

Sidney L Smith

post #24 of

The American Legion



2006 - 2007

HISTORY OF
Sidney L Smith

post #24 of

The American Legion

ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA

FOR 2006 TO 2007

Compiled by: Charles D Strom - Post Historian

Introduction

History - The American Legion

In late January, 1919, as the first World War drew near to completion, a group of officers met at Faubourg St. Honore in Paris France. All four were combat line officers (at the battalion or regimental level);

Lt. COL. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. (son of our 26th US President), from the 1st Division,

Lt. COL. George White, general HQ of the AEF in France,

Lt. COL. William Donovan, part of New York's "Fighting 69th", and

Major Eric Fisher Wood, of the 88th Division.

With a lead role taken by Roosevelt, these four men conceived the idea of a veteran's organization, similar to the Grand Army of the Republic that had thrived after the conclusion of the Civil War. With a potential membership pool of over two million servicemen from the war, most of whom had been unfamiliar with Europe in any but the vaguest of ways, the organization would be a tremendous opportunity for fellowship as servicemen

started returning home. Several names were considered, including "Liberty League", "Legion of Honor", and "American Crusaders".

General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing - head of the AEF - was initially opposed to the idea, but as it's popularity grew in the ranks of the officers and enlisted men he agreed to give the subject a chance. An organizational meeting was set at the Inter-Allied Officers' Club in Paris for the 15th to 17th of March in 1919. This event, which came to be known as the "Paris Caucus", is considered the official beginning of the organization.

The Paris Caucus, consisting of approximately 1,000 officers and enlisted men, adopted a temporary constitution, and chose The American Legion as the name of the organization. It also elected an executive committee to complete the work of establishing The American Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the US. A boost was given to the Paris Caucus when President Woodrow Wilson arrived in France to participate in the peace treaty conference at Versailles; Wilson would also give his endorsement to The American Legion when they held their next organizational meeting.

This second caucus was held in St. Louis, Missouri during May of 1919. There, the American Legion constitution was completed and a temporary draft was submitted to the membership. Included in the Legion's mission were relief, employment, and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter on September 16, 1919 and the first national convention was held in Minneapolis Nov 10th - 12th of that year. In Minneapolis The American Legion adopted a permanent constitution and elected officers to head the organization.

The charter was amended in 1942 to admit World War II veterans and again in 1950 to include veterans of the Korean War. Later it included soldiers who had served in conflicts in Lebanon/Grenada, Panama, Persian Gulf and has been open since August 2, 1990 until congress closes the dates.

The Legion's major concern has always been the veterans. It played an important role in the creation of the US Veterans Administration and the enactment of the GI Bill of Rights for World War II and Korean Veterans. Also

important has been the community, youth, and Americanism.

The American Legion temporary national headquarters, set after the St Louis Caucus, was located in New York City, but delegates to the first convention chose Indianapolis over Washington DC as the permanent home for the national organization in a close (361-323) vote.

The Legion does, however, still keep an office in Washington DC, just three blocks from the White House, to support frequent visits to the seat of government by the National Commander. Also located here are offices of an executive director, and operations for Legislative, Economics, National Security, Foreign Relations, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, and Media Relations.

The American Legion's national headquarters is located at 700 N Pennsylvania St, in Indianapolis, Indiana and is part of a development known as the Indiana War Memorial Plaza.

History - South Dakota

Department of The American Legion

The South Dakota Department of The American Legion was organized simultaneously with the national organization. South Dakota Adjutant General William A. Morris named Theodore R. Johnson of Sioux Falls to select a committee of representative ex-service men to attend the first caucus in St Louis, Missouri, May 8-10, 1919.

After the first national caucus, a temporary South Dakota organization was formed at Vermillion on May 15, 1919 with Theodore R. Johnson as chairman. The first state convention was held in Sioux Falls on July 14 and 15, 1919. Myron L. Shade of Mitchell was elected the first Department Commander. Forty-eight posts had been organized by convention time.

The South Dakota Department now

consists of about 260 posts with about 26,000 members.

One of the American Legion programs with South Dakota roots is American Legion baseball, now a nationwide program. It was conceived at the state convention at Milbank in 1925. Frank Sieh of Aberdeen originated the idea. A granite monument at Milbank commemorates the formation of Legion Baseball there.

