

# 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:

Krista Richter

krich12@frontiernet.net

2nd Vice Commander:

Mike Timmerman 788-6805

3rd Vice Commander:

Nick Peterson 651/276-0705

petersonnicholasj@gmail.com

Adjutant:

Mary Jo York 651/464-7386

jo.york@usbank.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

Vicki Petry 651/464-6572

vgraslee@yahoo.com

Auxiliary President

Tina Miner 651/464 1158

Editor at Fault

Rich Doyle

rich@mensdefense.org

## AUGUST 2009

### Events:

Wednesdays

Meat Raffle 5pm Bar BINGO 6pm. Cash Prizes!

Fridays, 7 pm

Free Texas Hold'em, poker tourneys

Saturdays

Meat Raffle noon - til gone. Drawings for Free

Drinks or Tacos. Super Bloody's til 5pm

Tuesdays

Bar ZINGO 6pm

### Drink of the Month/Beer of the Month:

Tap Beer of the Month Budweiser Tap \$1.50 every Day

Drink of the Month Tanqueray (Gin) \$2.50 every Day

### Specials:

Sundays - all day,

\$1.00 Tap Beer

Sundays and Thursdays

free pool

Tuesdays

Bar Zingo 6pm, "fabulous prizes."

Wednesdays 5pm 6pm

Meat Raffle, Bar Bingo

Saturdays Noon-gone

Meat raffle

Saturdays & Sundays

Super Bloody's \$4.50 til 5pm

### Meetings:

1st Sunday, 6 pm August 2nd

House Committee

1st Monday, 7 pm, August 3rd

Executive Board

2nd Monday, 7 pm, August 10th

Membership

2nd Monday, 7 pm, August 10th

Auxiliary

1st Thursday, 7:30 pm, August 6th

40 & 8 Cheminot

3rd Thursday, 7 pm, August 20th

40 & 8 Promenade

2nd Monday, 6 pm, August 10th

Sons of American Legion

*Make Your Legion the Place to be!!*

## **Commander's Call**

Legionaries,

Thanks to everyone who helped make our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration a big success. In spite of the economic situation, we did quite well.

The Dept. convention went very well also. Dick Carter received the Service Officer award, and our color guard, who represented the Third District, won the Dept. Color Guard award! Congratulations to all who participated.

The color guard will be leading the Minnesota delegation at the National Convention parade in Louisville, KY on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Legion picnic will be held in conjunction with the VFW 4210 at the Vets Rest Camp on Big Marine Lake at noon Sunday Aug 9<sup>th</sup>. We are having a pig roast, hotdogs, hamburgers, and brats as well. Please bring a dish to pass (pot luck). There will be games, contests and lots of prizes for kids and adults, lots of fun for everyone!

The VFW has challenged us to a horseshoe tournament on August 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00p.m. We will finish under the lights. Sign up at the Legion or the VFW.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday breakfast will be on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us for a great meal and lots of conversation. Till next time!!

For God and Country

Don Skow, Cmdr.

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## **Auxiliary Section**

Hi Ladies,

Thank you for having me as incoming President. I would like to share with the people that are not able to attend meetings that we have two girls coming in for our September meeting to tell us their experience at Girls State, held the 2nd week of June.

We sponsored one gal, and our alternate gal was sponsored by the Auxiliary of Nisswa because their gal was unable to attend.

So, I am hoping to have a good turn out with members then (September) and as well as August. I want to thank all the ladies in advance for their support.

God Bless,

Tina Miner, President

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## **Club Manager's Section**

The Legion/VFW Combined Picnic will be August 9th Noon - ? at the Veterans Rest Camp on Big Marine. I hope to see everyone there. "Mac" McKernon aquired a player piano for the Post. It is in desperate need of repair; so if you know of anyone who may be able to fix it as a donation, let Mac know as soon as possible. For those that could not attend the monthly membership meeting, the July 4th Celebration went very well. Big thanks to all who volunteered their time. The Kitchen will be starting new hours of operation this month. The kitchen will be closed Monday and Tuesday. The hours are being finalized (as of this writing). I will pass the information on to the Editor at Fault Dick Doyle and our Web Manager Paul Berry, to get it out to all newsletter subscribers. The hours will also be posted in our regular newspaper ad. The good news is the Kitchen will be open on Sundays, both during Bar Bingo and football games to better serve members and guests.

Russ Miner, Club Manager

## 40 & 8 Section

Chef De Gare Column:

Greetings Voyagers! Our Picnic will be held on August 8th at Dwight and Cheryl Dupey's House. Be prepared to pay your 2010 dues at the picnic; we will be collecting at the gate. I want to personally thank all the volunteers who helped out with the Beer Wagon this year. Both Voyagers and SAL, also the Bingo Callers, (Gary and Karen) helped make it work. Thank you all.

Russ Miner, Chef de Gare

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## Chaplain's Section

Since writing the last newsletter we provided three funeral honors: Bernard Juliot, June 18<sup>th</sup>; Floyd Simonson (age 75,) July 3<sup>rd</sup>; and Kenneth Voelk (age 81), July 13<sup>th</sup>. Additional veterans passing away were Ken Kamish, June 12<sup>th</sup>; Duane Zutz, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and Ron Fredericksen, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

We had two boys at Boys State in Marshall, MN, Nick Bergantine and Robert Lillquist. Robert was elected as the state Attorney General! Congratulations!

Noteworthy dates coming up in August are Purple Heart Day on the 7<sup>th</sup> and WWII Victory in Japan Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Both of those days were important to my father who was in the Philippines.

