



Bensey - Rounds

Post #280 Postnotes

Iroquois, S.D. 57350

Publisher Myron Zeeck



Volume 11 Issues 9

Oct. 5TH. 2006

Next Meeting – Oct. 5th. 2006
Time - 8:00 pm.
At Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

The next Iroquois American Legion meeting will be **Thursday October 5, 2006 at 7:30 PM**. All members are invited and encouraged to attend as your voices count too. Some of the items we will be looking at are: Halloween Party Plans, Dues, Oratory Contest, District 2 Brief and Kingsbury Brief and more.

Sick Call: Dale Rounds

Deaths: Mel Ingemansen, Harlan Cleveland.

Our thoughts and prayers are with these individuals and their families.

If you would like to ride to the VA in the DAV Van call Jami Schoenfelder @ 352-5659 or the VA, John Huntington @ 1-800-316-8387, ext. 6551. Give your name, last 4 of SSN, date and time of your appointment(s), your address and phone.

Bingo is up and running and is doing well. All members and their families and friends are invited to attend. More players mean more fun. If you would like to attend bring a snack to share during lunch and we start at 7:25 pm on Friday evenings. Support your post, Go BINGO!!

The poultry party is November 4th @ 7:00PM at the Legion Hall. If you would like 50/50 raffle tickets to sell, contact Charemon or Annette Dunham, 546-2235.

The SAL meetings have begun and are held the second Thursday of each month @ 7:00pm. If you or your sons are eligible and can join us, please do. The SAL members will be assisting with the activities of the post. Ages are from 0 to whatever years. Dues are \$10/yr and will be for the 2007 membership.

The Auxiliary meetings are held September through June on the third Thursday @ 7:00PM. These ladies are part of the family and they need our support as well.

We as Legionnaires need to ensure that our wives, sons and daughters know about the activities available to them and try to get them involved. These activities are very important to our post, community and veterans and their families.

Membership is a hot subject as usual, and our post currently stands at about 87% of the 2007 goal. The Department of South Dakota is at about 58.48% of the 2007 Goal. District 2 membership is about 81% Ron Kazmierczak "Kaz", the state membership chairman, has a goal of "Just one more". For each member we get, we need just one more. Every member is a recruiter, let's show our pride in the American Legion and get that one more. Also, Kaz has made October our membership drive push month.

I recently learned that our young National Guard members are eligible to join the legion when they complete basic training. Also all those currently serving in the armed forces are eligible, to join. So if you know one of these individuals, let's get their membership. Every member is another voice towards the support of our veteran's rights, and remember that these young folks are today's and tomorrow's veterans that we support.

The National Convention adopted a \$4.50 per capita raise in the national dues. The last raise in dues was in 1993. In

Rate Schedule - effective January 1, 2004

DUES	AGE GROUP													
	24 & Under	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85 & Over
\$24	\$836	\$795	\$751	\$702	\$648	\$591	\$529	\$466	\$401	\$338	\$279	\$223	\$174	\$141
\$25	\$871	\$829	\$782	\$731	\$676	\$616	\$552	\$485	\$418	\$352	\$290	\$232	\$181	\$147
\$26	\$906	\$862	\$813	\$761	\$703	\$640	\$574	\$504	\$434	\$366	\$302	\$241	\$188	\$153

2005 that National operated with a \$14,000 deficit and in 2006, approved a \$415,000 budget deficit.

Locally we pay \$25.00 a year for dues which are broken down as follows:

Department HQ	\$10
National HQ	\$9
Post	\$6

With the raise in dues effective January 10, 2007, it will break down as such:

Department HQ	\$10
National HQ	\$13.50
Post	\$1.50

We currently pay enough to cover the raise in national dues. However, the post will lose some of its extra income from dues. It has been suggested that we raise to \$30.00 per year for dues to maintain the extra income the post receives from the dues. This must be decided at the November meeting so the paperwork can be submitted to the State HQ by December 4th. This rate would go into effect on January 10, 2007

Also the Department and the National HQs are pushing Paid Up For Life (PUFL) memberships. This is a good deal as 20% of our post already has gone PUFL. A trimmed version of the PUFL chart to show our dues range (\$25.00) is included.

