

POST 15 NEWS



October 2022

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Editor Diane Diekman

COMMANDER'S CORNER—*Bill Peters*

October is here where did the month go? Dale Hill and I attended the National Convention in Milwaukee last month. By resolution each Post is asked to do a program dealing with suicide awareness. Post 15 had Mikayla Kappenman from The Lourdes Center talk to us about Suicide Awareness. It was very informative and for those of you who were at the membership social, thank you for attending. The common theme that you have heard and will hear more in the future is "Be the One."

Honor Flight Mission 13 will happen October 1, 2022. The Legion statewide raised \$180,000 to sponsor the flight. Post 15 has ten members on this flight. I am asking as many as possible to show up for the Welcome Home program to show support for our members and all the Veterans on this flight. Bring your relatives friends and neighbors. If you are a Legion member, please wear your Legion cover along with logo wear. The doors to the Arena will open at 7:30 p.m. The Veterans will arrive approximately 9:30. If you have not taken part in a Welcome Home Celebration, I encourage you do so. It is something you won't forget.

For those of you who have renewed for 2023, thank you for your support of the Legion and the Veterans we serve. Those who have not renewed, I encourage you to do so now. Members with paid 2023 dues will be entered into a drawing for five \$100 gift cards to be given away at the December membership meeting, just in time for Christmas.

Post 15 will host the District 7 Fall Meeting on October 22. Social Hour begins at 11:00 a.m. Meal will be served at noon, with the meeting beginning at 1:00. Doug Feltman, our State Commander, will present his programs and goals for the year. I would encourage all to attend. You will have the opportunity to network and learn. The Auxiliary and Sons of Legion are encouraged to attend, too. Plan to be at the Veterans Day Program on November 11.

What can your post do for you? Please let us know – we are here to support each other.

UNIT 15 AUXILIARY

Kellie Heazlett, President

I think I love Fall most of all! I hope this month is finding you all happy and healthy. September was Suicide prevention month. I hope you reached out to your friends and family. We welcomed our new members into our ALA family with a membership banquet potluck at our September meeting. It was so fun to see many new faces and learn about our new members. We are blessed to have over 190 members, most of whom are very active. This year's membership challenge is 10 plus 3 in 2023. This means 10 new adult members and 3 new junior members. If you know of someone who is eligible, talk to them about signing up. Invite them to a meeting or event. If you have not renewed your dues, please do so as soon as possible. Our junior members will have their first meeting October 9 at 4 p.m. in the ALA room at the Post. We look forward to getting the junior program up and running and to its growth. We still need chairpersons and assistants for many of our committees. Amy Bolduc is the chairperson for the juniors, and she could use some help, if anyone is interested in assisting. Two members attended the National Convention in Milwaukee, where we were surprised with our Past President Susan Panning being awarded the National Presidents Award for Excellence! This is a huge honor and very well deserved. It is only awarded to 1 unit out of 10,000 Units. We could not be more proud of Susan and our Unit for everything they have done throughout the last year. October will be another busy month: Oct 9-Junior Auxiliary meeting @ 4 p.m., Oct 11-ALA monthly meeting at 7 p.m., Oct 20-Welcome home party for the 1742nd Unit, Oct 22-District 7 fall meeting, Oct 25-combined ALA and VFW Aux social and bingo. I hope to see you all there.

GO-GETTERS CLUB

Dale Hill, 1st Vice Commander

Since 2001, over 7,500 Americans have been killed in hostile actions in the War on Terrorism. During that same time, nearly 120,000 active duty military and veterans have died by suicide. "BE THE ONE" is a Legion program to draw greater attention to suicide prevention across our entire nation.

BUDDY CHECKS continue as a major emphasis. Post 15 members who cannot physically help with Post activities can really help our Go-Getters group by making phone calls to fellow veterans to ensure they are OK. We have found that some members just want to talk to another person, and who better than another veteran? Remind those that you call about our meetings, social dinners, pancake breakfasts, and other activities. If they can't attend, they can help the Post by keeping their membership current, and maybe they can also make BUDDY CHECK phone calls. Call Sue at the office 605-336-3470 for a list of members to call if you can help. This is also how we keep our membership list up to date. When the American Legion leadership goes to Congress representing more than two million veterans, we get their attention. Membership is important!

The American Legion-sponsored Honor Flight is Saturday October 1. All veterans on this flight will be Legion members. Please plan on greeting those returning on the Honor Flight (ETA about 9:30 PM) at the Denny Sanford Premiere Center that evening if you are able. Let's fill the Center with blue Legion hats!

