



THE LEGION POST

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



VOLUME 14 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2012

Commander's Report

2012-2013 OFFICERS

- Commander**
Sonny Swangstu
- 1st Vice Commander**
Dean Silbaugh
- 2nd Vice Commander**
Larry Ambrose
- 3rd Vice Commander**
Larry Johnson
- Service Officer**
Cliff Maerz
- Sgt. at Arms**
Danny Call
- Finance Officer**
Jim Oler
- Historian**
Odean Teigen
- Adjutant**
Dennis Rodenkirch
- Judge Advocate**
Terry McCardle
- Chaplain**
Rich Fries



Fellow Legion Members,

Football season is upon us again with fall on the way. Where did the summer go? Now we can enjoy the cool nights for sleeping and finally turn the air conditioners off.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the donators to our parking lot project. We are getting close to being done. We still need a fence along the retaining wall, trees, and grass seed sowed. Thanks to Bud E. and Don H. for keeping the

ball rolling.

The picnic tables have been freshly painted thanks to a job well done by Laverne Christensen. It is nice to be able to sit outside and enjoy the weather while we can.

We are having a fish boil on Saturday, September 22 from 4:00-7:00 pm at the Post with the help of the SAL, Auxiliary, Legion Riders, and Post 59. Proceeds will be going toward the parking lot fund. We need help from all of the members, so if you can help please call Ray, Marlene Bierman, or Sonny. Also, the Post number is 205-9090 and you can leave a message. If you want tickets, ask at the Post lounge. We have

tickets for 4:00, 5:00, or 6:00 reservations. We will have deserts, raffles, and music. Come and enjoy a night out for a good cause.

Because food costs are increasing, we have to up our breakfast from \$7.00 to \$8.00. The children's fee will stay the same. We hope you will keep coming to our breakfasts.

We have our raffle tickets for sale. This is another fundraiser for the parking lot fund. They are \$50 and can be bought from the members of each organization of our American Legion family.

Commander continued on page 3

Auxiliary

- President**
Marlene Bierman
873-7397
- Vice President**
Julie Nygaard
333-9577
- Secretary**
Lisa Olson – 873-8924
- Treasurer**
Lynn Robertson
873-4889
- Chaplain**
Sharon Silbaugh
873-3927
- Sgt. at Arms**
Pat Christensen
873-7479
- Historian**
Kathy Teigen
873-7518
- Membership**
Lisa Olson – 873-8924
- Junior Leader**
Jona Chat – 622-4574

Auxiliary News



Hello America Legion Family,

Well I got a new computer, so things are good in the Bierman house. Hope everyone is doing well—health wise and everything else. Just an update on Lori Redepenning, she is home and has had some good and bad days. She and Bill took an Alaska cruise a couple days ago—one of the items on her bucket list of things to do.

Some of the Auxiliary, VFW members, and Junior members held an Ice Cream Social at the VA Hospital on August 19. There were 90 patients on five different units (not all were able to enjoy the treat).

Approximately 180 bowls of ice cream were served to patients, staff, and visitors. I thank everyone who participated with serving the ice cream and visiting with the patients. I know they love it when people come to visit, especially children.

The Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and Legion Riders will be holding a Fish Boil on Saturday, September 22. It will take place from 4:00-7:00 pm. The proceeds will go toward parking lot expenses. We are asking the Auxiliary members to bring bars or cookies for dessert. The cost will be \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. You can buy your tickets ahead of time. The first group is 4:00-5:00; second seating is 5:00-6:00, and third is 6:00-7:00. I am sure we will be needing help. You can call Linda Swangstu, 873-9428 or me, 873-7397.

Mark your Calendars, the Auxiliary will be having their 2nd annual Soup's On, Saturday, November 3.

President continued on page 3

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- September 21 - Universal Sound
8:30 pm – 12:30 am
- September 22 - Fish Boil – 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Country music jam - 8:00 pm – midnight
- September 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- September 29 - Mikey Fuss band
5:00 – 9:00 pm
- October 20 – Al and Elvira Phelps 50th
wedding anniversary open house
1:00 – 4:00 pm - no gifts
- October 21 - Legion breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- October 23 - Legion dinner – 6:30 pm
- October 27 - Music – 8:00 - midnight

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

Breakfast: 7:00-11:00 am
\$8.00 (*new price*) adults, \$4.00 children



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need,
please contact Rich Fries at 273-875*

CAN-A-THON

Save up your aluminum cans!
Let's all the Legion members get behind
the Post and see how much money we
can raise.

