

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Quarterly Newsletter

VETERAN PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

Each year, Saint Peter High School recognizes Veteran's Day with a program that is open to the public. Over the years, we have collected names, ranks, and graduation years of Saint Peter alumni who have served or are serving in a branch of the United States military. The high school would like to collect enlistment photos to include in the program, as well. Please send photos to Saint Peter High School, Attn: Annette Engeldinger, 2121 W Broadway Ave, Saint Peter, MN 56082.

Along with the photo, include name, rank, branch, and graduation year. It would be best to send a copy of the original photos, as it will be difficult to return them.

Please contact Annette Engeldinger with any questions, 507-934-4212, ext. 6099.

Annette Engeldinger
Principal, Saint Peter High School
aengeldinger@stpeterschools.org

1st Vice Commander

From the membership; We have one new member. Please welcome Ed Sorensen to our post. We lost one member when Gerald Pfeifer passed.

The current years membership is at 92% of our goal.

Greg Witty
First Vice Commander



Thank You

We would like to thank the St. Peter Tourism & Visitors Bureau for their generous donation to be used for our Quarterly Newsletters.

William R. Witty
Post #37
2nd Quarter
April—June 2023

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Auxiliary Meetings are held on the **second Monday** of each month at **5:30 PM**.

Post Meetings are held the **second Monday** of each month at **7:00 PM**.

SAL Meetings are held on the **first Tuesday** of each month at **7:00 PM**.

Legion Riders Meetings are held on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **7:00 PM**.

Bingo every Wednesday at **6:00 PM**.

Color Guard

Hello to all. Since our last newsletter the Post Color Guard has participated in a couple of events. On January 7th some of our members stood alongside the Post Honor Guard members to honor the passing of Lawrence "Bud" Thomas. Bud was a member and past Commander of the Post Color Guard for many years. And was a very active member of the post for many more years. Thank you, Bud. We salute you.

We also, just marched in the St. Peter Ambassadors St. Patrick's Day Parade. And, let me tell you, that had to be one of the coldest events I have ever participated in. I sure am glad the parade was not as long as the July 4th parade. And, as far as I know one of my members may

have left a little piece of tongue stuck to their flagpole.

Coming up on March 29th we will be participating in the Vietnam Veterans Day at the St. Peter Community Center. The program will begin 5:00 P.M. and is organized by the Last Man Club of the Vietnam War Era.

One final note, I would like to welcome two new members to the Color Guard. Laddie Dosedel, and Brian Jaster will join us as soon as we can get uniforms together for them. Welcome aboard Laddie and Brian.

Rick Wright
Color Guard Commander



Legion Riders

Post 37 American Legion Riders (ALR) . Chapter's 2nd quarter consisted of monthly meetings only due to the season. Meetings have focused on; attempting to increase member numbers in the area of volunteering for Post events, adding new members to our chapter, and planning for the upcoming riding season. Our meetings have also hosted several guests whom have discussed ALR business,

as well as requests for donations.

Membership is currently 54 and growing, with inquiries continuously coming in.

Tom Christensen
ALR Director



Veterans Visit Committee -

Greetings Comrades!

The Veterans Visit Committee is still doing visits to six senior living facilities in St Peter. We meet at the Legion between 8:45 and 9:00 AM on the Wednesday following the Second Monday of every month. We either carpool or drive separately to each community. We spend 30 minutes at each place and remind the veteran there that we appreciate their service and remind them that they are not forgotten. I allow fifteen minutes to travel to the next community. We visit with between one and ten veterans and widows of veterans at each community.

I am currently working with Greg Witty on a project at each of these communities to recognize a long time veteran who passed recently: per the request of his family. I'm looking forward to posting pictures when that happens on our Facebook page.

Now the big request. My partner in visits is going back to work and my schedule is starting to pick up at the courthouse. We had to cancel our visit in March due to no volunteers available to help out. Robert

and Sally Lambert have agreed to join us and I am looking for more volunteers. The entire visits lasts from 9:00 AM until 1:30 PM. If we can coordinate we can break it up to allow some to visit at different times but I need some help. The schedule is fixed with each community.

The smiles on the veterans faces especially when we visit Community Care where veterans go to get care before going back home is priceless.

If you have the time, energy and disposition to share your smile and visit with these fine veterans and widowed spouses please contact me by text or phone call at 507-479-0332 or email at arp.dave@yahoo.com. I would love to have help doing this important adventure for our Fellow Veterans as one day we may all be there.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Arpin
Veterans Visit Committee Chair

SAL

Hope all is well with everyone and you have survived the winter so far – Spring can't get here fast enough.

The SAL would like to thank those of you have been attending events being held at the Legion. In case you haven't been down to the Legion lately, there have been a lot of activities going on and the place is getting busier all the time. The SAL would like to thank the volunteers, from all Legion entities, for both your time and service in the planning, arranging, promoting, and working these events. This support from our members is what keeps the post viable. On that note, volunteers are always needed and welcome. If you are interested in working an event, just leave a message at the bar and Abby (Bar Manager) will point you in the right direction or get your information to the organizer.

It was nice to get the Lent Fish Fry going again. Each week there was an increase in the number of diners and the Legion has sold out of fish each week. Thanks to the SAL, Legion Riders, and St. Peter Fire Department for volunteering to work these events. Word on the street is that the fish has been delicious. We will be having the traditional creamed peas and mashed potato Good Friday but for those who don't like the creamed peas, we will also have baked potato available.

