



Legionnaire

Volume 97, Number 4

For God and Country

April 2015

AL Riders get their statewide structure

By Al Zdon

Minnesota's American Legion Riders got their statewide organization following action by the Department Executive Committee at Royalton.

The Standard Operating Procedure, passed by a voice vote that sounded unanimous by the DEC, will allow the Riders a statewide structure – while emphasizing that the ALR remains a post program.

The Riders for the past several years had been trying to get a constitution passed by the DEC, but those efforts were not rewarded. This past fall, Bill Sloan, National American Legion Internal Affairs assistant director in charge of the Legion Riders, came to Minnesota's Fall Conference and suggested a Standard Operating Procedure instead of a constitution.

That SOP says the Riders "is a program of each American Legion Post," but that "Periodically, they unite with other American Legion Riders throughout the State of Minnesota to raise funds and facilitate communication."

The SOP establishes a statewide executive committee of the Riders that will include ten district ALR representatives who will, in turn, elect a director and a secretary at an annual meeting, which is called the "Legionville Romp."

The director will have "full power" to carry out the mandates and policies of the Riders as established by National Resolution 35.

Prior to the vote, Department Commander Peggy Moon, who had not appointed an official liaison to the Riders this

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APPLAUSE FOR RIDERS -- American Legion Riders President Scuffy Paulson got a standing ovation after the Department Executive Committee approved a Standard Operating Procedure for a statewide Riders structure.

Americanism bills draw support of Legion leadership

A bill in the Minnesota Legislature that would call for high school seniors to pass an Americanism test before graduating has received strong support from the state's Legion leadership.

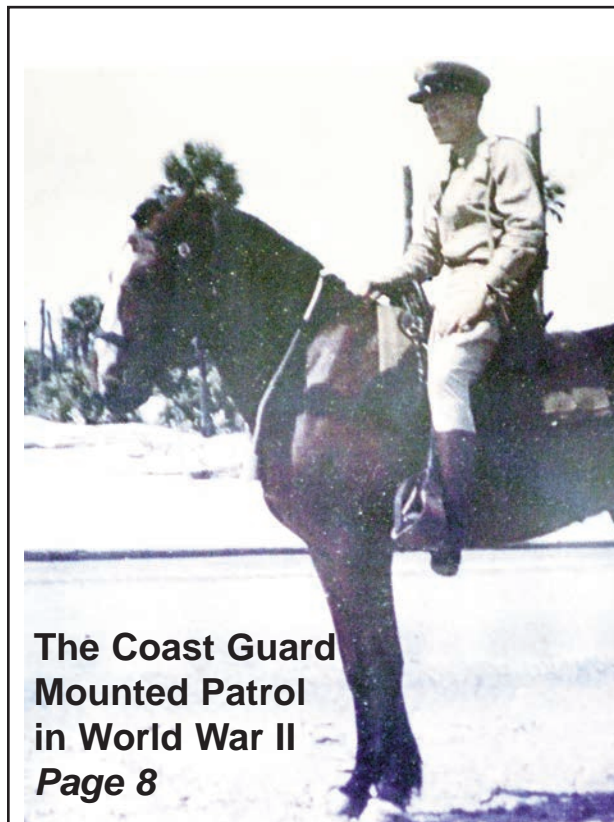
"It's obviously something I'm very excited about and it has my wholehearted support," said Past National Commander Dan Ludwig of Red Wing. "If you don't understand our heritage, if you don't know who we are, it's hard to be a good citizen."

The bill is part of a nationwide effort called the "Civics Education Initiative" sponsored by the Joe Foss Institute. Joe Foss was the leading Marine fighter ace of World War II, a Medal of Honor recipient, and he was governor of South Dakota.

The institute hopes to have the measure passed in every state by Sept. 17 of 2017. Minnesota is being targeted as one of the first 18 states to pass the bill. Five states have already passed the measure.

The test the students would have to pass is the test

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The Coast Guard Mounted Patrol in World War II
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State convention will be held in Redwood Falls

The 2015 Department Convention will be held at Jackpot Junction Casino near Redwood Falls. The Legion and Auxiliary Conventions are sponsored by Redwood Falls Post and Unit 38.

The convention will begin Thursday, July 15, and conclude Saturday, July 18, with the election of new officers.

A registration form is on Page 3 of this issue.

Registration is \$15 per person until July 1, and \$18 thereafter.

The official headquarters for the convention is the Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel. Those attending the convention must make their own housing arrangements with the hotel, 507-697-8000 or 800-946-2274.

Housing reservations are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Rooms will be \$75 per night. Deadline for room reservations to get the Legion rate is June 15.

The hotel also has RV sites. There are other hotels in the Redwood Falls area.

The convention will conduct the annual business of the Minnesota American Legion.

There will be a Department Executive Committee meeting preceding the convention. A parade will be held Friday.

Olivia youth is top Scout

Cody O'Halloran, a senior at BOLD High School, has been selected Eagle Scout of the Year for Minnesota, earning a \$1,000 scholarship.

O'Halloran, the son of Mike and Julie O'Halloran of Olivia, did his Eagle Scout project for Olivia Post 186.

His project was a two-tiered landscape plan in front of the Legion building. It features red, white and blue flowers, three flag poles, and a memorial donated by a local family.

O'Halloran worked with his troop and his family to construct the landscape, and he was able to get donations and discounts from local businesses.

He also raised \$1,787 at a fund-raiser, but only spent \$715 on the project. He donated the remaining money to the post.

O'Halloran has also taken care of the project by watering and weeding the plants.

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CODY O'HALLORAN

Legion Day at Twins slated for May 15

The 15th annual Minnesota American Legion Family Day with the Twins will be held Friday, May 15, in a game vs. the Tampa Bay Rays.

Commander Peggy Moon will throw out the first pitch. Gametime is 7:10 p.m.

Tickets are \$23 for Home Plate View seats.

To order, call 1-800-33-TWINS, hit "0" to talk to an attendant, and refer-

ence the American Legion promotion. There's a \$5 service charge. Or call Nick Corcoran at 612-659-4083.



DEC approves Rider's SOP

year, named Paul Hassing of Montgomery to the post. It was approved by the DEC.

Hassing told the DEC that Riders mainly "want to have fun, raise money, and give that money away." He said the SOP would provide a structure that would help communication and planning on a statewide basis. "Somebody has to be in charge."

Fourth District Commander Dan Williams moved that the SOP be approved, and the motion was seconded by Tom Sanders, 10th District Commander.

