



POST 15 NEWS



SIoux FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

OCTOBER 2008

Commander's Corner Terry Towns



As a lot of you know, we are in the process of moving – but only about a mile away. I used the Sears Member Purchase Program to purchase a new refrigerator and range and saved over \$800. It was easy to use and couldn't believe the savings. That's part of your benefit of belonging to the American Legion. If you want to know more, call the member that signed you up or give me a call.

With the increase of recent request for funeral military rites, we need more members to volunteer for our Honor Guard. Many of our current members are not only on our team but also the VFW Team. It's sometimes extremely hard to get a full team together if both organizations have funerals at about the same time. Please call Gene Tornow, Honor Guard Commander at 371-3713 or myself to find out more.

During September, we supported this years Veterans Standown that helped over 180 needy and homeless veterans. The proposal to submit a bid on the land across from the Legion failed in a vote at the September General Membership Meeting.

Some of the news from your 90th National Convention in Phoenix: It was HOT in Phoenix in August; More than 600 current or soon-to-be soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines stood before an assembly of Legionnaires on Aug. 24th, raised their right hands, and swore to defend their nation; On Aug 28th, delegates unanimously elected David K. Rehbein of Ames, Iowa, to lead the organization for the 2008-2009 year;



Commander Towns & Joseph Riley, Etowah, TN

Joseph W. Riley, was the 2008 Oratorical Winner. Hometown Etowah, TN – which happens to be about 30 miles from were I grew up; being on the VAMC Rating & Claims Committee – we reviewed over 45 resolutions to be passed on the congress; and did I tell you it was hot! Great time! – Thanks for the opportunity to attend!

Women veterans' service to our country will be celebrated at the 15th annual Sioux Falls VA's Women Veterans Conference Friday, October 3, 2008 at the Ivy Room. Call Shirley Redmond at the VAMC @ 333-6889 for more information.

Our membership goal this year is 1737 and we have already gotten 903 and is increasing rapidly daily.

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

Our Department President Sherry Woljter's motto is "Sharing Our Strength", for our Veterans, for our Children, for The Community, The State and The Nation.

As a unit we are trying to help Sherry. We have addressed Halloween cards to give to our veterans in the nursing homes. We will be making bibs out of towels for the veterans in the Veterans Hospital. Be sure to bring an unwrapped gift to the October meeting for the Christmas Gift Shop to be held December 1st 2nd and 3rd at the Veterans Hospital. The gift shop gives veterans that are hospitalized a chance to get Christmas gifts for their families and themselves at no cost to them. The Veterans are so overwhelmed. New gifts items are needed to make this happen. Come and spend a few hours and help wrap the gifts for them. If you have any questions please call Bev Sievert at 362-8606. It's a wonderful project.

This is an example of what we as an Auxiliary do for our community with your membership money. For those of you that have not renewed your membership yet just

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remember, it only costs a nickel a day to belong to the largest women's organization in the world. Ask an eligible friend to join today.

"Make A Difference's Day" is Saturday October 25th. Let's everyone show some act of kindness. It's America's largest National Day of helping others.

Jackie Severson presented our Auxiliary Unit an American Flag and Certificate from her son Toby. The flag was flown over COB Adder, Iraq during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on the 2nd day of August 2008 by Bravo Battery 1-147th FA.

The District One fall meeting is Sunday September 28th at the Senior Citizens Building, Beresford, SD. Registration is at 1:30 and the meeting at 2:00 PM.

Our District President, Marilyn Hobbs will be visiting our unit October 14th. Several girls who attended Girls State, sponsored by Unit 15, will be telling us about their experiences.

Be sure to exercise your rights by voting on November 4th. As President Harry S. Truman said "It's not the hand that signs the laws that holds the destiny of America. It's the hand that casts the ballot".



