

January 24, 2011 Post Meeting

Post member Denny Sutherland and Elaine Sutherland have stepped forward to provide the main entrée selection for the regular monthly Post 403 meeting for January 24, 2011. The meeting location is being altered to the **basement of the Wells Fargo bank** – meal start time will be 6:00 p.m. This is the 4th anniversary for meal volunteered by Denny and Elaine. The main entrée item this year will be beef and noodles. Denny has requested support for someone to bring mashed potatoes to complement the main entrée – please advise if you would be interested in assisting with this entrée item. Other Post members are again asked to bring side dishes, salads, and desserts to complement the meal. No reservation count is required for this meal.

2010 Post 403 Oratorical Contest Winners

Post competition was held on December 5, 2010 in the school multipurpose room. The winners were:

First Place: -----Holly Baiotto --- \$300 Scholarship plus incentives to earn \$200 additional

Second Place: ---- Amelia Beal ---- \$300 Scholarship

Third Place: -- Megan Enos-Skogerson -- \$200 Scholarship

First place finisher Holly Baiotto continued Legion competition by claiming Dallas County winner – no other Post in Dallas County participated – and participated at Legion District competition on January 9, 2011 at Bondurant. Holly placed fourth at the grueling District competition – but represented the Post very admirably. Holly's efforts earned her the Post additional incentives of \$200 plus an additional \$25 at District. If you see Holly or any of the other contestants, please be sure to let them know how grateful the Post is for their efforts and dedication to represent Post 403. A special thanks to community, school, and Post volunteers for pulling off another year of competition. This list includes: Contest MC Keith Gunzenhauser, tabulators Sharon Garvey, Dave Tapps, and Rod Beem, timers Fred Martens and Marsha Whiteaker, student escorts Berniece Wallace, Marilyn Smith, and Stephanie Seiler, Legion Guides Terry Clark and Chuck Smith, behind the scenes coordinators Dave Tapps and Terry Vande Kamp, and judges Barbara Mack -- ISU professor, Jim Giles – retired VP at Principal, Rita Martens – Lead Consultant, Iowa Core Curriculum, IA Dept of Education, Mike Penningroth – HyVee-Weitz manager, and Mike Draper – Des Moines business owner of RayGun and former Van Meter student. And finally the participation of school teachers, students and administration of Jarad Lange – speech and composition, Adam Lamoreau – government and U.S. history, and Rick Roberts – Dean of Students and Activities Director, and all students grades 9-12 who participated in the school classroom work of study of the U.S. Constitution.

WELL DONE all.

Post 403 2011 Membership -- 82

The official 2011 membership drive has completed – National will continue to mail out invoices for those still unpaid. For those Post members who still desire to belong to the American Legion – please send dues of \$30 to PO Box 81, Van Meter, IA 50261. Post 403 is at 105.37% of target and qualified yet again for the 104% Department membership award.

American Legion of Iowa Mid-Winter Conference

Event will be held February 11-13 at Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, Iowa. The annual Mid-Winter Conference focuses on education and opportunities to learn about the Legion organization and its' many programs. The Friday evening session will begin at 7:00 p.m. with talks from various Legion officers from the National organizations of Legion and Auxiliary. Saturday morning Programs Fair is held from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. and then Legion College education opportunities beginning at 9:00 a.m. Visit the Legion website at www.ialegion.org for full details on the many events of this conference. There is a \$10 registration cost, but as a member of a Target Post – any Post 403 member registering will receive a cap for recognition – please be sure to remind the Legion staff when registering that you are a member of a target Post. Also, keep your receipt and Post 403 will reimburse the \$10 registration costs when you turn this back into the Post.

Post 403 Website

Visit the new Post website at www.legionpost403.org. The Post welcomes any positive or negative feedback to improve the website – so please have "at it".

Post Building Fundraising ONE

Raffle tickets for a very collectible Henry Golden Boy Military Service Tribute Addition rifle are for purchase. M.S.R.P. for rifle and case is \$1,350.00. The Post purchased the rifle and Dale Edwards has donated the purchase of the Display Case for the raffle. Tickets are \$5 – the raffle drawing will be at the conclusion of the Post Auction to be held March 19 – see next Post Building Fundraising TWO article. To order tickets send \$5 payment increments to Legion Post 403, PO Box 75, Van Meter, IA 50261 – for questions contact Gary Wemer at 515-996-2051. Flyer attached or visit Post website to see in color.

Post Building Fundraising TWO

Post 403 will be conducting a New Building Fund-raiser Auction on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at the Varied Building on the Dallas County Fairgrounds in Adel, Iowa. Auction start time will be 11 a.m. Refreshments will be available for purchase and consumption. Auctioneers will be Daugherty Auction & Real Estate Services, LLC. Post is looking for new or excellent condition auction items or baked goods for the event – **so if you have something you would like to donate for the auction – please contact Ed McNair (515) 321-7171 or Vic Olson (515) 991-7539.** List of items for auction will continue to grow – current list of items already acquired for the auction include new TV's, new appliances, livestock feed, automotive supplies and tools, United England collectible pictures, gift certificates for assorted restaurants and stores, pies, cakes, antiques, etc., etc.

Boys State / Girls State

The Post is looking for nominations for students finishing their Junior year in May 2011 as candidates for Post sponsorship for Legion Boys State (June 12-17, 2011) or Girls State (June 19-24, 2011) – contact a Post member to identify a candidate for Post consideration.