



AMERICAN LEGION POST 518
COMMANDER'S NEWSLETTER
507-625-1264 | 256 Belgrade Ave., No. Mankato, MN 56003
Keep informed, Like our Facebook Page:
North Mankato American Legion Post 518
Web Site: northmankatopost518.org
[twitter@Post518NMankato](https://twitter.com/Post518NMankato)



APRIL 2021

Greetings 518 Legion Family,

The sun is shining and it is a beautiful day as I sit and write this month's newsletter and spring is upon us. I am happy to report that things here at Post 518 are humming along at a great pace, the club room is open and business has been good, our color guard has been active with our Veteran of the Month ceremonies and the St. Patrick's Day parade in Le Center and we are finally able to start back up with our member meetings which have been well attended.

We have had guests at our last two meetings, I failed to mention in my last newsletter that we were visited by David Johnson from Cation Call in February. Caption Call provides digital closed captioned telephones for those people with hearing issues. The phones are provided **free** to literally anyone who needs them. There are brochures on the bar by the popcorn machine or you can contact David at 612-615-2204. We were visited at our last meeting by Lorraine Little and Pete Hagert from South Central Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. They talked about what BTYR does locally and statewide. We have new really cool long sleeved RED (remember everyone deployed) themed t-shirts at the bar. Monies from these shirts directly benefit the veterans in our area.

Speaking of deployed troops one of our members Dylan Rohlfing is leaving today 3/21/21 for a year long deployment, please keep him and the Rohlfing family in your thoughts and prayers. If you would like to send an encouraging word to Dylan his contact info is: dylanrohlfin@gmail.com.

Our next meeting will be on April 15th at 7pm. We will be nominating officers and other key positions that day. If you have an interest in serving in some capacity on the board or within the post please let me or any of our past commanders know. Tom Maus and Mike Forliti are both past commanders who you can see at the post fairly regularly.

Speaking of Tom Maus he is our current March Member of the Month and Mike Forliti will be our April Member of the Month. Congratulations and thanks to both of you for all you have done and all you continue to do for our Post.

It was brought up at our last meeting that the VA has opened up its Covid vaccination to all age groups who are a part of the system Look for contact info in Adjutant Paula's article.

I would like to mention that Paragon Printing who has been doing our newsletters for many years has been sold and the new owners are not going to be able to pass on the savings we've had for many years to print and mail our newsletter. We had been paying a little over \$100 to mail the newsletter and that will be going up to about \$170 per month. I would like to ask that you switch from paper to email, if you are able. Send your e mail address to us at americanlegion518@yahoo.com

Thanks as always to you our faithful Legion Family for making Post 518 such an awesome place. I am so proud to be the commander of such a remarkable group of people.

Jeff Frye, Commander 507-340-0831 jefffrye927@gmail.com

AUXILIARY

Greetings!

We are up and running! Come in if you can and feel safe doing so!

Nominations are next month and elections will be in May so please get your input in.

Reminder of the \$500 scholarship that is available and ask a bartender for an application.

April 10 we will be packing for the Backpack for Food program and we have 10 volunteers, thank you!

Memorial day we will be serving pulled pork, beans and other goodies for in house eating or take out. All of course will be used with caution in packaging.

We are looking into distributing Poppy's this year so stay tuned.

Every month this year we will be doing some sort of theme to raise money for an organization locally. This next month will be for ECHO food shelf. Come down, "buy" an umbrella and put it on the wall. We are also asking for hygiene products, paper products and baby items such as diapers that we can donate.

As always, please email, text or call if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully. Sonja Frye sonerann71@gmail.com 507-382-8906

SAL

Greetings all,

Hopefully that last big snow fall we had was the last one for the winter and we can get some sun shine and warm weather. I know I can't wait to sit outside around a fire and get the grill fired up.

Last month we had talked about the flag burning the S.A.L was going to do in the near future. We were actually contacted by the local Boy Scout troop and asked if we would mind if they took it over to show their new members. If you have any flags that you need to get rid of, please drop them of as soon as possible so they can take them with when they pick up the others.

We have set a date for our spring ditch cleanup on Highway 22 south of Mankato. The tentative date is for May 16th at 10am. If there is rain or inclement weather, we will reschedule for the follow week of May 23rd. Any and all help is appreciated, we will also head back to the legion following the cleanup for some food and beverages.

Reminder that officer nomination will be held at this month's meeting with voting to happen in May. I would really encourage anyone that is able to come out to the meeting and consider a position as an officer. We also voted on and passed the motion to increase our yearly dues for the S.A.L to \$20 so be sure to look for that change when you receive your letter paying your dues.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the next meeting and around the Post. As always feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns and stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely, Darin Hendley – S.A.L Commander

darin.hendley@yahoo.com 507-317-7070

VETERAN OF THE MONTH/COLOR GUARD

VETERAN OF THE MONTH – (Outdoors at Wheeler Park for the season)

At our Saturday, April 3rd VOM ceremony at Wheeler Park, we will retire Colors for US Air Force SSG Dwayne Magers, and we will honor Army Private Walter Norman Tischer for the month of April.

