



Up To Now!

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PDC GLENN R. GREEN PASSES

PDC Glenn R. Green passed away Sunday, February 27, 2011. PDC Green served as the State Commander for the American Legion of South Dakota in 1957-1958.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, March 5, 2011, in the United Church of Christ (Congregational), 123 N. Highland Ave, Pierre, SD. Visitation will be Friday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. at the Isburg Funeral Chapel, 439 S. Pierre St., Pierre, SD.

Cards and memorials may be sent to PDC Green's family at 1105 Lakewood Drive, Pierre, SD 57501.

ENCLOSED TO ALL POST ADJUTANTS

Enclosed for all Post Adjutants are the Minutes of the Administrative and Executive Committee Meetings held during the MidWinter Conference February 11, 2011, at Oacoma, SD.

Also enclosed to Post Adjutants is the 2012 Post Data Report for your respective Post. These forms must be filled out and returned to State Headquarters in Watertown no later than April 15, 2011. This form is used to set your 2012 Post dues rate and to ensure that your members are returning their 2012 dues to the correct mailing address. It is imperative that all information is correct on this form.

Also to Post Adjutants is a 2011 American Legion Baseball Form. All American Legion Baseball teams register on line but to receive the 2011 South Dakota American Legion Baseball Rule Book and other information the enclosed form needs to be filled out and returned to State Headquarters, PO Box 67, Watertown, SD 57201.

NOTICE TO ALL RECIPIENTS OF THE UP TO NOW

At the Department Executive Meeting held on February 11, 2011, it was decided that the *Up To Now* will "NOT" be mailed out in hard copy form to the Post Commanders, Post Adjutants, and other recipients in the future. **This is the "LAST" issue of the *Up To Now* that will be mailed out in hard copy.** The *Up To Now* will be available on the South Dakota American Legion website for everyone wishing to receive it. The website is www.sdlegion.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

- P Barred from consideration for the honor of being named "Post Legionnaire of the Year" are State Legion Officers, members of the District Executive Committee, Post Commanders, and chairpersons of State Legion Standing Committees.
- P Past State Chaplain James Voss passed away at the age of 89 years. Rev Voss was State Chaplain under State Commanders' Darrell Haskell and Clarence Zaft.
- P A quorum at the American Legion Department Convention exists when 10% of the Posts are partially or wholly represented by duly elected delegates or alternates.
- P Samsung, a leader in electronics, chose The American Legion to administer an endowed scholarship fund of \$5 million dollars. The endowment was established to show appreciation to U.S. veterans who came to the aid of Korea in it's struggle against communist forces in the Korean War.

2011 SPRING DISTRICT CONVENTION SCHEDULE

District Commanders will be elected for two-year terms in odd-numbered Districts. County Commanders will be elected for all counties. The schedule for the Spring District Meetings is as follows:

March 24 – Dist 9 – Martin: Social at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. Meeting at the Martin Legion Post Home. Auxiliary will meet at the Legion Post Home. (Mountain Time)

March 25 – Dist 13 – Rapid City: 4:00 p.m. Social, 5:00 p.m. Meeting at Rapid City Post 22, Dinner will follow the meeting. Auxiliary will meet at the Legion Post.

March 26 – Dist 12 – Piedmont: 11:00 a.m. registration, 11:30 a.m. Joint Meeting, 12:00 Noon Lunch, 1:00 p.m. Meeting at Post Home, Social following the Meeting. Auxiliary will meet at the Piedmont Post Home.

March 27 – Dist 11 – Isabel: 2:00 p.m. Social, 2:30 p.m. Banquet, 3:00 p.m. Meeting at the Senior Citizens Building. Auxiliary will meet at the Senior Citizens Building.

April 1 – Dist 14 – Mobridge: 5:30 p.m. Social, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Meeting at the Mobridge Legion Post Home. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home.

April 2 – Dist 10 – Pierre: 5:30 p.m. Social, 6:00 p.m. Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Meeting at Pierre Post Home. Auxiliary will meet at the VFW Post Home.

April 3 – Dist 5 – Wolsey: No Social, 2:00 p.m. Meeting at Wolsey Legion Post Home, Light lunch following the Meeting. Auxiliary will meet at the Senior Center (one block north).

