



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI
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Volume 19
Issue 8



August 2017

Commander's Report

2017-2018 OFFICERS

Commander

Sonny Swangstu

1st Vice Commander

Michael Currie

2nd Vice Commander

Vik Malling

3rd Vice Commander

Larry Johnson

Service Officer

OPEN

Sgt. at Arms

Dale Seffens

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

DuWayne Teigen

Adjutant

Derick Gefke

Judge Advocate

Rodger Hansen

Chaplain

OPEN



Hello all,

Rain keeps coming and the farmers are scratching their heads wondering if they can get their field work done this year. Guess we aren't happy if things are too dry either. Just can't control Mother Nature!

Our finance officer (Jim Oler) has been very sick. He has been hospitalized for a couple of weeks and is now home. He could use some encouragement so send him a card and keep him in your prayers.

We are lost without him as he does such a great job. Hopefully he will get to feeling better and slow down. Keep smiling Jim (friend of ours)!!

At the last post meeting, the membership voted to try angle parking in the back lot. Reason being is it would be easier for folks to enter and leave with the angle parking. We have had a few fender benders in the past. We will try it for a year and the parking area will be coated in the near future with new lines and arrows installed for more convenience. Handicap parking will remain, but maybe some will be moved to the front of the building.

The Auxiliary had a book sale last month and all the books that were left went to the area schools and libraries. Thanks to Michael Currie, our 1st Vice Commander for finding a new home for them. Thank you again Mike.

We are now in the process of redoing our bar. We need to rebuild the cabinets under the bar with more useable space for storing bar items. It will be wider so the bartenders have more room to move around and we will have serving bays and cash registers on both sides.

We will be moving things around behind the bar to make it more efficient. I am in the process of building a new bar out in the post's garage at this time. Is there an end?

We have had good comments on the salad bar and taco bar. Thanks to the ladies who started them and their helpers who assist them. Yum Yum! We have some wonderful volunteers who are busy all the time at our Post. Let's see if we can get a few more people to notice things that need to be done in the bar, kitchen and hall. If you don't like how something looks, pitch in and take care of it. It would be appreciated by all members and customers. We can count your hours for our yearly reports.

Until next time, enjoy the summer and be safe,

Commander Sonny

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Auxiliary News



2017-2018 OFFICERS

President

Cathy Rigdon
873.5818
608.712.5312

1st Vice President

Amy Hermes
608.516.8720

2nd Vice President

Jona Chat
608.622.4574

Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

Linda Schmidt
205.2517

Chaplain

Lynn Robertson
608.692.6321

Membership

Lisa Olson
608.279.4847
Bonnie Kennedy
608.669.7744
Linda Swangstu
873.9428

Linda Schmidt, Linda Swangstu and I attended the 2017 Department Convention held in Appleton. One topic of discussion was eliminating the budget deficit by either discontinuing the *Wisconsin* Publication (insert in the American Legion *Badger Legionnaire*) or, increasing the Department Senior dues by \$5, and Junior dues by \$1. The overwhelming consensus of the membership in attendance was to continue the *Wisconsin*. It is felt the information provided to members is a great resource and way to keep up with what is happening with both the ALA and the Legion. Additionally, the overall feeling of those in attendance was to support the increase of dues in 2018.

Please mark your calendar: The next ALA Breakfast will be held on Sunday, August 20th.

Thanks to all our members for all they do!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 25 – Legion Post Dinner 6:30pm

Aug 4 - Coast Guard Birthday

Aug 5 – Eugene George 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Aug 7 - Purple Heart Day

Aug 8 - VJ (Victory over Japan) Day -1945

Aug 20 – Breakfast (Auxiliary) 7:30-11:30am

Aug 27– Country Jam with Mikey Fuss – 2:00-6:00pm

Aug 29 – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday

For Upcoming Legion Entertainment, call the Post at 608.205.9090 for a recorded message or go to post59.us and click on the Upcoming Events tab.

As always, there is no cover charge for Legion Entertainment

EVENT PRICING

Post Dinner: 6:30pm

\$11.00

Breakfast: 7:30-11:30am

\$8.00 Adults/\$4.00 Children under 10

World War II Veterans Float (Memorial Day 2017)



Jerry Trieloff, Eugene (Beanie) Bjoin, Dick Amundson, Clarence (Chink) Osland (partially hidden), Robert Beckstrand and Lenny Swingen.

“You have not failed until you quit trying”-
Gordon B. Hinckley

Sons of The American Legion Report



Hello Sports fans,

A greeting that my father would playfully shout out to my brother, sisters and me after a Saturday relaxing on the couch watching ABC's Wild World of Sports. As an SAL member I'm sure that I'm not alone in wanting to honor my Father or Grandfather by doing what I can to aid American veterans, service men and women, and their families. That is my shout out to you Dad, thank you for your over a decade and a half of service in the US Air Force. I miss you, we all do. For those who have not met me as of yet, my name is Bob Hocking. I have the honor of having been elected as the newest Commander of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 59. I have the difficult chore of following Dean Stenjem, who had decided to step down as Commander and is not far from my side as my 1st Vice Commander. I am lucky to have him and my other brothers in the SAL to help guide me through this new challenge.