Save your aluminum cans and bring them
to the post on Saturday, October 27, 2012
between 8:00 am & noon.

Thanks for your co-operation.

BOOK SALE

We need a minimum of 500 books to
have a book sale.

Drop off your books at the Legion and
when we get enough books we will have
the sale.

Sale date will be in the next newsletter
after we reach 500 books.

Submitted by Steve Grady

Commander continued from page 1

Only 200 tickets will be sold with a top prize again of \$1,700; 2nd prize, \$600; 3rd prize, \$300; 4th prize, \$200; and 5th prize, \$100. The raffle drawing is on October 23 after the Post dinner.

We are looking for a chairman to run the Vidalia onion sales for next year. Bud Erickson would like to retire as he has done it long enough. This has been a very successful fund-raiser and we want to keep it going. Please call Bud at 873-5305 after 3:00 pm if you are interested.

Thanks goes out to Dennis Rodenkirch for all the work he has done toward our 3rd District Membership Award that we received last month at the convention. He has done many good things for our Post in the past four years and it is greatly appreciated by all.

The executive committee has been discussing the Post officer's term length to be extended. It takes one term (a year) to see and learn how things work. This will be brought up at our October monthly meeting. Any opinions are welcome.

Jim and Ginny Hanson are "retiring" from their Post cleaning duties which they have done for many years. We will need two volunteers to fill their positions on Wednesdays each week, although cleaning can be done on another day to fit individual schedules. Thanks to both for their many years of service.

Thank you to all volunteers,
Commander Sonny

President continued from page 1

Thanks to Kerie and Steve Hauger and Colleen and Josh for the great job they are doing in preparing and serving the Friday night fish fry. Nothing but good things has been heard about the food. So, when you eat at the Legion on Friday nights, please thank them and their waitresses for doing a good job. Also, stick your head in the kitchen and thank the cook, Mike.

Hope to see you at the Fish Boil.
President Marlene

Attention All Post Members

A proposal to change the Post 59 Constitution and By-Laws has been submitted. In short the proposal is to change the term lengths of Post officers from one year to two year terms. The first reading of the proposal will be read and handed out at the October 8, 2012 general meeting. Voting on the proposal will take place at the November 12, 2012 general meeting.

Post 59 Constitution

Article V
OFFICERS
Section 2:

.....who shall be nominated from the floor at the meeting preceding the annual election.

Proposed:

.....who shall be nominated from the floor at the meeting preceding the bi-annual election.

Section 3:

All officers shall be elected annual,

Proposed:

All officers shall be elected bi-annual,

Post 59 By-Laws

Article VII
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS
Section 2:

..... All officers shall serve for a period of one year.

Proposed:

..... All officers shall serve for a period of two year.



Membership

Currently 236 members have renewed which puts us at 67%. In early October another renewal notice will be mailed to members who haven't renewed. Let's all try and renew after this notice

New members:

Vic Duesel (new)
 Harlan Erdahl (new)
 Gerald Deyoe (new)
 Richard Johnson (new)
 Pat Beaman (new)
 Norman Thede (Transfer)
 Robert Grady (Transfer)
 Douglas Nelson (Transfer)

This will be my last term as Membership Chairman. At that time I will have served our post for four years in some membership capacity. Our membership continues to grow as more area residents understand the value of the American Legion. I enjoy everything about this position and have met most of our members at one time or another, but it's time for a break.

If you enjoy people and take pride in our Post, this position is for you. I would like to start training someone this year so you can learn at a slow pace. This position isn't hard, but it is an important one.

Dennis Rodenkirch
 American Legion Post 59
 608.438.8768

VA Hospital Needs

The Community Relations Service at the William S Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital regularly accepts the following items as donations. These items support a variety of our programs and customer service initiatives.

