



Bensley-Rounds Squadron 280
Sons of The American Legion
Iroquois, SD 57353



BENSLEY-ROUNDS SQUADRON 280

DETACHMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

February 2007

Squadron Calendar

Feb 24 – Midwinter Detachment Meeting @ 10:30AM
Feb 24 – Joint Banquet @ 7:00PM
Feb 28 – Kingsbury County Meeting @ 8:00PM at Iroquois
Mar 1 – Post Meeting @ 7:30PM
Mar 6 - Post 60th Anniversary of Charter
Mar 8 – Squadron Meeting @ 7:00PM
Mar 11 – Pancake Breakfast
Mar 24 – Post Anniversary Celebration @ 2:00PM
Apr 5 – Post Meeting @ 7:30PM
Apr 12 – Squadron Meeting @ 7:00PM
Apr 15 – Pancake Breakfast
Apr 19 – Auxiliary Meeting @ 7:00PM
Apr 20 – District 2 Meeting at Volga

Meeting Highlights 02/08/07

Area Oratory contest was February 4, 2007 at the Iroquois School. Thank you to those volunteers who assisted.
Pink Flamingo fund raiser set to begin April 1, 2007.
We will begin advertising the program March 1st.
Congratulations to Joe Peskey who was elected as SAL Son of the Year.
We will need to have all volunteer time turned in by May meeting.
Next Meeting March 8, 2007 @ 7:00PM.

MEMBERSHIP 122%

Contact Info: Colin Royal, Comdr - 354-0310 or 352-6790
Dean Royal, 1st Vice Comdr – 354-1166 or 352-6790
Joe Peskey, Adjutant – 354-1474
Website: sal.americanlegionsd280.org
Email: commander@sal.americanlegionsd280.org



From The Commander

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 8th at 7:00PM.

Thank you to Dean Royal and Joe Peskey who assisted in the Oratory Contest on February 4, 2007, as time keepers.

Also thank you to the guys that helped with the Color Guard on February 10th, although it was totally rushed by the announcer.

The Mid-Winter Conference for the Sons of The American Legion was held on February 24th, 2007 at 10:30A. We had members present from several squadrons. The Detachment is selling tickets for a shotgun and I have some available. If you wish to purchase some contact me. They are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. Other happenings include discussions on how to attract and retain members, passed a motion to send a donation to the Child Welfare Fund from the Detachment based on membership of 202. Also passed a motion to recommend to the Department executive committee to place four squadrons in South Dakota on one year probation for failure to maintain the required membership.

Our Squadron was also congratulated for the fine job that it has been doing. We are being noticed through out the state and that is a great thing. It has been your hard work and your time, none of which is mine, spent making the Squadron what it is. The Detachment and I thank each and every one of you for your efforts.

Another item that was discussed was the need to get families involved with the SAL. The SAL is a part of the American Legion Family and should be treated as such. In that event all family members will be welcome to meetings and to take part in the Squadron activities.

Congratulations to Joe Peskey for being selected as the 2006 SAL Son of the Year. Joe's efforts in assisting the Post and Squadron with activities during the year like; cooking for the 2006 District 2 Spring Banquet, assisting with flags, programs, and pancake feeds are some of what he has done. This is one of the awards that will be given each year.

We will also be recognizing the family that has demonstrated the best support of the Squadron in it's activities throughout the year. This will be a Commander's Award and will be selected by the Squadron Commander.

The CWF collection materials have been received. They have been placed at businesses to help raise funds for the Child Welfare Fund (CWF). If you need collection supplies, contact myself or Dean Royal and we'll get them to you. The collection will run through April 1, 2007.



Post Anniversary Celebration

March, 24, 2007

Program 2:00PM

Meal at 5:00PM

Meal cost Adult \$10,

10 & Under \$5

Membership

Yep, the dreaded membership drool is up again.

It is continuously a hot topic at all levels. The Detachment of South Dakota has 202 members where as other states have thousands.

Our Squadron has the capability of having in excess of 150 members alone. And possibly even 200 or more.

What we need to do is talk to these people and get their interest, membership, and support.


You may cut this application out and use it to recruit a new member. If you need more make copies of it.

