

VFW POST #17 AMERICAN LEGION POST #24 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS POST #13 NEWSLETTER

May-June 2007

Editor: TBA

FROM THE VFW COMMANDER

A month or so ago as nice as it was I thought we had an early spring but mother nature had a different idea with more snow and more of winter temps, but now I think spring is here to stay. The time of year when life always seems to be renewed. The time when one looks forward to all the things you have planned all winter for. The time when all of us who live here in South Dakota and particularly our own neighborhoods should really appreciate all the blessings we still have. Blessings many around the world do not have. Think about it, I know you will enjoy life much more.

This is also the time of year when the VFW and Legion members have to plan for the

Coming up in May will be the Memorial Day Programs, in which the American Legion does most of the planning, but in which the VFW and other organizations participate. We always need help in putting out flags at the cemeteries. The VFW will start working it's 4 month shift on serving the Monday night Monster Burgers. Offer your services for a few moments or hours on these projects.

Election and Installation of Officers will take place at the Regular Meeting in May. Come on in and meet and offer your support to them.

As you know, I have been concerned for quite some time about the needs of our Post and the income from the Canteen which keeps our Post

the next few months that we traditionally participate in. It is also election time and hopefully more members will get involved. I have been told it appears a real good group of candidates are thinking of positions in the VFW May election. I am pleased to hear that. I have been honored to have been the Commander this past couple years, but I think it is also time for some new leadership again. I would still plan to stay involved in some way.

Hope to see a big turnout at the May meeting and election on the second Thursday. Have a nice spring and summer.

Al Waltman, Commander

QUARTERMASTER QUIPS

I am somewhat disappointed in the turn in of raffle tickets from our members toward funding the Youth Baseball Program. If you find you have filed these in some hidden nook, you still have time to revive and send them; OR let me know because I have plenty; or ask any Legion or VFW member. We will continue to sell until Memorial weekend when the drawing will be held.

the time going. We (management) in the direction of the House Committee do some things that will increase. For these efforts to be successful a joint effort between Management and guests. We can not continue considerable support and a ve thwart every move. Maybe it that if you don't like what is the Post Home, you should try organization with your service like to see a lot more unification keep our **Post Home** operating

Al Sebert, Quartermaster

American Legion Commander

Since this is my first newsletter of Post #24 this would be a good time to introduce the officers for this year (2008) and then a bit about myself. Commander-Steve Nemmers
1st Vice-Sam Olsen
2nd Vice-Tom Perrizo
Chaplain-Al Sebert
Americanism-Paula Beckler
Child and Youth-Earl Schultz

Quarter Briefs

As Commander it is a good time to look at the coming year (2007-2008) and plan for it.

Employment-Gary Warne
Athletics-Tom Perrizo
Sgt at Arms-Greg VandeKamp
A/Sgt at Arms-Sid Beckler
Historian-Dale Strom
Finance-Rich Kezar
Service-Tom Gohn
Adjutant-Gene Schumacher
Legal Officer-Curt Ewinger
Exec 3 year-Charlie Gugal and Gary Warne
Exec 2 year- Dale Strom

First off, I would like to thank everyone for selecting me as the Commander for the coming year. We are an active Post, which means I will need all the help I can get.

Now a bit about me. I grew up in Dell Rapids; served in the Navy from '77 to '83; lived in Hamilton, NJ for 23 years where I belonged to Post 93. I served in several offices there including a term as Post Commander. I moved to Aberdeen about three years ago. I have three daughters who are now spread across the East Coast and starting families of their own.

When I first got here, (now Past) Commander Sebert saw to it that I did not get bored from want of things to do, and started me on the path to my current position. I doubt that it would have developed into a problem, I find that I would use about two or three more days a week to get everything done that I would like to do. If you are able to provide them, I prefer Saturdays. Speaking of things to do, this is a busy time of the year. As I write this the bicycle registration and safety course was just completed. This turned out to be a very successful event where we worked with the VFW, DAV, and the Aberdeen Police Department to sponsor the event. The purpose was to register bicycles (if lost or stolen they can be returned) and educate kids on safety so they are more aware of the right and safe way to ride. I cannot forget the Aberdeen Rural Fire Department and the Ambulance crew and the Girl Scouts who were also at the event and assisted in so many ways. Horse races are just a few weeks off, and I know that Tom Perrizo would appreciate it if he could get more volunteers to help. He will be making some calls, but if he missed you and you would like to put in a little time at the fairgrounds give him a call at 229-4068. The races are in the afternoons of the last three weekends of May, and finish on Memorial Day. In the last newsletter there were tickets for the drawings to be held on Memorial Day. If you run short, and I hope you do, there are more available at the

VFW. Memorial Day will be soon upon us. Flags will be placed at the cemeteries on May 24, again if you can lend a hand, give Tom a call. Memorial Day ceremonies will be conducted on Monday, May 28. If you can, please try to get out to observe the ceremonies. This is one of the ways we honor those who have gone before us, and as it says in our constitution "preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars." Bring the kids or grandkids and explain to them why we do this, they need to see that these are important parts of being a citizen. Boys State starts on Memorial Day as well. Every year Aberdeen plays host to the several hundred young men who participate in this Americanism program which is held at NSU. This is another means of educating our youth in the responsibilities of citizenship. I would like to thank the Monster Burger crew for their work over the past several months of Monday nites. They will be rolling off and the VFW crew will be picking up the grill duties for the summer.

