

DIGGING IN 2018 WITH A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

January/February/March 2018

The Official Publication of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota

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Gettysburg VFW hosts National Decorated Veterans Pheasant Hunt



The 2017 Decorated Veterans Pheasant Hunters: Gary Reinck (San Antonio, TX), Paul Treusch (Delona, FL), William Larry Little (Gainesville, GA) and Ron Garside (Gardenville, NV). Day four of the Hunt was hosted by Larson Farms. Photo by Tim Potts

—See Gettysburg VFW on Pg. 10

Christmas at the Capitol 2017 and the theme was “The Colors of Christmas”



For the SD VFW Auxiliary tree those colors included the traditional red and green, patriotic red, white and blue, and of course, khaki.

President Carrie requested “boots on the ground” ornaments and the response was tremendous. Photos were not included on the boots, just the veteran’s name and branch of military, if available. The boots held a peace sign, so a peace sign was also constructed out of a wreath for the top of the tree.

—Christmas at the Capitol, continued on Pg. 9

Roll Call of Two Departed Past State Commanders: James H. Haug, 1970/71 & Tom M. Sherman, 1996/97



Tom Marvin Sherman (November 21, 1934 - November 05, 2017) A Celebration of Life Prayer Service for Tom Marvin Sherman, 82, of Sisseton, South Dakota. —See Sherman on Pg. 11

IN MEMORY OF “A Passing of Two Legends”



James H. Haug (February 27, 1927 - November 8, 2017) James H. Haug, 90, native of Elk Point and resident of the Tieszen Home in Marion, a Korean War Veteran and longtime Union County Veterans Service Officer died Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls. —See Haug on Pg. 11

National Commander-in-Chief, Keith Harman, Representative for the South Dakota Legislative Conference, VOD/PP/Teachers of the year award Banquet Program, January 28-29, 2018 in Oacoma, South Dakota

Keith E. Harman was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. on July 26, 2017, at the 118th VFW National Convention in New Orleans, La.

Keith served in the U. S. Army from 1967 to 1969. He served in Vietnam as a crew chief and door gunner on UH-1 Huey helicopters. His decorations include the Air Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze service stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citations, and the Aircraft Crewmember Badge.



Keith joined the VFW in 1983 at Post 3035 in Delphos, Ohio, where he is a Gold Legacy Life member. He has served in elected and appointed positions at Post, District and Department levels, culminating with his election as Commander of the VFW Department of Ohio in 2004, where he achieved All-American status. On the national level, he has served on several committees, including the National Council of Administration from 2006 to 2008, and as Chairman of the National Veterans Service Committee.

He is a life member of the VFW National Home, Military Order of the Cootie, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, and a member of American Legion and Alpha Troop Alumni Association.

Keith attended Griffin Jr. College and Kansas State Teachers College. He is retired with 22 years of service as a county veterans’ service officer.

He and his wife, Mary Lou, make their home in Delphos, Ohio. They have two children, Adam and Keri, and five grandchildren.



Commander Rick Williamson and Auxiliary President Carrie Alm’s Project.

The Dedication of an American Flag and Pole.

—See Page 6 for the highlights

Website: www.sdvfw.org

Learn more about the VFW’s programs and services at www.vfw.org



WHY JOIN THE VFW - VFW and its Auxiliary strives to do great things for deserving individuals - our veterans, their families, and their communities. From local grassroots ideas to national influences, we work everyday to make a difference. It’s our strength as an organization. And, with each additional membership we only grow stronger. Every eligible veteran should consider becoming a member of this elite org. **Our Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans. **Our Vision:** Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country. **Our Core Values:** Always put the interest of our members first. Treat donors as partners in our cause. Promote PATRIOTISM. Honor military service. Ensure the care of veterans and their families. Serve our communities. Promote a positive image of the VFW organization. Respect the diversity of veteran opinions.



Dick Pickering, Editor
EDITORIAL POLICY

The mission of this paper is to strengthen the efficiency of the Veterans of Foreign Wars by providing timely, pertinent and accurate information about the decisions and activities of the VFW at the Post, District and Department level; the relevant affairs of the State and Federal governments, and the decisions and activities of the national organization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from members. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of the VFW and its members. We will accept no attacks on any member or leader of the VFW. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letter column and reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the VFW and its policies.

We ask that you keep your articles brief. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We look forward to hearing from you.

The news and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of South Dakota or the National Organization.

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Commander's Report

Rick Williamson



Welcome to the latest edition of "The Overseas Veteran", this paper is still the most effective way that the Department can get out to you, our members, what is going on in South Dakota, and what we are doing to help the Veterans of our state. We hope that you enjoy this paper, and most importantly we hope that you enjoy helping veterans as much as we do. We have quit a few events going on in the near future that I would like to invite you to be part of if you have the time.

- Day County Coyote Hunt- Jan 19-21- Grenville, SD- hosted by the Roost- proceeds donated to Family Support Groups of deployed S. Dak. Soldiers.
- VFW Baseball Annual Meeting- Jan 21- Mitchell S.D.- contact Danny Frisby-Griffin for details
- Legislative Convention- Jan 28-29- Fort Pierre S.D.- VOD and Patriot Pen Banquet and Recognition, Legislative Mixer
- National Legislative Convention- Mar 4-8, Washington D.C.

We are very busy as you can see advocating for the rights of veterans, this is the single most important thing that the VFW does and I take it seriously. Our legislators, whether National or State, need to know what is important to veterans. As your elected Commander it is my responsibility to make sure that our voice is heard.

I would like to now tell you about a very special project that the Department of South Dakota VFW and our Auxiliary recently had the opportunity to complete. President Carrie and I had the honor of presiding

over the Flag and Flagpole Dedication at our South Dakota State Veterans Home in Hot Springs. As the Commanders and Presidents Special project this year, we as a department have funded the purchase of an 80 ft. Flagpole. Tom Inman and his staff at the home had the pole installed and ready for dedication on Dec 7th . Custer Post #3442 donated the Garrison Flags that will be flying from this wonderful flagpole. I wish that I had the ability to put in to words the beauty and tranquility of that day, as the flag was raised by residents of our stage home. The sheer beauty of that grand old flag flying high in the beautiful southern Black Hills was a sight to behold. I can only tell you that it was very much my honor to be there to represent the Department of South Dakota VFW and to be a big part of making this vision a reality for the residents of our home. We as a department should be very proud of this project, we, the VFW have once again stepped up to the plate and got this project started, set the bar high for other Veterans Service Organizations, and have done what is right. Taken care of our own. "Nobody does more for Veterans" and on Dec 7th we once again proved it. Carrie and I are still fund raising so any help would be appreciated.

Please be safe the next few months as we travel the next few months for legislative purposes and please let your representatives know you stand united with the VFW on issues regarding the Veterans of our State. Thank You and God Bless everyone of you. It is truly my honor to be your Commander.

Rick Williamson
Commander

Sr. Vice Commander's Report

Danny Frisby-Griffin



I hope everyone had an awesome and safe Holiday Season with family and friends. Please remember our veterans, active duty and National Guard personnel, at home and deployed, as well as their families in your thoughts and prayers during this time of year. This is the season of joyous times and dark winter blues so please keep a watchful eye on our comrades and their families.

I'm sure everyone's Veterans Day program were executed without a hitch. Now, don't forget to send your reports and images you would like to share and

I'll try to get them posted to the Department Face Book page or share your link. When submitting your images and articles also make sure you send copies to Dick Pickering for the Overseas Veteran.

The new VFW Baseball website is up and operational. In addition, the 2018 VFW Baseball State Tournament Registration is open and ready. We've received bid packages for hosting the State Tournaments in July 2018 and our VFW Baseball Committee reviewed them in December. The 2018 Tournament Selections, Host Checklist and 2018 Rules are

available on our website and the Tournament Host Selections will be posted shortly after our 2018 Annual Meeting 1/21/2018 at the Madison VFW. We currently have one sponsor/partner for our new programs: VFW Youth Baseball Grant Program, VFW Youth Baseball Community of the Year and VFW Youth Baseball Veterans Donation Program. The minimum amount to be considered a sponsor is \$3000 with the donation going to the previous three programs. Our current plan is not to use any of the sponsor's donations for execution of the program. Here is the link to VFW Baseball: <http://www.sdvfwbaseball.com/>

As always, I look forward to working with each and every one of you "Providing Top Cover to those who served." Just a reminder, the updated forms and revised membership books are on the website (<http://www.sdvfw.org/custom/vfw-forms>) and if you have problems with them, drop me a note at the email below explaining exactly what happened.

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

State Sr. Vice Commander
Danny "Wham-O" Frisby-Griffin
Email: danny.frisby-griffin@outlook.com

Jr. Vice Commander's Report

Sean Johnson



Hello Comrades,

I want to say this year just continues to fly by we have accomplished some of our goals but there are many left to finish. Right now is the time we should have gotten our second wind and are ready to go for the New Year.

D.D. Couch and I have been following the membership stats and have talked amongst ourselves and the District Commanders. We have not been pushing to much yet but this will **CHANGE AFTER JANUARY 1ST**.

I and D.D. will work with the District Commanders who will be calling and working with commanders to get membership to 100% or as close as possible. I know that most post memberships will be up in and around January so let's start our membership push starting on the 2nd.

Here are some current stats:

Post Percents	Districts
6 posts > 100%	1 83.9%
9 posts > 95%	4 87.8%
16 posts > 90-95%	6 93.6%
13 posts > 85-90%	7 88.1%
7 posts > 80-85%	10 90.4%
3 posts < 75	

I am Excited to work with all of you to once again bring our membership to 100% for the year in South Dakota Thanks for your Hard work and send in your membership reports!

