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AMERICAN LEGION
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

American Legion
Seifert-Bianchi Post No. 132
13 S. Minnesota Street
P.O. BOX 471
NEW ULM, MN 56073-0471
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

American Legion Seifert - Bianchi Post No. 132
VOLUME XVII ISSUE #11 **November 2017** * NEW ULM, MINNESOTA

Jon Gohr Commander

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings to all-- this fall season is a beauty. Harvest is a busy time and I hope everyone stays safe. At our last Post meeting we donated to the National Emergency Fund that the American Legion uses to help Legion family members. The fund provides up to \$3,000 for qualified Legion Family members and up to \$10,000 for posts. This is our way of helping others that have been not so fortunate as the natural disaster agenda has been quite full of events.

Our National Commander Denise Rohan characterized professional athletes and other Americans who fail to show respect for the national anthem as "misguided and ungrateful." This topic of NFL pre-game disrespect shown during the national anthem was also discussed at our last meeting.

Our National Executive Committee has adopted several resolutions and one of my favorites is from the Americanism Commission calling for Reaffirmation of a Strong America. I will print a copy of this and post it on the bulletin boards at the Legion for anyone interested. I proudly support this effort by the American Legion at the national level.

There will be two opportunities to honor veterans this month. First is Wednesday, Nov. 8 at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School as they hold veterans recognition day. Theme is "Bravery Isn't Being Fearless - It's Facing Your Fears. A free breakfast is served at 0730-0845. Program starts at 9am.

Call for any questions 507-354-6851. The second one is Friday, Nov. 10 at New Ulm Senior High School. This starts at 10am. Greg Peterson from the Brown County Veterans Service Office will be the guest speaker. A lunch will be provided by the Auxiliary after this program at our Legion for a free will offering to help cover expense of food. Please come on in and enjoy the day with your fellow veterans and Legion family.

On Saturday Nov. 11 which is Veterans Day we will be serving Made-Rights. Thanks very much to our crew who work so hard to make this part of our great Legion Post. You may notice we will not be having SOS breakfast for veterans this year. Sorry for that and we hope to return to that next year. Sometimes we just can't do everything so we have to make the best of what we can. But please come in that day, Saturday Nov. 11 for Made-Rights starting at 10 am. Meat raffles will be on the agenda also that day as the food is being served and your favorite beverages available at the bar. It should be a great fun Veterans Day!

Try your best to attend our monthly meetings and listen, learn, discuss things, and then you can even vote yes or no as you wish when the time comes. Our next meeting is November 13 at 7pm. Hope to see you there. And last but not least have a safe and happy Thanksgiving Day! We have much to be thankful for and don't take things for granted. Always be thankful.

