



# Bensley-Rounds Post 280

## Post Notes

Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 19 Issue 2

Colin Royal, Editor, Member SDALPA, NALPA

February 2014

Next Meeting – March 6, 2014  
Time: 7:00pm.  
At Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Together We Can”  
2014 Membership: 90.91%

“The stern hand of fate has scourged us to an elevation where we can see the great everlasting things that matter for a nation; the great peaks of honour we had forgotten - duty and patriotism, clad in glittering white; the great pinnacle of sacrifice pointing like a rugged finger to heaven.” ~David Lloyd George

### COMMANDER’S CORNER

Next meeting is March 6, 2014 at the Post home at 7:00PM.

The breakfast for March is on March 9, 2014 going for Boys State.

The Post still owes about \$1200 for the repairs and the painting. We are asking for donations to help pay for these necessary expenses. Donations can be mailed to: Annette Dunham, 21902 416<sup>th</sup> Ave, Iroquois, SD, 57353 or Deb Jennings, 101 Water Ave, Bancroft, SD 57353 or they may be presented at the meetings. Thank you.

The Boys State committee has been selected, and the members are Colin Royal, Herb Rusche, and Bill Whites. They will meet on March 12, 2014 at 2:00PM at the Iroquois School for interviews.

Elections will be held in April and the committee members selected are Darwin Cundy, Herb Rusche, and Dale Kopplin. If you would like to hold an office, contact one of these legionnaires for more information.

The IRS requirement for showing DD214's has been downgraded to only be necessary in the event of a discrepancy in the membership as a last resort.

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 March 26, 2014 at Hetland at 7:30PM.

**District 6 Spring Meeting** - April 5 - Saturday, Arlington Post Home, Social 3:00 p.m., Dinner at 4:00p.m., Meeting 5:00 p.m. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home. **(NOTE CHANGES)**

### NATIONAL COMMANDER TO VISIT IN MAY

National American Legion Commander Dan Dellinger from the Department of Virginia will make his official visit to the Department of South Dakota on May 18-21, 2014. Commander Dellinger is scheduled to fly into Rapid City on May 18 and to fly out on May 22, 2014. The schedule of events will be published as soon as they are complete.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 6 – Post Meeting  
Mar 9 – Breakfast for Boys State  
Mar 9 - Daylight Savings Begins  
Mar 12 – Boys State selection @ 2:00PM  
Mar 17 – St. Patrick’s Day  
Mar 20 – Auxiliary Meeting  
Mar 26 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Hetland  
Apr 3 – Post Meeting - Elections  
Apr 13 – Breakfast  
Apr 17 – Auxiliary Meeting – Tentative  
Apr 17 – Maundy Thursday  
Apr 18 – Good Friday  
Apr 20 – Easter  
Apr 30 – Kingsbury Meeting @ Arlington  
May 1 – Post Meeting  
May 11 – Breakfast - Tentative  
May 11 – Iroquois High School Graduation  
May 15 – Auxiliary Meeting  
May 15 – Last Day of Iroquois School year  
May 17 – Armed Forces Day  
May 26 – Memorial Day

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 90 of 99 members renewed for the year. Dues remain at \$35 for the 2014 year.

Renewals may also be done online at <http://www.legion.org/renew> . The Department will be notified within 24 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.

### **AUXILIARY UNIT 280 NEWS**

The next meeting is March 20, 2014 at 5:00PM at Marge Blue's home.

Auxiliary dues are now due for the 2014 year. The dues are \$18.00; please get them in as soon as you can. Junior dues still remain \$3 for the year.

### **SAL SQUADRON 280 NEWS**

Dues are now due for the 2014 year; please get them in as soon as possible. Dues are still only \$10.00.

"My God! How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!" ~Thomas Jefferson

### **STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN PIERRE**

(From UTN #3125 dated 02/26/14)

The 96th annual South Dakota American Legion Department Convention will be held in Pierre, SD, on June 19-22, 2014. The hosting hotel will be the Best Western Ramkota. Contact information for the Ramkota is phone 605-224-6877 or toll free 1-800-528-1234 and email is

[pierre.ramkota.comresservations@pierreramkota.com](mailto:pierre.ramkota.comresservations@pierreramkota.com).

