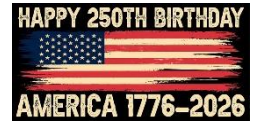




# AMERICAN LEGION POST 330 NEWSLETTER

Hayfield, Minnesota  
May & June 2026



## A Message from the Legion Commander, Vince Reynolds - Hayfieldmnlégion.org

As we celebrate our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, we can't help but look back to the contributions our veterans have made to get us here. Through countless wars and conflicts, young American have answered the call to ensure this great country of ours will continue to grow and prosper. While all of us veterans have given some, some have given all. As we celebrate Memorial Day this year, let us reflect on the sacrifice that hundreds of thousands have made to ensure the stars and stripes wave over a free people. My sincere thank you to all who have served and to our family members who have supported us while we were away doing Uncle Sam's work. Happy 250th America!

Rothie Post is gearing up for our busy time of the year with Memorial Day, Flag retirement ceremony, field of Flags, Chicken Fry Parade, and other 250th Birthday celebrations that may arise.

We will be holding elections this month (May) and we have candidates for all of the elected positions except Finance Officer. If you are interested, please throw your name in the hat. We will install the new officers at our June meeting.

We are making an effort to recruit new members from the men and women currently serving. If you know of a local service member who is not currently a Legion member, please let me know so I can reach out and sign them up. The post will cover their annual dues for as long as they are in uniform.

This will be my final message as Commander of Rothie Post 330. I want to thank the officers, the membership, the Auxiliary, and the SAL for what has been an exciting four years. Together we have accomplished a lot and Rothie Post is in a strong position going forward.



## A Message from the SAL Commander, Matt Nelson - HayfieldMNSAL.com

We awarded two \$500 scholarships to two qualifying HHS seniors. Names to be disclosed later in May.

Jeff Krekling gave an update on SAL Field. We will be putting cement down soon for a new batting cage, along with some other improvements.

We will be having an SAL membership dinner sometime this summer. More details will come out at a later date.

We will once again be placing flags in yards for the four flag holidays this summer. The holidays are: Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July and Labor Day. The cost is \$25.00 for the whole summer. If you are interested in having the SAL place a flag in your yard, please contact Curt Heydt, Kasey Krekling, or Fred Kindschy.

SAL meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm.



## Message from the Auxiliary President, Andrea Reynolds

Ready, Set, Go for a busy season of spring and summer Legion Family activities! The Auxiliary will be hosting BINGO nights at the Legion for twelve weeks starting May 18. There's lots of fun for those playing, selling cards or calling BINGO on Monday nights this summer! Please reach out if you're able to help on any of these nights.

We will be awarding three \$300 scholarships to deserving students again this year. Scholarships will be awarded at the May 13 Scholarship Ceremony at the High School.

"Flanders Field" is in place in the Legion dining hall, and crosses are available for purchase to honor or remember someone important in your life. Orders can be made through May 15, using forms included in the last newsletter or available at the Legion Club, for a cost of \$5 per cross.

May is Poppy Month. Will you wear the poppy to honor fallen service members? Please watch for poppies in our communities and donate to support programs for our veterans, active-duty service members and their families. Our area Kindergarten students learned the significance of the poppy during a classroom presentation in late April, and poppy coloring books are available to those visiting our Legion Club. National Poppy Day is May 22, the Friday before Memorial Day.

Please plan to observe Memorial Day in our community with cemetery honors, Memorial Day program at Veteran's Memorial Park, and dinner at the Legion Club, at times as listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

We hope to see you at our next meeting, and that you'll invite eligible friends and neighbors to join our Auxiliary! We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM at the Legion in Hayfield.