NOVEMBER 2017

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CLUBROOM HOURS Tuesday-Saturday Open 1:00 pm Closed Sunday and Monday Pull Tab Happy Hour Tuesday-Friday 3-5 pm 507-354-4016 www.mnamericanlegion.com							
PULL TABS Available at the Club Gambling License No. A-00417							
KARLA HAVEMEIER, LTD Certified Public Accountant New Ulm Karla Havemeier, CPA 148 East 2nd St. Suite 100 New Ulm, MN 56073 Phone: 507-467-0333 Fax: 507-467-0306 email: karla@havemeiercpa.com							
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Don Sanderson Agent 1600 N. Broadway St. New Ulm, MN 56073-1352 Providing Insurance and Financial Services.							
Nilson Heating & Air Conditioning 121 South Broadway, New Ulm 507-354-5500							
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Veteran Owned ML Computers Got computer questions? 507-359-2449 Veteran Discounts Offered							
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Fontayn Construction STEVE FARKASYN PHONE 507/233-2978 1901 NORTH MINNESOTA P.O. BOX 873 NEW ULM, MINNESOTA 56073-0873							
Hwy 99 OPEN 24 HOURS 2015 SOUTH BROADWAY, NEW ULM 507-354-8255							
Citizens Agency 106 North Minnesota Street - New Ulm, MN 56073 AGENCY Lic. #115 507-359-2067							
Rolloff Electric New & Used Electrical Supplies Farm - Home - Industry Emer Rolloff, Jr. All types of light bulbs Large Stock - Low Prices Hwy 15 & 68 South New Ulm, MN 507-354-4860							
Running's 2107 N Garden • New Ulm 507-359-2988							
Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed	Club Closed
5 Club Closed	6 Club Closed	7 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Burgers and Bucks Legion Loot Jackpot drawing at 6:30 pm	8 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm VFW meeting 7 pm Teachers Tea Burger Night 5-7 pm	9 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Food Available 5-7 pm FREE peanuts in the shell	10 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	11 Jerry & Rosie's Made Rights 10:30 am-1pm or until gone Meat Raffles during Made Rights	12 Club Closed
12 Club Closed	13 Post, Unit & Squadron 132 meetings 7pm Clubroom open @ 5:00 pm	14 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Burgers and Bucks Legion Loot/Jackpot drawing at 6:30 pm A.L. Riders @ 6:30 pm	15 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Legion Baseball mtg @ 6 pm Teachers Tea Burger Night 5-7 pm	16 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Food Available 5-7 pm Bingo 7 pm FREE peanuts in the shell	17 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	18 Shrimp/Steak Fry 5-7:30 pm	19 Club Closed
20 Club Closed	21 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Burgers and Bucks Legion Loot/Jackpot drawing at 6:30 pm	22 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Bingo 7 pm	23 Happy Thanksgiving! Clubrooms Closed	24 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	25 Broasted Pork Chops 5-7:30 pm	26 Club Closed	27 Club Closed
28 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Burgers and Bucks Legion Loot/Jackpot drawing at 6:30 pm	29 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm New Ulm Baseball 7 pm Teachers Tea Burger Night 5-7 pm	30 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm Food Available 5-7 pm Bingo 7 pm FREE peanuts in the shell	1 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	2 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	3 Pull Tab Drink Discount 3-5 pm	4 Broasted Chicken 5-7:30 pm	5 Club Closed

CLUBROOM HAPPENINGS - Brian Gramentz

Shrimp/Steak Fry will be November 18th!



Commander Jon Gohr at the Grill! The finished product!

BASEBALL — Vern Kitzberger,

We had our annual meeting in October, and have had some changes. I have felt for some time that with my work load as District Baseball Director, I might not be doing justice to both that and our committee (April to July have been especially hectic). So after 11 years, I have stepped down as our committee chairman, and John Fischer has graciously accepted that position. Mike Munce was elected as our new Vice-president, and the remaining officers remain the same. Due to retirements and a resignation, we have 4 open slots on our committee. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of our committee, let any of our members know. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as chairman, and will remain on the committee.

Legion Riders Activity— Kris Schneeberg

Legion Riders meet the Second Tuesday November 14 at 6:30 PM

NEW ULM, MINNESOTA'S FIRST WORLD WAR I CASUALTY: CORPORAL BENJAMIN J. SEIFERT By George L. Glotzbach
New Ulm, Minnesota's first World War I casualty occurred April 2, 1918 when Corporal Benjamin J. Seifert was killed in an aeroplane accident in Scampton, England. Seifert was born to Mr. & Mrs. Christ Seifert in Milford Township, Brown County, Minnesota March 11, 1895. The family moved to New Ulm in 1910, where he graduated from New Ulm High School. After attending Mankato Commercial College he engaged in several businesses, the last being in Valley City, North Dakota. He was called to service by the Brown County Draft Board, and left for training at Camp Dodge, Iowa in September of 1917. The Seifert family was notified of Benjamin's death April 6, 1918 by a telegram from M. C. Cain, Adjutant General, in the War Department in Washington, D. C. which read: "We deeply regret to inform you that it is officially reported that Corporal Benjamin J. Seifert, aero squadron, died of aeroplane accident, April 2nd." Further information and detail came in a letter from W. R. Castle, Director of Communications of the American Red Cross, also with headquarters in Washington, D. C. "The accident occurred ... at the American section of the aviation camp at Scampton, Eng., which is near Lincoln. It was caused by the machine run by Lieut. Hugenin getting out of control, when flying low. It pitched Lieut. Hugenin out and then crashed into a machine on the ground, killing Corporal Seifert and Private Krantman. All three men were killed instantly, so you know at least that there was no suffering. Your son's commanding officer, Lieut. Hampton, told our representative that he thought most highly of Seifert; that he considered him to be one of the best men in the organization and that in the past he had relied upon him in every way. This, I know, you will be glad to hear, because it will show you that your son not only died in the course of duty, but that his excellent performance of duty had enabled him to do such good work that he was respected by his officers."

