



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

April 2017

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Here we go again. Last month I had the privilege of presenting Major Pat Cairns with 50 years of membership in the American Legion. Congratulations Pat. This is quite an accomplishment! We have a few members that are getting close, several years ago John Duea made it. It's nice to see we have so many loyal members. Thanks for all you do, our club would not survive with out the hard work you all do thanks again.

Also I apologize for not thanking the Micklos's for the cookies, jams and jelly's that are given out at the meetings, if you attend the meetings your name is put in a hat and the lucky person goes home with the goodies. Our color guard has added a drink chip to the drawings and as of the last meeting your Commander and his lovely wife added a dozen organic brown eggs. See what some of you are missing.

We have signed up for all the Saturdays in August to provide members to open and over see the Cemetery at Camp Ripley it is only for 3hrs in the afternoon, more info will be coming. It will be so the cemetery can be open for visitors on weekends. Also I am asking for more members to attend our meetings we need more brainpower to help plan our activities. Our Club is in great need of more ideas for fund raising, we are barely getting by. Book some Birthday parties, anniversaries or get together of any kind. Meat raffles are well attended and lots of fun; see you there.

Its really nice to see all the new style jackets worn at the club and around town, its a great advertisement for our club. The jackets can be ordered if enough people want them. As of the last meeting we had 141 members paid up good show guys and gals. Well enough from Fred this month here's hoping you are all well and staying that way. Fred

PS Here's an idea, would the guys in the legion be open to having a 2nd dinner at the club on the 4th Tuesday of the month? I have talked to Mark Larson and he said it would be ok with him. I need feed back from the guys it would be the same menu every time, Hot beef, mashed potatoes, gravy and a veg. It would require at most 3 guys every time. We would have to talk to the girls, as we would need salad and desserts. Some us men are food prep challenged. The club needs some help to stay in business and this would get some more people in to the club on that Tuesday. Let me know if you would be able to do this. Any additional ideas are welcome.

Think about this, as the club needs help. Thanks Fred

POST SERVICE OFFICER

Charles Anderson

Free Drop in Legal Clinic For Veterans At the St. Cloud VA. Tuesday April 18, 2017.

April 20th Veterans Retiree Breakfast, 8:30 AM to 11 AM Camp Ripley Conference Center. Breakfast cost \$6.75, Event cost Free. Learn about Opportunities and benefits for Veterans in Central Mn.

April 22, from 9 am to Noon, St. Cloud VA Career Fair Scheduled, at Rasmussen College, 226 Park Ave. South, in St. Cloud.

Stand Down For Veterans Tuesday, April 25, Brainerd, Mn. National Guard Armory, From 8am-2pm.

Minnesota Woman Veteran of the Year, Presented by WomenVeterans Initiative Due April 30th.

Build Your Dream, April 10-May 8.

Franken Announces Youth Poetry Contest, Deadline April 21.

Camp Ripley- Veterans Registry.

Volunteer to drive a Veteran, contact Foley Area C.A.R.E., Community Action Respecting Elders. Phone number 320-968-7848, website foleyareacare@cloudnet.com

Vietnam Veterans sought for Documentary. A new documentary special called AMERICAN PLATOON for a major cable network. See flyer at legion for more details, or call Caren Sachs, Casting Associate, All3media, 424-732-6604, websites, caren.sachs@brightroadprods.com <http://www.all2a.com>
Bill S.423 would extend the eligibility of children under the CHAMPVA program till age 26.

VA to begin Processing Camp Lejeune Toxic Water Claims.
New acting VA Benefits Undersecretary says Agent Orange is Harmless. Mr. Thomas Murphy (himself a veteran). He is holding the line on agent orange claims.

State bill Bill Tracker: 18 bills introduced, 26 approved, 17 laid over. Out of 66 bills for veterans.

Veterans on the Lake Resort May 15-Sept. 15th.

Vets to the Lake, Minnesota Veterans with Disabilities Fishing Trip, 4 day fishing trip, 4th week of May, Contact Dennis Houg at 320-492-1357. Separate from Veterans on the Lake.

Increase in Sexual Assaults at U.S. Military Academies.

The Veterans Initiative needs your help.

Proposed House bill to Enable Gun Sales to Vets Deemed "mentally Imcompetent".

Monsanto Loses in Fresno County Judge's Final Ruling on Roundup.
March is Brain Injury Awareness Month.

Southwest Minnesota Clears Waiting List For Homeless Veterans.

God Bless America, And Her Veterans.

Charles Anderson

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.

They also have a dental clinic that just came on line.

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

Commander Fred says "thanks" to those who participated in leading the Heritage Day parade. We were glad to show the Legion Colors

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

Although from the past, most deserving to be here is a former navy veteran, K.I.A. at Pearl Harbor, **Elmer T. Kerestes, FFC1 (Fireman First Class)** who was aboard the Battleship Oklahoma when she was sunk. Elmer is a close relative of S.A.L. member Robert Kerestes. Bob has been on a many year adventure to locate the remains of his relative Elmer. Our navy veteran (deceased) was one of many buried in Hawaii who was unidentified.

Bob finally got a call from The Department of the Navy that, thru DNA, his remains have been identified. In the coming weeks, Bob will be informed as to when the remains of FFC1 Kerestes will be returned to his final resting place in Holdingford, his home of residence. The navy will, I'm told; provide full military honors at the grave that has been saved for him these many years.

Please say a prayer for Bob in recognizing his celebration of being able to honor his relative and bring closure to this issue.

As information becomes available I will keep our members advised.

