



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59

803 North Page Street - STOUGHTON, WI

PH: 608.205.9090

Post 59 Website: www.post59.us

WINTER 2024-2025



2024-2025

POST 59 OFFICERS

Commander

Michael Currie

1st Vice Commander

Rodger Hansen

2nd Vice Commander

Mike Ayers

3rd Vice Commander

Ken Schieldt

Service Officer

John Solis

Sgt. At Arms

Jim Schiferl

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Al Vick

Adjutant

Joshua Holt

Judge Advocate

Tom Jenny

Chaplain

Edward Nowicki

Membership

Mike Ayers



FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Good Day to Everyone,

The warm summer months are now behind us and the cold winter months are ahead. We have had a wonderful fall season with above average temperatures and beautiful fall colors as well as some spectacular full moons. The Post has been very busy for the fall with many booked events and some great musical entertainment. Thank you Sherry Leick and Larry Johnson for all you do. We will be having our Pajama night party at the end of November where everyone dresses in their favorite PJ's, and comes on down to the Post for a fun evening as well as our Ugly Sweater contest in December.

Our monthly members dinners started in September and we will continue them starting in January 2025, after the November and December holidays. Please sign up at the Post bar so we will know the number of dinners needed. I hope to see you at these dinners as they are a chance for our members to meet and have a delicious meal and have a good time! It also gives us a chance to recognize our Post members with Honor Quilts that are created and presented by our wonderful Patriotic Stitches.

Veterans day was extremely busy for The Post Honor Guard and the VFW as many of us attended schools and retirement home ceremonies honoring veterans. We did not have our Veterans Park ceremony this year due to our schedule however we will continue it next year on Veterans Day. Speaking of our Stoughton Area Veterans Park, on election day the Post and VFW held the 2nd annual chili fundraiser for the Park which was very successful, so thank you to the Stoughton community for your generous support.

During the holiday season we will be having some special events which will include musical entertainment, the Post Sunday Jams every 4th Sunday of each month and the Army/Navy League fundraiser on December 14th with the Army/Navy game on our big screen. Come on down and root for your favorite team. (GO NAVY!!!). Our Post SAL will be having their annual Breakfast with Santa and our annual Toy collection event and don't forget our annual New Years Eve party.

In closing I want to take a moment to let all our members and their families, as well as all our guests, know that we continue our successful service to our area veterans and the Stoughton community because of you and your support to our Post. To all of our wonderful volunteers who continue to step up and work hard to make our Post successful - Thank you so much for all you do!!!

Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you all!

Commander Michael



Sons of the American Legion Report Squadron 59



2024-2025

**Squadron 59 SAL
OFFICERS**

Commander
Bob Hocking

1st Vice Commander
Bob Crofoot

2nd Vice Commander
Dan Blomgren

Sgt. At Arms
Greg Clark

Finance Officer
Jim Oler

Adjutant
Brian Vogt

Historian
Roger Strandlie

Chaplain
Brian Vogt

As the remaining weeks of 2024 begin the race toward 2025 the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 59 have been going through our fall projects and preparing for a big finish to the year.

The “Raise the Flag” program capped off a strong showing in 2024 along with the first four of the yearly events - Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Patriots Day. The big finish was a spectacular display of several hundred American flags completely circling the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park. Thank you to all who helped with the placement and removal of the flags.

Our annual Amish made candy sale is off to a fantastic start. A word to the wise – **Don’t Wait.** Some very special helpers deserve a lot of credit and thanks for the candy sale help they have provided. Heather and Mary, thank you. You are both awesome.

As with every year we are also collecting toys for the kids. Please feel free to drop off your donations into one of the collection boxes at the post.

In addition, preparations are underway for our annual Breakfast With Santa, which is scheduled for Sunday December 8 from 7:30-11:30. We will have an incredible breakfast which includes all your favorites, along with basket raffles, a 50/50 raffle, Santa doing a Pre-Christmas visit and a special guest who will be twisting balloon creations. Let’s all help to set a new attendance record this year!

Finally, the SAL will be hosting our New Years Eve Blowout which includes live music, snacks, sandwiches, and a champagne toast at midnight. Please join us for the fun and festivities.

If you know of anyone willing to join the SAL Send them our way and we will be ready to help them become part of the team.

