

**93rd Annual American Legion Department Convention
June 24-26, 2011
Ramada Grand Dakota Lodge and Conference Center**

Thursday: June 23, 2011

3:00p Department Executive Committee Meeting – De'Mores Room
6:00P Foundation Meeting – Dakota Room

Friday: June 24, 2011

8:00a Golf Tournament – Heart River Golf Course
9:00a Organization/Membership & Post Activities Meeting – Dakota Room
10:00a-6:00p [Registration – Ramada Lobby](#)
1:00p **Convention Committee Meetings**
Resolutions: De'Mores Room
2:30p **Convention Committee Meetings**
Credentials: De'Mores Room
Finance/Budget & Audit: Dakota Room
Constitution/By Laws & Rules: Badlands Room
VA&R: De'Mores Room
3:30p Dist Cmdrs & Presidents (w/flags at Grand Dakota Ballroom for opening ceremony rehearsal)
4:15p Past Department Commanders Social/Dinner – Mandan
4:30p 40 et 8 Buffet & Grand Cheminot – Elkhorn

Joint Opening Session

Grand Dakota Ballroom

7:30 pm

(The American Legion, Auxiliary, 40 et 8, & Sons of the Legion)

Prelude Music by the ND American Legion State Band

Call to Order – Department Commander Larry Vetter

Pledge of Allegiance – Americanism Chairman Don Weible

National Anthem – ND American Legion State Band

Invocation – Department Chaplain, J. David Jones

Addresses of Welcome

Post #3 Commander, Maria Kosiek

Unit #3 President, Sandra Petermann

Remarks by Sons of the American Legion Commander, Dean Meberg

Response on behalf of the North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary

Department President, Ginny Brazil

Dickinson Mayor Dennis Johnson

North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple

Congressman Rick Berg

Senator Kent Conrad

Senator John Hoeven

Department Commander, Larry Vetter

9:00p Convention Parade

9:30p Foundation Raffle Appreciation Reception –

HOSPITALITY ROOMS OPEN @ 10:00p

Saturday: June 25, 2011

- 7:30-11:30a 40 et 8 Breakfast and Grand Promenade – Mandan
- 8:00a-Noon [Registration – Ramada Lobby](#)
- 8:30a Boys State Meeting – De'Mores Room
- 9:00-11:00a Ext Institute, Membership Issues/Training, Bill Sloan National HQ's-Roosevelt/Medora Rooms
- 9:30-11:00a District Commanders/Finish Consolidated Post Reports, Don Weible – Dakota Room
- 10:00a Sons of the American Legion Meeting – Badlands Room
- 11:30a Go-Getter Picnic –
- 12:30p-1:15p Meet/Greet Incoming District Commanders & Presidents – De'Mores Room
- 1:00-6:00p [Registration – Ramada Lobby](#)
- 1:30p **Legion General Session (Grand Dakota Ballroom)**
Call to Order – Department Commander, Larry Vetter
Invocation – Department Chaplain, J. David Jones
Preamble to the American Legion Constitution,
Call for Convention - Department Judge Advocate, Patricia Hodny
Greetings from other Service Organizations
Newly elected Grand Chef de Gare, ND 40 et 8
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
American Veterans (AMVETS)
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)
Dean Overby, Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs
Lonnie Wangen, Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs
Mark Johnson, Administrator, ND Veteran's Home
Presentation of National American Legion Outstanding VA Official-Kevin L. Roseland
- 2:30p **Report of Convention Committees**
Credentials Committee – Mike Lee, Chairman
History Committee – Robert Greene, Secretary
Report of Nat'l Convention Delegate Selection – John Schafer, Chairman
Report of Constitution, By-Laws & Rules Committee – Patricia Hodny, Chairman
Report of Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee – Jim Deremo, Chairman
- 3:00p Legion Riders State Meeting-Gerald Puetz, Chairman, Dakota Room
- 3:00p National Convention Meeting-Larry Vetter, Delegate Chairman, Badlands Room
- 3:30p **Regional Caucuses**
Eastern Region – De'Mores Room
Central Region – Dakota Room
Western Region – Badlands Room
- 5:30p Distinguished Guest Reception (*by invitation only*)
- 5:30p Social Hour (Grand Dakota Ballroom)
- 6:00p Entertainment by
- 6:30p Department Commander's & President's Banquet (Grand Dakota Ballroom)
- 8:30p **Dance – ND American Legion State Band – Grand Dakota Ballroom**

HOSPITALITY ROOMS OPEN @ 10:00p

Sunday: June 26, 2011

- 7:00a Press Association Breakfast – Spaghetti Western Restaurant
- 8:00-11:00a Registration – Ramada Lobby
- 8:00a Joint Memorial Service – Grand Dakota Ballroom
- 9:00-10:30a Joint Session of American Legion, Auxiliary, 40 et 8 & SAL – Grand Dakota Ballroom
Call to Order – Department Commander, Larry Vetter

Presentation of American Legion Family Youth Programs

- Introduction of the *2011 American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Governor*
By Dana Thoreson, Girls State Chairman,
Introduction of the *2011 American Legion Boys State Governor*
by Allen Ruzicka, Boys State Executive Director, Lankin
- Introduction of the *Spirit of Youth Award winner*
By Ginny Brazil, Department President,
Introduction of *National President's Scholarship Award winner*
By Ginny Brazil, Department President,
- Introduction of the *State Oratorical Contest winner*
by Ron Broderson, Chairman

LEGION SESSION

- 11:00a General Session – Grand Dakota Ballroom
Call to Order – Department Commander, Larry Vetter

Reports

- Credential Committee – Mike Lee, Chairman
- Finance, Budget & Audit Committee – George Zeller, Chairman
- Resolutions Committee – Don Herrly, Chairman
- Final Constitution & By-Laws – Patricia Hodny, Chairman

Presentation of Dept Legionnaire of the Year Award

- Presented by: Department Commander, Larry Vetter
 - Legionnaire of the Year – Albert Tuma
 - Distinguished Service Award -

Presentation of Employment Service Awards

- Presented by: Marlys Morgenstern, Director of Veterans Employment & Training
- Brad Aune, Job Service of ND
- Curtis Twete, National Executive Committeeman

Presentation of pins to Dept Vice Commanders & District Commanders

- Presented by: Department Commander Larry Vetter

Report of Membership & Post Activities Committee

- Kernneth Wiederholt, Chairman

Membership Award Presentations

- Presented by: Department Commander Larry Vetter
 - 2011 Membership Contest Awards
 - New Member Recruitment Awards
 - National Recruiter Awards

Unfinished Business

Special Order of Business

Confirmation Vote of Department Commander

Confirmation Vote of Department Vice Commanders, District Commanders & District Vice Commanders

Administration of the Oath of Office to Department Commanders

Election of Department Officers to follow

- Department Sergeant-At-Arms
- Department Finance Officer
- Department Commander-Elect
- National Executive Committeeman
- Alternate National Executive Committeeman

Installation of Officers
Change of Command Ceremony
Benediction by Department Chaplain Linda Whaley
Retirement of Colors
Adjournment

Post Convention DEC Meeting – De'Mores Room