The South Dakota American Legion Department Headquarters is located in the Codington County courthouse in Watertown. The South Dakota Legion contributed to the construction cost of that courthouse and thus was granted rent-free space in the courthouse for the life of the building.

History - Sidney L Smith, Post #24 - Aberdeen, SD

Like most towns in the great plains, Aberdeen was started as a railroad town. Charles H Prior, the town site agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St Paul railroad filed the first papers at the land office in Watertown, part of the Dakota Territory, for a town to be located at the spot where his employer's rail line was expected to intersect the Chicago Northwestern's proposed line. Alexander Mitchell, president of the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St Paul, named the town-to-be Aberdeen, after his own hometown in Scotland. The first plat of land was deeded on the 3rd of January, 1881 and the first train arrived July 6th with the post office established that August. In 1885, Aberdeen was named the Seat of Brown County.

The railroad continued to play a large role in the growth of Aberdeen, after the initial two lines met in 1881, seven more were added so that by 1906 nine sets of tracks lead into what would become known as the Hub City; four lines for the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St Paul, two lines for the Chicago Northwestern, one line for the Great Northern, and two lines for the Minneapolis & St Louis.

The convergence of rail lines made Aberdeen a natural stopping point for military troop trains; starting when South Dakota's First Infantry Regiment was

welcomed home here by President McKinley in October of 1899 after returning from duty under General McArthur in the Philippines during the Spanish American War. The rail lines also played a vital role in delivering recruits to the US Army in both World Wars, and when the USO and Red Cross built a canteen in the Milwaukee Rail depot in 1943, they couldn't have known that it would become one of Aberdeen's most memorable locations.

From it's opening on the 14th of Aug until just before Christmas, the canteen provided over 150,000 free meals to troops passing through the station; a remarkable endeavor, but the real history was still to come.

Local farmers, still eager to contribute to the canteen despite being well past the harvest season, donated pheasants from recent hunts to the canteen and started a trend that would lead to the canteen becoming unofficially renamed the "Pheasant Canteen". With an average of over 500 soldiers per day traveling through the depot, the Pheasant Canteen continued to give a free meal to every serviceman, highlighted by the now famous pheasant sandwiches. Any soldier arriving at the depot on their birthday would also receive a special cake, and there was a decorated

tree each Christmas and colored eggs each Easter. When the Pheasant Canteen closed on the 31st of March, 1946, between 510,000 and 600,000 servicemen had been feed, all at no cost to themselves or the military. Every meal was donated by the residents of Aberdeen and 40 other towns within a 75 mile radius.

Of course, support for the serviceman was nothing new to the Aberdeen area. The VFW had formed a presence in the town as early as 1903 (fourth oldest continuously active post), and The American Legion followed in 1919 when the call first went out to constitute posts.

By 1921 the American Legion was running their own veterans employment program in the city, had a theatrical troupe that performed annual plays at the local theater, and had an active post band.

The post chose the name of Sidney L Smith, in honor of Private First Class Smith who was killed in action while serving as a dispatch runner in Soissons France, July 20th 1918 as part of Co. L, 18th U.S. Infantry, 1st Div.

While born in Canton, Il (1896) and having gone to military school in Roswell, NM, Sidney L Smith had moved to Aberdeen in 1915 and had joined the

military as part of the South Dakota national guard. He was stationed at Camp Pontis in Mobridge, SD when he transferred to the 148th Machine Gun Battalion. He later transferred again to the 1st Infantry Division, 18th Brigade, Company L where he saw action at the Battle of Cantigny, and was in the trenches for 70 days at Montdidier, France. In Fosh's big drive, Smith's company took part in the battle of Chateau-Thierry, and then Sessions, where he was listed as missing in action for 9 months before Congressman Royal C. Johnson assisted the Red Cross' efforts to determine his fate. Smith's status was changed from MIA and a telegram was sent to his family from the adjutant general's office at Washington, DC, it reads as follows:

*"Pvt. Sidney L. Smith,
Infantry previously
reported severely wounded
in action between July 18
and July 24, now reported
Killed in action July 20."
[1918]*

Thanks/Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks is given to all of the following for their help in providing the information used in this introduction:

Charemon Dunham, Historian for the Department of South Dakota, for the information on the national and state organization's histories.