## 2026 Field of Flags

Hayfield American Legion Post 330 is proud to again sponsor a “Field of Flags” during the Hayfield Fire Department Chicken Fry and Dance. This “Field of Flags” will be located on the lawn at Hayfield’s Field Crest Care Center on Highway 30. A short ceremony will be held at that location at 11:00 AM on **Saturday, June 20, 2026.**



**The Hayfield American Legion will be holding Memorial Day Services at area cemeteries on Monday, May 25, 2026**

**POST 330 MEMORIAL DAY CEMETERY  
“APPROXIMATE” TIME SCHEDULE**

8:15 AM West St. Olaf  
8:35 AM Evanger  
9:05 AM St. John’s - South of Sargeant  
9:25 AM Waltham - South of Waltham-Hwy 56  
9:45 AM Greenwood - South of Brownsdale  
10:05AM St. Michael’s - Waltham  
10:35AM Trinity – Waltham  
11:00AM Fairview, Hayfield  
11:30AM Memorial Day Program- Hayfield @ Veterans Memorial Park downtown Hayfield.

In case of inclement weather, the program will be moved to the Hayfield High School Gym.

A fried chicken dinner will be served at the Legion from 11:30 AM-2:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The bus for the marchers will leave the Legion at 7:30

## E-Newsletters

The Rothie Post Newsletters have been available on the Post website going back to July 2022 and we have been emailing them out to members who have requested it. We are going to make an effort to send more of them out through email to those who would prefer to receive them that way. This will not only save money on postage, but it will get to you sooner. We will continue to send them out by mail if you prefer that.

If you would like to start receiving the newsletter by email only or in addition to by mail, please email us at [HayfieldMNLegion@gmail.com](mailto:HayfieldMNLegion@gmail.com)

## A Message from the Auxiliary Membership Chairperson, Marcia Bungum

Thank you to all the Auxiliary members who have paid their membership dues for 2026.

You can pay your dues by sending a \$35 check to: Marcia Bungum – 27491 State Hwy 30 – Hayfield, MN 55940 OR by paying online by going to: [www.mnala.org](http://www.mnala.org) Thank you!

In order to get the newsletter out in a timely manner, we need all submissions in by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior. The deadline for the July/August newsletter will be June 15. Please send any information to be included in the newsletter to [HayfieldMNLegion@gmail.com](mailto:HayfieldMNLegion@gmail.com)

These are the final “Veterans of the Month” articles by Frank Moon due to my declining health.

When I started writing these articles, I was covering the WWII veterans, so you can see I’ve been at it quite a while. We don’t know who will pick up this assignment yet. (If you are interested in this interesting project, please contact Vince Reynolds.) It has been an honor to listen to and record the personal stories of so many veterans! Thank you for sharing your memories.

Frank Moon

## **Todd Hoebing: May Veteran of the Month**

Todd Hoebing enlisted with the Minnesota Army National Guard in May of 1999. In June of that same year Todd shipped off to basic training to the U.S. Army's school of infantry at Fort Benning, Ga. He completed basic combat training after 8 weeks then returned home to finish his senior year of high school. Todd graduated from Hayfield High in 2000 and returned to Fort Benning as an E-3 for his Advanced Individual Training and MOS training in Mortar Infantry (11C).

That fall after returning from MOS training, Hoebing was promoted to E-4 and began attending UW Stout. Upon approved transfer he continued his service with the Wisconsin Army National Guard. He was a member of Alpha Company 1/128 Infantry.

In May 2003, Todd elected to attend Officer's Candidate School (OCS) through the Wisconsin Military Academy at Ft. McCoy, WI. He shipped off to Ft. Meade, SD for One Station Unit Training (OSUT) and in August 2003 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Hoebing was named as a Platoon Leader for Alpha Company 1/128 infantry attached to 32nd SIB (Separate Infantry Brigade).

After he completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course at Ft. Benning, GA in 2004, Lt Hoebing and his unit were immediately mobilized to Camp Shelby, Mississippi where they conducted training in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF3).

Their battalion arrived, by air, to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait on Thanksgiving Day 2004! Shortly after his arrival, Hoebing led his first convoy across the Kuwait border headed for FOB (Forward Operating Base) O'Ryan near Ad Dujayl, Iraq. Their assignment for the next year was QRF (Quick Reaction Force), route clearance and basic combat operations (raids, escorts, and patrols).

Upon their return to the States in November of 2005, Todd finished his degree and thus took various leadership positions within the Wisconsin, South Dakota and Minnesota National Guard.

