Up To Now!

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
AUG 22 Boys State Board and Corporation Meetings
SEP 1 Last day for Preamble Posters pre-orders to HQ
SEP 12-13 SD American Legion Golf Tournament
SEP18 Dist 4 Fall Meeting (Akaska/7:30 pm meeting)
SEP19 Dist 5 Fall Meeting (Sisseton/2:30 pm meeting)
SEP 20 Dist 3 Fall Meeting (Hoven/2 pm meeting)
SEP 25 Dist 6 Fall Meeting (Arlington/7 pm meeting)
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 (Rapid City/time TBD)
OCT 4 Dist 1 Fall Meeting (Box Elder 12:30 meeting)
DEC 10 Sioux Falls VA Hospital Christmas Party
DEC 12 Hot Springs VA Hospital Christmas Party
DEC 13 Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home Christmas Party
DEC 14 Ft Meade VA Hospital Christmas Party
JAN 10 Post to have completed oratory contests
JAN 31 Districts to have completed oratory contests

HATS IN THE RING
Post 911 of Sioux Falls has endorsed Ed Stringer as candidate for Department Commander for 2021-2022.
Post 138 of De Smet has endorsed Gary Wolkow as candidate for Department Commander for 2021-2022.
Post 15 of Sioux Falls has withdrawn their endorsement of Ed Stringer as candidate for Department Commander.

ROBERT C. GABRIELSON MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD. Congratulations to District 6 Commander Doug Feltman as this years recipient.

SWEEEPSTAKES DRAWING HELD JULY 18th
During the July Department Executive Committee meeting the drawing for the sweepstakes prizes was held. Congratulations to our winners who are: Robert Peskey $1000, Jim Ross $500, Lawerence Griffith $300, Mark Branhan $200 and Joseph Thornell $100. Special thanks to all those who donated. The funds generated in this sweepstakes go to fund programs for the South Dakota American Legion.

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 another dues notice. If you do, simply disregard the notice.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR VETERANS BUILDING
On July 22nd the South Dakota Veterans Council voted not to open the Veterans Building during the State Fair this year. They felt the COVID risk was too high and the building is often crowded with people. However, Thursday is still the Salute to Veterans Day with Veterans receiving free admission.

DISTRICT FALL MEETINGS BEING SCHEDULED
District 1 Will be held on Oct 4th at the Box Elder Post, social at 10:30, lunch 11:30 and meeting starts at 12:30
District 2 Will be held on Oct 3rd at the Rapid City Post 22 home, time still TBD
District 3 Will be held on Sep 20th at Hoven, lunch at 1:00 and meeting starts at 2:00
District 4 Will be held on Sep 18th at the Akaska Community Center with social at 6:00, meal at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:30
District 5 Will be held on Sep 19th at the Sisseton Senior Center with social at 2:00 and meeting starts at 2:30
District 6 Will be held on Sep 25th at the Arlington Post, social at 5:00, meal at 6:00 and meeting starts at 7:00
District 7 Will be held on Sep 26th at the Dell Rapids Post, social at 12:00, meal at 1:00 and meeting starts at 2:00
District 8 Will be held on Sep 27th at the Wakonda Post, social at 1:00 pm, meeting starts at 2:00

2021 MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND OFFICER MANUALS
Membership cards and Officer manuals have been mailed to all Posts who have certified their officers for the next year. Included in the package was the latest edition of the South Dakota Post Adjutant’s Administrative and Awards Manual for 2020-2021 (the latest edition has a yellow cover). If you have not certified your officers yet, as soon as the Post does, the membership cards and manuals will be mailed to the Post. 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 Adjutant. The form for certifying your 2021 Post Officers can be found in the 2019-2020 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 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: Little Eagle #239 and Dupree #124
DISTRICT 2: Midland #143, Belvidere #144, Wanblee #269, Norris #310, Parmelee #295, St. Francis #297, Oelrichs #238, Batesland #281, Kyle #265, Pine Ridge #251, Porcupine #294, Manderson #302
DISTRICT 3: All Posts have certified, GREAT JOB!
DISTRICT 4: Faulkton #102, Rockham #57.
DISTRICT 5: Britton #80,
DISTRICT 7: Bridgewater #111, Baltic #175, Elk Point #134, Hudson #128
DISTRICT 8: Parker #30, Greenwood #257, Parkston #194.