NEWS & PUBLICATION, VFW –Post –Pride: by Editor Dick L. Pickering

Look for VFW/AUX pride WWW.sdvfw.org This quarterly South Dakota Overseas Veterans publication, District/Posts newsletters and you will see examples of the hard work and support that have made VFW Posts and its Auxiliary in communities for more than 117 years. Many programs/projects and services designed to help service members, veterans and their families, when you think of the voice for veterans – you think of the VFW and its Auxiliary. Everyday, we're on Capital Hill and out in communities across this state ensuring your voice is heard – that your story is being told. If you want to know what is being done, here's the chance to read about everything we've been busy working on. Deadline for the next issue of the SDOV is March First, Two thousand and Eighteen. As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to dickp.signs@gmail.com or vfwsd@aol.com

Quartermaster/Adjutant Report Darwin G. Tolzin



Decided to share a story of the past with all of you...

Family discovered roots in old cemetery

At one time or another we have all driven on a gravel road. Along many of the back roads in South Dakota, hidden in the trees or behind some gentle rolling hills, you may find a forgotten cemetery. County churches were quite numerous back in the 1800's and many of these churches had cemeteries close by. Families buried their dearly departed relatives in these cemeteries and maintained the grounds as long as the church was active.

As people moved away, many country churches closed or moved to different locations, but the cemetery stayed. Time passes and soon trees and tall grass cover the memories and headstones of those buried there. There is that such a place near Volga, SD. In the corner of this little long forgotten cemetery, in the grass stands a weather-beaten headstone with barely legible writing carved into the stone. Here lies John Magnus Anderson, born February 6, 1825 and died January 29, 1881. According to his great great granddaughter, Miriam Vikse Iversen, of Astoria South Dakota, great grandfather Anderson may have been of Swedish descent. Anderson was married previously and had 5 children from that marriage. His 2nd marriage took place around 1870 to 1872 to Randine Park Bratberg in Lillehammer, Norway. From that marriage 6 children were born. In 1879 Magnus and Randy and family moved from Wisconsin to South Dakota and filed for homestead near Volga. They lived in a sod house for 6 years. In January 1881, while walking home from Volga, a distance of about 2 miles, Magnus became lost

in a blizzard and froze to death. His body was not found until spring when a neighbor located the body a mile from Mr. Anderson's home. 7 months later his youngest daughter Tina was born.

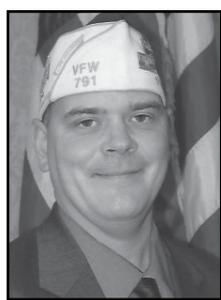
Many people died during the winter of 1800 to 1881. In fact, it was the very winter that Laura Ingalls Wilder described in her book, the Long Winter. After Magnus's death the Dean in the children continued to live on the farm and managed to build a two-story house. In 1893-1894 drought and grasshoppers came to the area. The years of drought left its mark on the family farm, and on January 19, 1895 the struggle to keep the farm solvent became too much for the family. Randine, being a resourceful woman, did not let this little setback stop her and in January 1899 the land was deeded back to her and she then sold the West half to John and Albert Nelson for \$900. The homestead eventually ended up belonging to Joe Nelson, who passed away in 1994. The farm was then sold at public auction and is the present home of Gene and Brenda Folkers.

About a year ago at a family reunion in Wisconsin the great-grandson of Magnus Anderson, Dale Anderson, asked his father about the family roots. This started the search that led the family to South Dakota and to the long forgotten Kirby Cemetery and Magnus Anderson's gravesite.

The families involved met last week and visited the original homestead, and then visited the cemetery where Magnus Anderson has rested for the past 120 years.



State Judge Advocate's Report Cody Mangold



Comrades,

I cannot believe it's a New Year already; which seemed to move very quickly. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's, and were able to spend some much needed time with your family. Community Service Reports are looking good, but please keep sending them in and remember you can send it your 1st quarter yet too. I look forward to seeing some of

you at the legislative session in Pierre at the end of January.

This is an important event to attend as it gives us a time to give a voice to our representatives. It is also important to recognize our Teachers of the year, Patriotists pen, and Voice of Democracy winners. All of these individuals have worked hard and deserve the recognition.

Yours in Comradeship,

Cody Mangold Judge Advocate
1101 Main Street Tyndall, SD 57066
(605)770-1030
Cody.mangold@hotmail.com

State Surgeon's Report Barbara McKean



Happy New Year! Now is the time to set those New Year Resolutions into high gear! What goals do we want to achieve in 2018? What goals have you set for your post, family, community, yourself? Do you ever make yourself a priority? Make a list of things you want to accomplish this year. Remember to get out there and volunteer. And most importantly, get or keep moving. Walking is one of the best forms of

exercise we can do.

Please, be prepared for the cold and flu season! Now through March 31, 2018, all VA-enrolled veterans are eligible for free annual flu shots at their local Walgreens or Duane Reade pharmacy. While this immunization program is limited to VA patients, Walgreens offers flu shots to most VFW

members and their families through other coverage programs such as TRICARE, Medicare and many health care plans. Locate your closest Walgreens or Duane Reade.

As a reminder, quarterly reports are due by Nov. 10, Feb. 10 & May 10 (approximately 10 days after end of Quarter.) **As of 12/22/17, I have received 26 hospital reports. We are at 46% so far, this 2nd quarter.** Let's get those reports in. District Commanders, give me a call. Let's work together to bring up our state quarterly percentage rates!

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Legislative Conference/Councils of Administration and Voice of Democracy Awards Banquet on Jan. 28-29 in Fort Pierre.

Barbara McKean
State Surgeon
504 S. Wallace St., Parkston, SD 57366
C: 605-630-0771; Email: mckean4@live.com

Looking Back... Department of South Dakota Led All States in MEMBERSHIP

November 1954, Commander: Roland G. Jones, Vermillion; New, 477; Rejoin, 315; Cont., 2,305; of Cont. 24.51; Total, 3,097; % to Last Yr. 32. Same date Last Yr 2,254

November 1959, Richard M. Balsiger, Aberdeen
November 1960, Clyde H. Proutly, Yankton
October 1964, Ray C. Simpson, Rapid City
October 1965; Raymond A. Gallagher, Redfield

Dear Self-Reliant Thinker,

I wear a poppy in November. It's the anniversary of the Armistice - the moment in 1917 at the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day when the guns stopped, signaling the end of World War I. As the British say, I wear it, "Lest We Forget." It's a reminder of man's inhumanity to man and the needless deaths of the soldiers on all sides who perished horribly in the "War to End All Wars" one hundred years ago.



Vallette Joins Pennington County Team



Thomas Vallette (Tom) is the newest Pennington County Veterans Service Officer (backrow-right side.)

Tom served in the United States Air Force from 2000 until 2006 as an F-16 Crew Chief. Tom deployed

to Kyrgyzstan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2005.

Following his reward military service, Tom pursued a bachelor's degree from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. Following his educational endeavor, Tom worked as an accountant, followed by work in the correction field.

Please join SDDVA in welcoming Tom to the South Dakota veteran network.

Sioux Falls VA Hospital Donations by Canton VFW and Auxiliary

Taking care of veterans | a priority at Post 3164. Members of Post 3164 made a donation to the VA's Volunteers Services of needed shirts and socks to be used for those Veterans at our Sioux Falls VA Hospital.

Canton VFW Post 3164 purchased \$200 worth of socks and undershirts for these veterans. This donation was matched by Scheels of Sioux Falls making the total donation worth \$400.

Receiving the donations was Breda Stevens of the Sioux Falls VA Hospital. Members of Post 3164 present were Quartermaster Wayne Mitchell, Commander Dewey Hessa, Department VAVS Coordinator Butch Haugen, Sharon Mitchell, and in double role representing Post 3164 and Scheels of Sioux Falls, Tom Theede.

Thanks to Canton VFW Post 3164 and Scheels Manager Brian Brinkmanship for such a generous donation.

Submitted by VAVS Rep Butch Haugen



Inspector Ken Payne



Comrades,

By the time that you get this, the holidays will be over and I hope that everyone had plenty of time with family and friends. Now that we have started the New Year, it is time to buckle down on membership. We all need to try to get our expired members paid up and as always keep looking for new members, they are out there.

For those of you who are lucky enough to go south for the winters, there is now a way to keep receiving the VFW magazine while you are gone. You can log in vfw.org and look at your address. Once there, you check that you want to change your address. After that, you have the option to check snowbird address. If you check that, it brings up a new address page, and a place to put in the dates when you will be gone from your home address. This is something that the member has to do, your Post Quartermaster can not add your snowbird address.

There is a lot of other useful information on the vfw.org website. From speeches to give for patriotic holidays to membership stats, if it is about the VFW, it is probably located there. I use several things in the website, but it is easiest if you just go to the website and wander around it yourself.

Changing directions, if your post publishes a newsletter, please put me on your mailing list so we can submit it for judging. I have heard of posts that have newsletters that I do not receive, and I would like to recognize them for the work that they do.

Respectfully,
Ken Payne
Inspector

National Council Member D.D. Couch



Hello Comrades,

Here is my message to each and every member of the VFW in the Department of South Dakota and the other 51 Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I started as a member of VFW Post 3442, Custer, South Dakota 33 years ago. I needed a place to be with other combat war veterans. I had many mental and now more physical situations with my person. I was asked by another Vietnam Veteran to be a member of the VFW and I did not hesitate to be one. I was a very confused Vietnam Veteran at that time. I did not understand why our National elected members of

Congress would let Vietnam be a system to their advantage instead of being the American Dream to make freedom for all. I said many times in my return that I would go back in a second if America leadership was there to win the war! I could not understand and still to this day don't understand why our government would waste so many American lives for their ego! The leadership of America started in Korea and then into Vietnam and still with those that have come since, no thought of finishing the job they started. Then the government wants to take from those that have gone in harm's way. Veterans have to file and repeatedly have to go back to VA to be persecuted that they weren't exposed to the conditions that are presumptive!