April 8 – Dist 8 – Gregory: 5:00 p.m. Social, 6:00 p.m. Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Meeting at Legion Post Home. Auxiliary will meet at the Legion Post Home.

April 9 – Dist 6 – Wessington Springs: 5:30 Social, 6:30 p.m. Banquet, 7:30 p.m. Meeting at Legion Post Home. Auxiliary will meet at the Legion Post Home.

April 10 – Dist 7 – Tripp: 11:30 a.m. Social, 12:30 p.m. Banquet, 1:30 p.m. Meeting at Legion Post Home. Auxiliary will meet in the Tripp Fire Hall South (across the street).

April 15 – Dist 4 – Wilmot: No Social, 7:00 p.m. Meeting at the Wilmot Community Center, Lunch to follow meeting. Auxiliary to be announced.

April 16 – Dist 1 – Sioux Falls: 2:00 p.m. Meeting at Sioux Falls Post 15, Social at 4:30 p.m., Dinner at 5:00 p.m., Auxiliary will meet at the Moose Lodge.

April 29 – Dist 2 – Flandreau: 5:30 p.m. Social at John's Place (Restaurant), 6:00 p.m. Banquet at John's Place, 7:00 p.m. Meeting at the Second Presbyterian Church (101 N. Prairie). Auxiliary will meet at John's Place.

April 30 – Dist 3 – Watertown: 6:00 p.m. Social, 7:00 p.m. Dinner, 8:00 p.m. Meeting at the Legion Post Home. Auxiliary to be announced.

TEN TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ten members of The American Legion Department of South Dakota will travel to Washington, D.C., in late March, to participate in the Sixteenth Annual Washington Conference. This annual conference is the primary opportunity for members of The American Legion, from all 50 States to converge on Capitol Hill, all carrying the same message regarding the Legislative Priorities which The American Legion has compiled that will serve the best interests of our nation's veterans.

Those called to Washington, D.C., this year include PDC Gerald Goetzinger of Martin (Vice Chairman Membership and Post Activities Committee), PDC Larry Price of Redfield (Americanism Com-

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mission), PDC Gunner Baatrup of Huron (Convention Commission), PDC Wayne Vetter of Cresbard (Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee), PDC Eugene Schumacher of Aberdeen (Employment Committee), Alt NEC Phil Anderson of Piedmont (National Security Commission), and Past National Chaplain Stan Gruneich (Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee). Also attending will be Department Commander G.D. "Hoot" Gibson of Sioux Falls and Department Adjutant Denny Brenden of Watertown.

The Washington Conference is scheduled for March 20-23. Attendees will be staying at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel. Tuesday, March 22 has been designated as Hill Day. Tuesday will commence with an American Legion Legislative Rally at the Hotel in the morning and shortly after lunch, all participants will journey to Capitol Hill to present The American Legion's Legislative Priorities list to their respective Congressional Delegations.

The tenth South Dakota Legionnaire traveling to Washington, D.C., will be Department Service Officer Warren Aas of Watertown. DSO Aas will be participating in the Annual Department Service Officer's School which is also held at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel. DSO Aas will be arriving in Washington on March 15 and will be departing on March 20, just shortly after the remaining Legionnaires from South Dakota arrive.

"PATRIOT GUARDIANS" PRINT

The Department Fundraiser Print, Patriot Guardians, is still available from State Headquarters. The artist, Lane Kendrick, is a very well known artist who has paintings hanging in Governor's offices and one of her original paintings was presented to former President Bush.

The print is on the Department website www.sdlegion.org. These prints are available for a \$40 donation. Many American Legion Posts have been using this print for a Post fundraiser. These prints will be available at the Spring District Meetings and State Convention.

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION

A letter was sent out to all Legionnaires, Post Commanders, Post Adjutants, and leadership in the American Legion Department of South Dakota, by the Board of Directors of the newly formed South Dakota American Legion Foundation. The letter requested that Posts donate \$1 per member to assist in starting the foundation. To date approximately 34 Posts have donated to the foundation.

