

Sgt. John Rice VFW Post 6316

- Weddings
- Parties
- Company Events

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Commanders Column

Greetings Fellow Veterans;

Well summer is officially here and I hope all of you are enjoying it! It brings me great pleasure to inform you that John Rice VFW has been identified as an All American Post in District 7, that means our Post has met all requirements set by National and State VFW Departments.

On May 3rd, we participated in the VFW National Day of Service. Officers and Members volunteered at the Veterans Memorial Park in Blaine. Our day was spent removing old mulch from the surrounding flower beds and getting them ready for new mulch. Thank you to our volunteers!!

On May 16th & 17th we had our annual Poppy Day. A few of our Members and Auxiliary posted at stores within our community, handing out Poppies and collecting donations for our Veterans relief fund. I would like to thank all our volunteers for their time and effort, it's greatly appreciated. Over Memorial Day weekend we held our Remembrance Ceremonies at Morningside Cemetery and Bunker Hills Regional Park, ending on Memorial Day at Veterans Memorial Park.



At our last District 7 meeting I was informed that our Post had the honor of having Scout of the Year. His name is Vincent Grammer, and he completed a wonderful project consisting of a dock over the pond, a greenhouse, a sand pit to track animal prints, and walking path around the pond located at DaVinci Academy to help students study science and biology. He will receive his award later this summer.

Reminder we have some upcoming events like the Blazing 4th Festival later this month. The golf cart volunteer list is posted. Our Annual 4th of July Festival is fast approaching and that volunteer list is posted. We also have a Car Show put on by the Corvette Club and that will be in August.

The State Convention was held June 5th-8th in St. Cloud, MN, which I attended. The Post and Auxiliary had the distinction of taking home a couple of awards. It's great to see us shine at State and shows everybody that we are active within our community. Thank you to all of you, without you we would not be successful.

Continue to watch Facebook and our website for updates.

Thank you for your continued support!!

Corky A Olson
Commander

**ALL AMERICAN
POST**

Sgt. John Rice VFW

**CONGRATULATIONS
to Commander Corky**

Greetings VFW Auxiliary Members!

Hello Everyone,

May meeting we installed the Officers of the Auxiliary and I want to thank you for putting your trust in us again this year. We have one new Officer, Carolyn Puttin, Chaplain and two new appointed Officers, Nancy Waugh, Patriotic Instructor, and Karen Jones, Secretary. Thank you for accepting these Offices. I look forward to working with and mentoring our Officers and Chairman this year. We held our monthly activities, bake sale, sewing, Nursing Home Visits, funeral luncheons etc.

Commander Corkie and I attended and participated in Memorial Services at Morningside Cemetery and Bunker Hills Park on Saturday the 24th by placing wreaths for our fallen Veterans. Thank you Mary Lou for the Poppy wreaths. On Memorial Day the VFW and Auxiliary members also attended memorial services at the Paul Ryan Park in Blaine while I attended the Minneapolis Veterans Home Memorial Services. Thank you.

June 5th thru 8th was Department (State) Convention in St. Cloud. At the Joint awards ceremony Commander Corkie and I had the great honor of walking across stage accepting the Joint awards for the VFW and Auxiliary. **We won Buddy Poppy, Artistic and Decorative Category Displays, 2nd place, Community Service, Category 2, Category depends on membership, 3rd place, and Post Publications, 2nd place. The Auxiliary took overall 1st place Sewing, Buddy Poppy tied 1st place, Youth, Best Promotion, 1st place, and the 7th District Chairman 1st place. Buddy Poppies fall under the Veterans and Family Program.** Thank you to all the Chairman for their hard work promoting the programs and to all of you

as members for participating as an Auxiliary. It takes everyone of you to make the Auxiliary and bring the rewards.

Along with our regular activities we also served 3 funeral lunches.

July 1st is our Auxiliary meeting. At that time we will be handing out the new **CALENDAR** of events for the year. July 4th is the post home annual celebration. Lots of food, music, bake sale, and fellowship. Volunteers are needed, sign-up sheet at the Post or come out and join in the fun. We will have plenty of things for everyone to do. July 18th we are having the Veterans from the Minneapolis Veterans Home for a picnic. Again Volunteers needed. No bake sale on June 28th or in August will resume in bake sales September. Veterans Coffee 2nd Monday of the month. Check your calendars for all upcoming events.

Thank you for all you do for our **Veterans and their Families and our Community.**

If you know of someone who has been ill or lost a loved one contact Chaplain Carolyn, 612-245-1476, or President Doris, 763-370-4664, so we can get a card to them.

To those who have been ill we wish you a speedy recovery, to those who have lost a loved one our prayers and sympathies are with you.

Happy and Safe Holidays to all

Doris Anderson
Auxiliary President

FLAG FOLDING

Nancy & Twilla first time flag folding volunteers take instructions from Joyce Pierret, Americanism Chairperson



Membership

Our sympathies to the family of lifetime Auxiliary member Nola Bowman who passed away on May 26th.