A lot of patrons comment on the new bar wood tables in the bar area. The tables were custom made by Ed Allen of Ed Allen Designs which located just north of St. Peter and the bar was a gift from Cambria. Most patrons that

come into the bar comments on how nice the bar looks. It was also Ed's idea for the custom framework, done by Michel's Trailer Sales which really adds to the beauty of the tables. Ed, your craftsmanship and attention to detail on these tables, bar, and woodwork around the windows is really appreciated! And to Cambria, the bar and window-sills look great. Thank You!

A note to the veterans - I grew up with the Legion/VFW being a big part of my childhood and adolescence. My father was a WWII Veteran and was very active in both clubs. When I was in 8th -9 th grade, I began playing taps for military funerals in town and rarely missed a service until I left for college. I even got permission to leave school during the week to play taps. The Honor Guard would invite me to hang out with them to have "a pop" and cookies when I had the opportunity to listen to the stories and comradery amongst the veterans. It made me appreciate and respect them for the shed blood, sweat, and tears they sacrificed to protect the liberties that we hold dear. To all you veterans out there, THANK YOU for your service to this country. Your bravery, sacrifice, and strength do not go unnoticed. We (America) are indebted to you and your family for all that you do and have given to our country.

Have a wonderful spring, stop by the Legion, and more importantly, enjoy your family and friends.

Rick DeBlois
SAL Adjutant, Post 37



WANTED: Looking for someone to take over the challenge of putting together the quarterly newsletter for the St. Peter American Legion, Post 37. I have been doing the quarterly newsletter for the last 6 years and now it is time for someone else to step up and volunteer for this adventure. The 4th quarter newsletter will be my last. I am looking forward to spending more time in my craft room - creating. WHO WANTS THE CHALLENGE? Contact the Legion and leave a message for me. Thank you, Joenilla Robertson.

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This newsletter compiled by Joenilla Robertson (Post member, Legion Rider & Color Guard) & printed as submitted.

Gambling News

YOUR LEGION AND OUR CHARITABLE GAMBLING

We have a new Gambling Manager at the Legion activities of the Legion's Charitable Gambling operation as of February 3, 2023. My name is Joenilla Robertson and I am looking forward to the many challenges that come with that position such as the day-to-day Stop by and check out all the events we have going on at OUR Legion. Great people and great food.

Ladies Auxiliary News

Mission Statement In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

2023 Membership Dues

If you haven't paid your 2023 membership dues you still can by mailing it in or dropping it off at the Legion.

Note – the membership fee is \$35. Please come join us at a meeting and see what we are all about!

**Keep in mind if you recruit a new member to put your name on their membership form so you get entered to win a Chamber Bucks Gift Card!*

THANK YOU, BERGER INTERIORS, FOR SUPPORTING OUR LEGION! Auxiliary worked with Berger Interiors to add blinds in the bar area and went to pay and they donated!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 5, Selling Bingo Cards and Treats – 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Saturday, May 6, Craft & Vendor Event – 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, American Legion Post #37

Memorial Day Ceremony – May 31 at 10:00 AM, Minnesota Square Park

Wednesday, June 5, Selling Bingo Cards and Treats – 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Upcoming Meeting Schedule – All meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month beginning promptly at 5:30 PM at the Legion.

- April 10
- May 8 (Nomination of Officers)
- June 12 (Election of Officers)
- July 10
- August 14
- September 11
- October 9
- November 13
- December 11

For any further questions regarding the Auxiliary please contact our President at auxiliarypost37@gmail.com

Marketing

We continue to grow and expand. We are booking way into 2023 and the calendar is filling up. We have people coming from surrounding towns to book, attend an event and just to see how we have remodeled. We are proud to welcome new and returning organizations, customers, events, celebrations and fundraising at our facility. We have increased bookings for birthday parties, retirement parties, graduations, bridal and groom parties, comedy shows, weddings, and fundraisers of all sorts.

A newsworthy note: All non-profits can book the back hall at no cost. This a gambling regulation. We have enticed many to book with us and are pleased with our facility and willingness to work with them.

We offer free marketing for your event: mass group emails, flyers, radio stations, local tv station, 2 newspaper shouts, and much more. Call us to see how we can help.

****IMPORTANT: We need each, and every one of you in the door. Support your own American Legion. Any meeting or event will be accommodated for all members.**

1: Come in the door and enjoy your facility. Bring friends and family.

2: Share with others to book with us. If you hear of an anniversary, birthday party etc coming up, tell them to call us. We have many pleased customers.

Book now for 2023 and we will honor 2022 prices. Call now and hope to see you all down at YOUR Legion.

DON'T MISS:

Wednesdays: BINGO at 6pm. \$12 meal at 5-7pm

Thursday nights: Family Burger Basket Night \$12. Kids eat for \$8

We are bringing back monthly Steak/Shrimp Frys, Chicken Dinners, Beef Commercials, Mouth Watering Rib Dinners, and soon to announce monthly Sunday Brunch. Stay tuned.

FREE Legion Loot! Every Friday night money give away! Must be present.

Karaoke by Karl. An overnight sensation. SAL member performs the 2nd Friday of every month. Come support your Legion and Karl.

Any ideas or events to have at the Legion, please call 507-327-7825 – Nancy, or the Legion at 507-934-6435 and ask for Abby, Mgr.

Please go to: St. Peter American Legion Post #37 Facebook site for all upcoming additions and changes. We had only 5 responses out of 400 plus members that returned the survey on how to reach members for marketing. A class will be offered soon on how to use Facebook. It will be a great opportunity to learn and stay updated on events.

Volunteer Marketing
Nancy Vogel