



# THE BUGLE



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WM. T. MCCOY POST 92**

**ISSUE 344**

*The "American Legion Family" Newsletter*

**March 2019**

*The newsletter is available at [www.rochestermnlegion.org](http://www.rochestermnlegion.org) or pick up a hard copy at the Post*

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Greetings and Salutations American Legion Family,



I hope every one of you survived the snowiest February on record. I am one of the few who is enjoying all of the snow. It takes me back to my childhood and the scenery is a reminder of why we endure the winters of Minnesnowta.

We had a great membership meeting in February. We accomplished some important business and donated to some worthy programs, causes, and functions. If you think the American Legion is just a bar, you really need to come to a meeting and see what exactly it is that we do. Most of you would be surprised.

Do you know the rich history of the American Legion? Do you know what programs exist within the Legion and how they originated? If not, you should take an online class hosted by The American Legion Education Institute. The class is a work at your own pace, start/stop when you want class offering. There is a wealth of information about our great organization. As a member, you can take the course for free. What are you waiting for? Sign up at [www.legion.org/alei](http://www.legion.org/alei).

We don't have a set opening date for our new post building. It is progressing quickly and will be done before we know it. Once we are open, I encourage everyone to come check it out and continue to support us in the future. If you believe The American Legion is a good organization to support and that what we do is important for our community, then there is really no reason to not come in and support us. We've been in existence in Rochester for almost 100 years. We need your continued support to see the next 100 years.

—**Tony Loecher, Commander**

**Phone: 507-358-6389**

**Email: [commander@rochestermnlegion.org](mailto:commander@rochestermnlegion.org)**

## LEGION & AUXILIARY MEETINGS

We were hoping to be in our new location by the March meeting, but things don't always work out as planned. Unfortunately, the VFW is not available on our regular meeting night of the third Tuesday of the month. It was decided at the February meeting to reschedule the meeting to March 12. Please spread the word. March membership meeting for the Legion and Auxiliary will be March 12 at 7:00 pm at the VFW in Rochester. April meeting times and locations will be announced in the April edition of The Bugle.

## AUXILIARY UNIT 92

Hello, Family!

Happy 100th Birthday to The American Legion!

Watch for important info on what activities will be happening to celebrate this milestone. What an amazing time to be an Auxiliary member.

As a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, we need to keep in mind that our vision is to become the foundation of our community by providing support for our veterans and their families. When we support our Family, we continue that vision. I believe March will be the start of positive changes as our new club manager creates a sense of family in our new location. Be ready to step up, get going, and join with other members to support him as we continue this remarkable journey together.

In the spirit of Service Not Self,

—**Sue Lee, President Auxiliary Unit 92**

**Phone: 507-261-5268**

**Email: [auxiliarypresident@rochestermnlegion.org](mailto:auxiliarypresident@rochestermnlegion.org)**



## SAL SQUADRON 92

As I write this letter we sure had one heck of a snow storm. Hope everybody is fine after all the snow removal. The next membership meeting is March 14th at 6 PM at the VFW. Come on down and let your voice be heard.



We are just about to the Lent season. We are sorry to not host a fish fry this month. We have started to think about the spring ditch cleanup 2019, more info will be forth coming. Our last meeting we made the following donations: To Legionville, Brain Science, and Child Welfare. \$500 dollars each, all to a good cause. We have 115 paid up members. Please pay your dues and sign up new members. We also have shirts on sale with Sons of American Legion emblem; contact Dave Bilderback 507-250-1057 or Morey Meyer 507-282-2600, if interested in buying one. Please pray for our Vets.

—**Don Vavra, Commander SAL Squadron 92**

## ATTENDANCE DRAWING

American Legion Post #92 members who attend our monthly membership meeting are eligible for a chance at winning \$599. That's right...\$599!!! You need to show up to see how. There are only two rules: 1) you must be current on your dues, and 2) you must stay for the whole meeting. We'll see you at our next meeting. Good Luck!