Our sympathies to Auxiliary member Delores Herzog and her family on the loss of her husband Ray who also was a Post member.

We welcome new lifetime transfer member Christina Cavitt. Christina also plays the bugler at the Post rituals.

Dues notices will be going out soon to our annual members. We are still offering \$50.00 off a Life Membership. There is an increase in dues. NEW annual dues are now \$30.00.

Continuous annual dues are \$25.00.

Below is a list of Life Membership Fees

Through age 20	\$253.00
21 - 25	\$242.00
26 - 30	\$230.00
31 - 35	\$219.00
36 - 40	\$213.00
41 - 45	\$201.00
46 - 50	\$196.00
51 - 55	\$184.00
56 - 60	\$173.00
61 - 65	\$161.00
66 - 70	\$150.00
71 - 75	\$132.00
76 - 80	\$109.00
81 - 85	\$86.00
86 - 90	\$69.00
91 & over	\$58.00

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Honoring the Fallen at Veterans Memorial Park

On May 26th, the Honor Guard of VFW Post 6316 proudly participated in Memorial Day Services held at Veterans Memorial Park, paying tribute to the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our nation.

The ceremony was led by Squad Leader Joel Frank, a dedicated Army and Navy veteran, who guided the Honor Guard with precision and reverence. Alongside him stood a distinguished team of veterans:

- Dick Kilian – Army
- Frank Anderson – Navy
- Joe Morse – Navy
- Tim Quast – Army
- Molly Quast – Army
- Will Kocur – Marines

Their presence served as a powerful reminder of the courage and sacrifice of our nation's heroes. With crisp uniforms and solemn discipline, the Honor Guard rendered final honors that embodied the respect and gratitude our fallen deserve.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this meaningful event. Through remembrance, we preserve the legacy of those who gave all.

We will never forget..



EASTER LUNCH FOR VETS

A full ham, potatoes, veggie & dessert Easter lunch was served to the Veterans from the Mpls. Veterans Home on April 17th hosted by Sgt. John Rice VFW Post & Auxiliary members.



JULY 4TH CELEBRATION AT THE POST

Join us on July 4th at the Post starting at 12:00 noon for great food, cold drinks, Live band starting at 2:00, Auxiliary bake sale. Check out our website for more details.



BAKE SALES

Thank You to all who have supported our Bake Sales. We will not have a bake sale in June, July and August on the 3rd Friday of each month BUT will have a Bake Sale on the 4th of July during the Post July 4th Celebration starting at 12:00 noon going until we are sold out. SO come to the July 4th celebration and check out our goodies. Buy extra to take home for the family.

Any questions, call Ann at 763-717-0641

BLOOD DRIVES

The American Red Cross collected 35 units of blood at our June 10th blood drive. The goal was 31 units. Many thanks to our dedicated donors and to our volunteers. We hear many good comments from the donors because the Auxiliary has homemade goodies for them to enjoy.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for August 12th from 12:00 - 5:00.

FYI - Did you know that if you sign up at the blood drive for the next blood drive you will not get the many calls from the Red Cross? You will only get a reminder call the day before the blood drive.

Call Mary Lou at 763-434-6580 to schedule an appointment.



NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY

August 7, 2025

This Holiday was first observed in 2014. It is a day for Americans to remember and honor the men and women who bravely represented their country and were wounded or killed while serving. These Veterans are decorated with a Purple Heart in the name of the President and this day is for remembering them and their sacrifice.

Join us as we honor those that have been given a Purple Heart.

It is estimated nearly 1.9 million service members have earned Purple Hearts since it's creation.

Joyce Pierret,
Americanism Chairman

PURPLE HEART PRAYER

A purple medal - a badge of honor
A badge of military merit
For wounds received and lives lost
Given to those who gave of themselves,
So others could be saved

A purple medal - a sword and a shield
Deflecting the bullet or the bomb
Diverting the hurt meant for another
Bravery without thinking first of themselves.

A purple medal worn over the heart
A medal that is a shield
Either keeping our memories from coming out
Or blocking those memories from getting inside.

A purple medal - is it enough, by itself, to reward the hero?
Not by itself - it takes comrades,
government, citizens, all
To speak in one voice - to speak the words loud and clear:
Thank You, brave soldier.

Joyce Pierret, Americanism Chairman

CONGRATULATIONS

Our newsletter placed second at the
Department Convention

QUILTS OF VALOR

On May 3rd Fifteen Veterans received their Quilt of Valor at the Blaine Veterans Park. Presenters from the Anoka Chapter Grateful Hearts Quilters of Anoka were Rita and Karen. In no particular order are the Veterans who received their Quilts of Valor:

Steve Fuerstenberg Army Reserves, Richard Sauvageau Air Force, Richard Carda Army, Tom Slabiak Army, Larry Budeau Army Reserves National Guard, Mark Franxman Navy, Stephen Rorwick Army, James Scherr Army, Katie Klein Army, Nathan McKenzie Army, Edwin Dee Army, Roger Anderson Army, Brian Devires Army, Robert Lenius, Jr. Marines, Steve Larson Air Force.