Bob Hocking, SAL Squadron 59 Commander



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 59



2024-2025

UNIT 59 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Amy Hermes

Sr Vice President

Dawn Clark

Jr Vice President

Sally Schieldt

Co-Secretaries

Devon Hermes

Lana Aaberg

Treasurer

Jody Kumlien

Chaplain

Tinamarie Nelson

Membership

Lisa Olson

We want to take this opportunity to thank our Post & SAL members and our friends of the Legion for the wonderful support you have given to us during the past year.

And thank you to all our great Auxiliary volunteers for without your help we would not be able to do all the things we do.

May happiness brighten your holidays and remain with you throughout the year!



Giving TREE



*This year the Auxiliary's Giving Tree items will be donated to the **Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King**. Check out the tree at the front of the Legion Hall for instructions and needed items.*

*Cash donations are also accepted.
All donations will be accepted until 12/23.*

Amy Hermes



LEGION MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Post 59 Legion Membership News

*****Some members that have renewed their 2025 memberships are receiving a 2nd renewal notice stating to reply by October 25th. If you received this notice, please check to ensure that you in fact have not yet paid for 2025 before paying.**

2024 Membership Awards: During the Fall District 3 Conference Post 59 “**due to your** commitment and support”, was recognized with 3 membership awards. **Thank you**

First Post 100% with 300 plus members
Retention Award 300 plus members
Highest Post Growth (108.77%) in Membership 300 plus members

2025 Goals and target dates: I have been asked by several members why are you asking us to pay our 2025 membership dues so early in 2024? The answer is that membership target dates and goals are set Nationally, and each Post competes for awards based on these objectives. Post 59 has a 2025 membership goal of 337 with the following established target dates and percents.

October 16, 2024, 55%- or 185-members November 14, 2024, 65% or 219-members
December 11, 2024, 75% or 252-members January 15, 2025, 80% or 269-members

As of this newsletter, we are only 4 members short of meeting our December 11th goal of 252 members. So, if you have not yet renewed, please mail in your dues or go online at Mylegion.org to complete the process. Thank you

New Members - Since our Fall Newsletter we welcomed the following 12 new Legionnaires into our Post ranks: Mark Aeschlimann – USAF, David Crinion – USMC, David Dunn – USA, Scott Gennrich – USA, Rick Gordon – USMC, Stephan Herale – USA, Bradley Little – USAF, Sandra Marcum – USA, Tom Nelson – USA, Arthur Payne III – USA, Donald Thulien – USAF and Edward Webb – USN.



*****Not only do we recognize our new members for Post 59 but take a moment to recognize and honor those that we have lost since our last newsletter.**

**Carroll Ehrke (May 1st) – Berlin Crisis USA John Benedict (July 22nd) – Vietnam USMC
Dolly Bailey (Sept 7th) – Vietnam USA Ronald Leikness (Sept 16th) – Vietnam USA
Robert Outhouse (Sept 20th) – Other USA Francis Learn (Oct 5th) – Vietnam USN**

Record Updates: It has been noted that several Post members have incomplete contact and/or service information posted to their National American Legion Records. If you have not sent in your renewal notice, please ensure that all information on both sides of the notice is complete and UpToDate. If you have renewed, you may do the updates online at Mylegion.org.

**Thank you for your continued support and service to our country and the American Legion.
Michael L. Ayers – 2nd Vice Commander and Membership Chair PH: (608) 335-1771**





Serving our veterans, military and each other from the depths of our hearts

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our 2025 Membership Renewal Drive is going strong! Thank you to all who have already renewed. We have 174 total members right now and 140 have paid. We are at 85% of our goal.

Since the last newsletter we have welcomed six new members: Merlane Keller, Melissa Schiferl, Karen Lasure, Gwenn Nyhagen, BoKaye Dietmeier and her daughter Jordana. Thank you to our members who invited & encouraged them to join: Sherry Leick, Alice Moen, Cathy Rigdon.

On a sadder note, we lost our member Dolly Bailey in September. She was an Auxiliary member for 19 years and was also a member of our Post through her service in the Army Reserves. Dolly retired after 21 years as a Senior Medical Specialist Sergeant First Class. Until recent years she enjoyed volunteering at Legion events.