The Alexander Mitchell Library and the Dakota Prairie Museum, in Aberdeen, SD, for the information on Aberdeen's origins and military history.

The-roundup, Honolulu, Hi (<http://www.the-roundup.com>), for all the information on Sidney L Smith in their family genealogy.

Table of Contents

2006 - 2007 1

Introduction Page -2-

 The American Legion Page -2-

 South Dakota

 Department Page -4-

 Sidney L Smith, Post #24 Page -5-

 Thanks/Acknowledgments Page -7-

Table of Contents Page -8-

 Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion
 Page -10-

The Year that was 2006 Page -11-

 Chapter One: Roster of Post Officers Page -12-

 Chapter Two: Post Committee Chairs Page -17-

 Chapter Three: Post Chronicle Page -19-

 2006 officers Page -19-

 local orientation Page -22-

 citizenship medals Page -22-

 horse racing Page -23-

 Memorial Day Page -25-

 Legionnaire Day at Boys State Page -27-

 visit by National Commander Thomas Bock .. Page -27-

 Legion Baseball Page -27-

 Department Convention Page -28-

 Commander's Homecoming Page -28-

 National Convention Page -28-

 Monster Burgers Page -29-

 turkey shoot Page -30-

 Veteran's Day Page -30-

 Early Bird Page -31-

Government Day	Page -31-
Baseball Fund raiser	Page -32-
Reserve Orientation	Page -32-
Past Commander's Night	Page -32-
Mid-Winter Conference	Page -33-
Boys State Interviews	Page -33-
Law Enforcement Officer of the Year	Page -34-
Firefighter/EMT of the year	Page -34-
AberdeenLegion.org	Page -35-
horse racing	Page -35-
Legionnaire of the Year	Page -35-
Spring convention for District 14	Page -36-
end to the post's 2006 year	Page -36-
 APPENDICES	 Page -37-
Charter Members	Page -37-
 INDEX	 Page -39-

Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;

to maintain law and order;

to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;

to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;

to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

to make right the master of might;

to promote peace and good will on earth;

to safeguard and transmit to Posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;

to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Sidney L Smith

post #24 of

The American Legion



The Year that was 2006

by Charles D. Strom, Historian

Chapter One: Roster of Post Officers



2006 Post Commander - Al Sebert



First Vice Commander - Sam Olson



Second Vice Commander - Steve Nemmers



Chaplain - Greg Vande Kamp



Adjutant - Gene Schumacher



Finance - Rich Kezar



Sergeant at Arms - Curt Mislitz



Assistant Sergeant at Arms - Sid Beckler



Historian - Dale Strom



Service - Tom Gohn

Chapter Two: Post Committee Chairs



Americanism - Dale Strom



Athletics - Tom Perrizo



Employment - Garry Warne



Children and Youth - Paula Beckler

Chapter Three: Post Chronicle

Commander Al Sebert and the 2006 officers for post #24 started their term on the 17th of April, when they were duly elected by the members of the Sidney L Smith post, convened in regular session at the VFW building, 821 Circle Drive, Aberdeen, SD. The complete slate of officers, are as follows:

<u>2006 Post Officers</u>	
Commander	Al Sebert
1 st Vice	Sam Olsen
2 nd Vice	Steve Nemmers
Finance	Rich Kezar
Chaplin	Greg VandeKamp
Sergeant @ Arms	Curt Mislitz
Asst sgt@Arms	Sid Beckler
Historian	Dale Strom
Employment	Gary Warne
Athletic	Tom Perrizo
Americanism	Dale Strom
Service	Tom Gohn
Children and Youth	Paula Beckler
Adjutant*	Gene Schumacher

* Adjutant Schumacher was appointed by the commander and approved by the floor in the May regular meeting.

In a shift from recent years, the election process for the 2006 post officers featured several nominations off the floor;

Commander: A floor nomination for Al Sebert started of the election process and pitted him against nominations committee candidate Dick Adams. In a close vote, Sebert edged out the win.

First Vice: Another floor nomination ran Sam Olsen against committee candidate Paula Beckler, and another hand vote was taken, with Olsen getting the nod.