Commander Towns & the Saguaro Cactus – Phoenix, AZ

OCTOBER 2008

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Chorus Notes

Todd Schmidt, President



Last month under unprecedented circumstances I was elected unanimously to become President of the Legion Chorus, along with Bruce Naasz as Vice President, to complete the term that runs until the regular elections next February. We sent a parting gift along with our prayers and wishes to Arnie Zueger, our outgoing President who resigned due to health reasons, and received from him a thank-you card. Much has happened recently in so short a time, but I am proud to accept the challenge to be our chorus' leader, and to now reach out to all you members as representative of the musical organization that represents you.

As of this writing we are preparing for appearances at the Downtown Holiday Inn Army Reunion on Saturday, Sept. 20, Bethany Meadows Home in Brandon on Monday, Sept. 22, and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls on Sunday, Sept. 28. The following Friday, October 3rd, we are at the Ivy Room in southwest Sioux Falls to sing for the Womens' Veterans Conference. That is the only performance for the month but at the same time we are getting ready for many appearances during the Christmas season. Additionally we will observe Veterans Day on Nov. 11th, both for the annual Sioux Falls program and in Pipestone, MN, before the VFW and Legion that evening.

We are a men's organization that welcomes any talented male singer who wishes to make beautiful music and have fun doing it. Each of our sections, even mine, the Basses, could use a few more voices, so if this is an endeavor that would be right for you, I invite you to join us. Our rehearsals are Monday nights at Legion Post 15 year round. In Al Stanga, our director, we have one of the most knowledgeable minds in tune with the Sioux Falls music scene that we have ever known. Please consider being one of us; it will be well worth it!

POST EVERLASTING

Ardel Prather, William Lane,
Jerry Sylvis, Merle Pflueger,
Richard Lageman



Memorials

In Memory of Kenneth E Faller from Rod & Donna Ealler
\$100.00

In Memory of William Lane from Darwin & Bev Wahlert
\$25.00

NOTICE

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



Ed Powers Volunteering at the Veterans Standdown – Sept. 5th



Rick Towns & Jim Stenseth putting "To-Go" lunches together during the Standdown.

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

Fall is in the air and we are still very busy here at the VA. In September we had a movie outing, car show and Chinese lunches on TCU 2 and TCU 3. We also had Veterans Stand-down, Patriot Day, Volunteer Fall Cookout and Former POW Recognition Day. On October 2nd we will have the VAVS meeting at 1:00 PM in the auditorium and Oct 3rd is the Women Veterans Conference. October 13th the **offices are closed** for Columbus/Native American Day. Please be careful of the construction on the grounds and follow the signs. **Items currently not needed are lap robes, bed quilts, used table games and playing cards. Items that cannot be used are (A) hard cover books, National Geographic's and hard cover Reader's Digest, (B) magazines older than three months, (C) clothing, (D) baked goods, (E) used greeting cards, (F) motel samples of soap, shampoo, etc.** Volunteers are always needed and the work is very rewarding for the veteran as well as you. Remember to visit or call a sick or shut in **VETERAN**.

Veterans Forum

Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

OBTAINING YOUR SERVICE MEDALS

Every veteran has a story to tell and along with that military service comes a variety of medals and awards. Some of the medals and awards were in fact presented to the veteran at the time of service. Others are due the veteran and have never been received while others were lost or misplaced over the years.

The fact is, every veteran is entitled to his/her service medals and awards or a replacement set of these medals. The application is a relatively simple process that requires a brief office visit and preferably a copy of the veterans discharge or DD-214. The application may be made by the veteran, his surviving spouse or next of kin. If you, the veteran, are not interested in obtaining your medals, I can guarantee that your child or grandchild would very much like to have them to remember you by.

For further information on obtaining service medals and awards or if you have questions on any other topic relating to veterans benefits, please contact me. The Minnehaha County Veterans Service Office is located at 521 N. Main Avenue, Suite 201 in Sioux Falls. Our hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Stop in, give me a call at 367-4201 or E-mail me at pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org Do you know about The Legionnaires Insurance that is available for **NO COST** to the members for a \$1,000 accidental death policy?

Patricia Kroupa, Post Service Officer
(605) 367-4201
pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org.

TGIF DINNER

OCTOBER 17TH, 2008

AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME

6:00 -8:00 p.m.