DISPLAY A GREEN LITE

If you've seen green lights displayed when driving around, it was started by, I believe, Menards who encouraged you to display a green light in support of the troops. I checked around and sure enough they had LED bulbs for sale at a very reasonable price. Commander Fred told me that Wal Mart also has the bubs on sale for under a dollar. I have the bulb (also a blue one to support law enforcement) now all I have to do is figure out where to display it. Jim Hovda.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Emil Williams

What an honor and privilege to share some Easter thoughts with my military and ex-military comrades!

With Easter just around the corner, I can't help but be reminded of Mel Gibson's film, The Passion." I was glad someone had loaned us the DVD because I had to stop about halfway through and regain my composure before finishing the rest.

We cannot begin to comprehend the horrible suffering Jesus went through in order to obtain salvation for us. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." You see, we were all lost and needed a Savior. Only Jesus, the sinless one could take the punishment for our sins. Our part is to repent, fully believe in Him, and live for Him. Matthew 7:21 says, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven"

John 3:3 says, "Jesus answered and said to him (Nicodemus), 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom.'" Only the Lord can do that work in our hearts. We can try but it won't work.

For a full account of the Easter story, we must read about it in all four gospels. Here are the references: Matthew chapters 27-28, Mark chapters 15-16, Luke chapters 23-24, and John chapters 18-20. These all record the account of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.

The hard part was the crucifixion but the good part is His resurrection on the third day. Without that He would still be in the tomb and we would still be without any hope of heaven.

Let us all praise God and thank Him for so great a salvation, and rejoice that we will be resurrected with Him if we seek Him with a true heart.

God bless, and have a great Easter!

Emil Williams, SAL Chaplain



THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX

Darlene Hiscock

Well, it's that time for the last report until May, the start of the 2017-18 fishing season.

The only "speared" northern was turned in by Hank Voigt and grandson Bentley Wenz. Hey will get the \$10.00 gift certificate and their name on the fish board in the legion.

The biggest catfish was caught by Commander Fred on 23 Feb, just under the wire. Back in July he caught a 24-inch cat, the year winner. So, our Commandeer Fred gets his spot on the plaque.

The northern pike spot sure had a lot of entries. Again, Commander Fred beat his son Jim this month with a 26.75-inch fish, but a woman, Pat Pop beat all the men with a 35 inch northern. A wide range of entries of sizes 22 to 35 inches came in

Walleye ranged from 15 – 29 inches, the 29 incher caught by Todd Meehl. Some beautiful fish pictures were turned in.

Shame on Commander Fred who got his gift certificate with a 15 incher walleye.

So, to wrap it up – Names on the year plaque:

Walleye – Todd Meehl; Northern Pike (hooked) Pat Popp; (speared); Hank & Bentley Voigt; Catfish Fred Segler.

I didn't get any "red" fish from Chet Seviola or ugly sturgeons from Mr. Hovda.

Fish safe, and wear your PFD's all the time

Darlene Hiscock

"AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.



2017 Easter Egg Hunt for community children ages 1 to 12 is April 9th beginning at 1:00 p.m. with the youngest group going first. Each child receives a prize and will get to hunt more candy after everyone was through once. Then the last round is for anyone who wants to help clear out the grass of any remaining candy.

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.

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 \$350.00. 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

First of all I want to say thank you to all my bartenders for doing an awesome job while was gone to AZ. The time spent down there with friends and family rocked.

Thanks also goes to the legion dart team for there support of the club. Thank you for shooting here.

April 29th we will be having our spring pub crawl. Please come to join in the fun.

Don't forget our meat raffle and key for cash drawing on Saturday night. Also bingo on Wed. The pot is \$1199.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Joyce Segler

Spring is here!! at least it is on the calendar. I am more than ready for warm weather, and to walk on good roads.

THE Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt is Sun. April 9, we start 1p.m. with the youngest group at the Watab Town Hall ages 0 to 15.

April Auxiliary meeting is on April 10 at 7p.m. at the club.

April Dinner is the 11th serving pork roast baby reds, vegetable, salads and desserts. Servers are Dee Foss, Pat Popp and Joyce Segler. Look forward to seeing you.
Joyce

APRIL 2017 LEGION CALENDAR

01 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat Raffle 7:00 P.M.

05 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

06 U.S. Enters WWI. (1917)

08 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat Raffle 7:00 P.M.

09 Special Forces becomes a separate branch of the U.S. Army. (1987)

10 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (Leg, Aux & SAL) American Legion B'day. (1919)

11 AUXILIARY DINNER 5 – 7:00 P.M. Post. Pork roast, baby reds, vegetable, salads, and desserts

12 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

14 Good Friday.

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

16 Easter Sunday.

17 TAX DAY...

18 MN State Vets Cemetery meeting. 10:00 at the cemetery.

19 BINGO, 7:00 P.M. POST.

20 Vet's Retiree Breakfast. Camp Ripley. 8:30 hrs.

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

26 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. POST.

29 Leys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.

Legion meetings start w/the bar committee 6:00 P.M. followed by the BOD meeting at 6:30 and ending with a combined SAL and Leg membership meeting at 7:00 P.M. at the Pine Country Bank meeting room. The auxiliary will meet at 7:00 P.M. at the legion. All members are encouraged to attend. (We usually meet at the leg after the meeting for a beverage.)

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:

LEADERSHIP

Legion Commander – Fred Segler 320/393-2484 fjfarm@aol.com
Auxiliary President – Joyce Segler 320/393-2484 fjfarm@aol.com
S.A.L. Commander – Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 jimdebwolf@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 jimdebwolf@gmail.com
Auxiliary - Nancy Anderson 320/393-2108 njanderson07@gmail.com
S.A.L. - Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 jimdebwolf@gmail.com

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

POST VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Legion-Charles Anderson 320-393-2108 canderson3006@gmail.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 - Corey Vaske 320/656-6176 vetbenefits@co.stearns.mn.us

Rice Legion Website www.post473.com