



Newsletter

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
ROSEMOUNT, MN. POST 9433**

**2625 120TH St. W., P.O. Box 104
Rosemount, MN. 55068
Phone: 651-423-9938**



August 2009

Post Officers

Commander: Mark Monson
Senior Vice: Greg Rollinger
Junior Vice: Steve Dodge
Q'master: Gish Devlaminck

Support Our Troops



**Until and After
They All Come Home**

Auxiliary Officers

President: Sherrie Groff
Senior Vice: Becky Anderson
Junior Vice: Brenda Howard
Treasurer: Carol Miller

Commander's Corner

Dear Comrades,

The post is wrapping up events from Rosemount's Leprechaun days. During this time the post hosted a bonfire, a tractor pull and participated in the parade with our honor guard and a float. By hosting events such as these it takes a lot of volunteer hours and support from our members and the community. In addition, these events help provide and display a strong presence of support for veterans in the community. With this being said, I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped out with these events and encourage everyone to take a more active role in the post and in the community.

Parts of the 34th Infantry division (Red Bulls) will start deploying home in the coming months and plans are starting to be made for their homecoming. If you know of a deployed soldier, please take the time to get in touch with the family and see if there is any way you can help them prepare for the return of their soldier. As Veterans we know better than most what hardships these returning soldiers may face when reuniting with their family and reintegrating into the community. By stepping up and offering to be there, we can all help immensely in this process.

Lastly we as a community lost 5 soldiers from the 34th Infantry Division which is headquartered here in Rosemount. Two of these fallen soldiers were from our area, one from Rosemount and one from Eagan. The post is accepting monetary donations for our fallen heroes. If you would like to donate please stop in at the post; there is a white donation bucket where you can place your donations. Please remember our motto - "Honor the dead by helping the living".

God Bless our Men and Women of the Armed Services and the Veterans that support them.

Mark Monson, Commander

CHECK OUT THE POST WEB-SITE
www.vfwpost9433.org

Donate Blood for OUR Wounded Soldiers
VA Blood Donor Center: 612-725-2275.

Disclaimer: Articles & opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the opinions of Post 9433 or it's Officers. Newsletter contact: 952-953-3594

Rosemount Soldier Wounded
In Afghanistan Dies

Army Cpl. Benjamin Kopp, 21, of Rosemount, was wounded in battle in Afghanistan on July 10 and died 8 days later at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Cpl. Kopp was shot in the leg during a combat operation and was treated in the field. But during surgery to repair his leg, he lost an excessive amount of blood and went into cardiac arrest. He had since been in a coma.

Hundreds of friends, family, and fellow soldiers gathered at Rosemount High School Saturday morning to give Cpl. Kopp a true military funeral.

Officers who spoke at the funeral said Cpl. Kopp's leadership under direct fire from Taliban fighters saved the lives of six of his fellow Rangers. But they weren't the only lives he saved. Cpl. Kopp wanted to donate his organs and last Monday a 57-year-old Chicago woman named Judy Meikle received his heart.

Cpl. Kopp's mother, Jill Stephenson, said her son put his family and friends above everything. To get the news that his heart lives on in someone else makes the grieving process a little easier.

Cpl. Kopp was an Army Ranger and this was his first tour in Afghanistan after two tours in Iraq. He graduated from Rosemount High School in 2006. He will be buried Aug. 7 in Arlington National Cemetery.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

House Committee – 6:00 P.M.
Post & Auxiliary Meeting – 7:30 P.M.



Be There !

**Remember : You could win a CASH REWARD
just for attending !!!**

Help Needed !!!

In order to help us reduce our Newsletter expenses if you have e-mail access please sign up to get you're Newsletter via E-mail.

To sign up contact Mark Monson at:
monso020@usfamily.net



Three "RED BULL" Soldiers Killed in Action Iraq

The Pentagon confirmed the slain soldiers were:

- 22-year-old Spc. Daniel P. Drevnick, of Woodbury
- 20-year-old Spc. James D. Wertish, of Olivia
- 27-year-old Spc. Carlos E. Wilcox IV, of Cottage Grove.

All three were assigned to 34th Military Police Company, 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division. The soldiers were killed when insurgents attacked their Basra position with mortars, rockets and artillery.

Eagan Soldier Killed In Afghanistan Jet Crash

Capt. Thomas J. Gramith of Eagan, Minn., 27, was killed when his North Carolina-based Air Force fighter jet crashed in eastern Afghanistan on July 17, 2009. He was assigned to the 336th Fighter Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.

WELCOME HOME

Capt. Michael 'Scott' Speicher

Missing Gulf War Pilot's Remains Found

Remains Found Of Capt. Michael 'Scott' Speicher, Whose F-18 Was Shot Down 18 Years Ago Over Iraq.

Navy pilot Capt. Michael "Scott" Speicher was shot down over the Iraq desert on the first night of the Gulf War in 1991 and it was there he apparently was buried by Bedouins, hidden in the sand all these years.



Disabled Veterans Eligible for FREE Transit

Minnesota's disabled veterans are now able to use public transportation throughout Minnesota at no charge beginning today. The transit benefit was passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Tim Pawlenty this year.

Disabled veterans simply need to show the proper identification card to bus operators of any fixed-route service in the state, including Metro Transit and suburban transit providers in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area as well as regular-route services in Duluth, St. Cloud, Rochester, Moorhead, East Grand Forks and Mankato.

There are approximately 50,000 disabled veterans in Minnesota. The free ride benefit also extends to a personal care attendant who may be assisting a disabled veteran as they travel.

In the Metro area, this benefit is also available on the Hiawatha light-rail line and on the Northstar commuter rail line, which will begin operations late this year between Big Lake, Minn., and downtown Minneapolis.

To qualify for the free rides, disabled veterans must show a Veterans Identification Card, or VIC issued by a VA Medical Center with the words "Service Connected" or the initials "SC" below the photo. The cards are available at the VA medical centers in Minneapolis and St. Cloud.

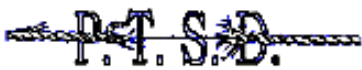
For information call (612) 467-1991 or visit www.va.gov/healtheligibility/application/IDCard.asp

Minnesota Medal of Honor Plaque Dedication

The Minnesota Commanders' Task Force and the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs has commissioned a plaque to honor the fifty-five Minnesota Medal of Honor recipients associated with the state.

These individuals have served in every conflict beginning with the Civil War and have helped maintain freedom and liberty during times of peace. The plaque was dedicated on June 13th as part of the Minnesota Honors Vietnam Era Veterans event.

Don't wait until you break...



Need help with Veterans Benefits?
Dakota County Veterans Services,
651-554-5601.

Post 9433
Wednesday Night Bingo

Progressive Jackpot

Cash Prizes

Games Start at 7:00 P.M.

Food Specials 5 - 9

All Are Welcome

WIN \$\$\$!!

Charitable Gaming
Powerball & Minnesota Lottery
PULL TABS \$1.00
Mon.-Fri. 2:00 PM - 1:00 AM
Sat. 11:00 AM - 1:00 AM
Sun. Noon - 1:00 AM

Support Your Club