Past Department President Bill Goede, Plainview, rose to oppose the SOP, arguing that the Riders were strictly a post program and that creation of a statewide structure could lead to legal or liability problems.

It was those concerns that kept the DEC in the past from approving a statewide constitution for the group.

Goede noted that nobody was opposed to the great work the ALR has done, it was only a matter of the danger of creating a statewide organization.

Two sections in the SOP do state that the Minnesota American Legion will have no financial or legal responsibility for the state ALR.

It was pointed out that figures from National showed that only 38 posts in the state had Rider chapters, less than seven percent of all posts statewide. The Riders in attendance immediately challenged those figures.

Scuffy Paulson, First District, came to the front and introduced himself as "president of whoever we are."

Paulson, who has been leading the battle to approve the constitution at recent DEC meetings, said Minnesota was a national leader in ALR - as shown by last year's \$87,000 donation to the Legion Legacy Fund, the most of any state. He said Minnesota needed to take a leadership position by approving the SOP. "We set the bar in Minnesota, let other people follow us."

He said the SOP "allows us a flow of communication." Paulson said it was time to act and not put it off anymore. "Let us get back to raising money and doing what we do best. Let's kick this can behind us."

Past National Commander Dan Ludwig said he favored the SOP. He too stated that the ALR will basically remain a post program, but that the SOP would help the Riders coordinate statewide rides. He said the proposed SOP was not a perfect document, but it could be amended in the future.

"Together we need to march forward on this."

Department Adjutant Randy Tesdahl, who in the past had spoken strongly against a statewide ALR organization, and said he was still "concerned about a full-blown department level executive committee."

He noted that other Legion programs are able to function without such an SOP.

Goede took the floor again and questioned a section of the two-page SOP titled "Amendments." The section reads: "This SOP may be amended by a vote of 2/3 of all the active members of the ALR within the Department of Minnesota, after being presented in writing to the ALR director."

Goede wondered how a document that needs DEC approval can be amended by the Riders themselves.

In the end, the SOP was passed. Paulson was given a standing ovation by the people present at the meeting.

In other business, the DEC:

— Accepted cancellations of post charters for DeGraff Post 362, Maynard Post 252 and Minneapolis Calhoun Post 231.

— Heard a report from Tesdahl on the state and national conventions. He told the DEC that there will not be one big room for the hospitality events on Friday night at the state convention, but that each district will have to rent its own suite at \$150 a night, and that the events would be held throughout the hotel. He said it was ever more difficult for the Convention Corporation to negotiate for a large room.

He said the Minnesota delegation would be housed at the national convention at the Holiday Inn on Lombard Street in Baltimore. Car parking would be \$25 a day and room rates would be at \$161 a day.

— Heard from Pat Logan, Membership Director, that the Minnesota Party would be a cruise of Baltimore Harbor that would include dining and dancing. The cost would be \$82.50 per person.

— Was told by Tesdahl that the membership card pickup would be held June 25-26 at Department Headquarters in St. Paul, and that district commanders should make appointments for a time to pick up their materials in those two days. He said that when they pick up their materials, they could meet with Department staff and learn more about their roles in the organization.

— Learned that details on a \$50,000 donation to Legionville would be announced soon.

— Was informed by Commander Moon that the Department has received a check for \$5,500 for its share of the profits from National Emblem Sales.

— Was urged by Moon to support legislation that will provide the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs with an additional \$10 million this year so it won't have to lay off 85 people, mainly in the state Veterans Homes.

Eagle Scout

Continued from Page 1

"I was very glad to be able to give back to the American Legion. They have been very supportive to my Boy Scout Troop and to my high school. I was glad to be able to dedicate my landscape project to all the veterans who have so bravely served our country."

O'Halloran is in the upper 11 percent of his class with a 3.873 grade point average.

He has been active in BOLD's high school choir, band and pep band. He also played baseball and basketball. He participates in the Future Farmer's of America organization along with the Math League.

He belongs to the National Honor Society and has worked on other charitable projects.

O'Halloran joined the Scouting program as a Cub Scout for three years and then as a Boy Scout for seven years. His troop helped serve and clean up at the Flag Day program at the Olivia Post.

He was also involved in the youth group of St. Aloysius Church.

O'Halloran plans on becoming a veterinarian, and hopes to start his college career at the University of Minnesota, Morris, and then attend the University in the Twin Cities.

V 4 V announces grants

The Veterans 4 Veterans Trust Fund announced five grants totaling \$84,000 for March.

The Disabled American Veterans will receive \$32,000 for a Northeast Minnesota Transportation Program, helping veterans get to health care facilities.

The Veterans on the Lake Resort will get \$7,000 to put a fence around the facility's swimming pool.

The Minnesota Veterans Home at Silver Bay received \$25,000 to assist in building a permanent band shell.

The Military Order of the Cootie received \$10,000 for assistance with the "Venison Program" which provides venison meals to veterans at state and federal facilities.

The Allina Associated Foundation received \$10,000 for the "Honoring Veterans Program," which helps veterans have quality end-of-life care.

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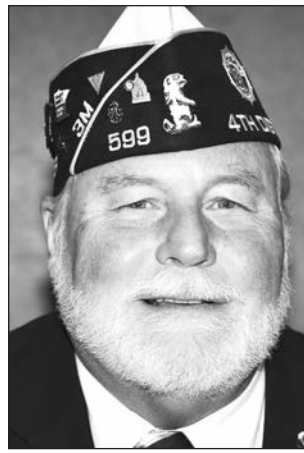
Endorsements

Partridge endorsed for vice cdr.

The Fourth and Fifth Districts have endorsed Carroll "Bird" Partridge for 2015 - 2016 Department of Minnesota Vice Commander representing the Fourth and Fifth Districts. Partridge served in the U. S. Navy and he is a veteran (1967 - 1971) of the Vietnam War era. He an active member

and vice commander of 3M Post 599. He presently serves on the 4th District Leadership Team. He served consecutive terms as the Fourth District's Commander, 2012 - 2013 and 2013 - 2014. Partridge is a member of committees at the state and District levels.

He serves on the Department of Minnesota Executive Committee. He currently serves on the Department Post Development Committee. In the 40/8, he is Chef De Tran of Voiture 791. He is a member of the Sons of the American Squadron 39 of North St. Paul.