The purpose of the South Dakota American Legion Foundation is to assure future funding for The American Legion programs. Individuals, businesses, families, and organizations are asked to make contributions to the fund. Please keep the foundation in mind when doing your wills and estates.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

All American Legion Posts are reminded that now is the time to select your Post Legionnaire of the Year. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize one Legionnaire from within your Post for his/her special efforts, initiative, and performance during the past year.

Forms for nominating your local Post Legionnaire of the Year for District Legionnaire of the Year competition are included in the 2010-2011 Post Adjutant's Administrative and Awards Manual. Rules require Posts to submit nominations to the District Commander at least 15 days prior to the Spring District Conventions.

District Legionnaires of the Year will be recognized at the Spring District Conventions and at the Annual Department Convention in Oacoma, June 2011. District Legionnaires of the Year will be eligible for competition in the Department Legionnaire of the Year selection process. The Department Legionnaire of the Year will be announced at the Department Convention in Oacoma in June.

BOYS STATE REGISTRATION

All boys planning to attend American Legion Boys State need to

be registered with the Boys State Registrar, Eugene Schumacher of Aberdeen, by April 1. Boys State Corporation has implemented a late registration fee of \$25.00 per boy if the deadline isn't met.

Keep in mind that Boys State Orientations should be scheduled after the first of May. It is recommended that the boys have the new 2011 Boys State manuals at the time of their Boys State Orientation.

FROM PIERRE

The 86th session of the South Dakota Legislature is in session. These are the bills that The American Legion is monitoring along with the bill's current status.

SB 51 - This bill would revise certain provisions relating to a previous appropriation for renovation of the nursing care building on the South Dakota Veterans' Home campus and to declare an emergency. **This bill has passed both houses and will be delivered to the Governor.**

SB 52 - This bill would authorize the South Dakota Building Authority and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to provide for the design, construction, and equipping of the Veterans Home near Hot Springs and to declare an emergency. **This bill passed both houses and will be delivered to the Governor.**

SB 53 - This bill revises certain provisions relating to the Veterans Commission and to veteran's rights, benefits, and services. This bill redefines a veteran and a war time veteran in South Dakota. **The bill passed both houses and will be delivered to the Governor.**

SB 56 - This bill would revise the qualifications of a county veterans' service officer. First read in the Senate and referred to Senate State Affairs Committee. The bill was deferred to the 41st day, **kill**

ing the bill.
SB 58 - This bill provides tuition benefits to certain National Guard members attending tribal colleges. Read in the Senate and referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. This bill was deferred to the 41st day **kill**

ing the bill.
SB 69 - This bill would repeal certain provisions relating to county veterans memorials. **This bill passed both houses and will be delivered to the Governor.**

SB 139 - This bill would exempt from state regulation certain foster home care for veterans. **This bill passed both houses and will be delivered to the Governor.**

HB 1083 - This bill would revise certain state education benefits for veterans. House Education Committee passed the bill. The bill went to the House and was amended. The amended version failed 29-40.

HB 1125 - This bill will increase the amount of certain veterans' bonus payments. First read in House and referred to House State Affairs Committee. It was deferred to the 41st day, **kill**

ing the bill.
HB 1126 - This bill would revise the salary schedule for veterans' service officers. First read in House and referred to the House State Affairs Committee. It was deferred to the 41st day, **kill**

ing the bill.
HB 1198 - This bill would provide for the state and local government of certain federal immigration laws, to criminalize the knowing transportation, concealment, or solicitation of illegal aliens, and to provide penalties therefore. This bill was deferred to the 41st day, **kill**

ing the bill.
HB 1245 - This bill would revise and repeal certain provisions regarding the salary and travel reimbursements for county veterans service officers. Passed the House.

SENATE COMMEMORATION NO. 9 - Honoring the Boys State & Girls State Governors and commending The South Dakota American Legion and Auxiliary for sponsoring the Boys and Girls State programs. Commemoration presented to the Boys and Girls State Governors by Governor Daugaard February 15, 2011.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

2011 membership stands at 21,123 or 91.84% of our 2011 National Membership Goal. Commander Gibson's pledge to the National Commander was 92.45% of goal. We are very close to achieving this pledge. Please send in all 2011 memberships by March 8th.

