JOIN US NEW YEAR'S DAY FOR A FREE BRUNCH

All paid Post, Unit, Juniors, SAL members, and a guest are invited.

Past Presidents Parley BAKE SALE at New Years Day Brunch

Annual New Years Day Brunch

Club Open 10:00 am to 7:00 pm • Brunch served 11:00 to 1:00 pm

Club Open to the Public at 2:00 pm

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 36, Number 1 ~ January 2010

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

by Gary Munkholm

Guest speaker Greg Lee, Anoka Public Service Director, presented to the Post plans for a future River Front Park north of city hall. He indicated that they wish for the Anoka Legion Post to discuss and be a part the planning regarding a Veteran Memorial located in the park.

Cliff Newman reminded everyone of the Mid-Winter Conference held here at the Post on January 9 and gave us an overview of what needs to happen for the event from our Legion Family members. Ron Wolford gave us a membership report with 667 members to date and 713 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.

Fadi Awaijane indicated that his wife would dry clean our Anoka Halloween Parade Float U.S. flags for free through the cleaners she works for.

It is important for everyone to let an Executive Committee member know of any problems or potential problems concerning your clubhouse and its operation. Executive Committee member's names are listed on our membership board. Stories and rumors about the clubhouse operation can only make a simple problem into a worse one. Lets work together to keep this great American Legion Post running to its utmost.

Commander Werbowski announced that Duane Krueger of the Anoka County Veterans Office is retiring in April. The Commander will work with Wayne Wallace for a proper thank you from the Post for the many veterans Duane has helped while serving as the County Veterans Service Officer.

A reminder from the Post Service Officer and Chaplain to report to the Post on any of our comrades who might be hospitalized or ill at home. Just call the clubhouse and leave a message with Denise, one of the bartenders, or use the Posts new phone answering system.

Donations approved this month were:

School Patrol Christmas Party	$350.00
Vets Wild Game Dinner	500.00
ARC Greater Twin Cities	200.00
Armed Forces Service Center	100.00
Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad	100.00
Jr. Shooters Team for Scopes	900.00
Assist Needy Vets/Families	1500.00
Emergency Money	500.00

Post 102 extends sincere sympathy to the family of

WEARNE (Red) FRANCIS CLAYTON

Red was a 64 year member of The American Legion and a World War II Veteran

DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS DD-214

Now Available On-Line

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans or their next-of-kin to gain access to their DD-214 online: **http://Vetrecs.archives.gov**.

Veterans or next-of-kin may now request copies of discharge documents, service treatment records, or official personnel records by using this web site. Instructions on how to use this service appear on the site.

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.

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

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2010

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Commander's Column
Gregg Werbowski

First off I want to wish everyone happy holidays – hope your holiday season was a good one.

December 5th we had the **school patrol Christmas party** with approximately 125 kids from the various schools around the Anoka/ Ramsey area. Thanks to these great - safety minded kids, their fellow classmates get to school safely. A big thank you to Cliff Newman for organizing this event and also a very big thank you to the Legionnaires that volunteered their time to help.

On December 12th we enjoyed the **wild game dinner** with the men and women from Minneapolis and St. Cloud VA Hospitals. A big thank you to Darrel Redepenning for his guidance on this task and another thank you to all the Legionnaries, Auxiliary and SAL members who participated and helped with this event.

Mid-Winter Conference is coming up soon, January 9, 2010 - again hosted at our Post. If anyone can help please see Cliff Newman or myself to put your name down to help. Thank you!

Remember: Let's Soar Like an Eagle!

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

-Matt Berens

Well, the weather outside is certainly frightful as of this writing, so the Legion Riders are hard at work indoors planning plenty of endeavors for next season…So far we are looking at having our next **Hog Roast in June**, doing the American Legion **Legacy Scholarship Run** in August to Milwaukee, WI, and having a fundraiser run to coincide with the **Legionville Camp-o-Ree in September**…Just some tentative ideas for Anoka, stay tuned for more information.

And don't forget, the **Legion Riders serve burgers every third Sunday of the month during Bar Bingo**. I hope to see everyone out there to support our worthy cause, the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund…

I hope everyone has a happy, prosperous and safe New Year!!!

