



License No. A0047 May 2023
 Brainerd, MN
 Phone (218) 829-6393 Vol 65 No 5
 Commander Chip (218) 829-6393
 President Sue (218) 831-5540



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

THE VETS GAZETTE

Comrades:

Hello everyone, hope you are enjoying your spring. If you have not heard, Brainerd broke a record for the most snowfall in a year. What a record to break, but a good note it should green up the grass.

I got a letter in the mail, congratulating us on a 100% membership this year. Great job everyone that brought people into the club.

We gave outn\$6460 to several groups. The groups were Men’s softball team, Kinship Partners, Civil Air Patrol, Crow Wing County Sheriff, Clark Lake Home, and Bridges of Hope.

Remember to say thank you to all our volunteers, they have been doing a great job. We had a great turn out from downtown golf, thanks to all the volunteers.

Commander,
 Chip Borle

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Sisters and Brothers:

Treasures and Treats Rummage Sale – May 6

It’s that time of year again, and boy, are we getting busy. Our Treasures and Treats rummage sale is coming up on Saturday, May 6, and we hope to have a great turnout. There is also a bake sale at this event – that’s the Treat part. Please go through your closets, kitchen, and basement to see if there’s something you would like to donate to this event. You can leave all your previously loved treasures at the VFW on Friday, May 5. There will be folks there sorting and pricing items that day. We are not accepting furniture or electronics.... but we would love your baked goods!

Freedom Festival Committee Meeting – May 3

Our second annual Freedom Festival is coming together. We have the permit from the City of Brainerd, and a general idea of what we plan to do. We need the help of all of you to plan out the details and make it happen. Pull out your calendars now and add 6:30pm to the May 3 date. That’s a Wednesday, so come early and enjoy some of our great wings.

New Officers Elected for the upcoming year.

The April meeting saw the election of new officers for the coming year. Saundra Swearingen has stepped down from her position of Jr. Vice President due to health reasons. Marna (Sam) Lohse has agreed to fill that office. Here’s a list of the elected positions:

- President – Sue Sterling
- Sr. Vice President – Helen Doucette
- Jr. Vice President – Marna Lohse
- Treasurer/Secretary – Dawn Garin
- Chaplin – Brenda Collins
- Conductress – Dee Imgrund
- Guard – Christie Duus
- Trustee 3 Yr – Dave Montour
- Trustee 2 Yr – Paula Persons
- Trustee 1 Yr – Rhonda Strand
- Patriotic Instructor – Kim Jensen

A big thank you to all who stepped up to the plate to fill these positions. I look forward to working with you in the coming fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2023.

Sue Sterling
 VFW Auxiliary President



The Corner Lot



4/1 Eldo Schmidt

4/6 Fall of Bataan Ceremony

4/15 Daughters of the Revolution
Post colors- State Veterans Cemetery

Thank you Steve @ Batteries Plus for donation of batteries to the Honor Guard.

Sunshine Report

Get Well Wishes to Sandra Swearingen, Vicky Thomas, and everyone else who has been ill. We wish you a speedy recovery.

Sympathy for 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

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

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

Election of Officers for both the Post and Auxiliary was held for both so we're ready for another year.

Bingo is going very well, and we have a new organization starting with the month of May the Shriners will be doing the 2nd and 4th Monday, we welcome them.

May 3rd at 6:30 p.m, we will hold a meeting for the Freedom Festival everyone is invited to attend, and we need lots of help. Please mark your calendar.



BUDDY POPPY PROMOTION

Our business routes are under way and planning has started for our street promotion on Friday and Saturday, May 19th and 20th. The street promotion consists of 2 hr. shifts. If you've not yet signed up, 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 volunteer today.

July 1st will be the start of 2023-2024 yr.

If you have not yet paid your dues, please submit to **avoid your membership lapsing**. 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.

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

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

Mark your calendars!!



**2nd Annual Brainerd VFW
Freedom Festival**

Saturday, June 17, 2023 12 to 4 pm
Free family event.

Laurel Street Parking lot behind the VFW
Everyone Welcome



12 PM POSTING OF COLORS
FREE KIDS GAMES
12 -3:30 PM SILENT AUCTION
12:30 PM FLAG FOLDING
1 PM FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY
1 PM ADULT BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT
1-3 PM FACE PAINTING
PRIZE DRAWING EVERY 15 MINUTES
FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

DJ Music Food available
HOT DOGS - BURGERS - CHIPS - POP
BrainerdVFW.org
309 South 6th Street



**TREASURES
& TREATS
THRIFT SALE**

**AUXILIARY
FUNDRAISER**

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH

The Auxiliary will be holding a one-day garage sale on Saturday, May 6th. 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.

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	2 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	3 3/\$3 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$2.00 salad 3pm - 7pm FreedomFest 6:30	4 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	5	6 Treasures & Treats Rummage Sale 9am-4pm
7 Elk's Breakfast	8 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	9 Post & Auxiliary Mtg 7:00PM 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	10 3/\$3 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$2.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	11 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	12	13
14 Eagle's Breakfast	15 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	16 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	17 3/\$3 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$2.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	18 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	19 BUDDY POPPY PROMOTION	20 
21 VFW Breakfast 8am – noon \$10.00	22 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	23 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	24 3/\$3 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$2.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	25 Burger Night Burgers\$1.25 French Fries & Beer \$1.00 each	26	27
Legion's Breakfast	29 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	30 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1hardshell, \$2 softshell, \$3 salad Cribbage – 6:00 pm	31 3/\$3 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$2.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	 <p>Club Hours Mon - Sat: Noon-10pm Sunday: Noon-5pm</p>		