



POST 15 NEWS



SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

AUGUST 2008

Commander's Corner Terry Towns



It's been a busy but rewarding month. A new program that is just getting started in South Dakota is the Honor Flight Program. This is not just an American Legion program, but we have been invited to participate. The program is designed to fly WWII veterans to Washington, DC to see their memorial and no cost to them. We hope to see this program up and running within 3 to 4 months. Most of what we are going to be doing is getting the word out and coordination – not fund-raising. If you are interested in knowing more about this, please call me. We have participated in flag etiquette programs, funerals, posting of the colors at the Sioux Falls Storm game, and I was present when Lindsey Dolan (the Honorary National Junior President) presented a large check to the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux Falls. While talking to staff at the house, I learned that they need liquid hand soap, bleach, and "snacks to-go". If you want to donate any of these items, please either take to the Ronald McDonald House at 2001 S. Norton Avenue or bring to the Legion & I'll ensure they get there. Sometime soon, we will be sending telephone messages to all members of important meetings or events. This is a new Legion sponsored program that allows for a low cost way of keeping members informed. If you have some extra time or unique skills and want to volunteer at the VA Hospital, please contact Brenda Stevens at 333.6851. Remember, if there is any items that you want me to know about, please contact me! -my home phone is 371-9679, the American Legion office number is 336-3470, my email is ntowns@sio.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.

Other News:

It's almost here, the Veterans Job Fair August 13, 2008 at 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. 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 - Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve -

at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #628 3601 South Minnesota Avenue Sioux Falls, SD.

Get ready with your employment information, go over possible interviewing questions, shine your shoes, dress like you want the job and show up for the Veterans Job Fair.

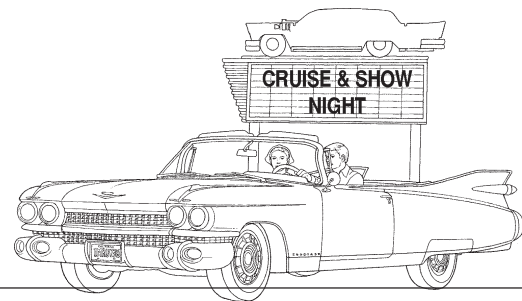
Any questions or if you have a local employer that you would like to be asked to participate in the Veterans Job Fair call Tom Austin 367-5300 ext. 218.

Auxiliary Announcements

Bev Sievert, President

The 2008 American Legion Auxiliary Convention was held in Watertown SD from June 13th through the 15th and was a great success. Sherry Woltjer of the Dell Rapids Unit was elected the State President, Joan Spears of Martin SD was elected First Vice-President and Sue Christensen of Big Stone City was elected Second Vice-President. Congratulations to all of our new Department Officers.

Continues on p. 2



14th Annual Cruise & Show Night

AMERICAN LEGION POST 15

1701 Legion Drive

Saturday, August 2 – 4:30 to 10:30 pm

Bring your Car Classics

Drink Tickets Available to Owners of Cars
Music by "The Troublemakers" (6:30 - 10:30)

Trophies awarded for different Classics

Contact Dennis Bierle – 336-0155

Continues on p. 2

The New President's Homecoming was held July 19th 2008 at the Dell Rapids American Legion Post Home. Hopefully some of our members were able to attend. Past Unit President Jan Knutson will be having a grandson deployed to Kuwait on August 15, 2008. Let's all keep Chad and Jan in our prayers until we know of his safe return. Also Jonathon, the son of Dianne Hudson, is also being deployed to the mid-east about the end of the month, out prayers go out to them.

I received an invitation to attend the presentation by our National Honorary Junior Auxiliary President of her project funds to the Ronald McDonald House on July 15th. Lindsey Dolan was privileged to present them a check for \$1345.00 for their use.

Whitney Jencks from Arlington was elected the 2008 Girl's State Governor. She is a very interesting speaker. One of her highlights was being able to attend the campaign speech by former President of the United States Bill Clinton.

Jackie Severson reported that their son Toby and his buddies wish to thank us for the items we sent to them. The temperature there at the time they visited was 110 degrees and they were having a sand storm. She had read our Auxiliary news to him. Please keep our troops in your prayers. They are out there fighting for OUR FREEDOM.

Legion Riders

I would like to welcome our newest member Mark Satnan from Post 15, which brings our membership up to 23 at this time. We had a great time riding in Hot Harley Nights last month. We figured we had somewhere between 20 to 30 riders there, about 15 of us and another 15 Riders from Lemars. Our Pierre run was canceled, but we were able to ride in the State Commander Homecoming parade for the second year in a row, so it looks like we're getting a new tradition going for us. Now things are slowing down for us and we will now start planning for next year's events and fund raisers. Our next big function we will be doing will be the Parade of Lights scheduled in November. One last note or reminder that school will be starting back up so please watch out for the children going back to school.

List of Events

Nov 21 Parade of Lights

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



*Terry Towns
donating cans
for the Boy
Scout Troop*



Post 15 Go-Getters at State Convention Go-Getter Meal



*Darwin Wahlert (ctr)
receiving his
Century Award from
Membership
Chairman Ron
Kazmierczak &
State Cmdr Watts.*

POST EVERLASTING

Bette Allen, and Dennis Callies



Memorials...

