

POST 15 NEWS



August 2023

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COMMANDER'S CORNER—*Dale Hill*

As it is late July, we are left wondering how the summer went so fast. We had the National Commander's visit and lunch in early May, the Brandon Loyalty Day parade, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Boys State, Girls State, SD Legion State Convention, rummage sale, Automania in Valley Springs, Chamber mixers, July 4th flag retirement ceremony, SEBA Military night, pancake breakfasts, Socials, Honor Guard funerals and Color Guard events, just to name some of our activities. We still have the air show, (July 29-30 – U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds), pancake breakfast (Aug 6), Sioux Empire Fair (Aug 4-12) and other events coming up that we need members' help with. Please call the office if you can help with these events.

The USS South Dakota Day of Honor is scheduled for Saturday August 12 at the Battleship South Dakota Memorial.

Bill Peters was appointed State Membership Chairman, and so far we are off to a good start on receiving dues for 2024. Please pay your dues as soon as you can to help the Legion reduce costs and allow us to focus on other important activities in our community.

Thank you for supporting our American Legion as we continue to focus on veterans assistance, Americanism, our youth, and keeping Congress focused on national defense. Legion membership IS IMPORTANT when our national leadership testifies to our national and state legislative committees.

Thank you to all who give their time to support the Post and Legion programs. If you are not able to donate time, then support the Post by eating with us at pancake breakfasts and the social dinners.

I hope everyone has a safe, healthy and happy rest of the summer.

UNIT 15 AUXILIARY *Kellie Heazlett, President*

Summer is flying by! Power on the Prairie (the Sioux Falls Air Show) is back this year, and the American Legion and Auxiliary each have a booth. We are so excited to get our name out in the community and let people know who we are and what we are all about. Serving our Veterans! We need volunteers for this. We will be using this event to promote our Junior Auxiliary Program. We are just getting this program off the ground and look forward to the possibilities to come. The Junior program is vital to the life of the Auxiliary; this is where our future members and leaders come from. If you know a child who is eligible to join, please reach out to Belinda Ready at 605-685-5407 for more information.

It is time for the 2nd Annual "Chip in for Vets" Golf Tournament on August 15. Our very own Kasey Jacobson (Unit 15 2nd Vice President) wanted to do something to raise money for the Veterans Community Project last year, and from that the Golf Tournament was born. Kasey and her co-chairs, Deb Metzger (Unit 15 1st Vice President) and Karen Dunham, put in their time, talent, and hearts and succeeded in hosting one of the best golf tournaments out there and raising over \$14,000. The funds are used to furnish the homes with needed items when a new resident moves in. We look forward to this year's tournament as it looks to be even bigger and better than last year. Well done, ladies! You are shining examples for our unit.

Following the Golf Tournament will be the Annual Hog Roast and Corn Boil hosted by Legion Post 15. We will need several volunteers to help with the many different duties for this event. Please contact Nancy Andres at 507-828-4474 if you would like to volunteer.

Community Action for Veterans (CAV) will host a PACT Act Benefits/VA Healthcare Drive located at the Post on August 8 from 11:00–1:30pm and 4:00–6:30.

1ST VICE COMMANDER *Patrick Branca*

Greetings, fellow Legionnaires. What an exciting summer we have been having thus far, and there is plenty ahead. We have done numerous events from Honor Guard at funerals for local veterans, color guard for American Legion Baseball Tournament, a huge rummage sale, numerous 4th of July events, and much more.

Two of our big events are coming up the end of July and beginning of August. The first is the Sioux Falls Airshow, featuring the USAF Thunderbirds, on July 29-30. The second major event is the Sioux Empire Fair on August 4-12. American Legion Post 15 has had a strong presence at these events for years and now it is my turn to ask for your help. As a veteran, you have already demonstrated your commitment to the service of our country. Now I am asking for help in service to our Post and our commitment to the veterans of our community. Please choose one event and volunteer to do one four-hour shift to represent the Legion. I guarantee you the feedback you get from the community will be worth it. Call John Bachmeier at the Legion office at 605-336-3470 and let him know what shift you would be willing to give to the Legion. In turn, you get to participate in a couple of great events. You are certainly encouraged to volunteer for an extra shift or two.

