

POST 15 NEWS



March 2022

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Issue Number 2022—03

COMMANDER'S CORNER

John Bachmeier

I've just returned from the Legion midwinter conference where we got a lot of good information and met with the National Vice Commander. I found the State Oratorical contest to be very rewarding. It gives me much confidence in our youth. March is shaping up to be a fun month. It starts right off on Tuesday with our monthly membership business meeting where we will nominate officers for 2022-2023. You won't want to miss that. Make your voice heard. Friday March 4 is a free legal clinic at the Alliance for all veterans, sponsored by USD Law Veterans Law Education Group. Email VLEG@usd.edu or call 605-658-3530 for an appointment. Saturday March 5 is our dance with Last Call playing '60s, '70s, and '80s music. (See ad on page 5.) The next morning is the monthly pancake breakfast. We served 724 people last month. The following Sunday we wake up early as we return to daylight saving time, then on Tuesday March 15 is our Legion Social at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30. A regional veterans service officer will speak on VA benefits and will be able to start applications for benefits. The last several months we have had great reviews on the food. March 19 is the 7th District meeting in Valley Springs, followed by the Legion's 103rd birthday party that evening at the Alliance. Reservations required. (See ad on page 3.) Social starts at 5 pm with dinner and awards at 5:30. The keynote speaker will be Gary Wolkow, our state commander. A free women veterans conference on March 26 is sponsored by CAV at Our Saviors Lutheran, 8:30 to 2, with free childcare. Call the office for details.

April 5th will be our annual meeting where we elect officers. We will have a Post Everlasting ceremony on April 24 for members of our post who died this past year. The National Commander will be visiting South Dakota the last week of April. I look forward to seeing all of you at these events.

Our post donated \$2,500 to the Gold Star Memorial, and the Auxiliary donated \$500. Both donations will be matched by the DAV.

ADJUTANT *Bill Peters*

Commander Bachmeier, Larry Panning, and I attended Midwinter last weekend. I would encourage more of you to attend in 2023. We heard from the speakers & presenters about the Legion family, how important it is to log your volunteer hours, the Buddy system, technology and how to use it, and how important our younger members are. Networking with other posts is so valuable, too.

Our administrative assistant, Sue, was recognized by the Department for her dedication to the Legion family. She was instrumental in Post 15 getting to 100% membership in 2021. Something we have not done since 2014. In turn that made South Dakota #1 in the nation. Your post is very close again with over 90% already. Sue encourages us to use our Buddy System and reach out to members we don't hear from. Would you be willing to make some home visits this week? We have found members who are alone and so appreciate the post checking on them. Our chaplain Donna, the Unit 15 Auxiliary chaplain Marva, and member Kay are sending cards. If you know of a member we should be sending to or checking on, please let us know. Some don't attend our monthly socials because the people they attended with have died. At the socials, make sure you meet someone new each month.

Your post collected and boxed supplies requested by the 235 Army National Guard unit that is deployed. Many brought in items and others helped to inventory and box them. A special thank you to Mark Griffin at Lewis Drug Stores for donating many of the items on that list. Shop local!

See you at the dance (or come for dinner and listen to the music) on March 5 and the monthly pancake breakfast on March 6. Please share information on those events from our Facebook page. That is maybe the "just one thing" you can help your post with. Thank you!

RETAIN—RECRUIT—EDUCATE

LEGISLATIVE NOTES *Diane Diekman*

By unanimous consent, the **U.S. Senate approved a bipartisan bill to extend VA health care** to more veterans who suffer from toxic exposure. It is a pared-down version of legislation introduced in both the House and Senate but deemed too pricey. The bill garnered criticism from some who say it doesn't go far enough to help post-9/11 veterans suffering from fatal diseases after breathing in toxins. The bill was endorsed by the American Legion, VFW, DAV, Wounded Warrior Project, and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. House Democrats are pushing the Honoring Our PACT Act that would designate 23 diseases and would include Vietnam veterans. Republicans have rejected the bill as too costly. —*Military.com*

Status of Bills in South Dakota Legislature

SB 41 - Revise appropriation for construction of National Guard Readiness Center in Sioux Falls. An amendment includes a land swap between the state and Sioux Falls Development Foundation. Scheduled for hearing by Joint Committee on Appropriations.

SB 63 - Revise appropriation for road improvements to State Veterans Cemetery and. Scheduled for a hearing by the Joint Committee on Appropriations.

