



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI
POST WEB SITE: POST59.US POST PHONE: 608.205.9090



Volume 21
Issue 4



April 2019

2018-2019 OFFICERS

- Commander**
Sonny Swangstu
- 1st Vice Commander**
Michael Currie
- 3rd Vice Commander**
Larry Johnson
- Service Officer**
Joshua Holt
- Sgt. at Arms**
Dale Seffens
- Finance Officer**
Jim Oler
- Historian**
DuWayne Teigen
- Adjutant**
Vic Duesel
- Judge Advocate**
Rodger Hansen
- Chaplain**
Edward Nowicki

Commander's Report



Greetings,

Hey folks, I think we survived the nasty old man winter and we can break out the rakes, mowers and tree trimmers and go to work. Hopefully all the coughs and colds will go away for another season.

I am saddened to tell all we lost two long time members of our Post. They are Roger Schrudlac and Jim Prough. They will be greatly missed. We need to recognize and announce those members who pass on in a timely manner. We do not want them to be forgotten.

We have applied for a helicopter from the government. If we are awarded one, it will be at no cost to the Post. I will be responsible for the shipping costs thru other means. Some people will ask who authorized this, well it went thru the proper channels at the Post. Motion was made

and seconded and discussed and voted on with no objections. Hopefully we will hear from Uncle Sam this summer.

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you cannot pay your dues. There is funding available for this. We need to keep our Post at 100%.

Our last jam session is April 23rd and will continue in the fall. Also, our last Post dinner will be in April with swiss steak. We will resume again in the fall.

Thank you volunteers for all you do to support our Post,

Commander Sonny

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MONTHLY POST MEETING SCHEDULE

Legion

**2nd Monday
7:00 pm**

Auxiliary

**1st Monday
6:30 pm**

**Sons of the
American Legion
2nd Wednesday
7:00 pm**

Meetings are held at
the Post.

All members are
encouraged to attend.

Hall Rentals

Call

Polly Stout 608.513.5378
(Between 8am – 9pm)

Or email:

buddycatsonny@yahoo.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2 – Chair Yoga – 10:00am – 12:00pm
April 9 – Chair Yoga – 10:00am – 12:00pm
April 12 – Dean’s Blue Country – 6:00-9:00pm
April 13 – Brett Peterson (acoustic variety) 8:00-11:00pm
April 14 – Auxilliary Breakfast 7:30am-11:30am (For Stoughton Girl Scouts & ALA Badgers Girls)
April 16 – Chair Yoga – 10:00am – 12:00pm
April 21 – Happy Easter!
April 23 – Chair Yoga – 10:00am – 12:00pm
April 23 – Post Dinner – 6:30pm
April 26 – Jackie Marie & Frank (Lefty) James Country variety 6:00-9:00pm
April 27 – Post & ALA 3rd District Spring Conference in Dodgeville
April 28 – Country Music Jam Session with Mikey Fuss and the Cherokee Three 2:00-6:00pm
April 30 – Chair Yoga – 10:00am – 12:00pm
May 4 – 1st Annual Kentucky Derby Bash 2:00 – 11:00pm
May 10 - Dean’s Blue Country – 6:00-9:00pm
May 17 – Syttende Mai
May 18 – Dan Reilly Country Variety – 7:00-11:00pm
May 24 – Jackie Marie & Frank (Lefty) James Country variety 6:00-9:00pm

For Upcoming Legion Entertainment, call the Post at 608.205.9090 for a recorded message or go to post59.us and click on the Upcoming Events tab.

As always, there is no cover charge for Legion Entertainment

EVENT PRICING

Post Dinner: 6:30pm

\$11.00

Breakfast: 7:30-11:30am

\$8.00 Adults/\$4.00 Children under 10

AMERICAN LEGION BAR

803 NORTH PAGE STREET – STOUGHTON, WI

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Bar Open to Serve You: Wednesday – Sunday
(Monday & Tuesday CLOSED)

- Wednesday: **Open at 3:00pm**
- ThursdaArpy: **Open at 3:00pm**
- Friday: **3:00-10:00pm or later**
- Saturday: **Noon-10:00pm or later**
- Sunday: **11:30am-6:00pm or later**

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES NIGHT

\$.50 off any Ladies Drinks

THURSDAY IS THIRSTY THURSDAY

Bud Light or Miller Light Taps
12oz.- \$1.00 / 16oz.- \$1.50

FRIDAY IS OUR FISH FRY

5:00 – 8:00pm

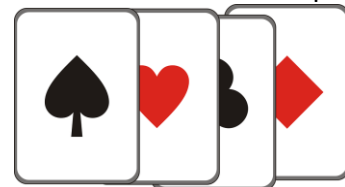
Which includes salad bar

SATURDAY – MEAT RAFFLE

2:00 pm

Euchre Card Party

Come join us every 2nd Wednesday of each month (through May 2019) at 1:00 pm to play euchre!
All men & women are welcome to play. You do not need to be a member to play.