Benson's Flea Market is every first weekend from October-April at Lyons Fairgrounds. This has been a good opportunity for recruiting new members, selling raffle tickets and staying in front of the public. If you can help for a few hours on Saturdays (9-5) or Sundays (10:30-3:00) during the first weekend each month, please let me know at 605-961-8264.

Post 15 could use additional members for the Honor Guard as our snowbird members head south for the winter.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

Diane Diekman

The National Defense Service Medal is going back into retirement on Dec. 31. The award, which all troops serving since 9/11 have been able to pin on their uniforms after initial training, won't be awarded for the foreseeable future. Following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and the formal end of combat operations in Iraq, the Defense Department is preparing to truly transition the military out of a wartime posture, according to a memo signed by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on August 30. Thus brings to a close the fourth conflict for which troops could earn the National Defense Service Medal. It previously was activated for five years during the first Gulf War, 13 years for Vietnam and four years for the Korean War. What the end of National Defense Service Medal essentially means is that while troops will earn awards for deploying abroad in support of myriad missions, they won't get a wartime award just for completing training. –

Military Times

Editorial comment: That's disappointing news. The National Defense Service Medal should be for service, as its name suggests, not wartime. That medal belongs on every military member's uniform. I have three of these awards; one would be sufficient.

POST EVERLASTING

May they Rest in Peace

John Norberg, 89, Army, 5/18/2022; Robert "Bob" James Tunender, 90, Army, 8/1/2022; Orville Hill, 98, Navy, 8/28,2022; Gordon Carlson, 101, Army, 9/6/2022; Clyde Rabb, 88, Air Force, 9/6/2022

If you know of a Legion member who has died, call 605-336-3470.



October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office is open 11-3 pm M-F	A = event at Alliance					1 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
2 Legion Pan- cake Breakfast & Bake Sale 8:30-noon—A	3 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	4 Legion Post 15 Meeting 7 pm	5 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	6	7	8 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
9	10 Honor Guard breakfast —8am Fryn' Pan Singing Legionnaires	11 Legion Auxiliary meeting 7 pm	12 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm Legion Riders 7 pm	13 Sons of the Legion 7 pm	14	15 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
16	17 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	18 Legionnaires only: Social 5:30 pm—A Dinner 6:30 pm	19 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	20	21	22 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
23	24 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	25 VFW/Legion Auxiliary*** Social 5 pm-A Dinner 6 pm-A	26 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	27	28	29 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
30	31 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	***Open to the public; reserva- tions required for dinner				



Singing Legionnaires at 2021 Veterans Day program

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CHORUS NOTES *Len Neugebauer*

The Singing Legionnaires were honored to perform at Orville Hill's funeral at First Lutheran Church on 9/3. Orville sang bass with the chorus for over 50 years, served as treasurer for six years, and as chorus president in 1998. He was a past Commander of Post 15 and a member of the Go-Getters Club. We also performed at the POW/MIA ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park on 9/16, at Peace Lutheran Church on 9/18, and at Dow Rummel Village on 9/19. The chorus plans to perform 10/11 at Brandon Valley High School along with the high school choral concert. We are finalizing plans for the annual poultry party at the Military Heritage Alliance on 11/4. The chorus invites all American Legion members and friends to attend this fun event in support of the Singing Legionnaires mission to bring honor to God and country through music. Please put the **Poultry Party, Friday, November 4, 7:00pm** on your calendar and we look forward to seeing you there. The Singing Legionnaires continue to observe their 75th anniversary during 2022. Check out this article in *Legiontown U.S.A.* at <http://www.legiontown.org/other/9382/singing-legionnaires-celebrate-75th-anniversary>. The chorus posted flags on Labor Day and Patriot Day, and will post flags on 10/10, Columbus Day (Indigenous Peoples Day). If anyone knows of a Sioux Falls business that would like to sponsor American flags to be flown on holidays special to veterans, please have them call Todd Schmidt at (605) 370-4405. If any male is interested in singing with our men's chorus, please contact chorus president Bruce Naasz at (605) 310-6210 or at 66cyclor2019@gmail.com.

\$100 DRAWINGS FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

All Post 15 members who renew by November 11 (and all PUFL members) will be eligible for five \$100 cash drawings. Mark your calendars now to pay your annual dues on July 1 of each year.

RENEW ONLINE

All American Legion members can pay their dues online at <https://www.legion.org/>. Use a credit card, and print your membership card. For more information, call the office at 605-336-3470, email legionoffice.al@gmail.com, or stop in at 1700 W Russell Street from 11 am-3 pm Monday-Friday.

