

October 2025 Newsletter

Post 518 American Legion Family

256 Belgrade Avenue, North Mankato, MN 56001 507.625.1264



From the Commander:

Dear Legion Family,

Thank you to everyone who attended our September meeting and to all who continue to support our Post by attending events and volunteering. Your dedication makes our projects and events successful.

A great example was the success of our 5th Annual Golf Tournament on September 14, 2025. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of Kim S., Kiersten H., David S., Jeff F., Andy L., and Dan B., the tournament raised \$8,379.71 for our Vets in Need Fund. We were proud to welcome back longtime community sponsors as well as new sponsors and door prize donors. Thank you to all who volunteered at the event and in the days leading up to it—your efforts made this success possible.

Welcome New Members

Please join me in welcoming the newest members of Post 518:

- Marlin Dahl
- Michael Ciccro

We're glad to have you in our Legion family.

If you have submitted your membership dues and have not received your membership card, please contact Paula Anzures at 507-387-6346 or pauleo883@gmail.com.

Events: Fall Flag Retirement Ceremony - October 18, 2025 at 2 p.m.

Donations Approved:

At the September meeting, membership approved the following donation:

- \$500 – Vets for Music, The Pat McLaughlin Band will be performing at the Marine Corps League event in October.

September Observances

- October 13th – Navy Birthday (1775)

- October 26th - National Day of the Deployed
- October 27 - Navy Day (1922) , honoring Navy service and sacrifice

Stay Connected

Keep in touch with us beyond the monthly meeting—follow along on Facebook and visit our website for current events, highlights, and opportunities to support our Post.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of veterans and their families.

Yours in Service,
Iris Blooflat, Commander
 507-469-9283
irissalazar82@gmail.com

Thank you to our amazing Sponsors and all of the Incredible Donations for Door Prizes, etc...

North Mankato Post 518 American Legion
5th Annual Golf Tournament

GOLD STAR SPONSOR

MINNESOTA
RIVER VALLEY
 TITLE & ABSTRACTING

North Mankato Post 518 American Legion
5th Annual Golf Tournament

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Post 950

North Mankato Post 518 American Legion
5th Annual Golf Tournament

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North Mankato Post 518 American Legion
5th Annual Golf Tournament

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From the Auxiliary President

Happy Fall! As the season changes the Auxiliary gets busy!

After the great success of our school supply drive, the Auxiliary has started collecting outerwear for our area school children. We're calling it Spread the Warmth, and asking for donations of hats, gloves/mittens and socks. We are also accepting donations of either new or gently used snowpants and jackets. There is a tub at the Post for donation collection. The drive will wrap up on meeting night in October. Please help us collect these items for children in need! The Auxiliary is hosting a Friday evening meal on October 10 in conjunction with the Elks Club. We will be serving pulled turkey sandwiches with chips and desserts. This fundraising event supports the Auxiliary's scholarship fund.

Monthly, the Auxiliary chooses a local 501C-3 charity and requests funds to be donated through the Eagles gambling funds. This month the membership has voted to request a donation for South Central Minnesota Food Recovery. SCMFR accepts large quantities of quality fresh produce and meats destined for the landfill, by creating fresh and minimally processed foods and ready-made meals. In addition to needing cash donations to purchase supplies they rely on volunteers to help process recovered produce and meats and assemble ready-made meals for distribution by community partners. The Auxiliary has signed up to volunteer to help with the food processing on Monday October 27. It's a two-hour shift from 6-8 pm. There are ten volunteer slots available. Please sign up in advance at the Post. This will be a fun opportunity to enjoy some fellowship while doing something beneficial for our community.

Our final October event is Trunk or Treat and sponsored by the Legion Family. This is our second year, and we will be moving out of the back alley and into the parking lot next to the building. We found out last year that it gets dark, and we need the extra light and visibility that we'll have closer to the corner. If you want to join in, please sign up at the Post. We need to know how many cars to plan for.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on October 16 at 7 pm.

