

Rosetown Memorial American Legion Post 542



3rd Quarter, July-Sept, 2019

Commander's Corner – Pat Van Reese

Well, as we end another Legion year, 2019 has been a good year indeed. Fiscal 2020 comes on board July 1st, 2019...and new membership cards will then be issued for 2020. The new 2020 cards will be available after that date.

For 2018 our total donations were \$37,495.28. So far, in 2019 we have donated \$12,971.19. Not bad...we thank everyone who supports the Post and our Social Club.

Our membership is down somewhat; but it's hard to replace the members we are losing. However, we are doing better than the overall membership in National Legion. In addition, we ARE TRYING very hard to gain more members.

I have asked for suggestions on how to improve the post and members have submitted their ideas. The suggestions so far, are very thoughtful and good. We are working on implementing some of them. There were some good suggestions submitted, but they had no name or phone number; therefore, I can't get more info regarding them. I need names and phone numbers, so I can ask follow up questions. IF you have a suggestion, we have a form and a box in the front entry to put them in, or you can email or mail them to the Post, care of the Commander. I'm the only one who will see them. I will rewrite any good suggestions and present them to the Board. Having no name listed on the form wastes your time and ours.

WE are making Rosetown the best post in the 4th District. Come on down and enjoy your Social Club, our outside deck is open, the food is excellent, the prices are great, the people are friendly, and we would love to see you.

For those of you who have not been to a meeting in some time, come on down and check us out. The Post General Membership meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7PM, and we try to keep the meetings short. Plus, you get to meet a great bunch of people.

The Post Color guard participated at Roselawn cemetery on Memorial Day. It was a very wet day; it was hard to believe the number of people who showed up even in the hard rain; it made us very proud to be part of this event.

We will be leading the Rosefest parade again this year and will be at the 4th of July celebration in Roseville Central Park.

IN CLOSING - come on down and support your Social Club and Post...stop in for lunch or dinner the food is great and prices are super.

A big **"Thank You"** again to all the people who volunteer at our Post, they work hard, but always have a good time. Without these very dedicated people we would accomplish very little. They cause our Post to **"Light Up"** with their smiling faces and good spirits. Come down, go to a meeting and find out what's happening at your Rosetown Post & Club. We need your input and knowledge to help us grow. There are only four posts in Ramsey County that still have buildings, and **"WE ARE THE BEST"**...so come on down and enjoy.

Please look at our web page www.rosetownlegion.com. We are trying very hard to keep it updated with what is going on at the post. If you have things you would like us to put on the webpage you can email rosetownlegion@gmail.com

Pat Van Reese, Post Commander - (Contact me with any ideas: 651-239-7978)

Auxiliary President - Sandy Gibson

Well, finally summer appears to have arrived, and that means my year as a President is coming to a close! I have enjoyed 4 years as serving as Rosetown Auxiliary President. We have done many wonderful things for our Veterans and I know we will continue to do so under the new Officers.

Before I congratulate and name the new officers, I just want to update some exciting news. To celebrate our 100th year as an Auxiliary, Rosetown will be honoring our longtime Senior Members. We will be having a luncheon on August 15 from 11:00-2:00PM. Your invitation will be arriving soon. All Auxiliary members are invited, and these wonderful ladies will be our special guests. If they can't drive themselves, we will pick them up or arrange and pay for a ride. We are really looking forward to this event.

In just a few short weeks we will be celebrating the **4th of July**, remember to **Fly the Flag**; if not everyday, then especially on this special day, **the Birthday of our Country, the U.S.A.**

Just a few short weeks after that, we will be at the Department Convention in Willmar, MN. Five members from the Auxiliary will be attending.

I want to welcome our newest members. We had eight new members initiated at our April meeting, a very warm welcome to them.

Now I would like to congratulate the following the newly elected Rosetown Auxiliary Officers:

- President - Karla Joyce
- 1st Vice President - Carol Caswell, (*again, "Thank You" Carol*)
- 2nd Vice President - Andrea Dinner,
- Treasurer - Katie Joswiak,
- Sergeant at Arms, Sue Sinsioco & Mindy Rodenberg

They all will serve us well. We also have new people elected to 4th District Council, as well as to the Conventions and Conferences. I will leave Karla Joyce to mention them in her 1st News Article. These fine ladies will serve us as well.

