



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59

803 North Page Street - STOUGHTON, WI

PH: 608.205.9090

Post 59 Website: www.post59.us

SUMMER 2025



2024-2025

POST 59 OFFICERS

Commander

Michael Currie

1st Vice Commander

Rodger Hansen

2nd Vice Commander

Mike Ayers

3rd Vice Commander

Ken Schieldt

Service Officer

John Solis

Sgt. At Arms

Jim Schiferl

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Al Vick

Adjutant

Joshua Holt

Judge Advocate

Tom Jenny

Chaplain

Edward Nowicki

Membership

Mike Ayers



FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Good day everyone, It was again a pretty mild winter and nice spring so far. I think I only used my snowblower twice.

Well spring is almost over and May is always a very busy month for our Post, the VFW and the Stoughton Community. Syttende Mai will be here the weekend of May 16th thru the 18th and our annual Memorial Day Parade and Program will be on Monday the 26th at 10:00 with the program at the Mandt Center immediately following the parade. Please come and support the American Legion and VFW in honoring our fallen veterans and those Stoughton veterans who have passed over this last year.

Following the Memorial Day Program there will be a reception sponsored by the Stoughton American Legion. So please join us for food and refreshments provided by Post 59's Sons of the American Legion.

Weather permitting we are hoping to open the Legion Tiki Bar on Friday the 16th from 5:00 to 9:00 so come on down and enjoy an evening with friends. Our Post, VFW and several other organizations will be placing the annual flags for veterans at all local cemeteries on May 22nd and retrieving them on May 27th. Inevitably our Post members and volunteers will miss a veteran's grave for various reasons, we apologize in advance. Extra flags are left on the terraces so that family members who see we may have missed their loved ones grave can take a flag from the terrace and place it.

We would like to show off our new hall flooring which was installed several weeks ago and soon to be our new bar floor, so please stop down and take a

look.

Please visit our website and Facebook page for updates and upcoming events for June, July and August. We will continue to have musical entertainment throughout the summer and have the Country Jams thru May and then resuming in September.

As always thank you to our members, volunteers and everyone who supports our Post. Without your dedication we could not continue our mission of supporting our area veterans and the Stoughton Community.

Stay well and we'll see you at the Post!

Commander Michael



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 59

2024-2025

**UNIT 59 AUXILIARY
OFFICERS**

President

Amy Hermes

Sr Vice President

Dawn Clark

Jr Vice President

Sally Schieldt

Co-Secretaries

Devon Hermes

Lana Aaberg

Treasurer

Jody Kumlien

Chaplain

Tinamarie Nelson

Membership

Lisa Olson

Greetings All~

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

— Mahatma Gandhi

March 31 marked the end of our fiscal year and as I worked on our annual reports, I continue to be amazed and proud of all the things ALA has been able to do this past year. Our members donated over 11,800 hours of time volunteering and over \$15,500 in donations to our community and veteran projects/needs. Additionally, we are striving to have our scholarship fund reach \$30,000 by 2030 and we already have over \$16,000!

We welcomed new member Laurie Downs, which puts our total membership at 178 members strong. But we are very sad to have lost two of our loyal members in April, Karen Whitford & Janet Peterson.



On April 26, 2025, Lisa Olson, Linda Egleston, and myself attended the Third District Spring Conference.

Our unit received the Harriet Hass Bell. This award is given to a unit each year who has achieved 100% or more of their membership goal for 3 consecutive years and has had the greatest membership percentage increase during those 3 years.

Very proud of our unit's growth.

Our big event in May will be all things poppy. Tina Nelson has been working on Miss Poppy applications. Lisa Olson, Sherry Lieck and Jan Rasmussen are part of the committee planning for the Memorial Day parade and program. You will be finding a poppy in this newsletter, and we hope you will consider donating. We will also be distributing them at various locations during Memorial Day Weekend.

We are excited that we have two girls attending Badger Girl State in June. We appreciate the support of our sponsors, the Stoughton Lions and the Stoughton Rotary Club. They both have generously contributed to the cost to send these two girls.

On August 14, we will be sponsoring a bake sale at Gazebo Musikk at the Rotary Park. If you have never attended a gazebo night, you should!

