



THE VETERAN



Charles R. Doman Post 131, American Legion
Valley Springs, SD 57068

Vol. 13

Rick Larsen, Editor, November 2025

Issue 11

Rick Larsen, Legion Commander

Carol Kooi, Auxiliary President

THE AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together 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 100-percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all 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 comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



From the Editor

November is a busy month. Details of the Veterans Day Program and Feather Party are inside. Notes from the Legion and Auxiliary meetings are included. Breakfast every Friday morning is on the calendar with arrival by 7:30 am for coffee (helps a lot to get a count of attendees) and 8 am is breakfast. The November Military History presentation details are provided and a final report on the parking lot project is provided. A membership update is reported.

Rick Larsen - Editor

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

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From the Commander

The following notes are from the October 20th Legion meeting held at 7 pm. Special guests at the meeting were District 7 Commander Andy Lyngen and District 7 Vice Commander Dale Hill. Commander Dale presented our Post with the 2025 Go Getter Award and a 2025 Post Membership Retention Award signed by the National Legion Commander. Commander Dale provided information on the training that is available and the 2026 Post Membership Award.

The October Soup Supper fundraiser was a success. The gross receipts were \$607, which resulted in a profit of over \$400. \$163 was used to pay off the parking lot expenses and over \$250 was put into the remodeling fund. The next project will be upgrading the sign and flagpole in front of the Legion Hall.

The Veterans Day program was reviewed. The date is November 11th with dinner at 6 pm and the program at 7 pm, Tony's Catering will provide sixty servings of sliced roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, seasoned green beans, rolls and butter. The cost per serving is \$8.53 including sales tax. The Legion will provide plates, napkins, plastic spoons, forks, and knives, pop and water. The Auxiliary is providing the desserts. The meal cost will remain at \$10 per person and \$6 for 11 years old and under. A search for a guest speaker is still underway.

The Feather Party is on Saturday, November 22nd. The Auxiliary will have food for sale starting at 5 pm, bingo from 6 to 10 pm and the games of chance/bar open at 6 pm. We will be purchasing thirty-five hams and thirty-five turkeys for bingo and game room prizes. Thrivent will be sponsoring this event. The Legion will raffle a whole Cure 81 ham and a large turkey for one dollar per chance. Bingo remains at 25 cents per card. Volunteers are needed to collect quarters between each game.

The parking lot repaving project is paid in full. A \$500 donation was received and profits from the Soup Supper completed the cost. The November Military History presentation is on Sunday, November 16th at 6:40 pm. Bill Flinn will give a presentation on Aircraft Carriers: Flight Deck Operations.

The January 2026 soup supper guest soup will be halibut chowder. Our membership is at 59 with the goal of reaching 78. This puts the Post renewal at 75.6% of the goal. We still have 21 members that need to renew for 2026. Please send your dues in by the end of the year. Thanks to all that renewed.

Rick Larsen - Commander

Auxiliary President's Report

The Valley Springs Post 131 Auxiliary met at 1pm on October 20th. The meeting was called to order by President Kooi. Special guest at our meeting was Jill Lamar, the District 7 Auxiliary President. Chaplain Kathy opened with prayer, followed by the reciting of the pledge of allegiance and preamble. Roll call of officers completed with 3 officers present. Secretary Lory read the September meeting minutes, and several changes were noted and will be corrected and accepted. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. The change of Treasurer to Lory Johansen occurred on October 7, 2025.

The Auxiliary purchased some items for trunk and treat but found out it will not be held this year. Items will be held over for future use. Our 250th centerpiece made by Kathy's friend Susan was displayed and discussion on how to place the centerpiece was held. District president Jill would like to take the centerpiece to the Mid-Winter conference. Kathy will follow up with Susan to get the 250th centerpiece placed.