May's VOM will be for Navy Chief Petty Officer James David Baker.

**** THESE CEREMONIES ALWAYS TAKE PLACE**

THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 10AM.**

**** *Come and help us honor these veterans – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AGAIN WITH APPLICABLE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE – Rolls and Coffee served after ceremony!***

Do any of you have a veteran to submit for Veteran of the Month?? We still have openings for 2021 - June through November.

COLOR GUARD

Since last month, the Color Guard performed 1 VOM ceremony and marched in the St. Patty's Day parade in LeCenter.

Mark Conrad 507-380-8405 lefty48597@gmail.com

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

MIKE FORLITI, US Marines – April 2021 Member of the Month

- US Marine Cpl. 1971-74, 1st Tank Bn 1st Marine Div. MOS.
- 1811 Tank Crewman, Tank Commander, 2531 Field Radio Operator, Vietnam ERA
- Member of Post 518 for 20 years, Past Commander, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, Sergeant at Arms, Clothing Chair, Color Guard, Horseshoe Team

Memories from Mike: Not knowing the tanks were back from Vietnam, my first job was to clean and repair the tanks that were brought back from the ship! Not fun! I was on two floats where we did amphibious landings. I played football for the 1st tanks Bn. for two years. The last 1 1/2 years that I was in, we did a lot of desert training at the stumps in Twentynine Palms California

Anyone can nominate any member for this monthly honor.

ADJUTANT

Spring is just around the corner. We are looking forward to a more normal year and Legion Family Events. We hope everyone stays safe and healthy. Remember your Legion Family, Friends and Patrons; be a shoulder to lean on, and ear to listen. We are a strong Legion Post and we will be better and stronger.

Membership Officers Nominations start in April, Officers Elections will be in May and installation of Officers are in June. Elected positions: Commander, 1st Vice Cmdr, 2nd Vice Cmdr and Finance Officer. Appointed Positions: Adjutant, Chaplain, and Sergeant of Arms. If you or someone you know is interested in any of these positions, please contact one of our past Commanders: Elections will be at the Membership meeting in May, and installation of officers at the June meeting.

Upcoming Events:

LeCenter American Legion Post #108, Fish Fry Friday, March 26th, 2021, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

District/National

Apr 25, 2021	3rd Dist Family Gathering	Hastings Vets Home
May 14-15, 2021	3rd Dist Convention	Faribault Post 43
May 22, 2021	Joint Dist Testimonial	New Prague Post 45

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BTYR) - Brings support to Military/Veteran families in need; whether it is help fixing a car, raking leaves, a ride, broken down appliances, BTYR has a wide variety of activities and volunteer opportunities to assist. Military and Veterans in need have support; training services and resources. **507-327-3840**
southcentralbtyr.org, mnbtyr.ng.mil

Blue Earth/Nicollet County Van VA Hospital - Rides to the Minneapolis VA Hospital, call to make a reservation for a ride. Through collaboration between Nicollet and Blue Earth County, this program serves Blue Earth County and Nicollet County Veterans.

Blue Earth County call 507-304-4246, operates on odd-numbered days of the month (1st, 3rd, 5th, etc).

Nicollet County call 507-934-7871, operates on even-numbered days of the month (2nd, 4th, 6th, etc). When scheduling transportation, please contact either office no later than 2 pm the day prior to your appointment.

If you need Veteran Affairs Burial Information call 1-800-827-1000 for assistance.

Veterans Crisis Line by calling 1-800-273-8255 and pressing 1, using the online chat, or texting to 838255. These provide free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

An easy-to-remember, three-digit number 988 (similar to 911) for those contemplating suicide could save lives, experts say, but it also represents a symbolic shift in a still stigmatized world — that mental health emergencies are just as important as physical ones.

REAL ID for Veterans: Bring a copy of your DD214, this is so your ID Card will be able show your veteran status.

Newsletter Deadline: The Sunday, after the Monthly Legion meeting.

Check the calendar for upcoming information

Paula Anzures, Adjutant

Stay safe and smart!

PER MN MASK MANDATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-81:

Outside Patio: Masks highly recommended



Inside: Masks Mandatory

Please remember to social distance



American Legion Post 518
P.O. Box 2233
256 Belgrade Avenue
North Mankato, MN 56003
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mankato, MN 56001
Permit No. 66

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
MARCH 28 APRIL 2021	29	30	31	APRIL 1	2	3 <i>VOM WALTER TISCHER 10 AM @ Wheeler</i>
4 	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 MEETINGS BOARD 5:30 LEG, AUX, SAL 7:00	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	MAY 1 <i>VOM JAMES BAKER 10 AM @ Wheeler</i>