As I end my final Article, please remember our members who are ill, in Hospice, long-term care, or assisted living. They may not be able to join us at our meetings, but they think of us, just as we think of them, and often. Let us also remember those who have died.

Always remember to thank our Veterans and the Servicemen and women serving our Country now.

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Gibson, President (outgoing)

Fort Snelling News and Veteran's Care - Bob Bowen

Please remember to come to the VA Hospital Visitation on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Meet at Rosetown at 12:30 PM, or car pool from the Post. Finish at 2:00 PM. It's inspiring to visit the Vets at the Hospital. Coffee and donuts are served too.

From the Bowen collection of little known military facts (trivia):

"The two men who started Aldi's Supermarkets in Germany, were Black Marketers in their early lives (and during WWII). They went straight after the War, and both are now Billionaires."

Respectively, Bob Bowen

Color Guard Commander - Kenneth Gibson

Ken was Awarded "Blue Hat of the Year, 2019-2020" by the 4TH District,
Lane Stuckle, 4th District Commander

Ken's credentials, as presented in his nomination by Rosetown to the 4TH District Awards Committee

DAV - Life member.

Drove truck for two years, on 24 hour call for the DAV in the Twin Cities area, picking up donations and delivered to Savers.

He is a Past Commander of DAV Chapter 2

Presently serves as Sergeant at Arms.

Veterans' Donor Connect Program

Ken is the central contact person for Roseville and surrounding areas for the Donor Connect Program. This is a group where a Veteran has no more need of some Handicapped items or needs new ones. He picks up Wheelchairs, Electric Scooters, handicap items, and stores them, until needed by other Veterans.

Board of the Veterans' Camp

Ken is the Representative from DAV to the Board of the Veterans' Camp. He does grounds-work at the camp.

On the Flag Retirement Day, he helps set up the campgrounds and helps place the Flags being retired. He delivers Flags from the Post and the Veterans Home that are being retired to the camp, several times a week.

Rosetown Memorial American Legion Post 542

Thirty-three years of continuous membership in Rosetown Memorial American Legion Post 542. Helps setup Rosetown's various Events - Volunteers for painting and repair jobs - Does the dishes for most Funerals, Style Shows, Omelet Breakfasts, Bone-in-Ham, and other events. Helps set up and work for the Post's fund-raisers: Fall Bar-B-Q, Bone In Ham Breakfast, Membership dinners, plus various Auxiliary Events.

Commander of Post 542 Color Guard for three years

Fort Snelling

Member of the Monday & Friday Memorial Rifle Squad, for Saturday Funerals at Fort Snelling.

Minneapolis Veterans' Home

Volunteers for various activities for the Residents.

Helped organize a one-day fishing trip to the Vets' Camp for 20 Residents. Volunteered with them, pushing wheel chairs, baiting hooks, etc.

Minneapolis VA Hospital

Volunteers twice a month, visiting patients.

American Legion 4th District

SHOP, SHIP and SHARE, helps plan, organize the event. Works at the event everyday putting boxes together, packing and loading the boxes.

Worked at the mini Shop, Ship and Share.

Member of Buglers Across America - Plays "Taps" for veterans across the area.

Church

Is an active member and volunteers at his church. Does dishes for all Funerals; every other month works at Loaves and Fishes. Does maintenance around the Church as well as serving as Usher and Teller.

Captain of Neighborhood Watch

He is Captain of Neighborhood Watch for the neighborhood.

He plows neighbors' driveways and mows their lawns.

United Veterans Council of Ramsey County

He is an active member and volunteer in the United Veterans Council of Ramsey County.

Hastings Veterans' Home

He calls Bingo and Volunteers at the Hastings Veterans' Home every other month.

A GREAT AWARD - FOR A GREAT MAN - HOORAH, KEN!!

1st Vice Commander. Membership, & Finance Officer - Jeffrey Proud

Membership

We have received renewals for 516 members so far in 2019. We had 553 total members for 2018; that number was down from 603 in 2017. We are gradually losing members. Some move away and others depart to RIP. We are financially reliant on annual dues...we really need each of you to renew your membership. Remember, this money is needed to support Veterans who need our help. It also supports local projects & events in our City. In addition, it's the "life-blood," keeping our Legion and Social Club open for our members.

BUT...A MUST READ: A NOTICE FOR 2020, STARTING JULY 1, 2019

The new Legion year for fiscal 2020, begins July 1st...therefore, New Membership cards for 2020 will be available after July 1, 2019. The annual dues are still the same price for 2020: \$44.00 for the year.

