



South Dakota Department of the Military
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



FALL RIVER COUNTY FREEDOM RIDE

SDDVA Secretary Larry Zimmerman was on hand last Sunday to greet the bikers participating in Hot Springs’s annual Freedom Ride. Over 150 riders donned their leather and took to the highways.



Residents from the Michael J. Fitzmaurice Veterans Home had the opportunity to view the bikes and watch as the group departed from Hot Springs.

Although not in his leathers, Secretary Zimmerman also served as the tail gunner for the group. Throughout the ride he could be heard sharing words of wisdom with the riders about hands he had seen (belly buster, boat, bul-

lets, bluff, spikes, and underdog)!!!

Proceeds from the run are donated to the Home to use for enhancing the lives of our heroes. (Photos shared by Curt Netting—Hot Springs Star)



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MASKE CURRENTLY WEARING TWO HATS FOR SDDVA



Due to the resignation of Steve Lund, Mike Maske, State Veterans Service Officer in the Sioux Falls SDDVA Claims Office, has accepted the position of Field Officer for southeast South Dakota.

Mike looks forward to taking his skills learned in the Claims Office out on the road to the VSO's in his new territory. Mike will temporarily be working part time in the Claims Office and part time out on the road.

Dusty Abrahamson will be the new SVSO and will begin his duties on August 17.

LINCOLN COUNTY VSO REACHES OUT TO VETERANS DURING ACHIEVEMENT DAYS



For the first time in the history of Lincoln County Achievement Days, Veterans Service Officer Susan Irons hosted a booth during the annual pork barbecue.

SDDVA Field Officer Mike Maske was on hand to assist Irons in their outreach to veterans. Both Irons and Maske fielded questions from veterans and provided information regarding benefits.

Pictured with Irons (left) and Maske (right) is Charlie Johnson. Charlie served in the Army National Guard from 1981 – 1987 in the

147th Field Artillery Service Battery in Canton.

Our sincere thanks to Irons for hitting the ground running with her outreach and for having a presence at a great community event.



Honoring Our Patriots

Please join us for Hero & Patriot Night in recognition of our Veterans, Service Members, and their families.

Family Event

- Live music
- Refreshments
- Family Activities
- Veteran Information & Resource Exhibit**

Free Admission

Thursday Sept 10, 2015
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Downtown Rapid City
Main Street Square



SD GUARD, SURINAME MILITARY DISCUSS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Members of Suriname's Defense Forces were in the Black Hills taking part in a subject matter expert exchange with the South Dakota National Guard focusing on disaster relief and emergency operations, July 27 to Aug. 1. The most recent exchange gave the South American service members the opportunity to observe emergency operation centers from the SDNG's Joint Operation Center to the South Dakota Emergency Operations Center.

While Suriname's National Coordination Center for Disaster Relief, their equivalent to FEMA, is mandated to coordinate with all the ministries in their government for disaster relief operations, Antonius said they too are ready to establish emergency operation centers.

In addition to the discussions on the emergency operations processes conducted at the National Guard and state level, the Surinamese toured the Pennington County EOC, the Sturgis EOC and observed a joint operations military exercise involving South Dakota Army and Air National Guard units underway at Camp Rapid.

The SDNG has two follow-on exchanges scheduled in Suriname at end of August that will continue to build on emergency operations. The first will focus on disaster management, followed by a Joint Operations Center exchange.

The exchange also provided the various emergency operations centers the chance to get feedback from the Surinamese.

"Among all the state partnerships, throughout the world, we are the most active," said Suriname Defense Force Lt. Col. Johnny Antonius, head of Defense Strategic Planning and Education. "We've been coming to South Dakota and the South Dakota National Guard has been coming down to Suriname since 2006. We have benefited most from them, than they from us, but I think in the interaction we complement each other - and we hope to expand on that."

Planning is underway on another exchange that will expand that relationship when South Dakota Soldiers travel to Suriname on a scout mission exchange.



