NEWSLETTER

NORTH MANKATO, AMERICAN LEGION POST 518







FROM THE COMMANDER

I would like to start by thanking everyone who took the time to attend our April meeting. Your continued involvement and commitment are what keep our post strong. The discussions, ideas, and support from our members help guide the direction of our organization and ensure we continue serving veterans, families, and our community in meaningful ways.

We were also fortunate to have a guest speaker join us at our April meeting. Beth Milbert from the Alzheimer's Association provided an overview of the organization, the resources available to individuals and families impacted by Alzheimer's and related conditions. She shared information about the upcoming Fall Walk. We appreciate her time and the important work being done to support those in our community.

During the April meeting, the post also approved several donations in support of community initiatives. Requests will be placed in the office, and the following contributions were approved:

Last Man Standing Golf Tournament – $200

Big Marine Lake 100 Year Celebration – $500

Alzheimer's Walk – $500

As we move into May, we are reminded that this is a significant month for honoring the service and sacrifice of our military community. There are several important observances to recognize:

May 1 – Silver Star Service Banner Day

May 8 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day

May 16 – Armed Forces Day

May 25 – Memorial Day

One of the most important days of the year for our organization. We pause to remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. I strongly encourage all members to attend Memorial Day services throughout our community as we come together to pay our respects and ensure their sacrifices are never forgotten.

Please also note that we are currently working on developing a new post website. As a result, updates to the current site are on hold. For the most up-to-date information regarding upcoming events and construction updates, please visit and follow our Facebook page.

May is not only a time of remembrance but also a time for us to come together as a post and community. Your participation in events, meetings, and volunteer opportunities continues to make a difference.

Thank you again for your dedication and support.

YOURS IN SERVICE

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Commander
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FROM THE ADJUTANT

Jeff Frye, House Committee Chair
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Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

I wanted to thank everyone for staying active and supporting our post during our many construction projects, the bridge, the building next door and now Belgrade Avenue. Being a veterans club we are used to adapting and overcoming and we will continue to do so.

I just wanted to point out that during evening hours there is usually space at the DMV building just down the alley from us, they probably don't want us parking overnight but I think evenings and weekends will be fine.

The color guard will be busy again this Memorial Day. We will be hosting breakfast and lunch for all of the area color guards and the club will be opening early at 11.

We have elections at our May meeting, the following nominations were made at our April meeting but nominations will be open right up to new business at our May meeting.

Commander -	Iris Blooflat
1st Vice Commander -	James Peters
2nd Vice Commander -	Open
Finance Officer -	Steve Lawrence
House Committee Chair -	Jeff Frye

Our next meeting will be on May 20th at 7pm, I hope to see you there.

Thanks

FROM THE SAL COMMANDER

Newsletter time! This is where I tell you some of the things that are happening at your American Legion. I'll start with the wrestling event first. MANKATO MAYHEM II is set for August 22nd. The committee members are working hard to make this event a huge success. We want to make this year even more fun and successful than last year. This year the proceeds go to the building of a first of its kind in the nation place where female veterans can get help for PTSD as well as dependency issues in a safe environment. Let all work together to help this group in the way that they deserve.

Don't worry the golf tournament is still in the works. The committee will be starting up soon. As soon as we have dates, we'll let you know. Keep checking the newsletter as well as the screen cloud at the bar for any news you might be interested in. Also check our much improved Facebook for fun things to do. Speaking of things to do, we are doing a deep clean Sunday, May 3rd at the club starting at 8:00 am. wear your cleaning clothes and come on down. Let' s make Post 518 shine. As always, if you have any questions or concerns that I can help you with don't hesitate to contact me.

