EDWARD B. CUTTER

American Legion Post 102
400 West Main St., Anoka, MN 55303
Chartered August 25, 1919
www.anokalegion.org

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Celebrating Abraham Lincoln's 200th Birthday

The public may view the free temporary exhibit in the lobby of the Anoka County History Center and Library through February during regular museum hours Tuesdays through Saturdays.

The exhibit features a piece of the Lincoln Funeral Car and its story, also see how Lincoln Logs came about.

History Center & Library ~ 763-421-0600
2135 3rd Ave. N in Anoka

and

Bryce Stenzel, an Abraham Lincoln historian, author and historical interpreter, will be the featured speaker on Sunday, February 1 – 1:00 pm – Anoka City Hall Community Room (lower lever). Admission is one Lincoln penny for ACHS members – non-members – $5.00. Mr Stenzel is a member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters.

THE PRESIDENT

When our Founding Fathers convened the Constitutional Convention in 1787 there was a disagreement about executive power. Our first document governing the independent states (The Articles of Confederation) had failed to grant the national government any powers to execute laws at the national level.

The Founding Fathers understood that a national executive authority was needed to lead the nation.

Many were suspicious of allowing one person too much power. The Revolutionary War had been fought to escape tyranny from England and its King.

Those opposing the idea thought that placing a single chief executive power over the entire government and military was dangerous. It should be empowered as a committee.

Others wanted a single, powerful and supreme chief executive. This version resembled a King and was to be elected for life.

The idea of an elected single chief executive was decided after much debate. His title, the Founding Fathers said, would be "The President."

In our nation's 232 year history, we have now elected 44 'Presidents', including James Madison (4th) and James Monroe (5th) who were originally against the idea of a 'President' or chief executive.

Americanism Chairman,
Lynette Pavin

ATTENTION: 2009 Unpaid Members

Your membership in Post & Unit 102 expired December 31, 2008. As of January 1, 2009 you are considered delinquent and March 1, 2009 you will be removed from the Post roster.

We need you to remain a member of Post 102. Please remit your dues for the year 2009 NOW!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Permit Paid
Anoka, MN 55303
Permit No. 81

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

by Wayne D. Wallace

The Post Executive Committee meeting held December 30, 2008 heard the minutes from the previous meeting and reports from finance, clubroom and gambling.

The Executive Committee discussed needed equipment repairs and approved the necessary funds to accomplish the repairs within the Post facilities.

The Executive Committee reviewed all requests for donations and those approved were recommended for approval to the Post General Membership.

The Post General Membership meeting held January 6, 2009 heard the minutes of the previous meeting and reports from Post officers and committee chairmen.

Gregg Werbowski, First Vice Commander,reported (755) members are signed for 2009. We are (11) members behind one year ago and (54) members short of our goal. As of January 1, 2009, there were (84) unpaid members of Post 102 whose status as a American Legion member expired. Please send in your 2009 American Legion dues and get reinstated as a member to keep your continuous years of membership.

Adjutant reported Post members Robert Bauer, James Wennerlund, Wayne Dietz, Robert Stewart and William Ekmark have passed away since the last meeting.

Adjutant mentioned submitting a form entitled "2008 Application for Class 4c(3)(ii) - Non-Profit Community Service Orgnizations" to the Anoka County Assessor's office in August 2008. This form was very new and unknown to many including employees in the Assessor's office. By submission of this form, a revised proposed copy of the 2009 property taxes, for this American Legion Post, has been decreased over $11,000.

The following Lawful Purpose donations/expenses projected for expenditure in January 2009 were approved by the Post General Membership:

1. Reinhart FoodService
   (Food items for Member Recognition Brunch) . . . . . $ 365
2. Gary Munkholm
   (Reimbursed for food items for Member Brunch 300
3. Legionville
   (Registration of (12) School Patrolers) 2,160
4. MN American Legion Foundation
   (Fund 77 Boys State Registration) 800
5. Special Olympics - MN 100
6. Drivers for Monte Carlo event at St. Cloud VAMC 125
7. City of Anoka (Water/light costs) 1,200
8. Centerpoint Energy (Gas costs) 1,850
9. U.S. Treasury (Tax on wagering) 500
10. Assist needy veterans/families 1,500
11. Emergency money 500

Total taxes paid on gambling proceeds for December 2008:
Minnesota Revenue: $3,587 U.S. Treasury: $249

New members accepted by the Post General Membership were: Lester T. Fischer and Don Cowden. We welcome you gentlemen into Post 102 and hope to see and meet you at our monthly Post meeting held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Post 102 extends sincere sympathy to the families of

ROBERT J. BAUER
Bob was a 52 year member of Post 102 and a Korean War Veteran.

JAMES M. WENNERLUND
Jim was a 64 year member of Post 102 and a World War II Veteran.

WAYNE W. DIETZ
Wayne was a 61 year member of Post 102 and a World War II Veteran.

