



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473

November 2013

FROM THE COMMANDER

Chet Seviola

Ed Ashenbrenner turned 90. His party was delayed because he was ill. Please join me in wishing him greetings and salutations. We are proud that he is a member of our Legion.

At the risk of boring you Army, Air Force and Marine types I want to devote the rest of my column to ships, in particular the USS Minnesota. This is the third ship to bear the state name. The first was a sailing steam frigate commissioned in 1857. The second was commissioned from 1907 until 1921. The current USS Minnesota is a Virginia-class submarine. The ship was delivered on-time and under budget.



Note the size of the helicopter pictured ahead of the USS-Minnesota.

Commissioning Committee Co-Chair Brian Skon says the fast attack sub is the most advanced ship in the world. It never has to refuel. The U.S.S. Minnesota will have a total of 140 crewmembers, with 15 officers. The 377-foot long ship is capable of submerged speeds of more than 29 mph and can stay submerged for up to three months at a time. Virginia class submarines like the Minnesota are especially maneuverable in shallow waters, and were designed with plenty of room for special forces and their equipment to come aboard. Like other classes of attack submarines, the Minnesota is designed to fight enemy submarines and surface ships and can also fire Tomahawk cruise missiles at targets on shore.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS AND SAL SQUADRON 473

Jeff Gondeck

Gentlemen, not much to report but to say we reinstated our membership drawing so if you would like a chance to win some money please attend our monthly meetings at the post. Other than that MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!!!!, for 2014 are due now.

Good luck to all deer hunters and stay safe until next time at ease!

Your Commander Jeff Gondeck

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

First, a letter from Staff Sergeant Chris James he is getting "short" in Afghanistan. No more mail. Let all of us keep him in our prayers.

Hey Jim,

How are things going in Minnesota? It is starting to cool off here, gets into the mid 70's in the day and mid to low 40's at night, pretty cold when we wake up. That is good, means we are closer to coming home.

Not a whole lot of stuff has been going on here. Our Afghan Army counterparts have gone on a few missions on their own with good success. That is good news, means they are able to conduct engineer operations without the U.S. holding their hands. The mostly conducted route repairs and fixed a few checkpoints. They also fixed an observation post. Their battalion commander was the only casualty. He was shot twice. He is doing well and is at his home with his family now. They do not know who shot him. They think it was a green on green (Afghan Soldier shot him.) They still have a lot of issues with in their army with the insurgents integrating into their ranks. Their has been one incident on the FOB I am on with ANA and the U.S. One ANA killed three U.S. The ANA commander shot the ANA soldier that did the attack. Other than that, it is pretty quiet here. My squad is currently tasked with guardian angel duties for a Mobile Training Team that is here to train the mechanics. Guardian Angels are pretty much just security guards. They watch over the civilians and U.S. military to ensure nothing happens. I have been working with the 101st Airborne SFAAT (Security Forces Assistant Advisory Team) on creating a maintenance tracker that the ANA can easily follow. I am also creating a parts catalog so they can track what parts they have on hand and what parts need to be ordered. It seems simple, but it takes a lot of time to create so the ANA can comprehend it. Here is a short video the 101st created showing what we are doing. <http://www.dvidshub.net/video/302990/ana-perform-maintenance-with-graphics#.UIVpOSgz22o>

They say we will be home with our families for Christmas. It will be nice to get back and restart my life. Not sure how long I will take before going back to work. Not in to big of a hurry to go back, especially not during winter.

I hope all is well with you and the Legion. Thanks for helping Cassie out as well.

Sincerely
Chris James

Second, no word from Sergeant Travis Peterson newly arrived in Afghanistan.

Third, serving at the “home front” Specialist (SPC) Jacob Davenport is assigned to the Honor Guard Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) is alive and well serving as a Tomb Guard at Arlington National Cemetery. He has posted more than 370 walks in front of the Tomb. He sends his regards and is proud to be a member of our post. Pictured is Davenport and his Tomb Badge earned after completing at least six months of Tomb Guard service. If you ever get a chance to visit Arlington National Cemetery and view a changing of the guard it will immediately become apparent the stress of that duty. The Tomb Badge is one of the most coveted decorations in the army trove of decorations and awards. SPC Davenport joined Jan and I at the “Old Guard” reunion dinner in D.C. pictured below.



HONOR GUARD COLUMN

Jim Hovda

The honor guard attended the funerals of two auxiliary members Rosemary Ganz and Mable Foss. An American Flag was presented and taps rendered at as authorized by the Legion Auxiliary for their faithful support of veterans. Our prayers go out to the families.

