



# Up To Now!



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## ENCLOSED FOR ADJUTANTS

Enclosed with this *Up To Now* for all Adjutants is the Official Call for the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of South Dakota. Also enclosed for Adjutants are the forms for listing the Post's Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention. The colored forms, signed by the officers of the Post, are to be mailed to reach Department Headquarters, PO Box 67, Watertown, SD 57201 by June 6<sup>th</sup>, or to be turned in to the Department Headquarters Desk in Spearfish.

## ENCLOSED FOR ALL RECIPIENTS

Enclosed for all recipients of the *Up To Now* is a copy of the Official Call for the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of South Dakota. The 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held in Spearfish, SD, at the Spearfish Holiday Inn and Convention Center, Thursday-Sunday, June 7-10, 2007.

Also enclosed for all recipients of the *Up To Now* is a copy of the minutes of the April 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Constitution and By-laws Committee and that committee's recommendations on the resolutions which were submitted proposing amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of The American Legion Department of South Dakota.

A copy of each of the resolutions reviewed by the committee is attached to these minutes. The minutes, resolutions and recommendations are being forwarded to each Post within the Department in accordance with Article XV, Section 1 of the Constitution of The American Legion Department of South Dakota.

Also enclosed for all recipients is information and a registration form for the Annual SD American Legion Golf Tournament which will be held Saturday-Sunday, June 23-24 at the Southern Hills Golf Course in Hot Springs, SD. Those interested in participating should send the registration form and the required entry fees to the address provided on the registration form.

## JOINT BANQUET TICKETS FOR STATE CONVENTION

The Joint Banquet at the State Convention will be held on Saturday, June 9. Tickets can be purchased by mailing \$22.00 per ticket to American Legion Convention Banquet, % Phil Anderson, PO Box 77, Piedmont, SD 57769.

When ordering tickets please specify your choice of New York Steak or Chicken Parmesan.

**The deadline for ordering tickets for this banquet is May 25th.**

## DISTRICT AND COUNTY ELECTIONS

This year at the Spring District Conventions, District Commanders and Vice Commanders are being elected to two-year terms in the odd-numbered Districts. Additionally, County Commanders and Vice Commanders are being elected to one-year terms in all Districts unless those leaders have already been

named by an established county council. The results of these elections since the last issue of the *Up To Now* are as follows:

Donn Grandpre of Aberdeen (member of the Conde American Legion Post) and Jim Bauer of Faulkton were elected to two-year terms as District 5 Commander and District 5 Vice Commander, respectively, April 19, during the annual District 5 Spring Convention in Conde.

Byron Callies of Watertown and LeRoy Warborg of Estelline were elected to two-year terms as District 3 Commander and District 3 Vice Commander, respectively, April 26<sup>th</sup>, during the annual District 3 Spring Convention in Watertown.

Elected as County Commanders were the following individuals:

April 19<sup>th</sup> (District 5 at Conde) - Bob Brodkorb of Wolsey, Beadle County; Owen Zachritz of Faulkton, Faulk County; Leo Istas of Miller, Hand County; and David Hosley of Aberdeen (member of the Mellette American Legion Post), Spink County.

April 20<sup>th</sup> (District 2 at Volga) – District 2 has active County Organizations and elects County Officers at the County Meetings. The results of their elections will be reported in a future edition of the *Up To Now*.

April 26<sup>th</sup> (District 3 at Watertown) – Mike McGillivray of Clark, Clark County; Hilmer Moen of Watertown, Codington County; Robert Quail of Toronto, Deuel County; and Roger Turbak of Castlewood, Hamlin County.

April 27<sup>th</sup> (District 4 at Big Stone City) – LeRoy Lutt of Webster, Day County; Tammy Schroeder of Big Stone City (member of the Milbank American Legion Post), Grant County; LeRoy Nelson of Langford, Marshall County; and Russ McKee of Claire City (member of the New Effington American Legion Post), Roberts County.

## DISTRICT LEGIONNAIRES OF THE YEAR

Department Commander Gunner Baatrup is recognizing those Legionnaires who have been chosen by their Posts for providing outstanding support to the programs and projects of The American Legion as he travels the state of South Dakota conducting the Spring District Conventions. One of these outstanding Post Legionnaires of the Year is being selected by the leadership of each District to be recognized as the District Legionnaire of the Year. Those selected during the Spring District Conventions since the last *Up To Now* include:

District 2 – Verne Hanson of Volga Post 114

District 3 – LeRoy Noem of Bryant Post 37

District 4 – Francis Van Sambeek of Milbank Post 9

District 5 – Rolland Barrie of Conde Post 148

**CONTINUED ON BACK**

Congratulations to the above listed individuals who are now eligible for selection as Department Legionnaire of the Year at the Annual Department Convention in Spearfish, June 7-10.

### **INVITATIONS TO HOST STATE CONVENTION/ MIDWINTER**

Invitations are being accepted from Posts wishing to host the 2010 SD American Legion Annual State Convention and the 2008/2009 SD American Legion MidWinter Conferences.

