

Minneapolis/Richfield Post 435

American Legion News

6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423 (612) 866-3647 www.mnlegion435.org richfieldamericanlegion@comcast.net Mar/Apr 2015



SPRING EVENT

**Crafts and Merchant Vendors
Bake Sale and Book Sale**
Sunday, April 19, 2014 9:00 AM to 4 PM

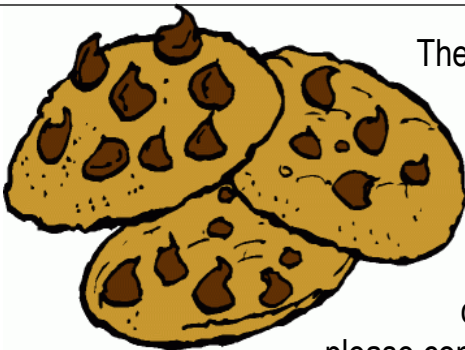
MPLS-Richfield American Legion Post 435
6501 Portland Ave So.
Richfield, MN 55423
Questions: Contact Carol Larson
612-481-2148
upward@wwdb.org

Corned Beef & Cabbage March 17th



Auxiliary Omelet Breakfast

8am to noon, March 15 & April 19
\$9 per person, children 10 and under \$5



The Auxiliary is looking for donated Baked Goods to be sold at the Craft Fair and Bake Sale. Please drop-off Donations on Saturday April 18th between 2pm and 6pm. If that time does not work or any questions, please contact Jill Davis at 612-968-1172.

Wanted: Paperbacks, hard cover books, fiction, non-fiction.

The Auxiliary will hold a Book Sale in conjunction with the Craft Fair and Bake Sale. Please drop off book donations at the Main Legion Office between now and Friday April 17,

2015.
*No Reader's Digest, Condensed
Books or Magazines PLEASE.*



Hotdish Dinner Fundraiser

Hosted by
American Legion
Riders

Wednesday, March 4
Wednesday, April 1
5-7 p.m.



Commander's Column

Hello again!

I would like to thank the membership, and especially the members of the Executive Committee, for the continued support they have shown in helping OUR Post through some challenges these past several months. It is good to see "men of good character"—all volunteers—stand up to do "good things."

Eight members participated in 5th District VA Hospital Visitation on the first Sunday of February. The 5th District gathers there and breaks into small groups that visit veterans who are "stuck" in various wards at the Hospital. These visits are good for ALL involved, both patients and visitors. I hope to continue this each month. Just ask some of the members who have done this, and come along next time. Thank you!



Members of Post 435 who participated in Fifth District VA Hospital Visitation Sunday Feb 1st. (back left to front right) Patty Swanson, Dennis DeLong, Scott Alexander, Tom Eckhoff, Craig Deneen, Bob Newcomb, Gary Anderson, and John Gallas.

Thank you to the Auxiliary, SAL, and ALR for ALL they have done, and ALL they are doing for OUR Post each and every month.

It was a special honor for Second Vice Commander Bob Newcomb, and our Post, to award a young US Navy Sea Cadet with the American Legion Award of Military Excellence, at their annual ball held at our Post on January 17, 2015. (see photos)

We are so fortunate to have a vast membership, with so many skills to offer, and it is time for members to stand up to help. Every member has something they can contribute. There are many opportunities to volunteer. Boy Scouts, Legionville, Legion

(continued on pg. 3)

President's Column

Greetings to everyone – I hope you are enjoying the winter weather and looking forward to spring. I know that I am.

Please remember to attend the Auxiliary Omelet Breakfast on Sunday March 15th and Sunday April 19th. Thank you to Kenny and Cleo for continuing to coordinate this event. They do a great job. On April 19th we are also having a Craft Fair, Bake Sale and Book Sale which will be held in the Legion Dining Room and Turner Room. Please come out and support both events! Thanks to manager John Wortman and the Legion for allowing the Auxiliary to "take-over" the Legion post for our fundraising events on April 19th.

We are seeking donations for both the book sale and bake sale being held on Sunday April 19th. Books can be dropped off anytime between now and Friday, April 17th. Please bring the books to the main legion office. We are looking for fiction and non-fiction, paperbacks and hard cover books of any kind. We are not accepting Reader's Digest, condensed books or magazines. Baked goods can be dropped off in the Grey Room on Saturday April 18th between 2pm and 6pm.

The Auxiliary has two more Bingo Parties scheduled at the Veterans Home on Tuesday March 10th and Tuesday May 12th. Volunteers should arrive at 6:30pm and the games start at 7pm.