Finally, if you are still motivated to help, please offer to assist with the Hog Roast event at the Alliance on August 15.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES *Diane Diekman*

House Democrats are jumping ship on the traditionally bipartisan defense authorization bill after Republicans passed amendments to the fiscal 2024 National Defense Authorization Act to overturn the Pentagon's new abortion travel policy and to restrict transgender medical care. Democrats who usually support the defense bill announced they would now vote against final passage. Should the House pass defense legislation overturning those policies, it will run into opposition from the Democratic-held Senate and the White House. The House Rules Committee has put 370 amendments to the bill on the floor. -- *Defense News*

President Joe Biden nominated Admiral Lisa Fanchetti as the next Chief of Naval Operations, which would make her the first woman ever to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. With 38 years in the military, she currently serves as Vice Chief of Naval Operations and is only the second woman to be a four-star admiral. She joins more than 250 other senior military officers whose confirmations over the last four months have been stalled by Senator Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala., over the Defense Department's abortion policies. Under rules put in place last fall, troops stationed in states where abortion is limited or illegal can be granted leave time and travel stipends to help cover the cost of moving across state lines for abortion services. Tuberville and a host of Republican lawmakers have decried the policy as illegal. There is no resolution in sight. The Senate is on its late-summer recess and will return in September. -- *Defense News*

VAVS *Chris Fischer*

In July, Post 15 VAVS received a request from the VA for weighted blankets. All agreed to supply the blankets requested by hospitalized Veterans and the blankets were delivered Tuesday, July 18. The regional VAVS rescheduled its quarterly meeting for July 21; most supporting organizations will be attending. At that time, information will be presented regarding upcoming Veteran events or activities. All info will be shared in the September newsletter. We have met with the Suicide Prevention Coordinator, and a S.A.V.E class (signs, ask, validate, encourage and expedite) will be presented to Post 15 in the fall.

PAID UP FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP—PUFL

AGE	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79
	\$1535	\$1399	\$1229	\$1025	\$815	\$599
	80-89	90+				
	\$429	\$329				

The total amount can be divided into 12 equal monthly payments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PAID UP FOR LIFE PROGRAM, CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 1-800-433-3318 OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS—AUGUST 2023

- 1 (Tues) Legion Post 15 meeting 7 pm
- 6 (Sun) Legion Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale 8:30-noon—Alliance
- 8 (Tues) Legion Auxiliary meeting 7 pm
- 9 (Wed) Legion Riders meeting 7 pm
- 12 (Sat) USS South Dakota Day of Honor—Battleship SoDak Memorial
- 14 (Mon) Honor Guard breakfast 8 am—Fryn' Pan
- 15 (Tues) Unit 15 Golf Tournament—Elmwood Golf Course
- 15 (Tues) Corn Boil/Hog Roast - Social 5 pm, dinner 6 pm — Alliance
- 17 (Thu) Membership Committee meeting 6 pm
- 17 (Thu) Sons of the Legion meeting 7 pm
- 22 (Tue) Auxiliary Social 5 pm, dinner 6 pm, bingo 7 pm—Alliance
Open to the public; **reservations required for dinner**
- 29 (Tue) Executive Board meeting 7 pm

Every Monday—Singing Legionnaires practice 7 pm
Every Wednesday—Ladies bridge 12-4 pm

Office is open 11-3 pm M-F

Save the Date

Sat, Oct 14 – Bridge Dedication for Thomas Martin (Candy Martin's son)

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION *Paul Fiskum*

Be The One is the theme for the Legion Family. I would like to ask all Sons members to renew your membership. You can do this online @ legion.org/renew or call the Post 15 office 605-366-3470 or stop by the office at 1700 W Russell Ave between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There are several ways to be involved during the month of August. I encourage you to come to the monthly pancake breakfast the first Sunday of each month. Enjoy a great breakfast and stay to help serve and clean. Come to our meeting on August 10 at the Post at 7 p.m. We need volunteers for the Sioux Empire Fair, as the Sons will raise the flag on the North end of the fairgrounds at 10 a.m. and lower it at 6 p.m. Call the office to get scheduled. We need volunteers to help with clean up at the Hog Roast on the 15th. We had a successful raffle to give away a hand made Goldie Slugger bat. The winner was Dale Haas.

Try to find a way to Be The One and help our veterans and their families. If you know of anyone who is eligible to join the Sons, please recruit them.