CONTINUED ON BACK
**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. This year will include another Hole-In-One contest and other surprises. 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.

**ANNUAL NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP**
Each fall, National Headquarters hosts a workshop for Commanders, Membership Chairmen and Adjutants. Due to COVID-19, the in-person workshop has been cancelled. Instead, National will be hosting virtual membership training which will be open to all. The event will be live and available for up to 10,000 attendees. The theme is “Growing a Post.” Training will be held Aug 3rd through Aug 6th with two different topics each day. Topics to be discussed are (all times central):
- Aug 3 3-4 pm Introduction to The American Legion
- Aug 3 6-7 pm Develop a mission and Vision
- Aug 4 3-4 pm Building an effective membership team
- Aug 4 6-7 pm Recruitment of volunteers
- Aug 5 3-4 pm Membership retention
- Aug 5 6-7 pm Every Legnionaire is a recruiter
- Aug 6 3-4 pm Define a great post
- Aug 6 6-7 pm MyLegion.org

No registration is required. You can participate in one or all of topics. For more information go to https://www.legion.org/membership/249379/american-legion-national-membership-workshop-go-virtual.

**ORATORY CONTEST COMPLETION DATES**
The Americanism Commission has set the following completion dates for the oratory contests.
- Post contests completed by January 10th
- District contests completed by January 31st
- Department contest on February 21st at 10:30

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE VETERANS CEMETERY UPDATE**
Work is progressing for the cemetery. The projected opening will be next spring. Additional information can be found at the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs website: Vetaffairs.sd.gov. Once in the site, click on the Veterans Cemetery in the upper banner. You will also find a form for burial pre-registration which are now being accepted.

**NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER/EMT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR.**
Time to plan ahead. The due dates for Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the year were moved up to meet National timelines. Due dates are now December 31st from the District Commanders to Dept HQ. This is a great way to recognize those that put their lives on the line. Never to early to plan ahead.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 .

**DID YOU KNOW?**
July 28, 1995, Electronics giant Samsung chooses The American Legion to administer a scholarship fund of $5 million as a gesture of appreciation for U.S. military personnel who cam to South Korea’s aid to fight communist forces in the Korean War. Seven to ten scholarships of $20,000 each are awarded annually to high school juniors who complete either Boys State or Girls State and are direct descendants of U.S. wartime veterans. Applicants who are descendants of Korean War veterans receive special consideration.

**MEMBERSHIP CORNER**
This will be a new section in the Up To Now. We will try and put up-dates and other important information regarding membership. This segment will discuss Undeliverable Paid Up For Life (PUFL). To ensure accurate membership numbers, National sends out a mailing to all PUFLs. If a mailing is returned to National, they put them on the Undeliverable list, which means the Posts do not get credit for their membership. If the member is deceased, it needs to be updated in myLegion. That is the Post’s responsibility, but if you have problems contact Dept HQ and we can help. If the PUFL is still an active member, a Member Data Form must be filled in with the updated address and current phone number. Once the PUFL is identified as undeliverable, National locks the member’s myLegion information. So the Member Data Form must be filled out and sent to Dept HQ and then we must forward to National to be corrected. This is the only process that will update the PUFL’s information and give the Post credit for the membership. Posts should be getting a list of Undeliverable PUFL’s in the near future if they have not received them already. If in doubt, you can contact Dept HQ for the list.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**
**2021 Membership: 4124 or 23.8% of goal of 17,321**
Membership Chairman Travise Flisrand’s theme for 2020-2021 is:

*Retain, Recruit and Educate*