

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



Volume 35, Number 10 ~ November 2009



To the men and women who died for our freedom:

We Thank You

VETERANS' DAY

Dinner and Program - Saturday - November 7th

Social 6 pm ~ Dinner 7 pm

Tickets on sale at the pull tab booth!

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

by Gary Munkholm

It was good to see and meet all of the Boys and Girls Staters at our joint American Legion Family meeting last month. Once again, we have supported outstanding students to represent the American Legion.

Robert Scherman and Roland Herrmann were voted in as new members to our Post. Welcome gentleman to our Post and we hope to see at our future meetings.

A reminder to mark on your calendars Veteran's Day dinner on November 7 and our Wild Game Dinner for our Veteran's on December 12. Tickets for the Veteran's Day dinner are on sale at the pull tab booth. Don't wait until the last minute to purchase them. Guest speakers this year will present us with an informative talk and slide show on their tour in the war zones. Aaron and Blake are sons of our Finance Officer Rick Oelschlager.

Ron Wolford gave us a membership report with 546 members to date and 594 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. Many thanks to Ron Wolford for taking charge of the Early Bird Dinner last month.

Donations approved this month were:

Early Bird Dinner costs for our members\$900.00
Department Pheasant Fund\$100.00

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.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!

Post 102's Annual Veterans Wild Game Dinner is scheduled for December 12th at noon in the Commanders Hall. Once again we hope that some of our Post 102 hunters will consider a donation of game to this dinner. Donations can be dropped off at the Post, please contact our manager Denise at 421-0883 or Darrel Redepenning at 571-8623. (Calling ahead would be appreciated due to limited freezer storage.)

As in past years, our guests include: Patients from the St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA Medical Centers, local dignitaries and hopefully several Post 102 volunteers. As usual we need help with cooking, cleaning, serving and bingo. This is a real fun annual tradition that our hospitalized vets really look forward to. One of the VA therapists expressed concern about the bad economy and cut-backs affecting the number of outings for these vets. So, lets show them what a great group we have at Post 102 and make this years the best ever. Mark your calendar for December 12th and join us for a great annual tradition and a great meal.

THANKS - Darrel Redepenning



Post 102 extends sincere sympathy to the families of



DAVID ARHOLM

David was an 8 year member of The American Legion and a Korean War Veteran.

CLAYTON GOSSWILLER

Clayton was a 23 year member of The American Legion and a Korean War Veteran.

RICHARD LISSY

Richard was a 2 year member of The American Legion and a Vietnam War Veteran.

WALTON (BUD) SAUTER

Bud was a 33 year member of The American Legion and a World War II Veteran.

ROBERT J. KAY

Bob was a 40 year member of The American Legion and a Vietnam War Veteran. He was an Honored Life Member and Post Commander 1991-92 and 1992-93.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 102

400 West Main St., Anoka



DINNER & PROGRAM

Saturday, November 7, 2009
Social Hour 6:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm

Carved Ham & Turkey
with all the trimmings & dessert

DINNER - \$10.00 PER PERSON
Limited to the first 200 people.
Tickets must be purchased before event.
No tickets will be sold on the day of the dinner.

Edward B. Cutter Post 102

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2010

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Commander's Column Gregg Werbowski

The Legion, Auxiliary and S.A.L. held a joint meeting at 7 pm on October 6th and listened to reports given by the young people we sponsored for Boys and Girls State. All 6 young people that gave their short speech explained the great time they had, the many friends they made and the great food. But the most interesting aspect of all their speeches was the amount of learning that took place about city, state and federal government and how the government itself is run, the different branches of government and what each branch contributes to the people and to each of the other branches.

These young people had a lot of enthusiasm, they listed the different school, church, and community activities they belong to. It's really amazing how much these young people are doing and still making good grades in school. The best of luck to each and every one of the. They need our support in all they do. **THEY ARE OUR FUTURE!**

REMEMBER - get your tickets now for the Veterans Day Dinner on November 7th. Tickets available at the pull tab booth.

Thanks to All ~ Lets Soar Like an Eagle!



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

Wow! What a short Autumn we had. I think winter is here.

Welcome to our new members: Michael Arellano and Justin D. Harper.

The Squadron gave a \$50 donation to the Meals on Wheels program. A donation of \$100 was given to the Squadron, it was forwarded to the Fisher House in memory of Rory Omdahl.

Wednesday night dinners are doing well. We have a large selection to choose from. We still need prep help on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday afternoon – contact Al Amundson.