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

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

Squadron 102 extends Sincere Sympathy
to the Family of

JEFF HELGET
Jeff was a 7 year member of the S.A.L.

The Squadron would like to welcome the new members – Steven Bury, Nicholas Hathaway, Tyler Hathaway, Guy Miller and Max Zwerdling. Get well wishes go to John Clark (Tommy) a dual member who was recently hospitalized.

We are close to goal with membership. As of December 1st we are at 90%. Lets make our goal by January 1, 2010.

The Squadron gave donations of $50 to Meals on Wheels, $133 (apples) for Anoka teachers appreciation, and $50 to Tony Bezener for Veterans Pheasant Hunt.

The Squadron will be hosting an **ice fishing clinic for kids on January 16th at 9:00 a.m. at the Post**. This event is free and refreshments will be served. Dress warm, you will be going ice fishing.

Don't forget the Mid-Winter conference at Anoka Post on January 9th, hope to see a good turnout.

SAL will be having a **Casino bus trip to Turtle Lake on February 6th**. Sign up at the pull-tab booth.

"Welcome Your Members" party will be on February 14th. Come enjoy the Daytona 500 race and good food.

We still need prep help for our Wednesday night dinners. Contact Al Amundson or Charlie Heemer. Bring a non-perishable food item to the dinner and receive a free dessert. **The Food Shelf donations continue till February 14th**.

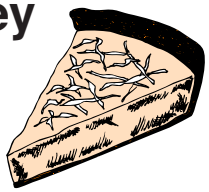
The Squadron by-laws are being updated. If you have any questions or concerns please attend our next meeting on January 5th. The discussions will be held at 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

SAL
Welcome Your Membership Party
February 14, 12:00 noon

Bring a non-perishable food item
Watch Daytona 500 Race on Big Screen TV
Food ~ Prizes ~ Fun

All donations go to ACBC Food Shelf

Past Presidents Parley
BAKE SALE
at
New Years Day Brunch
January 1, 2010



Proceeds to Parley Projects!

Legion-Aux-SAL Deliver Apples

During American Education week in November, the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL delivered 1013 apples and cards to the teachers, staff, cooks and custodians in the Anoka schools. This is done to thank them for their dedicated service. A big "Thank You" goes out to all that helped bag and deliver the apples. Also, a special Thank you to Cliff, for picking up the apples at County Market.

Kathy Zwerdling presents apples to Wilson Elementary staff, Mary Jane and Cathy

Kathy Zwerdling
Education Chairman

PAST PRESIDENT NEWS

Holiday Dinner

December 9 there were 40 Past Commanders, Past Presidents, Past SAL Commanders, and guests that attended the fifth annual Holiday Dinner at our Post. Post SAL did a wonderful job of preparing and serving the dinners. This was a nice evening to enjoy visiting with each other. Gary Munkholm provided music for our enjoyment which added to the Holiday spirit.

Bake Sale

During the News Years Day Brunch, the Past Presidents will again be having their annual bake sale. It is always appreciated when the members support this fund raiser.

Sewing Bee

Auxiliary members are invited to join the Past Presidents for our annual sewing bee. This will be held Tuesday, January 19, at the Post in the upper hall at 1:00 p.m. We will be making needed items for the VA Hospital. We need sewers (bring your machine) and women to pin, cut and press fabric. Come and have fun sewing for our Veterans.

Funeral Lunches

In November, a funeral lunch for Past Commander Bob Kay was held at the Post with Past Presidents, spouses of Past Commanders and Unit members providing the food items. In December, a funeral lunch was provided by the Past Presidents and Unit members for Past President Netha Feist.

Karen Orr and Lenora Root – Past Presidents Parley

Annual Auxiliary Overnite
Jackpot Casino Bus Trip
February 26-27
Call Carol - 427-0185 for information

President's Column
Darlene Thell

I would like to begin with special thank you's to some Auxiliary members; to Cathy Newman for the cards and cash gifts you delivered to veterans at the AMRTC on Veterans day. To Lynette Pavin for giving each of the 19 veterans who live at the Twin Rivers Nursing Home a card and cash gift on bingo day, which was Veterans Day. Thank you Marianne Voit for all the scarves you crocheted and donated to the ACBC Food Shelf, also for the many crocheted items you have donated for bus trips and SAL Membership party prizes. And to Donna Redepenning for giving Christmas cards to the veterans from the St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA homes that came to the wild game dinner on December 12th.

