HATS IN THE RING
- Post 125 of Rosebud has endorsed Eugene Iron Shell Jr. as a candidate for State Vice Commander for Districts 1&2 for 2020-2021.
- Potter Post #3 of Chamberlain has endorsed Doug Feltman as a candidate for State Vice Commander for District 3-8 for 2020-2021.

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR ED SCHOLARSHIP
The new application deadline for Education scholarship program is December 5th. Applications can be found at: https://www.sdlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/SDAL-Scholarship-Appl-2019.pdf

LEGIONNAIRES RECEIVE NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS
The American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford of the Department of North Carolina has announced the following National 1 year appointments for South Dakota Legionnaires:
- Americanism Council:
  - Douglas Harris of Post 22 Rapid City—Member
  - Lawrence Madsen of Post 135 Gettysburg—Member
  - Catherine Schmidt of Post 14 Wessington Springs—Member
  - Edwin Thompson of Post 46 Custer—Member
  - Christopher Van Delist of Post 22 Rapid City—Member
- American Legion Charities, Inc.
  - PDC Paul Evenson of Post 23 Garretson - Member
- Children & Youth Committee:
  - Miranda Krumm of Post 136 Chester - Consultant
- Employment & Veterans Preference Committee:
  - PNVC Byron Callies of Post 17 Watertown - Consultant
- IT Oversight Committee:
  - PDC Paul Evenson of Post 23 Garretson - Member
- National Security Council:
  - PDC Gunner Baatrup of Post 268 of Virgil—Member
  - PDC Rodney Smith of Post 136 of Chester—Member
  - Ed Stringer of Post 15 Sioux Falls—Member
- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Council:
  - Eugene Iron Shell Jr. of Post 125 Rosebud—Member
  - PDC Rod Martens of Post 311 Piedmont—Member
- Veterans Employment & Education Liaison Committee
  - NEC Jim Huls of Post 140 Salem - Member
- Veterans Employment & Education Council:
  - Kevin Morello of Post 311 Piedmont - Member
  - Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee
  - PDC Larry Price of Post 92 Redfield - Chairman
  - Youth Education Committee:
  - PDC Hugh Holmes of Post 18 Mitchell - Consultant

THREE YEAR APPOINTMENTS:
- Americanism Commission
  - PDC Larry Price of Post 92 Redfield
- Convention Committee
  - PDC Dennis Brenden of Post 17 Watertown—Member
- Membership & Post Activities Committee
  - PDC Terry Hanson of Post 42 Arlington-Member
- Media & Communications Committee
  - PDC Mark Weinmann of Post 128 Hudson—Member
- VA&R Health Administration Committee
  - PDC Tim Jurgens of Post 9 Milbank—Member
- Veterans Education, other benefits & Homelessness Committee
  - Gary Wolkow of Post 138 De Smet—Member
- Veterans Employment & Education Council
  - PDC Gary Wolkow of Post 138 De Smet—Chairman
  - PDC Chris VanDelist of Post 22 Rapid City—Member
- Americanism Commission
  - PDC Gary Wolkow of Post 138 De Smet—Member
- Convention Committee
  - PDC Dennis Brenden of Post 17 Watertown—Member
- Membership & Post Activities Committee
  - PDC Terry Hanson of Post 42 Arlington-Member
- Media & Communications Committee
  - PDC Mark Weinmann of Post 128 Hudson—Member
- VA&R Health Administration Committee
  - PDC Tim Jurgens of Post 9 Milbank—Member
- Veterans Education, other benefits & Homelessness Committee
  - Gary Wolkow of Post 138 De Smet—Member

DEPT. COMMANDER ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT
Commander Nelson announces the following appointments:
- Chris Van Delist of Rapid City for a 1-year appointment as Legislative Committee member.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET
Chairman Martens has called for a conference call meeting of the Legislative committee for November 5th at 10 am central time. The committee will discuss all pending resolutions for legislation and recommendations from the South Dakota Veterans Council. Posts that have concerns on legislation should contact State HQ so they can discuss them with the committee.

VA/VS COMMITTEE TO MEET
Chairman VanKekrix has called for a conference call meeting of the VA/VS Committee and VA Hospital Reps on November 13th at 1 pm central time. The Committee will discuss the needs of VA Hospitals and the patients who are there. Posts who have ideas for the VA/VS Committee to consider in helping veterans who are patients in the VA hospitals should contact State HQ so they are brought forward to the committee.

