



Bensley-Rounds Post 280 Post Notes Iroquois, South Dakota



Volume 19 Issue 6

Colin Royal, Editor, Member SDALPA, NALPA

June 2014

Next Meeting – July 3, 2014
Time: 8:00pm.
At Post Home, Iroquois, S.D.

“Believe & Ask”
2014 Membership: 92.93%

“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

elected as Vice Commander for the area consisting of Districts 1-2.

Congratulations to Colin Royal, who was appointed the editor of the new SDALPA newsletter, and also he was selected as a judge for the newsletter contest for the upcoming year. In addition, Colin Royal was awarded second place in this year’s newsletter contest. The first place award went to Watertown and third to Sioux Falls. Congratulations and thank you for your hard work.

Also Colin Royal was elected as the Detachment Commander for the South Dakota Sons of The American Legion. Congratulations to him and have a great term.

COMMANDER’S CORNER

Next meeting is July 3, 2014 at the Post home at 8:00PM.

Thank you to those that assisted with the burial rites of Keith Smith.



Newly elected Department Commander Tim Jurgens of Birch-Miller American Legion Post #9 of Miller addresses the Department Convention on June 22, 2014.

Commander Jurgens has tentatively set his homecoming for August 9, 2014 in Milbank. Additional information is forthcoming. Royce Loesch of Pierre was elected as the Department Vice Commander for the area consisting of Districts 3-8 and Phil Pearson of Phillip was



Newly elected Detachment Commander Colin Royal addresses the South Dakota Department Convention on June 22, 2014.



INDEPENDENCE Day

“When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.”
~ Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

Volunteers are requested to assist with serving lunch on Sports Day. The menu will consist of pork loin sandwiches, baked beans, chips, hotdogs, pie, and refreshments.

The Youth Trooper Academy, a program sponsored by the SD American Legion and the SD Highway Patrol has been approved and accepted as an official program of the Department of South Dakota American Legion. Similar programs have been endorsed and accepted as an official program of the American Legion at the national level. With South Dakota, this make 17 states that a similar program for our youth. This program is designed to give our youth who have an interest in law enforcement a chance to experience recruit training and education in law enforcement. This program is open to high school juniors and seniors that have not begun their post high school education.

Congratulations to Rodney Anderson of Lake Preston Post 63, District 6, for being selected as the Department Legionnaire of the Year.

Please travel safely and be careful during the upcoming Independence Day weekend.

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 September 24, 2014 at Badger at 7:30PM. Flag Retirement Ceremony will precede the meeting.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 3 - Post Meeting
Jul 4 – Independence Day
Jul 18-20 – Iroquois Sports Days
Jul 19 – Sports Day Lunch
Jul 19-20 – SAL Breakfast
Aug 7 - Post Meeting

Aug 10 – SAL Breakfast
Aug 22-28 – National Convention @ Charlotte, NC
Aug 28-Sep 1 – South Dakota State Fair
Sep 4 – Post Meeting
Sep 14 - Breakfast
Sep 18 – Auxiliary Meeting
Sep 24 – Kingsbury County Meeting @ Badger

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 92 of 99 members renewed for the year.

The 2015 membership cards are in, due may start being paid for the 2015 year after July 1st. Please get them in as soon as possible. Our membership goal for the 2015 year, according to Terry Hanson of Arlington, the Department Membership Chairman, will be going up. This means we will need to get a number of new 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, and the SAL.

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 September 18, 2014 at 5:00PM at the Post home. There will, also, be a potluck dinner that night.



2014-2015 Auxiliary Officers shown are: Charemon Dunham, President; DeLores Royal, Vice President; Annette Dunham, Treasurer; Marge Blue, Secretary; Dolly Wallum, Sergeant at Arms

Auxiliary dues are now due for the 2014 year. The dues are \$18.00; please get them in as soon as you can. Senior dues are \$14 and Junior dues are \$3 for the year. The 2015 membership cards will be arriving soon.

The Post has requested the Auxiliary to bake and provide pies for the Sports Day lunch.

Checkout the Website at: www.americanlegionsd280.org

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." ~ US Constitution, September 17, 1787

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. The 2015 membership cards are here and dues may be paid after July 1st. Remember, all male descendants of a Legion member are eligible to belong to the Sons of The American Legion. The SAL members get the same discounts as the Legion.