The first project that I have had a direct involvement with as Commander was an Independence Day cooperative effort with our SAL squadron and Thrivent Financials "Raise the Flag program" I would with great pride like to extend a sincere thank you to SAL

members Ray Dzieciol, Steve Kittelson, Todd Kittelson, Al Metzler, Dean Stenjem, Roger Strandlie, myself, and the best looking of the group by far, volunteer Amy Hocking, my wife and best friend. I think that the group of us as a whole would agree that there was an immense amount of pride and satisfaction in our involvement with the "Raise the Flag" program and the people at Thrivent were professional, organized and a pleasure to work with. We have the opportunity to assist with the two remaining "Raise the Flag" Dates on the 2017 schedule, September 11th, 2017 "We will never forget", and Veterans Day, November 11th, 2017 "We will always honor and remember" If you are an SAL member or a volunteer who could spare a small amount of time in the morning or evening of either or both of those days please let me know of your interest and I can fill you in on the details. I can be contacted at sonsofthelegion59@gmail.com We will be discussing our possible future involvement with the "Raise the Flag" program at our August meeting and knowing that we can count on 8-10 good people will make it an easy decision for us.

Also, I am also grateful to Ray Dzieciol for representing the SAL at the Summer meetings in Appleton.

Thank you,
Bob Hocking-
Commander-SAL Squadron 59



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1st Vice Commander

Dean Stenjem

2nd Vice Commander

Jim Oler

Sgt. at Arms

Alan Metzler

Finance Officer

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Historian

Jeff Gassen

Adjutant

Roger Strandlie

Chaplain

Dan Blomgren



In sending checks to several area charitable organizations following our recent Vidalia Onion Fundraiser, I requested that they respond with a sentence or two outlining their purpose and goals to share with members of Post 59:

LOVE STOUGHTON AREA

is a new mission begun by members of First Lutheran Church. They are soliciting projects from area non-profit organizations for this group to complete as weather permits. Such projects might include building wheelchair ramps, doing landscaping, painting, minor construction repairs, deep cleaning, installing gardens, etc.

The emphasis of this mission is to help Stoughton Area residents in need with projects that they cannot complete themselves. Please know that the Legion's gift will be used for this purpose.

Thank you and American Legion Post 59 for sharing this donation that will help others in our area! The Legion will also be recognized in this week's Giving Report to the congregation.

Pastor Bill Lehman
First Lutheran Church
310 E. Washington Street
Stoughton, WI 53589
608.873.7761

Submitted by Rodger Hansen

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." Proverbs 16:3

Auxiliary Members: If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Lynn Robertson at 608.692.6321.

Monthly Post Meeting Schedule

Legion
2nd Monday –7:00 pm

Auxiliary
2nd Monday – 6:30 pm

Sons of the American Legion
2nd Wednesday– 7:00 pm

Meetings are held at the Post.

All members are encouraged to attend.



350 POUNDS!!!!

THANK YOU AND KEEP 'EM COMING!



**Pick up
the TAB**



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SGT. KENNETH H. JAEGER

The war between North Vietnam and South Vietnam started in 1959 when Ho Chi Minh, leader of North Vietnam wanted to unite the communist controlled North with the democratically controlled South. The North and the Chinese communists, aided by Russia, fought against the South. The United States entered the war on March 8th, 1965 on the side of the South. The war ended on April 30th, 1975. More than 58,000 members of the U.S. military lost their lives during the war.

KENNETH H JAEGER

COMPANY B

2ND BATTALION

8TH CAVALRY DIVISION

1ST CAVALRYDIVISION (AIR MOBILE)

Kenneth H Jaeger was drafted into the U.S. Army on June 13, 1968; had his basic training in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and his advanced training in light weapons infantry in Fort Lewis, Washington. He deployed to Vietnam in November, 1968, where he was assigned to the 111 Corps of the Republic of Vietnam. For nine months, he served as a telephone operator and as a point man on patrols through the jungles. Ken was the lead man on search and destroy the enemy missions. Although he was on many missions, Ken came through his without a scratch.

Cpl. Jaeger was then transferred to Landing Zone Becky, near the Cambodian border.

Shortly after arriving there, the North Vietnamese tried to overrun the base. On the first night, they attacked with mortar and rockets, blowing up a bunker and killing five American soldiers. On the second night, Ken was sleeping, when about 4:00 a.m., the enemy attacked in a human wave with a rifle, rocket, and mortar barrage of more than 400 rounds. Ken grabbed his rifle; got into a fighting position on a four foot berm and began firing. For just a second, he looked to the right, where a fire had erupted. At that instant he was hit in the left eye socket with shrapnel, but he kept firing at the advancing enemy. Within 30 seconds, an enemy artillery round hit a perforated steel plank (PST), which was 10 feet long, by 8 inches wide and weighed over 100 pounds. The force of the explosion propelled the PST into the air and as it came down, it sounded like a Chinook helicopter. The PST landed directly on Cpl. Jaeger's left arm, crushing it. He could no longer hold his rifle. His assistant called for a medic and about two hours later, he was medevaced to a field hospital near Tay Ninh. Sixty two Americans and more than 100 North Vietnamese were killed in that battle. Two weeks after treatment for his wounds, Ken was assigned back to his combat unit.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Sgt. Jaeger was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Bronze Star for bravery, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with a palm, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Sgt. Kenneth H. Jaeger was discharged from the U.S. Army on April 22, 1970 from Fort Carson, Colorado.

