



Quarterly Newsletter

William R. Witty
Post #37

4th Quarter
Oct.-Dec. 2018

Commander's Corner

LEGIONAIRES! In my first article I covered many aspects of our Legion and my expectations. This article is going to be short and sweet. Some of you may be smiling already. I want to address Volunteerism. The definition I would like us to use is simply this: giving up one's time to support, work and help without any thought or expectation of recompense (this means pay, drinks or meals).

OUR Legion depends on OUR members to support OUR Club, Post, Auxiliary, SAL and soon to be Legion Riders. We can't survive without that support. As Uncle Sam famously stated "I need you" during WWII, and President Kennedy stated, ask not what your country can do for you but, ask what you can do for your country. I would like you to insert Legion for country when thinking about your support of OUR Post. I need you to volunteer.

Have you volunteered for a committee, to work Bingo, help with Omelet's, steak fry's or fish fry's? Have you helped out when the servers or bar tenders seem overwhelmed? Do you have an idea to help im-

prove OUR club or Post? Do you have a plan to support that idea?

We currently have a group that formed on it's own called Friends of the Legion; who want to help and be part of OUR Legion with ideas and being volunteers. When members, friends and family volunteer it cuts OUR costs down immensely so we can make a profit to pay OUR bills.

When was the last time you volunteered? The time is now! Ask what you can do to help OUR Legion. I challenge everyone who reads this newsletter to get involved. I would like to see members at OUR events, working at them or at the very least attending them.

Please remember to sign the volunteer hours sheet so OUR Adjutant can compile the volunteer hours for the State Department. Thank you all for your continued support of OUR Legion!

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Arpin

Inside this issue:

Commanders Corner	1
Post Adjutant News	1
1st Vice Commander	2
Honor Guard	2
Color Guard	2
House Committee	3
Quarterly News from the SAL	3
Notice of Constitution (draft)	3
Friends of the Legion	3
Gambling	4
Auxiliary	5
Oct.-Dec Calendars	5 & 6

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

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

Auxiliary Meetings are held on the **second Monday** of each month at **5:00 PM.**

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

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

Post Adjutant News

I saw a T-shirt the other day. It stated the following, "It's not that I can and you can't. It's that I did and you didn't." It was referring to veterans that have served our country and those that did not serve. We all made a decision to serve our country. Yes, even those of us that was going to or did get drafted. Others went to Canada and others got a deferment, but WE choose to serve our country and did it honorably. Many veterans continued to serve, in their community and country once they received their DD214. Some ran for public office nationally and locally, some took leadership roles in their community and many joined organizations that help their community and fellow veterans. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Last Mans Club is just a few of organizations in our community that assist veterans and their community. Unfortunately, some of these organizations no longer

exist in some communities because lack of involvement. Please help our community insure our organizations continue to exist, many in our community depend on us. Coretta King stated, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassion of its members." Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice makes you. Choose wisely. I have told my children and now tell my grand children, "Be involved, don't just find fault with things, be part of the solution." Theodore Roosevelt said, "This Country will not be a good place for any of us to live, unless we make it a good place for all of use to live in."

Respectfully,
William B. Kastens

1st Vice Commander

I can report that the memberships are coming in at a slow pace. We currently are near 50% of our goal. If you have not yet sent in your dues you can do your club a favor by getting it done soon.

When I have to send out a reminder we are forced to use more stamps and that means more money. I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Greg Witty, 1st Vice Commander

Honor Guard Notes

Greetings from Post 37 American Legion Honor Guard. Well, fall is here and we have been asked to continue the tradition of raising the flag at Saint Peter High School games. The Honor Guard and I have had the Honor of raising the flag for Saint Peter football games for over sixty years. Post 37, Honor Guard again continues to be very busy since the first of this year. We had the Honor to be part of the Memorial Dedication in Minnesota Square Park. It is great to be part of something that shows so much respect for our fellow and fallen veterans. We have also been very active at local funerals. To name fellow Veterans who are no longer with us since the beginning of the year include; Merle Schroeder, Ernest Guillemette, Lloyd Sanderson, Karen Youngvost, Philippi Helouin, Jim Rheume, Leonard Hansen, Jerry Pitman, Sam Gault,

Warron Litynski, Norma Salden, Lyle Bud Gilbertson, James Roger .Leroy James Miller. We have played Taps at memorials at the assisted living facilities. The Honor Guard in addition to being a participant for Memorial Day activities, have continued placing Markers and Flags at grave sights for Memorial Day. The Honor Guard would like to thank the families of our fallen veterans for their generous donations. Support your American Legion so we can continue to serve.

Bernie Thieman
Honor Guard Commander

Color Guard Notes

We have 2 new members; Roger Boyd and Daniel Bennett joining the Color Guard. We recently participated in Night to Unite at Veterans Memorial Park on August 7, 2018 and posting the colors for the Good Sam Club rally that was held at the fairgrounds on September 6, 2018.

Ron Davis
Color Guard Commander

in France. The Americans were disinterred and removed to the new military cemeteries and eventually families were given a choice to leave their family member in Europe or to have them brought home to America. The Witty family chose to have William brought home and he is buried on the far eastern end of Greenhill Cemetery in St. Peter.



