



2026 Sioux Falls Air Show



The Sioux Falls Airshow went off with a roar. Planes, helicopters and some paratroopers... twists and turns and crazy stunts were the highlight of the weekend. Watching the parachute team descend from the sky with the American flag, while the National Anthem was sung makes a person take notice and render the proper salute, stand straighter and well up with pride. We look forward to the return of the Sioux Falls Airshow in 2029.



P 51 Mustang WWII



Post 628 Booth at the Airshow



B 25 and TBM Advenger(Top)--Air ForceThunderbirds (Botton)



Ryan Killion
Post Commander

Greetings!! July has been a busy month around the post. Hosting the pancake breakfast, funerals, and having a booth at the Sioux Falls Air Show. August is promising to be just as busy with pancake breakfast, post picnic, the two night “Red White and Blue Event” featuring Jimmy Yearly and Keni Thomas. We will also be assisting at the VA CLC BBQ.

As I look at the past few months and look ahead, one thing is clear is that we need more help if we want these events to continue. The one event that is in desperate need of help is the monthly pancake breakfast. If you can help those days, if even for only a couple of hours, please contact the office. The post picnic is fast approaching August 22 from 1100 to 1400 hrs. The post will be providing the meat, and we ask that members bring a dish to pass as follows A-K: salad, L-Z: dessert. We will have games throughout the day. We are hoping for a great turnout and camaraderie amongst our member. Please watch for a postcard in the mail.

I’m continuing to look for ways to get the young members involved and with this I’m happy to report that the Department of SD has started a VFW Riders group. If you have a motorcycle and are looking for some comradeship, this could be for you. Please contact me for more information. I’m also looking into the VFW having a day at the Outdoor Campus for hiking, fishing, etc. Once I get this finalized, the office will send out an email with details.

Deb Felton
Auxiliary President

This month our meeting is AUGUST 5th, 7pm in the Armory. Let’s continue exceeding our membership numbers.

Monthly “Work Night” is scheduled for AUGUST 10th. Our project is undetermined at this time. Text will be sent to members when the project for the evening has been decided.

Please bring the School Supplies to the Aug 5th meeting and we will make sure they are given to the Banquet for distribution.

The VA has sent us a list of items that they are in need of. If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring them to 1700 W Russell or contact me directly at 605-359-2091 and I will arrange to have them picked up: Sweatpants and shorts—Size Med and large (NO drawstrings) Deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels.

Gift cards for barbershop—Sport Clips, Walmart etc. Gift cards for restaurants/activities: Zoo passes, baseball games, bowling , Dave & Busters etc.

We are signed up to assist the VA on 8/29, for Veterans Picnics. Have lunch with a Veteran this month. Be there at 11:20, meet at the elevators and go up to the CLC together, bring the veterans down to the picnic area. We are always done by 1pm.

In Honor



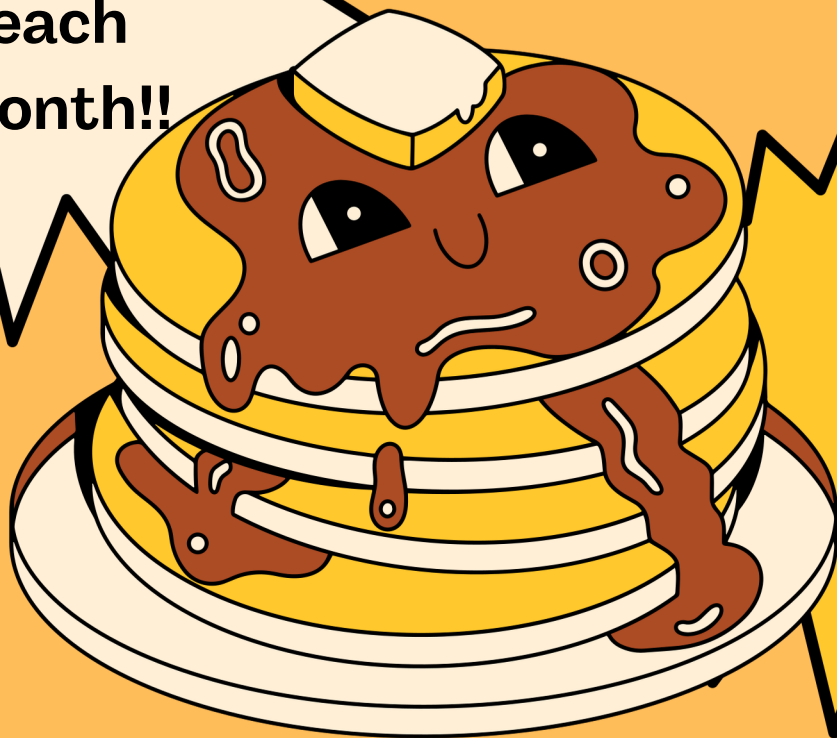
	<u>Post</u>	
Ed Bloom	Life	49
Phil Bechtold	Life	90

	<u>Auxiliary</u>	
Myrna Searl		Lois DeVries
Mary Walton		Collen Ricket

John M Bliss VFW

Pancake Breakfast

Third
Sunday of
each
Month!!