The VFW has taught me that we have to fight for everything that is coming to each veteran that has ever served any situation for America! I always thought someone else with more knowledge of what the National Government was doing for veterans was getting it done for veterans. NOT TRUE. In fact, there are very few that will stand and spend the time and effort to fight the VA Health Care System and the National Congressional System to make sure they agreed to health, education, housing and veteran family issues, to name a few are taken care of. The percentage of those that serve America are around 1% of America population and they are an all-volunteer military force.

Without Veteran Service Organizations watching over our government each and every day, they would and will take from those that keep our borders safe! This is proven over time in many cases!

I am very proud to have been able to help American Veterans! I never thought this East River of South Dakota farm boy would get to this point.

I am and will remain a very mad veteran against VA and the National Government for taking from our Veterans.

Please get every veteran you know to be a member of a Veteran Service organization to fight the battle that will not go away. The government takes from veterans every day!!

There are so many very dedicated members of the VFW at every level Post, District, Department and National to make sure we don't let any veteran fall through the cracks. If you know of any veteran or family of a veteran that needs help, let us know!!!!

There are less than 25% of the Vietnam Veterans with BOOTS ON THE GROUND left alive today! That tells me Agent Orange has killed by the silent bullet. We cannot let America not help the Veteran or the families of the Vietnam Veteran help them!

God's Peace,

Darold D. DD Couch

VFW National Council Member for South Dakota 2015-19

jpcouch@gwtc.net, 605-673-4661, 605-440-0221

VFW National Home for Children Chairman



The National Home for Children celebrates each New Year just like you and I. However, the holidays can be a terribly unhappy time for struggling veteran families. Rather than feeling the joy of Christmas and New Year, both children and parents feel the strain of fractured family relationships, severe financial problems and the devastating impacts of war. It's these families who are given a safe, nurturing place to heal and recover at the VFW National Home for Children. Many of the residents bring in the New Year with a relief knowing that they have been taken care of when in time of need.

You are encouraged to go to the VFW National Home for Children web site and watch and listen to a powerful video. See how a Grandfather's WW II military service gave a Granddaughter, a single mother and her 3 children a new chance at life at the National Home.

Robyn lost her job as a Legal Secretary. With no money coming in except unemployment, and with only enough money to pay rent for about 1 month, she didn't know where to turn. Then Robyn found out that she qualified for residence at The National Home, because her Grandfather was a WW II Veteran. When they arrived at the National Home, Robyn made a statement "like living a dream." Robyn and her 3 children lived at the home for 4 years. She now again has a job, and her oldest Son is going off to College with a scholarship. Please go to the VFW National Home web site and listen and watch this powerful video. This is the type of success story that makes the National Home for Children great.

It's families like this that are given a safe, nurturing place to heal and recover at the VFW National Home.

Right now the home needs your help to create the kind of New Year hope that the families of America's war heroes deserve, while also preparing for the high heating bills and weather-related emergency repairs like every Michigan winter brings.

Let's all make a New Year's Resolution to give more support to the VFW National Home during 2018.

Share your love with a Veteran's family in crises. Anything you donate will be greatly appreciated. You might also consider a monthly donation using automatic payment option. Remember, your gift is tax deductible. Please give generously.

For more information visit the VFW National Home for Children web site:

www.vfwnationalhome.org or you may call **1-800-424-8360**.

Verne H. Hansen, Chairman
VFW National Home for Children
VFW Department of South Dakota

Veterans and Military Support Chairman

The VFW's Military Assistance Program (MAP) offers grants to Posts and Auxiliaries that participate in military unit functions, such as sponsoring farewell and welcome home activities, Family Readiness group events, or other sponsorship ideas. The program helps pay for events held for active duty, guard, and reserve units. A big thank you to Parkston and Spearfish for holding MAP events for the troops in their area. I know there are additional troops returning home in the future which will be a perfect time to do something for them at some point when they get settled back into their daily lives. We need to watch and listen so we can be available for assistance. All information and forms for this program can be found at www.vfw.org

Dale Jensen
Department Chairman

From the Secretary of South Dakota Veteran Affairs Offices, Larry Zimmerman



PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Every holiday season I seem to over indulge in the pies, cookies, candies, and anything sweet. It just seems to be part of the holiday tradition! Even if my resolution is to lose fifteen pounds, when the holidays roll around the resolution is forgotten and the tradition moves forward!

It doesn't matter if you are reflecting on the past, present, or future; the one commonality which guides us, and we learn from, is traditions.

A new year gives us all the opportunity to make changes in our lives, make new resolutions and traditions, and add a new chapter in our book of life.

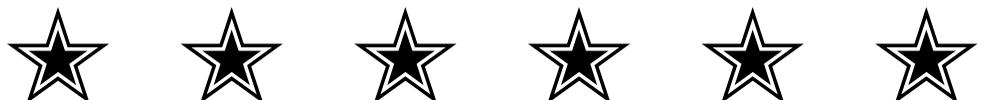
As we turn our calendars to 2018, please keep our heroes (past, present, and future) in your hearts. Include in your list of resolutions, a goal to keep our veterans in your thoughts – pay it forward.

As always, thank you for all that you do for our veterans and their families. Never stop thanking them for their service.

God bless our veterans, their families, and our troops currently serving in harm's way.

Larry Zimmerman, Secretary
South Dakota Department of Veteran Affairs

**WE SUPPORT
OUR TROOPS**



Cootie Corner



Fellow Lousy Cooties,

Here is a brief report on the pup tents.

Sioux Falls: continuing their hospital visits to the VA and other facilities. Had a Christmas party on December 10, 2017 for the veterans. Raffle of a replica Airsoft Thompson machine gun to be raffled in April. Scratches following their chislic feed on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

Rapid City: Has moved their Scratches to the 1st Saturday of the Month. They have visited the state Home in Hot Springs twice since the last report. Please make sure the pup tent has your current information.

Yankton: Held a Christmas for the kids in coordination with the post on December 17th. Continuing to visit the veterans in the homes.

The Yankton and Sioux Falls Pup Tents, and Auxiliaries are planning on having their Valentines Day Visitation on February 11th at 1pm. All Lousy Cooties, Auxiliary members, and children are welcome to attend.

All Lousy Cooties please plan on attending your scratches as it helps all cooties to know when events, and visitations are planned to "keep them smiling in beds of white."

Commander Grand

Cody Mangold

Veterans Town Hall Meeting



As we begin 2018, we look forward to seeing many of you at the quarterly Veterans Town Hall meeting at DAV Chapter 1 in Sioux Falls on January 30 at 5:00 PM. The town hall is an opportunity for VA leadership to speak with Veterans, their families, VSOs, and community residents about improvements in VA health care and services. Darwin Goodspeed and Shawn Bohn will provide brief facility updates and then open the floor for attendees to comment or ask questions. A Veterans benefits fair will take place from 4:00-5:00 PM, and staff will be on hand to help Veterans with individual matters.

We're excited that Timothy Pendergrass, MD, our new Chief of Staff, will be on board on January 22. Dr. Pendergrass is a retired Colonel with over 30 years of active duty with the Army and Air Force.

In case you haven't heard, direct scheduling has recently been expanded to improve access for enrolled Veterans for routine podiatry appointments (605-335-3230, Ext. 9-6066). This will help improve Veterans' access to care and is in addition to direct scheduling for audiology, optometry, and nutrition clinics, which has been in place for several months. You can also schedule and cancel primary care appointments in MyHealthVet. Stop by the MyHealthVet desk near pharmacy if you'd like to learn more about using MyHealthVet.

Modernization of the medical center and CBOCs continues. While several major construction projects recently wrapped up, we have other renovations and new projects in design or various phases of construction, including building a new Lab and outpatient Mental Health building, plus expansion of the Emergency Dept.

- Staff recently moved into the new surgical suites, which includes four OR suites, pre- and post-op care, space for surgical staff and surgical support areas; and, most importantly, a healing environment for Veterans. The first surgery took place December 12.
- Integrative Health has also moved into their new building, where acupuncture, massage therapy, health coaching, and tai chi and yoga classes take place.
- By the time you read this, Occupational Therapy will have also moved to their newly renovated area.
- The Specialty Medicine addition and Oncology Unit will wrap up construction by this spring.
- The CBOC in Dakota Dunes will open in summer 2018, and groundbreaking for the new Spirit Lake CBOC will occur in the spring.
- The Chapel and Respiratory Therapy services recently began remodeling.

To ensure everyone's safety, we ask Veterans and visitors not to drive or park in construction areas when you come on campus. We also encourage you to take advantage of the valet parking.

Four VA staff retire soon who have had long-standing relationships with the service organizations: Brenda Stevens, Chief of Voluntary Service; and Ann Nelson, Cindy Khan, and Diane Larsen, Recreation Therapy. Their total service = 140 years! Good news for all of us – several of them will become VA volunteers! Kristin Hendrickson is the new Voluntary Service Chief, and she looks forward to also working closely with you.

Beginning January 15, tickets to this year's Valentines for Veterans concert starring John Michael Montgomery will be available from Voluntary Service (sorry, not before). This sixth annual concert will take place February 17 at the Washington Pavilion at 3:00 PM with a benefits fair preceding the concert from 1:00-3:00 PM.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful 2018. Happy New Year!

Shirley Redmond
Public Affairs Officer
Sioux Falls VA Health Care System
605-333-6889

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255, Press 1



Department of Veterans Affairs
2501 W. 22nd Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5046

News Release

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shirley Redmond, Public Affairs Officer

At 605-333-6889

December 11, 2017

VETERANS' ARTWORK SOUGHT FOR CREATIVE ARTS COMPETITION

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System is seeking area Veterans who want to share their creativity to enter visual art, including woodworking, painting, leatherwork, needlework, paper crafts, sculpture and more for the local Veterans Creative Arts Festival.

Veterans who receive care from the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center or one of its five outpatient clinics are eligible to participate and may enter up to two pieces. The pieces must have been created within the last year and be submitted no later than January 12, 2018.

