Buhl’s Rudy Krueger proud to receive Quilt of Valor

LINDA TYSSEN
MESABI TRIBUNE

Buhl — Korean War veteran 91-year-old Rudy Krueger is proud to have served his country, a pride renewed when he and fellow veterans received Quilts of Valor at a reunion in Branson, Mo.

The patriotic quilts are the mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation: “To cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing quilts.” The reunion was the 31st gathering of veterans of the 84th and 62nd Construction Battalions, to end.

Krueger was very touched by the Quilt of Valor gesture, he said in a phone interview from his Buhl home. His military experience, said Krueger, is a very important thing.” To hold their memory with respect and reverence is very important.”

“I think of honor guard as being something of a very special event. I’m glad to be a part of it,” said Army Fire Capt. Dustin Erickson, a firefighter who was one of the firefighters and police standing at attention during a ceremony at Veterans’ Memorial Park in Virginia Saturday morning to honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks 20 years ago in 2001.

Virginia members train, prepare for times they may be needed

JIM ROMSAAS
MESABI TRIBUNE

Virginia Fire Department Captain Dustin Erickson and Firefighter Jason Krause march past a line of Honor Guard at the Virginia Veterans Memorial on Saturday morning to honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks 20 years ago in 2001.

The honor guard has been in existence for four years with the goal “to pay respects for the people that have fallen and also to leave that lasting memory for those that lost something,” said firefighter/EMT Jason Krause. “To hold their memory with respect and reverence is very important.”

“We’re very excited about this,” Erickson said on Friday. “It has a lot of meaning to a lot of people. It’s nice to be able to give back in other things.”

“Pie Burner” fat tire bike ride set for Saturday

Event benefits Toys for Tots program

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A second run is planned to raise money for Toys for Tots.

The entry fee is a donation to Northeast St. Louis County Toys for Tots Foundation. New, unwrapped toys, books, stocking stuffers, and monetary donations (either cash or check) are being collected prior to the ride.

Starting at 8 a.m. donations of toys or monetary donations can be dropped off, and the ride is set to start at 9 a.m. sharp. All riders are required to sign a waiver.

This ride was started in 2012 by Joe Sacio, a member of the Buhl Fire Department, and is one of his friends from Detroit Lakes, Minn., who helped organize and promote the ride.

Doug Swenson of Prairie Township is featured in a video on blacksmithing created as part of a video series at Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisago City.