

LEO MARTIN CAREY
 American Legion Post 56
 Albert Lea, Minnesota
 "Stay Active"
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AMERICAN LEGION POST 56

Our Mission

To support and assist all veterans and their families; To provide child, youth and community programs that instill teamwork, citizenship, and patriotism; To encourage our elected leaders to support legislation that ensure our service members are properly trained, equipped, and receive the benefits they have earned; To honor the sacrifices made by our veterans in defense of our nation.

"Serving Veterans, Serving the community"

142 North Broadway, Albert Lea, MN * 373-7993 * www.americanlegionpost56.com

February, 2019

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AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Greetings from the Riders,

It is that time of year when we are in the middle of winter and starting to look forward to the arrival of springtime and associated activities and events.

One of the events will be a chili cook-off fundraiser held on 4/13/19 at Albert Lea Post 56. The proceeds will be used to help fund a newly created scholarship. ALR Chapter 56 is creating a \$500 education scholarship for a local student to use for post high school education. The scholarship will be available to all Albert Lea High School graduating seniors whose parent or grandparent is a veteran.

On December 22 the Riders were at Hy-Vee enjoying camaraderie and greeting the Hy-Vee customers while ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. During the 12 hours of bell ringing \$1,726.02 was collected. We understand this amount is considerably more than usual for the same period of time. Thanks again to the generous Hy-Vee customers.

The ALR meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Albert Lea American Legion. If interested in joining, come to our next meeting on 2/26/19.

God Bless,
 Arlyn Anderson – ALR Secretary

Greetings Legion Family,

I hope you are all staying warm as we wait for old man winter to depart and warmer temperatures to arrive.

January as is usually the case was a slow month for the post and will no doubt continue into this month and March before we begin seeing an increase in business.

In my last newsletter I mentioned that we were going to close the club on Mondays due to the lack of business. However, a couple of members have stepped up to volunteer their time to ensure the club remains open. I want to thank Jim Hockinson and Dave Mullenbach for stepping up. We are now discussing the possibility of perhaps cutting back our hours of operation on other non-busy days as we are facing the same problem. As of this writing the club has scaled back the hours on Thursdays in order to save money.

Speaking of Volunteers. We have set a bartender training date and time of Saturday, February 9 at 10:00 am for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer bartender. Having a list of volunteer bartenders would be a tremendous asset to the post. This would help us keep the doors open on days where business is slow. The more people who show up for this training the better. We look forward to seeing you there.

I want to take a moment to thank all our members who donated either time, money or both to the adopt a chair campaign. We have now completed recovering all the event center chairs and they look fantastic. Be sure to stop by at one of our Sunday breakfasts to try one out.

As you may have noticed - if you have been to the post in the past couple of weeks the roof fundraising thermometer is back out. I've had a few people ask me why. This is no-doubt an excellent question. When we began the process of trying to get the roof repaired back in 2017, we had applied for a \$30,000 grant through HUD. In order to get this grant, we had to come up with \$6000 in matching funds, enough money to pay any difference in the total cost of the repair and 3 competing bids from contractors. Initially the bids ranged from \$55,000 to \$65,000.

We went through the necessary steps to apply for the HUD grant and submitted the application in early 2017. In October or 2017 we were told by Jon Ford who at the time was with the Housing and Redevelopment Agency and was our point of contact during the application process that we had been awarded the HUD grant and we would have 2 years to get the work done. We then began the work of raising the \$10,000 that we thought we would need to complete the project, and did so very quickly, thanks to some very kind and generous donors. A huge thank you to all who donated to the fund.

In December of last year, we began the process of lining up the contractor who won the bid to repair the roof. We then went back to HUD to find out how to access the funds to pay the contractor. However, when we got in touch with HUD we discovered that we were never awarded the funds. At this point we decided to submit a grant application through Worth County Development Association (WCDA) and Diamond Jo casino. So, we had to go back and get new bids from roofing contractors, since the original bids were outdated. Now those bids range anywhere from \$75,000 to \$116,000. Since the cost of the repair is greater than what we had originally anticipated we now have to raise, at a minimum an additional \$10,000 to \$15,000 of matching funds. The grant application is now at WCDA and we are asking for approximately \$54,000 in grant money. We will know in April if we have been awarded the grant. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

