



# THE COMMANDER

## APRIL 2024

**CARL SYDNEY HANSON AMERICAN LEGION POST 255  
708 FRONT STREET, BRAINERD MN 218-829-2249**

### COMMANDER'S REPORT



So far this year, Mother Nature has been very good, but as I write this, twelve days of March remain. Rumor has it, snow is due prior to the month end. 10 inches.... we will see.

April 6<sup>th</sup> is the Downtown Golf event starting at 11am. Sign-up sheets are at the bar. Basket food will be available. Good luck golfers.

April 14<sup>th</sup> we are hosting a Purse and Gun Bingo. You can purchase tickets at the club for \$50 and that includes entry into the event, and 9 games of bingo. Designer purses have been

purchased along with some great guns. Should be a very exciting event.

February's Sunday Breakfast was well attended. Thanks to everyone that volunteered and all that enjoyed the breakfast meeting old and new friends.

To meet our membership goal for this year, we need 26 more new or renewed members. Let's all help to make that goal.

Thank you to the following for your generous donation to our post 255:

Extrand Family and the Berry Family

Till next month, be safe, hope everyone enjoys good health.

**Rick W**

## AUXILIARY REPORT

Greetings, March is marching on and here comes April. Made it through another Minnesota winter. Have to admit it wasn't bad, but we could still have some nasty weather. I'm still looking for another junior girl to go to Girls State, know anyone who might be interested, great program? I need your records for your volunteer hours and donations to various organizations, not church. I need them now as these records have to be sent to state. This past year our Auxiliary donated to the Eagles Nest, kinship, Legionville, Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen, Veteran's presents for Christmas and other holidays, and Veterans at the college. Others I can't think of right now. We try to make ourselves visible in the area. Earth Day is April 22, do something special for the earth, etc, pick up garbage, walk don't drive. Come down to your Legion and have lunch or dinner, the food and soups are excellent. Don't forget Tax Day is April 15, and do your part to fool someone on the 1st of April. Have a great April, let the sunshine on you and in your life.

**Berg, Auxiliary President**

## AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP 2024

Everyone that has not paid their 2024 dues received a 2nd notice at the beginning of February. Please take care of this so we can reach our goal.

**Sharon Berkner, Membership Chairman.**

## WE HAVE THE BEST VOLUNTEERS!

**WE**  **VOLUNTEERS**

***Our sincere gratitude to all who have volunteered their time and efforts at the Friday meat raffles, dinners, and events at Post 255!***

***We couldn't do it without you!***

## **BRAINERD AREA HONOR GUARD: FRAN BREERWOOD**

### **BRAINERD AREA HONOR GUARD PERFORMED MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**Ronald Tow; February 29, 2024**  
**Terrance P Metzger; March 12, 2024**  
**James W Kidd; March 23, 2024**

### **BRAINERD AREA HONOR GUARD EVENTS:**

**St. Patrick's Day Parade; March 16, 2024**

Please consider stepping forward to become a member of our color guard serving our fallen veterans, their families.

## **POST MEMBERSHIP**

The 2024 renewal rate will remain at \$50 for the Legion and \$20 for SAL. Legion renewals are 95% of the department goal and we need 26 members to renew. While the SAL is at 96% of the goal.

It is not too late to pay your 2023 membership. The Post leadership encourages you to renew. Your Legion membership is needed. The 2024 membership year is from 7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024. Starting on 7/1/2024 the Legion Post 255 dues for 2025 will be \$55.00. We raised the dues \$5.00 to cover the National increase. The Post only keeps \$14.25 of the dues. The balance goes to National and the MN Department.

If you are interested in the three-year membership options, please visit <https://www.legion.org/renew> and follow the instructions. Payment only via credit card.

Membership Chair John Pietruszewski, 612-799-0055

### **Color Guard**

Consider becoming a Color Guard member.

Please contact Fran Breerwood, 218-820-4813 or John Pietruszewski, 612-799-0055, if you are interested or have any questions.

## Elections

Elections for Executive Board Members will be held on 20 May 2024. Two Executive Board members will be elected. Executive Board members serve for three years. Qualifications needed are membership in the American Legion Post 255 in good standing and a desire to serve. Also, there is a form to be a delegate to the Department and National Conventions. These nomination forms are available at the Post on the counter by the popcorn machine. The deadline to sign up is 15 April 2024. Early voting will start on 6 May 2024 and the last day to vote is 20 May 2024. You must be a current member to vote.