ROBERT W. STEWART
Bob was a 60 year member of Post 102 and a World War II Veteran.
Bob was also our Post Commander in 1952-53 and an Honored Life Member.

WILLIAM D. EKMARK
Bill was a 62 year member of Post 102 and a World War II Veteran.

SAL Meet the Members Party
1:00 PM
Sunday, February 15

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

Edward B. Cutter Post 102

Editor . . . . . Betty Erickson
Aux. Editor . . . . . Barb Fechner
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Commander's Column
Cliff Newman

Greetings Legionnaires,

Happy New Year, thank you to all whom attended the New Years Eve Celebration, New Years Day Brunch, 10th District Mid-Winter Conference committee meetings and the Mid-Winter Conference. I enjoy talking to everyone that attends these functions. Hope to see you at the next general membership meeting.

I want to remind those of you who haven't renewed your membership to please do so. Because of your support The American Legion can remain strong and ever watchful over the support and treatment of all veterans.

January 3, our Post hosted the 10th District Oratorical contest, of which I am the District Chairman. Five (5) students competed. Two (2) students from Cambridge-Isanti High School sponsored by Howard McCarty Post 290 Cambridge, two (2) home school students sponsored by Woodcock-Herbst Post 216 Princeton, one (1) home school student sponsored by John Colline Post 622 St. Francis. Josh Mathews, an 18 year old 12th grade home schooled student (sponsored by Princetion) placed 1st in the competition and will go on to the state semi finals to be held on January 16th.

It was great to see so many of you at the 10th District Mid-Winter conference on January 10th, which was hosted by our Post. Our Legion family provided the morning registration/rolls/coffee/lunch and meeting rooms. Bravo Zulu to our Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Legion Riders for working together as a team. Many compliments were received. Irag veterans, Sgt. Ahmad I. Ansari and Sgt. Johnny B. Wadsworth spoke on their tours of duty in Irag. Both veterans signed up for memberhip in the American Legion. Another speaker for female veterans, Brandi Wilson also signed up for membership in The American legion (Brandi is an officer in the National Guard.)

Past Commanders New Years Day Brunch

L-R: Sam Orr, Jerry Abelin, Bill Golden, Larry Phillips, Rick Oelschlager, Wayne Wallace, Darrel Redepenning, Jim Hays, Cliff Newman and Dick Schanhaar
(Not pictured: Gordy Berquist and Bob Duclos)

Once again Post 102 Past Commanders served up a New Years Day brunch for over 300 members and guests. As Junior Past Commander, this was my first year doing K.P. and I can assure you it's a lot of work! But, we all manage to have a little fun with it and I was impressed with how everyone (except me) knew exactly what to do. It was obvious that this annual tradition has been going on for a while.

I wish to thank all the Past Commanders who showed-up to help this year and every year. Also thanks to the Auxiliary for providing their Bake Sale and to the SAL for rolling up their sleeves and washing some pots and pans. Many thanks to the Legion Family helping to make the chores a little easier.

Thanks to all!
Gary Munkholm – Jr. Past Commander

Annual Wild Game Dinner A Success

The 41st Annual Veterans Wild Game Dinner was held on December 13th, 2008 at 12 noon in the Commanders Hall; 28 members of Post 102 (Legion and SAL) volunteered to cook, serve, assist with Bingo and clean up for invited guests.

Our special guests included 14 residents from the Mpls. VA Medical Center and 12 residents from the St. Cloud VA Medical Center. Also in attendance were Duane Krueger and Laura Bartley (our County Veterans Service Officers), District Commander Tom Schottenbauer, District Adjutant George Riner, District SAL Commander Marv Jonas and County Commissioner Dan Erhart and wife Cathy.

The VA Hospital residents really enjoyed the dinner and Bingo with several mentioning what a great annual event this is and hope we continue doing it.

Special thanks to all our members who contributed to this event. Whether you donated meat or cooked or served it, we couldn't do it without you. Hope to see yo all at the 42nd Wild Game Dinner.

Thanks,
Darrel Redepenning

10th District Mid-Winter

The 10th District Mid-Winter Conference as held at Anoka, Post 102 on January 10th, 2009. District Commander Tom Schottenbauer, District President Sue Nunnelee and District SAL Commander Marv Jonas led the sessions.

Greetings were given by Anoka Commander Cliff Newman, Unit President Cathy Newman, SAL Commander Lance Nelson and Legion Riders, Matt Berens.

Distinguished guests at spoke were, Department Commander Tom Conway, Department President Carol Barbknecht, Past National Commander Dan Ludwig, and 2 National Guard soldiers, who have returned from tours in the Middle East.

A Silent Auction was held by the 10th District Auxiliary, and over $400 was raised and will be used towards District programs.

A total of 165 registered for the conference. 67 Legionnaires, 88 Auxiliary and 10 SAL.

