

Brig. General Kevin S. Gerdes guest speaker for Memorial Day Service

Assistant Division Commander – Support, 34th Infantry Division



Brigadier General Gerdes is Assistant Division Commander-Support, 34th Infantry Division “Red Bull” Division, Minnesota Army National Guard, Rosemount, MN.

General Kevin Gerdes joined the Minnesota Army National Guard in 1979. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1982 through the Reserve Officer Training program at Saint John’s University. He earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Management from Upper Iowa University in 1993.

During his 32 year career, General Gerdes has served in a variety of positions: Executive Officer and Commander at the Battery, Battalion, and Brigade level; as well as State Personnel Director for the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program.

General Gerdes served a tour of duty as Commander of the 1st Battalion 151st Field Artillery in Iraq where he earned a bronze star. Prior to assuming his duties as Assistant Division Commander (Support), he served as Chief of Staff for the Minnesota Army National Guard.

He is a graduate of the United States Army War College and holds a Masters degree in Strategic Studies. General Gerdes is currently enrolled in the Doctorate of Leadership program at the University of Saint Thomas.

EDUCATION:

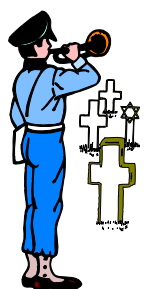
1993 Upper Iowa University, Bachelor of Science, Management, Fayette, Iowa

2006 United States Army War College, Master of Science, Strategic Studies, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



ADJUTANT'S NOTES

by Gary Munkholm

A hearty welcome to the newest members of Anoka Post 102, Oliver W. Johnson a transfer from National sponsored by Wayne Wallace and Dennis Sierens sponsored by Charlie Hemen. We hope to see you at future meetings and join us in fellowship during other times of the week.

Nicole Rice representing Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Program attended the last general membership meeting and explained how the local program involving the cities of Anoka, Andover, Champlin, and Ramsey works. She also thanked the Anoka Legion for our ongoing help with deployed National Guard and Reserve personnel.

Our Post is very close to making our membership goal for the year and only need to you to renew your dues if you haven't done already. Don't forget that you can renew dues on line using the American Legion National web site. For our current members I ask all of you to ask some of your friends if they are members of a Veterans group and ask them to join our Post if they don't have membership in another Legion Post.

The Club approved upgrading our present security system with better monitoring hardware and ability to add more cameras.

New Legion member Dennis Davis gave the membership an explanation of a new company, MetaFrazo, which is dedicated to hiring Veterans and how the company translates military jobs into civilian careers. Mark Eggleston also presented the membership with an explanation of a new company, Synergy Home Care, and how they customize home care plans for Veterans. The company works directly with the VA to ensure all benefits are received. Parking lot resurfacing and painting was brought up at the last general meeting and the club voted to approve the project using the bids presented.

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

Donation for funding hospitalized Vets	\$200
Donation to support fishing opener at Mpls Vets Home ..	\$250
Donation to Northwest Singing Seniors	\$100
Donation for a Anoka-Ramsey CC Scholarship	\$500
Post 102 for resurface and restriping	
of West parking lot	\$3,000
Post 102 for Utility expenses	\$2,150
Tax on Wagering to the U.S. Treasury	\$400
Assist needy Veterans or Family	\$1,500
Emergency money	\$500

POST HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

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.



Post 102 extends sincere sympathy to the families of

DAVID J. WESTENDORF

David was a 27 year member of The American Legion and a Korea War Veteran

ROBERT B. BASTIAN

Robert was a 3 year member of The American Legion and a Vietnam War Veteran



Anoka Law Enforcement Memorial and Open House

Our annual memorial service and police station open house will be held on Tuesday, May 15 from 2 to 4 pm at the Public Safety Center located at 275 Harrison St.

The highlight of the event will be a K-9 demonstration at 2:45 pm and a short memorial service and wreath laying for APD Officer Verl Whinnery who was killed in the line of duty in 1948.

Stop by the Public Safety Center for a station tour, visit our displays, pick up some give-aways, and enjoy refreshments.

LIVE



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Edward B. Cutter Post 102

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Commander's Column

Fadi A. Awaijane

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

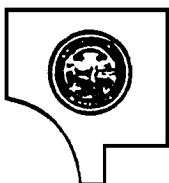
Spring is here and what beautiful weather we are having, I hope everyone had a great Easter.

