



# POST 15 NEWS



## SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

APRIL 2010



### Commander's Corner Curt Pansch

After a long winter, I think spring is coming to South Dakota, finally.

March was another great American Legion Month, topped off with the 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday Party at Post 15. Two folks that deserve special thanks are Dean

Mann, our Master of Ceremonies and Harriet Kelley for her work and planning the beautiful layout and decorations. We were also honored to have State Commander Rod Martens and many other Legion officers and guests in attendance.

Gene Tornow brings dignity to the POW/MIA ceremony. We all are proud of the Legion Chorus. They truly are "Music to My Ears" (and my heart). Thank you!

I believe Reverend Oliver Omanson's message inspired everyone. He covered faith in God and Country, love of the flag, memories of his trip through World War 11, his capture, incarceration, liberation, return home and a lifetime of service to the Lord. If you bought his book, PRISONER OF WAR NUMBER 21860, pass it around after you read it.

Our highest honor went to Ken Foley for Legionnaire of the year. The Honor Guard, represented by Darwin Wahlert, presented an engraved clock to Gene Tornow for his dedicated service. Engraved clocks were also presented to Vince Maag, Lifetime Achievement, Ken Brown, Outstanding Service, Darwin Wahlert, Commanders Choice, Richard Cobb and Curt Pansch for Go-Getter recruiting awards.

I invited junior enlisted members from our local Guard and Reserve detachments to accept our thanks for their dedicated service. I was pleased SSgt Josh and Amber Mork, ANG, SSGT Jeremy Dunkelberger, Army Reserve, and SSGT Ricky and Stacy Alfson, ARNG accepted our invitation and one year American Legion



*Dave Saunders,  
Go Getter President,  
presenting Richard  
Cobb with Most New  
and Reinstate  
Membership Award*

memberships. It was a great night, however many more attended than had RSVP'd.

Our next Post 15 meeting, April 6, is election of officers. This is an important meeting and will help chart our agenda for the coming year.

Hoot Gibson's campaign for Department Commander is progressing. Consider going to the State Convention in Spearfish, June 18 & 19 and support Hoot.

As you walk into the entry of Post 15 you will see some improvements. Note the entry.

Two businesses that truly appreciate military and veterans are Lowes and Autozone. Each gives military and veterans a 10% discount. Check with the store for details.

We have not met our recruiting goal. Membership is everyone's business. Don't just sign up members, bring them to meetings and the next stag.

Curt Pansch, Post 15 Commander,  
cjpansch@alliancecom.net

### Auxiliary Announcements

#### Dianne Hudson, President

CONGRATULATIONS to our Legionette of the Year, Margaret Mairose. We are all so proud of you.

Bette Hirsch and Darlene Fletcher did an excellent job of handing out dictionaries while Legion members, Rick and Terry Towns, and Gene Tornow taught the 3rd graders at Laura B. Anderson Elementary School proper Flag etiquette. 51 dictionaries were given out.

Remember to bring your GIVE 10 to Education to the April 13th meeting. Any school supply items are accepted. If you are not able to come to the meeting and you would like to still donate you can call me and I will pick it up. Dianne 370-2555

Due to the bad weather on the east coast the Younkers Community Days were held for 2 days. Jan Knutson and I sold additional coupon books the day of the sale. We are waiting to see what our proceeds will be.

The Mothers Day Tea will be held at 10 am on May 1st at the VFW.

Our Poppy Days this year will be May 21st and 22nd. (The 22nd of May is also Armed Forces Day) Please keep those dates open. We would like you to help us get out and distribute poppies to raise money for our deserving Veterans.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 13th at 7pm at the American Legion Post Home.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you there!

## Legion Riders

Our meeting was held March 10 with 22 members present.

The announcement that Gary Henle has been selected to be the liaison between the ALR and the Legion was made. Congratulations Gary.

The State Legion Rider meeting was held during Mid-Winter at Chamberlain. Newly elected officers are: President – Al Lee, Vice-President – Bob Tupper, Secretary/Treasurer – Jeannie Rabine, Chaplin – Charlie Walker, and Sergeant at Arms – Bob Dysart. Congratulations to the officers and let's have a great year.

We didn't have any participates in the pool, dart or bean bag tournaments, but we did have hungry people. The BBQ's and home baked goodies was a great success. Thanks to everyone who brought goodies.

The ALR will have a booth at the Swap Meet. A silent auction will be held for a dog and a cat basket. These baskets include many nice items for pets plus some veterinary services. Stop in and check them out. Susan Clift, a license Massage Therapist, will be giving chair messages for a \$1 per minute. The funds raised from both of these will be donated to the Legacy Fund.

April 23, another Honor Flight will be leaving from Sioux Falls. April 22, a meal will be served at the Legion for the veterans who will be leaving on the flight. The ALR will assist in serving the meal.

Remember to bring drivers licenses and proof of insurance to the meeting. This is very important. This information needs to be documented in order to ride in any ALR functions.

