



THE LEGION POST

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



Volume 17 Issue 2

March 2015

Commander's Report

2014-2015 OFFICERS

- Commander**
Sonny Swangstu
- 1st Vice Commander**
Vik Malling
- 2nd Vice Commander**
Mary Lloyd
- 3rd Vice Commander**
Larry Johnson
- Service Officer**
Bob Lloyd
- Sgt. at Arms**
Dale Seffens
- Finance Officer**
Jim Oler
- Historian**
Lenny Swingen
- Adjutant**
DuWayne Stellmacher
- Judge Advocate**
Terry McCardle
- Chaplain**
Rich Fries



Greetings,

Well, so much for the short winter we thought we were going to have. We got spoiled to start out; although I am glad I don't live on the East Coast. I can hack the cold weather compared to many inches of snow. The pitchers and catchers will be starting to practice soon, so it will be baseball time again.

Our Veteran's Memorial Park fund-raising, publicity, and

name-searching committees will be start action real soon. We had a few issues to get out of the way and we are almost ready to roll. We do have a basic idea of what we want it to look like. You may look on the Post Web site to see what I mean. The Web site is post59.org. Dean Stenjem has done a wonderful job getting our site up to date. Thanks again Dean!

Our good friend, Legion member, and founder of our Post Honor Guard, Nick Bierman, has recently had some difficult times. He is in the Skaalen Home Rehab at this time. We wish him all the best and pray he will get well and

come home soon. Stop in and say hi or send a card to let him know we are thinking of him.

I am ready to turn in the wish list to the Bryant Foundation for 2015. This consists of improvements that we think the Post needs. We will ask for their approval for the funding. These yearly grants have been a life saver for our Post finances. What a great foundation it is, as it has helped the community of Stoughton a great deal.

Until next time stay warm and cozy and you snow birds, stay cool!

Commander Sonny

Auxiliary

- President**
Marlene Bierman
873-7397
- 1st Vice President**
Elvera Phelps
873-5154
- 2nd Vice President**
Linda Swangstu
873-9428
- Secretary**
Linda Schmidt
205-2517
- Treasurer**
Alice Moen
444-7320
- Chaplain**
Sharon Silbaugh
873-3927
- Sgt. at Arms**
Pat Christensen
873-7479
- Historian**
Sherry Leick
873-6687

Auxiliary News



Hello American Legion Family,

Hope everyone is enjoy the winter, not too much snow yet. I guess we can be thankful that we are not living out East. Plus, the days are getting longer.

The Auxiliary hasn't had much activity lately. When you come to the breakfast please support our raffles. The money goes to veterans programs and projects.

In January we lost our member and past president, Rae Ladd. Rae was an original Charter Member of Unit 59 and served for

many years as our president. She was instrumental in keeping our unit going and made sure that Stoughton was represented every year at Badger Girls. Our charter was draped in black in her honor at our February meeting.

We are now over 102% of our 2015 Membership goal. Thanks to all of you who pay your dues every year. Welcome to our new members: Susan Hove, Janelle Greitt, Mary Onsrud, and Cynthia Sergent.

The District Conference will be in Gays Mills, April 25. I would like members and the new members to attend. There will be more on this next month.

The members at our last meeting approved the donations from our general fund. We donated to the different community programs and veterans programs.

We hope to get three girls to attend the Badger Girl State this year.

President continued on page 2

CALENDER OF EVENTS

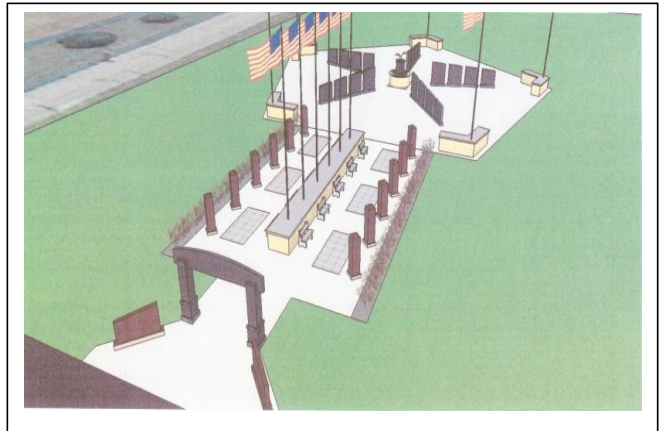
- February 24 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- February 27 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 - midnight
- February 28 - Universal Sound – 8:00 - midnight
- March 7 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 - midnight
- March 14 - Universal Sound – 8:00 - midnight
- March 15 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- March 21 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 - midnight
- March 22 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss
2:00 - 6:00 pm
- March 24 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- March 27 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 - midnight
- March 28 - Bret Peterson Band – 8:00 - midnight

President continued from page 1

We still haven't found a candidate for president yet. Don't know what will happen to the Auxiliary if we can't get a president. We are an active group, so I don't want it to fall apart. My husband is in poor health, so I can't serve any more. I have held the presidency for three years. I will be glad to be a mentor and I know that Alvera Phelps and Linda Swangstu will be glad to work with you too. The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.

