HIGHWAY 281 RIDE DECLARED A HUGE SUCCESS
National Vice Commander Jim Wallace and Dept. Commander Fred Nelson declared August 28th’s Centennial Ride down the American Legion Highway 281 a safe and successful ride. Despite some very heavy rain for most of the ride, the support from the local Posts was impressive. Fire and Police escorts into towns with hot coffee, bars and cookies available inside the Posts were very much appreciated. The ride only had one incident where the National Vice Commander’s bike broke down between Wolsey and Virgil. The only Post that was not visited from the schedule was Virgil due to the gravel roads leading into town were extremely wet and hazardous for the motorcycles to travel on. A special thank you goes out to the Stickney Post for all the work they put into the visit. It was very evident to the National and out of state riders that the town fully supports the local American Legion Post and they are involved in their community as well.

STATE “A” LEGION BASEBALL RESULTS

State A Senior July 26-30, 2019
Game 1. Yankton 4, Rapid City #22 1
Game 2. Renner 5, Pierre 3
Game 3. Brandon Valley 10, Watertown 0
Game 4. Mitchell 5, Harrisburg 1
Game 5. Rapid City 3, Watertown 2
Game 6. Pierre 2, Harrisburg 0
Game 7. Yankton 5, Brandon Valley 4
Game 8. Renner 4, Mitchell 2
Game 9. Brandon Valley 8, Pierre 5
Game 10. Rapid City 6, Mitchell 4
Game 11. Renner 13, Yankton 3
Game 12. Rapid City 8, Yankton 1
Game 13. Renner 4, Brandon Valley 1

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: Renner 6, Rapid City #22 4

Tournament MVP: Mason Runia, Renner Post 307, SS
Big Stick Award: Calvin Hegg, Mitchell Post 18, 500
Porter T. Talcott Sportsmanship Award: Rapid City Post 22

State A Junior August July 26-30, 2019
Game 1. Harrisburg 5, Watertown 4
Game 2. Rapid City #22 (Expos) 9, Sioux Falls East 1
Game 3. Renner 10, Rapid City #22 (Bullets) 4
Game 4. Rapid City #320 (Shooters) 4, Sioux Falls West 3
Game 5. Watertown 7, Rapid City #22 (Bullets) 0
Game 6. Sioux Falls East 9, Sioux Falls West 1
Game 7. Renner 5, Harrisburg 0
Game 8. Rapid City #22 (Expos) 4, Rapid City #320 (Shooters) 2
Game 9. Sioux Falls East 11, Harrisburg 4
Game 10. Rapid City #320 (Shooters) 3, Watertown 0
Game 11. Rapid City #22 (Expos) 10, Renner 4
Game 12. Renner 9, Rapid City #320 (Shooters) 4
Game 13. Rapid City #22(Expos) 17, Sioux Falls East 3
Game 14. Renner 7, Rapid City (Expos) 0

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: Renner 711 Rapid City (Expos) 9

Tournament MVP: Ethan Fredrickson, Renner Post 307, P
Big Stick Award: Liam Porter, RC Post 22 Expo, 10-19, .526
Porter T. Talcott Sportsmanship Award: Watertown Post 17

BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS SCHEDULE
The schedule for The American Legion 2019 baseball tournaments is as follows:
- State “B” Senior—August 2-6, hosted by Lennox Post 174.
- State “B” Junior—August 9-11, hosted by Groton Post 39.
- National Regional- August 7-11, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

EIGHT TO ATTEND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP
Department Commander, Nelson of Spearfish, Department Adjutant Flisrand of Castlewood, Department Membership Chairman Stringer of Hartford, District 1 CDR Booze of Piedmont, District 1 Vice CDR McDonald of Box Elder, District 2 CDR IronShell of Rosebud, District 7 CDR Smith of Chester, will attend the National Membership Workshop at The American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis, IN, on August 8-10, 2019. DSO/ASST Adjutant VanZanten will attend the Service Officer school from August 7-10, 2019.

NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES & ALTERNATES
Delegates, Alternate Delegates will be representing the Department of South Dakota at the National Convention in Indianapolis, IN, on August 23-29, 2019.