In Memory Roger Raymond - \$200.00
In Memory of Bill Kendall - \$100.00

AUGUST 2008

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1701 West Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104
Issue Number 2008 - 8



Erlandson & Schmidt Win State Golf Title for Post 15 Lenkota Golf Course, Lennox, SD

Darrell Erlandson and Todd Schmidt of Sioux Falls Post 15 won the two-man team title at the American Legion State Golf Tournament in Lennox, SD, held on June 21-22. The team came from behind at third place and a six-stroke deficit after the first round of play to defeat first-day leaders Vern Monson and Todd Monson of Lennox Post 174, with totals of 329 vs. 331. Schmidt also took first place in the individual stroke-play competition with a total two-day score of 156. The first flight was won by John Carlson of Lennox with a score of 171, while Erlandson placed second with 173; second flight was won by Vern Just of Tripp with a 185; and third flight was won by James Orton of Gayville with a 192.

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

In July we had the VAVS meeting, a Memorial Service for Luella Onken a long time volunteer and VA Cruise Night as well as well as two movie outing's, a sub lunch and a cookout. In August on the 13th we will have an Ice Cream Picnic and on August 23rd there will be Service of Remembrance, main lobby at 1:30pm. Watch of sign's to direct you in the up coming weeks as there will be some construction starting on the grounds and parking lots. **ITEMS CURRENTLY NOT NEEDED- Lap robes and bed quilts, used table games and playing cards. ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE USED-Hard cover books, National Geographic's, Hard Cover Reader's Digest. Magazines older than three months, clothing, baked goods, used greeting cards, motel samples of soap, shampoo, ect.**Volunteers are still needed and the work is very rewarding working with and helping the veterans. Remember to visit or call a sick or shut in Veteran.



Dick Sievert (ctr) receiving his Century Award from Membership Chairman Ron Kazmierczak & State Cmdr Watts.



American Legion tabletop display

Veterans Forum

Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

The organization Honor Flight includes chapters in 31 states, which have flown more than 9,000 veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Chapters east of the Mississippi River generally fly veterans to the memorial and return them home the same day. Top priority is given to the senior veterans- WW II survivors along with other veterans that may be terminally ill. The cost is free for the WWII and terminally ill Veterans.

There are some interesting changes coming in the VA education benefits. It is called the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 and will become effective August 1, 2009. Currently you must use your education benefits within 10 years of discharge. Under the new plan a veteran will have 15 years to use the education benefits. Under certain circumstances a veteran will be able to transfer his eligibility to a spouse or dependent child. Approved training under the Post-9/11 GI Bill includes graduate and undergraduate degrees, vocational/technical training and foreign training. Additionally, tutorial assistance, and licensing and certification test reimbursement are approved under this new GI Bill.

The most important change is probably the increase in the benefit. The amount a veteran will receive is based on length of time in service, school load (full time, half time, etc.) and the tuition and fees charged at in-state public institutions of higher learning.

The implementation date is more than a year away and the plan may change some before that time. But if you are considering more education in the future you should keep this new program in mind.

Patricia Kroupa, Post Service Officer

(605) 367-4201 pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org.

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

AUGUST 2008

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	2 CAR SHOW Troublemakers 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm
3	4 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	5 Exec. Bd. Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	6	7	8 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	9
10	11 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	12 Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon	13 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm VETERANS JOB FAIR - VFW	14	15 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	16
17	18 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	19 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	20	21	22 National Convention Phoenix, AZ Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	23
24	25 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	26 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	27	28	29 Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	30
31						

AUGUST 19, 2008 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$375.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket
MENU: Chicken & Corn
Beer Special: Miller \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



Legionnaire's
Stag

Ladies'
 Stag

AUGUST 26, 2008 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00

MENU: Chicken & Corn
Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: All Schnapps - \$1.50
*** BINGO * RAFFLE ***
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



Dick Sievert, Darwin Wahlert & Rick Towns showed youth how to fold flag & flag etiquette at Holy Spirit Church



L-R Bill Dolan & granddaughter Lindsey (National Junior Auxiliary President) presenting a check to the Ronald McDonald House.

Senior's Pool

Tom Jellema, Pool Tournament Chairman

The seniors pool tournament was played again on the 8th of July. We only had 12 players, but it turned out to be one of the longest running yet. The boys are getting very good at this which leaves me out. 1st Place went to Jerry McKenny & Jim Assid; 2nd Place went to LeRoy Arneson and Don Johnson. From my view point, shot of the day went to Jim Commings for an incredible bank shot on the duce. Nice Shooting. We resume again on the 12th of August. See you all again soon.



Darwin Wahlert presenting James Westby with his 50-Year Award

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, July 12, 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 1st, 2nd, & 3rd
2 bits per game - table fee
Light Lunch provided

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



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Permit # 74
Sioux Falls, SD

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- ▶ 2009 DUES NOTICES
- ▶ ARE COMING SOON
- ▶ *A Dues Notice will come*
- ▶ *out in the near future.*
- ▶ *Remember, if you pay your*
- ▶ *dues before Veteran's Day,*
- ▶ *you will receive a FREE*
- ▶ *Stag Ticket!*

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
Dennis Bierle

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

Paul Anderson, LeRoy Arneson, Dean Berdahl,
Harold Bosler, Carl Edman, Bob Eggers,
Gene Even, Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot Gibson,
Jim Hartsook, Gary Henle, Glen Kelley,
Roger Klos, Gil Koepsell, Durwood Lidke,
Vince Maag, Gordon Nelson, Don Norton,
Ed Powers, Dick Sievert, Don Skadsen,
Joe Smook, Jim Stenseth, Gene Tornow,
Rick Towns, Terry Towns, Hanford Twaddle, Darwin
Wahlert, John Weber, Bob Workman.

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.