



THE LEGION POST

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



VOLUME 15 ISSUE 5

MAY 2013

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 Legionnaires,
The snowbirds are back and did not bring any warm weather with them. What's up with that? Let's hope it warms up before our Norwegian holiday!

The Executive Committee had a discussion about upgrading the electrical service in the Post. Jim Oler had the city come in and check things out and they recommended what it would take to bring the service up to code. It was determined that a

new service would cost approximately \$5,000. We have bids (2) with the lowest going to a local company, Custom Electrician (Jim Oler). This was brought before the Post meeting April 8 for approval.

We have another issue coming up next fall. We need to install a roof and gutter thawing system, so the ice backup does not thaw and cause a leaking problem like we had this past year.

We now have volunteers, Marlene and Dan Judd who agreed to take over the job of cleaning the hall and hall bathrooms. Linda Swangstu and Larry Johnson have been trying to keep up on these

things since Jim and Ginny Hanson retired from the job. Thanks to the Judd's for stepping up when needed.

We had a suggestion regarding our breakfast as to making it a buffet style and people would serve themselves. After much discussion, it was decided to leave as is.

Regarding the fish fry, we are now having customers pay at the cash register in the hall. This person is also taking care of the phone calls for orders to be picked up. This eliminates the congestion in the bar and everyone likes the idea. This

Commander continued on page 2

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 American Legion Family,

Hope everyone had a nice Easter. It looks like spring is finally coming. The weather is getting a little warmer and the snow is leaving slowly.

We have the Badger Girls breakfast coming up April 21. Please come and show your support for the girls. The raffle will be \$25 Stoughton Bucks—a gift certificate that can be used anywhere in Stoughton. Our March Easter Basket Raffle was won by Mary Lloyd. A *thank you* goes out to Linda Swangstu for making up the Easter Basket and to Lisa

Olson who donated the ham. **Remember to bring non-perishable food items to all the breakfasts.**

We will be selling lefsa at the May breakfast during Syttende Mai, if we can get people to help make the lefsa. If you can help, please give me a call, 873.7397. The date is Sunday, April 28, starting at 10:00 am. It will only take about three or four hours.

Our Unit has surpassed our membership goal of 100%. I want to thank everyone that has paid their dues. Our new members are: Linda Schmidt, Kristi Huberd, Alice Moen, Tammy Anderson, Patricia Broadbent, Alice Asleson, and Kim Taylor. It is nice to have new members. Welcome ladies!

Joyce Enders, Department Vice President, came to our meeting in March and spoke to us about Auxiliary programs. She also gave us encouragement and recognition for the work we are doing.

President continued on page 2

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- April 21 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- April 23 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- April 27 - Universal Sound – 8:00 – midnight
- May 4 - Blue Moon – 8:00 – 11:00 pm
- May 11- SAL fundraiser for Camp American Legion – 2:00 pm; Big Johnson karaoke
8:00 – 11:00 pm
- May 18 - Dan Riley – 7:00 – 11:00 pm
- May 19 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- Memorial Day - May 27
- May 28 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

MY LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going.
 I do not see the road ahead of me.
 I cannot know for certain where it will end.
 Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think
 that I am following your will does not mean that I am
 actually doing so.
 But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact
 please you.
 And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
 I hope that I will never do anything apart from that
 desire.
 And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right
 road though I may know nothing about it.
 Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to
 be lost and in the shadow of death.
 I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will
 never leave me to face my perils alone."

— Thomas Merton

*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

Commander continued from page 1

takes **one extra person** for our Friday night help. Please volunteer for an evening from 5:00 – 8:00. You may call Linda Swangstu if interested. We are picking up more and more customers and it is usually well over 100. The high school kids who work also get community service credit for school and experience in restaurant work. Thank you to the help and also to Mike Dickman who is doing an excellent job for our Post.

Don't forget the elections coming up soon. Please contact Bud Erickson or Don Helmke if you or you know someone who would be interested in a position. They are part of the nominating committee.

Thank you to all volunteers.

Commander Sonny

President continued from page 1

Members, please volunteer to help when called upon. We have many opportunities to help, from distributing poppies, working at a breakfast, attending a conference or county meeting, helping at funerals, or helping at our garage sale. If you can help and we haven't called you recently, please give me a call. We need all the help we can get; just a few members cannot do it all. It seems to be the same members that are volunteering. They would like to have a break, plus it would be terrific to see some new faces. Thanks to everyone that does help and volunteers. Legion and Auxiliary members will be getting a call to help distribute Poppies, on May 23, 24, and 25 at some of the businesses in town. We will need 22 people each day, so please say yes.