EMPLOYER RECOGNITION FORMS
It is that time of year for Posts to look into their communities for businesses who need recognition for what they do for their communities. The Older worker form is due by October 20, the Veteran Employer form is due by November 1st and the rest are due by December 15th to State Headquarters.

A proactive local Legion Member looking at businesses who had a good community reputation asked questions to the management and found a great store that won the top spot Nationally. Do not overlook your local stores, they all have a shot to win. Three sized categories for each award; Small, Medium, and Large, based on employees.

SDAL APPAREL NOW AVAILABLE
During the July 2019 Dept. Executive Committee meeting a standardized South Dakota American Legion emblem was accepted by the DEC to get approval by the National American Legion to use. On the front page of the UTN you will notice the new emblem in black in white. The DEC also has approved a temporary partnership with Sign Design in Colton, SD to create apparel with this emblem on it.

The goal is to allow South Dakota American Legion members to show their pride in their State and be easily identified at National events. Sign Design is a veteran/American Legion member owned business who gives money back to non-profits from orders to help support their programs. Ordering is done online through this website: https://americanlegion.signedesign1977.club/. This business will handle all inventory/ordering of materials. Apparel can be picked up in Colton, mailed or have bulk pickup and delivered to MidWinter/Convention by State HQ staff. Posts can customize jackets/shirts/hats to reflect Post pride.

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
The 2020 Midwinter Conference is just around the corner, February 21-23, 2020. Start planning your trip to Chamberlain now! The conference will be held at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center at Cedar Shore. For hotel reservations, please call 605-734-6376 or 888-697-6363. Be sure to ask for the American Legion block.

MIDWINTER MYLEGION TRAINING FOR POSTS
The training surveys completed during Fall District Meetings identified MyLegion as the most needed training for Post Adjutants. Adjutants who plan on attending MidWinter conference for this training need to have an active MyLegion account and a laptop or tablet as

CONTINUED ON BACK
hands on training will be done during the training session. If you need assistance in setting up a MyLegion account contact Dept. HQ.

OF THE YEAR AWARDS
For the past few years the competition held at the State level for Firemen/EMT/Police/Good Samaritan/Educator/Employer awards has been very sparse. Posts are requested to find people/businesses in their communities who exemplify The American Legion spirit of giving back to their communities. This is a neglected resource for our Posts, by acknowledging what these citizens are doing for their community, local Posts will benefit by having another advocate to help support Legion Programs. Do not miss this opportunity.

NOVEMBER 14TH TARGET DAY AWARDS
Below is the first list of awards that Posts, Individuals, Districts are eligible for:

Individual Award - Every member who has paid his/her 2020 membership dues and has those dues into State Headquarters by November 14th will be eligible to be entered into a drawing for an award. One name from each District will be drawn and presented with this award.

Recruiter Award - Everyone who recruits a new 2020 member by November 14th will have the recruiter's name entered into a drawing for the award of a Legion wristwatch. The recruiter's name will be entered into the drawing one time for each new member recruited.

The Post adjutant or membership chairman will be responsible for reporting the names of the recruiters to State Headquarters for all new members recruited. If memberships and recruiters' names are not forwarded in a timely manner, the recruiter's name will not be in the drawing.

District Membership Chairman's Award - An appropriate award will go to each District Membership Chairman who has no “goose egg” Posts and has enrolled at least 75 percent of his/her District’s 2020 membership goal by the above target date.

Post Award - An award plaque will go to all Posts that have met their assigned 2020 membership goal and has that membership transmitted to State Headquarters by the above target date.

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

DISTRICT ORATORY CONTESTS
District American Legion Americanism Chairs, and the counties under the jurisdiction of each are as follows:

DIST. 1 – (Butte, Corson, Dewey, Harding, Lawrence, Meade, Perkins, Ziebach counties) Chair: Ken Sabers, (ksabers@rushmore.com) 1908 Butte View Dr. Sturgis, SD 57785. District Contest to be held at Sturgis American Legion Post 33, January 12, 2020, 1:00pm. Storm date, January 19, same time and place.