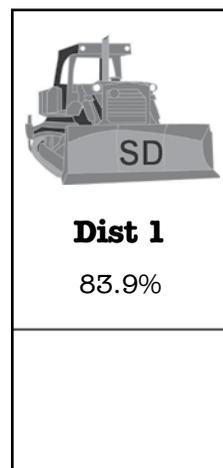
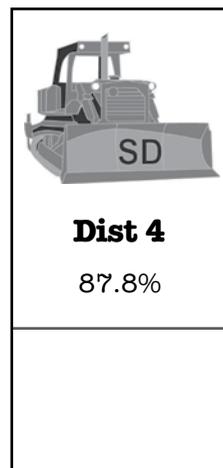
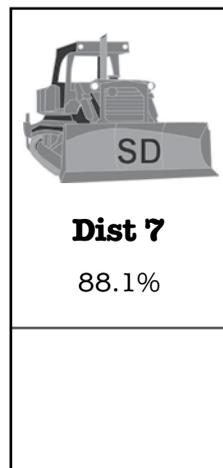
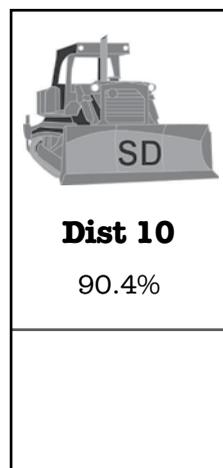
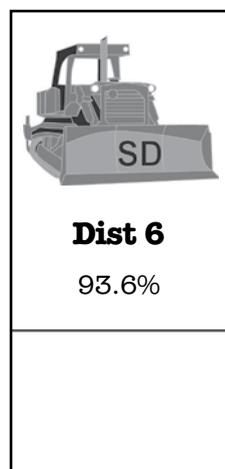
Entries will be available for the public's viewing January 25, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on second floor of the Primary Care addition of the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center. Judges from the local community will name winners, and a reception and awards ceremony will take place at 2:00 PM. Veteran artists will have the opportunity to enter the National Veterans Creative Arts competition, which will take place in Des Moines, IA from October 28-November 5, 2018.

Employees will also display their arts and crafts during the show but will not compete with Veterans.

For more information about submitting artwork, contact Shirley Redmond at 605-333-6889 or Diane Larsen at 605-336-3230, Ext. 9-6418.

District Membership Standings 2017-2018

STATE TOTAL
PERCENTAGE
89.18%
9-17-17



DIGGING DEEP FOR VETERANS

Valentines for Veterans | John Michael Montgomery Concert

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System has announced that John Michael Montgomery will perform at the Valentines for Veterans concert Saturday, February 17, 2018. The concert will be held at the Washington Pavilion at 301 S. Main Avenue in Sioux Falls. It is the sixth annual concert the Sioux Falls VA hosted to honor veterans during National Salute to Veterans Month. Veterans will be able to reserve two complimentary tickets beginning Jan. 15th at 333-6852.

Senate Indian Affairs Committee Hold Hearing on Rounds' IHS Assessment Legislation

November 3, 2017

Submitted by Senator Mike Rounds
mike@rounds.senate.gov

Today, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a legislative hearing on my bill requiring a full assessment of the Indian Health Service (IHS). For far too long, South Dakota tribal members have dealt with unimaginable horrors in dealing with IHS facilities. The federal government has a treaty and a trust responsibility to provide health care to Native Americans across the country – and it has failed. Tribal members are suffering and even dying due to inadequate and disgraceful care. IHS will only continue to fail unless we take a close look into the operations, funding, quality of care, and management at IHS. A comprehensive assessment of IHS is a necessary first step toward making calculated and systematic changes at IHS.

I thank Sisseton Wahpeton Chairman Dave Flute for testifying at today's hearing to reiterate the need for an assessment of IHS, and I'm pleased to see this important legislation making progress in the Senate. We cannot and will not let up on our efforts to make certain tribal members receive the adequate, timely care they've been promised.

Highlights around South Dakota VFW

Commander Rick Williamson and Auxiliary President Carrie Alm's Project of the Year.

Dedication of the 80' Flag Pole and 20'x38' American Flag, installed and presented to the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home facilities in Hot Springs, South Dakota at 1300 hours 7 December 2017. The pole was set 8' deep, with 14 yards of cement to serve as support for the pole. The flag pole was donated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of South Dakota and its Auxiliary. Custer VFW Post 3442 donated the Garrison flag. Great turn out of Veterans and Auxiliary members to witness the event.



Auxiliary President Carrie Alm and Commander Rick Williamson presiding over the ceremony in the beautiful Black Hills surroundings in front of the State Home for Veterans. The American flag proudly flies high in the sky, and is what you see first upon arriving at the Veterans Home from the East.

First Place in the Big Ten Conference



South Dakota State Officers proudly displaying of the BIG Ten Traveling Banner, awarded the State for being in First Place in the Big Ten Conference.

(L-R): Surgeon, Barbara McKean; Chaplain, Jerry Heggstad; Jr. Vice Commander, Sean Johnson; State Commander, Rick Williamson, Quartermaster Darwin Tolzin, Judge Advocate, Cody Mangold.

Past Commander-in-Chief Thomas T. Tradewell, Jr., South Dakota Fall Council



National Representative had the opportunity to speak to the Auxiliary, advising them of the importance they contribute to the VFW organization. To the right are Commander Rick Williamson and State President Carrie Alm.



Barb McKean accepting the Most Recruited Members (5) by Fall Council from the National Recruiter, Rick McKenna.



Center Sean Johnson, Commander of Aberdeen VFW Post 17 receiving the All American Post Award from State Commander Rick Williamson and PCC Thomas T. Tradewell, Jr.

Learn How A Grandfather's Military Service Gave Robyn A New Chance At Life

A Special Report from the VFW National Home for Children



Robyn— *"I was imagining us homeless. We didn't really have any family here at the time so I didn't have any help, I was embarrassed because I couldn't take care of the kids."*

Robyn's personality exudes energy and vibrancy. She's warm, engaging and up-beat, but a few years ago her children sensed something wasn't quite right with their mom.

Robyn, a single parent with three children, had lost her job as a legal secretary when her boss retired. Even when she was working she was having a hard time making ends meet. Unemployment brought her struggle to a whole new level of desperation.

Robyn's grandfather, Robert Alexander, was a World War II decorated paratrooper and

medic in the Philippine theatre. The bravery that earned him a Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and several other medals gave Robyn and her three children a new chance at life. Because of his VFW membership, Robyn learned she qualified to live at the VFW National Home for Children, a place designed specifically to aid active duty military and veteran families as well as their descendants in times of need.

Because of the support of VFW and Auxiliary members across the country, four years later Robyn and her children were ready to venture back on their own with a stable and bright future ahead.

"I would like to thank the VFW members for their generosity and tireless efforts, which have enabled me to put my life priorities first to regain my financial independence and confidence to stand on my own two feet. I am forever grateful. God Bless!"

We have houses available so if you know a family like Robyn's that needs help, have them call our Military and Veteran Family Helpline at 800-313-4200. To see Robyn's video and more, visit vfnationalhome.org/stories.



Highlights Around South Dakota VFW

Quilt of Valor



Linda Fox receiving the Quilt of Valor

First United Methodist Church: Left to Right: President of Quilt Guild Sandy Hoffner, Sandy Skinner, Nancy Zelinka, Bev Schramm, Sharon Heisinger, recipient Linda Nelson Fox served U.S. Navy from 1973 to 1995 and her Husband, Dick Fox.

—see Linda Fox on pg. 9

Renewal of Vows for nine couples during the President's Homecoming at Fall Council in Oacoma, SD



Pastor Charles Walker of the Navy National Guard, Pierre, and Auxiliary President Carrie Alm gathering the group for the Renewal of their Vows after the banquet during the Fall Council in Oacoma, South Dakota. Couples were Gary and Lois Knudson; Darold and Patti Couch; Lyle and Arlie Berg; Angus and Suzann Booth; Dennis and Wanda Maloney; Verne and Norma Hansen; Brian and Tammy Snyder; Paul and Leanne Payne; Rick and Carrie Alm.

The Celebration after their Renewal of Vows



Past PCC Representative Thomas Tradewell, Jr., giving his main speech during the banquet of the Fall Council.



Mr. Rick and Mrs. State Auxiliary President Carrie Alm have a dance after their Renewal of Vows.



2017 Nation of Patriots 50 State Patriot Tour

VFW Post 750 Commander Ernie Gatchell, Hamlin County VSO Dave Schaefer and Hayti American Legion Post 217 Vice Commander LeRoy LaPlante present area veteran Jamie Lantgen, wife Stephanie and son Hunter, a check from funds raised on the 2017 Nation of Patriots 50 State Patriot Tour. Glacial Lakes HOG Chapter, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 750, Hayti American Legion Post 217, Marine Corps League Detachment 1079, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1054 and Golden Connections were the major organizational donors to the area fund raising efforts of the 50 State Patriot Tour in 2017.



L to R: LeRoy Laplante, Ernie Gatchell, Hunter Lantgen, Jamie Lantgen, Stephanie Lantgen and Dave Schaefer.



Wanda and Dennis Maloney and his Companion Dog. Wanda made these costumes herself.



VFW State Commander, Rick Williamson and State Auxiliary President Carrie Alm, dance during the Renewal of nine couples Wedding Vows.



State's First Lady, Cindy Williamson and State Commander Rick Williamson get a dance during the Commander/President's Homecoming in Oacoma, SD during the Fall Council.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary - Dept. of South Dakota



Carrie Alm's theme this year is:
"Accentuate the Positive"



Auxiliary State President's Report

Carrie Alm



Happy New Year Everyone!

