



WATCHWORD
September - November 2026
The Official Publication of American Legion Post #43
Faribault, MN



Post 43 Commander

Hello Everyone!

Things in the Rustad Banquet Hall were a little slow this summer as they usually are. We are getting into our busier season now and thanks to Jill and a few others we are getting more bookings for the hall. We continue to have the Northstar Corn Hole Tournaments, and we are getting into the planning stages of the pool tournament season. That being said we will be looking for more volunteers to help, especially in the kitchen. Our thanks go out to the groups that have been helping on our Friday Suppers they have been doing a great job, and they do this as fundraising for their organizations, so we appreciate you considering this when you are putting tips in the tip bowl on those nights.

If you are members of other organizations that may be looking for a place to hold a meeting or a Christmas/Holiday party, please think of the Legion and have that organization get a hold of Jill to see if we can get them using our Event Center for their company or organization needs.

Membership is an important part of our organization, and we urge you to get more people to join our organization which is one of the largest voices in the Nation to help Veterans and their families. The membership renewals have been coming in at an alarming rate, and we appreciate that please be patient as these get processed and we get new cards sent out. When there are so many at one time it does take a while to process this.

As we come up on the fall time of the year, I wish you all a good harvest season and time well spent with family and friends. Please do not forget you have a family here in the Legion as well and we love to have you come down and spend time with our family having an adult beverage, pop, water, and maybe take advantage of our charitable gambling opportunities. Remember we host the location for KC Bingo on Wednesdays. BINGO starts at 6pm and we start horse races at about 5pm, these horse races are super fun. Randy does meat boards once bingo starts. All of these help the Legion so we can help others.

Take Care and God Bless!

John Haessig, Commander - American Legion Post 43 Faribault

Unit #43 President

Greetings Everyone,

Wow summer has flown by this year. I hope you had some fun in the sun this summer. I am honored to serve a third term as your president of the Auxiliary. There are some ideas floating about beginning new projects and bringing back some things we have done in the past.

I am encouraging you all to take a look at how you are being called to serve the American Legion Unit 43's Family. Can you offer your time, talents, and treasures to ensure our building is available for years to come? Can you serve on the team for dinners? They need us!

First of all, we have been talking about beginning an Honor Team for paying tribute to our fallen Auxiliary members. This is in the very beginning stages. We will meet on Monday September 21st at 5:30pm at the Legion prior to the Executive Meeting. Don't worry about dinner; you can grab something at the Legion. Please join us as we discuss and plan for this renewed project.

We are beginning a "Veterans Cafe" for veterans on the 2nd Tuesday of the month beginning September 8th. This event is open to all veterans (don't need to be a member and no pressure to become a member).

November 14th from 9:30am to 3:30pm we will be hosting the 3rd District American Legion Juniors Fun Day. We will be serving a taco bar for the girls. This is a great time to learn and to invite others to learn.

As my second year comes to a close, I am in awe of all you ladies have accomplished. I am honored to serve alongside you and to grow with you. Please join us at the club and continue to serve our veterans with love and support.

Thank God for each of you!

Gina Little, President Auxiliary Unit 43

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #43

Greetings, not much going on right now with SAL. Omelets this coming Sunday, pool leagues starting next month. Joint flag retirement ceremony with the Scouts on September 27th, hopefully it will be a cool day. Hope everyone has had a great and safe summer. Watch for upcoming events at the club and see everyone soon.

Upcoming Breakfasts: DECA Pancake October 11 and AAUW Omelet October 25th

PJ Johnson, Commander Squad 43

FrontLine Honors Ceremony

1:00pm – every 3rd Sunday of the month.

We remember the fallen by reading all U.S. Service member names that were killed in action or have died because of their military service over the course of the previous 30 days.

*In addition, we will recognize our nation's Colors with a formal dedication. If you would like to have the flag fly over Post 43 in honor of any Veteran, alive or deceased, or a family member currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, please inquire within. **Their sacrifice. Our honor.***

Come on in, we're open!

New Hours starting Sept 1st
Sunday 11a-7p
Monday through Friday 11am-9:00pm
Saturday 10am-9:00pm

Bar will run with volunteer bartender from 11a-2p

****Introducing the Veterans' Café****



Beginning **Tuesday, September 8th.** The Auxiliary is welcoming Veterans - both members and non - to free coffee and treats from 8:00-10:00 a.m.