SINCERELY

Kim Sward
SAL Commander
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MEMORIAL DAY

May 25th Schedule
Post 518

- 7:00 AM – Coffee and rolls at Post 518
- 8:00 AM – Korean War Memorial
- 8:30 AM – Veterans Memorial Place
- 9:00 AM – Rapidan Memorial Park
- 10:00 AM – Kerns Cemetery – Belgrade Township
- 10:30 AM – Lunch at Post 518
- 10:45 AM – Pilgrims Rest Cemetery
- 2:00 PM – Swedish Cemetery

FROM THE AUXILIARY

Lisa Roberts Auxiliary President

Happy Spring!

I want to thank everyone who supported the Shop and Sip event on Saturday, April 11. We had a terrific turnout for this event and raised a whopping $1934 for the Bravo Zulu Women's House! Thank you so much for your enthusiasm for and dedication to this event. We can't do it without our volunteers or donors. We look forward to presenting Bravo Zulu a check in the near future!

Now that April is in the book, our next big fundraiser is the poppy drive at Fleet Farm on Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16. Please consider giving an hour or two, Friday or Saturday, to help us raise funds to support our Veterans. In the past year we used the money raised by the poppy drive to give financial support to Gold Star Weekend, Veteran's Court, the Luverne Veterans Home, MACV and more. You can find a signup sheet at the post. If you can't stop by, just give a call and the bartender on duty will help you sign up. 507-625-1264

One more thank-you to all the folks who brought in donations of bathroom items. These items, collected on behalf of MACV, will help formerly unhoused veterans who are moving into their new homes. The generosity of giving is truly amazing.

The Auxiliary met on Thursday, April 16 and nominated officers for the upcoming year. Nominations will remain open throughout the upcoming month, with elections being held during our May meeting on Thursday, May 21.

Nominated: Lisa Roberts, President. Deb Joerg, 1st Vice President. Sonja Frye, 2nd Vice President. Bre Rients, Treasurer. Joanne Hall, Sergeant-at-Arms. Lyn Rohlfing and Kiersten Helgerson, Members-at-Large.

And one more chance to volunteer: Spring Cleaning at the Legion. Sunday, May 3 at 8am. We need all the hands we can get!

All the best,

Lisa Roberts

VETERAN OF THE MONTH #216

19 Years of Recognition

Saturday, May 2, 2026 ***Wheeler Park in North Mankato***

Retiring Colors for Army Corporal Lloyd Arthur Duenow

New Honoree of the Month: Air Force Colonel Leo K. Thorsness – Medal of Honor Recipient

Public is welcome, refreshments served after the ceremony.

Let us know if you have a family or loved one you'd like to honor as "Veteran of the Month"

FROM THE COLOR GUARD

122 Volunteer Hours

Since our March 19 th meeting, the Color Guard performed 1 VOM ceremony, and Military Honors with the Mankato Area Veterans Memorial Squad for 5 Area veterans.
Thanks to our Color Guard members that helped & gave their time for these events!!
There is a DAV/LEO Hockey Game Saturday May 2nd at 3:00pm.And Color Guard Dinner will be held at VFW Post 950 with social hour at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00.

VETS FOR VETS

Ron Griebel
Commander
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MAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
 ROTC Ball Awards  				Jukebox Jam 7pm	1 Silver Star Service Banner Day RED FRIDAY	2 Veteran of the Month 10am DAV/LEO Hockey Game 3pm Meat Raffle 4pm
3	4	5 Pfeffer 6:30pm	6	7 Jukebox Jam 7pm	8 Military Spouse Appreciation Day RED FRIDAY	9 Meat Raffle 4pm
10	11	12 Trivia Night 7pm	13 Children of Fallen Patriots Day	14 Jukebox Jam 7pm	15 RED FRIDAY	16 Armed Forces Day Meat Raffle 4pm
17	18	19 Pfeffer 6:30pm	20	21 Meeting 7pm Jukebox Jam Afterwards	22 RED FRIDAY	23 Meat Raffle 4pm
24 / 31	25 Memorial Day Open at 11	26	27	28 Jukebox Jam 7pm	29 RED FRIDAY	30

AMERICAN LEGION