

Minneapolis/Richfield Post 435 American Legion News

6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423 (612) 866-3647 www.mnlegion435.org richfieldamericanlegion@comcast.net Apr/May/June 2014

Easter Sunday Omelet Breakfast

Enjoy an **AFFORDABLE** and **DELICIOUS** breakfast with the American Legion Auxiliary

Sunday, April 20, 2014

8:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Bar will be open from 10am to 2pm

**Cost: \$8.00 for a create your own omelet and fixings;
Children 10 and under \$5.00**

**MINNEAPOLIS-RICHFIELD AMERICAN LEGION POST 435
6501 PORTLAND AVE. S.
RICHFIELD, MN 55423**

SPRING FESTIVAL

Bake Sale, Craft and Food Booths, Merchant Vendors

**Door Prize Drawings every half hour
(Must be present to win)**

Sunday, April 27, 2014 9:00 AM to 4 PM

**MINNEAPOLIS-RICHFIELD AMERICAN LEGION
POST 435
6501 PORTLAND AVE. S.
RICHFIELD, MN 55423**

Questions:

**Contact Carol Larson
612-481-2148**

upward@wwdb.org



Commander's Column

As I write this article we are finally getting out of the deep freeze. Hopefully spring is just around the corner.

We received six 60 year and twelve 50 year certificates of continuous years of membership which have been mailed out. Congratulations. As of March 4th our membership stands at 1490.

Election of officers will be held on Tuesday, April 29th. Please come in and vote and then support your new officers. Committee chairmen are always needed. If you are interested and willing to help, contact one of the new officers.

Our Burger Bash Fund Raiser is still being held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month. We welcome your support.

Again this holiday season we gave baskets of food and toys to our deployed military families. Our Children's Christmas Party was fun and went well in spite of the bad weather. We had balloons and face painting. Our New Year's Day Tom & Jerry Party was a lot of fun. A lot of members came out for this.

Thanks to one of our member's suggestions: my "pet project" has been the book exchange located by the Post Game Room. Bring some in, take some home. We started with a very small book case and now have a much larger one and it is well used.

There have been changes made around the Post such as drapes in Veterans Hall (auditorium). The Turner Room has been painted and new lighting has been installed, and a gas fireplace is now in the dining area. Weather permitting, our front entrance will be updated also.

Thank you to Chef Mark and his kitchen staff who put out great food and good service. Thank you to the bar staff for their service. Thank you to Club Manager, John Wortman and all the staff for their continued support of the American Legion Family.

As this is my last article, I want to give a big THANK YOU to the Legion officers, chairmen and volunteers, the Auxiliary and the SAL for their continued support in making this year at Post #435 a success.

For God and Country,
Merv Becker, Commander



President's Column

I hope you all are surviving this "wonderful" Minnesota not-so-nice weather. I have heard from many snowbirds in Florida and Arizona that they are so enjoying the weather there, while hearing of our misfortune of ice and snow!

We hope to see you at the Omelet Breakfast on the third Sunday of each month—March 16, and April 20th which is Easter Sunday. The hardworking volunteers of the Omelet Breakfast have decided to donate their time to serve you a great breakfast on the Easter holiday this year.

We are also planning our Spring Festival and Bake Sale, which will be on Sunday, April 27th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. I know I can count on many of you to donate your baked goods again. The people coming to our festival love those yummy baked goods that you all make and donate. Thanks! We will be accepting them on Saturday, April 26th all day.

Please remember our Poppy project, which kicks off in mid-April, with Poppy Day in mid-May. We use those much appreciated donations from everyone to support our many veterans programs, including Veterans Home Bingo nights, boxes of treats to those Minnesota military serving overseas, deployed Christmas baskets for the families, gifts for the vets in nursing homes, and other projects all for our veterans.

Please continue to come to our post for food, meat raffle, pull tabs, Bargo and refreshments. We cannot survive without all of our members.

As we head into Spring, we hope, please keep all of our veterans, our deployed military and their families in your prayers and your thoughts. God bless all of them and our great country, the United States of America!

Joy DeLong, Auxiliary President



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Toastmasters

This article is specifically directed at members of the Legion, SAL, AND Auxiliary. The Richfield American Legion Toastmasters group was chartered in 1959 by members of your Legion Post 435. It was strictly all male until some brave soul sponsored me as the first female member during my third term as your Auxiliary President.

Recently I attended the Jon Smith memorial, I was terribly disappointed with the lack of accolades for our great friend. I assumed you were afraid to stand up in a crowd and say something. Toastmaster training would have chased that fear and lack of communication skill away.

