



AMERICAN LEGION POST 56

Our Mission

To support and assist all veterans and their families; To provide child, youth and community programs that instill teamwork, citizenship, and patriotism; To encourage our elected leaders to support legislation that ensure our service members are properly trained, equipped, and receive the benefits they have earned; To honor the sacrifices made by our veterans in defense of our nation.
"Serving Veterans, Serving the community"

142 North Broadway, Albert Lea, MN * 373-7993 * www.americanlegionpost56.com

June, 2026

Greetings Fellow Legionaries.

Here we are....the beginning of Summer. I think there were times it was questionable whether we were going to see it for sure. Now that we've started, lets all of us enjoy this beautiful weather.

Let's get started. Eddie Cochran Days are June 11-14 this year. There are a lot of things going on those days. This may prove to be one of the larger car shows we've had in Albert Lea! A lot of events are going on with live bands, a huge car show and a local cruise with the Post 56 Legion Riders escorting the cruise throughout its course. Stop into the Legion on Saturday for a "cold one" and go out and enjoy the car show! We will be selling "Eddie Cochran Car Show" t-shirts at the Legion! These are great looking shirts! There's only 50 so get them while you can! Once they're gone they're gone. The Legion Riders will be offering their famous ice cream floats again! The Burgers and Brats will be cooked by Legion volunteers! Stop on by and have an excellent lunch! You won't beat the value you'll get with the floats and burgers and brats!

Speaking of T shirts! The new American Legion t shirts are in. Just \$20 each! Remember, on Thursdays from 9:00 am to 11:00 we have coffee hour at the Legion for those that wish to stop by and shoot the bull with others! Coffee and Theresa's fresh homemade treats each week! You just can't beat that with a stick!

Two changes with the Legion are going to occur after the Eddie Cochran Days. We will close on Saturdays after June 13 and open up later on in the year. We are also closing the office on Mondays and Fridays after Eddie Cochran Days. The bar will still be open on Fridays at 4:00 pm so you can still come on in for Supper and Karaoke!

I'm asking all of you to help out and bring in new members! The younger vets are still not coming in. Let's talk up the Legion and all that it has to offer! Our volunteers are getting fewer and fewer. We can use your help please. As we lose volunteers, we have to cut back of some of the services being offered. It doesn't take much to help. Just a couple hours a month! Bingo is in need of help with this also! Again, as we lose volunteers, so we will lose some of our services. I got it that you've given in the past as a volunteer.....you know what it takes. Just a couple hours a month. That's all I'm asking.

That's enough of that. All of you please enjoy what this Summer has to offer you! Most importantly, please be safe out there!

God Bless You All!

Ole - For God and Country

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2026 Legion Baseball Schedule

Tuesday – June 9th	Roch. JM	Hayek - 6:30 pm
Thursday- June 11th	Roch A's	Away Cent. HS - 6:00 pm
Tuesday – June 16th	Kasson	Hayek - 6:30 pm
June 19 – 21st	Mankato Mulp. Tournament	TBD – 3 games
Tuesday – June 23rd	Owatonna	Hayek – 6:30 pm
Thursday – June 24th	Red Wing	Away - 6:00 pm
Tuesday – June 30th	Stewartville	Hayek – 6:00 pm
Wednesday – July 1st	Byron	Away – 6:00 pm
Tuesday – July 7th	Austin	Hayek – 6:30 pm
Thursday – July 9th	Winona	Hayek – 6:30 pm
Monday – July 13th	Roch.Mayo	Away Mayo HS – 6:30 pm
July 20 – 25th	District Legion Tournament	Stewartville – TBD
July	State	TBD