Sons of the American Legion Report

It appears that the harsh weather has gone, and Spring has indeed sprung. I'd like to thank the SAL members and the many volunteers that helped make the St. Patrick's Day Brunch an incredible success. The response to the Brunch by our friends, families and visitors caught us a little by surprise and we rushed to replenish the menu items as best we could. Our most sincere apologies to those that came for the corned beef and were disappointed to find that our supply had been wiped out much earlier than we had anticipated. On the bright side, a very generous monetary gift was presented to members of Quilters By The River, the quilting group that creates gifts for Veterans.

As we cruise through Spring and towards the longer warmer days that are coming, we would like to remind people and inform others about "Raise the Flag in Stoughton" If you reside in or have a business within 6 miles of the City of Stoughton you qualify to join in this effort. Five times this year you can have a 3' x 5' American Flag displayed at you're your home or business. On the five days, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Patriot Day (911), and Veterans Day volunteers will be out after day break to set up a flag for display by you. The cost to participate is \$50.00 and that covers all five events. The volunteers return before sunset to retrieve the flag and assembly. The Raise the Flag program is managed by Mike, Tammy, and Terry Niedfeldt of Thrivent Financial here in Stoughton. The proceeds are split between the volunteer organizations involved and supplying funds for maintenance of the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park. Sign up forms are available at the American Legion Post 59 or you can contact Tammy at tammy.niedfeldt@thrivent.com or 608-873-3910 ext. 5 Sons of the American Legion members are looking forward to helping with the delivery, set up, and retrieval of the flags again this year. If you know or are aware of a veteran or community member that would like to have a flag this year but it may not be possible to include in their budget please contact Bob Hocking at 608-206-6980 or any SAL member including Jim Oler at Post 59 The SAL has set up a plan to fund a number of flags for those who would truly appreciate it.

Congratulations to Donna Strandlie on her recent retirement, she has been a long time member of the Auxiliary and a fantastic volunteer for many SAL events. I'm sure your previous employer will quickly realize how much you will be missed.

Another retiree that merits mentioning is less known to most of the community of Stoughton, but a man that deserves a moment in the spotlight as well. Ed Bauer has decided to retire following his latest birthday. Ed received an early birthday gift of sorts when he was notified days before the big day that he would be traveling on an upcoming Badger Honor Flight. Ed was very excited about the news and wasted no time in contacting his daughters and grandchildren to let them know about his upcoming travel plans. Ed has always been very proud of his service to the country while in the Marines. My wife and your daughter Amy and I are proud of you too Ed. By the way this is Ed's second try at retiring, his first attempt was 25 years ago when he turned 65 Happy # 90 Ed.

Bob Hocking

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

"May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that You are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, You are ever at work in our lives, too. Open our eyes and lives to the needed changes in our lives this **Spring**. Awaken us to new life and perspective, for we **pray** in Jesus' name."

- Amen

Ed Nowicki
Chaplain

Auxiliary Members: *If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Linda Swangstu at 608.873.9428.*

Recycle your inkjet cartridges!



Please bring drop off your empty inkjet cartridges. The box is located at the entrance of the legion. Proceeds from this collection project are earmarked for the American Legion Auxiliary General Fund and will be used to offset operating expenses.



Auxiliary News



Greetings ~

In my news article last month, I mentioned a new auxiliary program titled Past Presidents Parley which is being spear-headed by Lisa Olson. I had inadvertently omitted Ellen Curran as being among our past living presidents who will be included in this program.

I want to give a special shout out and thanks to Elvera Phelps and her committee members Bonnie Kennedy, Sally Schieldt, Bonnie Lamp-Dobson and Judy Rabe for all their efforts in coordinating, planning and working at the Dane County Meeting hosted at the legion on Thursday, March 28th.

On Sunday, April 14th the auxiliary will host the legion breakfast with proceeds earmarked for the Girl Scouts and Badger Girls State. There will be a Bloody Mary bar and an Easter themed basket to raffle. Hope to see you there!

At the February legion dinner Richard 'Dick' Amundson was presented with a veteran's quilt, recognizing his service to our country and his many years of service and volunteerism in our legion. The quilt, an auxiliary sponsored project, was made by Pat Broadbent.

Save the date: Auxiliary members – please mark your calendars and plan to attend and auxiliary training session titled “I’M A MEMBER ... NOW WHAT”. The session will be held at the legion on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 9:00 am – 11:30 am. Participants will become familiar with the ALA history, its purpose, growth, development, mission and vision. New and seasoned members learn to get the most out of their membership.

We are a very active unit and our successes are a direct result of all the hard work and dedication of our auxiliary members; and I thank all of you for what you do!

Again, thanks to all our members for all they do!

