



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, I hope everyone has had a great New Year so far. We just returned from a very good Mid-Winter Conference, where our National Commander was visiting and gave a great presentation.



Our representative for the Department Oratorical contest gave a good showing, but ended up taking 2nd place.

Elections of post officers are coming up in April, so be aware of that if you are interested in running yourself, or know of anyone who is. In either case, please let one of the current officers know. We need help to keep this great organization going.

If you still haven't paid your 2018 dues yet, please do so.

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Hope everyone is staying well as there seems to a higher level of illness including yours truly as I write this article. Forgive me if sometime do not make sense!



Three things to discuss.

Number one is please renew your membership in this great organization as we cannot muster the numbers in Pierre and DC without your support.

The Number two item is to inquire whether you are enrolled in the Legionnaire Insurance Trust (Lit) for your free \$1000.00 accidental insurance (\$5,000.00 while on Legion business). You can call them at 1-800-235-6943 or go on-line at LIT.com.

Next is just a reminder to contact the VA if you have not enrolled for healthcare. They do have a ID card that can be used only at businesses to prove you are a Vet. Take the advantage of your veteran benefits - contact the VA on line/by phone or call the Brown Co. Veterans Service officer. If you live outside Brown Co. or SD check your yellow pages for the number, or look them up on the internet.

Please renew if you have not already done so. For you who have THANK YOU!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Officer Elections

The April meeting, as always, will feature the election of new officers for the Post. If you have thought about getting involved in the leadership of the local American Legion before, this is your chance to do so. For more information about one of the offices, or to put your name in, please either contact the post by email (post24@aberndeenlegion.org), reach out to one of the current officers, or attend the March meeting on the 19th.

Every post can use fresh ideas and new perspectives, so please, consider getting active and taking a leadership role in the organization.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

March 16th will be the appreciation dinner for all members of the post (and a guest) who volunteered to help out with post activities or programs in 2017. We get lots of support from our members, and try to keep track of everybody who helps, but mistakes are made and names can be missed, so If you volunteered last year and did not receive an invite to the meal, please call 2nd Vice Dale Strom (605/216-3458) immediately.

Boys State

Applications are being taken for boys to attend the 2018 session of South Dakota Boys State. Boys State is open to High School (public, private, or home school) Juniors, and application's are being taken on-line at:

www.southdakotaboysstate.com/application-registration-2017

Boys State is one of the premier youth programs around, and attendance is entirely free to the student (paid for by the local post) if they are selected to attend.

If you know a Junior age boy, particularly one with an interest in government or law, please encourage them to apply (if they do not live in South Dakota, tell them to ask their HS counselor for information on the program, and how to apply).

Applications are due by the 31st of March,

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

and applicants may be asked to interview with the local post as part of the selection process.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State applications are available through the HS guidance counselors.

Running for Veterans

Just a reminder, the 8th Annual "Running for Veterans" 5K run/walk event will be held on Saturday, May 26th (Memorial Day Weekend) at Wylie Park in Aberdeen. Pre-registration forms will be available soon on the Post's web page, or you can just show up that morning and join in if you like.

District 4 Spring Meeting

The spring district meeting will be held in Moberge on Saturday, March 24th, in the Legion Hall. There will be a social hour at 5:00pm with the meeting to follow at 6:00.

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)

Busy Season for the Legion...

The 10 weeks between the end of March and the start of June are a busy time for your American Legion post. In that period, the post will be involved with:

6 nights of Monster Burgers
4 days of Horse Racing - beer concessions and split pot tickets
Bicycle Safety Program
Running for Veterans (5K)
Memorial Day program, including flagging veteran's graves at Riverside
3 days of Boys State interviews
5 days of Boys State at NSU
Unknown number of veteran's funerals for the Honor Guard
Begging to solicit sponsorships for the State Chili Cookoff
and the Election of new Post officers

Volunteers are *always* needed, but this time of year more than any other. If you have an interest in helping with any of these programs, please let one of the officers know.

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

TAPS

The following members transferred to
Post Everlasting:

no members reported to have
passed away
in Jan-Feb

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

Upcoming Events:

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

Mar 11th - Daylight Savings time starts, set your
clocks!

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

Mar 19th (Monday) - Post Meeting, 8pm in meeting
room A of the Eagles Club.

Mar 24th (Saturday) - District 4 meeting in
Mobridge; 5pm social, 6pm meeting

Mar 29th (Thr) - Viet Nam Veterans' Day (federal
decree approved in 2017)

Apr 1st (Sunday) - Easter

Apr 2nd (Monday) - Executive Committee meeting,
8pm in the Legion Office

Apr 16th (Monday) - Post Meeting, 8pm in meeting
room A of the Eagles Club.