The delegates elected are as follows:
NEC Jim Huls, PDC Denny Brenden, Commander Fred Nelson, Dept. Adj. Travise Flisrand, Dist 1 CDR David Booze, Dist. 2 PDC Rick MacDonald, Dist 3 CDR Leroy Madsen, Dist 4 Tom Perrizio, Dist 5 Noel Cummins, Dist. 7 Ed Stringer, Dist. 8 Dan Hunhoff, additional Delegates were Kevin Hempel of Sioux Falls, Rod Smith of Chester, PDC Charem Dunham of Iroquois, and State Vice CDR Kevin Morello of Black Hawk.

National Call-ins:
PDC Paul Evenson, , PDC Larry Price, PDC Gunner Baatrup, PDC Byron Callies, PDC Mark Weimann, PDC Terry Hanson, PDC Hugh Holmes, PDC Tim Jurgens, Warren Aas, and Dist. 6 CDR Doug Feltman.
The alternate delegates: Ken Sabers, Dist. 2 CDR Eugene Iron Shell Jr., PDC Wayne Vetter, Tom Henley, SAA Verle Whipple and Annette Dunham.

The schedule for the National Convention will be similar to that used for the past several years:
- Fri, Aug 23- Resolutions Screening Committees
- Sat, Aug 24- Standing Committees and Commissions
- Sun, Aug 25 - Convention Committees
- National Chaplain’s Breakfast
- Patriotic Memorial Service
- National Convention Parade
- Tri Stack Social – (South Dakota Hosts)
- Mon, Aug 26 - Department Caucus
- Tue, Aug 27 -National Convention General Assembly
- National Commander’s Banquet
- Wed, Aug 28 -National Convention General Assembly
- Thur, Aug 29 -General Assembly continues
- National Commander elected

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS
It is that time of year when there are volunteers needed to man the veterans building at the State Fair and to be drivers of golf carts giving rides to those in need. Posts and individuals who would like to volunteer please call State Headquarters or e-mail to hq@sdlegion.org and let us know if you and/or your Post would like to help out. August 28th at 10:00 a.m., is clean up at the veterans building on the fair grounds. Cleaning of the building and setting up for the fair is done on this day. Volunteers are needed.
The State fair runs from August 28th—September 2. Do not forget August 29th is veterans get free day along with the Chet Sorensen award presentation. Do not miss out in showing the Legion’s presence.

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER AWARD
The application deadline for the Physician and Provider of the Year

CONTINUED ON BACK
Awards has been extended to September 1, 2019. Thanks to our media staff in Indy, the online application has been converted to an online fillable form, which you can access at https://www.legion.org/veteranshealthcare. Both awards can be located at the bottom of the page.

STATE CEMETERY GROUND BREAKING
The groundbreaking ceremony for the new South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery will occur on September 9th at 9 a.m. State Commander Fred Nelson is requesting a very strong American Legion presence at this ceremony.

SAL MEMBERSHIP MAILINGS
Effective immediately, all SAL dues and membership sheets will be mailed to the SAL Detachment Adjutant Dewey Hessaa at: 48096 24TH ST / Canton, SD 57013. Any memberships for SAL mailed to SD American Legion HQ will be forwarded to the Detachment Adjutant for processing.

FALL DISTRICT MEETING DATES/LOCATIONS
- District 1—Sept. 29 @ Eagle Butte, Social 10 am, joint meeting 11 am, lunch 11:45, Legion meeting 1 pm.
- District 2—Sept. 28 @ Post 71 Hot Springs. Social 9 am, Meeting 10 am. Meal $10/person following the meeting.
- District 3—Sept. 7 @ Pierre Post 8. Social-noon. Meeting-1 pm
- District 4—Sept. 8 @ Leola, Social-4pm, Meal-5pm, meeting 6pm.
- District 5—Sept. 6 @ White. Social at 2:30 p.m. with Coffee/cookies/ice cream. 3:00 p.m. meeting.
- District 6—Sept. 14 @ Wessington Springs. Social 5 pm, Meal 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm. Auxiliary will meet at Courthouse.
- District 7—Sept. 15 @ Madison Legion at the VFW, Social 2:00 pm, Meeting 3:00 pm meeting Coffee, cookies bars after. Auxiliary place TBD
- District 8—Sept. 13 @ Wagner. Social at 5 pm, meeting at 6 pm, and lite lunch afterwards. Ladies meet at the Methodist Church.

SAL DET. COMMANDER CALLS FOR FALL MEETINGS
SAL Commander Terry Hanson requests that all SAL Squadrons send representation to the fall meetings. He will have a SAL meeting in each District, the SAL will do the opening with the Legion and then break off into a separate group. Topics to discuss are Charters, supporting the Legion programs and membership.