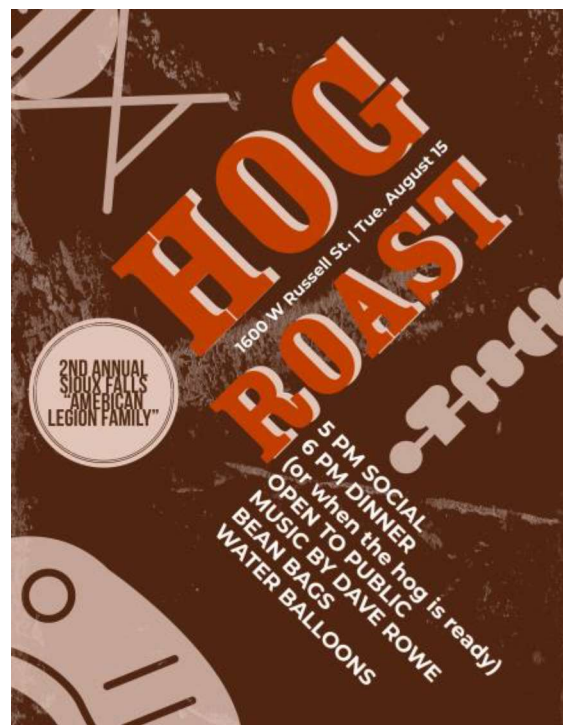
Always check the Post 15 website and event calendar.

POST EVERLASTING

May They Rest in Peace

William Roberts, 84, Army, 5/20/2023;
Wilbur Archer, 98, Navy, 6/23/2023;
Paul Gotfred Brude, 95, Air Guard,
7/18/2023

If you know
of a Legion
member who
has died, call
605-336-3470.



RENEWAL TIME

National prints and mails ALL renewal notices. If you renew early, you help save printing and mailing costs because no further notices will be sent to you. Go to [Renew \(mylegion.org\)](https://legion.org/renew). Or call the office at 605-336-3470, email legion-office.al@gmail.com, or stop in at 1700 W Russell Street from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

CHORUS NOTES *Len Neugebauer*

On July 12 the Singing Legionnaires sang the national anthem for Legion Baseball at Harmondon Field. The chorus is scheduled to perform August 7 at Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community, August 10 at the 125th anniversary of the Kingsbury County Courthouse in DeSmet, August 13 at Faith Lutheran Church, and August 20 at First United Methodist Church. The Singing Legionnaires posted flags on July 4 Independence Day. Contact Todd Schmidt at (605) 370-4405 if you are interested in helping with the flag program or if you know of a Sioux Falls business that would like to participate in this program. Anyone who is interested in singing with our men's chorus or who has any questions regarding chorus activities is encouraged to contact chorus president Bruce Naasz at (605) 310-6210 or by email at 66cycler2019@gmail.com.

Uniform caps available in the office
\$65 (hat & pheasant)

Wear your cap to membership meetings
and events to let others know of your service and membership.

LEGION RIDERS

Lamar Nance, Chairman

The Legion Riders have been busy with area parades, and many more events and rides are scheduled. Our website at <http://siouxfallslegionriders.yolasite.com/> has information regarding membership, some great pictures of past events, and the Legion calendar.

August Events:

TBD: Too Broke to go to Sturgis Fun Run

August 15: 2nd Annual Hog Roast at Alliance

August 15: Escort Vietnam Wall from Fulda to Slayton

August 19: Riverboat Days Parade in Yankton

Our meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Post home.

Anyone who rides a motorcycle and is a member of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the Legion is invited to be a guest and join.



Independence Day Parade in Sioux Falls. Photo credit: Lamar Nance

**2nd Annual
American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 15 - Golf Tournament**
August 15th, 2023
Elmwood Golf Course
"Chip in for Vets!"

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO ASSIST IN PURCHASING FOR THE VETERANS COMMUNITY PROJECT (TINY HOMES) FOR VETERANS!

Registration: 8 - 9 (Coffee & Rolls)
Shotgun Start: 9 a.m.
FORMAT: 4 Person Scramble
FLIGHTED: Pay 3 FLIGHTS: 1st, 2nd 3rd each flight
PIN PRIZES: Front and Back Nine

Mulligans 2 for \$10 Available Day of Tournament!

\$450.00 PER TEAM - Includes: 18 Holes Golf, Practice Range before tournament, Cart, Rolls & Coffee, Prizes and Souvenir Team Picture!

Mail registration with check
Payable to:
ALA - Unit 15 - Golf Tournament
Karen Dunham - Dunham Company
201 N. Minnesota Ave., Ste L 101
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

The ALA is a 501c9 Non Profit Organization!
Tournament Limited to 144 Players!