All
you
can
eat!!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
(EGGS, SAUSAGE, PANCAKES)

Adults \$8

Kids under 10 \$2

Proceeds
Benefit local
Veterans
Programs

The Alliance, 1600 W Russell St
Sioux Falls



Fresh Lamb Chislic

August 16, 2026

Serving from 3 pm thru 6 pm

\$10 for chislic, ad fries \$12

Seam Squirrel

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, August 12, 2026, in our normal location. Chislic night on August 16, 2026, from 3 pm to 6 pm. Please see our ad. Join us on August 12, 2026, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the VA for the 24th Annual Show and Shine Car Show. Motorcycles are welcome, and food trucks will be on site. Bring the family to enjoy classic and custom vehicles in a fun, family-friendly setting. Cootie Auxiliary is selling raffle tickets for a Pork Bundle. Please see any of the members to get a ticket.

Nathan Beinegan	Deb Felton
Seam Squirril	Cooties Aux. President

Essay Contest

Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy

Attention Parents and Grandparents:

Do you have a child or grandchild in school? Give them an opportunity to compete for a scholarship worth up to \$35,000.

Patriots Pen is open to students in grades 6 through 8. They can compete at the National Level for a prize up to \$5000.

Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9 through 12. National level prize is \$35,000.

Deadline for both competitions is October 31, 2026. Please refer to the two fliers at the bottom of page 7 for more details.

Future Cooties Chislic

August 16, 2026

September 20, 2026

October 18, 2026

November 15, 2026

December 20, 2026

Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary

"Keep'em Smiling in Beds of White"



Auxiliary Bake Sale

8:30 am- Noon

August 16, 2026

Fresh homemade
bake goods

Supporting our hero's and their
families during their
time of need

The Auxiliary thanks you for
your support

VFW Post 628
1700 W Russell Street
Sioux Falls SD

Real Stories Real Songs
Two Unforgettable Nights

RED WHITE AND BOOTS

The Alliance
1600 W Russell
Sioux Falls SD

August 14
7:00 pm

August 15
8:00 pm



SCAN THE QR
CODE TO
PURCHASE
YOUR TICKETS



NIGHT ONE
KENI THOMAS
3RD RANGER BATTALION

FROM THE MOVIE
"BLACK HAWK DOWN"

BATTLE OF MOGADISHU
SURVIVOR

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

NIGHT TWO
**"THE BLUE BIRD CAFE
EXPERIENCE"**

WITH
**JIMMYEARLY AND
FRIENDS**

HEAR THE STORIES BEHIND
THE SONGS

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
CONTACT JOHN M BLISS VFW POST 628
605 338-0869

*Event is hosted by VFW Post 628.
Proceeds benefit local Veterans Support Programs*

Upcoming Post Events**August**

July 31-Aug 8 - Sioux Empire Fair
August 5 - Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
August 11 - Chamber Mixer
August 12 - Cooties/Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
August 12-- VA Show and Shine 5 pm - 8 pm
August 14 - Keni Thomas Speech 6 pm
August 15 - Blue Bird Cafe Experience Featuring Jimmy Yearly and Friends from Nashville 7pm
August 16 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
August 16-- Auxiliary Bake Sale 8:30 am
August 16 - Cooties Chislic 3-6 pm
August 22 - Post Picnic Time TBA
August 24 - Past Presidents 9:30 am
August 26 - Post Executive Meeting 7 pm
August 26 - VA CLC Picnic - Volunteers needed

September

September 2 - Post/Auxiliary Meeting
September 2-7 - South Dakota State Fair - Huron
September 7 - Labor Day - Post closed
September 9 - VA CLC Picnic - Volunteers Needed
September 18 - Veterans Stand Down
September 19 - Women of the Armed Forces
September 20 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
September 20 - Cooties Chislic 3-6 pm
September 20 - Cooties Bake Sale
September 22 - Honor Flight to DC
September 26 - Fall Council
September 28 - Past Presidents Meeting 8:30 am
September 30 - Post Executive Meeting 7 pm

October

October 7 Post and Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
October 12 - Columbus Day
October 14 - Cooties and Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
October 18 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
October 18 - Auxiliary Bake Sale 8:30 am
October 18 - Cooties Chislic 3 pm
October 26 - Past Presidents Meeting 9 am
October 28 - Executive Meeting 7 pm