Hoebing earned the rank of Captain in May 2010 and made Major in 2015. He served just over 20 years in the National Guard retiring in July of 2019.

Todd and Brooke (Stevenson) are raising their four children near Waltham: Ava, Lydia, Nadia, and Weston.

## **Chris Nelson: June Veteran of the Month**

Chris graduated from Hayfield High School in May of 1994 and joined the Navy in Sept. He reported to the Recruit Training Command at Orlando, FL for boot camp. Here he mastered the fundamentals of life in the fleet—physical fitness, swimming, firefighting, standing watch, military language and most importantly, warrior toughness. Nelson's group was the last to use that training facility before it closed permanently. Chris was promoted to E-1 upon graduation.

The next assignment for Nelson was his "A School" in aviation hydraulics, at Millington, TN. (200 miles ESE of Nashville). Upon completion, Nelson was promoted to E-2.

Then for Chris, it was on to NAS Miramar Naval base near San Diego for Air Frame Maintenance training on F-14 Fighter Jets. This brought another promotion to E-3 at completion of training. Nelson had to wait a couple of months for his F-14 squadron (VF2 Bounty Hunters) to return from sea duty to join his new duty station. Nelson's F14 squadron was attached to the aircraft carrier, the USS Constellation. Half way thru his career, Virginia Beach, VA (NAS Oceana) would become his final home base to end his four-year enlistment.

Their rotation assignment was West Pac (West Pacific). They made stops in Australia, the Persian Gulf, (for three months), Hong Kong, Singapore, Sasebo, and Japan. Chris was rated in the top 10 percent of his squadron. His reward... was to sit in an F-14, fire it up to full throttle with full brakes! An awesome thrill for sure!

On his final cruise back to the US, Nelson's dad, Jim, was able to participate in a "Tiger Cruise". Jim boarded the USS Constellation at Everett, WA and rode down to San Diego with Chris, which was a thrill for both of them!

Chris was released from active duty in the fall of 1998 with the rank of Petty Officer 3rd class.

Chris, and his wife Michelle, have triplets named: Carly, Isaac, and Aidan.

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Phone: (507) 477-2441

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## LEGION, AUXILIARY, & SAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Check out our website for current events and more at [HayfieldMNLegion.org](http://HayfieldMNLegion.org)

May 2026

June 2026

May 4	BINGO @ Legion @ 7PM
May 6	SAL Mtg. @ Legion @ 7PM
May 11	BINGO @ Legion @ 7PM
May 12	Legion & Aux. Mtgs. @ 7 PM
May 18	BINGO @ Legion @ 7PM
May 25	Memorial Day Programs No Bingo Tonight

June 1	BINGO @ Legion @ 7 PM
June 3	SAL Mtg. @ Legion @ 7 PM
June 8	BINGO @ Legion @ 7 PM
June 9	Legion & Aux. Mtgs. @ 7 PM
June 15	BINGO @ Legion @ 7 PM
June 22	BINGO @ Legion @ 7 PM
June 29	BINGO @ Legion @ 7 PM

# “Field of Flags” - Saturday, June 20, 2026

Hayfield American Legion Post 330 is proud to again sponsor a “Field of Flags” during the Hayfield Fire Department Chicken Fry and Dance. This “Field of Flags” will be located on the lawn at Hayfield's Field Crest Care Center on Highway 30. **A short ceremony will be held at that location at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 20, 2026.**

These flags are dedicated to all Americans - not just for our Veterans. Please help us by dedicating a flag to someone special in your life or for a family member ... living or deceased. If you would like a flag placed at the “Field of Flags,” **we are asking for a \$20 donation.** (Other contributions will be accepted also). **Please send your donation along with the form at the bottom of this page to:**

**Hayfield American Legion Field of Flags – PO Box 448 - Hayfield, MN 55940**

**Make checks payable to: Hayfield American Legion**

If you have questions, feel free to contact Commander, Vince Reynolds at 507-251-6919.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the flags on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM. We plan to take them down the following week.

-----Cut and Return-----

Dedicate flag(s) to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dedicated by: \_\_\_\_\_