



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI
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VOLUME 15 ISSUE 7

JULY 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



Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

Another election year is upon us. Here is a recap for the past year. I'll try to make the last letter for this term as short as possible.

Thank you to all the Post members and Auxiliary who helped out with all the projects we have accomplished this year. We added a walk-in cooler (much needed), additional bathrooms, a smoke room, a storage room, expanded the space behind the bar, new

flooring in lounge and hall, painted the bar area, redesigned the horseshoe pits, and paved the parking lot.

All of the cost for these improvements was done with the help of a Post raffle, donations from the Post membership, Auxiliary, SAL, onion sales, Pat Nowlin, Dave (Bryant Foundation), and Tom from the Kip Sagan Estate.

All of the improvements have made it possible for us to be debt free and also to put a sizable amount back into the Post account. We are very lucky and grateful to all!

Update on the Resource Center: we have 53 books, 25

DVD's, and 11 VHS tapes. Keep them coming. Just drop them off at the office door and someone will see that they get to the right place. We have received a \$5,000 donation to start our library (Resource Center) at the Post. Thank you so much for your donations.

Thanks to all the volunteers who keep our Post going!

Sonny Swangstu
Commander

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 is enjoying the cool, wet spring and mowing a lot of grass and weeding the gardens.

What a busy May. Syttende Mai is past; the week-end was pretty busy but nice weather. Memorial Day could have been better weather wise. Thanks to all the people that helped to organize the parade but it didn't happen, due to cold and damp weather. What a wonderful program—the speakers, band, Honor Guard, and everyone else who participated. I heard

nothing but great comments. A big thanks goes to everyone who helped to organize this event. I know it took many hours to put all of it together. Good job guys and girls. I could mention names but I know I would miss someone, so I won't. Thanks to Lisa Olson, Evelyn Kahl, and Mary Ripp who made the corsages for the Memorial Day participants and Stoughton Floral for donating the carnations that were in the poppies. Also thanks to everyone who helped after the program at the Legion.

Thanks to everyone who helped to distribute poppies. Also thanks to Elvera Phelps for informing the businesses that we would be distributing poppies and getting members to distribute them. It was not an easy task. When you say yes to help with an event, please mark it down on your calendar, so you don't forget.

President continued on page 2

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 16 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- June 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- June 29 - Rotation – 8:00 pm – midnight
- July 4 - Independence Day
- July 6 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 – 11:00 pm
- July 21 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- July 23 - 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

A man is born as every other man, but dies as one.
What is your legacy?

If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Rich Fries at 608.273.8758.

Quilting by the River Friends

The Quilting by the River Friends group will hold a summer monthly business meeting on on Sunday July 14. The meeting will be at 1:00 pm at the American Legion Hall. There will be no business meeting in August. The group will hold summer monthly work days on Wednesdays, June 19, July 17, and August 21 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. All events will be held at the American Legion Post 59, 803 N. Page St, Stoughton, WI. For more information, please contact Karen Lapidakis, co-chairperson, at 608.873.5100.

Thank you.

Angela Vitcenda

President continued from page 1

We have our Auxiliary State Convention coming up July 18-21. It will be held at the Marriott West in Waukesha. I hope some of the members will be able to attend. Joyce Enders, our Department Sr. VP, is running for Department President. She is a great person. Registration is due July 15.

In June the Executive Committee will be getting together to plan the rest of 2013. We hope to come up with some new fund-raisers or activities. If you would like to see some new events at the Legion please let me know, 873-7397.

Don't forget the Garage Sale, June 27-29. Please bring your items on Wednesday, June 26 from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. We will need help setting up on Wednesday; helping Thursday-Saturday, Thursday & Friday: 7:00-10:00, 10:00-1:00, 1:00-4:00; Saturday 7:00-10:00 & 10:00-1:00; as well as packing up the items that don't sell. NO CLOTHES. Please let Linda Swangstu, 873-9428, or me know.

We installed our Officers for 2013-2014, on Monday, at our June 10 meeting: President – Marlene Bierman, Vice-President – Linda Swangstu, Treasurer – Alice Moen, Secretary – Charlotte Heitke, Sergeant-at-Arms – Pat Christenson, and Chaplain – Sharon Silbough. Thanks ladies for stepping up to take an office.

I would like to see more members attending our meetings, the second Monday of each month.

Mission Statement: *Auxiliary is to provide for today's needs, while being advocates for a brighter future.*

President
Marlene

Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577

Vidalia Onion Sales Set Record



Vidalia Onion Committee – 2013

Front Row: Linda Schmidt, Evelyn Kahl, Mary Curran and Linda Swangstu
Back Row: Bud Erickson (Chairman), Archie Christensen, Bob Lloyd,
Vic Duesel, and Pat Nowlin. Not pictured: Dolly Bailey and Jim Hanson

Sales of Vidalia onions set a record this year with a total of 975 bags sold. This is nearly double the number (500 bags) sold in 2010, the first year of the project.

The overall sales leader was Bud Erickson with 350 bags sold. Other committee members who sold at least 25 bags were Evelyn Kahl, Linda Swangstu, Mary Curran, Linda Schmidt, Archie Christensen, Bob Lloyd, and Jim Hanson. The winners of the runners-up drawing were Jim Hanson of the Legion and Mary Curran of the Auxiliary. A total of 11 members served on the committee and several other Legion and Auxiliary members participated in delivery and street sales during the May 10-11 onion pickup day.

