



THE LEGION POST

Quarterly Newsletter

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59

803 North Page Street - STOUGHTON, WI



POST WEB SITE: www.post59.us



POST PHONE:
608.205.9090

November/December 2022
January 2023



Commander's Report

Hello and Happy Fall to everyone,

Our warm summer months are now behind us, and the cool and cold months of fall and winter are ahead. Our Post has been very busy during the summer and fall months. The Legion Hall has been booked solid on weekends through October and I want to thank Sherry Leick and our Auxiliary members for all they do with the events in the hall. The Post Tiki bar closed on September 30th with a Flannel night event that was a lot of fun for all, thank you to Sally and Kelly for organizing the event.

We started up our monthly members dinner in September with the ever-favorite Swiss Steak dinner. It was a special dinner as we recognized our Post Honor Guard and presented long time Honor Guard Coordinator Al Vick with a plaque for his Honor Guard service and the Auxiliary Patriotic Stitchers presented three quilts to three of our Post members. We will not be having our monthly dinners in November and December because of the holidays. We will start up again on January 24, 2023. Please sign up at the bar for January's dinner so we have a count for the number of dinners needed.

Our November through January calendars are filling up fast with a number of events. Veterans Day is on November 11th, so don't forget to thank a veteran for their service. Election Day is November 8th, so get out the vote. We will be having a number of musical events in November and December. On November 4th & 18th Bryan Alan Piper will be playing from 7 to 10. November 5th Bad Habit Band will be playing from 7 to 10. December 3rd we will have our ugly sweater night >>>>>

and contest with Universal Sound playing from 7 to 10. Bryan Piper will be back with us on December 9th from 7 to 10. On December 17th Bad Habit Band will be back at the Post from 7 to 10. We are also continuing our Sunday Jams which will be on the 4th Sunday of the month however no Jam on Sunday December 25th. Other events in December will be the annual Navy League fundraiser on December 10th with the Army/Navy game on our big screen. Come on down and root for your favorite team. Our Post SAL will be having their annual Breakfast with Santa and Toys for Tots event and to end the year we are having our New Year's Eve party.

If you have or know someone deployed or on active duty the annual Christmas packages that Larry Johnson sends out before the holidays will need to have the names and addresses no later than November 25th to Larry.

In closing, I want to take a moment and let all of our members and their family's know that we continue our successful service to our area veterans and Stoughton community because of you and your support to our Post. To all of our wonderful volunteers who continue to work hard to make our Post successful, thank you so much for all you do.

Happy Holidays and Happy and Healthy New Year to you all!

Commander Michael

Contact Information for Post 59

Post 59 Email: alpost59@gmail.com

Michael Currie – Commander
PH: (608) 712-6747
Email: Michaelcurrie@charter.net

Mike Ayers – Service Officer
PH: (608) 335-1771
Email: tgmgr@yahoo.com

Jim Oler – Finance Officer
PH: (608) 347-4407
Email: oller8888@gmail.com

Amy Hermes – ALA President
PH: (608) 516-8720
Email: AHermes@stoughtonhealth.com

Bob Hocking – SAL Commander
PH: (608) 206-6980
Email: sonsofthelegion59@gmail.com
Email: bobghocking@gmail.com

Dean Stenjem – Newsletter Editor
PH: (608) 516-0071
Email: 59legionpost@gmail.com

ELECTION DAY CHILI FEST

On October 18, 2017, the Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park was dedicated. The \$1.2 million project was completely paid for by donations and fund raisers, mostly from the Stoughton community. Although the park itself is paid for, the costs to maintain this beautiful landmark are approximately \$18,000 per year. As a result, continued donations and fundraisers are necessary.

On Election Day, November 8, the Veterans Park Committee will hold a chili fest to be held at the American Legion Post at 803 N. Page from 4:00 until 7:00. The costs are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids under ten.

MEAT RAFFLE

EVERY SATURDAY @ 2:00pm

Any events for Post 59 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.