DEPLOYMENT CEREMONY TO BE HELD FOR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT

A deployment ceremony will be held for 162 Soldiers of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 155th Engineer Company on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 2 p.m. (MDT) at the Rapid City Civic Center's Barnett Arena.

The Rapid City and Wagner-based unit will deploy to Kuwait for one year in support of Operation Enduring Freedom - Spartan Shield. The 155th's headquarters is located in Rapid City and its Detachment 1 in Wagner.

The public is encouraged to attend. Planned speakers for the ceremony include Gov. Dennis Daugaard, U.S. Senators John Thune and Michael Rounds, Rapid City Mayor Steve Allender and Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, SDNG adjutant general.

A community recognition ceremony will also be held for the unit's Detachment 1 in Wagner on Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 2 p.m. (CDT) at the Wagner High School. Planned speakers for the ceremony include Wagner Mayor Donald Hosek.

The 155th is a vertical engineer company capable of providing engineer support in the construction of base camps and internment facilities, as well as constructing, repairing and maintaining other vertical infrastructures in support of units within a brigade combat team, division or corps.

The 155th has a wide variety of occupational specialties including carpentry, plumbing, electrical and masonry services.

The unit will report to Fort Bliss, Texas, to complete several weeks of theater-specific training prior to deployment overseas. This will be the second mobilization for the 155th, which deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Noble Eagle in 2002-2003.

WW I VETERAN HONORED AND RECEIVES CORRECTED HEADSTONE

Sixty years after his death, a World War I Veteran from Texas, whose final resting spot is in South Dakota, received the correct headstone.



Joseph Robert Ward served in the U.S. Army during WWI. He died Sept. 24, 1955, and was buried at the Graceland Cemetery in Mitchell. Ward's grave has been marked by a small temporary headstone for 60 years.

Davison County Veterans Service Officer Jessica Davidson says the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs first denied the headstone request because there was no record of Ward's discharge. Davidson, however, was able to get paperwork from the National Archives proving Ward's discharge.

Special thanks to Jessica for her drive to see that one of our heroes was properly identified.



SEND OFF CELEBRATION FOR MISS SOUTH DAKOTA IN HOT SPRINGS

Here's a great event to support Autumn Simunek, Miss South Dakota as she advocates for Veterans, military members, and their families with her platform "5 Stars for Serving Those Who Served" at the Miss America pageant this September and during her reign.

- What: Miss South Dakota Trunk Show Send-Off Celebration Dinner and Dance
- When: Friday, August 21, 2015 - 6 PM Social, Dinner, Trunk Show, and Auction; 8 PM Dance
- Where: American Legion Post 71 – Hot Springs – 1045 Jennings Avenue

For more information, please call 605.890.3093.



5 Five Stars for Serving Those Who Served
Thank Our Heroes - Celebrate Our Heroes
Give Back - Volunteer - Hire A Hero

Watch
Autumn Simunek,
Miss South Dakota
Live On ABC
@ the
Miss America Pageant
September 13, 2015
9:00 PM EST

GRANITE SUN

South Dakota's Official Preliminary to the Miss America Pageant

Miss South Dakota

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Please Join in the

Miss South Dakota 2015

Trunk Show Send-Off Celebration

to **MISS AMERICA**

Friday, August 21, 2015

American Legion Post 71 ~ Hot Springs, SD

6 PM Social ~ Dinner ~ Show ~ Auction & 8 PM Dance
DINNER & DANCE ~ \$30 per Guest

Secure Reservation ~ Submit Payment & Entrée Selection to:
Miss South Dakota 2015 | PO Box 870 Hot Springs, SD 57747
RSVP appreciated by August 10th | (605) 890-3093
Tickets also available @ Hot Springs Business:
Black Hills Federal Credit Union ~ First Interstate Bank ~ RadioShack@

No. of Entrée Selection(s): ___ Chicken Cordon Bleu ___ Roast Beef

Donations & Auction Items Welcome
DANCE ~ Granite Sun Band ~ 8 PM

Open to Public ~ \$10.00 Door Admission for Dance Only



Thank You!

