



American Legion Davis-Darrow-Meyer Post 112

Elk River, Minnesota 2021,

Website: elkriverlegion112.com

Volume 37, Issue 4

Commander's News

September-October 2021

I will begin this monthly article with a confession: I am guilty of the sin of procrastination. I waited until the newsletter deadline to make my contribution. I find myself writing words of wisdom (?) when sane members are in bed asleep!

The summer has flown by. The weather has been great, although hot and dry, but to complain, as my adjutant (AKA my right-hand man) reminds me, there will be lots of cold and snow in a short time. I have been very pleased with attendance at our Saturday morning donuts and coffee get-togethers. The fun starts at 8:30 and goes until most problems of the federal, state and local levels have been solved! The membership meetings have also seen an increase in attendance. Let's keep it up! Remember these meetings are very important to the future of our post.

The post has hired a full time cook/kitchen manager. More on this later. The Auxiliary will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary in October! These ladies do so much more for the post than words can ever express.

The Honor Guard has been growing under the direction of Greg Artman. The squad now has 18 members. They have been kept busy all summer providing a final thank you to our veterans.

I trust all have been more than impressed with our newsletter format. Thanks to Sharon Mendenhall for her efforts. A special thanks to Tom Mendenhall and Keith Quammen for all the indoor projects and to Michelle and Vaughn Smith, Janet Harnack and Cathy and Greg Artman for eliminating all the weeds around the post. The Riders are holding their annual sale of corn, potatoes and peppers. Thank you to Glen Haugen and Wingard Farms for supplying the produce.

The post membership numbers for the Auxiliary, SAL and Riders have all increased. A special thanks to Bill Stevenson for doing a great job with the post Legionnaires and the SAL numbers.

In closing, I read something on Facebook that I would like to share. These words were written by a Bob Sebastian, and I hope he won't be upset with me for sharing.

Dear Veterans who served in Afghanistan:

You kept terrorism at bay for 20 years. You served with bravery and honor. You were there for those serving alongside you. What you did matters to us.

Sincerely, the American People

For God and Country,

Tom Kulkay, Post 112 Commander

1st Vice Commander

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

I am so proud to be a member of Post 112. There have been many good things that members and volunteers have done and continue to do to promote what the American Legion Stands for. Oh and the good folks making sure that the funding is there when it's needed. The Honor Guard has been busy paying respect to deserving veterans. Thank you all for stepping up in support of our Post.

Respectfully

Vaughn Smith, 1st Vice Commander

2nd Vice Commander

Bored at home? No "honey do" list pending? I have some suggestions. We can use you at the American Legion to help with projects utilizing your skills, although skills are not a requirement.

Produce Stand – The Riders sell sweet corn and potatoes on the weekends to raise funds and can always use sales people.

The National American Legion recommends sprucing up the entrance to Legion Buildings as it makes a first and lasting impression for members, old Legionnaires and the public. Plans are underway for some improvements that will need volunteers to assist.

The Membership Dinner is coming up in October. This dinner is to celebrate all Legionnaires, past, present and future. Volunteers are always needed to assist with "behind the scenes" activities.

Of course, there other smaller projects too. Any time you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact me by leaving a message at 763-441-3150 or secondvicealerpost112@yahoo.com

Janet Harnack, 2nd Vice Commander

Service Officer

On July 9th, I experienced my first opportunity to assist veterans. The Legion Post 112 received a call from a Vietnam veteran requesting assistance in locating his battle buddy he had not seen since 1968. The referral was passed along to me. I met Floyd over the phone and learned he was from out of state. He was looking for Terry who he recalled was from Elk River. They met in Marine Boot Camp and served together until separated in Okinawa in 1968. He also shared that Terry had 2 older brothers. As Terry was the youngest of the brothers, he was not allowed to go to Vietnam. While in boot camp Terry earned the nickname of "House Mouse" as he was the shortest one. When asked what resources Floyd had used to try to find Terry, he said only Facebook.

I started my search on FB Elk River Bulletin Board. Thinking that the search could take weeks, I was very surprised to hear back from Terry's granddaughter and two daughters within one hour. They shared that Terry lived nearby and gave me his phone number.

After calling Terry and telling him about Floyd trying to locate him, Terry was agreeable to sharing his phone number with Floyd. Terry said he was losing his military buddies due to health issues and age.

Floyd was excited to hear I had located Terry so quickly. He has been looking for over 50 years and with my assistance was able to connect within 3 hours. He will be traveling to Minnesota to visit his buddy Terry in the near future. I hope he and Terry can stop by Post 112 to say Hi. Stay tuned. I feel very blessed I was able to make this connection happen.

Other ways to locate a military buddy is through FB Veteran Buddy Finder or vetfinders.com

Janet Harnack, Service Officer

Honor Guard

Post 112's Honor Guard squad performed three funeral ceremonies in June, for comrades in arms that passed during COVID. We performed the ceremonial duties out at Veteran's Park on Flag Day where the squad looked really sharp and performed their duties flawlessly.

