



POST 15 NEWS



SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

APRIL 2009

Commander's Corner Terry Towns



Wow what a difference in the weather – it's almost warm outside today. A lot has gone on during the last month. We will be electing new officers for the post during our April regular business meeting, so make your voice count—show up for the meeting & vote. We will continue to accept nominations up to meeting time.

The 90th American Legion Birthday Party held on 15 Mar was a great success. We have over 190 people in attendance, heard a great speaker – Thanks Stan Gruneich – and several well deserved awards were presented – Congratulations –Jim Stenseth, Dale Nordstrom, Bob Eggers & Jim Hartsook—and a wonderful meal – Thanks Bruce & other kitchen help.

Yes, in case you haven't heard, we have hired our new Club Manager – Welcome Bruce Kuemper. Next time you come in, make sure you say "Hi" to Bruce & make him feel welcome.

Just an update on Honor Flight South Dakota Program – we are currently over 700 applications & getting more every day. Now we just need to have a fund raiser to help the program.

We are looking at doing a bus ride to Omaha to see the SAC Museum. We would have a bus leave from the post & take a day to tour the new museum. The total cost would be less than \$40. Curt Pansch will be heading this up, so if you interested in taking the trip, call him @ 582-2554.

Also coming up is the Annual PVA & Vet Center Bowling Veterans Fun Bowl. Contact the Vet Center @ 330-4552 to register – it's free to the first 100 bowlers.

Our membership goal this year is 1737 and we are currently setting at 1620.

If you want to contact me on any items, my home phone is 371-9679, the American Legion office number is 336-3470, my email is towns@sioux.midco.net, and the post home address 1701 Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57104. Please let me know what the American Legion can do for you.

Auxiliary Announcements Bev Sievert, President

The American Legion's 90th Birthday Party was celebrated by many and all enjoyed the wonderful meal served by Bruce. Good job Bruce. Awards were presented as appropriate. Thanks to Dean Mann, for being a great emcee and to Stan Gruenrich, for being the Guest Speaker along with the Singing Legionnaires, who always do a superb job of entertaining everyone. The Auxiliary member chosen to be our Legionette of the year wears many hats for the Auxiliary and other organizations. I'm happy to announce Harriet Kelley will be our Legionette for 2009. CONGRATULATIONS HARRIET. She will represent our unit at the Spring District meeting.

Due to the South Dakota March weather, we had to postpone our March meeting a couple days. Even though we had a small attendance Harriet Kelley gave a report on the successful outcome of the Younkers Community Days. Thank you to all that helped to make it a success. I gave a brief report on the Mid Winter Conference.

It's that time of the year when reports and volunteer hours are due. Ladies, I know you have been volunteering at hospitals, churches, schools and cutting coupons just to name a few. As previously mentioned, the government bases its funding on our volunteer information so please send your reports and hours to me, Bev Sievert, at 5709 West 26th St Sioux Falls, SD or call me at 362-8606 by March 31st.

In our April meeting, we will be having elections of the new officers. Where did this year go? Also, Leona would like the members to bring 10 items for the Ten for Ten Project to be given to a school to be selected at the meeting. For example, it can be 10 pencils or erasers or notebook paper. We did the project last year and it was very much appreciated.

Don't forget that District One Spring Conference will be April 18th from 2PM - 4:30PM at the Garretson Post Home. The Auxiliary will meet in the south meeting room. I would like to thank everyone who made phone calls, sent get well cards, made visits and etc to my husband during his recent surgery and extended hospital stay. It is very much appreciated.

HAPPY EASTER



Those present for 50 & 60 year continuous membership in the American Legion. (L-R) Robert Johnson, Chuck McManigal, L. Dale Ross, John Persing and Wilbur Heimerman.

SAC Museum Tour

Post 15 has arranged a tour of the new, improved Strategic Air and Space Museum at Ashland, NE (sasmuseum.com). A comfortable bus, with restroom, will leave the post at 7:00 am Saturday, April 25. Coffee and donuts will be available. Tour on arrival and free time later. Lunch available. Arrival back at the post approximately 7:00 pm. Adult guests are welcome; adult refreshments on return trip. Bus fare is \$25 paid in advance. Admission: Regular \$8.50; Sr \$7.00; mil/ret mil \$6.00. Send payment, including names and phone to post 15. POC Curt Pansch 605 582-2554 or cjpansch@alliancecom.net.

Harriet Kelley Legionette of the Year



Auxiliary President (L-R) Bev Sievert presenting Harriet Kelley with Legionette of the Year Award.

APRIL 2009

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Legion Riders

We were honored to have three guests at our meeting. They were Larry Hunt from Sioux Falls, Harlan Tiedeman and Mike Tiedeman from Beresford. Harlan and Mike are our newest members. Welcome.

