



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, First of all, have a safe and happy 4th of July. Remember all our fallen comrades and all of our serving troops, wherever they may be serving.



I wish to thank all of those who helped us with the 5K and horse racing. We had over 50 runners register for the 5K this year, it is slowly getting bigger.

With the new membership year right around the corner we need to think about membership, because without it, we can not run our programs. So I urge you to get out there and work membership.

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Greetings fellow Legionnaires.

Have you any concerns about the VA, Re-employment Rights, National Security, Flag Education, teaching of government in schools and other concerns for Vets? The American Legion has been leading the way for 98 years but it is getting tougher.



There is power in numbers. Membership numbers in the American Legion means a great deal especially in the halls of Congress and Pierre. Please write that check when the dues notice arrives and encourage all veterans to join and better yet -- get active. We all can make a difference in large numbers.

Hope your summer is going great and pray for more rain!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Chili Cooks Wanted!

The Aberdeen Legion post is looking for people who make a mean "Texas Stew", and who wish to participate in the SD state ICS chili cook off. Individual, or sponsored teams are both welcome, and options include both red and green chili, as well as salsa and "Cowboy Chili" (non-ICS sanctioned entries that has less rigid

rules ingredients).

First place prizes range from \$60 for Salsa up to \$500 for red chili, with special awards for showmanship, best booth, virgin chili, best restaurant, best service club, and peoples choice.

The cook off will be held on Saturday, the 19th of August (Saturday of the Brown County Fair), and is held on the east end of Centennial Village.

We are also looking for judges for the contest, and any businesses who may wish to be sponsors of the event.

Anybody interested in cooking, or for more information, please email post24@aberndeenlegion.org, or stop into a post meeting and ask for Pat, Steve, or Dale.

Note on membership renewal notices

July starts a new membership drive for The American Legion, and is often referred to as the start of a "new membership year" as a result. Membership renewal letters will soon start showing up in your mail boxes, and this can often cause concern, particularly for new members who may have just joined as little as a week before.

Membership in The American Legion is based on a calendar year, from Jan 1st to Dec 31st. If you are a 2017 member (as shown on your membership card) it does not matter when you paid your dues (whether joining or renewing) - your membership is good through midnight of December 31st, 2017.

Dues renewal notices, however, will start to be sent out by National Headquarters now, because of the need to process mailings for all 1.8 million current members of the national organization.

These notices will be for 2018 membership, which will start January first of next year, and your membership renewal will not be late (nor will your membership expire) as long as you get it sent in by the end of December.

The post does, however, appreciate it if you can send your renewal in early! There is a lot of paperwork that goes with processing memberships, and being able to spread it out over several months is helpful, as opposed to trying to process all of them in the last few weeks of the year. It also allows us to see how our membership is doing, and if we need to organize a membership events, or have go-getters stop out at people's houses to collect the dues.

Roll Call
2017 Post Officers
Commander Tom Perrizo
1st Vice Commander Pat Steele
2nd Vice Commander Dale Strom
Adjutant Gary Warne
Finance Mel Volk
Americanism Sam Olson
Chaplain Ruth Van Steenwyck
Sergeant at Arms Larry Ligtenberg
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
Recording Secretary Lloyd Just

If you value your membership, and know you are going to renew anyway, please try to send it in early, rather than waiting until the last minute.

Congratulations and Appreciation!

Ken's Super Fair Foods of Aberdeen has been recognized by both the Department (state) and National for their achievements in "Hiring the Older Worker". Keshia Rowe accept the State award on Sat. June 17 at Watertown, and the National award will be picked up in Aug. at Reno NV.

The Pantorium was also recognized for their policy of Hiring Veterans, and won the Department award for this in the small sized category. Alan & Shelley Oschner were on hand to accept that award.

Congratulations to both employers, and thank you for your efforts in this area!

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)

Volunteers Needed:

The district will again have a booth setup at the Brown County Fair, and we are looking for volunteers to work it. Members who are interested should contact the post commander.

Help is also needed for the State Chili Cook Off - primarily for registration and cleanup on Saturday the 19th, but also setup on Thursday the 17th. Contact Dale Strom at 216-3458 if interested.

TAPS

The following members transferred to
Post Everlasting:

William Engelhart

Leonard Feickert

Duane Lipp

Patrick Omland

William Schaunaman

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

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Upcoming Events:

July 17th (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club.

Aug 7th (Monday) - Executive committee meeting. 8pm in the Legion Office.

Aug 16th - 25th American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nv

Aug 19th (Saturday) - SD State Chili Cook Off - public tasting starts at 2:00pm (1oz samples are

4 for \$1), awards presentation at 3:30pm.

Aug 21st (Monday) -Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club

Sep 11th (Monday) - Monster Burgers return.

Sep 18th (Monday) - Post Meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club.