



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, We're looking forward to resuming Monster Burger Night on Monday, September 12th at the Eagles Club serving between 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. We do need more volunteers to help with this event. Please consider joining our group of volunteers as this endeavor helps pay for our rent and various legion programs. Even if you're unable to volunteer, we encourage you to come and enjoy a burger; bring a friend.



Our annual Turkey Shoot will be held on Friday, October 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club. There will be many chances to win prizes, food and money along with having a good time, meeting fellow veterans and friends.

Volunteers are still needed for the Honor Guard so we can have a full squad present at our fellow veterans' memorial services. We have uniforms available. We just need an hour of your time for a fellow veteran, to give her or him the military honors they deserve for their service. Please contact me at 380-0725.

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 attend.

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 Post Commander mvolk1948@yahoo.com

From the Adjutant

We have just wrapped up a week manning a Legion booth at the Brown Co. Fair. It was great to visit so many veterans plus meet post members from Redfield, Stratford, Columbia, and Groton. Dist. 4 Commander Harley Hansen lined up the booth for our District and I am happy to report - what a success!



Also want to congratulate Pat Steele for his several 2nd place finishes in the Chili Cook off last Sat. Sidney L. Smith Post was also involved in that event.

Many thanks to all Post members who worked so hard to make all of the events successful. Additionally, please remember Monster Burgers start up Sept. 12th. Hopefully a big crew is rested and ready to go.

I will close with these words from our former president and WW2 hero General Dwight D. Eisenhower: The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably INTEGRITY. Without it no real success is possible, no matter whether it is on a railroad section gang, a football field, in the Army, or in an office.

Gary Warne Post Adjutant

Membership

Usually, the membership chairman is pounding the table with cries of, "We need more people!", and yes, we always want more people to join. Let's look at it from a different angle; why is membership important - why do we all need to work on it?



As I write this, the Brown County Fair is wrapping up. It was a busy week for many, including several members of the Post who helped at the SD State Chili Cookoff and at the District 4 booth in the Odde Ice Arena. We have many similar activities that take place through the year; some are fund raising events while others are supporting the programs we provide, and some simply are social times for us to enjoy the company of our friends and fellow veterans.

Each event has a chair, to lead the planning and coordinate the event, a number of members who help when it is time for the event to happen, additional members who come to participate, and some who may not be with us in body but are there in spirit. Some members are involved in many things; some have their favorite one thing that they will not miss for anything. We need all of them, and the entire Post benefits from the contributions of each.

As membership grows, the Post is better; as is the entire American Legion family.

Ask someone to join.

Steve Nemmers 1st Vice Commander sjnemmers@abe.midco.net

Roll Call 2016 Post Officers. List of officers including Commander Mel Volk, 1st Vice Commander Steve Nemmers, 2nd Vice Commander Dale Strom, Adjutant Gary Warne, Finance Rich Kezar, Americanism Sam Olson, Chaplain Ruth Van Steenwyck, Sergeant at Arms Larry Lightenburg, Asst Sgt at Arms Sid Beckler, Children And Youth Mike Jurgens, Athletics Tom Perrizo, Employment Gary Warne, Historian Dale Strom, Service Pat Steele, Legal Officer Tom Tonner.

Turkey Shoot - Friday, Oct 14th

The post's annual fundraiser, held the day before the pheasant opener, is coming up fast. Volunteers are always needed, and we count on our members to help spread word of the event to generate a crowd for the night.

Aberdeen Area Veterans

Several Veterans Service Organizations in the Aberdeen area have been exploring options for working more closely together and, eventually, owning/operating a veterans building that would provide meeting and fund raising space. More information is available at the post meetings on this endeavor.

District 4 Meeting

The fall District Meeting will be held October 2nd (Sunday) in Cressbard. The Legion meeting will be at the community center, with the auxiliary meeting at the Lutheran Church. There is a noon social and 1:00 lunch at the community center before the groups divide up for the 2:00 meeting.

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)

POW/MIA awareness ride/drive

The American Legion Riders are hosting their 5th annual POW/MIA ride on Saturday, Sept 10th. The poker ride (or drive) is 200 miles overall, and includes lunch at the Veblen American Legion. Registration opens 10:00am at Wylie Park, with the ride starting at 11:00 and lunch at 1:30. There will also be a short POW/MIA presentation before the lunch, and the ride will stop at the veteran's memorial near Eden.

The ride is open to all street legal vehicles and drivers.

Politics and The American Legion

As the presidential election cycle continues on, this is a fitting time to remind members that The American Legion is a non-political organization. While we promote the political process, encouraging "get out the vote" initiatives and public debates for candidates, The American Legion does NOT, at any level, actively campaign for or against individual candidates. This includes wearing Legion caps to campaign rallies or photo ops. If you as a member wish to promote and campaign for a candidate, please do... just leave your Legion cap at home, please.

TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Gene Becker

Allen J. Hoffman

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

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Upcoming Events:

Sept 5th (Monday) - Labor Day - no Exec meeting.
Sep 10th (Saturday) - Legion riders POW/MIA ride, registration 10:00am at Wylie park, ride starts at 11:00 (*changed from last newsletter*).
Sep 12th (Monday) - **Monster Burgers** Return, 5:00pm to 7:00pm every non-holiday Monday.
Sept 16th (Friday) - Flag Disposal ceremony, 4pm at Seymour Plaza, Northern State University.
Sept 19th (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club.
October 2nd (Sunday) - District 4 meeting, 12:00 at Cressbard community center
Oct 3rd (Monday) - Executive committee meeting,

8pm in Legion office at the Eagles Club.
Oct 14th (Friday) - **American Legion Turkey Shoot**, 7pm to 10pm in the Ballroom at the Eagles Club.
Oct 17th (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club.
Nov 7th (Monday) - Executive committee meeting, 8pm in Legion office at the Eagles Club.
Nov 10th (Thursday) - **Early Bird** Membership dinner, 6pm in the Ballroom at the Eagles (social hour starts at 5pm).
Nov 21st (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club.