The American Legion
"For God and Country"
Sidney L Smith Post No. 24
WWW.AberdeenLegion.org
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The Gas Alarm
Mar-Apr 2026

Commander's Column



Greetings Legionnaires,

It is that time of year to start thinking about post elections coming up in April. If you would like to put your name in to be a post officer or if you know someone that would be a good candidate, reach out to me or any other post officer. We are always looking for new people to fill positions

If you have not attended a mid winter conference or it has been a while I would highly recommend attending. It is a great way to meet fellow legionnaires from around the state and also to get some good training about Legion programs. Talking about training I would encourage all members to complete The American Legion Basic Training. The course covers five topics: history and organization; Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation; National Security; Americanism; and Children & Youth. It's a great way to learn about The American Legion. The training can be found at legion.org under the information center tab and than training.

We still have some members that haven't paid their dues for this year yet. If that is you I would encourage you to either send in your payment to the post or go online and pay your dues. The more members we have the louder our voice is when we are fighting for our veterans benefits.

Make sure to check out the calendar section so you don't miss out on Post activities that are coming up.

As always if there is anything you want to discuss or have questions you can always reach out to me.

Darvin Vetter
Commander TAL Post #24
605 824-0081
djvetter@live.com

From the Adjutant



Greetings Legionnaires

Is Spring around the corner? It seemed like it was earlier than the snow and wind came crashing through. By the time you receive this newsletter hopefully the warmer weather has returned.

March and April means Post 24 will be searching for candidates for officers to serve fellow veterans, whether as Post Commander or Vice Commanders. Also seats are up for Americanism, Historian, Sgt at Arms. Also we are looking for volunteers for The Firing/Color Guard detail plus sales help to sell advertising for the State American Legion convention program book which will be held at the Ramkota Hotel this June.

Please encourage High School Junior or Senior Boys to apply for Boys State that is scheduled to run May 25-29 at Northern State University. The cost is paid by the local Legion Post. They will learn how city, county and State Government operates plus a great deal more! The information and applications can be found online.

Please note if you have not renewed membership for 2026 please mail $45.00 to us at PO Box 2052, Aberdeen, SD 57401. I can be reached at 605 216-1647 for any questions and/or assistance.

Once again please Be The One to serve Veterans.

Happy Easter!

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Boys State and Youth Trooper

Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 sessions of Boys State and the Youth Trooper Academy. Applications links for them can be found at https://sdlegion.org/programs.

USA250

Preparations are underway for the ongoing celebrations of the Quarter Millennial, when the USA turns 250 years old. Ideas and volunteers are both needed, please contact a post officer, or join us at a meeting.

American Legion Basic Training

Interested in learning more about The American Legion's history and programs? Take the on-line course (and test):

https://register.legion.org/alei

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Many veterans in our community struggle to reach their medical appointments. You can change that. By giving just a few hours once a month, you ensure a veteran gets the care they earned. You don't need to be a veteran — only a safe driver with a desire to serve. This is how we honor those who stood for us. This is how we have their six.

No veteran should ever be left behind. Step up, support your community, and make a real impact as a DAV Volunteer Driver.

Contact DAV Driver Coordinator:
Mark W. Wolf
Ph. (605) 380 7420

Honor Cords

On May 6th, the post will again team with NSU to award cords that can be worn with their commencement gowns, to Veterans who are preparing to graduate from NSU, and area High School seniors who have committed to military duty.

The public is invited to join us at the Honor Cord ceremony, which will be held in the Jewett Science Education Center (corner of State St and 12th Ave) at 6:00pm on Wednesday, May 6th.

Roll Call

2025 - 2026 Post Officers

Commander	Darvin Vetter
1st Vice Commander	{open}
2nd Vice Commander	Vern Preszler
Adjutant	Gary Warne
Finance	Steve Nemmers
Americanism	Dale Strom
Chaplain	Pat Steele
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Ligtenberg
Asst Sgt at Arms	Sid Beckler
Children And Youth	Doug Roggow
Athletics	Conald Burgard
Employment	Gary Warne
Historian	Dale Strom
Service	Mark Wolf
Legal Officer	{open}
Recording Secretary	Ruth VanSteenwyk

Don't Forget

Our Post Meetings are 7:00pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Post Home: 617 S 15th St, Aberdeen.

Department Convention

The 107th annual convention of The American Legion Department of South Dakota will be held in Aberdeen, June 18th - 22nd, 2026, and will feature visits from the National Commander, and National Vice-Commander.

The post will need volunteers to help make this convention successful.

Starting this month, we will be selling advertising in the convention program booklet.

We will also need people to handle the following:

Convention banquet
Go-getters meal
Meeting Rooms
Transporting Dignitaries
Transporting Go-Getters

If you can help, please contact Dale Strom (605 216-3458) or join us at a post meeting.

TAPS

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

Dialo O. Schmidt

Dennis Elwood Gelling*

Galen "Chip" Swanson

Paul Johnson

Myron H. Voegele

* Denotes a member of Post 24

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

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Upcoming Events:

Mar 2nd (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm at Post Home.

Mar 8th (Sun) - *Daylight Savings Time*

District 4 Spring Meeting - Redfield Post, Meeting 1pm, meal after.

Mar 16th (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 7:00pm at Post Home

Apr 5th (Sun) - *Easter*

Apr 6th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm at Post Home.

Apr 14 Commander's Town Hall 7pm, MS Teams

Apr 18-19 SD American Legion College

Apr 20th (Mon) - **Post Meeting** - 7:00pm at Post Home

May 4th (Mon) - Executive Committee meeting, 7pm at Post Home.

May 6th (Wed) - Honor Cord Ceremony at NSU

May 13th (Wed) - Past Commander's Memorial - 7:00pm at Post Home.

May 18 (Mon) - **Post Meeting**, 7pm at Post Home.

May 25 (Mon) *MEMORIAL DAY*

May 25-29 Boys State, Northern State University