SO... "hold your water" 'til July 1st...then, open the floodgates for your membership renewals for 2020. ALSO "BIG NEWS," NEW members get their first year for FREE, paid by Rosetown, for NEW Members only (motion passed at last Rosetown Post's General Membership Meeting).

****So, tell all those hesitating Veterans, who have always wanted to join Rosetown, now's their chance to join us for FREE.***

*****Whadda deal...get to join Rosetown, the Greatest Legion Post on Earth, ON US.***

****** (Don't tell too many Vets...they'll be 'Gang Busters' bursting down our doors)***

*******But remember all this starts on July 1st...don't jump the gun.***

When July 1, 2019 does arrive...Please send in your membership dues (or free application). You can easily send it to Rosetown Legion: 700 County Road 'C' West, St Paul, MN 55113, (651) 483-3535. Also, you can easily renew your membership online.

FINANCE REPORT

The Post elected new Officers for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Jeffrey Proud was elected as the Finance Officer. Both the Commander and the Finance Officer pledged to internally audit our financial and operating procedures to ensure our financial security for the future. So far, the accounts are under review in coordination with the Social Club Manager, Natasha Caswell, the North Star Bank, and our accountants.

Social Club: The loss for 11 months of 2018-2019 (with 1 month remaining in the 2019 fiscal year) was (\$27,894); however, with some new procedures implemented last month, the Social Club made a profit of \$4,501 in May 2019. Projected out to the end of fiscal year 2020, this would amount to an overall profit of \$54,012. The Social Club Board was briefed by the Finance Officer that we are on a positive trend - implementing other positive corrections, improving operating profits, are to come in the near future.

Rosetown Post is in sound financial condition:

Post General Fund: \$3,285; Post Saving Account: \$37,023; Post Loan: \$33,582.

The Color Guard and SAL manage their financial accounts and have positive financial balances.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Proud, Membership & Finance Officer

SAL Commander - Al Hernandez

Hope everyone has a safe and happy 4th of July. Reminder, 2020 dues will be coming just around the corner. The dues will be increasing to \$20.00 for the 2020 year.

If you are interested in attending one of our meetings, we have them the 2nd Tuesday of the even months. Our next meeting is in August, stop on in and learn more about the SAL.

Respectively Submitted, Steve Pennig, SAL Vice Commander

Wynn Richardson – Scoutmaster of Troop 31

Troop 31 is proudly sponsored by Rosetown Legion

- (Recent and upcoming events)...**Troop 31 had a busy winter and spring including...**
- Outdoor winter camping at Snow Base at Camp Tomahawk near Rice Lake, WI,
- Welcoming three new Scouts transitioning to the Troop from Pack 31 (the Cobra Patrol!),

- Five Scouts and three adult leaders traveled to Sea Base Bahamas in March for a week learning how to crew a sailboat and exploring the cays around Marsh Harbour,
- Picking up winter trash around the Legion grounds after the spring “thaw”,
- Several Scouts and adult leaders camped and went on a five-mile hike around Willow River State Park in North Hudson, WI.

- Three older Scouts will be attending Grey Wolf in June-July. This is the Northern Star Council National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) camp where the youth learn skills around communication, conflict resolution, model Troop activities, and leadership.

Upcoming activities: kayaking the Kinnickinnic River in July and a week at Camp Tomahawk in July-August.

You can follow our adventures on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BoyScoutTroop9031>. We are always looking for new youth to join the Troop, so if know of anyone please have them contact Scoutmaster Wynn Richardson at 651-489-7956 or wynnrichardson@comcast.net

Thank you for supporting Troop 31 and Pack 31!

Invitation to Rosetown from the American Legion Riders - Bob “WingBob” Leslie

****NEWS BLAST****

ATTENTION RIDERS

The Rosetown Executive Board approved the starting of an American Legion Riders (ALR) chapter at Rosetown Post 542. If you are a Motorcycle rider, or a disabled Vet, and want to join us, please sign up at the post or contact Bob Leslie, 612-801-0336, or email wingbob2005@msn.com. I am going to put together a meeting, when we have at least 8 members interested in helping to get this started. There is a sheet at the Rosetown Post entrance to sign up on. Ride Safe, Look twice!