"The funeral of the three men took place with full military honors on April 8 and they were buried in Newport Cemetery in Lincoln. The graves in this cemetery are always taken excellent care of by the British authorities. The American Red Cross had a beautiful spray of flowers put on each coffin and nothing was omitted that would possibly have been done in the way the family would have wanted it done. As soon as the graves are in order photographs will be taken and sent us to forward to you."

The remains of Corporal Seifert were returned in November of 1920 and re-buried in the New Ulm Catholic Cemetery. His grave marker reads:

U.S. American Legion Logo
Photo of Corp. Ben J. Seifert



Corp. Seifert was among the first from the Brown Cty. area to be drafted into W. W. I. And the first to give his life for his country in an aeroplane accident. Post #132 was given his name on April 23, 1921
1895 - 1918
Donated by American Legion Post 132

Footstone reads: BENJAMIN J. SEIFERT 1895 - 1918A flagpole in the New Ulm City Cemetery's Veterans' Section was erected in Seifert's honor, and includes a memorial plaque.

TEACHER'S TEA: SAVE THE DATES! November is National Education month, and once again the Ladies Auxiliary Unit 132 will be hosting a Teachers Tea. The schools will all be invited to come to the legion for burgers on their choice of Wednesday evenings November 8, 15 or 29th. If you see a teacher, bus driver, school staff or anyone else that assists in the education of our community's children during the month of November, please take time to give them a special Thank you!

S.A.L NEWS — S.A.L Squadron #132, Gene Olswold- S.A.L Commander

October was a very busy month for our Squadron which is very nice to see. NEW things are happening. One of much importance is the 2018 Renewals that are coming in. Over 50% were received which is more than last year at this time. I wish to thank all who have sent in their renewals. These renewals give the squadron the strength we need to perform as a more active squadron and help us support the various programs within the community and the American legion programs. For those that have not renewed their memberships yet, please consider doing NOW. If you have not received your statement from the squadron, it means it was returned saying "NOT FORWARDABLE". If this is you, Please let me know so I can change your address. I am getting quite a few this year. Other events and discussion that happened are too many to put in this article, so go to our post web page for all the details (nuamericanlegion.org) with photos. Our next scheduled meeting is the 2nd Monday in November (November 13) at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and plan on attending.

AUXILIARY NOTES - Kathy Hempel - Unit #132 President

Auxiliary meeting will be November 13, 2017, 7:00 PM

BR. CO. VETERAN'S SERVICE NEWS — Greg Peterson

Brown County Courthouse 507-233-6636
Brown County Veterans Services and New Ulm Public Library are co-sponsoring a 10-part screening of The Vietnam War, a documentary by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick. Discussions will be moderated by Greg Peterson of Brown County Veterans Services. The documentary will be screened in succession on the following dates: December 13, 14, 27, and 28; January 10, 11, 24, and 25; and February 7 and 8. All screenings start at 6 p.m. and will last between one and two hours. Patrons may attend sessions as they are able; it is not necessary to attend all sessions to participate. Call 507-359-8334 for more information.
Greg Peterson • Dave Koester
Veterans Service Officers • O: 507-233-6636 F: 507-233-6638
greg.peterson@co.brown.mn.us

WILLIBALD C. BIANCHI OF NEW ULM, MINNESOTA, AWARDED THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR FOR VALOR ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Willibald C. Bianchi was born in New Ulm, Minnesota March 12, 1915. "Bill" as he was called, lived on a poultry farm overlooking the confluence of the Cottonwood and Minnesota Rivers. His grandparents originated in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. When his father died in a hunting accident, Bianchi dropped out of his sophomore year of high school to operate the farm with his mother, Carrie Eibner Bianchi, who was also the premier baker at Eibner's restaurant.