Al Lee, Chuck Small, Richard Cobb and Tom and Karla Feltman attended the Memorial Service for Teddy Tupper, wife of Bob Tupper. Bob and his family are in our thoughts. The State ALR officers from our Chapter attended the meeting in Huron on Mar 7. The next State ALR meeting will be held June 27 in Huron.

We will have a booth at the Swap Meet March 28 and 29 at the Ramkota. Stop in and say hi.

We still have some unpaid memberships that need to be taken care of. As riding season fast approaches, we need driver licenses and proof of insurance cards.

Upcoming Events

March 28 & 29 Abate Swap Meet

April 8 ALR Meeting

April 11 & 12 Easter Car Show



Commander Towns and Stan Gruneich presenting Jim Hartsook with Commanders Award

SAL Bean Bag Tournament and Chili Cookoff

APRIL 19, 2009- 12:30 PM

Anyone wishing to participate - either or both
There will be a \$5.00 entry fee for each event.
To eat the chili will cost \$3.00
Prizes will be awarded
The people eating the chili will be the Judges
Come out and support us!!!!

POST EVERLASTING

Ray Stoll, William Srstka, Duane Reuland
Robert Wood





Newest member of the American Legion Family, Tiffany Marie Walma, 7 weeks old. Mother April (belongs to the Aux.), father Joe (belongs to SAL), grandmother Bev Wahlert (belongs to the Aux.), grandfather Darwin Wahlert (member of the Legion).

TGIF DINNER

AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME

April 10, 2009 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

BELLY BUSTER FISH DINNER \$8.00

MUST CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS

Veterans Forum

Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

WORLD WAR II HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

If you are a WW II veteran who did not graduate from high school, you may request and receive an honorary high school diploma from the South Dakota school district of your choice.

Any honorably discharged veteran who served in the U.S. armed forces during the period of December 7, 1941 and September 2, 1945 and for whatever reason did not graduate from high school is eligible to receive a diploma.

The veteran who wishes to receive the diploma must make the request. The law does not allow schools to award honorary diplomas to deceased veterans. While it is expected that most requests will be made to a school district where the veteran grew up or currently resides, there are no residency requirements or restrictions.

World War II veterans interested in receiving an honorary diploma should contact the school district of their choice.

If you have further questions about other veteran's benefits please feel free to contact me. My office is at 521 N. Main Avenue, Suite 201, my phone number is 367-4201 and my E-mail address is pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org.

Patricia Kroupa, Post Service Officer

VA Hospital Notes

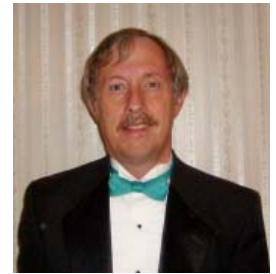
Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

With the end of March I hope spring is here. I am ready for it. At the VA in March we had the blood mobile, the American Legion birthday party put on by the American Legion Auxiliary. We also had a Skyforce game, two pizza lunches and a Wal-Mart trip. A busy month. In April we will have the annual pizza party provided by the Paralyzed Veterans of America and we will celebrate National Volunteer Week. **Items currently not needed are lap robes, bed quilts, hard cover books, National Geographic, Readers Digest, magazines older than three months, clothing of any kind, baked goods and used greeting cards.** Volunteers are always needed in all areas of the VA and the work is very rewarding to both the volunteer and the Veteran. **Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in Veteran.**

Chorus

Notes

Mike Binger, President



Post 15 was filled to capacity on

March 15th to celebrate the 90th birthday of the American Legion. We were honored to perform as part of a dinner program which began with a POW/MIA tribute, featured a funny and inspirational address from national chaplain Stan Gruneich, and honored several individuals for lifetime achievements, including four with 60-year memberships and ten with 50-year memberships, all who have seen much of the Legion's history. It was amazing that we had a chance to contribute so much to the spirit of those in attendance. The verses of our "Salute to the Armed Forces" are anthems from each individual service branch, and many stood and sang with pride when their service anthem was heard. The final number, "God Bless America," brought even more as everybody stood and held hands in song. Many found the food to be delicious and the event to be very memorable. Thanks to MC Dean Mann, commander Terry Towns, Gruneich and others for putting together such a fine program.

The schedule to come finds us at the Ramkota Inn on May 11th before the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees, and as part of church services on May 24th at Grace Lutheran and on June 28th at Peace Lutheran. These are the first of several church appearances we do throughout the summer. We have also sent a recording to the Kansas City Royals and will see if they are interested in an appearance from us to render the National Anthem at one of their games soon to come. There are other sporting events we are looking into for adding our music.