CARROLL PARTRIDGE

Sons of The American Legion

By Dennis Henkemeyer



What a terrific month this has been for the Sons of The American Legion here in Minnesota.

Let me start with the annual SAL Spring Conference which was held at the Anoka American Legion Post Home on 21 March.

We had over 60 members representing close to 30 squadrons in attendance for this educational meeting.

In addition to reports from the various committeemen and officers, we heard from two ad hoc committees that were appointed at the fall conference back in October.

The first was from Chairman Brandon Rogat who presented to us a very informative power point presentation on activities for members between the ages of 10 and 18.

This project would mirror that of the Juniors weekend at Legionville and the whole purpose is to get those members in that age group more involved in our organization.

The second ad hoc committee report was given by PNC Joe Mayne and addressed the need for a revamping of our current committees and commissions.

The restructuring will now be presented after a couple of revisions to the delegates to the detachment convention and if approved will be forwarded to the Department of Minnesota for their approval.

Membership is going gangbusters and at this writing we are sitting at over 93% of our membership goal for the year. However, we have a long way to go with our renewals.

If memory serves me correctly, we are presently at around 82% and last year we ended with a percentage of around 93%. Renewals is where we have to concentrate our efforts over the next couple of months.

Finally, what can I say about my commander's project; the Minneapolis Fisher House?

During our spring conference the total collected to date was at \$25,475.00. Contributions to this project have been overwhelming and I cannot say thank you enough.

God bless all of you.

Americanism bill in state Legislature

Continued from Page 1

given to those seeking U.S. citizenship. The 100 question test asks about American history, government and heritage. Students must answer 60 percent of the questions correctly.

In Minnesota, the House version is HF 1497 and the Senate bill is SF 1674.

"It fits our emphasis on Americanism to a T," Department Commander Peggy Moon said. "At Boys State, we give a Minnesota government test. At Oratorical Contest, it's all about the Constitution."

Moon and Ludwig have been named by the Foss Institute to a Minnesota advisory council on passing the initiative.

"Those who are becoming citizens need to pass the test. Those of us lucky enough to be born here need to know this stuff too," Moon said.

The initiative "is a first step to ensure all students are taught basic civics about how our government works," according to the Foss Institute.

It has been found, for example, that among college graduates in the United States, only 42 percent could put the Battle of the Bulge in the correct war, and only 15 percent could name the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (John Roberts.) At the same time, 96 percent could identify Lady Gaga.

In Minnesota, the bill faces a special challenge this year because it was introduced late due to delays getting the language of the bill from the Foss Institute.

"We missed the deadline for getting bills on the Docket," said Randy Kelly, a spokesman for the Foss Institute in the Midwest. Kelly, former Mayor of St. Paul, is helping lead the effort to pass the bills.

"We may have to use some extraordinary measures," he said. "But we want to make sure the bill gets a hearing in both the House and the Senate."

A hearing on the bill has been set for April 7 in the House Education Committee. Moon said all Legionnaires and others interested in Americanism should attend the hearing and lend their support. The meeting is at 8 a.m. at the State Office Building.

Kelly said the bill has strong bi-partisan support. In the House, it is sponsored by Rep. Dean Urdahl, R-Grove City and Rep. Kurt Daudt, R-Crown, the Speaker of the House, and 33 other House members.

In the Senate, chief sponsors are Thomas Baak, D-Cook, Majority Leader, and Sen. Chuck Wiger, D-Maplewood, chairman of the Education Division.

"It's important that we contact our state representatives and senators to strongly support these bills," Ludwig said. "We all need to be teachers. We need to teach our children, or grandchildren and everybody else what it means to be an American. These bills are a significant step in that direction."

OFFICIAL CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

A registration fee of \$15 for each person attending, whether a delegate, alternate or a guest, must accompany this form. Make this check payable to AMERICAN LEGION POST 38 with "Department Convention" in memo line. No credit cards will be accepted.

Registration at the door and after July 1 will be \$18.

Mail to: Carrie Werner, Redwood Falls Post 38, Box 354, Redwood Falls, MN 56283.

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by Tom Seemon

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COMMANDER'S COLUMN

By Peggy Moon



Happy Spring Legionnaires. Finally it looks like this long, cold winter is behind us, and I for one welcome the new season.

Thank you to everyone who traveled to Walker to attend my testimonial. I hope you had a great time. Thank you to Past National Commander Butch Miller for a wonderful talk - he is still an inspiration to all of us. He had a great time visiting his home state, and even took some time to visit the Post in Walker. And thank you for the gifts. You are all so generous, and it was an evening I will never forget.

I also want to thank my post, Kriesel-Jacobsen Post 560 of Zimmerman, for all the hard work they put into the evening. I cherish my home town, and they're part of the reason I do. Thank you also to our Adjutant Randy Tesdahl and Cheryl Fraser. What a wonderful job they did entertaining everyone.

As I write this, we are in the middle of revitalizations. The Fourth and Fifth District is now completed, and the Sixth District will happen April 9-11. I am really excited that we are doing this now, at this time of year, as typically we start seeing our membership numbers slow down to a trickle at this time of year. Up to now, the work was easier, but we still have many members who have not renewed, and we need to find new members to join our organization. Our work and dedication to our fellow veterans, the children of our country, and our communities need us today more than ever. Our forefathers worked with determination to give us the organization we have today, and we must not

let them down.

We learned recently that the City of Minneapolis was awarded the 2016 Medal of Honor Convention. This week-long convention will take place September 26-October 3, 2016. The agenda will feature a wide range of events, including school visits, memorial services, meet and greets, and concerts. The week will conclude with the Patriot Award Gala, a black-tie affair attended by upwards of 2,000 guests. The Congressional Medal of Honor was created by President Abraham Lincoln in 1861, and has been bestowed to fewer than 3,500 individuals. Presently, there are only 81 living recipients. I'm sure you'll hear more about this prestigious event as the months go on.

Another issue I have been working on is the Civics Education Initiative sponsored by the Joe Foss Institute. Joe Foss was another Medal of Honor recipient and a veteran pilot from WWII. He founded the institute to educate our youth on the importance of America's unique freedoms, and to inspire them into public service. The Civics Education Initiative would require high school students, as a condition for graduation, to pass a test on 100 basic facts of US history and civics, from the United States Citizenship Civics Test - the test all new US citizens must pass. The goal is to pass legislation in all 50 states by a certain date, September 17, 2017, the 230th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. Former Mayor of St. Paul, Randy Kelly, has been hired to promote this initiative, and has asked me to serve on the Advisory Board for Minnesota, for which I have proudly consented. This initiative certainly fits in well with our Americanism Program, and I believe it should be supported by our American Legion.