SEND OFF CELEBRATION FOR MISS SOUTH DAKOTA IN SIOUX FALLS

If you can't make the send off in Hot Springs, here's an opportunity to support Autumn Simunek, Miss South Dakota as she advocates for Veterans, military members, and their families with her platform "5 Stars for Serving Those Who Served" at the Miss America pageant this September and during her reign.

- What: Miss South Dakota Trunk Show Send-Off Celebration Dinner and Dance
- When: Sunday, August 23, 2015 - 3PM Royal Dessert Bar
- Where: American Legion Post 15 – Sioux Falls – 1701 West Legion Drive

For more information, please call 605.890.3093.



5
Five Stars for Serving Those Who Served
Thank Our Heroes - Celebrate Our Heroes
Give Back - Volunteer - Hire A Hero

South Dakota's Official Preliminary to the Miss America Pageant

Miss South Dakota

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Autumn Simunek
Miss South Dakota

Public Invitation
Miss South Dakota 2015

Trunk Show
Send-Off Celebration
to Miss America

♦

Sunday, August 23, 2015
American Legion Post 15
1701 W. Legion Drive
Sioux Falls, SD
3 PM
Royal Dessert Bar

♦

\$10 Door Admission

Watch the
Miss America
2016 Competition
Sunday, September 13, 2015
Live On ABC 9:00 PM EST

Donations and Auction Items Welcome

Contact: 605.890.3093






**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**



NORTH CENTRAL PARALYZED VETERANS TRAPSHOOT

Hosted by North Central Paralyzed Veterans of America • September 25–27, 2015

Crooks Gun Club • Fairfield Inn & Suites Marriott

Competition open to all shooters, able-bodied or with a disability

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2015

3 p.m.– 8 p.m.	Transportation & Registration (range)
Noon– 5 p.m.	Practice & Lunch
5:30 p.m.– 8 p.m.	Social Hour & Classification

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

Before Competition	MANDATORY Safety Clinic
9:15 a.m.	50-Pair Doubles
Noon	Lunch & Special Event Bidding
1:30 p.m.	100 Handicap

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2015

9:15 a.m.	100 Singles & Doubles
Noon	Awards Banquet (Crook Gun Club)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

7 a.m.	Doug Brown Pheasant Hunt
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EVENT AWARDS

- High overall on 300 targets
- North Central Award (given to the top shooter with SCI/D) on 300 targets

Class Awards:

- First and second place in yardage
- Short, Mid, and Long yardage
- First and second place in Singles, AA-D classes: gift cards & special awards
- First and second place in Doubles, AA-D classes: gift cards & special awards

Chapter Team Awards:

A chapter team must consist of at least three shooters having SCI/D, and a minimum of two teams must be competing for awards to be considered.

- Top Team and Runner-Up Team award based on all 300 targets/shooter

Note: Special Events are posted in the clubhouse.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

NORTH CENTRAL PARALYZED VETERANS: TRAPSHOOT REGISTRATION

The entry fee for this event is \$180, which includes 300 targets, ammunition for competition, two breakfasts, Saturday lunch, and the Sunday noon awards banquet. Please send your registration and payment to:

North Central Paralyzed Veterans
Attn: Shooting Sports
209 N. Garfield
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
info@ncpva.org

NOTE: Please make checks payable to NCPVA, in the memo: "NCPVA." Please **DO NOT** send cash. Onsite registration will be accepted with check or cash payment. No credit or debit cards.

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____
Branch of Service: USA USMC USAF USN USCG N/A
Voting member of Paralyzed Veterans? Yes No
Paralyzed Veterans Chapter: _____

Have you ever competed in a Paralyzed Veterans shooting event?
 Yes No

Please indicate any equipment needed:
 Shotgun Pouch Earplugs Safety Glasses

Will you require transportation?*
 Yes No
**Transportation requests must go to Lisa Cummings at LisaC@ncpva.org no later than September 14, 2015.*

In case of emergency, please contact:
Name: _____
Relationship: _____ Phone: (____) _____

ATA/PITA/Handicap YDG: _____ ATA#: _____
If a member of ATA or PITA, please bring your card with you.
Singles Average: _____ Doubles Average: _____