Join us if you like for rehearsals on Monday nights, 7:30 P.M. at Post 15. If you are male you could add to the list of four new members we have approved in the past four months. All came for three rehearsals before they were voted in. For any further information you may call me at 929-4867.

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

APRIL 2009

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
					Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Pancake Breakfast 9 am - 1 pm	Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Exec. Bd. Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getter Mtg 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm		TGIF DINNER (6-8 pm) FISH DINNER Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
EASTER CLOSED	Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon Aux. Mtg 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm		Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00pm		District I Meeting Garretson 2:00 pm Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SAL Bean Bag & Chili Cookoff 12:30 pm	Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm Past Commanders 6:00 pm	Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155				Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
26	27	28	29	30		
	Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155 County Meeting Hartford 8:00 pm		Honor Flight Dinner		

APRIL 21, 2009 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$50.00
 COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket
 MENU: BBQ Ribs
 Beer Special: Bud Taps \$1.00 Taps
 Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50
 CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!

Legionnaire's
Stag



Ladies'
Stag



APRIL 28, 2009 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00
 MENU: BBQ Ribs
 Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps
 Liquor Special: All Schnapps - \$1.50
 * BINGO * RAFFLE *
 CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



Picture taken during program to present Blue Star Banners to 114th CE Squadron.



(L-R) Jim Stenseth receiving Commanders Award from Commander Terry Towns and Stan Gruneich

Sunday, April 5, 2009
American Legion Post 15
Pancake Breakfast!
 POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE
 April 5 ★ 9:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m.
ADULTS 4.00 CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE **FREE**
 PANCAKES * SAUSAGE * EGGS 
 Proceeds Support The American Legion

SAL

Todd Kuck, Commander

At our next meeting April 14th we will be having our elections, please attend this very important meeting. On Saturday, April 25th SAL has a meeting in Watertown at 1:00 pm. Write that date down on your calendar. Let us know if you can attend so we can carpool.

We are making plans on having different tournaments and challenging others. I guess that's it for now so hope to see you at the next months meeting.



First Vice Bernie VerBurg and Commander Terry Towns presenting two rifles to CAP.

Veterans Weekend at the Dakota Relays Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd at Howard Wood Field

Events will start at 3 pm on Friday, 8 am Saturday morning, and 5:45 pm Saturday night. All veterans and their immediate family are invited to be their guests on this weekend. There will be a VETERANS GATE for veterans, and all the veteran need do is identify themselves as a veteran for free admittance. At sometime during the program, they will be recognized.



Commander Towns and Stan Gruneich presenting Dale Norstrom with Commanders Award

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tues., April 14, 2009 • 12:00 Noon
 Sign up on the Bulletin Board
MUST BE SIGNED UP BY April 13, 2009

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



Non-Profit Org.
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Sioux Falls, SD

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*Commander Towns presenting
Bob Eggers with Legionnaire of the
Year Award*

You can find us on the web at: www.siouxfallslegion.org

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

OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15

COMMANDER
Terry Towns

FINANCE OFFICER
Leonard Martinek

1st VICE COMMANDER
Bernie Verburg

ATHLETIC OFFICER
Ed Powers

2nd VICE COMMANDER
Curtis Pansch

HISTORIAN
Terry Towns

ADJUTANT
Jim Stenseth

SGT-AT-ARMS
Keith Bierle

CHAPLAIN
Ken Brown

LOUNGE MANAGER
Bruce Kuemper

VA ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN
John Weber

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Chairmen: Rick Towns
Dean Berdahl, Bob Brekke, Bob Eggers,
Gene Even, Butch Finton, Gary Henle, Ed Powers

THANKS POST 15 VOLUNTEERS!

*Funerals, Color Guard, VA Activities
Pancake Breakfast*

Paul Anderson, Dean Berdahl, Harold Bosler,
Ken Brown, Paul Brude, Alvin Cink, Richard
Cobb, Howard Daggitt, Stan Dahl, Earl Dains,
Bob Eggers, Don Earley, Ron Earley, Gene
Even, Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot Gibson,
Gene Grocott, Dale Haas, Harold Hanson, Jim
Hartsook, Dale Haas, Gary Henle, Edward
Hruska, Roland Jensen, Thane Johnson, Glen
Kelley, Roger Klos, Loyd Kock, Norb Kramer,
Bruce Kuemper, Dick Lahn, Durwood Lidke,
Donald Lounsbery, Vince Maag, Dean Mann,
Gordon Nelson, Bill Niemann, Dale Norstrom,
Don Norton, Ed Powers, Dick Sievert, Don
Skadsen, Joe Smook, Jim Stenseth, Dale Stoll,
Gene Tornow, Rick Towns, Terry Towns, Hanford
Twaddle, Dave Twedell, Darwin Wahlert, John
Weber, Robert Williams, Bob Workman.