



THE

CLOFER LEAF



DECEMBER / JANUARY 2010-2011

Commander's Column

by Dick Juhl

I would like to start with a quote from one of the icons of American History, Franklin Roosevelt

"Nobody will ever deprive the American People of the right to vote except the American people themselves – and the only way they could do that is by not voting

We find ourselves in an economic depression the likes of which most of us have never seen. Unemployment is at a rate we haven't seen in generations and budget deficits beyond our imagination.

So, what do we do? We get involved.

As veterans, we, along with our families, have already given more than most, but now we have a greater responsibility. We need to get involved in learning about our senators and representatives and what they stand for and set an example for our neighbors and friends.

There has been a major change in the structure of our government since the last election and it is our responsibility, our duty to seize this opportunity to work for the betterment of our veterans, our community, our state and our nation.

In spite of what the media might suggest, we are still the greatest nation on earth.

I could bore you with details of the structure of our state and federal government, but right now that's not what's important. What's important is for all of us to take the time to learn about who is representing us when important decisions come the table. We have a new slate of legislators who will be determining our future. Let's take this opportunity to influence our future and the future of our generations to come.

Once the new people have settled in their jobs we can provide you with more information but for now we need to watch and listen and learn and remember the old adage; "If you're not part of the solution then you're part of the problem."

As Commander, it is my job to keep you informed and I will do that to the best of my ability. Let's all work together to make our future one we can all reflect on proudly.

Thank you

Come Celebrate!

The American Legion's 92nd Birthday!



Saturday March 12th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
for snacks, cake & coffee

Charitable Gaming
Pull Tabs
Minnesota Lottery
Scratch Offs

License #229

Post  **\$100 OFF**

Clip and Save!

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19TH
5:00 - 8:00 PM

Present this coupon for \$1.00 Off
Only good at the February 19th 2011 event.



Auxiliary News

by Dawne Juhl, President

I firmly believe that spring will come. As true Minnesotans, we strive for the patience to endure. Yeah, right!

We are clipping coupons like crazy women. So far we have clipped/sent coupons with a value of more than \$7,800. This definitely helps our military families stretch their budgets a little more. Thank you, Diane and Suzie, for your help.

We're going to do our steak dinner for February. We've always had a good turn-out, but I think it got a little "old" after a while. We've decided not to do an Auxiliary dinner in March because the Lenten fish fry dinners are popular and two days in a row are more than even our most loyal members can handle. But hold on, kids, we're going to do tacos in April.

The Legion birthday is in March. Sadly, we've had more workers than guests in the last few years, so we're going to try something different this year. We're going to have an open house on Saturday, March 12. We'll have snacks, maybe some bar specials and hopefully some music from each service era (anyone with CDs is welcome to contribute to the entertainment).

I'm pretty sure everyone has heard of The American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund, also known as AEF, or simply Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

An emergency grant may be awarded as determined by the Grant Committee on a case by case basis up to a maximum of \$2,400. These funds may only be used for emergency shelter, food or utilities. To ensure the integrity of the program, the national AEF Grant Program directs payment to the creditor.

I contacted one of my members because I hadn't seen her for a while. She popped into my mind and I gave her a call. It turned out that she had lost her job, her bills and rent were past due and she wasn't able to collect unemployment for some reason. I told her I would look into the AEF and get back to her. We filled out the papers and about three weeks later I got a copy of a letter from AEF to my member saying she had received a check. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is a project for community, state and nation because keeping our members healthy keeps the community healthy.

Please call or e-mail me if you have questions or concerns about anything. I will do my best to get answers for you. We are a team for our military family—at home and in our community.

For God and Country

POST 259 UPDATE

by Pete Davis

My name is Pete Davis and I am the Finance Officer of Post 259. I took over this responsibility from Jim Peterson in August, 2010. I was a grunt with the First Cav in Nam, 68 -69, and have been a member of the Post for two years.

Commander Juhl has requested more communication with the general membership and I will provide information on Post financial matters from time to time.

