# WATCHWORD





# September 2025 – December 2025 The Official Publication of American Legion Post #43 Faribault, MN





#### Post 43 Commander

Greetings from the Commander's Corner! Welcome to Post 43. We have been making a lot of improvements around here lately. Jill has done a wonderful job at getting some of our history back up on the walls of our club and I have personally noticed people walking around admiring and reading it. There is more work to be done and all the staff here at Post 43, paid and unpaid, have been working hard to finish things up. Work is continuing in the event space, all 6 of the TVs are up and running. The KC is using them for BINGO and Randy, our Gambling Manager, has been using them for the house races. One of the Celebrations of Life that was held in our event space used them for their memorial video and a Class reunion used it for their past memory video. This helps broaden the number of things we can do in our event space. As we continue to improve our club and event space there are a few things we need. The first being more money, the 2<sup>nd</sup> is we need more volunteers to help with improvements but also to help with events and the set up and take down that goes along with those events. We also need more members to continue our mission. If you know someone who may qualify to be a member of the Post, the Auxiliary, or the SAL, then please talk to them about what we are here for, we are not just a bar and event center, we are a group of like-minded people with a mission to help veterans and their family members, we are also here for youth and community support. Members are the most important part of our mission, without our members we the American Legion cannot continue to do what we do.

John Haessig

Commander, American Legion Post 43

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# Unit #43 Auxiliary

Hello Auxiliary Members,

As I embark on a second year as the President of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 43, I am in awe of all we did last year and look forward to another great year. We have so much to celebrate. Our National Security Program report not only took honor at the Department level it was moved on to National. I am looking forward to seeing if we receive the national award. We have received many awards and will be presenting them soon. These awards are a demonstration of all the work we do day in and day out serving and caring for veterans and our community.

This last week two young men left for basic training. My heart leaps with gratitude for every person who has taken the time to serve our country. Today my son is somewhere on the other side of the world serving while his wife and children carry on with daily life, excited for their reunion. Recently, I witnessed four of our Honor Guard members standing, waiting for the time they would place the flags. I was struck by the honor and sacrifice these guys continue to give. They continue to serve even retirement or exit from active military service. If we all followed this example of sacrifice just think how things would be. There are many ways to serve with the Auxiliary. We have many projects, and the Legion can always use volunteers in serving food.

Got an idea? I would love to have a beverage and hear it! Let's make this year, a year to remember, a year to grow, and a year to show our support everywhere we go. Our mission field in supporting veterans is right here in our own backyard. Can't wait to see you again or to meet you for the first time. November 11th, Veteran's Day is a good day to set aside some time and share with veterans.

In Honor, Gina Little, Auxiliary President

## Sons of the American Legion Squadron #43

Greetings to All,

Let me first introduce myself to all new members. My name is Paul (PJ) Johnson, and I am once again the Commander of Squadron 43, of Post 43 Sons of the American Legion (SAL).

I have been Commander in the past and have once again taken over the role at the Post. We will be having monthly meetings, beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of September, which falls on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 PM. We will discuss various ways that our new club manager (Jill) would like our help with activities at the Post. Currently, there are opportunities for us to run the meat raffles and race raffles which occur on Wednesday evenings during KC Bingo. Also, we would like to discuss the possibility of putting together a couple of kitchen crews to help during the week in the evenings.

To those who haven't stopped into the Post in a while, please consider dropping by for one of our regularly scheduled events or just a random drop in to see all of the new changes since your last visit. The Club has a fantastic new manager in Jill Manahan, as well as new bartenders, all contributing towards a very positive vibe.

Hope to see many of you soon. My contact information is: 507-384-1004 or I can be reached at <a href="mailto:bigpj@hotmail.com">bigpj@hotmail.com</a> if you have any questions.