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<p>Jim & Dude's P & H Plumbing & Heating Contractors 724 W. Clark St. Phone 373-6161 Members of Post 56</p>	<p>Craig Loehr Sales & Leasing Consultant 507-373-1438 "Stay Driving My Friends"</p>	<p>CHURCH OFFSET PRINTING, INC. 1731 Margaretha Ave. Albert Lea, MN 56007 Designing • Printing • Labeling Mailing • Digital Printing (507) 373-6485</p>	<p>Reim Roofing & Metal Construction, Inc. 1301 James Ave • Albert Lea, MN 56007 Phone 507-373-6722 Whitney A. Reim 507-402-3284 • License I.D. #RR220235</p>	<p>LEGION AUXILIARY meetings Are the 1st Wednesday September - November - April - June Start at 7:00 pm Now only 4 per year. We invite you to attend our meetings.</p>
<p>Your AWESOME CHOICE HILLCREST CEMETERY Hiway 65 South 507-373-3560 Eternal Life</p>	<p>Brooks Safety Equipment 1437 Academy - Albert Lea, MN 56007 (507) 373-8171 • Sales & Service - Recharging *All types of Fire Extinguishers *Safety Equipment *Hydrostatic Testing *Pickup and Delivery Al Brooks - Owner</p>	<p>NICK'S INC. National Award Winning Smoked Meats Custom Processing & Retail Meats TODD & CHERYL ENDERSON Owners P.O. Box 308 Hayward, MN 56043 (507) 373-8966</p>	<p>Motor Inn Co. 2114 East Main, P.O. Box 290 Albert Lea, MN 56007-0290 (507) 373-2341 (800) 222-6208</p>	<p>Bayview Freeborn FUNERAL HOME "We can cross this bridge together." 1415 Hwy. 13 N., Albert Lea 373-4330</p>
<p>Off. Phone 373-7054 Res. Phone 373-0980 Dr. Christopher N. Shoff Chiropractor Broadway Building - P.O. Box 287 139 South Broadway - Albert Lea, Mn 56007</p>	<p>Market Place 1619 W. Main Albert Lea, MN 56007 Phone: 507-373-7357 Higher Standards - Lower Prices</p>	<p>Post 447 VFW and Auxiliary meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of every month at the American Legion Post 56 Clubrooms @ 7:00 pm. Come and join VFW Post 447. Veterans helping Veterans.</p>	<p>Commander's letter Continued on page 3</p>	

Please Support Our Newsletter Sponsors

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FEBRUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Super Bowl Party - 2pm Games, Prizes - Fun!	4	5	6 Women's Vets of Freeborn Co. - 11:30 am	7	8	9 Private Event in Event Center
10 Post 56 Breakfast 8-12:30	11 House Committee 4 pm Executive Board Meeting 6 pm	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Post Meeting 7 pm	19	20	21 Fish Fry 5-7 pm	22	23
24 Post 56 Breakfast 8-12:30	25 Event Center - Private Event	26 Legion Riders - 6:30 pm	27	28		

Every Tuesday: BURGER BASKET 5 P.M. TILL 8 P.M. **Every Friday:** STEAK/SHRIMP SPECIALS 5-9 PM
Every Wednesday: BAR BINGO IN LOUNGE 6 PM **Every Thursday:** KARAOKE AT 8 P.M.
Every Thursday: 7PM TRIVIA IN THE LOUNGE

Lounge Opens

Daily Monday-Friday 1 pm - 10 pm • Saturday 10 am - 10 pm • Sunday - Closed

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D.A.M.

D.A.M Donations

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News • News **AUXILIARY** News • News

Greetings from the Auxiliary,

February is Americanism Month. Please honor our Veterans and fly the flag proudly!! Observe all of the Patriotic holidays and support the Legion programs.

Our December 30, 2018 breakfast fundraiser was a big success. Thank you to all of the volunteers from the Auxiliary, Post and Legion Riders. Also, thanks to everyone who came to enjoy breakfast and support our Veteran, Youth and Community programs. The Quilt Raffle was won by Linda Olson. Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets.

Please continue to bring in items for our ongoing projects: after-school snacks, soap & shampoo, commemorative stamps, box tops for education, Country Hearth, pop tabs and milk moolah.

You should have received the second dues notice from Nationals. Please send in your 2019 dues if you haven't already done so.

Annual reports will be due by April 15th. I have received the reports so be compiling your info for the year. A meeting to fill these out will be set at our April meeting.

Our next meeting will be April 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. A memorial service will be held. Please join us as the Auxiliary is for all members. Thank you!

February Trivia: 1st - National Freedom Day; 2nd - Ground Hog Day; 8th - Boy Scouts of America founded (1910); 12th - Lincoln's Birthday; 14th - St. Valentine's Day; 18th - George Washington's Birthday observed (President's Day); 22nd - Washington's Birthday.

Happy Valentine's Day!!

God Bless,

Bonnie Schneider
 Auxiliary President

Commander's letter Continued from pg 1

Don't forget the post will be open for Superbowl Sunday on February 3rd. The post will have games, food and prize drawings throughout the day. The club will open at 2 pm. So make plans to join us for this great American tradition.

We are beginning the transition of changing commanders, which will occur in June. The executive committee will have at least 2 trustee openings. If you are interested in serving on the executive committee, please contact either myself at 402-7037 or first vice commander Jeff Olson at 402-5087. The post doesn't run itself and we could use some fresh ideas on what direction the post should go in. While I'm at it I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Membership, SAL, Auxiliary and the Legion Riders for all your support over the past 19 months. I have truly enjoyed serving as your commander and look forward to continuing to serve in other capacities once my term is completed. The work never ends and neither do the rewards of serving a cause greater than ourselves.

Have a great February and I'll see you at the post.

Paul Nolette
 Commander

"Serving Veterans, Serving the Community"



CARLYLE N MATHESON - 91

Died December 23, 2018. Served in the US Army during the Korean War. Member of Post 56 and Y's Men's Club of Albert Lea.

JOHN FOSS - 87

Died December 27, 2018. Served in the US Air Force during the Korean War. Member of the VFW, Elks and Post 56 Albert Lea.

CORLEY HENDRICKSON - 86

Died January 4, 2019. Served in the US Army during the Korean War. Member of Post 56 Albert Lea.

JOAN PACZKOWSKI - 83

Died January 7, 2019. Served in the US Navy during the Korean War. Member of Post 56 Albert Lea.