



Richard Dingle Post 98
328 Broadway Ave
Saint Paul Park, Minnesota 55071
651-459-8016

July/August/September 2022 Newsletter

Commander's Call

Message from outgoing Commander

Greetings to all. This will be my last newsletter as Commander. It has been an honor to have served this post. I want to thank the members of the executive board for the work they have done over the last year. Colleen, I want to thank you for all the hard work you have done. I know you said you would stay on for one more year, but I am grateful that you have agreed to stay longer to help Gerald, the new commander with the transition. Thanks, also, to all the volunteers for their time and hard work.

This year's Memorial Day Services were the best I can remember. The Combat Vets volunteered to help by holding the flags for all the branches of the Military. It was quite impressive. Many people expressed their thanks and appreciation. Thanks to Gabe and the Combat Vets.

Good luck Gerald, in your first year as Commander!

John Dingle
Commander



Message from incoming Commander

Oh, Geeze another year a new slate. Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Gerald Wright I have been involved with the Legion post 98 since I was about 6 years old. I served 8 years in the Army as an 88M. I did three tours to Iraq and was stationed in Mannheim, Germany. While in Germany I drove over 500,000 miles in a semi-truck throughout Europe starting at the age of 19. While in Iraq my unit turned into a gun

truck company. We did gun truck escorts throughout the theater of Iraq. I came home in 2009 and did 1 year in the reserves. I was officially out in 2010. In 2009 was the year I became an officer for the first time at the post as 2nd Sgt of arms. Throughout my time here I have been Sgt at Arms multiple times, 2nd vice, and 1st vice. I am excited to work with everyone again and the auxiliary. I am also excited that the Jr. Auxiliary and the S.A.L.s are up and running again. Also, one last piece as the new Commander I cannot wait to have a great working relationship with the manager work staff and the chef Mik and his work staff. Here is to a start of a great year. Thankyou everyone.

Legion Meeting Dates:

Monday, July 18th at 7:00 pm

Monday, August 15th at 7:00 pm

Monday, September 19th at 7:00 pm



Adjutant's Report

We achieved 100% membership goal for Legion year 2022 of 424 members. Last year we were also able to achieve that, and we say thank you to everyone who renewed and joined. The Legion membership year runs from July to June, so starting in July 2022 the new membership year 2023 starts for the American Legion. As we look forward into the next Legion year, we ask that you renew your membership so we can as a post continue to serve and support all veterans

in our area as well as community members in need.

We held an election for the new Post Officers in May and listed below are your Post Officers for July 2022-June 2023.

Post Officers

Commander:	Gerald Wright	First Vice Commander	Janet Lorenzo
Second Vice Commander	Scott Hanneman	Third Vice Commander	Open
Finance Officer	Raymond Kane	Chaplain	Rich Crear / Forrest Bailey
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rick Kullman	Sergeant-at-Arms	Open
Historian	John Duff		

Appointed by Commander:

Adjutant	Mike Solei	Post Service Officer	Danielle Horan
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Taps:

Robert "Bob" Paul Purdy Age 73, of Newport

Chaplain

Hello Legion Friends, summer is finally here and with summer comes the celebration of our independence. As you are enjoying quality time with family and friends, please take the time to remember those who gave their lives so we can be free. Please take time to thank God for the freedom we have and take time to pray. Prayers are more than just words, they are the foundation for hope, faith, and our future. In the American Legion, it is the chaplain's responsibility to formally pray at each meeting, but it is all our responsibility to pray daily for our nation, our neighbors, our soldiers, our leaders, and our families. Here is a prayer to get you started:

"Dear God, Creator of this good land, help us to be worthy of citizenship in our nation. Thank you for the more than 200 years of freedom and protection. Thank you for the blessings and opportunities you give us each day. Please bless our country with loyal people and dedicated leaders. Guard us from unlawful acts and cowardly fear.

Make us not forget the sacrifice of our soldiers. We ask your ultimate blessing on the veterans of our great nation, on our families, on our neighbors and on our St Paul Park American Legion. Amen."

Godspeed.
Chaplain Rich Crear

Post Service Officer

Greetings Legionaries -

As we enter summer months, I want to take a moment to remind you to visit your local American Legion. The American Legion provides potential life-changing assistance and guidance for veterans, military personnel, and their families. Your local service officer has a variety of resources in the form of personal assistance, cash grants, donated goods, disaster relief, labor, networking, volunteerism, and advocacy. Please take a moment to read the link below to help summarize how valuable your service officer is in your community is. This also give you an opportunity to think of ways to help build our strong community.

<https://mnlegion.org/family-support-network/>

Regards,
Janet Lorenzo

Auxiliary News

Message from outgoing President

As your Auxiliary President for the past 3 years, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve. It has been very challenging to be able to do fundraisers, visits and communicating via internet during "the Covid years." Our auxiliary members really pitched in when needed for the few events we were able to have. I would like to congratulate Jeorgia Cluckey on becoming the new Auxiliary President. I know she will lead the Auxiliary members to do great things for our veterans and community.

