



Bensley-Rounds Post 280

Post Notes

Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 19 Issue 11

Colin Royal, Editor, Member SDALPA, NALPA

November 2014

Next Meeting – December 4, 2014
 Time: 7:00pm
 Mea: 6:00PM
 At the Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Patriotism... is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime. ~Adlai Stevenson

Attention Legionnaires who reside in or near Iroquois:

A volunteer is needed to tend to the Post flag when it is to be placed to half-staff as needed and returned to full-staff as required.

Dale Kopplin has been tending to this task and has requested that the duty be assumed by a younger Post member.

Dale has faithfully tended to this duty for many years and it has been greatly appreciated. Thank you Dale for your service.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Next meeting is December 4, 2014 at the Post home at 7:00PM. The Auxiliary will be serving a supper for the veterans prior to the meeting.

Thank you to those who assisted with the breakfast on November 9th. The next breakfast will be on December 14, 2014.

The Poultry Party was a great success. We had a good crowd and lots of fun.



Poultry Party crowd came and went. We had a great turnout. (Photo by Colin Royal)

“Ask & Believe”
 2015 Membership: 68.27%



Waiting & hoping for a bingo... (Photo by Colin Royal)

The Veterans Day program was a great success. The students gave readings and sang for the veterans.



The Iroquois Elementary sings "Thank You Soldier" for the Veterans. (Photo by Richele Royal)

Any member who signs up two (2) new members, I will pay your next year's dues. PUFLs will get the cash. ~ Deb Jennings, Commander

The next Kingsbury County meeting will be held December 3, 2014 at Erwin at 7:30PM.



The Post website has a new address, it is www.sdalpost280.org. The old address will continue to work for a while yet.

Checkout the Website at: www.sdalpost280.org





Some of the art work by the elementary students.
(Photo by Colin Royal)



High School Students thank the Veterans for their service.
(Photo by Richele Royal)

Also, the Post is now on Facebook, check out www.facebook.com/posttwoeighty and follow or friend us.



"Don't interfere with anything in the Constitution. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties." ~ Abraham Lincoln

Post History Needed

The American Legion is compiling a history for its upcoming 100th Birthday. They have asked that each Post compile its history to be shared with all. If you have anything to contribute, please share and send it to Charemon Dunham at dunhamc1@santel.net. If you need to mail the information, she'll give you her address at that time.

Iroquois had a Post after World War I and was disbanded sometime in the early part of World War II or before. If you have any information for this Post, please forward that also. Thank you.

"Yet America is a poem in our eyes; its ample geography dazzles the imagination, and it will not wait long for metres." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The Poet," Essays, Second Series, 1844

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 3 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Erwin
Dec 4 - Post Meeting
Dec 14 – Breakfast
Dec 25 – Christmas
Dec 31 – New Year's Eve
Jan 1 – Post Meeting

Jan 10 – SAL Chili & Soup Feed
Jan 11 – Breakfast
Jan 15 – Auxiliary Meeting
Jan 19 – Martin Luther King Day
Jan 28 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Hetland
Feb 1 – Four Chaplains Sunday
Feb 5 – Post Meeting
Feb 6-8 – Mid-Winter @ Watertown
Feb 14 – Valentine's Day
Feb 16 – Presidents Day
Feb 18 – Ash Wednesday
Feb 19 – Auxiliary Meeting
Feb 25 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Lake Preston

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(From UTN #3144 dated 11/19/14)

The 2015 South Dakota American Legion MidWinter Conference will be held Friday-Sunday, February 6-8, 2015, at the Ramkota Best Western & Convention Center in Watertown, SD. An outline of the schedule of events is listed below:

Friday, February 6, 2015

10:00 a.m. – Finance Commission Meeting - Whitewood
12:00 noon – Registration Desk Opens - Commons
1:00 p.m. – Department Executive Committee Meeting – Whitewood
4:30 p.m. – 5 Year Membership/PR & Media Committees - Whitewood
6:00 p.m. – No Host Cocktails
7:00 p.m. – Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet – Cottonwood/Big Stone

