



POST 15 NEWS



SIOUX FALLS AMERICAN LEGION

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

SEPTEMBER 2009



Commander's Corner Curt Pansch

We've begun our 2010 membership drive. Renew early and bring new members into Post 15. We often only have two or three percent of the membership attending membership meetings. Stop in and you will see the

activities your Legion supports. Our Goal for membership is 1709 - we are currently at 502.

Post 15 was one of the veterans' organizations sponsoring the August 12 Veterans' Job Fair. There was a great turnout with 35 employers and many job seekers.

Last year I had a great time as a "walker" on a disabled veterans pheasant hunt near Menno. If you know anyone who would be interested in this hunt, walker or hunter, contact me. It is scheduled for October 31. Every effort is made to accommodate the hunters. Shells and food are furnished. You will have a great time.

Your Post sponsors Boy Scout Troop 15. Their main fundraiser is selling the aluminum cans from our Legion. Bring your bagged cans to the can storage in the back of Post 15 and they will be collected and sold for a worthy cause.

This is your newsletter. What information would you like to read about? I'll consider your suggestions and try to make this letter more informative.

The end of August I will be in Louisville, KY, representing Post 15 and joining other South Dakota Legionnaires at the National Convention. More on this next month.

Contact me with concerns and suggestions: 582-2554, cjpansch@alliancecom.net

Community Covenant (Military Pep Rally)

September 19th, 2009

On September 19th there will be a patriotic rally in the Arena honoring all area military, active guard, reserve, retired, and their families. It begins at 10:00 am and will be entertaining. Watch for more info in the news.

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.

Auxiliary Announcements

Dianne Hudson, President

Well, ladies it is time to get back to business. Our September 8th meeting is just around the corner, and it is also time to start cutting coupons again. Our District 1 President Marilyn Hobbs will be visiting us at this meeting. There are many activities coming up over then next several months and we will need everyone to pitch in and help. Please help support our Auxiliary projects in any way you can. Also many of our members have been battling illnesses over the summer, please keep our ladies in your thoughts and prayers. See you September 8th, at 7pm.

Veterans Forum

Pat Kroupa, Post Service Officer

SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS BONUS

If you are a veteran of Operation Desert Storm or Desert Shield and resided in South Dakota at the time of entry into the service, this information is for you. The 2005 South Dakota legislature approved funding for those of you who DID NOT RECEIVE your state veterans bonus previously.

This means that you could be entitled to up to \$500.00 from the state of South Dakota. To be eligible for the bonus, you must have served **ANYWHERE** on active duty between August 2, 1990, and March 3, 1991.

Those of you who served in a hostile area and are in receipt of the Southwest Asia Service Medal will receive the higher amount.

Servicemen and women who served After March 3, 1991, and before December 31, 1992, are also entitled to the bonus if you served in an area qualifying you for the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

A reminder to veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom who served from January 1, 1993, to the present that you are also eligible for a bonus. If you have not applied, you are urged to do so.

For more specific information on the bonus periods or to make an application for the bonus, please contact me at your convenience. Patricia Kroupa, Minnehaha County Veterans Service Officer, 521 N. Main Avenue in Sioux Falls, phone 367-4201. The office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Legion Riders

We had a very good turnout at our meeting with 25 members and two guests present. We welcome our newest member, Tom Harr.

Dave Johnson, from 48 & 8 spoke. He gave a very interesting presentation.

We had a large representation, who rode in the Hot Harley Nights Parade. Our thanks to, Shawn Crone, for our position in the parade. Hot Harley Nights is a fund raiser for the Make a Wish Foundation.

We had good representation at the homecoming celebration for Rod Martens, new State Commander. Piedmont Post 311 knows how to throw a party!

Several members attend the Honor Banner Dedication in Pierre. They reported it was very nice, well planned and very moving.

Many members attended the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

Gary Henle will be joining the Legacy Run and attending the National Convention as South Dakota's representative.

Two of our members, Ron and Dorothy Richards, will be moving to Hot Springs. They will be missed but we wish them well.

We are all busy trying to get as many miles on the bikes as we can. The riding season is drawing to an end too soon.

Upcoming events:

Sept 9, 2009 Meeting 7:00 at the Legion Post.

Sept 11, 2009 Multi Cultural Center

VA Hospital Notes

Darwin Wahlert, VA Hospital Representative

It won't be long and summer will be over and things are moving right along at the VA. September is looking like a busy month. Sept. 7th **Labor Day the offices are closed.**

Sept. 11th is Patriot Day, Sept 14th the Bloodmobile will be on site at the VA, Sept. 18th is POW/MIA Day at the DAV, also on the 25th is Veterans Stand Down at the Salvation Army Building. Sept. 22nd is the 1st Annual Veterans Craft Show (open to all Veterans) from 10 am - 6 pm. Sept. is also the Fall Volunteer Picnic (date to be determined).