The Auxiliary is hoping to meet some new (and old) faces. Reaching out to do more for our local service folks.

No strings attached, just the Auxiliary wanting to know how you are doing, maybe you need rides to appointments, maybe just to visit. We are willing to listen to you.

Additional coffee dates for the Veterans' Café will be Tuesdays, **Oct. 13th** and **Nov. 10th**

Sponsored by the Faribault American Legion Auxiliary Unit 43

*****Wing Night** MOVED to
Wednesday – 5:00 – 7:00pm***

*****Burger/Philly Night Every
Thursday 5:00 – 7:00pm*****

The **Post 43 WatchWord newsletter** is available on the Legion Website: www.mnlegionpost43.org If you have any specific recommendations for our Website, our Post, or any general questions, please send a message to: faribaultlegion43@gmail.com

DAV

Throughout the course of the month, the DAV collects donations of books, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and many other items to be provided free of charge to Veterans in need. At this time, no additional items are needed until the current inventory is drawn down to a more manageable level.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to all the new Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members to Post 43. Please reach out to the person that recruited you for what is next for you, whether it be volunteering at kitchen events, delivering gifts to veterans or bringing a new idea to us. We welcome all suggestions and hope that you attend regular meetings on the first of every month.

Post 43 Color Guard

We have had problems recruiting people for various activities that we have been asked to attend. We did manage to cover all of them to this point. We only have three commitments and we should be covered however we haven't gotten calls to present colors at any of the football or soccer games yet. If you are interested in serving on the color guard, please contact the legion.

Finance for Post 43

Times are tough but they are for everyone. Our accountant has released some of their duties to us to save some money. One of the duties is for us to write checks to pay bills which give us the capability to juggle invoices to keep our vendors paid and work around funds we currently don't have. Jill has been constantly working to bring in new events into the Legion. Volunteers have helped with the situation, the problem is, and we don't have enough volunteers. (Volunteers also help alleviate the need for paid help.)

All dates below are subject to change, please visit your Post for current function dates

September

1 – Taco Tuesday 5-7:00pm
 2 –Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 3 – Burger/Philly Night 5-7:00 pm
 4 – Friday Supper-Steak 5-7:00
 7 – Labor Day CLOSED NO MEETINGS
 8 – Veterans' Café 8-10:00am/Taco
 Tuesdays 5-7:00pm/DAV Mtg 6:30pm
 9 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 10 – Private Hall Event 11:00am-
 3pm/Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 13 – Viking Game Day Potluck
 14 – 6:30pm Post & Aux Membership
 Mtg
 15 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 16 – Private Hall Event 8:00am-
 2:00pm/Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/
 KC Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 17 – Private Hall Event 8:00-2:00pm/
 Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 18 – Friday Supper Ribs 5-7:00pm
 20 – 1:00pm FrontLine Honors/ Vikings
 Game Day Potluck
 21 – Post & Aux Exec Mtg 6:30pm/Red
 Cross Blood Drive 8:30am-
 7:00pm/Exec Board Mtgs 6:30pm
 22 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 23 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 24 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 26 – Cornhole ACO Kickoff 8:00am start
 27 – Vikings Game Day Potluck
 28 – Private Hall Event All day
 29 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 30 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles

October

1 – Burger/Philly Night 5-7:00pm
 2 – Friday Supper Steak 5:00-7pm
 3 – Private Hall Event
 4 – Vikings Game Day Potluck
 5 – 6:30pm Post Membership/Beef
 Commercials & Swedish Meatballs 5-
 7:00pm
 7 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 8 – Burger/Philly Night 5-7:00pm
 9 – Private Hall Event
 10 – Private Hall Event
 11 – SAL Pancake Breakfast for DECA
 8:00-noon/Vikings Game Day Potluck
 13 – Veterans Café 8-10:00am/Taco
 Tuesdays 5-7:00pm/ DAV Mtg 6:30om
 14 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 15 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 16-17 – Private Hall Event/Rib Supper
 moved to the 23rd
 18 - 1:00pm FrontLine Honors
 19 – Post & Aux Exec Mtg 6:30pm/Beef
 Commercials & Swedish Meatballs 5-
 7:00pm
 20 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 21 - Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 22 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 23 – Friday Supper Ribs 5-7:00pm
 24 – Fall Market 9:00-
 2:00pm/Masquerade Halloween Party
 7-10:00pm music by Smokescreen
 25 – AAUW Breakfast by SAL 8:00am-
 noon/Vikings Game Day Potluck
 26 – Membership Dinner 5:30 Social,
 6:30 dinner Free for paid-up members
 27 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 28 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 29 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 30 – Bar Crawl 7-10:00pm Music by
 Steve & Steve

