



# THE LEGION POST

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



Volume 18 Issue 5

May 2016

## Commander's Report

### 2015-2016 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

Bob Lloyd

#### Judge Advocate

Terry McCardle

#### Chaplain

Rich Fries



Greetings,

Warmth is coming, be patient. Soon we will be complaining it is too hot! Let the sweating come but please, no mosquitoes!

Sad to say, we lost another member of our Post. On March 23, Don Heiliger passed away with pneumonia at the UW Hospital. A huge loss for all that knew what a great comrade he was.

April 9, the SAL members had

their annual Home Talent Baseball steak feed fund-raiser at the Post. It was a great, successful day. The group does a fantastic job and it was a great day for the Post as well.

Fund-raising is still going on for the Veterans Memorial Park. Also, buy your paver now as we need time to have it engraved and be ready to put down on our walkway. We need your order so we can get them down because fall comes quicker than you think.

We now have great storage space in our new garage and it will be used to great advantage. Seems things accumulate through time as things do in our own homes. Thanks again

Bryant Foundation for your generosity.

We need to do some **spring cleaning** at our Post. We are shooting for Saturday, April 30, from 8:00 – noon. Please bring your cleaning supplies. We have a variety of things to do and they are too numerous to mention. The Auxiliary can't do it all, so come y'all and pitch in. We will have a sign-up sheet in the lounge. We will have pizza for lunch for all volunteer cleaners.

Onion sales are going good. We have ordered extras, so get the word out and tell your friends.

Thank you volunteers.

Commander Sonny

## Auxiliary

### President

Lisa Olson

873-8924

### 1st Vice President

Elvera Phelps

873-5154

### Secretary

Cathy Rigdon

873-5818

### Treasurer

Linda Schmidt

205-2517

### Chaplain

Sharon Silbaugh

873-3927

### Sgt. at Arms

Pat Christensen

873-7479

### Historian

Sherry Leick

873-6687

## Auxiliary News



Spring Greetings!

Well April so far has been more like March. Hopefully it will continue to warm up now so we can all get some much needed fresh air.

On behalf of our Auxiliary, we extend our sympathies to Cheryl Heiliger and family for their loss. Colonel Don Heiliger will be greatly missed by all the members at Post 59.

You will find a little Poppy planted inside this newsletter. We hope you will be generous again this year and make that poppy grow. There are so many veterans we can help with your donations. We will be starting soon to line up volunteers for our Poppy Days distribution on May 26 and 27. Please consider giving a few hours of your time to help out. This is our biggest fund-

raiser of the year. Thank you for your donations and any time you can spare.

For our March basket we raffled off an Easter Dinner Basket which was won by Julie Stenjem. Proceeds from the raffle were donated to help Chad and Wendy Vike with their medical expenses.

We have welcomed two new members during the last month. They are Donna Strandlie and Evelyn Wunnicke.

Third District Spring Conference will be on Saturday, April 23 at the Waunakee Legion Post. Mary Curran and I will attend .

I recently completed all of the Annual Reports that we send to Department each year which record our Unit 59 volunteer hours and donations. It's really pretty impressive. We reported 1700 hours of service for veterans, community, and children and youth programs! We also made donations totaling over \$5,500. These were very hard-worked hours by our members, serving at funeral lunches, breakfasts, and dinners, in addition to many hours worked by several of our members at the food pantries.

*President continued on page 2*

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

April 17 - Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30 am  
April 24 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss – 2:00-6:00 pm  
April 26 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm  
April 29 - Brett Peterson – 7:00-10:00 pm  
May 7 - Fish Boil fund-raiser – 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 with  
Big Johnson  
May 13 - Blue Moon karaoke – 8:00- ?  
May 14 - Dan Riley – 7:00-11:00 pm  
May 15 - Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30 am  
May 24 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm  
May 30 - Memorial Day

### Event Pricing

**Post Dinner:** 6:30 pm \$11.00

**Breakfast:** 7:30-11:30 am  
\$8.00 adults, \$4.00 children

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

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Keep a clear eye toward life's end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God's creature. What you are in his sight is what you are and nothing more. Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received...but only what you have given; a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.

Rest in peace Ken and Colonel Don

*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

*President continued from page 1*

I know there were also many other hours that did not get reported. So thanks so much for all your hard work!

Due to other commitments, I will not be able to continue next year as President. Also Sharon Silbaugh who has been our Chaplain since 2012 will be retiring. We also have an opening for Vice President as Elvera Phelps is stepping down. Our nominating committee will be looking hard right now to fill these three positions so we can keep our unit up and running.

We are having a "Post Spring Cleaning" on Saturday, April 30 from 8:00 – noon and need your help. Please lend a hand and bring your rubber gloves and cleaning tools. Pizza @ noon!

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 9 at 6:30 PM. Please join us.

Lisa Olson  
Unit 59 President

### Help Wanted

**We would like to do some spring cleaning at the Post on Saturday, April 30, 8:00 – noon. We will have pizza at noon.**

**There are several things that need attention and we can't have the Auxiliary do it all. So please save the morning and give your time.**

Thank you,  
Sonny

*P.S. Let me know if you are available*

### Missing Era Insert



Please review the list of names on the enclosed insert. The names committee is requesting information for dates of service, or era information (Civil War, WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, Peace Time) for veterans on this list. Please provide information that is accurate, do not guess. If you do not know for sure leave it blank. The information you provide will be what is engraved in marble on the memorial. Return your sheet by dropping it off or mailing it to Legion Post 59. Please put your name and phone number on the sheet in case we have questions.

