



Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires,

I will start this column by congratulating Fiala Herceg, of Aberdeen Central High, as this year's winner of the Department Oratorical Scholarship contest. Fiala won the Post contest in February, District in January, and competed against five other District winners at the Department (state) level contest on Sunday, Feb 21st in Oacoma, SD.

Speaking of contests, don't forget that elections are coming up for the Post in April, we have a fine tradition of leadership for our post, if you would like to be part of it going forward, please get in touch with the post Adjutant (or any current officer) to let them know you are interested. The list of officers for the post is shown under "Roll Call" on the right side of the newsletter. Adjutant and Recording secretary are appointed positions, the others are elected off the floor.

2020 ended up being a below normal year for post activity, due to Covid concerns lingering all year, but we hope that 2021 will be active again, and we need new leaders, who are ready to steer the post into the future.

On the subject of the pandemic, we need to do what we can to take care of our fellow veterans - whether its concerns over Covid, other illnesses, or just the pressures of life. One way we can do this is by participating in the National Commander's "Buddy Check" program. Take the time to call a fellow veteran whom you know, and see how they are doing. Sometimes, just talking to a fellow veteran is all it takes to make a person's day better.

A few notes on programs and events:

South Dakota Boys State applications are being accepted now, and are open this year to BOTH junior and senior boys, since Boys State was canceled last year. If you know a high school Junior or Senior, encourage them to apply for this great program. It can be done online at https://www.southdakotaboysstate.com/

The post will be doing our Running for Veterans 5k run/walk in May.

The spring District meeting has a date (March 28th) but no location as of this writing. The original location had to cancel, and the District Commander is trying to reschedule.

Dale Strom
2nd Vice-Commander

From the Adjutant

We certainly hope each of you are maintaining good health and staying warm.



As I type this column the temperature is zero but looking ahead there is promise of relief. We are urging each member to check up on fellow veterans - the Buddy Program. Veterans caring for Veterans.

I have been checking our membership rolls daily. We are getting close to the Post goal of 452. In order to achieve this we will need each unpaid member to forward the 2021 dues of \$40.00. If you are having problem doing so feel free to contact me so we can discuss a plan. We need to look ahead in order to maintain veteran benefits and rights which can only be done with a larger membership.

Have you enjoyed the Legion News? I have received several favorable comments. I certainly am thrilled that the State paper is back for all members. This is a very costly venture so if you or know someone who would like to advertise in this paper let me know so I can get you the information. Also the Legion News has that information as well. With Advertising revenue we can continue to publish this valuable but costly newspaper.

I want you to know our Post Commander Steve Nemmers, and Mel Volk, Post Finance Officer, are fighting health issues which need our prayers for their fast and complete recovery.

Until next time take care!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Past Commanders Memorial

Thank You to everybody who attended the annual Past Commander's Memorial Night on February 15th.



Shown at right is past post commander Lloyd Just, placing a poppy for in the cross during the role call of deceased past post commanders.

Roll Call
2020 Post Officers

- Commander Steve Nemmers
1st Vice Commander Pat Steele
2nd Vice Commander Dale Strom
Adjutant Gary Warne
Finance Mel Volk
Americanism Brian Bengs
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 Brian Bengs
Recording Secretary Lloyd Just

Officer Elections in April

The post will be holding its annual election of officers at the April Meeting. There will be a nominations committee report at the March meeting, any person interested in throwing their hat in the ring for an office is encouraged to contact the post adjutant prior to then, though nominations can always come off the floor during the April election and do not need to come from the committee.

Running for Veterans

The post plans to again host our annual 5K run/walk event this year, after canceling it for Covid concerns in 2020. The event will take place on Saturday, May 29th at Wylie Park. Registration will be under the big flag at 7:00am, with runners starting at 8:00 and walkers following the runners.

Registration is \$20 per participant, and the funds raised go to the post's emergency veterans assistance fund.

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)

Post Continuous Membership

Post 24 is thankful for our members, who have given many years of support, and wish to recognize the following:

These members will be recognized at the March post meeting, as well.

70 years of continuous membership are:

Lawrence Benson
Delbert Lunzman

50 years of continuous membership:

- Tom Agnitsch
- Daryle DeClercq
- Larry Diegel
- Mike Erickson
- Joel Hornaman
- John Kippley
- Ron Krogman
- Harold Lux
- Eugene Morris
- Doug Nostrud
- Tim Rich

TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Howard F. Dahme

Robert James Hofland

The American Legion, Post #24
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Upcoming Events:

Mar 1st (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Mar 14th (Sun) - *Daylight Savings Time* begins

Mar 15th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Mar 28th (Sun) - District 4 Spring meeting. Time and place to be announced.

Apr 4th (Sun) - *Easter*

Apr 5th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Apr 19th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights. *Election of Officers*

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

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

May 29th (Sat) - Running for Veterans 5K, 7:00 am at Wylie Lake park

May 31st (Mon) - *Memorial Day*