The American Legion
"For God and Country"
Sidney L Smith Post No. 24
WWW.AberdeenLegion.org
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Commander's Column



Fellow Legionnaires,

For most of you (those local to the post) this should be the second newsletter you get this week with an article from me, so I will keep this short.

January marks the start of the membership year (though we do start recruiting in the summer for the next year). If you don't have a 2023 membership card, please contact the post and renew your dues for the year. Membership drives the post, you've all heard that before but it remains true. Even if you do nothing more than pay your dues each year, you are adding your voice to the chorus, helping The Legion to be heard as we champion veterans rights. Beyond that, though, we need active members - people who want to see The American Legion remain a strong part of the community, and who have the ideas, and the drive, to keep the post moving forward.

Dale Strom
Post Commander

From the Adjutant



Greetings Legionnaires!

Hopefully each of you had a safe and healthy Christmas and ready for 2023. I am looking forward to receiving renewals from members who have not paid dues for 2023. You can pay on-line, mail a check to PO Box 2052, and or call me at 605 225 1647. Dues are still $40.00. The larger the membership of the American Legion the more effective we are in our numerous programs and fighting for preserving or adding Veteran Benefits.

Please note if you are applying for benefits under the PACT act please contact your local county Veteran Service officer. You may have seen TV advertisements on certain lawsuits but you may be dollars ahead if you contact the Veteran officers first. They are trained to assist you with the applications for seeking possible remedies.

The DTOM ranch is to be commended on their efforts to serve Veterans. The ranch is located a few miles south of Aberdeen on the old Warner road, and has worked tireless for Veterans and their struggles with PTSD. I want to encourage you to lend support to their efforts to serve the needs of Veterans and their families.

I have found the VA has a weekly newsletter (on-line) that has some very interesting and informative articles. If you have internet please look into this information. Per the VA Newsletter they indicated in Jan. 2023 you can apply for VA Life insurance. Rates and coverage is available for viewing as of now.

In closing please "Be The One" ! The one who carries on the traditions of the American Legion serving Veterans. Also check on fellow Veterans to see if they need assistance or just to visit - the Buddy Check.

PS Please note we have a small supply of flags on hand plus we can order if the size you need is not on hand.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Past Commander's Night Moved

The post Past Commander's meeting, and the memorial for members lost in the last year, will be held **Wed, May 17th, 2023**. The event was moved from the 3rd Monday in February to the third Wednesday in May to alleviate recent issues caused by poor weather.

Post Meeting Time Changed (Permanently)

The temporary change in time for the Post meetings was made permanent. Both the executive committee and the post meeting will start at 7:00pm.

AAV Annual Meeting

The Aberdeen Area Veterans board of directors are hosting their annual meeting on Saturday, January 14th at 1:00pm (doors open at 12:30) in the Central Labor Union, 617 S. 15th str. Aberdeen, SD.

This meeting is the chance for members of each supporting organization (including your Legion post) to hear from the Board on their programs and the progress on the Veterans Memorial Building. Its also your chance to ask questions about the project, and offer suggestions.

Legionnaires Insurance Trust (Free ADD policy)

The LIT program provides a $1000 free (you will receive ads for other products) ADD (accidental Death and Dismemberment) insurance policy for all members of The American Legion, so long as they are registered for it. The policy does raise to $5000 for accidents that occur while on covered Legion Business.

To check your enrolment status in the program, please have your membership number (on your membership card) available and call 800-235-6943.

Roll Call
2022 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	Darvin Vetter
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Ligtenberg
Asst Sgt at Arms	Sid Beckler
Children And Youth	Henry Artz
Athletics	Conald Burgard
Employment	Gary Warne
Historian	Dale Strom
Service	Pat Steele
Legal Officer	Brian Bengs
Recording Secretary	Jeff Steele

District 4 Oratorical Contest

The district level of The American Legion Oratorical Scholarship contest will be held Sunday, Jan 8th with the first speaker taking the stage at 2:00pm. The contest will be held at Plymouth Church in Aberdeen and we'd love Legion members in the audience to support the contestants

Post Election of Officers in April

Please remember that Post will be electing officers for the 2023 year at the April meeting. If you are interested in being more involved with the post, please speak with the commander or adjutant after a post meeting. The list of offices can be found above (Adjutant is an appointed position approved by the Executive Committee, all others are elected off the floor).

Don't Forget

Our Post Meetings are 7:00pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Post Home (inside *City Lights*, 316 South 2nd St, Aberdeen)

MONSTER BURGERS



The post is selling Monster Burgers on the last Monday of each month. (Jan 30th, Feb 27th, March27th, etc). We are always looking for volunteers to help with the prep, cooking, and serving - just stop out at 1:00 to help with prep, or 5:00 to help with cooking/serving.

Monster Burgers are 3/4 pound hamburgers (with or without cheese), served with fries, for just $12 each. There is a relish buffet available for you to add your own toppings (lettuce, tomato, onion, condiments). Sales are open 4:30-7:00, though the burgers won't be served until 5:00.

TAPS

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

Evan L Harris
Kenneth Johnson
Terrence Kumpf*
Ronald Leighty*[1]
Harry Martell
Marvin M Maule
Daniel Ragels

* Denotes a member of Post 24
[1] Past Commander of Post #24

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

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Upcoming Events:

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

Jan 2nd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Jan 8th (Sun) - District Oratorical Contest, 2pm at Plymouth Church

Jan 14th (Sat) - Aberdeen Area Veterans annual meeting, 1pm at the Labor Hall

Jan 16th (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 7:00pm in meeting room A at City Lights event center.

Jan 30th (Mon) - Monster Burgers

Feb 6th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Feb 10-12 - Midwinter Conferences, Crossroads hotel in Huron.

Feb 20th (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 7:00pm in meeting room A at City Lights event center.

Feb 27th (Mon) - Monster Burgers

Mar 6th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Mar 12th - District Spring Meeting in Cresbard, details to follow in next newsletter.