

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hasso Briese Post 0473
Septeber 2017

FROM THE COMMANDER

Fred Segler

Hello folks, another month has passed and we are all doing well. On the 10th 7 of our members got together and pulled trees from our legion property by the Cemetery, pickups worked hard, and we got a bunch of the trees, out more needs to be done and we will reschedule. Thanks to all who helped, Lowell Huston, Scott Bierman, Randy Fernholtz, Art Popp, Don Micklos, Wayne Carriveau, and Fred Segler. Second shot at tree clean up in cemetery property has happened.

Following people helped out. Wayne Carriveau and his Mustang, Randy Fernholz, Charlie Fuchs and Pickup, Jim Hovda, Lowell Huston, Fred Segler and pickup, Jim Segler, Emil Williams and his trusty 60 JohnDeere, Jim Wolf, Don Micklos. The first week Scott B. and pickup, Don Micklos and pickup, Fred Segler and pickup, Randy Fernholtz and pickup. These guys and their equipment worked very hard, we pulled over 100 Chinese Elms and piled them, we have to remove them some time and how remains a question.

Rice Fun Days has happened; a great time was had by all, thanks to all that helped.

The Feb. Cemetery duty at Ripley is almost over we opened the viewing area for the service paintings and assisted any one visiting, with locating graves sites.

Thanks to Emil and his lovely wife 1st Saturday, Jim and Fred Segler 2nd Saturday,

Charlie Fuchs and Floyd Hinkemeyer 3rd Saturday, Don Micklos will handle the last Saturday really went fast and was nice to see the paintings and meet people. We are planning on replacing the lighting in our bathrooms at the club Jerry Lage and Jim Wolf have taken on the job, thanks guys. 9/11 is coming up please plan on attending; we must never forget this attack on our freedom. It is really nice things when Legion members come together to get things done. More people need to get involved, Please! Again thanks to all. See you at the club.

Your Commander Fred

KRIBBAGE AT THE LEGION

We're looking at Wednesdays, 2 - 4 PM. Call Cheryl at the post regarding cribbage if you are interested.

NOTE the Legion Meeting date changed to the 3rd Monday

September 18th due to the 9-11 ceremony.

POST SERVICE OFFICER

Charles Anderson

State Bill Tracker: Vetoes 2, Approved 26, Introduced 19, Laid over 7, Included 12, Signed by Governor 1, veterans rest camp 1.

Of Interest: Home Depot gives a veteran discount, BP here in Rice gives a discount.

Legion memorial database passes 1,000.

Newly available digital collection provides glimpse into Legion history.

National Commander praises Chemical Weapons Legislation.

AMERICAN PUBLIC WE NEED YOUR HELP. Vietnam War Veterans who served in

Harbors and off shore Vietnam NO LONGER receive Health Care for Cancers and other diseases caused by exposure to Agent Orange Herbicide.

TRICARE UPDATE Adult child Benefits. Have Information, can be seen at legion Bulletin board.

Summer Games at the St. Cloud VA was a huge Success. See information at Legion on bulletin Board.

Legion World Series Recap, Information at legion bulletin Board.

2017 Power of One Wellness 5k Register Today. Ben Franklin Readiness Center, 1536 Ben Franklin Drive, Arden Hills, MN. 55122, September 10, 2017 9 AM-11 AM. Flyer at Legion bulletin Board.

Honor Walk/Run, Camp Ripley in DeParq Woods on Sept. 16th 2017, 15000 Hiway 115 Little Falls, MN. 56345. Flyer at Legion.

Military Veteran Discount Information, Twins. Every Monday Veterans and 4 guests can get tickets for half price. There are games where veterans can go for free. Check on line at: minnesota.twins.mib.com/min/community/military-support

Free Drop in legal clinic for Veterans, VA medical center in Minneapolis September 12, 2017 9 AM-2 PM.

STAND DOWN FOR VETEERANS Duluth Convention Center, 350 Harbor Drive, Friday August 25, 2017, 8 AM- 2 PM.

Sen. Franken's Bipartisan Measure to Ensure Minnesota National Guard and Reserve Members Can Access Full GI Benefits Becomes Law.

Flyer on bulletin board on: Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017.

POW/MIA REPORT

Charles Anderson

WW2 Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-1415.

KOREAN WAR Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-141.

VIETNAM WAR Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-33.