With a new year comes many new possibilities and changes in our worlds. This means that new things can happen, and new members can join our organization. I challenge every post member and auxiliary member to make a New Year's Resolution. Resolve to ask one person a week and see if they are eligible for membership to our great organization. Even if after 52 weeks you only get one Yes, if everyone in our state does that, we double our size.

Efforts made by our state membership and our Veterans and Family Support Chairman Patti Mitchell were commended in the monthly reports from the National Ambassador and can be seen in the Patti's General Orders for January 2018. If you do not receive them in the mail or are a post member, they can be seen on the website. I encourage everyone to look as that is a great accomplishment by our Department and our hard-working chairman.

I was ecstatic to be alongside Commander Rick on December 7th at the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home in Hot Springs where the dedication of the Garrison Flag and Flag Pole was done. I am so honored to be a part of

the people who are making that happen for the residents there and for the residents and their families who will enjoy it for years to come. It was an honor to see the veterans, residents, VA Domiciliary attendees and dignitaries work together to raise that flag. It was not an easy task as the flag is very large and heavier than you would think, and the wind was strong. While I was going up the chairs at the Department level, my goal was always to have my special project be something to help or improve the State Veterans Home because I have been and still am the VAVS Representative there. I am so overjoyed that Commander Rick was willing to do this project together and see to it that it happened. Every month when I go down for our activities we do at the home, I will be one of the many that will get to enjoy the flag flying high. Although it is in place and dedication has been done, not all the costs have been paid for. This is an ongoing effort on State Commander Rick's and my part, so please consider having your post or auxiliary do a dedicated fundraiser to this worthwhile project.

We have Legislative and Mid-Winter Conference in Ft. Pierre on January 28-29. It is both Post and Auxiliary Mid-Winter so hope to see everyone there. I will be an opportunity to see and hear from the winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen competitions in each district in our Department and speak to the Legislators at the Mixer.

These young people that work hard on these essays deserve a chance to present and be proud of the work they have done. We, as members of the VFW and auxiliary, need to encourage them to continue with their patriotism as these are our future leaders and members. We have some pressing issues we will be discussing during the council meeting and enjoy having input from all our membership.

As I am sure a lot of you know, the Day County Coyote Hunt is coming up in January 19-21. Department Auxiliary Veterans and Family Support Chairman, Patti Mitchell, works very hard to put this together and gets donations from all over the state. I am sure if you are Facebook savvy, you have seen some of her posts of donations. I am planning to attend the hunt this year. Although I won't be hunting, I will be cooking. Trust me, the kitchen is a better spot for me as you don't want me to have a gun. I hope to see some of you there and look forward to meeting a lot of the hunters that support this every year.

Thank you to everyone for all you do for our organization and our veterans.

Loyally,

Carrie Alm

**Department of South Dakota
 Auxiliary President 2017-2018**

Auxiliary Sr. Vice President

Mary Kirkvold



Hope you "All," had a Very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Wishing all a Happy New Year. My goal, besides doing the best I can as Department President next year is, spending more time with our veterans and their families. I'd like to see more of our young veterans join the VFW Post and VFW Auxiliary. We really need you to keep this

Wonderful Organization going. I like coping the "Letters from the Heart".

The support the VFW gave us is one of the nicest things I've ever received. The money allowed me not to stress about being able to pay rent, so I was able to focus on rehab and school."

"It is hard to ask for help to begin with. With that said, I was taken aback by the support we received from the VFW. It went far beyond what I imagined, my family and I are grateful. I honestly do not know where we'd be without it."

"The VFW brought us a real sense of relief. We even received an additional month's rent, as well as money to buy a stroller, car seat and baby clothes!"

So you see the VFW does a lot for you Veterans.

A little about myself, I'm looking forward to my training in Kansas City in January, then also going to Midwinter

Conference in Nashville. All gives me insight of what is coming for me.

Have a "Have a Happy 2018."

Auxiliary Jr. Vice President & Membership/Leadership Chairman Report

Sandi Moss



The holidays were wonderful. I pray that all of you had a very Merry Christmas and that you are starting an awesome New Year!! We are back to reality, it is time to increase our Membership 'No One Does More for Veterans', and without Members we cannot do our best!! Membership is the key to our Auxiliary. Without Membership we cannot grow and prosper. We have

a new year in which to grow our Membership. Ladies and Gentlemen our reason for being is to do more for Veterans, therefore we need lots of Members!!

I am so proud of all my Brothers and Sisters, we made our first Quarterly Goal **BEFORE** the end of October – the 31st was our deadline! As I sit here writing this article, we are within 2 – that is two members of making our goal for the second quarter. These are New Rejoin, New Life and New Continuous. Getting new members is easy if we apply ourselves and **ASK**. Remember there are many people out there who are not members because no one bothered to ask them. Keep up the good work. All of you inspire me, Thank You

for all your hard work!

Don't forget to keep track of the new members you sign up. You will be eligible for the 'Catch Five' pin when you send their names into National. You actually earn the pin which is shaped like a catcher's mitt. Remember you get the pin for the first five New, New Rejoin and New Continuous members that you sign up. AND, your name will be put into a Raffle for the basket of 'goodies' that we will be drawing for at State convention in June in Sioux Falls. You have unlimited chances to win the drawing, your name will be put in the raffle every time you sign up a new member. Get the names to me of the new members you sign up.

We are doing well with our new members but, I am sorry to say some of our continuous members have slipped through the cracks. I want to Thank our State Secretary Jennifer Little for sending out my Membership reminder. Anyone who didn't get their Membership into MALTA prior to midnight, December 31st had their Membership terminated. They will be starting as a brand new member when they pay their dues this year. We have stressed the need to pay due on time but, unfortunately we are human and time has a habit of getting away from us. That is one reason National has stressed Life Membership. For years National

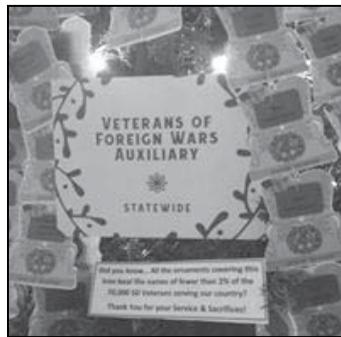
has stressed paying on time, but, sometimes we slipped up and they covered us. That changed and we have tried to make sure everyone gets paid up as soon as possible. Even officers were late paying this year which puts the Auxiliary in jeopardy. A Life Membership makes life so-o-o much easier. You can talk to your Treasurer and make payments towards your Life Membership. Please seriously consider getting your Life Membership this year.

I challenged every Member to carry an Auxiliary Application with them at all times. I have talked to several of our members and found out that some of you are carrying applications with you, Thank You. It makes it so easy when you ask a person if they are a member and if they say no, you have an application with you. If they don't sign up on the spot give them the application, your name as a point of contact and the information sheet. Don't forget to get their name and follow up in a week or so, just a friendly reminder! Please remember to **ASK**, if they aren't asked they won't join.

MALTA is up and running. MALTA is a time saver that we can all use, even if you don't have a computer. How to use MALTA has been explained in the National Magazine and in our General Orders by both our Recruiter and myself. As we recruit new members, the information can be forwarded

—Auxiliary Jr. Vice President, continued on pg. 9

—Christmas at the Capitol, continued from Pg. 9



Participating auxiliaries painstakingly cut and laminated 2055 ornaments which covered, and I mean COVERED the tree, some were even overlapping. Ornaments from each auxiliary are as follows: Brookings 76; Alcester 63; Pierre 427; Huron 64, Deadwood 227; Sturgis 55; Canton 18; Faulkton 39; Parkston 43; Aberdeen 28; Watertown 80; Plankinton 306; Milbank 70; Burke 15; Rapid City 42; Sisseton 30; Custer 80; Sioux Falls 7; Winner 385.

The tree would not be considered pretty, but the beauty was that it recognized our beloved veterans and the names on the tree actually comprised less than 2% of our states' 70,000 veterans!

Near the base of the tree was a pair of boots, on loan from the SD National Guard museum. The boots were attached to a stand that also holds two notebooks with an entire list of veterans' names sent in by each auxiliary.... Just in case you couldn't locate your loved one's ornament(s) on the tree.

There were also hand-written thank you cards for veterans to pick up, or for anyone to take to their veterans. The cards were done by an auxiliary member, and by school students.

Thank you to our Veterans and Families for your service and sacrifices!

Thank you auxiliaries for your incredible response to this project that is recognized and viewed by thousands each year!

Deb Fahey
2017 Capitol Christmas Tree Chairperson

—Linda Fox from Pg. 7



Quilts of Valor

Quilts of Valor is a non-profit foundation whose goal is to cover all physically or psychologically wounded servicemembers with a freedom quilt, honoring them for their sacrifices.

The movement was originally started by Catherine Roberts of Seaford, DE in 2003 but has spread across the United States and even here in Yankton, South Dakota.

The Dakota Prairie Quilt Guild has given numerous Veterans in Yankton a Quilt made by their Guild. Many hands had a part in the making of the quilts from the members who selected fabrics, to those who pieced it, to the long-armed who quilted it, to the person who sewed on the binding and label and to the person who sewed the pillowcase to store it in. All their work was done with a spirit of gratitude and recognition of their sacrifice.

They presented the following Quilts:

Living Library Veterans Program: *The honored Veterans were Darrell Merkwan of Vietnam War, John Cornette of Korean War and John Black from WWII.*

To Our Honored Veterans,

myNavyExchange.com is proud to expand our online shopping privileges to include all honorably discharge veterans of the U.S. Military. That means you have access to the best brands at the best prices on **myNavyExchange.com**.

Extending this benefit to all who have honorably served our nation is not just a gesture of appreciation, it also serves the military community at large. That's because you don't just save money by shopping tax-free on **myNavyExchange.com** – all of the earnings from your purchases are returned to store improvements, MWR and other quality of life programs

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR BENEFIT AT – myNavyExchange.com.