A great lunch was serve by the Anoka Auxiliary. A big Thank you to **all** who volunteered their help to make this another successful Mid-Winter Conference at Anoka Post 102.

Kathy Zwerdling
Aux. Mid-Winter Chiarman

Anoka Cmdr. & Pres. Cliff & Cathy Newman, Dist. Pres. & Cmdr. Sue N. & Tom S.

Dist. Pres. Sue

Dist. Director of the Legion Riders Rudy VanHemert waiting his turn to welcome everyone.

Past National Commander Dan Ludwig

Dept. Commander Tom Conway

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

The 1920's

Eligibility Dates: World War II
April 6, 1917 – November 11, 1918

The American Legion has 58 departments: each state, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Panama, Canada, France, Italy, Mexico and the Philippines.

One of the first things that The American Legion did was go broke. A weekly magazine was started July 4, 1919 without first building a backlog of advertising contracts, when paper was scarce and expensive, printing costs high; they were $257,000 in the red within 6 months. (At the 1919 convention, national dues were $1 per member: 75 cents to the magazine, 25 cents to headquarters for all activities.) Improving until the 1924 St. Paul Convention, *The American Legion Weekly* again was losing money; it was then converted into a monthly. Also at that convention, the Rehabilitation and Child Welfare Committees were mandated to become endowment funds. The Legion rallied national leaders in business, agriculture, the professions and the arts and sciences behind this cause of a single campaign for $5 million. It was raised and because of this new endowment fund and the reorganization of the magazine, Legion finances finally stabilized in 1925. The need for gifts from other sources ended and the organization was on the road to independence.

Also from the beginning, the Legion received many small donations, providing for the Overseas Graves Decoration Trust (Europe and the Philippines) and the Emergency Relief Fund. One other source of income was the Emblem Sales Division.
Except for 2 years during the Depression, general expenses stayed within revenue.

The 20 years between the founding and the beginning of WWII established the foundation on which today's Legion is built. Certainly the Legion was founded partly in response to Bolshevism in Europe during WWI. As a result of that Revolution, the Soviets pulled out of the war, leaving the allies without an eastern defense. The men who organized the Legion said they believed that communist and other radical groups posed a real threat to American society (the Centralia incident)…Those national leaders of the Legion quickly recognized that early attempts to deal with radicalism were contrary to the Legions goals and philosophy and as a result, they instituted more positive Americanism programs emphasizing law and order. Its members were asked to be ready to assist authorities in preserving the peace, not to take the initiative themselves.

…From the beginning, caring for disabled veterans, their widows and orphans were the Legions primary concerns…

Incompetence and confusion at the War Risk Bureau (originally established to administer the War Risk Insurance Act of 1917) prompted an investigation by Marquis James of the newly founded *American Legion Weekly*. A confidential bureau order to its field officers in charge of examining disabled applications read, in part: "Be hard-boiled. Put cotton in your ears, and lock the door. If you are naturally sympathetic, work nights, when nobody is there." Veterans were farmed out to private institutions, referred to the Red Cross or Elks clubs for help because a man might die before his claim could be cleared, certified and settled by the various government agencies involved.

…In 1921, the Legion asked the President to form a committee to investigate veteran's problems; Congress passed a hospital-construction bill and a law creating the U.S. Veterans Bureau – forerunner of the Veterans Administration.

1921…The American Legion and representatives of the National Education Association led to the first joint observance of American Education Week.

1924…The Foreign Relations Commission established.

July 17, 1925…"In this city (Milbank) by action of the South Dakota Department of The American Legion, the nationwide organization of Legion Junior Baseball was first proposed as a program of service to the youth of America."…Legion Baseball became a national program by action of the 1925 convention (Omaha); the first national tournament held in 1926.

(Information requested by Warren Feist, past Post 102 and past 10th District Commander to MN Department and answered April 1, 1968 by Shelly Hanson, Asst. Dept. Adjutant.)

…"With the other supporting evidence, it would indicate that the District wasn't organized until 1921-1922 as a District, but certainly had been functioning prior to that time as some kind of a District unit. Therefore, it must be correct that your first District Commander was Michael B. Hurley (Pine City)… (note- letters are excerpted)

Jan. 17, 1921…(to P.N. Bushnell, State Organizer, St. Paul/from Everett Stromgren, Chairman 10th District)

"The Tenth district is spread over a wide territory, part of it reaching into the city of Minneapolis so it is hard for me to determine and keep in touch with Legion "societies" within the district. However, judging from the attendance at the Duluth convention, I am of the opinion that the district is quiet well organized and believe that the local posts have things well in hand."