Second Vice: Committee choice Steve Nemmers ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Finance Officer: Committee choice Rich Kezar ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Service Officer: Committee choice Greg Vande Kamp was opposed by a floor nomination for Tom Gohin, who won the election.

Sergeant at Arms: Committee choice Curt Mislitz ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Assistant Sgt at Arms: Committee choice Sid Beckler ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Chaplain: Committee choice Greg Vande Kamp ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Historian: Committee choice Dale Strom ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Employment Committee Chair: Committee choice Gary Warne ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Athletic Committee Chair: Committee choice Tom Perizo ran unopposed and was selected by unanimous ballot.

Americanism Committee Chair: Committee choice Al Sebert withdrew after being elected commander, a floor nomination for Dale Strom resulted in a unanimous ballot.

Children & Youth Chair: A floor nomination for Paula Beckler resulted in a unanimous ballot.

Even with a relatively minor turnover in the officer ranks, the “old guard” were still important to getting ready for the start of the new legion year as May is always one of the busiest months for the post.

May 7th was the local orientation for the students selected to attend Boys State from all three Aberdeen schools. This was only the second year that the post has conducted the optional session, but it was well attended with eleven of the sixteen selectees participating. Taylor Ford, a 2005 Boys State participant, spoke on his experiences and added to the information provided by Americanism officer Strom. Only one parent (Gary Marx) was present this year, but he was glad that the session was held, and said he’d found it informative and helpful.

A few days after orientation, on Tuesday May 9th, was the presentation of citizenship medals to two students from Aberdeen Central High School, along with recognition of the twelve selectees for Boys State in 2006 from that school. Americanism officer Strom handled this for the post.

One week later, Tuesday the 16th, the same awards were presented for Aberdeen Roncalli students. Chaplain Vande Kamp awarded the two citizenship medals, and Americanism officer Strom presented the three Boys State certificates.

Between the two high school awards nights was the first weekend of horse racing for the 2006 season. Second Vice, and activities chairman, Steve Nemmers had started calling up volunteers a few days after taking office, and had fourteen members ready for the first two days of the event.

The Post's role once again was to sell beer concessions and programs under the grandstand, and beer, pop, and programs in the clubhouse. This standing arrangement with the NAHRA (Northeast Area Horse Racing Association), along with the sale of advertising for the programs, is one of the posts three major fund raisers each year. It is somewhat labor intensive (averaging almost 600 man hours, including the sale of ads), but most of the time is spent just talking with the customers, sharing stories, and "maintaining quality control" of the product. It is also one of the very few jobs where the Post members can claim they literally work for peanuts, as the NAHRA once again provided a thirty-five pound box of salted-in-the-shell peanuts for both the grandstand and clubhouse volunteers to snack on while they worked.

The weather was as cool as we've come to expect for horse racing that first weekend, but at least the rains held off this year and a full slate of nine races were run each day.

After a week of high 70's and clear skies, the race workers were looking forward to a brisk second weekend, only to have it cloud over mere hours before the first race. With temps down in the upper forties and steady winds, the crowds were much lower than anticipated both days. Still the crews were there both days, ready for what business did come in.

The last weekend, was, as it always seems to be, the busiest. Sandwiched between the work done on the Memorial Day program, and with many of the post's members taking part in that important program during the morning of the last day of the races, it never fails this weekend is also the most crowded at the races as well. When all was said and done after the weekend, however, the fund raiser was a success once again.

As an added bonus, a "tip jar" set up under the grandstand pulled in an extra \$84 during the event, and the workers agreed that the best use for it was as a donation to the VA clinic in Aberdeen. As they do not take cash donations, the money was used to purchase coffee, juice boxes, crackers, and cookies for the waiting room. Two separate sets of these items were purchased, one set right after the races that was delivered in June, and another set that was dropped off in September.

As mentioned above, the last weekend of horse races is also Memorial Day weekend, so Post 24 was busy with other activities throughout the days surrounding it.

The Wednesday prior to Memorial Day the post, along with volunteers from a local Cub Scout group, went out to Riverside Cemetery and marked the graves of servicemen with miniature American Flags. In all, 1123 of our comrades in arms are interred between Riverside North, and Riverside South.