STEAK OR SHRIMP DINNER - \$10.00

MUST CALL FOR RESERVATIONS -

336-0155

NAVY BALL

October 18, 2008

SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION POST HOME

SOCIAL HOUR- 5:30 P.M.

DINNER AT – 6:30 P.M.

TWO MEAT BUFFET

E6 and below- \$20.00 per person

E7 and civilians -\$30.00 person

For Information and to make Reservations –

Call RMC Dale L. Kroger

Phone: 362-9594

NOTICE: **WANTED CRIBBAGE PLAYERS**

Sanctioned by the ACC American Cribbage Congress • Play in Local Cribbage Club
Have Fun and make new Friends • Improve your skills

The Club meets Every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. at the SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION POST 15 HOME
Come on out and play. For information call J. Young – Phone: 332-4037

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

OCTOBER 2008

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
Pancake Breakfast 9 am - 1 pm	Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Exec. Bd. Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm		Sioux Falls Women Veterans Conference Night Raiders 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 pm Senior Pool Tour. 12:00 Noon		Ver's Council Mtg. VFW 7:30pm	Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155			TGIF DINNER 6-8 pm Vermillion Ampd 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	Navy Ball Social 5:30 Dinner 6:30
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm Past Commander Mtg 6:00 pm	Ladies Stag 6:30 pm RSVP: 336-0155 County Meeting Baltic 8:00 pm			Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm				Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am HALLOWEEN PARTY	

OCTOBER 21, 2008 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$425.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket
MENU: Meatloaf
Beer Special: Bud \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: Black Velvet - \$1.50
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



Legionnaire's
Stag

Ladies'
 Stag

OCTOBER 28, 2008 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00
MENU: Meatloaf
Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps
Liquor Special: All Schnapps - \$1.50
*** BINGO * RAFFLE ***
CALL 336-0155 FOR RESERVATIONS!!!



More than 600 current or soon-to-be soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines stood before an assembly of Legionnaires during the 90th National Convention on Aug. 24th, raised their right hands, and swore to defend their nation.



New American Legion National Commander - David K. Rehbein of Ames, Iowa



HALLOWEEN PARTY

Monster Mash with
The Troublemakers

50/50 Drawings

Costume Contest

Starts at 7:30 p.m.

Band starts at 9:00 p.m.

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.

Senior's Pool Tournament

Tom Jellema, Pool Tournament Chairman

September 9th was a good time for the senior's pool tournament. I think everyone has a good day. I know I did. I was very happy to be able to attend. My good friends Vern Laine and Jim Assid took 1st Place, with Jerry McKinney and Butch Finton with a strong finish at 2nd. This was a very tight match. Jerry McKenny took the shot of the day from my point of view with an incredible bank on the 5th ball, with about all the green a shooter doesn't want. Very well done Jerry. I look forward to seeing you all again on October 14th. With fall coming on strong we'll be seeing a lot more players. So bring your friends and your sticks boys!!

Post 15

Senior's Pool Tournament

Tuesday, October 14, 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 –

Light Lunch provided

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

Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008
American Legion Post 15
Pancake Breakfast!
 POST HOME  1701 W. LEGION DRIVE

Oct. 5 ★ 9:00 a.m. *til* 1:00 p.m.
ADULTS 4.00 CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE **FREE**
 PANCAKES * SAUSAGE * EGGS 

Proceeds Support Various Legion Activities

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 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!
Funerals, Color Guard, VA Activities

Paul Anderson, Dean Berdahl, Harold Bosler,
 Paul Brude, Calvin Cink, Carl Edman,
 Bob Eggers, Ron Earley, Gene Even,
 Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot Gibson,
 Harold Hanson, Jim Hartsook, Gary Henle,
 Glen Kelley, Roger Klos, Gil Koepsell,
 Durwood Lidke, Donald Lounsbery, Vince Maag,
 Gordon Nelson, Don Norton, Ed Pfilipsen,
 Ed Powers, Dick Sievert, Don Skadsen,
 Joe 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.