Thank You Veterans for your service. If you would like to nominate a Veteran, call me at 763-434-6580.



sewing

We meet every Thursday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 and sew items for our Veterans. Come join us. Call JoAnn at 763-757-2471 with questions



A quilt made by Auxiliary member, Delores H., and supplies were donated to Edgemont Memory Care. Employee Taylor accepted the donations.

CANCER GRANTS

We have cancer grant forms if you are in need. Call me at 763-434-6580 and we will mail one out to you. You fill it out and all the information is confidential between you and your doctor. You may apply after being a member of the Auxiliary for a year. You may apply twice (waiting time is a year apart) when you are a member.

BUDDY POPPY DAYS

Honoring Veterans, One Flower at a Time

Each year, VFW Post 6316 proudly participates in Buddy Poppy Days, and this year was no exception. Over the course of the event help May 16th and 17th, our members took to local storefronts and community spaces to distribute Buddy Poppies—a small flower with a big message.

The Buddy Poppy is more than a symbol; it's a reminder of the sacrifices made by our nation's veterans and a tribute to those who gave their lives in service. Through generous community support and donations, we help fund critical programs for veterans, active-duty service members, and their families.

Post members, Auxiliary volunteers, and supporters worked together to raise awareness and collect donations, engaging with the public and sharing the meaning behind the red flower. We are proud to report that the event was a great success—both in funds raised and in the heartfelt conversations shared with our neighbors.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who stopped by to donate, share a story, or simply say “thank you.” Your support helps us continue our mission of service to veterans and our local community.

Every poppy handed out is a promise to remember.



COFFEE WITH OUR VETERANS

Mark your calendar for the second Monday of each month to have coffee and dessert with our Veterans. It gives you a chance to visit with other Veterans and share stories. All Veterans are welcome - you do not have to belong to a VFW or Legion. The coffee pot is on starting at 10:00 a.m. Questions, call Eloise 763-755-4817.



VFW NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

Giving Back to Veterans Memorial Park

On May 3rd, members of VFW Post 6316 proudly participated in the VFW National Day of Service, joining fellow comrades across the country in a unified effort to give back to our communities and honor our fellow veterans.

This year, our Post dedicated its service to Veterans Memorial Park, where volunteers gathered to remove old mulch from seven flower beds. The project not only helped revitalize the park's landscaping, but also prepared the grounds for upcoming Memorial Day events.

We wrapped up the day with a group photo, capturing the spirit of camaraderie and commitment that defines our Post. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who showed up and pitched in—your efforts truly made a difference.

Together, we continue to honor our past, serve in the present, and build a legacy for the future.



WHAT TO DO WITH MILITARY UNIFORMS

1. Donate - Before donating, remove the name and insignia
2. Make a pillow or throw for a keepsake
3. Pass down to a family or friend



JOANNE MEYER AND FAMILY

Joanne Meyer and her family received a certificate from President Donald Trump after her husband, Melvin, passed. Joanne and family are very proud to have received this certificate. It will be on display at the Post if you would like to see it.

The certificate reads as follows:

GOLD SEAL

The United States of America
honors the memory of
Melvin Gordon Meyer

This certificate is awarded by a grateful
nation in recognition of devoted and
selfless consecration to the service of
our country in the Armed Forces of
the United States.

Donald Trump
President of the United States

POW/MIA UPDATE

The Defense Accounting Agency announced 48 identifications and 12 burials for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War.

Joyce Pierret,
POW/MIA Chairperson



FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

If you need to schedule a funeral luncheon, call Sara at the Post (763-757-4540) to see if the hall is available for the date and if you would like the Auxiliary to make the luncheon, please call Eloise at 763-755-4817. If you would like a ritual for a Post member call Joel at 763-370-9742 and for a ritual for an Auxiliary member call President Doris at 763-370-4664.

SAVE, SAVE, SAVE

We continue to collect cancelled stamps, pop tabs (turned in another 18 pounds to the Ronald McDonald House) eye glasses, hearing aids, tattered flags. Just bring everything to the Post home and we will take care of it. THANKS!

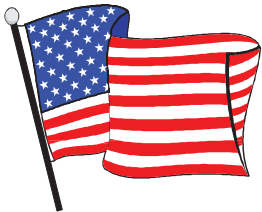
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July/August 2025

SGT. JOHN RICE VFW



SGT. JOHN R. RICE
US Army World War II - Korea
Killed in Action Tabu-Dong, Korea on 6 September 1950

*A career soldier who gave his life for his country.
Denied burial in Sioux City, Iowa, because of his race.
Through the intercession of President Truman,
Sergeant John Rice was buried with honors at
Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.*