Have a great summer

Lori Carey
Past President

Message from incoming President

As the newly elected President of the Auxiliary, I do not have a lot to report for this newsletter. I am hopeful that will change in the future as I settle into my new role.

My first event as President along with Penny Duff and Dawn Rasett was to attend the 3rd District Convention at the Forest Lake American Legion in May. As declining membership is a serious concern across the state it is my pleasure to announce our Unit was recognized as was one of top ten exceeding membership goals since January 19th by 105.14%. Terri Wright oversees Membership and is obviously doing an outstanding job in recruiting new members. In the upcoming year let us warmly welcome the new members as you have me and engage them in all our activities.

There is an upcoming Feeding Veterans Event with a goal of packaging 50,000 meals to be used over the next year to support homeless Veterans, Veterans in Need, Active-Duty Military, and their Families. If you are interested in donating to help pay for food items: Checks should be made out to: **DAV Unit 37 177 3rd Ave Hutchinson, MN 55350**

I am looking forward to becoming more established in my role and working with all of you to volunteer serving the Veterans, Military, and their Families in our community.

Kind Regards,
Georgia Cluckey
Auxiliary President

Auxiliary Officers 2021-2022

President:	Georgia Cluckey	1 st Vice:	Sharon Langness
2 nd Vice:	Teresa Kullmann	Secretary:	Berta Chapman
Treasurer:	Terri Wright	Sgt at Arms:	Penny Duff
Historian:	Lynn Cozad	Chaplain:	Marilyn Witzel

Auxiliary Meeting Dates

July 2022 None

Monday 2022 August TBD

September 2022 TBD

SAL Commander

At our last meeting on May 3rd, we had 3 attendees. We discussed the low attendance and decided that Jesse Knoll would assist us and go thru the member list and info to validate what we had on file. We also decided that given the upcoming summer and how busy people were that we would forgo upcoming meetings until Thursday, September 1st @ 6pm. Until then, have a great summer and hopefully we can get a larger turnout in the fall and work on some possible opportunities to help with and contribute to the club.

Thanks,
Tim Conrad
S.A.L. Commander

S.A.L. Meeting Dates

July 2022 None

August 2022 None

September 2022 @ 6:00pm

From the Desk of the Gambling Manager

With the 2021/ 2022 gambling year coming to a end on June 30 2022, I would like to thank all my great employee's for the success of the American Legion Post 98 Charitable gambling, I am a firm believer in records are made to be broken, and this year we have broken many, The Legion Post 98 charitable gambling had its biggest month ever \$427,843 in March followed up by \$404,000 in April, and with that we need \$298,087 in June which should be no problem and the Post will hit \$4 million in sales, that will be a \$500,000 increases from last year, so thank you gamblers. Bingo is every Tuesday, and it seems to be getting busier every week

with nice game prize amounts. Now the bad news, we have paid the state of Minnesota \$161,492.00 in gambling tax so far this year, it sure would be nice to give that to people that need it instead of the state.

Thank you all.
Gambling Manager
Craig A. Kittelson

Bar/Club Manager

Hello and it looks like summer is finally here, well I hope so I was writing this on a day that felt like summer. There have been some exciting things happening in the bar area of the Post. We bought some new chairs, we are paying for these with auction baskets that are behind the bar, so next time you are eating, drinking, or playing pull tabs think about helping us pay for your comfort!!! The patio is open, stop on down and enjoy the nice weather while we have it! We have had a comedian here a couple of times in the hall (this is a free show and is for adults only). We plan on having this again so watch for details on the web site or on our Facebook page. Every Thursday from 2 - 4 we have an open jam session, so come on down with your guitar, fiddle, or triangle and join in the fun. If you do not play an instrument, come on down and do a little toe tapping to the music. It has been a struggle to find people who want to work, so I am very thankful for ALL the employees who have gone above and beyond when asked. Still looking so.....

The Legion Picnic is going to be on Sunday July 31st from 11 - 4 AT THE AMERICAN LEGION. More details will be posted at the Legion and on our website. The BAR will be closed that day. No outside beverages will be allowed to be brought in; we will have the beer kegs like in the past.

Now for some exciting news Richard Dingle American Legion Post 98 is going to be honored as the business of the year for 2022 Heritage Days AUGUST 26TH - 28TH, 2022, notice the new weekend! We are planning some exciting things to show what the Legion is all about. One of the highlights will be on Sunday morning when we will be at Veterans Park doing a Flag Retirement Ceremony.