District #6 Commander, Glynis Collier, escorts Dottie to the Wounded Warrior Hunt in Dallas, South Dakota. They both got to walk the fields with America's True Heroes! Dottie swept, flushed and retrieved birds all afternoon. We were invited back next year because Dottie made such a good impression by showing her champion bird dog skills!

—Auxiliary Jr. Vice President, continued from Pg. 8

to National and our new Members will quickly be able to get the tools they need to be an active and productive Member. If you have questions please call me, I love helping, if I don't have the answer I will get it for you!

I hope to see all of you at the Legislative Conference in Pierre In January. Bring me all the names of the New Members you have brought into our Auxiliary!!

Loyally,

Sandi Moss
Membership/Leadership Chairman
Junior Vice President

“The Star Spangled Banner”

FORT MEADE, South Dakota—“The Star Spangled Banner” plays when an American wins at the Olympics, is a favorite at Gospel concerts, and is routinely played at the start of every American baseball game. What many don't know is that a remote outpost in the American West played a key role in elevating the patriotic song into the country's national anthem.

Historically, “The Star Spangled Banner” is associated with Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor, where the 1814 British bombardment of the fort prompted Francis Scott Key to write the song's lyrics.

But it was another fort, in the Great Plains state of South Dakota, where the song was first played at official occasions. Remote Outpost Helped Elevate US National Anthem. Fort Meade was built in 1878 to protect settlements in the northern Black Hills especially the gold-mining town of Deadwood. In 1914 letter to the mayor of Baltimore, Caliton explained song's history as Fort Meade and noted that the governors of South Dakota and Pennsylvania along with the Secretary of War and military commanders around the country, had over time, become aware of what he had begun.

Congress did not make “The Star Spangled Banner” the national anthem until 1931. I think they were part of a movement to make the “The Star Spangled Banner” the piece that, when people would hear it, they'd stand up and popularizing this song as a tune that, musically, meant something special to America. Today, as South Dakota 196th National Guard Regiment conducts the modern Retreat ceremony at Fort Meade, museum director Bender is pleased the same respect is given to the flag now as was shown in 1892.

Day County Coyote Hunt helps support our South Dakota National Guards Family Support Group



The Roost
Grenville, SD

Dear Post or Auxiliary,

The Day County Coyote Hunt helps support our South Dakota National Guards Family Support Group and take place the third weekend in January each year (Jan. 19-21, 2018.)

This year marks our Eleventh Anniversary and we need it to bet the biggest and best yet because, as you know, the Day County Coyote Hunt money goes to any units leaving from South Dakota.

I'm asking you to please help with a cash donation to the Day County Coyote Hunt and by printing out and hanging up posters in your area. This is another great way to get your organization's name out there and show our troops how much you care, because one hundred percent of this donation money goes directly to the units. Anyone who donates a minimum of \$100.00 will have their name on the back of the t-shirts. Last year we had five Posts, fourteen Auxiliaries and one District donate a minimum of \$100 each; and would like to increase those numbers even more. We also welcome donations from individuals or businesses so please pass the word.

I can also use help selling raffle tickets for the Henry Golden Boy 17HMR rifle at \$5 each or 6 for \$20 - just let me know and I will get tickets delivered to you. This rifle was very popular last year so we are buying another one this year.

Any Post or Auxiliary that sells \$500 in tickets will receive \$100 cash to use any way they want. There is no limit to the amount your Post or Auxiliary can earn. This money comes from an anonymous donor and does not affect the money available to the National Guards units.

Thank you in advance for your time and generous donation.

Sincerely,

Patti Mitchell
State Veterans and Family Support Auxiliary Chairman

VFW-Sport Clips Scholarship Program Tops \$4 Million!

Program names 118 student veterans to share
\$550,000 this spring semester



KANSAS CITY, Mo. (January 9, 2018) – The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is proud to announce that its VFW's “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” program has now awarded more than \$4.1 million in scholarships to 943 military and student veterans. The latest award of more than \$550,000 will now enable 118 student veterans to continue their higher education classes this spring semester.

“The VFW was instrumental in the passage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the new Forever GI Bill, but those beefed-up educational assistance programs still can't cover the full cost for certain curriculums,” said VFW National Commander Keith Harman. “Through the generosity of Sport Clips and its founder, VFW Life member Gordon Logan, we were able to create the Help A Hero scholarship program in 2014 to help a new generation of patriots attain their educational goals.”

The VFW Help A Hero scholarship provides service members and veterans up to \$5,000 in post-secondary scholarships without any fear of increasing student debt.

Submitted by Darold D Couch

By Tim Potts
Correspondent

Gettysburg VFW hosts National Decorated Veterans Pheasant Hunt

GETTYSBURG -- "I hit a home run today and it has been one of the most fun days of my life" said William Larry Little after he shot his limit of pheasants on the first day of the Decorated Veterans Hunt in Gettysburg SD. Four Veterans from around the United States applied for a pheasant hunt experience in SD and Gary Renick, (San Antonio, TX), William Larry Little, (Gainesville, GA), Paul Treusch (Deltona FL) and Ron Garside (Gardnerville, NV) were chosen on a lottery draw.

This is the second annual Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Decorated Veterans Hunt around the Gettysburg area that was held on Nov. 9-13. Hunting sites this year included Browns Hunting Ranch, Thomas Ranch, Wilbert Fenger Farms, Larson Farms and the Potts Farm.

Joining the four Decorated Veterans was Vincent "B.J." Lawrence, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Lawrence commented "being able to witness firsthand the camaraderie and enjoyment displayed by these true American Hero's is something I will never forget". Lawrence served in the US Army from 1983 to 1986, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Korea, where he earned the Korean Defense Service Medal.

Gary Renick, (San Antonio, TX) enlisted in the Army in 1965 and served in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne ('66 & '67) and was then assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group in Bad Tolz, Germany and then volunteered to return to Vietnam in the 101st Airborne in December of 1967. Renick was then assigned to the Navy's 521st River Section in May of 1968 as a forward observer which was patrolling the Huong Song (Perfume River) from the ocean to Hue. Renick, received two purple hearts, one for charging a machine gun nest that had their team pinned down and after surviving two grenades, he saw the third grenade, which went off and wounded him. His 9-man team had 1 KIA and 7 WIA by the time they were able to get out of the village. The second Purple Heart came while they were sleeping in a cemetery and was wounded in an ambush. Gary was awarded two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, Army Commendation, Air Medal and Vietnams Cross of Gallantry. Renicks advice to other Veterans "get with other vets on hunting and fishing trips and talk about your experiences. I did not talk to anyone of my experience for more than 45 years. We had no one to talk to back then, including family and friends".

William Larry Little, (Gainesville, GA) graduated from helicopter flight school at Fort Rucker, AI in August of 1968 and was then deployed to Vietnam. In Vietnam, he was assigned to Bravo Company, 9th Aviation Battalion, 9th Infantry Division at Dong Tam in the IV Corp for the first-half of his tour of duty. Little's primary job was to fly a UH1-C Huey "Charlie Model" helicopter gunship. Flying as a two-ship fire team and flew missions, both day and night, in support of the infantry. For the second half of his tour, he transferred over to D-Troop 3/5th Air Cav, which was also stationed at Dong Tam in support of the 9th Inf Div. The mission was to provide aerial reconnaissance (eyes) for the 9th in locating and engaging the enemy. He flew as a Scout Pilot and it was our business to scout low-level (200 feet) over different designated operational sectors each day in an attempt to find signs of enemy movement, ambush locations, and encampment areas. Little was wounded after his bird received heavy fire from an unseen bunker. After landing his bird in a nearby paddy,



Vincent "B.J." Lawrence, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. holds his pheasants he shot during the first day of the Decorated Veterans Hunt on Thursday, Nov. 9

Photo by Tim Potts

he got back to base and got on another aircraft. The crew then returned to the contact area to see if they could identify and knock-out the heavy weapons bunker that had the infantry pinned down. It was on his second pass engaging the bunker that we again drew fire and he was shot through the left (collective control) hand, which controls the chopper altitude. Little began to settle into the tree tops, and just as he was steering for the bunker to crash. Little said "God showed up and miraculously saves the day by insisting I regain altitude by using my left forearm to pull up on the collective". Little set the bird down in a nearby rice paddy alongside his earlier wounded bird.

Little is 73-years young and a retired Construction Manager. A wonderful wife of 49-years and blessed with two grown Daughters.

Paul Treusch (Deltona FL) enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1956 in Pittsburg, PA and retired in 1976 as a Master Sergeant. Treusch spent the first three years as a basic infantryman. The following 16 years he served in various billets from communications to recruitment, from a life guard to Platoon Sergeant in Vietnam to Non-Commissioned officer in charge (NCOIC) of Base Communications. Treusch was honored with a purple heart for the shrapnel wounds received during the Tet offensive in 1968 in the Dong Ha Province of Vietnam.

"I believe the military veterans are a unique brotherhood. I am proud to have served regardless of the branch or the reasons, and served where I was needed" said Treusch. He continued "I and many more did so, and we can stand tall and proud, knowing we made a difference". Treusch was drawn to the hunt in SD for the comradeship of hunting and socializing with other vets who share interest in the outdoors.

Ron Garside (Gardnerville, NV), served 5.5 years in the Army and did two tours in Vietnam with the 1st Division Recon Rangers and the 101st Airborne. He served in the infantry. Garside has been honored with five Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry after being wounded on five occasions. He has had 27 surgeries over the past 40 years and shared his concerns with the Veterans Administration over his medical challenges. Garside wanted to encourage all of the young vets to not give up and keep fighting for your benefits. Hunting pheasants is a great memory for Garside as he started hunting pheasants on their dairy farm back in California when he was a kid. Ron said he retired in 1997 but still enjoys hunting in Nevada and Colorado.

Paul Treusch said "the week was great, I have mixed emotions, humble and honored, I just think the people of Gettysburg made the hunt; and it is the smallest town in South Dakota with the biggest heart. It has been an experience I will never forget".

