



# Bliss Bugle



## Words from the Commander | Hosea Bennett



Spring is getting closer Comrades and I can't wait for the warmer weather after last month's cold spell.

On our first pancake breakfast, we served over 175 guests and I would like to thank all the volunteers that came out and helped. I would like to give a special thanks to the Lincoln High School Marine Corp J.R.O.T. C for volunteering,

Our next pancake breakfast will be March 21st., and we will need members to help. Please let us know if you can help.

During the pancake breakfast we also recognized our 100th year anniversary. During the that recognition, State Commander Cody L. Mangold presented Post 628 with a proclamation from National Commander Hal Roesch II. If you would like to take a look at the document stop on down to the Post.

On March 8th, 7 pm there will be a Special Meeting with a update on the sale of the Minnesota location. A post card was sent out Feb 26th with that notice. The Special Meeting will be at the Alliance.

Reminder the Bliss Bulge has gone digital and is being emailed and is available on vfw628.com. Hard copies will be available at the post. If you wish to be on the mailing list email: cmd@vfw628.org. If you still want the Bugle mailed, please send \$5.00 to the post with

Next Post meeting is **Mar 3 at 7 pm** and then **Mar 3** at the Armory, 1700 W Russell.

## VFW Auxiliary President | Kim Vennard



Lion or Lamb - - - What will March 1 bring us?? These last few days have sure got everyone ready for summer time weather.

Another great night for the Auxiliary Stag with the Legion Auxiliary. Mark your calendar for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Social Hour begins at 5 - with supper at 6. Supper is \$7. March Stag will be hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary. The Alliance will be serving pulled pork and cheesy hash browns. Please try to bring exact cash - 11 games of Bingo were played last week. Please bring a friend. RSVP's are GREATLY appreciated.

Feb was a busy month with lots of activity. The Auxiliary sponsored a table for Alliance Children Valentine party. The Valentine Bingo that Shari and Amy organized for us was a huge hit with everyone.

The National Presidents visit went very well. she was very impressed with the programs Sioux Falls has to assist Veterans. Weather was COLD - - but tolerable.

The Auxiliary Bake Sale was a HUGE success!! Thanks to all that brought goodies and helped work the table. We made \$471. Our next bake sale will be in April. We will try to have a Price list out to you all by then to mark your items.

Loyalty Day Parade in Brandon is a go this year... so far!!! If you have any ideas for a parade entry, please let us know. We participated 2 years ago and it was very heartwarming.

If you have not been receiving Auxiliary emails, please make sure you double check your email junk folder. Please email me at [auxiliary@vfw628.org](mailto:auxiliary@vfw628.org) with your updated email if you are not receiving them, I will verify we have the correct email address on file.

Please make sure you record all your volunteer hours. Submit monthly to Connie Christensen at [conniechristensensdpoa@gmail.com](mailto:conniechristensensdpoa@gmail.com) .

Next meeting is **Mar 3 at 7 pm** and then **April 7** at the Armory, 1700 W Russell. See you there!!!

## Cootie Corner

### Listen Cooties,

Just a note to let you know we will be  
**having a scratch**

Wednesday March 10  
**Time 1900**

Place South Dakota Military Heritage Alliance

**"Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White"**

LOTCS

Nathan Beiningen

Seam Squirrel 2020-2021

Big Sioux Ticks

## VA offers continued debt relief options to Veterans

**WASHINGTON** — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reaffirms its commitment to extend debt relief for Veterans through Sept. 30.

VA will continue suspension of collection on all Veteran benefit overpayments and medical co-payment debts incurred after April 1, 2020.

VA is suspending this debt collection to provide Veterans continued financial relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"My top priority right now is to do everything in our power to help our Veterans, caregivers and their families get through this challenging COVID-19 pandemic," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "VA will continue to find ways to provide real relief to 2 million Veterans and their families as we fight through this health crisis together."

To assist with making informed choices for their situation, VA will notify Veterans of the existence of their current debt and available expansive relief options. These options include making payments, extending repayment plans, waivers, compromises and temporary hardship suspensions.

Veterans and beneficiaries with questions regarding benefit overpayments can see <https://www.va.gov/manage-va-debt/>, go online to submit requests <https://iris.custhelp.va.gov/app/ask/> or call 800-827-0648. Call volume is generally lower Tuesday-Friday.

For questions about medical and pharmacy copayment debt, Veterans can contact the Health Resource Center at 866-400-1238.

