



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, Welcome to 2015! Have you made your New Year's resolution(s) yet?



During the January, 2015 meeting, we will be voting on changes to our legion post constitution and by-laws.

Monster Burger Night on Monday's. Come out and enjoy a burger! We are still looking for help to set up and prepare the meal, show up at 1:00 pm or 4:00 pm as we have jobs for you.

Reminder: Legion Post meetings are held inside the Eagle's building every 3rd Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. I'm hoping you can find the time to attend.

Look for your Legion number some place in this news letter. If it appears, it's good for one free Monster Burger until March, 2015.

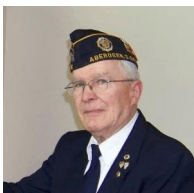
Membership in the Legion is very essential for all former military personnel to maintain and improve benefits and services earned through serving our country.

Mel Volk
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24
mvolk1948@yahoo.com

103279586

From the Adjutant

I don't have any response as to if anybody is reading the Up to Now from State headquarters, of which copies are in the pouch at the office door for members to read and return.



We always need more members, our 2015 goal from state is 671; we only had 571 members last year, and 477 currently.

Midwinter Conferences will be at Watertown Ramkota Best Western and Convention center February 6th-8th. Also, our post will have Past Commanders and memorial night on Feb 16th. Our post Oratorical contest is Jan 4th, and the district contest will be held at the post home (in the Eagles building, 316 S 2nd St) Jan 18th.

Larry Nupen
Post Adjutant

Constitution and Bylaws to be updated at January Meeting (1/19/15)

This newsletter serves as notice that the post will be voting to change our Constitution and Bylaws at the January meeting. A marked up copy showing the changes is on the post website (www.aberdeenlegion.org) and a copy will be left in the pouch on the office door if you would like to read up on the changes prior to the meeting and vote.

103279639 103279535

VA/CBOC News

The VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) for Veterans has been a part of the Aberdeen Community since March 2001 when a contract clinic was opened to help meet the needs of Veterans in rural areas. This clinic was converted to a VA-staffed clinic in 2007 and moved to its current location in August 2008. You'll find it today at 2301 8th Avenue NE.

Area Veterans Service Organizations - including American Legion Post 24, County Veterans Service Officers, Congressional Offices, and the South Dakota Army National Guard have been partners with VA since the clinic's onset.

Donna Small, MD, Medical Director, and a staff of 16 medical professionals provide health care for over 2,000 Veterans from seven counties (Brown, Edmunds, Marshall, McPherson, Faulk, Spink and Dickey). They encourage Veterans to enroll or transfer their care to the Aberdeen CBOC by calling 605-229-3500. County Veterans Service Officers are also available to assist.

Health care services available include primary care, mental health, and home based primary care Monday - Friday. Audiology services such as hearing aid fittings and adjustments are also available on Tuesdays. Other specialty services (cardiology, orthopedics, oncology, nutrition, and more) are provided by the Sioux Falls VA, non-VA care providers, and through telehealth appointments.

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System

Roll Call 2014 Post Officers
Commander Mel Volk
1st Vice Commander Earl Schultz
2nd Vice Commander Dale Strom
Adjutant Larry Nupen
Finance Rich Kezar
Americanism Sam Olson
Chaplain Ruth Van Steenwyck
Sargent at Arms Larry Lightenburg
Asst Sgt at Arms Sid Beckler
Children And Youth Steve Nemmers
Athletics Tom Perrizo
Employment Gary Warne
Historian Dale Strom
Service Pat Steele
Attorney Tom Tonner

has two other CBOCs in Watertown and Wagner, South Dakota and two in Sioux City and Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Veterans may be eligible for mileage reimbursement to and from VA appointments. You qualify if they have a service-connected disability rating of 30% or more; travel for treatment of a service-connected condition; receive a VA pension; your income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate; or you are traveling for a scheduled compensation or pension examination.

Travel reimbursement is limited to the closest VA health care facility that can provide the needed services. To help explain: If you choose to receive care at a distant facility, but VA has a closer facility that has the same care available, then travel reimbursement will only be paid from your residence to the closer facility, though you drive to the further facility. However, if VA refers you to a further facility, then VA is making the choice of place of care, and travel reimbursement will be paid to the further facility.

103279707

Don't Forget
Post Meeting is 8:00pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Post Home (inside the Eagles Building, 316 South 2nd St, Aberdeen)

**Find your number, win a Burger**

FIVE randomly selected American Legion membership numbers are printed in the newsletter. If you find your number (see your membership card), in this newsletter you can bring the newsletter in for a FREE MONSTER BURGER any Monday when Monster Burgers are being served (between Jan 5<sup>th</sup> and Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>).

Limit one burger per member, must be claimed within three months of the publication date of the newsletter

201886831

**DAV transportation drivers needed**

The DAV is looking for volunteer drivers to help take veterans to their appointments at the Sioux Falls VA. The DAV van runs free of charge for anybody needing help getting to and from the VA, but the program only works if they have volunteer drivers.

Volunteers need to have a valid licence, proof of insurance (DAV has insurance on the van, but this proves you can be insured), and will need to take a physical at the local C-BOC to be certified.

**To Volunteer, or for more information, contact Chuck Webster at 380-5827**

If you need a ride, contact Shelly Ochsner at 228-4179.

**TAPS**

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Wesley Elmer "Wes" Rovang

Reminder, all members who passed in 2014 will be memorialized as part of Past Commander's night, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>

**The American Legion, Post #24  
PO Box 2052  
Aberdeen, SD 57402-2052**

Non Profit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Aberdeen, SD  
Permit No. 75

**Upcoming Events**

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) - post's High School Oratorical Contest, 5:00pm in the ballroom at the Eagles Club. Volunteers please arrive by 4:15.

Jan 5<sup>th</sup> (Monday) - Executive committee meeting. 8:00pm in Legion office at the Eagles Club

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) - District 4 HS Oratorical Contest, 5pm in the ballroom at the Eagles club.

Jan 19<sup>th</sup> (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the

Eagles Club

Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> (Monday) - Executive committee meeting. 8pm in the Legion Office

Feb 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri-Sun) - Midwinter Conferences in Watertown.

Feb 16<sup>th</sup> (Monday) - Past Commanders Night and Memorial Service, 8pm in the ballroom at the Eagles Club (no Monster Burgers)