Other motels/hotels in the area are: In Pierre; Capitol Inn 605-224-6387, Clubhouse Hotel 605-494-2582, Comfort Inn 605-224-0377, Days Inn 605-224-0411, Governors Inn 605-224-4200, Kings Inn 605-224-5951, Rivers Lodge 605-224-4140, Super 8 605-224-1617. In Fort Pierre, Fort Pierre Motel 504-223-3111, Holiday Inn Express 605-223-9045, AmericInn 605-223-2358. Inform the motel/hotel you are making a reservation for the American Legion Convention.

### **FUN AUCTION AT THE STATE CONVENTION**

(From UTN #3125 dated 02/26/14)

The 5th annual fun auction will be held in Pierre during the State Convention on Saturday, June 21, following the go-getters reception and banquet. All proceeds from the fun auction will be donated to the South Dakota American Legion Foundation.

Members of the American Legion family are urged to donate items large and small for this event. These items will be posted on our website at [www.sdlegion.org](http://www.sdlegion.org) for everyone to view. Please notify State Headquarters on items you wish to donate for the fun auction.

As of today, two wild life framed prints by John Green have been donated by Tom Perrizo of Aberdeen. These prints are numbered and have been signed by the Artist. We thank Tom for donating such beautiful pictures for the fun auction.

### **VA ISSUES NEW ID CARDS**

(From UTN #3125 dated 02/26/14)

The Department of Veterans Affairs is issuing new Veteran Health Identification Cards (VHICs) to about 4 million veterans and family members enrolled in VA's health-care system.

The new cards provide a more secure means of identification for veterans due to Social Security numbers and dates of birth no longer contained in the card's magnetic strips or bar codes. Instead, the cards now display an Electronic Data Interchange Personnel Identifier number as the "member ID" on the front of the card and embedded in the magnetic strip. These numbers will be unique to each cardholder.

According to VA, mailing of the cards "will begin soon. Because we will be reissuing 4 million cards, we ask for your patience during this time." A new VHIC will be automatically mailed to veterans who have the old Veteran Identification Card (VIC). Last September, VA suspended the issuing of VICs to allow time for changing its systems to read the new card. However, VA has continued taking veterans' requests for cards – the requests have been put on hold but will be produced and issued as soon as the final system changes are ready.

Enrolled veterans who do not have the old VIC may contact their local VA medical center's enrollment coordinator to arrange to have their pictures taken for the new cards, or they may request a VHIC at their next VA health-care appointment. Veterans must provide proper identification in order to receive the new cards.

### **THE LEGION INSURANCE TRUST**

The Legion Insurance Trust (LIT) offers **FREE** Accidental Death Insurance up to \$5000 for legionnaires and is endorsed by the South Dakota American Legion as it is by most departments.

All you do is fill out a form that is available at most American Legion Posts and mail into the company in Arizona and that's it.

Currently in our Post, Bensley-Rounds American Legion Post 280, of the 90 members we have, there are only 40 members who have signed up for this free insurance. Also the online page to sign up is down going under an overhaul. If you need an application, contact the Post or Department to get one. For those out of state, contact a local American Legion Post or the local Department for one.

Recently the Department of South Dakota had a widow who lost her husband in an accident. She found the LIT brochure and tried to claim the benefit, however her husband never signed up for the insurance. It is important to sign up.

The LIT also has other programs like cancer care, hospital indemnity, auto insurance, and emergency assistance plus. Their website is [www.thelit.com](http://www.thelit.com), check them out.

Last year a Legion member from South Dakota was on a cruise and was evacuated to a hospital in Portugal. Who, when he was well enough to travel, would not allow him to leave until the bill was paid. He had signed up for the LIT Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+) and it helped him get out of the hospital and get home.

These are great programs and policies for a low price and are important to our Legion members and their/your families.