Significant Dates for this Quarter

NOVEMBER 2022

- Nov. 4th: [Bryan Alan Piper Music @ 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 5th: [Bad Habit Band @ The Legion 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 5th: Veteran Quilt Display 8:00am – 3:00pm
- Nov. 6th: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov. 7th: [Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30pm](#)
- Nov. 8th: [SAVMP Chili Fundraiser 4:00pm – 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 9th: [Sons of the American Legion Monthly Mtg. 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 10th: [Marine Corps Birthday \(247th\)](#)
- Nov. 11th: [Veterans Day](#)
- Nov. 14th: [Monthly Legion Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 18th: [Bryan Alan Piper Music @ 7:00pm](#)
- Nov. 20th: [Monthly BREAKFAST 7:30am - 11:30am](#)
- Nov. 24th: [Thanksgiving Day](#)
- Nov. 27th: [Country Music Jam - 2:00pm – 6:00pm](#)

DECEMBER 2022

- Dec. 1st: [Civil Air Patrol \(USAF Auxiliary\) Birthday](#)
- Dec. 3rd: [Universal Sound Band/ Ugly Sweater Night @ 7:00](#)
- Dec. 5th: [Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30pm](#)
- Dec. 7th: [Pearl Harbor Day](#)
- Dec. 10th: [ARMY-NAVY Game Social & Fundraiser 1:00 – 6:00pm](#)
- Dec. 11th: [SAL BREAKFAST with SANTA @ 7:30am](#)
- Dec. 13th: [National Guard Birthday](#)
- Dec. 14th: [Sons of the American Legion Monthly Mtg. 7:00pm](#)
- Dec. 17th: [BAD HABIT BAND Christmas Show @ 7:00pm](#)
- Dec. 20th: [Space Force Birthday](#)
- Dec. 25th: [CHRISTMAS DAY](#)
- Dec. 31st: New Year's Eve Party @ The Legion

JANUARY 2023

- Jan. 1st: New Year's Party at The Legion CONTINUED
- Jan. 9th: [Monthly Legion Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)
- Jan. 11th: [Sons of the American Legion Monthly Mtg. 7:00pm](#)
- Jan. 15th: [Monthly BREAKFAST 7:30am - 11:30am](#)
- Jan. 22nd: [Country Music Jam - 2:00pm – 6:00pm](#)
- Jan. 24th: Legion Membership Monthly Dinner
- Jan. 31st: [Life Line Screening – 8:00am – 5:00pm](#)

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.

AMERICAN LEGION BAR

<https://www.post59.us/the-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

To Subscribe to an Email (PDF) version of The Legion Post

Visit:

www.post59.us/the-legion-post

and fill out the form.



**Madison Navy League to Host Army-Navy Game Social
Raise Funds for Sea Cadets & STEM Programs**

Navy League of the United States, Madison Council, is hosting its Annual Army-Navy Game Social and Fundraiser from 1 to 6 p.m., Saturday, December 10, at the Otis Sampson American Legion Post 59, 803 N. Page Street, Stoughton. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

This year, the Madison Council is donating proceeds from the event's raffle ticket sales, 50/50 raffle and basket raffle to two youth programs: The Battleship Wisconsin Division U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, and local STEM/SeaPerch programs.

The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (Sea Cadets) is a maritime based youth program sponsored by the U.S. Navy and supported by the U.S. Coast Guard. Cadets train on naval bases and other military installations in a variety of military disciplines, always choosing adventure, seeking challenges, and stepping outside of their comfort zones. The Battleship Wisconsin Division meets regularly in La Crosse, Wis.

Come and watch the biggest rivalry in college football -- the Navy Midshipmen and the Army Black Knights -- on the big screen in the American Legion Hall. Chili, brats and all the fixings will be available for \$10 per person.

Companies or individuals interested in donating baskets for the raffle should contact Lisa Kromanaker at kromanaker@madisoncollege.edu.

For event information, please contact Joan Behr at (608) 669-3182 or joanbehr@aol.com.

The Navy League of the United States, founded in 1902 with the support of President Theodore Roosevelt, is a nonprofit civilian organization that supports America's sea services: The Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. The Navy League is unique among military-oriented associations in that it is a civilian organization dedicated to the education of our citizens, including our elected officials, and the support of the men and women of the sea services and their families. You need not have served in the military to be a member of the Navy League.