—**Reid Oberle, Adjutant**

## 2018 - 2019 OFFICERS WM. T. MCCOY POST 92

### MEMBERSHIP & FISCAL YEAR JULY 1ST - JUNE 30TH

Past Commander ..... Joe Brown  
 Commander..... Tony Loecher  
 1st Vice-Commander..... Joe Brown  
 2nd Vice-Commander .....  
 Adjutant ..... Reid Oberle  
 Finance Officer..... Jay R. Anderson  
 Chaplain .....  
 Historian .....  
 Sgt-at-Arms ..... Bill Born  
 Service Officer..... Ashley Laganieri  
 Judge Advocate..... R.J. Oelslager  
 Executive Committee ..... Lou Behrens, Steve Leqve,  
 George Petersen, Gary Schoenfelder & Roger Vangness  
 Gambling Manager..... Roger Vangness  
 Club Manager..... Bill Nevala  
 Office Manager..... Tony Loecher

## AUXILIARY UNIT 92

### MEMBERSHIP & FISCAL YEAR AUGUST 1ST - JULY 31ST

Junior Past President ..... Shirley Oberle  
 President ..... Sue Lee  
 1st Vice-President ..... Chris Higgins  
 2nd Vice-President ..... Mary Oviatt  
 Secretary ..... Sharon Kingsley  
 Chaplain ..... Lucy Phelps  
 Historian ..... Evelyn Lyke  
 Sgt-at-Arms ..... Shirley Oberle  
 Treasurer..... Tammy Grendahl  
 Executive Committee ..... Carol Johnson, Evelyn Lyke

## SAL SQUADRON 92


### MEMBERSHIP & FISCAL YEAR JULY 1ST - JUNE 30TH

Commander..... Don Vavra  
 1st Vice Commander..... Mike Hillestad  
 2nd Vice Commander..... Jim Behr  
 Treasurer/Finance ..... Morey Meyer  
 Membership..... Dave Bilderback  
 Adjutant ..... Morey Meyer  
 Historian ..... Gary A. Rupp  
 Chaplain ..... Joe Brown  
 Sgt-at-Arms ..... Chuck Oviatt

## ALR CHAPTER 92


### MEMBERSHIP & FISCAL YEAR JULY 1ST - JUNE 30TH

President .....  
 Vice President .....  
 Secretary.....  
 Treasurer:.....  
 Sgt-at-Arms .....  
 Historian/Chaplain .....




**TAPS**

Sympathy cards have been sent to the families of the following, No more shall they come through our post door...



Eugene J. Beach  
(02-03-2019)



Elton L. Butlin  
(02-22-2019)

### POST 92 HONOR GUARD RENDERED MILITARY HONORS TO THE FOLLOWING VETERANS WHO WERE NOT MEMBERS OF POST 92:



Warren W. Zimmerman  
(01-03-2019)

**ALL COPY FOR NEWSLETTER MUST BE IN OUR OFFICE BY THE 17TH OF THE MONTH TO MAKE PUBLICATION.**

**AS A COST SAVING MEASURE WE ARE ONLY PRINTING 150 COPIES OF THE BUGLE. IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER PLEASE READ THE NEWSLETTER ON-LINE AT OUR WEB SITE: [WWW.ROCHESTERMNLEGION.ORG](http://WWW.ROCHESTERMNLEGION.ORG)**

**DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER? SIGN UP AT [ROCHESTERMNLEGION.ORG](http://ROCHESTERMNLEGION.ORG) OR CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 507-252-1659.**



**Paul Czaplewski**  
 Owner/ Funeral Director  
 Ranfranz & Vine Funeral Homes  
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[ranfranzandvinefh@yahoo.com](mailto:ranfranzandvinefh@yahoo.com)  
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**FOR A SHUTTLE RIDE TO THE VA MEDICAL CENTER IN MINNEAPOLIS, PLEASE CONTACT THE DAV TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR.**

**DAV OF MINNESOTA**  
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 E-MAIL: [Kati@davmn.org](mailto:Kati@davmn.org)  
[www.davmn.org](http://www.davmn.org)

Disabled American Veterans  
**Kati Carpenter**  
 SE MN Transportation Coordinator

DAV SE Transportation Office  
 2100 Campus Drive SE  
 Rochester, MN 55904



## MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORTS

If you want to view our monthly meeting minutes and the finance reports for the club, general accounts, and gambling operation, please go to our website: [www.rochestermnlegion.org](http://www.rochestermnlegion.org). On the left side menu, click on **ABOUT POST 92 > MEETING MINUTES & REPORTS**. For login information, contact our main office at 507-252-1659. There are no secrets with this info. It is always available for you to view. If you don't have internet access, you can view this information at our main office.

