ATTENTION: 2010 Unpaid Members

THIS WILL BE THE LAST POST 102 NEWSPAPER YOU WILL RECEIVE UNLESS YOU RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

2010 DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE. PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Special Guests for Birthday Dinner

Al Davis
Department Commander
MN American Legion

Darlene Wondra,
Department
First Vice President

Bill Peters
Commander
Detach. of Minnesota

Mercedes Efta
Department President
Junior Auxiliary

See Bio's on page 4

Edward B. Cutter
American Legion Post 102
400 West Main St.
Anoka, MN 55303

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Volume 36, Number 3 ~ March 2010

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

by Gary Munkholm

Welcome new member to Anoka Post 102 Gary Wicks. We hope to see you at future meetings and join us in fellowship during other times of the week.

Membership report was given by Ron Wolford with 725 members to date and 770 members on this date last year. **If you are reading this newspaper and haven't paid your dues for next year please send in a check and pay them now**. Be sure to ask your friends and neighbors if they belong to the American Legion Family and invite them to join in case they haven't been asked before.

Wayne Wallace announced that our club will recognize the retirement of Duane Kruger, our Anoka County Veterans Service Officer, at the next general meeting on March 2. Everyone agreed that it would be good to have a joint session to present a plaque to him.

A hearty round of applause was given by all to Sam & Karen Orr for their efforts in providing bibles to the deceased comrades of our Post.

Cliff Newman announced the upcoming spring 10th District Convention in Osseo and to see him after the meeting or as soon as possible if you are planning to attend.

The general membership approved replacing the worn out hallway tile in the clubroom and purchasing a double door freezer to replace two existing inefficient units.

Guest Nancy Stark whose husband Randy Stark is a member of Post 102 presented the general membership with 2 projects to show support to our troops on active duty. The first one is to display a Wall of Hero's in the clubroom or hall and the second project is mailing much needed hygiene items to the troops. She also reminded us of the ongoing Red Shirt Friday which is to wear red on Fridays in support for the troops. The club voted to pursue putting up a Wall of Heroes for our Legion Post 102 family and donate money to Nancy's project for shipping items to the troops.

Gambling manager Paul presented the following list of donations which were approved by the general membership:

Legionville registration for 8 students	$1,600.00
Northern Star Council Boy Scouts	250.00
Donation to support Special Olympics	200.00
Drivers expense for Monte Carlo Night	120.00
Boys State Registration for 3	900.00
Assist needy Veterans or Families	1500.00
Emergency Money	500.00

Post 102 extends sincere sympathy to the family of

ORVILLE "CORKY" RICHARDS

Corky was a 53 year member of The American Legion and a World War II Veteran

ANOKA COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

DUANE R. KRUEGER
DIRECTOR

LAURA BARTLEY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

BILL GIDDENS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT CENTER
Suite 233
2100 3rd Avenue
Anoka, MN 55303-2265

763-323-5290

Edward B. Cutter
American Legion Post 102
400 West Main St.
Anoka, MN 55303

Hall Rental • Catering
Weddings - Banquets - Private Parties

Denise Adler - Manager **763-421-0883**
E-Mail for rentals: club102@anokalegion.org

AUXILIARY UNIT 102

Edward B. Cutter Post 102, Anoka, MN 55303

You are eligible to join the Auxiliary if your veteran relative is a current member of The American Legion; or if deceased, had served during the eligibility dates of one of eight war eras.

- ☐ Mother
- ☐ Wife
- ☐ Sister
- ☐ Daughter
- ☐ Granddaughter
- ☐ Grandmother
- ☐ Great-Granddaughter
- ☐ Self

(step-relative also apply)

Ask any Auxiliary Member. They will be happy to sign you up.

Edward B. Cutter Post 102

Editor . . . . . Betty Erickson
Aux. Editor . . . . . Barb Fechner
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2010

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Commander's Column
Gregg Werbowski

Welcome to March:

Hopefully everyone is doing well and is finished shoveling the snow after Superbowl Weekend – or stayed in and watched the game.

