



Bensley-Rounds Post 280

Post Notes

Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 19 Issue 10

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October 2014

Next Meeting – November 6, 2014
Membership Night
 Time: 6:00pm
 At the Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Ask & Believe”
2015 Membership: 66.35%

“In the beginning of a change, the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot.” ~Mark Twain, *Notebook*, 1935



Get out and VOTE!

Attention Legionnaires who reside in or near Iroquois:

A volunteer is needed to tend to the Post flag when it is to be placed to half-staff as needed and returned to full-staff as required.

Dale Kopplin has been tending to this task and has requested that the duty be assumed by a younger Post member.

Dale has faithfully tended to this duty for many years and it has been greatly appreciated. Thank you Dale for your service.

COMMANDER’S CORNER

Next meeting is November 6, 2014 at the Post home at 7:00PM. Membership meal will be at 6:00PM.

Thank you to those who assisted with the breakfast on October 19th. The next breakfast will be on November 9, 2014.

Membership night is November 6, 2014 with a meal prior to the meeting. The meal will be at 6:00PM. Come by and have a meal on the Post, Auxiliary and SAL are also invited to attend.

The Poultry Party was discussed and was scheduled for Saturday, November 1, 2014 at 7:00PM. A spaghetti supper will be at 5:30PM prior to the party.

Veterans Day discounts are available throughout the country, go to this site and check them out. <http://www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-military-discounts.html>. There are some pretty decent deals out there.

The Veterans Day program will be held at the Iroquois School south gym on November 11, 2014 at 2:00pm. All veterans are invited as well as their families and friends. The Speaker will be Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander Colin Royal of Huron.

The Kingsbury County Veterans Day program will be in Arlington on November 11, 2014 at 7:30PM.

Any member who signs up two (2) new members, I will pay your next year’s dues. PUFLs will get the cash. ~ Deb Jennings, Commander

The next Kingsbury County meeting will be held December 3, 2014 at Erwin at 7:30PM.



The Post website has a new address, it is www.sdalpost280.org. The old address will continue to work for a while yet.

Also, the Post is now on Facebook, check out www.facebook.com/posttwoeighty and follow or friend us.



District 6 Meeting News – September 28, 2014



Kate Schmidt of Wessington Springs Post 14 was elected as the new District Vice Commander, shown here taking the oath of office. (Photo by Colin Royal) She takes over for Jim Rentschler who was unfortunately killed in a farm

accident earlier this year.

Membership was discussed with some highlights as follows: Every Legion, Auxiliary and SAL member is a recruiter and a member of the membership team. Watch for Veteran plates, insignias, decals, and etc. Just ask if they have been in the military and get them signed up. Also the 3-R plan was defined as Retention, Recruitment and Realignment. Was also encouraged to use all the available social media to get the younger veterans interested in our family. Recruit all members of the

legion family, and remember the Legion Riders are a selling point since they are required to be a Legion, Auxiliary or SAL member to join the riders. Also our benefits can be a selling point, just refer them to <http://www.legion.org/benefits>, or show them there.

Market penetration and brand awareness is very important for the 3-R plan. We need to advertise as much as possible and become a conspicuous symbol of our communities and be highly involved in them.

We as Veterans need to be available for our fellow Veterans to support them in their times of need. National Commander Helm has expressed heartbreaking dismay that 22 Veterans commit suicide every day. This is unacceptable and those young men and women desperately need our help.

"The liberties of our country, the freedom of our civil Constitution, are worth defending at all hazards; and it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. We have received them as a fair inheritance from our worthy ancestors: they purchased them for us with toil and danger and expense of treasure and blood, and transmitted them to us with care and diligence. It will bring an everlasting mark of infamy on the present generation, enlightened as it is, if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle, or to be cheated out of them by the artifices of false and designing men." ~ Samuel Adams

The Legion Insurance Trust (LIT) was stressed a vital benefit as it is FREE \$1000 accidental death life insurance for our members. Go to www.thelit.com and sign up. The current policy expires August 31, 2016, but just go back online and renew for another 5 years. Also if you are on official Legion business, it automatically expands to \$5000 at no additional cost. Of the 23,000 or so South Dakota American Legion members, only just over 6000 are signed up for the LIT insurance.



Another benefit that we have is the Sears discount that is not used often enough. Go to Sears and get the model number of what you are looking for and call the Sears Commercial line and see what they can save you. You will need the code from the website for verification to get the discount. It has saved members hundreds of dollars.

Checkout the Website at: www.sdalpost280.org

Check out MyLegion.org, sign up and use the social media that is exclusive to The American Legion.

If you are considering signing up for the Paid Up For Life (PUFL), it is advised to sign up now as rumor is that National is going to raise the dues and the PUFL in the upcoming year. The PFUL program when paid, will pay your dues for the rest of your life. Go to www.legion.org/join/pufl and read more.

The four pillars of The American Legion are the life blood of our programs and belief's. They are Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. They are our platform from which you tackle the critical issues of today in each of these pillars. Know them, live them.