Amy Hermes

In friendship & fellowship,





Sons of the American Legion Report Squadron 59



2024-2025

Squadron 59 SAL OFFICERS

Commander

Bob Hocking

1st Vice Commander

Bob Crofoot

2nd Vice Commander

Dan Blomgren

Sgt. At Arms

Greg Clark

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Adjutant

Brian Vogt

Historian

Roger Strandlie

Chaplain

Brian Vogt

Welcome to Stoughton, you wonderful warmer spring weather. We've been waiting. Come and stay for a while. It's not likely that a few kind words will make much of a difference to Mother Nature, but admit it, we are all looking forward to relegating our cold weather clothes to the more difficult areas to reach in the closet and dressers.

Along with the warmer weather comes the opportunity to be a part of this years "Raise the Flag" in Stoughton and limited surrounding areas. The \$50.00 cost will cover having a 3' x 5' American flag displayed at your home or business. Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th (Independence Day) and September 11th (Patriots Day) all precede the GRAND FINALE November, 11th Veterans Day, when all the flags are used to encompass the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park.

If you're still listening Mother Nature, a warm breezy sunny day would be perfect. You can be part of the proud many by getting ahold of Tammy, Terry, or Mike at Thrivent 608-873-3910 or picking up an enrollment sheet at The American Legion. Proceeds help maintain the SAVMP.

SAL Commander, Bob Hocking

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

A Memorial Day Prayer

"Almighty God, let us pause to pay tribute to our dearly departed. Let us honor the memory of the valiant servicemen and women who made the supreme sacrifice so that we may live in a country that is free. May they rest in peace. Keep their families in your good graces. Give them peace and comfort.

Let us always be reminded of the wonderful lives we have because of their service. Thank you for the many blessings you have given our county. We can stand tall in the knowledge that You have blessed us with your grace.

We give You thanks for the ability to honor them and their service.

We also remember all those currently serving in the armed forces. Protect and defend them, grant that they continue to serve You and our country with honor and dignity.

We also ask that You watch over the veterans of our country. Comfort those who are suffering physical, emotional, and mental illness. Relieve their suffering and bring them back to full health so that they may continue to serve you.

In ending Lord, we thank you for your many blessings. You have been most generous. We ask that you heal our country. Bring us back to the fullness we enjoyed before the coronavirus changed our lives. Bless us with health and healing and let us remember what is most important to us. Family, friends, and You."

Amen.

Ed Nowicki – Chaplain

LEGION MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Post 59 Summer 2025 Membership News

“URGENT” If you have not yet renewed your 2025 membership, please consider doing so with one of the finest Post in Wisconsin. We can meet our May 14th goal of 100% with the renewal/recruitment of 11 members. So please consider continuing your membership here with Post 59.

You can either send in your \$40.00 check to Post 59 or go online at MyLegion.org or www.legiongoal.org/renew where you can also renew for up to 3 years.

2025 Membership Goals: As of this newsletter, our membership renewals total 296 with 28 new members totaling 324. Our May 14th goal is 100% or 337 members.

New Members - Since our Spring Newsletter we welcomed the following 4 new Legionnaires into our Post ranks: Brian Christensen – USA, Jeff Comstock – USA, Michelle Comstock – USAF and Michael Magnus – USA.

Paid up for Life (PUFL): People ask me what is my cost to become a PUFL member? Cost is based on age and yes you can set up 12 monthly payments with The National Headquarters. You can become a Life Member by going online to MyLegion.com or give me a call, text or email and I can assist you with enrollment.

AGE	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90&older
COST	\$1535	\$1399	\$1229	\$1025	\$815	\$599	\$429	\$329



******Not only do we recognize our new members for Post 59 but take a moment to recognize and honor those that we have lost since our last newsletter.***

Eugene Horvath (Mar 25th) Vietnam USA – 20 years Membership
Ronald Kittoe (Apr 28th) Vietnam USA – 55 years Membership

Thank you for your continued support and service to our country and the American Legion.

Michael L. Ayers – 2nd Vice Commander and Membership Chair
PH: (608) 335-1771 or email tqmgr@yahoo.com





“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.