Lisa Roberts
robertslisaa17@gmail.com 507-327-3101

Unit 518 Auxiliary Trunk or Treat

Friday, October 31st-Halloween
5:00 PM-7:00 PM
City Parking Lot Next to the Legion



From the SAL Commander:

Hello everybody. It's newsletter time

The post held their annual golf outing a few weeks back. I'd like to thank everyone involved for the great success it was. We had a great bunch of sponsors. Thank you. Without you we wouldn't be able to have a tournament. Your generosity makes the entire event a success. Thank you golfers. Without your involvement, there wouldn't be a golf tournament. I hope you had as much fun golfing as we did putting the event on. Last but certainly not least, Thank you volunteers. Thanks for the countless hours you put in to make it all look easy. Without you we couldn't have put the event on. Thanks again to everyone. Through your contributions we were able to have a successful and fun tournament. I look forward to working with everyone when next year's tournament comes around.

Now for something we have coming up. On Saturday, October 18th at 2:00 PM, we are having a flag retirement ceremony at the club. This is a moving ceremony and should be experienced by everyone. I *hope to see you there.*

Check the calendar for other things that may be of interest to you. There is trivia and Pheffer. There is a band most weekends. They are great local talent and fun to listen to.

That is about all I have for now. As always if there is something that I can help you with, don't hesitate to contact me.

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

Spread the Warmth



Help the Students in our area schools stay warm this Winter.

Please donate socks, hats, mittens and/or snow pants.



AMERICANISM-Veteran of the Month

VOM #208 – Year 17

At our Saturday, October 4th VOM ceremony OUTDOORS @ Wheeler Park in North Mankato, we will RETIRING COLORS for: Marine Sgt Rand Kenneth Hodgman
NEW HONOREE for the Month: Army Staff Sergeant Walter Adrian Sexe

Come and help us honor these veterans – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Rolls and Coffee served after the ceremony!

Thanks to our SAL for helping set up the site for these ceremonies and to our Auxiliary for providing the refreshments!!

--LET US HONOR YOUR VETERAN!! - We have openings in 2025!!

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 – PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP!! We have a continuing need of SAL, Auxiliary & Legion members for our Color Guard

Since our August 21st meeting, the Color Guard performed 1 VOM ceremony, 2 Color Guard Events, and Military Honors with the Mankato Area Veterans Memorial Squad for 7 Area veterans.

117_Volunteer hours

Thanks to our Color Guard members that helped & gave their time for these events!!

NOTES OF INTEREST –

MSU Homecoming – September 27th – Color Guard will be in parade and football game national anthem

October 13, 1775 - U.S. Navy's birthday, marking the date the Continental Congress authorized the creation of a small fleet to attack British supply ships during the American Revolution. This date, established by the Continental Navy, is still observed annually, with the U.S. Navy's official website noting that October 13 remains its official birth date. The Navy's 250th birthday is being celebrated in 2025 with various events planned for October.

October 3 and 4, 1993 - The Battle of Mogadishu, or the Black Hawk Down incident, occurred on October 3-4, 1993, during Operation Gothic Serpent in Mogadishu, Somalia. U.S. Task Force Ranger attempted to capture leaders of the Somali National Alliance (SNA) but faced unexpectedly intense resistance, resulting in 18 U.S. soldier deaths, over 1,000 Somali casualties, and the subsequent withdrawal of U.S. forces from Somalia. The battle became a significant event, influencing American foreign policy and highlighting the challenges of urban warfare and nation-building operations.

