



POST 15 NEWS



ST 15 SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

NOVEMBER 2008

Commander's Corner Terry Towns



We have been asked by Chris Nelson – South Dakota Secretary of State – to help register veterans for voting at the VAMC. We have started registering Veterans for voting in this year's primary election along with completing applications for absent balloting. With the primary just around the corner, remember to VOTE and if you have any questions about registering or absent voting give me a call. I would like to welcome Dean De Lashmutt as our new Legislative Officer for the Post. It's going to be challenging job for him, but I think he's up to it. Good Luck Dean!

This year's Veterans Day program will be at Lincoln High School starting at 10:30. Hope you have a chance to attend – it's a very good program. There will also be lunches and dinners going on at different veterans' organizations that day and the VAMC will hold their Service of Remembrance (all details are in the works so call for details.)

The Sioux Falls VA Medical Center will begin offering flu shots to enrolled veterans beginning October 27. The vaccinations will be available October 27-31 and November 3-7 from 12N – 3:30 p.m. Veterans who have appointments in November should ask for a flu shot during their scheduled appointments.

In case you haven't noticed, we now have a "Flag Drop-Off" box in front of the Legion – it's for easy access to drop off your unserviceable flags. This special project was done by Bryce Frentz as his Eagle Scout Project – Thanks Bryce Frentz it looks wonderful and has already been used a lot.



Remember we are still looking for volunteers for the Honor Guard. Please call Gene Tornow, Honor Guard Commander at 371-3713 or myself to find out more.

Bryce Frentz & Commander Towns trying out the new Flag Drop Box

The Honor Flight of South Dakota program is up and running. We have received about 50 applications now. If you want to get involved as a volunteer, please let me know.

Our membership goal this year is 1737 and we are currently setting at 1087.

Hope all have a safe and extraordinary Thanksgiving. We as Americans do have a lot to be thankful for.

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 tntowns@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.

Auxiliary Announcements

Bev Sievert, President

The Auxiliary had the pleasure of listening to Teresa Johnson and Cady Sea from Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School tell about their experiences at Girl's State. Participants learn how to participate in the functioning of their state government in preparation for their roles as responsible adult citizens.

Marilyn Hobbs, our District One Auxiliary President, was our guest. Marilyn gave us some information about some of the changes that will be coming from National.

As always, our members brought many wonderful gifts for the VA Christmas Gift Shop to be held December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the VA Hospital. A big thank you to all those who donated gifts. As I mentioned before volunteers are always welcome at the gift shop.

The Auxiliary will be celebrating it's birthday on November 10th this year. November 11th at 10:30 AM at Lincoln High School we can remember and honor our veterans on Veterans Day. Let's not forget Thanksgiving Day on November 27th.

Our November meeting will be changed to Tuesday November 4th at 7:30. The meeting will be held in the small conference room on the west end of the Post Home. The change was made as our regular meeting night would fall on Veterans Day.

Thank you to Hanford Twaddle for making the wooden stands to hold the small flags that will be given to the veterans at the nursing homes for Veterans Day.

Freedom is our Greatest Blessing,
Be sure to THANK a Veteran.



2008 Veterans Day Activities

Tuesday, November 11th 2008

• **Annual Commanders Veterans Day Breakfast**

8:00 am

DAV headquarters

1519 W 51st Street, Sioux Falls

All Veterans organizations Commanders and Past Commanders are invited. Please call for reservations at the DAV 332-6866. The DAV will display posters and prints from World War II in honor of the "Greatest Generation" and a special honor to our World War II veterans.

• **Veterans Day Program - 10:30 am**

Lincoln High School

• **Beef Stew at the American Legion**

12:00 noon - until gone

• **Veterans Day Banquet at the VFW**

5:30 pm Social hour

6:30 pm Dinner

Baked chicken

\$6.00 per person

Tickets available @ VFW

POST EVERLASTING



Kent Mulkey, Clarence Beschta,
Donald Sandstrom, Charles Overgard

NOTICE

**A wheelchair is missing from the coat room
– if anyone borrowed it, please return it
as soon as possible.**

NOVEMBER 2008

Post 15 News is published monthly by American Legion Post 15
1701 West Legion Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104
Issue Number 2008 - 11

Chorus Notes

Mike Binger, President



Our performances in recent weeks saw good turnouts and audiences at the Downtown Holiday Inn Army Reunion in Sioux Falls on Sept. 20th, Bethany Meadows Home in Brandon on Sept. 22nd and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls on Sept. 28th. The same was true for a noon appearance on Friday, October 3rd for the Womens' Veterans Conference. As it turned out, a guest singer was inspired enough by our music to join our ranks for the Holiday Inn appearance. We have found that we are in demand throughout the year at all times of the day to deliver a very well received brand of music. It is always a challenge to live up to, but this is what we strive to continue providing.