To apply for PUFL you must be a member in good standing. You may also pay it as a lump sum or 10% down with monthly payments up to 10 months total.

November 2 is our membership night, If you would like a free steak supper that night, let one of the post officers know so we may get the food ordered for that night. This is a great time to get the new members in for a meal and a meeting.

The new schedule for the fall and winter Veteran's Outreach conferences have been released by the Department HQ, The local ones for our area are:

Dist. 2: Ramona Post Home, Dec 13 7PM
 Dist. 5: Huron Veteran's Bldg, Jan 10 7PM
 Dist. 6: Mitchell Post Home, Nov 3 7PM

If you can attend one of these meetings, please do. The meetings last about 3 hours including a Q&A session. They are for ALL veterans, not just the Legionnaires so let's get the word out to our fellow vets. There have been many vets who thought they had no VA benefits, who now receive benefits and pensions as a result of these conferences.

This is also a good place to receive updates in the latest changes in VA policies and more.

I wish to thank the Farmers & Merchants State Bank and Duncan Flann for their donations to the Bensley-Rounds American Legion Post. They are great supporters of the post and gifts are always welcome, Thank you again. It is my thought to use these donations towards the purchase of a Ceremonial Bugle for the Post. The amount would nearly if not cover the entire cost of the bugle. This will be discussed at the next meeting. This would be a great asset for our post.

October 6, 2006 has been set for a soup and sandwich fund raiser for Post Member Lyle Kleinsasser and his wife who lost everything to a fire on Labor Day, September 4th. The post has been asked to help with supplying the buns and to help with the serving. If you would like to help contact Cherilyn Fast, Jill Cundy or Marlys Peskey at the Iroquois School, 546-2426 or 546-2210. It will be a freewill donation for the meal. Also there was talk of a possible bake sale check with the ladies and if so either bring some goodies or your change or both. Hope to see you all there.

This night is also parent's night for the football parents and it would be great to have a color guard present in honor of the players and the parents, and I hope that we can manage one for the volleyball players and parents on their parent's night also. (October 17)

Americanism, is not what we do as a legion member, it is who we are. Everything we do as an American Legion Post or member should reflect our pride in being an American citizen and seen as such by the community. From baseball, to boy Scouts, to community service to veteran service, Protection and respect of our flag and the country for which it stands. These are things we live by every day and we pass it on to our youth.

The American Legion Oratory Contest is upon us and I am proud to say that Iroquois was chosen to host the area competition for Districts 2, 5, & 6 to be held on February 4, 2007 at the Iroquois School @ 2:00PM with a snow date of February 11. The District 2 competition will be held in Arlington at the post home @ 2:00PM on January 21, 2007, with a snow date on the 28th. The Bensley-Rounds Post 280 competition will be held on January 7, 2007 at the Iroquois School @ 2:00PM with a snow date of the 14th. Changes in times and locations will be announced as required. For our local

participants we will need to offer prizes for the first three places. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Congratulations to Joe Peskey for being selected as the 2006 Kingsbury County Boys State Scholarship. The scholarship is in the amount of \$500.

The Kingsbury County membership approved the raising of the post dues per member from \$.10 to \$.25. They also approved the payment of the remaining amount of \$55 for the trophies for the Kingsbury 4-H Shooting Sports Club in DeSmet. Also other area youth were invited to join this group and also further investigation will be done to see if this group may be eligible to affiliate with the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports program.

I have visited with Lori Weiland at the school and asked about doing an assembly for Veteran's Day with a surviving veteran from each war era that is a current member of our post attending. Telling briefly about their service period and answer a few questions. Volunteers are requested this month so I may finalize the arrangements if this activity is approved.

Finally, I am very pleased to have seen the number of members that attended last month, and I hope that our membership attendance continues to grow. Please remember that this is OUR post and WE make the choices for it, if you would like your voice to be heard, come to the meeting as your opinion counts as do they all.

Colin Royal, Commander