



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

December 2014

FROM THE COMMANDER

Chet Seviola

Thank You members for your support in 2014 to the Legion. As a Thank You for being a member and the things you have done during the year we are having the annual free Christmas dinner. As in the past, Mark and his crew from the Creamery Cafe will provide a superb prime rib and chicken dinner.

Auxiliary president Janice Martin and I talked to remove duplication from her and my column in this newsletter. We decided duplication was good so you may see some things mentioned twice. My wife says that hearing it twice is good for me as I may remember it. The Legion will have a short membership meeting at 1900 (for civilians the short hand will be on 7 and the long hand on 12.)

The party with dinner will start shortly after **7:00 P.M on Monday December 8, 2014**. Janice and her crew will decorate and provide lots of door prizes. My favorites are all the poinsettias. You may win one. There will be raffles for the door prizes. There will be a gift exchange. If you want to participate, bring a \$10.00 gift labeled for your sex. This entitles you to get a gift. We hope to see you there.

While reading the December American Legion magazine I saw an article on page 66 that may interest you. It suggests financial gifts for young people. A number of things are discussed like savings bonds, college savings plans, stock certificates and saving accounts. If you are looking for a gift, take a look at the details.

See you at the Legion party Christmas party.

Membership:

Your membership renewal for 2015 is due on January 1. To keep your continuing years of membership in the Legion you must pay your dues by this date. Send your \$35 to: American Legion Hasso Bries Post 473, Rice, Mn. 56367

Floyd Hinkemeyer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

22 NOV 2014

Benton Communications awarded a grant of \$500.00 to the Rice Post of the American Legion for maintenance projects at the Rice Memorial Monument. The grand monies will be used for the purchase of flags, ground maintenance and bulb replacement for lighting.

The Rice Memorial Monument honors all current and former veterans as well as those local citizens who supported our men and women who defended our freedoms.

Accepting the check was First Vice Commander Floyd Hinkemeyer from Cheryl Scapanski representing Benton Communications.



S.A.L UPDATE

Jim Hovda – Adjutant

On the 17th, SAL members met with the legion. Minor biz was discussed and SAL Chaplain Emil closed the meeting.

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

Currently we have no folks from the post or Rice deployed, at least none that I am aware of. If anyone has info on deployed troops from our area, please let me know.

A side note, SFC Sam Williams, Son of our good SAL Chaplain Emil Williams, has been selected to go with the MN Army National Guard to Norway this coming February. Maybe we will get a report from Sam.

As a side note, we have three post members working full time in the MN Army NG. They are SSG Jerry Huntington, SSG Travis Peterson and SGT Dave Redfield. Thanks for your service. Did I miss anyone?

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

Your color guard participated in the funeral and interment of Clem Skroch at Immaculate Conception Church on 17November. The interment was conducted at the church cemetery. It was one of the coldest proceedings that I can remember attending. Only a few degrees above zero the wind coming out of the NW was estimated at about 20-30 mph, It was an honor to participate with members of the Mn Army National Guards Honors Platoon and members of the U.S. Navy. Clem served in the navy. Our prayers go the Skroch family.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Emil Williams

The Meaning of Christmas

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you very special people. Christmas is a time when families try to get together and share gifts, meals, games, visits, to enrich relationships, and to just simply enjoy one another.

I can remember when I was in grade school and attended a one-room school all eight years. We always put on a Christmas play and the room would be packed. What a joyous occasions it was!

However, I really didn't know the true meaning of Christmas. I thought it was all about gifts, family gathering, and delicious meals.

It was in my early teens that I found out Christmas was really to celebrate Christ's birth. That's when I learned that He came as a babe in a manger to be our Savior. It changed my whole life. But the Gospels of Matthew and Luke tell the story better than I. I would like to print out the whole story, but for the sake of space, I will quote only some of it here.

Matthew 1:21-23, "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL,' which is translated, 'God with us.'"

I love the Christmas story from Luke 2:1-20. We usually read that portion before we open our presents at our house. I will quote only a few of the verses. 7-14, "And she brought forth her firstborn Son, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!'" God's favor has always been for mankind, and He wanted to have fellowship with man. However, man marred that fellowship by rebelling against Him, and brought death, violence, sickness, wars, and other tragedies upon himself. God sent His son to redeem us if we will only repent of our sins, invite Him into our hearts, and live for Him. That is what Christmas is all about.

God bless you all! Have a very merry Christmas!

Emil Williams

SAL Chaplain

THE FISHING STRINGER

Ok, I'm going to cut all you anglers some slack as we are between water and ice fishing. No one called me with any catches.

Spearing and angling are underway as I write this for Jim. I hear that spear houses are already on Little Rock Lake, (AKA The Dead Sea) and 4-wheelers are running around. That said, I do not want to attend funerals for any of you going through the ice or going into open water. Just because there might be 5 inches of good ice where you are, there is no guarantee of good ice in all parts of a lake or river. If you are desperate, Red Lobster has a good selection of fish ready to eat.

Remember, fish that can be entered are speared northern pike, angled walleyes, catfish and angled northern pike. God Bless and stay safe.

Darlene Hiscock

"AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.

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.

