



WILLIAM R. WITTY AMERICAN LEGION POST 37

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



Left to right: Patrick Staterau, Laddie Dosedel, Jerry Mlaker, Megan Neary, Joenilla Robertson, Ron Davis, Dave Arpin, Al Henry, Rick Wright. Missing - Brian Jaster and Mike Becker.

MONTHLY MEETING INFORMATION

- Post:** Second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
- Auxiliary:** Second Monday of each month, 5:30 p.m.
- SAL:** First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
- Legion Riders:** Fourth Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

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COLOR GUARD

The William R. Witty Color Guard welcomes new members. We participate in ten to twelve events each year. Uniforms will be provided. And, there is no cost to become a member. All of the entities of the Legion are eligible to participate. The only requirement is that you are a Post #37 member, in good standing. And, it helps if you know your left foot from your right foot. If you are interested in becoming a part of the color guard contact Rick Wright at rwright54@mchsi.com



Pictures by Carson Hughes, St, Peter Herald



2 | ADJUTANT UPDATE

LEGION ADJUTANT

William R. Witty Post #37 has approximately 262 members (fluctuates with new members/transfers/military funerals) and there are 152 members with active email accounts receiving the monthly Post Meeting Agenda and Minutes. If you have an email account, and not receiving Post information via email, please forward to dcjohnson507@gmail.com, and your email address will then make its way to the Post #37 folder.

The Post #37 Monthly Meeting Agenda is usually set one week before the scheduled Post meeting (second Monday of each month), however the agenda can be delayed depending on Executive Board member schedules. The agenda and draft minutes from the previous month are sent via email within two days of the Executive Board meeting to every member with a known email address, and posted on Post bulletin boards.

There was perfect weather and great attendance for the Memorial Day Program in Minnesota Square Park on May 26. Kudos to Post #37 Commander Cliff Isely, Color Guard, Honor Guard, and Auxiliary member Jane Tate; and special Post #37 Thank You to the Govenaires, St. Peter High School Band, St. Peter High School Chamber Singers, Trinity Lutheran Church Pastor Scott Kershner, City of St.

Peter Mayor Shanon Nowell, and keynote speaker Drew Link. Often not noticed are the efforts of St. Peter Public Works, and the Recreation Department Park Ranger that went out of their way to prepare Minnesota Square Park!

The weather was not perfect for Post #37 Dignified Disposal of Unserviceable Flags on Flag Day, June 14th. Despite the cloudburst thirty minutes before Ceremony time, Community Center staff member Kayla Campbell assisted with accommodations for the ceremony to be sheltered inside, and the rain subsided for the legitimate Dignified Disposal by fire on the patio. Despite the stormy weather, there was a strong community presence, and several community unserviceable flags were presented. Again, thanks to Post #37 Color Guard; Post Sergeant at Arms Jon Smithers; Post Chaplain Laddie Dosedel; Post members Steve Ward and Tom Hanson; Auxiliary member Jane Tate; and SAL/Riders member Mike Quick, who also performed Taps for the ceremony; and fire masters Greg Witty and Blake Webster. Reserve your calendar for Flag Day, June 14, for next year....same time...same place!

Have a great quarter!!!

Submitted by Dave Johnson, Legion Adjutant



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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Hello! Happy summer everyone! Just a few quick notes and updates on what has been happening in the past few months with our Auxiliary.

At our April meeting, Tim Murray and Pam Krill, representing Bravo Zulu House, spoke to us about the mission of the Bravo Zulu House. It is THE FIRST, all-military sober living facility for men focusing on the unique needs of Veterans suffering from PTSD. There are plans to open a facility for women as well, of which Tina Willson is a member of the board working with a great team to get that need filled. To learn more about the House's mission, go to bravozuluhouse.org.

May was Poppy month. Thank you to Donna, Jane B., Angie, Gabriela, Rebekah and Heather for all of your help. A special thank you to all of you that "donated" as well. Your support of Our Veterans and Our mission is appreciated!