Ready to roll, Bob Leslie - aka: “WingBob”

Rosetown American Legion Post 542 - 700 County Rd C, Roseville, MN 55113 - 651-483-3535
Post Web-site: www.rosetownlegion.com

Join our secure email club: rosetownlegion@gmail.com

Hall Rental Available – Check out our **Beautiful and Affordable Hall**, seats 250 people – for information, contact Rosetown at 651-483-3535.

Finest Food Served:

Lunch – Tuesday thru Friday from 12-2PM - We now have a Lunch Menu -

Tuesday – Fresh Turkey Dinner for \$8.00 **includes fixings******

Wednesday – (Note increase) \$1.50 plain burger, \$3 California burger and \$3 fish sandwich

Thursday – Tacos for \$2

Friday –Dinner menu from 5-8PM and (NEW) All you can eat FISH comes with French Fries and coleslaw for \$12.

Saturday – July 7th and 21st - Spaghetti dinner 5 – 8PM

Appetizers are available as an option on those days when food is served and also starting at 3PM on BINGO Saturdays.

Pizza is available any day of the week for dine in or take out. Request from the bartender

**** VA Hospital Visitation ****

Join us on the 3rd Sunday of every month and visit with the Vets at the VA. Meet at 12:30 in the VA Hospital auditorium or car pool from Rosetown at Noon. We finish about 2pm. It's inspiring to be there. Great coffee and donuts, too!

Contact Bob Bowen (651-489-4635) for details. ** Minnesota Veterans Hospital - Minneapolis *

Join us the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 9-11:30am and visit our local Veterans Home. Contact Sandy Gibson (651-636-3899) for details.

Calendar is prepared by Sue Gabrielson. To request an event to be added please email sg55rocker@aim.com or call 651-484-9242 before the 25th of the month. Thank You

COME VISIT AND SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

Events:

Bingo – every other Saturday, this month: July 6 & July 20 - starting at 3PM

Karaoke - Every Friday starting at 7PM

Meat Raffle - Every Sunday starting at 3PM

Post & Unit 542 Membership Contact Info

It's the 2020 Membership year! We hope you'll re-up with us! Please pay online - saving you and the American Legion mailing and postage. You can update your American Legion DD 214 at the same time.

+ Legion members: www.legion.org/renew

+ Auxiliary members: www.alaforveterans.org/Register

+ SAL members: online is not yet available.

Membership team:

Post: Jeffrey Proud 612-770-3019 Dues \$44

Auxiliary: Carole Caswell 651-631-2772 Dues \$30

SAL: Steve Pennig 612-308-5887 Dues \$17

Post				Auxiliary			
Commander	Pat	Van Reese	651-239-7978	President	Karla	Joyce	651-295-5095
1st Vice Commander & Membership \$44	Jeffrey	Proud	612-770-3019	1st VP & Membership \$30	Carole	Caswell	651-631-2772
2nd Vice Commander				2nd Vice President	Marge	McPartlin	651-649-0850
Finance Officer	Jeffrey	Proud	612-770-3019	Secretary	Gwen	Holets	651-470-0818
Adjutant	Ken	Semling	651-766-0446	Treasurer	Katie	Joswiak	651-481-9592
Chaplain	Mike	Byrne	651-247-0622	Chaplain	Lucy	Calguire	651-415-1240
Sgt At Arms	Don	Gustafson	651-646-3860	Parliamentarian	Donna	Miller	651-771-0445
Service Officer	Sean	Gustafson	612-751-9918	Historian	Gwen	Holets	651-470-0818
Color Guard Cdr	Ken	Gibson Jr	651-636-3899	Sgt At Arms - Sue Sinsioco &	Mindy	Rodenberg	
Color Guard Vice Cdr	Bob	Bowen	651-489-4635	Past President	Sandy	Gibson	651-636-3899
				SAL			
Club				Commander & Finance Ofcr	Al	Hernandez	612-366-0270
Club Manager	Natasha	Caswell	651-503-6369	1st Vice Cdr & Membership \$17	Steve	Penning	612-308-5887
Gambling Manager	Mike	Byrne	651-247-0622	2nd Vice Commander			
Social Media	Tom	Teresi	612-275-1330	Adjutant	Steve	Penning	612-308-5887
Social Media	Juli	Stocksett	651-785-6655	Sgt At Arms	Butch	Caswell	651-631-2772
Calendar	Sue	Gabrielson	651-484-9242	Chaplain	Mike	Martell	651-276-1946