

May 2023 Newsletter

Post 518 American Legion Family

256 Belgrade Avenue, North Mankato, MN 56001 507.625.1264



From the Commander:

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

Welcome Spring! Winter has been dragging on long enough! As usual, we are getting ready for a busy spring and summer full of activities and events. Please check the calendar for dates and times and consider donating some of your time or talents to these worthwhile events. The color guard is still short on members and will be busy in the coming weeks and months with Memorial Day ceremonies and Parades. All Legions family members, please consider joining the Color Guard. The softball and horseshoe teams will begin playing soon and we have all the Business on Belgrade events coming up.

We have had some busy days and nights at the club in the past several weeks and expect that to continue into the summer. Be sure to check out and like our Facebook page, and website! We will continue to post all events and activities going on at our Club on our website and Facebook. We hope to continue to build and grow our patrons and members through our online presence.

Elections are going to take place at our May 18th meeting and we have the following nominations so far, Commander Paul Wingert. 1st Vice Commander Iris Blooflat, 2nd Vice Commander Loren Files and Finance Officer Steve Lawrence. All nominations for these positions are open until the time of elections. We are also looking for a Membership chairperson and coordinator to take over duties James Peters has been justly performing for the past several years. If you are interested in running for any of the offices, or taking on the membership responsibilities please let me or any current or past officers know. Our next meeting will be on Thursday May 18th at 7pm, hope to see you there.

Please contact me any time with concerns or suggestions. Paul Wingert, Commander 507-351-2769 pgwingert@hotmail.com



From the Auxiliary President:

We have so much to be thankful for as an Auxiliary. We work hard to help others, give back and support veterans.

- On April 17th, we had a group of 10 amazing volunteers that offered their time and talents as they packed food for the Backpack for Food program. It was a great time helping others.
- On April 21st, we hosted a delicious ham dinner. Thank you to everyone who helped make food, volunteered and hosted the event.
- We anxiously await Shop and Sip which will take place Saturday, April 29th from 1-3. The amazing teamwork of people making baked goods, silent auction baskets and donating for our bottle raffle make it an incredible day.
- Don't forget to honor your Mom on Mothers Day. Never lose the chance to make someone feel extra special.
- We look ahead and look forward to our Poppy Days on May 19th and 20th.
- Memorial Day is right around the corner. The Post 518 Auxiliary is planning a special lunch for all of the community Memorial Squads and their families. More information will be coming soon.

DID YOU KNOW THAT VERN RADEL, LEGION MEMBER, TURNED 90 YEARS YOUNG IN DECEMBER AND IS STILL ACTIVE? LET'S SURPRISE HIM AT OUR MAY MTG. WITH A CARD SHOWER.

Lyn Rohlfig,
Post 518 Auxiliary President
507-217-9361
lynrohlfig@gmail.com



From the SAL Commander:

Hello everyone, Time once again for my contribution to Post 518's monthly newsletter.

First and foremost this month, The members of the SAL would like to congratulate Pete Wachtel for becoming a Paid Up For Life member! Pete is the first member in the SAL family of Post 518 to become a PUFL member. A special thanks to our membership officer, Jeff Tiedeken. Jeff did a considerable amount of legwork to make this happen. Thank you Jeff.

There are a lot of exciting things to look for on your calendar. We host trivia once a month, check your calendar. We are having a Sip and Shop April 29th. Blues on Belgrade is coming up this summer. There is a band in April and yet another one in May. Keep checking your calendar so you don't miss this great time. As always, if there is anything that I can help you with, let me know

Kim Sward: SAL Commander
kimsward12@gmail.com
507-340-5972



Veteran of the Month:

Veteran of the Month #179 – Year 15

Our April VOM was to be Outdoors at Wheeler Park, but guess what, Mother Nature decided to give us a snowstorm. We ended up having an indoor ceremony. Our Post had quite a crowd – I counted at one time 47 people, which was the largest crowd we have had indoors since we started this program.

