



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59

803 North Page Street - STOUGHTON, WI

PH: 608.205.9090

Post 59 Website: www.post59.us

WINTER 2025-2026



2025-2026

POST 59 OFFICERS

Commander

Michael Currie

1st Vice Commander

Rodger Hansen

2nd Vice Commander

Mike Ayers

3rd Vice Commander

Tom Jenny

Service Officer

John Solis

Sgt. At Arms

Jim Schiferl

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Allen Vick

Adjutant

Joshua Holt

Judge Advocate

Mike Gerard

Chaplain

Edward Nowicki

Membership

Mike Ayers



FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Hello everyone. We are now into a beautiful fall season. The colors are gorgeous and the moons are big and bright. Soon all of this will pass and we will be into our annual Wisconsin winters with cold temperatures and lots of snow. We will continue with weekend musical entertainment as well as our monthly Country Jams on the 4th Sunday of every month. We will also have the annual Ugly Sweater contest in December.

Our monthly members dinner started up again in September and October. There will be no dinners in November and December due to the holidays, however we will start up again in January and go through April. We started something new this year by having the dinner menus made up ahead of time. Check out our website and see what is coming up each month. We ask that you sign up ahead of time so we know the count for dinners needed. The dinners also give a chance to recognize our members with Honor Quilts presented by the Patriotic Stitchers. Hope to see you all there.

Our Post Honor Guard was extremely busy on Veterans Day attending Stoughton area schools, as well as a number of nursing homes and retirement centers, for their Veterans Day programs honoring our veterans.

During the holiday season we will be sponsoring the Stoughton Area Resource Team Holiday Gift Drive and Larry Johnson's care packages to our men and women on active duty here in the states and deployed overseas. We are also now in partnership with the Stoughton Area Food Pantry on 4th Street here in town. We will have several barrels for you to come in and donate non-perishable food items and get a free drink. Please know that there are many families that rely on the food pantries and your generosity.

We will be hosting the annual Army/Navy fundraiser (GO NAVY!!!) on December 13th and will have the game on our big screen in the hall. Don't forget our annual Breakfast with Santa on December 14th which is so much fun for everyone. We will also be partnering with the Stoughton VFW again this year for the Free Christmas Dinner.

Finally, the SAL will be hosting a New Years Eve blowout with musical entertainment, snacks, sandwiches, and a Champagne toast at midnight.

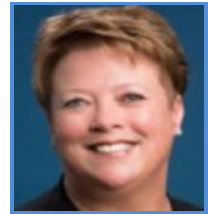
As always in closing, I want to thank all our members, their families, our guests and all our fabulous volunteers for supporting our Post. Without your support we could not continue our mission in helping our area veterans and the Stoughton community.

To all, have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and a Happy and Healthy New Year!!

See you all at the Post
Commander Michael



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 59



2025-2026

**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 measure of who we are is what we do with what we have."

~ Vince Lombardi

The Badgers aren't looking too great these days, but with Jordan Love turning 27, maybe this will be the Packer's seasons!

Lisa Olson is hard at work on membership. We have 181 members right now. Our 100% goal set by Department is to have 171 PAID members. Please encourage your family and friends to join our amazing unit. If you are already a member and have not yet paid your dues, please do so now.

We have had many fun activities over the past several months!

In September, several of our members traveled to the Highground Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville. This 155-acre sanctuary is devoted to the noble mission of "Honoring, Educating, and Healing" our veterans, their families, and every visitor.



Trunk and Treat with Legion Post Members.



We sponsored a table at the Annual START Fundraising Event: A Night of Hope. Several members were lucky raffle basket winners and Tina Nelson won the 50/50 Raffle.



Thank you to everyone who has already purchased a Golden Ticket. We have less than 10 left to sell! Proceeds from this event will be going to our American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship Fund along with five lucky \$1,000 winners. Each ticket is \$50.00 each. The drawing will be held Sunday, December 14, 2025 @ 12:00 at the American Legion Post 59. Winners do not need to be present at the drawing.

Upcoming ALA events:

- The Giving Tree - December
- Hidden In Plain Sight - March 2 (All members of the Post are welcome to attend) For more information contact Amy Hermes, ahermes@stoughtonhealth.com
- Tentative Prom-April 25th

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! Blessed to be part of such an amazing unit.

In friendship & fellowship,

Handwritten signature of Amy Hermes.