Auxiliary News Unit 59



Greetings All~

"The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have."-Vince Lombardi

If you know me, you know football is one of my favorite things about fall. The start of the holiday season, packed full of our memories and traditions, is also a time to show gratitude to others who may not be as fortunate as ourselves. With that being said, the ALA has been very busy giving to others and planning for a variety of fall activities!

- Marjorie Kittleson is our newest member to join the ALA!
- On September 10, Lisa Olson, Bonnie Kennedy and Louise Christopher volunteered at and presented over 400 cookies for the 115th Fighter Wing Family Day Picnic Luncheon at Truax Field. This was made possible by so many of our members who are excellent bakers!
- At our September meeting, Kay Weeden, from the Resettlement Program, came to speak with us regarding the needs of new Ukrainian families that are living in Stoughton. We were very proud to be able to donate \$1000 to them during the Ukrainian Culture Days.
- During the month of September, Dawn Clark and Sally Schieldt have been busy reinvigorating our Junior Members with personal phone calls.
- This quarter, we have also started planning for the donation of a High School Scholarship. The ALA has never done this before, so we are excited that some of fundraising events have helped establish our new Scholarship Fund.
- At our October meeting, Laura Braund, Executive Director of START, spoke to us about START and how donations help out our community members. Proceeds from the Annual Chicken and Biscuit Dinner on October 22 will be donated START.
- At our November meeting, we will be having the Stoughton K-9 Crew come speak to us. We are really hoping Odin will be able to join them. We have extended an invite to all Post, SAL, and Junior Members that may be interested in hearing about this as well.
- In December, watch for the Giving Tree with items to be donated to veterans in need.

SAVE THE DATE: April 29 the ALA will be hosting a "Senior" Prom. The theme will be "Dancing through the Decades," so iron up your dresses and dust of your tuxedos! We are hoping it will be a fun event for all!

Thank you to all our great volunteers for without your help and support we would not be able to do all the things we do!

In friendship & fellowship,

Amy Hermes

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

THANK YOU to our Auxiliary members who have paid their **2023 Dues!** As of today, over 80% of our members have already renewed. However, we still have 35 members left to pay. If you are not sure whether you have paid,

please give us a call. Also please do not hesitate to contact us if you need assistance in paying your dues. The Auxiliary is always ready to help. 2023 Dues are due by December 31st, 2022.

You may also pay your dues over the phone by credit card by calling National @ 317-569-4570 between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm. You will speak to a live person. It takes less than five minutes.

Or to pay online go to www.alaforveterans.org.

Lisa Olson 608-279-4847 or Anna Paul 608-205-2298



On Saturday, September 10th, several American Legion Posts & six Auxiliaries from Dane County joined forces at a Family Day Picnic for the 115th Fighter Wing at Truax.

There were eight Dane County Auxiliaries who together donated over 3,000 cookies.

Volunteering from Stoughton were Bonnie Kennedy, Louise Christopher and Lisa Olson.

In addition, sixteen Stoughton Auxiliary members donated over 400 cookies with short notice. Volunteers grilled brats, served food, assisted with kid's games, dunk tank, silent auction and picture taking for families with the F16s. We served over 2,500 Air Guard & their family members.

The 115th Fighter Wing Commander made sure to thank the entire Legion Family while he was on stage during a short presentation for the final flyover by the F16s before the Badger Game.

Our Unit has also been presented with an F16 picture from the Guard in appreciation for our support. It will be displayed in the hall next to our banner.

Hall Rentals

For More Information, please contact Sherry Leick
@ post59hallrental@gmail.com

or go to our website @

[Post 59-Otis Sampson American Legion
Stoughton/Hall Rental Information](#)



Meet Gwendolyn Kraak

The next time you visit the Legion for a dinner, or a breakfast take a look towards the front of the hall in the history library. You will notice a mannequin of a woman smartly dressed in a 1940's Army uniform. That uniform belonged to Sergeant First Class Gwendolyn Marie Kraak. She was born in 1910 and served in the Women's Army Corps as a nurse in Europe during WWII. Gwendolyn passed away in 1997 at the age of 87 years.

Her nephew, Thomas Beatty, was a member of our Post 59. When Thomas passed away in September 2021, his wife Sheila donated Gwendolyn's uniform and purse to our Post. We will now proudly display her uniform in her honor and in honor of the many other women service members who served our country during WWII and continue to serve today.