On January 16th 9 of us from Anoka did our caravan up to the St. Cloud Vets Hospital for a Monte Carlo Day for the residents. It was a fun and interesting time. Thank you Jerry Abeln for coordinating everything.

On January 30th we had the District Snowmobile Rally stop by at our Post. Approximately 20 stopped on their way to Champlin Post 600 for the finish. Champlin hosted the membership turn-in and a great dinner. It was fun and interesting.

See everyone around the club.

Remember: Let's Soar Like an Eagle!

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

-Matt Berens

It's hard to believe that soon spring will be upon us and with it the roar of motorcycles. Until that time though, the Anoka Chapter of the American Legion Riders will be hard at work planning this season's riding activities.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend the International Motorcycle Show on February 6th at the Convention Center, where I saw several members of the Legion Riders Family proudly displaying their Colors. We now have over 25 chapters here in Minnesota, and the Anoka Chapter has nearly 20 enthusiastic members after one year of existence. We will have a membership booth at the Donnie Smith Bike Show March 27-28th at the River Centre, which should make our numbers swell even more.

If you or someone you know would like to join the Anoka Chapter of the American Legion Riders, we would love to see you. You (or your spouse) must own a motorcycle of at least 350cc's and have a valid motorcycle endorsement. You must also be a member of the American Legion Family. If you're interested, contact Matt Berens at 763-257-6251 or email alr102@anokalegion.org. We hope to see you on the road soon!

S.A.L. NEWS
Commander Charlie Heemer
Whatever it Takes

The Squadron would like to welcome the newest members – Anthony Campbell, Zachary Hintgen, Brian Reichert (dual) and Dustin Wimmer.

Hooray! **We made our goal and all-time-high**. 2010 dues are still being accepted.

Donations: $50 to Meals on Wheels; $285 to sponsor a Girls Stater; $250 to sponsor a Boys Stater; and $250 to 372nd Engr. Battalion, Fort Snelling.

The Ice Fishing Clinic for Kids was a huge success. A big thank you to Juan Arellano and his team for putting in on for the SAL.

A thank you goes out to Al Amundson for overseeing the input and update of the **Squadrons 2010 By-Laws**.

Another thank you to all who came out for the **SAL Casino Bus Trip**. It was a fun and enjoyable time for all. Thanks also to Sandy Arellano and Marianne Voit for the donations of prizes and to Carol Hathaway, Sandy Phillips and Barb Fechner for their help on and with the bus.

Prep and clean up held is still needed for Wednesday night dinners. If you can help please contact Al Amundson at the Legion. If you have not partaken of the Wednesday night dinner in a while, please do so. The menu has changed and there are several new delicious dinners to choose from.

Congratulations to Lance Nelson for becoming our Squadrons newest PUFL member.

Additions to our SAL
Wednesday Dinner Specials include:

March 3rd
Country Fried Steak ~ $7.50

March 10th and 24th
Pork Chop ~ $7.50

March 17th
Prime Rib ~ $9.00

March 31st
Surprise

POST HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

Effective Now
Call Frank Menter 763-421-7277 for an appointment to pick up any equipment:

Only members of our Post, Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion and their respective families will be allowed use of our hospital equipment.

Al Davis
Department Commander
Minnesota American Legion

Al Davis, Princeton, was elected commander of the Minnesota American Legion for the 2009-10 year in July at the annual convention held in Mahnomen. He is a 41-year member of Beroun Post 347 where he has been awarded an honorary life membership.

Davis, 61, is a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War era. He has been active in the Legion for four decades, and was the first Vietnam veteran in Minnesota elected as a district commander.

During his Legion service he has been Vice Chairman of the Children and Youth Committee, Chairman of the Oratorical Contest, Vice Director of the Baseball Program, and Treasurer of the Convention Corporation. At the national level, he currently serves on the Americanism Commission.

