 – 3388 Estherville,	Sun. Apr. 29, 2018	Russ Saffell, State Jr. Vice Cmdr. Wilma Fickess, Aux. Sr. Vice Pres.

14. **STATE FAIR BOOTH DONATIONS:** The Department is in need of donations for the Fair Booth. Individuals, 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.

15. **STATE FAIR BOOTH SCHEDULE:** The State Fair Booth schedule is now available. Please call Fair Chairman Travis Holden at 515-729-4797 to place your name on the schedule if you would like to work the Fair Booth. The slots are first come first serve.

16. **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS:** Nominations for Post Officers for the 2019 membership year were made at your March meeting, with nominations to be held open until the election is called at the April meeting. Section 217 of our National Bylaws provides in detail the procedures for Nomination, Election, Installation and Terms of Office. Please read over Section 217 in the Manual of Procedures, under Election, which states: **“Post officers shall be elected in April”**.

17. **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.**

18. **ELECTION REPORTS:** Be sure that the Election Report of Post Officers for 2018 - 2019 year is sent in immediately following your April meeting. Your current Post Quartermaster received this Report Form from National along with the National Convention Registration Form for your Post. If your Report of Election is not received in Department Headquarters by 1 June 2018, your Post Charter may be suspended by National Headquarters and the Department Commander can recommend that your Post Charter be revoked for failure to submit a **properly completed** Post Election Report. You do not have to wait for the Officers to be installed to send in this Election Report, send it in as soon as last call and election is made at your April meeting. Make 3 copies of the **PROPERLY COMPLETED REPORT**, keep one copy, and send 1 copy to the District Commander and one copy to Department Adjutant/Quartermaster by Guidon Day, May 10, 2018 so that we can have the 2018-2019 Roster Books printed.

19. **REGISTRATION -- V.F.W. NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The Post Adjutant or Quartermaster should have received the Registration packet in the mail. Posts are urged to register delegates electronically on the Online Membership System. 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. If you are mailing it do not mail the forms to the Department; it should be mailed to the address on the form.

20. **VFW DECAL LICENSE PLATE:** You may now purchase the decals from the Department of Iowa Headquarters at a cost of \$20 for 2 decals (**one for front and one for rear license plate**) and will then take the decals to your local county tag office and purchase the decal license plate. An order form for the decals can be found at [www.vfwiowa.org](http://www.vfwiowa.org).

Information regarding this decal, including a photo and the contact information, is now available at <https://iowadot.gov/mvd/vehicleregistration/vehicleregistration/decals>.

21. **119<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars 119<sup>th</sup> National Convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri on July 21-25, 2018. Housing and registration is now open. Please go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), click on "News & Publications" and scroll to the bottom and click on "Events", click on "National Convention". There you will find all the information on this year's National Convention as well as a link to reserve your hotel room. Let's have a large turnout for Iowa as this Convention is not that far away.

22. **VETERAN'S EMPLOYMENT:** If you are looking for employment, VetJobs may be able to help. Please visit their website at [www.vetjobs.com](http://www.vetjobs.com).

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](http://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. **LOYALTY DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE:** Section 223 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observance of Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and flags of the United States are placed on the graves of deceased veterans. . **Loyalty Day** is May 1, 2018 and **Memorial Day** is May 28, 2018.
25. **2019 LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYOUT:** The 2019 Life Membership payout as follows:  
**Plan ABC** - A total payout of \$10.44 for each life member (\$3.48 to each Post, Department & National). Increase of \$0.78 (\$.26 to each)  
**Plan D** - A total payout of \$11.58 for each life member (\$3.86 to each Post, Department and National). Increase of \$.072 (\$.24 to each)  
**Plan E** - A total payout of \$22.50 for each life member (\$7.50 to each Post, Department & National). Increase of \$1.02 (\$0.34 each)
26. **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.**
27. **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.***
28. **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](mailto: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.
29. **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](mailto:iavfwcars@gmail.com). Please use the new form when reporting your Post activities.

30. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

***Department of Iowa 97<sup>th</sup> 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. Please call 515-287-2400 to reserve your room.

***119<sup>th</sup> VFW National Convention*** will be held in Kansas City, MO on July 21 - 25, 2018. The room rates are \$154 plus tax and \$184 for triple and quad.

***2018 Big Ten Conference*** will be October 19 - 21, 2018 at the Hilton St. Louis Airport, 1033 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134. The room rates are \$89 plus tax. You may call 314-426-5500 to make reservations.

By Order of:

*Jake Gruber*

Department Commander  
VFW Department of Iowa

OFFICIAL: *Jerry Black*

State Adjutant-Quartermaster  
VFW Department of Iowa  
JG/jb