October has expanded with another engagement, as we will sing for the Cosmopolitan Club Distinguished Service Award banquet on the 30th. Additionally we will gather at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on the 20th for the special event of our second CD recording. I hope you will consider purchasing one of our discs when they become available and I will keep you posted in this column as to when we have them on sale. The price tentatively is \$10 per CD and you have my word that it will be well worth it.

On Nov. 11th, we are set to travel to Pipestone, MN, to sing for the VFW and Legion in the evening, and the Veterans Day Observance is 10:30 AM at Lincoln High School. The Christmas season will include an appearance for the Festival of Men's Voices on November 30th, and we anticipate soon arranging our annual performance at the Veterans Hospital in December.

I also invite you to come to Post 15 for our Poultry Party on Friday, November 7th for a chance to win a turkey or ham of your very own. There's good fellowship and fun, so come on down! It is the same place of our Monday night rehearsals, and all males with talented voices are welcome. Our concerts keep lining up and you can be a part of it! Let one of us know, including me at 605-929-4867.

Memorials

Memorial for Kent Mulkey from Mr. & Mrs. Orville Hill
\$10.00

Memorial for Dave Schwebach from Schwebach Family
\$50.00

Memorial for Frank Lynch from Cam Lind
\$20.00

NOTICE

**Need volunteers to help with Military Funerals -
Please contact Gene Tornow- 371-3713**



Gifts donated by the Auxiliary for the VA Christmas gift shop.

SAL

Todd Kuck, Commander

Hey come check us out! The SAL are looking for members; new, old or if you just want to check us out! We are now meeting on the second of each month at 7 pm sharp!

Thank you to Bryce Frentz who is working for his Eagle Scout award by putting up the Flag disposal box for old flags- it really looks nice.

For those of you who have not renewed - they're DUE!

We would like to welcome our newest members: Dave Brown and Nick Christensen.

Thanks to Lyn Tammen for helping with the minutes.

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Halloween. At the VA we had a Haunted House in the aud. from 1-4 on the 29th. We also had a Bratwurst lunch on the 8th and 15th and a trip to Walmart on the 22nd. We also have been doing some voter registration and absentee voting with some of the patients. Have not had as many as we hope to have. In November we have **Election Day on the 4th**. Remember to vote. Nov. 11th is Veterans Day. On the 17th the bloodmobile will be at the VA and Thanksgiving Day is the 27th. **Things currently NOT needed at the VA are lap robes and bed quilts, hard cover books, National Geographic, and Readers Digests, magazines older than 3 months, clothing of any kind, baked goods and used greeting cards.** Volunteers are still needed in all areas of the VA and the work is very rewarding for the volunteer as well as the Veteran. Remember to visit or call a sick or shut-in **VETERAN**.

NOTICE:

The Sioux Falls VA Medical Center will begin offering flu shots to enrolled veterans on October 27th. The vaccinations will be available October 27- 31 and November 3-7 from 12 Noon to 3:30 p.m.

Veterans who have appointments in November should ask for a flu shot during scheduled appointments.

VA Advises on Aid and Attendance Benefit

The Department of Veterans Affairs is notifying wartime veterans and surviving spouses of deceased wartime veterans about an under-used, special monthly pension benefit called Aid and Attendance. The Aid and Attendance pension may be available to veterans and surviving spouses who have in-home care or who live in nursing homes or assisted-living facilities. Many elderly veterans and surviving spouses whose incomes are above the congressionally mandated legal limit for a VA pension may still be eligible for Aid and Attendance if they have large medical expenses, which can include nursing home expenses, for which they do not receive reimbursement. To qualify, claimants must be incapable of self support and in need of regular personal assistance. For more information, call 1-800-827-1000, or visit www.va.gov.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS FOR WORLD WAR II VETERANS

If you are a World War II veteran who did not graduate from high school, you may request and receive an honorary high school diploma from the South Dakota school district of your choice. Any honorably discharged veteran who served in the U.S. armed forces between December 7th, 1941, to September 2nd, 1945, is eligible to receive a diploma.

