



Up To Now!

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September 14, 2022

Sep 15 DEC Zoom
Sep 18 District 2 Fall Meeting
Sep 24 District 6 Fall Meeting
Sep 25 District 3 Fall Meeting
Sep 28 South Dakota Veterans Council meeting, Rapid City
Oct 1 Midwest Honor Flight, SD American Legion Honor Flight
Oct 10-13 National Fall Meetings
Oct 22 District 7 Fall Meeting
Oct 23 District 8 Fall Meeting change from Vermillion to Wakonda
Oct 29 District 4 Fall Meeting
Oct 30 District 5 Fall Meeting
Oct 31 VA Healthcare worker nominations due to HQ
Nov 11 Veterans Day, HQ closed
Nov 15 Employer Awards nominations due to HQ
Nov 24-25 Thanksgiving HQ closed
Dec 23, 26 Christmas Holiday, HQ closed
Dec 31 Law Enforcement nominations due to HQ from Districts
Dec 31 Firefighter nominations due to HQ from Districts

INCLUDED IN THIS UP TO NOW

Included is information on submitting employers for National awards. More information can be found at the national website as identified in the paper. As a reminder, all award nomination come straight to Department Headquarters and are due by November 15th.

HAT IN THE RING

Piedmont Post 311 has endorsed Kevin Morello for Department Commander

NEW NATIONAL OFFICERS ELECTED AT CONVENTION

The 103rd National Convention was held in Milwaukee WI. During the convention, Vincent James "Jim" Troiola of New York was elected our new National Commander. Glenn Wahus of North Dakota was elected the Midwest National Vice Commander which includes South Dakota.

NATIONAL VA&R VA HEALTH CARE WORKER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

The National VA&R Commission is accepting nominations for the VA Health Care Provider and VA Physician of the Year Awards. Any Legionnaire in good standing can nominate a deserving physician or health care worker for this award. If you know of an individual you would like to nominate, contact Adjutant Hempel at Headquarters.

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION HONOR FLIGHT

Midwest Honor Flight Mission 13 has been named the SD American Legion Honor Flight. It will depart early on Oct 1st. **There will be a Welcome Home Ceremony for the returning flight at the Sioux Falls Convention Center Arena at 9:30 pm October 1st. We want to fill the Arena with Legionnaires to welcome home our Legion Flight. Pass the word and wear your Legion Cap. We would like to see a huge showing of Blue Caps.**

NATIONAL POW/MIA DAY

Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year, falling on September 16th. .

LEGION TABLE AT STATE FAIR

A quick thanks to all those that helped at the SD Legion table at the State Fair.

KEYS TO PROGRESS

Progressive Insurance is giving a car away to a family facing difficult times. It will be given away on November 10th at the South Dakota Military Heritage Alliance in Sioux Falls. Applications must be submitted by September 16th and there is specific eligibility requirements which include, be a veteran with DD214, or Active Duty E4 or below, Spouse of Active Duty E4 or below and members is stationed overseas. Household income must be below 200% of federal poverty guidelines. If you or someone you know may qualify, or want additional information, have them contact Rachel at 605-271-1582 or info@southdakotaalliance.org.

FALLEN HERO BRIDGE DEDICATIONS

South Dakota started a program in 2019 to honor Veterans killed in the line of duty by naming bridges in their honor. Following is a list of upcoming dedications. It would be great if Legionnaires in the area would attend to honor those who have fallen:

Sep 17, CPL Martin Fluegel, McCook Central High School in Salem at 1:00pm central

Oct 1, Frederic Schroeder, VFW in Madison at 1:00 pm central

POSTS WHO HAVE NOT CERTIFIED THEIR OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023

The following posts need to contact Judy at headquarters to find out about certifying their officers and membership cards

Dist 1: Bullhead #82
Timber Lake #83
Eagle Butte #308
Dupree #124
Little Eagle #239
Bull Head #324
Dist 2: Rosebud #125
Belvidere #144
Oelrichs #238
Pine Ridge #251
New Underwood #256
Kyle #265
Batesland #281
Porcupine #294
Parmelee #295
St. Francis #297
Manderson #302
Norris #310
Dist 3: Blunt #77
Dist 4: Rockham #57
Dist 5: Astoria #103
Sinai #133
Dist 7: Egan #97
Dist 8: Lake Andes #10
Parker #30
Davis #176
Delmont #249

CONTINUED ON BACK

988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

For people ages 10-34, suicide is the leading cause of death in South Dakota. Starting July 11, 2022, dialing code 988 will connect people to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. People can use the 988 number if they are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises or other emotional distress. People can also use the 988 number if they are concerned about a loved one who may need crisis support. Please spread the word about the new 988 number.

ORATORY CONTEST COMPLETION DATES

The Americanism Commission has set the following completion dates for the oratory contests:

- Post contests completed by January 8, 2023
- District contests completed by January 22nd, 2023
- Department contest on February 12th, 2023 at MidWinter conference.

The following dates and locations have been set for the District contests:

DIST. 1—Chair: Ken Sabers, (kcsabers@gmail.com) District contest to be held at Sturgis American Legion Post 33, January 8, 2023, 1:00pm. Storm date, Jan. 15, same time and place.