Sons of the American Legion Report Squadron 59



2025-2026

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

Hello Friends at Post 59. It's been a while since I wrote my quarterly article for the Sons of the American Legion. Let's start out with a real crowd pleaser. Repeat after me, CANDY, CANDY, CANDY. YES! You got it. This year's batch of delicious Amish made candy is here and available for purchase. \$ 11.00 will get you a one-pound bag of Candy Andy's finest. The favorites have returned for yet another season. Cashew Crunch (a brittle), Chocolate Covered Cashew Crunch (a brittle with a chocolate coating) and Scrunch (a peanut butter and Krispie combo with a delicious chocolate coating) and one more thing, NO PRICE INCREASE. Andy, we sure appreciate you, my friend. Ask an SAL member or bartender and they will hook you up. One more thing, tell your friends. The sooner they get their own bag; the sooner you can keep them out of yours. They also make great gifts for the Holidays and Holiday parties. Next on the agenda is our yearly effort to provide toys for the less fortunate children in the Stoughton area. We will have drop off boxes at Post 59 and the generous folks that help fill them warm our hearts every year. We'll do our part as well with our Breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 14th. There will be basket raffles, face painting, an extra special gift for the little ones from the "Big Guy himself" and a delicious addition to our wonderful monthly breakfast. Please note that breakfast is scheduled one week earlier than our normal monthly breakfast. The SAL will also be hosting the New Years Eve Party on December 31st, Live music, snacks and a free champagne toast at midnight. This is always a highlight and is enjoyed by many.

Thanks, See you soon.

Bob Hocking, SAL Commander, Squadron 59

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Prayer For A Peaceful Holiday Season

Father of Peace,

In a season that can feel overwhelming, I ask for Your calm.

There are so many tasks, events, and emotions that fight for my attention. Help me slow down and center my heart in You.

Let peace begin with me—peace in my thoughts, my tone and my choices. Teach me to let go of perfection and simply enjoy what matters most. When the noise grows loud and the schedules feel too full, give me the wisdom to pause.

Fill my home with a calm spirit. Let the atmosphere be one of comfort, not pressure. May the people around me feel seen and loved, not rushed or stressed.

Remind me that You are the Prince of Peace. You came not to give chaos but to bring rest for our souls. Even when everything isn't going as planned, help me keep a thankful heart.

Let Your peace rule in my mind, my family, and this entire season. I trust that You will carry me through every part of it.

I choose to walk in Your stillness today.

Peace to all our Military who protect us during this holiday season and all year round. Be with those men and women who cannot be home with their family.

In Jesus's names we pray.

Amen.

Ed Nowicki ~ Chaplain



Honor Our Country, Support Our Veterans



AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

THANK YOU to our members who have paid their 2026 dues! We have 181 ALA members now. We still have 60 members left to pay. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please send them in now. We are hoping to reach our 100% goal by the end of November. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you need assistance in paying your dues. The Auxiliary is always ready to help.

We are happy to WELCOME our four new members who joined since the last newsletter: Julie Rice, Diana Hanson, Lois Green and Barb Bronte. A big thank you goes out Kelly Schieldt, Lisa Olson & Sherry Leick for inviting them to join us. Please contact us if you know someone who might be interested in joining. We are happy to help answer any questions. Keep in mind that male spouses of female veterans can also join the Auxiliary now.

There are three different ways that you can pay your dues this year:

- 1) Mail your dues check to: Lisa Olson @ 1705 Severson Drive, Stoughton, WI 53589.
Dues are \$35.00 for Seniors and \$5.25 for Juniors. Make your check payable to: ALA Unit 59.
- 2) Save a stamp. Drop off your check at the Post & put it in the Auxiliary mailbox in the hall.
- 3) Pay with credit or debit card by phone by calling the National Dues Call Line at 317-569-4570
Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

This will be my last year as your Membership Chair. I started this job 23 years ago and have enjoyed doing it. Please contact me if you are interested.

Thank you all for your continued dedication to our mission to serve our veterans and our community.

Lisa Olson ~ ALA Membership Chair

608-279-4847 waucoman@hotmail.com



American Legion Post 59 Winter 2025 Membership News

*****Did you forget to pay your 2025 dues?**

We still have a few Legionnaire members that have not yet renewed their memberships for 2025. You can still send in or drop off your \$40.00 check made out to Post 59 or go online at MyLegion.org. Also keep in mind your 2026 dues can also be paid since they are now being processed. ***

2026 Membership Thank you Again! We are on the right track as of this newsletter we have renewed 241 added 7 new Legionnaires to our ranks EXCEEDING our November goal of 224.