WELCOME TO THE AMERICAN LEGION  
America's Largest Veterans Service Organization

WM. T. McCoy Post #92 915 21st Ave SE, Rochester, MN

HOME  
\*\*\* NOTICES \*\*\*  
EVENTS CALENDAR  
EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
ABOUT POST 92  
THE LEGION FAMILY  
IN OUR COMMUNITY  
MEMBERSHIP INFO  
NEWSLETTERS  
MISCELLANEOUS  
TAPS  
LEGAL NOTICES  
LEGION MAIL  
CONTACT US

POST LOCATION  
POST LEADERSHIP  
POST HISTORY  
PAST COMMANDERS  
CHARITABLE GAMBLING  
OUR MARQUEE  
POST SALE/MOVE UPDATES  
PHOTO GALLERY  
**MEETING MINUTES & REPORTS**

Watch the progress on our new post:  
[click here to see photos](#)

WM. T. MCCOY POST 92

# VETERANS DAY ON THE HILL 2019

**WHEN:**  
**MARCH 20TH, 2019**

**DAV of MN Presents a:**  
**Free Veterans and Supporters**  
**Pre-Rally Lunch @ 10:30**

(This event is a free catered lunch to discuss our priorities and how to protect Veterans benefits)

**Veterans March to the Rally @ 12:45**

(Join with Veterans, family members, and community supporters as we march to the Capitol)

**CTF, UVLC, and MACVSO Present:**  
**Rally in the Rotunda 1:30-2:30pm**

(Your opportunity to hear directly from those in power and let them know we are PAYING ATTENTION and want ACTION)

## WHERE:

**Pre-Rally at St. Paul Armory**  
**One block from Capitol BLDG**

(Address: 600 Cedar St, St Paul, MN 55101)

**March to the Rally**  
**State Veterans Services Bldg.**  
(20 West 12th St, St. Paul, MN)

**NO MEMBERSHIP IN ANY ORGANIZATION REQUIRED. ALL VETERANS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS ARE WELCOME!**

**ALL VETERANS, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND ADVOCATES ARE INVITED TO RALLY IN SUPPORT OF VETERANS LEGISLATION**



### Topics Include:

- KEEPING SURVIVING SPOUSES IN THEIR HOMES!
- ENSURING THE LONGTERM STABILITY OF SERVICES FOR VETERANS ACROSS MN
- INCREASING ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS FOR OUR DISABLED VETERANS!
- ENSURING FULL-FUNDING FOR MDVA AND THE 3 NEW VETERANS HOMES



**ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:**  
**TRENT@DAVMN.ORG**

## CLUB MANAGER

Please join us in welcoming Bill Nevala as our new Club Manager. We are excited to have him as part of our team.

Bill has been a member of Post #92 for the last 15 years. He lives in Rochester with his wife of 20 years, Wendy Nevala, and his 15 year old son, Zachary. Bill and Wendy also have twin sons, Shawn and Andy that are 27 years old and are both married. Shawn is currently serving in the Air Force as a Captain and has recently been accepted to Test Flight Engineering School in California. Andy lives in Havre, Montana and runs the family wheat farm with his wife.

Bill is originally from Billings, Montana. He is an Army Veteran with 10 years active duty serving time in Texas, Georgia, Germany, and Southwest Asia from 1985-1995. After the military he used his Army College Fund and G.I. Bill to go to college. He holds an Masters in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Management, A.S. in Manufacturing, A.S. in Electronics Engineering, and A.S. in Massage Therapy, and a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt.

Bill brings 20 years of professional experience in project management, quality engineering, financial controls management, workforce management, and data reporting and analytics for companies Charter Communications, IBM, AgStar Financial Services, and Pemstar.

Bill volunteers at his local church as a youth leader. His wife is the President of the church council. Bill has also worked for the last 13 years as a MSHSL Football Official working high school varsity games on Fridays. Bill is the Med City Marathon Master of Ceremonies each year. He serves currently on the Rochester Youth Football Board of Directors as the Secretary. He is a member of the Patriot Guard Riders and the Legion Riders. He loves riding his custom motorcycle, going camping with his family, loves fine wine, and loves to cook amazing food.