John Caldwell and Pat Rottach, members of your Toastmaster group, have recently joined your Legion. Fritz Herring, a member of your original Toastmaster charter in 1959, has returned to our group. We have several women actively involved in the group, as well as some fellows that may not be eligible to join the Legion. What I am asking now is for you able members of the Legion, SAL and Auxiliary to visit us and consider joining to keep YOUR Legion Toastmaster Club alive and active. I do not want to see us lose our charter that was started in 1959 by some very dedicated members of this Legion. Many have passed away.

We must reach and maintain a membership of 20 or more to retain that charter. We meet every Thursday at 6:00 pm in whatever room is available for us. Our meetings usually are one to one and a half hours. In faith to our departed members, let's please keep it going. Blessings to all.

Dee Fiedler, DTM/CL
President Richfield Legion Toastmasters
Past President Richfield Auxiliary Post #435

Easter Sunday April 20th



Lounge is open 10:00am-2:00pm

BLUE MONDAY JAM SESSION

Every Monday
after

B•A•R•G•O

Bud Light
Only \$3.50!



Sundays, starting August 4th

Rockin' Woody

Formerly of the Rockin' Hollywoods

Live music, fun and a whole lot more!
from 4 - 7 p.m.

Meat Raffle

Fridays 4:30-6:30
Saturdays 3:00-5:00

Gift Card Exchange

The brown Richfield American Legion gift cards will soon be invalid. We have new gift cards and would like to swap your old card for a new one. Stop by the office anytime during business hours. Thank you.

BURGER NIGHTS!

2nd & 4th

Wednesdays

5 - 7 p.m.

Monday-Blues w/Willie Murphy
Tuesday-Paul Metsa & Willie Walker
Wednesday-Karaoke with Brian Harrell
Thursday-Tom Hunter

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-1:45pm. Taco special! MUSIC by Paul Metsa & Willie Walker. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-1:45pm. Karaoke 8:30pm. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-1:45pm. Dinner 4:30-7:30pm. Dining Room Specials. Bargo 5-7pm. MUSIC by Tom Hunter. Happy hour 9pm-12am.	Lunch 11am-1:45pm. Meat raffle 4:30-6:30pm. Dinner 5-8:30pm.	Lounge specials 8am-2pm. Meat raffle 3-5pm. Dinner 5-8:30pm.
		1	2 A.L.R. Hotdish Dinner 5pm.	3	4 SUGAR BUZZ	5 SUGAR BUZZ
6 VAMC Hospital Visitation, 2pm.	7	8 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club gen'l membership mtg 7:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30 pm	9 Burger Nite 5-7pm. A.L.R. mtg 7pm.	10	11 WILDFIRE	12 WILDFIRE
13	14	15 Gun Owners Rally 5-10pm	16	17	18 SUGAR TREE	19 SUGAR TREE
20 EASTER SUNDAY Omelet Breakfast 8:00-12:30 Lounge open 10am-2pm	21 SAL mtg 7:30	22 P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm.	23 Burger Nite 5-7pm.	24	25 CROSSFIRE	26 CROSSFIRE
27 Spring Festival and Bake Sale, 9am-4pm	28	29 Auxiliary Unit mgt 6:30pm. Post mtg 7pm. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.	30	April 2014		



Come and see our new fireplace!

In February, construction began on the new fireplace in the center of our dining room. The existing ceramic floor was the perfect place to start. First, the partitions were removed and a base was built.

Election of Legion Officers will take place on Tuesday, April 29th, 1 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.




“ONE OF A KIND”

Ron Lund on the keyboard

For those who like the oldies
Anniversaries, Birthdays, Retirement parties

Call (612) 926-8150

Mpls/Richfield American Legion Post 435

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May 2014				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
VAMC hospital visitation, 2pm.					JAMES ZACHARY	JAMES ZACHARY
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club gen'l membership mtg 7:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	Burger Nite 5-7pm.		WAYBACK WHENS	WAYBACK WHENS
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
NO OMELET BREAKFAST	SAL mtg 7:30	Gun Owners Rally 5-10pm. P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm.			HANGING CURVE	HANGING CURVE
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	POPPY DAY 	Post mtg 7pm.	Burger Nite 5-7pm.		WILDFIRE	WILDFIRE

Poppy Day

Monday, May 26, 2014

Please continue your support of veterans programs with your donation.
Thank you.



Fireplace...

A few designs were considered and a fireplace was chosen. Installed on a platform, the fireplace can be enjoyed by everyone in the room—even those seated at the outer edges.



Fireplace...

Then the mechanical and electrical and ventilation requirements were met and the frame was built around the entire structure.

