



American Legion Davis-Darrow-Meyer Post 112 Elk River, Minnesota

Website: elkriverlegion112.com Phone: 763-441-3150
FB: Elk River American Legion Family Volume 40 Issue 5

Commander's News September- October 2024

Hello to all the Post 112 family!

I have a question for all of you: Where did the summer go? The calendar shows it's August 9th but I'm having to wear a sweatshirt—that wind makes it cool! I can't believe how fast time is going. Do you feel that too?

The summer has been good for the post. The Sherburne County Fair and parade went well. The beer garden and the various other locations at the fair were very successful monetarily for us. I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help us.

The golf tournament is coming up in a few weeks (September 7th). It's a good fundraiser for the post. Thanks for all the help setting up and running the event. Don't forget to **MARK YOUR**

CALENDARS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP DINNER ON SEPTEMBER 8th. Please sign up in the bar if you plan to attend. Additional planned events are the Craft Show (October 26) and the very first Post #112 Rib Fest on October 5th. Details are on our web page and posted at the post.

Zimmerman Legion Post #560 is holding their annual Rib Fest on August 24th. Let's **support** them if possible. The event goes from 3:30 until the ribs are gone!

I left the "bad" news for last. Dues for Legionnaires are now \$60 a year, and the SAL dues are \$20. The reason for this is an increase from the national American Legion.

For God and country,
Tom Kulkay

1st Vice

Hello Legion Family,

I hope your summer was filled with joy and happiness. Our Post has been busy and doing well. There have been challenges but our team works together to overcome them.

We are planning for our Ribfest coming up on Saturday, October 5th. This will be a great event for our Post. Come and enjoy.

The golf tournament is coming up on Saturday, September 7th. The very next day is the Membership dinner on September 8th. Make sure you sign up as we need a headcount.

Saturday, September 14th we will be hosting the Anoka Riders on one of their stops between 2:45 & 3:30. Fun Fun Fun!

Monday, September 16th, we host our County Council meeting at 7:30. On Tuesday the 11th, the American Legion Department will be holding their budget meeting at the Post.

I normally don't report on upcoming events, but we have some exciting things coming to the Post.

At your service,

Vaughn Smith
1st Vice

Adjutant

To
all Legion Members and their family and friends,

As many of you know the summer can be brutal around here, and I am NOT talking about the weather. It has been tough to whip up real involvement and excitement in the Post and its happenings. People are vacationing, we closed for an entire week in July and a decline in numbers at our membership meetings is evidence of some “amnesia” maybe....

So, to possibly help with that I want everyone to give a shout out to Keith Q. and Vaughn S. when you see them. They gave an entire section of our kitchen wall, namely the sink and backsplash, a much-needed facelift! The Memorial Day Parade was a “wash” to add insult to injury, but the lunch was very good. On flag day we burned 3200 flags. The Honor Guard and the stewardship of our pastor goes strong on almost a daily basis. Thanks to all our volunteers for their help at our events this past summer, especially the fair. Lisa R. continues to reel in the bar and is always looking out for you, our loyal patrons. Ann S. has the financial health of the Legion improving with each passing month. And I hope you all have noticed our fantastic red front entrance!

Keep spreading the word that behind the scenes it is hard work to pull things off here. We need your help all the time.

Golf tournament early September and the Big Ribfest in October. Stop in and ask a bartender where’s the volunteer sign-up sheets? That’s it. I hope you all had a great summer. Let’s get back at it!

Joe Lund
Adjutant

Membership

POST:

New member - James Schaffran
Transfer in – Daniel Creelman

2nd Vice

Greetings fellow Legion members,
I have not contributed to the Legion newsletter before.

I call this the "State of the Building" address. This is a list of changes or improvements to the building at 525 Railroad Drive.

In April, the Boardroom office was cleaned out, sheet rocked, taped, painted, and had new carpet squares installed. Take a look someday.

On April 30, 2024, a new roof top heating and air conditioning unit was installed by Clayton's Appliance Repair to replace the unit serving Commanders Hall. In July, the old chairs in the basement had seats and backrests removed. The steel was recycled at Lake States Recycling. The basement has been cleaned up and rearranged.

The week of July 4, the front door, and windows, were painted by Jason Harding.

The week of July 4th also saw changes in the kitchen. There was black mold in the kitchen behind the dishwasher that needed to be addressed. That involved removing old sheetrock, spraying walls with bleach, insulating walls, insulating pipes, sheet rocking, installing cleanable fiberglass panels, a new tile shelf, and reinstalling the sink and hooking up old plumbing. This involved five people, Vaughn, Joe, his girlfriend, Todd, and me. We worked a total of 98 hours in the kitchen. I personally was in the kitchen for six days that week. I am at the Legion on an almost daily basis, as there is a list of things that need to be addressed: fixing something in the building, dealing with weeds, outdoor cleanup, going to Walmart, the bank, going to Cub, running errands, supervising people who perform community service at the Legion, and hauling retired flags to the shed. I was also at the county fair for six days. So, operating the Legion involves a great deal of volunteer time, more than most people realize.

If you wish to volunteer your time, it would be greatly appreciated. Call the legion if you wish to help.