Please come to the general membership meetings which will be held on Tuesday March 31st and Tuesday April 28th starting at 7pm each evening. The Auxiliary will be holding elections on Tuesday, April 28th. Please bring your membership card to the meeting.

God Bless our country and our troops!

Jill Davis – Unit President

Post 435 Officers

Commander

Tom Eckhoff

1st Vice Commander

John Gallas

2nd Vice Commander

Bob Newcome

Adjutant

Craig Deneen

Finance Officer

Jim Munson

Immediate Past Commander

Merv Becker

Chaplain

Mark Wright

Service Officer

Sgt.-At-Arms

Jerry Martin

Post Membership

Jerry Martin

Club Manager

John Wortman

Unit 435 Officers

President

Jill Davis

1st Vice President

Patricia Swanson

2nd Vice President

Carol Larson

Sgt.-At-Arms

Secretary

Carol Larson

Treasurer

Penny Becker

Executive Board

JoAnn Davis

Sandy Klier

Jr. Past President

Chaplain / Memorial

Patricia Swanson

Membership Chairman

Patricia Swanson

SAL 435 Officers

Commander

Nils Hudyma

Direct all questions or comments to Post 435 during business hours at (612) 866-3647

(Commander, from pg. 2)

Baseball, community events, newsletter articles, event planning, handyman, and many more. As members, this is OUR Post, we need to step up and help whenever and wherever we can, as needed.

Remember taking that oath when you first were sworn into the military? Remember being unsworn? I didn't think so. We have a duty, and obligation to do the right thing today, as we did yesterday. We are ALL still sworn. I, as Post Commander, continue to strive to do the right thing, to share information, to tell the truth, even when difficult.

Now we need fundraising ideas to raise money to start a new Gambling operation of our own. Having fulfilled the requirements of the MN Gambling Control Board regarding our last Gambling License, we should be allowed to apply for a new Gambling License as early as June 1st, 2015. All fund raising ideas will be considered. Charitable Gambling, if allowed, helps very many American Legion charities, the VA Hospital, the MN Veterans Home, and more.

Post 435 has a long standing of being the largest American Legion Post in the State of Minnesota. We are very fortunate to be able to provide a space for a Club. The Club provides a restaurant, lounge, and banquet facilities, which all help to make the Post successful.

April brings an election of officers. I hope the members will take time to come in to vote. The current officers and board members have dedicated many volunteer hours behind the scenes, working on a groundwork and solid foundation for the future of our Post.

Remember, the true voice of our membership can only be heard by active participation in Post meetings. These challenges, WE face together, ALL of us, as members of this Post. Every member has his or her role to play, and working together, our Post will be able to meet our full potential and successfully serve our community.

Thomas R. Eckhoff
Commander 2014-2015

**Join us on March
17th for our famous
corned beef
cabbage, and other
St Paddy's Day fare!**



GAMBLING REPORT

January and the first half of February have been the best part of the fiscal year for gambling. We are now at the top of the scale for paying gambling taxes for the State, which means that we will be paying at least \$13,000.00 each month until the new fiscal year.

I will give a recap of the year, as my article did not make the American Legion newsletter:

Income: \$263,673.38

Expenses: \$50,811.68

Federal and State Taxes: \$42,259.81

Paddle Wheel Prizes: \$9944.00

Game Purchases: \$15,132.35

Payroll \$106,786.15

Profession Fees, Bonds, Rent, Etc.: \$31,079.20

Total Expenses: \$256,013.20

Net Income: \$7,660.18

Please help support the charitable gambling at your post.
Len Gudmunson, Gambling Manager

Auxiliary Membership

Unit #435 wishes to say thank you to all members who have renewed your Auxiliary membership for 2015. Members who have not renewed by March 15th will no longer be eligible for any Auxiliary benefits. There are many benefits listed in your National Auxiliary Magazine.

Post 435 Gun Club Report

We are accepting new members. Orientations will be held sometime in April. DNR Firearm safety/ Hunter Safety will be offered late April and again in late July. We are always looking for instructors. To sign up for hunter safety please go to the DNR website:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/firearms/index.html>

The Gun Club has monthly meetings at the post in the Turner Room at 7:30 on the 2nd Tuesday. The CMP meeting is at 6:30pm just before the general membership gun club meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings.
Michael Kielty

Greetings from the Squad 435 Sons of the American Legion.

