



License No. A0047 April 2023  
 Brainerd, MN  
 Phone (218) 829-6393 Vol 65 No 4  
 Commander Chip (218) 829-6393  
 President Sue (218) 831-5540



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

# THE VETS GAZETTE

Comrades:

Hello everyone and welcome to a snowy spring, ugh.

I want to give a big thanks to all the volunteers and the new members that are helping out. We had few more new members this month, keep up the challenging work getting new members.

This month we gave \$9,700 to organizations. We gave to Last Man's dinner, Mn Allstate Basketball Series, Cuyuna Medical Center for (Brandon diabetes), American Legion Safety Camp, Brainerd Historical Society and Pohl Foundation. If you know any organization or Veterans that needs help let us know.

Take care, and make sure everyone is doing buddy checks.

Chip Borle - Commander

Brothers and Sisters:

Wow, what a winter! Now it's time to jump into Spring and get busy. First off, let's talk about the Second Annual Freedom Festival we are going to hold **on June 17 from 12n – 4 pm**. So many of our members pulled together last year to make it a big success (it was even written about in the national VFW magazine). We are counting on you, our members, to again blend your skills and your time to make this second festival an even bigger success.



The next planning meeting for the Freedom Fest is Tuesday, April 4, at 7 pm at the VFW. We need you and your input on how we can make it something folks will always remember. At this meeting, committees will be assigned once we've decided on our options. Please, please, mark your calendars now to attend this planning committee. Let's show the City of Brainerd how we make this community a better place for our veterans and for the youth.

**Saturday, May 6, is our rummage sale.** Stay tuned to our Facebook page and website for information on when and where you can leave your donations. If you'd like to help with this event, let Dawn Garin know. 821-3361 More hands make lighter work.

**Buddy Poppy Days are May 19 & 20.** Dawn Garin is looking for people to give two hours of their time. This is a major fundraiser to help our local veterans, and we need your help.

Hope to see you around the club this spring,  
 Sue Sterling - Auxiliary President



Blake Collins of Boy Scout Troup #43 is the winner of the 2023 Scout of the Year Award. He received a \$300.00 monetary award from the Post on May 14<sup>th</sup> at a pre-meeting ceremony.

### The Corner Lot

2/25 Martin Luther

3/3 Lynn Billman

3/4 Joseph Roskop

3/11 Nathan Talbot

3/11 St Patrick's Day Parade

3/25 Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony in honor of LTC Hortense McKay  
US Army Nurse Corps – Angel of Bataan and Corregidor. 2:00pm the BHS Gichi-iziibi Center for the Arts.



### Sunshine Report

Get Well wishes to Sandra Swearingen. We send Get Well wishes and a speedy recovery to all who have been ill, and sympathy to those who have lost a loved one.

Brenda Collins and Helen Doucette  
Co- Chairpersons



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.



### 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!

### Around the Club

We have been busy with breakfast, Bingo, and other events and we would like to say THANKS to our many volunteers.

We will meet Tuesday, April 4, at 7 pm for our Freedom Festival planning. Please come and bring your ideas.

BHS Trap Shooters will again hold their Annual Alfredo Fundraiser Dinner on April 28th. Dinner includes Chicken Alfredo, breadsticks, and dessert for \$10,00.

May 6th has been set for the Auxiliary indoor garage sale from 9 am to 3 pm. Donations are welcome.



### BUDDY POPPY PROMOTION

Our Buddy Poppy Promotion will begin soon with the business routes starting in April and our street promotion on Friday and Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The street promotion consists of 2 hr. shifts. Please consider volunteering for this very important project. All proceeds will be used only for Veteran's and their families in our local area. Please call Dawn Garin at 218-821-3361 to sign up to

### July 1<sup>st</sup> was the start of our 2022-2023 year.

If you have not yet paid your dues, please submit. Better yet consider becoming a Life Member. Let's try to reach 100% membership.

Your \$20.00 annual dues can be mailed to:  
Dawn Garin, 15751 Firefly Trail, Brainerd MN 56401.

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

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**Post Dues:** Post Membership Dues are now due for those who pay annually. You can send them to Quartermaster Pat Wing at VFW Post, 309 S 6th Street, Brainerd, MN. 56401. The annual dues are \$35.00.

**MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT**

PROUD TO SUPPORT  
MACV DAV OF MINNESOTA

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4**

Join us for a day of community and support at the "Heroes Hub" during the Twin Cities Auto Show. Meet and connect with non-profits and local service providers dedicated to serving current and former military members and their families. Discover resources and learn about the programs and services available to help you navigate the unique challenges of military life. *All heroes and their families are welcome!*

**FREE Entrance April 4th to All Active Military and Veterans.** A \$17 value.  
\$7 OFF onsite to all family & friends with military

Ceremony to Salute the Military Will Take Place at 7pm

Participants Include  
**VFW** **AMERICAN LEGIO**

See website for details.  
**Twin Cities Auto Show**

**TREASURES & TREATS**  
THRIFT SALE

**AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER**

**SATURDAY, MAY 6TH**

The Auxiliary will be holding a one-day garage sale on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Starting your spring cleaning? We will accept donation of gently used clothing, knickknacks, household items and miscellaneous items for our fundraiser sale. No furniture or electronics accepted. Volunteers will be needed. If you have time, please come to the April meeting, or call Rhonda Strand at 218-851-7944 or Dawn Garin 218-821-3361 for more information. Money raised from these activities will be used to help our Veterans, youth and our community.

**APRIL 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Club Hours</b> Mon - Sat: Noon-10pm Sunday: Noon-5pm</p>			<p>April Showers Bring May Flowers</p>			1 Downtown Golf
2 <b>Palm Sunday</b> Elk's Breakfast	3 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	4 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm <b>Freedom Fest Meeting 7:00</b>	5 .50 Wings \$1.00 fries & \$1.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	6 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	7	8
9 <b>Happy EASTER</b> <b>CLOSED</b> Eagle's Breakfast	10 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	11 <b>Post &amp; Auxiliary Mtg 7:00PM</b> 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	12 .50 Wings \$1.00 fries & \$1.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	13 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each  DAV Meeting	14	15
16 <b>VFW Breakfast</b> 8am – noon <b>\$10.00</b>	17 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	18 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	19 .50 Wings \$1.00 fries & \$1.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	20 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	21	22
23 Legion's Breakfast	24 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	25 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	26 .50 Wings \$1.00 fries & \$1.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	27 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	28 <b>Arbor Day</b> BHS Trap Shoot Fundraiser Chicken Alfredo Dinner \$10.00	29
30 Elks Breakfast						