The veteran who wishes to receive the diploma must make the request. The law does not allow schools to award honorary diplomas to deceased veterans. While it is expected that most request will be made to a school district where the veteran grew up or currently resides, there are no residency requirements or restrictions.

World War II veterans interested in receiving an honorary diploma should contact the school district of their choice.

If you have any questions about this topic or any other topic of interest regarding veteran's benefits, contact our *Veterans Service Officer, Pat Kroupa at 367-4201*

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

NOVEMBER 2008

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Pancake Breakfast 9 am - 1 pm	3 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	4 Exec. Bd. Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Auxiliary Mtg 7:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	5	6	7 Poultry Party 7 pm	8 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
9	10 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	11 Veterans Day Program 10:30 am Senior Pool Tour. 12:00 Noon SAL 7 pm	12 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	13	14 TGIF DINNER 6-8 pm	15 Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
16	17 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	18 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155	19	20	21 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	22
23	24 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	25 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155 County Meeting Brandon 8:00 pm	26	27 Ver's Council Mtg. VFW 7:30pm	28	29 Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
30				Thanksgiving Day CLOSED		

NOVEMBER 18, 2008 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$450.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket
MENU: Breaded Pork Tenderloin
Beer Special: Miller \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: Windsor/Lord - \$1.50
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



Legionnaire's
Stag


Ladies'
 Stag

NOVEMBER 25, 2008 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00

MENU: Breaded Pork Tenderloin
Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: All Schnapps - \$1.50
*** BINGO * RAFFLE ***
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!




Darwin Wahlert and Commander Towns presenting 2-Star Blue Star Banner to Grandmother Char Dusse and Father Brian Dusse for Ryan Dusse – U.S. Navy & Josh Dusse – U.S. Air Force.

Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008
American Legion Post 15
Pancake Breakfast!
 POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

Nov. 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

TGIF DINNER

AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME

November 14, 2008 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

STEAK OR SHRIMP DINNER

\$10.00

MUST CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

336-0155

MEDICAL FOSTER HOME PROGRAM OFFERS A NEW PLACE TO CALL HOME

The Sioux Falls VAMC is pleased to offer another option for care for veterans called the Medical Foster Home Program. Caregivers living within an hour's drive of Sioux Falls are being recruited to offer a home environment and assistance to veterans who are unable to live alone due to medical problems. Two medical foster homes have passed the required inspections for the program, and we are seeking additional potential caregivers. The caregivers must be at least 21 years of age, rent or own the home they live in, and be willing to provide 24-hour care and supervision of the veterans. Care giving experience is recommended. A criminal background check and references are required. An interest in serving veterans is a must! If you know of potential caregivers for this program, please ask them to contact Kris Breitag, MSW, Medical Foster Home Coordinator, at 605-333-6861. Veterans or family members interested in this type of care may also contact her for additional information.



Special Thanks to VFW Honor Guard Commander (and Post # 15 Member) Carl Edman for his work with the Honor Guard.

Post 15
Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, November 11, 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 –

**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

SIOUX FALLS SINGING LEGIONNAIRES



POULTRY PARTY

Friday
November 7, 2008
7:00 pm

**American Legion Post 15 Home
Bingo – Games – Ham & Turkey Prizes
Everybody Welcome!!
Food & Refreshments Available
Cash Prize Drawings
\$500 • 2 @ \$100 • \$200 Canon Digital Camera • \$50 Gift Card
*Need Not be Present to Win***

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

<p>COMMANDER Terry Towns ***</p> <p>1st VICE COMMANDER Bernie Verburg ***</p> <p>2nd VICE COMMANDER Curtis Pansch ***</p> <p>ADJUTANT Jim Stenseth ***</p> <p>CHAPLAIN Ken Brown ***</p>	<p>FINANCE OFFICER Leonard Martinek ***</p> <p>ATHLETIC OFFICER Ed Powers ***</p> <p>HISTORIAN Terry Towns ***</p> <p>SGT-AT-ARMS Keith Bierle ***</p> <p>LOUNGE MANAGER Dennis Bierle ***</p>
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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, Color Guard, VA Activities
Pancake Breakfast*

Paul Anderson, LeRoy Arneson, Dean Berdahl,
Harold Bosler, Paul Brude, Calvin Cink, Howard
Daggitt, Carl Edman, Bob Eggers, Don Earley,
Ron Earley, Gene Even, Butch Finton, Ken Foley,
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Smook,, Jim Stenseth, Gene Tornow, Rick Towns,
Terry Towns, Hanford Twaddle, Darwin Wahlert, John
Weber, Robert Williams 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.