COLD WAR Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-126.

OPERATION EL DORADO CANYON 1986, Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-1.

DESERT STORM Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-2

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM Missing, not recovered-From Minnesota-3

RECENT NEWS AND STORIES of Accounted for this month of August 50, from all Wars.

POW/MIA Recognition day is September 15, 2017. Fly your flag, call your congressmen and senators and show your support for our missing (MIA) and POW.

NOTE THE LEGION MEETING DATE CHANGE. THE LEGION MEETINGS WILL BE ON THE THRID MONDAY, 18 SEPT, DUE TO THE 9-11 CEREMONY AT THE MEMORIAL MONUMENT.

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.

9 – 11 Patriot Day Ceremony

Will be held at the Rice Memorial Day Monument at 7:00 P.M. Local clergy, military and public safety will be in attendance. Following the ceremony there will be refreshments at the post. Come and honor those who have, and are still suffering from this tragic event. It is suggested to bring a lawn chair.

COLOR GUARD COLUMN

Fifteen members of the color guard participated in the Rice Fun Days Parade. It was well executed with Gerry Wolf leading the way with Jim & Fred Segler carrying rifles on either side of the flag. Your post honored themselves well.

Our next event (hopefully) will be the 9/11, event. Color guard members need to be at the legion NLT 6:00 P.M. This is one of our important events, honoring & remembering those who died and survived the terrible attack on the two World Trade Centers in 2001. We'll need all hands for this event, as there are extra flags to display.

MEMBERSHIP (2017-18) DUE

Legion and SAL dues invoices should have been received by the membership. The Auxiliary should be coming soon. Your prompt attention is appreciated. I'd like to get ahead of this ASAP.

Thanks to those who have already paid. You can pay at the post if you desire. Leg \$40.00 - - - SAL \$15.00.

Jim Wolf – Membership Director Legion and SAL

WARRIORS COLUMN

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

FFC1 (Fireman First Class) Elmer T. Kerestes more than deserves to be represented here. Related to SAL member Bob Kerestes, Elmer was KIA aboard the Battleship Oklahoma on 07 December 1941 when the ship received more than ten torpedo hits, capsizing the ship killing Kerestes and more than four hundred other shipmates. FFC1 Kerestes received several decorations including the Purple Heart. Elmer was first interned in Hawaii. His remains were identified early this year. He was interred at the Highland Cemetery in Holdingford MN on 29 August receiving full military honors. Your post color guard was in attendance.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Don Miiklos

My Dearest Comrades,

In my time as your Chaplain, it has been my honor and privilege to serve you and our God in so many ways. For that I am very thankful.

Now, what you may not know is I have always felt a special affinity for W.W. II

soldiers. Perhaps because of my two brothers who served and my closeness to them. So I felt especially honored to represent our Legion Club as the bearer of the Christian Flag at the funeral of Fireman 1st Class Elmer Kerestes, U.S. Navy, who was killed in action Dec 7 1941 in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. I have never been a part of a more heart felt, touching service. As I stood at attention and presented the flag in Highland Cemetery by Holdingford I could feel something, perhaps his spirit around me! I actually turned my head to see who had touched me. No one was there, but in that moment I saw again in my mind's eye, my 18-year-old brother, in his Army uniform, waving good-bye as he left for war, and my older brother proudly standing by his B-17 with his crewmen in England. Somehow or other I think Elmer was present at that moment also. Later I had the privilege of meeting a Pearl Harbor survivor, and old veteran in his 90's sitting in a wheel chair. I saluted him and he sat up, ramrod straight, and returned the salute! I received the most genuine handshake I had gotten in quite sometime. God Bless that man!

The Navy personnel were outstanding, the Chief Perry Officer explained the procedure used to determine the remains of F-1st Class Kerestes and the honor with which they treated him on his trip home. They provided six casket bearers. These six acted as one. Every movement being precise and done with quiet respect. As was the Flag Folders and presentation, all done with perfection. The bugler playing "Taps" was our last farewell to Elmer and as I listened to those twenty six plaintive notes I realized I had never attended a ceremony so soul-stirring more one that had affected me as this had.

And then it struck me, just what a wonderful occasion this was and how really important it was, their son had come home! Yes, home after 76 years of being Missing In Action! A true hero was laid to rest beside his Mom and Dad. I thank God that I was allowed to be a part of it! May God Bless Elmer and keep him safe for eternity.