SB 197 - Require POW/MIA flag be displayed in Senate and House chambers. Passed by Senate and scheduled for first reading in the House.

HB 1083 – Provide up to \$150,000 property tax exemption for homes of surviving spouses of veterans who died of service-connected disabilities. Passed by House and scheduled for hearing by Senate Taxation.

GO-GETTERS CLUB

Dale Hill, 1st Vice Commander

Hopefully I have only one more week with my arm in a sling due to rotator cuff repair surgery. Then I get to start PT (Pain and Torture). I am looking forward to typing with two hands instead of one.

I want to say THANK YOU to Larry Panning and crew for working Benson's Flea Market this month, and Mike McGoffin and crew for working the gun show. We gained a few new members and renewals, along with selling raffle tickets.

As the Go-Getters make our Buddy Check contacts, some by telephone and some by email, we are finding that we have a lot of members we don't have email addresses for, and many that we don't have phone numbers for. If you have an email address, but are getting this newsletter delivered by the Post Office, please send Sue an email so we can update our records and email this newsletter to you. It saves the Post money that can be used in other ways. The email address is legionoffice.al@gmail.com If you don't have email, we will continue to send the newsletter through the Post Office.

I would also ask that all members contact the Legion office over the next 2-3 months by email or phone (605-336-3470) to make sure we have your current phone number.

If you need assistance or know of a member who needs assistance, please contact us and we will do our best to help or refer you to agencies that can help.

Let's Welcome Our New Post 15 Members

Kevin Andring, Teresa Siple, Kenneth Bauge,
Adrian Van Bochove, John Thrasher,
Ron Lind, John Davis, Don DeNure,
Don Berkhof, Michael Chelsey, John Davis,
Rich Kielman, Craig Schotzko, John Viereck,
Pat Campbell

MARCH MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

Members Only—No Guests

Tuesday, March 15—At the Alliance

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

Meal by Tony's Catering— **Meatloaf**—\$9.00

Reservations requested—call the office

Melvin Zuehlke was not present when his name was called for \$275 at the February membership social. This month's drawing will be for **\$300**. **Fred Lee** won the \$20 hat drawing. The second winner of Post 15's 2022 gun raffle was **Perry Steilow** of Sioux Falls.

March 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Office is open 11-3 pm M-F	A = event at Alliance	1 Go-Getters 6 pm Legion Post Meeting 7 pm	2 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	3	4	5 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am Legion Dance 6:30 pm—A
6 Legion Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale 8:30-noon—A	7 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	8 Legion Aux. meeting 7 pm	9 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm Legion Riders 7 pm	10 Sons of the Legion 7 pm	11	12 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
13	14 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	15 Legionnaires <i>only</i> : Social 5:30 pm—A Dinner 6:30 pm	16 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	17	18	19 Coffee/Donuts 8:30 am Birthday dinner 5 pm—A
20	21 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	22 VFW/Legion Auxiliary*** Social 5 pm—A Dinner 6 pm—A Bingo 6:30—A	23 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	24	25	26 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
27	28 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	29	30 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	31	***Entire event open to public; reservations required for dinner	

103 Combined Birthday Party for Post 15 & Unit 15 Auxiliary

March 19, 2022

Alliance main event floor

5 pm social / 5:30 introductions & dinner

Beef tips in gravy, grilled chicken breast, salad, garlic mashed potatoes, Glazed carrots or peas, dinner roll, birthday cake

\$20 per person

Call or stop in at the Legion office for reservations prior to March 9





Sioux Falls American Legion
Post 15

Presents
LIVE MUSIC
BY:

LAST CALL

60's to 80's Music Playing from 6:30 - 10:30 pm

Saturday, March 5th

at the South Dakota Military Heritage

ALLIANCE

1600 West Russell in Sioux Falls

*Advance tickets available for \$12.00 from the
Legion Office 11:00 to 3:00 Monday through Friday.*

Tickets at the door \$15.00

**COME HUNGRY - Alliance is open at 4:00 with
full menu - reservations recommended -
call (605) 271-6617.**



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

• BOYS STATE •



MAY 30-JUNE 3, 2022

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY | ABERDEEN, S.D.



Understand the American system of government, appreciate the responsibilities of citizenship and learn fundamental principles of leadership.