Clothing Room Needs:

- New packages of men's briefs/underwear – sizes 32-40
- New packages of men's tube/crew socks
- New tennis shoes – men's sizes 8 ½-12
- New small backpacks (NO duffel bags)
- New or gently used men's adult winter coats
- New or gently used gloves/winter hats

Craft Room Needs (all NEW items please):

- Small packages of model paint (6-8 assorted colors)
- Paint brushes (assorted sizes for use with models, paint by number, sun catchers, etc)
- Non-spiral sketch or drawing pads
- Small canvas boards for painting
- Acrylic paint sets
- Sandpaper
- Small cans of wood stain (the smallest size available)
- Puzzle books (crosswords, word search, Sudoku, etc)

Other regularly-needed items:

- NEW Afghans, quilts, lap robes, and fleece blankets (approximate sizes of 6'x5' or 3'x2')
- Gas cards (\$10 or \$20 denominations are best) – BP, Kwik Trip (make sure they are "gas only" cards)
- Pocket calendars/planners
- Composition books
- Postage stamps – 1st class stamps for patients to mail letters/cards
- Small or medium size cribbage boards or other peg-board games
- Reading glasses
- Used paperback books in good condition – bestsellers, westerns, and thrillers are the most popular
- Used magazines, *within three months of publication*, in good condition and of appropriated content for general reading

All donations should be coordinated through the group sponsoring the donations drive.

Thank you for your support of the VA Hospital and the veterans we serve!

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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



Allen E. Vick

Allen was born in Stoughton, WI on Friday, October 13, 1939. He grew up living on Giles St a block from Stoughton Hospital, where he was born. During his early education he attended the East Side School, Central School, Junior High, and graduated from Stoughton HS in 1957. He then attended Madison Business College where he earned a degree in accounting in 1959.

Like all young men at that time he would have been drafted, so he enlisted in the National Guard. Three days after graduating from college he left on the train for six months active duty with the US Army at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. A day and a half later he arrived at Fort Leonard Wood's reception center for processing and then to Company A, 4th Battalion, 3rd Training Regiment for basic training. After basic Allen was sent to Army Administration School also at Fort Leonard Wood. After completing Administration School he worked in a supply facility until his six months active duty ended in April 1960. On returning home he was in the 232nd Transportation Battalion, 32nd Infantry Division, based in Madison near Truax Field to complete his required reserve duty, where he became a truck driver. Although his MOS was for a clerk the 232nd Trans Bn needed drivers, which was a job he liked much better than being a clerk.



While in college he worked part-time at an insurance company. Shortly before completing Army active duty, his name was called on the PA and told to report to the orderly room. That wasn't always a good thing, although this time it was a phone call from another insurance company that offered him an accounting position at their Madison office based on a recommendation from the company for he worked part-time. He accepted the job and was getting along well until 1961 when the Soviet Union built the Berlin Wall and the entire 32nd Division was called to active duty for a year at Fort Lewis, WA. Still a truck driver, he hauled troops and supplies. A memorable experience Allen recalls vividly is driving to Fort Irwin, CA with a jeep loaded on his truck, pulling a trailer, and crossing Mount Shasta in a snow storm. Army trucks weren't good in snow, but with a little luck and some white knuckles he made it to that night's stop at a National Guard Armory in Shasta, CA.

In 1962 when the 32nd was released from active duty, Allen went back to his civilian job, married his wife, Agnes, and raised three children—Marsha, Jon, and Peter. They have seven grand children—Kristin, Megan, Eric, Anna, Sarah, Hannah, and Andrew—who range in age from 12 to 20. In 1974 he changed jobs and spent the next 27 years as an auditor for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. He retired in January 2002 at age 62.

During his reserve time, Allen attended several two-week summer training camps at Fort McCoy with the 232nd Transportation Battalion—still driving a truck! Allen's highest rank was Specialist 4. He earned the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Sharpshooter Badge, and Truck Driver's Badge.

He has been a member of Post 59 for 22 years and the Honor Guard four years. Allen enjoys being a member of the American Legion and the Honor Guard and considers it a privilege to have served his country.

Submitted by Evelyn Kahl



Coming to the
Stoughton VFW
200 Veterans RD
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Honor Flight Comedy Show

September 29th at 8pm

Tickets **\$10** - Gen. Admission

Come out and see

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Gregory, James Thorn, Joel Knuz, Tommy V

As they put on their best show all to help send WW II Veterans to
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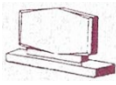
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Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, and Vegetable
September 25, 6:30 PM

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 8TH OF EACH MONTH
VISIT THE POST WEBSITE AT POST59.ORG Post e-mail [AmericanLegionPost59@ TDS.net](mailto:AmericanLegionPost59@TDS.net)
Editors Cliff Maerz and Tim Carter: C_Maerz@msn.com