This October 4th is the centennial of the death of William R. Witty, the namesake of Legion Post #37, who was killed in action during the First World War. William was born October 26, 1892 in Oshawa Township to George and Anna Witty. He enlisted in the army on June 15, 1917 and the following year was sent to France with a casual company and later was transferred to Company L, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Division. William was wounded in action by machine gun fire on October 3, 1918 at the Battle of Mont Blanc Ridge northeast of Reims, France and died in a field hospital the following day. It was not until December that Mr. and Mrs. Witty received notification of the death of their son on October 4, 1918.

American servicemen and women who died in Europe were buried in hundreds of locations, however, at the end of the war the U.S. government immediately took steps to secure land for eight permanent military cemeteries, one each in England and Belgium and six



Submitted by Marlin Peterson

House Committee

Hello everyone, this is Matthew Melius. I just wanted to take this time to introduce myself. Currently I'm filling the position as your new House Committee Chairman and have been in the position since July. If you see me at the legion or around town feel free to stop and talk to me if you have any questions or just to introduce yourself. If I do not have the information to answer your question for you I will find the information that you are looking for and get back to you.

It's been a busy couple of months since the last newsletter came out and wanted to thank everyone who has given their time, money and knowledge to the legion. It has been an amazing help to Post 37. It shows how deeply you care for what the legion stands for and what we are trying to accomplish in moving forward to be serving our veterans and community for years to come.

If you have been an active volunteer or just started looking at becoming more active in Post 37 please feel free to reach out to me. We are currently trying to create a volunteer sheet for those who would be interested in helping out. It could just be for an emergency fill in shift or on more of a regular basis, either way is fine. As well as what capacity you would like to volunteer in. (I.e. omelet flipper, dishes, take tickets). You can ask the bartenders for my contact information or leave me a note in the office.

Once again thank you to all the SAL, Auxiliary, Post 37 members and Friends of the Legion for your time and support in Post 37. We will continue to make the legion prosper and work together as a team.

Thank you
Matthew Melius

Quarterly News from the SAL

From the SAL we hope that everyone had a great summer. Now fall is right around the corner. This past quarter the SAL had their annual Hog Roast on the 3rd of July. During the quarter we were involved in our usual events; Bingo, Omelet Breakfast. We enjoy working these events and hope all enjoy our light hearted and fun loving attitudes. Hope to see more people at these events and support the club. Events coming up are the Ladies night out on October 4th, and on November 3rd is the monthly steak fry and Bingo on the 14th of November. The SAL hopes to see you there.

If you are interested in joining the SAL, please contact our membership director, Jeff Knutson at (507) 469-0691.

Please keep all the men and women who are and have served our great country! GOD Bless America
Ronald Neary
SALCommander
Lifetime Post member

ATTENTION POST 37 MEMBERS

A COPY OF THE POST 37 CONSTITUTION (DRAFT) WILL BE POSTED FOR YOUR INSPECTION BY THE FRONT AND REAR DOORS OF THE LEGION CLUB BEGINNING MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018. PLEASE READ IT AND PUT COMMENTS IN SUGGESTION BOX.

KEITH KEOGH, CHAIRMAN
CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

"Friends of the Legion" is a group of friends that have gathered together in order to help promote the growth of St Peters American Legion. We have a diverse background amongst us consisting of Post, Auxiliary, SAL members and civilians. We are multi-talented and engagement experienced group who wish to honor the military component of St Peter and help the Legion by increasing engagement within the post and adding to its membership. By volunteering in multiple forms and functions, we have been sharing exciting ideas, advocating community involvement, assisted in marketing, donations and fundraiser plans for the Legion. Our vision is to help reunite the population of veterans and their families in our area with the services, benefits, mission and community involvement of the American Legion.

"Friends of the Legion" will be hosting a post wide celebration of the St Peter American Legion on November 17th, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Post members, SAL, Auxiliary and area Veterans and civilians are invited to attend. Be sure to mark your calendars and look for Further details coming soon!

For further information on becoming a part of our group, wanting to help or just share ideas, please call:
Nancy Vogel 507-327-7825 -or-
Jim Holmstead 651-246-3084



William R. Witty Post #37

229 West Nassau Street
St. Peter, MN 56082
507-934-6435

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Peter, MN 56082
Permit #9

This newsletter compiled by Joenilla Robertson & printed as submitted.



Gambling News.....

YOUR LEGION AND OUR CHARITABLE GAMBLING

Sports Tipboards have been approved by the Minnesota Gambling Control Board and have just recently become available from distributors, however there are a few questions regarding who can sell and the maintenance of tipboard records for the license holder for each tipboard sold. The tipboards have a maximum 85% payback to the players. Watch for flyers at our sites.

Charitable gambling can pay the real estate taxes and utilities (heat, air conditioning, electricity) for the post, but only if there are funds available...nothing is guaranteed. If pull tabs, e-tabs, or bingo are your form of recreation, visit Post 37, MC Hammers, or Hobber's Hwy 99 Bar and Grill, and support your post.