On Sunday November 22 Sue Nunnelee, Flora Ellefson and I, plus surrounding American Legion Post, Auxiliary and Jr. Auxiliary members hosted and helped out at the St. Cloud VA Home football party. The junior girls made party treats and book markers for the veterans there. We served snacks, hot dogs and drinks. It was a fun time and yes, our Vikings won!

On December 1st, I helped Sandy Phillips plus other American Legion Auxiliary members, with the Minneapolis VA Homes annual Gift Shop program. Many gifts were chosen by our veterans and spouses. On December 2nd Cathy Newman helped Sandy with the project.

December 7th Cathy and Cliff Newman, Sue Nunnelee, Kathy Zwerdling and I, along with Champlin and Coon Rapids Auxiliary members sang Christmas carols and served snacks, treats, juice and coffee to our veterans at AMRTC. Each veteran was given a couple of gifts and joined in with the singing. Our 10th Dist. Pres. Flora joined us.

Thank you to the Post for inviting our Auxiliary members to the Veterans Wild Game Dinner on December 12, and a special huge thank you to the SAL who prepared all the fantastic wild game and the rest of the meal.

JAN'S JOTTINGS

by Jan Reiter

The regular meeting of our Auxiliary was held on December 1st, 2009. Our 10th District President Flora Ellefson visited our meeting and spoke to the group.

Children & Youth: Norah has shopped for the Adopt-a-Family program. She picked up itmes for a pregnant mom, son and daughter. They will be handed out for Christmas.

Fund Raising: A casino trip to Turtle Lake on Nov. 17 netted a profit of $107. The next casino trip is Jan. 19.

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

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.

VA&R: Cathy Newman reported that on Veterans Day (Nov. 10) for the 8 Veterans at AMRTC, she took 8 cards, with $2 bills inside of them. There will be a Gift Shop on Dec. 7 at AMRTC for the Veterans that are there at the time. Sandy Phillips is the Department Representative for the Veterans Home in Minneapolis. She thanked those that helped her with their Gift Shop.

New Business: Sandy Phillips is our chairman for the **Mid-Winter Conference at Anoka on January 9**. She is in need of help to set up Friday evening. On Saturday she is in need of some bars, cookies, and any other kind of dessert for the lunch.

Additions to our SAL
Wednesday Dinner Specials include:

January 6 and February 3
Country Fried Steak
$7.50

January 20 and February 17
Prime Rib
$9.00

January 13 and January 27
February 10 and February 24
Pork Chop
$7.50

In Memoriam
NETHA BELLE FEIST

Netha, a 61 year Auxiliary member, was born October 9, 1922 in Wyoming, MN and passed away December 5, 2009.

Honored Life Member
Anoka Unit President 1958-59
w/ Commander Don Erickson
10th District President 1977-78
w/ Commander Bud Redepenning

Netha held many chairmanships in the 10th District and Department of Minnesota, and was an inspiration to every Unit member and beyond. In the 1950's, Netha co-founded "Apples for Teachers" in the Anoka school system during American Education Week which continues to this day.

Husband Warren, 46 year member, Post Cmdr. 1960-61, 10th Dist. Cmdr. 1966-67, Honored Life Member and in the 1960's, while Dept. PR Chairman got approval to have a history of The Am. Legion in MN. It was "Legion 50" by Ben Gimmestad with Warren editing and proofing the material. Warren died May 12, 1994.

Edward B. Cutter Unit 102 extends its sympathy to children Bob, Richard and Debra, sister Donna and their families.

NALPA and George

George W. Hooten, was a WWII Army Air Corps pilot, a 63 year Legion member and a charter member of the Sons of the American Legion – he was believed to be the oldest continuous SAL member in the United States.

George served as executive director of the National American Legion Press Association for 28 years until he retired in 2007 during the National Convention in Reno.