Most of the snowbirds have returned home and it is nice to see all the familiar faces around the Post.

I performed the Initiation Ceremony to the new members that were present. Each new member took the oath of The American Legion, listened to the composition of the Flag, and were presented an American Legion Lapel Pin and given brochures. Six new members were initiated into our Post, welcome to your Post!

May 19th and 20th is the 10th District Convention hosted by Clearwater American Legion Post 323. If you have not been at a convention it is a great opportunity to learn more about The American Legion and meet other Legionnaires. Also, the Memorial Day celebration is on May 28th; Post 102 will sponsor the Memorial Day. I hope to see you all on Memorial Day as another way of Saluting those who gave all.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



ANOKA COUNTY
VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

ALLISON LISTER
DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT CENTER
Suite 233
2100 3rd Avenue
Anoka, MN 55303-5034

763-323-5290

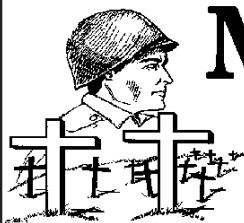
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IN REMEMBRANCE



Memorial Day Services

Saturday, May 26, 2012

10:00 A.M.

Morningside Memorial Gardens
11800 University Avenue N.W.
Coon Rapids, Minnesota



11:30 A.M.

Bunker Hills Park
Foley Blvd. & Main Street (CSA #14)
Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Presented By:

The Veteran's Organizations of Anoka County

LEST WE FORGET

Everyone is invited to attend the family picnic following the ceremonies at Bunker Hills Park provided by the Anoka County Veterans Council.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Veterans Memorial
Forest Hills Cemetery
Anoka, Minnesota

Monday
May 28, 2012
10:00 A.M.



*Last Monday in May
We pause to remember those who died
With so much courage,
So much pride.
They'll never come back,
But memories endure
To remind us of freedom: fragile, pure.
We're worthy of their sacrifice
If we pause each day
Not just on the last Monday in May*

JAN'S JOTTINGS

by Jan Reiter

The regular meeting of Edward B. Cutter American Legion Auxiliary was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. The regular Auxiliary meeting was opened by President Norah Wyman. We had a guest, Darlene Hjelle. A guest speaker, Nicole Rice, from Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program, told us this program was developed to bring all service members from war and to help their family members in the community. If a soldier's family needs some help with getting something fixed this program will find some help for them. This program is for all branches of services. When you thank a soldier be sure you thank their family. They are trying to get this program to go to a National level.
Website: beyondtheyellowribbonminnesota.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education: Scholarship night at Anoka High School is May 9. Norah will be handing out three scholarships, two \$500 and one \$750 (Netha Feist Education Scholarship)..

Finance: Donations approved:

Department Scholarship Fund \$100

Amer. Leg Family Hosp Assoc \$100

Girl's State: Kathy Zwerdling has started to interview the girls. County Day will be April 19th at the Government Center in Anoka. The Ice Breaker for Girls & Boys Staters will be at Anoka on May 2.

Junior Activities: The new District Jr. President is from Fridley and the Dept Jr. Conference is in Grand Rapids at the end of April.

Leadership: Jan Reiter thanked everyone for getting their reports done. Cathy Newman went to the leadership meeting and said that next year they hope to have the annual reports on line so it is easier to do.

Membership: Betty Erickson reported that we have 354 members, goal is 367.

National Security: Cathy Newman said she sent 3 more boxes of goodies to the troops. She will not be doing it over the summer and will start it in the fall.

Unfinished Business: Lynette Pavin stated we had 82 patrons for the Birthday Dinner. The nominating committee will be Darlene Thell, Sandy Phillips and Carol Hathway.

New Business: A motion was made to pay for the ad in the District Convention. Seconded and carried. A reminder that next month we will have the mother & daughter pot luck at 6:30. The Girls Staters will also come and speak about their trip to County Day.

Auxiliary Pot Luck

May 1st at 6:30 p.m. will be our annual May Pot luck dinner before our Auxiliary meeting. All Jr. and Sr. Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy great fellowship and great food. Our Girls State candidates will be introduced following the dinner. Hope to see all of you at the dinner.

Kathy Zwerdling
Girls State Chairman



In Memoriam

SUE FIEBIGER

Unit President 1975-76, serving with Commander Al Smith.

