



POST 15 NEWS



SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION
Americanism • Boy's State • Jr. Legion Baseball • Child Welfare

FEBRUARY 2010



Commander's Corner Curt Pansch

We were all saddened by the unexpected death of our friend, and long-time Legionnaire, Glen G. Kelly. Keep Harriet and family in your thoughts and prayers. Your Post Honor Guard performed admirably at the cemetery.

Post 15's Mr. American Legion, Glenn Dale "Hoot" Gibson, is campaigning for the State Commander job. I can't think of anyone more knowledgeable or deserving than Hoot for this responsible job. Hoot was endorsed by your Executive Board and membership. Wish him well! The Legion Mid-winter meetings will be held at Cedar Shores, Oacoma, February 12-14. The National Commander, Clarence Hill, will speak Saturday morning. Consider attending if you want to learn more about the American Legion.

Post 15's annual birthday party will be March 14. This promises to be a great event. I've lined up a former POW as speaker. The Singing Legionnaires will perform. I hope we have a good turnout for this enjoyable event.

We are still struggling with membership. There are approximately 10,000 veterans in Minnehaha County who do not belong to any veterans' organizations. Recruiting new members is everyone's responsibility.

Please contact me with concerns or suggestions: home 582-2554, email cjpansch@alliancecom.net

Auxiliary Announcements

Dianne Hudson, President

We had 3 visitors to our January meeting; they were Marie Harris, Tracy Kock and Angela Miller. It was great to have you at our meeting and we are excited to have you in our Auxiliary. Thank you to all the ladies that brought food, supplies and money for the Community Food Bank. The Food Bank is always very appreciative to receive donations. It is truly needed. Now that the weather hopefully will be getting warmer, we are getting much busier. There are many events coming up for February.

Tuesday, February 9th, is the Annual Salute to Hospitalized Veterans program that will be held at the VA. We will be meeting at 11:00 on the 4th floor hospital auditorium. We will be transporting the Veterans to the auditorium and then eating lunch with them. The Veterans really enjoy the time that we are able to spend with them.

Tuesday, February 9th, is also our regular business meeting night. We will be addressing Valentine cards to our Veterans who are in nursing homes. If you are able can you please bring some Valentine cards with you to the meeting. (Remember they are for adults). We have about 150 Veterans in our local nursing homes. If time permits we will also be folding our pocket flags, as there may be units deploying this spring.

Thursday, February 18th, is our day to play BINGO with the Veterans at the VA. We will need to be there no later than 2:15. We will furnish refreshments and lots of fun. If you would like to help please let Jan or myself know. We will need 4-5 helpers.

We are also selling our Younkers coupons for Community Days that will be held Saturday, February 27th. We sell the coupon book for \$5.00 and in return they receive a \$10.00 off anything, early bird and 20%-30% off coupons. There are many other great deals in this coupon book. The Auxiliary then get to keep the \$5.00 from every book we sell. What an awesome way to support our community and our Auxiliary. If you would like to help sell the coupon books, or need more, contact Harriet or Jan.

I will be selling the RADA products now, so if there is anyone that is interested in ordering please let me know. I do have a catalog if anyone would like to look at it, or you can view it online at www.radamfg.com, they have many great products that make great gifts for any occasion. They also have food products for entertaining or everyday meals.

We received a thank you note from the Ramstein Commissary in Germany for all the coupons that we have been sending them over the last year. Please continue to clip the coupons.

On a sad note, Marilyn Lee, our recording Secretary for more years than I can remember lost her courageous battle with cancer. She will be truly missed.

It has been a rough month for our Auxiliary with illnesses, injuries and the loss of many family members and friends. Please remember to keep each other in your thoughts and prayers.

Legion Riders

Our meeting was held January 13 with 24 members and one significant other present.

It was announced that one of our members, G. Dale Gibson (Hoot) will be running for State Commander. Chapter 2 ALR will support Hoot in any way possible. Good luck Hoot.