Syttende Mai Parade - Sunday, May 18

Meet at Mandt Park by 1:00 p.m. The Veteran’s Float parks on South Fourth Street

Memorial Day Parade - Monday, May 26

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

Shuttle available from the Mandt Center to parade line-up for parade participants beginning 9:15.

Veteran’s Float parks on the corner of S. Prairie & W. Main at 9:30.

Memorial Day Program – Monday, May 26

Immediately following the Parade @ 11:00 a.m. at Mandt Center
RAIN or SHINE

The Program is open to the public.

Reception & Cookout to follow at the American Legion Post 59

Cemetery Flags Placement

Help needed: Thursday, May 22 @ 8:00am- Meet at Riverside Cemetery to put out flags. (Rain

Date: Friday, May 23 @ 8:00am)

Remove Flags Tuesday, May 27 @ 8:00am - Meet at Riverside Cemetery to remove flags.

(Rain Date: Wednesday, May 28 @ 8:00am)

THE AUXILIARY PATRIOTIC STITCHERS

Quilt Presentations
At the February, March & April Post Dinners



LaVerne Christianson
Quilt by Pat Broadbent



Doug Olson
Quilt by Sandy Vike



DuWayne Stellmacher
Quilt by Kimberly Currie



Norm Sime
Quilt by Melissa Schiferl



Glenda Ackerman
Quilt by Sherri Hensel



Don Wahlin
Quilt by Sherri Hensel



Mike Wahlin ~ Quilt by Alice Moen



On May 23rd our Auxiliary will launch National Poppy Days in Stoughton to honor U.S. Service members, from the battlefields of France in WWI over a century ago until today. For over 100 years, ALA members & veterans across the country have distributed millions of poppies.

Please wear your poppy which is enclosed in this newsletter with pride, in memory of the fallen and to honor those who have served and are currently serving to defend our freedom. If you are able, please use the enclosed return envelope to make a donation to this year's collection.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Post 59 Calendar of Events

JUNE 2025

June 2nd: Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30pm
June 9th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00 pm
June 11th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00 pm
June 13th: Brian Piper 7:00-10:00
June 14th: Freedom Ride 10:00 am @ VFW
June 15th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30 am
June 27th: Frank lefty James 7:00-10:00

JULY 2025

July 4th: Independence Day
July 7th: No Auxiliary Meeting in July
July 9th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
July 11th: Deans Blue Country 7:00-10:00
July 14th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
July 20th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am

AUGUST 2025

Aug. 4th: No Auxiliary Meeting in August
Aug. 8th: Dino Ante 7:00pm-10:00
Aug. 11th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Aug. 13th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Aug. 14th: Auxiliary Bake Sale @ Gazebo Musikk @ 6:00 pm
Aug. 17th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am

Contact Information for Post 59

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Mike Ayers – Membership chair

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Email: tqmgr@yahoo.com

Jim Oler – Finance Officer

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Email: oller8888@gmail.com

John Solis – Service Officer

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Email: solosolis@gmail.com

Amy Hermes – ALA President

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Email: AHermes@stoughtonhealth.com

Bob Hocking – SAL Commander

PH: (608) 206-6980

Email: sonsofthelegion59@gmail.com

Email: bobghocking@gmail.com

Bob Crofoot – Editor

Email: hodagbob@yahoo.com

MEAT RAFFLE 2nd SATURDAY of June, July & August @ 2:00pm

Events are subject to change. Please check our website @ www.post59.us or our Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/post59stoughton for any changes to the events listed above.



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Otis Sampson American
Legion Post 59



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Hall Rentals

For More Information,
please contact Sherry

Leick @

[post59hallrental@gmail.co](mailto:post59hallrental@gmail.com)

m OR

go to our website @

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AMERICAN LEGION BAR

803 NORTH PAGE STREET

STOUGHTON, WI

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – 608-205-9090

Bar Open to Serve You:

Wednesday – Sunday

(Monday & Tuesday **CLOSED**)

Wednesday: **3:00pm – 8:00pm**

Thursday: **3:00pm – 8:00pm**

Friday: **3:00pm - 10:00pm**

Saturday: **12:00am - 12:00pm**

Sunday: **12:00-6:00pm**