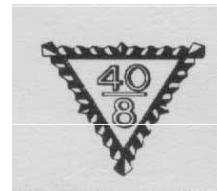


# American Legion Post 225

Forest Lake, MN

The business of:  
American Legion Post 225  
Club and Lounge,  
Auxiliary Unit 225,  
Sons of American Legion,  
Forty and Eight.



## OFFICERS

(area codes 651)

Commander:

Don Skow 651/257-3343

1st Vice Commander:

Nick Peterson 651/373-6644

Volunteeratpost225

2nd Vice Commander/

Krista Richter

krich12@frontiernet.net

3rd Vice Commander:

Open

Adjutant:

Terry Larson 651/470-7431

toolooseto@aol.com

Chaplain:

Ron Miller 651/464-5549

ron2@miltech.org

Sergeant-at-Arms

Tom Skipon 651/464-5047

Service Officer

Dick Carter 651/464-3670

Historian

Dick Carter 651/464-3670

Finance Officer

Viki Petry 651/464-6572

vgraslee@yahoo.com

Auxiliary President

Irene Nelson 651/464-7154

Editor at Fault

Rich Doyle

rich@mensdefense.org

## NOVEMBER 2008

### Events:

Every Wednesday: Meat Raffle 5pm Bar BINGO. Cash Prizes!

Fridays, 7 pm - Free Texas Hold'em, poker tourneys 7pm.

Saturdays: Meat Raffle noon - til gone. Drawings for Free  
Drinks or Tacos.

Nov. 8th, Game Show Nite

### Music Schedule: Saturdays 8:30 pm - 12:30 am

Nov. 1st Karaoke with Kip

Nov. 8th Little Chicago

Nov. 15th Karaoke with Kip

Nov 22nd Little Chicago

Nov. 29th ?

### Specials:

*Make Your Legion the Place to be!!*

Mondays - Burger Basket Specials 11:30 am – 2:00 pm

Sundays and Mondays - all day, 75 cent Tap Beer.

Sundays and Thursdays - free pool

Tuesdays - Bar Zingo 6pm, "fabulous prizes."

Wednesdays - 5pm - Meat Raffle, Bar Bingo 6pm

Saturdays - Meat raffle Noon-gone, Tacos 2/\$3.00 11-3pm

Super Bloody Marys \$4.25

Sundays - Bingo 2 pm. Super Bloodys, Free Pool

TAP Beer during October - Mich Golden Draft- \$1.00

Nov. Mixed Drink – ??

### Meetings:

House Committee - 1st Monday, 6 pm Nov. 3rd

Executive Board - 1st Monday, 7 pm, Nov. 3rd

Membership - 2nd Monday, 7 pm, Nov. 10th

Auxiliary - 2nd Monday, 7 pm, Nov. 10th

40 & 8 Cheminot - 1st Thursday, 7:30 pm, Nov. 6th.

40 & 8 Promenade - 3rd Thursday, 7 pm, Nov. 20th.

Sons of American Legion - 2nd Monday, 6 pm, Nov. 10th

## **Commander's Call**

Legionnaires

I find this time of the year special, with the holidays around the corner and people busy with the harvest. We as Americans have so much to be thankful for as everyone who has traveled and spent time in other countries know.

The month of November starts our with Election Day, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you vote. It is indeed your obligation to yourself and our nation to do so.

Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, will be held at the VFW this year starting at 6:30pm. There will be a program and a meal. The Metro Marines will be having their usual party in hall D; all Marines are invited on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

The "Game Show Nite" put on at the club by Krista and her "Crew" – "Vicki White" among others was lots of fun to be a part of and very entertaining for all. It will be repeated on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7pm. Be there or be square!!

The Early Bird dinner was held October 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a good turn out, but the commander missed it! (Poor planning or something). Anyway the steaks were great, many thanks to V44 and Chef Russ Miner for making them taste as great as they could be.

Plans for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Convention (May 15-17) are well on their way. Anyone interested in helping please contact Ron Weiss or myself or call the Legion at 464-2600.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving everyone and God Bless America!

Your Commander, Don Skow

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## **Auxiliary Section**

Dear Auxiliary Members:

Well summer is gone, but we can look forward to a wonderful fall season.

We had a good turnout for our meeting. Our representative to Girls State was our guest. Her name is Siri Peterson and she was accompanied by her Mother. She spoke to us about her time at Girls State, and we presented her with a United States flag that had been flown over our National Capitol.

We will be doing the Green Sheets next meeting, so come and give us your input.

Yours in Service, Irene Nelson, President

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Thank you for being so prompt sending in your membership. We hope to be at 75% by the 1st of November. If you have any questions about your membership or have changed addresses or names please let me know so that we can keep our membership list up to date.

The Treasurer asked me to thank you for sending in those receipts from Market place Foods. Last week she submitted \$127,000 in receipts. This will mean a good sized check that will come back to the Auxiliary. Every little bit helps. Leave them at the Legion or give them to someone in the Auxiliary and they will get to Dorothy.

