



# **THE AMERICAN LEGION**

## **Hasso Briese Post 0473**

### **March 2013**

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### **Commander's Column**

Greetings from sunny Florida. We are in the Destin area with several other Rice people who are enjoying the beaches, golf, the seafood and the weather. The weather has been great compared to Rice, but there are lots of southern people all bundled up. I have ordered so many fishmeal's and I have never heard of some of the kinds of fish.

We have an opportunity in the Legion that I want to bring to your attention. There are many vets returning to the area after serving a tour or a career. Some have joined our Legion and I want to offer a sincere welcome to them. Jim Hovda does a good job finding and recruiting them. I ask you to make any new members welcome. Introduce yourself. Buy them a drink. We all have the bond of serving. Be sure to tell Floyd Hinkemeyer if you hear of a veteran that is new to the area.

I want to thank Floyd for taking over Commander duties while I was gone. My spies say he did a great job. Floyd deserves more praise for the great job he is doing with memberships. He has signed up 150 members. Thank you Floyd.

Chet Seviola

### **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS & S.A.L. SQUARDRON 473**

Gentleman: February was a busy month. I attended the mid winter conference in Waite Park. I always enjoy these meetings to interact with other chapters in the 6th District to see what they have been planning for the upcoming year. I walked away with a lot of ideas and more pride than ever! The 6th district gave \$100.00 to our district Commander Jim Lucas for purchasing mattresses for Legionville. For those of you that are wondering "What is Legionville"? It's a wonderful place in Brainerd where the Legion Family can get together for fun and frolic. I urge you to check it out on the web for more details. The district also donated \$100.00 to Betty Snyder 6th District President of the Auxiliary and \$100.00 to Bryce Soltis for their Jr. Auxiliary projects. The SAL was the only organization to make donations at the conference! This is not possible without OUR MEMBERS so I say THANK YOU KINDLY!!!!

All local chapters I talked to are facing similar issues one being attendance at Post meetings. With this in mind, the board has decided to do something about this. Starting in March at our next meeting the 14th at 1400 hours, we will be starting a program in which \$5.00 will be put in a pot and 1 name will be drawn from our membership roster. The name drawn wins.

However, the member drawn must be present at the meeting to win! If the member drawn is not the name, it goes back in, and the pot grows by \$5.00! If there is no winner the pot will grow to a total of \$30.00 at which time a name will be drawn who is at this meeting and a winner will be awarded! That's 2 years of dues FREE! I urge you to attend! I for one like stuff for free!

I recently put in a request to sell brats and burgers at Coborns this year. The dates will be announced in the next newsletter. A couple of projects we are looking at; one being a bean bag Tournament at the Post this summer along with a flea market to raise a few dollars to fund more projects at the Post. Any questions please contact me.

I am also starting a Junior Shooting Sports Program for our Youth. What is this you ask? This program through the American Legion Family promotes gun safety, education, and marksmanship and provides Enjoyment, Competition. Check it out on the website at [www.legion.org/junior](http://www.legion.org/junior) shooting sports. More information to follow as I receive it, Stay tuned!

**Attention all motorcycle enthusiasts** The American Legion Riders have 3 rides planned this year with more to follow:

One will be "The Ride for the Mind" in June

One will be July 13 A ride from our Post to Pillager to visit a veteran friend of mine Todd Wohl "WILD HORSES" They place a wide variety of music and you won't be disappointed!!

One will be the POW/MIA Remembrance Run on July 21. Proceeds go to the Fergus Falls Veterans Home.

Please spread the word on these rides. The More the Merrier!!!! Lets Bring the Thunder!!!!

With all this information to digest please remember we would like to see some new faces at our meetings. It will be worth your time.

To Ms Tackle Box: A 25 inch Walleye caught be yours truly on secret lake 7 thank you.

Until then At Ease Gentleman!

Serving you proudly! Your commander Jeff Gondeck

### **S.A.L. Chaplin**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the SAL officers for asking me to be their chaplain. It is truly an honor to further the cause of "God and Country." Because I have responsibilities to another flock, I may not be able to be at every event, but I will make as many as possible. Since this is my first article for the SAL, I feel like I am still trying to find my way and find out about this fine organization. Taking a quote from the SAL manual, it states, "Remember, you are responsible for the spiritual leadership of the squadron." There is much involved in that simple but profound statement. It takes on many responsibilities. Many of you have never seen me and probably don't know anything about me. Briefly, I'll introduce myself. For starters, I spent 2½ years serving in Germany at the end of WW II in the occupation army. I understood the pitfalls and struggles

that the other soldiers faced. For many young men, it was their first time away from home and the good moral guidelines of home were lost in their adventure. I have cleaned up vomit after a soldier came in from a night on the town, worked with a German orphanage, and was involved in chapel work. I will, with the Lord's help, do my best to lend an ear and work with you concerning your spiritual needs. God bless you. Together may we promote "God and Country".  
Chaplain Emil Williams