But Ken's real injury was yet to come. In 1988, it was discovered that he had cancer caused by Agent Orange. He is currently a cancer survivor and has been declared as permanently disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Submitted by Bud Erickson

AMERICAN LEGION BAR

803 NORTH PAGE STREET – STOUGHTON, WI

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Bar Open to Serve You: Tuesday - Sunday

- Tuesday: **11:00am – 3:00pm**
- Wednesday: **Open at 3:00pm**
- Thursday: **Open at 3:00pm**
- Friday: **Open at 3:00**
- Saturday: **Open at Noon**
- Sunday: **Open at 11:30am**

TUESDAY IS TACO TUESDAY

2/ \$4.00 – Open at 11:00am

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES NIGHT

\$.50 off any Ladies Drinks

THURSDAY IS THIRSTY THURSDAY

Bud Light or Miller Light Taps

12oz.- \$1.00 / 16oz.- \$1.50

FRIDAY IS OUR FISH FRY

5:00 – 8:00pm

Hall Rentals

Call Linda Swangstu 608.873.9428

Or email:

hemirt2017@gmail.com

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This Month in Military History

Aug. 1, 1779: Francis Scott Key is born in Maryland. After witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on the night of September 13-14, 1814, he was inspired to write what was then called "Defense of Fort McHenry." In 1931 the tune became America's National Anthem.

Aug. 2, 1776: The majority of the 55 members of the Continental Congress officially sign the Declaration of Independence.

Aug. 2, 1990: The Iraqi army invades Kuwait, eventually leading to Desert Storm.

Aug. 3, 1900: Ernie Pyle is born in Dana, Indiana, and goes on to be a Pulitzer Prize-winning war correspondent, sharing sympathetic insights into the lives of soldiers during World War II.

Aug. 4, 1961: Barack Obama is born in Honolulu, Hawaii, and goes on to serve two terms as the 44th President.

Aug. 6, 1945: At 8:15 a.m., the Enola Gay drops the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. A second nuclear device will be dropped on Nagasaki three days later. Both cities are left in ruins and hundreds of thousands are killed.

Aug. 7, 1964: Two U.S. destroyers are attacked in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of North Vietnam. Congress goes on to approve the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving President Johnson authority to order military action "to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression."

Aug. 10, 1874: The 31st President, Herbert Hoover, is born in West Branch, Iowa. He becomes the first President born west of the Mississippi.

Aug. 12, 1898: The Spanish-American War, which had only begun that April, comes to an end.

Aug. 13, 1961: Construction of the Berlin Wall begins. It comes to symbolize the divide between the Soviet Union and the democratic west until coming down 28 years later.

Aug. 14, 1945: Japan surrenders five days after the bombing of Nagasaki, thus ending World War II. The formal surrender ceremony doesn't take place, however, until Sept. 2, aboard the USS Missouri.

Aug. 17, 1943: Allies take control of Sicily after just 38 days, thus securing control of the Mediterranean and leading to the downfall of Benito Mussolini.

Aug. 18, 1920: Women are granted the right to vote when the 19th Amendment is ratified.

Aug. 19, 1946: William Jefferson Clinton is born in Arkansas, and goes on to become the 42nd President.

Aug. 20, 1883: In North Bend, Ohio, Benjamin Harrison is born. The grandson of William Henry Harrison, the 9th President, Benjamin becomes the 23rd President in 1889.

Aug. 23, 1861: The first black man to fight for the Union during the civil war, James Stone of Ohio, enlists in the Army. His racial identity is only revealed after his death in 1862.

Aug 24-25, 1814: A swath of Washington, D.C., is burned to the ground by British forces during the War of 1812. It was in retaliation for the Americans burning of then-York (now Toronto).

Aug. 27, 1908: Our 36th President, Lyndon Baines Johnson, is born near Stonewall, Texas. He is only the second Vice President to take the higher office due to assassination.

Aug. 28, 1632: Philosopher John Locke is born in England. While he died long before America was born, his ideas on political theory—namely, that rulers can only gain power from the consent of the governed, and that all people possess certain rights, such as life, liberty, and property—had tremendous influence on our nation's Founding Fathers.

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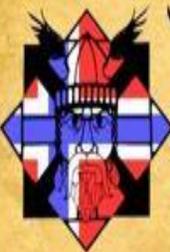
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July 25th , 2017 @ 6:30pm
For an updated Post Dinner Menu,
please visit: www.post59.us/legion-post-dinner-information
Or Call 608.205.9090



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