Many other things were covered, however these are the most important.

Post History Needed

The American Legion is compiling a history for its upcoming 100th Birthday. They have asked that each Post compile its history to be shared with all. If you have anything to contribute, please share and send it to Charemon Dunham at dunhamc1@santel.net. If you need to mail the information, she'll give you her address at that time.

Iroquois had a Post after World War I and was disbanded sometime in the early part of World War II or before. If you have any information for this Post, please forward that also. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 1 – Poultry Party & Spaghetti Supper
Nov 4 – Election Day, Get out to Vote
Nov 6 - Post Meeting, Membership Night
Nov 9 – Breakfast
Nov 11 – Veterans Day
Nov 11 – Kingsbury Veterans Day Program @ Arlington
Nov 20 – Auxiliary Meeting
Nov 27 – Thanksgiving
Dec 3 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Erwin
Dec 4 - Post Meeting
Dec 14 – Breakfast
Dec 25 – Christmas
Dec 31 – New Year's Eve
Jan 1 – Post Meeting
Jan 10 – SAL Chili & Soup Feed
Jan 11 – Breakfast
Jan 15 – Auxiliary Meeting

"Use power to help people. For we are given power, not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power and it is to serve people."

~ George H. W. Bush

AUXILIARY UNIT 280 NEWS

The next meeting is November 20, 2014 at 5:00PM at the Post home, weather permitting as with all meetings throughout the winter months. The December meeting will be December 4th serving pot luck for the veterans.



(Photo by American Legion Auxiliary)

Americans for the Arts (AFTA) honored the American Legion Auxiliary with its Outstanding Contribution to the Arts Award for the Auxiliary's important work helping veterans heal through the arts, most notably through the ALA's co-sponsorship of the annual National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Americans for the Arts presented its prestigious National Arts Awards in New York City earlier this week. ALA National President Janet Jefford accepted the award onstage on the Auxiliary's behalf, along with National Secretary Mary "Dubbie" Buckler, shown here with AFTA President Robert L. Lynch. Auxiliary dues are now due for the 2015 year. The dues are \$18.00; please get them in as soon as you can. Junior dues are \$3 for the year.

The American Legion Extension Course Institute

The American Legion Course Extension Institute is a great way to learn about the American Legion. You'll learn about the American Legion, its history, about the programs and much more. The cost is \$4.95 per member of each the legion, Auxiliary, and SAL.

After successfully completing the course, you will receive a pin and a certificate of completion. It's a great program.

SAL SQUADRON 280 NEWS

Come join us on Saturday, January 10, 2015 for our 2nd annual Chili Feed. There will be homemade chili and also homemade chicken noodle soup. Freewill donation goes toward the Child Welfare Foundation. More information to follow.

Dues are now due for the 2015 year; please get them in as soon as possible. Dues are still only \$10.00. Remember, all male descendants (including adopted and stepsons) of a Legion member are eligible to belong to the Sons of The American Legion regardless of age. The SAL members get the same discounts as the Legion.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Members of Post 11 (Wagner, S.D.) worked together to finance and construct their building in 1929. In fact, they dug the basement themselves by hand. 1919 March 15-17
- Dec. 15, 1943 - Past National Commander Harry W. Colmery starts to write in longhand, on Mayflower Hotel stationery in Washington, the first draft of what will later become the "GI Bill of

Rights" – considered the Legion's single greatest legislative achievement.

- June 23, 1935 - The first American Legion Boys State convenes in Springfield, Ill., to help youths gain an understanding of the structure and operation of the federal government. The first Boys Nation, bringing together youth leadership from all the Boys State programs, convenes in 1946. Today, more than 19,500 young men participate in Boys State, and 98 in Boys Nation, from 49 of the 50 states.
- That American Legion Baseball had its beginning right here in South Dakota? A resolution was introduced and passed at the 1925 State Convention and the National Convention passed it later that fall. The first games were played in the following year with 15 states organizing programs of their own.

Please, if your address changes, notify the Post so we get the newsletter and membership information to you in a timely fashion. Thank You!

"The men who create power make an indispensable contribution to the Nation's greatness, but the men who question power make a contribution just as indispensable, especially when that questioning is disinterested, for they determine whether we use power or power uses us." ~ John F. Kennedy



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 69 of 104 members renewed for the 2015 year.

Our membership goal for the 2015 year has gone up to 104 members. This means we will need to get a number of new members and retain current members to meet our new goal. With your help, we can and will do this. Dues remain at \$35 for the 2015 year.

A selling point to membership in the Legion, Auxiliary and the SAL, is the American Legion Riders. To be eligible for the Riders, the person must be a member of the Legion, Auxiliary, or the SAL.

Renewals may also be done online at <http://www.legion.org/renew>. The Department will be notified within 24-48 hours normally and you may also set up a recurring renewal if you like. This does not include Auxiliary or SAL.

Remember; just ask the new members to join and ask the past members to renew their membership and Just Believe, Ask and Together we can do it.