



WATCHWORD

June-September 2024

The Official Publication of American Legion Post #43
Faribault, MN



My farewell Commander letter:

The next commander of Post 43 will be Steve Wolters. He will do a great job! He has helped me out a ton this year. His 1st Vice is John Haessig. John helps out the legion on many events and repairs.

Next, I would like to say a big, big thank you to the staff of Post 43. They never give up...team kept the Legion afloat and whenever you mention names you run the risk of forgetting someone but here goes. Jim Douda never says no to help, as my dad would say "he's the chief cook and bottle washer". Misty brought in a lot of business and helped keep the Post 43 going. Head chef Nicole is called head chef for a reason. Everything she and Babe make turns out delicious. Jack Claeson does a lot for the Legion and he does it as a volunteer! Thank you to our newest family member, Randy Nordstrom, who has gradually replaced Jim as Gambling Manager. Thanks to Luverne Malecha for his continuous years as our Membership Chairperson. Thank you to Ron Hammond and the breakfast crew serving omelet breakfasts for many years. In fact, they were cooking breakfast for the Truman administration. Thanks to our maintenance man, Dave, who always goes above and beyond the call of duty. Thanks to Kathy Larson and the Auxiliary for saving our behinds, always there to help with events and of course our vets.

I must mention the dishwashers and the people who step up to volunteer.

Lastly, don't forget to leave a little amount to the Legion in your estate planning. Keep supporting our club.

Good-bye and Thank you, Commander Mark Quinlan

Dear American Legion Auxiliary Members,

Our ALA new version "Spring Salad Luncheon" on March 16, 2024, was a Huge Success!! Hurrah!! Many thanks for all the volunteers that made it happen!! Candy Braun and Darlene Liverseed were the wonderful spearhead leaders and organizers of this event! I've heard many compliments on the delicious 11 salads, breads & soups, on the beautiful centerpieces, the variety of gift baskets and the wonderful program about a Faribault family business - Donahues! The Spring Luncheon is our only financial event which helps support and supply our various contributions to the Faribault Community. Our Poppy Drive supports all of our veteran projects at home and away.

Looking back at the 2023-24 ALA year from last SPRING, we have accomplished a lot this year. April - March - May – 2023, Here are some of the highlights: Donations of 50 hygiene care packages & 2 cases of Girl Scout cookies to the VA's Community Resource & Referral Center, awarded a prize to an Essay contest winner Ellery Liverseed, a group of 10 ALA members toured the MSP's Armed Forces Service Center at the airport & donated \$1,000 to assist services to Veterans, we sponsored a Home Town Hero Banner for a woman veteran & ALAux member, Carol McHugo, honored 3 Faribault youth for service leadership, lifesaving heroism and artful patriotism, Ella Bettner, Hunter Conrad and Emily Schultz, recognized the Poppy Coloring Contest Lincoln Elementary winners with a patriotic ribbons & a ride in the Memorial Day Parade, paid for and helped serve a special rib dinner meal to the Veterans at the Hastings VA, organized a Fall Luncheon, honoring a MN Brigadier General, Stefanie Hovath, daughter of ALA member Cathy Horvath, speaker Virginia van Sluis- giving the history of the "Home Town Hero Banners" to honor the military, we used "World heart Day" to honor the Faribault First Responders(the Emergency Department, North memorial Ambulance, the Fire & Police Departments) with muffins & a special thank you card and dog treats for the K-9 unit, 300 school supplies were given to Roosevelt Elementary in the "Give 10" Education donation program, we honored teachers and staff in Faribault's 23 schools with 1800 granola bars. Nov. Veterans Day ALA filled & delivered 60 bags to Faribault Veterans in the senior care & care facilities, our ALA unit sponsored the Second Annual Christmas Market at our Legion Hall and sold lunches, Past Presidents Parley gave a \$750 scholarship & certificate to McKenzie, a new Christmas Giving Project for 5 Veterans' families & 12 homebound Veterans was completed, Valentine's Day our ALA surprised 35 women in Faribault with rose bowls with colorful blossoms to honor & thank them for their support & sacrifices for their relative's military service. We were so fortunate to receive a very generous financial donation for us to give to local community youth projects. We presented "The Nest", a Faribault Senior High Charity, & the Foster Children project with those financial donations. Both organizations were so appreciative of our assistance.

