

American Legion Post 330 Newsletter

Hayfield, Minnesota
January/February 2023

A Message from the Legion Commander, Vince Reynolds.

I hope everyone was able to take some time and relax and enjoy loved ones over the holiday season. As I look back at 2022, I see a lot of things that we have accomplished and looking forward, we still have some work to get done. **Membership** continues to be an issue, but I'm confident if issues are communicated, they can be fixed. We still have quite a few who have not submitted their dues for the 2023 membership year. To avoid a lapse in your continuous membership years, please get those in ASAP! We are working to keep our kitchen open to be able to serve meals for the membership and community. We are looking to hire someone for 10 hours a week for cooking and cleaning. We are also engaging our Rothie Post Baseball and Softball teams to help with Friday night meals as well.

Stay safe & healthy. See you at the Legion soon!

Interested in purchasing a Paver?

- Pick up an order form at the Legion OR
- Download order form at hayfieldmnlegion.org

First District Mid-Winter
Owatonna Post 77
Boards 9 AM/Sessions 10:00 AM

A Message from the SAL Commander, Matt Nelson

We had a record turnout for our **Liver & Onions Dinner** serving about 265 people!! Thanks for your support! Please mark your calendars for the first Saturday in November next year. **"THANK YOU" to everyone who attended and who donated items** towards it.

Once again, we will be donating to the **Cancer Telethon (\$600)**, to **Hayfield's Christmas Holiday Fest (\$300)**, and **Share Christmas (\$300)**.

Currently, we are in the process of hiring someone to look into fixing the kitchen drain by the dishwasher.

We had over 60 participants in our SAL sponsored **Punt, Pass, and Kick** competition held during Homecoming this fall.

Our first annual SAL Membership Night will be held on **Wednesday, March 1st**. All SAL members are invited to attend with their significant other. We also encourage anyone who is eligible, and would like to join SAL, to attend. We will be serving a **FREE Windsor Chop Supper** (with a beverage of your choice) to ALL who attend.

Social Hour 5:30 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
SAL March Meeting ... 7:30 PM

Our **next meeting** will be **January 4th at 7:00 PM** at the Legion Clubroom.

**A Message from the Auxiliary President,
Leah Milburn**

Greetings and Happy 2023! Our Auxiliary finished 2022 with lots of fun by hosting Family Bingo, for Hayfield's Holiday Fest, with a packed house of Bingo players, and our Unit celebrated with an end of year holiday party.

January brings **National Security and Legislative** month which are headed by our chairpersons, Mary Wildeman and Deb Towey. **February** is **Americanism** month so we will be busy promoting the essay writing contest. We hope to have some great submissions to enter for the Americanism contest.

One thing of note is that our **dues** will be increasing to **\$35** for the **2024** year. We want our members to understand that this is out of necessity and not for our Unit's profit. We send \$18 to National, \$12 to Department, \$2 per member to District, and the Unit keeps \$3 per member for postage and other administrative tasks. We appreciate your support and continued membership.

Just a friendly reminder that our **monthly meetings start at 7:00 PM.** I hope to see you soon!

Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2023!

*Please submit all articles for the
March/April Newsletter to
Sue Anderson by February 10, 2023.*

**A Message from the Clubhouse Manager,
Sally Mindrup**

Happy New Year to One and All!

To start out the New Year, we are having **Customer Appreciation** on **Sunday, January 1st, 2023**, from **1:00-4:00 pm.** We'll have: Food-Prizes-Meat Trays-and Music! Come enjoy the fun!

Our first **500 Card Marathon** will start on **Saturday, January 21st** at 7:00 PM. Bring a partner or come alone. It costs \$10 to play, and all the money goes for Scholarships for Hayfield graduating seniors. The second **500 Card Marathon** is scheduled for February 18th.

Danette Harvey, our new cook, has decided she is leaving at the end of December. I will be back doing Friday night suppers.

See you soon!

**A Message from the Legion Chaplain,
Frank Moon**

We have one Legion & one Auxiliary member that have passed away since the last Newsletter:

- Richard Gieser 35 Years
- Shirley Jorstad 59 Years

Our sincere sympathy to their families & friends.

Randal Reese Jan. Veteran of the Month

Randal Reese wanted to "see the world", so in the fall of his senior year, (November 1975) he signed up for "Delayed Entry" into the Navy. He graduated from Hayfield High School in 1976, and reported to Great Lakes Training Center on September 14, 1976 for Boot Camp. Upon graduation, he was promoted to E-3 (Seaman), and attended Basic Electronics School for six weeks.

Reese got home on "Leave" for Christmas 1976, and then it was back to Great Lakes for twelve weeks of Gunners Mate "A" School. He was trained in the operation, maintenance, and firing of naval guns, and all small arms. Following a brief "Leave", he reported to his ship, the USS Manley (DD-940) on June 1, 1977 at Naval Station Mayport near Jacksonville, FL. He would stay with this ship for the rest of his duty time.