If you are having cleaning or alterations done by Rapids Alterations, make sure that you are able to identify the items that you took in.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Don Miklos

Comrades,

I was pleased to read pastor and SAL Chaplain Emil Williams's article in the last newsletter about Chaplains and the importance of God as a mainstay of the American Legion. I would like to expound on that subject if I may.

Who or what is a Chaplain? To this man is given the spiritual leadership of the post. He should lend dignity and respect to his office. He must be in close confidence with the Commander and stand ready to take part in dedication ceremonies of Halls, Monuments and especially to preside over funeral services for a comrade. All such services are made much more meaningful by the use of our rituals. And into his keeping is placed the spirit of comradeship for the post, so that unity and harmony may prevail.

He need not necessarily be a clergyman, but he must be a man capable of moral and intellectual leadership and one who brings dignity to his position.

As a young soldier in Basic Training, first time being a thousand miles from home, feeling very much alone, I found how invaluable a Chaplain can be. When life became oppressive he was there with a smile and fatherly advice. But most importantly he let me know that God did not, and would not ever abandon me, even though I felt differently. Through his kind and helpful talks I began to understand my role in the Army and by accepting responsibility, became a Squad Leader, changing my life. When I left Basic he gave me a gift. An Army Issued, little olive drab book, "The New Testament" signed by President Franklin Deloano Roosevelt, Commander & Chief. He also gave me this advice. "Never let your squad leave the Compound without these three things, a clean weapon, your dog tags, and above all, your Bible." To this day, I still have the dog tags and my little olive drab Bible. May God Bless you Chaplain, and all my Legion comrades.

Your Chaplain Post 473

Don Miklos

THE FISHING STRINGER

Darlene Hiscock

Ladies and gentlemen, where are the fish? I can give you a little slack as my spies tell me it has been a slow bite. That said, I thought it was a good idea to spell out the rules before the ice fishing starts.

WHO CAN ENTER – Anyone who catches a fish in MINNESOTA (C. Seviola)

WHAT KINDS OF FISH CAN I ENTER – Northern Pike, Walleye and Catfish. We take length, not weight. TIME FRAMES – from the 15th of each month to the 15th of the next month during the walleye/northern pike season. I need time to process all the entries and get them in the post newsletter. HOW DO I ENTER – I would like a picture. You need to call me at 320/393-2106 and talk to me or leave a message. If you're not telling the truth, my spies and informants will find out. WHAT DO I WIN – A gift certificate for \$5.00 at the Legion. This is not transferable.

I'm going to try to give an award for the largest white tail deer. I'm not sure how I will determine the winner; I'll figure it out and will be the sole judge.

KEEP SAFE, WEAR A PFD
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 prize money of \$500.00 went to Jim Wolf and we have started over with as of October 26th at \$75.00 with no winner so next week will be at \$100.00. 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

I can't believe it's November. Wow. Our bouja and customer appreciation day was a great success. Thanks to all who helped with the bouja, Tom, Jean and my husband Ev. Sandy and Paul who served our cheer.

November brings us to our widows' night out. Friday, November 8th at 7pm. Some of the events we have are bingo horse racing; drink specials, basket raffles, door prizes and great food. Wear camouflage for prizes. Proceeds go to

the Rice food shelf, auxiliary, Legion and Rice Women of Today. Good cause and a good time.

Our key for cash drawing will be for \$100 if it doesn't go out on the 26th. Congratulations to Jim Wolf who was our first winner of \$500. Spend it wisely. Remember meat raffle starts at 7, key for cash at 8-9 and happy hour prices from 9-10.

Having a party? Contact me at 393-4545 to book the legion club.

Cheryl Bovy

AUXILIARY

Janice Martin

Happy Fall everyone,

We have 46 Senior and 1 Junior members renewed for 2013-2014. If you haven't renewed your membership yet try to get it done soon. Your free drink ticket only lasts until December 31st.

We have had to say goodbye to a couple of members recently, Mable Foss and Rosemary Ganz, rest in peace ladies.

I will be sending in the Wreaths Across America orders for wreaths. Our Auxiliary once again sent in a sponsorship. Laying of the wreaths on the grave sites at the Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls will be December 14th at 10:00 am.