Dues renewal notices were mailed in September and again in November. If you have not renewed your membership yet, please remember you can now also pay your dues by credit or debit card. Just call National @ 317-569-4570 (Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm). It's very fast and easy! If you have any questions, please let me know.

If you have an interest in helping with membership, please let me know.

Lisa Olson ~ Auxiliary Membership Chair
608-279-4847 waucoman@hotmail.com
<https://www.amlegionauxwi.org>

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

HOLIDAY PRAYER

Holy Father,

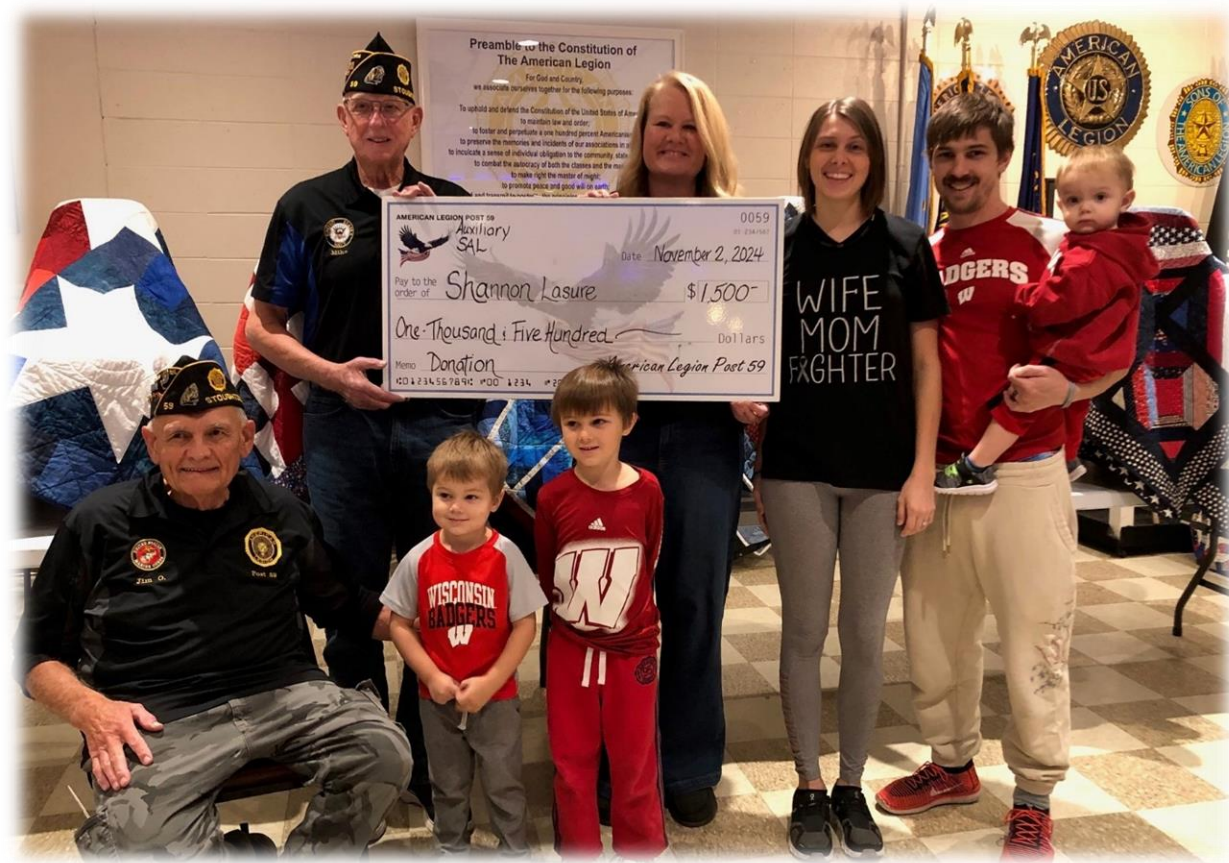
Thank you so much for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior. Lord, it is easy to be stressed during the Christmas season, and we need help remaining focused on You. While this earth promises temporary happiness and distractions, true joy comes from You. Lord, help us to remember what the Bible says, "I will take joy in the God of my salvation" ([Habakkuk 3:18b](#)). Fill us up with the true joy of knowing You, and having a relationship with Your Son, and the purpose of His birth, which was our redemption. Continue to watch over all our service members stationed throughout the world.