~Cathy

**2018-2019
OFFICERS**

President

Cathy Rigdon
608.873.5818
608.712.5312

1st Vice President

Amy Hermes
608.516.8720

2nd Vice President

Jona Chat
608.622.4574

Secretary

Polly Stout
608.513.5378

Treasurer

Linda Schmidt
608.205.2517

Chaplain

Linda Swangstu
608.577-7428

Membership

Lisa Olson
608.279.4847
Bonnie Kennedy
608.669.7544

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK ALBUMS FOR SALE

The historical Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park albums are now on sale. The beautiful, nearly 200 page album, is a history of the building of the memorial, beginning with the planning stages in July, 2014, and concludes with the dedication on October 14, 2017, and contains many photographs, stories, articles, documents, etc. Copies are on display at the Veterans of Foreign Wars on Veterans Road and at the American Legion on North Page Street. Copies cost \$50. To order, call Bud Erickson at 608-873-5305.

To Subscribe to an Email version of The Legion Post

Visit post59.us and subscribe or just email 59legionpost@gmail.com and in the subject line put subscribe.

Membership News

Memberships have been coming in pretty slow since the last newsletter went out. In the last month, we have received 2 on-line, 1 transfer and two new members. We renewed 355 out of 386 for a percentage of 86.79%.

Our Post offers it's members many things such as comraderie and a beautiful building, monthly dinners and breakfasts and a meat raffle every Saturday.

Please stop by and enjoy our Post home. I will be mailing postcards to the members that have not paid their dues yet. We will begin a phone call campaign sometime in May. We need all of our membership turned in 30 days prior to State Convention which is coming up fast.

We have made 100%+ and all-time highs in membership 14 out of the last 15 years. It would be a shame if we fall short this year.

If you receive a past due notice from National Headquarters in the mail, please pay it at once. Do not ignore it.

And remember, you can always pay on-line. Just go to wilegion.org, click "renew on-line", enter your name and member ID # and pay with a Mastercard, Visa or Discover card. It's that easy.

Submitted by Bob Lloyd, Membership Chairman-Post 59

873-5926 Lloyd2364@sbcglobal.net



"And now the Torch and Poppy Red, we wear in honor of our dead,
Fear not that ye have died for naught; We'll teach the lesson
that ye wrought in Flanders Fields."

- excerpt of Moina Michael's 1918 poem *We Shall Keep the Faith*

On May 23th our Auxiliary will launch National Poppy Days in Stoughton as a way to honor U.S. Service members, from the battlefields of France in WWI a century ago, to today's War on Terror. For 100 years, ALA members have distributed millions of poppies annually across the country in exchange for donations that go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our state & local community.

Last year our Unit's Poppy distribution raised over \$3,000. We appreciate your donations. Be sure to wear the poppy we have enclosed in this newsletter in memory of the fallen and to honor those who have served for our freedom. And if you are able please use the enclosed return envelope to make a donation to this year's collection.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Unit 59 American Legion Auxiliary



Richard 'Dick' Amundson was presented with a Veteran Quilt, recognizing and thanking him for his service to our country and his volunteerism to the legion. The quilt was made by Pat Broadbent (not pictured) and presented by Alice Moen (left) and Teresa Vike-Kelly (right).



YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING CLASS

WHERE: Stoughton Post 59, 803 N Page St, Stoughton, WI

WHEN: **SATURDAY, MAY 4th, 2019**

REGISTRATION: 8:30 AM **CLASS:** 9:00 to 11:30

(Coffee, Juice & Donuts will be served)

TOPIC: "I'M A MEMBER. NOW WHAT?"

Participants will become familiar with the ALA history – its purpose, growth, development, mission and vision and learn to get the most out of your membership!

COST: \$5.00 for Booklet (can be paid at the door)

SIGN UP BY EMAIL or PHONE

Lisa Olson – waucoman@hotmail.com or Call 608-279-4847

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 22nd

Or by MAIL to: Lisa Olson

1617 Moline Street, Stoughton, WI 53589

PRESENTED BY: Department of Wisconsin Leadership Committee:

Amy Luft, Chairman amyiluft@gmail.com

Judy Kuta, Co-Chair judykuta44@gmail.com

Donna Jensen, Co-Chair djensen20@gmail.com

“Calling all Veterans & Military Personnel”

Veterans from all eras are needed to ride the veteran's float in the Syttende Mai and Memorial Day parades. Not necessary to have been in a combat zone. Not necessary to be in uniform. These floats are in your honor.

Please come and participate. No RSVP necessary.

[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

Syttende Mai Parade - Sunday, May 19

(Meet at Mandt Park by 1:00 p.m. The Veteran's Float parks on South Fourth Street)

Memorial Day Parade - Monday, May 27

(Beginning on S. Prairie and West Main St. at 10:00 a.m. Parking at Mandt Center 9:15am, Shuttle to parade line-up for parade participants). Veteran's Float parks on the corner of S. Prairie & W. Main.

Memorial Day Program - Monday, May 27

(Immediately Following the Parade @ 11:00 a.m. at Mandt Center **rain or shine**)

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Post Dinner Menu – April 23rd – 6:30 pm

Swiss Steak

please visit: www.post59.us/legion-post-dinner-information

Or Call 608.205.9090



**Otis Sampson American Legion Post 59
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 1st OF EACH MONTH**

Editor: April Vingum: 59legionpost@gmail.com

Visit the Post website at www.post59.us