The flags were left until the Thursday after Memorial Day, when Legion members went out to collect them and store them again for the next year.

Riverside Cemetery is also the first site visited for Memorial Day ceremonies, with a group gathered at 8:00 Monday morning at the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial. After Chaplain Vande Kamp's invocation, the roll call of each era was read by Commander Sebert, and wreaths were presented by area organizations (VFW Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary, Eagles Auxiliary, Girl Scout troop #168, and Boy Scout troop #51). The Sidney L Smith color guard then rendered the 21 gun salute, and John Nelson played *Taps*.

Roll Call, prayers, the salute, and *Taps* were also held at St Mary's Cemetery (8:45) and Sacred Heart (9:15), with Al Waltman, commander of the VFW in Aberdeen, as the master of ceremonies. John Nelson and the Post Color Guard

performed at all three services.

Then it was on to Sunset Memorial Gardens for the main Memorial Day program. Along with the full opening ceremony (advance of the Colors, national anthem, pledge of allegiance, and invocation), the reading of General Logan's orders, and the recognition of special guests, this program included the official roll call of service members from each era, Taps, and the 21 gun salute, as well as music, a moment of silence for POWs/MIAs, and keynote speaker, before the closing ceremony (Taps, benediction, and retiring of the Colors). The keynote speaker was Aberdeen Mayor, Mike Levson.

Just after Memorial Day every year is Legionnaire Day at Boys State, where members from across the state are invited to attend and witness the activities that go on at this important event, which the Department of South Dakota has sponsored for 65 years. It is always a good day as those members who attend get to interact with some of the best and brightest of the State's youth, and see first hand how great this program really is.

In 2006, Legionnaire Day took on added significance as it also featured a visit by National Commander Thomas Bock, who paid visits to local posts while in Aberdeen, and also spoke with the Boys Staters while here.

Of course, Legion Baseball was also getting into full swing as June began, with the Aberdeen Smittys winning their first game of the year the same night as Commander Bock was giving his presentation to Boys State. They actually won their first two games that night, sweeping Milbank in a double header at Fossum Field. With 16 boys on the team again in 2006, Legion Baseball remains one of the great programs of our organization, providing guidance for our youth, as well as good PR for The American Legion and keeping our name out in the public eye.

June is also time for the Department Convention, and delegates from Post 24 packed up and headed down to Brookings to take part in the meetings there. Also attending the convention from Aberdeen was our Law Enforcement Officer of the year, Daryl Van Dover, who was chosen for the same honor at the Department level.

In addition to the normal committees, banquets, and general sessions of the convention, Post delegates also participated in the “Legion Olympics”, a fund raiser for Special Olympics that was organized by Department Children and Youth chairwoman Sam Vaughn.

After the Department Convention, the summer slowed down a bit for Post 24. July and August featured a form of “stand-down” for the post, with no scheduled activities other than meetings, as the focus turned toward the new membership year and planning for the events to come in the fall.

A few members traveled to the Commander’s Homecoming in Virgil, SD, and there were also some delegates to the National Convention in Salt Lake City, but the Post had no activities of it’s own during these two months; they made up for it in September, however.

With the first Monday of September came the return of Monster Burgers. A great fund raiser and also a good PR program, Monster Burger Mondays draw a large crowd every week. With an average attendance of close to 250 people, the Legion Monster Burger is a crowd pleaser and a great source of income for the post. Of course, that income comes with a large price tag in man-power as at least 9 (a normal crew is actually 12) people are required just during the three hours of cooking and serving, and additional people are needed for the hours of preparation. Work normally starts just after noon to patty out the hundred and twenty pounds of hamburger, slice and butter the five inch buns, and prepare the onions, tomatoes, lettuce, pickles and condiments. The kitchen crews put in long hours to make the event a success, and they do it every Monday (except holidays) from the start of September until the end of April.

Monster Burgers alone, however, were not all that transpired in September, and the last two weeks of the month saw a flurry of activity that started with having the Boys State attendees at the regular meeting on the 18th. This has become an annual event that lets the membership get to see the quality students that participate in this program.

Shortly after that, on the 20th of September, the Color Guard was on hand at the grand opening of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter to present the Colors during the ceremony to officially open the store.

