



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, I hope you all had a great summer, but now it's time to work. If you want to get involved, just get hold of one of the officers - we need help in every field, including needing people to run for officers of the post.



We are sitting pretty well, for this time of year, at membership, but we still have a ways to go to meet goal. So get paid up, and get some new members.

There is an important change to membership in The American Legion; Congress, which controls our eligibility dates, has recently passed the LEGION Act.

This bill states that anybody is eligible for membership in The American Legion if they served at least one day on active duty, at any time from Dec 7, 1941 through a future date to be determined.

This means that anybody who has served, including being at Basic Training, in the US military is now eligible to be a Legion Member.

If you know someone who served, but wasn't able to join in the past, let them know, and get them signed up!

We just started going again on Monster Burgers, so come out and join us. Whether helping in the kitchen, or just stopping in for a burger yourself, your help is appreciated.

We are looking forward to our annual Turkey Shoot in October. We also have the Early Bird membership dinner in November - so get paid up by then, so you can join us at the meal.

There are some new things coming with the VA, so stay tuned for information there.

There are American Legion Centennial coins available for purchase from the US Mint, if you are interested in them:

https://catalog.usmint.gov/interests/american-legion-100th-anniversary/

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Greetings to you. We are a little behind with getting this newsletter out as fall suddenly appeared if you get my drift. I want to write on 3 subjects this time as we need your help.



First of all, last May we moved back into the new business call City Lights (formerly the Eagles) and resumed Monster Burgers for about the 24th year. Please help us inform the general public that The American Legion does the Monster Burgers only, and that Carol Aberle is the owner of the business. We only rent, so please let others know she needs your support in order for the Post to have a nice home. Additionally many new customers did not know this or that cooking a 3/4 lb burgers well done takes a lot of time especially with 18-21 on the grills. Your help spreading this word will be most appreciated. We have all volunteer help so we are not experts but we are determined to put out a good meal. Thanks for whatever you can do or say.

2nd topic is many members (about half) have not signed up for a free benefit - the \$1000.00 accidental death benefit. If you have done so great. But if not, or you do not remember, you can go On-line at http://www.thelit.com or call Legionnaire Insurance Trust) LIT at 1-800-235-6943.

Additionally, I do have a form you can mail in. The benefit is free and goes to \$5000.00 if you are on official American Legion business. My home phone is: 225-1647 and leave a message. Also You can stop by City Lights on Monday evenings after 4pm for the form.

Finally I want to thank the 290 plus members who have paid up for 2020 membership year. I'd rather be processing membership checks so we can have more time to devote to other American Legion business. I can assure you I check the on-lines payments, and the Post Office, quite often. The dues are \$40.00 of which only \$6.50 is kept by Post 24. The rest goes to our state and national Headquarters. You can see why we need to fund raise to exist locally especially with rent at \$700.00 per month and many other expenses too numerous to list here.

Any help you can give goes a long way for Veterans.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Roll Call
2019 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 Dan Vetter
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

American Legion 2019 Turkey Shoot

Post 24 will hold its annual Turkey Shoot (charity night) on Friday, October 18th.

The night features games of chance like horse races, show down, and paddle wheels, played for food or cash prizes. The post normally gives away 40 turkeys on the night, along with boxes of other prizes, and the proceeds from the games go to support the post's programs and activities.

Volunteers for the night are always needed, and just as importantly, we need you to help out by spreading the word to friend, family, and co-workers to help generate a crowd to support the event.

Monster Burger Monday

Monster Burgers are back! Every (non-holiday) Monday from now to the end of April the post will be serving Monster Burgers from 5pm to 7pm inside of City Lights (316 S 2nd Street). Help is always appreciated, setting up, cooking, or cleaning up after - and we appreciate your support in stopping out for a burger.

Monster Burgers are 12oz hamburgers (cheese optional) served with french fries and an "add-your-own" topping bar.

Membership Eligibility Changes

The American Legion: Congress has recently passed, and the President signed, the LEGION act, which changes the eligibility for membership in The American Legion by declaring that the US has been in a state of conflict since the attack on Pearl Harbor. This change means that anybody who has served at least one day of active duty - including basic training and some advance schools - at any point since December 7th, 1941 is now eligible for membership in The American Legion. We no longer have "eligibility dates" that need to be met,

and many veterans who were previously not able to join, now may. Please help spread the word, and if you know of anybody who falls into the newly eligible group of veterans, please ask them to join.

American Legion Auxiliary: The American Legion Auxiliary charter was recently amended to change their membership from "female spouses" of veterans, to ALL spouses. The male spouses of veterans are now able to join the American Legion Auxiliary.

TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Sheldon Lenling

C.J. Nesseim

Larry Schuck Sr

Donald Wieck

**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:

Oct 7th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Oct 18th (Fri) - Post Turkey Shoot, 7pm - 11pm in the ballroom at City Lights

Oct 21st (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A of City Lights

Nov 4th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Nov 9th (Sat) - Early Bird dinner, 6pm in City Lights.

Nov 11th (Mon) - *Veteran's Day*

No Monster Burgers

Nov 18th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A of City Lights

Dec 2nd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Dec 7th (Sat) - *Pearl Harbor Day*

Dec 15th (Sun) - Post level of The American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Contest - 3:00pm at the Plymouth UCC Church on Melgaard Rd

Dec 16th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.