

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of ND
Monthly Bulletin

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. The One Day State Convention at the Chieftain Inn, 60 4th Ave S, Carrington, ND was held on Sat., 13 Jun 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Situation this One Day State Convention was limited to a maximum of 20 Members from the Department and 20 Members from the Auxiliary. The Convention Committee which was comprised of the COA and a few other Posts was set and ready to conduct the business at hand. We have 12 Posts and 18 Members present to makeup a quorum to make this One Day Convention valid. All business conducted to include By-Law Changes, Budget Approval and Audit of the Departments Financial Records, Time and Place Committee's Review, and Election of Department Officers was completed.

2. Friendly Reminder) Bill Tuff is the Department of ND Quartermaster, so anything to do with Finances and Budget needs to be directed at him. This means things such as Quarterly Audits, Bonding, 990's, Delegate Fees, Membership Payments, Etc. need to be sent to Bill. To put it very simply anything to do with money needs to be sent to him. His address is 526 2nd St Court, West Fargo, ND 58078. He can be reached at bltuf@aol.com or 701-261-2144.

3. Friendly Reminder) Jim Markey is the Department SVC/ADJ, so anything to do with planning, scheduling, or communication needs to be directly at him. This means anything to do with District Meetings, Mid-Winter Conference, State Convention, Training Session, etc. needs to be directed at him. His address is 1232 Goldenwood Drive, West Fargo, ND 58078. He can be reached at jammer1993@yahoo.com or 701-361-8210.

4. MEMBERSHIP: The Department finished the 2019-2020 year at 95.84 % in Membership with 5879 Members. This means that our Membership Numbers will drop done from 6134 Members for 2019-2020 to 5879 Members for 2020-2021. This continual decease in our Membership Numbers needs to be stopped in its tracks. Department Commander Newland has appointed SVC/ADJ Markey as the 2020-2021 Membership Chairman. SVC/ADJ Markey will hold the Posts that are not working Membership accountable for their actions.

The Department of ND finished 39th in Membership out of the 52 Departments in the VFW. This continual decline in Membership isn't acceptable and District and Post Commanders and Quartermasters need to take action to address their Membership Numbers. 15 Post reached the 100% Mark in Membership for 2019-2020: Posts 707,3379,6339,6833,7656,9049,9061,9068,9366,10772,4655,7564,762,3696,&757. JOB WELL DONE TO THESE POST COMMANDERS!

5. The COA voted and approved moving the 2020-2021 State Convention to Bottineau from 3-6 Jun 2021 due to the cancellation of last year's State Convention. They also approved moving the 2021-2022 Convention to Minot and the 2022-2023 Convention to Grand Forks.

6. Post 1874 Grand Forks was named the Department of ND Community Service Post of the Year. Great Job to Post 1874 for their Outstanding Support of their Community!

7. The adventures of the All-American Dashboard promise to be a very time consuming and a difficult task to maintain. The Dashboard is designed for District and Posts to input their information into it. Then the Department approves and forwards these entries to National Hqs for final approval. The Department has done the best possible to input Department, District, and Post Information, but I'm sure we missed a few entries along the way. If you see entries missing from your District or Post let SVC/ADJ Markey know and we'll get it taken care of immediately!

8. Post Reporting is vital for the success of the VFW Department of ND. Thanks to all the District/Post Quartermasters who have been turning in their Trustee's Report of Audit in a timely manner. Post Quartermasters need to ensure that they are turning in their Quarterly Audits for the Quarter ending on 30 Jun 2020 to QM Tuff. Thanks!

9. VFW VA Regional Service Office: For 2019-2020 the Service Office received \$14,275.00 in donations from Posts to support our VFW Service Office. We need your donations to keep this office running at the high pace of service it continues to complete. If your Post Has Charitable Gaming, you should be using part of this money to support our VFW Department Service Office. Look at the attached June 2020 Service Officer Report and see why you should be monetarily supporting their outstanding efforts. They did almost 2 Million Dollars again in Claims and Benefits for the month of June alone.

Brian Deckert is the VFW Department of ND Service Officer, he can be reached at brian.deckert@va.gov or 701-451-4635. Jim Torkildson is the VFW Department of ND Claims Rep, he can be reached at jatork@yahoo.com or 701-451-4634

10. Fall District Meetings are now set for 2020-2021, see attached schedule for your Districts Meetings Dates. Reminder that all Posts need to have representation at these fall District Meetings.

DID YOU KNOW?? The ND VFW Website managed by Allen Huber has information that could help you with your VFW questions. Information such as: Veterans Employment; Cancer and Trust Fund; Fargo, Bismarck, and West Fargo Post Newsletters; misc. order forms; monthly newsletters, pictures, etc. **Department website:** <http://www.vfwnd.org>. If you have something to add or pictures for consideration, contact him at: ahuber30@gmail.com or 701-412-3426.

ARE YOU A LEGACY LIFE MEMBER AND IF NOT, WHY NOT? When you become a Legacy Life Member, you are helping us strengthen the VFW where NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS. Once your Legacy Life Membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will make to your Post, Department and the National Organization. **The endowment keeps paying even after death.** If you want more information, please contact my office or go on the VFW OMS Website. **SPECIAL NOTE: There is an Installment option to become a Legacy Life Member. I challenge all Council of Administration Members to become Legacy Life Members.**

Orville McLaughlin Trust Fund/VFW Trust Fund: Steve Volk is the primary point of contact for the Orville McLaughlin Trust Fund and Wally Bolte is primary point of contact for the VFW Trust Fund. See attached documents for contact information.

Community Service Report: Steve Volk compiled the Community Service Hours for 2019-2020. 282,967 hours and \$668,736 funds were expended to support this effort. Job well done in supporting our communities!

James A. Markey
ND DEPT SVC/ADJ

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS