



Bensley-Rounds Post 280

Post Notes

Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 19 Issue 8

Colin Royal, Editor, Member SDALPA, NALPA

August 2014

Next Meeting – September 4, 2014
Time: 8:00pm
At the Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Ask & Believe”

2014 Membership: 93.94%
2015 Membership: 59.62%

“My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition.” ~ Indira Gandhi

COMMANDER’S CORNER

Next meeting is September 4, 2014 at the Post home at 8:00PM.

Thank you to the family of Keith Smith for the donation of \$150.

The propane for the upcoming winter was discussed with the determination that we shop around to get prices and will be discussed further at the September meeting.

The status of the back door was discussed and decided upon to have it replaced by Steve Lichtenberg. The building has settled over the years and the door is dragging on the floor causing damage to the floor.

The new Commanders board is finished and has been hung. Thank you to Colin Royal and the SAL Squadron for the work to fund this project. Also a thank you to Mr. Hehn, the shop instructor at Iroquois School and the 2013-2014 sophomore shop class for their work.

intended. The proposed change would reword the section about the Sports Banquet from “Middle” to “Junior/Senior High”. Colin Royal will include the proposed change in the upcoming newsletter mailing. It will again be explored at the September meeting for membership input and is expected to be finalized at the October meeting.

Remember to turn in your old flags for retirement and disposal in September.

A Flag Retirement Ceremony demonstration has been requested by Iroquois School. We will need some volunteers for this demonstration. This will be early to mid-September, date and time will be forwarded as soon as it is available.

September 19th is Homecoming for Iroquois High School. Volunteers are requested for a color guard for the parade and the football game.

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

The next Kingsbury County meeting will be held September 24, 2014 at Badger at 7:30PM. Flag Retirement Ceremony will precede the meeting.

The Fall District 6 Meeting will be on Sunday, September 28th at the Mitchell American Legion, Social 2:00 p.m., Meeting 3:00 p.m., Meal following meeting. Auxiliary will meet at the Mitchell Post Home.

“Now, Legionnaires, who were willing in war to follow faithful to the service of our country, I ask you in the 1960’s to live and live faithfully to the service of the cause for freedom and the cause of the United States. Thank you.” ~ Senator John F. Kennedy



The rising breakfast costs vs the price for the meal was discussed. The membership voted to raise the price of the breakfast meal by \$1 to \$5 and \$6 to help cover the expenses. This will take effect with the breakfast on September 14, 2014.

A change in the By-Laws of the Youth Activity Fund was brought to the floor. This change would bring the original focus of the fund back in line as it was



It is with great sorrow, that we extend our deepest sympathies to Dale Kopplin and family on the loss of Beverly, beloved wife, mother and grandmother.



Checkout the Website at: www.americanlegionsd280.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 1 – Labor Day
Sep 4 – Post Meeting
Sep 11 – Patriot Day
Sep 14 – Breakfast
Sep 16 – American Legion Day
Sep 17 – Constitution/Citizenship day
Sep 18 – Auxiliary Meeting
Sep 19 – POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sep 19 – IHS Homecoming
Sep 24 – Kingsbury County Meeting @ Badger
Sep 28 – District 6 Meeting @ Mitchell
Oct 2 – Post Meeting
Oct 16 - Auxiliary Meeting
Oct 18 – Pheasant Season Opener
Oct 19 – Breakfast
Oct 31 – Halloween
Nov 4 – Election Day, Get out to Vote
Nov 6 - Post Meeting, Membership Night
Nov 20 – Auxiliary Meeting
Nov 9 – Breakfast
Nov 11 – Veterans Day
Nov 27 – Thanksgiving



The South Dakota delegation to the 96th Annual American Legion National Convention at Charlotte, North Carolina.

AUXILIARY UNIT 280 NEWS

The next meeting is September 18, 2014 at 5:00PM at the Post home. There will also be a potluck dinner that night.

Auxiliary dues are now due for the 2015 year. The dues are \$18.00; please get them in as soon as you can. Junior dues are \$3 for the year.

SAL SQUADRON 280 NEWS

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. The SAL members get the same discounts as the Legion.

Thank you to those that assisted with the August 10th breakfast, your help was greatly appreciated.

"Our country is not the only thing to which we owe our allegiance. It is also owed to justice and to

humanity. Patriotism consists not in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong." ~James Bryce

DID YOU KNOW?

- Though President Grover Cleveland declared Labor Day a national holiday in 1894, the occasion was first observed on Sept. 5, 1882, in New York City.
- U.S. House of Representatives Joint Resolution 71 was approved by a vote of 407–0 on October 25, 2001. It requested that the President designate September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day". President George W. Bush signed the resolution into law on December 18, 2001, It is a discretionary day of remembrance. On September 4, 2002, President Bush used his authority created by the resolution and proclaimed September 11, 2002 as Patriot Day.
- The Bill of Rights–10 amendments guaranteeing basic individual protections such as freedom of speech and religion–became part of the Constitution in 1791. The battleship USS Missouri was chosen for the formal surrender ceremony of the Japanese, as she was named after President Truman's home state.
- Autumn in poetry has often been associated with melancholy. The possibilities of summer are gone, and the chill of winter is on the horizon. Skies turn grey, and many people turn inward, both physically and mentally

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

"Every act of a delegated authority, contrary to the tenor of the commission under which it is exercised, is void. No legislative act, therefore, contrary to the Constitution, can be valid. To deny this, would be to affirm, that the deputy is greater than his principal; that the servant is above his master; that the representatives of the people are superior to the people themselves; that men acting by virtue of powers, may do not only what their powers do not authorize, but what they forbid."
~ Alexander Hamilton

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 62 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

Checkout the Website at: www.americanlegionsd280.org

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.

ENROLL FOR FREE LIT INSURANCE ONLINE

(From UTN #3137 dated 08/13/14)

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust is pleased to announce that online enrollment is now available for the LegionCare No Cost Accidental Death benefit. Please be sure to let your Department know about this one-of-a-kind benefit offered exclusively to Legionnaires.

LegionCare provides all Legionnaires with:

- \$5,000 in Accidental Death Coverage for covered accents that occur if you are traveling on official Legion business.
- \$1,000 for all other covered accidents.
- 24/7 protection that covers Legionnaires at home, at work and while they are travelling away from home available for all Legionnaires in your Department.

To learn more or to sign up, please visit:

<http://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare>.

COMMANDER JURGENS' HOMECOMING A SUCCESS

(From UTN #3137 Dated 08/13/14)



Commander Tim Jurgens and wife Donna Ride in the parade at the Commander's Homecoming in Milbank, SD on August 9, 2014

The homecoming of South Dakota American Legion State Commander Tim Jurgens, hosted by Birch-Miller Post 9 of Milbank, on Saturday, August 9, 2014, has been declared an enormous success.

Attendance was estimated at over 200 members of the American Legion Family.

The day began with a parade at 12:00 noon and a social at 12:30 p.m. in the Milbank High School lobby, a program at 1:30 p.m. at the Milbank High School Theater. Master of Ceremonies was State Adjutant Denny Brenden. Featured speakers for the homecoming were Pastor Craig Werling and NEC Paul Evenson.

Following the State Commander Banner Presentation by PDC Rick MacDonald of Hermosa, a

membership turn in was held and 474 members were turned in. A larger number was announced but some Posts reported their PUFL members but National does not re-turn them to the Department until the end of August. They should not have been included in the turn in. Following the program, a meal was held at Legion Club/Pizza Ranch on Main Street.

Five service members given Spirit of Service award

(From www.legion.org Convention dated 08/26/14)

By: Mark Seavey



Op. Spec. Kristina L. Manson from the Coast Guard received the Spirit of Service Award from National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger and Medal of Honor recipient Kyle White during The American Legion's 96th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on Aug 2

On Tuesday, Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Kyle White joined American Legion National Commander Dan Dellinger in awarding the organization's Spirit of Service Award to representatives from the five armed services during the Legion's 96th National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.

The Legion gives the Spirit of Service Awards annually to service members in recognition of their exemplary efforts in volunteering in their local communities.

"No one understands service in the same way that both active-duty, reserve and veterans understand it," White said. "Those of us who have worn the uniform of our country know that our service does not end when the uniform comes off."

This year's recipients:

- Army Spec. Cassandra Rousayne. Rousayne spends time delivering baked goods to local police, fire and emergency personnel who work during the holidays. She also participates in the Army Service Blood program providing blood products for soldiers, veterans and their family members. She's currently assigned to the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.
- Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Porfirio Pimentel. Originally from Veracruz, Mexico, Pimentel joined the U.S. Navy in May 2003. During his tour in Gulfport, Miss., he spent many off-duty hours volunteering to help clear roads and build temporary housing for victims of Hurricane

Checkout the Website at: www.americanlegionsd280.org

Katrina. He also volunteered his time coaching children of the Keflavik Youth Athletic Association Soccer League.

- Cpl. Ricardo Gonzalez, Marine Corps. Gonzalez is a Marine honored for his selfless community service while assigned to Headquarters Company, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, Camp Schwab, Okinawa. During his tour in Okinawa he volunteered hundreds of hours to various organizations on and off base, including the USO, Henoko Orphanage and the Kadena Special Olympics. He is cited as a leader and mentor in and out of uniform.
- Op. Spec. 3rd Class Kristina Manson, U.S. Coast Guard Communication Station Kodiak, Alaska. Manson volunteers much of her off-duty time as a mentor for female high school students. She also organized, nontraditional career field trips for female high school students, and spearheaded the creation of an adult mentorship program for troubled middle school children living in the Kodiak community.
- Staff Sgt. Jessica Day, Air Force. Day has distinguished herself while serving as an Air Traffic Control Watch Supervisor at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, home of the 366th Operations Support Squadron. Her volunteerism encompasses support for her fellow Airmen, local veterans and veterans organizations, as well as Habitat for Humanity, The Humane Society, and church food pantry programs. She's a fundraiser, a mentor and a leader in her community.

White, who earned the Medal of Honor for his life-saving heroics in the Battle of Aranas in 2007, talked about his own service in remarks made after the awards presentation.

"My service takes the form of addressing bodies like yours about post-traumatic stress" he said. "Service members and veterans need to realize that they went to war and they made it back, but they might have some scars remaining. They need to reach out to their chain of command or mental health professionals to get the treatment they need."

White said his service is dedicated to honor those who fell while serving beside him.

"I will forever be a voice for them," he said. "I will tell their stories and preserve their memories. Although they are gone, they will not be forgotten. Their sacrifice and the sacrifices of so many others is what motivates me to wake up each and every day and be the best that I can be."

"Anything I do in my life is done to make them proud. Getting troops to come forward and tell people they're suffering is perhaps the biggest challenge to tackling the mental health issues that many combat veterans face."

NASCAR legend Richard Petty receives Legion 'Good Guy' Award

(From www.legion.org Convention dated 08/26/14)

By: John Raughter



Richard Petty visits with wounded warriors and their families before receiving the Good Guy Award during the PDCC Luncheon at the 96th American Legion National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on Monday, August 25.
Photo by Tom Strattman/The American Legion

Praised for his patriotism and his service to the community, NASCAR Hall of Famer "The King" Richard Petty was presented The American Legion's James V. Day "Good Guy" Award during the The 96th Annual American Legion National Convention today.

"Richard Petty is so much more than just a former race driver and now current team owner," American Legion National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger said during an award luncheon held in Petty's honor at the Westin Charlotte by The American Legion Past Department Commander's Club. "He is a great American, who is always giving back to the community. By donating his land, and more importantly, his time, to Victory Junction, Richard has helped chronically ill children receive life-changing camping experiences.

"He and his son Kyle have helped educate young people about the safe use of automobile lifts, and he has donated time to Civitan International. Richard Petty Motorsports has also supported paralyzed veterans. The NASCAR culture is often praised for its patriotism. Well, it's no coincidence that Richard Petty is The King of NASCAR."

"It's an honor to be recognized by the American Legion," Petty said. "I've also felt it was important to do my best to give back to the community and to those in need. It's just something small we do to help out and hopefully make people's lives better or make them feel good. It's humbling to be rewarded for it."

The James V. Day Good Guy Award is named after a World War II veteran and prominent Legionnaire. Recent recipients include former boxing great George Foreman, performer Dolly Parton, MLB Commissioner Bud Selig and former NBA star David Robinson.