



# American Legion Davis-Darrow-Meyer Post 112 Elk River, Minnesota

Website: [elkriverlegion112.com](http://elkriverlegion112.com) Phone: 763-441-3150  
FB: Elk River American Legion Family Volume 41 Issue 2

## Commander's News March - April 2025

Commander Kulkay is still recuperating from knee replacement surgery. It is not progressing as fast as Tom would like and wants everyone to know that despite his absence from the Post, he is still the Commander. We send our prayers for his recovery and look forward to seeing him back at the Post **SOON!**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

Hello to our Legion Family,  
As you know old man winter is reminding us of what time of the year it is. Please be safe in your travels.

There have been many subtle changes at the Post lately. Keith is fixing, changing, and replacing things here to keep it running smoothly. Thank you K.W. for taking care of our Post.

At the January membership meeting, our Chaplain/VSO Paul Denesen was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for all he does for the American Legion Post. He is a very humble servant. Thank you, Paul.

Don't forget to volunteer as the Lenten fish fry will be starting March 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be an online sign-up through your email from Michele. You will be able to sign up for the dates you choose, Easy Peasy!! A list of volunteer events is on the wall left of the pull tab booth.

At your service,  
Vaughn Smith, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

Greetings Legion Members,  
This is a continuation of the changes or improvements that have been going on at 525 Railroad Drive.

On September 4<sup>th</sup>, the disintegrating railroad tie retaining wall on the south side of the parking lot, was removed thanks to Glenn Haugen and his CAT skid loader. Two loads of soil were hauled away. Vaughn and I raked, planted seed and covered it all with straw. After watering, we eventually had green grass.

Also in September, we had a break-in at the Legion. The glass door going out to the patio was broken and had to be replaced. Until new glass was installed the door was blocked off with sheathing. A new plumbing fixture was installed in the men's bathroom.

Thanksgiving Day, I was at the Legion twice. Clayton's Appliance Repair had to replace a part on the walk-in cooler. The temperature was up to 53 degrees and that doesn't keep beer kegs cold.

The old drinking fountain, between the men's and women's bathrooms was taken off the wall at the end of January. It was no longer being used. Vaughn sustained an injury from the sharp porcelain while taking the fountain off the wall. The plumbing capped off, sheetrock filled the hole, taping was done, and painting completed the project.

Clayton's Appliance Repair came out on February 12 for quarterly maintenance. A capacitor had to be replaced on the rooftop heating unit for the Commander's Hall. Additionally, the squirrel cage motor needed to be replaced.

It seems there is always something that needs to be fixed or replaced.

Respectfully,  
Keith Quammen, 2nd Vice Commander

## Post Chaplain

The following is a 15 DEC 2024 to 17 FEB 2025 summary of Post Chaplain duties performed:  
Personal Visits, Home, Assisted Living 160

Messaging, Text, Phone 69

Letters of Condolences 4

Chaplain Support AL Events, Spiritual Counseling 59

American Legion Chaplain's Calendar: American Legion Birthday 15 MAR; Children and Youth Month and Easter and Holy Season, APR  
Continuing weekly and monthly vet visits and Sunday Worship services at the Wellstead Assisted Living Centers. Also, continuing weekly and monthly vet visits to five local Guardian Angels Campuses. Nine BeeHive, Elk River Campus vets were added to monthly visitations beginning JAN, 25. Currently have 89 total vets to visit at least monthly at four different Independent Senior and Assisted Living Centers. Provided pastor care support and "Last Respects" with three veteran families during end-of-life hospice treatment. Continuing non-life-threatening hospice care with two families.

Expressions and notes of appreciation continue to be received from some of the 89 vets and families who received the Christmas Greeting and \$30.00 cash provided by the *Post Auxiliary* and *Post Legion Riders*. Thank you, Auxiliary and Riders, staff and vets were "touched" by your generosity! All requested that I express their personal thanks and appreciation to Post 112.

Condolences to the family and friends at the passing of Bill Hadley, 98, WWII vet and Post 112 64-year-member, E. John Telfer, Jr., 15-year member, Kenneth Gulbraa, 72 year-member, William Murphy 30 year-member and John Eggen, 42 year-member. Please keep Doug and Joann Stillwell in your prayers for endurance and strength. Joann has been assigned to non-life-threatening hospice and Commander Tom Kulkay as he continues knee rehabilitative care.