Then came the Fall District meeting in Eureka on the 29th and, the very next morning, the Gypsy Day parade for the local college homecoming.

October settled back down somewhat, but did feature the annual charity night, or turkey shoot. This night of fun and games of chance, with prizes ranging from candy bars to 10 pound turkeys, remains a popular attraction and is another of the Post's large fund raisers that also serves as a public relations tool to keep the Legion name in the public's mind.

November saw another rise in activity, starting with post member's participating in the Veteran's Day Program at Aberdeen Central High School. The program was held early again in 2006 as Veteran's Day was on a Saturday and the high school was closed for conferences on Friday the 10th. In an concession made to assure that students would be able to attend the program, the VFW, who organize the event, agreed to host the main program on the 9th of November at the high school,

and then have a smaller ceremony at their post home on Veteran's Day itself.

The day before Veteran's Day is also the traditional date of the Post's annual Early Bird feed, coordinated by membership chairman Olson. The event features a free supper for all members who had their 2007 membership paid up by 6:00PM on the 10th. The meal was very well received again this year with just over 200 members attending.

Brown County Government Day was held for the second time in the calendar year of 2006 on Nov 14th. After the program was held in April, many of the area schools who had participated expressed a desire to move the event to fall so a second Government Day was held and November set as the new date for the event in the future. As the "hosting" post, as well as the post with the largest delegation of students for the event, Sidney L Smith again provided the sack lunches. Other posts were asked for reimbursement for their students, but Aberdeen picked up the tab for the County Commissioners and other guests.

December and January were off months again, but the Post spent part of this time organizing events for the spring.

Applications were sent out to the local law enforcement and emergency services organizations to solicit nominations for the annual LEO and FF/EMT of the year awards (see below), and started a joint raffle with the VFW to raise money for both baseball programs.

In a departure from recent years, it was decided that the Baseball Fund raiser raffle this year would feature cash prizes rather than a boat has had been done in the past. Expectations are high that this move will make it easier to sell the tickets and provide operating capital for youth baseball in Aberdeen.

February started with an Army Reserve Orientation program on the 10th, set to coincide with their drill weekend. This was set up by the Post and run by Department Service Officer Warren Aas. It featured speakers from the VA Education and VA Medical departments to answer questions these new veterans might have about their benefits and what steps they should take to secure their rights in the future.

In addition to looking after our new comrades, February was also a time to remember fallen comrades from the past as the Post held their 51st annual Past Commander's Night and Memorial Service. The event recognizes all past Post Commanders, including a meal for those who can make it, and

a memorial service instead of the Post's regular meeting. This service honors all of the Post's deceased past commanders, as well as all members who have transferred to Post Everlasting in the prior 12 months.

For the first time, a camera and overhead projector were used to allow the family members present to see the poppies being placed on the crosses as the roll was read. The ceremony also incorporated a memorial to POW/MIA's.

It has become something of a tradition for commanders and guests at the meal to be assessed fines for various infractions, the President and the secretary of the Past Commanders got decided that this year the fines would be used to provide more donations of coffee, juice, and cookies to the Aberdeen CBOC.

February came to a close with Post delegates attending the Mid-Winter Conference in Huron on the 23rd.

March was a busy time for the Americanism Committee, Boys State Interviews were held on the 11th and the 25th for all applicants received from the three high schools. Members on the committee again commented on the character of the students that apply for this prestigious program, and felt that Aberdeen would again be well represented at Boys State this year.

The Americanism Committee also selected the Post's second annual Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and first annual Firefighter/EMT of the year.

Officer Keith Theroux of the Aberdeen Police department was selected as the LEO of the year. Requests for applicants had been sent out to the Aberdeen Police, Brown County Sheriff, SD Highway Patrol, SD Department of Game Fish & Parks, US Marshall's office, and the Federal Beuro of Investigation in January and the committee looked at the received nominees from all responding organizations before selecting Officer Theroux.

Captain Kent "Zook" Warrey, of the Aberdeen Rural Fire Department, was selected as the inaugural recipient of the Fire Fighter/EMT of the Year award. Captain Warrey is a volunteer fireman, and has been with Aberdeen Rural for seven years. He is a family man and an asset to the community, and makes a great first recipient of this award.