HONOR GUARD COMMANDER

Bill Peters

We have two new Honor Guard members. Welcome to Patrick Branco and Nitasa Freund (we will call him Friend as that is how his last name is pronounced). We have sent our Color Guard to many events lately. Let others know they can call the office to schedule the Color Guard for their programs/events. It is great that so many want to have the American Flag posted at their events and programs.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Clarence Mellang

Squadron 15 of The Sons of American Legion (SAL) is overdue to vote in new officers. Please attend the meeting on October 13 at 7:00 p.m. so we have a quorum and can vote. After that, we can get going on projects that support our mission of helping Veterans. Interested in becoming a member? Go to <https://www.legion.org/sons/about> to learn more.

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

Members Only—No Guests

Tuesday, October 18—At the Alliance

Social hour: 5:30 / Dinner: 6:30

Tony's Catering—Turkey— \$9.00

Reservations requested—call the office

Number 714 of 1,554 Post 15 members was drawn at the September membership social. **Steven Kilgour** was not there to collect his \$425. This month's drawing will be for **\$450**. **Mike McGoffin** won the hat drawing, which was increased to \$25 because he was also wearing a Legion shirt. **Kenneth Richardson** of Sioux Falls won the monthly raffle.

LEGION RIDERS

Lamar Nance, Chairman

The Legion Riders participated in Honor Flight Homecoming September 10.

Photo credit to Jeanne Saunders.



Upcoming Rides:

October 1: Midwest Honor Flight Escort. Be at Cell Phone Lot 8:15 p.m.

October 29: Hobo Day Parade, Brookings.

Our website at <http://siouxfallslegionriders.yolasite.com/> has information regarding membership, some great pictures of past events, and the Legion calendar. Anyone who rides a motorcycle and is a member of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the Legion is invited to be a guest and join. Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the post home.

Quote of the Month: "I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them." —Phyllis Diller

New Post 15 Members

We welcome the following new members to Post 15 and invite you to attend our membership meeting on October 4 and monthly social on October 18:

Jackson Abbott, Donald Cooper, Nitasa Freund, Jon Graff, Kevin Kaiar, Carissa Kenjaio, Steve Jacobson, Jamie Johnson, Bonnie Schmidt, Rickey Starks, Dave Tenneboe, and Michael Weckman



Auxiliary Unit 15
Past President Susan
Panning with the
National Presidents
Award for Excel-
lence, awarded at
the American Legion
National Convention

Legionnaire Insurance Trust

Free Coverage

Members of the LEGION FAMILY (Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons of Legion) who are 18 and older are eligible for free insurance from the Legionnaire Insurance Trust. This \$1,000/\$5,000 accidental death policy pays if you are injured or killed while on Legion business. (Carry a membership application with you at all times.) If you are not sure if you are signed up, or would like to register, call 1-800-235-6943 and have your membership number available. It only takes a few minutes. They will not keep calling you. The website is <https://www.thelit.com>.



SINGING LEGIONNAIRES

POULTRY PARTY

Friday, November 4, 2022

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

at the

Military Heritage Alliance

Bingo – Games – Ham & Turkey Prizes
Cash Raffle Drawings (need not be present to win)

Food & Refreshments Available
Everybody Welcome!!

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15 AMERICAN LEGION

LEGION OFFICE: 605-336-3470 / 1700 W. Russell St., Suite 510 (north door)

OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15

Commander	Bill Peters
1st Vice Commander	Dale Hill
2nd Vice Commander	Terry Wolf
Finance Officer	Jim McQuisten
Historian	Sharon Taplett-Lundgren
Sgt-At-Arms	Duane Krumbach
Chaplain	Donna Puthoff
Adjutant	Barry Andres

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Bachmeier—Chair
Jess Kindelspire, Joan Ishol, Dean Mann, Larry Zikmund
Will Bolduc, Mike McGoffin, Wayne Sprecher

COMMITTEES

Chorus: Bruce Naasz	Americanism: Bruce Swan
Legion Riders: Lamar Nance	Go Getters: Dale Hill
Vets Council: John Bachmeier	SAL: Clarence Mellang
Post Everlasting/Flag Retirement: vacant	Raffle Sales: vacant

OFFICERS OF AUXILIARY Unit 15

President	Kellie Heazlett
1st Vice President	Beth Honerman
2nd Vice President	Amy Bolduc
Treasurer	Carole Lee
Historian	Judy Hill
Sgt-At-Arms	Barb Hayes
Chaplain	Marva Petit
Secretary	Nancy Andres
Parliamentarian	Ann McGoffin
Past President	Susan Panning
Executive Board	Sue Peters
Executive Board	Nancy Renner

Building & Grounds: **Vacant**
Baseball: Terry Wolf
VAVS/VA: Larry Panning
Memorial Day Flags: Ron Lien
Pancakes: Dale Haas

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
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