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### **HONOR GUARD COLUMN**

Jim Hovda

Members of the honor guard participated in their annual training conducted at the Immaculate Conception Church. A hosted dinner at the post for the members and their guests followed the training. Honored guests included: Lucy Hovland, George "Mr. Marine" Gazette with his bride Ms. Evelyn and the SR VFW Post Commander Tom Tauber. As usual, member Mark Larson of the Creamery Café catered a great meal. Thanks Mark.

Since 2004, members of your honor guard have donated about 4,540 hours of service to the post and veterans. In 2012 members participated in eleven funerals and interments and donated a total of 614 hours of service to the post, veterans and their families.

### **WARRIORS COLUMN**

Jim Hovda, 1SG U.S. Army (Retired)

Our newest member, Chris James, a transfer from a post in the cities is being deployed to Afghanistan. He leaves in March. I had the opportunity to attend a "deployment party" at the St. Cloud VFW on the 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a great event. All loyal Americans, a group Archie Bunker would have been proud to associate with. Chris is a sergeant with the MN Army National Guard. He's a mechanic and will be involved in the recovery of disabled vehicles. Not the safest of occupations. Sergeant Chris told me he fired expert with the rifle. A skill that just might come in handy. Although Chris will be taking a vacation from the MN State Patrol he will still be protecting our freedoms.

Another post member, Sergeant Major Ron Klug is also in Afghanistan. Not sure what he is doing, I'm sure he could use a card. I'll put his address at the end of the article.

I know that we have other post members participating in military duties both in MN and other locations. I would like to inform our post members what you all are doing. Send me an email [jhovda.rice@jetup.net](mailto:jhovda.rice@jetup.net) so I can do you right.

SGM RON KLUG - - FOB GHAZNI - - PRT GHAZNI - - APO AE 09364

## **CHAPLAINS CORNER**

**Dear Members of our Legion Family:**

**There is an old proverb, which says “Those who believe in the Lord never have to say good bye.” But last month we did have to say those words to truly innocent little children of people like you and I, and so we ask “why?” How could God let this happen? We ask the question because we are human and so, programmed to seek answers. Yet, not every question is answerable. Sometimes we must have faith. Remember, God does not think as we do. We cannot fathom the mind of our God. We must trust in him because, no matter what, he is in control at all times and uses each of us as a piece of the puzzle in the complete picture of life. Each of us has a space and only he knows where we fit.**

**We may never have an answer that satisfies our mortal minds. As to “why.” Only God knows!**

**But, turn to him, open the bible to Ecclesiastes, 3: 2-8, The Great Philosopher. And ask for the wisdom to understand, perhaps it may make accepting bad things easier.**

**Life isn't about how you survived the storm; it's about how you danced in the rain!**

**As always, in Christ,  
Don Miklos  
Chaplain American Legion Post 0473**

### **THE TACKLE BOX**

**My working partner at the Creamery Café, Nate Larson is the only winner catching a 33-inch northern pike at Gull Lake. I'm told that the pan fish crew all sent south for a month or two leaving Chaplain Miklos to guard the secret spots. What happened to you Mr. Weyer? My spies tell me that you have been busy on “The Rock” trying to remove fish. Next month I'll be announcing the year winners. Keep tuned. Keep safe, and God Bless.**

**Darlene Hiscock (AKA) Ms. Tackle Box**

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## FROM THE CLUB

March is upon us and hopefully the snow will be melting. St. Patty's day is great to have a little cheer so stop in the club and celebrate a little. And no Jim H. we will not have green beer.

Our Rice Chamber will be holding there monthly meeting at the club here in March. Looking forward to having them here.

Bingo numbers are getting higher and higher. Come join in the fun on Wed. nights at 7 and take home a piece of the money.

Thank you Jim Hovda and Kevin Martin for replacing the burnt out lights on the side of our club.

Remember meat raffles. This month they are Friday nights at 7pm on the 1st, 15th and 29th.

Also if you want to enjoy the club for a party please call me at 393-4545. Its free of charge and we will just set a date.

Cheryl Bovy

## AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies

We're turning the corner on spring, yea!