George, a true southern gentleman, presented Anoka Post with almost all of its newspaper awards and those of us lucky enough to have met him will never forget him.

George died in Decatur, Georgia at the age of 89 on November 4, 2009.

Edward B. Cutter Post and Unit 102 extends their sympathy to his wife Joanne and family.

Ellie Johnson
Auxiliary Department Secretary

Ellie passed away November 12, 2009, she was hired as secretary May 7, 1973 and held that office for 36 years. Ellie was a longtime member of White Bear Lake Unit 168, a former Girls Stater and a very proud Gold Star sister.

Unit 102 and the Past Presidents Parley have each donated $50 to the Ellie Johnson Memorial Scholarship.

Read more in the December issue of the *Minnesota Legionnaire*.

Auxiliary Membership
39 senior members not yet renewed

We need ALL of you to help fund our Auxiliary programs for veterans (listed in past issues) – we can continue to do more if you renew your membership.

I have been asked the month our dues are due (for your calendar); I would say September and easier to remember – the week of Labor Day!

Welcome to our 2010 new and transfer members:

NEW –

Penny Benthin	Lea Blair	Marge Bradley
Susan Cochran	Brenda Larson	Tina Lee
Miranda Oelschlager	Kathryn Trettel	Carol Turnquist.

Reinstated – Margaret Patrick.

Transfers –

Helen Barkuloo – 41 year member from Aitkin (back to Anoka)
Margery Beckenbach – 25 year member from Coon Rapids (back to Anoka)
Judy Jensen – 32 year member from Fridley (back to Anoka).

If you are having difficulty paying your dues ($20) – please call me (421-4562) – the Unit can help! If you haven't received a post card from me or can't find your dues notice or aren't sure if you have paid or not – also call me. You do not need your dues notice to pay by mail or by dropping it off at pulltabs.

Of those 39 members not yet renewed, 4 have 33 + years, 6 have 21-29 years, 9 have 12-19 years and 20 have 2-9 years in the Auxiliary.

We need ALL of you to reach our GOAL of 374 by the 1st week of January or New Years Day if you plan to attend the Brunch. Thank you.

Betty Erickson, Chairman
1826 Cressy Ave. Anoka,MN 55303

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.

42nd WILD GAME DINNER A SUCCESS

The annual Veterans Wild Game Dinner was held December 12, 2009 at 12 noon in the Commanders Hall. Thirty-one members of Post 102 (Legion, Auxiliary and SAL) volunteered for all the duties that keep this annual event a success.

Our special guests are from the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and the St. Cloud VA Medical Center. Unfortunately our numbers were a little down with these two groups but, the 15 that attended had a great time. Also in attendance were Al and Tess Davis (our Department and 10th District Commanders), 10th District President Flora Ellefson, County Commissioner Dan Erhart, County Veterans Service Office Director (soon to retire) Duane Krueger, Assistant Director Laura Bartley, and our local Vietnam Veterans of America Funeral Honor Guard Group.

A great meal of a variety of wild game donated by our generous Post 102 hunters was enjoyed by all. Our master-cooks in the SAL once again out did themselves. After the meal M.C. Darrel Redepenning introduced our guests and local dignitaries and greeting were brought by Post Commander Gregg Werbowski, Dept. and Dist. Commanders Al and Tess and last-but-not-least, the "Big Guy" Duane Krueger announced is retirement in April and hopes that he'll still be invited to our dinner. We said he could, even though he does eat an awful lot of food.

After the program, the VA Medical Center residents all enjoyed some lively games of bingo. I want to thank everyone who volunteers or donates to this annual dinner. We certainly could NOT do it without all of your help. Mark your calendars for the 2nd Saturday in December and lets keep this tradition going. This is always my favorite Legion event, with volunteering at its best, it seems to Quick-Start the holiday spirit.

Thanks to All!
Darrel Redepenning

School Patrol Christmas Party December 5th.

One hundred fifteen (115) school patrolers from four (4) Anoka grade schools attended (Franklin, Ramsey, St.Stephens & Wilson). Chaperons and parents also were there. They were entertained with Karoke provided by Sandy Arnold. We were supposed to have a Canine Unit from Anoka but the dog had to go to a class in Duluth on the same day. The patrolers were provided pop, popcorn and lunch.