Widow's weekend is scheduled for November 8th starting at 7:00 pm. We have been asked as an Auxiliary to provide bars for the dessert for the night. Anyone who can bake a pan of bars for that night can drop them off at the Legion by 7:00pm, that night. Also, if anyone is interested in helping walk around the auction items we could use a little help. There were 4 of us there last year putting out hors d' oeuvres and helping with the auction. This is really a fun night even if your guy doesn't hunt. Good excuse to get out of the house for a good time!

We will be serving bars once again for American Education Week on November 11th. We need lots of help baking bars for the staff and bus drivers. I will pick up juice, milk and make coffee for that morning. Bars can be dropped off at my place on Saturday and Sunday the 9th and 10th. I will cut these and put them into boxes to take to school on Monday.

There will be a Veterans program at school on Friday the 15th, which is a late start for the school. Program will start approximately 11:00 a.m. in the school

gym. Also, in honor of our Veterans, Nancy Anderson will be sending out cards to the Veterans on behalf of the Auxiliary for Veteran's Day.

The November dinner will be November 12th from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Legion club. The menu for our November dinner will be Stuffed Pork Chops, parmesan potatoes, gravy, veggies, salads and desserts. Our hostesses will be Bev, Pat, and Dorrain Petron and Sue Beierman.

The next Auxiliary meeting will be November 11th at 7 p.m. at the club.

Stay warm, Janice



Gabriel Anderson sitting on back of Grandma Tahoe after loading 50 Red White & Blue Quilts and 10 regular quilts to St Cloud Veteran Hospital. This was the second delivery of quilts to the VA this year. We were told they give on an average 20 quilts a week to hospitalized Veterans, when they go home they can take the quilt with them. This program can only continue if there are people willing to purchase red white blue fabric, cut out the squares, sew them together, tie and pin, and then take them to the VA Hospital. What a nice way to say Thank you to our Veterans for their service.

NOVEMBER 2013 LEGION CALENDAR

- 02 KEYS FOR CASH – 8:00 P.M. At the post. Meat raffle too.**
- 03 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS. FALL BEHIND. -1Hr.
- 05 Elections in some communities. VOTE! (Fly Flag)
- 06 BINGO – 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 08 Widows weekend. 7:00 P.M. at the post.**
- 09 KEYS FOR CASH – 8:00 P.M. At the post. Meat raffle too.**
- 10 Happy B'day U.S. Marine Corps. (1775)**
- 10 Parade at VA Med Center. 12:30 P.M.**
- 11 LEGION & AUXILIARY MEETINGS. (See below) Veterans Day. (Fly Flag)**
- 12 Auxiliary dinner – 5 – 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 13 BINGO – 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 14 Battle of Ia Drang Valley Vietnam begins. (1965)
- 16 KEYS FOR CASH – 8:00 P.M. At the post. Meat raffle too.**
- 18 Battle of Ia Drang Valley ends. (1965)
- 19 S.A.L. MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 20 BINGO – 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 21 Grenada Campaign Ended. (1983)
- 22 President John F. Kennedy Assassinated. (1963)
- 23 KEYS FOR CASH – 8:00 P.M. At the post. Meat raffle too.**
- 27 BINGO – 7:00 P.M. At the post.**
- 28 Thanksgiving. CLUB CLOSED.
- 30 KEYS FOR CASH – 8:00 P.M. At the post. Meat raffle too.**

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 & Auxiliary meeting 7:00 P.M. at the Legion Post. (Joint meetings)

AIRBORNE HERITAGE

Three notable events: First, Task Force Ivory Coast, raids the Son Tay POW camp, North Vietnam on the 21st of November. A historic raid. The camp was empty however a number of enemies were killed with no loss of friendly personnel or aircraft to enemy fire. And second, the United States Marine Corps conducted the first class of "Para-marines" who began training at NAS Lakehurst, NJ. In 1940. The Corps later abandoned the airborne concept in large numbers. Currently, marine paratroopers are limited to the RECON and special operations part of the corps. Third, our most senior veteran, Ed Ashenbrenner, a WWII paratrooper with the army 11th Airborne Division in Japan (1945) celebrated his 90th birthday on the 10th of October. MANY MORE AIRBORNE ED!

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. Commander - Jeff Gondeck 320/469-6752 kato6820@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Floyd Hinkemeyer 320/393-2854 fhinkemeyer@jetup.net
Auxiliary - Nancy Anderson 320/393-2108 njanderson@jetup.net
S.A.L. - Jeff Gondeck 320/469-6752 kato6820@gmail.com

CHAPLAINS

Legion - Don Miklos 320/584-5825
Auxiliary - Jan Hovda 320/393-4339 janhovda@jetup.net
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GUARD

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POST

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

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

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