### Upcoming events:

- March 27 & 28** Swap Meet at the Fairgrounds
- April 3 & 4** Easter Car & Bike Show at the Ramkota
- April 14** ALR meeting at the Post 7:00

## 50 & 60 YEAR CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

### 50 Years:

Edward Colella, John Gapa, G. Dale "Hoot" Gibson, Ralph Kock, Gil Koepsell, John Lalley, Rae Lalley, George Michel.



*John Gapa, 50 Years*



*Hoot Gibson, 50 Years*



*Gil Koepsell, 50 Years*

### 60 Years:

Donald Dummermuth and Robert Groeger



*Don Dummermuth, 60 Years*



*Robert Groeger, 60 Years*

### *Donation*

**For American  
Legion Baseball  
From Thane  
Johnson- \$100.00**

**POST EVERLASTING**

Jerome Weis



### **April 2010**

Post 15 News is published monthly by American Legion Post 15  
1701 West Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104  
Issue Number 2010 - 4

## LEGIONNAIRE AND LEGIONETTE OF THE YEAR



Commander Pansch presenting Ken Foley Legionnaire of the Year Award.



Dianne Hudson presenting Legionette of the Year Award to Margaret Mairose



Commander Pansch presenting Gary Henle with Legacy Run Legion Rider Award

**Notice** Anyone interested in Oliver Omanson (Birthday Party Speaker) book – it is available at Crossroads Book Store in Sioux Falls.

### Senior's Pool Tournament News

Tournament held on March 9<sup>th</sup> had 14 players come out in the March rain. The Team of Bob Kogel and Jerry Ackerman took 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Frank Sehr and Robert Jacobson took 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to LeRoy Christiansen and Tom Korbal. Thanks for playing. Come out and join us for some fun.

### Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

12:00 Noon

**Light Lunch**

Sign up on the Bulletin Board

## VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative


April is here and so is spring. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> we had a Veteran craft show, March 17<sup>th</sup> was a corned beef and cabbage lunch and March 18<sup>th</sup> was the American Legion Auxiliary Birthday Party. April 18–24 is National Volunteer Week and April 24<sup>th</sup> is Prom Night for the CLC units at 6 pm (tentative). There are **Volunteer Opportunities** open at the VA with many of them having flexible times. If you are looking for something to do please give Volunteer Services a call as they can use the help and the work is very rewarding. With spring coming so is the remodeling season at the VA so take care and watch for the signs. Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in **Veteran**.

### 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.

Sunday, April 18, 2010  
**American Legion Post 15**  
**Pancake Breakfast!**

POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

April 18 ★ 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**ADULTS 4.00** CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE **FREE**  
 PANCAKES • SAUSAGE • EGGS 

Proceeds Support Various Legion Activities

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

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

**APRIL 2010**

**PHONES**

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>NOTE CHANGE IN PANCAKE BREAKFAST DUE TO EASTER!</b>						
<b>APRIL 6th - ELECTION OF OFFICERS</b>						
4 CLOSED EASTER	5 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	6 Executive Board Mtg 5:30 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	7	8	9 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	10 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
11	12 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	13 Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon Aux. Mtg 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm	14 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	15 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00 pm	16 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	17
18 Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	19 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	20 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm	21	22	23 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	24
25 District 1 Meeting Tea American Legion 2:00 pm	26 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	27 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm County Meeting Colton 8:00 pm	28	29	30 Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	3

**6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$100.00**  
**COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket**  
**MENU: Ham Steak**  
**Beer Special: Bud Light Taps \$1.00**  
**Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50**  
**NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS**



**Legionnaire's Stag**

**Ladies' Stag**  
**6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00**  
**MENU: Ham Steak**  
**Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps**  
**Liquor Special: Almaden Wine - \$1.50**  
**\* BINGO \* RAFFLE \***  
**NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS**

# Veterans Forum

Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

## NON-VA EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES

Certain eligible veterans who receive emergency room services at a non-VA facility can get their emergency room bills paid by the VA. This benefit is a safety net for veterans who have no other means of paying these bills, but there are strict eligibility criteria.

To be eligible, a veteran must currently be enrolled in the VA healthcare system. He or she must have visited a VA healthcare provider within the previous 24 months and the veteran must have no other form of healthcare insurance including **MEDICARE**.

In such cases the VA will reimburse healthcare providers for all medical services necessary to stabilize the veteran. When stabilized, the veteran will be transferred to an approved VA healthcare facility.

Remember, if you are an eligible veteran and a VA facility is not immediately available and you believe you have a life threatening health issue, report directly to the closest emergency room. You, your representative or the treating facility should then contact the nearest VA as soon as possible (within 48 hours) to arrange a transfer to VA care if hospitalization is required.

For more information on this or any other veteran benefit please feel free to contact me.

Patricia Kroupa, Minnehaha County Veterans Service Officer  
521 N. Main Avenue, Suite 201, Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
605-367-4201 pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org

## 11th Annual Veterans Fun Bowl Tournament

*Sponsored by Sioux Falls Vet Center & North Central Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America.*

**When:** Saturday, April 17, 2010  
**Registration** 11:30 am-12:30 pm  
**Bowling-** 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Where:** Empire Bowl-Sioux Falls, S.D.