Accepting Applications January 1, 2022

Open to Juniors and Seniors (Only eligible to attend one time)

Information and applications can be found at

[SOUTHDAKOTABOYSSTATE.COM](https://southdakotaboysstate.com) | [SDLEGION.ORG/PROGRAM/BOYS-STATE](https://sdlegion.org/program/boys-state)

or contact your local American Legion Post.

Applications due May 1—call POST 15 at 605.336.3470



Save the Date!

ALA SD Girls State 2022

MAY 30- JUNE 4, 2022

**CAMPUS OF USD -
VERMILLION, SD**

**VISIT WWW.ALASDgirlsstate.org
MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT TO
EXPECT.**

High school female students eligible to participate must:

- + have completed their junior year in high school
 - + be keenly interested in government and current events
 - + have high moral character
 - + 2022 selection is closed
 - 2023 selection starts in January 2023
 - + be above average in scholastic achievement
 - + show strong leadership
- ♦ Call TODAY @ 605.336.3470

103rd Legion Birthday Party



March 19, 2022



1700 Hours



South Dakota Military Alliance



Dinner catered by Tony's Catering



- \$20 per person—payment due by March 11, 2022
- Beef tips in gravy, grilled chicken breast, toss salad, garlic mashed potatoes, candied carrots or peas, coffee and birthday cake

CHORUS NOTES *Len Neugebauer*

The Singing Legionnaires performed on February 6 for the annual Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Service at Post 15. Upcoming chorus performances include March 19 at the annual American Legion birthday party. The chorus is continuing to make plans for observing its 75th anniversary during 2022. If anyone knows of a business in Sioux Falls that would like to sponsor American flags to be flown by the chorus on holidays special to veterans, please have them call Todd Schmidt at (605) 370-4405. If anyone is interested in singing with the chorus or has questions regarding chorus activities, feel free to contact chorus president Bruce Naasz at (605) 310-6210 or by email at 66cycler2019@gmail.com.

Minnesota Twins game against Milwaukee Brewers in Minneapolis

Larry Panning is organizing a one-day bus trip on July 13, at \$29.00 per seat plus the cost of the bus. Section S on third-base side rows 5 - 7. One stop on the way for lunch — beverages and restroom on the bus. Some may wish to meet us there; we have 55 seats reserved. Alternate dates are August 3 (Detroit Tigers) and August 17 (Kansas City Royals). We need to gauge interest — please call the office this week.

*Uniform caps available in the office
\$60 (hat & pheasant)*

Wear your cap to membership meetings

HONOR GUARD COMMANDER

Bill Peters

We have performed honors at 30 funerals in two months. Your unwavering dedication continues! Welcome Patrick Campbell and thank you for your decision to honor our fallen with us. Families appreciate us as they continue to support us with memorials in honor of their loved ones. We thank them as this allows us to continue our duties. Please mark your calendar to join us Sunday, April 24, at 1830 hours for our annual Post Everlasting Ceremony.

POST EVERLASTING

May they Rest in Peace

David Wommack, 79, 9/30/2020; George Gannon, 79, Army, 12/9/2020; James "Jim" Beal, 76, Navy, 4/5/2021; Steve Sampson, 78, 10/13/2021; Charles Wood, 95, Army Air Corps, 1/1/2022; Willard "Willie" Lawrence, 82, Army, 1/30/2022; Garold "Gary" Pearson, 74, Navy, 2/2/2022; Darwin Wahlert, 79, Air Force, 2/5/2022; Robert Boyd, 90, Air Force, 2/10/2022

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



SHOOTING SPORTS *Larry Panning*

The Humboldt Sharpshooters had 13 shooters compete in recent Legion Sporter Air Rifle competition. Two placed high enough for the second round of competition (state champion) and might move to the third round (National champion) and possible college scholarships. The Dakota Sharpshooters had 8 shooters compete in recent Legion Precision Air Rifle competition. Three of them move on to compete for state champion and possibly the third round for National champion and college scholarships. Both classes offer a \$5,000 scholarship for first place finish at the national level and \$1,000 scholarship for second place. Classes differ in the amount of equipment shooters are allowed to use. We wish these shooters the best of luck as they move forward in this American Legion competition.



LEGION RIDERS

Lamar Nance, Chairman

Our 2022 officers were sworn in but not sworn at during the February meeting:

Lamar Nance, Chairman

Junior Borg, Vice-Chairman

Larry Hofhenke, Secretary

Nicholas (Grubby) Peddicord, Sergeant-at-Arms

Korry Melstad, Treasurer

We are looking forward to participating in what is hoped to be the first ride of the year, the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Sioux Falls on March 19.

