

# American Legion Post 330 Newsletter

Hayfield, Minnesota

July/August 2022

## A Message from the Legion Commander, Pat Towey, Jr.

Well, as I am writing this Newsletter article, which is my last as Commander, I am reflecting back on the last two years. I have definitely enjoyed representing Rothie Post 330. It truly comes with a lot of pride as I look back at all the fine individuals who have served the Legion before me. I will always look back fondly on the past two years. There have been events where everything went so well and others that I had to learn a bit of a lesson, but through all of it, I have considered myself very lucky to be the leader of such a great organization.

I would like to **thank all of you** for allowing me to serve in this roll as well as all of you that I have counted on to help me through the learning curve. Also, I **thank Vince Reynolds and Craig Bauman** for their service in the Vice Commander and Second Vice Commander rolls. I know Vince will be great as Commander over the next couple of years.

Our **Memorial Day** program was once again very well attended. I feel like we had more people than I can remember at the cemeteries. Everyone did a wonderful job, as always, and I thank all of those who were out with us to honor our fallen comrades.

The school held the annual **AAA Banquet**, and the **Legion Scholarships** were awarded to **Natalie Heydt and Nolan Klocke**. Again, this year we had many great entries that answered our question about how a Veteran has affected their life.

Hopefully everyone can attend "**Burgers on the Patio**" some time this summer. This is held on Wednesday nights throughout the summer. It is a great way to support the Legion and also to get out and socialize with others.

Have a wonderful **4<sup>th</sup> of July** and an enjoyable summer. Once again, I am so proud and thankful to have served the Legion the past two years.

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## Message from the SAL Commander, Matt Nelson

We gave away **two \$500 Scholarships** this past spring to a couple of very deserving graduating seniors ... **Anna Bamlet and Karver Heydt. Congratulations!**

Our "**Fly the Flag**" Project is off to another great start this year. We are putting over 330 flags up in our communities for the four flag holidays of the summer. If you would like a flag next year, contact Kasey Kreckling at 507-259-0192 or Curt Heydt at 507-951-3936. Thank you to all of you who are proudly supporting our "**Fly the Flag**" project.

The SAL will also be helping the Legion with their "**Field of Flags**" coming this July.

We will be putting a **sprinkler system** in place at the SAL Field in August.

If you ordered a **SAL shirt and hat**, please contact Kasey Kreckling or Steve McCamy.

Feel free to check out our Hayfield SAL website at: **HAYFIELDMNSAL.COM**

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## HELP WANTED

**The Hayfield American Legion is looking to hire a Bar/Kitchen Manager. If you are Interested, or know of someone who might be, please call Pat Towey, Jr. at 507-421-4770.**

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

Summer is finally here and I hope all of you are able to get out and enjoy some activities and sunshine.

In May, we were pleased to award **three \$300 Scholarships** to three graduating seniors. The recipients were **Jori Rieken, Nolan Klocke, and Grace Walker.**

The Auxiliary also worked **Bingo** the end of May and all of June and we so appreciate our volunteers who donate their time to help with this endeavor.

June brought the **Hayfield Sesquicentennial.** What a great celebration! We were so happy to host **Family Bingo** on both Friday and Saturday nights. It is always wonderful to see the great turnout we get for these events and the kids have a great time.

The **4<sup>th</sup> of July** allows us to celebrate all things American so get out and enjoy the parades, fireworks, eat a hot dog, and reflect on what a tremendous country we live in. **Department Convention** will be held this year in Willmar from **July 13-16.**

In August our new membership year begins and we'd love to see our **Auxiliary Membership** continue to grow. Talk to a friend or relative about joining!

Enjoy your summer and come visit us at the American Legion.

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*Please submit articles for the  
September/October Newsletter  
to Sue Anderson by August 10<sup>th</sup>.*

# Burger Nights



Happening Now Throughout the  
Summer on the Legion Patio

Every Wednesday Night.... 5-7:00 PM  
(Rain or Shine)

Burgers W/Fixings ..... \$7.00

Burgers W/Fixings & Corn ... \$9.00

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Listed below are the members that are known to have passed away since the last Newsletter:

**Richard Jensen      62 Year Member**

**Joey Sanvick        16 Year Member**

Our sincere thoughts and prayers go out to Richard & Joey's families and friends.

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The Auxiliary continues to collect small unopened hotel/motel sized soaps, lotions and shampoos, chap stick, detergent pods, etc. that will be given to the VA Hospital & Hastings Veteran's Home.

We also collect Postage Stamps & used Greeting Cards for the Auxiliary, and Pop Tabs for the Hayfield School.

Please drop your items off at the Legion Clubrooms. They can be placed in the "Auxiliary Donation Box."

Your time & effort is appreciated! Thank You!

