



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

September 2016

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Hope you all made it to Rice Fun Days, if you did you saw that our color guard is growing smaller. Please give a minute of thought of joining the color guard. We need you, the Color Guard does many things, Funeral duty final honors for fallen Vets, Parades, Rifle firing team, and just showing up at many events. The Color Guard is a very important part of the Legion, without the guard many Vets would not receive the honors they deserve. Please give this serious consideration, its not a large commitment and you don't have to be there every time. Our color guard members are getting older and we need some of the younger people to help out, there are no special regulations, to belong to the guard every one is welcome. HELP, HELP.

Also if you have any special needs the meat raffles are available. They are also lots of fun and you may win some nice packages of meat, some people also get a meat hog sticker. Remember to enter you fish in the legion fishing contest Walleye. Northern and catfish are eligible. Ms. Tackle box needs the business. And please stop into the club whenever you can we need your business to keep the club alive. Remember it's available for special occasions, Just check with any of our great bar tenders.

Thanks Fred.

VIETNAM COMMEMORTIVE PIN

To recognize, thank and honor United States military veterans who serve during the Vietnam War. Veterans who served on active duty in the U. S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin. UPDATE: So far we have 17 people signed up to receive this pin. If you know of a veteran that served in that time frame, weather he is a member or not have him call Charles Anderson at 320-393-2108 to get signed up. Right now we are thinking of doing it in October on a Monday night if possible. You will have to let me know if that works for you. Also I should be back on my feet by then after the knee replacement. We will have George Fielder, Benton county Veterans Service Officer, come and do the presentations. GOD BLESS YOU ALL

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

Joseph Schmitz was appointed associate Director for the St. Cloud VA care system, July 1, 201... Minneapolis VA Veterans can make their own routine eye and hearing appointments. Do not know if this applies to ST. Cloud VA... Legion magazine article VA weighs adding Agent Orange to list... VA begins nationwide study on the health of Vietnam Era Veterans... VA suicide report 2014, 65% of veterans over 50 years old... Many tri-care members get new contracts. 7:09 PM King north, south, east, and west, and combining them into east or west, new networks and provider networks for the mobile population. .. VA homeless goal failing, on any given night there is 40,000 homeless vets, including 13,000 who live on the streets. Those living on the streets have fallen 56% since 2010... New DoD unit to focus on MST Retaliation, Military sexual assault reports... Congress's women vets speak out on military issues, this is about sexual harassment in the military, and whether women should be eligible for the draft... Senate passes bill honoring Filipino Vets... Bills in front of congress; H.R.563 merchant marine veterans seeking health care through the VA... May 13, 2016 Congress approves WASP AIR ACT. Goes to President for signature. It was signed and is in affect New I.G. for V. A. Michael Missal pledges transparency, Started May 9, 2016. . Student veterans advocate for two new bills fairness for veterans act and veterans urgent care act... May 10, 2016 House passed H. R.R4063 Promise act, Promoting responsible opioid management and incorporating scientific expertise act..... Important Information you may wish to keep; <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>-Get an account to access and track all your VA benefits, obtain important documents, pay, certificate of eligibility education, and VA home loans, Also Veterans preference and employment assistance <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/> to obtain online access to your VA health records, order prescriptions and do health assessments More to come later. GOD BLESS AMERICA AND HER VETERANS,

Charles Anderson.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Don Miklos

My Dear Comrades,

On or around Feb of each year S.A.L. Chaplain Williams or I write about the four Chaplains who gave their lives when the transport ship Dorchester sank during W.W. II. They are heroes and deservedly so are remembered by a grateful nation as such.

Today I would like to remind you of two young patriots I knew, still in their teens, who served in that war, proud young men eager to serve their country. Enlisted men; Verlin L. Fortin W3TC, U.S. Navy and Edward L Miklos Tech. Sgt. U.S. Army; served with valor and distinction. Verlin served aboard the Indianapolis (CA-35) as a fireman. His ship was tasked with delivering the atomic bomb to the Air Force on Tinian Island. Then headed to the Philippines to join an attack task force on Japan. Under strict radio silence, no distress call was issued, when hit by two Japanese torpedoes, after delivering her cargo. She sank in minutes, of the 1,196 souls aboard 900 made it into the water. Verlin was one of those. Five days later they were found by a Navy P.B.Y seaplane, 317 survived. The salt water and sharks took the rest.