Randal's ship did almost daily runs out to sea, in preparation for a 7½ months Mediterranean cruise which began Nov. 30, 1977. They made stops at ports of Barcelona, Naples, Civitavecchia, Venice, Crete, Sardinia, and more! He made a side trip to Rome to see the sights! He remembers calling his mom "Collect" from Naples!

He was promoted to Petty Officer 3rd Class in Feb. 1978. In July '78 he was back in Mayport, preparing for a Caribbean cruise with stops at Miami, Key West, Tampa, Panama, Costa Rica, Curaaco, (North of Venezuela), and Guantanamo Bay. While in Puerto Rico they took part in several weapons exercises.

In the summer of 1979, the USS Manley headed for the Persian Gulf, but "blew" an engine, so they were directed to Naples for repairs. New orders sent them into the Norwegian Sea for exercises with many NATO ships, and stops at Narvik, Norway and Wilhelmshaven, Germany, and down the River Thames to London. Returning to the US, they made stops at Newport, RI, New York City, Norfolk, and Boston. Reese made Petty Officer 2nd class in August '79.

They were "dry docked" at Boston in August '80, so all munitions and weapons had to be removed and stored off-site. On some of his "off-duty hours" Reese worked part-time nights at the Union Oyster House!

Randal was released from active duty off the USS Manley on Sept. 13, 1980, with the rank of Petty Officer 2nd class. He bought a motorcycle and rode it back to Minnesota! He used his GI Bill to attend University of Minnesota-Waseca, graduating in August 1982.

Randal came back to Hayfield to work with his father, Bill, at Reese Farm Center, and later, full-time farming. He is thankful to have raised his family of 5 children in the Hayfield community, and proud to have served our country in the Armed Forces.

Jerry McCloud Feb. Veteran of the Month

Jerry McCloud, worked on the farm with his dad, after graduating from LeRoy-Ostrander High School in 1967. He signed up for Delayed Entry with the Air Force and on May 23, 1968 he reported to Lackland Air Force Base for his Basic Training. Jerry remembers those six weeks as very hot and humid! He was promoted to Airman upon completion of Basic Training.

McCloud's next assignment was at Shepherd A.F. Base near Wichita Falls, TX for a six week intro to the medical field. In August of '68, McCloud was assigned to Brooks AF Base at San Antonio for his career field training as Aero-Medical Specialist. They were trained to care for anyone who had "flight" status, in addition to the missile crews. McCloud flew on Hueys, B-52's, KC 135 (refueling planes), and C-47 (Gooney Birds) to maintain flight pay status. Jerry made Airman 1st Class upon completion of this training.

McCloud came home on leave and married his high school sweetheart, CeCe Leibfried, November 2, 1968! They moved to Ellsworth AF Base and lived "off base" while Jerry was assigned to the Flight Surgeon's office.

3:00 pm, April 3, 1971 is still a vivid memory for McCloud, as the control tower called on the "Red Phone" for the crew to report immediately to the flight line. A B-52 had crashed into the fuel pump house, which sat above three 25,000 gallon fuel storage tanks. The base fire department and medical staff managed to extricate all nine of the crewmembers from the burning plane. Jerry spent that night in the hospital because of smoke inhalation. Jerry was awarded the Airman's medal which is the highest-ranking medal for a non-combat unit!

In 1971, McCloud re-enlisted for another four years, with a promised assignment to Hahn AF Base, Germany, (Kirchberg, Germany) with the 50th Tactical Fighter Wing. They lived off-base, for awhile, on the 3rd floor of a Gasthaus (bar and restaurant) in the town of Altay, and eventually moved into Base Housing. They bought a 1971 Volkswagen "Beetle" and pulled a very small trailer to tour much of Europe; France, Spain, Luxemburg, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Austria, Switzerland, and Germany.

In the summer of 1972, he was part of the Mobil Hospital unit which joined many nations for the NATO exercises in Turkey.

They returned to Ellsworth AF Base in 1975. A memory from that period is of a SR-71 Blackbird (a long range, high altitude spy plane) which secretly landed and departed their airfield!

McCloud served eleven years in the Air Force, and was released March 29, 1979 as a Staff Sergeant. Jerry & CeCe have two children, Shelly and Chad.

Hayfield American Legion Post 330

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Phone: (507)477-2441

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Current Legion Hours

Open @ 4 PM Wednesday thru Saturday

(Friday Night Suppers Served 5:00-7:30 PM)

JANUARY MENUS

Friday, January 6th

Chef Salad or Taco Salad

Friday, January 13th

Steak and/or Shrimp

Friday, January 20th

Country Fried Steak

Friday, January 27th

Salisbury Meatballs

FEBRUARY MENUS

Friday, February 3rd

Hot Pork Sandwich

Friday, February 10th

Steak and/or Shrimp

Friday, February 17th

Hamburger Gravy over Mashed Potatoes

Friday, February 24th

Country Fried Steak

Regular Legion & Auxiliary Meetings
Second Tuesday of Each Month @ 7:00 PM