The offers must be submitted in writing by the prospective host Post, signed by the Post Commander and attested to by the Post Adjutant. Invitations must reach State Headquarters in Watertown by Monday, June 4, 2007.

Invitations should consider all available facilities and accommodations. The Convention Next Meeting Place Committee will consider the invitations during its convention meeting at the State Convention in Spearfish on Friday afternoon, June 8, 2007.

Information for compiling an invitation and actual bid forms are available from State Headquarters in Watertown. Posts must follow the directions provided to be eligible to bid for these activities. **VERBAL INVITATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE CONVENTION NEXT MEETING PLACE REVIEW OF BIDS/INVITATIONS.**

Invitations should be submitted to the State Adjutant, American Legion State Headquarters, PO Box 67, Watertown, SD 57201.

### **CONSOLIDATED POST REPORTS**

National Commander Paul Morin and Department Commander Gunner Baatrup are both urging more Posts to submit the Consolidated Post Reports this year. Historically, less than 50% of the Posts in the Nation and this Department submit the annual report. This report is utilized by National Headquarters to compile the annual report that is provided to congress to report on the activities of The American Legion.

The Consolidated Post Report is one of the most important documents that your Post can complete and submit. The form may appear complicated and look like it takes a lot of time and effort to complete – but if your Post has kept fairly good records during the course of the past year you will find that it is quite easy to compile the information required. Your Post is not expected to have something to report in each and every category or on every line of the report. We only ask that you report on the information that pertains to your Post.

**REMINDER:** The submission of the CPR is one of the seven mandatory items required to be designated as a Dakota Dream Post. The deadline for submitting Consolidated Post Reports to State Headquarters in Watertown is June 1, 2007.

The Consolidated Post Report form was sent to all Adjutants with the last edition of the *Up To Now*. Additional copies of the form may be downloaded from The American Legion Department of South Dakota webpage at [www.sdlegion.org](http://www.sdlegion.org).

### **SIX ARE CALLED TO INDIANAPOLIS**

Six South Dakota Legionnaires will be at National Headquarters in Indianapolis during the period May 6-10 for Spring Committee/Commission meetings.

Called to Indianapolis are, National Chaplain Stan Gruneich of Flandreau, National Executive Committeeman Paul Evenson of Sioux Falls, Alt NEC Larry Price of Redfield (Vice Chairman of the National Americanism Commission), National Convention

Committee Member Glenn R. Green of Pierre, Internal Affairs Commission member Don Mason of Platte and Ron Tolrud of White (General Member of the Children and Youth Commission for Region 6).

### **DAKOTA DREAM POST**

The last edition of the *Up To Now* contained a copy of the application form for becoming a Dakota Dream Post. There are seven items at the beginning of the checklist form which **MUST BE SATISFIED** – These items are identified by a star « immediately after the check box. **IF YOUR POST HAS NOT SATISFIED THIS ITEM – YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE DESIGNATED AS A DAKOTA DREAM POST.** If you are not eligible you do not need to fill out the form and send it to Headquarters.

The requirements are outlined on the application. The deadline for satisfying the qualifications is June 1 and the deadline for submitting the applications is June 15. Due to the fact that the State Convention is scheduled for early June this year, the Dakota Dream Post plaques will be awarded during the Fall District Conferences.

Additional applications may be obtained by visiting the SD American Legion Webpage at [www.sdlegion.org](http://www.sdlegion.org) and clicking on the menu choice for “FORMS”.

### **CERTIFICATION OF 2008 POST OFFICERS**

Post Adjutants are reminded that they have a responsibility to certify the Post's 2008 officers to Department Headquarters in Watertown. This certification process is one of the last official duties of the outgoing Post Adjutant. The form for certifying your 2008 Post Officers can be found in the *2006-2007 SD American Legion Adjutant's Administrative and Awards Manual*. Immediately behind page 11 in that manual there is a white sheet that explains the certification process and the very next page is the green-colored Post Officer Certification Form.

Newly elected Post Officers will not be placed on mailing lists by State or National Headquarters nor will they be recognized as Post Officers by either headquarters until they have been certified. Additionally, Posts will not receive their 2008 membership cards until this certification process is completed.

Complete information requested on the form is required. All blanks must be filled in. We cannot certify officers without their dates of service (enlistment and discharge dates). We must have complete mailing addresses, phone numbers, Legion membership ID #, and would appreciate having the officer's email address if they have one.

All members being certified must be members in good standing – this means they must have already paid their 2007 membership dues. If any information is missing, including the payment of 2007 membership dues, your officers will not be certified.

### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

2007 membership stands at 24,718 or 94.98 percent of the Department's 2007 membership goal.

Department Commander Baatrup and Department Membership Chairman “Kaz” are asking each and every member in a position of leadership to take one more look at your Post membership roster and contact those individuals who have still not paid their 2007 dues. We can still “REACH THE SUMMIT” with everyone's help.