Davis also served as Assistant Department Adjutant from 1987 to 1994 and as Department Adjutant from 1994 to 1995.

He is a computer specialist employed by the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs.

He grew up on a farm near Pine City. He graduated from Pine City High School and joined the Navy immediately after graduation.

He and his wife Tess have a combined family of 10 children who are all either members or dual members of The American Legion Family.

Davis is a member of ANAVICUS, the Sons of the American legion, the 40/8 and Moose Lodge 2331 of Princeton. He is the 93rd Commander of the Department of Minnesota.

The commander's program for the year is the three R's: Recruiting members, Re-engaging with our communities, and Reporting the good work that The American Legion does.

Bill Peters
Commander
Detachment of Minnesota

Bill Peters joined the Sons of American Legion as a member of Apple Valley Squadron 1776 in the late 1970's while he was involved with his local Community Athletic Association. Apple Valley Post 1776 was a generous contributor to the Association, and as a result of the many meetings he attended with the Legion, he found out he was elgible to become a member of the Sons because of his father's service to the country during World War II.

After a move to South Minneapolis in the mid-1990's, he transferred to Minneapolis Squadron One. This is when he started to be more involved as an officer of his Squadron. With Squadron One, he was Second Vice for one year, First Vice for one year, and then served as Commander for three years.

During his period as Squadron Commander, he began to attend District 5 meetings. He was appointed to fill the vacant Historian position of District 5 during the winter of 2004. Because of the needs of the District 5, and because of his background and abilites , he was elected District 5 Commander at their 2004 Convention. He served as Commander for three years from 2004 through 2007, thus also becoming a member of the Detachment Executive Committee.

The Detachment elected Bill as their 4th and 5th District Vice Commander at their 2007 Convention, and he held that position for the next two years. During the Detachment Convention in Legionville on June 27, 2009, Bill Peters was elected Detachment Commander for 2009-2010.

Darlene (Mrs. Glenn) Wondra
Department First Vice President

Darlene is eligible for membership in the Auxiliary through her father Kenneth, a Korean Veteran and her brother Kerry a retired Veteran of 21 + years in the U.S. Air Force.
Darlene has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 34 years. She has held the Offices of Unit 1st and 2nd Vice-President and has served the Unit as President for four terms. Darlene has been Chairman for most of the Auxiliary programs with her Unit. This year she is the Education and Girl State Chairman for Montgomery.

Darlene is a Past LeSueur County Council secretary/treasurer for the past 6 years.

On the District level, Darlene has served as Chairman for the following programs-Junior Activities, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Children and Youth, Membership, Memorial, Leadership, Historian and a member of the District's U D & R Committee. Darlene is now serving as the Third District Secretary for the fourth year.

Darlene has held District Offices of 2nd and 1st Vice-President. She served the Third District as President in the year 2001-2002

On the Department level Darlene was the Chairman for the Children and Youth and the Public Relations program, also the Unit Development and Revitalization Chairman & committee member. Darlene also severed as a member of the Brain Science Foundation. Darlene is the current National Security chairman

Darlene is very involved with her Community. She is a member of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church and choir, Montgomery Lions Club, and the Montgomery Czech Singers. Darlene enjoys crafting, traveling and spending time with the grandkids. Darlene works for Target in Northfeild.

Darlene and husband Glenn are parents of one son and three daughters. They also have a granddaughter and five grandsons.

Mercedes Efta
Department President Junior Auxiliary

Mercedes Efta has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary since birth, eligible under her Grandfather Lou Efta a Viet Nam Veteran. She has held all offices in the Argyle Junior Unit. She was the Ninth District Junior President in 2007-08. Mercedes held the Department Junior office of Chaplain and Second Vice President.

Mercedes attends Stephen-Argyle School and is active in school activities. She is on the volleyball, basketball and track teams and an honor student.