Special thanks to the street crews who sold at Aslesons, Stoughton Lumber, Walmart, and the Viking used car lot. These were Legion members Al Phelps, Vic Duesel, Ken Scheidt, Steve Grady, Larry Johnson, DuWayne Teigen, Cliff Maerz, and Harlan Erdahl. Helping out from the Auxiliary, in the shed, breakfasts, and fish fry, were Fay Carpenter, Ginny Hanson, Marie Mateja, and Alive Moen. Thanks to Maria Luchsinger and Gretchen Walters for their extra help in selling the onions.

Thanks also to Mark Asleson who unloaded the onions from the semi with his front-end loader at no cost to the Post.

Proceeds Ear-marked

The bulk of the proceeds will be used to fund a Legion project yet to be determined. A donation of \$500 will be made to Camp American Legion to help build a waterfall. The Stoughton Senior Center and the Veterans Hospital in Madison will also received \$250 each.

Vidalia Onion and Bar-B-Que Sauce

There are still a few bottles of Vidalia salad dressing and Vidalia BBQ sauce available which can be purchased from any committee member or at a Legion breakfast or Friday night fish fry. The cost is \$5.00 per bottle.

SAL Report

I want to say thank you again for supporting the SAL cookout for Camp American Legion and Andy Johnson Big Johnson entertainment. We raised \$200 that will be donated to the camp for a waterfall. \$100 will also be donated to the Post for the horseshoe pits. SAL may hold another cookout in June or July. Please continue to support the Legion/Auxiliary/SAL/Riders. Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

Ray Dzieciol
SAL Commander
Squadron 59





Front Row: Sharon Silbaugh (Chaplain), Pat Christensen (Sergeant-at-Arms), Linda Swangstu (Vice President)
Back Row: Sherry Leick (Historian), Alice Moen (Treasurer), Charlotte Heitke (Secretary) and Marlene Bierman (President)



Membership Report

On-line Membership Renewal

All Legion members may renew their membership on-line through www.legion.org/renew. Members can renew using a credit card and print a temporary card.

Automatic Membership Renewals

Members now have the option of setting their on-line account for annual automatic renewal. Once a member sets their account, their dues will be automatically charged to their debit/credit card on or around July 15 of each new membership year. Just go to www.legion.org/renew. Click on "Renew Now" and follow the directions. It's fast and easy.

Dennis Rodenkirch
American Legion Post 59
608.438.8768

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Wednesday Ladies Night

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Memorial Day – 2013



Carl Sampson delivering his 69th consecutive "Gettysburg Address"



American Legion Honor Guard conducts flag folding ceremony during Taps and the Rifle Salute. POW & Purple Heart Veteran Don Heiliger stands in background during the tribute.



Guest Speaker Colonel Julie M. Gerety of the Wisconsin Army National Guard delivers keynote speech at the Memorial Day Program on May 27 at the Mandt Center.

The Strait Skinny

For those alert readers of The Strait Skinny, you will have noted that past issues covered real interesting (and almost factual) stuff on the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps. We are sure that former swabbies, tars, gobs, squids, brown shoes, black shoes, air dales, anchor crankers, snipes and deck apes have awaited this article with "baited" breath. Then again.....

It all began in 1775, when the head Navy guy (Commodore Charlie Nimitz*) went to George W. (no, not Bush) after he had asked for some Marines to climb the riggings of his ships to shoot their muskets at guys on other ships. The conversation went something like this:

C.N. Ah. George?

G.W. What's up Charlie?

C.N. We have a slight problem. Our ship hasn't come in yet, so when the Marines show up, they won't have any rigging to climb.

G.W. A Navy without ships could present a slight problem. So what's the plan?

C.N. Well, we could buy some ships from the British but they find us colonists rather revolting. Maybe we could buy some from the French but you'd have to use your VISA card because the French don't take American Express.

G.W. Sorry, but I maxed out my credit on these new wooden teeth. See?

C.N. Pretty sharp looking if I do say so. (Insert groan here) Anyway, why don't we just "borrow" some that are sitting the Boston harbor?

G.W. Sounds good to me! Get that John Paul Jones guy on it. I hear he's pretty good at convincing people to surrender and all that.

And so it was that the Navy began to "comshaw" ships and equipment when it was deemed necessary—which was most of the time. This practice is similar to "borrowing" a Kleenex from someone without any intention of returning it and which after being used; the lender has no desire to have back anyway.

Thus, the U. S. Navy was born, which lead to real colorful language and nautical expressions such as:

"The helmsman is instructed to give her a good "rap full" so as to afford maximum headway, while seamen trim the yards as close as possible to the axis of the hull, and haul in taut the sheet of the fore-and-aft driver or spanker on the mizzenmast so as to kick her stern around."

This is how a sailing ship is turned around in the open sea. Naughty, naughty if any of you were thinking anything else.

And with that being said, it's time to weigh anchor, hoist the topgallant and sail off madly in all directions.

"Ole"

*Not to be confused with his illustrious great-grandson Chester. Charlie, so it seemed, was rather inept and his subordinates took great pleasure in the sport of mispronouncing his surname.





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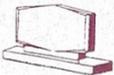
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Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mashed Potatoes, Slaw, California Mix, and Gravy
June 25, 6:30 pm

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VISIT THE POST WEBSITE AT POST59.ORG Post e-mail [AmericanLegionPost59@ TDS.net](mailto:AmericanLegionPost59@TDS.net)
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