



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
Department of Minnesota
8th District

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1

August 7, 2016

1. The following District meetings are announced:
 - a. Summer: International Falls Post #2948 Aug. 7, 2016
 - b. Fall: Gilbert Post 4456 Oct. 2, 2016
 - c. Winter: Open Feb. 19, 2017
 - d. Loyalty Days: Cloquet Post 3979 Apr. 29-30, 2017
2. National By-Laws (Sec. 218) require that, "the Post Commander or his representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meeting". Your Post Commander is your primary representative to the District and, with others, decides the business of the District. He or She is one vote for your post. Any accompanying delegates also each have a vote. So the more representatives you send to District meetings, the more votes your Post has to wield and the more say you have in District affairs. If you don't send anybody, others are making decisions for you.
3. Congratulations to all who have been elected, or accepted an appointment to a District or Post position. That you've been selected indicates that others have faith in you to do what needs to be done. Take the time to learn the responsibilities of your position and resolve to carry them out to the best of your abilities. There are comrades counting on you. For both elected and appointed Officers, this information is available in the VFW National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, Section 218 (for Posts) and Section 418 (for Districts). For Committee Chairmen, you can contact your respective District or Department Chairman who will be very happy to help you understand your duties.
4. We are still looking for a Chief Inspector. Your annual inspection is serious business and more critical than ever before. Inspectors are charged with a difficult task, have a lot of miles to cover and their time is valuable. What they do is for your benefit more than anybody else's.
5. We are also in need of a District Chaplain. Now, more than ever, we are need of spiritual guidance. A Chaplain exists to minister to veterans and their families. A Chaplain "shall be concerned with the spiritual needs of the members, and by precept and example, point the way toward a high moral plane for the organization," according to the Congressional Charter.
6. Posts are reminded to submit required reports as soon as possible so the District can achieve 100% reporting. These reports include Post Audit Reports, Community Service Reports and Poppy Report.
7. Posts are reminded that the following contributions are due in Department Headquarters: Dept. Hospital Recreation Fund \$50.00, Camper Fund \$10.00 and if, you have a club or Gambling, the Club Permit is \$60.00.
8. District assessments are now due. They are 25 cents for District and 10 cents for Hospital based on last year's Post membership. The District Quartermaster will be sending out a letter with all the info in it.



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9. Posts are reminded to send donations for Vets on the Lake to the District Quartermaster so they can be used for the District Cabin #27. Gambling donations should also be sent to the District Quartermaster written out to Vets on the Lake to be marked for Cabin #27.
10. The Department website is loaded with information such as Department and District Conference/ Convention Dates, State Contest Deadlines, Veterans Activity Events, Youth Activity Events, National VFW Events, etc. You can also download the Commander's and Quartermaster's Manuals, both of which provide you with what you need to perform your job efficiently. Not only should all Commanders and Quartermasters download and read these manuals cover-to cover, all the other Officers should do so as well. Visit the Dept. of MN website for more information at <http://www.vfw.state.mn.us/>
11. Check out our District 8 website at <http://www.vfw-mn-district-8.org>. Your District website is there for you to gather information about the VFW and find out what's happening in the district. If there's something you'd like to see on the website, please let the webmaster know. Check the website often for any changes to events and meetings.
12. Communication is a key factor to the success of any organization. To help improve communication within our District, please provide me with a least one e-mail address for your Post. This should be someone who is willing to pass on information at your monthly meetings.
13. 2016-2017 Contest Themes are due to the Posts by November 1, 2016. This year the themes are:
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY - "My Responsibility to America"
PATRIOTS PEN - "The America I Believe In"
14. It should be noted that when a Post hosts a meeting, the registration fees and charges for meals, etc. stays with the host post. If there are special fund raisers for certain causes, the moneys raised goes toward that cause. The only funds that benefits the 8th District is the 50/50 raffles.
15. I will have a big push on Community Service this term. Community Service builds pride among our members, benefits the community and our organization, attracts new members and satisfies certain IRS requirements from which we benefit. Every Post does something that contributes to the community, therefore, every Post should be turning in a Community Service Report every month (due by the 20th). For those that need assistance in completing the report, please let me know so we can help you with that.

BY ORDER OF:

Richard Chasse Sr
Commander



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The District meeting on August 7, 2016 will be in International Falls at VFW Post 2948.

Saturday August 6, 2016

1600-1700 Registration Post Home
1700 Joint Officers Meeting at Post Home

Sunday August 7, 2016

0800 – 0900 Registration at Post Home
0900 District Meeting at Post Home
1130 Hospital Meeting at Post Home
1200 Lunch is on your own
1300 District Meeting resumes (If necessary)

Hotels: Tee Pee Motel, 1501 2nd Ave W. Int'l Fall, MN 56649. This Motel is right across from the Post Home. 218-283-8494.

Voyageur Motel, 1210 Third Ave, Int'l Falls, MN 56649. This Motel is 2 Blocks from the Post Home. Both husband and wife are members of Post 2948.

See attached sheet for complete listing

Mention that you are here for the VFW District Meeting

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Jannette Sullivan
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to...



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OF VFW POST #2948 (LIFE)

MAKE RESERVATIONS ASAP DUE TO TOURIST SEASON