

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473  
August 2017

## FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Hi folks another month has passed us by and many things are happening. Bob Krestes relative that was lost at Pearl Harbor when His ship was hit by no less then 11 torpedoes and sunk. Well with the new technologies his remains were identified and are coming back on the 29th of July, He will be interned in Hillside Cemetery by Holdingford MN. The Navy is running the internment and it will be something special. As the Cemetery is so small and so many have been invited we will only have a few people from our post attending. It's really great that his remains have been identified and will be interned back home. I'm sure the families are very happy that he has been identified and has been brought home. I recently went to the Camp Ripley Cemetery and visited my brother Ted's grave site, he is interned in the wall, if you have not been there its really a special place. Your post will take all the Saturdays in August to volunteer to man the committal Hall keeping it open from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Check this out if you can the Paintings are worth the trip. Thanks to all who volunteered. Williams, Seglers, Fuchs, Hinkemeyer, and Miklos's Hope this finds you all well and happy till next time Fred

## 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.

## POST SERVICE OFFICER

Charles Anderson

State bill tracker: Signed by Governor 1, Vetoed by Governor 2, Approved 23, Included 11, Introduced 17, Laid over 6, Veterans rest camp 1. FEDERAL BILL TRACKER Introduced 4.

Changes to Disabled Veterans' Homestead Market Value Exclusion Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Flyer at legion bulletin board.

H.R. 3165 Making strange bedfellows, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide grants to Veterans service organizations for upgrading local chapter facilities and technology in rural areas, and for other purposes.

There is some concern with the DAV about President Trumps Budget proposal. Two areas of concern are the permanent rounding down of Veteran's Benefits and eliminating the 100% Individual Unemployability for Veterans are receiving, or are eligible, for Social Security.

S. 683 The keeping Our Commitment to Disabled Veterans Act of 2017. This bill would extend the requirement for the VA to provide nursing home care to veterans with service connected conditions rated at 70% or more and those who have a rating of total disability based

on total individual unemployability.

Reasonable Doubt-by Tom Brown, The VA continues to ignore their reasonable doubt regulation 38CFR Section 3.102 when adjudicating service-connected disability claims for presumptive herbicide exposure filed by the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans.

The American Legion and several other service organizations have joined together in praising the expand GI Bill benefits legislation that has been introduced into congress. It would give lifetime GI bill benefits to Veterans, and unlimited benefits.

Legion testifies on VA's processing of the gulf war illness claims. May take years before VA acknowledges some claims, and we want to speed it up.

American legion takes a stand on pending health care legislation. Legion gave its position on Veterans health care bills.

Legion testifies on VA's capital asset needs. There are a lot of under utilized buildings and a lot of upgrades to infrastructure need at the VA.

Minnesota State Parks and Recreation Areas Offer New Benefits for Veterans, Contact the DNR at [info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:info.dnr@state.mn.us), or call 651-296-6157 or 888-646-6367

Applications for Camp Ripley and Arden Hills Army Training Site, for fall and spring Hunting 2018.

American Legion Needs your help, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act provides congress with a valuable way to thank the Legion for its service to our nation and to invest in our shared values. There will only be two coins minted a year.

Veterans Groups: Repealing Obamacare will hurt disabled and other Vets.

Fighting for care Bad Paper Vets in need of Mental Health Care ..

Will Changes to GI Bill affect recruitment?

There is a new list of Items that the DAV has for giving out to veterans, also items that they will take in. List is hanging up on bulletin board at legion.

2017 Disabled Vet Waterfowl hunt in Wright County. Open to all Minnesota Disabled Veterans. This will be done in Sept., See flyer in legion bulletin board.

VA Health Care 101 July, August, and September . Check flyer at Legion for times and dates.

Stand Down for Veterans 2017, August 1-2, Tuesday 8 am-5 pm, Wed. 8 am-4pm.  
Boy Scout Base Camp, 201 Bloomington Road., Fort Snelling.

First Choice updates, there are some changes and there is a flyer at the legion on it.

VA Volunteer Drivers needed for St. Cloud VA. Check Flyer at Legion.