Marlene Bierman
President

Veterans Memorial Park Design Selected



The Steering Committee met on February 11 and unanimously selected alternative 1A (above) as the design for the Veterans Memorial Park. There will be a few modifications to the original specifications. Go to Web sites post59.org or stoughtonvfw.org to view this design.

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

Breakfast: 7:00-11:00 am
\$8.00 adults, \$4.00 children

For upcoming Legion entertainment, call the Post at 205.9090 for a recorded message.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Rich Fries at 608.273.8758.

Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577

Thank You

A big thank you andatta boy needs to go out to Bud Erickson for his implementing and being head of operations for the Vidalia Onion Project for all these years. He can, now, finally step back and relax a little as thanks to DuWayne Stellmacher and Wendall Ott for stepping up to the plate and taking over for Bud. Thanks to all.

Jim Oler
Finance Officer



Sons of the American Legion

I just wanted to take a few minutes of your time to let you know what The Sons of the American Legion is all about.

Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires.

S.A.L. members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership. Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion comprise the Legion Family, which has a combined membership of nearly 4.2 million.

Although Sons has its own membership, the organization is not a separate entity. Rather, S.A.L. is a program of The American Legion. Many Legionnaires hold dual membership in S.A.L.

The Sons organization is divided into detachments at the state level and squadrons at the local level. A squadron pairs with a local American Legion post; a squadron's charter is contingent upon its parent post's charter. However, squadrons can determine the extent of their services to the community, state and nation. They are permitted flexibility in planning programs and activities to meet their needs, but must remember S.A.L.'s mission: to strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion. Therefore, squadrons' campaigns place an emphasis on preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

The mission of the Sons is to support veterans and their families and the policies of our parent organization, The American Legion. Virtually everything that involves the Sons could be grouped under three areas: 1) support for veterans and their families, 2) promoting patriotism and Americanism and 3) promoting programs which benefit the youth of our country.

We have been working very hard to get our Post 59 Sons of the American Legion Squadron to where we should be. We encourage all of our members to join our meeting which is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at The Legion.

Thank You,

***Dean Stenjem
SAL Adjutant***

Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park

The Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park will be located on Hwy B and Country Club Road just north on Stoughton. The land for the memorial was generously donated by Oscar and Shirley Linnerud. The park will face south toward Hwy B and will be approximately 2.38 acres in size. The entrance to the park will feature a monument to thank major contributors for their part in making the park possible. The goal of the park design is for it to be educational and informative, but still sacred and peaceful in honoring our military personnel. Pechmann Memorials, American Legion Post 59, VFW Post 328, as well as members from the community worked together to approve the design concept.

The first part of the memorial was created to offer an opportunity for both learning and reflection. It will offer six flags, which are available for sponsorship, to honor the branches of service. These are the flags of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. There will also be a flag for the Merchant Marines who have proudly served our nation since the Revolutionary War. Also in this area will be six foot pillars, along each side, which will highlight brief synopsis of the major wars, the Gettysburg address, as well as significant battles and speeches. In addition, there will be multiple patio areas with pavers and benches that will be available for sponsorship

and offer personalized engraving. The sale of these items will allow individuals, groups, and businesses to help fund the project and give a lasting salute in remembrance of all veterans.

The main area of the memorial is a patio in the shape of the Pentagon, in honor of the Department of Defense. The employees and military personnel of the Department of Defense work daily to form policies and practices to ensure our safety and the safety of our armed forces. This main area is kept distinct from the educational portion to offer a space for more private reflection. The points of the pentagon will feature five additional flags--the U.S., the State of Wisconsin, American Legion, VFW, and the POW/Mia flags. Going toward the center are five rows of black granite panels that will be used to list the names of veterans from the Stoughton area who have served in the military. In the center of the patio will be an eagle with a wing span of 4-6 feet mounted on a pentagon. This pentagon will list the names of all military personnel, from the Stoughton area, who were killed in action or are missing in action. Additionally, the eagle is a symbol of freedom—freedom that we have been privileged to have because of the service and sacrifices of our veterans and their families.