On the same day, July 30, 1845, the attack task force left Manila and headed for Japan. My brother, Tech Sgt. Miklos, serving in the Harbor Craft Division, of the 8th Army, was a coxswain aboard L.S.T. 307 (Landing craft). The convoy ran into a typhoon and his ship, it's back broken by a monster wave, sank. Two days and nights later he and a few shipmates were miraculously found, in thirty-foot waves, by Navy rescue! The rest had disappeared!

Both Verlin and Eddie were taken to a hospital in Manila. Months later, their wounds healed, recovered from pneumonia, their lives forever in twined, went back to their units and survived the war. They were both discharged when their enlistment exuded in late 1946.Honoraby and with commendations.

You will not find their names on a monument or plaque for their service to their country but they were the kind of heroes we needed at that time. A brave man is not one who does not feel afraid, but one who conquers that fear. They said they were never closer to God than when they; were a tiny speck in a very great ocean. Please remember Verlin , Ed, and several hundred thousand like them who gave so much of themselves for us. Pray that God now holds them close and comforts them. As long as we live to serve our God and Country, they shall never be forgotten. They are our fallen comrades forever. God Bless our great nation, our fallen comrades and all you who make the American Legion what we are.

Your Chaplain Don L Miklos

Legion & Auxiliary Dues (2017) are due. Just a reminder. Let's get Commander Fred and President Joyce a 100% this year. SAL dues will be due shortly.

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

Although not a member of this post, I choose to recognize a WWII veteran I had the honor of meeting on our cruise to Alaska. He is 97-year-old Commander Earl Beck USN (Retired) who served with the United States Navy during WWII in the Pacific as an engineering officer. Earl was born in Princeton and grew up in Milaca, MN. He was in the Philippines at the end of WWII and told me when he and his shipmates heard of the Japanese surrender they all got drunk on "liberated" liquor.

For 97, this sailor really was in good shape and got around just great. I asked him what he owed his long life to. He told me "A good wife and good whiskey." His major complaint was "I've got two beds on the ship and no blondes." He wants to go to Australia and meet blondes.....

I wish I had the room to say more about this remarkable navy veteran. He had so many stories about his navy service. Jan and I both fell in love with this great guy. If anyone wants to get in contact with Earl Beck, give me a phone call and I'll give you the contact info.

TO THE POST EVERLASTING

Jim Hovda

Sergeant First Class U.S. Army (Retired) Robert Bisher. He has been a member of our post for many years. I had the opportunity to serve with SFC Bisher in HHC, 3rd Battalion 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) for several years. Bob was a cook and was one really fine soldier. I took more than one serious butt chewing for not having KP's at his mess hall when so requested on time.

One winter annual training (winter) at Camp Ripley an exercise caused the troops to become soaked to the skin (temps in the 30's) and it became apparent to me that they were in serious need of hot soup or beverage. I told Bisher of the issue and he went to work. In short order he had hot soup in mermite (remember those) and I trucked them out to the field. It was an effort that saved some serious hypothermia issues.

SFC Bisher was a former navy veteran and was a "hard hat" navy diver. He played a role in raising the ships from the Suez Canal when it was blocked as the result of a war in the Middle East. When Bob stood inspection with his "hard hat" badge he was questioned more than once. It forced several officers to go back to the medals book to check.

Sergeant First Class Robert Bisher U.S.A. (Retired) was a first class soldier and former navy veteran. His awards to be presented in The Post Everlasting will be well deserved.

He resided in the State of Washington and will be interred at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery on 13 Sept. I will be there.

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

The Rice Fun Days Parade was well attended by our members and Kilroy was driven by Chaplain Don Miklos; with LTC Chet as the co-pilot driving right seat.

