



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

December 2015

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Well fishing on the soft water is at the end. Hard water season will start soon. Boat put away and cabin winterized. Deer season is over and your commander scored a nine-point buck, so we will eat hearty.

I have been thinking as veterans we should know something about one another. **What branch, what years, what you did, and where you were stationed.** I will start this off, USMC from 1958 to 1962. I was a Jet engine mechanic. Stationed in Cherry Point, NC. Iwakuni MCAS Japan, crossed the Pacific twice by APA troop ship went to Cuba twice worked on many different Jets and discharge in 1962. If any of you are interested in letting us know your info please write up your history and we will put it in the newsletter.

Our Legion Christmas party is December 14th at the post we will have a short meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the party after. We will have prime rib with the fixings, door prizes and \$10.00 gift exchange for those who wish to. Be sure to put guys or gals on the package.

Hope all of you had a nice Thanksgiving. See you at the meat raffles.

Fred



LEGION CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 14, 2015 with a short meeting at 6:00 p.m., then Prime Rib or chicken with all

the fixings. There will be a gift exchange for those members who wish to participate purchase a \$10.00 items for a guy or gal put a tag on the item letting us know which the gift is for and you will receive a gift back. There will be door prizes at the end. We hope to see you there.

S.A.L UPDATE
Jim Hovda – Adjutant

No report. Need your dues if you have not already sent them in. Membership becomes delinquent on 01 Jan 2016.

WARRIORS COLUMN

Jim Hovda, First Sergeant, U.S. Army (Retired)

I had the honor of being invited to the retirement party of Staff Sergeant Jerry Huntington from the U.S. Army. Jerry served in the army for more than thirty years. He had two tours in Iraq, a trip to Kuwait and other numerous assignments with the MN Army National Guard. I'll do a more extensive article on SSG Huntington at a later date.

A lot of his former army buddies from his tours in SW Asia were there and really roasted Jerry. I had the privilege of serving with Jerry when we were in the 3rd Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard). SSG Huntington is the kind of soldier that if you don't have him in your ranks, you're already behind the power curve. Jerry was a "soldier's soldier."

Jerry is restoring a cabin just east of Ft. Ripley, MN where he plans on spending most of his time.

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

Chaplain Don Miklos and Jim Hovda answered questions for students in a classroom at the Rice elementary School then Don made a patriotic presentation at their formal program in remembrance of Veteran's Day.

Keep uniforms squared away for unscheduled events.

Jim Hovda

MEMBERSHIP DUES

This is a reminder that Membership dues are due now. January 1, 2016 your dues will be delinquent. So please get them in soon.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Emil Williams

The little white one-room schoolhouse on the wind-swept prairie was abuzz with excitement as the Christmas season drew near. A kind neighbor had cut the perfectly shaped evergreen Christmas tree from somewhere on his property near the Badlands and brought it to school for all the children to decorate for the up-coming Christmas program. We decorated it with our paper chains, paper stars, real old-fashioned tinsel, and probably paper snowflakes as well.

The teacher, who taught all eight grades, had assigned poems, Christmas stories, and short plays to each child. We were to memorize them for the program. If I remember correctly, the poem that was always recited each year, usually by an older student, was entitled "Twas the Night before Christmas."

We would practice saying our poems to each other until we knew them by heart because we didn't want to be embarrassed by making a mistake. Before that special night came, the floor was swept, the desk tops were washed off with water that we gotten from a spring, the bed sheets were hung for curtains, and everything was put in order. We could be proud that everything was clean and in order when our parents, friends, and grandparents came, packing the little schoolhouse to bulging, to hear us recite, sing Christmas carols and other songs about Santa Claus and his reindeer.

Even though there were presents, a great deal of excitement, and everything went off well there was never anything mentioned about the real meaning of Christmas. It was some years later that I learned about the real meaning. I was told that Jesus our Savior was born in a far-off land in Bethlehem of Judea around this time of year, and that if I wanted to have my sins forgiven I needed to repent of what I was doing wrong and invite Jesus to come into my life.

Let's let the Gospel of Matthew tell us about the first Christmas. Matthew 1:18-23, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a

son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.”

I am so thankful that God was merciful and let me learn the true meaning of Christmas.

May each of us draw near to Him this Christmas and make room in our hearts for Him.

