



POST 15 NEWS



SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

MARCH 2010



Commander's Corner Curt Pansch

I represented Post 15 at the State Mid-winter conference held at Cedar Shores, Oacoma. The motel staff took good care of us and we had a good time. Post 15 hosted our traditional hospitality room and Hoot

Gibson kicked off his campaign for Department Commander. Get one of Hoot's pins and show your support. We had a lot of traffic through the hospitality room and Hoot's campaign will be interesting. The only downside was our keynote speaker, National Commander Clarence Hill, had to cancel his appearance because of weather. Rick Tupper brought us up-to-date on the Honor Flight. Post 15 has to do more to support this outstanding program in 2010. I attended the Americanism and Membership sessions.

I would urge everyone with computer access to check out the updated American Legion website, legion.org. You will be impressed with all the programs your National Legion supports.

I delivered twelve family size pizzas from Papa Murphy's to the VA for Super Bowl Sunday. Papa Murphy's gave us a sizable discount for the veterans.

The American Legion celebrates 91 years this year. On March 14, Post 15 joins this celebration with our annual Birthday Banquet. Social hour 5:30; meal 6:30; program 7:30. RSVP your choice of prime rib or shrimp. Enjoyment guaranteed!

I attended a Civil Air Patrol meeting and presented a check for \$1500 from Post 15. The CAP is an outstanding, patriotic organization and I was proud to represent your post in this presentation.

I want to commend the Post 15 Legion Riders for their hard work and participation in Patriotic Programs. They had a good representation in Oacoma and were presented with two awards.

Post 15 election of officers and board members is fast approaching. If anyone is interested in a position, come to the next membership meeting or get your name to me.

Contact me with suggestions or concerns; 582-2554 or cjpansch@alliancecom.net.

Auxiliary Announcements

Dianne Hudson, President

Our collection of food and supplies to the Food Pantry totaled 86 pounds and \$10.00. Way to go!! Every bit helps. Thank you to everyone who helped sign and address Valentine cards for our Veterans who are in nursing homes. Our next meeting will be March 9th at 7:00 pm and at this time we will be collecting school supplies for the Give 10 for Education program. If you are able, please bring any school supply items in any quantity. If you are not able to attend the meeting and would still like to participate please call Dianne at 370-2555 and I will be glad to come and pick up your items. Also at this meeting, please remember to turn in your Younkers coupon money to Jan Knutson. I also hope you are keeping track of your volunteer hours and continuing to clip coupons. Our membership is currently at 191 and although we have been working hard on our membership, we have a long way to go. We are looking for more members and also more women to become involved in our unit. Sunday, March 14th is the American Legion Birthday Party. Social hour starts at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30 and the program at 7:30. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00 per person and you will need to RSVP to the Legion whether you would like Shrimp or Prime Rib. See all of you on March 9th.

Come to Post 15 for our



St. Patrick's Day Party



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

**Free Hors D'oeuvres
and**



Keg of Green Beer

2:00 p.m. until gone!

Everyone Welcome

Memorials

Memorial for Building Fund in Memory of Glen Kelley- \$600.00

From: Eugene & Mildred Moser, Harold & Berdyne Bosler, Duane & Charlotte Paulson, Eugene & Ruth Parker, Norman & Ardeth Rang, Ellwood & Donna Wilson, Craig, Carl & Leonard Martinek, Rick & Terry Towns, Jim & Donna Stenseth, Roger & Alice Klos, Curt Pansch, Gene & Rose Tornow, Dave & Diana Twedell, Bob & Pat Brekke, Vince & Mary Maag, Elmer Bjorum, Darwin & Bev Wahlert, Robert Workman, Willie Lawrence, Monte, Susie, Logan & Austin Fuller, Jim Hartsook, Ann Basche, Ken Brown, Richard & Jean Pederson, Charles & Sharon Boese, Toani Evans.

Memorial for Honor Guard in Memory of Glen Kelley - \$125.00

Bette Hirsch, Dean & Dorothy Mann, Kelley Family

Memorial for Honor Flight in Memory of Glen Kelley - \$125.00

Beverly Sievert, Hoot Gibson, Jan Knutson, Alan & Sandra Frentz, Avis Priest, Delight Williams, Jim & Arlayne Ruhaak, Helen Salem.