~ Lisa Olson

CHAPLAINS' CORNER

There is a winter in all of our lives, a chill and darkness that makes us yearn for days that have gone or put our hope in days yet to be. Father God, you created seasons for a purpose. Spring is full of expectation buds breaking frosts abating and an awakening of creation before the first days of summer. Now the sun gives warmth and comfort to our lives reviving aching joints bringing color, new life, and crops to fruiting. Autumn gives nature space to lean back, relax and enjoy the fruits of its labor mellow colors in sky and landscape as the earth prepares to rest. Then winter, cold and bare as nature takes stock rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right. An endless cycle and yet a perfect model. We need a winter in our lives a time of rest, a time to stand still a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live. It is only then that we can draw strength from the one in whom we are rooted take time to grow and rise through the darkness into the warm glow of your springtime to blossom and flourish bring color and vitality into this world your garden. Thank you, Father, for the seasons of our lives.

Ed Nowicki - Post 59 Chaplain

THE CANDY IS HERE! SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED!

Available at Bar @ Post 59

Sons of the American Legion Fundraiser



Cashew Crunch

Chocolate Covered, Regular or Scrunch

1 Pound Bags

\$11.00



Attention

All Stoughton and surrounding area residents who have friends or relatives in the Armed Forces presently stationed in the United States or in other countries that won't be able to come home for Christmas.

The American Legion Post 59 Stoughton is sending Christmas service packages **FREE OF CHARGE** to all service men and women who qualify.

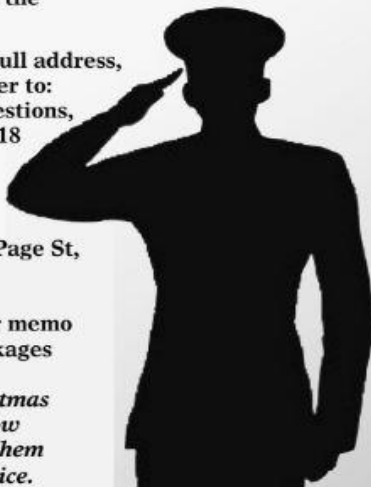
We need names and addresses of the soldiers no later than Nov. 25th.

Just text the soldier's name and full address, plus your name and phone number to: 608-513-8218. If you have any questions, call Larry Johnson at: 608-513-8218

If a person or business wants to donate money for packages, mail check to: American Legion Post 59, 803 N Page St, Stoughton, WI 53589.

C/O Jim Oler. Please include a separate note or memo on check: Christmas Service Packages

Let's send our soldiers some Christmas Spirit from Wisconsin so they know we're thinking of them, proud of them and can thank them for their service.



ATTENTION VETERANS—DD-214

Recently, a deceased veteran was buried with no military honors. However, we later found out that the family had wanted those honors. In addition, the next of kin knew nothing about the DD-214 and did not request military honors from the funeral home. The family thought military honors were an automatic for any veteran. Not true. The family needs to request military honors and they need to show a copy of the DD-214 to the funeral director.

So, vets, make sure to let your next of kin know where your DD-214 is located.

Bud Erickson - Member, Post 59 Honor Guard



DONATIONS
ARE
APPRECIATED

FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25th

VFW Hall, 200 Veterans Road (Cty.N)
Stoughton, WI.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Dine-In 11:00am – 1:00pm

Deliveries will start at 10:00am

If you need a ride (handicap accessible van) or if you want a meal delivered, **please RSVP** to indicate which option works for you!

Call (608) 873-8585 by December 21st

Leave: Your Name, Address, Phone Number

How many dinners you need

How many passengers need a ride

(Rides and delivery limited to Stoughton School District area)

HOSTED BY: The American Legion Post 59, The VFW Post 328, and their Auxiliaries and Volunteers



Judy Swatek and her family attended the September legion dinner displaying the quilt which was previously presented to Jerry Swatek. A formal presentation was made, recognizing Jerry's military service. The quilt was made by Alice Moen and presented to Jerry at his home. Jerry passed two months after receiving the quilt.