I ran into County Veteran Service Officer Dave Hanson from Faribault County when I was in Wells, and he advised the Post membership that the Department of Veterans Affairs has changed the way it determines eligibility for VA health care, change that will result in more veterans having access to the health care benefits they've earned and deserve. Effective 2015, VA eliminated the use of net worth as a determining factor for both health care programs and copayment responsibilities. You may want to make an appointment with your CVSO to see if this change affects your eligibility.

In closing, Carl and I both wish you a Happy Easter. This is one of my favorite holidays, and I hope you all have a great time with family and friends. Spring is here.

Mail Call

Opportunity

To the Editor:

Our American Legion National Commander, Mike Helm, has issued a call for support for the Legislative Priorities for the 114th Congress. He specifically called out the issue, "Provide help for Veterans struggling with mental health issues and brain injuries," as one needing special attention. Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (PTI), comprise the bulk of these disorders.

Upon researching the issue and what is being done at the Federal level, it is obvious that funding for research and treatment is woefully inadequate (measured in millions) when compared to funding for developing and maintaining readiness for war (measured in tens/hundreds of billions), many elements of which are obsolete, others of no value in meeting current and future threats. This wide chasm in funding for warfighting materials over warfighters welfare shows a low priority for post conflict, life long effects of brain damage on affected veterans and their families.

Commander Helm pointed out that medical treatments, primarily drugs, along with periodic counseling, are helpful in controlling symptoms of PTSD and PTI, but inadequate in restoring veterans to the lives they left to serve. Transition back into civilian life after the adrenalin rush, stress laden, combat experience is very difficult for many, especially those without supportive families and meaningful careers to return to. The families are similarly affected since they have little understanding of the symptoms that suggest mental impairment and how to best support their returning member.

Disruption in personal/family income and returning to pre-combat roles contribute additional stress.

These conditions can and must be addressed. It is a moral imperative. Adequate funding must be made available to the agencies responsible for research, medical treatment, and advancing mental health issues.

Additionally, and equally important, the value of the social and economic sides of the problem must be recognized. In that regard, The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), in cooperation with the Veterans Administration, can utilize thousands of existing clubs and volunteers across the nation to provide social settings where victims of traumatic experiences will find others to communicate with while having the opportunity to participate in many veteran and community support activities provided by these facilities.

National Commander Helm has already started this process by identifying the urgent need for treatment beyond pills and counseling. In that respect, The American Legion

has stepped up to the plate and declared we are ready to serve by expanding our role in post service support across the nation. American Legion and VFW Clubs are ideal for gathering and distributing information regarding employment, training, and the wide range of veteran services available to them. All new initiatives need starting places and people with the knowledge and drive to make them successful. The American Legion Club in Park Rapids is a proud example of accomplishment in providing veteran and community services.

We have the place and the people. The Members and the Ladies Auxiliary are a rich source of people resources needed to get moving on this issue. For example, in Park Rapids, we are especially grateful to have star Auxiliary member, Lynn Spilman, now District 6 Vice President, taking special interest in this vital issue. Lynn simply gets things done. She has spent thousands of hours over the past 20 years in all facets of Legion activities - administration, recruitment, and fund raising - not only for the Legion but for needy causes within the community.

What is needed is direction from the Veteran's Administration down through The American Legion and VFW chains of command to establish common goals and activities/training required to meet them. The friendly doors of the clubs offer easy access and supportive environments for veterans across the nation. Veterans need to know what we offer and where we are relative to where they live. The American Legion and VFW are primarily self-sustaining, volunteer organizations. As such, we are immediately available. We want to help. Put us to work. Good things will happen.

Lee Purrier
Park Rapids

Sleeve patches

To the Editor:

According to the the U.S. Flag Code, it is appropriate to wear an American Flag on the left or right sleeve. When worn on the left sleeve, the union would appear toward the front and the stripes would run horizontally to the back.

When worn on the right sleeve, it is considered proper to reverse the design so that the union is at the observer's right to suggest the flag is flying in the breeze as the wearer moves forward (hence the name, "backwards flag").

Occasionally in this newspaper, one sees it displayed improperly. Please encourage your members to observe proper etiquette.

Loren Hoyhtya
Deer Creek

Chaplain's Corner

By
Steve Klinkner



Well, the March weather brought the warmth of spring early and was greatly enjoyed by everyone! My wife and I went on a bus tour vacation with the Leon Olsen Band to Arizona. The trip down was a challenge driving in a snow blizzard thru New Mexico and over the mountains into Arizona before we got out of it. Didn't know Minnesota was such a large state for winter weather! We had lots of fun meeting new people from Minnesota and Wisconsin on the bus and making acquaintances with those residing in Arizona. I was wearing my Madelia Post 19 American Legion Jacket at one of the dance festivals when a man came up to us and said he was born in Madelia but moved away when he was 6 years old. He shared that he was a WWII veteran and reminisced about the community in its earlier years. Interesting to meet so many Veterans wherever you happen to go and how easily Veterans connect with one another.

As we have followed this Band for some time now, I have to commend them on their final performance after the dance is over to have everyone form a large circle and recognize all of the Veterans to stand in the middle of the floor. We then sing "God Bless America." It always makes me feel proud to stand in the middle with all of these Veterans. At one of the Arizona dances, I got to stand next to my Uncle Melvin, 90 years old, and a WWII Veteran. What an honor! As we stood, I looked at the other Veterans, most of them had tears in their eyes, gathered together for this recognition, with their comrades, and a chance to show their pride of serving our Country, United under one God. This should not be taken for granted.

On another note, my daughter called me to inform me that my 8 year old grandson will be calling me to inform me that Easter season is here and when will we get the little baby chickens? It will be his first time experiencing baby chickens as we have talked about it for the last two years after attending a Farm Show. For some reason he thinks he has to sleep in the chicken coop with them; don't know were he got that idea from....

And yes, Easter is the season of new rebirth and have we prepared our selves? The vast majority are not ready for the Judgment and will be lost forever in eternity, but only a few are ready to go to Heaven (Matthew 7:13-14). We don't know when that day will come so we must always be ready. The Judgment will happen when the Lord comes again. No one will be exempt. If we are not ready, it will be too late to try to get ready when we are standing before the Lord in Judgment. Our eternal fate is sealed either when we draw our last breath or if the Lord comes before we die.