Your Comrade and Friend,

ΡJ

All dates below are subject to change, please visit your Post for current function dates			
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	December
1 – Labor Day - CLOSED	1 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	2 – 70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party (Mills)	1 - Tacos 5:00-7pm
2 – Wing Night 5:00-7pm	2 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	3 – Tacos 5:00-7pm	– 6:30pm Post&Aux Membership
3 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	3 – Friday Supper/ Korea Last Man's	– 6:30pm Post&Aux Membership	2 – Wings 5:00-7pm
4 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	Supper 5:00-7pm	4 – Wings 5:00-7pm	3 – KC Bingo 6:00pm
5 – NO Friday Supper due to city	4 – Pregnancy Options	5 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	4 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
water line maintenance	5 – Cornhole 12:00pm	6 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	5 – Harry Meyer Ctr Christmas Party
8 – Tacos 5:00-7pm / 6:30pm Post &	6 – Tacos 5:00-7pm/6:30pm Post &	7 – Friday Supper 5:00-7pm	4:00-7pm
Aux Membership Mtg	Aux. Membership Mtg	10 – Tacos 5:00-7pm	6 – River Community Church
9 – Wings 5:00-7pm	7 – Wings 5:00-7pm	11 – Veteran's Day Program &	Christmas Party
10 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	8 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	Lunch/Tacos 5:00-7pm	7 – Holiday Market
11 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	9 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	12 - KC Bingo 6:00pm/Kwik Trip	8 – Legion Christmas Party Social
12 – Steve & Steve Band	11 – Anniversary Party	13 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-	5pm- Dinner 6pm
13 – MSAD Alumni 5:00pm	12 – Cornhole 12pm	7pm/Kwik Trip	9 - Tacos 5:00-7pm
14 – Cornhole 12:00pm	13 – Tacos 5:00-7pm	14 – Grooms Dinner	10 - KC Bingo 6:00pm
15 – Tacos 5:00-7pm/ Post & Aux	14 – Wing Night 5:30-7pm	15 – Wedding	11 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
Exec Mtg 6:30pm	15 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	16 – KC 4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Poultry	12-14 – Toys for Tots Pool Tourney
16 – Wing Night 5:30-7pm	16 – Rice County Historical 5:00-8pm	Bingo/1:00pm FrontLine Honors	15 – Tacos 5:00-7pm/6:30pm Post &
17 – KC Bingo 6:00pm/Kwik Trip	17 – Friday Supper 5:00-7pm	17 – Tacos 5:00-7pm / 6:30pm Post	Aux Exec Mtg
18 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm /	19 - 1:00pm FrontLine Honors	& Aux Exec Mtg	16 - Wings 5:00-7pm
Kwik Trip	20 – Tacos 5:00-7pm / 6:30pm Post &	18 – Wings 5:00-7pm	17 – KC Bingo 6:00pm
19 – Friday Supper 5:00-7pm	Aux Exec Mtg	19 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	18 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
20 – Paradise City Wrestling 7:00-	21 – Wings 5:00-7pm	20 – AG Luncheon	19 – Friday Supper 5:00-7pm
10pm	22 – Bingo 6:00pm	21 – Friday Supper 5:00-7pm	20 – 60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party Jeff & Mark
21 – 1:00pm FrontLine Honors	23 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-	24 – Tacos 5:00-7pm	21 - 1:00pm FrontLine Honors
22 – Red Cross Blood Drive 11:30-	7pm/Fbo Foundation	25 – Wings 5:00-7pm	22 – Tacos 5:00-7pm
5:30pm/Tacos 5:00-7pm	25 – Rescue 55021 Auction-and Band	26 - KC Bingo 6:00pm	23 – Wings 5:00-7pm
23 – Wings 5:00-7pm	4:00-9pm	27 – Thanksgiving Tom & Jerrys	25- Christmas - CLOSED
24 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	26 – SAL Breakfast for AAUW	10:00am-3:00pm	29 – Tacos 5:00-7pm
25 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm	27 – Legion Membership Dinner		30 – Wings 5:00-7pm
28 – Cornhole 12:00pm	Social 5pm, Dinner 6pm		
29 – Taco 5:00-7pm	28 – Wings 5:00-7pm		
30 – Wings 5:00-7pm/Mayering Mtg	29 – KC Bingo 6:00pm		
3:30pm	30 - Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm		
	31 – BOO Crawl		

# FrontLine Honors Ceremony

# 1:00pm – every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

We remember the fallen by reading all U.S. Service member names that were killed in action or have died because 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.

# Come on in, we're open!

Monday – Friday 11 AM to 8 PM or later
Happy Hour Specials \$3 Tap & Domestic Bottles & Rail Drinks
Saturday 10 AM to 8 PM or later
Sunday 10 AM to 8 PM or later

# Post, SAL & Unit 43 Announcements: SAVE THE DATE: SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON APRIL 11, 2026

<u>Everyone should have received their dues notification by now.</u> Please remit your dues payment to Ed Little (Legion \$50.00), Jeannie Michaels (Auxiliary \$40.00) or Bob Johnson (S.A.L. \$25.00)

# \*\*Wing Night\*\* Every Tuesday – 5:00 – 7:00pm

\*\*Burger/Philly Night Every Thursday - - 5:00 - 7:00pm\*\*

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

# **Veterans Day 2025**

Tuesday, November 11th, 2025

- 11:00 AM Ceremony at the Rice County Veterans Memorial
- 12:00 PM Luncheon at American Legion Post 43

### **Rice County Veterans Memorial**

There are 907 Veteran paver stones at the Memorial

All 907 took an oath, and along with their families, they sacrificed for your country.

# **THANK YOU, VETERANS!**

If you are interested in placing a paver stone at the Memorial, for more details, contact the Commander of American Legion Post 43 or go to:

https://ricecountymemorial.org/

# Suicide Prevention Month - September 2025

Each September, NAMI recognizes **Suicide Prevention Month** as a time to raise awareness, spread hope, and spark meaningful action around one of the most urgent mental health issues of our time.

Our goal is to ensure that individuals, friends, and families have access to the tools, resources, and support they need to talk openly about suicide prevention, recognize warning signs, and seek help.

This month: Start a Conversation. Be the Difference.

With one conversation, asking someone how they're really doing — and being ready to truly listen — can save lives. Because here's what we know: No one has to face this alone. Help exists. Healing is possible. And all it can take is for one person to start a conversation.

https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Suicide-Prevention-Month/

# **AMERICAN LEGION POST 43**

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



Post 43 Officers
Commander: John Haessig 1st Vice: Ron Jameson 2nd Vice: Dave Smith Adjutant: Ed Little Chaplain: Glen Wegner Finance Officer: Jim Douda Sgt at Arms: Bob Flom Past Commander: Steve Walter

#### **Executive Board Members:**

Mike Cook, Dave Cram, Bob Flom, Kirk Mansfield, John McDonough, Dan Rasmussen, Glen Wegner

# **Auxiliary Officers:**

President: Gina Little 1st Vice: Kayleen Caron 2nd Vice: Karen Rasmussen Secretary: Candy Braun (temp) Treasurer: Candy Braun Sgt at Arms: Judy Lee, Mary Lillquist Chaplain: Kathy Larson Historian: Kathy Larson

### **Executive Committee Members:**

Jeanette Hammond, Jeannie Michels, Cathy Horvath, Louise Flom, Babe Norgaard

### Sons of the American Legion

Commander: Paul (PJ) Johnson 1st Vice: Mike Fitzpatrick Adjutant: Jim Douda Treasurer: Chaplain: Mike Pittman Sgt at Arms: Jim Douda