



POST 15 NEWS



SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

MAY 2010



Commander's Corner Curt Pansch

My year as Post 15 Commander is coming to a close and this will be my last newsletter article. Many of you have helped and encouraged me throughout this year and made the job rewarding. I want to give a special thanks to Betty, our office manager, and Jerry, our lounge manager. They both give 100 percent and it has been a pleasure working with them.

On April 6, Post 15 had our election of officers and you will be happy with the selection. Pictures and introductions next month.

Hoot Gibson is actively campaigning for Department Commander and I am confident he will win in June. Consider going to the State Convention in Spearfish and support Hoot. A good time is guaranteed!

Our National Commander, Clarence Hill, will be in Sioux Falls May 10. After a tour of the VA, Post 15 will host a reception and meal. Social hour estimated to start at 5:30. We plan to use all proceeds from the meal for the Honor Flight. It is a great honor for Post 15 to host Commander Hill and members from surrounding posts. Watch for more information and please attend.

Many military and veterans organizations perform a POW/MIA ceremony before meetings and banquets. This is not just an empty gesture. There are folks searching for MIA's every day, and they have even made in-roads with unfriendly countries, including North Korea. In FY 2009, 98 individual MIA's were identified by name, through DNA testing, from Korea (26), Vietnam (19) and WWII (53). This gives 98 groups of families and friends the closure they need for their loved ones. Gene Tornow made this ceremony truly meaningful at our birthday party.

Remember Bill Mauldin's "Willie and Joe" comic strips. Willie and Joe fought the enemy, the mud and the brass, from second lieutenants to generals. Commemorative postage stamps are being printed.

Harriet Kelley graciously purchased five outdoor service plaques, in memory of Glen, for installation in front of Post 15. This gesture will be enjoyed and appreciated by Post 15 for many years. Thank you Harriet.

And Thank You Post 15 members, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders and Post 15 employees for all the support I've received this year!

Auxiliary Announcements

Dianne Hudson, President

First of all I need to correct an error in the last newsletter. Poppy Days are May 21st, and 22nd which is NOT Armed Forces Day. I am sorry for the confusion. Armed Forces Day is May 15th.

Congratulations to all the officers for the upcoming year. President, Dianne Hudson; First Vice, Jan Knutson; Second Vice, Bette Hirsch; Secretary, Bev Sievert; Treasurer, Lila Day; Chaplin, Margaret Mairose.

Also Congratulations to Margaret Mairose for being our Mother of the Year. She will be attending the Mother's Day Tea at the VFW on May 1st.

May 8th, at 10:00 am at the Elmen Center there will be a deployment ceremony for approximately 200 Army National Guard Soldiers leaving for Afghanistan for 1 year. We will be handing out Pocket Flags to the soldiers, and small Flags to the children. All are welcome to attend and support our troops. We will also be serving refreshments starting at 8:30 am. If you are able to help please call me at 370-2555.

The National Commander will be in Sioux Falls on May 10th (Monday) and will be touring the VA, and then there will be a dinner at the Legion at 6pm. More info later.

Poppy Day is also approaching. We are looking for people and kids to help at various locations around Sioux Falls. The money that is received goes to support Veterans' in our State.

Please let me know if you are able to help.

Thank you all for turning in your volunteer hours, as I can see all of you have been very busy. Keep up the great job, and start keeping track of your hours for next year. Also do not forget to keep cutting coupons.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Give 10 to Education. Your donations will be going to Jane Adams Elementary School.

Also we have many knives and other items from Rada that Marilyn Lee had at her home. Since she ordered the items the prices have gone up so we are selling the items at the price she got them at. If you need any items please let me know.

At our May 11th meeting we will be having our Memorial Service to our ladies we have lost over the past year. Hope to see you then.

Legion Riders

We had 22 members and one guest, Mrs. Tiedeman, at our meeting April 14.

Gary Henle announced that the Comfort Warriors won the Pepsi Challenge. They collected \$250,000 for their cause.

It was announced that Hot Springs has received approval from the Hot Springs Post for a Legion Rider Chapter. Two of our past members, Ron and Dorothy Richards, are involved in the Hot Springs Chapter of the ALR.

We are working on getting space in the Sturgis VFW and American Legion Post during the Motorcycle Rally. More information will be announced later.

The Ace of Spades game is up and going. Tickets can be purchased at the Post. The first drawing was April 19 at 7:00 at the Post.

Several members attended the funeral of Bob Janzen, Brad Janzen's Father. Brad is a member of ALR. Several members rode to Luverne to assist with bingo at the Veteran's Home.