October VOM

Vets for Vets,
Ron Griebel
(507) 302-8026
ron.griebel@gmail.com

**Join us as North Mankato
American Legion Post 518
Honors our 208th Veteran
of the Month**

**When: 10 AM Saturday, October 4th,
2025**

**Where: OUTDOORS @ Wheeler Park in
N. Mankato**

**RETIRING COLORS for: Marine Sgt
Rand Kenneth Hodgman
NEW HONOREE for the Month: Army
Staff Sgt Walter Adrian Sexe**

FROM THE ADJUTANT:

Greetings, Fellow Legionnaires,

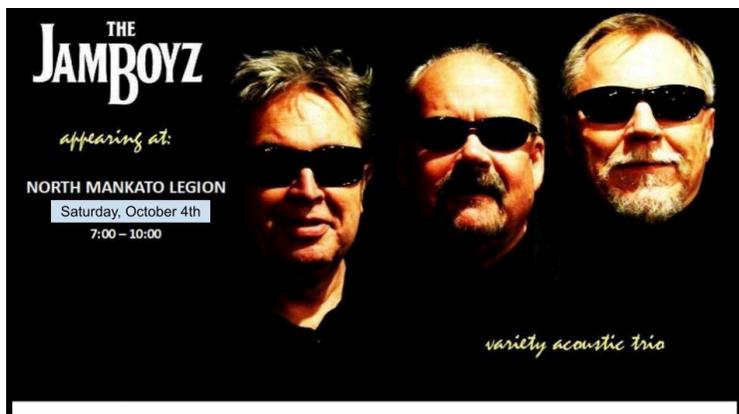
I don't have a lot to pass along this month. The club continues to do well and we are really trying to come up with some different things that we can do at our post to help make it an enjoyable place for our members to come and socialize. We have trivia, meat raffles, music and pfeffer on a regular basis plus our special events. If you can think of something that might be fun to try please feel free to reach out.

The Department Fall conference will be held October 24th - 25th in St. Cloud. This event is different from convention and is a really fun event. There are a lot of training sessions covering all of the different things the Legion does and can be very informative. Don Stemper actually came across the Veteran of the Month program at a fall conference and it is one of our longest running programs at the post. This year the keynote speaker is Iraq War veteran John Kriesel, if you have never heard John speak he is really quite inspirational. Let me or Commander Iris know if you have any interest in going. The post will typically cover registration fees and could possibly help cover other fees as well.

Our next meeting will be October 16th at 7pm. I hope to see you there.

Jeff Frye

Adjutant, House Committee Chair



Check out our Website: <https://northmankatopost518.org/>

Please follow us on Facebook

We need your help--please sign in to the guest book when you visit us!

Thank you!!

October 2025- Post 518 Legion Family

<p>28</p> <p>Gold Star Mothers Day</p> <p>Vikings vs. Steelers</p> <p>8:30 AM</p> <p>Brunch Potluck</p> 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>RED FRIDAYS</p> <p>Remember Everyone Deployed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Veteran of the Month 10:00 AM Army Staff Sergeant Walter Adrian SexE</p> <p>Meat Raffle 4:00 PM</p> <p>JAM BOYZ 7-10 PM</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Vikings vs. Cleveland Browns 8:30 AM</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pfeffer Game Night 7 PM</p> 	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>House Committee Mtg. 6-7 PM</p> <p>Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pulled Turkey Sandwich Dinner \$10 5:30 PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Meat Raffle 4:00 PM</p> 
<p>12</p> <p>Bye Week</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>Navy Birthday (1775)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Trivia with Jeff 7 PM</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Board Mtg.: 5:30 PM Family Meeting: 7:00 PM Club Closed 6:30-8:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>RED FRIDAYS</p> <p>Remember Everyone Deployed</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Fall Flag Retirement Ceremony 2 PM</p> <p>Meat Raffle 4:00 PM</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Vikings vs. Philadelphia Eagles NOON</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pfeffer Game Night 7 PM</p> 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Vikings vs. Los Angeles Chargers 7:15 PM</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>RED FRIDAYS</p> <p>ANOTHER TIME AROUND - 7-10 PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Meat Raffle 4:00 PM</p> 
<p>26</p> <p>National Day of the Deployed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Navy Day (1922) South Central Minnesota Food Recovery Volunteer with Auxiliary 6-8 PM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Jukebox Jam 7:00 PM</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>RED FRIDAYS</p> <p>Halloween Trunk or Treat 5-7 PM</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Veteran of the Month 10:00 AM Meat Raffle 4:00 PM</p> 