



License No. A0047 July 2023  
 Brainerd, MN  
 Phone (218) 829-6393 Vol 65 No 7  
 Commander Chip (218) 829-6393  
 President Sue (218) 831-5540



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

# THE VETS GAZETTE

Comrades:

Hello everyone, hope your summer is going well. I want to give a big thanks to all the helpers at the Freedom Festival. It was great.

We got an award from the Red Cross for "Outstanding Volunteer Group." A little fact that Crow Wing County is the second largest donor in the Nation by per capita. Thank you, Sterling and all the volunteers that made that happen.

This month we gave up to \$10,700 to organizations. We gave to a Boy Scout Project, Gabriel's Home, Habitat, Masonic Lodge, and the First Regiment of MN.

Enjoy the Holidays coming up and be safe.

Commander,  
 Chip Borle



23-24 MN Dept Post Commander Dan Meyer

+++++

Brothers and Sisters:

Summer has finally arrived, and life is in full swing again. As of June 12<sup>th</sup>, new auxiliary and post officers have been installed, and the MN Auxiliary now has a man for a Department President. This is the first time in the history of Minnesota (and possibly the nation) that the auxiliary has a



man at the head. This man is working directly with the new Post Commander, Dan Meyer, to make some much-needed changes. One of their goals is to get the Post and the Auxiliary working together and will do their best to improve communication and commitment between the two groups. Go Dave!

For those of you who may have missed it, our lifetime member, Helen Doucette, was presented with the "Auxiliary Member of the Year Award" at the state convention on June 9th. She has been a valuable member of the auxiliary for 57 years and is well-deserving of this honor. Congratulations Helen!

Our Freedom Festival on June 17th was a great event again this year. It was not as well attended as our first one was. The committee has decided that the many other activities going on that same day will lead to a smaller attendance. Everyone had a good time, and we now have more funds to help our local veterans. A big thank you to all who helped out and made it work. Next year's Freedom Festival is on the calendar for May 18. See all the great photos on our website at: [Freedom Festival photos 2023](#)

The Fourth of July parade will again be led by the Brainerd Color Guard and Auxiliary, and we will have our float in both the Crosby parade, and the Brainerd parade, which starts at 6 pm this year. Wave at our fellow sisters and brothers as they go by. Let's plant more Patriotism in our community.

Sue Sterling  
 Auxiliary President



### The Corner Lot

- 5/25 Eva Smith
- 5/25 Charles Brock
- 5/29 Memorial Day Ceremonies
- 6/24 Flag Day Ceremonies
- 6/17 Charles Grove
- 6/17 Freedom Fest



### Sunshine Report

Get Well wishes to Sandra Swearingen, Donna Belanger, Bruce Mogensen, Shannon Duus, Chelsea Kraemer, and everyone who has been ill. We wish you a speedy recovery.

Sympathy to those who have lost a loved one.

Brenda Collins and Helen Doucette  
Co-Chairmen

### Around the Club:

There will be NO BINGO on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the holiday, but the Club will be open as usual. Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help with burgers on Thursdays and also for the once-a-month breakfast. This plea goes out to both Post and Auxiliary members. If you are able to give of your time, please call Kevin Jensen at 651-324-0640 or Helen Doucette at 218-831-2112. Many hands make for little work.

The message on volunteering at VFW #1647 is, in 2006 we continue in the direction we are going and close our doors because of the lack of funds. We did close for one day and re-opened the next day as an all-volunteer Post and Auxiliary. With your help we can continue to grow.

### Congratulations



Congratulations to Chelsea Kraemer, Doctor of Veterinarian Medicine, and to Lisa Haberman on her Doctorate Diploma in Education Leadership and Learning.

So nice to see the achievements of our members.



Check out our new Facebook page. Hit "like" and "follow" to get all our posts so you can be up to date on events and see what is happening at the Club.

[Brainerd VFW](#)



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.BrainerdVFW.org](http://www.BrainerdVFW.org)

Find out what is happening at the Post, stay current with the news and view photos.

### July 1<sup>st</sup> is the start of 2023-2024 yr.

Let's get those dues paid early. Better yet consider becoming a Life Member as there will most likely be an increase in the dues per National.

Your \$20.00 annual dues can be mailed to: Dawn Garin, 15751 Firefly Trail, Brainerd.

Your membership cards are mailed from Kansas City, please allow 4-6 weeks to receive your card.

**Post Dues:** Post Membership Dues are now due for those who pay annually. You can send them to Quartermaster Pat Wing a Annual Dues for Post member is \$35.00.

LIFE MEMBER FEES	
16-20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58



### BRAINERD AMERICAN LEGION

WELCOMES OUR BRAINERD VFW FRIENDS!

708 FRONT STREET · 218-829-2249  
[www.brainerdlegion255.org](http://www.brainerdlegion255.org)

#### OPEN

Monday – Thursday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.

\*DAILY FOOD SPECIALS: Monday through Friday  
FRIDAY DINNER (Special or Walleye): 5 P.M.  
FRIDAY MEAT RAFFLE: 5:30 P.M.

Follow us on Facebook!



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Freedom Festival FUN



### July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Club Hours</b> <b>Mon - Sat: Noon-10pm</b> <b>Sunday: Noon-5pm</b></p>						
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
Elk's Breakfast	<b>NO Bingo</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>  See you at the Parade	.75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00		
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Post &amp; Aux</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Eagle's Breakfast	Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	<b>7:00PM</b> 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage - 6:00	.75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00		
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>VFW Breakfast</b> 8am - noon <b>\$10.00</b>	Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage 6:00	.75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00		
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
Legion's Breakfast	Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage - 6:00	.75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00		
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					
Eagle's Breakfast	Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm					