

Commander's column

Greetings all!

2016 is here and moving along quickly.

January 1st started us out with a Membership Appreciation gathering in the Post's auditorium. The Post and Auxiliary provided a very nice buffet lunch, along with door prizes, hot Tom & Jerry beverages and more. Members were able to update their information and catch up with what is going on with the Post. Thank you to ALL the volunteers who made it possible.

Remember, your membership in the American Legion is directly making a difference in veterans' lives, their families, and in our community.

Our Post is very involved in visiting hospitalized Veterans at the Minneapolis VA Hospital, volunteering and donating to our Minnesota Veteran's Home, helping youth in our community learn about the Constitution and how our governmental process works, good citizenship, and sportsmanship on the baseball diamonds. This past year we sponsored five boys to attend Boy's State, and cleaned and raked the yards of our senior veterans.

We are doing good things! All these good things need volunteers, and they all cost money.

Membership dues increase, and the tremendous rising costs associated with publishing our Post 435 newsletter require us to make changes in how this newsletter is conveyed to our Legion Family Members. This will be the last Post 435 Newsletter to be published and sent to membership via United States Postal Service.

I am not a math guy, but here is how it breaks down for me. The Post collects \$40.00 in dues from each member. \$18.50 goes to National, \$10.50 to Department of Minnesota, the 5th District gets \$3.00, Legion Hospital gets .25, totaling \$32.50, and leaving the Post with only \$7.75. Five newsletters cost \$7.50, leaving .25 for the Post from each member. .25 per member, times 1252 members = only \$313.00.

Yes, \$313.00 is all we have to operate the Post, support our Members, Veterans, Community, Our Youth, and Patriotic Events. Even with doing everything to cut costs, expenses, and hosting fundraisers to keep from raising dues, we still need to

(cont. on pg. 3)

President's Column

Happy New Year!!!!!!

What a year 2015 was, and we're looking forward to 2016. The annual Tom & Jerry party was just about a full house. It was fun seeing a lot of faces I haven't seen in ages.

We had a blood drive in December that met our quota with eight new donors. Fantastic! We are going to have more drives this year. The next one is March 5th from 10 am to 4 pm. And we had a food drive (we collected 70 lbs.) and kids toys drive (a couple of bags were collected).

There will be an overnight gambling trip on March 6th & 7th. Please see the ad for more info. If you are interested, please contact me with money and info two weeks in advance.

We are also working on meat raffles again. Hopefully in February or March we will start. Terri Munson is in the process of getting her Gambling Manager's license.

Upcoming events:

Feb 16th at 7 pm - the Executive Board

Feb 21st from 8 until noon - the Omelet Breakfast

Feb 23 at 7 pm - the General Membership meeting

March 5th from 10 am to 4 pm - the Blood Drive

March 6th & 7th - the overnight gambling run (see ad)

March 15th - Bingo Night at the Veterans Home (See Patty Swanson for questions)

March 20th - the Omelet Breakfast again from 8 until noon

March 22nd - Executive Board

March 29th - General Membership

There will be a Craft Fair again with the Omelet Breakfast April 17th.

(cont. on pg. 3)

THIS IS
THE
LAST
PRINTED
EDITION
OF THE
NEWS-
LETTER.

Omelet
Breakfast
February 21
March 20
8am-12pm

Casino Trip
March 6 & 7
See page 5.

Craft Fair
April 17th
More info to
be posted at
the Legion in
the near
future.



5th District Oratorical Contest *By Second Vice-Commander Tom Hendrickson*

The Fifth District Oratorical Contest was held at our Post on January 9, 2016. The winner was Isaac Winnes of Minneapolis. Isaac presented a very polished, eloquent, convincing presentation that was given in two parts. His opening statement was that being a American is a daily choice that is not to be taken lightly. Among the things that he mentioned were, it was a citizen's respon-



sibility to act with resolve to defend the Constitution, being a well-informed citizen, participating in the democratic process, respecting authority, and respecting the rights and opinions of others. Isaac's second part was why the Constitution's 26th Amendment was important to help protect liberty.

Isaac won \$350 for today's efforts and will go on to the Legion's District contest and possibly onto the state and National competitions as well.....Best of Luck Isaac.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Legion's Oratorical Contest, here are a few excerpts from the National web site.

A constitutional speech contest

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Over \$138,000 in scholarships can be awarded each year. The overall national contest winner gets an \$18,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$16,000, and third gets \$14,000. Each department (state) winner who is certified into and participates in the national contest's first round receives a \$1,500 scholarship. Those who advance past the first round receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship. The American Legion's National Organization awards the scholarships, which can be used at any college or university in the United States.

High school students under age 20 are eligible. Competition begins at the post level and advances to a state competition. Legion department representatives certify one winner per state to the national contest, where department winners compete against each other in two speaking rounds. The contest caps off with a final round that decides the three top finishers.

Speaking subjects must be on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Speeches are eight to 10 minutes long; three- to five-minute speeches on an assigned topic also are part of the contest.

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
Tom Hendrickson
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
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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

Did Someone Say “Hot Dish”?

By Second Vice Tom Hendrickson

The #435 Legion Riders hosted their Hot dish Fundraiser on January 6, 2016 at the Richfield American Legion. It's one of my personal favorites. Pictured on the left is the creator of tonight's hot dishes Mark Davis, and to his left is the Chef's Assistant Shawn Davis.

All money raised goes to the American Legion Legacy Fund. The fund supports scholarship of the children of parents who died while in service to their country. It was a very nice evening. You may see I ate pretty well. Thank You Riders!



(Commander, from pg. 1)

do more.

The Newsletter will still be put together and placed on the Post 435 web site; a link will be available through e-mail, and also on Facebook and other social media. Printed copies will also still be available at the Post.

Remember, 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.

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

“For God and Country”

Thomas Eckhoff, Commander

Introduction

By Second Vice Commander Tom Hendrickson

On February 7, 2016 we will commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the sinking of the U.S. Army Transport Ship Dorchester and the extraordinary display of bravery by four lieutenants who also made the supreme sacrifice.

After you read the wonderful article below and if you wish to learn more I've provided more links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ewJp8HhYzA>

<http://www.fourchaplains.org>

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/four-chaplains.htm>

(President, from pg. 1)

If you want to be a part of the fair (get a table), you need to contact Carol Larson @ 612-481-2148. Remember, the Mpls/Richfield Auxiliary members get \$5 off for a table. Don't want a table, but, like making things or have some things you won't miss (good condition of course) and are willing to donate them to the Auxiliary, we can help... Anyway, we'll have a table for folks to bring in something if you would like. Again, talk to Carol.

Calling all volunteers for Bingo at the Vets Home, blood drives, breakfasts and craft fair. Come, bring a friend and you might have fun.

P.S. I want apologize for info on the gambling run. It had the wrong phone number. The correct number is 612-861-2589.

Sherry Morris

FINAL PRINTED EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER.

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.	
	1 Bargo 5-7pm.	2 GROUNDHOG DAY.	3 KARAOKE. ALR Hotdish Feed	4 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	5 NIGHT SHIFT	6 NIGHT SHIFT	
7 SUPERBOWL FOUR CHAPLAINS SUNDAY. VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm.	8 Bargo 5-7pm.	9 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	10 ALR mtg, 7pm. KARAOKE.	11 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	12 Lincoln's Birthday. ROADHOUSE	13 VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL MENU. ROADHOUSE	
14 Valentine's Day.	15 President's Day. Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30	16 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm. Aux Exec Brd mtg 6:30pm.	17 KARAOKE.	18 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	19 HIGH POCKETS	20 HIGH POCKETS	
21 OMELET BREAKFAST 8-12pm.	22 Washington's Birthday. Bargo 5-7pm.	23 Post mtg 7pm. Aux mtg.	24 KARAOKE.	25 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	26 SUB LEVEL 6	27 SUB LEVEL 6	
28	29 Leap Day. Bargo 5-7pm.	<h1>February 2016</h1>					
<h1>March, 2016</h1>		1	2 KARAOKE. ALR Hotdish Feed.	3 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	4 BRIAN NAUGHTON BAND	5 BLOOD DRIVE 10am-4pm. JOHNNY CASH DINNER SHOW. BRIAN NAUGHTON BAND	
6 VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm	7 Bargo 5-7pm.	8 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	9 A.L.R. mtg 7pm. KARAOKE.	10 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	11 HIP BONE	12 HIP BONE	
<i>Overnight gambling trip</i>							
13	14 Bargo 5-7pm.	15 Bingo @ Vets Home 6:30pm.	16 KARAOKE.	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS! Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	18 WAYBACK WHENS	19 WAYBACK WHENS	
20 OMELET BREAKFAST 8-12.	21 Bargo 5-7pm. SAL mtg 7:30pm.	22 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm. Aux Exec mtg 6:30pm.	23 KARAOKE.	24 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS	25 ROADHOUSE	26 ROCKIN HOLLYWOODS IN AUDITORIUM. ROADHOUSE	
27	28 Bargo 5-7pm.	29 Post mtg 7pm. Aux mtg 7pm.	30 KARAOKE.	31 Bargo 5-7pm. DEL COUNTS			

Auxiliary Officers 2015-2016

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

Legion Officers 2015-2016

CommanderThomas Eckhoff
1st Vice.....John Gallas
2nd Vice Tom Hendrickson
Finance Officer..... Bob Newcomb



Gun Club

It's pretty quiet at the range right now. We are gearing up for our Firearms/Hunter Safety Classes and could use donations of money or 20 gg shotgun shells (bird shot 7.5, 8, or 9 shot). We always can use instructors and volunteers (check the website for class dates).

Our gun club meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm usually in the Turner Room. Interested parties should note our next orientation won't be until March or April 2016.

Best Regards,
Michael Kielty, Gun Club Chairman



"ONE OF A KIND"

Ron Lund on the keyboard

For those who like the oldies

Anniversaries, Birthdays, Retirement parties

Call (612) 926-8150

General Manager

Hello Post 435 members. Did everybody survive the holidays?

On tap at the American Legion Post 435 the next couple of months: Saturday February 13th we will offer a 5-item **VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER MENU** that includes steak & lobster, prime rib, walleye, BBQ ribs and NY strip steak. So please make your reservations and enjoy your night out. You are welcome to stay and listen to Roadhouse; they start at 8:30 p.m.

Also, Lent starts February 10th this year, so remember, members, we have the **FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT** along with the dinner menu from 5pm to 8:30 p.m. Hope to see you. Make sure to bring a guest or two.

The **ST. PATRICK'S DAY MENU** on Thursday March 17th from 11-8 p.m. will feature corned beef dinner, corned beef sandwiches, Reuben soup and Mulligan stew, so make sure you stop in or call for reservations. The Delcounts will perform that night.

We added a few items on our \$5 apps: tater tots, mini sliders, chips & cheese, and the personal pizza. We always have daily lunch specials with homemade soup Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. We do have entertainment 7 nights a week so pick a night and grab your date and head to Post 435 for an evening of dinner and music.

On March 5th we will host a Tribute to **JOHNNY CASH DINNER SHOW** for \$60 per couple, with cocktail hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Dinner includes steak, baked potato and veggie. Call or stop in for tickets.

On Saturday, March 26th, one night only, the **ROCKIN' HOLLYWOODS** will play in the back auditorium starting at 8:30 p.m. Hope to see you.

Feb 5-6	Night Shift	March 4-5	Brian Naughton Band
Feb 12-13	Road House	March 11-12	Hip Bone
Feb 19-20	High Pockets	March 18-19	Wayback Whens
Feb 26-27	Sub Level 6	March 25-26	Roadhouse

Thank you for supporting the Richfield American Legion Post 435, and we hope to see you soon with a guest who may be interested in joining.

Jeff Husaby, Club Manager

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

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.

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.

American Legion Post 435 Presents...

Granite Falls, MN

Prairie's Edge



MARCH 6 - 7, 2016

(Monday - Tuesday)

Tour Includes:

- Roundtrip Motor coach Transportation
- Overnight accommodations
- World War II Museum - Granite Falls Airport
- \$25 slot play on player's card 1st day
- \$25 slot play on the next day
- **Tourco Tour Manager**

Cost: Per Person
\$89.00 Double
\$109.00 Single



Make your Reservation today!

Call Sherry Morris at: 612-861-2589

(Reservations Taken No later than Feb. 29th)

Mail form with payment to:
 American Legion 435
 6501 Portland Avenue S
 Richfield, MN 55423

Departure time: 10 am

Make Checks Payable to Tourco's Firstline Tours

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
 Address _____ City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____ Date of Birth _____
 Room Mate: _____ Date of Birth _____
 Gaming Card # _____ / _____
 Smoking ___ Non Smoking ___ Special Request _____

#160302 - Prairie's Edge - Sherry Morris/American Legion 435 - March 6-7, 2016



Participants of the most recent Veterans Hospital visitation. It's very rewarding, and everyone is welcome to join this group. Call the Legion for more information.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Please send to:
 Membership Chairman
 American Legion Post 435
 6501 Portland Ave. S.
 Richfield, MN 55423

Name _____
 Address _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State, Zip _____