

THE BUGLE

AMERICAN LEGION PIERRE POST 8

HOME OF THE MIGHTY EIGHTH.



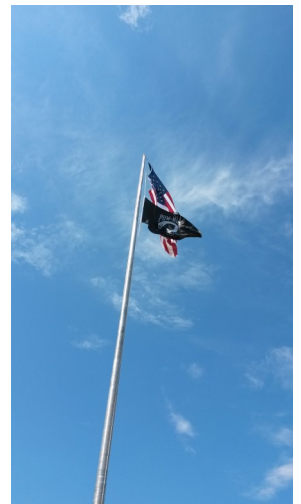
The old cabins' walls are not in as good of shape as they once were



After two major Missouri river floods and some 70+ years of exposure to the elements the American Legion Pierre Post 8 home may be in dire need of some major renovation. There was some discussion between the Legion and VFW Post 2038 regarding the donation of seed money for a major building addition to accommodate for more meeting room and storage space . But, just shortly after the first meetings of the joint Legion and VFW building committees began. Clouds of doom started to form over the hoped for project. The need for information on the condition of the logs took priority. Gene Gates a longtime Legionnaire and VFW comrade who for years was only person called upon to repair the cabin was contacted. He informed the joint committee members that the cabin logs were in very poor condition due to floods. Gates strongly suggested that a detailed structural review be completed before any work is to begin. The joint building project was scrapped. Legionnaire Aaron Swan stepped forward again to offer his professional structural engineering services to evaluate the cabin. With help from fellow Legionnaire Greg Bochetti the two gentlemen set out to test each log of the cabin that was reported by Gates to be in the worst shape. After a few weeks of tapping and pilot hole drilling in the coldest and wettest damn weather South Dakota could put up. The men had their findings and started to complete the engineering report. At the time of this story the report has not been released. As soon as the report is available you the reader will see the results in the Bugle.



For years the huge garrison flag of the United States flew above the American Legion log cabin in Pierre. The sight of the flag waving was majestic and became a landmark. Each year the Burke family faithfully paid for replacement flags. Now before I go any further in this story let me point out that all of this has not changed. After the last time the Missouri river over ran its banks back in 2011 there was some true concern about the flag pole's footing, which are some 20+ feet down below the river bottom. Now flag pole are designed to move back and forth with the flag waving in the wind. The pole may be moving a little more then planned due to the footing's movement. In a preventive move to extend the life span of the flag pole, the Executive committee has ordered that a smaller US Flag and a POW & MIA flag be flow 24 hours. On special days or by orders of the state government the garrison flag is to be raised for a appropriate time then lowered and replaced with the smaller flags. The Post home has never had a POW & MIA flag proudly displayed and now she does.



Notes from Post Chaplain John Fettes' desk

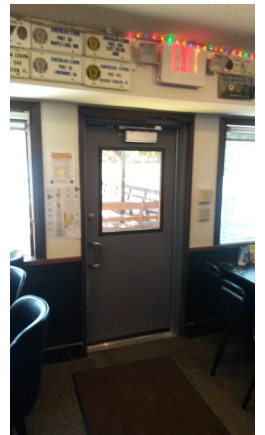
- Edgewood visit to Bill Zimmerman who received a gift card to Perkins restaurant and birthday card.
- Parkwood visit to Lee Vaughn and Jake Weischedel gift cards and birthday cards were in order.
- Veteran gravesite flags set up at Riverside cemetery for the Memorial Day observance.
- Word was received of the passing on Lee Vaughn .



Legionnaire Mike Travis has volunteered to help get the cabin grounds looking great by cleaning out grass cuttings, cigarette butts and weeds out from the walk ways, rock gardens and from around the new trees and bushes. He also edged the walk ways and shoved a couple tons of parking lot sand that had blown in during the windy days of winter. The grounds have not looked this pretty in a long while. Sure hope Mike plans on hanging around awhile. If you have a job that needs some help in getting done call Mike. His card is on the bar bulletin board.



Well after years of worrying when one of the patrons would be hit by the window-less metal door leading to the bar, the Executive committee ordered the door replaced with a window type door and here are the photos to show the change. Big change - huh!! Everybody, and I mean everybody, is happy with the new door.



Each June on Flag day Legion posts across the country take time to teach and show the general public proper flag etiquette. This year at Post 8 legionnaires went to a nursing home to demonstrate the proper folding of the flag. Post Chaplain John Fette and Legionnaire Kevin Swanson gave a demonstration with the assistance of the nursing home activities director Faith Boe. John and Kevin proceeded to fold the flag as Faith explained the meaning of each fold. The demonstration went off without a problem and the residents enjoyed the show.





With the approaching local celebrations of Oahe Days and the 4th of July. The cabin bar staff and building staff always prepare for an influx of the public who are seeking a place to sit down out of the sun, wind and noise and have a cold drink. Mike Brinkman and his bar staff all pull extra long hours for these days. Mike's staff enjoy the efforts to provide a relaxing place for the patrons. We of the legion are very thankful for all that Mike and his staff do for Post 8. And, as the song of the old T.V. show "Cheers" go- "sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name and they're always glad you came."



It's that time of the year again when the Circus comes to town. NO, I am not talking about the state legislators. I talking about the Shrine Circus and each year for the past four years the Post has purchased \$500.00 worth of tickets for the local youth. The first year we had a devil of a time giving the tickets away. For some reason or other we always had extra tickets left. Only two years ago did we stumbled upon the idea of going to where the kids were during the summer, which turned out to be the city library and the YMCA-duh. Pictured to the left presenting the tickets in the Rawlings library is Shriner Larry Kirkpatrick, Children librarian Patricia Weeldreyer and Post Vice Commander Ted Spencer. Pictured in the YMCA front office is Shriner Larry Kirkpatrick, YMCA Assistance director Carman Schwartzkopf and YMCA staffer Kathy Wald along with Post Vice Commander Ted Spencer.

Every once and awhile we get the opportunity to showcase one of the duties that the legionnaires perform for the community. These duties range from Color guard, casket guard and honor guard. Under the command of Ted Spencer or Mike Wells these legionnaires volunteer their time to train in proper rifle squad procedures and marching in rank. The marching part is old hat to these old veterans, but sometimes not. Every once or twice you can hear the voice command "your other right foot". For a funeral for a very prominent citizen and veteran of Fort Pierre. Post 8 of Pierre and Post 20 of Fort Pierre were called to provide the Honor guard. Pictured from left to right is Ken Phillips, Mike Wells, Eugene Colette, David Bechard and Ken



In the above picture you can see how the meeting hall is converted into a "place where everybody knows your name".

In the picture to the left is Bar manager Mike Brinkman and bar staffer Alicyn Even.





American Legion Pierre #8

P.O. Box 621
Pierre, SD 57501

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid
Pierre, SD 57501
Permit # 212

Address service requested



We are sponsoring another leather jacket raffle.

There will be only 300 tickets sold.

Each ticket is \$4.00 a piece.

No limit on the number of tickets you can purchase.

Ticket purchases are opened to anyone.

All proceeds go to the Post Chaplain fund

And

The Post Program and Entertainment fund.