In her community, Mercedes is in 4-H, and active in her church. She has 3 sisters, all are active Junior members. Her parents are Mary and Joseph. Joe is a Sons of the American Legion member. She has two Aunts who have also served as The Department of Minnesota Junior President, one also a National Vice President.

Last summer Mercedes helped with the nightly programs when the Viet Nam Wall was in Argyle. She has worked on projects for Veterans in her community and in Veterans Homes and Hospitals.

Come Celebrate

The 91st Birthday of The American Legion

March 13, 2010

Commander's Hall

Post 102

6:00 P.M Social

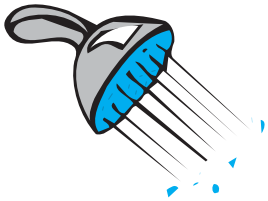
7:00 Dinner

Cost $10.00 Donation

Dinner open to all Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion Members and Guests.

Purchase Your Tickets at Post Club Room At the Pull Tab Booth Before 3/6/2010

Stuffed Pork Chop ~ Potatoes Au Gratin
Green Bean Almondine ~ Salad
Applesauce ~ Roll ~ Coffee ~ Cake



VA SHOWER Still On!

Attn: Post, SAL and Unit members . . .

If you can donate any of the following, veterans at the Mpls. & St. Cloud VA Hospitals would be very appreciative:

Jumbo and regular playing cards, tube socks, gloves, stocking caps, small sizes of: lotion, deordorant, Scope, toothpaste, Efferdent, Fixodent, Kleenex, etc.

Bring items to the March 2 meetings (or anytime before the end of March) - or leave at the pull tab booth.

Remember those in VA Centers.

Cathy Newman, VA & R Chairman

40TH ANNUAL AUCTION

On Tuesday March 2 (following the meeting) is the Unit's annual auction.

Donated items should be wrapped. Be creative. Hand-made craft items do not need to be wrapped. Food items in Zip-lock or plastic wrap are okay.

All Unit, Post and SAL members are invited. Come have fun and bring the checkbook.

Moneys raised go to "support our troops" projects.

Post auctioneer will be assisted by Americanism Chairman Lynette Pavin.

FIELD SERVICE

A Field Service Volunteer working with a veteran – not a relative – away from home can

Help a Veteran In:
Veteran's Home, Halfway House, Nursing Home, Hospices, Hospitals (other than VAMC), Retirement Home Health Care Centers, Rehabilitation Centers.

Take Veterans:
Shopping, Church, Appointments, Visit Friends, Legion Functions, For a Ride.

A Volunteer Can:
Read to a Veteran, Write letters for Veterans, Assist in activities such as bingo, Assist Veteran when spouse dies, Assist Veteran with transportation, Work at Christmas Gift Shops, Assist at Mn Standdown, Assist at Creative Arts Festival.

For information call Lynette Pavin at 421-1840

PAST PRESIDENT NEWS

New Year's Day Bake Sale – Thank you to the Past Presidents and all our Post and Auxiliary members that helped to support this through baked item donations and the purchase of these items. We realized $207 from this sale that will go toward Auxiliary programs to help our Veterans. Everyone's support for this fund raiser is appreciated.

Karen Orr, Betty Erickson, Barb Fechner, Cathy Newman, Liz Abeln, Norah Wyman, Lenora Root, and Lynette Pavin

Sewing Bee – January 19th Past Presidents met to sew tote bags, laundry bags, wheel chair bags, and bibs for the VA Hospitals. With eight Past Presidents cutting, ironing, and sewing, we made 17 large, 7 medium, and 6 small tote bags. We also completed 12 wheel chair bags and 4 bibs.

