The American Legion
"For God and Country"
Sidney L Smith Post No. 24
WWW.AberdeenLegion.org
Volume 2021 Issue 3
The Gas Alarm
May-June 2021

Commander's Column



Fellow Legionnaires,

While it doesn't feel like it, 18 years have passed since my first stint as the commander for Sidney L Smith in 2003. We are in a different post home (and on our third "landlord"), but the core of the Aberdeen Legion remains - veterans helping veterans and helping the community. Our post is on its 103rd year in Aberdeen, and I look forward to continuing the great legacy that has been laid down by those before us.

The core of any group, of course, is Membership. The good news on this front is that we did make our membership goal for the Department this year, something the post hasn't done in a long time. I congratulate all of the post Go Getters, and anybody else who signed up a member to the post this year - thank you for your hard work.

The bad news, however, is that the goal was lowered, and we are still below the membership number we had last year at this time. So, as always, if you think you know a veteran who is not a member, ask them to join! It would be great to not only make goal, but to also see our membership grow from last year. Summer is almost hear, and in just two months renewal notices will be coming out for 2022, but lets keep working on 2021.

Speaking of the start of summer, Memorial Day is quickly approaching. The programs are set (seen back of page), but we can always use help placing flags on veterans' graves the Wed before Memorial Day (or the 26th this year) and picking them back up the Wed after (June 2nd).

Boys State starts at NSU on Memorial Day, and we encourage local Legion members (male or female) to show up for "Blue Cap Day" on Thursday the 3rd of June. This is your chance to see the program in action, talk to the kids who are attending, and even join them for lunch if you have time. Please wear your Legion cover if you have one, or branch of service indicator if you don't have a Legion cap.

I want to thank the Post, and its members, for electing me to the role of Commander, and I look forward to working for, and with, all of you in the year to come.

Dale Strom
Post Commander

From the Adjutant



We at Sidney L. Smith Post 24 are excited to announce our past Post Commander Steve Nemmers is recovering from COVID-19 at home. Please continue to pray for his complete recovery. Steve has indicated that he greatly appreciates each prayer.

DAV Commander Mark Wolf is seeking a couple of volunteer drivers for their transport Van. If you are healthy and want to assist driving veterans to the VA please contact him for details at: (605) 380-7420.

The South Dakota Legion News has picked up a few advertisers since our last issue but more is needed to continue the costly publication. Advertising in this paper will help us communicate directly with each of you and your families as well help businesses. Veterans statistically shop small, shop local and have brand loyalty! I hope you agree.

If you have not renewed your 2021 membership, please note it is not too late. We can reach last year's membership number if just 16 of you renew. Please mail $40.00 to PO Box 2052 or call me at: 225-1647. I or a Post Member will be happy to stop by your home.

Dates to remember in May:

May 29th -- 5K walk or run at Wylie starting at 7:00 AM (registration).

May 31st -- Memorial Day Program at Sunset Memorial at 10:00am.

May 31st -- Boys State opens at Northern State Univ.

Gary Warne
Post Adjutant

Running for Veterans

The post will host our annual 5K run/walk event this year: 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, (registration forms are available on the post website - aberdeenlegion.org) and the funds raised go to the emergency veterans assistance fund that the post co-manages with the Aberdeen VFW.

Legion Riders 2021 Teddy Bear Ride

The Warner American Legion Riders are doing their annual "Teddy Bear" ride on Sunday, June 13th. This is a fun-run open to all street legal vehicles with registration at Bieglers C&S motorsports (1502 6th Ave SW) at noon. Registration is $10 AND a "teddy bear" (any new stuffed animal). At the end of the ride, all bears will be donated to a local hospital's pediatrics ward, to be given to hospitalized children.

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

Officer Elections

Post #24 held the election of officers at the April 19th meeting. In addition to the officers listed above ("Roll Call"), Sid Beckler and Lloyd Just were elected to three year terms on the Post Executive Committee. Steve Nemmers was also added to the Executive Committee for a three year term, as the outgoing post commander (per Post Bylaws).

Congratulations to all of those elected or appointed for 2021, and sincere Thanks to the outgoing officers for all of their hard work in the past year.

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)

Memorial Day

Monday, May 31st
Short programs (Roll Call, prayer, Taps, Riffle Salute):

8:00 Riverside Memorial (by GAR statue)
8:45 St Mary's Cemetery
9:15 Sacred Heart Cemetery

MAIN PROGRAM:

10:00 Sunset Memorial Gardens
At the Veterans Memorial plaza

The post will be placing flags on Veterans' graves in Riverside cemetery on Wed the 26th at 6:00pm, and will pick them back up Wed the 2nd. Volunteers appreciated.

TAPS

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting:

Delwin Griffin

Ralph Jacob Stevens

James Arthur Yback

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

Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Aberdeen, SD
Permit No. 75

Upcoming Events:

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

May 9th (Sun) - *Mothers Day*

May 16th (Sun) - Boys State orientation, 3pm in the National Guard center (115 S Roosevelt)

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

May 26th (Wed) - placing flags on veterans' graves, 6pm at Riverside south.

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

May 31st (Mon) - *Memorial Day* see notice above

Jun 2nd (Wed) - retrieve flags from veterans' graves, 6pm at Riverside south

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

Jun 13th (Sun) - Legion Riders Teddy Bear ride, noon at Biegler's C&S Motorsports

Jun 20th (Sun) - *Fathers Day*

Jun 21st (Mon) - **Post meeting**, 8pm in meeting room A at City Lights

Jun 24 to Jun 27 - Department Convention in Huron

Jul 4th (Sun) - *Independence Day*