Sept. 14, 1921…"Dear Comrads: Pursuant to and in accordance with the command placed upon us by the Tenth District Congressional District Caucus of the American Legion at the Minnesota Department Convention, held in Winona, your State Executive Committeemen are herewith issuing a call to all the American Legion Posts in the Tenth District to meet Saturday evening October 8th at the Y.M.C.A. Building, Minneapolis, 10th & Mary Place."……purpose to elect l commander, 3 vice commanders, l adjutant, any others; adopt by-laws. Each post entitled to 2 voting delegates & 2 alternates, suggested the Post shall defray the expenses of its delegates……"It is extremely important that every one of the 44 posts in the Tenth District be represented at this meeting. Altogether Boys Let"s Go. (from) Geo. A. Berg, Cokato and Everett Stromgren, Center City – State Executive Committeemen Minn. Dept.

Oct. 5, 1921…Stafford King, Adjutant invited to attend.

Oct. 14, 1921…Thank you letter to Stafford King included "The organization expense items, will be forwarded to you by the officer elected. We are pleased with the turnout that we had. (from) Geo. A. Borg

Dec. 3, 1921…Make a list of Tenth District Posts and mail same to Wm. M. Chaleen, Adj., 10th District, Pine City.

April 15, 1922… (Letter to Post Commanders from Commander Michael Hurley and Adjutant Wm. Chaleen) ……"There will be a meeting of representatives of the American Legion Posts of the Tenth District at Pine City on Saturday evening March 22, 1922. The meeting will be addressed by Mr. Stafford King, State Adjutant of the Legion, Mrs. Sandy Hamilton, State President of the Women's Auxiliary of the Legion and Mr. Don C. Anderson, Chief, Co-operation Section, Division of Local Activities of the Tenth District Office of the U.S. Veterans' Bureau."……The Post Commander or Adjutant, and if possible Service Officer "or the person considered best fitted to be Post Service Officer" should attend this meeting……"The work of the Service Officer and of all agencies which are aiding the sick and disabled service men, will be discussed."

"Immediately prior to the meeting which will be called at eight o'clock, supper will be served to the Post Representatives by the Pine City Post of the Women's Auxiliary of the Legion. Dancing will

follow the meeting. Kindly use the enclosed post card to tell us who will represent your post."….Also enclosed were train times of the Northern Pacific Limited from Minneapolis and St. Paul, bus service for Sunday morning and copies of the By-Laws and Minutes of the Oct. 8th, 1921 meeting.

May 5, 1922…(telegram from Michael Hurley, Colorado Springs, Colo. To Stafford King)
"Regret cannot attend Minneapolis meeting. Tenth District. Progressing. Best Wishes"
(note on telegram from S. King)…"Can read this when turn for Hurley. Then ask for Chaleen, Dist. Adj. or other representative."
July 17, 1922…(to Comm. Michael Hurley from Dept. Adj. Stafford King)…"You will find enclosed herewith check for $100 covering organization expense Tenth District."

Feb. 10, 1920…Legion basketball team loses; wins Feb. 17, loses March 2. (Anoka Herald)
Apr. 27, 1920…Dance at the Anoka Armory - Friday, April 30 (Anoka Herald) The local Edward B. Cutter post of the American Legion will give one of their popular dances, and cordially invite all lovers of clean dancing….Get this---we ask all extreme jazz babies who feel that they cannot refrain from cheek to cheek dancing as well as other dancing acrobats and Minneapolis Arcadia outcasts to kindly not attend…No rough stuff will be tolerated.

Aug. 3, 1920…The American Legion are planning a picnic function to which all ex-servicemen, their families and friends are invited. The following committee have the matter in charge: E.J. Goodrich, chairman, Lawrence LaPlant, Fritz Peterson, L.O. Jacob, Dr. G.J. Hastings, Ray Parker, Tony Kellner. A more extended notice will appear later.

Aug. 3, 1920…The American League Convention will be held at Duluth August 16-17-18. A.A. Caswell, Lawrence LaPlant and Arlo Smith will represent the E.B. Cutter Post of Anoka. The alternates are E.J. Goodrich, Forrest Babcock and Douglas Campbell.
Albert F. Pratt will also attend. (Anoka Herald)

Aug. 3, 1920… (Anoka Herald)
The Edward B. Cutter Post No. 102 American Legion is preparing a list of names of men from Anoka County, who gave their lives in the defense of Humanity in the World War. The committee having this Memorial in charge ask for information is this matter. The following is the list (printed) as they have it. Committee will greatly appreciate any information regarding omission or corrections. The first name, middle initial and last name are to be placed on the roll. Please send information to Arthur L. Reed, Anoka, Minn.

