

## Clark American Legion Cagley-Smith Post #60 charter was signed on September 4, 1919

Preparing for the 100th year of both the national American Legion and Clark American Legion anniversaries, a good place to start is with the local charter.

Bruce Brekke has somewhat taken over the historian role for the Cagley-Smith Legion with the passing of his uncle Bob Bauman. Brekke uncovered the Cagley Post #60 Charter last week and thought it a very significant find with the 100th anniversary in 2019.

This charter was signed 99 years ago yesterday, Sept. 4, 1919. After signing the charter, a temporary charter was issued on Sept. 9, 1919 to Cagley Post No. 60, American Legion, Department of South Dakota.

This was the first organized post in Clark County and was named in honor of the veteran, George Lewis Cagley, who was a Sergeant in the First World War and died on February 3, 1918 at Camp Cody, New Mexico. Mr. Cagley was from the Raymond area, rather than from Clark, but since he was the first deceased veteran of World War I and this was the first Legion post in Clark County, his name was used. Request for a permanent charter was not made until March 16, 1931



Members of the Clark American Legion Cagley-Smith Post #60 are shown with the group's charter, signed September 4, 1919. Ninety-two members, mainly World War I veterans enrolled in the local post by the end of October in 1919.

Current members posing with the charter include, and on April 13, 1931 a permanent charter was issued.

The first meeting of the Legion post elected W. C. Brower as

their commander. The first organizational meeting took place in the Masonic Hall, which was over Gale's and today is now the site of

back row, left to right, Bob Schlueter, Bruce Brekke, Dave Adam, DuWayne Wallen and Commander Rob McGraw.

Front row, left to right are Bob Forest, the only WWII veteran in the legion post, Lowell Pederson, Ed Clausen and John Foiles.

the Sportsman's Bar.

Those individuals named of the Cagley Post No. 60 American Legion Charter include: W. C. Brower,

R. B. Mann, A. M. Elrod, McKinley M. Bonfoey, C. P. Dickey, Bernard Schultz, Leslie L. Roff, F. P. Titus, Forrest L. Cook, H. O. Engen, A. H. Siem, E. C. Foss, R. D. Arpin, Ed. Herbison and Ed. S. Zender.

With the end of WW II and the acceptance of these veterans into membership in the post, a name change to Cagley-Smith Post #60 came about. This change came about to honor Thayne C. Smith, Torpedo Man 2<sup>nd</sup> Class who went down with the submarine "Shark" on or about February 16, 1942, while on active duty and Pvt. First Class Kendall E. Smith, who was killed in action on the island of Okinawa on June 19, 1945. The charter for Cagley-Smith Post #60 was issued on August 14, 1946. In addition Smith Street in Clark was named to honor the Smith brothers.

In the October 23, 1919 issue of the Clark County Courier, the story, headlined Local Legion Post Organized Week Ago - TO BE KNOWN AS CAGLEY POST, reads:

With an enrollment of ninety two members, the local Post of the American Legion was organized at the City Hall in this city on Thursday evening of last week and the fol-

lowing officers were elected for the ensuing year: Geo. B. Otte, Chairman; W. C. Brower, Vice Chairman; H. O. Engen, Secretary and A. H. Siem, Treasurer. Annual dues of \$1 per member were also voted at this meeting and should be paid promptly to the treasurer.

The Charter had been granted the local post some time ago but no steps were taken towards organization until after a thorough membership canvass had been made. Wednesday, September 24th was Home Coming Day at the Clark County Fair and it was during this time that a systematic canvass was made that netted a large number of members.

The Clark Post will hereafter be known as Cagley Post in honor of George Cagley, the first Clark county soldier to lay down his life in the service of his country.

According to a ruling of the state officers of the American Legion all who become members before November 11th are to be enrolled as charter members and it is urgently requested by the officers of the local post that all ex-service men in Clark county, who are not already

**American Legion**  
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The 2018 Clark High School Homecoming royalty candidates in the back row, left to right are Gunner Sanderson, Caleb Orris, Katlyn Maynard and Jeffrey Paulson. In the middle row, left to right are Grayson

Florey, Janae Kolden, Paige Rahm and Travis O'Neill. In the front are Taylor Hartley and Sydnie Fjelland. Coronation is scheduled for Monday, September 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clark High School gym.

## 2018 CHS Homecoming theme is 'Restaurants'

▲ Coronation is Monday, September 10

"Come join the fun and help Clark High School celebrate our 121st Anniversary," said CHS Student Body President Taylor Hartley. Eighty-eight years ago the tradition of Homecoming started at Clark High School. The celebration of Homecoming 2018 is the week of September 10-14 and the theme is 'Restaurants'.

Coronation of the Homecoming Queen and Marshal will be on Monday, September 10, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Clark High School gym.

Following the coronation, the burning of the "C" will take place on the south side of the high school.

