



# THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI

POST WEB SITE: POST59.ORG

POST PHONE: 608.205.9090



Volume 17 Issue 11

December 2015

## Commander's Report

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**Chaplain**

Rich Fries



Greetings,

Well, there is finally an end to all the leaf raking, but what comes next is the cold, north winds. Time to gear up for the holidays again as time keeps flying by. Didn't we just get through all of that???

For those of you who attended the last two Tuesday night Post dinners, I would appreciate your opinion on whether we should continue this way or not. Our food was catered from JL

Richards of Oregon. We lost money on the ham dinner because we only had 50 some patrons. Jim Oler stated we need at least 70-80 people to make any money. The prime rib dinner was successful because we had 118 people. We will not be having a December dinner, but we will resume in January. We need to decide if you want to continue or not. Let me know, call and leave a message, yes or no (873-9428).

We finally got City approval to build our storage building. We still need to get the parking lot lights up and running before they will issue the building permit. Hopefully this will happen soon.

We are still working on a contractor for the Veterans Memorial Park. We need to move a lot of top soil and fill in with sand for more stable footings as the weight of the monuments is quite heavy. We want to be done with this before winter so it will settle during the winter months. The fund-raising has been going okay, but we have a long way to go. Roger Nitzsche and Randy Robertson with their fund-raising committee are doing the best they can, but we all need to help out. Purchasing a paver for a family member is something one can be proud of and the next

*Commander continued on page 2*

### 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



Hello Auxiliary and friends,

The geese are flying south and there's frost to scrape off the windshield now in the morning. But we really did have a wonderful fall this year.

At our November meeting we honored the loss of our member, Mary Copley, with the "Draping of the Charter" ceremony. Mary was an Auxiliary member for 35 years and a past Sergeant-at-Arms of our unit.

Now is the time to pay your dues. Dues are due on December 31, but please send them in right now if you haven't paid so we can finish the renewal process. We are happy to welcome our newest member, Judy Rabe to Unit 59.

On Saturday, November 7 the "Quilting by the River Friends" had a beautiful display of 96 quilts they made this year. I hope you had a chance to see them. It was an awesome display of talent and hard work. The Auxiliary also served a sandwich lunch during the show. The proceeds enabled us to make a \$200 donation to the group for making more quilts for veteran patients at the VA Hospital. We are proud to support their efforts.

The Auxiliary has been asked to donate desserts or salads to the Christmas dinner that is held each year at the VFW. This dinner is offered to members of our community and is a joint project of the VFW and Legion. Desserts can be pies, cookies, cakes, or bars or fruit or jello salads. They should be dropped off at the VFW on Christmas Eve before 5:00 pm or on Christmas morning before 9:00 am.

Our thanks to the Stoughton Lioness Club and the Stoughton Rotary for their sponsorship of two Badger Girls for next year. We appreciate their continued support.

*President continued on page 2*

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

November 15 - Legion Breakfast – 7:00-11:00 am  
November 21 - Blue Moon karaoke – 8:00 pm-1:00 am  
November 22 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss  
2:00-6:00 pm  
November 26 - Thanksgiving Day  
November 27 - Blue Moon karaoke – 8:00 pm-1:00 am  
December 5 - Blue Moon karaoke – 8:00 pm-1:00 am  
December 12 - Universal Sound – 8:00 pm-midnight  
Ugly Sweater Night  
December 19 - Blue Moon karaoke – 8:00 pm-1:00 am  
December 20 - Legion Breakfast – 7:00-11:00 am  
December 25 - Merry Christmas  
December 27 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss  
2:00-6:00 pm  
December 31- Northern Lights – 8:00-midnight  
January 1 - New Years Day

**Note: there will not be a Post dinner in December**

### Event Pricing

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

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

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

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek to be consoled, as to console. To be understood, as to understand. To be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*St. Francis of Assisi*

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

*Commander continued from page 1*

generation can look at the names at the park in the future and relate to all the names and what they stand for. The pavers also make great Christmas gifts for a loved one.

Have a safe Thanksgiving if you are traveling and don't eat too much turkey!

Thank you again for all the volunteers that make our Post special.

Commander Sonny



*President continued from page 1*

If you have extra 2016 calendars that you get in the mail and would like to donate them, please drop them off at the Post. We will take them to the nursing homes in the area for the patients.

In December we are also participating in a Legion program to help the USO. During the next few weeks we will be collecting Christmas candy for the USO in Wisconsin. Please show your support for our military and their families by dropping off a bag of Christmas candy in the collection box at the bar. We will be sending the candy in on December 15.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. I am especially thankful this year for all our volunteers. There are way too many to name them all!