Gary Renick recapped the week as fabulous, the pheasant hunting was outstanding and the people have been great to us. He continued "I don't think we could ask for anything better, we had a fun time".

Little commented "the week was a most wonderful time I have had in a long time and it has been a blessing to come meet these fine people and to have the comrades' with them. Everyone has been so supportive and so nice it has humbled us to have been allowed to come to the hunt. We found a new purpose to share the love back home and paying it forward with other Veterans. I find it very humbling to find a small community so patriotic and some giving with nothing expected in return".

Ron Garside said "I have been hunting for a long time and as a 100% disabled Vet, this is one of the most wonderful hunts I have ever been on. I hunted pheasants as a teen and have never seen so many birds and enjoyed myself so much, everything has been wonderful since I got here". Garside also thanked Gettysburg VFW Post 8530 for putting on such a great hunt.

Lynn Rolf, VFW Director of Programs, (Leavenworth, KS) commented "I will tell you this veterans hunt has been a personal cause for me for years, I grew up hunting with my dad and when I came back from Iraq, I wanted to help somehow, I will walk, clean birds; I just want to be part of it". Watching the joy on the Vets face when they see the pointing bearded dog (Boomer) – that is the least I can do to be able to show these guys and share the enjoyment of pheasant hunting. Rolf continued "being around some great Americans that care and put on this event here in Gettysburg is just amazing and powerful".

Darwin Tolzin, State VFW Quartermaster is very honored to be involved with the hunt and the State works on the fund-raising side of the event. Tolzin said "the organization and hospitality could not be better than it is".

Plans have been started for next year hunt.

Remember comrades, the more comrades we can get involved, the easier the job becomes. So please don't ask, "What does the VFW do for me?" Ask, "What can I do to help the VFW and my fellow veterans?" If you keep passing the load off to someone else, pretty soon that someone else isn't going to be there. He or she will have passed away. So please do help, it feels good.



"...that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion..."

TAPS
may their souls rest in peace.



COMRADES, IN DEATH AS IN LIFE, WE SALUTE YOU!

Madison, VFW Post 2638

Virgil J. Gagnon, Korea, USN Life; Thomas H. Wolf, Korea, USA, Life

Turton, VFW Post 6481

Labrie, Richard, WWII USA; Hausvik, Rodney, WWII, USA; Bruckner, Anthony, WWII, USA

Yankton, VFW Post

Russel, Rahn, WWII, USA; Ronald, Mraz, Vietnam, Life
Lake Andes, VFW Post 3239
Kisley, Leonard L., Korea, USA, Life; Payer, Leo, Korea, USA

Canton, VFW Post 3164

Keiser, Don, C., Vietnam, USA, Past Post Commander

Rapid City, VFW Post 1273

Joseph A., Trusty, Vietnam, USA, Life; Joseph M., WWII, USA, Life; James H., Kramer, Korea, USA, Life; James Sr., Galbraith, Korea, USN; Williard J., Gabert, WWII, USA, Life; Alfred H., Buxcel, Korea, USA; Leon E., Anderson, WWII, USA, Life; James E., Hammett,

WWII, USA, Life; Wendlin P., Baumgartner, WWII, USA, Life; Thomas L., Henderson, WWII, USA, Life; Stath S., Matzeoros, WWII, USA, Life; Marvin L., Messer, WWII, USN, Life; William C., Kaaler, Vietnam, USAF, Life; Leo J., Hardina, Korea, USA, Life; Donald J., Denevan, WWII, USA, Life; Darael D., Zamder, Korea, USA, Life; Jack, First, WWII, USMC, Life; Vern E., Hirsch, USA, Life; Raymond J., Kraemer, WWII, USA, Life; James R., Nelson, USN, Life

Huron, VFW Post 1776

Ronald chaplain, USA; John A., Urenos, WWII, USA, Life; Ralph Donovan, Desert Storm/ Shield, USA

Watertown, VFW Post 750

Arlto G., Saboe, Vietnam, USA, Life; Hartsell, Lester, WWII, USA, Life

Sioux Falls, VFW Post 628

Clifton, Cronkrite, WWII, Korea, USN/USMC; Leon, Watne, WWII, USN; Louis, Parrin, Vietnam, USAF, Life; Gary Dickens; LeRoy Donahoe, WWII, USN, Life; Henry, Haman,

WWII; Lyle, McKichan, WWII, USA, Life; Elmer, Weibel, WWII, USA, Life; Clinton, Hanson, WWII, USAF; Donald, Dummermuth, WWII, USA, Life

Brandon, VFW Post 4726

Roger E., Campbell, Korea, USAF, Life; Dale M., Coughlin, WWII, USN; Thomas J., Long, Korea, USA; Wayne J., Watson, Korea, USA; Gerald, VanVoorst, Vietnam, USA, Life

Marty, VFW Post 1353

Golus, Lavern L., Vietnam, USMC, Life, Past Post Commander; Provost, Cornelius J., Vietnam, USN, Life, Past Post Commander, Weddell, Ernest L., WWII, USA, Life, Past Post Commander

Armour, VFW Post 6897

Kenneth, W. Weereheim, WWII, USN, Life, Past Post Commander

—Sherman, continued from Pg. 1

Interment will be at a later date in the Veteran Section of Sisseton Cemetery. Visitation will be on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the prayer service to follow at Cahill Funeral Chapel. The Cahill Funeral Chapel is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Tom was born on November 21, 1934, in Montgomery, West Virginia, to Harry and Margaret (Lowe) Sherman. He attended the Millersburg Military Institute in Millersburg, Kentucky, from the sixth grade through high school. Upon graduation, Tom entered the United States Air Force on September 16, 1954. During his military service, he earned the following awards and decorations: Bronze Star Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, USAF Non Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

During his military career, Tom was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota; Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico; Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota; McCoy Air Force Base, Florida; Nakhon Phanom Air Force Base Thailand, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada and Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. He retired from active duty on July 31, 1977, at the rank of Master Sergeant after serving 22 years, 10 months, and 15 days.

While stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base, Tom met Donna Ruckdaschel, and they were married on Armistice Day, November 11, 1956. Their union blessed them with three daughters. After retiring from the Air Force, Tom and Donna moved to Sisseton and purchased the Tastee-Freez Drive-In Restaurant. Together, they operated the Tastee-Freez from 1978 to 1988. Tom also worked for the City of Sisseton as the liquor store manager from 1988 to May 2007.

As a young adult, Tom was an avid SCUBA diver and hunter. He was a member of Otto-Quande-Renville American Legion Post 50 and was the commander for the term 1991-1992. He was also a member of the Disabled American Veterans. Tom was an active life member of the Fort Sisseton VFW Post #3342 and served as post commander for several terms. Tom truly loved the VFW. He held numerous offices at the local, district, and state levels. He was involved with the VFW Teener baseball league for many years. He had the honor of being elected South Dakota VFW State Commander for the 1996-1997 term. Tom always kept the books and membership roll for the VFW on the computer. He was the man who knew computers. Tom loved computers, photography, camping, and fishing. He also enjoyed auto mechanics, watch repair, and small appliance repair. Most of all, he loved hosting the Ruckdaschel family reunion in July.

Tom is survived by his wife, Donna, of Sisseton, South Dakota; three daughters, Sandra Sherman-Bell of Meridian, Idaho, Cheryl Sherman-EauClaire of Boise, Idaho, and Paula Sherman-Lipko (Bill) of Macon, Georgia; seven grandchildren, Hillary, Tiffany, Karoline, Brandon, Mitchell, Aleksandr, and Kyle; as well as many sisters- and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents; his two brothers, Roy and Dee; a sister, Fydelis; his brothers-in-laws, Bob, Ray, and Ron; and his sisters-in-law, Jo, Chilla, Joyce, and Barbara. Tom loved his family and friends. He believed in making great memories. He will always be in ours.

“Boy did we have fun.”

For Tom’s obituary and on-line registry, please visit www.cahillfuneralchapel.com.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

VFW National Veterans Service works to ensure veterans receive every benefit available to them from their government. Our nationwide network of service officers was established to help veterans and their families file claims with the VA. This service is available at no charge and made possible through donations. Over the past three years, the VFW has helped more than 284,000 veterans recover nearly \$7 billion in compensation and pension.

Visit VFW.org/nvs to find a service officer near you.

Medical Centers of the VA South Dakota Health Care Network

**VA Black Hills Health Care System
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Fort Meade, SD 57741
(605) 347-2511
Toll Free: 1-800-743-1070
www.blackhills.va.gov

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Hot Springs Campus**
500 N. Fifth Street
Hot Springs, SD 57747
(605) 745-2000
Toll Free: 1-800-764-5370
www.blackhills.va.gov

**Sioux Falls VA Health Care System
2501 W. 22nd Street**
PO Box 5046
Sioux Falls, SD 57717
(605) 336-3230
Toll Free: 1-800-316-8387

—Haug, continued from Pg. 1

James H. Haug was born February 27, 1927 at Elk Point, SD to Ole and Dora (Ven) Haug. He attended country school before serving in the US Army during the Korean War. He served in Korea in the 45th Infantry Division. After his discharge from the service he came back to Elk Point and farmed. On June 5, 1959 he was united in marriage to Janet Stroh at St. Paul Lutheran Church in rural Elk Point. They were members of St. Paul Lutheran where he served two terms as president, six years as church treasurer, as deacon and trustee. For the past 10 years he has been a resident of the Tieszan Home in Marion.

For 33 years he served as the Union County Veterans Service Officer and many years as the Emergency Management Director. He was a life member of the Elk Point VFW Post 915, served as State VFW Commander from 1970-71, District #1 Commander, and post Quartermaster for many years. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 134. He was a life member of the 45th Infantry Division attending reunions in Oklahoma.