POST EVERLASTING

Seymour Madsen



Commander Pansch presenting the Civil Air Parol with their yearly donation.

Legislative Notes...

— Dean DeLashmutt

South Dakota voting information and other stuff

My sincere thanks to the Post for supporting my visit to the Capitol on the hearings for bills 76 and 150. Additional information follows in the text below.

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Ill wind blows, some in Houston Guard unit believe Baghdad burn pit operated by KBR said to cause migraines, breathing problems and rashes

Call to action -

American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors competes for \$250K Pepsi grant - Votes Needed!... More than 700 charities are competing for grants, which are determined by the number of votes received at its Web site. As of this morning, 2/1/10, Operation Comfort Warriors was 21st in voting. The top two vote getters will receive quarter-million dollar grants. Visitors can cast their votes at <http://www.refresheverything.com/operationcomfortwarriors> Legion's OCW jumps to #3 in Pepsi grant competition...

U.S. military officers could face punishment over ambush in Afghanistan...

U.S. Marines and allies brace for biggest joint offensive since Afghanistan War began...

Political tint seen in bills providing benefits to veterans...

Rep. John Murtha, voice for veterans, dies at 77...

Update on Bill 76, (summary: Director of Veteran Affairs shall have nothing other than honorable discharges) – Passed the Senate Committee

Update on Bill 150, (summary: recommending a feasibility study for the separation of the Military and Veteran Affairs) – moved to the 41st day of this session, as it was improperly submitted to the wrong committee. It should have gone the Executive Board to be submitted as a possible summer study. (It is not dead as of 2/11/10 and may reappear as a bill by the end of this years session.)

MARCH 2010

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Issue Number 2010 - 3



American Legion 91st Birthday Party Sunday, March 14, 2010

(Please call for reservations by March 10 at 336-3470
or e-mail to legionoffice.al@midconetwork.com
give preference for Prime Rib or Shrimp)

Cost: \$10.00

Prime Rib or Shrimp

Social Hour: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Birthday Cake For dessert

Program: 7:30 p.m.

Emcee: Dean Mann

Legionnaire of the Year Award

Legionnette of the Year Award

50-60 Year Awards

Go Getter Awards

Entertainment

"Singing Legionnaires"

Everyone Welcome!

March 12, 2010

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME

SPAGHETTI FEED

SPONSORED BY THE YOUNG MARINES

\$4.00

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

12:00 Noon

Light Lunch

Sign up on the Bulletin Board

SAL

Dave Brown, Commander

The Son's would like to thank and congratulate all people that played our Super Bowl pool. The winners are listed on the bulletin board.

A benefit will be held at the American Legion on March 21st for Mr & Mrs. David Kirkpatrick. They lost their home in a fire on January 4th, 2010.

All donations are welcome - they lost everything. Donations of used furniture would be welcome.

Also there are many volunteer opportunities to help out at the VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls.



Commander Pansch congratulating Ernest Bixby on winning the Stag Drawing of \$300.

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, March 7, 2010 *American Legion Post 15* *Pancake Breakfast!*

POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

March 7 ★ 9:00 a.m. till 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

MARCH 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 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	6
7 Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 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 Spaghetti Feed 5:30 - 7:30 pm Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	13
14 American Legion Birthday Party 5:30 Social 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Program	15 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	16 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00 pm	19 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	20
21	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 Black Water Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	27
28	29	30 County Meeting Brandon 8:00 pm				

6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$75.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket

MENU: Baked Chicken

Beer Special: Old Milwaukee Light Taps \$1.00

Liquor Special: Windsor/Lord - \$1.50

NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS



Legionnaire's Stag

Ladies' Stag

6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00

MENU: Baked Chicken

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

In previous articles I have discussed various veterans and survivors benefits that are available and the importance of having the proper discharge (DD-214) when making application for these benefits. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of that document as no VA benefits can be obtained without it and often a certified copy of the original is needed.

