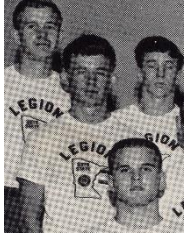


Happy 97th Birthday American Legion

Sunday afternoon, Sweetie Bev and I attended the American Legion Post 21 annual membership dinner. Minnesota state department commander, Jim Kellogg was the main speaker. Honored at the dinner were 2015 Boys State attendees. Boys State is a week of study and involvement where the boys actually organize and participate in the various levels and branches of government.



At a recent American Legion meeting, I innocently mentioned that I had attended Boys State in 1962. My friend Dennis made the comment “Oh, there was only one boy in your high school!” Actually my graduating class from Newfolden had 18 boys. I brought a picture from the 1962 event to the dinner to prove I was there. My friend Tim, who coordinated the Moorhead Boys State project, had me stand and be recognized as a Post 21 member and Boys State Alumnus. Boys State was a great experience for a small town (about 300 people) boy on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota.

That experience along with my four years in the Air Force taught me that a poor farm kid from a small town in Minnesota could compete with anyone in the State or Nation. I am grateful to the Newfolden American Legion for sponsoring my Boys State experience.

The main topic of the dinner was membership. Post 21 membership is open to any honorably discharged veteran during war time dates, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon/Grenada, Operation Just Cause and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. If your service falls into any of those date ranges, please contact Post 21 or go on-line and apply. You must have a copy of your DD214 or Discharge papers. If you are not a Veteran, you may still join Post 21 Auxiliary if are the grandmother, mother, sister, wife or direct or adopted female descendants of all men and women who are eligible as shown above. The Sons of the Legion is open to any male who is a direct male descendant, adopted son or stepson of a member of the American Legion. To apply, get more information or learn about volunteer activities, contact Post 21 at 218.233.1297, or stop by the Post at 303 30 St N in Moorhead.

Mark your calendar to attend a fund raiser for the Honor Flight on April 17 at Legion Post 21, sponsored by the Legion, VFW, DAV and Vietnam Veterans of America and their auxiliaries. A pork dinner will be served from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm, silent auction items can be bid on, the Honor Flight committee will have information and will be selling shirts and other goodies. Everyone is welcome, the dinner is by free will donation.

Vietnam Veterans Day will be celebrated at the West Fargo VFW on Saturday March 26 from Noon to 6pm. All are welcome to attend.