



# POST 15 NEWS



## SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

JULY 2008

### Commander's Corner Terry Towns



I would like to take this moment to Thank our State Department Commander, Gary Watts. Gary has been willing over this last year to help out whenever we called upon him. Thanks

Gary for your service to the American Legion and our country. This weekend (13-15 June), we will be attending the State Convention and will be electing a new State Department Commander. Will let you know next month who was elected.

All members are invited and encouraged to attend membership meetings as your input is always desired and necessary. If you want your opinion voiced and your vote to count, then please come to the meetings. No regular membership meeting in July, so hope to see you on 5 August at 7:30 p.m. at the post home.

Upcoming events also include the 4 July Parade, helping at Project SOS at the Banquet, the Job Fair on 13 August, and the Women's Veterans Conference on 3 October. If you want to help with any of these events or others please call me @ 371-9679.

Our Post has elected to donate \$500.00 to this year's Legacy Run. If you're not familiar with the Legacy Run, it involves hundreds of riders from across The United States that will gather for the third consecutive year in Indianapolis. They will thunder through seven states and the Southwestern deserts for five grueling days to make possible a college education for the children of American servicemen and women who have died defending our freedoms since the attacks of September 11, 2001.

Other riders will join each day and increase the number of participants along the 1,800-mile route, which follows along much of the famous "Route 66." The riders' goal is to raise no less than \$350,000 for THE AMERICAN LEGION LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP for the 90th Annual American Legion National Convention. You can find more information by going to the National American Legion website at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).

I would like to thank Hoot Gibson and all who made Boys State another successful year. Thanks also goes to Clint Hanson for his 20+ years handling our

Gravemarkers. He's in the process of turning over some of this duty to Rick Towns.

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@tio.midco.net](mailto:towns@tio.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

Thank you to everyone that helped to make the Poppy Day a great success. A special thanks to the Young Marines that volunteered to help us and to their leader, Mark Weinmann. The Early Birds, Hoot Gibson and Dale Norstrom cannot be forgotten either, they get up before the birds just to help up out.

Due to circumstance not under my control I was unable to attend the Memorial Day Service held at the Veteran's Memorial Park. I was able to attend two services out of town as the driver for the guest speaker at those locations. There was a history lesson involved, the naming of the day. The initial celebration had no name; next it was called Decoration Day and was celebrated on May 30<sup>th</sup> as no Civil War battle was fought on that date. During World War II it was called Memorial Day and became federally recognized as Memorial Day in 1967.

The Auxiliary Unit helped the Legionnaires serve the last pancake breakfast until October. Working with the Legionnaires, the best cooks around, was a pleasure and a lot of fun. Numerous small flags and coloring books were handed out to the small children present.

We wish to thank Jackie Severson for her talk at the meeting about the items that were purchased by the Auxiliary and Wal-Mart for her son to take back to Iraq when he was home on leave. The troops really appreciated our effort.

Our next meeting will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> and I hope to see you all there. Come out and help with YOUR Auxiliary. The report for the Department Convention held June 13-15 will be one topic to be discussed. I wish you all a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Of all of the gifts that you could give our Military, Prayer is the very best.

# Legion Riders

Well we had our first state meeting and things went very well. We now have a State Constitution along with all our state officials. We got to lead the Parade, which I'm sorry to say nobody told the marchers not to try to keep up with us during the parade, luckily we didn't lose anyone, but they were huffing and puffing. We had so much fun that we decided to ride in the parade a second time. After our convention we came out with a few more ideas to help get things moving a little further for us. We did find out five more American Legion Chapters are getting off the ground with a six in the process of getting started. I do believe the American Legion Riders are going to grow in large numbers this year.

We've been invited to Jim Huls Home Coming July 26<sup>th</sup> in Salem SD. On July 12<sup>th</sup> J&L Harley will be hosting a motorcycle parade and I highly encourage all to see it, because it is a sight to see, and we are expecting to have approximately 30 to 40 Legion Riders or more riding in it. Last year I believe there were over 3,000 so it was far from being a short parade.