Check out our NEW email address: mnalaunit43@gmail.com Thanks to our members - Kirsten Grunnet & Kari Casper for designing it for us!!

That was a recap of our official ALA Unit #43 - 2023-2024 year. Now during the next few months, we are looking forward to our 2024–2025-year April to April.

May will be filled with POPPY DAYS (May 14-16); 27 - Memorial Day Courthouse Program, Parade, Veterans Program in Central Park & the lunch afterwards at the American Legion Club; June 9 Girls State - Bethel College; Flag Day June 14th; July -4th. of July - Independence Day of America! July 11-13th. Legion Department Convention Willmar Conference Center

Again, in honor of my parents & my late husband Dave, they all served in the military. I have been honored to have been your ALA President of Unit #43 for the last 2 years.

Please continue your American Legion Auxiliary Membership!! It's so important that we can give assistance & thanks to our MILITARY MEN & WOMEN WHO HAVE ALL SERVED & SACRIFICED FOR THE FREEDOMS THAT WE ALL CHERISH IN OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

Sincerely, Kathy

God Bless America

Kathy Larson, American Legion Unit #43 Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion

Welcome to the Watch Word Son's of the American Legion section. My name is Stew Schuenke and I have been a member of the Son's of the American Legion for over 20 years. I am the proud son of Roger and Joan Schuenke; Roger was in the Air Force during the Korean War and Commander of the Legion here in Faribault. My mom Joan was the head cook here at the Legion and member of the Auxiliary.

JUNE – Nothing is scheduled for this month currently for breakfasts

Thank you in advance for all those that assist with the Omelet Breakfast and for the Legion Members that come and support these events.

Respectfully, Stew Schuenke, Commander

A super, big "thank you" to Dusty Dienst and his firefighting crew for running up the new flag rope with the lift. Old Glory is back in business!

Post, SAL & Unit 43 Announcements:

Changes to Food Service

Beginning in May through August - Wings will only be available the 1st Tuesday

Beginning September Wings will be offered every Tuesday

“VOLUNTEERS DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE TIME; THEY HAVE THE HEART!” – Elisabeth Andrew

Contact your Commander, President, Bar Manager, or fellow member to help Post 43 with in-house functions and/or projects for veterans, children and youth or community projects. Do you have an idea for a project? Bring it to a meeting the first Monday of every month. Let’s talk about it.

FrontLine Honors Ceremony

1:00pm – every 3rd Sunday of the month.

We remember the fallen by reading all U.S. Service member names that were killed in action or have died as a result of their military service over the course of the previous 30 days. In addition, we will recognize our nation’s Colors with a formal dedication. If you would like to have the flag fly over Post 43 in honor of any Veteran, alive or deceased, or a family member currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, please inquire within.

Their sacrifice. Our honor.

All dates below are subject to change, please visit your Post for current function dates

JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
1 – Euchre	1 – Legion & Auxiliary Mtgs	2 – Friday Supper	2 – 6:30pm -Legion & Auxiliary Mtgs
3 – Installation of Officers/Potluck	2 – Wing Night	5 – 6:30pm -Legion & Auxiliary Mtgs	3 – Wing Night
Legion & Aux membership mtg	3 – KC Bingo	6 – Wing Night	4 – KC Bingo
4 – Wing Night	5 – Club Supper/Cornhole	7 – KC Bingo	5 – Burger Night
5 – KC Bingo	10 – KC Bingo	8 – Burger Night	6 – Friday Supper/328 Ordinance Lastman’s
7 – Club Supper	11 – Burger Night	9 – Cornhole	7 – Euchre
8 – Wedding	12 – Cornhole	10 – Euchre	10 – Wing Night / DAV Mtg 6:30
9 – Grad Party/Legionville departs	13 – Euchre	14 – KC Bingo	11 – KC Bingo
12 – KC Bingo	15 - 6:30 PM - Auxiliary & Post Executive Mtg	15 – Life Screening	12 – Burger Night
13 – Burger Night	17 – KC Bingo	16 – Friday Supper/ Class of 64	13 – Chicken/Stuffed Meatloaf / Cornhole
14 – Flag Day/Cornhole	19 – Club Supper/Cornhole	18 - 1:00 PM – FrontLine Honors	15 - 1:00 PM – FrontLine Honors
15 - Euchre	21 - 1:00 PM – FrontLine Honors	19 - 6:30 PM - Auxiliary & Post Executive Mtg	16 - 6:30 PM - Auxiliary & Post Executive Mtg
16 - 1:00 PM – FrontLine Honors/Father’s Day	24 – KC Bingo	21 – KC Bingo	17 – Wing Night
17 - 6:30 PM - Auxiliary & Post Executive Mtg	24-25 – Kwik Trip	22 – Burger Basket	18 – KC Bingo
19 – KC Bingo	25 – Burger Night	23 – Cornhole	18-19 – Kwik Trip
20 – Koreans Last Man Lunch	26 – Cornhole	24 – Euchre	19 – Burger Night
21 - Club Supper / Cornhole	27 - Euchre	28 – KC Bingo	20 – Friday Supper/Cornhole
26 – KC Bingo	31 – KC Bingo	30 – Cornhole	21 – Euchre
27 – Burger Night			23 – Red Cross
29 – Euchre/Wedding			24 – Wing Night
			25 – KC Bingo
			26 – Burger Night
			28 – Walker Reception

The **Post 43 WatchWord newsletter** is available on the Legion Website: www.mnlegionpost43.org If you have any specific recommendations for our Website, our Post, or any general questions, please send a message to: faribaultlegion43@gmail.com

***Burger Baskets,
Chicken Strip, or Philly Cheese Steak Baskets
Every 2nd& 4th Thursday
5:30pm – 7:00pm***

He was getting old and paunchy, his hair was falling fast, and he sat around the Legion telling stories of the past. of a war that once he fought in and deeds that he had done, in his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes...everyone.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors his tales became a joke. All his buddies listened quietly for they knew whereof he spoke. But we'll hear his tales no longer for 'ol Joe has passed away, and the world's a little poorer for a Veteran died today.

He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife for he lived an ordinary very quiet sort of life. He had a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way; and the world won't note his passing 'tho a veteran died today.

When politicians leave this Earth, their bodies lie "in state", while thousands grieve their passing and proclaim that they were great. Papers tell of their life stories from the time they were young, but the passing of a veteran goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land, some politician who breaks their promise and cons his fellow man? The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives are often disproportionate to the service that he gives. While the "ordinary" veteran who offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a small pension.

It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys, who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys. Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand. 'Would you really want some cop-out with his ever-waffling stand?' Or would you want a veteran, his home, his country, his kin, just a common veteran who would fight until the end.

He was just a "common" veteran, and his ranks are growing thin, but his presence should remind us we may need his likes again. For when countries are in conflict, we find that the veteran's part is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage at the end of his days! Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say: "OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING...A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

AMERICAN LEGION POST 43

112 NE 5th St.
Faribault, MN 55021
Tel. (507) 334-8784



Post 43 Officers

Commander: Mark Quinlan
1st Vice: Steve Walter
2nd Vice: Mike Cook
Adjutant: John McDonough
Chaplain: Glen Wegner
Finance Officer: Jack Claeson

Executive Board Members: Ron Jameson,
Luverne Malecha, John McDonough,
Jim Nielsen, Dan Rasmussen

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Kathy Larson
1st Vice: Gina Little
2nd Vice: Open
Secretary: Karen Rasmussen
Treasurer: Darlene Liverseed
Sgt at Arms: Ellen Blume / Mary Lillquist
Chaplain: Paulette Jameson
Historian: Karen Rasmussen

Executive Committee Members:

Candy Braun, Misty Ekiss, Jeanette Hammond,
Sandy Kuhlman, Jeannie Michels, Len Nielsen

Sons of the American Legion

Commander: Stu Schuenke
1st Vice:
Adjutant: Jim Douda
Treasurer:
Chaplain: Mike Pittman
Sgt at Arms: Jim Douda