



# POST 15 NEWS



## SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

Americanism • Boy's State • Jr. Legion Baseball • Child Welfare

APRIL 2008



### Commander's Corner Rick Towns

The 89<sup>th</sup> American Legion Birthday Party was held on March 16 and it went great. I would like to thank State Commander Gary Watts for being our guest speaker and Dean Mann for being our Master of Ceremonies. Also

a big thanks to all those who helped set up this program and decorated the banquet room. We had over 150 people who attended including many of the dignitaries from the state, area and district levels. The Singing Legionnaires did another superb job as our entertainment. We also had a surprise soloist, Todd Schmidt playing the Anvil. The awards for the year were given out at this banquet and pictures of the winners and their awards are in this newsletter. Also, the commemorative rifle was won by a long time Post 15 Legionnaire and he has been notified. If you weren't notified, it wasn't you (or me, darn it).

We again served over 1100 in the March pancake feed. They keep a lot of volunteers very busy but the cause is huge. These feeds help support the 2 Sioux Falls Legion Baseball teams. So we appreciate all of you who come to these feeds.

The Go-Getters news is very good. We now have 1710 as of March 17, 2008 and our goal is 1717. Hoot Gibson won the Go-Getters Chet Turley Award and I won the Nate Koplou Award for the year.

### Mark Your Calendar — on August 13, 2008

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #628 and the American Legion Post #15 along with the Department of Labor is having a Job Fair for honorably discharged Veterans - formerly Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve - at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #628 3601 South Minnesota Avenue Sioux Falls, SD.

### Durwood Lidke Legionnaire of the Year



### Auxiliary Announcements

#### Jan Knutson, President

Congratulations to Darlene Fletcher, Legionette of the Year for 2008!

She has held every office and chaired every committee in our Auxiliary. Over the many years she has been a member and this is a well earned Honor. The Birthday Party was well attended and Dennis did his usual superb job with the food.

We were able to complete the Pocket Flag project at our March meeting. It was voted to have a School Shower at our next meeting, so please bring elementary school supplies with you – a notebook, #2 pencils, crayons, wide-lined paper, or the like. A donation of \$50 was made to Special Olympics. The Younker's Community Day coupon sale was a success again. Thanks Ladies! Things are looking great for Girls State. Election of officers is on the Agenda at our next meeting. If you'd like to run for an office, contact Lois Ingalls, Avis Priest or Delight Williams. They'd be thrilled to hear from you.

As I have mentioned previously, it's that time of year when we need to gather information on volunteer hours. I know that many of you spend much time in volunteer work. Even if you never attend one of our meetings, your volunteer time is valuable to us. It's very important that we have those figures; the government bases its funding on that information. Please call me with a tabulation of your hours at 338-6773 or send it to me at 4601 W. Custer Lane #206, 57106, by April 1. I need to hear from ALL of you!

Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breaths away.

**Sunday, April 6, 2008**

*American Legion Post 15  
Pancake Breakfast!*

POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

April 6 ★ 9:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m.

ADULTS 3.00 CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE FREE

PANCAKES • SAUSAGE • EGGS 

Proceeds Support The American Legion

# Legion Riders

Our meeting nights are the second Wednesday of the month and the meeting will still be at 7pm.

Things have really picked up for us this year. We've been invited to the Lennox Post to put on a Taco Feed the 18<sup>th</sup> of April starting at 5:30pm. We hope to see everyone there. Although March went well for us we did get stretched a little thin on the last weekend. With the Swap meet going on all weekend, and the Wild game feed which we helped out with the same weekend kept us a little busy.

I would like to thank John Harper for coming to our last meeting and explaining some of resolution 35 from national, it was very informative. Also we are planning to go to the State Convention in June to ride in the Parade scheduled up there in Watertown and on the 14 of June we are planning to hold a dance or benefit concert after the Go-Getters Dinner to help raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Our schedule is always changing and things are constantly being updated, but I do believe we have somewhat of a standard schedule along with a few things that pop up at the last minute.

## List of Events

<b>April 18 5:30pm</b>	Taco Feed Lennox Post
<b>May</b>	Memorial Services VA Hospital
<b>Jun 14</b>	Concert @ State Convention
<b>Jun 20-21</b>	Salute to the Troops
	Sioux Empire Fair Grounds
<b>June 2008</b>	Hartford Days (Parade TBD)
<b>July 11-13</b>	Hot Harley Nights (Parade)
<b>July 18-20</b>	Motorcycle Run to Pierre (tentative)

If you have any questions or Concerns please feel free to e-mail me at richardcobb@sio.midco.net or call me at 310-1952



*Les Cummings Outstanding Achievement Award*

## APRIL 2008

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1701 West Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104  
Issue Number 2008 - 4



*Three star blue star banner presented to Jerry & Ann Bonnstetter for their three sons - Army - Navy & Marines - Joshua, Matthew and Seth are all Post 15 Members.*



*Bob Bender Past State SAL Commander presents Todd Kuck with 100% Membership Award*

## Thanks!

Special thanks to Harriet Kelley and her daughter Karen for all the work they put into setting up the Birthday Party.