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>July 4</b>	Lennox 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
<b>July 4</b> (tentative)	Sioux Falls 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
<b>July 11-13</b>	Hot Harley Nights (Parade)
<b>July 18-20</b>	Motorcycle Run to Pierre (tentative)
<b>July 25</b>	Freedom Run (Colton)
<b>July 26</b>	New State Commander Home-coming Parade (Salem)
<b>Nov 21</b>	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

# Sons of the American Legion

Things are still tough to get going, but we haven't given up yet. I had a chance to talk to the SAL State Commander and we've come up with a few ideas to get a couple things together, and I do have his email so we can get in touch with him if we need to. As of right now we officially stop holding meetings for the summer, but still get together unofficially to toss ideas back and forth. There wasn't a whole lot to put out this month, but we are working with Civil Air Patrol, Young Marines, and need to get in touch with the Boy Scouts to get our fund raiser of the ground. We are always looking for suggestions so please feel free to contact me at richardcobb@sio.midco.net



*Selling Poppies - President Bev Sievert & Past President Jan Knutson*



*Clint Hanson showing new co-worker Rick Towns how to install grave markers*



*Rick Towns presenting 60 Year Certificate to Dorothy Johnson - the wife of the late Donald Johnson.*

## POST EVERLASTING



Ronald Christianson, William Zafft, Roger Raymond, William Kull, Dean Lee

### Memorials...

- In Memory of Ed Ament from Mark Ament Family - \$125.00
- In Memory John Cykronnek from Cyronek Family - \$100.00
- In Memory for Charles Ross from Donna Ross - \$50.00
- In Memory of Bill Jones from Kenneth Putnam - \$25.00
- In Memory of Bill Jones from Richard Wilson - \$50.00
- In Memory of Bill Jones from Jones family - \$30.00

### JULY 2008

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1701 West Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104  
**Issue Number 2008 - 7**

## THANK YOU!!!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS WHO DONATED TO THE BASEBALL PROGRAM - OUR YOUTH IS OUR FUTURE.

## Chorus Notes

### Arnie Zueger, President

With sadness the chorus recently sang at the memorial service of one of our own. Lt. Col John (Jack) Mulkey at our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Jack started his military career in 1943; upon completion of pilots training Jack was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt in the Army Air Corps and flew B-24 Bombers.

While stationed in Sioux Falls in 1945 he met his future wife Gayle Mikkleson and they were married in 1946.

After a tour of duty in Alaska and serving at bases in Arizona and Texas where he served as an instructor pilot in the T-6.-T28s and T-33s was transferred to the Strategic Air Command to finish out his military career.

Upon retirement Jack purchased Smoe's Bar in Sioux Falls which he ran until 1985.

Jack was a member of the Singing Legionnaires for 34 years, serving as President, Singing Legionnaire of the year and Sergeant at Arms.

The chorus also recently performed at the Crystal Theater in Flandreau, SD with a one hour concert, and also performed at the SALUTE TO THE TROOPS extravaganza at the fair grounds in Sioux Falls.

## VA Hospital Notes

### Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

June has been busy at the VA. We had the First Annual Veterans Memorial Park Celebration on Flag Day, the All American Salute to the Troops at W. H. Lyon fairgrounds and the Warriors Worship Service at Veterans Memorial Park. We also did 2 Zoo trips, a subs lunch and a picnic. In July we will have a VAVS Meeting on July 3rd at 1:00PM. The Colton American Legion Post will put up the Avenue of Flags on July 4th. VA Cruise Night on the Medical Center grounds will be July 23rd. **ITEMS CURRENTLY NOT NEEDED OR CAN NOT USE are lap robes and bed quilts, hard cover books, National Geographic, Readers Digests magazines older than 3 months, clothing of any kind, baked good, used greeting cards and butter popcorn (have enough until the end of July).** Volunteers are still needed so if you are looking for something rewarding to do please call Voluntary Service. Remember visitor call a sick or shut in veteran.

## Go Getters

### Terry Towns

We have made goal for the year – 1717 – currently setting at 1740. More to come next month about next year's goal.

*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.

## Veterans Forum

### Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

Did you serve in Vietnam? Have you been diagnosed with Type II diabetes? If you answered "yes" to both of these questions you are entitled to service connected compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs. A few years ago Type II diabetes was added to the list of diseases presumed to have been caused by exposure to herbicides (Agent Orange). Any veteran who was on the ground in Vietnam is presumed to have been exposed to herbicides and therefore can be service connected for any of the diseases on that list. If you have questions about this or would like to file a compensation claim please contact me at your convenience.