Our State ALR meeting will be held February 13 during Mid Winter. Election of officers will be held. Plan on attending.

The pool, dart and bean bag tournament will be held February 21 at Post 15. Registration is from 12:00 until 1:00. Play begins at 1:00. Food will be available.

Future fund raisers were discussed. Watch for upcoming announcements.

The plaque that was presented to the ALR, for the Parade of Lights Spirit of Sioux Falls award, is now displayed at Post 15.

Upcoming events:

February 10 ALR meeting at Post 15

February 12-14 Mid Winter Conference at Chamberlain

February 13 State ALR meeting at Chamberlain

February 21 Pool, dart and bean bag tournament at Post 15

Memorials

Memorial for Duke Kraushaar
from Dean Mann - \$10.00

Memorial for Merwin Lawrence
from Pat Hansen - \$10.00

Swede & Marilla Nordstrom - \$20.00

Laura Delaney - \$20.00

Erma Linton - \$20.00

Dean Mann - \$10.00

Donation from Lanny Stricherz - \$20.00

POST EVERLASTING

Burdette Maurice, Francis Dirks,
Dr. Wm Dunn, Alvin Schock,
Warren Jorve, Glen Kelley



FEBRUARY 2010

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Issue Number 2010 - 2

February Legislative Notes...

— Dean DeLashmutt

Remember, this is an election year and I will try to highlight activities in relation to the Department. For instance, the Department Commander has completed the Legislative Round Tables in the Districts. At least one of the five candidates for Governor attended each of the Round Tables, except for one, who did not attend any.

A Republican, (Gordy?) Howie, from Rapid City, has tossed his hat in for Governor as of Dec 7. He is a rancher just East of Rapid City and a Senator. No one from the Department has yet talked to him about Veteran needs and concerns.

Looks like a lot of the 7000 plus bills were referred to committees, effectively placing all on hold. Following is a list of bills with some interest:

- S.2743 : **Cold War Service Medal Act of 2009.**
- S.1963 : **Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009.**
- S.1939 : **Vet Presumptive Exposure in Vietnam**
- S.1779 : **Health Care for Veterans Exposed to Chemical Hazards Act of 2009**
- S.1556 : **Veteran Voting Support Act of 2009**
- S.1347 : **Carmelo Rodriguez Military Medical Accountability Act of 2009..**
- S.1237 : **Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children Act of 2009**
- S.1204 : **Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act of 2009.**
- S.1160 : **Homes for Heroes Act of 2009**
- S.1118 : **DIC Compensation Rate Increase to 55**
- S.1008 : **Military Retired Pay Fairness Act of 2009.**
- S.998 : **Arthur Woolweaver, Jr., Social Security Act Improvements for the Terminally Ill Act.**
- S.847 : **SBP Education Assistance Limitation Exclusion.**
- S.614 : **WASP Gold Medal Award**
- S.535 : **SBP DIC Offset Elimination.**
- S.315 : **Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2009.**
- S.46 : **Medicare Access to Rehabilitation Services Act of 2009.**
- S.1939 : **Vet Presumptive Exposure in Vietnam.**

Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE BILLS



**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shirley Redmond, Public Affairs Officer

605-333-6889

The 20th Annual Sioux Falls VA Variety Show will take place February 13. All area Veterans are invited to contact Recreation Therapy at the medical center if they are interested in participating. This is an opportunity for Veterans to showcase their talents by performing in the variety show. Auditions will be held until January 29, 2010.

Featured acts from previous shows have included singing/instrumental solos or groups, skits, dancing, comedy, puppets, and magic acts. Veterans who participate in the show are eligible for national exposure by advancing to the National VA Creative Arts competition.

This annual event will conclude National Salute to Veterans Week. National Salute Week includes activities to bring patients and visitors together, and people of all ages are welcome to bring Valentines to Veterans. It is also an opportunity to learn more about the roles that volunteers play at the medical center and to pursue volunteer opportunities.

