



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

MARCH 2018

GENERAL ORDERS

No.9

1. **GENERAL ORDERS:** Are to be read at the Post Meeting and posted in your Post.

2. **MEMBERSHIP:** The Department is at 92.40% as of Feb. 23, 2018. We are in 6th place in the Big Ten and 24th 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 4069 **District 4:** Post 3932, **District 5:** Post 738, **District 6:** Post 3930, **District 7:** Post 2265, 7224, & 11355 **District 8:** Post 4704 & 6537, **District 9:** Post 5139 & 5603, **District 10:** Post 642, 3533, 5236 & 5515.

3. **2018 STATE CONVENTION:** The 97th 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. If you are on the VFW Council of Administration let me know which room to book for you, King or Double Queen.

4. **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.

5. **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 Post- March 1, 2018

Entry to Dept. – April 2, 2018

Entry to Nat'l – May 1, 2018

6. **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS:** Nominations for Post Officers for the 2019 membership year are to be made at the 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”**.

7. **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.**

8. **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 will receive 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. Now is the time to line up your officers for the 2018-2019 year. 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.

9. **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.

10. **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.

11. **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.

12. **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.

13. **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.

14. **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.

15. **COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT LAPEL PINS:**



Commander Gruber is continuing the Patriot's Pen scholarship as his Special Project and has commissioned the above lapel pins be made. Donation of \$100 will get you a Gold Level support pin and \$50 will get you a Silver Level support lapel pin. VFW Posts or Districts donating \$250 to \$499 to the project will receive a Silver Level Supporter certificate. VFW Posts or Districts donating \$500 or more to the project will receive a Gold Level Supporter plaque.

16. **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.

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

17. **119th NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars 119th 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, 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.

18. **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.**

19. **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.***

20. **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.

21. **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.

22. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

March Council of Administration will be March 10, 2018 at 10 am at Waukee Post 11517, Waukee Veterans Hall, 410 6th St, Waukee, IA 50263. ***NEW***

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. Please call 515-287-2400 to reserve your room.

119th 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