Auxiliary hosts BINGO at the Legion on the 1st Wednesday of each month, with August being our next one. We are in need of baked goods/snacks

that we sell. It was decided that we will be sending a donation to the Bravo Zulu House on behalf of our Auxiliary. Please consider helping whether it be by baking/making or by selling the day of BINGO.

Officer elections were held on June 9th. Thank you to all that stopped in to vote! Results are as follows:

- Jane Tate, President
- Stephanie Holden, Vice President
- Lorraine Edwards, Secretary
- Tina Willson, Treasurer
- Angie Glassel, Membership
- Cindy Schmidt, Sargeant at Arms
- Donna Nelson, Chaplain

Our next meeting is on September 8th at 5:30. 2026 will be due beginning in September. We hope to see you at our meetings! Lastly, please continue to support OUR Legion and OUR Legion family. Hope to see you there whether it be at one of the upcoming events or just stopping in for beverages. It's always good to see you!

Submitted by Jane Tate, American Legion Auxiliary President

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GREETINGS TO MY FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES,

Another Legion year has come and gone, let's **look back and see if we accomplished anything**. I started this year with a two goals, to get the lines of communication working again with the SAL, AUX and ALR and to look at how we engage with our membership.

The communication goal was actually fairly easy as the entities decided that if the St Peter American Legion was to succeed everyone needed to chip in and take an active part. We got the Steak Fries back going, the first Saturday of each month from 5-7pm (1700-1900). The SAL thought that we should bring back the Lent Fish Fry, they would do the first and last and the Post would need to fill in the rest. The Post said "let's do it", now the hard part comes in as we will need lots of volunteers. The idea was brought up let's do theme nights. The Army, Navy and Marine Corps are celebrating 250 years so we used that as our themes. The Fire Dept was asked to help one night, then they volunteered to do a second night. It was a rousing success, we sometimes had extra help, how often do you say that with volunteer help? The Army night we even had some ROTC cadets helping, I'm sure they thought about what they have to look forward to with all the "words of wisdom" the veterans gave them. The Navy night and the Marine Corps nights were also very successful at bringing members out to help. And the fish was excellent also. The omelet breakfast made a comeback also, those guys on the fry pans were clowns, (Karl). You can toss in a few nights of karaoke, line dancing, special Bingo nights and you can see that the Post has become very busy.

Our members, what could we do? The first thing we did was have the adjutant send out the minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Many members sent a message to Dave thanking him for including them in what the Post is doing. We started having burgers before the meetings, a great social time. We have tried to keep the meetings to about an hour, sometimes failed at that but most of the time it was about an hour. We brought back the Veteran of the month, only now it is Veteran of the quarter. If you would like to nominate someone the form is on the Post website.

There are many more things that I could talk about, like the redo of the honor table, thanks to Brian Jaster. The redo of the honor wall with the repainting and repositioning of the plaques. We will be displaying the 1917 rifles that were stored in the basement for years. One was even cleaned up so that it is in working condition.

I think that the St Peter American Legion is showing signs of growth, we have come a long way.

I will be commander again for the next term and then that's it. I will have served the Post as commander three times and that is enough. **We have many great leaders as members of this Post and we need you to step forward and help this Post.** I had a great team to work with this year, Patrick Stoterau as 1st vice, Steven Ward as 2nd vice, Dave Johnson as Adjutant, Blake Webster as Finance, A BIG THANK YOU.

I look forward to seeing you at a Post meeting or in the bar for a beverage.

Cliff Isley

Commander, William R. Witty Post #37

6 | AT YOUR LEGION

SONS OF LEGION

Hope this newsletter finds you well. The SAL has been busy doing their part in getting events going again at the Legion volunteering time for events and Bingo. The SAL worked the Omelet Breakfast on Mother's Day, which was successful. Thank you to those who attended and a Big Thank You goes out to Michael Foods for the egg donation.

The SAL also recently donated \$500 each to the St. Peter Food Shelf and to the Bravo Zulu House. The SAL again placed crosses in the city park for Memorial Day. These crosses represent Minnesota service members that were killed in action since September 11, 2001, the date the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center were hit by terrorist.