We honored three more fallen Comrades with ceremonies graveside in July.

We were honored again to present the colors on national TV for the ERX Motorpark, where they hosted the annual National Off Road Championship.

It was our honor to march out front with the colors, leading the Sherburne County Parade in the unusually high temperatures. We survived the heat as well as the march, and can't wait to do it again next year!

We have already started the planning for the 2022 Memorial Day program. There will be a parade from our last stop at the Veterans Memorial on 10 to the Rivers Edge Park on the river.

Your Honor Guard squad continues to grow with three new members that should all be on squad by the first of October.

Greg Artman, Honor Guard Commander

Adjutants Corner

** Post 112 was represented at the Sherburne County Fair Parade – The Honor Guard led the procession proudly carrying the flag out front. They were followed by the Post 112 float decorated in red, white and blue while carrying many of our senior members. Auxiliary members handed out candy and toy soldiers in little bags to the saluting crowd along the route.

** The American Legion Post 112 Beer Garden had a very successful week serving thirsty fair goers with ice cold beer, water and root beer. Thank you to all of the volunteers for withstanding all of the heat and helping to make it the most successful one so far. Post 112 and its members would like to thank Tammy for her leadership, planning efforts throughout the year, seeking out volunteers and scheduling their shifts and the long days she was on site overseeing all the details to serving the customers.

** There was a SAL meeting held on 7/28/21 with the elections of new officers. Congratulations to Glen Haugen as he accepted the Commander position, Mike Leistico as the new Adjutant, Dwight Gibson the new Sgt. at Arms and Bill Stevenson Treasurer/Membership Director. Post 112 and its members would like to congratulate and thank each of them for accepting the responsibilities. With some of the events coming up just over the horizon, the SAL will be a major part of their success.

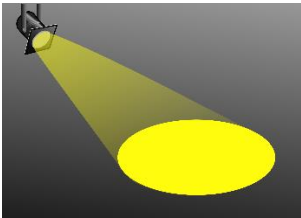
** The annual Sweet Corn & Potato sale has been a success so far. We should have enough staggered maturing corn to sale through Labor Day. Thank you to all of the volunteers and a big thank you to Glen Haugen for the donation of the delicious sweet corn and Wingard Farms for the potatoes. Thank you to Tom & Sharon Mendenhall who donated the cucumbers and Corey Hartje who donated the sweet & jalapeno peppers.

** Mark your calendars for the annual Post Members Dinner on Sunday October 10th. Look for more details.

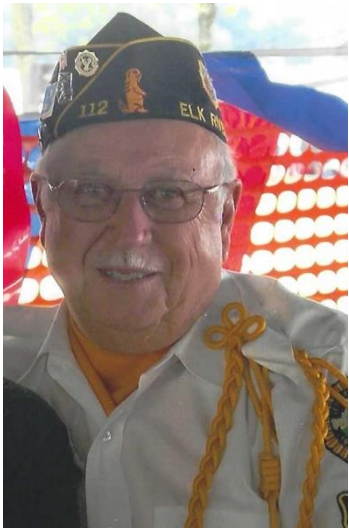
**Email addresses - If you can receive an email, the post would like your email address. The goal is that in the near future, the newsletter can be sent electronically, and you will be able to see it in color as well as save the Post money on postage and printing expense. If interested, please send a test email address to:

adjutant@elkriverlegion112.com or post112newsletter@elkriverlegion.com .

Greg Artman, Post Adjutant



Veterans Spotlight



As others were being drafted during the Korean War, he volunteered to serve in the Army. Ervin Primus knew he was soon to be drafted, with a draft physical notice in hand; he enlisted while thinking he might as well go with people he knew. His enlistment stationed him at Camp Rucker Alabama, which is known for the heat and humidity.

Erv was assigned as an Officer’s Orderly. As the Quarters Liaison, his duties included keeping the quarters, driving jeeps as well as arranging their transportation. Since its development, Camp Rucker has been known as a helicopter pilot training base. This is where young officers were sent to train to become helicopters pilots. Keep in mind that the helicopter was first used during the Korean War. So this was a very active time at an officers training base such as Rucker.

Ervin’s duties also had him serving as a cook and a baker during his enlistment, his service time also found him on maneuvers at Ft hood Texas.

He returned to his home town area of Sauk Centre after his enlistment. It was there that he met the love of his life, Rose. They were married in July of 1953 and it wasn’t long after that he also joined the American Legion.

They eventually moved to the Twin Cities area where they raised their family and served in the American Legion together. Over the years he worked for Land O’ Lakes, farmed, worked in home construction as well as being a custodian for Elk River School district.

Ervin has been a member of the American Legion for well over 60 years. He and Rose have always volunteered for activities with Ervin proudly serving on the Honor Guard Squad.

He is enjoying his time these days with Rose as well as their family.