Additions to our Wednesday Dinner Specials include:

For Nov. 11th & 25th and Dec. 9th & 30th
Pork Chop – \$7.50

For November 4th and December 2nd
Country Fried Steak – \$7.50

For November 18th and December 16th
Prime Rib – \$9.00

**NO WEDNESDAY DINNERS ON
NOVEMBER 25TH AND DECEMBER 23RD**

NORTH SUBURBAN CONCERT BAND

John Rosner, Music Director

2009-10 INDOOR SEASON SCHEDULE

FALL CONCERT

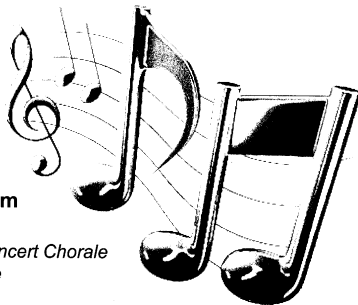
Monday, October 26th – 7pm

St. Francis High School - Joint
Concert with the St. Francis High
School Band

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Sat. Dec. 12th – 7:30pm
& Sun. Dec. 13th – 2pm

Andover High School
featuring *The North Suburban Concert Chorale*
and the *Twin Cities Youth Chorale*



CATHEDRAL (BENEFIT) CONCERT

Sunday, March 14th – 2pm

Meadow Creek Church, Andover
Beneficiary – Hope Chest News
(Transplant family assistance)

**Special guest: Manny Laureano, principal trumpet
with the Minnesota Orchestra!**



POPS CONCERT

Sunday, April 18th – 3pm

Courtyards of Andover
Cabaret concert with
free refreshments

**More details available at:
www.nscband.org**

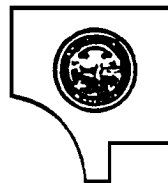
Also watch for the Spring/Summer
outdoor schedule!



Having a Birthday! Bring 8 guests and receive a coupon for a FREE DINNER at a later date.

Again this year we will have a float in the Halloween parade. Any SAL or Junior Aux. members are invited to come and ride on the float. The float is being made available by Tony Arellano, a dual member.

2010 dues are due NOW. We are at 65% in paid up dues as of October 5. We still have a ways to go, so keep the dues coming in.



ANOKA COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

DUANE R. KRUEGER
DIRECTOR

LAURA BARTLEY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

BILL GIDDENS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

763-323-5290

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

Veterans Day Dinner Guest Speakers

Brothers

Captain Aaron Oelschlager & SSG Blake Oelschlager

Captain Aaron Oelschlager was sworn into the National Guard in March 2002 as a split option soldier. He completed basic training in Aug 2003 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Advanced Individual Training (AIT) as a hydraulic mechanic for helicopters and then started the Reserve Officer Training Course (ROTC) at Iowa State University. On May 7, 2005 he graduated with a Bachelors degree in Aerospace Engineering and received his Commission as a 2LT. After completing Officer training in December 2005 he became a qualified Combat Engineer Officer. He was assigned to the Minnesota National Guard in A Company of the 682nd Engineer Battalion in Litchfield, Minnesota as a platoon leader and during his assignment the Company's name changed to the 849th Mobility Augmentation Company. CPT Oelschlager is presently working full time for the Minnesota National Guard Recruiting Command where he received the Army Achievement Medal. In May of 2007 he was deployed to Iraq with the 849th Mobility Augmentation Company and while stationed southwest of Baghdad he conducted daily combat patrols and base security missions. During his service in Iraq he received a Bronze Star. Upon his return from deployment in Iraq he became the Executive Officer for the 850th Horizontal Engineer Company out of Cambridge, Minnesota and also worked full time as an Officer recruiter for the state of Minnesota. In September 2009 he assumed command of the 849th Mobility Augmentation Company in Litchfield, Minnesota and was promoted to the rank of Captain.



SSG Blake Oelschlager was sworn into the National Guard in March 2001. He completed basic training in December 2001 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and his Advanced Individual Training (AIT) as a light wheeled vehicle mechanic in February 2002. In August 2003 SSG Oelschlager was deployed to England for operation Enduring Freedom and September of 2005 was deployed to Iraq with the 1-34th Red Bull Division. While in Iraq he was stationed south of Baghdad and conducted vehicle maintenance on daily basis. While serving in Iraq he received an expert mechanic badge, an Army Achievement Medal, and also received the Army Commendation Medal. SSG Oelschlager received promotion to SSG E-6 in February 2007 and upon his return from the deployment was assigned to the 1135 CSC (Convoy Support Company) out of Austin MN. In August of 2009 SSG Oelschlager was given the opportunity to become the Battalion Master Driver and currently working full time in West St. Paul (A Co 2-135 INF) as the Master Driver for the Battalion. As a Master Driver it is his responsibility to make sure everyone has a valid MN state driver's license, and a valid military license for the equipment that they have to be tested on.