DIST. 2 – (Bennett, Custer, Fall River, Haakon, Jackson, Jones, Mellette, Pennington, Shannon, Todd counties) Chair: Paul Douglas, 622 Auburn Dr, Rapid City, SD 57701. District Contest to be held at Rapid City American Legion Post 22, 818 E. St. Patrick St., Rapid City, January 12, 2020 2:00 p.m. Storm date, January 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. same place.

DIST. 3 – (Gregory, Hand, Hughes, Hyde, Lyman, Potter, Stanley, Sully, Tripp counties) Chair: Larry Madsen, (larry_madsen@hotmail.com) or 906 E Commercial Ave., Gettysburg, SD 57442. District Contest to be held at the Faith Lutheran Church Christian Living Center, 714 N Grand Ave, Pierre, SD. January 12, 2020 2:00 p.m. Storm date, January 19 same time and place.

DIST. 4 – (Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson, Spink, Walworth counties) Chair: Dale Strom, (dale_strom@yahoo.com) 115 N. Kline St, Aberdeen, SD 57410. District Contest to be held at the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 431 W Melgaard Rd, Aberdeen, SD 57401 January 5, 2020, 3:00 p.m. Storm date, January 12th same time and place.

DIST. 5 – (Brookings, Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Marshall, Roberts counties) Chair: Shelli Romeu (shelli.romeu@gmail.com) PO Box 284, Watertown, SD 57221. District Contest will be held at Watertown Post home, Jan. 19, 2020, 1:30 p.m. Storm date, Jan. 26, same time and place.

DIST. 6 – (Aurora, Beadle, Brule, Buffalo, Davison, Hanson, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Miner, Sanborn counties) Chair: Tim Thomas, (photostoday@midstatesdata.net) 112 S Merrill St Chamberlain SD 57325. District Contest to be held at the Chamberlain High School, 1000 Sorenson Dr., Chamberlain, SD, 57325, January 5th, 2020, 2:00 p.m. Storm date, Jan 12th, same time and place.

DIST. 7 – (Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha, Moody, Union counties) Chair: Bill Huntimer, wangbhi@siouxvalley.net, 509 W. 9th St., Dell Rapids, SD 57022. District Contest to be held at Humbolt American Legion Post Home, Humbolt, SD 57035, January 12, 2020, 2:00 p.m. Storm date January 19th same time and place.

DIST. 8 – (Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay, Douglas, Hutchinson, Turner, Yankton counties) Chair: District Contest to be held at the Yankton Public Library, 515 Walnut St, Yankton SD 57078, January 25, 2020, 10:00 a.m. Storm Date February 1, 2020, same time/place.

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.

LEGION NEWS ARTICLE SUBMISSION
Has your Post been doing great things in your community? Taken up a unique project? Submit your pictures and stories to dso@sdlegion.org. Additionally, if your local paper has published an article, the Legion News can ask for permission to reprint. Share your successes! Upcoming deadlines for Legion News submissions are as follows: December 2019 Edition, November 15; February 2020 Edition, January 15; April 2020 Edition, March 15.

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 Post. Adjutant at adjutant@sdlegion.org.

CENTENNIAL MEMORABILIA
Have Centennial memorabilia at your Post? The Legion News is putting together a central list for Legionnaires to peruse. Email information about your products to dso@sdlegion.org by mid-November for inclusion in the December 2019 edition.

AMERICAN LEGION MEMORIAL DATABASE
Across the country and around the world, U.S. war, military and veterans memorials stand to honor those who served in uniform and the battles they fought to protect our nation’s freedoms. The American Legion is now establishing a database to identify the locations, document histories and share photographs of our nation’s monuments and memorials to those who have served. Key points for each submission include:

- A photo or photos (required), easily taken with a smart phone (no persons shall be in the photos)
- Location of the memorial, mapped if possible
- Purpose of the memorial, such as who it honors and why, in just a sentence or two
- Date of the memorial’s installation/who originally installed it
- A brief assessment of its condition today

To date, South Dakota only has 5 memorials recorded on the website. To submit your town’s memorial, please visit https://www.legion.org/memorials

POSTS WHO HAVE NOT CERTIFIED THEIR OFFICERS
District 1 posts: 124, 239
District 2 posts: 238, 265, 294, 297, 302

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
2020 Membership: 12,416 or 62.88% of goal of 19,747.

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