



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, First of all, let me hope all of you have a great Holiday Season.



We will not have Monster Burgers the Monday before Christmas (Dec 23) or the Monday before New Years Eve (Dec 30).

Now lets get to work. We are still looking for help for all of our programs, especially for burger night.

Next, we have Post elections coming up in April. If you want to run for an office or chairmanship (see list under "roll call" to the right), let the adjutant know. We are looking for new blood to take over our great post.

We are also looking for a new baseball coach for next summer, so if you know somebody, please let me know.

Next, we need about one hundred and twenty-five members to make our goal - which we have not done for some time, so please give us some help. Get renewals and new members.

Finally, we need to let the community know about our Post and all of our great programs. Your Legion Post has been in Aberdeen for 100 years now, and we are still going strong, but we often forget to let others know about all the things we do.

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Greetings fellow Legionnaires.



We are approaching the end of 2019 with high hopes for 2020. My wish for Post 24 is simple. A huge increase in membership and participation. We are currently at 422 with a membership goal of 529. I know we have a large number of veterans around our area who are not members but are eligible. We need your membership plus your skills in order to properly serve veterans. The cost is only \$40.00 per year. Please contact us. I am in the phone book! Additionally you can join on-line at:

www.mylegion.org. Also you can renew your membership with this option.

National Commander Oxford has a big push which is: Call on a Buddy. Please contact a veteran who only may need to talk, shovel their sidewalk, ride to the store or just a personal favor. Whatever! Make this a resolution right now and hereafter.

Did you know the State Legion newsletter is available for \$5.00 if you want a paper copy? It is free on-line at: www.sdlegion.org. You can keep up with Legion work at the state level. You can contact me as well.

We will take two weeks off from Monster Burgers in order to enjoy the Christmas and New Years activities. I hope each of you have a blessed Christmas and a healthy 2020.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

American Legion Oratorical Contest

Congratulations to Fiala Herceg, a sophomore at Aberdeen Central High School, on winning the Post's Oratorical Scholarship contest on Sunday, Dec 15th. She will now move on to participate in the District contest that will be held January 5th at Plymouth United Congregational Church of Christ in Aberdeen. That contest will start at 3:00pm, and the winner there will go on to the Department contest Feb 23rd in Oacoma, SD (following the Midwinter Conference).

Fiala is show below (second from right) with her parents, Post Commander Perrizo (far left), and Aberdeen Central High debate coach Kerry Konda



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

Donation to Veteran's Ranch

Christopher Reder, CEO of the Don't Tread on Me Veteran's Ranch north of Warner, was at the Post's November meeting to receive a donation check of \$500 from the post.

He also addressed the meeting and spoke of the Ranch's mission to help veterans suffering from PTSD and similar issues. Christopher is shown here (center) with Adjutant Warne (left) and commander Perrizo (right).



Don't Forget

Post Meeting is 8:00pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Post Home (inside City Lights, 316 South 2nd St, Aberdeen)

AAVI Annual Meeting

Aberdeen Area Veterans, Inc is a non-profit organization that was formed by five Aberdeen veterans groups, including Post #24 of the American Legion. Its goal is to build and operate a facility that will serve as a post home to the five groups, as well as a social, educational, and recreational resource for area veterans and the community at large.



AAVI will be holding their Annual Meeting - a chance for members of the five groups to stop in and learn about the plans and progress for the facility, as well as asking questions and providing input on how the building could better serve Aberdeen - on **January 11th at 1:00pm**. The meeting will be held in the Aberdeen Labor Hall - at **617 South 15th Street** (north of the former Old Home Thrift Store and southwest of Perkins).

TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Bonnie Ellis

Roger Krueger

Robert B. Milstead

Duane Riedel

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:

Dec 23rd (Mon) - NO Monster Burgers

Dec 25th (Wed) - *Christmas*

Dec 30th (Mon) - NO Monster Burgers

Jan 1st (Wed) - *New Year's Day*

Jan 5th (Sun) - American Legion District 4
Oratorical Scholarship Contest - 3:00pm at the
Plymouth Church on Melgaard Rd

Jan 6th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm
in meeting room A at City Lights.

Jan 11th (Sat) - AAVI Annual meeting (see inset
above).

Jan 20th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting
room A of City Lights

Martin Luther King Day

Feb 3rd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm
in meeting room A at City Lights.

Feb 14th (Sat) - *St Valentine's Day*

Feb 17th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting
room A at City Lights.

Feb 20-23 (Thur-Sun) - Midwinter Conferences of
the SD Department of The American Legion