Sue and Don moved to Nisswa several years ago; Sue was no longer a member of Unit 102.

IN MAY

TUESDAYS



1st – 15th – 29th

1/4 Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veg/Roll

\$7.00



8th & 22nd

1/4 lb. Burger Basket – \$5.00

THURSDAYS

BBQ Ribs ~ Texas Toast ~

Cole Slaw ~ Potato

Full Rack \$12.00 Half Rack \$10.00



FRIDAY

4th

All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry \$8.00
with Baked Potato, Veg & Roll

11th

Liver & Onions \$8.00
with Mashed Potatoes & Veg.

18th

Beef Tips over Pasta \$8.00
with Veg & Roll

25th

Ham Steak with Au Gratin Potatoes \$8.00
with Veg and Roll

Tax included on all the above.

Dinner For Two Special

Thursday, May 17th – \$30.00

*Appetizer, House Salad, Chicken Oscar
(chicken breast topped with asparagus, crab and
Bearnaise sauce)*

Twice Baked Potato, Dessert

Reservations Recommended (421-0883)



President's Column

Norah Wyman

Greetings Members of the Auxiliary!

We had a great April meeting and got all the reports turned in to Jan! I do not know of any other group of people with more commitment to doing and giving for Veterans and I am so proud to be a member and President.

We kicked off the Plant Sale and members if you are reading this and think you need to...Please call 763-670-1548 and I will get card(s) to you and cards are also available for sale at the pull tab booth! This is our major fundraiser so please do you part purchase 1 or 2 or more!

We will have them for sale at the May meeting when we have our Mother Daughter Potluck so come and attend this fun night and purchase cards then for Mother's Day gifts! I do hope to see lots more members and their daughters at the May 1st meeting!

Shower Thank You!

Thank you for your help on all the donations everyone gave for our Annual VA Shower. You all did an excellent job this year. The donations were taken out to the Minneapolis Veterans Hospital, they were even waiting for them.

Just to let you know Department office gave us \$2,240 in Credit. In credit, does not mean we get monies, it's credit that we can use on our Annual report for Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation "example the small bottles get us 25¢ each in credit," the books and magazines \$1.00 each etc. so the items you donate all add up. We will possibly do this shower again next year, so start saving items now. Again thank you for your help.

Cathy Newman – VA&R Chairman

You Still Have Time

If you have not yet paid your 2012 Auxiliary dues – there is still time to do so.

Our programs for veterans and their families are on-going; the Unit sends boxes to those on active duty; scholarships are given; girls are going to Girls State (an amazing program), etc. etc.

Please, reconsider and mail your dues \$20 to me (or stop at the Legion); you do not need your dues notice.

Thank you –

Betty Erickson
1826 Cressy Ave., Anoka, MN 55303



POPPY DAYS

Poppy Days are fast approaching in the Anoka area and at Post 102! Poppy Day's this year are May 18th and 19th.

Poppy cards will be available in the Post Club Rooms after April 18th. If you visit our Post Clubroom please ask for a card and make a donation.

With our declining Poppy receipts over the past year we enlisted the help of our Auxiliary membership last year by sending a letter to each member requesting their financial support! This proved to be very successful so will be doing this again this year. Also, if there are any Legion members that reads this article and would like to make a donation please mail to me at my home address listed below or mail to the Post.

I will also be seeking help from the SAL, Legion Members, and Legion Riders for the distribution of Poppies on May 18th and 19th.

The Poppy Program is one of our most important programs in the American Legion Auxiliary. All Poppy funds go to support programs at the VA Hospitals, the Minnesota Veterans Home, Minnesota Stand Down, Anoka County Veterans Job Training and Transportation programs and much more. All proceeds go to our Veteran's programs. The Poppy Program has been around since the early 1920's.

Last year's Poppy Program was very successful and donations were increased by \$400.00, so would like to see this happen again in 2012. If any member is willing to help distribute poppies on May 18th and 19th for even a hour or two, I welcome your phone call! Every volunteer and every hour makes a difference!