Volunteers are always needed in all areas of the VA and the work is very rewarding for both the volunteer and the patient. Remember to visit or call a shut-in or sick Veteran.

POST EVERLASTING

H. Wesley Hofstad, William Clark,
William Barlow



SEPTEMBER 2009

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Last month one of our World War II Legion members, Orrin J. Lee, shared with me some of his memories of Sioux Falls Air Base. I thought it would be interesting to many of you folks.

— Curt Pansch, Commander

SIoux FALLS AIR BASE IN THE 40's

I was from North Dakota when I was drafted and sent to Camp Roberts in California for basic training for the infantry. After basics I took some tests and transferred to the Army Air Force. Most of the recruits were sent to the Pacific as replacement crews, but I ended up in Sioux Falls, SD, for training. They taught International Morse Code and we had training in operating radios and transmitters. The school operated seven days a week. Different classes had different days off. I was lucky and had Saturdays off. On any given day, Morrells had a bus at the gate. We would go to the plant and work 10 hours. We were paid \$.60 per hour. So we had \$6.00 at the end of the day. The night clubs got most of it. After Sioux Falls, I was sent to gunnery school in Arizona. Then, later, I joined a crew on a B-24 Liberator. We were sent to Italy to the 15th Air Force, 465th Bomb Group, 781st Bombardment Squadron. We had a crew of 10 men. I was the radio operator and waist gunner. We flew missions over Southern Europe. The 781st has a reunion every year. We have had reunions all over the United States including Ellsworth Air Base at Rapid City. I am currently the President and my wife, Carole is the Executive Secretary of the 781st Bomb Squadron Association.

Post 15 Senior's Pool Tournament

Tues., Sept. 8, 2009 • 12:00 Noon

Sign up on the Bulletin Board

Memorials

In Memory of Gordon Nelson

From Hoot Gibson \$40.00

In Memory of Francis Mainolfi:

From Delight Williams \$20.00

From Wendall Erickson \$10.00

From Hoot Gibson \$10.00

From Charles Connor \$25.00

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

SEPTEMBER 2009

PHONES

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Executive Board Mtg 5:45 pm Go Getters 6:30 pm Regular Business Mtg 7:30 pm	2	3	4	5 Night Raiders 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
6	7 Labor Day LEGION CLOSED	8 Senior Pool Tourn. 12:00 Noon Aux. Mtg 7:00 pm SAL 7:00 pm	9 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 pm	10	11 Road Trip Band 9:00 pm - 1:00 am	12
13	14 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	15 Legionnaires Stag 6:30 pm	16	17 Vet's Council Mtg. VFW 7:00 pm	18	19 Military Pep Rally 10:00 am - Arena Troublemakers 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
20	21 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	22 Ladies Stag 6:30 pm	23	24	25 Stand Down 9 - 4pm Salvation Army	26 Dakota Daze 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
27	28 Singing Legionnaire's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 pm	29 County Meeting Sioux Falls 8:00 pm	30			

SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 • 6:30 pm • RAFFLE: \$175.00

COST: \$6.00 or Free Stag Ticket

MENU: Swiss Steak

Beer Special: Old Milkwaukee Light Taps \$1.00

Liquor Special: Windsor/Lord - \$1.50

NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS



Legionnaire's
Stag

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 • 6:30 pm • COST: \$6.00

MENU: Swiss Steak

Beer Special: \$1.00 Taps

Liquor Special: Almaden Wine - \$1.50

* BINGO * RAFFLE *

NO LONGER NEED TO CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

Ladies'
Stag

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



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Sioux Falls, SD

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

VETERANS STAND DOWN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Goodwill Industries, Disabled American Veterans, Department of Labor, Vet Center, VA medical Center and the Sioux Falls area Veterans Service Organizations have joined together to organize a Veterans Stand Down. The event will be held at the Salvation Army building, 800 North Cliff Ave. in Sioux Falls. Our goal is "Giving Veterans and their families a Hand Up and Not a Hand Out".

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
Bruce Kuemper

VA ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN
John Weber

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Chairmen: Terry Towns
Dean Berdahl, Gene Even, Butch Finton, Gary Henle,
Ed Powers, Ed Hruska, David Twedell

THANKS POST 15 VOLUNTEERS! *Funerals, Color Guard, VA Activities*

Paul Anderson, Dean Berdahl,
Ken Brown, Paul Brude, Alvin Cink,
Earl Dains, Ron Earley, Gene Even,
Butch Finton, Ken Foley, Hoot Gibson,
Harold Hanson, Jim Hartsook,
Edward Hruska, Glen Kelley,
Gil Koepsell, Durwood Lidke,
Don Lounsbery, Vince Maag,
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