

POST 15 NEWS



September 2022

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Editor Diane Diekman

COMMANDER'S CORNER—*Bill Peters*

August has been an eventful month, thanks to the many volunteer hours by all the Legion Family. We ended July with the rummage sale, which was a huge success. Thank you, Joan Ishol, and all who helped with this event. Baseball closed out the month with Regional and State Tournaments. The Legion Honor Guard presented colors, and volunteers sold raffle tickets and talked about membership. Post 15 Legion East came out on top and represented South Dakota in the Central Plains Tournament in Rapid City. Congratulations to Legion East. We also worked at the Sioux Empire Fair, car shows, and I have probably forgotten something.

Then there was the 1st Annual Hog Roast and Corn Feed. There is no doubt this needs to be an annual event. A special thank you to Larry Panning for chairing this event. We had many volunteers, 450 in attendance, and perfect weather. If you have any comments, positive or negative, call the office or email legionoffice.al@gmail.com.

Moving to September, I ask that you check the event calendar in this newsletter for times and places. I draw your attention to three events. #1 is our monthly Pancake Breakfast, September 4, 8:30-12:00. In August, we served close to 650. Let's break 700 this month. All are welcome. #2 is the POW/MIA remembrance, September 16, 6:30 p.m. at Veterans Park, sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans Association. #3 is the Gold Star Family Memorial Monument dedication to be held September 25, 2 p.m., at Veterans Memorial Park.

"Be the One": Renew if you haven't; 805 have renewed so far. Sign up a new member or one who hasn't been a member for a while. Ask yourself, have I done my share to "Be the One"? Everyone knows someone who could join the Legion, Sons of the Legion, or the Auxiliary. If you need some help or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the office. The person you are asking to join may say I don't have time, which is true; they will volunteer when the time is right for them. Our membership supports Legion programs such as lobbying Congress to pass the PACT act for burn pit exposure, Agent Orange exposure, etc. Years ago, the Legion was instrumental in getting the GI Bill passed. These are examples of why membership is important. Until next time, God Bless you and your families and God Bless America.

UNIT 15 AUXILIARY

Kellie Heazlett, President

(written by Beth Honerman, 1st Vice)

Fall is my favorite time of year, with cooler temperatures, beautiful colors, and football. It also kicks off a new year for the ALA. The new year actually starts in July, but we take that month off. Our Unit is 189 strong. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so, and while you're at it, sign up a friend.

Many thanks to Karen Dunham, Deb Metzger and Kasey Jacobson for the endless hours they put into planning and executing the 1st annual Unit 15 ALA golf tournament, "Chip in for Vets," with proceeds going to the Veterans Community Project—Tiny Homes. Many thanks to those who volunteered the day of the tournament. What a beautiful day! Later the same day, members helped with the 1742nd back-to-school event and the hog roast and corn boil. To all those who helped at those events, THANK YOU!

We kick off this Fall with an ALA membership banquet September 13. A potluck supper begins at 5:00, with our Unit meeting at 7:00. We'll recognize our new members of the past year. Stand Down will be September 23; Sue Panning is the chair. Gold Star Mother's Day is September 25. Please attend to honor our Gold Star Mothers, members Margie Roling & Candy Martin.

Unit 15 would not be as strong as it is without members, both those who are front and center and those behind the scenes. We need chairpersons for several committees, so we don't have to stop doing any of our events. If everyone took just one event a year, it would eliminate much confusion as to what is happening for each event.

Happy Fall, you All! See you at the potluck.

GO-GETTERS CLUB

Dale Hill, 1st Vice Commander

A BIG Thank You to all who helped with recruiting and raffle ticket sales at the Sioux Empire Fair. John Bachmeier coordinated the flag raising and lowering every day. He, Mike McGoffin, Ed Hruska and I spent a lot of hours there. The foot traffic was less than in past years, but we did OK for recruiting. Not as much raffle ticket sales as we hoped—likely a reflection of the current economy. Thank you again to all who helped at the booth and flag ceremonies. Thank You to those on the Color Guard at the 80th anniversary of the commissioning of USS South Dakota. This ship was the most decorated battleship of World War II. If you have not visited this museum, you need to!!