DIST. 2—Chair: Doug Harris (doughnut@gmsil.com) District contest to be held at SDSM&T Classroom Bldg., 501 E. Saint Joseph St, January 8, 2023, 10:00 a.m. Storm date, January 15th, same time and place.

DIST. 3—Chair: Larry Madsen, (larry_madsen@hotmail.com) District contest to be held at Faith Lutheran Church Christian Living Center, 714 N Grand Ave, Pierre, SD. January 15, 2023 2:00 p.m. Storm date, January 22nd, same time and place.

DIST. 4—Chair: Dale Strom, (dale_strom@yahoo.com) District contest to be held at the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 431 W Melgaard Rd, Aberdeen, SD 57401 January 8 2023, 2:00 p.m. Storm date, January 15th, same time and place.

DIST. 5—Chair: Clayton Nei, (pandnei@gmail.com) District contest to be held at American Lutheran Church, Castlewood, SD on Jan. 15, 2023, 1:30 p.m. Storm date, Jan. 22, same time and place.

DIST. 6—Chair: Kim Thomas, (photostoday@midstatesd.net) District Contest to be held at the Best Western Hotel 2000 Dakota Ave S, Huron, SD, January 15, 2023, 2:00 p.m. Storm date, Jan 22th, same time and place.

DIST. 7—Chair: Linda Liddell (Lliddell08@gmail.com), District contest to be held at the Humboldt Community Center, January 15, 2023, 2:00 p.m. Storm date January 22nd, same time and place.

DIST. 8 Chair: Joseph Knoer, (joseph.A.Knoer@usd.edu) District contest to be held at Al Neuharth Media Center, 555 N Dakota St, Vermillion, January 15th, 2023, 2:00 p.m. Storm Date January 22nd, same time and place.

FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS

Districts are scheduling their Fall meetings. Below is the current schedule to date:

Dist 2: Sept 18, Phillip, 11:30 social, 12:00 meal, 13:00 meeting

Dist 3: Sept 25, Gettysburg, 12:00 social, 1:00 meeting

Dist 4: Oct 29, Warner, 4:00 meeting

Dist 5: Oct 30, Brooking Post 74, 12:30 meal, 1:00 meeting

Dist 6: Sept 24, Wessington Springs Post 14, 11:00 social, 12:00 meal, 13:30 meeting

Dist 7: Sioux Falls Post 15, 11:00 social, 12:00 meal, 1:00 meet

Dist 8: Oct 23, Wakonda, 1:00 social, 2:00 meeting **NOTE CHANGE**

VETERANS & CHILDREN FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

The National American Legion is having a Veterans & Children Foundation challenge. Donors who desire to participate can be individuals, groups, Posts or even the Department. There are three levels of recognized donors, Bronze for \$1000-\$2,499, Silver for

\$2,500 to \$4,999 and Gold for \$5,000 and up. If your post wants to donate straight to National, that is great. The Department will also be accepting donations from Posts which will be all be submitted together. Hopefully, we will get enough donations as a Department to get our name on the Wall of Honor at National Headquarters. Donations can be sent to Department Headquarters, but make sure it is identified as for the Veterans and Childrens Foundation Challenge.

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION FLOAT

Scheduling of the SD Legion float is changing to Department Headquarters. To schedule the float or check on availability, email hq@sdlegion.org or call 605-886-3604. As before a fee to use the float will be \$20 and should be sent to HQ after reserving the float. It is the responsibility of the organization that wants to use the float to arrange with the current holder of the float where and when to pick up the float.

REMINDER TO ALL AMERICAN LEGION POSTS TO FILE IRS FORM 990

Federal tax regulations require every American Legion Post to file IRS form 990. This must be filled out by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your organizations accounting period. If the IRS does not receive this form, they will revoke the tax-exempt status of the Post. To get your Tax-exempt status back you have to apply and pay a sizeable fee. This process takes time (months) and can challenge even the most patient of individuals. Posts must be proactive on this. The form can be downloaded at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f990.pdf>.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERS TO ATTEND NATIONAL FALL MEETINGS IN INDIANAPOLIS

The following Department members will be attending the Fall Meetings in Indianapolis, NEC Denny Brenden, Commander Doug Feltman, PDC Paul Evenson, PDC Hugh Holmes, Dept Vice Commander Doug Harris and Adjutant Kevin Hempel.

DID YOU KNOW:

The forth section of the Legion Preamble and its meaning: TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A 100 PERCENT AMERICANISM...Americanism is the gist of the American ideals of freedom, justice, individual rights and unfenced-in opportunities. It embraces all the freedoms we cherish and all the rights that are guaranteed to us. It is the very opposite of hatred, bigotry and intolerance. Americanism is the creed that has blazed the world-wide trail for justice, fair play, decency, belief in God, private enterprise, universal education, and progress in all human endeavors. It puts a premium on the virtues of loyalty, patriotism, hard work and thrift.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP GOALS

National gave us the 2022-2023 membership goals for the Department at the Membership Workshop. They were determined by taking 3% of our actual membership on July 4th. The National goal is 17,041. Post goals were included with the SD Adjutant's Administrative and Awards manual which was just sent to the Posts. Rod Smith is this years Membership Chairman.

2023 goal 17,041 Current membership 9,909 or 58.15% of goal

Upcoming membership goals

September 14	50%
October 13	55%

Have you done your buddy checks??