## POST EVERLASTING

Roy Lodes, Sr, Vance Penney,  
Ken Aamodt, Don Parker, Roger  
Nordstrom, Glenn McConnell, Lester Schuttler,  
Ed Saalborn, William Loudenslager, Joseph  
Bechtold, D.V. Schmitz, Wesley Husman



## Donation...

In memory of Kenneth Faller who was killed in WWII  
from his brother Rodney Faller - \$25.00

**APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

# Veterans Forum

## Terry Towns

### Pentagon Honors Last American Veteran Of WWI Corporal, 107, joined in 1917

[Boston Globe, March 7, 2008]

Former Army Corp. Frank W. Buckles served in WWI, and is 107 years old. He attended a Pentagon ceremony on Thursday to represent the more than two million "doughboys" who braved the trench warfare and gas attacks of the "Great War."

### Military Sexual Trauma Coordinator

Military Sexual Trauma (MST) is the VA term for sexual harassment and sexual assault that occurred during a veteran's military service. Both men and women can experience Military Sexual Trauma (MST); both men and women can perpetrate it.

The VAMC have clinical staff trained to help survivors of Military Sexual Trauma (MST) here at Sioux Falls. If you know of a veteran who experienced Military Sexual Trauma (MST), please contact: Rebecca J. Watson, Ph.D. Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Phone: (605)333-6890 or 1-800-316-8387 Ext. 6890.

## VA Hospital Notes:

### Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

April 27th-May 3rd will be National Volunteer Week. Some things for the patients in March were a hamburger & fries feed, corned beef & cabbage feed, outings to Wal-Mart, Day Care visit, Skyforce game and other activities. There are many volunteer opportunities open at the VA if you are looking for something to fill your need to do something. You can call Voluntary Service Specialist at (605) 333-6851 or on the internet at [Brenda.stevens2@va.gov](mailto:Brenda.stevens2@va.gov). Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in VETERAN.



*SAL Presents Les Cummings with a check for \$1,000 for Operation Helping Hand to help wounded soldiers remodel their homes*



*Leonard Martinek Lifetime Achievement Award*

## Chorus Notes

### Todd Schmidt, Chairman

Welcome home to our new Chorus President, Arnie Zueger, who recently returned from his winter hiatus. I'd like to take the opportunity in this last short column that I'm writing for the Chorus to say that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Chorus as President during this past year. Thanks to the help and hard work of many of our faithful members we had a very successful year. Of course the trip to Reno, NV, was the highlight of the year for most of us, but we had many other fine experiences as well.

By the time that this article is printed we will have performed at the Post 15 banquet celebrating the 89<sup>th</sup> birthday of the American Legion. There is always a good crowd in attendance for this dinner and program, so if you were there we hope you enjoyed the evening. The following night on March 17 we performed at the Prairie Village Senior Apartments on East 41<sup>st</sup> Street in Sioux Falls. We have received several other singing requests already for the next several months, so it's beginning to look like we'll have another typical busy summer schedule.

### *Another Winner...*

*Ray Dell was the winner of the Legion Rifle*

### *Please Let Us Know...*

If you know of a Post 15 member who is ill in the hospital or nursing home, please call the office at 336-3470 so their name can be added to our visitation list.

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

Mon. - Saturday: 10:00 am to Close  
 Sunday: 11:00 am to Close

**APRIL 2008**

**PHONES**

Office: 336-3470 (room reservations)  
 Lounge: 336-0155 (stag reservations)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> Executive Board Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	<b>7</b> Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	<b>8</b> Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm	<b>9</b> Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm Past Commander Meeting 6:00 pm	<b>15</b> Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:30pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	<b>22</b> Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Slack Water Jack 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	<b>29</b> County Meeting Sioux Falls - 8:00 pm	<b>30</b>			

**APRIL 15, 2008 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$275.00**

**COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket**

**MENU: Swiss Steak**

**Beer Special: Bud \$1.00 Taps**

**Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50**

**CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!**



Ladies'  
Stag

**MARCH 22, 2008 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00**

**MENU: Swiss Steak**

**Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps**

**Liquor Special: All Schnapps - \$1.50**

**\* BINGO \* RAFFLE \***

**CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!**



(L to R): Robert Williams - 50, Edward Varns - 60, Robert Christiansen - 50, Marv Stadum - 55, Glenn ansen - 50.

## Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, April 8, 2008  
12:00 Noon

Sign up at Bar or on the Bulletin Board  
**MUST BE SIGNED UP BY 11:30 a.m.**  
– space is limited –

8 Ball Traditional Style

Best 2 of 3 in winner's bracket  
Single game shootout in loser's bracket

Draw for partners - 55 & over  
\$5.00 per person

100% pay back for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
2 bits per game - table fee  
Light Lunch provided

## Senior Pool Tournament Winners

### Tom Jellema, Pool Tournament Chairman

Once again we had a very good time with the Seniors Pool Tournament. The best shooters of the day went to Vern Laine & Jerry McKenney for first place (well deserved), Roger Carlson & Tom Jellema in 2nd, (and well fought for), thanks to my teachers over the years. I do want to thank both of you! Thanks to Rick Towns for letting me shoot when we have an odd numbers of players to make a team. I have heard no complaints so far as I'm only 53. (What an advantage). I'm getting older as I type. A lot of our regular players had Doctors appointments, so we only had 12 shooters, but I'm sure we'll have a better turn out the 8th of April. I look forward to seeing you all again.



## The Black Hills Vietnam Era Reunion

Deadwood Gulch Resort - Deadwood, S.D.  
Sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 463- Rapid City, S.D.

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>

See old friends and meet new ones.

Room discounts at the Deadwood Gulch resort (605) 578-1294 and Super 8 Motel (605) 578-2535, both within walking distance of the convention center. Registration fee is \$40.00 per person registering in advance and \$45.00 per person at the door. For more info contact Jack Dean @ 393-0444 or Virgil Stockstad @ 381-5789. You can pick up registration forms at Post 15.



Joe Smook  
Commanders Award

## Meet three generations of Legionnaires



George Dunn served in the US Army in both World War II and Korea. His son Roger served in Viet Nam with the US Marine Corps. And Roger's son Curtis served in Desert Storm also with the US Marine Corps. Both George and Roger are members of Post 15 and Curtis is with our friends at the Garretson Post. All three were at our Legionnaires Stag in February where this picture was taken.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
SIOUX FALLS POST No. 15  
1701 West Legion Drive  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104**



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**OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
SIOUX FALLS POST 15 AMERICAN LEGION  
OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15**

**COMMANDER**  
Rick Towns  
\*\*\*

**FINANCE OFFICER**  
Leonard Martinek  
\*\*\*

**1st VICE COMMANDER**  
Terry Towns  
\*\*\*

**ATHLETIC OFFICER**  
Ed Powers  
\*\*\*

**2nd VICE COMMANDER**  
Bernie Verburg  
\*\*\*

**HISTORIAN**  
Terry Towns  
\*\*\*

**ADJUTANT**  
Jim Stenseth  
\*\*\*

**SGT-AT-ARMS**  
Keith Bierle  
\*\*\*

**CHAPLAIN**  
Bernie Verburg  
\*\*\*

**LOUNGE MANAGER**  
Dennis Bierle  
\*\*\*

**VA ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN**  
John Weber

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**Chairmen: Richard Cobb, Butch Finton, Ed Powers,  
Bob Eggers, Bob Brekke, Dick Sievert,  
Gene Tornow, Dean Berdahl**

***THANKS POST 15 VOLUNTEERS!***

***VA Activities, Funerals, Inventory,  
Pancake Breakfast, Color Guards***

Paul Anderson, Dean Berdahl, Harold Bosler,  
Ken Brown, Alvin Cink, Richard Cobb,  
Earl Dains, Howard Daggitt, Don Earley,  
Ron Earley, Carl Edman, Bob Eggers,  
Gene Even, Butch Finton, Hoot Gibson,  
Gene Grocott, Harold Hanson, Jim Hartsook,  
Gary Henle, Roland Jensen, Bruce Kuemper,  
Glen Kelley, Roger Klos, Lloyd Kock,  
Gil Koepsell, Norb Kramer, Richard Lahn,  
Durwood Lidke, Vince Maag, Francis Mainolfi,  
Gordon Nelson, Dale Norstrom, Ed Powers,  
Don Skadsen, Vernon Staebell, Dick Sievert,  
Joe Smook, Vernon Staebell, Jim Stenseth,  
Dale Stoll, Gene Tornow, Rick Towns,  
Terry Towns, Hanford Twaddle, Norm Varns,  
Darwin Wahlert, John Weber, Robert  
Williams, Bob Workman.