Recognition of both men was made at the March 19th meeting, with several guests present to see the presentation, and the Aberdeen American News ran a feature on both men to help spread the word of the great job that has been done by both of them in the Aberdeen community.

March saw the Post's first foray into the World Wide Web when it was decided at the regular meeting to set up our own web page at *AberdeenLegion.org*. It is hoped that the page will provide a contact point for some of the younger potential members, as well as a place to advertise upcoming events and recent post activities.

Preparation was also begun for the big spring fund raiser as a group was put together to sell ads for the horse racing programs. Traditionally three or four member's handle this activity, and by doing so they provide one of the Post's primary sources of revenue. They say the ads are easy to sell, but there is still a lot of time and travel involved in contacting all of the businesses and getting the ads and checks lined up.

The March meeting was also the time that Commander Sebert chose to announce the Post's choice for Legionnaire of the Year. Selected for 2006 was Dale Strom, and his application was sent on to the District for consideration at the spring meeting. The District 14 executive committee, however, ruled that, as a county commander, the Post Legionnaire of the Year could not be considered for selection by the District

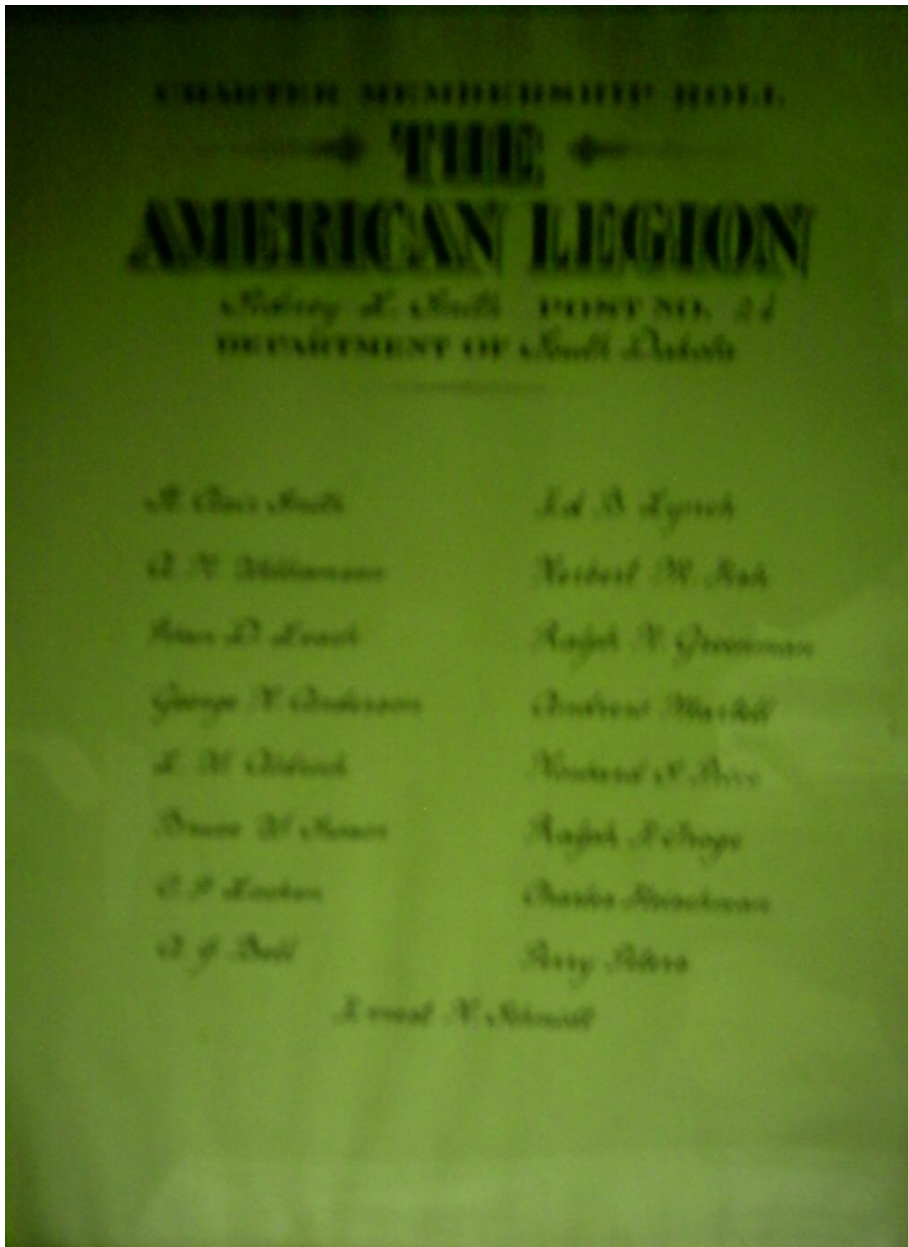
That meeting (Spring convention for District 14) took

