IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
JUL 17 Finance Commission meeting
JUL 18 Dept Executive Committee meeting in Chamberlain
Sweepstakes Drawing Held
SEP 1 Last day for Preamble Posters pre-orders to HQ
SEP 12-13 SD American Legion Golf Tournament
SEP 18 Dist 4 Fall Meeting (Akaska/time TBD)
SEP 19 Dist 5 Fall Meeting (location/time TBD)
SEP 20 Dist 3 Fall Meeting (Hoven/time TBD)
SEP 25 Dist 6 Fall Meeting (Arlington/time TBD)
SEP 26 Dist 7 Fall Meeting (Dell Rapids/2 pm meeting)
SEP 27 Dist 8 Fall Meeting (Wakonda/2 pm meeting)
OCT 3 Dist 2 Fall Meeting (location/time TBD)
OCT 4 Dist 1 Fall Meeting (Box Elder/time TBD)
JAN 10 Post to have completed oratory contests
JAN 31 Districts to have completed oratory contests

DEPT COMMANDER MAKES APPOINTMENTS
Doug Feltman of Chamberlain for one year term as Chairman Legislative Committee
Krisma DeWitt of Watertown for one year term as Chairman of Training Committee
Byron Callies of Watertown for three year term as member of Training Committee.

DEPT COMMANDER MAKES REAPPOINTMENTS
Jim Childers of Spearfish for four year term on VA&R Commission
Randy Rakness of Watertown for one year term as Chairman of Legion Trust Committee
Kenneth Van Kekerix of Witten for one year term as Chairman of VAVS Committee
Buck DeWeese of Spearfish for one year term as Legion Riders Liaison
Kerry Jorgenson of Watertown for one year term as SAL Liaison Officer
Jim Childers of Spearfish for two year term as VAVS committee member

CONVENTION SWEEPSTAKES DRAWING JULY 18th
This year the drawing will be at the July Department Executive Committee meeting. The prizes for the sweepstakes will be $1,000 for 1st, $500 for 2nd, $300 for 3rd, $200 for 4th and $100 for 5th. The funds generated in this sweepstakes go to fund programs in the South Dakota American Legion.

UPDATED PREAMBLE AVAILABLE FOR PREORDER
Dept. Headquarters has negotiated a deal to get new Preambles ordered that will measure 36” x 52.5” in either Portrait or Landscape orientation. It will need to be placed in a frame. Cost is $30 each. Ordering has been extended until September 1, 2020. Delivery will be during the Fall meetings. Contact HQ at hq@sdlegion.org or call the phone number on the header above to order.

DISTRICT FALL MEETINGS BEING SCHEDULED
As soon as we get the information, we will post it so everyone can plan on attending their District Fall Meeting.
District 1 Box Elder time TBD
District 2 Location and time still TBD
District 3 Hoven, time still TBD
District 4 Akaska evening time TBD
District 5 Location and time TBD
District 6 Arlington time TBD
District 7 Dell Rapids, Social at noon, meal 1pm, meeting 2 pm
District 8 Wakonda, Social 1 pm, meeting 2 pm

2021 MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND OFFICER MANUALS
For those posts that have certified their officers and the membership cards were not picked up, they were mailed last week along with the National 2020 Officers Guide, 2020 Adjutant Manual and the South Dakota Post Adjutant’s Administrative and Awards Manual for 2020-2021 (the latest edition has a yellow cover). The South Dakota manual is also available online at sdlegion.org under publications.

CERTIFICATION OF 2021 OFFICERS
Post Adjutants have a responsibility to certify the Post’s 2020—2021 officers to Department Headquarters in Watertown. This certification process is one of the last official duties of the outgoing Post Adjunct. The form for certifying your 2021 Post Officers can be found in the 2019-2020 SD American Legion Adjunt’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 and Posts will not receive their 2021 membership cards until the Post is certified. Phone certifications will not be accepted. The reason is a significant number of Posts now have incorrect members listed as officers. DO NOT WRITE “SAME AS LAST YEAR”!
State Headquarters has NOT received Post Certifications from the following posts:
DISTRICT 1: Buffalo #147, Faith #106, Little Eagle #239, Eagle Butte #308, Timber Lake #83, Dupree #124
DISTRICT 2: Martin #240, Midland #143, Belvidere #144, Wanblee #269, Kadoka #27, Norris #310, Wood #19, Mission #287, Parmelee #295, St. Francis #297, Edgemont #172, Oelrichs #238, Batesland #281, Kyle #265, Pine Ridge #251, Porcupine #294, Manderson #302
DISTRICT 3: Fairfax #187, Blunt #77
DISTRICT 4: Frederick #273, Warner #137, Pollock #272, Tulare #292, Faulkton #102, Rockham #57.
DISTRICT 5: Grenville #267, Webster #40, Britton #80, Old Agency #314, Bradley #108, Estelline #184, Aurora #230
DISTRICT 6: Hetland #263, Wesington Springs #14
DISTRICT 7: Chester #136, Ramona #216, Flandreau #70, Bridgewater #111, Montrose #154, Baltic #175, Elk Point #134, Hudson #128, Tea #266
DISTRICT 8: Centerville #43, Chancellor #283, Marion #235, Parker #30, Viborg #117, Avon #150, Scotland #155, Springfield #132, Tyndall #2, Greenwood #257, Lake Andes #10, Parkston #194.

