



# POST 164 HOT LINE

Official Newsletter of the American Legion Post 164, Spearfish, South Dakota

## December 2017

**Veterans Day at Spearfish Middle School:** Veterans gathered early on the morning of Nov. 10th to celebrate Veterans Day with the middle school students. The students planned and presented the program. After the program, the estimated 500 students shook the hands of the estimated 100 veterans in attendance. The American Legion Riders assisted the students by standing a flag line with the service flags and by posting the Colors.



**Veterans Day at the Heritage Center:** Once again the Heritage Center held a Salute to Veterans. The theater was filled to capacity as the Potter Family from Rapid City entertained veterans and their family. They performed a USO selection of songs going back to WW II era. The Potter Family touched the hearts of the Veterans.

**Veterans Day Dinner:** On the evening of November 11th, Veterans and their families from the community were treated to a Veterans Day Dinner sponsored by the Spearfish American Legion and the Spearfish VFW. An estimated 250 attended the event and it was a great evening spent with great friends.

**2018 American Legion Ball Planning:** Post Commander Henwood will form the committee after the holiday season.

**Executive Board:** The Executive Board met at Perkins on November 15th to discuss strategic plans for the future of the Post as well as membership strategies.

**Spearfish American Legion Family:** Representatives from each of the Spearfish American Legion Family organizations gathered at Perkins on November 20th to discuss upcoming events.

**Free Tax Assistance:** Beginning in January, any Vets needing to do a simple tax return can call Fort Meade VA at 605-347-2511 ext. 211 to make an appointment.



**American Legion Basic Training Available:** Learn about the American Legion in a free self-paced online course. Those that complete the course will receive a certificate of completion and a pin for your hat. For additional information go to <https://www.legion.org/alei>.



**Junior Shooting Sports Update:** Post member, Scott Hanson has been busy applying for grants with the NRA and the Black Hills Shootists. The grants will make possible the purchase of the air rifles. Scott's vision for Post 164 to have a Youth Shooting team is becoming a reality. Several area youth are expressing great interest and are anxious to hit the range. For more information, you can reach him by telephone at 605-631-0003.

**Riders to Celebrate Christmas:** The American Legion Riders Chapter 164 Christmas Party is scheduled for January 6th at 5pm at the Deadwood Gulch Resort. Members will be exchanging white-elephant gifts. Special room rates will be available.

**History Moment:** The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization. Focusing on service to veterans, servicemembers and communities, the Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential non-profit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million, and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at over 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.



**The Spearfish Middle School Student Council Is Back!** Thank you Mandy for the Veterans Day Treats last month! You are invited to share a meal with middle school students before the Legion meeting on the

December 6th at 6:15pm. Come hungry!

### December Calendar

- ◆ 12/6 @ 6:00pm: Monthly free meal starts 6:15 pm followed by the **Post Meeting at 7pm**
- ◆ 12/7: Pearl Harbor Day
- ◆ 12/13 @ 6:00pm: Legion Riders Monthly Meeting
- ◆ 12/16@ 9:30am: Spearfish American Legion Aux meeting at the Dorsett Home
- ◆ 12/16: Wreaths Across America at BH Nat. Cemetery
- ◆ 12/25: Christmas Day
- ◆ 12/31: New Years Eve
- ◆ SAL Monthly Meeting at the Spearfish Ambulance TBD

### On the Internet

[www.SpearfishAmericanLegion.org](http://www.SpearfishAmericanLegion.org)

[www.ALRBlackHills.org](http://www.ALRBlackHills.org)

[www.facebook.com/SpearfishAmericanLegion](https://www.facebook.com/SpearfishAmericanLegion)

Email: [information@SpearfishAmericanLegion.org](mailto:information@SpearfishAmericanLegion.org)

### Please remember to renew your membership.

Some ways to pay are:

- Pay online at <http://www.legion.org/>
- Call Post 164 Finance Officer Jim Childers at 605-717-0101 with your credit card information.
- Mail a check to PO Box 583, Spearfish, SD 57783
- Come to a monthly meeting.