During Homecoming week, or "Spirit Week", each day has a different dress up day. Monday is 'Mime Day' and on Tuesday the theme is

'Beach Party Day'. The fun continues on Wednesday with the theme being 'Camo Day'. Thursday's theme is 'Neon Day' and Friday, September 14, is 'Cyclone Day'.

The Homecoming Parade begins at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 14. The Cyclone football game will start at 7:00 p.m. at the Clark High School Sports Complex, west of the high school, against the Dakota Hills Grizzlies.

### Queen Candidates

**Taylor Hartley** is the daughter of Jerry and Robin Hartley of Clark. She is active in basketball, volleyball, National Honor Society, FCCLA, Special Olympics bowling and bocce ball and student council.

**Sydnie Fjelland** is the daughter of Todd and Susan Fjelland of

Clark. Her activities are volleyball, Special Olympics bowling, 4-H shooting sports, student council and golf.

**Janae Kolden** is the daughter of Gary and Betsy Kolden of Vienna. Her activities include volleyball, basketball, track, SADD, National Honor Society, FFA, FCCLA and student council.

**Paige Rahm** is the daughter of Lauri Rahm of Clark and Darrin Rahm. She is active in dance and cheer.

**Katlyn Maynard** is the daughter of Jory and Shawna Maynard of Vienna. Her activities include, football cheer, golf, band, choir, archery and National Honor Society.

**Homecoming**  
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## Robert Cole has quite the Lawn Boy push mower collection

Learning about engines by fixing his parents' new Lawn Boy push mower in 1969 was the start of a life-long hobby of collecting the older push mowers - the majority of them being Lawn Boys.

Robert Cole and his wife Cindy live in Clark but are originally from Watertown. The son of Tom and Charlotte Cole, in Watertown is where the young Cole began his connection with Lawn Boy lawn mowers.

"I've always enjoyed mowing yards and started working on those mowers when I was eight years old," recollected Cole. "I taught myself over the years about their engines.

"Jim Mahowald at Mahowald's Hardware taught me quite a bit, he was an official dealer for Lawn Boy. He'd help me with parts and ordered a manual for me that basically covered a bunch of them in different years."

"They built parts to last back then," noted Cole and as a testament, all of his lawn mowers are in running condition including the oldest ones and the 1969 that his parents owned that started it all.

"I had to do some sweet talking with dad so he wouldn't sell that 69," recalled Cole. "Now the older machines are really hard to find, people threw them out when they quit working.

"What I'm missing in my collection is a 1960 and a 1961 Lawn Boy, I'd love to find those. They are the only years that I'm missing from the 1960s."

When asked how many Lawn Boys and older push mowers he has, his reply was "too many". Numbers wise, he estimates about 60 different machines and he has some that are used for parts for the others.

His collecting started when still a teenager living at home. His neighbors gave him a non-working 1965 Lawn Boy which was a challenge in 1972. "I brought it home, fixed it up and kept it, 'cause I liked it. Then I acquired a few more in time. I like the older stuff from 1977 going back. After that they changed in engine and design. The newer they got, the more updates they tried to



From a 1952 Lawn Boy Iron Horse lawn mower in the front to a 1972 International Harvester Cadet in the back of the lineup, this is only a portion of Robert Cole's collection. Cole of Clark is pushing a 1964 PowrKraft Montgomery Wards mower he acquired for free, 20 years ago which he got up and running shortly after. One may notice the teeth or rake in the front of the 1952 in the front. "That was a good idea really," noted Cole, "for sticks in your yard."

make. Using more plastic, which some times melts from the heat, the newer ones don't last like the older ones did."

One rare machine he has is a 1959 with an impulse starter that still runs. The top of the engine would flip up and one would have to wind up the starting mechanism. "They only made them as a factory accessory from 1958-1962. I've only seen two of them anywhere - and one of them is mine," stated Cole.

Although hard to choose a favorite in his collection, the Montgomery Wards 1964 PowrKraft he acquired is a favorite in all aspects in its running order and cut.

"I like the old ones better - they run forever. I use all of them to keep them limbered up. Back in the day - Lawn Boy was the cream of the crop. There wasn't much maintenance on them. If you keep the blade sharp, the air filter cleaned and the oil and gas ration correct, they'll just keep running," continued Cole. "Those rubber seals will get hard if not used and will start to leak. An engine's not made to just sit."

Cole is in several collector groups online such as 2 Cycle Lawn Boy enthusiasts, Vintage Lawn Boy collectors and Pre-compliance Lawn Boy mowers to name a few.

Strict regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) resulted in the discontinued two cycle engines in early 2004. Lawn Boy was bought out by Toro in 1989.

Cole also noted that the International Harvester company had their

**Cole**  
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### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 28.....	65	49	0
Aug. 29.....	74	49	0
Aug. 30.....	76	58	0
Aug. 31.....	78	59	.02
Sept. 1.....	82	59	.01
Sept. 2.....	77	60	0
Sept. 3.....	--	--	--
2018 precipitation to date	12.82		
2017 precipitation to date	15.16		

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