## Ardean Bjornson July Veteran Of The Month

Ardean Bjornson graduated from Hayfield High School in 1960 and worked briefly at Waters-Conley in Rochester. Later, he farmed with his older brother, Lloyd, and worked part-time on construction driving trucks.

Bjornson was 22 years old when he received his draft notice in November of 1963. The same month, President John Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, which raised the "stress level" for Ardean and his family as they wondered what might be ahead!

On December 3, 1963, he rode the bus from Dodge Center to Minneapolis for his physical and induction into the army. Another bus transported the group to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri where they began their Basic Training with Company B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment. They arrived in a rainstorm with the temperature dropping to 10-15 degrees, which created glare ice throughout the camp. Weeks later, Bjornson remembers crawling through the melting ice and slush on the obstacle course...and what a struggle it was to stay warm during Bivouac Week! He has a humorous recollection of when a drill instructor called him Bo-Johnson! Ardean corrected him, which "cost" him 20 pushups, along with the warning to respond immediately whatever the D.I. called him!

Following Basic Training, and a 10-day leave back home, Ardean reported to Fort Benning, Georgia where he was assigned to 505<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company. He was assigned to a tractor-trailer unit, for which he was responsible for all of the maintenance and repairs, other than major engine overhauls. He made PFC shortly thereafter. Bjornson transported literally everything "military", including equipment, fuel, clothing, parachutes, and refrigerated trailers for perishable food. He recalls a time when the military was having problems with the rotor blades on their Huey Helicopters. He hauled semi-loads of props to Fort Bragg, NC for testing and repair, and returned them for installation once more.

While at Fort Benning, he discovered that Galen Bungum (his second cousin & neighbor from Hayfield) was also stationed there with the 29th Infantry. Sometime later, Ardean hauled many "Conex Boxes" (huge metal storage units) filled with equipment belonging to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division which was being shipped to Vietnam!

Bjornson was released from active duty at Fort Benning on December 3, 1965 with the rank of Spec 4. He returned to the Hayfield area to farm and drove trucks with Quarve & Anderson for 17 years and then for Paulson Rock Products for another 17 years. Ardean is still farming today.

Ardean married Carma Tietje on March 16, 1968 and they raised four children: Emily, Sarah, Aaron, and Beth. All live in the Byron-Hayfield area!

## Dale Ulve August Veteran Of The Month

Dale Ulve was a member of the Lake Mills, IA High School class of 1970. After graduation, he spent the summer working for his dad installing field drainage tile for farmers. Immediately after graduation, Dale and a friend signed up for delayed induction, (until November) for the Pershing Nuclear Missile program, which was located in Germany. Both fellows reported for induction physicals on November 13, 1970. It was at this time that Dale learned that he was colorblind, and would not be accepted into the missile program!

Ulve was sent to Fort Lewis, WA for his Basic Training. About mid-way through that training, he developed pneumonia and spent a couple of weeks in the hospital, so he was "re-cycled back to another training company. He went home for Christmas and returned to Fort Lewis to complete his Basic Training.

In March 1971 Dale was transferred to Fort Leonard Wood, MO for his AIT in carpentry. Upon completion of this training, he was promoted to E-3, and reported to Fort Bragg, NC, for assignment to the 589<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. Much of their work was with heavy equipment, building roads, repairing or installing new sewer and water lines, etc. Dale remembers with pride, being selected as the "flag bearer" for a parade to honor a retiring general. (The honor came with a 3-day pass!)

Ulve was able to spend Christmas with his family in 1971, and then reported to Fort Dix for "overseas" processing. He flew via a commercial flight to Landstuhl, Germany. (About 75 miles southwest of Frankfurt). He was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Hospital. Dale was part of a six-man team in charge of all maintenance and repairs, plus all of the utilities in the hospital. They "leaned" on each others' experience and expertise to make some of those repairs! He likes to describe his assignment as a carpenter in a concrete hospital! Ulve was the only fellow in the unit with a German Driver's license. Ulve recalls getting a speeding ticket while driving the dump truck. The officer demanded immediate payment or he would refer him to the base commander for an "Article 15". Dale paid him on the spot and got back in the truck! He made Spec-4 that summer.

He did some travel while overseas, including the 1972 Summer Olympics, October Fest at Munich, Tulip Festival in Amsterdam, Sweden, and several trips to Frankfurt where his sister and her husband were stationed.

He flew back to Fort Dix and was released as an E-4. He used his GI Bill to attend Jackson, MN Technical College in the Land Surveying program.

Dale married Linda (Thompson) Mundy and they raised four children: Tyler, Tiffani, Michelle, and Jeff.

Hayfield American Legion Post 330  
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**The Legion Hours Remain the Same ...**

**Open at 4:00 PM**

**Wednesday thru Saturday**