

# Minneapolis/Richfield Post 435 American Legion News

6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423 (612) 866-3647 www.mnlegion435.org richfieldamericanlegion@comcast.net Dec/Jan 2016

## Commander's column



Greetings all!

October and November have seen many activities around the Post. It is wonderful to see so many Veterans joining or transferring into Post 435.

In October, our annual Chili Cook-off was held, with lots a good eating. We had a very successful Silent Auction. Thank you all for the generous donations.

In November, we had a barbecue fundraiser, serving hamburgers and hotdogs. The event was sponsored by Thrivent Financial, successfully raising enough money for a new basketball hoop for the Veterans Home.

Great Clips held a "Buzz Cut Challenge at the Post which was a great success, raising funds for several charity donations.

The US NAVY Sea Cadets, gathered at our Post, and went out into our community providing yard clean up to Veterans and their widows and others. Veterans Day saw many Veterans enjoying a free hot dish at the Post. A nice Ceremony was held in the auditorium when cold rain prevented a gathering at the All Veteran's Memorial in Veterans Park.

December brings many more Post activities. A spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser is planned. The Auxiliary is planning a Blood Drive, Christmas gift baskets for deployed soldier's families, and much more.

These activities would never have been the success they have been without the tremendous support of wonderful volunteers. I would like to say a sincere **Thank You** to all of you who have stepped up to volunteer for the many activities  
*(cont. on pg. 5)*



## Tom & Jerry Party

New Years Day from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Must have current 2016 membership card.

Dues can be paid at door. Come and ring in the New Year with old friends and new.

Omelet  
Breakfast  
December 20  
January 17  
8am-12pm

Blood Drive  
December 21  
12-6pm

Vets Home  
Bingo  
January 12  
7-8pm

## President's Column

Happy Holiday Season!!! Things are getting busy. We held the craft/bake/book fair and it went very well. We may have another one this spring.

Thanks to Dawn Sankey, Teri Herrera and Annette Bray for helping with the blood drive. The drive went well considering how fast it was put together. We will be having them somewhat regularly in the future.

I want to thank the volunteers. Without you we couldn't do any of the things we do. You are so important. The breakfasts, the fair, the Vets home and the VA; all these things need your help. If you can help with only one thing it is invaluable.

**Executive Board meetings will be at 7:00 again.**

Some of the upcoming events are as follows:

Children's Christmas Party, December 6th from 1-3 p.m. for children up to 10 years old. See the ad.

Omelet breakfast December 20th from 8 until noon.

Blood drive December 21st from noon to 6 p.m.

No Executive meeting or General Membership meeting in December. I think we're all a little busy that month.

**AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**  
Once again we will be having the annual Tom & Jerry Party in the auditorium on January 1st from 1 to 3 p.m. for members. You can also renew your membership, if you haven't already.

Omelet breakfast January 17th.

The next Bingo at the Vets Home is January 12th from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. (show up early (6:30) for set-up and take-down (8:30))

I am trying to get gambling trip information. Keep an ear open. There will be signs and info on the website and in the newsletter if it comes together.

Sherry Morris



**Children's Christmas Party**

December 6th  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

6501 Portland Ave S, Richfield

Please R.S.V.P. to Penny Becker (612) 866-2847. If necessary, leave a message including how many will be attending and how many of them are children. Invited are children ages up to 10. We will have balloon twisting, caricatures and magic. Santa Claus will be there for all the children.  
Merv Becker, Penny Becker

## Boy Scout Troop #196 Thanks American Legion Post #435 for their Freedom

By Second Vice Commander Tom Hendrickson

On Veterans Day, Post #435 had a very unexpected but welcomed visitor-Boy Scout Liam Boston of Minneapolis Boy Scout Troop #196. He presented us with a beautiful wall hanging, thanking us for their freedom and our involvement in their flag retirement ceremonies for the past ten years. Commander Tom Eckhoff, Finance Officer Bob Newcomb, and I were in awe and a bit taken aback with their gift of appreciation. We were not sure how we deserved this, so we had Scout Liam tell us his story.



Boy Scout Troop #196 meets down the street at Diamond Lake Lutheran church. The Troop is doing very well and has a cohesive and productive group of young men. Every year for the past ten years without fail, the Troop has gone to Many Point Scout Camp. At camp the Troop has maintained the tradition of conducting a Flag Retirement Ceremony which Scout Liam described as one of the high points for all the Scouts.