CONTINUED ON BACK
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES
National Headquarters is sending out the first renewal notice for 2021. Please encourage everyone to renew as soon as possible. Also, please keep in mind there is a time lag from when the individual renews to the time it registers at National and gets to the membership department. This is especially true if you renew using any other method than on line. There is a good chance that even if you renew during the time frame listed, you may still get an other dues notice. If you do, simply disregard the notice.

2020 SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION GOLF TOURNAMENT
The Legion Golf Tournament, co-sponsored by the Humboldt and Hartford American Legion Posts, will be held on the weekend of September 12-13, 2020, at the Hartford Golf Course. Entry fee for four person scramble is $440. Golfers who submit advance payments will be entered in a drawing. Entry fee covers 18 holes of golf on Saturday and Sunday, free use of golf cart and a catered meal on Saturday evening. Contact Fred Lee at 605-413-9451 to secure your slot or for additional information.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS
It is that time of year when volunteers are needed to man the Legion table at the veterans building at the State Fair. Due to COVID, volunteers need to evaluate their health and determine if they are up to manning the booth. This years dates are Sept 3 to Sept 7th. Veterans Day will be Sept 3rd. 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. More information will be posted once details have been worked out.

SHOPPING ON AMAZON CONTRIBUTES TO SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION
Amazon.com has a feature where they will donate money to your favorite charity that is a 501c3. The South Dakota American Legion Foundation is one of these charities. By going to https://smile.amazon.com/ you can shop from this site and 1% of your shopping will be donated to the Foundation. If you select the “South Dakota American Legion Foundation” as your charity. This is an easy way to ensure the American Legion programs here in South Dakota are supported when you shop online.

A MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
The regulations pertaining to the use of the name and/or emblem of The American Legion (TAL) requires written permission. In non-commercial uses (i.e. Department & Post use), this permission is regulated by the resolution process. In commercial uses, this permission is accomplished via contracts, memoranda of understanding or licenses. Unfortunately, we discovered these regulations and methods have been largely ignored and have discovered numerous trademark violations. Therefore, effective immediately, all corporations using any American Legion emblems need to contact our office via email at Legal@Legion.org so we may start the legal work clearing up any trademark and emblem issues. So what does this mean to Posts? Each Post must follow National guidelines in using TAL emblem or name. For example, if you have shirts made for your post which include The American Legion logo, you must first get permission to use the logo from National. Failure to do so can lead to legal issues. The procedures for requesting permission can be found on the Legion.org website.

FYI—SPACE FORCE OFFICIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THEAMERICAN LEGION
The United States Space Force was created by the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020, signed by the President on December 20, 2019. It is established as an armed force within the Department of the Air Force and as such, meets the eligibility requirements of The American Legion, if all other terms are met.

DID YOU KNOW?
HOW DID THE LEGION GET ITS START?
A group of 20 officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding the Legion. AEF Headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt Jr., proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.

About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in March 1919. They adopted a temporary Constitution and the name The American Legion. The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization’s work. It considered each soldier of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

In May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up a temporary headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis on November 10-12, 1919, adopting a permanent constitution and electing officers to head the organization. Delegates also voted to locate the Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Legion continues to support the four pillars of service and advocacy upon which it was founded: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

POST GOALS FOR 2021
(FROM MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN TRAVIS FLISRAND)
When I was Dept. Adjutant I found it very challenging to have a goaling model for each Post that was fair. This year’s model is to ensure goal’s are attainable and that making goal is the standard, surpassing goal is expected. Each Post is expected to achieve what they have at the 100% target date on June 17, 2020 for CURRENT members. The membership list of paid members for 2020 was downloaded from the National database and membership by Post was counted. All transfers and deceased members would have been accounted for (as long as a Post reported the deaths). The expectation is every Post will reach 100%, retaining all members and recruiting new members. Commander Nelsons challenge is for every Post and District to achieve 103% of goal. Awards this year will be for those Posts going above the goal standard.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
2020 Membership: 17,570 or 88.84% of goal of 19,747.
Membership Chairman Travise Flisrand’s theme for 2020-2021 is:
Retain, Recruit and Educate

The Up To Now is intended to provide current information and requirements to assist Posts and members. Your feed back is welcome. Please send to adjutant@sdlegion.org.