Saturday, February 7, 2015

7:30 a.m. – Registration Desk Opens – Commons
8:00 a.m. – Joint Opening Session - Theater
8:30 a.m. – National Vice Commander Paul Sanford
8:55 a.m. – Auxiliary VA&R Briefing – Becky Hawkins
9:10 a.m. – Auxiliary Children & Youth – Melanie Martens
9:25 a.m. – Larry Zimmerman, Secretary Department of Veterans Affairs
9:45 a.m. – Charles Schmidt – Candidate for National Commander
10:00 a.m. – Legion/Auxiliary/SAL to separate meetings
10:30 a.m. – BREAKOUT SESSIONS:
Public Relations -PR/Media Committee - Prairie
Membership - Whitewood
MyLegion.Org (Beginners) - Swan
12:00 p.m. – Noon Lunch Break (On Your Own)
1:15 p.m. – **BREAKOUT SESSIONS:**
Americanism - Whitewood
100th Anniversary - Coteau
MyLegion.Org (Advanced) - Swan
2:55 p.m. – All Assemble in Convention Hall - Theater
3:00 p.m. – NEC Paul Evenson Remarks.
3:15 p.m. – Ken Orrock – National Membership Chairman
3:35 p.m. – Department Legislative Committee Chairman Mark Weinmann
3:50 p.m. – 2014 American Legion College Graduates –

Checkout the Website at: www.sdalpost280.org

Ken Teunissen of Sioux Falls & Assistant State Adjutant Dave Gutzmer of Lake Preston

4:05 p.m. – Department Membership Chairman Terry Hanson, Membership Report, Membership Awards & Turn-In

4:35 p.m. – Dept. VAVS Committee Chairman Kenneth Van Kekerix, VAVS Popcorn Fund Turn-In

4:45 p.m. – Adjourn assembly

4:50 p.m. – SD American Legion Foundation Meeting - Theater

6:00 p.m. – Go-Getters Reception – Post 17

7:00 p.m. – Go-Getters Smorgasbord – Post 17

Sunday, February 8, 2015

8:30 a.m. – Non-Denominational Service - Theater

10:30 a.m. – State Oratorical Contest Finals - Theater

AUXILIARY UNIT 280 NEWS

The next meeting is December 4, 2014 at 6:00PM at the Post home, weather permitting as with all meetings throughout the winter months. The December meeting we will be serving pot luck for the veterans.

“Those who served, and those who continue to serve in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard took an oath to uphold and protect the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic, and we can never forget the importance of their commitment to our Nation.” ~ Robin Hayes

SAL SQUADRON 280 NEWS

Come join us on Saturday, January 10, 2015 for our 2nd annual Chili Feed. There will be homemade chili and also homemade chicken noodle soup. Freewill donation goes toward the Child Welfare Foundation. We will begin serving at 5:30PM, all are welcome.



Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander Colin Royal addresses the guests and students at the Veterans Day Program. (Photo by Richele Royal)

Dues are now due for the 2015 year; please get them in as soon as possible. Dues are still only \$10.00. Remember, all male descendants (including adopted and stepsons) of a Legion member are eligible to belong to the Sons of The American Legion regardless of age.

And Legion members who are descendants of veterans are eligible also. The SAL members get the same discounts as the Legion.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The First Amendment was actually the third in line of 12 Amendments that were presented in 1789. The Second Amendment was ratified in 1992 as the 27th Amendment. The original First Amendment was never ratified.
- In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." The 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.
- Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. With a membership at nearly 800,000, local American Legion Auxiliary units have a strong presence in more than 9,000 communities nationwide. The American Legion Auxiliary's mission is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.
- The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The S.A.L. is made up of boys and men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Please, if your address changes, notify the Post so we get the newsletter and membership information to you in a timely fashion. Thank You!

“Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country. ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 71 of 104 members renewed for the 2015 year.

Our membership goal for the 2015 year has gone up to 104 members. This means we will need to get a number of new members and retain current members to meet our new goal. With your help, we can and will do this. Dues remain at \$35 for the 2015 year.

A selling point to membership in the Legion, Auxiliary and the SAL, is the American Legion Riders. To

be eligible for the Riders, the person must be a member of the Legion, Auxiliary, or the SAL.

Renewals may also be done online at <http://www.legion.org/renew> . The Department will be notified within 24-48 hours normally and you may also set up a recurring renewal if you like. This does not include Auxiliary or SAL.

Remember; just ask the new members to join and ask the past members to renew their membership and Just Believe, Ask and Together we can do it.

THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY OCTOBER 21, 1921 (Editorial) (From UTN #3144 Dated 11/19/14)

You are a member of The American Legion or you wouldn't be reading this. You are sitting in a street car, under the gas jet in the dining room, riding in the smoker or eating lunch in the stock room-certainly you are enjoying a few moments of leisure, or again you would not be reading this.

You know that it is getting on toward the end of October, that Halloween is in sight, that the quilt has come into its own again, that it's a darned sight harder to get up now than it was two months ago. You know and if you don't, this is telling you—that barely more than a week remains in the Legion's biggest membership drive. You know that the war cry of that drive, originating with the late National Commander Galbraith is "Every member get a member." How about it? You have until October 31st. What are you going to do? Sit there all night and just read?

"Confidence... thrives on honesty, on honor, on the sacredness of obligations, on faithful protection and on unselfish performance. Without them it cannot live."
~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

American Legion Blood Donor Program

(From www.legion.org/security/blood)

People have held blood drives and given blood since community service became an American value. It's only natural that The American Legion - with community service as one of its pillars - be heavily involved in blood donation efforts.

The American Legion Blood Donor Program has existed officially since 1942 to help that cause. Each year - especially since 9/11 - Legionnaires have donated in spades, and departments have coordinated efforts at the post level. The Blood Donor Program honors those departments that best participate in blood-donation efforts, recognizing departments in two areas: for post participation and individual Legionnaire participation. Post participation awards are given to departments with the highest number of participating posts. Individual participation awards are given to departments with the highest percentage of individuals giving blood to the program.

The 2014 American Legion blood drive runs from November 27th to December 31st. Remember let the Post know if you give blood.

How does Post 13 in South Dakota celebrate the opening of hunting season?

(Article & photo from

<http://www.legion.org/moment-in-time>)

For the last 53 years, American Legion Gingrich-Dixon Post 13 in Wakonda, S.D., has hosted a huge public steak dinner in October to mark the opening of hunting season. Read more about the fundraiser on Post 13's page on the Legion's Centennial Celebration site <http://centennial.legion.org/south-dakota/post13>

Post Commander Michael Hessman has talked



to Kenny Peterson, one of the most senior post members with 61 years of membership, and reports, "He said the Hunters Feed started when some farmers, including himself, would host several out-of-state pheasant hunters from Virginia. A small group of American Legion members began serving steaks for these hunters out of our building. It was not one particular

person's idea, but more of a group decision to have a meal of some sort. I can only imagine the hunters insisted on giving a little donation to the Legion for thanks.

"It was larger in previous years, with 400-500 steak dinners being served. Nowadays we serve an average of 250 each year. This includes a 16-oz. T-bone steak, baked potato, corn, roll and salad for \$20. It only increased to that price last year, as beef prices have risen. The majority of people who attend now are locals, as well as those who may only come back to Wakonda for this event to meet up with old friends. It's our Legion's biggest fundraiser each year. We also have a shotgun raffle in the form of a \$500 gift certificate to a local gun shop; and a local band plays each year for a dance." Peterson reportedly continued that the grandkids of those original Virginia hunters still come to Wakonda to enjoy the hunting and steaks. Find more Legion stories at www.legion.org/centennial.

