



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires, I hope everyone is doing great and had a great Holiday Season.



If you have never gone to our memorial service for those members who passed on in the past year, you should come and see it. It's a beautiful service and honors our fallen comrades of the last year, as well as our past Post Commanders.

We still need a lot of help with our programs. With Memorial Day coming up, we can use help placing flags on the graves of veterans at Riverside Cemetery, as well as with the Memorial Day program itself.

Baseball season is coming up, you should come out and watch them play. We should have more kids playing this year, and we will have one of the state tournaments in Aberdeen this season.

We still need to work on membership, this is what runs all our programs. We still need about 100 more members to reach our goal, so if everyone would go out get one new member, we will be in great shape.

Tom Perrizo
Commander
Sidney L. Smith Post #24

From the Adjutant

Greetings fellow Legionnaires.

Post 24 has been busy looking forward our spring time activities.



Boys State and Youth Trooper Academy applications are due by March 21st. Applications are available on-line. Boys State is for High School boys who will be finishing their Junior year by May. Trooper Academy is for Junior or Senior students. Cost is \$200.00 per student who are accepted. The fee is paid by Post 24. You can help out by encouraging students to apply as well as paying a sponsorship.

Membership is open to all Veterans. Please contact us to renew or sign up by calling me at 225-1647. Our PO Box is 2052. Remember there is strength in numbers which means the larger our membership numbers get, the stronger the

American Legion voice is in Congress, Pierre, and/or locally.

Currently the American Legion is monitoring 13 bills in this years Legislative Session in Pierre. Important ones to me are SB 35 (revise appropriation for State Veterans Cemetery), HB 1069 which authorizes certain veterans to attend technical institutes with no tuition payment, and HB 1036 which concerns certain military specialty license plates. Others bill numbers are: SB77, HB's 1030, 1034, 1050, 1062, 1073, 1083, 8001, and 8008. You can visit https://mylrc.sdslegislature.gov/ to track this legislation.

The State Legion News is on-line but if you want a paper copy let me know. Cost is \$5.00 per year.

I want to extend my appreciation is all who make this post operate. My thanks goes to each who have worked, paid their dues, signed up new or renewed members. Special thanks to Dacotah Bank who furnishes cups and napkins for our Monster Burger sales and also to City Lights. Please stop in on Mondays to have a burger and enjoy City Lights beverages!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Post Election of Officers and Chairs

April is election month in your Legion Post. Any person interested in running for a post officer position should attend the March Meeting to "throw your hat in the ring" and then be there for elections in April.

If you are interested in taking on a leadership position, but not sure what you can do to help ask the current officers or see the list of offices to the right under "Roll Call".

In addition to the offices listed there, the post is looking for a Public Relations officer - somebody who can help spread the word about the post's activities through both regular and social media outlets - and a Webmaster - someone to update and maintain the post's website.

Most offices require only a few hours per month - and half of that is attending the post meeting.

Monster Burgers in Monster Trouble?

For most of the past 20 years, Monday night Monster Burgers have been a staple with the post. Not only providing a way to

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

keep the American Legion name out in the public eye, but also providing one of the larger, and most steady, sources of income for the post over that time.

As with many successful programs, the source of that success lies with a few dedicated volunteers to keep the program moving forward, and a committed chairperson to oversee the operation and keep it running smoothly.

In 20 years of monster burgers, there have only been TWO chairpersons overseeing the program... the time has come for a third. The current chair is stepping down after a long and successful tenure, and WE NEED YOU to step up and fill the void, if you are able.

We lost one fund raiser when Horse Racing was shut down in Aberdeen, we can not afford to lose Monster Burgers as well, but unless somebody is willing to shoulder the responsibility, that is what will happen.

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)

## Past Commander's Memorial

The Sidney L Smith post held our 64<sup>th</sup> annual Past Commander's night and memorial service on Monday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. Shown at right is post adjutant, and past post commander, Gary Warne, placing a poppy in the cross to honor a deceased past commander of the post. Poppies were also placed in the other cross to commemorate the 15 post members who transferred to Post Everlasting in 2019.



## **TAPS**

The following members transferred to  
Post Everlasting:

Bernard Jacob

Carl Ace Antanitis

Willis Floyd Heiser

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

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### Upcoming Events:

Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting,  
8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> (Sun) - *Daylight Savings* time begins

Mar 14<sup>th</sup> (Sat) - Boys State Interviews

Mar 16<sup>th</sup> (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting  
room A of City Lights

Mar 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat) - Boys State Interviews

Apr 6<sup>th</sup> (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm  
in meeting room A at City Lights.

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> (Sun) - *Easter*

Apr 18<sup>th</sup> (Sat) - District 4 Spring meeting in Akaska  
(community center) 3:30pm social, 4:30 meal,  
6:00 meeting.

Apr 20<sup>th</sup> (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting  
room A at City Lights.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> (Sat) - Running for Veterans 5K

May 25<sup>th</sup> (Mon) - Memorial Day (see next  
newsletter for activities associated with  
Memorial Day)