I would like to give a shout out to 328 Grill and their whole staff. If you have not stopped down to try the food please do, it has been a pleasure meeting new people who have come in to eat and have a few cocktails. The food the Grill has to offer have helped this Bar continue to thrive financially, the past year has been the best financial year the bar has ever had. The friendships and partnership we have made with 328 Grill has been a true blessing for the bar.

I would like to say Thank you to Past Commander John Dingle for the past year. It was an honor to work with you and to see the Post make some changes during your tenure, we had a few difficult moments, but we made it...THANK YOU!!!!

To the upcoming Commander Gerry Wright. I can honestly say that I was honored when you asked me to continue as the Bar Manager, I know that we will work very well together and as a team we will continue to keep the Post in the upward way it has been going, after all what 2 people can say Upside Down Staircase and know what the other is talking about. I am really looking forward to this year and who knows maybe you will get a couple more years out of this Manager!

I hope that everyone has a great rest of your summer, continue to follow us on Facebook and on the Website and remember in a World Where You Can Be Anything....ALWAYS BE KIND!!!

Sincerely your American Legion Post 98 Bar Manager

Colleen

Upcoming Weekly Events:

Bingo held every Tuesday @ 6:30

Car Show @ Veterans Park 4-Dusk every Wednesday.

Meat Raffles every Friday @ 5:30

Just a note:

July 31st - Post 98 Picnic at the Legion

August 26th to August 28th - Heritage Days – Please refer to our website for updates on activities going throughout the weekend.

August 25th to September 5th - Minnesota State Fair

September 9th - Booya preparation – Cut up vegetables debone and so on. If you want to help, please sign up at Legion in late August.

September 10th - Fall Booya

If you need any additional information regarding the upcoming events, meetings, or Legion activities. please visit our website at

www.richarddinglepost98.com

As always, feel free to email either the Post or Adjutant at the following email addresses:

Post 98 email address

post98spp@gmail.com

Post 98 Adjutant email address

aladjutant98@outlook.com

If you have a change in contact information, please reach out to the Post Adjutant and he will get your information updated. This is important as we are trying to keep our postal costs to a minimum. Last newsletter mailing we had \$25 in returned newsletters.

July 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	2	3
4 Bar Close – 6pm No Kitchen	5 Bingo – 6:30pm	6 Car Show – 4pm	7 40/8 Mtg – 5pm	8 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	9 Combat Vets Mtg – 10am	10
11 Gambling Mtg – 6pm Executive Mtg – 6:30pm	12 Bingo – 6:30pm	13 Car Show – 4pm	14	15 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	16	17
18 Legion Mtg – 7:00pm	19 Bingo – 6:30pm	20 Car Show – 4pm	21	22 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	23	24
25	26 Bingo – 6:30pm	27 Car Show – 4pm	28	29 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	30	31 Legion Picnic – 11am

EVENTS

Bingo

Join us for Bingo every Tuesday night at 6:30pm

Meat Raffle

We thought what a better way to support the community with the outrageous gas and food prices then to have mystery gift cards. \$2.00 a chance and you could win a \$40.00 gas or grocery card. We will be adding more of a variety as we continue through the summer.

Legion Picnic

Join us for the annual Legion Picnic, see our web site for more up to date information. Remember we will be starting our membership drive at this time.

August 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 Bingo – 6:30pm	3 Car Show – 4pm	4 40/8 Mtg – 5pm	5 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	6	7
8 Gambling Mtg – 6pm Executive Mtg – 6:30pm	9 Bingo – 6:30pm	10 Car Show – 4pm	11	12 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	13 Combat Vets Mtg – 10am	14
15 Legion Mtg – 7:00pm	16 Bingo – 6:30pm	17 Car Show – 4pm	18	19 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	20	21
22	23 Bingo – 6:30pm	24 Car Show – 4pm	25	26 Heritage Days Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	27 Heritage Days	28 Heritage Days
29	30 Bingo – 6:30pm	31 Car Show – 4pm				

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Heritage Days

Join us Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for festivities, see our web site for more up to date information.

September 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 40/8 Mtg – 5pm	2 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	3	4
5	6 Bingo – 6:30pm	7 Car Show – 4pm	8	9 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	10 Combat Vets Mtg – 10am	11
12 Gambling Mtg – 6pm Executive Mtg – 6:30pm	13 Bingo – 6:30pm	14 Car Show – 4pm	15	16 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	17	18
19 Legion Mtg – 7:00pm	20 Bingo – 6:30pm	21 Car Show – 4pm	22	23 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm	24	25
26	27 Bingo – 6:30pm	28 Car Show – 4pm	29	30 Meat Raffle – 5:30pm Karaoke – 7pm		

EVENTS

Bingo

Join us for Bingo every Tuesday night at 6:30pm

Meat Raffle

Meat Raffles every Friday night starting at 5:30pm. Also, if you are interested in volunteering to sell, please see the signup sheet on the Volunteer Board.