****But we are still not done 97 members need to make their renewals for 2026****

Renewal Process: Membership is based on a calendar-year from January 1st to December 31st. Recruitment for renewals is now underway and began in July for the year 2026 membership year. This can be confusing since we are still collecting dues for 2025 for some members. Renewal notices are sent out in July, and reminders in October, January, March and May. When a member renews, they are removed from future notices. I have had a few members receive renewal notices when in fact they were paid-up for the year. Keep good records and if you receive such a notice after paying, call or text me and I will research and get back to you with an answer.

New Members: Since our Fall Newsletter we have welcomed the following 3 new Legionnaires into our Post ranks: Michelle Eikland - USAF, Tony Kolasch - USA and Conner Rowin - USN.



*****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.**

**Chris Nygaard (Aug 13th) USA, Gulf War
Donald Schneider (Sep 14th) USN, Korea
George Black (Sep 18th) USN, Vietnam**

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***

THE AUXILIARY PATRIOTIC STITCHERS HONOR QUILTS

Presented to our Post 59 Members at the September & October Post Dinners



Kevin Manning – Quilt by Pat Broadbent



Jim Schiferl – Quilt by Kimberly Currie



John Trogner – Quilt by Alice Moen



Louis A. Halverson – Quilt by Melissa Schiferl



Ronald Buss – Quilt by Teresa Vike-Kelly



Carey R. Hensel – Quilt by Sandy Vike



Post 59 Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2025

Dec. 1st: Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30 pm
Dec. 6th: Universal Sound Band 7:00-10:00 pm – Ugly Sweater Party
Dec. 8th: No Monthly Post 59 Meeting in December
Dec. 10th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00 pm
Dec. 12th: Dino Ante Music – 7:00-10:00
Dec. 13th: Army-Navy Game - 12:00
Dec. 14th: Breakfast With Santa – 7:30-11:30 am
Dec. 19th: Blue Moon Karaoke - 7:00pm - 11:00 pm
Dec. 28th: Country Music Jam 2:00-6:00
Dec. 31st: New Years Eve Party - Bad Habit Band 8:30pm -12:30am

JANUARY 2026

Jan. 9th: JR, Susie Anderson, Frank Lefty James 7:00-10:00 pm
Jan. 12th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Jan. 14th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Jan. 17th: Wayne Road Band - 7:00-10:00 pm
Jan. 18th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am
Jan. 19th: SAVMP Meeting @ 5:00pm
Jan. 20th: Life Line Screening – 8:00am – 5:30pm
Jan. 25th: Country Music Jam 2:00-6:00
Jan. 27th: Post Supper - 6:00pm-8:00 pm – Cocktails at 5:00
Jan. 30th: Deans Blue Country – 7:00-10:00 am

FEBRUARY 2026

Feb. 2nd: Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 5:30 pm
Feb. 6th: Blue Moon Karaoke - 7:00pm - 11:00 pm
Feb. 9th: American Legion Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Feb. 11th: SAL Monthly Meeting @ 7:00pm
Feb. 14th: Valentines Day
Feb. 15th: Monthly Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30am
Feb. 22nd: Country Music Jam 2:00-6:00
Feb. 24th: Post Supper - 6:00pm-8:00 pm – Cocktails at 5:00
Feb. 28th: Rusty Hearts Band 7:00-10:00pm

Contact Information for Post 59

Post 59 Email: alpost59@gmail.com

Michael Currie – Commander

PH: (608) 712-6747

Email: Michaelcurrie@charter.net

Mike Ayers – Membership chair

PH: (608) 335-1771

Email: tqmgr@yahoo.com

Jim Oler – Finance Officer

PH: (608) 347-4407

Email: oller8888@gmail.com

John Solis – Service Officer

PH: (608) 213-6241

Email: solosolis@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

Bob Crofoot – Editor

Email: hodagbob@yahoo.com

MEAT RAFFLE EVERY SATURDAY @ 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
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Bob Crofoot

hodagbob@yahoo.com

Website: post59.us



Hall Rentals

For More Information,
please contact Sherry

Leick @
post59hallrental@gmail.com OR

go to our website @

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AMERICAN LEGION BAR

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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**