**For Whom:** the 1<sup>st</sup> 100 Veterans and their adult family members who sign up by April 9, 2010

**Cost:** Zero, Nothing!!! Not one Penny

A free lunch will be provided for veterans and family members, shoes and bowling balls are included in this free afternoon bowling tournament. Door prizes can also be won all afternoon while they last.

Completed entry blanks must be mailed or dropped off at the Sioux Falls Vet Center, 601 S Cliff Ave, Suite C, Sioux Falls, SD 57104. RSVP BY April 9, 2010. Call 605-330-4552 for further information.

**Notice** Anyone interested in Oliver Omanson (Birthday Party Speaker) book – it is available at Crossroads Book Store in Sioux Falls.

# Chorus Notes

Bruce Naasz, President

Sunday night, the fourteenth of March, The Legionnaire singers were invited to sing at the Legion Birthday party. It was a gala event and the dinner was fantastic. The Legion was a gracious host and provided us with grand encouragement as we received many compliments for our performance. I am sure that we will continue to sing for The Legion at every invitation.

By the time this is printed, we will have sung at Good Sam Prairie Creek on Creekside Drive. On many occasions throughout the year the chorus sings at local retirement/nursing homes for the benefit of the residents. If you have a loved one, fellow church member, or friend at one of these homes it might be a good time to visit them and help them to attend our performance. I will provide the upcoming schedules in this news letter when timing allows.

In keeping with the goals of my last news letter, I have listed the participants/contributors of the West 41<sup>st</sup> Street route of our flag service. Again, if any of you have the opportunity to thank them for their support of the Legionnaire Chorus, please do so. The chorus is proud to offer the service, it provides us with the necessary funds to function, and honors our service men/women and country at the same time. The participating members of this route are: Dakota Stained Glass, Harold's, Gilrich's, Taco John, Kay's Casino and Café, Johnson Appliance, Gold Nugget, State Farm Insurance, The Flower shop, Valentino's, Perkins, Haegle's, Dakota Sports, Tires Plus, Chell Ins., McDonald's, Nielson Insurance, Sioux Falls Ford, Wendy's, Hy-Vee, Brooks Office (Equitable), AAA Travel, Luken's Westwood, Dr. Wightman, Assam Realty Ultra, Inc., Deerfield-Bank First, Woodlake Apartments, Riddle's Jewelry, Timber Lodge, Billion Motors, Hagen Clinic, Gold Rush Casino, and Lasting Impressions.

## Veterans weekend at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays

The Howard Wood Dakota Relays will be held on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at Howard Wood Field. Events will start at 3:00 pm Friday, 8:00 am Saturday morning and 5:45 pm Saturday night.

Veterans and their immediate family will be their guests on this weekend. There will be a VETERANS GATE for veterans, and all the veteran need do is to identify themselves as a veteran for free admittance. At sometime during the program they will be recognized.

You can find us on the web at: [www.sioxfallslegion.org](http://www.sioxfallslegion.org)

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

**OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15**

**COMMANDER**  
Curt Pansch  
\*\*\*

**1st VICE COMMANDER**  
David Saunders  
\*\*\*

**2nd VICE COMMANDER**  
Thane Johnson  
\*\*\*

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

**CHAPLAIN**  
Darwin Wahlert  
\*\*\*

**VA ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN**  
Jim Stenseth

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

Chairmen: Terry Towns  
Dean Berdahl, Gene Even, Butch Finton, Gary Henle,  
Ed Powers, Ed Hruska, David Twedell

**FINANCE OFFICER**  
Troy Rames  
\*\*\*

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

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

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

**LOUNGE MANAGER**  
Jerry Lage  
\*\*\*

***THANKS POST 15 VOLUNTEERS!***  
***Pancake Breakfast, Funerals, Color Guard,  
VA Activities***

Paul Anderson, Dean Berdahl, Harold Bosler,  
Donn Bosler, Ken Brown, Alvin Cink, Richard  
Cobb, Howard Daggitt, Earl Dains, Don Earley,  
Gene Even, Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot  
Gibson, Gene Grocott, Jim Hartsook, Dale Haas,  
Harold Hanson, Gary Henle, Gale Horan,  
Edward Hruska, Roland Jensen, Thane Johnson,  
Roger Klos, Lloyd Kock, Gil Koepsell,  
Norb Kramer, Dick Lahn, Durwood Lidke,  
Don Lounsbery, Vince Maag, Dean Mann,  
Dean McClintock, Dale Norstrom, Ed Powers,  
Dave Saunders, Tom Sawyer, Don Skadsen,  
Joe Smook, Vernon Staebell, Jim Stenseth,  
Dale Stoll, Darhl Timm, Gene Tornow,  
Rick Towns, Terry Towns, Hanford Twaddle,  
Dave Twedell, Norm Varns, Darwin Wahlert,  
John Weber, Robert Williams, Bob Workman.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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