



LOYD SPETZ POST 1
 2400 Railroad Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58501
 701-258-3101

Post meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month in the Veterans Hall at 7:00 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION EVENT REMINDERS

April 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 8	Post 1 Meeting	7:00 p.m.
April 15	Western ND Honor Flight – Bismarck Airport Return Event	7:15 p.m.
April 19	Quilt of Valor Awards - Amvets	
April 20	District 5 Spring Meeting in Hazelton	11:30 a.m.
April 23	Honor Guard Training	6:30 p.m.
April 30	Pact Act Stand Down – Amvets	9:00-7:00 pm
May 27	Memorial Day Program – Veterans Cemetery	12:00 Noon
May 29	Poppy Day	

District 5 Meeting:

Date: 20 April 2024
 Time: Registration at 11:30 a.m.
 Registration Fee: \$5.00 (Paid by Post 1)
 Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - \$10.00 (cost on your own)
 Joint Meeting: 1:00 p.m.
 Location: 360 Main Street, Hazelton
 Hosted by: Post 126 Hazelton

Membership:

Post 1 2024 membership goal: 593
 Current % of goal: 87.69%
 To renew your membership, click the link below. Make sure you have your Legion Member ID Number.
<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew#legion-org>
 3-year membership option video:
<https://f.io/YzhrUbf0>

Quilt of Valor: (Facebook: Missouri River Quilts of Valor)



Steve LaFramboise



Freddie Rios

Western ND Honor Flight:

Western ND Honor Flight will be taking 110 veterans to Washington D.C. on 14-15 April 2024. The flight returns on 15 April 2024 at 7:15 p.m. Come and join the community in welcoming our veterans back home!!

Honor Guard Training:

Honor Guard training is open to all veteran



organizations. It is always held the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory, 4200 Miriam Avenue, Bismarck at 6:30 p.m.



VA Updates:

Portions of the PACT act that were scheduled for implementation by 2032 have been accelerated and are effective immediately. Specifically, veterans who experienced toxic exposure in service, regardless of era or location, may be eligible to enroll in VA health care and be assigned to Priority Group 6. If exposure is not presumptive, the VA will research records and make a determination. The VA has sent letters to two million veterans nationwide who were previously denied enrollment due to income guidelines. The VA wants veterans to not only enroll, but also choose VA for their health care.

There are two positions open in the Medical Eligibility office in Fargo.

New contracts have been awarded for the VA clinics in Dickinson and Williston, effective July 1, 2024.

The Fargo VA has recently hired two new psychiatrists and some other specialty care providers.

Nurse recruiting and retention has been very stable within the Fargo VA Health Care System.

Acquisition of land for the Fisher House in Fargo is back to square one. The property previously under consideration did not work out.

There are slightly more than 200 beneficiary travel claims pending in Fargo. The goal is to process claims within five business days.

A new parking ramp is in the design phase. The ramp will be on the south side of the Fargo VA hospital, resulting in a net gain of 100 parking spaces.

The Whole Health Addition project was stalled but progress has resumed.

Updates are planned for the interior of the hospital, including new carpet, paint, and wallpaper.

Average processing time for disability compensation claims is 149 days, and 1.4 million claims have been processed nationwide during the current fiscal year.

Fargo Veterans Service Center Manager Paula Heitmann will retire on May 31st after 33 years of service in the VA.

There will be a PACT Act informational event at the Bismarck AMVETS on April 30th.

AUXILIARY UNIT 1

Unit 1 Meeting:

Monday, 15 April, 7p.m. The Unit meets the third Monday of each month in the Golden Room at the Bismarck AMVETS, 2400 Railroad Avenue.

Celebrating April Birthdays:

Melissa McCabe, 6 April

Sharon Lawler, 6 April

Marlene Frei, 8 April

Ruth McCabe, 10 April

Patrice Thomas 23 April

Sherley Grenz 27 April

Adicin Grenz 29 April

Poppy Day:

Interested volunteers are welcome to join us Saturday, 25 May, when we will be distributing Poppies. If you would like to join us that day please call or text Unit President, Latoya Carpenter at 701-833-8224

April – Month of the Military Child:

There are many ways to show support to Military Children. This Month we will have a drop-off box at the Family Fare at 1190 W. Turnpike Ave. where donations can be dropped off for the Fargo VA Health Care System Children's Activity Bags. Children that accompany their Veteran caregivers to VA clinic appointments need to keep busy. Items looking to be donated are:

small children's books

stickers

dot-to-dot puzzles

foam puzzles

blank drawing notebooks

lacing cards

small stuffed animals

word search pages

self-adhesive foam shapes

coloring books

non-toxic crayons

mini felt board and shapes

or face parts

Youth Hero/Good Deed Award:

Created in 2002 by the National Children & Youth Committee, these awards are presented annually throughout the year to recognize the heroism and helpfulness of youths under age 18. Nominations are accepted by local ALA units. If you know of someone deserving of one of these awards, submit a nomination. The form can be found on the North Dakota ALA website, ndala.org and search for "good deed award". Or, if you need assistance, contact Latoya Carpenter. She will set up a time to help you fill out the form.

This newsletter is emailed to Legionnaires that have given Post 1 their email address and it is also posted on the Loyd Spetz American Legion website under the "about us" tab.

Post 1 website: www.americanlegionbismarck.org

Post 1 facebook: @NDAmericanLegion-Bismarck

Post 1 Email: info@americanlegionbismarck.org

Post 1 Phone Number: 701-258-3101



PACT ACT STAND DOWN

BISMARCK

 **APRIL 30TH 2024**

 **0900-1900**

AMVETS CLUB

 **2402 RAILROAD AVE**



WITH SPECIAL PRESENTATION REGARDING
SECTION 103 HEALTHCARE ELIGIBILITY AT
1700 BY DR. BRETON WEINTRAUB FARGO VA
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM DIRECTOR

INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE PROVIDED ON:

- VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
- NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION
- BISMARCK VET CENTER
- HEALTHCARE ENROLLMENT
- VETERAN ID CARD PHOTOS
- TRAVEL BENEFITS
- TOXIC EXPOSURE SCREENING
- REVENUE (MEDICAL BILLING)
- TELEHEALTH SERVICES
- CARE IN THE COMMUNITY
- CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM
- HOMELESS VETERAN PROGRAMS
- MYHEALTHEVET
- POST 9/11 MILITARY2VA (M2VA)
- OTHER BISMARCK SERVICES
- HOME BASED PRIMARY CARE
- NUTRITION
- AUDIOLOGY
- PHYSICAL THERAPY
- PHARMACY



**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTHCARE, LEARN
MORE ABOUT OTHER BENEFITS, AND ASK QUESTIONS WITH SUBJECT
MATTER EXPERTS**