For more info contact: Golf Committee
Kasey Jacobson - 605-270-9289
email: jacobson1122@gmail.com
Karen Dunham - 605-366-3291
email: karendunham@dunhamresidential.com
Deb Metzger - 605-366-7379
email: debmetzger@dunhamresidential.com

MUST PRE-PAY TO SECURE A SPOT FOR YOUR TEAM!

New Post 15 Members

We welcome our new members to Post 15 and invite you to attend our membership activities:

Mike Heppler, Robert Oberg, Lee Minor, Jon Graff, Anthony Brende, Steve Bossert, Kenneth Barnhart, Matthew Erickson, Roger Flatequal, Robert Graham, Chad Hanson, Joel Kruse, Grant Nelson, Timothy Roemeling, James Semans

Battleship South Dakota Memorial



Corner of Kiwanis
Ave & West 12th St
Open every day
9:30-5:30—FREE

www.facebook.com/bb57memorial
<https://southdakotabattleship.org/>
info@southdakotabattleship.org

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Unit 15 Sioux Falls, SD
Looking for new members.
Join to honor those who have served.
605-336-3470

Advertise here —
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AMERICAN LEGION POST 15
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Bringing Honor to God and Country

If you sing tenor, baritone or bass, the
Singing Legionnaires **want YOU!**
Call 605-261-0506 for more information.

Advertise here —
Call
605-336-3470



USS South Dakota Day of Honor

Crew Member Reunion and Commemoration of
Armored Cruiser (ACR 9)
Battleship (BB 57)
Attack Submarine (SSN 790)

Saturday, **August 12, 2023**

10 am – Concert by Sioux Falls Municipal Band

11 am – Ceremony with guest speaker Senator Mike Rounds



Battleship South Dakota Memorial
West 12th St & Kiwanis Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD
605-366-3291 / 605-367-7141
info@southdakotabattleship.org

Public is invited—**free admission**



FOLLOW US on Instagram!

Alsdpost15 [#SDLegion](https://www.instagram.com/SDLegion)



www.siouxfallslegion.org

Post 15 website

[www.facebook.com/
siouxfallsamericanlegionpost15](https://www.facebook.com/siouxfallsamericanlegionpost15)

[HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/JOIN/PUFL)

SHOOTING SPORTS *Larry Panning*

BB GUN TEAM Part of the team score is safety and how well the young shooters remember safety lessons. Both Mackennzie and Hailey scored 100% on the written test. The six- member team placed 18th out of 56 teams from across the USA. Three other South Dakota BB gun teams placed in the top ten. Congratulations to all these young shooters. **SPORTER AIR RIFLE** team placed 14th in the Junior Olympics National Match and 16th in the Civilian Marksmanship National Match, all in Ohio. **PRECISION AIR RIFLE** team placed 11th in the Junior Olympic National Match and 17th in the National Civilian Marksmanship Match, all also in Ohio. We are proud of the accomplishments of all teams and all members!! THANKS to all supporters.

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15 AMERICAN LEGION

LEGION OFFICE: 605-336-3470 / 1700 W. Russell St., Suite 510 (north door)

OFFICERS OF SIOUX FALLS POST 15

Commander	Dale Hill
1st Vice Commander	Patrick Branco
2nd Vice Commander	Pete Waldner
Finance Officer	Jim McQuisten
Historian	Sharon Taplett-Lundgren
Sgt-At-Arms	Jim Puthoff
Chaplain	Donna Puthoff
Adjutant	John Bachmeier

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bill Peters—Chair
Joan Ishol, Wayne Sprecher, Mike McGoffin
Steve Reuschoff, Al Arndt, Dave Row, Randy Miller

COMMITTEES

Chorus: Bruce Naasz
Legion Riders: Lamar Nance
Vets Council: John Bachmeier
Post Everlasting: **vacant**

Americanism: Bruce Swan
Membership: Patrick Branco
SAL: Paul Fiskum
Raffle Sales: **vacant**
Flag Retirement: Dick Moss

OFFICERS OF AUXILIARY Unit 15

President	Kellie Heazlett
1st Vice President	Deb Metzger
2nd Vice President	Kasey Jacobsen
Treasurer	Kathy Dathe
Historian	Judy Hill
Sgt-At-Arms	Barb Hayes
Chaplain	Marva Petit
Secretary	Nancy Andres
Parliamentarian	Ann McGoffin
Past President	Susan Panning
Executive Board	Beth Honerman
Executive Board	Nancy Renner

Office Maintenance : **vacant**
Baseball: Randy Miller
VAVS: Chris Fischer
Memorial Day Flags: Ron Lien
Pancakes: Dale Haas

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
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