Thanks to everyone who helped with or placed an order at the RADA Fund-raiser We successfully raised over \$450 that will be used for Veterans projects. Lisa Olson, Rita Sperry, and Anita Halverson brought in the most orders.

Remember to drop off your recipes for the cookbook that Mary Sundby is putting together. There is a box at the Post to put them in.

Don't forget our Garage Sale that will be held, June 27-29. We need your STUFF—men's & women's stuff, but no clothes.

Our next euchre card game will be May 8. It is always the second Wednesday of the month. Come and bring a friend.

President Marlene

SAL Report

I'm pleased to report that the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) has achieved 100% in membership. Thank you to Dennis Rodenkirch for all your help and to Bob and Mary Lloyd for keeping us up to date with other SAL squadrons. We collected \$100 from the swear can. We are matching the \$100. This will go to child welfare or CWF.

We will be having a fund-raiser May 11 starting at 2:00 pm with all proceeds going to Camp American Legion. Brats, burgers, and beans will be served. At 8:00 pm, Big Johnson will offer karaoke. Please remember to support the Legion/Auxiliary/SAL.

Also, if anyone happens to know where our charter is please contact me: 719.7902. It got lost during the remodel.

The SAL meets at 7:00 pm the second Tuesday of each month.

Ray Dzieciol
SAL Commander
Squadron 59



Syttende Mai and Memorial Day Schedules

Syttende Mai

May 18 - Decorate the float at the VFW
8:00 am - Bring up chairs
9:00 am - Start decorating the float

Memorial Day

May 23 - 9:00 am - Meet at Riverside Cemetery to put out flags

Rain date: May 24 - 9:00 am

May 30 - 9:00 am - Meet at Riverside Cemetery to remove flags

Rain date: May 31 - 9:00 am

Set up for the Memorial Day program

May 25 - 9:00 am - Mandt Center for chair and podium set up

May 27 - 7:00 am - VFW to decorate the float for the parade

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

Thank you in advance for your help.

THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

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. Any questions, call Bob Lloyd: 873.5926.

Syttende Mai Parade - Sunday, May 19

(Meet at Mandt Park by 1:00 pm. Veteran's float parks on South 4th St.)

Memorial Day Parade - Monday, May 27

(Beginning on S. Prairie and West Main St. 10:00 am)

Parking at Mandt Center 9:15 am

Shuttles to parade line-up for parade participants

Veteran's float parks on the corner of S. Prairie & W. Main.

Memorial Program - Monday, May 27

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

The Memorial Program is open to the public



Memorial Day Order

General Orders No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic Headquarters.

I. The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but Posts and comrades will, in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized, Comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers sailors and marines, who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead? We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the nation can add to their adornment and security, is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hinds slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains, and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledge to aid and assist those whom they have left among us a sacred charge upon the Nation's gratitude—the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the Commander-in-Chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope that it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this Order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use every effort to make this Order effective.

By Command of:

John A. Logan
Commander in Chief
May 5, 1868

Vidalia Onion Sales Hit a New Record

The recently concluded Vidalia onion sale fund-raiser set a new record with 950 bags sold. That amounts to your over four tons of onions! The top overall sales person was Bud Erickson with 336 total bags. On the Legion side, he was followed by Bob Lloyd, Archie Christensen, Jim Hanson, Vic Duesel, and Pat Nowlin. Linda Swangstu was the top producer for the Auxiliary, followed by Evelyn Kahl, Mary Curran, Linda Schmidt, and Dolly Bailey. Plans are for the onions to be delivered to the Post and ready for pick-up on Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11.

More Good Things on the Way

This year we have added an additional feature to our fund-raising effort. When people pick up their onions, other products made from Vidalia onions can be purchased—salad dressing, relishes, and barbeque sauce. Included in the 10 varieties from which to choose are Vidalia Onion and Creamy Cucumber Salad Dressing, Vidalia Onion Barbeque Sauce, and Slow Burn Vidalia Onion and Peace Hot Sauce.

The price per bottle is \$5.00.