Mpls/Richfield American Legion Post 435

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8	9	10 CMP mtg 6:30pm. Gun Club gen'l membership mtg 7:30pm. Gun Club mtg 7:30pm.	11 A.L.R. mtg 7pm. Burger Nite 5-7pm.	12	13 WAX TONES	14  FLAG DAY WAX TONES
15 Father's Day	16 SAL mtg. 7:30pm	17 Gun Owners Rally 5-10pm. P&F mtg 6pm. Exec Board mtg 7pm.	18	19	20 SUGAR BUZZ	21 SUGAR BUZZ
22	23	24 Post mtg 7pm.	25 Burger Nite 5-7pm.	26	27 ROADHOUSE	28 ROADHOUSE
29	30	June 2014				



Fireplace...

Then came the alignment and leveling and bricklaying from floor to ceiling. The placement of a few plants, some cleanup, and the fireplace was ready for its first roomful of dinner guests on Friday, March 7th.



National Safety Month
Men's Health Month
Black Music Month
Caribbean-American Heritage Month
Cataract Awareness Month

Happier Hour



Tues-Thurs
9pm-12am
Half price selected beverages

Post 435 Officers**Commander**

Merv Becker

1st Vice Commander

Tom Eckhoff

2nd Vice Commander

Bill Bray

Adjutant

Dennis DeLong

Finance Officer

Dennis DeLong

Immediate Past Commander

Craig Deneen

Chaplain

Jim Munson

Service Officer

Jim Munson

Sgt.-At-Arms

Tom Eckhoff

Post Membership

Jerry Martin

Club Manager

John Wortman

Unit 435 Officers**President**

Joy DeLong

1st Vice President

Patricia Swanson

2nd Vice President

Becky LeFebvre

Sgt-At-Arms

Jill Davis

Secretary

Carol Larson

Treasurer

Juanita Krueger

Executive Board

Carol Larson

LaVon Whalen

Jr. Past President

Penny Becker

Chaplain / Memorial

Jill Davis

Membership Chairman

Patricia Swanson

Membership Secretary

Joy DeLong

SAL 435 Officers**Commander**

Nils Hudyma

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

National Commander Letter

(Note: the following letter was sent to and was printed by the Minneapolis Star Tribune. It was in response to a story in the newspaper about the demise of American Legion and VFW restaurants and bars in the state in recent years.)

The Minneapolis Star 'Tribune**Opinion@startribune.com****Editor:**

Re: Dec. 14 article, "Minnesota VFWs American Legions selling off their meeting halls"

As National Commander of the nation's largest veterans service organization, I am always concerned about posts that have shrinking membership. The American Legion was not founded to run bars and banquet halls, but to serve as an advocate for our nation's veterans, operate first class youth programs, promote patriotism and stand tall for America's national defense.

While your article pointed out the problems faced by one American Legion post, it ignored the new posts that are popping upon college campuses and our many thriving posts spread throughout the country. In fact, there are more American Legion posts in the United States than there are Starbucks coffee houses. It also ignored the thousands of highly trained American Legion service officers who assist veterans with their benefits, free of charge, regardless of their membership in the organization.

Indeed your piece brings to mind an article in the Wall Street Journal that said of The American Legion, "The old members are dying off and the young ones aren't interested... Across the U.S.A., it is much the same. The American Legion, once a hub around which resolved so much of community, social and civic life is slowly ebbing in importance..." Of course the Wall Street Journal article was published in 1971. Looks like the Star Tribune is intent on making the same mistaken assumptions.

Daniel M. Dellinger
National Commander
The American Legion

Lounge Specials

Twins, NASCAR TV Specials

20 oz. tap \$3.00

Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**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



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

Non-Profit Organization
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 Twin Cities, MN
 Permit No. 4665

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 Message

Hello everybody. By the time you get this we will be halfway through Lent. I hope you have had a chance to come in for the fish fry. If not, this is the perfect time. When you're here, make sure to enjoy our new fireplace in the dining room. It's beautiful. I would like to thank Scott Bauer, Brian Bauer, Brian Clausen and Mike Keehn for their craftsmanship and ability to make this happen in a short amount of time.

On April 19th we will have wrestling here in the auditorium. Signs are up at the Post. Mark it on your calendar.

The next newsletter will include the 4th of July, so please, if you would like to volunteer for a couple hours on a busy day, please stop in and let us know.

We are thinking about adding a Swing Dance event on Sundays. It's still in the

conversation stage, but we might be able to pull this together and provide a fun weekly get-together for those who want to kick up their heels. We'll keep you posted.

John Wortman



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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CUTOFF IS THE 5TH OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS: MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

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