



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, I hope you had a great and happy holidays, now we have to get back to work.



We need to work membership, as we are way behind in getting new or renewed members to join. We also need help with Monster Burgers, Color Guard, funerals, Horse Racing, and other Post programs.

Without membership, we can not provide the programs we would like in the community, and all Congress looks at, when The American Legion speaks to them on veterans issues, is the number of members in the organization.

Speaking of programs, Maggie Fouberg won the Post's oratory contest, and will move on to the District, which will be in Aberdeen on Jan 7th at the Eagles Club.

We hope to see all of our members at a Legion meeting. We have Post elections coming up in April, so if you are interested in getting involved with the Post leadership, get 'hold of myself or one of the other current officers.

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Hoping each of you had a very Merry Christmas and wishing you a healthy/good 2018!



Have you ever suffered from writers block? What should I report in this column that is newsworthy or important for sake of the order? So here it goes. First I want to encourage veterans to join our ranks. 2nd attend meetings to hear the issues and facts surrounding those issues. 3rd. Be proactive for veteran causes. And finally make your decisions based on all of information as rumors are just that.

The American Legion cannot exist without a goal(s). We will sink if volunteers do not come forward with open minds and willingness to volunteer and work hard.

The American Legion has, from day one,

worked in Congress and other levels of Govt for Veterans. That is why we exist.

Why do I harp on this? We are getting smaller in volunteer numbers as well as total numbers which means the future of this great organization suffers. We can rise again by getting active, with an open mind based on the facts!

If you have not paid your dues please do! Be kind to all!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

District Oratorical Contest

Sunday, January 7th (weather permitting) will be the District level Contest for The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program - a public speaking contest focused on The United States Constitution.

Maggie Fouberg, from Aberdeen Central High, won the post level contest in December and will be competing to go on to the State Contest in February. If you are able, please come out and support her, and all of the District contestants that day.

The contest will be held in the ballroom of the Eagles Club in Aberdeen (316 S 2nd St). Doors open at 4:30, with the contest starting at 5:00pm, nobody will be permitted to enter/exit the room while a speech is in progress, but doors are open between speakers.

Call for Architects and Contractors

Limited meetings are going on about the possibility of a future Post home in Aberdeen. Any members, particularly those who have experience with architecture, construction, or related fields, who want to express input on design concepts to consider for the building are encouraged to contact Dale Strom (216-3458) for information.

We want to stress that there are no current locations or immediate plans to begin construction, but we'd like to know what the membership would like to see included in a Post Home, when and if one is built.

Special Thanks

The Post offers a special Thank You to the employees of Health Care Plus Federal Credit Union, who



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

made a substantial donation from their employee fund to help support the programs of your American Legion here in Aberdeen.

It's always great to know that others feel we are doing a good job, and are willing to support our efforts.

Free Insurance

The Legionnaire's Insurance Trust provides \$1000 in free ADD (Accidental Death) life insurance that increases to \$5000 if the member was on Legion Business. Members must be registered with LIT for the benefit, though, and should renew their registration every five years. You can register by going to their web site:

https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare or by stopping in to see the adjutant.

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)

PAST COMMANDERS NIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sidney L Smith, Post #24 of The American Legion will hold it's 61st annual memorial service on Monday, February 19th, 2018. This memorial honors our comrades who transferred to *Post Everlasting* in the past year, as well as all of our past commanders who are no longer with us.



There will be no Monster Burgers this night, and the regular Post meeting will be suspended for the memorial service.

TAPS

The following members transferred to
Post Everlasting:

David James Huber

Richard P. Feist

Maris D. Williams

Joe G. Malsam

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 8th (Monday) - Executive committee meeting.
7:30pm in the Legion Office. NOTE, this is one week later then normal, because of the New Years Holiday, and will be a short meeting so that members may attend the 40 et 8 meeting later that night.

Jan 7th (Sunday) - District 4 Oratorical Contest in the ballroom of the Eagles Club at 5:00pm

Jan 15th (Monday) - Post meeting, 8pm in Room A of the Eagles Club

Feb 5th (Monday) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in the Legion Office

Feb 16th - 18th Midwinter Conferences at Cedar Shores in Oakoma.

Feb 19th (Monday) - NO MONSTER BURGERS
- Past Commanders meeting
- Past Comanders's memorial service, 8pm in the ballroom of the Eagles Club.

Mar 16th (Friday) - Workers Appreciation Dinner in Ballroom. 6:00pm social (cash bar), 7:00 meal