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

Ron Miller, Chaplain 464-5549

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## Notices

Well the 4th of July is over and we had another great year! I'd like to thank everyone who helped with the celebration, parade and fireworks. Without all your help this years celebration wouldn't have been such a success! Thanks again to everyone; you guys rock!!

Don't forget about the family picnic on August 9th, we're going to have a blast so don't miss it. Beer and Pop will be provided. Prizes will be awarded again this year for Best Hot Dish, Dessert and Salad. Fire Truck rides, Bike Drawing, fun, fun and more fun!

Krista Richter

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The proposed Forest Lake area **Veterans Memorial** information and brochure to purchase granite pavers are at city hall, the chamber of commerce, the Legion, VFW, our local funeral homes, and some businesses. The Forest Lake city website has information by clicking the box near the top of the home page labeled "Veterans Memorial", and then on the next page near the bottom click on "Granite Memorial Paver" in the narrative to see the brochure and the form to fill out listing your veteran's name and info. One side of the brochure lists the small 4 inch by 8 inch paver for \$150, and the back side of the brochure lists the large 8 inch by 16 inch paver for \$300. Submit your form and tax deductible donation to the Forest Lake city hall. As soon as there are enough funds we will have the engineering done and proceed.

Any questions ask Ron Miller or El Ewert.

*He was getting old and paunchy, and his health was failing fast,  
And he sat around the house, telling stories of the past.  
Of a war that he had fought in, of the deeds that he had done.  
In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, every one.  
And 'tho sometimes, to his family, his tales became a joke,  
All his family listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.  
But they'll hear his tales no longer, for their dad has passed away,  
And the world's a little poorer, for a great veteran died today.  
Thou he, was mourned by many, and his children and his wife,  
Because he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life.  
He worked so hard and raised a family, quietly going on his way;  
And the world won't note his passing, "though a Veteran died today"  
When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,  
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great  
The papers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young,  
But the passing of a veteran goes unnoticed, and unsung.  
Is the greatest contribution, to the welfare of our land,  
Some jerk who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man?  
Or the ordinary fellow, who in times of war and strife,  
Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?  
The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives,  
Are sometimes disproportionate, to the service that he gives.  
While the ordinary fellow, who offered up his all,  
Is paid off with a medal and not a pension, even small.  
It's not easy to forget him, for it is not so long ago,  
That their dad told of the battle, the stories they came to know.  
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,  
He fought for us the freedom that our country now enjoys.  
Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,  
Would you really want some cop-out, with his ever-waffling stand?  
Or would you want a proud Veteran, who has sworn to defend,  
His home, his kin, and country, and would fight until the end?  
He was just a common veteran, and his ranks are growing thin,  
But his presence should remind us, we may need his likes again.  
For when countries are in conflict, then we find the military's part,  
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.  
If we cannot do him honor, while he's here to hear the praise,  
Then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days.  
Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say:*

**"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, FOR A PROUD VETERAN DIED TODAY"**

## American Legion Post 225

As I write this letter, it is my sincerest desire to come to you with a humble heart. I want to extend to each one of you my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for what you did to honor my late husband, Floyd L. Simonson.

Floyd has been a man that demonstrated throughout his life, service before self. Through his life in the Army as well as his community, he always strived to help others in need. He always remembered many great stories of his time spent in service to his country as well as his 41 years of volunteer service to the Scandia Fire Department. If there was ever someone who strived to make a difference in people's lives, it was Floyd.

In Floyd's latter days, I am certain that he always had a place in his heart for each one of you and the service you bring to our communities, and to our past and present Veterans. He always had great admiration for those that served and continue to serve to this day.

On that day of July 3rd, 2009 as I was in the funeral procession, following behind the fire trucks and approaching the cemetery, I and my family were brought to tears when we witnessed the Honor Guard in wait for my husband. While my husband was being lifted down from a Fire truck to take that final journey to his resting place, I know that Floyd in Heaven was filled with great joy. I will always be grateful for what you did to honor my husband, Floyd. I and my family and many friends want to say thank you for all you do and for the outstanding support you provided to all us as we said "So long" to our fallen husband, father, grandfather, brother and dearest friend.

God Bless all of you.

Mary Lou Simonson and Family

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Combined Legion Post 225 and VFW Post 4210 Color Guards

The Post 225 Color Guard has the honor of leading the Minnesota delegation at the upcoming National American Legion convention in Louisville. Members are Commander Don Skow, 3rd District Vice Commander Ron Weiss, SAL Commander Tom Vodacek, Terry Larson, Dick Carter, Tony Grygelko, Scott Kraitler.

*We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;  
For he today that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother.. .*

*And gentlemen in England now abed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.*

This from the St. Crispin's Day speech in Shake-speare's *Henry V.*

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 225**  
**PO BOX 520**  
**355 W. Broadway**  
**Forest Lake, MN 55025**  
<http://www.post225.com>

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**NEWSLETTER MAILING CHANGED After 5 Months of Notices**

Everyone who needs a paper copy versus an essentially free computer website version, do one of the following procedures:

- 1) Pickup a newsletter at the Post main bar or
- 2) Access newsletters on a computer at [www.post225.com](http://www.post225.com) or
- 3) If you do not have a computer see if a friend will access it and print a copy for you or
- 4) If none of the above works for you we are assembling a special mailing list by you telling us through a phone call to the Post (651) 464-2600 or sending us a request to:

American Legion Post 225 Membership  
PO Box 520  
Forest Lake, MN 55025

Because of special circumstances I need to have the monthly newsletter mailed to me at my address below: (insert your address) This part in red could be deleted to save space.