The tradition starts on Thursday morning during their annual Summer Camp. As the Scouts begin to prepare for the evening ceremony, their mood through the entire day is thoughtful, respectful, and thankful. The ceremony begins after dark around a campfire that has been specially prepared. The backdrop is a huge American flag strung between two trees. As the ceremony begins each Scout and Scouter is given a flag and they stand in line clasping and embracing their flag waiting to place it into the flames.

The next day, after the ashes have cooled, the Scouts search thru the fire's remains looking for the grommets that once were attached to the flag. They then clean and polish the grommets and each person who was present at the ceremony is given a grommet. It is suggested that each recipient place their grommet on their key ring or in a place where they will see it often, to remind them of what the flag means, and the memories of that ceremony. There is a phrase that is said when the grommet is given which is "Everything we do Changes."

I think that is pretty good advice, especially for young men standing in the doorway to manhood, not knowing what rigors or turmoils that life may present to them.

So what is Post's #435 involvement in this wonderful event you may ask? We have provided the flags that are used for the ceremony. But more importantly, the Post is made up of men and women who served in our Armed Forces and defended the Scouts' freedom.

*(cont. on pg. 5)*

### Help Gary at the VA Hospital Visits

On the First Sunday of the month District Five meets at the VA hospital downstairs next to the Chapel at 2PM to visit patients and give them usable gifts.

Last month we went into a room and found a family visiting their Dad. I sat down next to the daughter who was holding an infant baby. I asked if I could hold the baby and she said yes. As I held the little boy, one hand under his head and my right hand under his rear, he began to grunt and groan, and well, you know what happened next. Everyone was laughing as I returned the young man to his mommy and I said, well I have been there before.

The next room we visited had Green Bay posters and flags decorating the walls. I gave that patient lots of @#@@# but upon leaving I turned and saluted him and he saluted me back with a big smile.

For any of you who want to help us on these visit Sunday's "Just Ask Gary."

"Love Yah Man." God Bless America

Gary Anderson

### Post 435 Officers

**Commander**

Tom Eckhoff

**1st Vice Commander**

John Gallas

**2nd Vice Commander**

Tom Hendrickson

**Adjutant**

Craig Deneen

**Finance Officer**

Robert Newcomb

**Immediate Past Commander**

Merv Becker

**Chaplain**

Mark Wright

**Service Officer**

**Sgt.-At-Arms**

Jerry Martin

**Post Membership**

Jerry Martin

**Club Manager**

Jeff Husaby

### Unit 435 Officers

**President**

Sherry Morris

**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**

Annette Bray

**Chaplain / Memorial**

Sonja Dauphin

**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

# American Legion Richfield Post #435 - Fall Clean Up 2015

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Tom Hendrickson

Post #435 and the U.S. Naval Sea Scouts Corp-Twin Cities Squadron conducted a Fall Yard Clean-up on November 7th. We provided yard clean-up to veterans and their widows in Richfield and South Minneapolis. We also picked up litter in Veterans Park to spruce it up for Veterans Day and to help keep our city park clean.

Here is a little information about the Sea Scouts. The Naval Sea Cadet Corp (N.S.C.C.) is federally chartered, sponsored by the Navy League, and supported by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard. They are a civilian youth organization for young people between



the ages of 11-17. The Sea Cadets Corp uses monthly meetings, week-end drills, boot camp, and even oceangoing experiences to teach teens about the Navy and Coast Guard services. It also helps them develop citizenship and leadership skills. There are approx. 115 Sea Cadets involved in the Twin Cities Squadron.

Here is the rest of the story:

When I arrived at the parking lot at the post, 40 Sea Cadets, their parents, and Cadre were gathering. This is where I went into action passing out toffee bars and just enough coffee for all. A few moments later the Cadets were in formation armed to the teeth with rakes, blowers, tarps, and lawn bags. The plan of attack was explained at Muster by the experienced Cadre.

The unit was formed into four assault teams. The briefing map was marked in red denoting the seven targets where the leaves of veterans and widows were to be raked. The four teams then convoyed to the locations and simultaneously hit their targets. The initial reports back to the Command Post trickled in. The results were mixed at first. Some teams met heavy resistance, others met their objectives quickly. Only one team requested reinforcements.

By 1130 hrs the Sea Cadets had raked over 200 bags of leaves. There was much happiness with the homeowners being liberated from the thick layer of leaves. The weary victors returned to the Post for a hearty lunch of Beans and Weenies and a well needed rest break.

