



Bensley-Rounds Post 280

Post Notes

Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 13 Issue 1

Myron Zeeck, Publisher

January 23, 2008

Next Meeting – February 7, 2008
Time: 7:30 pm.
At Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Keep The Dream Alive”
2008 Membership: 98.13%, Goal: 107

All members are invited and encouraged to attend meetings as you input is always desired and necessary.

MIDWINTER BANQUET TICKETS

The Joint Banquet will be held Saturday, February 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Dinner menu is 6oz Steak and 4 oz Walleye. The event will be preceded by a no-host cocktail hour commencing at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are available from the Chamberlain American Legion Post. Tickets are \$25.00 each and can be obtained by sending \$25.00 per ticket requested, to Potter American Legion Post 3, PO Box 348, Chamberlain, SD 57325.

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE BANQUET KEYNOTE SPEAKER

(reprinted from Up To Now #2967)

The keynote speaker for the 2008 MidWinter Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet will be Mr. Paul Bockelman, Director of the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center. Bockelman previously served as the Associate Director for Resources and Operations at the VA Central Iowa Healthcare System.

An experienced health care executive, Bockelman began his career with the VA in 1981 as a kinesio therapist and came to VISN 23 in June 2003 after serving as the Senior Health System Specialist at the VISN 7 Network Office.

VETERANS OUTREACH FORUM SCHEDULE

(reprinted from Up To Now #2962)

Department Veterans Service Officer Warren Aas has been conducting Veterans Outreach Benefits Forums across the state during the past couple of months. The briefings will continue to be held in various locations across the state until at least one forum has been held in each of the Department's 14 Districts.

The schedule for future Veterans Outreach Benefits Forums is as follows:

- February 4 - District 4 in Britton
- February 5 - District 3 in Clear Lake

All Legionnaires, their spouses and other veterans should be encouraged to attend one of these forums. This is a valuable, educational opportunity to possibly learn about benefits you are eligible for that you were previously unaware of. Don't let this opportunity pass you by. The forums are free and open to everyone.

Soon, we will be looking at the Legionnaire of the Year. Candidates will be nominated at the next meeting and the 2007 Legionnaire will be chosen. Additionally, we will soon be selecting the Boys State Delegate(s) for the 2008 Boys State.

I posed a question to the Department and the National HQ about having a SAL member sitting in as a voting member on the Boys State Selection Committee. The word back from them is that there is



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.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Membership is going well, we have 2 people who have yet to pay their dues. Please get them paid as soon as possible. Also we need one new member to meet the membership goal.

Also while looking for Post members, don't forget to recruit SAL and Auxiliary members, as they are an important part of our family. Dues are Post \$25, SAL \$10, Auxiliary \$10, and Jr Auxiliary is \$2. These are low costs for membership in the greatest organization for veterans. And the benefits will pay for these costs over and over. And most importantly, you get a voice in your veterans rights and benefits.

nothing written that states that a SAL Squadron member cannot be on the committee. It is a Post level decision, so I pose the question to you, the Post membership.

Do we wish to allow our SAL members to sit in on the Boys State Committee, with the ground rule that the SAL member must be at least a high school graduate and 18 years of age to be able to vote. Those members under 18 can sit in and learn from the experience. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The pancake/French toast breakfast held on January 13th was a great success. Thank you to Clint Walker, Annette Dunham, Carl and Brent Matter for all the help and hard work. The next date will be February 10, 2008 and will be for the Iroquois 7th & 8th grade cheerleaders uniforms.

The next Kingsbury County Meeting will be held at Erwin at 8:00PM on January 30, 2008.

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

(reprinted from Up To Now #2967)

The 2008 SD American Legion MidWinter Conference is about 2 weeks away. Scheduled for Friday-Sunday, February 8-10, the conference promises to be a superb opportunity for Legion Family members to get updated on the many programs and projects of The American Legion. The schedule of events is as follows:

Friday, February 8

- 10:00 a.m. Administrative Committee Meeting – River Run Room
- 12:00 noon Registration Desk Opens – Pre-function Area
- 1:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting – River Run Room
- 6:00 p.m. Go-Getters Reception – Oacoma Community Center
- 6:30 p.m. Go-Getters Smorgasbord – Oacoma Community Center
- 7:00 p.m. PDC Social and Dinner – Missouri Winds Room

Saturday, February 9

- 8:00 a.m. Registration Desk Opens – Pre-function Area
- 8:00 a.m. Joint Opening Session –Hale/Oacoma Rooms
VA&R / C&Y
- 9:45 a.m. IRS Briefing
- 10:30 a.m. SAL Conference – Cedar Shore
- 10:30 a.m. Auxiliary Conference – Cedar Shore
- 10:30 a.m. Legion Conference – Cedar Shore, Hale/Oacoma Rooms
- 6:00 p.m. Social Hour/No Host Cocktails, Pre-function Area
- 7:00 p.m. Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet, Ballroom (Wheeler/Glass/Howe Room)

Sunday, February 10

- 8:30 a.m. Non-denominational Service, Ballroom

1:00 p.m. Department Finals (Ballroom) American Legion High School Oratorical Contest.

Starting at 10:30 a.m. on Sat., Feb. 9, Legion Conference session:

- 10:30 a.m. - Commander's opening remarks.
- 10:35 a.m. - Charemon Dunham, Department Historian.
- 11:00 a.m. - Larry Madsen, Department Americanism Officer
- 11:30 a.m. - Clarence Blunck, Department VAVS Committee Chairman.
- 11:50 a.m. - Rick Barnett of Legionnaires Insurance Trust
- 12:05 p.m. - NEC Paul Evenson
- 12:35 p.m. - Department Adjutant Ron Boyd – Boys State
- 1:00 p.m. - Gerald Goetzinger, Dept Legislative Committee Chairman
- 1:30 p.m. - Rick MacDonald – Phone Blaster Service
- 1:55 p.m. – Gary Wolkow, Department Membership Chairman
- 3:30 p.m. - Open Forum

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 280 NEWS

Squadron 280 has assisted in the January pancake breakfast. The Squadron will be having a bowling night on March 15, 2008 at 5:00PM. This will also be the scheduled meeting for March 2008. The Bowling Party will be held at the New Plains in Huron.

As with the Post, the Squadron membership renewals have gone out and are now due. Also if your son(s) is not a member, sign him/them up. They now get the same benefits as the Post members.

If you would like to add something to the newsletter, please get it to Colin Royal or Myron Zeeck and we'll include it for you. Copies of the newsletter and the upcoming agenda are also available at the Post website at www.americanlegionsd280.org in PDF format.

Colin Royal, Commander

The American Legion – It's Who We Are.

Each must for himself alone decide what is right and what is wrong, and which course is patriotic and which isn't. You cannot shirk this and be a man. To decide against your convictions is to be an unqualified and inexcusable traitor, both to yourself and to your country, let man label you as they may. ~ Mark Twain