Remember our Craft show in December. We will be calling for things for the bake sale and if you would like to come and help us set up or make pies the day before please let me know. We can use all the help we can get!!

Pearl Hummel, Membership Chairman, 651-464-4287 home, 763-232-4984 cell

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## **Club Manager's Section**

I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! November is here and I want to dedicate this section to all of our fantastic employees and volunteers.

It is because of all of you that we succeed. Thank you all. Don't forget to vote on November 4th, this is an important election. Keep all of our active duty members in your prayers this Holiday Season.

Russell Miner, Club Manager

## Sons of the American Legion Section

To the Sons of the American Legion, Greetings; The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest will be held again Sat. December 6th. SAL usually helps with running it as well as providing the prize money.

We need two people to walk the contestants to and from the waiting room and three to use stopwatches to time the speeches.

This is an easy way to help our host Post and to show that the SAL Membership is active in the community. It's a pleasant way to spend a day and you get to hear our High School's best discuss what the Constitution means to them.

You may contact Ron Weiss or myself if you would like to help.

Thomas Vodacek, Squadron Commander

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## Chaplain's Section

Veterans day, Tuesday the 11th, our annual joint program is 6:30PM at the VFW with a dinner afterwards. Another program for us and all students is at the Forest Lake High School with our joint color guard participating at 9:00AM. There will be recognition of veterans, bag pipes, choir, band, and Jim Noll and a couple of students speaking.

Since the last letter we provided three funeral honors: Thomas E. O'Cordan on 17Sept, Alonzo Blair 29Sept and Past Cdr Clarence A. Fedje, jr 9Oct.

Need help around the house? The Forest Lake Youth Service Bureau(YSB) has a senior and youth job connection to help you. Call 464-3685.

Please notify me of **homebound** members so we can arrange visits.

Ron Miller, Chaplain 464-5549

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## Wheeler Named National Adjutant of The American Legion

An executive director of The American Legion's National Headquarters has been named national adjutant (chief operating officer) of the nation's largest veterans service organization today.

Daniel S. Wheeler, a Navy veteran, replaces Robert W. Spanogle, who served as national adjutant for more than 27 years. Spanogle, an Army veteran of the Vietnam War, was designated as an honorary "past national commander of the American Legion," by the organization's National Executive Committee. The native of Lansing, Michigan, is retiring from The American Legion after 36 years of service with the national headquarters.

Wheeler has been executive director of The American Legion's national headquarters since 1995. He has worked for The American Legion since 1979, when he was hired as an assistant editor for The American Legion Magazine. He was promoted to publisher and editor-in-chief in 1985. He also served as president of the Citizens Flag Alliance since 1994.

Wheeler lives in Indianapolis with his wife, Kathy. He is a member of American Legion Post 137 in Richmond, Va. He has also served as president of the Veterans Day Council of Indianapolis and is a member of the Rotary Club and Mensa International.

With a current membership of 2.7-million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and patriotic youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation.

Thanks, Robert Flaherty [McEef@msn.com]

Our condolences to the Disabled Veterans' Rest Camp manager, Tom Ferris, on the death of his dear wife, Jean.

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 225  
PO BOX 520  
355 W. Broadway  
Forest Lake, MN 55025**

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## **Our Defenders**

The average age of the military man is 19 years. He is a short haired, tight-muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, not old enough to buy a beer, but old enough to die for his country. He never really cared much for work and he would rather wax his own car than wash his father's, but he has never collected unemployment either. He's a recent High School graduate; he was probably an average student, pursued some form of sport activities, drives a ten year old jalopy, and has a steady girlfriend that either broke up with him when he left, or swears to be waiting when he returns from half a world away. He listens to rock and roll or hip-hop or rap or jazz or swing and a 155mm howitzer.

He is 10 or 15 pounds lighter now than when he was at home because he is working or fighting from before dawn to well after dusk. He has trouble spelling, thus letter writing is a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less time in the dark. He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must. He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first aid like a professional. He can march until he is told to stop, or stop until he is told to march.

He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation, but he is not without spirit or individual dignity. He is self-sufficient. He has two sets of fatigues: he washes one and wears the other. He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry. He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts.

If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food. He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low. He has learned to use his hands like weapons and weapons like they were his hands. He can save your life - or take it, because that is his job. He will often do twice the work of a civilian, draw half the pay, and still find ironic humor in it all. He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime. He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed. He feels every note of the National Anthem vibrate through his body while at rigid attention, while tempering the burning desire to 'square-away' those around him who haven't bothered to stand, remove their hat, or even stop talking. In an odd twist, day in and day out, far from home, he defends their right to be disrespectful.

Just as did his Father, Grandfather, and Great-grandfather, he is paying the price for our freedom. Beardless or not, he is not a boy. He is the American Fighting Man that has kept this country free for over 200 years. He has asked nothing in return, except our friendship and understanding.

Remember him, always, for he has earned our respect and admiration with his blood.