November

November 1 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 1 - District Meeting - Beresford 1 pm
November 3 - Election Day
November 4 - Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
November 7 - Marine Corps Ball
November 10 - Chamber Mixer - Location TBA
November 11 - SDDVA Bridge Dedication
November 11 - Veterans Day Program The Alliance
November 11 - POST CLOSED
November 12 - A Night With Heros at The Alliance
November 15 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
November 15—Cooties Bake Sale 8:30 am
November 15 - Cooties Chislic 3 pm
November 23 - Past Presidents Meeting 9:30 am
November 25 - Executive Meeting 7 pm
November 26 - Thanksgiving Day /POST CLOSED

December

December 2- Post and Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
December 8-- Chamber Mixer 4pm Location TBA
December 9-- Cooties and Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm
December 12 - Day County Coyote Hunt
December 19 - VA CLC Christmas with the Cooties
December 20-- Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
December 20 - Auxiliary Bake Sale 8:30 am
December 20 - Cooties Chislic 3-6 pm
December 24 & 25 Christmas Holiday POST CLOSED
December 28-- Past Presidents Meeting 9:30 am
December 30- Post Executive Meeting 7 pm
December 31 - New Years Eve

**Post Closed. Time to Say Good-bye to 2026
and say Hello to 2027**

New Years Day, Post 628 office will be closed.
We will hold Tom & Jerrys TBA

Good Of The Order



Look what the girls from John M Bliss Post 628 delivered today to the Veterans Outreach Center!!

119 meals consisting of pulled pork, pork with veggies, chicken stew, ham and potato dinner, vegetable beef soup, spaghetti and meatballs, chicken pasta and escalloped potatoes and ham. Along with multiple salads, Jello's, puddings and snack mix, desserts and cookies

Thank You

We thank Tadd Goehring, Butch Haugen and Mark Winter for representing Post 628 at the Sioux Falls Airshow, July 18 and 19. Withstanding the grueling heat for two days and making our presence known. Glad they all returned home safely and did not pass out from the heat. Job well done.

New Members

Douglas Noel--Life Transfer--From Stanton Nebraska



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

2026-2027 COMPETITION

PATRIOT'S PEN

POST 628

APPLICATION DEADLINE

OCTOBER 31, 2026

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



PATRIOT'S PEN

- Open to students in grades 6-8 enrolled by Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 300-400 word written essay
- This year's theme is, "What a Veteran Taught me about America"
- National Prize is currently \$5,000

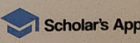
ELIGIBILITY

Students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (for which the application has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity.

Or enter this link in your browser

<https://bit.ly/3Ddng6V>

<https://scholarsapp.com>





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

2026-2027 COMPETITION

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

POST 628

APPLICATION DEADLINE

OCTOBER 31, 2026

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

- Open to students in grades 9-12 enrolled by Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 3-5 minute audio essay
- This year's theme is, "What a Veteran Taught me about America"
- National Prize is currently \$35,000

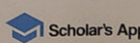
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Or enter this link in your browser

<https://bit.ly/3JzhgZK>

<https://scholarsapp.com>





John M. Bliss Post 628



REMINDER!! If you are moving, please
call our office at 338-0869 and let us know
your new address! Thanks!!

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
SIOUX FALLS, SD
PERMIT NO 345

1600 W RUSSELL ST
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104

Office: 605-338-0869

Office email: Office@vfw628.org

Commander: cmd@vfw628.org

Quartermaster: qm@vfw628.org

Post Web Site: VFW628.org

Facebook: [SiouxFallsVFW](https://www.facebook.com/SiouxFallsVFW)

Instagram: [JMBLISS1921](https://www.instagram.com/JMBLISS1921)

State VFW Office: 605-332-7441

State Web Site: vfwsd.org

Inputs for the September newsletter are due
to the office by August 20.

Email to Office@vfw628.org. Articles, and
announcements are welcome.

POST OFFICERS 2026-2027

Commander	-----	Ryan Killion
Senior Vice Commander	-----	Don Kranz
Junior Vice Commander	-----	Tadd Goehring
Quartermaster	-----	Jim McQuisten
Judge Advocate	-----	Harry Engberg
Surgeon	-----	Tadd Goehring
Chaplin	-----	Patrick Morgan
Adjutant	-----	Butch Haugen
Service Officer	-----	Richard Schwanke

AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2026-2027

President	-----	Deb Felton
Sr. Vice President	-----	Jennifer Kranz
Jr. Vice President	-----	Patty Suelzt
Secretary	-----	Beth Honerman
Treasurer	-----	Kim Vennard
Chaplin	-----	Diana Wells
Conductor	-----	Michelle Williams
Guard	-----	Nancy Renner