Veterans interested in learning more about the show should contact Recreation Therapy at 605-373-4143 or 1-800-316-8387, Ext. 6248 before January 29.

Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010

American Legion Post 15

Pancake Breakfast!

POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

Feb. 7 ★ 9:00 a.m. til 1:00 p.m.

ADULTS 4.00 CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE FREE

PANCAKES * SAUSAGE * EGGS



Proceeds Support Various Legion Activities

**Feb. 19, 2010 • 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME**

SPAGHETTI FEED

SPONSORED BY THE YOUNG MARINES

\$4.00

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS 336-0155

Thank you!

The Kelley family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all Legion members on behalf of Glen Kelley. It was an inspirational display of patriotism which will be remembered forever. Glen will be missed by all.

*Sincerely,
the Kelley Family*

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

12:00 Noon

Light Lunch

Sign up on the Bulletin Board

Senior's Pool Tournament News

In January we had 14 players, 7 Teams on a draw for partner format. LeRoy Christiansen had a table run. There was excellent shooting by all 14 players. The end result was: 1st: Tom Korbal/Robert Jacobson; 2nd- LeRoy Christiansen/Howard Daggitt; 3rd- Bob Carlberg/Todd Kuck.

HOURS OF OPERATION

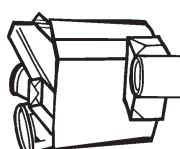
Mon. - Saturday: 10:00 am to Close
 Sunday: 11:00 am to Close

FEBRUARY 2010

PHONES

Office: 336-3470

Lounge: 336-0155 (room reservations)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	2 Executive Board Mtg 5:30 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	3	4	5 Solera 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	6
7 Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Super Bowl Party 4:00 pm	8 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	9 Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon Aux. Mtg 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm	10 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	11	12 Vietnam Vet Reunion Feb. 12-14 at Mitchell Mid-Winter Feb. 12-14 at Oacoma Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	13
14	15 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	16 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm	17	18 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00 pm	19 Spaghetti Feed 5:30 - 7:30 pm Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	20
21 Riders - Pool, Dart & Bean Bag Tournament 12:00 noon	22 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	23 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm County Meeting Valley Springs 8:00 pm	24	25	26 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	27
28			 <p>FOOD PANTRY Please consider bringing nonperishable food items to the next Legion Stag, February 16.</p>			

JANUARY 19, 2010 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$50.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket

MENU: Salisbury Steak

Beer Special: Miller Taps \$1.00

Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50

NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS



Ladies'
Stag

JANUARY 26, 2010 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00

MENU: Salisbury 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

It is that time of year again when the VA will be sending out EVRs to be completed. If you are receiving a non-service connected pension from the Department of Veterans Affairs you may be receiving one. The EVR (eligibility verification report) must be completed, signed and returned to the VA. If they do not receive it in the time frame specified, your pension may be discontinued until they do receive it. An EVR that is not returned or one that is not completed correctly can cause a delay in benefits and even an overpayment.

Some veterans or dependents who are on a fixed income may not receive the EVR but may need to submit medical expenses that they have paid in the previous year. These are reported on VA form 21-8416. In order to receive the correct benefit it is important that this information be correct and comprehensive.

If you have any questions about your EVR or would like assistance in completing it, please give me a call. I would be happy to assist you in any way that will make the process easier for you and ensure that you receive the correct benefit amount. You can call me at 605 367-4201 or E-mail me at pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org or stop by my office at 521 N. Main in Sioux Falls. I look forward to being of service to you.

For assistance with this or any other veterans benefit please contact me at 367-4201 or pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org.

