The American Legion
"For God and Country"
Sidney L Smith Post No. 24
WWW.AberdeenLegion.org
Volume 2021 Issue 4
The Gas Alarm
July-Aug 2021

Commander's Column

Fellow Legionnaires,

I want to start this column by thanking all of the members who helped with the Post's events in May, particularly the final weekend. In that last weekend we had a successful Running for Veterans (5K) with 24 participants on Saturday, had four good programs on Memorial Day, and helped start Boys State's 2021 session. A lot of people stepped up to make it happen, and I thank each and every one of you.

Then, I want to ask the rest of you, those who have not yet found a niche to fill with the post, to please step up and join our volunteer ranks. Membership is important to The Legion, having the numbers behind us when we lobby Pierre or Washington for veteran issues depends on them, but we also need bodies to help keep the post open, and active in the local community. The are more programs we could be doing, more help we could be providing, if we had the volunteers to do so. Please try to find the time in your schedules, to help the post, help our community.

Dale Strom
Post Commander
605 / 216-3458

From the Adjutant

Hopefully everyone is staying safe and healthy, plus COOL!

With July coming you will be receiving membership renewal notices. Members who pay on-line will see a cosmic change, but hopefully the navigation goes well. Many of us Legionnaires had to relearn the new MyLegion.Org system. I am still learning, sorry to say!

In looking ahead to the fall the Post is considering resuming Monster Burgers. We will once again ask for your assistance especially for workers who can come in noon to one PM. It is a great deal of work for us older members so younger muscles are most welcomed especially setting up or tearing down table and chairs.

Also we are always recruiting for the firing squad as we have been busy. Too busy in fact but we have managed but for how much longer is the BIG question.

Also this time of the year we are preparing to sell the Viking Football books to raise money for the Post. The price is still $25.00. Please be a buyer and or a seller as the football season will be here before long!

Please renew your membership and recruit so the American Legion can serve Veterans, here as well as in the Halls of Congress and Pierre.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Volunteer's Picnic

Post 24 will be holding a picnic/cook out for the members, and a guest, who volunteered with Post activities in 2020 (what activities we had). It will be held on Wed, July 21st, with the time and location details sent out to volunteers. **If you don't get your notice by July 7th, please contact the Commander or Adjutant**.

Monster Burgers

Monster Burgers have been a core part of the Posts fund raising, and our public relations, for the past two decades, and we would like to start them up again this fall after suspending them through the pandemic.

There is one issue, however - monster burgers require A LOT of work, and if the post can't find the volunteers to make the program effective, it can't happen.

Of particular concern, we need an organizer (chairman, pit boss, ramrod, pick your tittle) to take the reigns. Ideally this would be somebody who has open Mondays, good people skills, and familiarity with food service. It's a big job, and to much to pile onto the shoulders of people who are already "working" full time for the post, so if somebody could step up and make this be their "one thing" that they do for the Legion, it would be appreciated.

Legion Booth at County Fair

District 4 will have a booth setup at the Brown County Fair for The American Legion, and is looking for members from the district (including Post 24) who are willing to man it for two hour shifts throughout the week of the fair. If you are interested, please contact the adjutant.

Chili

We are one of the co-hosts for the South Dakota State Chili Cook Off, which will be held August 21st (Saturday of the County Fair) in Centennial Village at the Brown County Fairgrounds.

Cooks, judges, and ticket sellers (for the public tasting) are all needed, contact the commander if interested.

If you think you make a mean pot of chile and want to prove it, first prize for the "Traditional Red" category is $500 - and a chance to compete in the World Cook Off. Cooks do need ($10) ICS registration prior to the contest.

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

Tidbits

- The DAV in Aberdeen is looking for volunteer drivers for the DAV van, taking veterans to VA appointments in SF.

- The Exchange Club has flag disposal boxes at 3 locations in Aberdeen: Runnings, C-Express on 6th Av SE, and outside the Aberdeen City Police Building.

- The Department of South Dakota was awarded the O.L. Bodenhamer Trophy for being #1 in the nation in membership (as a % of goal) by Flag Day!

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)



American Legion Color Guard at the 2021 Memorial Day programs. Sacred Heart (Left) and preparing to advance the colors at Sunset Memorial (below)



TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

George Nikolas

August Braun

Stephen H Oakes, Sr

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PO Box 2052
Aberdeen, SD 57402-2052

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Upcoming Events:

Jul 4th (Sun) - *Independence Day*

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

Jul 19th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights.

Jul 21st (Wed) - Post 24 Volunteer's picnic.

Aug 2nd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Aug 16th (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Aug 16 to Aug 22 - Brown County Fair in Aberdeen

Aug 21st (Sat) - South Dakota State Chili Cook Off in Centennial Village at the County Fairgrounds. Public Tasting at 2:00pm.

Jun 6th (Mon) - *Labor Day* (No Executive Committee Meeting)

Jun 13th (Mon) - Monster Burgers return... maybe (see article on page 1)