****Help us honor these veterans – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Rolls and Coffee served after the ceremony!** At our Saturday, May 6th VOM ceremony Outdoors at Wheeler Park, we will retire Colors for USMC Corporal Fred Manke and we will honor Air Force Airman 1st Class Donald Stemper for the month of May. June's VOM will be for – USMC Captain Milton George Kelsey If you have never attended one of our VOM ceremonies, please try to come to one. They are very moving events – (besides, you get free rolls and coffee afterwards)

--LET US HONOR YOUR VETERAN!! Families of deceased, honorably discharged veterans or POW/MIA's who desire these honors should call Mark Conrad (507-380-8405) (lefty48597@Gmail.com) or Post 518 (507-625-1264)

COLOR GUARD

WE NEED YOU – Legion, SAL & Auxiliary -Please let me know if you can help.

We had our Color Guard dinner on Wednesday, April 12th for all those that have helped us (& guest), with events during the past year.

We will have a training / orientation / informational event in early May for those interested in helping us on the Color Guard or just want to take a look at what we do. Come and see what we're all about!

Since our March meeting, the Color Guard performed 1 VOM ceremony, Military Honors with the Memorial Squad for 2 area veterans and Military Honors for Post member, Donald Robb Memorial Day is coming up – This day is to honor those that made the Supreme Sacrifice for our country and didn't make it home again.

Let's enjoy the weekend, but take time to remember those that gave ALL!

Post 518 Memorial Day Schedule –Monday, May 29 th

8:00 am – Korean Memorial

8:30 am – Veterans Memorial Place –

9:00 am – Rapidan Memorial Park

10:00 am – Kerns Cemetery

11:35 am – WWI Memorial @ Sibley Park

12:10 pm – Vietnam Memorial – Stoltzman Rd

1:00 pm – WWII Memorial @ Wheeler Park

2:00 pm – Swedish Cemetery

Color Guard members, SAL & Auxiliary helpers – You make a difference!! Families of those we honor share their heartfelt thanks for what we do every time.

Have a great Month!! Mark Conrad – Color Guard & Veteran of the Month coordinator.

From the Adjutant: Adjutants Corner

Have you considered getting more involved at the American Legion? We really need our Legion Members, SAL and Auxiliary to get involved in the open positions, join the Color Guard, hand out Poppies, volunteering for events. Nominations are open for our new Legion Membership, SAL & Auxiliary Officers, as well as appointed positions. If there is anyone interested in taking up any of the positions, contact one of the Past Commanders or Officers to let them know you are interested. They can help you in stepping forward and becoming involved in our Legion Post. We are needing new and younger members to step up and help make a difference in our Post. Elections will be at our May Legion meetings and Installation of officers will be at the June Legion meetings.

The Legion has many events coming up this Spring and summer. We need volunteers to make our Club events a success. Come on down to the club and see what is new and what is happening, enjoy a beverage with your Legion Family, volunteer for upcoming events.

Upcoming Events:

TRIVIA –2nd Tuesday every month; Next Trivia Night May 9th 7:00 PM
June 16th Last Man Standing 8th Annual Golf Classic
July 29 Blues on Belgrade
August 12 Vets Fest 12- 4PM

District/National

*May 6 Joint District Testimonial Chanhassen Post 580
*May 13 Dept Commanders Testimonial New Prague Post 45
May 19-20 District Convention Forest Lake Post 225
*Jul 11-15 Department Convention Redwood Falls, MN
Morson Ario VFW Post 950 Burger Night First Friday of each month
Post 510 Nicollet Electronic Gambling every Tuesday night
SAL Wing Night every Thursday night
Post 108 LeCenter Steak Fry 4th Saturday of every month