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

Things in February are starting to pick up at the VA after a cold January. We will have a National Salute to Veterans Program in the auditorium and a Quarterly VAVS meeting (dates TBA). On President's Day February 15th the offices will be closed. In January we had a supper at Augustana on the 11th, a noon lunch for CLC3 on the 13th, a soup/sub lunch provided by Post 15 on the 20th and a noon lunch for CLC2 on the 27th. We are still looking for a VA Actives person for Post 15. This is a very important position and needs to be filled so if you are interested in helping our Veterans please volunteer. You can do this by calling the office at (336-3470). **Volunteers are always needed in all areas of the VA and the work is very rewarding for both the patient and the volunteer.** Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in **Veteran**. I wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

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.

VIETNAM VETERANS' REUNION

☆ All Veterans Welcome ☆

February 12- 14, 2010

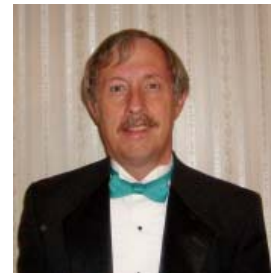
**Ramada Inn & Convention Center
Mitchell, South Dakota**

*For more Information Contact:
Lance Carson- 605-770-8299*

Registration Form available at Legion Office.

Chorus Notes

Mike Binger, President



With this column I am passing best wishes on to all of you as I step down as Chorus President and hope for your ongoing support of us. My one and a half terms saw us continue to build our valued reputation. I will be in custody of this as the Chairman of the Board in the year to come, and I believe I am passing the torch to strong leadership when Bruce Naasz becomes our new President. Other officers who will be sworn in are Milt Hanson as Vice President, John Hamilton as Secretary and Dick Kallemeyn as Treasurer. My father Bob Binger is retiring as Secretary after 24 years of distinguished service and he will give John a good head start in preparation. Along with that, Todd Schmidt, who was presented a plaque during our recent Christmas Party as the 2009 Singing Legionnaire of the Year, will conclude a remarkable two-year uninterrupted period as Chairman of the Board. It was truly important that we could rely on good people to guide us onward and forward. The new slate of officers will guarantee that we stay in a position of strength.

By the time this letter reaches you, we will have appeared January 25th at the Good Samaritan Prairie Creek home. I can still be contacted at my cell number of 929-4867 or my email of mkbngr@sio.midco.net for any information. You are encouraged to consider joining us if you are a male singer, but if not, let somebody know about us! As always, we also want to sell you one of our CDs. And I hope you are planning to attend the March 14th celebration of the always festive Legion birthday party at Post 15. I hope you continue to sustain the principles and vision of the American Legion, and keep in touch!

You can find us on the web at: 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

FINANCE OFFICER
Troy Rames

ATHLETIC OFFICER
Ed Powers

HISTORIAN
Terry Towns

SGT-AT-ARMS
Keith Bierle

LOUNGE MANAGER
Jerry Lage

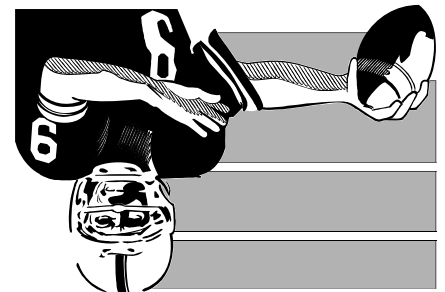
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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

THANKS POST 15 VOLUNTEERS!
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, Gary Henle, Edward Hruska, Roland Jensen, Thane Johnson, Roger Klos, Lloyd Kock, Gil Koepsell, Norb Kramer, Todd Kuck, Dick Lahn, Durwood Lidke, Don Lounsbery, Vince Maag, Dale Norstrom, Ed Powers, Dave Saunders, Don Skadsen, Joe Smook, Vernon Staebell, Jim Stenseth, Dale Stoll, Darhl Timm, Gene Tornow, Rick Towns, Hanford Twaddle, Dave Twedell, Norm Varns, Darwin Wahlert, John Weber, Robert Williams, Bob Workman.

UNTIL GONE
FREE Hors D'oeuvres & Chili!
4:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7
at Post 15
SUPER BOWL PARTY



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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