Thank you for your help.

Roger Kleven and Basil Sadler



On Saturday, April 9 a meeting was held at VFW Post 328 to introduce Army Staff Sergeant Russell Dennison to the Stoughton community. S Sgt Dennison lost both legs to an IED in Qandahar Province, Afghanistan. Homes for Our Troops conducted the meeting to kick-off a fund-raising effort to build a barrier-free home for S Sgt Dennison and his family in the Town of Rutland. He and his wife, Sam, are pictured fourth and fifth from the right in the front row. William Ryan Homes will build the house. Piggy Wiggly is a major corporate sponsor. All costs are covered by Homes for Our Troops, corporate sponsors, and donations. Donations can be made on-line to [hfotusa.org](http://hfotusa.org). Photo credit: *Lindsay Lamb – PinkDoorPhotography.com*



## FISH BOIL FUNDRAISER

For the Stoughton Police Department  
Sponsored by The Sons of the American Legion

**SATURDAY, MAY 7<sup>th</sup>**

Serving times: 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30

**Boiled Fish, Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Coleslaw, Coffee and Milk**

Tickets are on sale now at The Legion or from members of the Sons of  
the American Legion Squadron 59

**\$12.00**

**Syttende Mai and Memorial Day 2016 Schedules**

**Syttende Mai**

Saturday May 14

Decorate float at VFW at 9:00 am.  
8:30 am bring up chairs and float materials  
9:00 am decorate float

**Memorial Day**

Thursday May 12 - 8:00 am  
Meet at Riverside Cemetery to put out flags  
Rain Date: Friday May 13 - 8:00 am

Thursday June 2- 8:00 am  
Meet at Riverside Cemetery to remove flags  
Rain date: Friday June 3- 8:00 am

**Set up for the Memorial Day Program**

Saturday May 28  
9:00 am- Meet at Mandt Center for chair and podium set up

Monday May 30  
7:00 am - decorate float at VFW (if one)

**After the Memorial Day program, help is needed at the Mandt Center to take down chairs and at the VFW to disassemble the float.**

*Thank you in advance for your help—Memorial Day Committee*



**In Flanders Fields**  
*By John McCrae*

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

**Monthly Post Meeting Schedule**

**Legion – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm**

**Auxiliary – 2nd Monday – 6:30 pm**

**SAL – 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 pm**

Meetings are held at the Post.

All members are encouraged to attend.



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**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**



## Progress Report on Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park

Action is taking place at Veterans Memorial Park.

In late March, Rutland Construction Company finished pouring the footings for the centerpiece, educational pillars, marble monuments, and the entrance. By late April/early May, they will level the area and complete all of the cement flat work, consisting of nearly 9,700 square feet. In early June, Pechmann Monument Company will begin installing the benches and educational pillars, to be followed by the centerpiece, flag pole bases, and entrance.

Currently, landscaping plans are being evaluated. Later this fall, after Pechmann's complete their work, grass seed will be spread over the entire area. Further landscaping may be delayed until next spring depending on funds available. If anyone wishes to purchase a tree or other shrubbery for the park, contact Duane Broughton at 608.884.6039.

Orders for pavers will be taken until June 1. For orders received after that, the pavers may not be put in place until after the dedication on November 12, 2016. Seven of the twelve educational pillars have been sold, meaning there are five remaining. A complete pillar may be purchased for \$16,000 while the cost for a single side is \$4,000.

Funds are also needed for landscaping and for the purchase of the black marble monuments listing the names of over 5,000 Stoughton area veterans. Donations can be made to:

Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park  
P.O. Box 16  
Stoughton, WI 53589

*Submitted by Bud Erickson*



### **Veterans Memorial Park**

*Pictured above are workers from Rutland Construction Company as they set the footings for Veterans Memorial Park. In early May, they will level the area and complete all the flat work.*

*Photo credit: Tim Erickson*

## “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. If questions, call Bob Lloyd 873-5926.

- **Syttende Mai Parade—Sunday, May 15**  
(Meet at Mandt Park by 1:00 p.m. Veteran’s float parks on South 4<sup>th</sup> street)
- **Memorial Day Parade-Monday, May 30**  
(Beginning on S. Prairie and West Main St.10:00 a.m. Parking at Mandt Center 9:15am, shuttles to parade line-up for parade participants). Veteran’s float parks on the corner of S. Prairie & W. Main.
- **Memorial Program-Monday, May 30**  
(Following the parade 11:00 a.m. at Mandt Center **rain or shine**)

**The Memorial Program is open to the public**



### Volunteer of the Year

April is national Volunteer of the Year month and the City of Stoughton recognized five individuals for exemplary volunteer work in the past year. On Tuesday, April 12, Mayor Donna Olson presented proclamations and plaques to the following people: Bud Erickson, Mike and Pam Griggs, Mike Peterson, and Bob McGeever.

Bud, a Korean War veteran (above center), and Mike (above right), a Vietnam veteran, are both members of American Legion Post 59 and VFW Post 328. Pam (back row left) is a member of both Auxiliaries. Erickson was recognized primarily for his work for veteran’s organizations while both Pam and Mike were cited for their many years of coordinating the annual Christmas dinner sponsored by the two posts.

Photo credit: Tim Erickson

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VISIT THE POST WEB SITE AT [POST59.ORG](http://POST59.ORG)  
Editors Cliff Maerz and Tim Carter: [C\\_Maerz@msn.com](mailto:C_Maerz@msn.com)