Thank You to all who helped make the Hog Roast/Corn Boil a success. Larry Panning, John Bachmeier and Bill Peters deserve a special THANK YOU. There were a lot of things behind the scenes that fell together at the last minute. Thank You to the Auxiliary members who helped; many of them were also involved in their 1st annual golf tournament that morning. Thank You to Dave Rowe for providing the music. Thank you again to all who helped with cooking, set-up, serving and clean-up.

Membership renewals started July 1. Please renew your membership as soon as possible. On-line renewals make for a lot less work in our office. Legion membership is important, as our organization lobbies the US Congress to help our younger veterans get the VA benefits they have earned. We Korea and Vietnam-era veterans have most of our VA medical benefits in place, but it took more than 30 years to get many of these benefits. The PACT ACT, providing VA medical services for burn pit exposure, has been passed by Congress and signed by the President. The pressure put on Congress by the Legion and other veteran organizations helped get this bill passed. When Congress is confronted by 2+ million veteran votes, we get their attention. Older veterans have an obligation to help younger veterans, and our younger veterans have an obligation to help those who follow them in military service to our country. Legion membership helps ensure that our government keeps its promises to those of us who put our lives on the line to protect and defend this country.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

Diane Diekman

Millions of veterans are now eligible for expanded health care access and disability benefits related to burn pit smoke and other toxic exposures after President Joe Biden signed comprehensive new veterans legislation into law on August 10. The bill passed in Congress on August 2 following an array of procedural moves by senators. The Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act — better known as the PACT Act — will be phased in over the next few years and provide new support for veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the first Gulf War, the Vietnam War, and smaller deployments across the globe. It is expected to total nearly \$300 billion in new spending over the next decade and will require the Department of Veterans Affairs to hire hundreds of new workers and open new facilities. For years, veterans advocates have chronicled cases of respiratory illnesses and rare cancers among troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, but many have been refused disability benefits because of lack of strict scientific evidence. Under this new bill, veterans who served in those areas will be granted presumptive status for 23 respiratory illnesses and cancers, speeding up the process to receive benefits. —*Military Times*

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www.siouxfallslegion.org

**[www.facebook.com/
siouxfallsamericanlegionpost15](https://www.facebook.com/siouxfallsamericanlegionpost15)**

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office is open 11-3 pm M-F	A = event at Alliance			1	2	3 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
7 Legion Pan-cake Breakfast & Bake Sale 8:30-noon—A	5 Labor Day	6 Legion Post 15 Meeting 7 pm	7 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	8 Sons of the Legion 7 pm	9	10 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
11	12 Honor Guard breakfast—8am Fryn' Pan Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	13 Legion Aux. membership banquet 5pm meeting 7 pm	14 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm Legion Riders 7 pm	15	16 POW/MIA Remembrance—Veterans Memorial Park 6:30	17 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
18	19 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	20 Legionnaires only: Social 5:30 pm—A Dinner 6:30 pm	21 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	22	23	24 Coffee/Donuts with Veterans 8:30 am
25 Gold Star Memorial dedication - Veterans Memorial Park—2:00	26 Singing Legionnaires Practice 7 pm	27 VFW/Legion Auxiliary*** Social 5 pm—A Dinner 6 pm—A	28 Ladies' Bridge 12-4 pm	29	30	***Open to the public; reservations required for dinner

PAID UP FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP—PUFL

AGE	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79
	\$1535	\$1399	\$1229	\$1025	\$815	\$599
80-89	90+					
\$429	\$329					

The total amount can be divided into 12 equal monthly payments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PAID UP FOR LIFE PROGRAM, CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 1-800-433-3318 OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL).