Oct. 5, 1920…Inquiry has been sent to state department headquarters of The American Legion here as to whether "national guardsmen were to receive additional pay" from the state for services rendered while on border duty. P.L. O'Toole, assistant adjutant, has made this announcement: National Guard members who served on the American border in 1916, are entitled to draw, as additional pay, 50 cents per day for each day of service. Information applications should be submitted to the adjutant general Minnesota, State Capital, St. Paul. Certified copy of discharge should be attached. "Approximately 18,000 National Guard members who are entitled to this additional pay have so far failed to apply for it" said Mr. O'Toole. (Anoka Herald)

Oct. 26, 1920…The E.B. Cutter Post held their annual meeting Saturday evening and elected the following officers; Commander R.P. Parker (Charter Member), 1st Vice President Dan McCarthy (Charter Member), 2nd Vice President Dr. F.E. Crowley, Financier A.T. Carvill, Adjutant L O. Jacob. Executive committee, A.F. Pratt (Charter Member), A.A. Caswell (Charter Member), Fritz Peterson (Charter Member), Theo Akin, Lawrence LaPlant, Clyde Colwell (Charter Member). Entertainment committee, Dan McCarthy, Lawrence LaPlant, Clayton Thurston (Charter Member), Fritz Peterson, Archie Swanson. (Anoka Herald)

Nov. 3, 1920… (Anoka County Union)
The bronze memorial tablet, secured by Edward B. Cutter Post American Legion has been received and is on display in the Post room at the Armory. It is a splendid piece of work and bears the following in raised letters:

Roll of Honor
Dedicated to the Men From Anoka County
Who Offered Their Lives in the Great World War
And in Memory of the Following Men Who Made The Supreme Sacrifice

Jason Arrell	Edwin Lane
Louis W. Cedarholm	George S. Lang
John B. Corrigan	Martin Larson
Edward B. Cutter	Gustave Lindblom
Charles R. Dill	Hjalmer L. Loberg
Melvin A. Duncan	Ralph Lofgren
Albert Dupre	Abram J. McNeil
Oscar V. Engbloom	Joseph M. Oehman
Will Englund	Albert W. Peterson
Ewald E. Erickson	Holljer E. Ross
Lawrence Guimont	Enoch Sjodahl
Elmer W. Hanson	Edward P. Slater
William W. Hansen	Axel E. Stromgren
Jacob E. Jackson	Bert S. Sulness
Axel T. Johnson	Henry J. Wuest

Nov. 30, 1920… (Anoka Herald)
The American Legion basketball team has organized and are holding drills preparatory to challenge several kitten ball teams.

Dec. 14, 1920… (Anoka Herald)
The Executive committee of Edward B. Cutter Post No. 102, The American Legion, met in the post rooms Monday night. It was decided to make a membership drive between now and the first of the year. A booster meeting will be held in the Post rooms at the Anoka Armory, Saturday evening, Dec. 10th. All ex-servicemen are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

Feb. 1, 1921… (Anoka Herald)
An enthusiastic meeting was held at Legion Hall Thursday evening to organize a fife and drum corps. A committee consisting of B. Witte, chairman, George Palmer, Ray Parker and George Veidt was named to take proper action and perfect the organization. The following committee was named to perfect a League Directory: Lawrence LaPlant, chairman, Archie Sorenson and Harlan Smith. An interesting talk on what the American Loyal Legion Post has accomplished for disabled soldier boys was eloquently given by Mr. Scallen.

Feb. 3, 1921… (Hennepin County Legionnaire Vol.1, No.20, Thurs.)
Legion Outlook at Anoka Promising….Legion prospects are looking up at Anoka, according to Ray A. Scallen, whose fame as a capable lawyer and worker in Legion interests won him an invitation to address the Anoka post last week. The Legionnaires up there have a plan in view for getting after pseudo vets strutting about in uniform, he said, and are considering a directory of legion members of the area. A dance was given last Saturday evening, free to all ex-servicemen. The Anoka Legionnaires probably could give some of our Hennepin County posts a few hints on how to get up dances, as Mr. Scallen said they make money on these events habitually.
(Ed. Note..the *Hennepin County Legionnaire* ("Official Organ of The American Legion") was the weekly forerunner of *The American Legionnaire* (1921-1929) to *The Minnesota Legionnaire*; the paper has

gone from a weekly (1921-1969) to a bi-weekly (1969-1982) to a monthly.)

June 14, 1921… (Anoka Herald)
Directory of Edward B. Cutter Post No. 102 Members "Patronize Your Buddy" was printed in full… (Ed. Note-this very interesting list of 100 members may be printed at a later date).....One member in 1921, probably the first female Post 102 member, was Theresa Erickson – a veteran of 3 wars. Theresa, born in Oslo, Norway in 1867 came to the U.S. at age 12, trained at Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis graduating in 1894. She was one of the first rural public health nurses in the country and spent several years demonstrating the value and need of the public health nurse throughout Minn. She was the first Minn. nurse chosen for service in the Philippines in 1898 over the protests of the Commander in Chief but proved the value of women to the Army. Returning in 1905, she took charge of a hospital and directed a nurses' training in Calif. and did health work in Anoka County before serving in the Spanish-American War and WWI at Chateau-Thierry in 1918. In 1936, at the 30th anniversary of the introduction of the Christmas Seal, Dr. Charles Mayo, while president of the Minn. Public Health Assoc., presented Miss Erickson with a distinguished service medal for her pioneer service in the war and for her zealous service in the Christmas Seal fight against tuberculosis. Theresa Erickson died Aug. 31, 1943 and is laid to rest in the Fort Snelling National Cemetery, the cemetery which she was the first to propose and which she worked hard to made a reality…(note- the previously unnamed $1000 nursing scholarship presented by Post 102 to Anoka High students was designated April 2007 as the American Legion Theresa Erickson Nursing Scholarship).