SOUTH DAKOTA LEGION GOLF TOURNAMENT
The State Legion Golf Tournament, co-sponsored by the Humboldt and Hartford American Legion Posts, will be held on the weekend of September 21-22, 2019 at the Hartford Golf Course. Entry fee for 4 person scramble is $440. Entry fee covers 18 holes of golf on Saturday and Sunday. Free use of golf cart and catered meal on Saturday night. Top prize is $10,000 for those who get a hole in one! Contact Fred Lee at 605-413-9451 to secure your slot.

BIDS TO HOST 2024 STATE CONVENTION
No bids were submitted to host the 2024 State Convention at the 101st State Convention, the DEC will now have to decide the host/location. Bids are being accepted from Posts wishing to host the 2024 South Dakota American Legion Convention. The offer must be submitted in writing by the prospective host Post, signed by the Post Commander and attested to by the Post Adjutant. Bids must reach State Headquarters in Watertown by January 17, 2020. The DEC will decide where to host the 2024 Convention during the 2020 MidWinter Conference.

FOUNDATION DONATIONS
Remember the South Dakota American Legion Foundation when your Post considers donations / gifts. This foundation will be used by future generations of Legionnaires to fund the American Legion programs. Donations can be marked as a memorial to those Legion members who have passed onto Post Everlasting. If the Post knows someone who wants to make a larger donation and needs assistance with ensuring the endowment goes to the programs they want to support, please contact the Dept. Adjutant at adjutant@sdlegion.org.

ORATORY CONTEST COMPLETION DATES
The Americanism Commission has set the following completion dates for the oratory contests.
- Post contests completed by January 19th
- District contests completed by February 2nd
- State contest on February 23 at 10:30

BASEBALL UNIFORM DONATIONS
Ed Thompson of Custer Post 46 has requested that used/old Legion baseball uniforms that are still serviceable be donated. He is working with tribal Legion Posts to get Legion baseball started in their communities. Donated items can be shipped to: Ed Thompson / 1905 Wilson Ave / Hot Springs, SD 57747.

HONOR FLIGHTS
The MIDWEST Honor Flight is having a meet and greet open house on Saturday September 7 at 3-6 pm at the Residence Inn by Marriott Rapid. This is a great opportunity to meet and ask questions. The flights go out of the Sioux Falls and Rapid City airports is a non profit organization run by a SAL member from Iowa. For more information, please go to the MIDWEST honor Flight website: http://www.midwesthonorflight.org.

HONOR FLIGHTS
HAVE YOU WROTE YOUR POST’S HISTORY YET?
If you haven’t written your Post’s History and posted it on the Centennial website, please do so. Chairman Charemon Dunham has requested that all American Legion Posts write up a brief history and put it on the Centennial Page on the National website. In writing the history, you’ll get a sense of pride in what Legionnaires have gone through in maintaining the local Post. Also, if your Post is named after an individual, you’ll gain a feeling of satisfaction in letting the world know why. Deadlines are running short and this needs to be in place so other events surrounding the 100th Anniversary can be accomplished.

CENTENNIAL CONVENTION MEMORABILIA
Post 15 has convention t-shirts and 100 year pins for sale. T-shirts $20.00 and pins $5.00. E-mail Post Adjutant Mike Driscoll at jarhead9999@gmail.com to request your Centennial memorabilia.

CERTIFICATION OF 2020 OFFICERS
Post Adjutants are reminded that they have a responsibility to certify the Post’s 2020 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 2020 Post Officers can be found in the 2018-2019 SD American Legion Adjutant’s Administrative and Awards Manual. One sheet explains the certification process, and the very next page is the Post Officers Certification Form.

Newly elected Post Officers will not be placed on mailing lists by State or National Headquarters or receive their 2020 membership cards until the Post is certified.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE
The July 12 & 13 Finance Commission and Department Executive Committee minutes will be sent out in the next Up To Now.

POSTS WHO HAVE NOT CERTIFIED THEIR OFFICERS

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
2019 Membership: **18,246** or **91.23%** of a goal of 20,001. 2020 Membership: **3,074** or **18,246** of a goal of 19,747.

Membership Chairman Ed Stringer’s theme is: “MEMBERSHIP IS STRENGTH, LETS GET STRONGER!”