



For God and
Country

The Bird Call

American Legion—Chester Bird Post 523 Newsletter
200 Lilac drive, Golden Valley MN, 55422 (763-377-4252)

September / October 2019



The Commander's Corner By Commander Craig Hartman



It is my sad duty to report that Past Commander Comrade, Jon Fredrick Prentice. Oct 13, 1935 –Aug 15, 2019 has gone to the Post Everlasting.

Jon was born in Minneapolis Minnesota. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the Army in 1954 and was stationed in the Aleution Islands as a radar technician during the Korean Conflict. He was Honorably discharged in 1957.

He married his love, Nancy Nordholm in Sept of 1959. He attended Augsburg College on the GI bill and upon graduation began serving the City of Minneapolis as a Police Officer. He started his career as a foot patrolman, worked undercover and was a member of the prestigious Police Underwater Diving Team. He was shot in the line of duty and was the recipient of many commendations and awards, retiring as a Deputy Chief after 30 years of distinguished service.

After retirement he became involved at the Chester Bird American Legion Post where he served as Post Commander from 1994-1996.

He also served as Post gambling manager and held several other board positions. Jon once told me that he had held every job at the Legion including janitor. He is survived by his wife Nancy and 3 children, Johni (David) Levene, Grant (Kira) Prentice and Stephanie (Scott) Elwell.

Jon was a fixture at our monthly Legion meetings and always had a bit of advice for myself and the rest of the Post Officers, nine out of ten times that advice turned out to be correct. Jon and his advice will be missed.

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The President's Corner By Sherri Wicks

Hope all are enjoying the Minnesota weather.

Auxiliary will not be serving any Friday night dinners during the Summer months. We would like to thank you for your support. We look forward to starting up again in the Fall, October.

We will still be serving breakfast the 4th Sunday each month, unless a Holiday weekend. The only exception will be for the Car/Bike Show, this will be our September Breakfast.

****Breakfast 9:00-12:00 or slow \$7.00, Kids under 10 \$3.00**

All you can Pancakes or French Toast, served w/scrambled eggs & 2 sausage links, Biscuits n Gravy w/scrambled eggs \$7.00, not all you can eat. September 15th, October 27th, and December 8th will be Christmas breakfast with Santa.

****Annual Car/Motorcycle Show, Sunday September 15th, 2019 9-4:30.**

****The White Sidewalls will be our entertainment. They will play between 12:00-3:00 outside, weather permitting. Car/Bike Trophies awarded at 3:00.**

We have a Fender guitar to raffle signed by the band members \$10.00 each ticket, need not be present to win. Please see bartender if interested. Silent Auction, Horseshoe Tournament - 1st place Team gets trophies (pre-sign up, so you can reserve your spot.), Volleyball Tournament 9:00-? Trophies will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams. Breakfast will be served 8:30 (volunteers) 9:00-11:00 serving Pancakes and Biscuits n Gravy only, no French toast. Grilled items served outside 11:00-4:00, Raffles!! Please see flier at Legion or on website. Come on down and enjoy a fun filled day! Proceeds benefit Veteran Programs.

****Glenwood Avenue Reunion will be September 15th, same day as Car/Bike Show**

Membership Drive table will be setup on 9/15/19. Pay your dues or become a member, sign up early

A HUGE Thank You to all of the Volunteers, without you we wouldn't have the success that we do. Please know you are greatly appreciated.

Auxiliary Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday, each month at 6:30. Come in early for a light dinner before meeting starting at 5:30, donations encouraged.

TEAM-Together Everyone Achieves More.

Make your day incredible!
Auxiliary President, Sherri Wicks

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

The American Legion Post ▪ The Auxiliary ▪ The Sons Off The American Legion ▪ The American Legion Riders

**Service Officer
By Craig Hartman**

**LEGION ACT PASSES;
COLD WAR VETERANS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN**

In my August 2019 report I spoke about the importance of this bill being passed, it would appear that other individuals shared the same opinion. The head of the nation's largest veterans organization, welcomed the passage by the House of Representatives of a bipartisan act which will recognize veterans who served during periods not previously considered "wartime."

The Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act (LEGION Act) opens the door for hundreds of thousands of veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

As a congressionally-chartered organization, the legislation was required for The American Legion to change its eligibility criteria.

"Today's passage of the LEGION Act is a victory for veterans who until now have not had their service to our nation fully recognized," American Legion National Commander Brett Reistad said. "These veterans and their family members can now enjoy all the benefits of their service, which they so richly deserve."