Oct., 1921…Arthur A. Caswell, Sr. (Charter Member) elected Commander.

Nov. 11, 1921…Proclaimed Armistice Day – legal holiday this year, school closed.

Oct., 1922…Stanley Douglas elected Commander.

Oct., 1923…George Blanchette elected Commander.

April 10, 1924…George H. Veidt assumes duties of Anoka Postmaster.

Sept. 15-19, 1924… (The Minnesota Legionnaire-75 year edition)
…National Convention in St. Paul required 20 miles of railroad track in the downtown area to park 188 sleeping cars. At Fort Snelling – bunks & bedding for delegates unable to find rooms; camping space and facilities for parking 5000 cars and an athletic field for drum & bugle corps contests. An estimated 300,000 people watched the parade which included 50,000 marchers, 20 bands and 18 drum corps. The first 17 conventions were held at different sites; it was 35 years before the Natl. Convention returned in 1959 to Minn.
(Ed. Note…Charlie Sell told me this story of that 1924 convention – truth or myth?) A few legionnaires from Texas and Oklahoma met a couple riding in their Model T on the High Bridge (still standing over the Mississippi in St. Paul). They had them get out of their car – then picked it up and threw it over the railing into the river. Then they took the couple to the nearest dealer and bought them a brand new car!

Oct., 1924…C. Merion Hicks elected Commander (the first Honored Life Member of Post 102 – presented at Reunion Dinner, January 28, 1961).

May 20, 1925… (Anoka County Union)
In the window of the old Wilcox-Thayer building, the American Legion and Auxiliary have on display the bronze tablet, "The Roll of Honor", which was hung in the Armory some time ago, as a memorial to the men from Anoka County who died in service. This is being used in connection with their annual poppy sale, which comes Saturday, May 23rd. These poppies are made by the disabled men in the American Legion poppy room and in the hospitals. The men are paid one cent apiece for the making, and some men earn as much as $60 to $75 a month. The money made from the poppy sale is again used for the good of the disabled men and their families. The poppies will be on sale on the streets on May 23rd.

Oct. 14, 1925… (Anoka County Union)
Post election last week – Commander J.H. Pierce, lst Vice commander L.N. LaPlant, 2nd Vice commander D.H. Caldwell, adjutant H.E. Blewett, Finance officer Archie Sorensen,
Executive board W.C. Bowers, Harold Wildung, C. Merion Hicks, Fritz Peterson, Clyde Joslyn, H.J. McClintick.

Oct., 1926…J.H. Pierce, the first Commander to be re-elected; his second term was not completed and Lawrence LaPlant finished the year.

June 1, 1927… (Anoka County Union)
Memorial Day 1927 was a real day, not because of the weather, which was ideal, but because of the splendid observance of the day in this locality. At 1:30 the parade marched west on Main St. to Oakwood and more persons march than have done so for several years;
on return to the Armory, the address was given by Major Arthur A. Caswell. "It is so good that it is published herewith in full." (excerpts from that address follow)
…Ten years now have passed since America was last forced into armed conflict. The men who went out to that war, thousands of whom still lie in the fields where they fought, were told they were fighting to end war, that they were fighting so that their sons and their sons sons would not have to endure war. Yet, as we stand today, is America any safer from war that it was on Memorial Day ten years ago? We men of the American Legion well know the folly of being unprepared for war. The tremendous waste of the World War is still fresh in our minds, the waste in money, time and lives.
…Anoka has always been in the front rank of national defense. From the day when Aaron Greenwald placed his name on the roll as the first volunteer in the great Civil War, down through the days of the Spanish-American War with B Company of the 14th Minnesota, through the days of Mexican border service and the World War with B Company of the 3rd Minnesota, to the present time with Battery B of the 125th Field Artillery, it has done its share. We have inherited the America they defended. What are we doing with it? The American Legion and kindred societies, the Kiwanis, Rotarians and other service clubs in every part of the country are going ahead with a program of community betterment.
…This Memorial Day when our thoughts are with the dead defenders of the country, and when in a few months many of the members of the American Legion will make a pilgrimage to France to stand beside the graves of our comrades who fell there, seems particularly a time for re-dedication to the service of America. Let us make the ceremonies today a fresh starting point in service to the Nation.

Oct., 1927…Warren Bowers elected Commander, re-elected in 1928, (Charter Member) presented an Honored Life Member December 1, 1970 at a Post meeting.

Oct., 1929…Fritz Peterson elected Commander (Charter Member).