After lunch the Sea Cadets again broke into four teams, each having a different purpose. One team transported the couple of hundred bags of leaves to the recycling facility. This added touch relieved the homeowner from having to move the heavy bags or worry about disposing them.

Another team conducted a police call of Veterans Park. Litter was collected around the "All Veterans Memorial" helping to spruce it up for the upcoming Veterans Day Ceremony. They continued picking up litter in the children's play area and other areas, making our park a better place for kids and families.

The last team assembled in our parking lot and practiced Drill and Ceremonies for a couple of hours...Man I needed a nap just watching them.

At the close of the day we had determined that our organizations and the City of Richfield had received many benefits from this venture. But the rewards that came to the individuals who participated were countless.

## Auxiliary Officers 2015-2016

- President..... Sherry Morris
- 1st Vice President..... Patricia Swanson
- 2nd Vice President ..... Carol Larson
- Exec Committee.... Sandra Klier, Joann Davis
- Secretary ..... Carol Larson
- Treasurer ..... Penny Becker
- Jr. Past President ..... Annette Bray
- Chaplain ..... Sonja Dauphin
- Membership ..... Patricia Swanson

## Legion Officers 2015-2016

- Commander..... Thomas Eckhoff
- 1st Vice ..... John Gallas
- 2nd Vice ..... Open
- Finance Officer ..... Bob Newcomb



## 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. Bar menu.!	Lunch 11am-2pm. Taco special! MUSIC by Wasted Rock Rangers. TOOZDAY BOOZDAY \$1 off all cocktails & beer.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Karaoke. Legion chicken special.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Dining Room Specials. Bargo 5-7pm. MUSIC by the Del Counts.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Music by scheduled band. Fish fry, prime rib specials.	Lounge specials 8am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Music by scheduled band. Dinner specials, prime rib.
December 2015						
		1	2 KARAOKE.	3 Bargo 5-7pm.	4 HIP BONE	5 HIP BONE
6 VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm.	7 Bargo 5-7pm.	8 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	9 ALR mtg, 7pm. KARAOKE.	10 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	11 ROADHOUSE	12 ROADHOUSE
13 	14 Bargo 5-7pm.	15	16 KARAOKE.	17 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	18 WAY BACK WHENS	19 WAY BACK WHENS
20 Omelet Breakfast 8-12pm	21 BLOOD DRIVE 12-6pm. Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30	22 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm.	23 KARAOKE.	24 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	25 CHRISTMAS DAY. Post closed.	26 SECOND GENERATION
27	28 Bargo 5-7pm.	29 Post mtg 7pm.	30 KARAOKE.	31 NEW YEARS EVE.		

*(Manager, from pg. 6)*

for \$3, 4 tacos for \$5. (Hard shell, soft shell or half and half). Wednesday nights are Legion chicken with bar menu from 5-8 and karaoke from 8:30 -12:30. Thursdays brings us more BARGO from 5-7 and the Fabulous Del Counts are here every Thursday from 7pm till 10:15pm. Bill the cook always delivers great dinner specials. On Friday nights, we always offer a great fish fry with little amigo Jorge putting out some really awesome fish. We do have Bands on Friday and Saturday nights that change weekly. Sundays are our Viking BARGO Brunch starting at 9:30 am till noon. We serve scrambled eggs, pit ham, country potatoes w/cheese sauce, homemade biscuits and gravy, fresh fruit and Danishes for \$9.95 all you can eat. We have specials on Bloody Marys, and Tap Beers We offer a chance to win a MN Viking Jersey at the end of each Viking game. If you want a little “fun” on a Sunday morning just swing on in and give us a try!! Thanks to the Richfield Lions Club, we now sell pull tabs 7 days a week. Stop in and try to win some Christmas money.