The gaps in the war eras were largely during the Cold War, a time when threats to U.S. national security were real, especially to the men and women serving in uniform. Overall, estimates show that about 1,600 U.S. Service members were killed or wounded in hostile operations during periods that were not previously recognized as times of war by the federal government.

On Feb. 14, Sen. Kirsten Sinema, D-Ariz., introduced the LEGION Act, along with Sen. Thorn Tillis, R-N.C. It passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 11. Reps. Lou Correa, D-Calif., and Ben Cline, R-Va., introduced the House version.

Reistad evoked the memories of The American Legion' founders who launched the organization 100 years ago this year.

"As we celebrate our centennial anniversary, we hold to the same truths that our founders appropriately crafted a century ago," Reistad said. "Among those: a veteran is a veteran. It does not matter whether a veteran fought enemies on foreign soil, protected our interests in an ocean far away or secured our national defense here at home. Their service is what matters most. Now, thanks to this legislation, all veterans will be properly remembered for their service."

From the drafting of the original GI Bill to the creation of the Department of Veterans Affairs, The American Legion is the most influential voice for America's veterans.

Broadening the membership criteria has been proposed at Legion national conventions for years, but it has only been recently that the Legion sought permission from Congress to do so. All veterans who served after Dec. 7, 1941, are now eligible for membership.

- American Legionnaire, August 2019

Craig Hartman, Service Officer

**Auxiliary Membership
By Doris Rindahl**

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

Fall is upon us and we have had a great summer, lets have a great fall with the best membership turn in at the Car Show September 15th, 2019. Our first Auxiliary is September 10, 2019 at 6:30, come and enjoy a nice light dinner put on by the kitchen. Dues for 2019-2020 are \$35.00 for any one over the age of 18. If you chose to pay online, you will receive an e-mail receipt as well as a signed hard copy of your membership card, mailed directly from ALA National HQ within 3 weeks. This is new this year, units will no longer be responsible for distributing cards to member who have renewed via e-mail. Please enjoy the beautiful fall weather and pray for our service members that keep is safe each day. Thank you for your support.

Membership Chairmen Doris M. Rindahl

**1st Vice
By Mike Hrdlicka**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires!! The Labor Day Holiday is upon us once again! Fall is coming and all that haven't got their "EARLY BIRD" stamped Legion card need to get your Membership dues and form into the post and get that stamped card. It entitles you and your spouse to a fun "EARLY BIRD" evening at the Chester Bird with outstanding cuisine and great fellowship with your fellow Veterans!

When Where!!!

Tuesday October 22, from 6 till 8 PM. Membership renewal will be accepted at the door.

Come to your Legion and take part in all the great changes that have been taking place over the summer, Our expanded and flavor-enhanced menu that has been bringing satisfied happy feed-back from patrons from all corners of the Twin Cities! Our onsite enhancements are truly something to behold. Come in to see the new decorating theme and bright new atmosphere! We have upgraded our audio visual experience with new, larger TVs and enhanced and controllable audio systems. From "floorings to the ceilings the "Bird" has a new "Vibe" and energy abounds that you can feel when you walk through the door!!

I look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd of October and "Hopefully" before.

Mike Hrdlicka, First Vice.

Chaplain By Mark Kelm	Chaplain By Mark Kelm (Continued)
<p>Dear Chester Bird Friends,</p> <p>As I heard the footsteps of my youngest daughter, age 11, coming toward me, I quickly reached for the TV remote to mute the sound. Another mass shooting was being reported and I wanted to shield her from the darkness. As I chatted with her, my eyes kept watch over the scrolling news banner: Hurricane Dorian-Preparing for the Worst; Brexit-Risk experts fear violent consequences of a no-deal E.U. withdrawal; West Texas Gunman was on a long spiral going down...A seemingly unending list of darkness. My brain just isn't capable of comprehending what we are doing to each other. My innermost being cries out, "When will the madness end?"</p> <p>At first glance, it might seem like we live in the most troubling of times. Yet, when studied, human history shows a repetitive pattern of atrocities. These horrors are the creation of human hands against their fellow humans. The people who lived in Biblical times were no strangers to atrocity. What separates them from many in our time is that they were well acquainted with a loving God who was present in the midst of their suffering. They knew that God's promise to be with us and comfort us was like an anchor that kept them from being tossed about in the storms of life. Whatever you are facing, you can trust in God's presence and hold fast to God's promises.</p> <p>"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" —Psalm 27:1</p> <p>"It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." —Deuteronomy 31:8</p> <p>"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." —Psalm 23:4</p> <p>"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." —Lamentations 3:22-23</p> <p>"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." —John 14:27</p> <p>"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." —Psalm 46:1</p>	<p>"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort." —2 Corinthians 1:3</p> <p>"Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant." —Psalm 119:76</p> <p>"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." —John 16:33</p> <p>"If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,' even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you." —Psalm 139:11-12</p> <p>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." —Matthew 5:4</p> <p>"Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved." —Psalm 55:22</p> <p>"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." —Romans 8:37-39</p> <p>Peace, Mark +</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">2nd Vice By Mark Kelm</p> <p>National Day of Service at VA Cemeteries on 9/11 with Carry The Load</p> <p>On Wednesday, September 11, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, the National Cemetery Administration and Carry The Load will partner on a national day of service with headstone and marker cleaning and grounds beautification at 40 national cemeteries across the country. Honor our men and women buried in VA national cemeteries and commemorate the heroism of September 11, 2001. Consider joining Carry the Load in volunteering on this National Day of Service. To learn more or to register to volunteer at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, please visit https://tinyurl.com/yyhbrau5</p>