With the celebration of Independence Day, here's a short poem about patriotism –

*My heart beats true, for this land of the free,
Where courage and hope bloom, for all to see.
From fields of green to mountains high,
A spirit of unity, beneath the sky.
With every sunrise, a new chance we embrace,
To build a better future, with strength and grace.
For those who fought, for freedom's sweet call,
We honor their memory, standing up tall.
A patriot's duty, to serve and to care,
For the values we hold, beyond compare.
May this nation prosper, in peace and might,
A beacon of freedom, shining ever so bright.*

-Author Unknown

Submitted by Rick DeBlois, SAL Adjutant, Post 37

MEMBERSHIP

We have one new member here in Post 37, please welcome Charles Willson to our club. He has already proven to be an asset by providing the correct address of a member who I could not locate. Thanks Chuck. We have lost three members, who passed away. Please keep in your thoughts; Richard Noyd, Richard Goodell, and Carl Johnson. They totaled 80 years in combined membership.

Submitted by Greg Witty,
Membership Director

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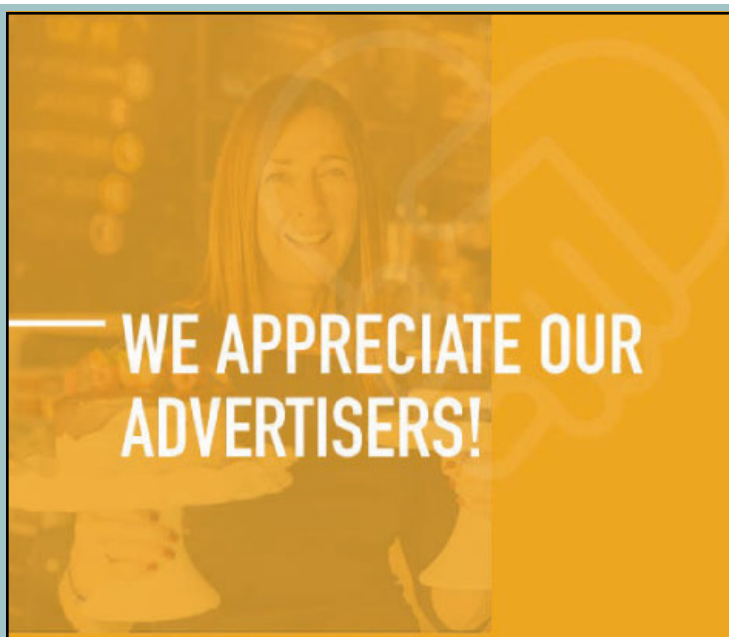
VETERAN VISITS

I want to let everyone know that Our Legion Family is just so incredible. We celebrated our Third year anniversary of the Veterans Visit Program. We have a small group of volunteers from the Post, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders that visit seven senior living communities every month. We even have had a Dairy Princess hand our cookies from her butter bust and County Veterans Service Officers join us. This program is very interesting as the veterans, spouses and family members tell us unique stories from their service times. The smiles and laughs make these visits so very special. Some of the stories the veterans themselves haven't spoke of since they served.

The Camaraderie that we share is so very special. We have kept our visiting crew to a smaller group so we don't overwhelm our audience. This allows all of us to chat and share personal experiences. We are honored and humbled to be able to speak with these great people and hear their stories. We do want to have an experience group to help in cae work or medical appointments keep us from visiting. I want to thank Commander Isley and the Executive Board for allowing me to run with this program. I want to thank all the volunteers who assist in the visits. I want to especially thank all the community coordinators who make our visits possible and lastly I want to thank all our veterans, spouses and family members who attend and let me ramble on:-)

If anyone is interested in joining us on a visit or becoming one of our regulars please reach out to myself at arp.dave@yahoo.com or Our American Legion.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Arpin, Veterans Visit Committee



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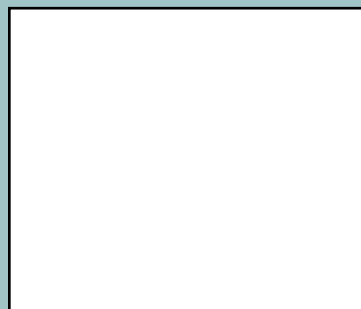
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