PATRIOTIC STITCHERS



How could we ever forget Jim Oler!!!! Jim was presented with a quilt on November 12, 2019 at the legion supper. Jim was recognized for his military service and his unbelievable hours of dedication to our legion. The running joke of this presentation was to impress on Jim that, "this is a quilt ... not a blanket." The quilt was made by Alice Asleson and ultimately was the last veteran's quilt Alice made to be presented at a legion supper.



Mike Griggs was presented with a quilt at the September legion dinner, recognizing him for his military service and many, many hours of dedication to our legion and the Stoughton community. The quilt was made by Pat Broadbent.



Joe Erickson was surprised when he was presented with a quilt at the September legion dinner. Family members attended the presentation to celebrate Joe's military service and service to our legion. The quilt was made by Lori Moe-Kittelson.




VIKING BREW PUB
STOUGHTON'S FIRST BREW PUB

211 EAST MAIN STREET
STOUGHTON, WI 53589
(608) 719-5041

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

Silbaugh Engineering, Inc.

DEAN W. SILBAUGH PE
Registered Professional Engineer
Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota
HVAC & PLUMBING CONSULTANT

717 Eisenhower Rd. (608) 873-3927
Stoughton, Wisconsin 53589 FAX (608) 873-6150

Your Hometown Partner in Complete Automotive Care

EAST-SIDE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER

608.205.6622 1641 E Main St
ESAService@outlook.com Stoughton WI 53589
www.east-sideautomotive.com

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




US Cellular
RadioShack.
A Division of Tandy Corporation



STAR SUPPLY, LLC

Mary Sundby
608-692-9622
mary@starsupplyllc.com

Stoughton Collision Center
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

608-249-8178
800-400-8178

PECHMANN MEMORIALS, Inc.

*The Most Respected Name In Memorials
Serving Stoughton Families Since 1971*

4238 Acker Road, Madison, WI 53704 Erich Pechmann
-Locally Owned and Operated- Vice President

We take care of every detail.




We're Here for You.

West Madison East Madison
Middleton Sun Prairie
Waunakee
McFarland Stoughton Deerfield

www.CressFuneralService.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

Gunderson
Funeral and Cremation Care

LIFE CELEBRATION CENTERS

Sara Paton Barkenhagen, Martha Paton, Dale Holzhtuter, Mike Smits, Pete Gunderson, & Matt Gunderson.

1358 US-51, Stoughton, WI 53589
608.873.4590 + gundersonfh.com

The Gunderson Family 97 years.

KOFFEE KUP RESTAURANT



not just koffee ...

355 E Main St • Stoughton, WI 53589
608.873.6717

CONANT AUTOMOTIVE INC.
SERVICE & REPAIR 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

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



SHACK'S

36 N Main St. Deerfield
608-764-8200

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59
PO BOX 16 - 803 N PAGE STREET
STOUGHTON WI 53589
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WISCONSIN AMERICAN
LEGION PRESS
ASSOCIATION

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

2022-2023

POST 59 OFFICERS

Commander

Michael Currie

1st Vice Commander

Rodger Hansen

2nd Vice Commander

Dale Seffens

3rd Vice Commander

Ken Schieldt

Service Officer

Mike Ayers

Sgt. At Arms

Randy Robertson

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Adjutant

Joshua Holt

Judge Advocate

Tom Jenny

Chaplain

Edward Nowicki

2022-2023

UNIT 59 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Amy Hermes

Vice President

Dawn Clark

Secretary

Kate Schieldt

Treasurer

Lisa Olson

Chaplain

Anna Paul

Membership

Lisa Olson

2022-2023

Squadron 59 SAL OFFICERS

Commander

Bob Hocking

1st Vice Commander

Dean Stenjem

2nd Vice Commander

Dan Blomgren

Sgt. At Arms

Bob Crofoot

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Adjutant

Roger Strandlie

Historian

Rob York

Chaplain

Brian Vogt

**Otis Sampson American
Legion Post 59**



Editor: Dean Stenjem
59legionpost@gmail.com

Website:

www.post59.us



DEADLINES FOR QUARTERLY ARTICLES
October 15th (Nov, Dec, Jan Newsletter)
January 15th (Feb, Mar, Apr Newsletter)
April 15th (May, June, July Newsletter)
July 15th (Aug, Sept, Oct Newsletter)