We will be resquadding for the handicap events. We will honor all requests for squadding for the singles and doubles events that you report here:

Squad members:
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Will you be attending the banquet? Yes No
Will you be attending the pheasant hunt? Yes No

TRAPSHOOT OPTIONS	
Entry Fee: \$180	\$ _____
ALA CARTE OPTIONS	
<i>All fees include ammo, no meals</i>	
Singles Only: \$60	\$ _____
Doubles Only: \$60	\$ _____
Handicap Only: \$60	\$ _____
ADDITIONAL OPTIONS	
Tax-deductible donation to North Central Paralyzed Veterans Shooting Sports	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Upcoming Events

Aug. 5-9—AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall Comes to Sioux Falls (Sanford Pentagon Sports Complex)
 Aug. 14—Davison County Veterans Benefits Update—Davison County Fair Grounds—9:00 am —4:30 pm (CT)
 Aug. 18—SFVAHCS Women's Health Clinic Open House (exclusively for women veterans) 3:30 pm
 Aug. 18—Turner County "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" Program—Turner County Fairgrounds—Freedom Stage—Heritage Park—Parker—5:00—7:00 pm (CT)
 Aug. 19 – 14th Annual SFVAHCS Show & Shine (front parking lot) 5:30 – 8:00 pm (CT)
 Aug. 21—Miss SD Send Off Celebration—American Legion Post 71—Hot Springs—6:00 pm (MT)
 Aug. 23—Miss SD Send Off Celebration—American Legion Post 15—Sioux Falls—3:00 pm (CT)
 Aug. 24-27—SDDVA Annual Benefit School—Ramkota—Pierre
 Aug. 26—SFVAHCS Women's Health Clinic Open House and Ribbon Cutting 3:30 pm (CT)
 Sept. 3—Veterans Day at the South Dakota State Fair
 Sept. 5—727th DAV Poker Run—Brookings National Guard Armory
 Sept. 10—VABHHCS Welcome Home—Main Street Square—Rapid City—6:00 pm—9:00 pm (MT)
 Sept. 11 – Veterans Stand Down—Wagner—National Guard Armory—9:00 am—1:00 pm (CT)
 Sept. 12—Vietnam Veterans of America State Council Meeting—Pierre Post 8 American Legion—Noon (CT)
 Sept. 16—SD Veterans Council—DAV Headquarters—Sioux Falls—10:00 am (CT)
 Sept. 16—Veterans Town Hall Meeting—Fairgrounds—Mitchell—5:00 pm (CT)
 Sept. 17—Veterans Appreciation Day—Watertown
 Sept. 18—POW-MIA Ceremony—Sioux Falls Veterans Memorial Park—6:30 pm (CT)
 Sept. 18—Ellsworth AFB Retiree Appreciation Day— Exhibits 9:00 am—3:00 pm (MDT)—Luncheon 11:00 am—1:00 pm (MDT) - EAFB
 Sept. 19—Agent Orange Town Hall Forum—VFW Post 1273 (420 Main Street) - Rapid City—Two Sessions (one from 9:00 am—noon and one from noon—3:00 pm (MDT))
 Sept. 25—Veterans Stand Down—VFW—Sioux Falls (3601 S. Minnesota Ave.) - 9:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
 Sept. 25-27—NCPVA Veterans Trapshoot—Crooks
 Oct. 5—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
 Oct. 9—Women Veterans Conference
 Oct. 10—DAV Fall Conference—DAV Headquarters—Sioux Falls
 Nov. 7—Vietnam Veterans of America State Council Meeting—Pierre Post 8 American Legion—Noon (CT)
 Dec. 8— Governor's Budget Address—Pierre

2016

Jan. 4—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
 Jan. 12—SD Legislative Session Opens—Pierre
 Jan. 14—Veterans Legislative Breakfast—Pierre
 Jan. 27-28—State Tribal Relations Days—Pierre
 Apr. 4—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
 April 15-17—DAV Convention—Rapid City
 Jul. 11—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
 Oct. 3—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)

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