### CIRCLE OF FRIENDS 2024



## SINCERE THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR DONATING TO POST 255 "CIRCLE OF FRIENDS"

Robert & Sue Rofidel, Don & Nealna Gylling, Glen & Lela Anhorn  
Joe & Kelli Enfield, Tom Borden, John Borden, Gary & Pat Bluth  
Derald Watson, Duane & Sharon Berkner, Duane & Sharon Berg  
Tom & Helen Swanson, Linda Engel (In memory of Jackie Bye Exstrand)  
Cathy Pickar

### WHAT IS THE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS?

The "Circle of Friends" is an opportunity for members to help provide funds for the legion to cover the cost of postage for mailing the "Commander Newsletter" to people without internet or email access. We ask that you donate to the Brainerd Legion Circle of Friends to get included on the list. You can drop off the money or check in an envelope with your name to any of the bar staff and they will get it to the newsletter fund. Now is the perfect time to make a donation.

A big thank you to those of you that have already turned in your donation for the 2024 year.

**Don Gylling**

## LEGION RIDERS REPORT: BLAIR FRANCIS

American Legion Riders Post 255  
4-9-24



Snow, no snow, a little snow and lots of wind, cold, warm, hot. Makes you wonder who's in charge or if mother nature is going thru her change. One just doesn't know. Scary times. Spring is coming either way, just have to be prepared.

Hope everyone got a chance to enjoy Walleye Wayne Harting's fish. He does a fine job with his batter and the kitchen

does a great job serving the meals. Best deal in town.

Speaking of meals, there is a new restaurant in Pine River, The Damsite Supper Club, that serves a free full lunch for veterans every Wednesday from 11 AM-2 PM each week. Go up and enjoy good food and great company. It a nice salute to your service and encourages support to area veterans and their causes. Please show them your support.

Early record ice is out on many lakes and early motorcycles out on the roads, please keep safety in mind for both.

The First Annual Steve Eide Memorial Maintenance Raffle tickets are now available at the bar and from the legion riders. Cost per ticket: \$5. 1st Prize: 26" Blackstone Grill w/Cover and Starter kit; 2nd Prize: Mall of America Pack (\$250) value; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$100 Cash; 4th Prize: \$50 Gift Card to the Smokestack. Drawing date will be June 14th , 2024 at the Brainerd Legion Post 255 at 7:00PM. Need not be present to win. Riders will be doing the meat raffle that night also.

Next month we will be looking for volunteers to assist with traffic control at the MSVC Little Falls on Sunday May 26th, 2024 for their Memorial event (ride follows-weather dependent) . Also, looking for riders to support Brainerd's all Veteran's programs 5-27-2024, in Brainerd and Riders to deliver the flag for the Crosslake American legion's Program on the morning of the 27th.

Veterans Day on the Hill is fast approaching, 4-17-24. Great event, meal and transportation provided. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board at post.

Please continue to make your buddy checks.

Post could use more volunteers for meat raffles and meals. Please let Janelle know if you would like to help.

Legion Riders meet on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Post.

Socials are usually on Wednesdays, have short notice times and are at someplace decided by the group. Check your emails and phones for time and place.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers.

Sincerely,  
Legion Rider's Post 255  
Director Blair Francis

**Next Meeting: April 9th 2024, 7:00 PM, Post 255.**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## BRAINERD AREA

### CLUB BREAKFASTS

8 a.m. to noon



## APRIL

**April 5<sup>th</sup> - Gabriel's Home**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> - Brainerd Warrior  
Cheerleading**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> - Brainerd Warrior  
Westling**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> - Sharing Bread  
Soup Kitchen**

**ELKS: SUNDAY, APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**EAGLES: SUNDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**VFW: SUNDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**LEGION: SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>**

## EVENTS AT THE LEGION

Every Thursday at Noon – Sports Boosters

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Downtown Golf 11am

Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Past Commanders 6pm

Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Retired Nurses Lunch 12pm

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Purse and Gun Bingo 1pm

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> – Wedding Reception 5pm

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Breakfast Buffet 8am-Noon

# MEETINGS AT THE LEGION

Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Book Club 11:30am

Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lakes Area BMX 6pm

Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Women of Today 6pm / Marine Corp League 6pm  
Sheet Metal Workers 6pm / Bricklayers 6:30pm

Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Lions Meeting 6pm / Legion Riders Meeting 7pm

Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Dark House 7pm

Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – Grief Group Noon / E-Board Meeting 5:30pm / Post Membership Meeting 5:30pm / Gambling Meeting 5:30pm / Auxiliary Meeting 6pm  
Bee Keepers 6pm

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Rodbenders 5:30pm

## **BRAINERD AMERICAN LEGION SPECIALS** (DINE-IN or TAKEOUT)

### MONDAY SPECIALS



**HOT BEEF or  
HOT TURKEY  
SANDWICH  
\$9**

### TUESDAY SPECIAL

**COOK'S  
CHOICE**

### WEDNESDAY SPECIAL



**WINGS \$10  
(by the pound)**

**BROASTED  
CHICKEN**

### THURSDAY SPECIALS



**TACO SALAD \$8**

**BROASTED  
CHICKEN**

**FRIDAY SPECIALS 11AM – 4PM Sloppy Joe w/ Chips \$7**

**11AM-3PM Broasted Chicken**

**4PM-8PM Walleye Dinner \$15 (Every Friday)**

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – Bob's BBQ Ribs \$18**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> – Swedish Meatballs \$15**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> – Sauted Shrimp \$14**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> – Prime Rib \$25**