## ALR "92 RIDERS"

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be at the American Legion main office at 403 East Center Street. If you are interested in being a Rider, please join us at this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Tony Loecher at 507-358-6389.



## 40/8

Hello Voyageurs;

Dues are now due. Please pay \$20, by check, to Voiture 327 and send to Richard Skillestad, Box 161 Eyota, MN 55934. Our next Voiture 327 Promenade will be at 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 7th at VFW Post #1215 in Rochester. The Wreck that was planned for February was cancelled. We will now conduct a Wreck at the March Promenade. Come join us for a good time.

Yours truly,

—Richard Skillestad, 40 & 8 Correspondent  
507-250-5329



## MOVE UPDATE:

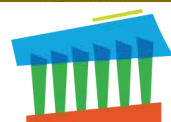
It is now the beginning of March and things are really taking shape. We hope to move in soon, but no date is set. Once in our new building, we will get the word out to everyone that we're open. A once a month newsletter is not the best resource to use to keep you up to date on the progress of the new place. If you want to follow along, progress photos are uploaded to our website several times per week. Check them out at: [www.rochestermnlegion.org](http://www.rochestermnlegion.org) Barring any unforeseen issues, the April edition of the The Bugle will announce that we are no longer without a post home.

## COMMUNITY CELEBRATION SPONSORS

THANK YOU to these sponsors for their generous donations to help us host the amazing community celebration during the 100th Department of Minnesota Convention in July.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 15th marks the 100th Birthday of The American Legion. It's kind of hard to fathom, this great organization has been in existence for 100 years. We will have a short ceremony on March 15th at Mayo Civic Center at 12:00 pm (noon) on the 2nd floor (not far from our American Legion room). Coffee and cake will be available. Please join us for our 100th Birthday ceremony. All are invited to attend. To all past, present, and future Legionnaires, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. Here's to our next 100 years.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

1919 100 Years 2019

VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

## DAVE PLANTIN FUNDRAISER

Dave Plantin is a Marine Veteran who needs a heart transplant. The Plantin family is holding a fundraising benefit and silent auction for Dave at the VFW on Saturday March 9th, 2019 from 2-5pm. The entire Plantin family could use the support and words of encouragement thru this difficult time. There is no guarantee that Dave will be able to attend as he may be back in the hospital, but the hope is that he will be able to attend. Carol Plantin is also an Auxiliary member in Unit #92.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITES

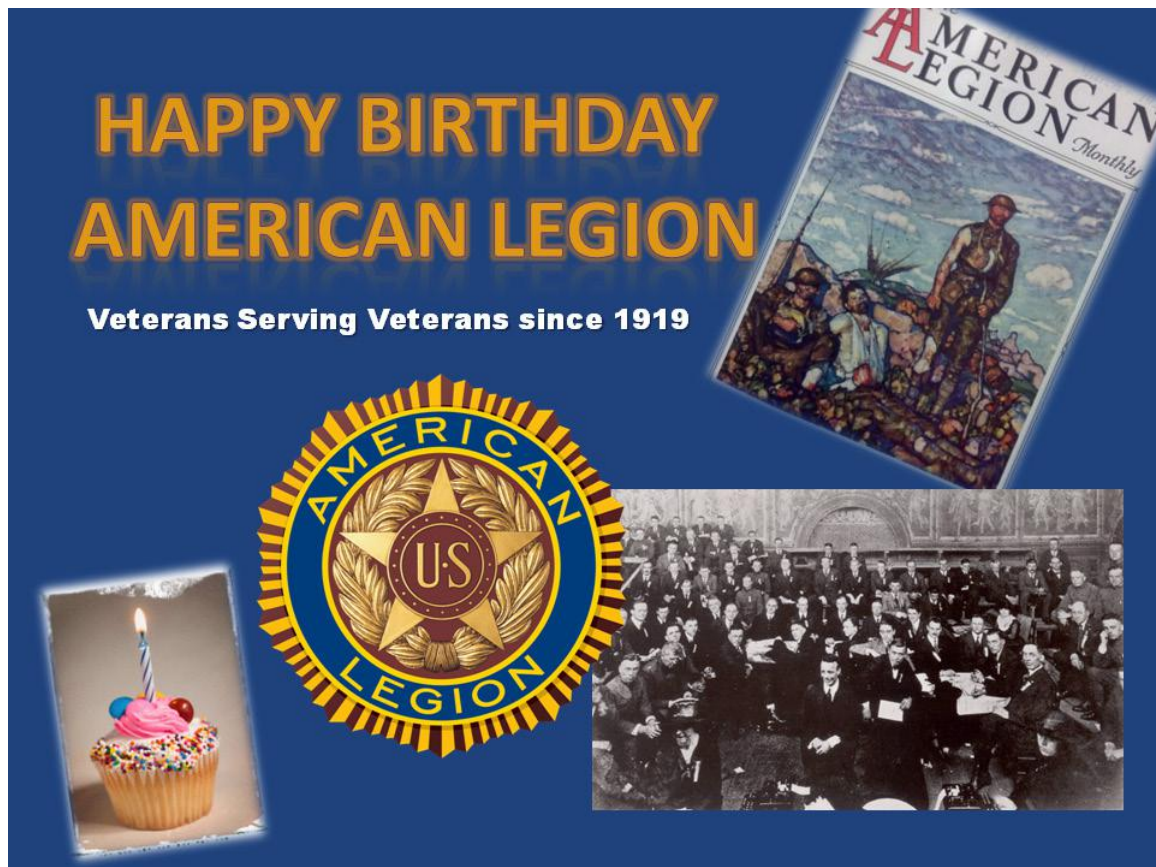
We are hiring for numerous positions. We are looking for people with excellent customer service skills and a willingness to be a team player. If you want to work someplace that is more than just a job, but a means to supporting veterans and our community, please apply to be on our team.

### Available Openings:

Bartenders - Servers / Wait Staff - Kitchen Staff / Cooks - Janitorial - Charitable Gambling (Pull Tabs and Bingo)

All positions require the willingness to help wherever asked by management.

Applications can be downloaded from our website at [www.rochestermnlegion.org](http://www.rochestermnlegion.org). Once completed, the saved application file can be emailed to [officemanager@rochestermnlegion.org](mailto:officemanager@rochestermnlegion.org).



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Post #92 will be doing a Buddy Check March 11-18. We are seeking members to assist us making phone calls. If you want to help us out in a big way, please come to a short training meeting on March 11 at 5:00 pm at our main office. We will hand out a script and give everyone a list of members to contact. You would then contact your assigned list of members during the next week, completely at your leisure. If you've ever said "I just don't know how I can help," then this is your opportunity to help. We have 1000 members in the post. The more members to help us, the less phone calls each volunteer needs to make. If we can get 3% of the members to help us out, that means each volunteer would only have to make less than 5 phone calls per day for one week. This is really an easy task, but it is important. Please consider helping us out.

## **MOSHER VETERANS HOME THANK YOU FOR DONATIONS!**

Tammy Grendahl traveled with treats provided by Auxiliary Unit 92 to residents of the Mosher Veterans Home.



## **HEROS AMONG US**

Post #92 purchased 8 tickets to the Heros Among Us fundraiser on Saturday, April 27th, 5-9:00 pm at VFW 1215 in Rochester. The fundraiser will support the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 7110 and the MN POW/MIA Riders Association. There is a dinner, silent and live auction, and the Booker Mini Band. If any Post #92 family member (Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, Riders) would like complimentary tickets, please contact our main office at 507-252-1659. First come, first serve.

## **THANKS**

Certificates of appreciation were given to Gerald P. Baier of Rochester Sweeping Service and Mark Maloney III. Without receiving compensation, both Jerry and Mark volunteered their time and expense to clear snow from the driveway of a Post #92 Legionnaire and/disabled veteran. From the Post #92 Legion Family, Thank you for helping a veteran in need.

## **EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Applications for 2019 American Legion and Auxiliary scholarships and the 2019 Boys State and Girls State programs are now available. Please visit our website, [www.rochestermnlegion.org](http://www.rochestermnlegion.org) or contact our main office for more information. Application deadlines are approaching FAST!

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