Sources for this issue included:

Anoka Herald – This is The American Legion 2nd edition
Anoka County Union –
The Minnesota Legionnaire 75th Special Edition
Hennepin County Legionnaire
Warren Feist papers – Charlie Sell notebook

President's Column

Cathy Newman

Hello and Happy New Year.

Our Christmas was spent in Florida and I think our New Year was colder for me after 80° there. Good time!

It was great seeing so many of you at the New Years Day Brunch and buying all the goodies at the bake sale. Thanks to all who donated for our Past Presidents.

We then got busy on the Mid-Winter Conference. It was a huge success with more people than we thought we would have. I want to thank our Legion family for working together to have such a successful turnout. It's a lot of work but we did a good job. Thanks to Jan Reiter and her helpers with our lunch. A special thanks to Sam Orr for doing so much for helping out the ladies everywhere! We heard nothing but good things at the end of the day. Be ready for next year.

The Poppy contest was won by our Donna Redepenning. Good job Donna.

Our VA Shower will be in February and March, so yo can bring your donations to the meetings.

Start thinking about attending the Birthday Dinner, it will be on March 7th. Watch for more information in the newspaper.

Our next meeting will be February 3rd. Plan to attend. We always need new faces and ideas to share. I will be looking forward to seeing all of you. Until next time everyone have a great day.

Jr. Auxiliary President

Ashley Toikka

November 15th – Instead of having our regular meeting, we went to Cambridge to a rally with District President Sue. We had lunch there and afterward sold ice cream for Jr. Dist. President Taylor's project. The Juniors that went were Taylor, Sam, Sami, Keanna and me.

December 13th – For the Junior Christmas Party we went to Otsego to a water park. It was a big hotel that had 2 tube slides and a couple of body slides. Sami, Sam, Keanna, Taylor and myself all attended.

January 1st, 2009 – Brittney Witt, Virginia Rose McCrady and myself went to the New Years Brunch at the Legion and they served pancakes, sausage and scrambled eggs. It was very good!

January 10th – Keanna and myself attended the Mid-Winter Conference. We had lunch which was tatertot hot dish, rolls, coleslaw and dessert.It was very good! After lunch I got to say the opening prayer for Pres. Sue at the Auxiliary afternoon session.

VA SHOWER FEBRUARY 3rd

Our Veterans are in need of our help. Auxiliary, Legion and SAL members can help. It's time for our Annual VA Shower. The items you donate will go to the Minneapolis and St. Cloud VA Hospitals. Items needed are like before: tube socks, puzzle books (crossword), small bottles of lotion, deodorant, small Efferdent and Fixodent, small clippers, gloves and stocking caps.

Lap robes are not needed right now, but if you have already made some I can take them now but don't need more. If you can donate any of these items, bring them to our February and March meeting or just get them to the Post and someone will let me know to pick them up. We have always gotten a good turnout for our showers to help out these hospitals for our veterans and I know you will do your part again. Thank you!

If anyone is interested and has the time we have places looking for volunteers for the Veterans. You can volunteer in the Homeless Shelters, Veterans Medical Centers, the Minnesota Veterans Homes, Outreach Clinics, Nursing Homes. (Lynette Pavin needs help with Bingo, this all the time) or a Veterans own home. Keep all this in mind and contact me if you want more informtion.

Cathy Newman
VA&R Chairman

JAN'S JOTTINGS

by Jan Reiter

The regular meeting of Edward B. Cutter American Legion Auxiliary was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 7:00 pm. President Cathy Newman called the meeting to order. The prayer, pledge and preamble opened the meeting.

Commander Cliff Newman visited the Auxiliary to talk about Mid-Winter Conference. With the okay from the Auxiliary (the Post and SAL, already okayed) they would like to use any profits made from the Mid-Winter Conference on adding some things to the kitchen. This was discussed by the Auxiliary and a motion was made to approve the Post's plan for the profits from Mid-Winter Conference. Seconded and carried. He also mentioned that the 10th District Oratorical contest was held in Anoka and the winner will go on to the finals which will be January 16 in Anoka.

Children & Youth: Norah Wyman gave 4 - $25 gift certificates from Cub to Anoka County for families that were in need of food at Christmas time.

Field Service: Bingo will be January 14, 2:30 pm at Twin River Care Center.

Home Service: The Auxiliary will be collecting commemorative express mail, foreign and air mail stamps, picture postcards and S&H stamps. Lynette reported that anything you do at home for veterans' counts on our home service report at the end of March, please let her know if you have made a meal, delivered a veteran to a doctor, sewed something or anything you do for a veteran.

Membership: Betty Erickson reported that National will be sending out a 2nd dues notice in January. Our brunch was attended by 65 senior members with 15 guests and 3 junior members. Betty said it would be nice to sign up grand daughters as Junior members for $3.50.

UD&R: Donna reported that she has handed out a couple of folders to new and transfer members.