Grateful for having shared his life are his wife Janet, Marion; a daughter Jeanne Bossman and husband Wayne, Parker; a brother Arnold (Ruthita) Haug, Cloverdale, CA; and a sister Dorothy Langle, Elk Point.

www.hofmeisterjones.com



Calendar of Events: Recruit New Members

June 14-17, 2018

VFW/AUX State Convention, Sioux Falls

The Soul of Veterans Building Spiritual Strengths

The Sioux Falls Vet Center and the Sioux Falls VA Chaplain Service are hosting spiritual support groups for Veterans who have survived difficult and/or traumatic experiences. The groups help Veterans reduce spiritual and psychological distress and use meditative practices such as prayer and reading to aid in healing and readjustment. A group begins Tuesday, January 16 at the Vet Center, and Veterans must commit to meeting once a week for eight weeks. This group will end March 6, 2018. It is open to all Veterans. If you are interested in participating in the group, please call 605-330-4552.

Note from the Editor...

Together, we will keep the VFW Strong! Our State Commander, Rick Williamson’s Theme: The Future is Now, but full of unknowns and challenges, but with your continued cooperation the outlook for our state will be successful.

Comrades, the VFW is a family and a team. Names may change, but overall missions remains the same- to serve veterans, our troops and our communities. To continue to be successful, and carry on our proud heritage, we must grow and expand the number of members in our ranks.

Each member of this organization contributes what they can to the VFW. Just by joining, each member provides strength to our leadership as they go forward to our state and national capitals. Whether in Pierre or Washington, politicians understand that our membership numbers translate into votes. Just being a member in good standing gives strength to our programs and a united resolve to our voice.

It is fully understood that some members cannot be as active as others, but have we asked them what they can do? An individual is more likely to volunteer and participate when asked what they can do, than being told, this is what you must do. A personal interest equals greater success.

Membership and mentorship are large parts of our future success. Regardless of holding a position, all members are encouraged to learn more about our programs. Let’s work together as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, WE need to take care of all veterans and their families, because “No One Does More for Veterans.”

South Dakota Overseas Veteran quarterly publication

At the June 2016 Department State Convention held in Deadwood, SD, it was voted to have the South Dakota Overseas Veteran publication to be posted, reviewed/downloaded on the WEBSITE: WWW.SDVFW.org Please advise and assist all members of this change.

Pheasant Hunt

Thank You' from the hunters.



Kenneth Westscott, Wadde, AZ. I really had a great time. All people involved in Gettysburg and the VFW post went above and beyond. The time spent was well worth it and an excellent time was had by all. **Bio:** A marine who served in the Vietnam War in 1966-67.

Stephen B. Blair, Anchorage, AK. Have to say it was the highlight of the year. Had a great time with great people. You have a great crew there and I know any future hunts will be great. The weather, the town people, everything was perfect. Not much of a talker, but I did enjoy talking to the high school students. Thanks again for inviting me! Keep up the good work. **Bio:** Served two tours in Iraq and Afghanistan where he was wounded in combat patrol in the Army. Blair said, "this was fantastic and I had a great time shooting - a little hesitant at first, but then I got comfortable."

Frank Ramirez, Galveston, TX. "Thank you VFW Post 8530 for a wonderful hunt of a lifetime. Special thanks to the land owners and all the great people who have their time and efforts to make it happen. **Bio:** A marine who served in Vietnam in 1966-67 and lost his right leg below the knee from a bomb. Frank said he never hunted pheasant in his life and it is something he said he always wanted to do while he was still alive and able. Enjoys hunting deer, turkeys and a lot of varmints."



Burke VFW Post 9950

VFW Weekly Raffle Hits Halfway Point (...with a special meaning)

Submitted by Mike Boxa, Post Quartermaster

VFW Post Commander Roland Holub presents Karen Timanus with a check for half the amount of the 100 dollar prize draw, for the weekly drawing held Friday night at the Post home. Karen generously donated 50 dollars back to the Post to defray cost of a life membership for her husband, Major Anthony Timanus, who is currently deployed. Major Timanus has been a continuous member of the Post and has been a guest speaker at several Veteran's Events. Sr. Vice Luther Wilhelmsen spearheaded the project with the Post Quartermaster to convert to life membership. The yearly dues for 2018-19 were coming up, and Post By Laws establish the procedure for Quartermaster to pay for dues of all deployed and active military service members. With Karen's help, and an extra bit of Post fundraising, the Post converted Anthony's membership. Sr. Vice Wilhelmsen has always led the way with special interest membership and hardship cases, especially veteran members within nursing homes and assisted living quarters. It is always extra special with a deployed member and the Post has had several. The life membership to Anthony gave the Post 100% tally and makes Commander Holub eligible for State awards, such as the prestigious White Cap for All State Team.

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Press 1 for Veterans

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org



We understand the unique bond you share with other veterans of overseas conflicts because we too, have been there. Since 1899, the VFW has been the nation's leading veterans service organization in the fight to better the lives of all those who've worn the uniform of the United States military. No matter which conflict called you to service, we invite you to join us. Stand strong with the other 1.4 million members of the VFW as together, we continue to fight for all that's good **FOR VETERANS.**

DEADLINE

For the next issue (April 2018) of the *South Dakota Overseas Veteran*, the deadline is March 1, 2018.

Please submit your articles to me by that date.

Send to: **Editor Dick L. Pickering**
404 Dogwood Street
Brandon, SD 57005.

Or email them to:
dickp.signs@gmail.com

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POST SCHEDULES

John M. Bliss Post #628

Open to the Public
Mon-Sat: 0900 a.m. to close
www.vfw628.org

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Call 605-338-9421
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Bingo: Mon., Thurs. and Fri.
Lounge: Bingo nights & Sat.
Hall: Available for rental

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C.C. CROAL POST #17 ABERDEEN, SD

Post/Auxiliary Meetings
Second Thursday - 7:30 PM
Room for Parties
All Occasions
M-S Hours: 2 PM - 2 AM

Black Hills Post 5969 Deadwood

Wednesday: Hamburger Night
Friday: Dinners

Lounge & Gaming

FRANK H. ADAMS POST #750 808 South Broadway Watertown, SD

Open Monday thru Friday
2:00 p.m. till 2:00 a.m.;
Saturday 12:00 till 2:00 a.m.
All Veterans and visiting
members welcome

Post Meeting Nite 3rd Wed.
Aux. Meeting Nite 2nd Wed.

THREE RIVERS POST #4726 BRANDON, SD (The most eastern Post in SD)

Interstate 90, Exit 406
Post Meeting,
3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m..
Auxiliary Meeting,
2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

*Welcome Veterans & Friends
to Our Freedom Grill
and Bar Lounge.*

Ernest Bowyer Post No. 791 209 Cedar St. Yankton, SD (605) 665-3562

Open 3 p.m.
Sun. thru Sat.
All Veterans and Visiting
Members Welcome

Meeting Night 2nd Tuesday

Rollie Bucholz Post 7319 Wagner, SD 57380 PHONE: 342-9804

Open Daily: Mon.-Sat. at 5:00

All Veterans & Guests Welcome
Short Orders served during week.
Saturday evening special dinners served

Post Meeting - 3rd Tues.
Auxiliary Meeting - 2nd Tues.

Bingo every Wed. night

Rushmore - Post #1273 420 Main St., Rapid City, SD 57701 PHONE: 342-9804

Meeting Nights
MOC/MOCA Pup Tent 17 - First Thursday
VFW & Auxiliary - Second Thursday
Joint Meeting - Fifth Thursday of any Month
With Five Thursdays

Hours of Operation
Sunday-Friday - 11:00 am to Closing
Saturday - 10:00 am to Closing
Sunday - Closed
Monday-Friday Daily Lunches 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Saturday 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers or Chicken Strips and Fries
Monday Night Family Dinner Starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Friday Night Fish Fry Starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Ronald Westby Post #2638 510 S. Washington Ave. Madison, SD 57042 256-6771

Open Mon.-Thur. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Fri-Sat 11 am to Closing
Sun. 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Nights:
VFW 2nd Tuesday - 6 p.m.
Auxiliary 2nd Monday - 5:15 p.m.
Brunch 2nd Sunday 10 am - 12:30 p.m.
EVERYBODY WELCOME

Sturgis Veterans' Club 868 Main Street Sturgis, SD

605-347-4682

Open Mon. - Fri. 4:00 PM to close
Sat. noon to closing
Short orders & dinners available
VFW Post #2730 & Auxiliary
AL Post #33 & Auxiliary
DAV Chapter 11 & Auxiliary

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721 Mt. Rushmore Rd.
Custer, SD
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Lounge Opens 2pm

Post & Auxiliary Meetings
Third Thursday - 7pm

Visit us on your trip to the Hills

Valued Supporters of the South Dakota Overseas Veteran Publication

The VFW Department of South Dakota has implemented a new program to assist in the cost of the *Overseas Veteran* publication by providing the opportunity for individuals to show their support of the award-winning South Dakota Overseas Veteran paper. Your name will appear in each of the four issues as a valuable supporter under the category of your donation.

The donations are categorized as follows: Bronze, \$10.00 per year; Silver, \$20.00 per year; and Gold, \$30.00 per year.

The following supporters are **Gold category:** Mitchell, VFW Post 2750; Jonathon Thorburn; Ray Kerstetter; Lowell Stevens; Johnathan Thorun; Mike Boxa; Betty Boxa; Arnold Sattler; Burke VFW Post 9950; William & Pat Cerney; Charles Kerkhove; Custer VFW Post 3442; Marvin Gall; Linda Fox; Paul & Leanne Payne; Ken & Michelle Payne; Jerry Gilmore; Wayne & Sharon Mitchell.

Silver category: Gary Hills; Hobart Cole; Rick and Cindy Williamson. **Bronze category:** Wagner VFW Post 7319; Leonard Kisely; Dick Pickering.