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?>

## COVID-19 vaccines at VA

Stay informed about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Sign up for an easy way to stay informed about getting a COVID-19 vaccine at VA.

When you sign up, we'll also ask about your vaccine plans. Your local VA health facility may use this information to determine when to contact you once your risk group becomes eligible.

Note: We'll contact every eligible Veteran in each risk group. You don't need to sign up to get a vaccine.

*Dave Meyer, Post 628 Surgeon*

*Visit from Auxiliary National President | Sandi Onstwedder*



Congratulation  
JM Bliss VFW Post 628  
100 years

To: Post Commanders and Quartermasters

Fm: Dept South Dakota VFW

Subj: Caller numbers for Phone Solicitation within South Dakota

Please pass these numbers along to your members. United Partners Outreach is our contractor.

Here are the caller ID numbers we are using for each of our caller stations. We do have a few callers cleaning up another campaign and may move them to your campaign if it looks like we will need more callers to hit our budget on time. If you see these numbers the call is legitimately a VFW South Dakota authorized call.

(605) 799-2036 (605) 681-9812 (605) 872-5093 (605) 872-5240 (605) 872-5203 (605) 799-0975 (605) 872-5023 (605) 872-5094 (605) 681-9884 (605) 789-8097 (605) 681-9987 (605) 872-5018 (605) 872-5112 (605) 872-5085 (605) 961-5483 (605) 961-5210 (605) 961-5151 (605) 961-6213 (605) 961-5997 (605) 799-2911 (605) 600-5929 (605) 600-6639 (605) 600-7034

-- Bruce Clark United Partners Outreach, Inc.

PO Box 2926

Baxter, MN 56425

(218) 297-0345

Darwin Tolzin

QM/ADJ

Dept of South Dakota

## Post Officers|Appointees 2020-21

**John M Bliss VFW Post 628  
1700 W Russell St  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104**

Commander	Hosea Bennett
Senior Vice Commander	Randy Kirkvold
Junior Vice Commander	Richard Selter
Quartermaster	Tom Anez
Judge Advocate	Harry Engberg
Surgeon	David Meyer
Trustee	Joseph Worley
Trustee	Bill Peters
Trustee	Harry Engberg
Adjutant	Joseph Worley
Service Officer	Guy Word
Chaplain	Doug Callahan
Assistant Quartermaster	Rich Schwanke



John M. Bliss Post 628

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

## Auxiliary Officers 2020-21

### Auxiliary Officers 2018-2019

President	Kim Vennard
Sr. Vice President	Mary Kirvold
Jr. Vice President	Connie Christensen
Secretary	Malinda Word
Treasurer	Shari Sorenson
Chaplain	Diana Wells
Conductress	Bernie McMahon
Guard	June Caron



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

**Office: 605-338-0869  
Honor Guard: 605-360-6547  
Service Officer: 605-338-0869  
Office email: office@vfw628.org  
Commander: cmd@vfw628.org  
Quartermaster: qm@vfw628.org**

**Post Web Site: [www.vfw628.org](http://www.vfw628.org)  
[facebook.com/SiouxFallsVFW](https://facebook.com/SiouxFallsVFW)**

**State VFW Office: 605-332-7441  
State Website: [www.vfw628.org](http://www.vfw628.org)**

### MEMBERSHIP

We are at 91.16% for membership. Please renew your membership if it has expired. If all that have expired this past few months renew we will be near %100

Inputs for the *Bliss Bugle* are due to the office or [cmd@vfw628.org](mailto:cmd@vfw628.org) by **March 18**. Photos, articles, and announcements are appreciated.



### Meeting Dates

- 3-3 7 pm Post/Auxiliary Meeting - Post
- 3-3 5 pm Women's Veteran Group—Alliance
- 3-9 11:30 am MOAA—Alliance
- 3-9 7 pm Marine Corps Offices Meeting –Alliance
- 3-10 7 pm Cooties Meeting—Alliance
- 3-11 7pm MOPH –Alliance

- 3-16 7 pm Vietnam Vets—Alliance
- 3-17 5 pm Women's Veteran Group—Alliance
- 3-18 7 pm Veteran's Council Alliance
- 3-21 8:30 am Pancake Breakfast - Alliance
- 3-25 7 pm Marine Corp League
- 3-27 10 am Rolling Thunder—Armory
- 3-31 5 pm Women's Veteran Group—Alliance