Property Consolidation

The Housing Committee has approved adjoining the Post building property with ICO property. The two lots will be merged and become one larger lot. The advantage of this is the ability of the Post to use the ICO property including its signage.

Recommendation to Demolish the ICO Building

The Housing Committee has approved a resolution to recommend to the Executive Committee that the ICO building be demolished. The bid to tear down the building was \$7,300.00. With residual issues the total cost could be as high as \$10,000.

There has basically been no interest in leasing the building "as is". It was determined that to bring the building up to code would be \$50,000 to \$60,000 and not a wise investment without a long term

favorable lease/lessee. Selling the property now was ruled not in the best interest of the Post nor was just watching it degrade and fall apart. The only insurance we currently carry on the building is liability insurance.

Generally, the vision is for an expanded outdoor recreational area to enhance the use of the club by current members and hopefully attract some new members.

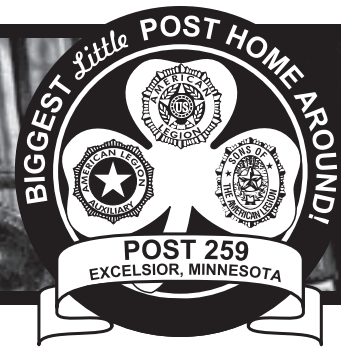
The Executive Committee will meet on this resolution before the February Post meeting and if approved, it will be presented at the Post meeting for final approval.

POST FISH FRY FEBRUARY 19TH

I've been told that it's been 3 to 4 years since the Post sponsored a meal and we need to get some fund raising activities going again. We want to provide for our mission of supporting veterans and our community.



Please support us by attending. Reconnect with some old friends or make some new ones. If you can volunteer a bit that would help also.

Call me at 612-581-6751 if you can help out.




SAL News by Chris Hogle

Short and sweet - Thank you volunteers and thank you members who show us so much support. It is with your help that we are able to do so much to help our veterans and their families.

STEAK FRY

Excelsior American Legion Post 259
Saturday February 26
5:30 - 7:30 pm




**Steak, Baked Potato,
 Cole Slaw and a Roll \$13.00**

SUPER BOWL PARTY


FEBRUARY 6TH
Buffet 4:45 pm
 Drink Specials & Door Prizes

Pick your team for quarterly touchdown drinks!



Bring Your Sweetheart!

S.A.L. FAMOUS
 Omelet Breakfast



**Sundays, February 13th
 and March 13th**

Omelets made your way with all the fixin's
 8:30 am - Noon • \$9.00

S.A.L. Fish Fry



(all you can eat - \$12.00)

Saturday, February 5th
 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry
Starting March 11th - April 22nd
 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

CLARENCE CLOFER
American Legion Post 259
24450 Smithtown Road
Excelsior, MN 55331
952.474.3982

Nonprofit Organization

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Excelsior, MN
Permit No. 83

Change Service Requested

**CELEBRATE THE AMERICAN LEGION'S
BIRTHDAY! SATURDAY, MARCH 12TH
POST FISH FRY FEBRUARY 19TH**

*For Sick
Call or Taps*

- Service Officer •
Charlie Thompson
612-210-5342
- President •
Dawne Juhl
952-955-3665
- SAL •
Arden Krueger
952-474-7958

**POST 259
MEMBERS**

Bring a Friend

Noon Lunches
(Monday-Friday)

11 am-1:00 pm
Daily Specials
and Regular Grill

**Lucky
Strike
Drawing**

Sign up every Monday
2:00 p.m. – Close

Drawings held
every Wednesday
between 7 - 8 p.m.
Must be
present to win.

SAL
SPORTSMEN CLUB
UPCOMING EVENTS!

Saturday, February 12th
Ice Fishing on Lake Minnetonka
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Details at the Club.
After our fishing trip join us at
the club for the Meat Raffle
and award ceremony.

Saturday, March 5th
Polar Bear Horseshoe Tournament
Starting at 11:00 am
Stay for the Fish Fry starting at 5:00

Sunday, March 27th
Omlette Breakfast
8:00 am - Noon
Regular: \$9.00 - Seafood: \$10.00