



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

July/ August / September 2021 Newsletter

Commander's Call



As June comes to an end, so does the end of my Commandership. As I look at the past 2 years, I cannot help but reflect on the so many things that happened and changed during that two-year period. In July of 2019, we hit the floor running, starting with fundraisers for the Post, raising over \$7,000 in raffles, silent auctions and even a pig roast. Little did we know how important that money was going to be when in just a short time afterward, we had to shut Legion down due to the pandemic, curtailing the majority of our income and putting the Post's very existence in jeopardy. But we prevailed. We prevailed due to the very hard work of a handful of people that were dedicated to make sure that Legion Post 98 would survive. We renegotiated the mortgage on the building, significantly lowering the mortgage payments. We negotiated a line of credit to protect us in the event of a catastrophic event causing a significant out-of-pocket expense. We changed accountants, saving us hundreds of dollars each year. Little did we know that by doing that, through the new accountant's hard work, we would benefit in new undiscovered tax breaks and rebates. Through many hours of work, our Finance Officer obtained grants and forgivable loans so we could make significant improvements to our Legion Pos such as a new kitchen that is thriving, and now we are in the process of completing a patio so we can have outside dinning. As we approach our 100-year anniversary, we are now transitioning to a new regime of leadership who will inherit a Legion that is in a much stronger financial position than when we started. I hope you will join me in welcoming them and wishing them the best of luck in the new year. I want to personally thank from the bottom of my heart all the people that worked so tirelessly to keep our Post alive over the last two years. It has been an honor and a pleasure to be your Commander over the last two years. I cannot wait to see the changes in the years to come....

Legion Meeting Dates:

Monday, July 19th at 7:00 pm

Monday, August 16th at 7:00 pm

Monday, September 20th at 7:00 pm

Adjutant's Report



We achieved 100% membership goal for Legion year 2021. It has been many years since we have achieved that, and I say thank you to everyone who renewed and joined. As most of you know that the typical calendar runs from January to December, however the Legion membership year runs from July to June. So, starting in July 2021 the new membership year 2022 starts for the American Legion which will end June of 2022. So, as we look forward into to 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 hope that this year for the Post will be a building block for a phenomenally successful future after coming off a quite challenging Covid year, please let me know of any questions or concerns you may have.

We held an election for the new Post Officers in May and listed below are your Post Officers for July 2021-June 2022.

Post Officers

Commander:	John Dingle	First Vice Commander	Sarah Schlicht
Second Vice Commander	Open	Third Vice Commander	Open
Finance Officer	Raymond Kane	Chaplain	Richard Crear
Sergeant-at-Arms	Gerald Wright	Sergeant-at-Arms	Jamie Johnson
Historian	John Duff		

Appointed by Commander:

Adjutant	Joe Kocak	Post Service Officer	Janet Lorenzo
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Chaplain

Hello Legion Friends, my name is Rich Crear and I'm the chaplain of Post 98. If you have a prayer request, feel free to email me at richcrear@gmail.com or call/text 651 366 9122. This month, I would like to share a short prayer as a reminder that it is our duty to pray for one another and to pray for our leaders.

"Dear God, Creator of this good land, help us to be worthy of citizenship in our nation. Bless our country with loyal people and dedicated leaders. Guard us from unlawful acts and cowardly fear. We ask your blessing on the veterans of our great nation and on our St Paul Park American Legion. Amen."

Godspeed. Chaplain Rich Crear

Post Service Officer

If anyone is shopping around for specific brand of Covid vaccinations, VAMC is giving Pfizer to vets, spouses, caregivers, and people in the CHAMPVA program. Call 612-467-1301 to schedule.

Washington County is giving Moderna vaccine to anyone over 18 at the old Herberger's building in Stillwater. Appointments available at <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/3328/COVID-19-Vaccine-Clinics> or by calling 651-430-6655.

For any Veterans who have a service-connected disability and want to add their spouse as the beneficiary.