Our next event will be the 9/11 ceremony at the Memorial Monument. You need to be at the Legion SUNDAY, 11 Sept. NLT 6:00 P.M. THIS IS A MAJOR EVENT... We'll march from the Legion to the monument. There will be a SHORT program and back to the legion for refreshments and beverages. Let's have a good turnout.

THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX

Darlene Hiscock

"AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.

Hello fisher people – Not many fish turned in. Fred Segler got a 19" walleye in a secret lake.

29 July Dawson Moen and Gavin went with grandpa on a trip to Ely and Dawson got a 26 ½" northern pike. I went on a family fishing trip and my daughter Kim Kasloski got a 26 1/2" northern. So, we have a tie.

Everyone must be doing gardening stuff, as those were the only fish turned in. I'm in the middle of canning tomatoes and won't be fishing for a week or so.

Whoops!!!!!!! I received a picture from none other than Jim Hovda. The envelope portrayed a walleye that was more than 30" long, a record setter for sure. He said the picture would prove it and he wanted his year winner immediately. When I opened it up and saw a picture of a walleye that was only a bit longer than the daredevil it was hanging from (4") I knew he was up to another of his tricks. It was good for a laugh. He caught down rigging at 34' at Lake of the Woods. Ya' got to go to the legion to see the picture. Shame on Mr. Hovda..... What will he think up next?

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

Well Sept. is upon us. Cooler days and nights are good thing sometimes.

Rice day was a fun time and our color guard was great. Thank you also to Bowlus and Sauk Rapids for joining in.

We will have our 8th annual bouja customer appreciation day on Sept. 24th. Serving will start at approximately 2 o'clock. We will sell half gallons for \$9. The first bowl is free. Stop in and have a bowl and visit with friends.

Remember patriot day on Sept 11th. We will be open that evening after 5pm.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Joyce Segler

Greetings,

A short report on the food serviced for the auction at the Dennis Haug residence. It was a very positive experience with the help of Mary Ann Keeney, Nancy Anderson, Lucy Hovland and myself we were able to add a nice contribution to our Auxiliary funds.

Also kudos to Evie Kirchner, Pat and Charlie Fuchs for making sure we had all our supplies and to Charlie Anderson and Fred Segler for heft and carry in setting up and taking down.

Don't forget we will be parking cars at City Hall during the Craft Fair Sept. 10 & 11th. If you are coming to the fair perhaps you could help park cars for a couple hours. Call Joyce 393 2484 if you would be able to help.

September Dinner is Tues. Sept 13. Homemade pot-roast potatoes and carrots, also all the trimmings salads and desserts. See you there!

Joyce Segler

September 2016 LEGION CALENDAR

02 Japan formally surrenders. (1945)

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

03 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

05 Labor Day. (Fly Flag)

07 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post

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

11 9-11 Patriot Day – Memorial Monument 7:00 P.M.(Flags ½ staff until sunset.)

11 Global War on Terror begins. (2001)

12 Legion meetings. (See below)

13 Auxiliary dinner. 5:00 - 7:00 P.M. Post .Pot-roast, potato, carrots, salads, desserst

14 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

16 POW/MIA Recognition Day. (Fly Flag)

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

18 Happy B'day USAF. (1947)

21 BINGO, 7:00 P.M.

22 First day of autumn.

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

25 Gold Star Family Remembrance Sunday.

26 Military police corps established. (Army) (1941)

28 BINGO, 7:00 P.M

LEGION MEETINGS WILL BE AT THE PINE COUNTRY BANK. Meetings start with (1) Legion Club Committee 6:00 P.M., (2) Legion Board of Directors at 6:30 P.M. & (3) Legion & SAL meeting 7:00 P.M. SAL members meet w/Leg. (3) **Auxiliary at the Joyce Segler residence, 965 Isaac Rd NW Rice 7:00 P.M.**

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 vetsbenefits@co.stearns.mn.us

Rice Legion Website www.post473.com