You cannot receive any benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs or any veterans benefits from the State of South Dakota without proof of service. The necessary proof of service is your discharge (sometimes called a DD214). You might also need your discharge for other purposes such as applying for Social Security.

Do you have your original or a certified copy of your discharge? Is it in a safe place? Do others know where to find it in case of an emergency?

If you have your discharge you might consider having it recorded at your local county courthouse. Just take the original to your Register of Deeds office and they will record it at no cost to you. Thereafter you will be able to get a certified copy of your discharge at any time. There are security measures in place so that not just anyone can get a copy of your discharge. This protects you against identity theft.

I previously talked about the importance of safeguarding your discharge. What if yours has been lost or destroyed? You can obtain a copy from the Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. You can submit a form 180 to request a new discharge or you can make the request online at [www.vetrechs.archives.gov](http://www.vetrechs.archives.gov). As it may take several days or even several weeks to receive the discharge you should request it before you need it. If you have questions about this matter or any other VA benefit please feel free to contact me at (605) 367-4201 or [pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org](mailto:pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org).

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

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

**JULY 2008**

**PHONES**

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Exec. Bd. Mtg 5:45 pm	2	3	4 Fourth of July Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	5
6	7 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	8 Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon	9 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	10	11 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	12
13	14 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	15 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	16	17 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:30pm	18	19
20	21 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	22 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	23	24	25 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	26 Commander's Homecoming in Salem 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
27	28 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm	29	30	31		

**JULY 15, 2008 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$350.00**

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

**MENU: Salisbury Steak**

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

**Liquor Special: Windsor/Lord - \$1.50**

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



**Ladies' Stag**

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

**MENU: Salisbury Steak**

**Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps**

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

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

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

## **BREAKING NEWS...**

Jim Huls from Salem was selected as State Commander. His homecoming will be in Salem on July 26<sup>th</sup>.



*Enjoying pancakes - Doug Meyer and wife, Connie, with Sherry Woltier and husband, Larry.*

## **Senior's Pool**

### **Tom Jellema, Pool Tournament Chairman**

The senior's pool tournament was again played on June 10<sup>th</sup>. We had 12 players but that was just enough. First place went to Don Johnson and partner LeRoy Christiansen. Good shooting boys. Taking second place was Quenten Parsons & Rodger Carlson. Shot for the day went to Ron Faller for an incredible double bank which no one thought possible. I know summer is here and all are busy, but if we can get at least 12 players, we can continue playing the rest of the summer. See you again July 8<sup>th</sup>.



*Clint Hanson & crew putting out flags at Woodlawn on Memorial Day*



*Pancake workers Margaret Mairose & JoAnn Schnider*



*Vern Hennings family at pancake breakfast. Auxiliary gave all children a flag.*



*Auxiliary pancake workers (L-R): Salley Dieltz, Sandy Frentz, and Darlene Fletcher*

## **Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament**

**Tuesday, July 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

## **It's almost here, the Veterans Job Fair August 13, 2008 — 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.

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



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*Vets Council Commander Sue Widrig at speaker stand with  
Commander Terry Towns to the right*

You can find us on the web at: [www.siouxfallslegion.org](http://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!***

***VA Activities, Funerals, Inventory,  
Pancake Breakfast, Color Guards -  
Memorial Day Flag workers at Woodlawn***

Paul Anderson, LeRoy Arneson, Dean Berdahl, Harold Bosler, Ken Brown, LeRoy Christiansen, Alvin Cink, Richard Cobb, Earl Dains, Howard Daggitt, Don Earley, Ron Earley, Carl Edman, Bob Eggers, Gene Even, Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot Gibson, Gene Grocott, Clint Hanson, 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, Bill Niemann, Gordon Nelson, Dale Norstrom, Don Norton, Ed Powers, Ray Reiners, Don Skadsen, Vernon Staebell, Dan Siemonsma, 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.

**AUXILIARY PANCAKE WORKERS:** Dianne Hudson, Margaret Mairose, Jan Knutson, JoAnn Schnider, Lila Day, Darlene Fletcher, Bev Sievert, Leona Klutman, Mae Ranschau, Bette Hirsch, Sandy Frenz and Harriet Kelly.