Candy L made a plaque honoring those that made the 100th Auxiliary framed sign. The frame was purchased with memorial money. She will see about making something appropriate to honor Jody Swenson's memorial that purchased poles and flags in front of the Legion. Carol gave a report on the MIA/ POW memorial in Sioux Falls and the meeting with national Auxiliary President Pam Ray in Garretson.

Information was presented on Wreaths across America. On November 10th, the Barrel House in Sioux Falls will donate 10% of sales to Midwest Honor Flight for the wreaths. December 13th is when the wreaths will be laid at the SD veterans cemetery. There will be a short program at 11 am followed by laying of wreaths. All are welcome to attend.

The Feather Party plans were completed with some follow-up by Auxiliary members. Feather party is on November 22. Veterans Day is November 11 with dinner and program at Legion with the Auxiliary providing bars. The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Kathy followed by a motion to adjourn. The next meeting is November 17.

Carol Kooi - President

**Veterans Day
Tuesday, November 11, 2025**

Join us for dinner at 6 PM. Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, seasoned green beans, rolls and butter are provided by Tony's Catering. The cost for adults remains at \$10 per person and children 11 and under are \$6. The Auxiliary is providing the desserts. Pop, water and coffee will be served. Veteran spouse pins are on order and should arrive on time.

The program starts at 7 PM. The guest

**Military History Program
Sunday, November 16, 2025
6:30 PM**

Join us for the final 2025 Military History presentation at the Legion Post. Bill Flinn is presenting Aircraft Carriers: Flight Deck Operations. This event is free and open to the public. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served and there will be a time for questions and answers. The next opportunity is in January 2026.

**Feather Party
Saturday, November 22, 2025**

Join us for supper at 5 PM. The Auxiliary is selling food ala cart until the food is gone. Bingo starts at 6 PM and goes to 10 PM. Cost remains twenty-five cents per card per game. The bingo prize is your choice of a ham or turkey. The game of chance room opens at 6 pm.

This is a Thrivent sponsored event. Profits will be used to pay the Post 2026 building insurance cost.

There will be several raffles during this event including a whole Cure 81 ham, a large turkey, a quilt, and Auxiliary raffles. Come and win your Thanksgiving ham or turkey!

Consider renting the Legion Hall for your family holiday get togethers.

Legion Hall Rentals

24-hour Rentals (midnight to midnight)

Large Room	\$180 per day
Small Room	\$120 per day
Large/Small Room	\$300 per day

24-hour time includes setup and cleanup.

6-hour Rentals

Large Room	\$90
Small Room	\$60
Large/Small Room	\$150

6-hour time includes setup and cleanup.

Set Up Day Before/Clean Up Day After

Large Room	\$ 90 per day
Small Room	\$ 60 per day
Large/Small Room	\$150 per day

A cleaning and sanitizing crew is available to cleanup after the event for \$150. The cleanup crew time is outside the rental hours.

A consumption permit is required for serving alcohol during the rental. The permit is applied for at Valley Springs City Hall and needs to be approved by the City Commission at a Commission Meeting before the event. There is no cost.

A one-day liquor license is required if alcohol is sold during the rental. The license is applied for at the Valley Springs City Hall at least 60 days ahead of the rental. The license cost is \$5.



November 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Breakfast 8 AM	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day Dinner 6 PM Program 7 PM	12	13	14 Breakfast 8 AM	15
16 Military History 6:30 PM	17 Meetings Auxiliary 1 PM Sons 6 PM Legion 7 PM	18	19	20	21 Breakfast 8 AM	22 Feather Party Food 5 PM Bingo 6-10 PM Games 6 PM
23	24	25	26	Happy Thanksgiving 	28 Breakfast 8 AM	29
30						

Our Post dues are a low \$45 per year. Auxiliary dues are \$30 (senior) and \$5 (junior) per year. Sons of the American Legion dues are \$25 per year.

It Is Not The Price You Pay For Membership, It Is The Price You Paid To Be Eligible To Join; It Is The Value Of Being A Member.



CHARLES R. DOMAN POST 131

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