Boys State



The opportunity these young men get when they go to Boy's State is fantastic. They learn about city, county and state government. These are things many of the young men had no idea of how it all worked.

We, The American Legion take great pride in (1) attempt to illustrate to the boys the principles of our representative form of government, (2) arouse an enduring interest in governmental affairs.

Boy's State is a functional practice of democratic activities. It's citizens will apply knowledge already acquired concerning political machinery of commonwealth (U.S. Citizens). Justice is administered by their own law enforcement agencies and courts. In Boy's State, the young citizen has the opportunity to learn that his government is Just what he makes it.

The following Boy's were sponsored by the Anoka American Legion (the boys came from Anoka, Andover & St. Francis High Schools): Tyler Wick, Benjamin Suehler, Matt Dehler, Zachery Miranowski. Andover High School: Brandon Wold (1 of 4 Outstanding Boy's Staters), Andrew Peden. (Andover unable to attend.)

These Young Men are to commended for their interest in our program and our government. Respectfully,

Cliff Newman – Boy's State Chairman

Girls State



Unit 102 sponsored three to Girls State; pictured is Erin Hilliard, Samantha Sagers also spoke but had to leave early and Amanda Kaas was unable to attend.

Kathy Zwerdling – Girl State Chairman



LEGION RIDERS

As of this writing there is snow on the ground and cold temperatures, and the Anoka Chapter of the American Legion Riders has concluded its first motorcycle riding season. We had a very safe, successful year.

Members from Anoka were present for the Annual Spring Flood Run, sponsored by the Tenth District of the American Legion Riders to benefit the Gillette Children's Hospital. We started in the North Metro by heading to Litchfield in May with our brothers and sisters from the Clearwater Legion, to benefit the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Members also participated in the "Remember the Fallen Tribute" by riding to the State Military Cemetery at Camp Ripley. In June, members Tony and Trixie Bezenar were instrumental in starting our First Annual Legion Riders Hog Roast at the Post, complete with t-shirt sales and a silent auction. Later we also sponsored a "Wish I was in Sturgis" motorcycle run for those of us who couldn't make it to South Dakota this year. The Anoka ALR also celebrated the passing of summer by going for a motorcycle run around Lake Mille Lacs in late August, one of our more scenic adventures.

At the Minnesota Legion Department Convention in mid-July, the Anoka Legion Riders were proud to present a check for \$500 to once again benefit the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Vice-President Rick Oelschlager and ALR member Gary Munkholm were on hand to make the presentation.

There were a few parade appearances for us this summer: The Fourth-of-July Parade in Pequot Lakes, The Raspberry Fest in Hopkins, and lastly James J. Hill Days in Wayzata. As if all this wasn't enough, we somehow found time to serve burgers and pulled pork sandwiches every third Sunday during the summer months, and will continue to do so.

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 next spring!

Matt Berens
President, American Legion Riders Chapter 102

AUXILIARY DUES DUE NOW!

Before Veterans Day, Before Thanksgiving, Before you travel south – how about getting your dues paid (\$20 seniors, \$3.50 juniors) now!

If you have not received (or can't find) your dues notice, drop it off at the pull tab booth or mail to me:

Betty Erickson
1826 Cressy Ave.
Anoka, MN 55303

You **do not need** the notice to pay your dues.

JUNIOR AUXILIARY NEWS

We want to thank you Subway, McDonalds and Diary Queen in Anoka for donating gift cards for the Junior Auxiliary's Ice Cream Social.

American Education Week-Nov. 16-20.



On Monday, November 16th we will be needing volunteers to help bag apples that will be delivered to the area schools in Anoka. These apples are given to teachers, cooks, and maintenance personnel. We will meet on the 16th at 7:00 p.m. to bag the apples and your help is needed.

Thanks and looking forward to seeing you.
Kathy Zwerdling
Education Chairman

Auxiliary Scholarships

The following 4 scholarships are available through the American Legion Auxiliary.

Spirit of Youth Scholarship
For Junior Auxiliary members

American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship
For Non-Traditional Students

Past Presidents Parley Healthcare Scholarship

National Presidents Scholarship

**Please contact Kathy Zwerdling
(427-8762) for more information.**

Annual Aux. Early Bird Get Together

An even 100 members (89 srs., 10 jrs. and guest 10th Dist. Pres. Flora Ellefson) attended on Monday, October 12; they visited with old friends, enjoyed dinner and dessert and eagerly bid on the 5 tables of items brought for the silent auction.

