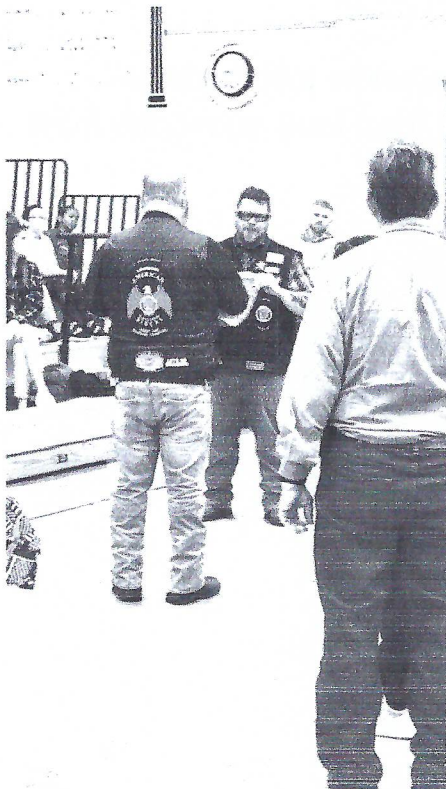


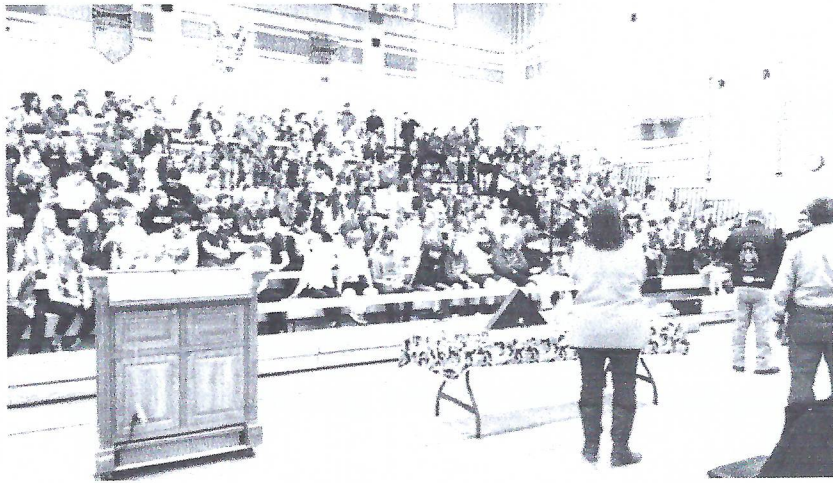
Lindsborg Kansas
Post 140
2024 Americanism Report

Over the past three years, we have really built up an incredible Americanism program within our unit. Tina Adams (vice president) had the idea a few years ago to be able to provide an assembly style presentation in our schools. We have started with our middle school here in Lindsborg. This was our third year and we have already laid the groundwork for this coming November.

Tina has created a four year rotating presentation. This helps us provide a new fresh offering each year as the kids go through middle school (5th-8th graders).

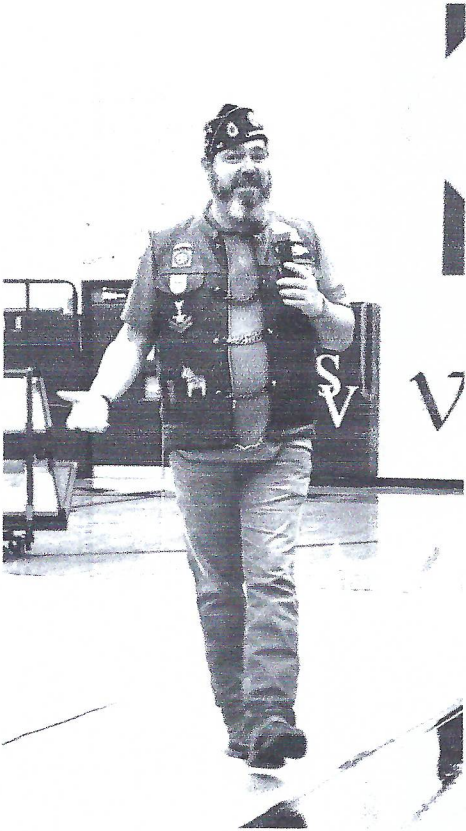
The first year (2022) was focused on the flag itself. Guest speakers talked about the story of Betsy Ross. We shared the story of how the Star Spangled Banner came to be. Someone spoke about what our flag means to them as a spouse of a veteran, and how it's symbolism when a service member dies in combat. And our veteran guests helped show flag folding and went over flag etiquette.



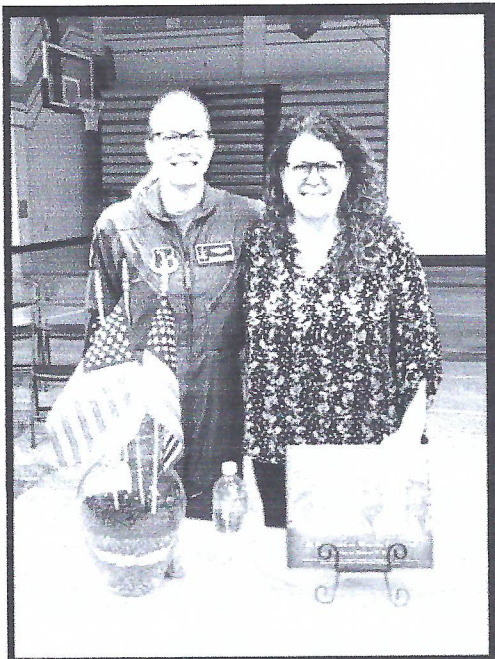


The second year (2023) featured several male veterans telling the kids stories of their service (only the good stuff). They then took questions from the kids and got to hand out candy!





This last year was our third year (2024). We hosted a couple of our local female veterans. They shared their stories of service. The audience of 252 junior high students and 10 staff members sat on the edge of their seats while our veterans shared photos of aircrafts they worked on and of overseas tours. An auxiliary member then told the story of "Flanders Field" and the significance of the Poppy. Lastly, Tina told the story of the Christmas Truce during WWII. We ended the assembly by handing out bracelets that said "In Remembrance" and had poppies on them.



For the fourth year of the rotation, Tina has planned on having stories of lesser known heroes. Those that served their country, that may not have

even been in the military. Common people who stepped up and stepped in when their country needed it. When freedom depended on it. She is hoping that our guests can even dress as these figures, in a drama style presentation.

Every year we are continually impressed by the kids who sit still, respectfully giving honor and attention to the speakers. Our relationship with the schools here in Lindsborg is great and it enables us to utilize this window into the lives of our youth at different levels in education. We are hoping to expand this program if we have support from the high school. We do this program with leftover candy from the Witches Wail every year and from out of pocket donations for the bracelets and thank you gift cards for our veteran guests.

We were also able to help arrange a flag folding lesson between veterans and our local girl scout group this year. The girls were so wonderful and were in awe of the men who took time to kindly teach them about the value and importance of our flag.