Upcoming events:

- May 8** Women of the Wind Poker Run
- May 2** May Day parade at Brandon
- May 10** National Legion Commander will be at Post. Dinner at 6:00
- May 12** ALR meeting at Post at 7:00
- May 15** NOMI walk. Meet at Sertoma Park at 9:00

THANK YOU! - LEGION WINS PEPSI CONTEST

Pepsi Company has announced that the American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors program will be awarded a \$250,000 grant from the soft drink company after finishing first in Internet voting during February's Refresh Everything Project. Since December 2008, the American Legion family has raised funds for Operation Comfort Warriors, a program dedicated to providing military personnel with comfort items not usually supplied by the government. The American Legion pays all administrative costs for the program, meaning 100 percent of the donations, including the grant money, will go directly to purchasing items for the troops.

POST EVERLASTING

Loren Lawrence, Kenneth Albert,
Melvin Berens, Ed Hall,
Clarence Mierley, Roland Troemel



May 2010

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ARMED FORCES DAY CEREMONIES

The observance begins at 10:30 am on the grounds of the VA Medical Center on Saturday, May 15, 2010. Military men and women will participate in the Parade of Flags along the drive surrounding the grounds. In the event of inclement weather, ceremonies will be moved to the South Dakota Air National Guard at Joe Foss Field.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

Memorial Day Service will be held at 10:30 am on the grounds of the VA Medical Center on Monday, May 31st. This will be an impressive service in honor and in memory of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice in all conflicts in which our country has been involved.

VA MEDICAL CENTER OPEN HOUSE

The Sioux VA Medical Center will host an open house and Veterans Information Fair on Monday, May 10th, from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. This event will provide information to Veterans, their family members, and area residents about health care eligibility and available VA medical services. It will be an opportunity for the community to see what's new at the VA. Staff will be on hand to assist with information about eligibility, available medical services, pharmacy services, health promotion and disease prevention programs, surgical services, chiropractic care, prosthetics, VA nursing home care, palliative/hospice care, low vision wellness, compensated work therapy, chronic disease management, and VA career opportunities. In addition the Dakotas Regional Office and several Veterans Service Organizations will also be available.



Auxiliary Members Darlene Fletcher and Betty Hirsch presenting dictionaries to third graders at Laura B. Anderson Elementary.

SAL

Dan Wahlert, Commander

Hear ye, Hear ye, Hear ye

Calling all members of the Sons of the American Legion. We the officers are requesting that any and all members are requested to start attending our meetings. Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month. We are in a strong need for member participation.

This month we had 7 members present. We would like to get this number much higher.

We held elections this last meeting. Here are the results of our election:

Dan Wahlert- Commander; Terry Rudd- 1st Vice; Jon Freer- 2nd Vice; Chad Patch- Chaplain; Dan Tammen- Sgt of Arms; Jon Freer- Secretary. Congratulations to all.

We are currently working on getting a car wash, cook-out and a tournament of horseshoe's and bean bags. We will announce soon on the dates, also please check the bulletin board for fliers. We will also be having a 50/50 drawing and we are looking into having another Rifle Drawing in the near future.

On April 24th, 2010 a meeting of the Executive Committee of the SAL was held in Iroquois, SD. Results will be in the next newsletter.

On a personal note: Come on guys lets get this going. Let's make this work, this is our thing. Show your support and let's get active.

ATTENTION!!!!

Ace of Spades—A new game of chance, has started. It is located in the Pull Tab corner.

Rules are posted on the box. Tickets are \$1.00 each of 6 for \$5.00. Drawings every Monday at 7:00 pm. Be sure to read the rules.

NOTICE: TRIP TO A TWINS GAME

The Legion is planning a bus trip to Minneapolis to attend a Twins game. Please let us know if you are interested. Contact Jerry Lage, Lounge Mgr. at 336-3470 for more information.

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

12:00 Noon

Light Lunch

Sign up on the Bulletin Board

Winners last month:

1st Place: Leroy Christiansen and Quentin Parsons

2nd Place: Richard Perkins and Bob Kogel

3rd Place: Jim Assid and Robert Jacobson

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

May is here and flowers are in bloom and a busy month is awaiting us. In April we had National Volunteer Week, Prom Night, Casino hour, Lions Pancake Days, a movie outing, lunch for CLC 2 and a lunch for CLC 3. A busy month for April. May-- Annual Volunteer Recognition Event (date to be determined), May 5th--all day Carnival, May 15-- Armed Forces Day at the VA Grounds at 10:30am (inclement weather at the Air National Guard Hangar), May 31st--Memorial Day at the Veterans Park at 10:30am. also on May 31st-- is the Service of Remembrance at 1:30pm in the front lobby of the VA. Volunteer's remember to register your time on the computer each time you volunteer. If the computer is down, use the clipboard. The VA is again accepting magazines for the waiting rooms but, not older than 2 months. Used clothing is not needed unless it is 3x or larger. Volunteers are need in all areas of the VA. Please give Volunteer Services a call if you can help and the work is very rewarding to both the patient and the volunteer. Remodeling season is starting so watch for the signs. Remember to visit or call a shut-in **Veteran**.