Lic. No. A-00213-001

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 CLUB CLOSED	1 CLUB CLOSED DAV mtg 7 pm	2 Tuna Melt / FF Burger Baskets Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Cloverleaf Lions 6 pm	3 Women Vets Lunch 11:30 am Veg. Beef soup / Grilled cheese sand. Auxiliary Meat Raffle 5 pm Bingo 6 pm	4 Coffee for Vets 9 – 11 am Chicken strip Basket Wine & Wings Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	5 Cheeseburger Tator Tot Bake Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Karaoke w/ Tim – 7 pm	6 Club Open 12 – 6 pm Limited Menu
7 CLUB CLOSED	8 CLUB CLOSED Exec. Board Mtg 6:30 pm VFW Mtg. 7 pm	9 "TACO BAR" Burger Baskets Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	10 Deluxe Grilled Cheese / FF Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Riders Meat Raffle 5 pm Bingo 6 pm	11 Coffee for Vets 9 – 11 am Bacon Cheeseburger / Macaroni salad Wine & Wings Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	12 Swiss Steak w/ Boiled Potatoes Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Karaoke w/ Billy Ray – 7 pm	13 Eddie Cochran Car Show Burgers & Brats Floats Bloody Mary's
14 FLAG DAY Lakeview Lions Pancake Breakfast 8 am – 12 pm	15 CLUB CLOSED Post Mtg. 7 pm	16 "BAKED POTATO BAR" Burger Baskets Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Cloverleaf Lions 6 pm	17 Taco Stuffed Baked Potatoes Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Legion Meat Raffle 5 pm Bingo 6 pm	18 Coffee for Vets 9- 11 am Chef Salad Wine & Wings Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	19 Quilts of Valor 3 pm FISH FRY Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Karaoke w/ Tim – 7 pm	20 CLUB CLOSED
21 CLUB CLOSED	22 CLUB CLOSED	23 "BBQ BAR" Burger Baskets Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Riders Mtg 6:30 pm	24 BBQ Pulled Chicken / Mac & Cheese Open Menu 4 – 7:40 pm SAL Meat Raffle 5 pm Bingo 6 pm	25 Coffee for Vets 9- 11 am Deluxe or Meat Eaters Pizza Wine & Wings Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	26 Baked Ziti Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Karaoke w/ Billy Ray – 7 pm	27 CLUB CLOSED
28 ReAct Pancake Breakfast 8 am – 12:00 pm	29 CLUB CLOSED	30 Ham & Swiss Melt w/ FF Burger Baskets Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm	1 Women Vets Lunch 11:30 am Shrimp Basket Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Auxiliary Meat Raffle 5 pm Bingo 6 pm	2 Coffee for Vets 9- 11 am Legion Burger/FF Wine & Wings Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm Auxiliary Mtg. 7 pm	3 Shoestring Salad W / fruit & Breadstick Open Menu 4 – 7:30 pm PARADE 6 pm Karaoke w/ Tim – 7 pm	4 CAR SHOW Burgers & Brats Floats Bloody Mary's

www.americanlegionpost56.com

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Hi Riders,

Mother Nature can't decide what season we are in! Hopefully everyone is able to get their flowers and gardens planted.

We will be participating in both the Alden and Albert Lea Parades. Alden's is June 20th and Albert Lea's is July 3rd. We would love to see a large riders' presence at both.

Ditch cleanup will be on June 6th at 10 a.m. Please show up ready to work at McDonalds North on Bridge Ave by 9:55 a.m.

We still have some 2024 coins left if anyone is still in need of one; they are \$5.

That is about it for this month and have a happy and safe Memorial Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Knudtson - ALR Secretary

EDDIE COCHRAN CAR SHOW

Saturday - June 13th
We will be serving burgers & brats.
The Riders will have Ice Cream Floats.

NEW T-SHIRTS

We have new Post 56 Legion t-shirts
available for sale.
\$20.00

Donations and Memorials

Jeri Lynn Morgan	Mem of Gerald Dunford
Mary Jo Boysen	Mem of Gerald Dunford
Daniel Kee Dunford	Mem of Gerald Dunford
Family of Orville Goskeson	Mem of Orville Goskeson
Family of Dale Victora	Mem of Dale Victora
Family of Jerry Iverson	Mem of Jerry Iverson
Family of Jerry Dunford	Mem of Jerry Dunford

Hello Fellow Veterans:

What a Spring! Sunshine and warm temps one day and then the terrible winds blow and more cold, cloudy weather! We have gotten a little precious rain and hope for better days ahead!