Finally, I would like to let everyone know about the new web page that we just started. www.aberdeenlegion.org We will use it as one more way to let everyone know what we are up to, and we hope it helps new members find us. Steve Nemmers, Legion Commander

Disabled American Veterans

The DAV State Convention will be May 10-12, 2007 in Mitchell, SD. Members of Chapter 13 are encouraged to attend. The 2008 DAV Convention will be hosted by the Aberdeen Chapter. Dates will follow in the next letter. The Chapter 13 DAV has another fund raiser this year. It is a 2007 Kawasaki Brute Force 750 4X4 NRA Outdoor Edition 4 wheeler. This was procured from Biegler's C&S Motor Sports. The tickets are \$10. each. Please keep eye out for different locations and businesses assisting in the sale of the tickets. The drawing will be November 2, 2007 at the Pheasants Forever Celebrity Hunt.

We assisted in the Bicycle Safety Course held at the VFW on April 29, 2007. We had a turnout of nearly seventy youngsters and all were instructed on bike safety, had their bikes licensed, and helmets given out. A very worthwhile project.

Our local Chapter will be participating in a few cookouts around the area. One will be Arts in the Park and the Hot August Nights. Please come and support your local chapter.

As always we are still in need of volunteer van drivers. It seems the need for more trips to Sioux Falls and other areas have increased and we are trying our best to assist in the Veteran's transportation to their appointments. If you are interested and can help out, even it would be one day a month it would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Allan Ochsner, 605-725-4321 or Todd Bitz 605-380-9148.

Allan Ochsner

Chapter 13 Commander

Baseball

Just as a reminder the VFW and Legion are working together to support their youth baseball programs. The raffle tickets have been sent out to the members and we need your help in making sure that we do our youth a service by selling as many raffle tickets as possible. The prizes this year are cash prizes and you need not be present to win.

If you haven't sold yours please do so soon and if you need more, we will have plenty at the Legion/VFW office. Thanks.

Monster Burgers by the VFW

As we get organized to begin serving Monster Burgers on Monday, the 7th of May, we find our crew slightly short of a couple crew members.

So if you would like to help, from dishes to

browsing bins, to frying burgers, to fries, to

serving please give the VFW a call and show up on the 7th just before 5PM. You will have some fun, meet some wonderful people, and enjoy a meal on the house.

Club Manager Report

To the VFW Post #17 Members, I have resigned as manager of the VFW as of Monday, April 23rd. I would like to Thank those people who

without their help and support I would not have been able to accomplish some of our goals.

During my 8 years of service, of which I am very proud, I've made many new friends and have developed relationships that will be with me forever! I hope that some of the things that were tried made a difference and have made the Post a better place as a result of our efforts. Please remember everything that I tried to do was for a better and more improved VFW Club!

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Again, I would like to Thank all those who supported my efforts. Be safe!! Be Happy!!

Thank you
John Meier

Special Fund Raising Event

As a means of reporting what the VFW Post is doing to help one of its members, we are glad to report briefly in this newsletter.

Doug Glaser had a brain aneurism on Dec. 1, 2006. After lengthy stays in Minneapolis and in St. Luke's, he returned home to his residence due to his health insurance being maxed out in the therapy/rehab area. Letters have been sent out to current and former members of the 452nd Ord Co. who served with Doug and we are happy to report that the fund has raised enough to partially pay for some of the remodeling that was required in the bathroom and back entry door and ramp. Doug is not able to stand or walk yet, he is talking, is on over a dozen medications, pain patches and an implant machine which dispenses medication for his spasms in muscles and veins. We wish him the best, and for a speedy recovery. A larger fund raiser will be held on Aug. 4, here in the VFW Post Home. More to follow in the next newsletter. Anyone interested in lending a hand call the Post Home.

Happy Hour

The Canteen offers customers complimentary pizza every Thursday at 5PM. Get there early as the pizza is such a hit that they sometimes run out.

Veteran Hats Available

The Post has baseball hats still available. Hats have various designs with some having Branch logos and some generic patriotic designs. Contact Sebert. Caps generally run \$10. Hats are a very good quality.

American Flags

The Post has good quality American Flag sale. Sizes vary, prices vary but it is a good way to update Flags especially for the upcoming Memorial Day!!

If you have comments regarding our Post and ways to improve its use and or look for contact the House Committee. Our Committees are working diligently on raising funds to replace the carpeting throughout the Post Home.

CALENDAR OF POST HOME EVENTS

May 07

May 3-Bowling Banquet

May 6-Boys State 2-4PM

May 19-Wedding

May 20-Aman Family 1:30-5:30PM

May 28-Closed No Burgers

June 07

June 1-Rehersal Dinner

June2-Wedding

June3-Julie Lee 2-6PM

June9-Wedding

June15-Avera St.Luke's Banquet

June16-Wedding

June17-Al Mikesh 1-5PM

June22-Wedding

June23-Wedding

June30-Wedding

If you are planning a birthday, anniversary, wedding or party please contact John "Pickle" Meier at 229-4336 or 225-9975 or 380-2002 for bookings

The cost of using the VFW Post Home for catering parties and special events is very competitive in price and quality. We are in most cases more reasonable and there is never a problem with parking.

Our Friday nite dinners are needing a boost. Reservations are needed to assure proper ordering of food etc. Call in advance, and support our club.