Is your name in God's Book of Life? If it is not then "Anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15). How do we make sure our name is in the Book of Life? Jesus says "Not everyone who says to Me ~ Lord, Lord ~ shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven" (Matthew 7:21). Jesus says that we must "Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). We must do God's will and continue to do his will if we expect to go to Heaven. Are you ready for the judgment?

Happy Spring to all the Veterans and their families and keep our service men and women that are away in this Easter season in your prayers.

The Minnesota Legionnaire

Official Publication of and Owned Exclusively by
The American Legion, Department of Minnesota

Al Zdon, Editor

First published in 1920 as the Hennepin County Legionnaire, the Minnesota Legionnaire is now in its 96th year of publication. It is published monthly by The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, Room 300A, 20 West 12th Street, St. Paul, MN 55155-2000. Periodicals postage is paid at St. Paul, MN, and at additional mailing offices. The Legionnaire is a member of the Minnesota Newspaper Association and the National American Legion Press Association.

SUBSCRIPTION: \$10 for non-members. Members receive the Legionnaire as part of their dues.

PHONE: 651-291-1800, 866-259-9163, **FAX:** 651-291-1057
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The American Legion, 20 W. 12th Street, St. Paul, MN, 55155-2000. (USPS No. 013-679.) (ISSN No. 1644270)

ADVERTISING RATES: Contact Al Zdon, 651-291-1800

E-MAIL: azdon@mnlegion.org

WEBSITE: www.mnlegion.org

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What's Happening

Mazeppa Dedication

The Mazeppa Post 588 and the Mazeppa Veterans Honor Guard will dedicate the Mazeppa Veterans Memorial at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 23. For more information, contact Jeff Josselyn at 507-358-1802 or jeffyjoss@yahoo.com.

Poetry Contest

The 4th annual Children's Military Poetry Contest will be held in April, sponsored by Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn. The theme of this year's contest is "Celebrating the Veteran in my Life."

The contest is open to all children, K-12, in three age categories. For more information, email poetry@franken.senate.gov or call 651-221-1016.

StandDowns, Legal Help

The Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans is sponsoring several Stand Downs with legal help, and Legal Clinics in the next month.

-- StandDown for veterans at Becker County Fairgrounds, Detroit Lakes on Thursday, April 23. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an opening ceremony at 11 and a StandDown Court and legal clinic from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Services include meals, VA benefits, clothing, housing, haircuts, driver's license, employment and chaplaincy. Please bring your DD214. For more information, call 218-722-8763.

-- StandDown at Brainerd at the National Guard Armory on Wednesday, April 8. It will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with an opening ceremony at 11:30 and the StandDown Court and Legal Clinic from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 218-722-8763.

-- Drop-In Legal Clinic for Veterans at Fergus Falls on Wednesday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at VFW Post 612. Services include housing, employment, benefits, expungement, wills, debt collection and family law. For more information, call 218-722-8763.

-- Drop-In Legal Clinic for Veterans in Minneapolis at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, Flag Atrium Balcony Room, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., on Tuesday, April 14. For more information, call 651-200-4750.

-- StandDown at St. Cloud on Friday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the St. Cloud National Guard Armory. It will not have a court, but will feature some legal services. This StandDown is sponsored by United Way and not MACV. For more information, call 1-800-543-7709.

Last Days in Vietnam

The PBS American Experience film "Last Days in Vietnam" is available for free screenings in Minnesota communities. The film is available free of charge to a host organization, but there can be no charge or fundraising associated with the screening.

The film shows the bravery of the South Vietnamese and the U.S. military in the final days of the war. For more information contact tran_vu@wgbh.org.

Operation Blue Jay

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Operation Blue Jay in 1951 built the Thule Air Base in Greenland. Many of the men in the project were recruited in Minnesota.

Col. David Arnold at the National War College is doing research on Blue Jay and would like to hear from Minnesotans who participated. Call 202-685-3658 or email david.c.arnold.mil@gc.ndu.edu.

Discover Aviation Days

Anoka County Airport at Blaine, Janes Field, will host the Discover Aviation Days on May 30-31. It will feature experimental, homebuilt, civil, corporate, military World War II and other vintage aircraft. There will also be aircraft rides, the Golden Wings Museum, and military displays.

There will be breakfast from 7 a.m. to 11:30, and lunch from noon to 4 p.m. There will be a hangar dance on Saturday night. The event is free, with a donation for parking. Call 763-568-6072 for more information.

MHS seeks war photos

The Minnesota Historical Society is seeking photograph donations from Minnesota veterans. In particular, the society is interested in photos from the Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and, second, photos that illustrate Minnesota's homefront during war eras.

For more information, contact Jessica Ellison at jessica.ellison@mnhs.org.

Richfield Craft Fair

There will be a craft, bake sale, book sale, and merchant vendor on April 19 at the Richfield Post from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The address is 6501 Portland Ave. S., Richfield. For more information, call 612-481-2148.

Women Veterans Salute

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs "Salute to Women Veterans" will be held Saturday, May 16, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cragun's Resort near Brainerd.

The keynote speaker will be Peggy Moon, first woman Commander of the Minnesota American Legion and first woman chair of the Commander's Task Force.

All ages, eras, branches and transitioning military women are welcome. There will be discount room rates, workshops on art, meditation, entrepreneurship, and VA healthcare for women. The event will also feature networking, benefits information, vendors and resources and health practitioners on site.

Photo Exhibit

"Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During World War II" will be featured at the Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center from April 24-July 5 and from Aug. 25-Oct. 31. The photo exhibit opening and reception will be Sunday, May 17, at 1 p.m.

Over 6,000 Japanese Americans trained in Minnesota during World War II.

The exhibit is co-sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society and Japanese American Citizens League. For more information call 612-726-1171.

Round Tables

Minnesota round tables on military history have announced their April schedules:

-- The St. Croix Valley Civil War Roundtable will feature "Patriots of Brooklyn (Minnesota)" with speaker Darryl Sannes on Monday, April 27. This is a dinner meeting at the Lowell Inn in Stillwater. Call Steve Anderson at 715-386-1268 to make a reservation or get more information.

-- Owatonna Veterans Open Roundtable will feature "American Prison Camps in Owatonna and the Upper Midwest" with Jerry Yokum and Jerry Ganfield on Tuesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. The event is held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Contact: Dave Thomas, 507-451-9466.

-- World War II History Round Table at Fort Snelling History Center will feature "Air War in the Mediterranean" with author Col Robert Ehlers and will include combat veterans of that era. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, with an admission of \$5.

-- Rochester Veterans Roundtable will feature "Bomber Crew Training and World War II Bombing Missions" with Elizabeth Stofus, Ken Micko, Vincent Parker, and Doug Ward. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, April 13, at Autumn Ridge Church with a \$5 admission.

National Vice Commander Paul Sanford, Kansas, visits Minnesota



The National Vice Commander played no favorites, visiting both the 4th and 5th District efforts at revitalization. In St. Paul, Sanford, third from left, met with Fourth District Commander Dan Williams, Dave Baughman, Department Commander Peggy Moon, Membership Director Pat Logan and Micky Ostrum.



On a tour of the Minneapolis VA Medical Center in Minneapolis, Sanford was welcomed by Director Patrick Kelly.



In the Fifth District, NVC Paul Sanford met with, from left: Department Vice Commander Dennis DeLong, District Vice Commander Ray Eiden, Vice Commander Gary Martin, newly signed-up member Sarah McGinty, and Sanford.



NVC Sanford toured the Minnesota American Legion Headquarters in St. Paul and was toured around by Fourth District Commander Dan Williams and Membership Director Pat Logan.

Thank you

We would like to send a message of appreciation for the expression of sympathy after the death of our oldest son, Michael. Our American Legion Family is the greatest.

Bob and Gloria Lindquist

Taps

Dahl, Lowell M., 91, Army veteran of World War II, died March 14, 2015. He served in the adjutant general's office and was stationed in Japan. He was a member of Waseca Post 228.

Gorham, Robert B., 88, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died March 10, 2015. He was a member of Mora Post 201.

Ahlness, Steven, 63, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died March 10, 2015. He was a member of Mora Post 201.

Hanson, Dennis, 70, Coast Guard veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 10, 2015. He was a member of New London Post 537.

Halvorson, John, 95, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died Feb. 12, 2015. He was a member of New London Post 537.

Herman, Alvin P., 80, Army veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, died March 4, 2015. He served in the signal corps. He was a member of Elysian Post 311.

Aldrich, Robert, 90, Army veteran of World War II, died March 12, 2015. He was a member of Bertha Post 366.

Deschane, Magdelene A., 95, Army veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, died March 7, 2015. She was a surgical nurse and served in several locations including the 121st Evacuation Hospital in Korea and Landstuhl Hospital in Germany. She retired as a lieutenant colonel. She was a member of Deer Creek Post 283.

Hanson, Clayton Wesley, 88, Navy veteran of World War II, died Feb. 21, 2015. He was a member of Granite Falls Post 69.

Dixon, Larry C., 95, Navy veteran of World War II, died Feb. 28, 2015. He was an aviation machinist's mate second class. He was a member of Long Prairie Post 12.

Bolstad, Victor, 86, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 15, 2015. He was a member of Hayfield Post 330.

Dahnert, Rodger Dale, 81, Navy veteran of the Korean War and Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died March 18, 2015. He also served in the Army Reserve, retiring in 1988. He was a member of Waseca Post 228.

DeLaHunt, Ronald, 93, Army veteran of World War II, died March 19, 2015. He served in the Mediterranean Theater and earned a Purple Heart. He was a member of Little Falls Post 46.

Hemgren, Scott C., 53, Air Force veteran of the Lebanon/Grenada War era, died March 12, 2015. He was a member of Zimmerman Post 560.

Schultz, William P., 79, Marine Corps Veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 7, 2015. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Lindblad, Thomas R., 81, Air Force veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 7, 2015. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Lawrence, Maynard A., 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 25, 2015. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Olhausen, Jimmy L., 78, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 26, 2015. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Warzecha, Frank F., 87, Army veteran of World War II, died March 7, 2015. He served in the Aleutian Islands. He was a member of Holdingford Post 211.

Runniger, Paul Glenn, 67, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 27, 2015. He was a gunner's mate on patrol boats in the River Rats. He earned two Purple Hearts. He was a member of Houston Post 423.

Seratzki, Herman, Army veteran of World War II, died Feb. 11, 2015. He was a member of Onamia Post 395.

Jorgenson, Gene Olson, 90, Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War, died Feb. 28, 2015. He served in Europe during World War II and later re-enlisted in the Army and served in Germany. He was a member of Lowry Post 253.

Barber, James C., 83, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 4, 2015. He was a member of Winthrop Post 315.

Hanson, Richard Nicholas, 92, Army veteran of World War II, died Feb. 10, 2015. He was a member of Rush City Post 93.

Norton, Willard, 83, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 2, 2015. He was a member of Bertha Post 366.

Pederson, Robert Bruce, 79, Air Force veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 14, 2015. He had a 20-year career and served on bases around the world. He was a member of Alexandria Post 87.

Patrick, Richard Joseph, 89, Army veteran of World War II, died Feb. 15, 2015. He served in Company C of the 361st Infantry as a rifleman, messenger and bugler and fought in Italy around Rome and the Po Valley. He was the father of Mendota Heights Police Officer Scott Patrick, killed on duty in 2014. He was a member of Alexandria Post 87.

Woodruff, Lee Elroy, 92, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died Feb. 7, 2015. He served as an airplane mechanic. He was a member of Le Center Post 108.

Ruegmer, Eldred N., 74, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died March 9, 2015. He was a member of Cold Spring Post 455.

Sime, Stewart L., 82, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 11, 2015. He was a member of Marietta Post 156.

Yocom, Steven F., 92, Army veteran of World War II, died Feb. 25, 2015. He served in occupied Japan. He was a member of the Honor Guard for Emmons Post 317.

Collinge, Marlowe D., 81, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 26, 2015. He served in Japan. He was a mem-

ber of Minnesota Post At-Large 1982.

Carlson, Vern, 87, Army veteran of World War II and Navy veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 18, 2015. He was a member of Pine River Post 613.

Anderson, Richard C., 84, Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War, died March 5, 2015. He was a member of North Branch Post 85.

Galkin, Peter G., 94, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died Feb. 13, 2015. He was a member of Albert Lea Post 56.

Dobie, Robert E., 91, Navy veteran of World War II, died March 1, 2015. He was a past commander of Amboy Post 276.

Pedersen, Dennis Allen, 72, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 16, 2015. He was a combat veteran. He was a member of Hector Post 135.

