



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



PURPLE HEART MEMORIAL RE-DEDICATED

The phrase, "third time is a charm," might be the best way to express what can be accomplished when you commit to an uphill undertaking.

Sunday leaders of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, veterans and their families, and community leaders, participated in the third-dedication of the Purple Heart Memorial in Pierre.

In 2004, the memorial was placed in front of the Soldiers and Sailors building and was dedicated. In 2005, it was re-dedicated. In 2015 the memorial was moved to Capitol Lake by all of the other war memorials and on August 7, 2016, was dedicated for the third time.

During his remarks as keynote speaker, SDDVA Secretary Larry Zimmerman thanked all the "Purple Heart" recipients and stated, "We can't thank you enough for the sacrifices you have made. God Bless You!"

Secretary Zimmerman, PIO Audry Ricketts, and Milt Morris were recognized for their role in helping the MOPH reach their goal in moving the Memorial.



SDDVA Sec. Zimmerman and Deputy Secretary Pollard present award to Milt Morris



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MEDAL RETURNED TO FAMILY

Recently a woman brought a bronze star medal to Clay County VSO Cynthia Aden, noting that it had been left at a motel. The name on the back of the medal was Enoch Bald Eagle. Aden worked with SDDVA Field Officer Mike Maske to locate the Enoch family.

Later, Aden was reading the obituary of David Beautiful Bald Eagle and noticed that he had a brother named Enoch.

Aden was successful in getting the medal to the family of Enoch Doughboy Beautiful Bald Eagle who died in 1984 at age 63. Before he died, he asked his nephew, Kili, to take his Lakota name, Iron Eagle. It is only fitting that Kili now has possession of Enoch's bronze star. The picture is of Kili holding the medal at Enoch's grave.



SDDVA PARTAKES IN HEROES AND PATRIOTS NIGHT

SDDVA Field Officer Will Huffmon participated in the VABHCS Heroes & Patriots night during Summer Nights at Main St. Square in Rapid City.

Organized by VABHCS, this event networks veterans with partners within the veterans network in west-

ern South Dakota. The staff from the Pennington County Veterans Service Officer were also on site to assist veterans during the event.

Huffmon had over 100 veterans and family members stop by the SDDVA booth.



BULLERMAN ATTENDS STATE AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING

SDDVA Program Manager Heather Bullerman attended the State American Legion Commander Dunham's Homecoming in Iroquois last Saturday.

Charemon Dunham of Iroquois, was elected the first female State Commander of The American Legion Department of South Dakota by delegates attending the 98th Annual State Convention of The American Legion in Watertown on Sunday, June 19.

Commander Dunham is a 26-year, Paid-Up-For-Life member of Bensley-Rounds Post 280 of Iroquois. She has held most Post offices, including Post Commander from 1995-1997 and 2003-2005.

Commander Dunham is a United States Army Veteran who served from 1974-1976 attaining the rank of Specialist 4 and also from 1979-1990 attaining the rank of Captain.



SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS COMMISSION TO MEET IN PIERRE

The South Dakota Veterans Commission will be meeting in Pierre October 18-19. The meeting will be held at the Post 8 American Legion Cabin in Pierre from 1:00 pm on the 18th till noon on 19th of October.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted on SDDVA's website one week prior to the meeting.

SDDVA BENEFITS SCHOOL

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Benefit School will be held Aug. 22-25 at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre, SD.

CTVSO's have received numerous reminders about the upcoming training, as well as copies of the agenda. Educational presentations will be provided August 22-24 and testing will be conducted on the morning of August 25.

This four-day training program affords CTVSOs with the opportunity to network with over 60 county and tribal VSO's and SDDVA Department staff, as well as be briefed and trained on ever-changing benefits and services.

WELL CASING INSPECTION FOR FLAMING FOUNTAIN

The Office of the State Engineer has scheduled an inspection of the steel casing of the well that supplies water to the Flaming Fountain War Memorial on Capitol Lake in Pierre.

Annually, a group of veterans gather at the lake to clean and maintain the memorials. Following this year's clean up the group reported debris was collected from the pool surrounding the fountain. It was then determined that the structural integrity of the well casing should be checked before work begins to light the water with LED lights.

"The well is over 100 years old. We want to ensure that the existing structure is sound prior to making any additions or improvements," said BOA Commissioner Jeff Holden.

The inspection will take place mid-week and is expected to be done in one day. Using a boom truck, a specialized high-resolution well monitoring system will scan the length of the 1,300-foot casing detecting and identifying potential problems.

The timeline for the completion of the lighting project will depend on findings from the inspection.



POW-MIA PROGRAM

SIOUX FALLS VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M.

SPONSORED BY VIET NAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, SIOUX FALLS

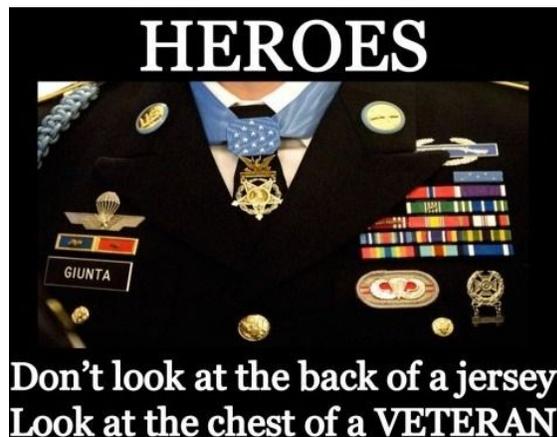
CONTACT: DUANE TeWINKEL AT 605-215-2951 OR AT

OURVETS@YAHOO.COM

MOTORCYCLE LINE UP AT J&L HARLEY AT 5:30 P.M.

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 22-25—SDDVA Annual Benefits School—Pierre Ramkota
 Sep. 1—Veterans Day at the State Fair—Huron - Program at 10:30 at the Freedom Stage
 Sep. 2—Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Game— Sioux Falls Stadium (1001 North West Avenue) - 6:00 pm (CT)
 Sep. 3—DAV Brookings Chapter 22 and 727 Transportation Unit Poker Run—Brookings National Guard Armory—10:00 am (CT)
 Sep. 9—Veterans Stand Down—Wagner Armory
 Sep. 14—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—PVA Headquarters—Sioux Falls—10:00 am (CT)
 Sep. 16—National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony—Sioux Falls Veterans Memorial Park—6:30 pm (CT)
 Sep. 23—Veterans Stand Down—VFW—Sioux Falls (3601 S. Minnesota Avenue) - 9:00 am—2:00 pm (CT)
 Oct. 3—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am (MT)
 Oct. 8—DAV Fall Conference—DAV—Sioux Falls— 10:00 am (CT)
 Oct. 18-19—SD Veterans Commission—Post 8 American Legion Cabin—Pierre—1:00 pm (CT)
- 2017**
- Feb 10-12—SD American Legion Mid Winter Conference—Oacoma
 Jun 15-18—SD American Legion State Conference—Watertown



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