



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

January 2016

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

First all I hope every one has a Very Merry Christmas and a Super Happy New Year. Its been a tough Month at the Segler Home Spent a few days in the Hospital Hernia surgery and found I had a slow heart beat. So they had to put in an external pace maker before they would operate. But it all worked out ok. Jim Laumeyer gave me some interesting info The Pan Towner's auto club and others, have been collecting pull tabs from aluminum cans and last year it helped collect enough to donate 796.00 dollars to donate to the VA health system for a Polytrauma unit this helps with rehabilitation of patients. So don't throw away the tabs we do collect them at the club. Meat Raffles have been going fine we could use some more help. If interested give me a call. It's lots of fun. We also donated to the Glader Family and the Roses family we don't have lot of funds but we can help some. Gladers lost their Business in Bowlus and the Roses son needs a kidney transplant. Hope you all get what you want for Christmas More next Month Fred

Military Service Spotlight

Chet Seviola's Military Service 1964 – 1985

My career started with a Signals and Electronic Intelligence course which prepared me for an assignment to Taiwan with lots of antennas pointing West at China. If I tell you what I was doing they have to shoot both of us.

Next came flight school followed by an instructor pilot job. We gave students a first jet ride and if they survived the straps, belts and oxygen mask we finished with an airplane ride. Walter Buehl came along and on this first ride he wanted to do it all, including spins and multiple landings. After the ride I asked him if he flew jets before. He answered the he was the German national glider champion. He added that this plane was easy because it has engines to recover from mistakes.

Then came the new Vietnamese training program. Often students came from a home with no electricity to a jet trainer. I will always remember Mr. Viet from the first class. I was the supervisor of flying who assigned airplanes and flying areas. I prepared him and sent him out to fly. Mr. Viet called in and reported that his

radio was stuck. I told him to go the line chief and get a different airplane. A while later, the Wing Commander walked in and asked me if I really did what he heard. I told him what happened and he asked me if I was aware that Mr. Viet opened the canopy and got out on the runway and walked back while wearing a parachute and helmet, leaving the running jet blocking the main runway.

I changed to C-130s, a four-engine turboprop. My job was to fly lots of air land and air drop formations of troops and heavy equipment. At Pope AFB where I was supervising dropping of troops I was driving back to Pope. There was a jumper hanging in a tree. He lowered himself with his tree device and I took him back to his people. They were unconcerned about him, but they hurried to mass the troops to go look for his lost rifle.

I once flew a T-29 two-prop transport into a cloudbank. Inside the clouds it felt like we ran into a mountain. We came out the bottom of the cloud nearly upside down. After landing they condemned the plane with broken wing spars and it never flew again. I am glad they did not tell us until several days later.

While on a training assignment the Jordanian pilot in the other seat told me to pay attention. He said if you did not turn in 30 minutes you were out of Jordan and the neighbors would shoot us down. Jordan is an odd shape and is smaller than Indiana. I paid attention.

My flying career took me all over, but the four-year assignment at the 37th Tactical Airlift Squadron at Frankfurt Germany was the best. I flew and when off duty the family drove all over Europe. The 21 years in the Air Force were a great experience for all of us.

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.

Thank You!

Several times each year veterans receive a fun mailing from the Auxiliary, with a card. The cards were prepared by Nancy Anderson but due to workload she passed the project to the Legion Auxiliary who works with younger girls to prepare the cards, the cards a nice remembrance. I know I appreciate mine and I have heard from many others who say the same thing. We would like to send a sincere thank you to all who work to send out the cards. We appreciate you very much.

Chet Seviola

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

During 2016, I'm going to try to tell you about the members of our post who are still serving in the active or reserve component.

STAFF SERGEANT TRAVIS PETERSON. Is a member of the MN Army National Guard. (Many of you will remember him as the soldier who led the 9/11 Parade this past September.)

Travis joined the army in April 2006 and went to basic and advanced training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. (A terrible le place) From there he hooked up with his unit in Litchfield, MN, which is an engineer unit. In 2007 he was deployed to Iraq as the 849th MAC (Mobile Augmentation Company) supporting units such as a Special Forces. He was there for a year. In 2013 he was again deployed, this time to Afghanistan. Clearing roads of mines and IED's was the mission.

Currently Staff Sergeant Peterson works full time at Camp Ripley, MN at Range Control when not doing duty with his Litchfield unit. Having completed nearly ten years of service we all owe our heartfelt gratitude for his service. SSG Travis is a member of our color guard.

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

My self, Ernest Whitney and Jim Wolf attended the wake and funeral of a close former my army friend, Army First Sergeant Gilbert W. Mierva (Retired). "Top" Gil put in more than thirty years of service in the army reserve and MN Air National Guard. The event was in East St. Paul.

The event was on Monday (14 Dec) and the weather on the way down was TERRIBLE. Wind, snow, sleet, rain, more snow and blowing. It was a "white knuckle" drive. As it happened, Jim Wolf was standing in as chaplain for our chaplain, Don Miklos, who was nursing a cold. As the chaplain is in charge of weather, I asked Chaplain Jim to do something about the weather. I got one of those "Jim Wolf smiles and we'll see" for a response. It didn't look good for a graveside service.

Well, as it turned out, by the time of the service there was only a trace of snow falling. Our good Chaplain Don has not been able to do that good on weather. In fact, I recall a funeral at North Prairie where Chaplain Don did not do well at all. We got sub-zero with wind for our event there. Maybe when it comes to weather, we'll have to call on our reserve chaplain Jim Wolf for weather assistance. Chaplain Don, is there a way to improve communication on weather issues?



CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Don Miklos

My Dear Comrades,

I have noticed that getting “dressed up” does not happen as much these days. No matter where you go the dress code seems to be casual. Weddings and funerals are exceptions, usually! I remember standing at attention for Battalion Review in our dress O.D’s, (later to become Dress Greens), and displaying our hard earned ribbons and badges on our breast. Yes, we were proud young soldiers serving our God and Country. We “dressed up” so as to present ourselves in a favorable light to our Commander. To please him, as it were, and we did!

Recently, before Christmas, we went through a period of readying ourselves for the birth of our Savior. Some call it, “advent”. Now, in this time, early in the New Year, God is inviting us to “put on new clothes,” or, capture a new way of living.

The prophet Baruch calls on Jerusalem to get rid of her mourning cloths because her children carried of in exile are coming home! So be happy! (Baruch 5: 1-9) John the Baptist calls for putting on new work clothes of repentance so all who hear the word may build a road into their hearts, so that when God arrives there he can “dress them” in glories garments of salvation. Alleluia! (Luke 3: 1-6) And my favorite apostles St Paul, tells his beloved Philippians, and us to put on love. To see what really matters, dressing our hearts in love.

So, what are you wearing now? What do you need to change into as we move into the New Year? Perhaps we need to get “dressed up” as we prepare ourselves for eternal life with our God. After all, we want to present ourselves in a favorable light and please God our Supreme Commander, do we not? My comrades we must not be lax or “casual” with matters of our God. He deserves the very best we can give him. As Paul says, “my children, always dress your hearts in love”. Very sound advice indeed! My thoughts and prayers are with you in the New Year. God Bless.

Your Chaplin, Don Miklos

Many folds want to serve God, But only as advisers.

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.

THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX

Darlene Hiscock

Well, Jim Hovda tells me that there is open water on Little Rock Lake (19 Dec) and, I believe a lot of open water in many lakes. That means that the ice, whatever little there is, is probably not very safe. I do enough wakes & funerals. PLEASE, do not be a statistic of one who went through the ice just for a fish. This could be a tough winter for the hard water anglers. Oh, and by the way, no fish were reported to me.

Please be safe. GOD BLESS. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Darlene Hiscock
"AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.

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 \$50.00. 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

Happy New Year everyone,

If you haven't had your Christmas get together yet there's still time to call us here at the Legion to set up a date. Any party for that matter. We would love to have you hold it here.

Our bingo jackpot, (as I write this), is still at \$1199, Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Also the Key for Cash drawing Saturday 26th \$500 went out, we will be starting over this Saturday. That starts at 8pm on Saturday nights. There is meat raffle starting at approx. 7:15. Come join us for some fun.

On January 9th we will again be hosting, with Shadys Railside, a dart tournament. Start time is 2 o'clock.

Happy New Year to all.

Cheryl

AUXILIARY NEWS

Janice Martin

Welcome to a new year and finally some snow!

Our December membership dinner was wonderful. Lots of good food, thanks to Mark !, and fellowship. We had a very good year for 2015. A recap of 2015 brought us Valentines for Vets, our annual Easter party for the kids, Memorial Day services and picnic, our annual Brat sale fund raiser at Coborns, an opportunity to park cars as a fund raiser during the Craft Fair, 911 service, Widows Weekend fund raiser, American Education Week with the ladies making goodies for the staff at school here and the guys supplying apples to all the kids and staff, and once again our membership dinner/gift exchange. There may have been a few more "events" that I may have forgotten but a very busy year for some of us.

I really enjoy being involved with this organization. I have many fond memories and still plan to be involved as much as possible but it is time for me to pass off the baton to someone else. This coming May, will be my last month as president so it is my hope that someone will step up and fill these shoes. There are members who have many years of experience who are there to help with questions and support.

Our January Dinner will be the 12th. If, we have the same menu as 2015, we are serving Pork Roast with baby red potatoes and all the fixings. Our serving crew, if it's the same as last year, will be Sharon Kiley, Peg Seviola, Cheryl Bovy.

Our annual Valentines for Vets workday is scheduled for January 30th at 9:00 at the wonderful Watab Township Hall. It doesn't take long as there are many crafty items already made ahead of time. It is more of a "fun" fellowship time with treats and a sloppy joe lunch. If you've never helped out, come and stay as long as you want and check it out. I've done it for years and I really enjoy myself!

If you need a gift idea for someone you may want to purchase Auxiliary dinner tickets. They are available at the Legion club. Just ask one of the bar tenders.

Also, if you need to renew your membership dues contact Nancy Anderson.

Always,
Janice

JANUARY 2016 LEGION CALENDAR

01 New Year's Day. Club closed. (Fly Flag)

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

06 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

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

11 Legion/Auxiliary meetings. (See below)

12 Auxiliary dinner. 5:00 - 7:00 P.M. Pork Roast ,potatoes,salads, deserts

13 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

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

17 Operation Desert Storm begins. (1991)

18 Martin Luther King Jr. day. (Fly Flag)

20 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

21 Birth of modern National Guard. (1903)

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

25 Ardennes-Alsace Campaign ends. (Battle of the Bulge) (1945)

27 BINGO. 7:00 P.M.

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

30 Work day for Valentines for Veterans Watab Hall 9 - noon

30 Tet Offensive begins in S. Vietnam. (1968)

31 Operation Just Cause ends. (Panama) 1990)

LEGION MEETINGS WILL BE AT THE PINE COUNTRY BANK. Meetings start with (1) Legion Club Committee 6:00 P.M., (2) Legion Board of Directors at 6:30 P.M. & (3) Legion & SAL meeting 7:00 P.M. SAL members meet w/Leg. (3) **Auxiliary at the Joyce Segler residence, 9565 Isaac Rd NW Rice 7:00 P.M.**

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

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

Legion - Don Miklos 320/584-5825
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