In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen

Ed Nowicki – Chaplain



THIS IS WHAT WE DO



The Post 59 Family recently made a \$1,500 donation to the family of Shannon Lasure. Shannon was diagnosed with brain cancer in late 2022 when tests revealed a large mass in her brain. She underwent brain surgery to remove the tumor and had 33 radiation treatments. Then she rested for six weeks before giving birth to her baby at 34 weeks. After that she completed chemotherapy in February 2024. As a chiropractor she has taken time away from work to focus on her recovery. She continues to fight Stage 4 brain cancer and is staying strong. Pictured: Jim Oler (SAL), Michael Currie (Post Commander), Colson and Landan Lasure, Sally Schieldt (Auxiliary VP), Shannon & Nick Lasure holding Braxton.

Trunk or Treat





Badger Honor Flight 2024



No Longer Missing

The missing binder with the Post 59 records has been found.
Thank you to everyone who helped locate it.

Al Vick, Post 59 Historian (873-3481) (aavick2090@gmail.com)



Post 59 Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2024

- Dec. 2nd: Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30pm
- Dec. 7th: Lounge Lizards Band/Ugly Sweater Contest 7:00-10:00pm
- Dec. 8th: Breakfast With Santa 7:30-11:30
- Dec. 9th American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Dec. 11th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Dec. 13th: JR & Susie Anderson 7:00-10:00pm
- Dec. 14th: Army-Navy Game – 11:00am
- Dec. 20th: Blue Moon Karaoke 7:00-11:00pm
- Dec. 25th: Christmas Dinner at Stoughton VFW 11:00-1:00
- Dec. 31st: Bad Habit Band – 8:30pm-12:30am

JANUARY 2025

- Jan. 1st: New Years Day
- Jan. 6th: No Monthly Auxiliary Meeting in January
- Jan. 8th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Jan. 13th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Jan. 18th: Wayne Road Band 7:00pm-10:00 pm
- Jan. 19th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am
- Jan. 20th: Inauguration Day/MLK Day
- Jan. 24th: Life Line Screening 8:00am-5:30pm
- Jan. 26th: Country Music Jam - 2:00-6:00pm
- Jan. 28th: Post Supper - 6:00pm-8:00pm

FEBRUARY 2025

- Feb. 1st: Bad Habit Band – 7:00-10:00pm
- Feb. 3rd: Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30pm
- Feb. 8th: Universal Sound – 7:00-10:00
- Feb. 10th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Feb. 12th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Feb. 14th: Valentines Day
- Feb. 14th: Dean’s Blue Country – 7:00-10:00pm
- Feb. 16th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am
- Feb. 23rd: Country Music Jam - 2:00-6:00pm
- Feb. 25th: Post Supper - 6:00pm-8:00pm

Contact Information for Post 59

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Email: oller8888@gmail.com

John Solis – Service Officer

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Email: solosolis@gmail.com

Amy Hermes – ALA President

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Email: AHermes@stoughtonhealth.com

Bob Hocking – SAL Commander

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Email: sonsofthelegion59@gmail.com

Email: bobghocking@gmail.com

Bob Crofoot – Editor

Email: hodagbob@yahoo.com

MEAT RAFFLE EVERY SATURDAY @ 2:00pm


Events are subject to change. Please check our website @ www.post59.us or our Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/post59stoughton for any changes to the events listed above.



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Bob Crofoot

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Hall Rentals

For More Information,
please contact Sherry

Leick @

post59hallrental@gmail.com OR

go to our website @

[Post 59-Otis Sampson
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Information](#)

AMERICAN LEGION BAR

803 NORTH PAGE STREET
STOUGHTON, WI

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Bar Open to Serve You:

Wednesday – Sunday

(Monday & Tuesday **CLOSED**)

Wednesday: **3:00pm – 8:00pm**

Thursday: **3:00pm – 8:00pm**

Friday: **3:00pm - 10:00pm**

Saturday: **12:00am - 12:00pm**

Sunday: **12:00-6:00pm**