place on April 12th at the Legion Hall in Roscoe, SD. In attendance from Post #24 were Larry Nupen (District Americanism Officer), Garry Warne, Gene Schumacher (Department Finance Officer), and Dale Strom (Brown County Commander).

Elections came at the end of the April post meeting on the 16th, and officially brought an end to the post's 2006 year.

APPENDICES

Charter Members



St Clair Smith
A.N Williamson
Jordan D Leach
C J Locken
A J Bell
Ed B Lynch
Herbert M Fish
Ralph N Greenman
Andrew Martell
Howard J Price
Ralph F Troge
Charles Fleischman
Perry Peters
Ernest H Schmidt



INDEX

<p>American Legion Constitution</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Preamble 10</p> <p>Americanism</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Boys State . . 22, 27, 29, 33</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Chair 17</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">FireFighter/EMT of Year</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">. 32, 34</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Government Day 31</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Law Enforcement Officer of</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">year 28, 32</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Memorial Day 25</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">school awards 22</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Veteran's Day 30</p> <p>Athletics</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Baseball 27</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Baseball fundraiser 32</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Chair 17</p> <p>Beckler, Paula</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Office 19</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">photo 18</p> <p>Beckler, Sid</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Office 19</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">photo 15</p> <p>Boys State 27</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Orientation 22</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">report - attendees 29</p>	<p>Children and Youth</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Chair 18, 19</p> <p>Color Guard</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">WalMart 30</p> <p>Commander 19, 20</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">photo 12</p> <p>Commander, First Vice</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sam Olson 12</p> <p>Commander, Second Vice</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Steve Nemmers 13</p> <p>Department Commander's</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Homecoming 28</p> <p>Department Convention</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Brookings 28</p> <p>Department Headquarters</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">. 4</p> <p>Elections 19</p> <p>Employment</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Chair 18</p> <p>Eric Fisher Wood 2</p> <p>Fund Raisers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Baseball 32</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Horse Races 23, 35</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Monster Burgers 29</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Turkey Shoot 30</p> <p>General Pershing 2</p>
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George White	2	Ford, Taylor	22
Gohn, Tom		Olson, Sam	31
Office	19	Office	20
photo	16	photo	12
High School Awards		Perrizo, Tom	
Aberdeen Central	22	Office	19
Roncalli	23	photo	17
Horse Races	23, 35	PR	
Kezar, Rich		Gypsy Day Parade	30
Office	19	Preamble	10
photo	14	Schumacher, Gene	
Legionnaire of the Year	35	District Meeting	36
Membership		Office	19
Early Bird dinner	31	photo	14
Memorial Day	25	Sebert, Al	
Mislitz, Curt		Memorial Day	25
Office	19	Office	19, 20
photo	15	photo	12
National Commander Visit		Sidney L. Smith	6
Boys State	27	Smith, Sidney L.	6
National headquarters	3	Strom, Dale	
Nemmers, Steve	20, 23	Boys State	22
Office	13	District Meeting	36
photo	13	Office	19
Nonmembers		photo	16
Aas, Warren - DSO	32	school awards	22, 23
Bock, Thomas - National		Theodore Roosevelt, Jr	2
Commander	27		

Vande Kamp, Greg	Past Commander's Night	32
Memorial Day	Warne, Gary	
Office	District Meeting	36
photo	Office	19
school awards	photo	18
VAVS	William Donovan	2
CBOC donations		24, 33
Orientation		32

3x5 Card, for inside of the front cover

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