Anyone who rides a motorcycle and is a member of the Legion, or the Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the Legion is invited to be a guest and join. Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM at the post home.

Our website at <http://siouxfallslegionriders.yolasite.com/> has information regarding membership, some great pictures of

past events and the Legion calendar.

Keep the shiny side up.



The Legion is Online! Find us on the web and on Facebook!

Webpage: www.siouxfallslegion.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/siouxfallsamericanlegionpost15

PLEASE "like" comment & share the posts—invite your friends and family to do the same.

UNIT 15 AUXILIARY

Sue Panning, President

Hello and WELCOME to all our NEW MEMBERS! Our unit continues to add many new members and we are very excited to get to know them. Legion Post 15 members: If your spouse, daughter, and grandmother is not a current member of Unit 15 Auxiliary, we would love to meet her. We extend an invitation to please come to one of our meetings. Also, any female Legion member can be a dual member and join our Unit 15 as well.

We continue to have Red White and Blue Raffle tickets available with drawing on May 1.

March 5-6 Benson Flea Market, sell Raffle tickets, volunteer opportunities. Contact Susan Panning.

March 6 Post 15 Pancake Breakfast and Unit 15 Bake Sale. Raffle ticket sales.

March 8 Unit 15 meeting 7 pm at Post.

March 19 Auxiliary Spring Meeting at Valley Springs 11:00 Social, 12:00 dinner with program to follow. Please consider attending.

March 19 Post 15 and Auxiliary 15 Birthday Party 5:00 social, 5:30 dinner, awards to follow. PLEASE HELP US CELEBRATE! RSVP to Sue Peters at Legion office 605-336-3470.

March 22 It is our turn to host Social/Bingo. Vern Meyer will be our Bingo Caller and he does a fantastic job! Bring friends! Social 5:00 pm, Dinner (\$7) Roast beef, mashed potatoes, veg, dessert. PLEASE LET BARB HAYES KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING 605-376-7972. If you decide to come and have not made reservation, you may still come and order off the menu, or just come to play bingo. If you need a ride, please call Susan Panning 605-553-7524. We are going to see if ride share is workable.

March 26 Stand Up for Women Veteran's Wellness Retreat at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 8:30 -2:00

Thank you, Unit 15 members, you are much appreciated!

ELECTION INFORMATION

Nominations will be accepted at our March & April meetings. Voting will be at the April meeting.

Officer positions are Commander, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, Finance, Chaplain, and Sgt at Arms. Thank you to Commander John Bachmeier, 1st Vice Dale Hill, 2nd Vice Terry Wolf, Finance Jim McQuisten, Chaplain Donna Puthoff, and Sgt at Arms Duane Krumbach.

The Executive Board has openings for three 2-year terms. Thank you to Dave Rowe, Joan Ishol, & Ken Headrick for their time on the board.

Let the Adjutant know if you wish to run for one of these positions. If any officers or executive board members would like to run again, you are welcome to do so.

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15 AMERICAN LEGION

OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15

COMMANDER

JOHN BACHMEIER

1ST VICE COMMANDER

DALE HILL

2ND VICE COMMANDER

TERRY WOLF

ADJUTANT

BILL PETERS

CHAPLAIN

DONNA PUTHOFF

FINANCE OFFICER

JIM MCQUISTEN

ATHLETIC OFFICER

TERRY WOLF

SGT-AT-ARMS

DUANE KRUMBACH

HISTORIAN

vacant

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

SUE PANNING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BOB JOHNSON—CHAIR, JESS KINDELSPIRE, JOAN ISHOL, KEN HEADRICK, DEAN MANN,
LARRY ZIKMUND, WILL BOLDUC, DAVE ROWE

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

Americanism—Bruce Swan, Building & Grounds—Leo Nelson/Mike McGoffin/Pete Waldner,
Chorus—Bruce Naasz, Go Getters—Dale Hill, Legislative—Diane Diekman, Legion Riders—Lamar Nance,
SAL—Clarence Mellang, VAVS/VA—Larry Panning, Vets Council—John Bachmeier, Raffle Sales—**vacant**,
Memorial Day Flags—Ron Lien, Post Everlasting / Flag Retirement—**vacant**,
Birthday Party—**vacant**, Newsletter Editor—Diane Diekman

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SIOUX FALLS POST NO. 15
1700 West Russell
Sioux Falls, SD 57104**