Our next meeting is Monday, December 14 at 6:30 pm. See you there!

Lisa Olson  
Unit 59 President

*"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." – Helen Keller*

### Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577

## Wahlin Foundation Pledges \$50,000 to Veterans Memorial Park

The Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park Fund received a tremendous boost recently with a \$50,000 pledge from the Wahlin Foundation. The money will be used to fund the archway entrance to the park.

The broad program of the Wahlin Foundation is to support the charitable needs in the general areas where the manufacturing plants of Stoughton Trailers LLC are located. According to Betsy McClimon, Executive Director of the Foundation, "Our goal is to enrich the lives and promote opportunities in the communities where our employees work and live."

Stoughton Trailers, which was founded by military veteran, Don Wahlin, and his wife, Carol, started the Stoughton-based business in 1961. Since 1999, the Foundation has awarded nearly three million dollars to address the charitable needs in the communities of Stoughton, Brodhead, and Evansville.

McClimon said "donating to the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park is a real opportunity to support and honor the veterans of the Stoughton community."

### Paver Gift Certificates for Sale

Gift certificates for pavers for the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park will go on sale Thanksgiving week.

According to Randy Robertson, co-chairman of the fund-raising committee, people will be able to purchase either an 8x8 or an 8x16 paver to give to a grandfather, father, uncle, mother, etc. or in honor of a deceased loved one. The purchaser will pay for the paver and receive a card, to give as a gift, with a paver form on the back. The recipient can then fill out the card and send the order in.

The cost of an 8x8 paver is \$150 and an 8x16 paver is \$250. The gift cards will be available at the bars of the VFW and American Legion.



Left to right: Duane Broughton, General Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Project, Betsy McClimon, Executive Director of the Wahlin Foundation; and Bud Erickson, Publicity Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Project. Photo credit: Tim Erickson.





### Quilts for the Vets

On Saturday, November 7, 2015, the Quilting Friends on the River displayed their handiwork at the Post. The Ladies Auxiliary offered sandwiches for the event.

These 96 hand-made quilts were distributed to patients at the VA Hospital in Madison on November 11. Their work is an annual tribute for those who served our nation.

### 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.



### 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**





## 2nd Annual Toys For Tots Campaign

Sponsored by The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 59.

All toys donated will be distributed locally by Dane County Health and Human Services.

### Drop-Off Boxes locations:

-American Legion Post 59

-Stoughton Collision Center

(Directly behind the American Legion)

-Zelm Chiropractic-Stoughton and McFarland locations

For more information go to [www.post59.org](http://www.post59.org)

or check out our Post 59 facebook page



A BIG thank you to everyone that came out for our Sons of the American Legion fundraiser breakfast on September 20th. The fundraiser was done to purchase a granite bench in honor of Carl Sampson to be placed at the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park when finished.

Carl Sampson, regarded as Stoughton's elder statesman has delivered the Gettysburg Address for 71 consecutive years at the Memorial Day services. He is a walking encyclopedia of Stoughton history. If he doesn't know you, he more than likely knows a member of your family. The picture above shows Carl holding an example of what the bench will have engraved on it when finished.

Also, a BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped make our breakfast a success.

Thank You,

Dean Stenjem- Commander, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 59



Above from left: Patrick Nowlin, Commander VFW Post 328, Cheryl Heiliger, Col Don Heiliger USAF (ret), Governor Scott Walker, Mayor Donna Olson, and John Scocos, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

On Monday, November 2, 2015, the State of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs presented Don Heiliger, a six-year POW/occupant of the Hanoi Hilton and for more than 25 years a resident of Stoughton, a bronze plaque in honor of his service to our country. The ceremony was held at Stoughton VFW Post 328, Mother Post of Wisconsin.



## CHRISTMAS DINNER

All Are Welcome!

VFW Hall  
Veteran's Rd (Cty N)  
Stoughton, WI  
December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Serving from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

If you need a ride or if you want a meal delivered,  
please call

The Stoughton Senior Center

873-8585 By 12 - 23

- Leave your name, address and phone number
- How many dinners you need
- How many passengers need a ride
- \*Rides and home delivery limited to Stoughton School District area

(Please call by December 23rd)

Donations Appreciated!

*Hosted by the American Legion, VFW Post 328 and their  
Auxiliaries and Volunteers*

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There will not be a Post dinner in December.

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 8<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH**  
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)