Bianchi completed his high school through the University of Minnesota extension program. He then enrolled in the animal husbandry program at South Dakota State University. There he went out for boxing and football, and joined the Reserve Officers Training Corps. Upon graduation in 1939 Bianchi was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was transferred to the Philippines in April, 1941 and assigned to train Filipino men as soldiers.

The Japanese attacked the Philippines shortly following their attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. The defenders were driven back onto the Bataan peninsula where Bianchi's heroism took place. His Citation reads:

"BIANCHI, WILLIBALD C. Rank and Organization: First Lieutenant, 45th Infantry, Philippine Scouts. Place and Date: Near Bagac, Bataan Province, Philippine Islands, 3 Feb. 1942. Entered Service at: New Ulm, Minn. Birth: New Ulm, Minn. G. O. No.: 11, 5 Mar. 1942. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy on 3 Feb. 1942, near Bagac, Province of Bataan, Philippine Islands. When the rifle platoon of another company was ordered to wipe out two strong enemy machine-gun nests, Lieutenant Bianchi voluntarily and of his own initiative, advanced with the platoon leading part of the men. When wounded early in the action by two bullets through the left hand, he did not stop for first aid but discarded his rifle and began firing a pistol. He located a machine-gun nest and personally silenced it with grenades. When wounded the second time by two machine-gun bullets through the chest muscles, Lieutenant Bianchi climbed to the top of an American tank, manned its anti-aircraft machine gun and fired into strongly held enemy position until knocked completely off the tank by a third severe wound."

When Bataan fell on April 9, 1942 Bianchi was captured. He survived the Bataan Death March and was imprisoned in multiple Japanese camps. Late in the war he was transferred to an unmarked Japanese prison ship. On January 9, 1945 that ship was bombed and Bianchi was killed. Mrs. Carrie Bianchi received a letter of sympathy signed by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, dated October 25, 1945.

In the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii, Section MA, Grave 39 lies a plaque which reads: "In Memory of WILLIBALD C. BIANCHI, Medal of Honor, Capt. U.S. Army, World War II"

In the New Ulm City Cemetery, in the Soldiers Rest section, a flag pole stands, and a plaque begins: "This flag pole & flag are dedicated to the memory of CAPT. WILLIBALD C. BIANCHI, Congressional Medal of Honor. American Legion Post 132 was renamed "Seifert-Bianchi" in his honor July 28, 1990" followed by the text of his Citation. On the plaque are the logos of the Medal of Honor and the American Legion.

Membership number for November

Find the winning membership number somewhere in the newsletter. If the number matches yours, a pair of Pork Chop dinners can be yours can be yours, if you claim your prize between November 1 & 20.

2017-2018 POST 132 OFFICERS and CHAIRMEN POST OFFICERS

Commander..... Jon Gohr
1st Vice Commander..... Brian Krosch
2nd Vice Commander..... Brian Gramentz
Adjutant..... Roger Hoffmann
Finance Officer..... Mert Gustad
Chaplain..... Bert Marth
Executive Board Members..... Sam Arsers
David Hoffmann • Tom Roesch
Dave Borchert • Andrew Achman

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Service Officer..... Andrew Achman
Historian..... Norm Warta
Sergeant-at-Arms..... John Fritsche
Judge Advocate..... Terry Dempsey
Membership Director..... Brian Krosch
Americanism Chairman..... Bert Marth
Oratorical..... Wil Burdorf
Legislative Chairman..... Terry Dempsey
National Security Chm..... Mike Klossner
SAL Chairman..... Gene Olswold
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Color Guard..... Lester Wiltcheck
Legion Riders..... Kris Schneeberg
Baseball Chairman..... Vern Kitzberger
Baseball Team Manager..... Kevin Fischer
Club Manager..... Sheila Johnson

2016-2017 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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1st Vice..... Dorothy Weller
2nd Vice..... Connie Thompson
Treasurer..... Brenda Fox
Secretary & Historian..... Liz Woodward
Chaplain..... Tina Krosch
Sgt.-at-Arms..... Rosie Kunz
Exec. Committee..... Karri Borchert • Janet Mielke
Brown Co. Vet. Serv. Officer..... Greg Peterson

2nd DISTRICT OFFICERS

Commander..... Randy Olson
Auxiliary President..... Kristen Donnelly
SAL Commander..... Larry Helland

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