



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

March 2017

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Well another month has gone by, the weather has been great and fishing fair.

On the 19th we had a training session for the color guard that went well followed by a very nice meal. See what you are missing sign up for the color guard and you will get free food.

Speaking of food on the 5th of March the Marine Corp League will sponsor a breakfast at the VFW in Sauk Rapids starting at 8:00 am till noon. Cost is \$7.00.

We are still looking for more veterans to join the Legion if you know of anyone interested give me a call 393-2484. Meat raffles every Saturday at the club 7:00pm and keys for cash gets bigger every week.

There will be a heritage parade in Rice on the 18th of March starting at 3:00 pm. They have asked the Color Guard to lead the parade if you are interested let us know.

Just to let you know Joyce's knee is healing well and she is getting around quite well. Here hoping this finds you all doing as well. Legion meetings still at the Pine Country Bank on the second Monday of the month at 8:00 PM all are welcome Thanks and have a great Month 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.

2 lifetime friends reminisce at Veterans Recognition Day held at Rice Elementary School on November 11th. Pat Cairns (left) and George Gazett are shown above as they remember *the good old days*. Pat and George have over 100 years combined year's membership in Rice American Legion Post 473.



VETS TO THE LAKE

This organization helps provide fund to Minnesota Veterans with disabilities take fishing trips. Disabled veterans from central Minnesota have had the opportunity to fish the waters of Ely, Minnesota for the past 50 years. For about 30 of those years they have stayed at Veterans on the Lake, Ely.

Veterans on the lake is designed for barrier free lodging and fishing, and is able to handle large groups.

We have now formed a new volunteer run organization that will ensure that the veterans will continue to have a fishing experience in the northern waters of Minnesota for years to come.

“Minnesota Veterans with Disabilities Fishing Trip” is designed to provide a fishing trip that is free of charge to disabled veterans across all of Minnesota. Each year we will take approximately 35 veterans on a 4-day trip. They are provided lodging, food. Boat or pontoon with volunteer, fishing equipment if needed and bait.

At the present time we are able to provide some transportation via coach from St. Cloud with pick up stops along the way such as Mora, Hinkley and Cloquet.

For more information contact Dennis Houg at 320-492-1357 or by mail to 127 5th Street Pine River Minnesota 56474

ATTENTION LEGION, AUXILIARY AND SAL MEMBERS

Our Honor Guard will provide a prayer service and/or graveside service for our deceased Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members. The family must request whichever services they would like (wake prayer service, participation at the funeral and/or graveside service), usually through whoever at the funeral home is in charge of the arrangements. If a funeral home is involved we must work with them as they are in charge of all the arrangements and they deal directly with the family members.

Our Honor Guard does not contact the family directly upon receiving notice of a member's death. If a member would like such a service when they pass on, it would be helpful if they would let their family members know their wishes. Often the family members are unaware that their loved one belonged to an American Legion Post, Unit or Squadron, or they don't know which Post, Unit or Squadron their loved one belonged to. They may be unaware of the services we offer. It would be helpful to them if their loved one gave them a heads up before the service is needed.

The prayer service is usually done at the wake, but we will work with the funeral director if other arrangements are desired. The graveside service can include taps and/or presentation of a flag (and, in the case of a Post member, a rifle squad). We can and will provide any or all of these services upon the family's request.

We do not contact family members upon notice of a member's death because we do not wish to intrude at a time of great distress. We work with the funeral home as they are in the best position to present the option of Legion participation without putting the family in a position of feeling pressured to something they may not want to do.

If you have any questions about what we do for our Post, Unit or Squadron members in regard to Honor Guard participation at the death of a member, please contact the appropriate Chaplain, listed on the last page of the newsletter.



POST SERVICE OFFICER

Charles Anderson

VA dental insurance, you will not be able to sign up for it, they are renegotiating the premiums for the next year. You can still go in and do other stuff just not sign up. You presently have a choice of Delta or Met Life. As of February 19th you will now be able to sign up again.

Medicare basics classes for February and March are being held through the state. See bulletin board for place and time.

State bill tracker, out of 44 bills for Veterans 22 were approved by the VA and Military affairs, 16 were introduced, 5 were laid over, 1 passed both houses. All will benefit Veterans one way or another. Bill S. 116 will permit veterans who have service connected, total or permanent disabilities to travel on Military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as Military retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to such travel.

Blue Water Navy is going continue the fight on Agent Orange.

H.R. 303 Retired Pay restoration act. Veterans will get there full retirement pay.

Temporary Family Assistance center closing at the end of the day on Feb 9, 2017 nationwide temporarily closed due to a lapse in the contract.

VA Transfers Director under Investigation.

VA and vets bear the costs of Flu Season.

Choice Program could leave many vets with out options.

GAO says VA IT is HIGH RISK.

H. R. 299, The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017, Bill would expand presumptions for service connection related to agent orange and any dioxin herbicide used in Vietnam during the Vietnam war.

Lawmakers want to open 24 VA Facilities. Most will be out patient facilities.

Army to spend \$300 Million on recruitment ads and bonuses.