**BAR HOURS**  
 Monday-Thursday  
 11am-8pm  
 Friday 11am-9pm  
 Saturday  
 Noon-5pm  
 Sunday Closed

	<p><b>1</b> HOT BEEF OR HOT TURKEY SANDWICH \$9 BOOK CLUB 11:30AM</p>	<p><b>2</b> COOK'S CHOICE LAKES AREA BMX 6PM</p>	<p><b>3</b> BROASTED CHICKEN WINGS BY THE POUND \$10</p>	<p><b>4</b> TACO SALAD \$8 BROASTED CHICKEN SPORTS BOOSTERS NOON SHEET METAL WORKERS 5PM WOMEN OF TODAY 6PM MARINE CORP LEAGUE 6PM BRICKLAYERS 6:30PM</p>	<p><b>5</b> SLOPPY JOE W/CHIPS BROASTED CHICKEN 11AM-3PM SPECIALS: 4-8PM BOB'S BBQ RIBS \$18 WALLEYE DINNER \$15 MEAT RAFFLE 5:30PM</p>	<p><b>6</b> DOWNTOWN GOLF 11AM</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> HOT BEEF OR HOT TURKEY SANDWICH \$9 LIONS MEETING 6PM IBEW 6PM LEGION RIDERS MEETING 7PM</p>	<p><b>9</b> COOK'S CHOICE PAST COMMANDERS 6PM</p>	<p><b>10</b> BROASTED CHICKEN WINGS BY THE POUND \$10 RETIRED NURSES NOON DARK HOUSE 7PM</p>	<p><b>11</b> TACO SALAD \$8 BROASTED CHICKEN SPORTS BOOSTERS NOON</p>	<p><b>12</b> SLOPPY JOE W/CHIPS BROASTED CHICKEN 11AM-3PM SPECIALS: 4-8PM SWEDISH MEATBALLS \$15 WALLEYE DINNER \$15 MEAT RAFFLE 5:30PM</p>	<p><b>13</b> HAPPY HOUR NOON - 3 PM</p>
<p><b>14</b> PURSE BINGO 1PM DOORS OPEN AT 11AM</p>	<p><b>15</b> HOT BEEF OR HOT TURKEY SANDWICH \$9 GRIEF GROUP NOON E-BOARD MTG 5:30PM POST MEMBERSHIP MTG 5:30PM GAMBLING MTG 5:30PM BEE KEEPERS 6PM</p>	<p><b>16</b> COOK'S CHOICE</p>	<p><b>17</b> BROASTED CHICKEN WINGS BY THE POUND \$10 RODBENDERS 5:30PM</p>	<p><b>18</b> TACO SALAD \$8 BROASTED CHICKEN SPORTS BOOSTERS NOON</p>	<p><b>19</b> SLOPPY JOE W/CHIPS BROASTED CHICKEN 11AM-3PM SPECIALS: 4-8PM SAUTED SHRIMP \$14 WALLEYE DINNER \$15 MEAT RAFFLE 5:30PM</p>	<p><b>20</b> HAPPY HOUR NOON - 3 PM</p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> HOT BEEF OR HOT TURKEY SANDWICH \$9</p>	<p><b>23</b> COOK'S CHOICE</p>	<p><b>24</b> BROASTED CHICKEN WINGS BY THE POUND \$10</p>	<p><b>25</b> TACO SALAD \$8 BROASTED CHICKEN SPORTS BOOSTERS NOON</p>	<p><b>26</b> SLOPPY JOE W/CHIPS BROASTED CHICKEN 11AM-3PM SPECIALS: 4-8PM PRIME RIB \$25 WALLEYE DINNER \$15 MEAT RAFFLE 5:30PM</p>	<p><b>27</b> HAPPY HOUR NOON - 3 PM WEDDING RECEPTION 5PM</p>
<p><b>28</b> BREAKFAST BUFFET 8 AM -NOON</p>	<p><b>29</b> HOT BEEF OR HOT TURKEY SANDWICH \$9</p>	<p><b>30</b> COOK'S CHOICE</p>	 <p>The illustration features the text 'APRIL 2024' in large, bold, blue letters. To the left of the text are several colorful rain boots: a red one, a purple one, a teal one, and a yellow one. To the right of the text is a green umbrella and a blue umbrella. The background is light blue with small white raindrops scattered throughout.</p>			