But what if the discharge has been lost or is otherwise unavailable? It is important that the veteran or his surviving spouse know that in the event the discharge is lost we can often track down the discharge through various sources. We can obtain a new document from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis if necessary. There is no charge for this service but the process can take weeks or even months..valuable time lost when the benefit is needed now. Therefore, I once again stress that NOW is the time to locate your discharge rather than wait until it is needed. Many times what the veteran believes to be his discharge is not the actual document required. Let your county veterans service officer take a look at it and make that determination for you. The Minnehaha County Veterans Service Office is located at 521 N. Main Avenue in Sioux Falls. Stop by or give me a call at 367-4201.

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

March is here and hopefully spring is right behind. I am ready for no more snow and some warm temperatures. February was a busy month at the VA as we held the National Salute to Veterans Program, held a VAVS meeting and had a Variety Show. We also did an American Legion Post 15 lunch, had pizza for the Super Bowl and did a lunch for CLC2 and also CLC3. We also held a Service of Remembrance. In March we are having a Festival of Giving at the Empire Mall on the 18th from 2:30 till 8:00 pm. Also on the 18th the American Legion Auxiliary will have the American Legion Birthday Party at 2:00pm in the auditorium. Don't forget Daylight saving time begins on March 14th. There is going to be some remodeling beginning soon in some areas of the VA so be alert for this. The VA is again accepting magazines for the waiting rooms, but not older than 2 months. Used clothing is not needed unless it is an outer coat 3x or larger clothing. There are a number of **Volunteer** positions that are open. If you have the time and feel you would like to help the veterans this is very rewarding time spent. Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in **Veteran**.

Chorus Notes

Bruce Naasz, President

As the new president of the Legionnaire Singers, I would like to introduce myself. I am a self-employed veterinarian and reside with my wife Carole and daughter Hayley in Brandon.

Prior to my election, I expressed a concern about our financial shortfalls. As you may know, the Legion Chorus is self-supporting. Legion Post 15 provides us a location to practice and to store our equipment. We appreciate this. Our main source of income is derived from two places: First, from the support the Legion members provide by attending our annual poultry party. Thank you for your past support of this event and we look forward to your continued patronage. Secondly, for the past 50 years, the Chorus has provided a flag service for the business community. On eight occasions each year, Chorus members post and retrieve American flags for businesses throughout our community. Because of tough economic times, the number of accounts utilizing our flag service has been diminishing. It has become apparent that we need to solicit more customers to ease our financial burden. In lieu of a picture of me, I will be listing a portion of our current flag installation customers each month. If you do business with any of these establishments, please thank them for their utilization of this service from the American Legion Post 15 "Singing Legionnaires."

This month's recognized businesses from our South Minnesota Route are:
Canfield's, Howalt McDowell, First Premier Bank, U.S.F. & G. Building, Vern Eide Used Cars, Medical X-ray Center, Nelson & Nelson CPA, Great Plains Eye Clinic, Wells Fargo, Midas Muffler, Cor Trust Bank, Real Estate Two, Southway Barbers, Sparkle Uniform, Coca Cola, Re/Max Professionals, Suburban Lanes, Lamps and Shades, Lewis Square, Norman's, Lewis Headquarters, Crow Bar, Vallet Cleaners, Billion Buick, Lewis Southgate, Sioux Falls Paint and Glass, Spencer, Scott's Lumber, Mitsubishi, Minnesota Crossing, T & A Service, Taylor Pantry, Boen Insurance, Ace Hardware, McDonald's, Sioux Falls Soccer, Hy Vee, Dr. Loudon, Wollman Ins., F. Smith, Sherwin, Z'Kota, and Culvers.

Our next singing engagement is the Legion birthday party on March 14th. See ya there.

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

FINANCE OFFICER
Troy Rames

1st VICE COMMANDER
David Saunders

ATHLETIC OFFICER
Ed Powers

2nd VICE COMMANDER
Thane Johnson

HISTORIAN
Terry Towns

ADJUTANT
Jim Stenseth

SGT-AT-ARMS
Keith Bierle

CHAPLAIN
Darwin Wahlert

LOUNGE MANAGER
Jerry Lage

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

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, Gary Henle, Gale Horan, Edward Hruska, Roland Jensen, Thane Johnson, Roger Klos, Lloyd Kock, Gil Koepsell, Norb Kramer, Todd Kuck, Dick Lahn, Durwood Lidke, Don Lounsbery, Vince Maag, Dean McClintock, 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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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