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





JOIN US FOR THE
**STOUGHTON MEMORIAL DAY
PARADE**

MONDAY, MAY 27th, 2013 10:00 am

**Beginning at South Prairie & West Main Street and
ending at the Mandt Center**

**Memorial Program in the MANDT CENTER
at 11:00**

Please join us for a **Coffee & Donut** Reception
following the program at:

The American Legion Post 59

803 N. Page St.

Stoughton, WI

In case of rain the PROGRAM will begin at 11:00 am in the Mandt Center

Sponsored by the American Legion Post 59 and VFW Post 328 & Auxiliaries

John Herman Budden

(Continued from April issue)

One day the lieutenant from the Naval Reserve Training Facility at Eagle Point called him and said they were looking for an electronic technician to work with the radio and radar equipment at the training center and to teach the reservists to repair electronic equipment of all kinds. He said he would start John out at the same rate that he was when discharged from the regular Navy. There would be no broken service because it was within 90 days of his discharge. He would be stationed in Dubuque at Eagle Point and would have the same pay and benefits as if he was on active duty with the Navy. This was the dream of every sailor, to be in the Navy and stationed in his own home town. These sailors were called T.A.R.S. (Training & Administration of Reserves).

John took the examination for Chief Petty Officer, passed, and was selected. It worked out well until 1951 when the Navy decided we had too much of a good thing. With the regular Navy people complaining about us reservists having the choice shore duty, the Navy gave us an ultimatum—either join the regular Navy or be discharged. John had quite a few years of active duty by then so he volunteered for an outfit called Communication Supplementary Activities. It was called CSA for short. His first duty was additional training at Cheltenham Maryland, then on several destroyers in the Mediterranean Sea. The ships were the *Ware*, the *Vessole*, and the *Joy*. This lasted only a month or two.

The Navy called John and offered him a job at Great Lakes, IL. He took the job with the Navy at his old rate as Chief Electronic Technician at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. His title was Chief of the Master Control Radio Station. Their mission was to handle communications from all the Naval Reserve Stations in the Ninth Naval District and also communications between Naval Districts and Washington, DC. In 1957 a job opened in the Electronic Warfare Unit in Mason City, IA. The job of station keeper at Mason City, IA was given to him and they moved to Mason City. Once again the Navy issued an order that all Naval Reserve people serving in TAR positions at Naval Reserve Facilities would either have to enlist in the Regular Navy or get out. John made an agreement with the Navy that if they would send him to Electronic Technician School at Treasure Island, CA he would enlist in the regular Navy for six years. The Navy granted his request. In fall, 1959 the family went to California. John attended Electronics Class B School at Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay.

The month before graduation John was picked to go to the pre-commissioning detail of the USS *Enterprise* (CVAN-65) in Newport News, VA. First he had to go to Great Lakes Naval Station for four months of computer school. Afterwards he was sent back to the Hugh's Aircraft site in Carbon Canyon near Fullerton, CA. This

instruction lasted three months. The radar he studied was the SPS-32 long range search radar. It was the first fixed array radar ever installed on a ship.

After the building of the ship was completed, it was commissioned. The Commissioning Ceremony was an elaborate affair. Then John went on a shakedown cruise off Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The ship and crew passed and returned to Norfolk, VA.

From Norfolk came a few cruises to the Mediterranean Sea stopping at Gulf Juan, France; Naples, Italy; Athens, Greece; Beirut, Lebanon; Barcelona, Spain; and a few other islands; a Mercury Space Capsule recovery mission off Cape Hatteras, and participating in the Cuban Crisis. Then John was transferred to the Naval Base at Norfolk as an instructor at the electronic school there. He spent about one year there before retiring from the Navy. John's rank upon retirement was Senior Chief Petty Officer (E8).

John then received a job offer from MURA, near Stoughton. This is now a part of the University of Wisconsin and known as the Physical Sciences Lab. He retired from the University of Wisconsin in July 1988 after 20 years of service.

John is a life member of the VFW, American Legion, and the Naval Fleet Reserve. He served as commandant of the local fleet reserve.



John was awarded the following medals:

- Navy Good Conduct
- American Defense
- American Campaign
- Asiatic Pacific Campaign
- China Service
- WW 2 Victory
- Navy Occupation
- National Defense

In 1948, John married Adele Runde. Together John and Adele raised seven children: Ann, Bob, Tom, Dick, Ellen, Dave, and Tim. They have 10 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

John is very proud of his 30 years serving his country in the US NAVY.

