



License No. A0047 June 2023
 Brainerd, MN
 Phone (218) 829-6393 Vol 65 No 6
 Commander Chip (218) 829-6393
 President Sue (218) 831-5540



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

THE VETS GAZETTE

Comrades:

Hello everyone, summer is finally here, enjoy it. There will be a few changes being made around the club to make it look better.

We made a lot of donations this month. We gave over \$21,000 back to the community and for veterans. We gave to a Veterans homeless farm shelter, safe ride program, Community Action, Boy Scouts, Stop Soldier Suicide program, Support the Troops, Veterans Campground, First Baptist Church, Brainerd High School FPS, Robotics, and VFW Baseball.

Color Guard will be busy the next few months with parades from Memorial Day and July 4th. If you see a Color Guard person, tell them thanks for doing what they do. Also remember to say thanks to our volunteers. Enjoy the rest of your summer.
 Commander,
 Chip Borle



VFW member Jeff McArthur with the turkey he bagged during the April 26th Annual Disabled American Veterans Turkey Hunt at Camp Ripley.

Attendees of the *DAV Turkey Hunt* were well-pleased with the lunch our auxiliary provided for them on April 26. A special thanks to those who pitched in to assemble sandwiches on Tuesday evening. Those of us who served the vets that day felt blessed to be of service to them.

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Freedom Festival = Family, Fun, and Food

I want to encourage you to participate in our Freedom Festival on **June 17**. Last year's FF was well attended, and we know this year's will be better with the influx of seasonal visitors. We have many things planned to make it a fun and learning activity for kids and adults. Our Post Honor Guard will be starting the festivities, and there will be a short memorial ceremony to acknowledge our members who have passed on this year. Helen's grandson – a professional DJ from the metro area – will be there again this year to be our MC, announce the winners of the door prizes, and play our favorite tunes. Face-painting, a very popular attraction last year, will again be done by Sue Sterling's granddaughter, Leanna. Kid' games, bean bag toss, veterans information booths, and hamburger & hot dog baskets will be available at a family-friendly price. Please invite your family and friends to stop by between 12 and 4 pm to see and hear why the VFW is an asset to our community.

There were many members who stepped up to the plate to make this event a success last year, and the camaraderie and cooperation was phenomenal. We hope all of you will attend our next Freedom Fest meeting on Tuesday, May 30th at 7 pm. If you have any questions, contact Helen Doucette at 218-831-2112.

Check our Facebook Page and website to learn more.

Auxiliary President
 Sue Sterling



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



The Corner Lot

5/6 Gordon Schulke
5/13 Terrance Clark



Be sure to check the website for the schedule of the Memorial Day Ceremonies.



Sunshine Report

We send get-well wishes to Bruce Mogensen, Vicky Thomas, Martha Borsch, Joe Blakemore, and all who have been ill.

Sympathy to Karen Hanson on the passing of her sister Harriet and to those who have lost a loved one.

Brenda Collins and Helen Doucette
Co-Chairmen



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!

Thanks to our Volunteers!

I want to thank everyone who helped make our *Treasure and Treat sale* a success. All the hours and effort you put into it are sincerely appreciated.



BUDDY POPPY PROMOTION

Thank you to all the volunteers and donators who helped make this year's Buddy Poppy Promotion a success. The Funds collected are used only for Veteran's and their families. More volunteers are desperately needed for this vital program. Plan for next year!



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.



Freedom Festival Fun



June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 <p>Club Hours Mon - Sat: Noon-10pm Sunday: Noon-5pm</p>				1 Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00	2	3
4 Elk's Breakfast	5 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	6 Post & Auxiliary 7:00PM 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage – 6:00	7 .75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	8 Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00	Department Convention Plymouth, MN	
11 Eagle's Breakfast	12 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	13 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage – 6:00	14 .75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	15 Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00	16	17 FREEDOM FESTIVAL NOON – 4PM
18 VFW Breakfast 8am – noon \$10.00	19 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	20 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage 6:00	21 .75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	22 Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00	23	24
25 Legion's Breakfast	26 Bingo & Basket Food 6:00 pm	27 5:00 pm Tacos: \$1.50 hardshell, \$2.50 softshell, \$4 salad Cribbage – 6:00	28 .75 Wings \$2.00 fries & \$3.00 salad 3pm - 7pm	29 Burger Night Burgers \$1.50 Fries \$1.50 & Beer \$1.00	30	