I have some "Better" news to share with you. The DAV has been working hard and for at least a year and a half with the VA and The DAV to get a van stationed here in Albert Lea, so we are able to assist our local veterans to help transport them to their medical appointments in the area as the VA CBOC and their Community Care Network providers. There is a great need for this opportunity to help you all!

It is a process to get volunteer drivers to do this job, BUT it is greatly needed. I know you all are not able to volunteer but those who can, I would greatly encourage you to give it a try. You do not have to be a veteran; all you have to do is want to help. There is no pay, just a "Thank you," occasionally and you become one of the "Elite" members of your community! It is not required to drive every day. As much as you want or as little as you can, it is all greatly appreciated!

Please consider the opportunity as it is a good way to get out and see different people and visit with your fellow veterans.

There are spare vans setting around Minnesota that need new homes and all it takes to get one is to have a few volunteers to drive it and they will place it here.

Last week an outspoken advocate for the DAV and myself traveled to VA MPLS. to start this program, so if you can help make this happen and keep the ball rolling and help the community step up to continue "Serving The Ones Who Served," please give me a call! Bob Sharp, VFW and DAV Cmdr. at 507-828-3062 and talk about this and get the program in place and working.

Thank you for your consideration and God Bless you all!

Robert Sharp Cmdr.

VFW Post 447

Personalized Garden Flag

Have a garden flag personalized with your Veteran's picture. Display it in your yard or at the cemetery beside their grave marker. Southern MN Branding will help design the flag honoring your Veteran. Contact info:

507-377-1452

INFO@SOUTHERNMNBRANDING.COM

Greetings from the Auxiliary!

As we move into summer, that will bring warmer weather for car shows, parades and sitting at the patio table to enjoy all the sights and sounds let us celebrate. Swing by the Legion to enjoy a beverage or a fancy soda float by the Riders during events such as Eddie Cochran Days. Keep watch for a moving float at the parades as we pay tribute to our Legion family. Stand and wave a flag as you honor our veterans during the parades. Slow down and enjoy the pretty old cars or the speedy muscle cars. And remember Flag Day on June 14th with honor and respect for the red, white and blue.

Have you found a 250th rock yet? The Junior auxiliary group painted 250 rocks and placed them around communities. The rocks are neat and if you spy one bring it by the Legion as the first 30 turned in get a special magnet recognizing the 250th year of the USA. Keep spreading the love of our beautiful country.

Quilt of Valor is on June 19th at 3 pm in the event center. Please join us as we honor our veterans with presentations. All are welcome! If you can sew, please let us know as we always needed assistance. And of course, donations are always appreciated.

Our next auxiliary meeting will be on June 25th 7pm. We will have our installation of officers. Beth Birch, President; Paulette Anderson, Secretary; Jean Enstad, Treasurer; Lynn Koza, Historian/Sargent of Arms; Carrie Schmitz, Chaplin; Sandy Norby, executive board; Theresa Knudtson, executive board. Thank you to this group for all they do each and every day as they serve our veterans.

And as always stop at the club for meal, beverage or fellowship OR all three. We need our club and our club needs us.

In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different. – John Steinbeck

Enjoy every moment!

Beth Birch, Auxiliary President

Quilts of Valor

Lowell Doppelhammer,
Terry Lemur, McDonald (Jerry) Noland,
Jr. Harold Saunders, Richard Nelson

These are the veterans that will be receiving our special Quilts this month.



Jerry Iverson, 79 yrs, died Jan 27, 2026, served in the US Navy in Vietnam. Member of Post 56 for 32 continuous member.

LEO MARTIN CAREY



American Legion Post 56
Albert Lea, Minnesota
"Stay Active"



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date!
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meetings.

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Meetings are held on the
4th Tuesday of every
month at Post 56 - 6:30 pm

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Post 447 VFW meetings are
held on the 2nd Monday of
every month at the American
Legion Post 56 Clubrooms @
7:00 pm. Come and join VFW
Post 447. Veterans helping
Veterans.