Front: Lynette Pavin, Betty Erickson, Lenora Root, Barb Fechner
Back: Jan Reiter, Sandy Phillips, Cathy Newman, Norah Wyman, Barb Ridge, Donna Redepenning and Karen Orr

Gold Star Mothers – Two of our Gold Star Mothers have passed away during this Auxiliary year. Rae Griffin passed away in July and Margaret Lisle passed away in January. A memorial was sent in their memory to Project Hope. This is a camp for returning veterans and their families to help with post traumatic stress.

Karen Orr and Lenora Root - Past President Parley

President's Column
Darlene Thell

There have been a lot of wonderful events going on with our American Legion Post.

I took part in the Snowmobile Rally on the January 29-30th weekend. It was my first time taking part in the snowmobile rally. It was a great rally and a fun time. The Champlin Post hosted the Saturday evening event, which included a delicious dinner. Our Dept. Commander Al Dairs and President Marsha Bible, plus our Dist. Commander Tess Davis and President Flora Ellefson attended, which made the evening very special.

On Sunday, January 31st, our Dist. President Flora, Sandy Phillips and myself took part in the Bowling for Bucks afternoon, at the St. Cloud VA Home. Auxiliary members from the Monticello and Fridley Units, plus the Jr. Auxiliary from the Fridley Unit were there to join in the fun. The girls made and served some treats to the veterans, along with snack items from the Posts. The veterans were given a dollar for each strike.

Cathy Newman took Valentine cards along with candy, to the AMTRC that were made by some of the Junior Auxiliary members. Thank you girls and Cathy.

Thank you to all of you that have been dropping off greeting cards for our veterans and our military.

Please continue dropping off greeting cards at our Post, (pull tab booth) and spread the word to others. We will take cards without envelopes and envelopes without cards also.

After our March meeting, we will have our annual White Elephant auction. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to bring an item for the auction, and all Post, Auxiliary and SAL members are invited to join in the fun.

In Memoriam
MARGARET LISLE
Gold Star Mother

Margaret, a 12 year Auxiliary member, was born in Duluth on May 1, 1927 and passed away January 26, 2010. Margaret was preceded in death by husband Don and their son Terry who was killed while serving in Vietnam.

Edward B. Cutter Unit 102 extends its sympathy to the family.

NOTICE

St. Cloud VA have changed their National Creative Arts Festival dates to: February 10 – 12:30 ~ 6:30 pm and February 11 – 9:00 am ~ 3:00 pm. These dates were changed very recently and this festival may continue to be held at this time in the future.

JAN'S JOTTINGS
by Jan Reiter

The regular meeting of our Auxiliary was held on February 2nd, 2010.

Children & Youth: Continue saving Campbell's labels, Kemps milk for education and pop tabs. Norah Wyman turned several items over to schools.

Education: Kathy Zwerdling read a thank you note from a former (2004) scholarship winner that is graduating from college this year.

Finance: Lenora Root made a motion to pay $200 to the Department American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund and $100 to the National American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Approved.

Girls State: Kathy Zwerdling said a date has been set for the assembly to tell the students about the program.

Home Service: Lynette Pavin said keep saving postcards and stamps.

Membership: Betty Erickson reported that we have 351 members turned in. We need 23 for Goal and 25 for ATH. We are at 90% of Goal.

Memorial: A Gold Star Mother, Margaret Lisle, a member for 12 years, passed away January 26.

Public Relations: If there is anything you would like in the Union please call Darlene Thell our PR lady and President. She will make sure it gets in.

Standing Rules: Sandy Phillips reported they will be meeting and bring any changes at the March meeting.

V&R: Cathy Newman reported that she has sent in 22 cell phones and is continuing to collect them. If you have some and would like to get rid of them take them to the pull tab booth. She is continuing the VA shower in March. She also reported a new volunteer program is started called Care Giver Support Volunteer Program. A person goes into a Veterans home and relieves the primary caregiver for a few hours so he/she can get out of the house and do what they need to do. If you are interested call the Post and let them know.