November

2 – 6:30pm Post Membership Mtg/Beef
 Commercials & Swedish Meatballs 5-
 7:00pm
 3 – ELECTION DAY...VOTE!!/Taco
 Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 4 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 5 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 6 – Friday Supper Steak 5:00-7pm
 7 – American Legion Sponsored Specialty
 Bingo, Races & Meat Raffles 12-
 3:00pm
 8 – Private Hall Event 12-6:00pm
 10 – Veterans' Café 8-10:00am/Taco
 Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 11 – Veterans' Day program & lunch,
 Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC Bingo
 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 12 – Private Hall Event 8:00am –
 2:00pm/Burger/Philly Night 5:00-7pm
 14 – Auxiliary Junior Fun Day 9:00am-
 2:30pm
 15 – 1:00pm FrontLine Honors/4th
 Degree KC Poultry Bingo 12pm
 Start/Vikings Game Day Potluck
 16 – Exec Board Mtg 6:30pm/Beef
 Commercials & Swedish Meatballs 5-
 7:00pm
 17 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 18 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 19 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00-
 7pm/Private Hall Event 10:00am-
 2:00pm
 20 – Friday Supper Ribs 5-7:00pm
 21 – Cornhole Throw down 3:00pm Start
 22 – Cornhole ACO 10:00am
 Start/Vikings Game Day Potluck
 24 – Taco Tuesdays 5-7:00pm
 25 – Wing Wednesday 5-7:00pm/ KC
 Bingo 6:00pm/Races & Meat Raffles
 26 – Happy Thanksgiving – CLOSED
 29 – Vikings Game Day Potluck



3RD DISTRICT JUNIOR FUN DAY

With Veterans

Theme:
"One Smile
at a Time"



3rd District Junior President Ireland Cooney invites all Junior members, and any youth interested in learning more about the Auxiliary to a fun day of **TIE DYEING SHIRTS** and **GAMES** with **PRIZES!**



BIG EVENT!
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 14TH
9:00 AM – 2:30 PM



**AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 43
FARIBAULT, MN**



COST TO REGISTER:
\$15
INCLUDES LUNCH!

WE WILL HAVE:

- ★ A meeting to hear special guests talk about different activities juniors can do!
- ★ An election for other district officers!
- ★ Learn how **YOU** can make a difference!

IRELAND'S PROJECT: FREE DENTAL AND WELLNESS CLINICS FOR VETERANS



BRING:

A WHITE SHIRT TO TIE DYE
DENTAL SUPPLIES to make
dental kits for the veterans
attending the clinic:

- Mouthwash (no alcohol)
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Other dental care items are welcome!



BRING A FRIEND!

Let's have fun, learn, serve, and support
our Veterans – One Smile at a Time! ♥

AMERICAN LEGION POST 43

112 NE 5th St.
Faribault, MN 55021
Tel. (507) 334-8784



Post 43 Officers

Commander: John Haessig
1st Vice: Ron Jameson
2nd Vice: Dave Smith
Adjutant: Ed Little
Chaplain: Glen Wegner
Finance Officer: Jim Douda
Sgt at Arms: Bob Flom
Past Commander: Steve Walter

Executive Board Members:

Mike Cook, Dave Cram, Bob Flom, Kirk Mansfield,
John McDonough, Dan Rasmussen, Glen Wegner

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Gina Little
1st Vice: Kayleen Caron
2nd Vice: Karen Rasmussen
Secretary: Amanda Nordstrom
Treasurer: Candy Braun
Sgt at Arms: Judy Lee, Mary Lillquist
Chaplain: Paulette Jameson
Historian: Kathy Larson

Executive Committee Members:

Jeannie Michels, Cathy Horvath,
Louise Flom, Deb Lyman

Sons of the American Legion

Commander: Paul (PJ) Johnson
1st Vice: Mike Fitzpatrick
Adjutant: Jim Douda
Treasurer:
Chaplain: Mike Pittman
Sgt at Arms: Jim Douda