Thank You All for your continued support  
Club Manager, Jeff Husaby



*From the Thrivent fundraiser for the Minnesota Veterans Home. (l to r) Thrivent Representative, Sandy Larson from the Vets Home, and Commander Tom Eckhoff.*

### PCC Carpeting Sales

- Sales / Installation
- Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
- Water Damage Restoration

612-670-0075



*74th American Legion Pheasant Dinner held at the Minnesota Veterans Home. Dave Logan, Bob Newcomb, Sandy Larson, Patty Swanson, Tom Hendrickson*

## Mpls/Richfield American Legion Post 435

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Lounge specials all day. Music by Rockin Woody.	Lounge specials 3-6pm. Music by Willie Murphy. Rib special!	Lunch 11am-2pm. Taco special! MUSIC by Wasted Rock Rangers. TOOZDAY BOOZDAY.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Happy hour 3-6pm. KARAOKE.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Dining Room Specials. MUSIC by the Del Counts. Happy hour 3-6pm.	Lunch 11am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Fish fry, prime rib specials.	Lounge specials 8am-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. Dinner specials, prime rib.
January, 2016				Join us for Tom & Jerry's 1-3pm.	1 NEW YEARS DAY. DEL COUNTS	2 DEL COUNTS.
3 VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm	4 Bargo 5-7pm.	5	6 KARAOKE.	7 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	8 HIP BONE	9 HIP BONE
10	11 Bargo 5-7pm.	12 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	13 A.L.R. mtg 7pm. KARAOKE.	14 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	15 WAY BACK WHENS	16 WAY BACK WHENS
17 OMELET BREAKFAST 8-12.	18 Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30pm.	19 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm. Aux Exec mtg 7pm.	20 KARAOKE.	21 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	22 SUB LEVEL 6	23 SUB LEVEL 6
24	25 Bargo 5-7pm.	26 Post mtg 7pm. Aux mtg 7pm.	27 KARAOKE.	28 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	29 MIDLIFE CRISIS	30 MIDLIFE CRISIS
31						

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Ron Lund on the keyboard

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*(Troop #196, from pg. 2)*

It shows that while we may not be aware, when we do a task or provide something (such as flags), which seems simple to us, it can turn into something very meaningful for some else, such as the Scouts.

I invited the Scout Troop to join the Post for our Flag Retirement Ceremony which will be held in June of 2016 and anticipate the members of the Post and the Scouts sifting through the ashes together, looking for those brass grommets.



*(Commander, from pg. 1)*

we have had here, and for those events in our future.

I am extremely happy to see so many of our members/volunteers contributing and actively participating in our Post events.

Post 435 remains in need of membership assistance. Willing and able members and volunteers are always needed to help our Post survive. Active fund raising is a very important piece for us right now. Any and all ideas are welcome.

Don't forget, on January 1, 2016, the Post and Auxiliary will host the annual Membership appreciation party in the Auditorium, from 13:00-15:00. This is a MEMBERS ONLY event. Bring your membership card, pay your dues if not current, and have your card laminated. Enjoy the lunch buffet, door prizes and Tom & Jerry's. Hope to see you there!

Note: The American Legion has raised Membership dues on the National level, but our Post 435 dues will remain the same as they have been. The subject will be revisited in the future.

Thomas Eckhoff, Commander

Minneapolis/Richfield Post 435  
 American Legion  
 6501 Portland Avenue South  
 Richfield, MN 55423

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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.



## Manager's Notes

Hello fellow 435 members and guests. I just want to say thank you to the Post 435 Legion Business Manager, Cindy Busse, who left us at the end of September. She did a wonderful job behind the scenes in the Legion office and she will be missed. Good luck Cindy, and safe travels! Thank you to the ladies Auxiliary for one hell of an omelet breakfast—their first breakfast this year, serving approximately 250 people. The omelet breakfast is held the 3rd Sunday of the month. Thanks go out to Runway, Cleo, Terry, Patty, Steven, Shawn, Jill and Sherry and to all that helped to make it such a great success!

I also want to thank Mark Wright for cutting the grass and having a few of his people coming to do some electrical work for us. Thank you to Clay Gorski for fixing our riding lawnmower and also mowing the grass. Thank you Craig Deneen for a successful Labor Day Steak Fry. Thanks Robi Eckhoff for the Chili Cook Off, Silent Auction held Sunday October 25. A great time was had by all. And congratulations to Margie Venne for best Chili People's Choice and to Tom Eckhoff for Chili Judge's Choice.

We are getting things hopping here at the American Legion Post 435. Mark King is working hard for us, gaining back customers in our dining room; reservations might be needed shortly for Friday night dinners. We are competing with the better prime rib restaurants around town, so please check us out. We serve prime rib on Friday and Saturday nights. Monday nights we have BARGO from 5pm-7pm with Willie Murphy and his All Star cast entertaining you from 7:30 pm till 11pm. You can never go wrong with Tuesday Boozday offering \$1 drinks from 8am till 12:45am. Taco Tuesdays: 2 tacos

*(cont. on pg. 4)*

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.

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