Emil Williams, SAL Chaplain

KEYS FOR CASH FREE MONEY, a take-off from the Alamo. Cheryl and Sandy have a different twist. **EVERY SATURDAY** at 8:00 P.M. the bartender will draw a time, anywhere from 8:00 – 9:00 P.M. whatever time is drawn, that is when the cash drawing will be held. How do you get in on this bonus? Just stop in at the post and enter your name. It's free. No money. You'll be given a number and if it is drawn, you win. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.** As of the writing of this article the cash is \$500.00. The prize will hit a maximum of \$500.00. Eventually, someone will take home the cash. Don't miss the Saturday evening meat raffles, proceeds benefit area groups, come on over and try your luck.

FROM THE CLUB

Cheryl Bovy

Let me be the first to wish you all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Just a reminder that on Dec 14th is the membership dinner; it's always a very nice treat for us all.

November was our widow's night out. We raised \$272 for the Rice Women of Today, the Auxiliary and the same for the Rice food shelf. Not quite as much as last year but very close. Thanks to all who gave baskets to make this night a success.

Dec. has bingo that is worth \$1199. Wed nights at 7pm. Sat night at 7ish we have the meat raffle and at 8pm begins our key for cash drawing worth \$500 at this time. Come out and join us. Great help for Christmas presents.

If you need to have a family get together the legion would love to accommodate you and yours. Give us a call and book a time and date.

Thanks and Happy Holidays. Cheryl

HOLD YOUR EVENT AT THE RICE LEGION you can host a party or other event at our Legion Post **FOR FREE...** No clean up and we can provide a bartender. Catering is an option, or you can host your own food. Catering can be done by Creative Catering.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

This will be the last newsletter for the year with Thanksgiving approaching and Christmas close behind.

If you haven't renewed your membership with the Auxiliary, please do so soon. Cost of Membership is for Adult Women, 18 and older, \$20.00 under 18, \$10.00.

Thank you to Peggy Kerestes, Nancy Anderson, Libby Levinski, Phylis Miklos, Theresa Duea and myself who made bars or cake for American Education Week at school here. The Auxiliary supplied juice, milk and coffee.

Thank you to the Legion men for their donation of apples to all the children and staff at school, which were given out on Friday.

Our next meeting will be December 14 at the club. We will start with meetings beginning at 6:00 pm and the membership dinner will begin at 7:00 pm. The dinner will consist of Prime Rib or Chicken with all the fixings. We will also do a \$10.00 gift exchange for those who are interested. Please label your gift men if you are a man or women if you are a woman. There has been confusion with this in the past so this is about as clear as I can make it.

At our November meeting our Auxiliary made a donation to Wreaths Across America and Wreaths for the Fallen. Both go towards the purchase of wreaths for our Minnesota Veteran Cemeteries. The placement of wreaths at the Minnesota State Veteran's Cemetery at Camp Ripley will be December 12th starting at 11:00 am.

We are still in need of a president for next year. Please consider this position, as I will be done the end of May.

Hope to see you all at the Club Membership Party in December!

Janice Martin

DECEMBER 2015 LEGION CALENDAR

02 BINGO. 7:00 P.M.

05 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00.

07 Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. (Fly Flag at ½ staff until sunset)

08 U.S. Declares war on the Empire of Japan.

09 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

11 U.S. Declares war on Germany and Italy.

12 *Laying Christmas wreaths at Vets Cemetery LF.*

12 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.

13 B'day of the National Guard. (Militia) (1636)

14 Leg mtg & Membership dinner.

15 Iraq war ends. (2011)

16 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

19 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.

20 Operation Just Cause begins. (Panama) 1989)

20 NL Articles due.

22 Winter begins.

23 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

25 Christmas Day - CLUB CLOSED. (Fly Flag.)

26 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.

30 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

31 New Year's Eve. - - The Official end to WWII. (1946)

MEETINGS IN DEC WILL BE AT THE POST. Legion at 6:00 p.m. 2016 Meetings

THE VA MEDICAL CENTER has an excellent urgent care facility. It's located just inside the main entrance. If your medical need is more than home treatment can solve, this is your answer. Service is fast the staff will bend over backwards to help.

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:

LEADERSHIP

Legion Commander – Fred Segler 320/393-2484 fjfarm@aol.com
Auxiliary President - Janice Martin 320/393-2410 janice2177@aol.com
S.A.L. Commander – Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 debwolf@jetup.net

MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Floyd Hinkemeyer 320/393-2854 fhinkemeyer@jetup.net
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CHAPLAINS

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Auxiliary - Jan Hovda 320/393-4339 janhovda@jetup.net
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COLOR GUARD

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POST

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COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

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