FROM THE CLUB

Cheryl Bovy

November was a very exciting month for us at the club. We hired a new bartender; her name is Rebecca (Becca) Sather. Please welcome her when you see her here.

Our "Widows Night Out" raised just over \$1200 for Auxiliary, Rice Women of Today and the Rice area food shelf. Thank you all for food, baskets, and all your help. All who attended had a great time.

Also on Nov. 22 we had a benefit for Adolph and Esther Langner. We had a good turnout. We hope they raised a good deal of money for there medical expenses.

December is here. Wow. If you have any need for a place to have a party please consider the club. We will furnish the bartenders and the room (for free). Call the club or me at [320-393-4545](tel:320-393-4545).

Last but not least God Bless and may you and your families have a very, very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cheryl Bovy, Bar Manager

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

AUXILIARY NEWS

Janice Martin

Dear Ladies,

A BIG Thank You to Theresa Duea, Darlene Hiscock, Libby Levinski, and Peggy Kerestes for making cakes and bars for the Staff at Rice Elementary during the AEW week at school. It was greatly appreciated and many Thank You's from the staff! The Legion guys and the color guard did a beautiful job of folding the flag and the reading of the folds during the Veterans Day program at school. It was so meaningful to the kids! There were quite a few veterans in the audience. Also, Thank You to the Legion men for purchasing the apples for the children and staff. Many of the kids ate their apples during their snack time. What a healthy snack!

There will be no monthly Auxiliary dinner in December as it is our Annual Christmas party at the club. This will be December 8th with our Auxiliary meeting at 6:30 and the dinner to follow. There will be a \$10.00 gift exchange for those who would like to participate. Again, if it is from a woman it goes to a woman and vice versa. Please mark it so on the present. We will be having door prize drawings through out the night. The dinner will be Prime Rib and Chicken.

The National Remembrance Ceremony/Wreath laying at the Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls will be December 13th starting at 11:00 a.m. It is a beautiful ceremony and the wreaths look so beautiful against the snow as they are laid row after row.

In January we will be gearing up for Valentines for Veterans, more on this coming in January.

For now, keep warm and safe during the holidays!

Janice

Auxiliary Membership

Membership dues of \$20.00 for 2015 should be paid by December 31st. We do take membership all year long but they would like renewal done by December 31st and if you get this done by the end of December you do receive a free drink card for the Legion. Thank you and have a great Christmas.

DECEMBER 2014 LEGION CALENDAR

03 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

06 Keys for cash & meat raffle 8:00 P.M.

07 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Fly Flag ½ Staff until sunset.

08 Legion, Auxiliary & SAL meetings. Membership dinner and party 7:00 P.M. See below...

08 U.S. Declares war on Japan, Japanese attack the Philippines.

10 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

11 Germany and Italy Declared War on U.S. (1941)

13 Keys for cash & meat raffle 8:00 P.M.

13 Wreaths laying at Little Falls

16 Germans launch Battle of the Bulge. (1944)

17 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

20 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M.

21 First day of winter.

24 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

25 Christmas Day. Club closed. Fly Flag.

27 Keys for cash & meat raffle 8:00 P.M.

31 BINGO, 7:00 p.m. New year's eve Official End of WWII. (1946)

01 January 2015 – Club closed.

NOTE: The legion meetings start with (1) Legion Club Committee 4:30 P.M., Pine Country Bank (2) Legion Board of Directors at 5:00 P.M. P.C. Bank & (3) Legion, SAL & Auxiliary meeting 7:00 P.M. at the Legion Post. SAL members meet w/Leg.

THERE WILL BE A LEG BOD MTG AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE P.C. BANK.

AIRBORNE HERITAGE

Jim Hovda – Former paratrooper

On the 16th of December, German forces launched one of the largest military attacks in WWII in the Ardennes Forest, Belgium. Several movies have been produced and books written about the 101st Airborne Divisions' valiant stand at Bastogne. This heroic stand by these paratroopers stalled the German offensive and eventually allowed the allies to gain the upper hand. The fighting was done in brutal conditions of snow,

cold and mud. The attack ended on the 25th of January.

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:

LEADERSHIP

Legion Commander - Chet Seviola 320/584-2046 seviola@clearwire.net
Auxiliary President - Janice Martin 320/393-2410 janice2177@aol.com
S.A.L. - Jim Wolf 259-1194 debwolf@jetup.net

MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Floyd Hinkemeyer 320/393-2854 fthinkemeyer@jetup.net
Auxiliary - Nancy Anderson 320/393-2108 njanderson07@gmail.com
S.A.L. - Jim Wolf 259-1194 debwolf@jetup.net

CHAPLAINS

Legion - Don Miklos 320/584-5825
Auxiliary - Jan Hovda 320/393-4339 janhovda@jetup.net
SAL - Emil Williams 320/393-2203 EBWilli@jetup.net

COLOR GUARD

Jim Hovda 320/393/4339 jhovda.rice@jetup.net

POST

Manager - Cheryl Bovy 320/393-4545 cbovy@hotmail.com

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Benton County - George Fiedler 320/968-5044 gfiedler@co.benton.mn.us
Morrison County - Kathy Marshik 320/632-0290 KathyM@co.morrison.mn.us
Stearns County - Terry Ferdinandt 320/656-6176
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Rice Legion Website www.post473.com