The Weyer benefit was a great success. Thanks to the the Weyer Children for all their organizing and all the donations for the silent auction. I saw the walls lined with wonderful auction items!

At our last meeting we decided to raise the monthly **auxiliary dinner cost to \$7.00 for adults. Kids 10 and under would stay at \$3.00.**

We talked about having a membership dinner this summer....for the sake of planning will probably set it for sometime next summer. This is being checked into.

The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Palm Sunday, March 24th starting at 1:00 pm at the Old City Hall. Let us know if you can help. The more help the more activities we can do! Anyone who would like to help is welcome to come.

The March dinner will on the 12th, 5-7 pm. The dinner will be Beef Burgundy with baby red potatoes, salads and desserts. The crew for March is Darla Swenson, Darlene Hiscock, and Peggy Kerestes.

Thank you to Pat Fuchs for organizing the monthly dinners with Mark Larson, working up the dinner list and scheduling the ladies!

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 11th at the Legion club. Bring all your good ideas or come and listen and share. All members are welcome!!

Have a Marvelous March

Janice

## LEGION - MARCH 2013 - CALENDER

**06 Operation Bingo. Post 7:00 P.M.**

07 U.S. Troops invade Germany. (1945)

10 Daylight savings time begins. (Spring ahead...)

**11 Leg & Aux meetings. (See below)**

**12 Auxiliary Dinner. 5 – 7:00 P.M. Post. New Price \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 10 and under**

**13 Operation Bingo. Post 7:00 P.M.**

**14 SAL Membership meeting. 2:00 P.M. Post.**

15 Vietnam Advisory Campaign begins. (1962)

15 American Legion birthday. (1919)

17 St. Patrick's Day. (Green beer at the post?)

19 Iraq War begins. Operation Iraqi Freedom. (2003)

**20 Operation Bingo. Post 7:00 P.M.**

23 Battle of Pork Chop Hill begins. (1953 Korea)

24 Palm Sunday.

**24 Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt in Old Village Hall 1:00 p.m. For all Rice area Children**

25 National Medal of Honor Day.

**27 Operation Bingo. Post 7:00 P.M.**

29 U.S. Involvement in Vietnam War ends. (1973)

29 Good Friday.

31 Easter Sunday. (Fly Flag)

NOTE - - The three legion meetings start with (1) the club committee at 4:30 PM (2) board of directors at 5:00 PM at the Pine Country Bank and (3) membership meeting at 7:00 P.M. **At the post for both the Legion and Auxiliary.**

**AIRBORNE HERITAGE**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1943 the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Parachute Regiment was activated in New Caledonia.

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## **IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:**

### **LEADERSHIP**

Legion Commander - Chet Seviola 320/584-2046 [seviola@clearwire.net](mailto:seviola@clearwire.net)  
Auxiliary President - Janice Martin 320/393-2410 [janice2177@aol.com](mailto:janice2177@aol.com)  
S.A.L. Commander - Jeff Gondeck 320/469-6752 [kato6820@gmail.com](mailto:kato6820@gmail.com)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Legion - Floyd Hinkemeyer 320/393-2854 [fthinkemeyer@jetup.net](mailto:fthinkemeyer@jetup.net)  
Auxiliary - Nancy Anderson 320/393-2108 [njanderson@jetup.net](mailto:njanderson@jetup.net)  
S.A.L. - Jeff Gondeck 320/469-6752 [kato6820@gmail.com](mailto:kato6820@gmail.com)

### **CHAPLAIN**

Legion - Don Miklos 320/584-5825  
Auxiliary - Jan Hovda 320/393-4339 [janhovda@jetup.net](mailto:janhovda@jetup.net)  
SAL - Emil Williams 320/393-2203 [Ebwilliams@jetup.net](mailto:Ebwilliams@jetup.net)

### **GUARD**

Jim Hovda 320/393/4339 [jhovda.rice@jetup.net](mailto:jhovda.rice@jetup.net)

### **POST**

Manager - Cheryl Bovy 320/393-4545 [cbovy@hotmail.com](mailto:cbovy@hotmail.com)

### **COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS**

Benton County - George Fiedler 320/968-5044 [gfiedler@co.benton.mn.us](mailto:gfiedler@co.benton.mn.us)  
Morrison County - Paul Froncek 320/632-0290  
[paulf@co.morrison.mn.us](mailto:paulf@co.morrison.mn.us)  
Stearns County - Terry Ferdinandt 320/656-6176  
[terry.ferdinandt@co.stearns.mn.us](mailto:terry.ferdinandt@co.stearns.mn.us)

Rice Legion Website [post473.org](http://post473.org)