Stavish, Robert B., 68, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 14, 2015. He was a member of Flensburg Post 136.

Maves, Alvin, 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 24, 2015. He was a member of Hayfield Post 330.

Zahler, Donald B., 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 26, 2015. He was an airplane mechanic. He was a member of Paynesville Post 271.

Webber, Wallace Anderson, 91, Marine Corps veteran of World War II, died March 17, 2015. He was a past commander of Wheaton Post 80.

Harrison, Roger, 92, Navy veteran of World War II, died March 17, 2015. He flew TBF Avenger torpedo bombers from aircraft carriers. He finished the war as a lieutenant. He was a member of Brainerd Post 255.

Borak, Robert Joseph, 73, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 23, 2015. He was a member of Chaska Post 57.

Rider, Gilbert W., 90, Army veteran of World War II, died March 19, 2015. He was a member of Deerwood Post 557.

Tompt, Dawin F., 88, Navy veteran of World War II, died March 24, 2015. He served on the USS Richmond in the Pacific. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Engelmeier, David, 80, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died March 21, 2015. He was a member of Cold Spring Post 455.

Simon, Albert R., 68, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died March 8, 2015. He was a member of St. Joseph Post 328.

Walter, Howard, 86, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 9, 2015. He served on the USS Sphinx. He was a member of Faribault Post 43.

Tonjum, Richard Sr., 76, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 3, 2015. He joined the Navy in 1955, and later served in the Army and in the Army Reserve. He was a member of Faribault Post 43.

Boyd, Clare A., 96, Navy veteran of World War II, died Feb. 6, 2015. He served in the Pacific. He was a member of Faribault Post 43.

Geyen, John H., 82, Army veteran of the Korean War, died Feb. 22, 2015. He was a member of Maple Lake Post 131.

Schlie, Herman C., 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 17, 2015. He earned a Purple Heart in the war. He was a member of Morristown Post 149.

Evenson, Marvin Joseph, 87, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died March 15, 2015. He was a member of Hector Post 135.

Benton, Melvin T., 90, Navy veteran of World War II, died March 21, 2015. He was a member of Park Rapids Post 212.

Hughes, Gene, 64, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died Feb. 11, 2015. He served on the USS John C. Calhoun as a torpedoman. He was a member of Granite Falls Post 69.

Hanson, Clayton Wesley, 88, Navy veteran of World War II, died Feb. 21, 2015. He was a member of Granite Falls Post 69.

Kennedy, Joel W., 76, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died March 18, 2015. He was a member of Mora Post 201.

Weidendorf, Jerry L., 81, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 17, 2015. He was in radio communication. He was a member of Mora Post 201.

Klatt, Richard G., 82, Air Force veteran of the Korean War, died March 17, 2015. He was a staff sergeant. He was a member of Maple Lake Post 131.

Lounsbury, Dewey D., 87, Navy veteran of World War II, died March 18, 2015. He was a member of Eden Valley Post 381.

Nye, Frank, 83, Army veteran of the Korean War, died March 14, 2015. He served 20 years in the National Guard. He was a member of Hackensack Post 202.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

By
Tom Newman



So the question is asked – “What is the status of The American Legion’s analysis of the recommendations submitted by the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission?”

The Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC) released its final report with 15 recommendations on Jan. 29. Since that time, The American Legion, as well as many stakeholders in the military and veterans’ communities, have been poring over the details, trying to determine the best course of action.

Congress is now starting to conduct hearings on the subject, as legislation will soon be considered to implement some or all of the recommendations. The Legion will be testifying in March before the Military Personnel Subcommittee of the House Committee on Armed Services.

Some of the provisions are good and supported by The American Legion. There is increased emphasis on financial education, support for a mandatory Transition Assistance Program (TAP), support for better collaboration between the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs, support for military families by recognizing the struggles military children sometimes go through with frequent school transfers — all of these could be helpful to members of the military and their families.

Other recommendations raise questions. The reform of retirement plans as presented is complicated and could have negative impacts on veterans. Changes to health-care plans would mean adding additional management burdens to military families, and there are potential negative impacts to education benefits if all programs besides the Post-911 G.I. Bill are allowed to sunset.

The American Legion is taking the 15 recommendations of the commission as an opening to create a dialogue about these issues, and an attempt to engage all of the stakeholders to determine the best course of action for those who serve. First and foremost, we are talking to over two million men and women who have worn the uniform that make up our membership. The Legion is also engaging “think tanks” to discuss the issues with senior analysts, talking to multiple committees on Capitol Hill (including Armed Services and Veterans Affairs), and trying to encourage deep thought about the impact of these decisions.

The first and foremost principle is to protect the integrity of the All-Volunteer Force. The men and women who fight for this country, and have fought for this country, deserve to have promises kept and to have benefits that do not negatively impact their willingness to serve. Rather than looking at each recommendation piecemeal, it’s important to recognize that many of them are deeply intertwined with others. You cannot change how parts of a service member’s finances work without extensive training on managing those finances; you cannot give the service members short shrift.

Furthermore, where there is overlap in jurisdiction, such as with the education benefits, The American Legion is pushing for joint hearings on Capitol Hill between Armed Services and Veterans Affairs to ensure the full impact of these decisions will be studied before decisions are made.

It is important to take the time to get these decisions right, rather than rush to reform a complex system and potentially negatively impact millions of service members, their families, and the veterans who have served before.

tnewman@mnlegion.org

Membership Chart

As of March 25, 2015

District	2015 Goal	Total 2014	Total 2015	Percent of Goal	Same Date '14
1	9,976	9,918	9,358	93.81	9,649
2	8,110	8,026	7,550	93.26	7,844
3	12,486	12,421	11,792	94.44	12,062
4	2,554	2,530	2,420	94.75	2,451
5	2,959	2,936	2,728	92.19	2,843
6	12,698	12,627	12,126	95.50	12,258
7	7,245	7,167	6,758	93.28	6,984
8	4,768	4,727	4,457	93.48	4,590
9	7,443	7,378	6,991	93.93	7,189
10	11,243	11,189	10,678	94.97	10,893
At-large	2,340	2,338	2,560	81.06	2,264
Totals	81,822	81,257	76,047	93.70	79,027



Carl Moon, husband of Department Commander Peggy Moon, did the invocation and the benediction.

COMMANDER'S TESTIMONIAL

Department Commander Peggy Moon was the guest of honor at her testimonial in Walker at the Northern Lights Casino.