As of this writing, I will be winding down my second year as SAL Commander. It is time for you, the membership, to step up and keep this organization going. The SAL is an organization of volunteers, working to help veterans, their families and our community. And we cannot continue to function without you, the membership, stepping up to keep the organization running. Volunteering as officers of the squad involves a meeting a month, and helping out at one of our three fundraisers throughout the year. These fundraisers are what allow us to support the Post 435 X-men (our Junior Shooting skills program), Child Welfare Association, Legionville (part of the School Patrol Safety Camp), and Boys State, among many others. So many organizations that help our kids, families, Veterans, and communities rely on the fundraising and donations of organizations such as ours. We do make a difference, thanks to our volunteers.

So please come to a meeting (third Monday of the month at 7:30). They last an hour, and help continue this great tradition that has an impact on so many others.

Our Elections will be in April, so volunteer soon. Please contact Jim Munson or Shawn Davis to volunteer or for more information. Or come to our meeting to discuss and discover.

Thank you to all who came out to support the Sons of the American Legion steak dinner on Sunday February 8th. A special thanks to Tim Cagney and the Post 435 X-men Junior shooting team for volunteering and supporting the SAL. Your hard work is appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

Thank you for another wonderful year.

Nils Hudyma, Commander
Sons of the American Legion



WE WANT YOU!!

It seems like I just started my term as president and already we are thinking about officer elections and chairmen for the next year. We are looking for members to volunteers to coordinate an event or a chairmanship or an officer position. You may think to yourself, "I can't commit to attending meetings every month" or "I just don't have time." Many of our events are only once or twice a year and do not require a huge time commitment. Examples include the Children's Christmas Party and Christmas Baskets for Deployed Soldiers or helping out with the Craft Fair or monthly Omelet Breakfasts. We need YOUR HELP to make your Auxiliary and its programs successful. Please contact Jill Davis at 612-968-1172 with any questions.

Thank you

Jill Davis – Unit 435 President



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Sundays, open - 2 p.m.

Phillips Bloody Mary's or Screwdrivers \$3.00

Dining Room Lunch Specials

Tues. – Wed. – Thurs. Miller Hi-Life tap,
Heileman's Old Style cans, Rail Martini's,
Manhattans, Gimlets

Toastmasters

I have been talking about Toastmasters in your Post 435 Legion News since I returned from Arizona in 2011. I belonged to three clubs in Arizona. We keep in contact on a regular basis. The friendships I have gained since I joined Toastmasters, both here and in Arizona, are very special. I mentioned in the January/February issue that many of our Legion and Toastmaster members have passed away. I suffered a mild heart attack January 11th. I realize now just how important life is, that not a minute should be wasted. I enjoy the camaraderie of the group. Several of us meet every Thursday at 5:15 for a light dinner followed by an enjoyable weekly meeting at 6:30. We are like a family—a comfortable support group—eager and willing to help each other grow as Toastmasters. Visitors are always welcome. You do not have to be a member of the Legion or the Auxiliary; however, it would be nice to belong and enjoy the benefits they offer also. Please visit us, bring along a friend or spouse, there is always room. We usually meet in the Turner Room or the Grey Room.

Dee Fiedler, DTM/CL
 Past President
Foxygrams1@gmail.com 612-741-1548



Easter Table Prayer

Eternal God, we lift our hearts to Thee in thanks this Eastertide for the endless renewing of life. As we observe everything in nature making ready for the great awakening, may our hearts be glad as we join in nature's song of praise. Raise our spirits above the failures and mistakes that hinder us and renew in us those purposes and ideals which inspire us to service. Help us to become worthy participants in the great life which, out of the old, eternally brings forth the new.

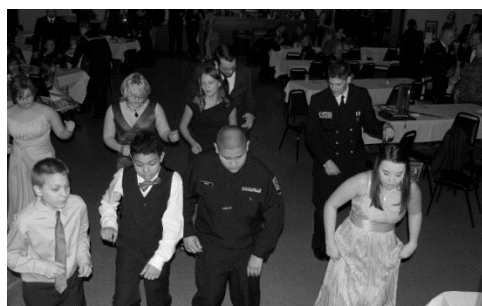
In all humbleness, we thank Thee for the food we are about to share on this "day of light and gladness." Amen

Sea Cadet Ball

American Legion Post 435 Presented the General Military Excellence Medal to Airman Adrian Settles of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Airman Settles' nomination for this award is a result of his exceptional military bearing, dependability, good character and military discipline in the Sea Cadet Program.