VA form 686C that needs to be completed and faxed to 1-844-531-7818. You can print and mail it to the address on the form in Janesville, WI. <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-686c-ARE.pdf>

Regards,
Janet Lorenzo

Auxiliary News

Happy Summer Ladies!

Congratulations to the newly appointed officers: Lori Carey (Pres), Sharon Langness (1st Vice), Jeorgia Apple-Cluckey (2nd Vice), Terri Wright (Treasurer), Roberta Chapman (Secretary), Marilyn Witzel (Chaplain), Penny Duff (Sgt. of Arms), Lynn Cozad (Historian), and the Executive Board Members: Ruth Conrad, Donna Schindele and Stefanie Kittelson. Looking forward to an exciting year. Our next meeting will be Monday, August 2nd at 6:30 pm. We will be planning another Bake Sale for the Booya in September and working on a separate, larger, Craft Sale in the Fall TBD.

We are looking for members to hold a Committee Chair Position. These positions have a great opportunity to dig into volunteering. There are many to choose from. Your support in making 2021-2022 a great Auxiliary year is appreciated!!

Auxiliary Officers 2021-2022

President:	Lori Carey	1 st Vice:	Sharon Langness
2 nd Vice:	Jeorgia Apple-Cluckey	Secretary:	Roberta Chapman
Treasurer:	Terri Wright	Sgt at Arms:	Penny Duff
Historian:	Lynn Cozad	Chaplain:	Marilyn Witzel

Lori Carey, Auxiliary President

Auxiliary Meeting Dates:

July 2021 None

Monday, August 2nd at 6:30 pm

September 2021 Tbd

From the Desk of the Gambling Manager

First of all I would like to thank all my employees that have stuck by me and the American Legion through the toughest year and 3 months in recent history, 2nd I would like to thank Sue Register with the Hastings vets home and Sarah and Vicky from Basic needs Thrift store, if it wasn't for them our meat raffles would not of succeeded the way they have, those 2 nonprofits have done 90% of the meat raffles since we started back up, which brings me to my next point, we need Post 98 Volunteers to step up and help with the Meat Raffles, I as Gambling Manager can't keep asking these 2 charities to do them all the time, so if you want meat raffles to continue please step up and put your name on the signup sheet. The charitable gambling year comes to an end on 6-30-2021 and even with being shut down for 2 months we are on pace to have one of the biggest Gross Profit years in the history of Post 98 thank you all gamblers.

The 100-year anniversary is coming up fast and the Post needs your help to make these an unforgettable 4 days.

Signing off your Gambling Manager,
Craig Kittelson

Bar/Club Manager

We made it through the pandemic, whew!!! Things are going well, we are still short staffed, so I am asking for patience with the faithful employees who want to work and continue to come in, and we are not the only business that is short staffed, so remember that not only when you are enjoying an ice-cold beverage at the Legion, but at other places as well!!

The patio is open! Thank you to all the amazing donations we received so we could start this project. We bought new tables, chairs and the next step will be putting a fence around the perimeter and the final phase will be putting some type of roof over the patio. So please stop on down and enjoy the beautiful weather! Wonder if the city would paint the alley blue so it looks like we are sitting by the water!!!

The American Legion has leased out our kitchen to Chef Mik German. Please stop down and enjoy the wonderful menu that Mik and 328 Grill has to offer!!! 328 Grill is open Monday- Saturday 11 am till 8 pm.

We have an extremely exciting month of August coming up!!!! Richard Dingle American Legion Post 98 will be celebrating 100 years of being a Legion Post. We are planning on celebrating August 12th - 15th, 2021. Some highlights will be Friday August 13th a Luncheon for ALL our WW11 Veterans, Saturday August 14th Past Commanders Luncheon, Saturday afternoon family fun games on Broadway, and a Saturday evening a street dance featuring Rock Brigade. Sunday we are still in the planning stages, but we will be ending our Anniversary weekend with an Unserviceable Flag Ceremony in Veterans Park. For updates and as more details come in continue to follow us on Facebook and on our Web site Richard Dingle Post 98.0rg

Do not forget we also will be having our FALL Booya on Saturday September 11th, 2021.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Executive Board for everything we have accomplished during the past 2 years. After many Zoom meetings, email discussions, finally being able to meet in person and on top of it being a very strange and stressful time we made it, a few tears and arguments but we made it!

