The American Legion

Sidney L Smith Post No. 24

"For God and Country"

WWW.AberdeenLegion.org

Volume 2022 Issue 1

The Gas Alarm

Jan-Feb 2022

Commander's Column



Fellow Legionnaires,

I wish you all a joyous Holiday Season, whichever holidays you may observe.

We are mailing this newsletter out just after the Winter Solstice, a time when the days start getting longer again, and we can start to think ahead for the new year, and the future in general. What is the future for your American Legion post, and what can you do to help that future?

We always talk about membership and volunteers, because it truly is our members that make The American Legion what it is, at all levels. Veterans helping veterans and communities, is who we are, and our members are what allows that to remain true. We will never, I'm sure, NOT need more members and more volunteers - but we also always need more *ideas*. There are always things that could be, but currently aren't, done in the community for our Veterans, Children & Youth, Americanism, or National Security (the four pillars of The American Legion). If you have an idea for a new program, please bring it to a post meeting, or let one of your officers know. We may ask you to chair the committee or otherwise oversee the program, but you may just have the next great idea, so please share it.

Dale Strom
Post Commander

From the Adjutant



Happy New Year to you. Hopefully everyone had a healthy and good 2021.

Post 24 had a fairly productive year as we made membership goals and got Monster Burgers restarted last September. We also made donations to Honor Flights and other Veteran causes.

Now with 2022 right around the corner Post 24 membership goal is not where we should be but with your help we certainly can be. Please check your membership card for 2022. If you have not paid please either mail a check to PO Box 2052, go on-line to: mylegion.org or contact us at 605 225 1647 (leave a message).

Mark your calendar for February 21, 2022 as Post 24 will memorialize our fallen 2021 Post 24 members. Additionally we will honor individual(s) who have well served our Post. I feel you will be impressed with this program.

One more word on membership. If you have 50 years of continuous membership once you have paid up for 2022 please send in your payment ASAP so you will not lose out on this continuous membership honor. Thank you.

American Legion serving veterans for over 100 years. Please help sign up eligible Veterans which will help the American Legion carry on its legacy.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Oratory Contest

The District oratory contest will be held on Sunday, January 16th at the Plymouth UCC on Melgaard Road and south 5th St.

Contestants for this public speaking event can be freshmen through senior year students who won at their post level contests. Including Fiala Herceg, who won the Post #24 contest December 5th in Aberdeen.

The doors will open to the public at 1:30pm and the first contestant will take the stage at 2:00. We welcome post members (and any others who are interested) to attend the event and support our Children and Youth.

AAV Annual Meeting



Aberdeen Area Veterans, will be holding their Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 8th at the Union Hall, 617 S 15th Street (one block west, one block south, of Perkins, in Aberdeen).

The Meeting will start at 2:00pm (doors open at 1:00) and normally lasts about 90 minutes with the Q&A.

Any members who have questions, or who wish to support, the proposed Veterans Building in Aberdeen are encouraged to attend.

The Veterans Building will not only be a home to your Legion Post - the first post home we've had any control over since before the turn of the millennia and one where we will actually have access to our office and armory 24/7 - it will also be a resource for all veterans in the area.

Stop in and find out more about this project.

Roll Call

2021 Post Officers

Commander	Dale Strom
1st Vice Commander	Pat Steele
2nd Vice Commander	Brian Bengs
Adjutant	Gary Warne
Finance	Mel Volk
Americanism	Steve Nemmers
Chaplain	Dan Vetter
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Ligtenberg
Asst Sgt at Arms	Sid Beckler
Children And Youth	Elizabeth Maier
Athletics	Tom Perrizo
Employment	Gary Warne
Historian	Dale Strom
Service	Pat Steele
Legal Officer	Brian Bengs
Recording Secretary	Lloyd Just

Suicide Awareness

While the Holiday Season is a time of joy for many, for others it can be a focal point of depression. Please make sure you are checking on other veterans you know, especially during this season. More then 20 veteran suicides happen each day in America, and "Buddy Checks" can help those who may have suicidal thoughts.

Veteran Emergency Housing Assistance

Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) helps provide housing assistance for qualified veterans. If you, or someone you know, needs help in this turbulent housing market, please call Jack Smith with SSVF at 605 / 393-7996

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)

66th Past Commanders Night Memorial



For the past 65 years, Post 24 has gathered once per year to pay our respects to our past leaders, and to our recently fallen comrades, with a memorial service.

The 66th Memorial will be held at the temporary post home (City Lights Event Center) on Monday, Feb 21st. The doors open at 7:30pm in the Ballroom, and the memorial starts at 8:00.

TAPS

The following veterans transferred to Post Everlasting in the past two months:

Dennis Benfit
Ronald Dana Cornell *
Carol Evelyn Hajzyk
Donald C Miller *
Mark Robert Reis
John J Young *

* Denotes a member of Post 24

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

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Upcoming Events:

Dec 27th & Jan 3rd - No Monster Bugers

Jan 3rd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, **7pm** in meeting room A at City Lights

Jan 8th (Sat) - AAVI annual meeting (see above)

Jan 16th (Sun) - District 4 Oratorical Contest (see above)

Jan 17th (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 8:00pm in meeting room A at City Lights event center.

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

Feb 18th (Thr) to Feb 20th (Sun) - Department of SD Midwinter Conferences in Oacoma

Feb 20th (Sun) - Department Oratorical Contest. 10am in Oacoma, SD

Feb 21st (Mon) - No Monster Burgers

Feb 21st (Mon) - **Past Commanders Memorial** - 8:00pm in ball room at City Lights event center. (No post meeting)

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

Mar 21st (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 8:00pm in meeting room A at City Lights event center.