Past National Commander Butch Miller, originally from Wabasha, Minnesota, was the featured speaker.



Husband Carl and daughter Angie presented gifts for the commander.



The Department Membership team presented Commander Moon with a glass bowl. Membership Director Pat Logan made the presentation.



A table held some of the gifts presented to Commander Moon.



Wayne Gilbertson of Zimmerman Post 560 was the master of ceremonies for the testimonial program.



Department President Chris Ronning brought greetings from the Auxiliary.



Moon's Zimmerman Post and Auxiliary 560 turned out en masse for the event.



Adjutant Randy Tesdahl and Cheryl Fraser provided the musical entertainment for the night, recreating an act they had done many years ago.

Semper Paratus

By Al Zdon

The Coast Guard's role in World War II is not as well known as the other service branches.

Those interested in the war might know that the Coast Guard patrolled the Atlantic coast guarding against German subs, and that Coast Guard cutters protected Allied convoys across the ocean.

Some might know that Coast Guard helmsmen were used on many of the boats involved in invasions, and others might know Coast Guard cutters plied the waters off Normandy during the D-Day invasion, and rescued over 400 Allied soldiers, airmen and sailors.

A few might even know that Hollywood actors Gig Young and Cesar Romero served honorably in the U.S. Coast Guard.

But hardly anybody knows about the Coasties riding horses up and down the Carolina coast during the war, or when they cornered a huge sea monster.

Iver Anderson knows about it. He was there.

□□□□□□□□

Anderson was born in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of Swedish parents. His father was born in Sweden, and his mother was born in America of Swedish parents.

His dad had apprenticed himself to pay for his transportation over, and worked as a carpenter in New York until the loan was paid back. Free from his contract, he bought a motorcycle and headed west. He was working as a streetcar motorman in Kansas City when he married Anderson's mother.

Iver Anderson turned 20 in 1942, and he knew that he was about to be drafted. He asked his dad what he should do. "My dad told me to go where the food and the bed were in the same place."

That meant either the Navy or the Coast Guard. "My friend and I went down to the Navy recruiter, and he told us all about the Navy. We asked him if we signed up that day, which was a Saturday, when would we have to go? He said Monday. We looked at each other and said, 'That's too soon.'"

Nearby was the Coast Guard recruiter, and he had a better answer: "Two weeks."

Anderson joined the United States Coast Guard on Oct. 7, 1942, and got on a train bound for somewhere. "We had no idea where we were going. We knew there was Coast Guard training on both coasts."

It was a military troop train with bunks three deep in the Pullman cars. When the train went through Terre Haute, Indiana, the recruits knew the East Coast was their destination.

"We had four weeks basic training at Manhattan Beach in New York. It used to be a very nice resort with cabins on the beach. The Merchant Marine Academy was just up the coast."

Like most recruits, the new Coast Guardsmen marched and drilled and learned discipline. "You have to learn to do what somebody tells you. One morning I couldn't get out of bed. I cleaned the head every morning for a week."

The recruits also learned to paddle a life raft. "It's not as easy as it sounds. You have to sit up on the bench and rotate the oars as you paddle. It was like a cadence count. If you miss the cadence, you might fall off the bench and into the water."

Anderson's first duty was in Boston as a switchboard operator at the Coast Guard station there. He lived in the city in an apartment.

"We lived right on Beacon Hill at 64 Pinckney Street. When Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* she lived on that street. Boston is a very historic town. We ate meals at the custom house, and so we would leave our apartment, walk around the state Capitol, and go to the custom house.

"I went to church in Cambridge, right near Harvard. To me that was good duty. Good duty is any duty that's on shore."

He stayed there about a year before he and others in the office were replaced by SPARs, women Coast Guard members. The SPARs acronym comes from the motto of Coast Guard: "Semper Paratus, Always Ready."

Anderson and his friends had been undergoing defense training. "We had to learn how to box. Jack Dempsey was one of our coaches. We learned how to knock a .45 out of a guy's hand. And we learned how to fight with a knife."

Anderson was first sent to Charleston, S.C., for patrol duty around the docks, and then to Savannah, Georgia, where much of the ammunition bound for the European war was loaded onto the ships.

"One day when the guys were unloading a boxcar of shells, one of them slipped off the rack and was rolling around the floor of the boxcar. The guys came running off that train because they thought it would explode. I knew it wouldn't because the shell didn't have a detonator in it, so I told them to get back to work."

His next duty station was his favorite.

"When we were in Boston, my buddy, Lou Guiette, and I would go to this stable and ride horses all the time. When I found out the Coast Guard had this horse patrol, I thought that was great. Instead of paying to ride a horse, now they were going to pay me to ride a horse."

Anderson was sent to Hilton Head Island. "A lot of people don't realize that from Maine down to Florida, the whole East Coast has this series of outer islands. That's where the Coast Guard was often stationed."

His actual duty was on Hunting Island, just north of Hilton Head. "We built a barracks and stable. There were 15 of us. We rode the horses with a cavalry saddle, it was split in the middle to protect the horse's back. We were riding cavalry horses that came from Fort Riley, Kansas. They weren't young horses.

"At night for fun, we'd race the horses down the beach. Some really enjoyed it, and they'd actually come down the beach and run in the water to go faster. Others would just hop along."

Iver Anderson joined the Coast Guard in 1942. His service during World War II took him from Boston to duty all down the East Coast and finally to the Philippines at the end of the war. Later, during a hitch in the Navy, he witnessed four atomic bomb tests in the Pacific.



The men would go on four-hour patrols up and down the beach. "We were looking for anybody who came ashore. We had just received notice that a German soldier had come ashore on Long Island with two backpacks of demolition stuff. He was caught by a Coast Guard guy on patrol. They alerted all the stations on the East Coast."

Anderson carried a pistol in a holster and there was a machine gun in a holster on the horse.

"My horse's name was Bill. When I'd talk to him, his ears would flap. We could communicate with each other.

"One night it was pitch dark out on the beach. I couldn't see my hand in front of my face. It was a bad night. All of a sudden, my horse stopped and his ears moved forward. I couldn't get him to budge and inch. He knew something was out there on the beach. He had better eyes than I did."

"They told us to yell, 'Who goes there?' and I did. But no one answered. My heart was really pounding. I pulled out my .45 and held it in my hand. We never carried a flash-



IVER ANDERSON
At home in Bloomington



IVER ANDERSON
In the Coast Guard during World War II