



Post 43 Commander

Greetings from the Commander’s Corner!

With this being the month, we honor our Veterans. I would like to say a huge thank you to all who had taken time from their busy lives and put together the Program at the Courthouse followed by the program at the Legion Post 43 along with the lunch that was served by the Kitchen staff and volunteers. The people who did the foot work to get the Turkey meals for our Veterans and bring in all of our guest players like the Kids from Faribault Lutheran Schools and The American Heritage Girls. It is great to still see young people honoring our Veterans and their families and the sacrifices that they made. We had quite a few requests to go to Schools in Faribault, Medford and assisted Living Facilities and nursing homes in Faribault as well. These were attended by our Honor Guard, Color Guard and Legion Auxiliary Member. This is one of the small things we can do to make sure that the sacrifices that are made every day by our Military members and their families do not go unnoticed. To put on a community event is not an easy task. I would also like to thank Past Commander Kirk Mansfield for doing the Critical Overwatch Vigil starting at noon on the 10th through the morning of the 11th of November. Kirk and the people who were there with him for this 23 hours vigil are raising awareness of Suicide in general but specifically Veterans Suicide. Things at Legion Post 43 are moving along quite well. Special thanks to all who have helped over the last year bring Past Commander Steve Walter’s vision of a new and updated event space to reality. There were so many who have helped with this but the three I will point out for now are Dave Cram, PJ Johnson, and Jill Manahan who worked many tireless hours in the last few weeks to have the hall ceiling completed before a wedding event that was held in the Event Space on November 15th. This space looks fantastic and now we will be able to start advertising and marketing our newly updated event space that is open to the public for rental of any event they may want to hold in this space. We need new members and volunteers. You do not have to be a member to volunteer for events at the Legion, all help is welcomed. All Service clubs are suffering with lower membership. It is our job as members to bring in new members and let them know what the Legion is about and what we can do for them and what we do for all Veterans and their family members,

On December 7th, please do not forget to have a moment of silence for those who gave their life at Pearl Harbor.

We are coming onto the Holiday Season so I would like to wish safe travels and Godspeed to all who may be traveling during this season. I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Respectfully submitted,
John A. Haessig Jr.
Commander
Faribault American Legion Post 43

Unit #43 Auxiliary

Hello Legion Family,

I just came from the Veteran's Memorial where 23-0 is standing vigil for those who lost the silent battle of desperation and took their life. My heart aches for our brothers and sisters who felt so alone, isolated, and unable to reach out. One particular pair of boots hit me extra hard this year. A brave soldier I used to carry around on my hip, played Legos on the floor and wiped his face after eating a meal together. I watched him grow to a young man and stood with pride as he entered the MN National Guard. Today, as I stood in front of the boots holding his picture a floodgate of memories opened. It fuels my desire to serve veterans. To offer help, hope and encouragement.

It has been a busy fall with projects and preparing for gatherings. We gathered supplies for St Cloud Stand Down. We collected over 250 items to support our veterans needing assistance and encouragement. Today, turkey breasts will be shared with veterans. Gifts have been delivered to veterans in care centers. Our Honor Guard and Color Guard will be standing tall at various locations. Our local Legion is a club for veterans to spend time with others, support each other, and to be in fellowship. It provides the Auxiliary with an opportunity to get to know our veterans and hear their stories, to support them, to encourage them, to provide encouragement when things are dark. I recently sat with a veteran I have known for a number of years. I had the opportunity to learn more about him and to come away with a new profound appreciation of how he shows up in our community.

Make sure to come to our Christmas Dinner on December 8th. I would love to chat with you. Thank you for all you do to make life better for a Veteran! Have a Holiday Season filled with memories. Remember stop into the Legion if you are looking for some Holiday Cheer!

In Service,
Gina Little, Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #43

SAL Members –

Many of you have noticed that the consecutive years on your membership is incorrect. I have taken care of that. Some of you have received dues notices from National or Department. Ignore those, the only one you need to pay is the one from Squadron 43. If you double paid accidentally, you would not have to pay for 2027.