I hope that in the upcoming year with a new executive board we will continue to work together and grow as one for the better of the Legion.

Take care, stay safe and as always thank you for supporting your American Legion Post 98!!!

Colleen

Your (sometimes) friendly American Legion Post 98 Bar Manager

National Commanders Visit April 6th, 2021.

The American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford visited the post for lunch on April 6th.



Booya May 8th

We had a successful Legion and 40/8 Booya on May 8th. We want to thank Rob Dach, Lisa Dach and Butch Duff for coordinating and cooking. Also, a special thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the cut up of vegetables, deboning, serving, cooking and just being there.



Our next Booya will be September 11th 2021. Hope to see you there.

Our favorite new restaurants in the Twin Cities suburbs

From the Pioneer Press June 3rd, 2021

328 GRILL AT THE LEGION

Inside the St. Paul Park American Legion, this new operation from chef Mik German is one of our favorite new suburban additions. German, formerly of O’Gara’s and Alary’s, is at home in the dive-bar atmosphere, and cooking the food he wants to cook. And that food is, in a nutshell, dirty-good, creative bar food.



We started with some of the best cheese curds we’ve had (love the herbs in the light, shatter-crisp batter and the loving touch of house-made ranch) and a hilarious Minnesota poutine (tots, raw curds and wild rice soup) that is reminiscent of our state hotdish.

The teens in our group were fans of the straight-up 328 burger, a sizeable, but not too huge, juicy patty, adorned with American cheese, lettuce, tomato, house-made pickles and herby mayo. The adults devoured the Jalapeno Business, a spicy (but not too spicy, because Minnesota) number in which cheddar

jack, bacon and jalapenos are infused into an Angus patty, which is topped with smoked American cheese and spicy mayo. It’s honestly a masterpiece of a burger.



We also got a fried chicken sandwich, which can be left plain customized with Nashville hot spice, hot honey or buffalo. We chose the hot honey, which was a great complement to the super-crispy, juicy chicken, but left our hands all sticky. (Note to self: Bring wet wipes next time, because it’s so tasty we’ll order it again.)

328grill.com

Please check out the 328 Grill here at your Legion

Upcoming Events:

Bingo held every Tuesday @ 6:30

Taco Wednesday

Car Show @ Veterans Park 4-Dusk every Wednesday.

Meat Raffles every Friday @ 5:30

Just a note:

This year's Legion Picnic has been combined with the 100-year Anniversary Celebration.

August 12th to 15th Richard Dingle Post 98 100-year Anniversary Celebration

August 13th 1:00 – 3:00 WWII Appreciation Luncheon.

To recognize the remaining WWII veterans here at the Post.

Robert A Branchaud US Army

Orlan S Brunsvold US Army

Robert H Dassow US Navy

Dean L Fleming US Army

Byron F Glime US Navy

Clinton J Haggerty US Air Force

Alvin H Hannestad US Navy

Frederick A Kruschel US Navy

Forrest H Taylor US Army

Joseph J Vruno US Merchant Marine

Robert E Holmstrom US Army

August 14th Past Commanders Dinner

August 14th Street Band – Rock Brigade

August 15th Unserviceable Flag Ceremony at Veterans Park

August 26th to September 6th Minnesota State Fair

September 10th Booya preparation – Cut up vegetables debone and so on. If you want to help, please sign up at Legion in late August.

September 11th Fall Booya

If you need any additional information regarding the upcoming events, meetings or Legion activities, please visit our website at www.richarddinglepost98.com or e-mail your comments to our e-mail post98spp@gmail.com or aladjutant98@outlook.com