VA&R: Cathy Newman reported there will be a VA shower in February and March. You can bring socks, crossward puzzle books, little sample sizes of shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, lotion, soap or small nail clippers. These are just some suggestions.

Annual Auxiliary Overnite
Jackpot Casino Bus Trip
February 27-28

Call Carol - 427-0185
for information

Past President News

On December 15 there were 44 Past Commandeers, Past Presidents and Past SAL Commanders and guests attending a holiday dinner of stuffed chicken breast or BBQ ribs and all the trimmings prepared by Ron's Catering. Thank you to all who attended - a good time was had by all.

Our Past Presidents Bake Sale was a huge success. Thanks to all who brought their favorite bars, cup cakes, breads, candies and snacks to be sold. The total amount of profit was $267 including items sold and donations.

Thank you to all who helped and brought in food. It all went very well.

Lenora Root Chairman
Karen Orr Co-Chairman

The Sewing Bee will be held in early March
Watch for the date in next months paper.

Ron's Ribs / Thursdays

Open Grill Thursdays and Fridays

Thursdays – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
BBQ Ribs, Choice of Potato, Cole Slaw, Texas Toast
Full Rack $11.75 Half Rack $9.75

Friday February 6th
Liver & Onions, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable, Roll & Butter $7.50

Friday January 13th
Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable, Roll & Butter $8.50

Friday January 20th
Broiled Walleye, Garlic Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Roll & Butter $10.00

Friday January 27th
Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, Vegetable & Garlic Toast $7.50

Taxes are included

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

FEBRUARY 2009

School Patrol Week Feb. 12-21

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 1	*Dec. 1921:* *Col. A.F. Pratt lunched informally at the White House with Pres. Harding.* **Ground Hog Day** 2	**Post General Mem. 7:30 pm** **S.A.L. Mtg. 7:00 pm** **Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00 pm** **VA Shower** 3	**SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.00** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $9.00** 4	**Ron's Ribs** **Grill Open 5:00 – 8:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 5	Grill Open 5-8:00 pm Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm **Live Music** **Rice Street Boyz** **8:30 - 12:30** 6	**Mpls. VA - Natl. Creative Arts Festival** **Feb. 11-12:** **8:30 AM - 4 PM** **Feb. 13:** **11 AM – 1 PM** 7
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 8	*Jan. 1922:* *Kiwanis Club of Anoka gets charter.* 9	**NEWSPAPER MEETING** **7:00 pm** 10	**SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.00** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $9.00** **Aux. Twin Rivers Bingo 2:30 pm** 11	**Ron's Ribs** **Grill Open 5:00 – 8:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 12	Grill Open 5-8:00 pm Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm **Live Music** **Turn Around Band** **8:30 - 12:30** 13	**Dept. Rally Willmar** **Valentines Day** 14
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm **SAL Meet the Members Party Starting at 1:00 pm** 15	*Jan. 11, 1923:* *Henry J. Wuest Post of the VFW organized.* **Presidents Day** 16	**House & Ent.** Meeting 7:00 pm **NO Aux. Casino Bus This Month** 17	**SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.00** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $9.00** **Anoka Legion Riders Chapter 102 7 pm** 18	**Ron's Ribs** **Grill Open 5:00 – 8:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 19	Grill Open 5-8:00 pm Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm **Live Music** **Mirror Image** **8:30 - 12:30** 20	**Junior Auxiliary Meeting 12 Noon** **SAL Rally Clearwater** 21
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm **Washington's Birthday** 22	*Sept. 6, 1924:* *Veterans of Company B annual reunion at the Jackson Hotel.* 23	**Executive Board** Meeting 7:00 pm 24	**SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, or Stuffed Shrimp $7.00** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $9.00** **Ash Wednesday** 25	**Ron's Ribs** **Grill Open 5:00 – 8:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 26	**Aux. Overnite to Jackpot Casino** Grill Open 5-8:00 pm Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm **Live Music** **Changing Times** **8:30 - 12:30** 27	*Dist.* *Junior Fun Day* *Fridley* 28

Coming in March

7th	Birthday Dinner 90th Anniversary of the Paris Caucus
8th	Daylight Savings
TBA	Natl. Creative Arts Festival - St. Cloud VA
TBA	Auxiliary Reports Meeting
TBA	Past Presidents Sewing Bee

January 28, 1928:

Albert F. Pratt, Charter Member of Post 102, died at 56 years of age. Born Sept. 25, 1872, attended Anoka High School and the U of M. Married with 4 children, he was City and County Attorney and representative for the 44th District. He also served as Minnesota's Asst. Attorney General and the Attorney General. He served in WWI and ended his military career as Colonel.

Albert Pratt Memorial Drive dedicated the week of May 8, 1928 (presently 5th Avenue).

Catering Central Friday Nite Specials
See Page 9

1st Friday each month
Red Cross Bloodmobile
at Post 7 AM - 1 PM

FLAG DISPLAY DAYS

February 12th
Lincoln's Birthday

February 16th
Presidents Day