*Wearing a Poppy came to mean honoring the dead
And helping the living.*



Sandy Phillips – Poppy Chairman
763-754-3800
3012-127th Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448



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.**

Memorial Day

MAY 2012

Poppy Month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 FLAG DISPLAY DAYS May 13 - Mothers Day May 19 - Armed Forces Day May 28 - Memorial Day (half staff until noon)		Post General Mem. Post Everlasting 7:30 pm S.A.L. Mtg. 7:00 pm Auxiliary Jr./Sr. Pot Luck w/ Girls County-State 6:30 pm Meeting/Election Following	Boys & Girls Staters Icebreaker 7 PM at Anoka SAL Dinners 5:30-7:00 Prime Rib \$10.00	Every Tuesday, Thursday & Friday Grill Open 5:00 - 8:30 pm Menu Page 4	Meat Raffle 5:30 pm Bar Bingo 7:00 pm	Dept. Cmdr. Chuck Kruger Testimonial at Byron
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 4:00 pm	Auxiliary Spring/ Mothers Day Plant Sale \$17.00 purchase plant gift cards April 3rd thru May 14th	MAY 1 and MAY 8 Bar Bingo 6:30 PM	SAL Dinners 5:30 - 7:00 Country Fried Steak \$8.00 Aux. Twin Rivers Bingo 2:15 pm Awards Night Anoka HS	<i>100 years ago May 1912: First Anoka city park opens the 1st week in May.</i>	May 11, 1858 Minnesota Officially became 32nd State Meat Raffle 5:30 pm Bar Bingo 7:00 pm	Legion Family Day Twins vs Toronto 6:10 pm Anoka Classic Car Show thru September 5:00 pm
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 4:00 pm MOTHER'S DAY	Plant pick up dates April 6th - June 6th Green Valley Greenhouse - Ramsey	NEWSPAPER MEETING 7:00 pm Bar Bingo 6:30 pm Annual Anoka Police Open House 2-4 pm	SAL Dinners 5:30-7:00 Prime Rib \$10.00 Legion Riders Meeting 7 pm	Dinner For Two Special 5:00 - 8:00 Reservations Recommended See Menu page 4	Poppy Days Dist. Convention - Clearwater 19 & 20 Meat Raffle 5:30 pm Bar Bingo 7:00 pm Armed Forces Day	
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 4:00 pm Maritime Day	Victoria Day (Canada)	Bar Bingo 6:30 pm House & Ent. Meeting 7:00 pm	SAL Dinners 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Shrimp \$8.00 Steak & Shrimp Combo \$11.00	<i>93 years ago May 8-10, 1919: The second caucus of The American Legion held in St. Louis, Missouri (the first caucus was March 15-17, 1919 in Paris, France).</i>	Meat Raffle 5:30 pm Bar Bingo 7:00 pm Veterans Flags Placement Local Cemeteries 5:00 pm	Morningside Memorial Gardens 10:00 am Bunker Hills Park Memorial Service 11:30 am
Club Open 12-10 Bar Bingo 4:00 pm	Memorial Day Service 10:00 AM Veterans Memorial Forest Hills Cemetary Anoka Club Open 11 am - 7 pm	Bar Bingo 6:30 pm Executive Board Meeting 7:00 pm	SAL Dinners 5:30-7:00 Steak, Chicken, or Shrimp \$8.00 Steak & Shrimp Combo \$11.00	 1st Friday each month Red Cross Bloodmobile at Post 7 AM - 1 PM	Members Special now on Saturdays Noon - 5:00 pm	
COMING IN JUNE 5 Elections / Post & SAL meetings 5 Election Dept. delegates / Aux. Meeting 10-16 Girls State / Bethel College 10-16 Boys State / Marshall 13 Twin Rivers Bingo 2:15 pm / Jrs. Wanted 10/17/24 Concerts in the Park 17 Fathers Day				20 Legion Riders Meeting 7 PM 22-24 SAL Detachment Conv. / Legionville 30 Dept. Pres. Linda Thompson / Coon Rapids Every Sat. in June Anoka Car Classic 5 PM TBA Post/Unit/SAL Installation TBA Past Pres. / Gold Star / 50 yr. members TBA Pres. Norah's dinner		Memorial Day Service 10:00 am - Veterans Memorial, Forest Hills Cemetary, Anoka The program includes patriotic music by the North Suburban Concert Band, recitations by local 5th graders, guest speaker and placing of memorial wreaths. Posting of Colors by The American Legion and National Guard, Firing Squad, Taps. Free coffee, pop and cookies for those who attend the program. Post, Auxiliary, SAL members and those who took part in the service are invited to the Post Clubrooms for a light lunch.