Gretta Fennel has accepted the position of Gambling Manager for Post #37. Gretta recently returned from a Texas deployment, and we welcome her transition into this position. Major Fennel has a wealth of training, education, and experience which will not only benefit the charitable gambling organization, but Post #37 as well. As Gretta becomes more familiar with the responsibilities, Dave Johnson will become, well, less visible. It is truly amazing all that must come together for charitable gambling to be successful for our post...there must be a Gambling Manager, Gretta Fennel, that is a Post Member...Jim Pursiful oversees Hobbers...Dick Stenzel oversees MC Hammers...Jan Backlund and Becky Brenke oversee Bingo...Sheila Dauer audits every pull tab game...Jodee Hanson reconciles all gaming and checkbook records! For the last three years our gross receipts have exceeded \$1,250,000...Post #37 has contributed in excess of 35% of the net receipts to Lawful Purpose Expenditures (monies not related to the costs of charitable gambling expenses)...which requires the expense of an outside audit at a cost of \$3,700!

Auxiliary News

Looking to find a way to get involved with the Legion? Join the Auxiliary! Membership is *always* open at any time throughout the year. Just fill out an application at the Legion with your \$25 check and put in the wood box, located in the middle room across from the bathrooms. We would love to have a new smiling face!

UPCOMING AUXILIARY EVENTS

Wednesday, October 3, 6:00pm: Bingo - Auxiliary will be hosting bingo, which means treats! Please come on out and support the Auxiliary! If you're willing to help bake, please drop off items at the Legion by 5:30pm on Oct. 3.

Thursday, October 4, 5:00-8:00pm: Girls Night Out – The Auxiliary and SAL will be hosting a drawing for 3 Coach purses at 8:30pm, must be present to win!

Saturday, November 10, 5:30pm: Steak Fry – Enjoy a great steak, Windsor chop or shrimp dinner at the Legion! We'll be working this event in partnership with the SAL.

Wednesday, December 5, 6:00pm: Bingo - Auxiliary will be hosting bingo, which means treats! Please come on out and support the Auxiliary! If you're willing to help bake, please drop off items at the Legion by 5:30pm on Dec. 5.

Sunday, December 9, 9:00am – 1:00pm: Christmas Gift Wrapping – Bring in your gifts! We'll wrap 'em for a free will donation! Enjoy the Legion's Omelet Breakfast while you wait!

Monday, December 31, 6:00pm: – New Year's Eve Bingo! Join us for bingo night on the town! We'll have fun, new games with prizes and giveaways!

IN MEMORIAM
 Delores Alt
 Ruth Carter
 Catherine Hanson
 Mary Jean "MJ" Richter
 Joyce Wilson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!
 Sandy Baker
 Cindy Meyer
 Jan Seitzer
 Deanna Staples
 Jane Tate
 Kelli Wells
 Barb Wright

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 House Meeting 7pm	2 SAL Meeting 7pm	3 BINGO 6pm (AUX)	4 Burger Night 5pm Chamber Ladies Night Out, 5-8pm Drawing 8:30pm	5 Legion Loot 7:30- 9pm	6 Steak Fry 5:30– 8pm
7	8 Auxiliary Mtg 5:30 Post Meeting 7pm	9	10 BINGO 6pm	11 Burger Night 5pm	12 Legion Loot 7:30- 9pm	13 2nd Story Comedy Show 7:00pm
14 Omelets 9am–noon	15	16	17 BINGO 6pm	18 Burger Night 5pm	19 Legion Loot 7:30- 9pm	20
21	22	23	24 BINGO 6pm	25 Burger Night 5pm	26 Legion Loot 7:30- 9pm	27 Halloween Cos- tume Party 7-11pm
28	29	30	31 Halloween BINGO 6pm			

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Burger Night 5pm	2 Legion Loot 7:30-9:00pm	3 Steak Fry 5:30-8:00pm
4	5 House Meeting 7pm	6 SAL Meeting 7pm	7 BINGO 6pm	8 Burger Night 5pm	9 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	10
11 Omelets 9am—noon	12 Auxiliary Mtg 5:30 Post Meeting 7pm	13	14 BINGO 6pm	15 Burger Night 5pm	16 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	17 Meet and Greet Old Fashioned Cocktail Party 6-10pm
18	19	20	21 BINGO 6pm	22 Closed for Thanksgiving	23 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	24
25	26	27	28 BINGO 6pm			

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Steak Fry 5:30 - 8pm
2	3 House Mtg 7pm	4 SAL Meeting 7pm	5 BINGO 6pm (Aux)	6 Burger Night 5pm	7 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	8 2nd Story Comedy 7pm
9 Omelets 9am—Noon Gift Wrapping 9 - 1pm	10 Auxiliary MTG 5:30pm Post MTG 7pm	11	12 BINGO 6pm	13 Burger Night 5pm	14 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	15
16	17	18	19 BINGO 6pm	20 Burger Night 5pm	21 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	22
23	24 Close @4pm	25 Closed	26 BINGO 6pm	27 Burger Night 5pm	28 Legion Loot 7:30-9pm	29
30	31 New Years Eve Bingo 6pm	1 Closed				