Commander
Pansch and
Lounge
Manager
Jerry Lage.

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, May 2, 2010
American Legion Post 15
Pancake Breakfast!

POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

May 2 ★ 9:00 a.m. til 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

MAY 2010

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	3 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	4 Executive Board Mtg 5:30 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	5	6	7 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	8 Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
9	10 National Commander Clarence Hill 5:30 social 6:30 meal	11 Senior Pool Tourm. 12:00 Noon Aux. Mtg 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm	12 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	13	14 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	15 Armed Forces Day Program — VA 10:30 am
16	17 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	18 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm	19	20 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00 pm	21 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	22
23	24 Singing Legionnaires Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	25 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm	26	27	28 Outback 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	29
30	31 Memorial Day Program at VA 10:30am LEGION CLOSED					

6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$100.00
 COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket
 MENU: Breaded Pork Chop
 Beer Special: Miller 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: Breaded Pork Chop
 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

Last month I wrote about the VA paying for emergency care at a non VA facility. As will happen, since that article went out the law has changed. A new law now allows the VA to reimburse an enrolled veteran for the cost of emergency treatment at a non-VA facility even if the veteran has outside insurance that only covers part of the cost. Previously the VA could reimburse veterans or pay outside hospitals directly only if a veteran had no outside health insurance.

This law was signed on February 1, 2010.

The law also allows VA to provide retroactive payments to veterans who has such care before the law went into effect if the Secretary determines that, under the circumstances applicable to the respective veteran, it is appropriate to do so. Unfortunately, we will have to wait until the VA develops the regulation implementing these changes to find out what those circumstances might be.

The veteran must be enrolled in the VA healthcare system and have received treatment at a VA medical facility within the last 2 years preceding the emergency care received.

If you have a claim or know of claims that can be filed under this new law, please contact me. I strongly encourage you to get them filed. You can reach me at 605-367-4201, 521 N. Main Avenue or E-mail pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org



Cmdr. Pansch presenting Darwin Wahlert with Commander Choice Award.



Cmdr. Pansch presenting 1st Vice Dave Saunders with a Membership Award.



Cmdr. Pansch presenting Vince Maag with Lifetime Achievement Award.



Darwin Wahlert and Commander Pansch presenting Good Samaritan Award to Linda Hall.



Darwin Wahlert Presenting Gene Tornow with Dedicated Military Rites Service Award.

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
David Saunders

1st VICE COMMANDER
Thane Johnson

2nd VICE COMMANDER
Dean Berdahl

ADJUTANT
Jim Stenseth

CHAPLAIN
Darwin Wahlert

FINANCE OFFICER
Troy Rames

ATHLETIC OFFICER
Ed Powers

SGT-AT-ARMS
Leonard Young

LOUNGE MANAGER
Jerry Lage

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Chairmen: Curt Pansch
Butch Finton, Ed Hruska, Ed Powers,
Gene Tornow, Roger Kloss, Gene Even, Jim Avre

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 Lounsbury,
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.

Here It Comes!

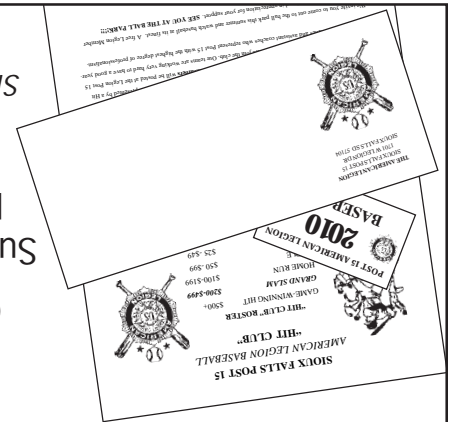
Your "Hit Club" letter
will be in your mailbox soon

Please
Give

Generously

Support Post 15
Baseball!!!

Officers of
Sioux Falls Post 15



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THE AMERICAN LEGION
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