The SAL Squadron will be doing the breakfasts over the summer; July 19-20, and August 10th. If you would like to help out, please stop by. The August breakfast is still available, if you have ideas contact Colin Royal.

Thank you to those that assisted with the June 8th breakfast, your help was greatly appreciated.

Colin Royal was elected as the Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander for South Dakota. His election was held at Pierre on June 21st.

AJ Royal was re-elected as the Detachment Sergeant at Arms.

Detachment Commander Royal has set an aggressive goal of increasing the Detachment membership by 25%. He asks not only the Sons of the American Legion, but the American Legion and the Auxiliary for their help make this possible.

"He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from opposition; for if he violates this duty he establishes a precedent that will reach himself."
~Thomas Paine

DID YOU KNOW?

- During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain occurred on July 2, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4.
- Held since 1785, the Bristol Fourth of July Parade in Bristol, Rhode Island is the oldest continuous Independence Day celebration in the United States.

- Since 1868, Seward, Nebraska has held a celebration on the same town square. In 1979 Seward was designated "America's Official Fourth of July City-Small Town USA" by resolution of Congress.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR STATE FAIR

(From UTN #3133 dated June 18, 2014)

Volunteers are needed to help man the American Legion table at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron on August 28 - September 1, 2014. If you can donate a few hours, a day or more, please contact Dave at State Headquarters so a schedule can be made up. This booth has been invaluable to veterans seeking assistance or just want to discuss issues of concern to all veterans. The South Dakota Veterans Council owns the veteran's building and all the veterans organizations have tables with brochures and information on their respective organization. Please take some time and volunteer and help veterans learn about the American Legion.

South Dakota WWII vet celebrates 70 years as Legionnaire

(From Legiontown.org)



Earl Dahme celebrated 70 years of Legion membership this April, and received recognition from national headquarters.

Dahme joined the Legion in 1944, the same year he enlisted in the Navy. Four of his brothers were in the Army. One was a Marine. But Dahme knew for him, the Navy was the right outfit.

"I liked their cap, their winter cap and everything about them. Even nowadays I see a Navy (person) on TV or something — man, I stop and find out what it's about," he said.

"I guess it was just like everything else," he said. "A guy gets something in his mind and heart and whatever you call it, and away you go. If you can get in — sometimes you don't make it, but I guess I been lucky."

He served for more than two years, and did a tour on the USS Black Hawk AD-9, a destroyer tender — a repair ship, as a seaman 1st class. He served in China, Japan, Hawaii, and on the West Coast.

"I was a captain's boy on a gig, the man that's in charge of the boat around wherever he wants to go on the water. I was in charge of that gig — to drive it and lift it up onto the ship OK. That's where my big deal I felt always was," he said.

In fact, he claimed at one point the captain made a misstep while boarding, landing right in the water. Dahme, considerably smaller than the man, pulled him up and into the boat.

"I saved him. ... I kept on telling him I don't have to ask for a medal either for it," he joked.

But he said his best memories of his time in the Navy were with two buddies — Jimmy Hernandez and Jacobsen. (He's forgotten Jacobsen's first name.)

On leave, they'd hitchhike around California. They attended beer gardens. Once they even tried to enter a Marine bar together, he said, only to have a dog sicced on them. They outran it, and most trouble.

"It was just a lot of fun," Dahme said. "That is the only time I've seen them, and since I got out of the war, I never have seen them. I never looked them up, and they never looked me up since then."

After he was discharged, he married Kathy, who passed away several years ago. He worked for the post office more than 20 years and at a bakery for decades after. He lives with his daughter now, and said his freezer is full of coffee cakes and oatmeal cookies. He remains active in the Legion and his church.

As a Legionnaire, he's served as post commander, among other positions. He said his favorite activities he's been involved with at the Legion are baseball and the Boy Scouts.

Dahme's Legion experiences have changed during the past seven decades. He's moved around South Dakota, joining different posts, settling at American Legion Post 320 in Rapid City. But there's been one common denominator.

"I've had a lot of fun with a lot of different people," he said. "The Legion meant something to me here. ... It's just great."