The USNSCC is a youth organization sponsored in part by the U. S. Navy, serving youth from 12 through 17 with military exposure and training. All cadets are required to attend two weeks of boot camp at Great Lakes Naval Training Center IL. Their website indicates nearly 70% of the participants go on to military service.

The award was presented at their Military Ball in the Post 435 Auditorium on January 17 by Bob Newcomb of our Post. The Ball was attended by the units of the Minneapolis area and an assortment of dignitaries.



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Mpls/Richfield American Legion Post 435

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Lounge specials all day. Music by Rockin' Woody.	Lounge specials. Bargo 5-7pm. BLUE MONDAY with Willie Murphy. Rib special!	Lunch 11am-2pm. Taco special! MUSIC by Paul Metsa & Willie Walker. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Karaoke 8:30pm. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Dining Room Specials. Bargo 5-7pm. MUSIC by the Del Counts. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm.	Lounge specials 8am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm.
1	2 Bargo 5-7pm.	3	4 ALR Hotdish Feed, 5pm.	5 Bargo 5-7pm.	6 CROSSFIRE	7 CROSSFIRE
8 VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm.	9 Bargo 5-7pm.	10 Bingo @ Vets Home 7pm. CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	11 ALR mtg, 7pm.	12 Bargo 5-7pm.	13 SECOND GENERATION	14 SECOND GENERATION
15 Omelet Breakfast, 8-12pm	16 Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30pm.	17 St. Patrick's Day. Join us for corned beef & cabbage!	18	19 Bargo 5-7pm.	20 LEGENDS	21 LEGENDS
22	23 Bargo 5-7pm.	24 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm.	25	26 Bargo 5-7pm.	27 BRIAN NAUGHTON	28 BRIAN NAUGHTON
29	30 Bargo 5-7pm.	31 Post mtg 7pm. Aux gen'l membership mtg 7pm.	<h1 style="font-size: 4em; margin: 0;">March 2015</h1>			

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			1 A.L. Riders Hotdish Feed 5pm.	2 Bargo 5-7pm.	3 RICH & THE RESISTORS	4 RICH & THE RESISTORS
5 Easter Sunday Post Closed.	6 Bargo 5-7pm.	7	8 A.L.R. mtg 7pm.	9 Bargo 5-7pm.	10 WAX TONES	11 WAX TONES
12	13 Bargo 5-7pm.	14 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm. CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	15	16 Bargo 5-7pm.	17 ROADHOUSE	18 ROADHOUSE
19 Omelet Breakfast, 8-12pm Craft Fair/Bake Sale/Book Sale, 9am-4pm	20 Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30pm.	21	22	23 Bargo 5-7pm.	24 WAY BACK WHENS	25 WAY BACK WHENS
26	27 Bargo 5-7pm.	28 Post mtg 7pm. Aux gen'l membership mtg, 7pm. Aux Elections for 2015-16.	29	30 Bargo 5-7pm.	<h1>April 2015</h1>	



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POST 435



The Executive Committee meets at 7 p.m. in the Commander's conference room on the Tuesday prior to the General Membership meeting.

General membership meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Post. All members are encouraged to attend.

UNIT 435



The Executive Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. prior to the General Membership meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Post.

SAL 435



The Sons of the American Legion general membership meets on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Hello,
 Club Manager John here, with what's happening around the club. One major change this year is that we have a new Kitchen Manager, Matt Ruppert. He joined us in early December and hit the ground running with all the holiday events we had going. Please make a point of stopping by and introducing yourself to him; I'm sure he will slow down for a minute or two to say hello. He has already made some major changes in the kitchen and you will see more in the near future, which include a new menu for the dining room. Another new thing in the club since the beginning of February is a new happy hour from 3-6pm every day, \$1.50 off any drink or beer. With this we have specials on appetizers and live entertainment every day, so please, the next time you are nearby, give us a try. I know you will be happy you did.

Please keep checking the web site. We will be having another Mystery Dinner Theatre around the end of March or beginning of April. When I get the date set and tickets made, it will be posted on our web site.

Lent is upon us, and you know how good our fish fry is. Don't forget St. Patty's day March 17. We'll also post info about our corned beef specials.

Don't be a stranger; stop by and support your club.

AMERICAN LEGION NEWS is the official publication of The Minneapolis/Richfield American Legion Post 435, Department of Minnesota, 6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423. Contents are edited and prepared by the editor and are not necessarily the views of the National or Department of Minnesota American Legion. News items and photos may be left at the Post or Emailed to Cindy Busse, Editor at cindybusse55@gmail.com. CUTOFF IS THE 5TH OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS: MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

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