The \$490 from the auction will be given to the Unit Girl State program, Department Girls State program and Scholarship Fund.

INITIATION

The ceremony conducted by the Past Presidents Parley included Karen Orr as initiation officer with Barb Fechner, Lois Kottke, Donna Redepenning, Lenora Root, Cathy Westlund and Norah Wyman. A total of 22 Unit Past Presidents attended the dinner.

ALL GROUPS PICTURED WITH PRESIDENT DARLENE



Members Initiated:

Seated:

Tina Johnson - 12 yrs

Deb Mayasich - 2yrs

Brenda Larson - new member

Teressa Bezenar - 2 yrs

Standing:

Marge Bradley - new member

Lola Money - 11 yrs

Pat Krueger - 2 yrs

Joyce Jelle - 7 yrs

Sue Amundson - 6 yrs

Unable to attend were:

20 Years: *Judy Carty, Jane Freeburg and Nancy Furch*

25 Years: *Cassie Fisher, Eva Hedstrom and Kim Saloka*

30 years: *Sharon Hengtgen and Jennifer Simth-Otte*

35 Years: *Linda Larkin, Kathy Bednar, Lorynda Smith, Anna Gullick, Missy West and Lynn Hendrickson*

40 Years: *Lynn Kruger and Elsie Sinn*

45 Years: *Gert Baillie*

50 Years: *Joyce Carmichael, Phyllis Mathieu and LaVerne Grosslein*

55 Years: *Mary Jo Deschene*

60 Years: *Audrey Reichert*

Other 50+ year members not attending:

52 Years: *Hazel Lindgren, Dody Schanhaar and Bonnie Lapham*

53 Years: *Lil Erickson*

54 Years: *Debra Feist Brantingham and Grace Wells*

56 Years: *Rose Deschene*

61 Years: *Harriet Bune and Netha Feist*

50+ year members



*Front: June Bendix, Claribel Berghorst, Doris Adkins and Lorraine Hostetler
Back: Sandra Thorsen and 10th Dist. Pres. Flora Ellefson*



Kathy Zwerdling, Joyce Smith & Barb Fechner



Cathy Vick, Lois Witte, Patt Hall & Pat Westlie



Lynn Zimmerman and Jeanene Hays



Sandy Phillips and Margery Beckenbach



President's Column

Darlene Thell

On Saturday Sept. 19th the junior girls Auxiliary got together for the first meeting of the year, along with Sue Nunnelee, Darlene Thell and our 10th Dist. President Flora Ellefson and myself. Since there were just a few girls present, it was decided not to have the meeting and the girls made place mats for the Early Bird Dinner. Sue and Flora made centerpieces for the tables.

On Oct. 10th the Juniors got together at our Legion for an ice cream social. Sue Nunnelee, Kelly Toikka and Vicki Odegard planned and helped with the event.

I would like to thank the Auxiliary members who helped to made our Early Bird Dinner a wonderful evening. I would especially like to thank Cathy Newman, Jan Reiter and Sandy Phillips who planned, prepared and served the dinner; our junior girls also helped throughout the evening and their work was greatly appreciated. Also thank you to all who helped and took part in the initiation of our new members and consecutive years of membership pins. Thank you.



10th Dist. Pres. Flora Ellefson, Jr. Past 10th Dist. Pres. Sue Nunnelee and myself attended the Department Harvest Rally on Oct. 3 at Post 254 in Sauk Rapids. Full membership turned in at this date was 1,175.



Members of our Post went to the Adult Veterans Daycare Center in Richfield on Sept. 22 to help the Veterans play bingo. Twenty two veterans participated – prizes were given and everyone was treated to ice cream and cookies. Visiting the center were Donna Redepenning, Bud Redepenning, Betty Redepenning, new member Deb Mayasich and myself.

JAN'S JOTTINGS

by Sandy Phillips

October is the month we begin our meeting with the Legionnaires and SAL members so that we can meet the seniors that attended Girls and Boys State. See articles in this newsletter from the chairmen. We always enjoy meeting these young people and hearing their testimonials of Girls and Boys State.

The revised proposed budget was passed out by Finance Chairman Lenora Root.

Girls State Chairman Kathy Zwerdling announced that the fee to send a girl to Girls State remains at \$250.00.