Bob Johnson, Membership Director

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!
Monday – Friday 11 AM to 8 PM or later
Happy Hour Specials \$3 Tap & Domestic Bottles & Rail Drinks
Saturday 10 AM to 8 PM or later
Sunday 10 AM to 8 PM or later

SAVE THE DATE : SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON APRIL 11, 2026

Post, SAL & Unit 43 Announcements:
SAVE THE DATE : SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON APRIL 11, 2026

Everyone should have received their dues notification by now. Please remit your dues payment to Ed Little (Legion \$50.00), Jeannie Michaels (Auxiliary \$40.00) or Bob Johnson (S.A.L. \$25.00)

*****Wing Night*****
Every Tuesday – 5:00 – 7:00pm

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

- **Post 43 is looking for support and help with donations to help cover costs of recent unplanned issues.**
- Gina, Auxiliary President and Amanda, Auxiliary Poppy Chair, will be putting together information that will help communicate to the public that our event hall has been newly remodeled and is ready for any future event.

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

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

December	January	February
1 – 6:30 pm Post & Aux Membership Mtg/Beef Commercials – 5-7:00pm	1 – CLOSED – Happy New Year!	1 – Lions Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am - noon
2 – Wings 5:00 pm -7:00 pm/Kwik Trip	2 – Friday Supper 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	2 – 6:30 pm Post & Aux Membership
3 – KC Bingo 6:00pm	4 – Cornhole	3 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
4 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00pm	5 – 6:30pm Post&Aux Membership / Beef Commercials 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	4 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm/Kwik Trip
5 – Harry Meyer Ctr Christmas Party	6 – Wings 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	5 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm/Kwik Trip
6 – Christmas Market – 10:00 am -3:00 pm/River Church Christmas Party	7 – Poppy Making 10am-12pm / KC Bingo 6:00 pm	6 – Friday Supper 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
7 – 80 th Birthday Party/Cornhole	8-11 – SECO Pool Tourney	7 – Hog Chapter Winter Bash
8 – Legion Christmas Dinner: Social: 5:00 pm / Dinner:-6:00 pm	12 – Compeer Financial Noon lunch	10 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
9 – Wings 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	13 – Wings 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	11 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm
10 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm	14 – Poppy Making 10 am-12:00 pm / KC Bingo 6:00 pm	12 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
11 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	15 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	13 – Fish Fry 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
12-14 – Toys for Tots Pool Tourney	16-18 – Sparkler Pool Tourney	14 – Cornhole
15 – Post & Aux Exec Mtg 6:30 pm / Turkey Commercials 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	18 – 1:00 pm FrontLine Honors	15 – IRIS Pancake Breakfast & Bingo/1:00 pm FrontLine Honors
16 – Wing Night 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	19 – Poppy Making 10:00 am - 12:00 pm	17 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
17 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm	20 – Wings 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	18 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm
18 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	21 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm	19 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
19 – Friday Supper: Ribs 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm/Steve & Steve: 5:00 pm - 8:00pm	22 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	20 – Friday Supper 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
20 – 60 th Birthday Jeff & Mark	23 – Friday Supper Ribs 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	21 – Cornhole
21 – 1:00 pm FrontLine Honors / Cornhole	24 – ICV Meeting 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm / Cornhole	22 – SAL Omelet Breakfast for H.S. Theatre 8:00 am - noon
22 – Swedish Meatballs 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	25 – SAL Omelet Breakfast 8:00 am - noon	24 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
23 – Wings 5:00 pm -7:00 pm	27 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	25 – KC Bingo 6:00 pm
24 – Tom & Jerry’s, Mulled Cider 10:00 am-2:00 pm	28 – Poppy Making 10:00 am - noon	26 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
25 – Closed- Merry Christmas	29 – Burger/Philly Night 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	27 – Fish Fry 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
27 – ICV Meeting	30 – Wedding	28 – Cornhole
28 – Cornhole Ugly Sweater		
29 – Swedish Meatballs 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm		
30 – Wings 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm		

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: Candy Braun (temp)
Treasurer: Candy Braun
Sgt at Arms: Judy Lee, Mary Lillquist
Chaplain: Kathy Larson
Historian: Kathy Larson

Executive Committee Members:

Jeanette Hammond, Jeannie Michels, Cathy Horvath,
Louise Flom, Babe Norgaard

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