Paul Denesen, Post 112 Chaplain

## Post Service Officer

The following is a 15 DEC 24 to 17 FEB 25 summary of Post Service Officer duties performed:

Personal Visits 1

Messaging, Text, Phone 8

Coordinated Vet request for benefit review 3

Coordinated Vet request for personal support 3

Sherburne County Larry Fonder CVSO and staff will be conducting a veteran's "Claim Clinic" 26 MAR 25, 4:30-8:00 PM at their offices. Next *Post 112 Veterans Benefit and Spouse Review Day* is 24 APR 25, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM at Post 112. It's not too early to invite your vet neighbors and friends. Special thanks to Michele Smith and the Auxiliary for coordinating this event. Paul Deneson, Chaplain, and Post Service Officer American Legion Post 112,

## Auxiliary

Hello Auxiliary,

It has been a busy month. Mid-Winter Conference in Melrose, MN was attended by Roberta Takle, Sharon Mendenhall and myself. It is always provides information on the Auxiliary programs and is an opportunity to hear and share ideas with other units.

We had a good representation for Poppy making at the Zimmerman Post. There were 6 Auxiliary, 2 SAL and 1 Veteran who contributed to the production of over 2000 poppies.

We had our soup and chili lunch which was a little slow but we are contributing that to the weather. And now we are preparing for the Lenten season. Hot Fudge sundaes and root beer floats are always a big hit.

I emailed everyone the "Sign-up Genius" for ease in signing up to volunteer with the times and all the dates of the fish dinners. You can still sign up at the bar or just show up too.

Thank you for your membership.

Michele Smith  
Auxiliary Unit 112 President

## Auxiliary Membership

Five new members joined the Auxiliary in January. Our current membership is 107 with our goal being 126 members. We Welcome:

Abby Lynn Schroeder  
Wendy Brown  
Becky Koster  
Jeanne Pepos  
Lynda Stromenger

Anyone thinking about joining or wanting to become part of an active group, please contact me at [wtelfer491@gmail.com](mailto:wtelfer491@gmail.com) or 702-235-8741.

Diane Telfer  
Membership Chair

## Legion Riders

Happy Winter to all the Post members, Some of the Riders have been able to escape to the lower 48 for vacations and warm weather. The temperature is -17 degrees as I am typing this.

Obviously, we have not had any scheduled rides in the last three months. We gather for our breakfasts and meetings and have plenty of stories to keep us motivated to ride with the wind in our hair. The hair has some grey, some have thinned and some still have thick hair.

The January Riders breakfast was a joint operation with the Legion Baseball Team as a fundraiser for the semi-annual spring training trip to somewhere warm. The players had a lot of fun helping in the kitchen and delivering pancakes. They also had fun cleaning the dishes (but don't tell the parents). The Riders will definitely continue the relationship with the team and this year we voted to give all the proceeds to the team.

Riders had a breakfast, bingo and bloody marys on February 16<sup>th</sup> with our new times. Breakfast started at 9:00 and Bingo ran from 10:00 to 12:00. Another good turnout with many patrons supporting the bar after breakfast. There were some positive comments about the slightly later start times.

The Riders will be having our November Breakfast on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is not our normal

third Sunday. We hope to have a hunting theme with some additional small hunting gifts for the winners.

Some of the upcoming events the Riders are looking forward to assisting with are the Lenten Fish Fry starting on March 7<sup>th</sup>, the Magnus Foundation Ride on May 10<sup>th</sup> and participating in the events on Memorial Day, May 26<sup>th</sup>. The Riders and SAL will again be hosting the second annual Rib Fest on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

See you at the Post.

Todd Jagodzinski  
Riders Director

## Adjutant

(Having received late notification of the newsletter deadline, the Adjutant responded.)

I'm trying to write this article on my phone from Apache Junction, AZ. It is in the 70's during the day here and schools are being closed back there due to the cold. This has been a long winter for many of us with a strange flu or cold infecting many of us. And Tom K. and Lisa are dealing with new joints.

We plan to be back for the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday fish supper and hope everyone that can will help again this year.