Submitted by Bud Erickson

Monthly Post Meeting Schedule

Legion – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm

Auxiliary – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm

SAL – 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 pm

Meetings are held at the Post.

All members are encouraged to attend.



AMERICAN LEGION BAR 803 N. Page St. Stoughton, WI

Open to the Public

Bar open to serve you Wednesday - Sunday

Wednesday & Thursday: 3:00 pm or later

Friday: 3 – 10 pm or later

Saturday: Noon – 10 pm or later

Sunday: 11:30 am – 6 pm or later

Wednesday Ladies Night

\$.50 off any Ladies drinks



STOUGHTON AREA VETERANS MEMORIAL NAME REQUEST FORM

Help us to honor all Stoughton area past and present men and women who served in the United States military. This includes all those who served in the National Guard and Reserves

Please complete the form below. This information will be used to ensure that the person's name will be inscribed on one of the black marble monuments in the Veterans Memorial Park. (Don't worry about duplication. We'll sort that out.)

VETERAN INFORMATION

First Name _____ Middle initial ____ Last Name _____

Suffix (Jr. Sr.) _____ Branch of Service _____ Dates Served _____

Contact person _____ Relationship _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Send form to: Roger Kleven, PO Box 16, Stoughton, WI 53589

To submit a name by email, go to either post59.org or stoughtonvfw.org and follow the instructions to enter a name.

To find out if we already have a name in the Veterans Memorial Data Base, go to either post59.org or stoughtonvfw.org and follow the instructions.

A MESSAGE FROM THE VIDALIA ONION
CHAIRPERSONS:

From: Wendell Ott & DuWayne Stellmacher

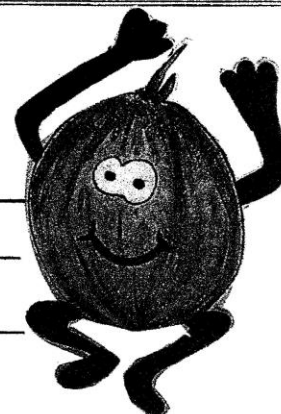
We are writing this letter to inform all the members that Wendell Ott and I have volunteer to resume the duties of the chairmanship of the Annual Vidalia Onion Sale.

Bud Erickson and his dedicated staff of volunteers has held the post for 5 years and has done a outstanding job. But he has indicated that 5 years is enough, Bud, we salute you and your staff for a job well done. We know that we have some mighty big shoes to fill. And with that thought, Wendell and I are hoping that all the members of the Post will continue to support us as you have Bud. This event is one of the bigger fund raisers of the Post. And with out the help of every member to make this a success, we will not be able to support all the monetary commitments that we are called upon to support through out the year. And this year we have even a better reason to sell as much as we can. Our partnership with the V.F.W. in making our dream come true with the Veteran's Memorial Park Project. The bar is set high, so lets meet the challenge and make this year's Onion Sale one of the best. Wendell and I know that every one who buys one bag of onions, that maybe this year you can sell just one more bag to a relative or friend, or make a donation to the Food Pantry with a bag, You will be supporting the Legion at the same time helping someone in need, Fill out the PreOrder Form for your self, then using the order blank below the PreOrder Form. If you plan on donating write "Food Pantry" in place of a name. Send it to me at the address that you see at the bottom of the PreOrder Form. THANK YOU

Sincerely Wendell Ott & DuWayne Stellmacher

Vidalia Onion

PreOrder Request Form



Name _____ Home Phone / Cell _____

5 lb Bag _____ @ \$ 6 .00 _____ Amount Owed \$ _____

10 lb Bag _____ Qty _____ @ \$ 10.00 _____ Amount Owed \$ _____

Qty _____ Send To: D.Stellmacher
1512 W. Main St. Stoughton WI 53589


Name _____ Home / Cell / Phone # _____
Please Print LAST NAME FIRST

5 lbs @ \$ _____ Qty _____ 10 lbs @ \$ _____ Qty _____ Total Order Amount \$ _____

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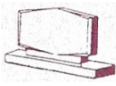


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Bone-in Ham with all the trimmings
February 24, 6:30 pm

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 8TH OF EACH MONTH
VISIT THE POST WEB SITE AT POST59.ORG
Editors Cliff Maerz and Tim Carter: C_Maerz@msn.com