Respectfully,
Keith Quammen, Second Vice

Post Chaplain

The following is an 18 JUN 2024 to 18 AUG 2024 summary of Post Chaplain duties performed:

Personal Visits, Home, Assisted Living	198
Messaging, Text, Phone	145
Letters of Condolences	2
Chaplain Support AL Events, Spiritual Counseling	75

American Legion Chaplain's Calendar: VJ Day 2 SEP, Labor Day 2 SEP, Citizenship/Constitution Day 17 SEP, POW/MIA Day 20 SEP, Department Chaplains/Conference TBA, Columbus Day 13 OCT

Continuing weekly and monthly vet visits and Sunday Worship services including communion at the Wellstead Senior Care and Assisted Living Centers. Also, continuing weekly and monthly vet visits to five local Guardian Angels Campuses. Currently assigned 80 total vets to visit monthly on four different Senior Care and Assisted Living Centers. Continuing hospice spiritual services with three families.

Conducted Breakfast with Vets at Guardian Angels Riverview Landing Campus, 31 JUL with 16 vets in attendance. Final vet roster being developed with individual vet visits to start in SEP.

Paul Deneson, Chaplain

Post Service Officer

The following is an 18 JUN 2024 to 18 AUG 2024 summary of Post Service Officer duties:

Personal Visits	5
Messaging, Text, Phone	12
Coordinated Vet request for service assistance	6
Coordinated Vet request for personal support	2*

*Special thanks to Michele Smith and Auxiliary for taking the lead and continuing financial and personal support along with other veteran agencies for an Iraqi Vet making progress towards increasing self-independence.

Paul Deneson, Post Service Officer

On 7 Aug I had the privilege as Post Chaplain, PSO and Honor Guard member to present the burial flag to Glenna Gibbons for her late husband Dr. Gary Gibbons, an Army Korean War Veteran "on behalf of...a grateful nation." A letter of tribute was read. The ceremony occurred at Guardian Angels Riverview Landing with 16 staff, family and residents in attendance. Mrs. Gibbons requested Post assistance with minor flag maintenance and a display case for the burial flag she was presented at her husband's memorial service. The presentation was arranged to return the restored flag and displayed flag. Special thanks to Lisa, G2 and Vaughn for assistance.



Auxiliary

Summer is almost over, and it was a beautiful one. But we are back at it. September 5th is our meeting at the Post in Koehler Hall at 7:00 pm. If you have never attended one, come with you husband/significant other as they attend the Post meeting and check us out. We would love to meet you.

We have several things going on; collecting school supplies for CAER distribution, the Craft and Bake sale in October and prepping for the Membership dinner September 8th. Looking forward to the essay contest and Girls State in the new year. Time flies, so just letting you know what is coming and we are always looking for new thoughts and ideas.

Membership renewal is now underway. Dues are \$40.00 for adults and \$10 for juniors (under age 18). You can pay online, in person at the Post or through the mail. Diane, our membership chair will get your card to you right away.

Michele Smith
ALA President Unit 112

Calendar & Entertainment

9-5 Post & Auxiliary Member Mtg – 7:00 pm
9-5 Taco Night resumes
9-7 Golf Tournament
9-8 Membership Dinner-Social 5pm Dinner
6pm
9-9 Bar reopens on Mondays.
9-12 Riders and SAL mtg – 6:00 pm
9-13 Music by Deb Barrett
9-19 Executive Board Meeting - 7:00pm
9-27 Music Jindo 7:00 pm

10-3 Post & Auxiliary Mtg. - 7:00pm
10-5 1st Annual Ribfest
10-10 Riders & SAL mtg -6:00 pm
10-11 Music by Terry Dubois -7:00 pm
10-17 Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
10-25 Music Jindo
10-26 Craft/Bake Sale 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Meat Raffle – Fridays and Sundays 5:00pm
Horse Races – 1st Thursday of each month
Bingo every Wednesday at 6:30

Membership Chair

I am gearing up for membership renewals. While there are several ways to renew, the easiest is to come to the Membership Dinner September 8th. I will be there to take your renewal or new membership.

I am also chairing the Craft/Bake Sale coming up October 26th. The members baked goods, jam and jellies are always a hit as well as the goods the crafters and vendors have on display. Mark your calendars!

Diane Telfer
Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP DINNER

September 8, 2024

Social 5:00pm – Dinner 6:00 pm

**Please sign up at the Post or call
to add your names to the list.**

**Dinner menu will be enhanced
with members delicious sides and
desserts!**

**Great time to renew your
Membership!**

1st Annual Ribfest

October 5th

Ribs go on at 7:00 am
with tasting starting at 4:00 pm

Live music and bean bags
Come early!!

CRAFT, VENDOR AND BAKE SALE!

Elk River

AMERICAN LEGION Saturday, October 26 8 am - 4 pm

Vision Transportation provided the bus for the Honor Guard on Memorial Day.



Doug Stillwell, Virginia, and Robert Koehler enjoying the Memorial Day Program.



President Michele Smith and Sharon Mendenhall attended the 105th Department Convention, July 11-13, 2024 in Willmar, Minnesota.

Todd and Jeanne Jagodzinski along with Greg Crow attended the motorcycle rally at Sturgis.





The summer was not accident free for either Lori Crow or Raphael Mc kraljic. Who had the biggest cast???

The Sherburne County Fair July 18-2. 2024 was busy for many of Post 112 members, spouses, and friends.





**A HUGE THANK YOU
TO ALL WHO
VOLUNTEERED!

(EVEN IF YOUR PICTURE
DOES NOT APPEAR
HERE!)**