- **Veterans Crisis Line - NEW!!!** Calling an easy-to-remember, three-digit number 988 (similar to 911) or 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. Experts say, for those contemplating suicide this could save lives, it also represents a symbolic shift in a still stigmatized world — mental health emergencies are just as important as physical ones.
- **Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BTYR)** - Brings support to Military/Veteran families in need; whether it is help with 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
- **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. Scheduling transportation, please contact either office # later than 2 pm the day prior to your appointment.
 - 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).
 - Veteran Affairs Burial Information call 1-800-827-1000, If you are in need of assistance.
- The Twin Cities Honor Flight Honor Flight is taking applications for WWII and now Korean War Vets for upcoming trips to Washington DC. Vets will spend a day in DC touring the memorials at NO cost. To get more info and get registered go to their website. <http://honorflighttwincities.org>. VETSROLL.Org 10 Years!!! –
- WWII, Korea and Veterans through 1966 &; Rosie-the Riveters Rolling to Washington DC.
- www.VetsRoll.Org Vets.Org 1777 Gardner St South Beloit, IL 61080 608-207-8319.
- REAL ID for Veterans: Take a copy of your DD214, so your ID Card will show your veteran status.

North Mankato Post 518 Legion Auxiliary
Sip 'n Shop
 256 Belgrade Avenue ~ North Mankato

**Post 518 Auxiliary
 Sip and Shop
 Saturday April 29th
 1:00 PM-3:00 PM**

**Wine Tasting ~
 Bake Sale ~
 Silent Auction ~ Fun!!**

May Veteran of the Month
 Honoring
**Air Force Airman 1st Class
 Donald Stemper**
Saturday, May 6th at 10:00 AM
Wheeler Park

TRIVIA

at Post 518 North Mankato
 Legion Is Back!! Join us

Tuesday
 May 9th
 June 13th
 July 11th
 Aug 8th
 Sept 12
 Oct 10
 Nov 14
 Dec 12

7:00 PM

**Join Us
 for Live
 Music!**

**Friday, May 12th
 7:00-10:00 PM**

LOOSE GRAVEL

NORTH MANKATO POST 518
 Live Music • 60's, 70's, 80's Classic Rock, Country & Folk

Sunday May 14th



Legion Family Meeting Reminder

- Thursday, May 18, 2023
- 7:00 PM
- Can't wait to see you!

Bar Closed 6:30 PM-8:30 PM




**Post 518 Legion Poppy
 Days: May 19th & 20th**
 The red poppy is a nationally
 recognized symbol of sacrifice
 worn by Americans since World
 War I to honor those who
 served and died for our country
 in all wars. It reminds
 Americans of the sacrifices
 made by our veterans while
 protecting our freedoms. Wear
 a poppy to honor those who
 have worn our nation's
 uniform.

We Remember...

Memorial Day May 29, 2023

Don't Forget: Meat Raffles on Saturdays at 4 PM and Jukebox Jam on Thursdays at 7

May 2023- Post 518 Legion

	1	2	3	4 I & O MN State Mankato Party & Karaoke 7 PM	5 RED FRIDAYS: Remember Everyone Deployed	6 Veteran of Month: 10 AM Don Stemper Meat Raffle 4 PM
7 Open at Noon now on Sundays	8	9 Trivia with Jeff 7 PM 	10	11 Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM 	12 LIVE MUSIC: LOOSE GRAVEL 7-10 PM RED FRIDAYS: Remember Everyone Deployed	13 Meat Raffle 4 PM 
14 Mother's Day 	15	16	17	18  Board Mtg.: 5:30 PM Family Meeting: 7:00 PM Bar Closed: 6:30-8:30 PM	19 POPPY DAY RED FRIDAYS: Remember Everyone Deployed	20 Armed Forces Day POPPY DAY Meat Raffle 4 PM
21	22	23	24	25  Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM	26 RED FRIDAYS: Remember Everyone Deployed	27 Meat Raffle 4 PM 
28	29 Memorial Day 	30	31	1 Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM 	2 RED FRIDAYS: Remember Everyone Deployed	3 Veteran of Month: 10 AM Meat Raffle 4 PM