Thank you for your service to the American Legion and Post 112

Greg Artman, Adjutant



Auxiliary Unit 112 News

Happy August to all! I can’t believe summer is almost over but I am ready for the cooler nights. After a two month break, it is time to resume our monthly meetings starting on Thursday, September 2nd at 7:00 pm. At the meeting we will be collecting children’s pajamas for District President, Patti Coleman’s Healing Nest project. If you can’t attend the meeting, pajamas will also be collected at the Membership dinner October 10th.

Preparations for our 100th Anniversary are underway. A brunch is scheduled to be held on Saturday, October 9th to honor members. A lot of changes have occurred over the past years. We welcome hearing from you of special memories or photos that you would like to share. Contact me at 763-433-8535 if you have items to share. Invitations with more details will be coming to your mailbox soon. We hope to see you at the brunch.

It is once again time to renew your membership. Watch the mail for a renewal notice or renew online by going to www.ALAforveterans.org and click renew. We exceeded our membership objective for 2020-2021 and need your continued support to again exceed the objective. Reach out to your friends, neighbors, sisters, brothers and children to become an American Legion Family Member. If you are not comfortable asking please contact our Membership Chair Michele Smith and she will do an outreach. She can be reached at 763-300-6061 or mssmith1659@gmail.com.

Football season is around the corner and the Auxiliary will be serving chili and hot dogs at the Post for the September 12th and 19th Viking games. Support your team and Auxiliary with a half time meal while enjoying the game.

The Membership dinner is scheduled for October 10th with the social hour at 5:00 pm and dinner at 6:00. Non-perishable food items will be collected to support a new food program initiated by St. Cloud Stand Down. The goal is to provide veterans and their families with two tubs of food, one of perishable items and one non-perishable, on a regular basis.

Join us for the 13th annual craft, vendor and bake sale on October 23rd from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. We will have around 20 exhibitors with unique crafts, gifts, goods, décor, homemade goods, breads and so much more! Several food trucks will be joining us in the parking lot as well. Admission is free. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Post voted to replace the dishes and with very generous donations from a SAL member and the Boy Scouts, we will be able to purchase them. Thank you from all of us at Post 112.

On a sad note, we lost two members last month, Rose Holt and our oldest member at age 97, Lucille Abraham. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Praying for those serving and have served.

Cathy Artman, Auxiliary President

LOST OR MISPLACED: In preparation of our Anniversary event, Roberta Takle is searching for Auxiliary minutes prior to 2000 and Post Scrapbooks which were on display at the Post 100th Anniversary Celebration. If you can help her out, contact her at 763-441-1440.

In a successful joint effort of two of our talented Auxiliary members (Michele and Sharon) they have created a new military emblem display piece on an easel using recycled glass lenses. We are grateful for their time and talent in support of our Anniversary brunch and our veterans.

These one-of-a-kind gifts are popular at only \$10.00 each. If interested or have a special request contact Sharon at 763-441-7800.



Sherburne County Fair Parade July 17, 2021



Membership News

Bill Stevenson is very busy handling Post and SAL renewals. Lots of paper is involved for the approximate 400 members. For those of you with online access, Bill encourages you to go to mylegion.org. There you will set up an account, if you don't already have one and renew online. That saves him lots of time and less paper to handle. If you have questions feel free to call him at 763-370-2955 or email him at wsteven@aol.com

Menu Options

Monday's Burgers (5-8pm)

Tuesday Bar Menu (5-8pm)*

Wing Wednesdays (5-8pm)

Thursday's Tacos (5-7pm)

Friday's Fish Dinners (5-8pm)

***Bar reopens on Tuesday September 7th**

Live Music (7pm-11pm)

September 17th – Clear Blue Country

September 24th – Terry DuBois

October 22nd – Terry DuBois

October 29th – Blue Topians

Bingo on Wednesdays at 6:30

**This newsletter can be viewed in
Color on the Post website:
elkriverlegion.com**



Elk River
American Legion
Post 112

12th Annual Par 3 Big Cup Golf Tournament September 11th, 2021 Vintage Golf Course

11:00 A.M. Shotgun

4 person scramble teams. \$240 per Team to be paid at time of sign up. Includes 18 holes, golf cart, cash prizes, meal and beverages as well as a silent auction to follow at the Elk River American Legion.

Please register at the Legion or online by September 3rd.
www.elkriverlegion112.com

Event Sponsors (\$500), Hole
sponsors (\$100 per hole) and
silent auction items welcome!!



525 Railroad Drive (763) 441-3150

Meeting Schedules

Bar Board at 6:30 pm

Thursday, September 9th

Thursday, October 14th

Legion Riders

Last Cruise-in Breakfast September 19th

Breakfast October 17th

Post Meetings 7:00pm

September 2nd

October 7th

Auxiliary Meetings 7:00 pm

September 2nd

October 7th

County Council

September 20th, 7:30 at Foley



Fly your flag

American Legion Post 112 Serving past and present Veterans, All new membership welcome.

WANT TO BECOME A LEGION MEMBER?

If you have served Federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, you are eligible for membership in the American Legion.

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