POST EVERLASTING

May they Rest in Peace

Mel Feuerstein, 85, Army, 6/21/2021; Joe Smook, 92, Navy, 8/5/2021

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



CHORUS NOTES *Len Neugebauer*

On August 14 the Singing Legionnaires performed during services at Brandon Lutheran Church. Upcoming chorus performances scheduled for September are as follows: September 18 at Peace Lutheran Church and September 19 at Dow Rummel Village, both in Sioux Falls. The chorus continues with special activities in observance of its 75th anniversary during 2022. Weather permitting, the chorus will be posting American flags at Sioux Falls area businesses on September 5, Labor Day, and also on September 11, Patriot Day. 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 any male singer is interested in singing with our men's chorus or if anyone has questions regarding chorus activities, feel free to contact chorus president Bruce Naasz at (605) 310-6210 or by email at 66cyclor2019@gmail.com.

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.

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

Members Only—No Guests

Tuesday, September 20—At the Alliance

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

Tony's Catering—Shepherd's pie — \$9.00

Reservations requested—call the office

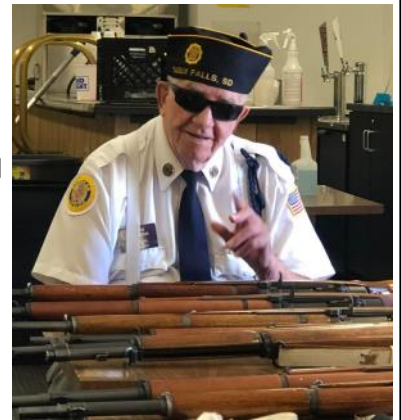
No membership drawing was held in August during the hog roast. This month's drawing will be for **\$425**. **Kaleb Paulson** won the \$20 hat drawing at the hog roast. **Rodney McClure** of Sioux Falls won the monthly gun raffle.

HONOR GUARD COMMANDER

Bill Peters

The Honor Guard lost one of our long-time members in August. Joe Smook, 92, passed away August 5, 2022. The funeral service was August 10. As Commander of the Honor Guard and Post 15, I could not be prouder of the Honor Guard members' participation. There were 30-plus members, past and current, at the funeral and at least that many at the cemetery for Honors. It was truly a message of support for Joe and his family, along with that of the Legion. Thank you so much for your participation.

Keep up the good work and know that the Veterans we serve, and their families, do appreciate it. I am always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining, give the office a call and we can visit about it.



Hog roast & corn boil on August 13, 2022.

Larry Panning (chair), Wes and Lyn Austin (donated the corn and one hog), Bill Peters, Dale Hill, and John Bachmeier. Photo by Sue Peters.

LEGION RIDERS

Lamar Nance, Chairman

We welcome new member Brandon "Doc" Turner. Our own riding brother, Nicholas "Grubby" Peddicord is scheduled to be on an Honor Flight on August 27. Yay, Grubbs!!!

Riding season is far from over, September is going to be a busy month for the ALR. September 3 is the DAV Poker Run.

Safety tip of the month: Slow down at intersections where vision is challenged. Tall corn reduces visibility in rural areas and is particularly hazardous at uncontrolled intersections.

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.



Photo by Jeanne Saunders



Unit 15's first annual golf tournament, August 16.

Karen Dunham - co chair, Nancy Renner - volunteer, Kasey Jacobsen- co chair.

Not pictured: Deb Metzger - co chair



Joan Ishol and her rummage sale crew, July 27, 2022

New Post 15 Members

We welcome the following new members to Post 15 and invite you to attend our membership meeting on September 6 and monthly social on September 20:

Keith Aust, Wesley Austin, Rory Bingham, Robert Black, Stephen Bruggeman, Kathrine Eischen, Steve Gage, Ervin Goehring, Richard Graff, Dean Hammond, Roger Jacobs, Jamie Johnson, Bruce Martin, William Willis, Jerald Moser, Aaron Pollard, Dane Steffen, Dave Tenneboe, Russell Tieszen, Brian Witte, and Kristi Wittrock

SHOOTING SPORTS

Larry Panning

The shooting teams are all preparing for school and fitting in practice with the end-of-summer events as we move to fall and a new season.

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**
Legislative: Diane Diekman
VAVS/VA: Larry Panning
Memorial Day Flags: Ron Lien
Athletic Officer: Terry Wolf

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
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