Thank you to the following: Gary Reimann, Al Ziemann, Fadi Awaijane, Ron Wolford, Darrel Redepenning, Joe Zimmermann, Bill Engstrom, Cmdr. Gregg Werbowski, Gary Munkholm, Jim Hayes & Post 102. It is so gratifying to be able to do something for these students. They are out there in the Sun, Rain,Wind & Snow making it safe for the kids to cross streets.

Cliff Newman – Chairman

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

VOLUNTEER TO HELP POST – AUXILIARY – SAL PROGRAMS

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

JANUARY 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Coming in February 13th Dept. Rally - Fairbault 14th SAL Member Celebration 17th Ash Wednesday 20th SAL Dist. Rally - Fridley 26/27 Aux. Overnite to Jackpot Casino TBA Mpls. VA Creative Arts Festival		**FLAG DISPLAY DAYS** 	**January 1st** **New Years Day** **January 18th** **Martin Luther King Day**	**SAL** **Wednesday Dinner Specials** **See page 5**	**Jan. 1st** **New Years Day Brunch** Past Cmdr. serving 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Past Pres. Bake Sale during brunch Club Open 10 am - 7 pm 1	**District Oratorical Contest Anoka 8:00 am** 2
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 3	***Jan. 16, 1923 Dr. Spurzem locates in Anoka; on Jan. 5, 1931 he was appointed City Physician.*** 4	**Post General Mem. 7:30 pm** **S.A.L. Mtg. 7:00 pm** **Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00 pm** 5	**SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp** **Your Choice $7.50** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00** 6	**Every Thursday & Friday Grill Open 5:00 – 8:30 pm** **Bar Bingo 7:00 pm** 7	**Meat Raffle 5:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 8	**10th Dist. Mid-Winter Conference at Anoka** **Registration 7:30 am** **Session 9:00 am** 9
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 10	***Jan. 11, 1923: Henry J. Wuest Post 1043 of the VFW Organized*** 11	**NEWSPAPER MEETING 7:00 pm** 12	**SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp** **Your Choice $7.50** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00** **Aux. Twin Rivers Bingo** 13	**Bar Bingo 7:00 pm** 14	**Meat Raffle 5:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 15	**Freeze Yer Gizzard Blizzard Run in International Falls** 16
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 17	***"The time is always right to do what is right"*** ***Martin Luther King Jr.*** 18	**Past Presidents Sewing Bee 1:00 pm** **Aux. Casino Bus Turtle Lake** **House & Ent.** Meeting 7:00 pm 19	**SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp** **Your Choice $7.50** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00** **Prime Rib $9.00** 20	**Bar Bingo 7:00 pm** 21	**Dist. Snowmobile Raley - Turn-in Champlin 6:00 pm** **Meat Raffle 5:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 22	23
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 24	***In 1900 when people in Anoka wanted to go to Minneapolis, they could ride a four-horse stage operated by Sam Ridge. The ride took 2½ hours and cost 25 on way.*** 25	**Executive Board** Meeting 7:00 pm 26	**SAL Dinner 5:30-7:00** **Steak, Chicken, Shrimp, Salisbury Steak, Stuffed Shrimp** **Your Choice $7.50** **Steak & Shrimp Combo $10.00** 27	**Bar Bingo 7:00 pm** 28	**Meat Raffle 5:00 pm** **Bar Bingo 6:30 pm** 29	***Jan. 16, 1923: Anoka Taxi Co "Enclosed heated cars meet all trains and street cars"*** 30
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 3:00 pm 31	**TRAIN TRAVEL: In 1909, Anokans had many options for daily train travel with the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Lines. To head east on the N.P. they could leave at 6:08, 6:27 and 9:17 am. The G.N. stopped in Anoka on its way to Minneapolis at 12:05 and 4:42 pm. Trains heading to Jamestown, N.D., Duluth and Brainerd left Anoka every day at 9:31 am, 4:25 pm and 7:44 pm.**					**1st Friday each month Red Cross Bloodmobile at Post 7 AM - 1 PM**