By _____
Squadron _____, Detachment of _____
\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____

For God and Country

Received of _____
Date _____

RECEIPT



Sons of The American Legion Membership Application

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____ Date _____

Name (First) (Initial) (Last) Recruited by (Initial) (Last)

Address (Street) (City) (State) (Zip) Telephone _____

E-mail Address _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. _____, Dept. of _____ to _____

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.

Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)

Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)

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We will be continuing learning the meanings of the elements of the SAL emblem.

The eight element descriptions are listed below. Each member that can identify and explain at least 6 of the elements will receive a SAL Membership Tack. So Study up and let's get some awards going.

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION EMBLEM



The design of our emblem was taken from the emblem of our parent organization, but is oval in shape so as to be easily distinguished.

The star in the center represents our country,

The five points of the star represent the five-point program American Legion.

The sun in the background represents The Sons of The American Legion

The rays represent the loyalty of its membership.

The blue of the emblem, like the blue of our flag, stands for justice.

The two stars in the blue border stand for freedom and democracy.

The wreath below the star is in memory of our comrades, and those willingly gave their lives for their country.

The ten points of the emblem represent the ten ideals of every Legion son.

We will be doing examinations for the first star of Five Star Award Program at the next meeting.

This program is designed to teach SAL members about Patriotism, Citizenship, Discipline, Leadership, and Legionism. There are awards for each part as well as a final award upon completion of all five parts.

The questions are located in the SAL Handbook, get one for yourself and study!

Immediately following the next meeting, we will be taking the Patriotism Star exam as a group and will also do a little drill practice.

After going back through the membership records, I have found several members that have not received their Continuous Membership Certificates. I will be getting them ready to be presented in the near future. These members will be identified in the next newsletter.

The Post 60th Anniversary is scheduled for March 24, 2007, at 2:00PM to be held at the Iroquois School. There will be a meal after the program @ 5:00 PM. Menu for the meal is Pork Loin, Potato, Vegetable, roll, desert and drink. Price for the meal is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids ages 10 and under. Contact Colin Royal @ 354-0310 or Annette Dunham @546-2235 if you would like to attend the meal. We will need to provide a flag bearer for the Squadron flag for the program and ushers.

I have been tasked to contact both the Huron and Wessington Springs Squadrons to see if I can assist in resurrecting the Squadrons and getting the membership active. I may need some assistance from our members in this endeavor.

If you would like to add something to the newsletter, please get it to Colin Royal and I'll include it for you. Copies of the newsletter are also available at the Squadron website at sal.americanlegionsd280.org in PDF format.

"If you see a bomb technician running, follow him." - USAF Ammo Troop



Joe Peskey was elected as the SAL 2006 Son of the Year for Squadron 280

PREAMBLE TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the association of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars- to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation, to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might- to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy, to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

To submit items for the newsletter, call Colin Royal or email to: newsletter@sal.americanlegionsd280.org.

"I, not events, have the power to make me happy or unhappy today. I can choose which it shall be. Yesterday is dead, tomorrow hasn't arrived yet. I have just one day, today, and I'm going to be happy in it." - Groucho Marx

We are in need of a Vice Commander and Finance Officer, if you would like to take one of these positions, please contact Colin Royal, Dean Royal, or Joe Peskey.



Pink Flamingo Fund Raiser

The date is set for April 1, 2007 to begin the Pink Flamingo fund raiser. This will raise funds by placing a Pink flamingo in a person's yard and that person pays \$5 to remove it and they then choose who is the next lucky recipient. This event will run through May 15th, 2007.

We will begin advertising this event on March 1st, 2007. It will hopefully be a lot of harmless entertainment and raising funds for our Squadron so we may work with our projects throughout the year.

The Area Oratory Contest was held at the Iroquois School on February 4th at 2:00 PM. Ben Kantak, a junior at Brookings High School, was the winner. Good Luck to Ben at the State Contest in Huron on February 25, 2007. Thank you to all that helped out.



Ben Kantak, of Brookings, is congratulated by Area Vice Commander Dave Owens of Iroquois.

"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat." - Theodore Roosevelt

With Sympathy



South Dakota
Detachment Commander
Bob Bender's mother, Violet
Bender, passed away on
Friday, February 23, 2007.

Our prayers and
deepest sympathies go out to
Bob and his family in their
time of loss.