Submitted by Evelyn Kahl

Ann Halverson, John's daughter, helped in the preparation of this article about John's life in the U.S. Navy. John is now residing at the Harmony Facility on Jackson Street in Stoughton.

SENSIBLE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

Eldon L. Anderson
1060 West Main St.
Stoughton, WI 53589
Phone: (608) 873-5134

Custom Built Computers
Computer Repair/Tune-ups
Hardware/Software Upgrades
House Calls by Appointment

Microsoft CERTIFIED

Email: scs.consulting@charter.net
www.scsconsultingservice.com

Local Representative
Stoughton & Surrounding Area

Myron Sime
Consultant
Res. (608) 873-9290

ARCHIE MONUMENTS INC
Since 1865

P.O. Box 10
Watertown, WI 53094

Main Office/Showroom
2 Miles South of
Watertown on Hwy. 26
1-800-242-9519

GIS Greater Insurance Service

414 Atlas Avenue
Madison, WI 53714

DANIELLE OTT
Commercial Sales

Cell: 608-235-0014
Office: 608-221-3996 Toll Free: 800-747-4472 Fax: 608-221-0484
E-mail: danieleott@greaterinsurance.com

Stoughton Collision Center Inc.
140 West Street

Frame & Unibody Repair
Insurance Work
Show Quality Paint Jobs
Expert Color Matching
Fiberglass Repair
Glasurit Paint

call 608.877.1907
For computerized estimates on all makes & models

Jeff Gassen

HOME SavingsBank

There's no bank like Home!

400 W. Main Street
Stoughton

Member FDIC

home-savings.com 282.6160

Gunderson
Funeral and Cremation Care
A life celebration center

Laurie Dybevik – Pre-Planning
Jodi Corbit, Jim Dupor, Pete Gunderson
Dale Holzhter, Mike Smits – Funeral Directors
Paul Selbo, Herb Gundlach
Larry & Sharon Ambrose – Service Assistants

CONANT SERVICE & REPAIR INC.
608-873-8800

1324 Hwy 51-138
Stoughton, WI 53589
Phone 608-873-8800
Fax 608-873-8822
www.conantauto.com
Joe & Erin Conant - Owners

ASE CERTIFIED

The Koffee Kupp Restaurant Inc.

Hours:
Mon - Sat 5 am - 5 pm
Sunday 5 am - 2pm
(608) 873-6717

Smoke Free Environment

Come Join Us for Dinner

VISA MASTERCARD

NATIONAL MUTUAL BENEFIT
A Fraternal Life Insurance Society

6522 Grand Teton Plaza
P.O. Box 1527
Madison, WI 53701-1527
1-800-779-1936
www.nmblife.org

JULIE F. NYGAARD
District Representative

1800 Parmenter Street, Suite 200
Middleton, WI 53562-3185
Office (608) 836-1922 • Cell (608) 333-9577
Fax (608) 883-1922 • jnygaard@nmblife.org

Serving Our Members Since 1902

Rural Mutual Insurance Company

Matthew Kripschack
CAREER AGENT
373 W. 6th St. suite A
Richland Center, WI 53581
Office: 608-647-2251 • Fax: 608-647-1110
Cell: 608-512-5766
mkripschack@ruralins.com

True Value.
Help Is Just Around The Corner.

WHERE ALL YOUR RENTAL NEEDS ARE MET

1415 Hwy. 51-138
Stoughton, WI 53589
608-873-3161

Hanson Electronics
22-C115
2380 Jackson St.
Stoughton, WI 53589
608-877-9548

Hanson Electronics
22-C403
613 E. Main St.
Evansville, WI 53536
608-882-0680

d-sh NETWORK
U.S. Cellular AUTHORIZED AGENT

RadioShack.
A Division of Tandy Corporation

CRESS FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE
SINCE 1869

BCress@CressFuneralService.com

Friend of the Legion, Sponsor of the Month

Thomas M. Fendrick
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

1609 Hwy 51/138
Suite 102
Stoughton, WI 53589
Bus. 608-873-8502 Fax 877-222-4313
TF: 888-873-8550
www.edwardjones.com

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59
PO BOX 16
STOUGHTON WI 53589
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WISCONSIN AMERICAN
LEGION PRESS
ASSOCIATION

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
STOUGHTON WI
PERMIT NO.9

Stuffed Pork Chops, Cole Slaw, California Mix, Mashed Potatoes, and Gravy
April 23, 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