Your Chaplain Don Miklos

THE FISHING STRINGER & TACKLE BOX

Darlene Hiscock "AKA" Ms. Tackle Box.

Got a call from Don Miklos. He got a 22.75-inch northern pike on the 16th of July – held first place until the last weekend when my grandson Tommy got a 27-inch fish.

We had a fish trip with my relatives. We got enough northerns and walleyes for a big fish fry. I fished with my brother Ted and he caught a 24-inch walleye and I got a 21.5-inch walleye. The sad part, we had to release both fish due to the slot size limit on the lake. (14-20 were keepers) We had a wonderful time. My brother got a 28-inch walleye the week before. We also got a bunch of pan fish.

Now for the Hovda fish story. He gave me some pictures of his catch. Yes, he actually caught some fish on his trip to Lake of the Woods. He got a 35.5-inch walleye (he was the champion of his group) but he also got the smallest walleye, a 9-inch fish caught on a rapala. Now I looked at the rapala jig and it is almost as big as the fish.

When he brought in the pictures, he was all smiles and thought he would be the champion at the legion. **NOT!!!** He should have stayed in the area and caught bigger fish. I posted his pictures at the leg.

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

Darlene Hiscock - - "AKA" Ms. Tackle Box

FROM THE CLUB

Cheryl Bovy

I'd like to thank all who made Rice days a success. It was a good day and lots of fun. Good job to our color guard and thanks to Scott B. Jim W. and Jim H. for helping with chairs and tables.

If you are at all interested in playing cribbage please call the legion and let us now. The plan is to play on Wed. afternoon about 2 o'clock.

Bingo has been postponed until Wed. Sept. 6th at 7pm. Congratulations goes out to Stacy R and Tammy K. for taking home \$1199.

Meat raffles and key for cash are still going on Sat. nights. Money is still available to be won, also some great meat packages.

My plan is to also have a picture painting party at the Legion, either in Sept. or Oct. I have been to one and it's a great time. Please call me, or the Legion and let me know if you are interested. Grab a friend or two and make it a great night. The cost is about \$25 or \$30 depending on how many people.

AUXILIARY_NEWS

Joyce Segler

Time for the newsletter again. The months go by so fast my head spins.

School will be starting in just a few days the State Fair is almost history but the beautiful months of Sept. and Oct. are ahead and looked forward too. Fall is my favorite time of year; I love the fall colors and sweatshirt weather.

Craft Fair is just a week away I have most of it covered but still need a few workers, your phone may be ringing

Auxiliary meetings will resume in Sept. Because the second Monday is the 11th we will meet on the third Monday Sept. 18th at the club.

The Legion is planning a memorial service at the monument on the 11th. Please attend if you can.

Dinner is Sept. 12th Ham and Cheesy Potatoes, servers are Theresa Duea, Debbie Wolf, and Jennifer Emslander, hope to see you there.

Blessings to you all, Joyce

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.

SEPTEMBER 2017 LEGION CALENDAR

- 02 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat Raffle 7:00 P.M.**
04 Labor Day. CLUB CLOSED. (Fly flag.)
06 BINGO, 7:00 P.M. Post.
09 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat Raffle 7:00 P.M.
11 G.W.O.T. Begins Çeremany at the Memorial Monument 7:00 P.M. (Fly Flag at half-staff until sunset.)
12 AUXILIARY DINNER 5 – 7:00 P.M. Post.Ham, cheesey potatoes, vet., salades and desserts
13 BINGO, 7:00 P.M. POST.
15 POW/MIA Recognition Day. (Fly flag)
16 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.
17 U.S. Constitution approved. (1787) Constitution and Citizenship day. (Fly flag)
18 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (Leg, Aux & SAL) Happy B'day, USAF (1947)
20 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post
22 First day of Autumn.
23 Keys for cash 8:00 P.M. Meat raffle 7:00 P.M.
24 Gold Star Mother's Day.
27 BINGO. 7:00 P.M. Post.
29 VFW Day. VFW Established. (1899)
30 Keys 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.

IMPORTANT POINTS OF CONTACT:

LEADERSHIP

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

MEMBERSHIP

Legion - Jim Wolf 320/259-1194 jimdebwolf@gmail.com

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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

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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

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