Unfinished Business: Sandy Phillips thanked everyone for helping at Mid-Winter conference and said it was a success. Darlene Thell reported that she appreciates all the cards she has received for the sunshine committee, the soldiers and the Veterans Home and thanks everyone. Keep them coming. We are always in need of them.

We had a guest speaker, Nancy Stark, whose husband (Randy, a Legion member) is serving in the reserves in Afghanistan. She would like a wall of heroes with soldier's pictures on it. She would like help with some of her projects she has going to help the soldiers. Platoons need people to adopt them to send everyday items they can't buy over there.

New Business: Jean Johnson made 100 or more cards for the veterans and donated them to our programs that needed them. Thank you Jean. A get well card will be sent to Flora Ellefson. A motion was made by Lynette Pavin to have a White Elephant Auction, next month after the meeting. Approved. A motion was made to use the money from this auction to support our troops. Approved. Kathy Zwerdling made a motion for the Unit to approve accepting a scholarship in Netha Feist's name. Approved. Lenora Root made a motion to order 2 cases of Girl Scout cookies to be sent to the troops. One case from the Past President's fund and one case from the general fund. Approved.

Credits: Anoka historical items from the Fred Moore Middle School Calendar Club

MARCH 2010

Community Service Month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SAL Detachment Spring Conference March 12-14 Morris 1		Post General Mem. 7:30 pm S.A.L. Mtg. 7:00 pm Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00 pm VA Shower & Annual Auction 2	SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00 3	**Every Thursday & Friday Grill Open 5:00 – 8:30 pm** Bar Bingo 7:00 pm 4	Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm Cut Off date Birthday Dinner 5	1st Friday each month Red Cross Bloodmobile at Post 7 AM - 1 PM 6
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 7	*120 years ago Maarch, 1890: Citizens protest Unions' editorial: "GAR dance is a disgraceful proceeding".* 8	*100 years ago Mar. 1, 1910: The government orders post offices to hand stamps out face down.* 9	SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00 Aux. Twin Rivers Bingo 2:15 pm 10	Bar Bingo 7:00 pm 11	Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm 12	91st Birthday Celebration Social 6-7 pm Dinner 7 pm 13
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm **Daylight Savings Spring Ahead** 14	*90 years ago March, 1920: Wind removes plank in the Main St. bridge. Doc Springer nearly falls through.* 15	NEWSPAPER MEETING 7:00 pm Aux. Bus to Turtle Lake 16	SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00 Legion Riders 7:00 pm St. Patrick's Day 17	Bar Bingo 7:00 pm 18	Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm 19	Dept. Rally Royalton 2:00 pm 20
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 21	*70 years ago March 6, 1940: High School boxing tournament begins.* 22	Unit Reports Meeting 7:00 pm House & Ent. Meeting 7:00 pm 23	SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00 24	Bar Bingo 7:00 pm 25	Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm 26	10th Dist. Junior Conference Fridley 9:00 am 27
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm **Palm Sunday** 28	*60 years ago Mar. 6, 1950: Approval for Bill Barrett to build Roller Rink.* 29	Executive Board Meeting 7:00 pm 30	SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00 31	*60 years ago March 13, 1950: DEDRICKS buys BECKUMS.*	**91st Anniversary Paris Caucus of The American Legion March 15-17, 1919**	

Coming in April

4th	Easter
9-10th	Dept. Junior Conference - Waite Park
10th	Dist. Cmdr. Tess Davis Testimonial
16-25th	Poppy Card Days
17th	Dist. Pres. Flora Ellefson Testimonial
17-18th	Anoka Post at State Bowling Tourney – Wyoming, MN
24th	Dept. Aerial Roundup / Crystal Airport - 11:00 am
24th	Dept. Cmdr. Al Davis Testimonial – Anoka 5:00 pm
TBA	Boys & Girls County Day – Anoka Govt. Center

60 years ago March, 1950: The Mork Clinic opened (last week of March).

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