Study tracks Vets with TBI.

U.S. Military used Depleted Uranium in Syria.

Women Vets with PTSD. Comes in many forms.

Dem proposes exempting veterans from Trumps hiring freeze.

CT Congresswoman top Democrat on Veterans Benefits Committee.

There is a Flyer up at the legion on a free furnace for any veteran in need. Information is on Flyer.

Minnesota Veterans Home Adult Day Care Leading Age Minnesota Innovation Award. They received Stars Among Us Innovation Award.

Wells Fargo Veterans Emergency Grant Program will remain open to provide up to \$1000.00 for eligible veterans to help meet their house holds expenses while pursuing post-secondary education.

Wells Fargo Veterans Scholarship program awards \$7000.00 renewable award up to amount. This is for Veterans, Spouses of disabled veterans. Applications close February 28.

Military Hiring Fair Feb. 27th.

Charlie

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

Those who attended the CG training and party had a good time and a great dinner catered by Creative Catering. (Mark Larson) We may be part of the Heritage parade on 18 March, 3:00 p.m. in Rice, more info coming.

Be sure to keep uniforms squared away for unscheduled events.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Don Miklos

Dear Comrades,

The nightly news carries nothing but the evil things we do to each other. The newspaper is even worse; there you get even more detailed versions of all the evil. Murder, rape, terrorist bombings, assaults, home invasions, and the list goes on and on.

Sometime a person may lose some faith and may think we are fighting a very one-way losing battle and that there is no help. And yes, the evil one, Satan, is very, very real!

Well, a very influential and compassionate Chaplain I knew many years ago offered some advice to his young charges as he tried to ready them for their coming battle with the evil ones in North Korea. Advice that still holds true to this day.

He quoted from Paul's letter to the Ephesians' Chapter 6: 10-20 (I did not know much about my favorite apostle back in 55.)

Finally Brothers, put on all the armor God gives you. Build your strength in union with the Lord. We fight not against humans but against the Devil's evil tricks.

So stand ready with truth as a belt tight around your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, and with your boots the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. At all times carry faith as a shield. And accept salvation as a helmet and most importantly, accept the Word of God as your sword, which the spirit gives you! Do all this in prayer, asking for God's help, and never give up! For the sword of God shall conquer!

My Comrades, we deal with the Evil one each and every day of our lives. He never rests. Do not buy into the secular world. Above all, do not, do not give into "political correctness" as a guide. Use instead the words of Jesus Christ as your guide. You can do no better!

Paul summed it up for us in his letter to the Ephesians. "Put on the WHOLE armor of God". These words and real heart-felt prayer will use you through some very difficult times.

Remembering you, my comrades, in prayer. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ gives you grace and peace.

Your Chaplain, Don L. Miklos

THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX

Darlene Hiscock
"AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.

Well, well, well! I finally got a walleye in. Phyllis Miklos caught a 18.5 inch walleye on Red Lake, showing up Don and the rest of the men. Good job Phyllis!

Don Miklos and Commander Fred are bucking heads or fish rods for the biggest northern pike. Fred caught a 26.75-inch fish and Donny got a 28.75-inch pike.

We finally got a speared northern pike turned in. Hank Voigt and his grandson Bentley (five years old) were spearing and Bentley speared a 26-inch fish. He was thrilled. Looks like we have a future MN Darkhouse member.

ONE MORE CHANCE FOR ALL ANGLERS - Next season we will start all over again with the fishing opener in May. Be sure to wear your ice kleets – the ice come up real fast when you're falling... GOD BLESS -

Darlene Hiscock - - "AKA" Ms. Tackle Box

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES – Are available at the post courtesy of Ms. Evie Powers (Morgan Powers Daughter) Support of her girl scout troop will be greatly appreciated.

USMC Pancake breakfast – Sunday 03 March 8:00 – noon at VFW Post 6992. All proceeds to vets causes. It's a good meal.

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

AUXILIARY NEWS

Joyce Segler

March in like a lion out like a lamb, so far Feb has been a lamb guess we have to wait and see what March will bring.

Auxiliary dinner is March 14, Baked Chicken mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable and all the trimmings.

Servers are Darlene Hiscock, Peggy Kerestes and Darla Swenson, look forward to seeing you there. Perhaps some of the snow-birds will be back!

Joyce

MARCH 2017 LEGION CALENDAR

01 BINGO, 7:00 P.M Post.

01 Ash Wednesday

02 Army Nurse Corps established. (1901)

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

05 USMC Pancake breakfast at SR VFW #6992.

06 Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, established. (1962)

08 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

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

12 Daylight Savings Time Begins. (Spring clock ahead at 2:00 A.M.)

13 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (Leg, Aux & SAL)

14 AUXILIARY DINNER 5 – 7:00 P.M. Post. Baked Chicken, mashed potato, gravy Vegetable ,salads, desserts

14 VOTE – VOTE – VOTE: Township elections and annual meetings.

15 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

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

19 Operation Iraqi Freedom begins. (2003)

20 Spring begins.

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

24 Kosovo Campaign began. (1995)

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

29 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 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