The Commander's Corner (continued)
By Craig Hartman

(continued from page 1)

On July 23rd Chester Bird Post Members and guests participated in the Veterans for Veterans Lake Minnetonka History of Big Island Boat cruise. Newly Elected Minnesota Department Commander Mark Dvorak and his wife along with Members of the Disabled Veterans of Minnesota and Minnesota Dept of Veterans Affairs also attended. During the trip our members were given to opportunity to discuss issues and concerns pertaining to the Legion. The weather was great and everyone appeared to have a good time.

I would like to personally thank Dean Ascheman from Veterans for Veterans, Gabe Jabbour from Tonka Bay Marine and the Hennepin County Sheriffs Water Patrol for making this trip possible.

Craig Hartman /Commander

Legion Family Ready for a Cruise



SAL Commander
By Denny Arons

Dear Legion Members,

September 3, 2019, will be our kick-off meeting for the SAL. It is a great time to stop and reflect on all those who have given and those who continue give to surround us in freedom. A commodity not to be taken lightly. Please reach out to your friends and associates that would enjoy participating with our Legion as a SAL member.

2019 is poised to be our most profitable year of giving to date. If you have a special group or project that benefits our veterans set up a time and come and talk to your SAL about financially supporting a veteran's cause. We would very much like to hear from you.

Special thanks to those who have spearheaded the new floor project at the "Bird" - it looks awesome. I've heard nothing but very positive comments from the patrons that I have spoken too. Well done!

We look forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings and changing for the better the lives of those who have served our country.

With Gratitude,

Denny Arons

SAL Commander

The Chester Bird Club (Operations) Leadership

Gaming Manager—Chris Reid

Operations Manager - Josh Mandel
Bar Manager—Randy Andrel

Head Chef/Kitchen Manager
 Marcelo Jaden

We are on the Web!

We are on the Web! Go to www.chesterbird.org to see the current newsletter and calendar.

For paper copies, pick them up at the Club.

Who says that you can't have your food and play for it too? Meat Raffle!

Wednesday at 5PM, Sunday at 3PM And Some Fridays!

Chester Bird American Legion Charitable Gambling Hours

Monday-Friday 11AM to 12 Midnight
Saturday 11AM to 12 Midnight
Sunday 12PM to ?

Gambling License # A00991

OPEN MEETING POLICY

All current members are welcome to attend any board or committee meeting as an observer. Meetings conducted behind closed doors and any business conducted therein are not valid. Contact the Post Adjutant for more information on meetings and the policy.

Note: Contact Information has been removed so that the web version will not be inviting to SPAM search engines—please refer to the web-site

Legion Officers

Commander	Craig Hartman
1st Vice Commander	Mike Hrdlicka
2nd Vice Commander	Mark Kelm
Adjutant	Open
Finance Officer	Tom Martin
Chaplain	Mark Kelm
Sgt. At Arms	Dearest Welwolie
Historian	Open
Service Officer	Craig Hartman
Judge Advocate	Jim Murphy

Executive Board

Member-at Large	Steve Fossen
Member-at Large	Open
Member-at-Large	Larry Schnack

Auxiliary Officers

Unit President	Sherri Wicks
1st Vice President	Doris Rindahl
2nd Vice President	Jackie Kile
Treasurer	Leann Roehl
Secretary	Susan Trussell
Chaplain	Chris Henkels
Sgt. At Arms	Lynne Bunde
Historian	Open

Sons Of The American Legion Officers

Commander	Denny Arons
1st Vice Commander	John Erntson
2nd Vice Commander	Mike Turk
Adjutant	Open
Finance Officer	Michael Morris
Chaplain	Open
Sgt. At Arms	Evan Komar

The American Legion Riders

Director	Evan B. Komar
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