A meeting for the Juniors was held on September 19, 2009. Unfortunately there were not enough Juniors to hold an election of officers. Parents that were in attendance suggested that an Open House be held in October with all members of the Junior Auxiliary be invited to see if interest can be sparked. If the Juniors do not get off the ground this year – this will be the first time in 50 years that Anoka has not had an organized Junior Group. At this meeting they made some placemats for the Early Bird Dinner. The annual Fund Raiser will still take place during the Halloween Parade.

Norah announced that she is collecting Kemps bottle caps, school labels and pop tabs for the Children and Youth program. If you are collecting any of these you may leave them at the Pull Tab booth for Norah.

Kathy Zwerdling has had e-mail contact with a soldier in Afghanistan, who is also a former Boys Stater. Unit approved to send Care Packages to this soldier's unit as a National Security Project. Chairman Deb Mayasich will gather up items for these packages and unit members will help pack them. We will also distribute the Pocket Flags to this unit.

It was announced that our Department Secretary Ellie Johnson is quite ill and has not been able to work since National Convention.

Deb Mayasich announced in her Legislation report that the state of Minnesota is offering license plates for Gold Star Parents.

Fall Conference was discussed. Attending the Conference will be Sue Nunnelee, Cathy Newman, Donna Redepenning and Sandy Phillips.

A delicious lunch was served by Lynette Pavin, Betty Redepenning, Dody Schanaar and Darlene Thell.

Cell Phones!

If you don't know what to do with them – turn them into the Legion. There is a collection box at the pull tab booth. Phone and chargers will be sent and converted to calling cards for the troops. Please bring the chargers with the phones.

Cathy Newman
VA&R Chairperson

NOVEMBER 2009

American Education Week 16th - 20th

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm</p> <p>Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast 7:30 am - 12:30 pm Everyone Welcome Daylight Savings Ends (fall back)</p>	<p>Veterans Day</p> <p>Dinner Tickets \$10 at Pull Tab Booth</p>	<p>Post General Mem. 7:30 pm</p> <p>S.A.L. Mfg. 7:00 pm Auxiliary Mfg. 7:00 pm</p>	<p>SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp Your Choice \$7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo \$10.00</p>	<p>Every Thursday & Friday Grill Open 5:00 – 8:30 pm</p> <p>Bar Bingo 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Veterans Day Dinner Social 6-7 PM Dinner 7:00 PM</p> <p>District Rally 2 pm Coon Rapids</p>	
<p>Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Apple Bagging for Am. Ed. Week 7:00 pm Commanders Hall</p>	<p>NEWSPAPER MEETING 7:00 pm</p>	<p>SAL Sponsored Dinner 5:30-7:00 Aux. Twin Rivers Bingo 2:30 pm VETERANS DAY</p>	<p>Bar Bingo 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Dept. 8th & 10th Rally</p>	
<p>Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Renew Your Membership NOW!</p> <p>Dues: Legion - \$35 Auxiliary \$20 Sr. Aux. Jr. - \$3.50 SAL - \$20 Dual Legion/Sal - \$10</p>	<p>Delivery of Apples to Anoka Schools House & Ent. Meeting 7:00 pm Aux. Casino Bus Turtle Lake</p>	<p>SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp Your Choice \$7.50 Steak & Shrimp Combo \$10.00</p>	<p>Happy Thanksgiving  Club Closed</p>	<p>Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>Nov. 11, 1919: The 1st Convention of The American Legion was held in Minneapolis and had 684 official delegates and 234 non-voting leaders; Franklin D'Olier was elected National Commander. In 4 days, they adopted a constitu- tion, declared basic</i></p>	
<p>Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Executive Board Meeting 7:00 pm</p>	<p>NO SAL DINNER</p>	<p>Anoka Legion Riders Chapter 102 Meeting 7:00 PM Post Clubrooms 3rd Wednesday of every month.</p>	<p>SAL Wednesday Dinner Additions see page 3</p>	<p>Meat Raffle 5:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>principles and committed the Legion to its course. At convention time, there were 646 Posts in Ny, 411 in Pa, 289 in Il and 279 in MN.</i></p>	
<p>Flag Display Days 11th Veterans Day 27th Thanksgiving</p>	<p></p>	<p>MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL FOOD DRINK SPECIALS PRIZES</p>				<p>Coming in December 5th School Patrol Christmas Party 7th AMRTC Gift Shop 12th Veterans Wild Game Dinner 12 Noon 15th Newspaper Meeting 7:00 pm TBA Past Pres. & Past Cmdrs. Holiday Dinner</p>	