Greg Crow, Adjutant

**106<sup>th</sup>**

**Birthday of  
The American  
Legion**

Will be celebrated on

March 9, 2025

At Post 112

Social hour at 5:00

Dinner at 6:00

## March Post 112 Events

03/06	Member's Meetings	7 pm
03/07	Annual Lenten Fish Fry	5-7pm
03/08	ER High Grad Party Bingo	6-8pm
03/09	Legion Birthday Dinner	5/6pm
03/13	Legion Riders Meeting	7pm
03/14	Fish Dinner	5-7pm
03/14	Music by Terry Dubois	7-10pm
03/17	St. Patrick's Day	
03/20	Executive Board Meeting	7pm
03/21	Fish Dinner	5-7pm
03/23	Community Dinner	4-6pm
03/28	Fish Dinner	5-7pm
03/28	Music by DJ Barry Allen	7-10pm

**Meat Raffle every Friday and Sunday at 5:00 pm**

**Bingo every Wednesday 6:30pm**

**Horse Races the first Thursday of the month at 6:00pm**

## April Post 112 Events

04/03	Member's Meetings	7pm
04/04	Fish Dinner	5-7pm
04/05	Coffee & Donuts with The Mayor	8:30am
04/10	Riders Meeting	7pm
04/11	Fish Dinner	5-7pm
04/11	Music by Benjamin Raye	7-10pm
04/17	Scout Leadership Breakfast	8am
04/18	Last Fish Dinner	5-7pm
04/20	Happy Easter Post is Closed	
04/24	Veteran Benefit Review	9-4pm
04/25	Music by DJ Barry Allen	7-10pm

## **Veterans Day on the Hill April 9, 2025**

**This is an annual advocacy event where veterans, their families, and supporters gather to influence veteran's legislation. Held at the Minnesota State Capital, the event includes a rally, speeches by notable figures and direct engagement with state legislators to address veteran's issues such as homelessness, mental health, and property tax exemptions. The event begins at 10:00AM at the St. Paul Armory for coffee and lunch is provided.**

**For complete details go to  
Davmn.org or  
Trent@DAVMN.org**





1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander (on the right) presented the “American Legion Certificate of Appreciation” to Post 112 Chaplain and PSO, Paul Denesen at the February 6,2025 member’s meeting.

American Legion Post 112,  
I want to express my personal surprise and honor of receiving, 6 February 2025, the *American Legion Certificate of Appreciation*, which reads in part, “In recognition and sincere appreciation of outstanding service and assistance which contributed to the advancement of The American Legion programs and activities dedicated to God and Country.”

I consider this recognition to be not only personal but a joint award with Post 112. If it were not for your continuing support and encouragement, I would not be able to sustain this level of outreach to vets, families, and assisted living populations. Jointly we have been faithful co-laborers in doing the work of ministry and support to vets and families in our area fulfilling one of the American Legion’s Four Pillars, namely: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. This special honor belongs as much to you, Post 112 Legionnaires, as it does to me. Thank You!

Together,

Paul Denesen

Post 112 Chaplain and Post Service Officer



Post 112 was well represented at a Poppy making class by Michele & Vaughn, Roberta Takle and the Hackenmueller family.





Rachael Whiteoak, Judy Glenn, Becky Koster, Joan Haugen, and Zachary were ready to serve soup and Chili February 1, 2025, for the annual event.



Brenda Breyen checked out Jane Schleusner's purchase of bread from Diamond City



On the cold evening of February 17, 2025, this group of Post 112 members, braved the weather to have dinner at Jack and Jims restaurant in Duelm, MN. This was a social gathering of the Benton-Sherburne County Council.

The American Legion is organized into departments, districts, and county councils. County Councils are intermediate bodies that help the American Legion advance its mission.

Benton-Sherburne County Council is comprised of Posts from Elk River, Big Lake, Becker, Sauk Rapids, Foley, Clear Lake, Rice, and Zimmerman. The next meeting is March 17, 2025, at Zimmerman at 7:00pm. All Post, Auxiliary, and SAL members are welcome to attend to learn and share ideas.

Pictured are Vern Draxler, Jerry & Roberta Takle, and Michele & Vaughn Smith.