IRS offering seasonal job opportunities for veterans, military spouses during tax time.

IBM Veterans employment initiative, Oct. 23-27. Five full days of training on Analyst's notebook. At the end a certification test will be given, with job placement assistance from IBM. See flyer at legion.

## **COLOR GUARD COLUMN**

Your post color guard represented themselves well at the Bowlus parade on July 2<sup>nd</sup> a parade in Buffalo by Jim, Marilyn and Sgt. Cooper and at FFC1 Elmer Kerestes (USN) KIA Pearl Harbor, interment in Holdingford on 29 July. There was a lot of media coverage of this event. I'll try to get more on this in the next NL.

The Rice Fun days Parade – color guard members need to be at the legion NLT 2:00 P.M. We'll need everyone who can make the five-block parade. Then, barring the unexpected will be our 9/11 event on a Monday this year.

## **MEMBERSHIP (2017-18) DUE**

Legion and SAL dues invoices should have been received by the membership. (Not the Auxiliary yet) Your prompt attention would be appreciated. I'd like to get ahead of this ASAP.

Thanks to those who have already paid.

Jim Wolf – Membership Director Legion and SAL

### WARRIORS COLUMN

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

## Rice Knights of Columbus Can Top Tab Drive

The Rice Knights of Columbus are collecting can top tabs. Our Council is involved in a state wide competition with all KC Councils. In May our Council turned in 215lbs and won the trophy, many of you did help with that and I thank you. We are starting all over again until next May. The tabs will all be turned over to the Ronald McDonald House. A drop off bucket is at our Legion. There is no contribution to small each year we start with the first one and they add up. Thank you to Jim Larson who recently dropped off 61/2 lbs. Everyone can participate in this effort and it all goes to a very good cause.

THANK YOU

Bob Kerestes

### CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Emil Williams

**My dear fellow veterans and active military personnel, since August doesn't have any major holiday to celebrate, I am going to share with you one of my favorite portions of scripture: the 23rd Psalm. I have committed it to memory, as have many of you.**

**If we really want to get the most out of Psalm 23, we need to include Psalms 22 and 24.**

**In Psalm 22 we see Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Psalm 22 prophecies of His dying for our sins. He is our Savior; He is our foundation; He gave His life. It speaks of the past.**

**In Psalm 23, Jesus is referred to as the Great Shepherd. He is our Satisfier; He is the manifestation of God's love, He is the living One. Psalm 23 is written in the present tense; we can lean on it every day.**

**In Psalm 24, Jesus is spoken of as the Chief Shepherd. He is crowned King; He is Sovereign; He is our expectation; He is coming again; He gives us light. Psalm 24 speaks of the future.**

**There are only six verses in Psalm 23 but they are short and simple. It is believed that David was old when he wrote this psalm. He was probably looking back over his checkered life and realizing how much he was like the sheep he had taken care of as a boy.**

**I want to keep this rather brief but really there is so much more to it.**

**First, David calls the Lord his Shepherd because he has fully accepted Him as his Lord. Because of this, he says, "I shall not want", meaning that his needs will be**

supplied, Skipping to verse 3, he says, “He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.” David certainly knew about his need for that because of his affair with Bathsheba and the arranged murder of her husband. He had to repent of that, and God forgave him of his sin.

In verse four, David mentioned the rod and staff—familiar and essential tools for shepherding. He had used the rod to kill both a bear and a lion that were attacking the sheep. Since he was one of God’s sheep, he trusted that God would do the same for him. God can fight our spiritual battles too. The staff was for guidance. God wants to guide us and help us as well.

Verses five and six wrap it up by telling us that God will supply our material needs as well as our spiritual ones. He has gone to prepare a place for those who truly receive Him as their Shepherd.

In closing, here is a story about a little boy who pretty well sums up the 23rd Psalm:

“A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter.

“Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn’t remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

“On the day the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said, proudly, ‘The Lord is my Shepherd, and that’s all I need to know.’ “

Emil Williams  
SAL Chaplain

## **THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX.**

Darlene Hiscock

Well, I got a call from Don Miklos the other day reporting a 23.75 inch northern pike he caught while fishing with Commander Fred. One of my spies told me that Fred was trying to knock Don’s fish off with the net. (That’s an old trick Fred) Those two could never get along.

Hovda told me that he is going to Lake of the Woods and is gonna get the big ones. I told him he just “jinxed” himself – for two years he’s been saying he will get the big ones. Keep in mind folks that his last two major fishing trips this year not only has he been skunked, everyone in his boat was too. That’s quite a track record. Hovda blames it on cold-water temperatures. Blah, blah, blah.

Fish safe and wear your PFD all the time. GOD BLESS...

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.

**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 \$250.00. 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

### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

Joyce Segler

Summer is moving so fast I find myself looking over my shoulder to see where I have been, Fred and I went to the Veterans Cemetery Camp Ripley last week, it is truly a beautiful and peaceful place. We located his brother Ted's final resting place as well as looking up a few other old friends.

We still have a couple family reunions and a graduation party on our agendas, those as well as green and yellow beans, raspberries, and whatever else the garden comes up with should keep me out of trouble for a while.

I will find out after the City Council meeting in Aug. if we are going to be able to park cars as a fundraiser at The City Hall the weekend of the Craft Fair Sept 9 & 10, more to come in Sept Newsletter.

August Dinner is Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>, Grilled Steak and Baked Potato, plus all the salads and desserts. Servers are Brenda Marthaler, Mary Ann Keeney and Char Lage.

Hope to see you there.

Until next time, Joyce

**AUGUST 2017 LEGION CALENDAR**

- 02 **BINGO, 7:00 P.M. Post.** Operation Desert Shield begins. (1990)  
 04 Happy B'day U.S. Coast Guard. (1790)  
 05 **Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat Raffle 7:00 P.M.,**  
 06 Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima  
 07 Purple Heart Day. (Medal established in 1782)  
 09 **BINGO, 7:00 P.M. Post.**  
 12 **Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.,**  
 14 **MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (Leg, Aux, & SAL)** Japan Surrendered Ending  
 WWII. (1945)  
 15 **AUXILIARY DINNER 5-7:00 P.M. Post. Grilled Steak, baked potato, Veg,**  
**salads, and desserts**  
 16 **BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post**  
 19 **Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.,**  
 19 **Rice Fun Days Parade 3:00 P.M.,**  
 21 Civil War officially declared over.  
 23 **BINGO, 7:00 P.M. Post**  
 26 **Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.**  
 27 Korean War Armistice signed.  
 30 **BINGO, 7:00 P.M. POST.**

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 not meet. All members are encouraged to attend.

### IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:

#### LEADERSHIP

Legion Commander – Fred Segler 320/393-2484 [fffarm@aol.com](mailto:fffarm@aol.com)  
 Auxiliary President – Joyce Segler 320/393-2484 [fffarm@aol.com](mailto:fffarm@aol.com)  
 S.A.L. Commander – Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 [jimdebwolf@gmail.com](mailto:jimdebwolf@gmail.com)

#### MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 [jimdebwolf@gmail.com](mailto:jimdebwolf@gmail.com)  
 Auxiliary - Nancy Anderson 320/393-2108 [njanderson07@gmail.com](mailto:njanderson07@gmail.com)  
 S.A.L. - Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 [jimdebwolf@gmail.com](mailto:jimdebwolf@gmail.com)

#### CHAPLAINS

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 [EBWilli@jetup.net](mailto:EBWilli@jetup.net)

#### COLOR GUARD

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#### POST

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

## POST VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

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## COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Benton County - George Fiedler 320/968-5044 [gfiedler@co.benton.mn.us](mailto:gfiedler@co.benton.mn.us)

Morrison County - Kathy Marshik 320/632-0290 [KathyM@co.morrison.mn.us](mailto:KathyM@co.morrison.mn.us)

Stearns County - Corey Vaske 320/656-6176 [vetbenefits@co.stearns.mn.us](mailto:vetbenefits@co.stearns.mn.us)

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