



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI
POST WEB SITE: POST59.US POST PHONE: 608.205.9090



Volume 20
Issue 1



January 2018

2017-2018 OFFICERS

- Commander**
Sonny Swangstu
- 1st Vice Commander**
Michael Currie
- 2nd Vice Commander**
Vik Malling
- 3rd Vice Commander**
Larry Johnson
- Service Officer**
OPEN
- Sgt. at Arms**
Dale Seffens
- Finance Officer**
Jim Oler
- Historian**
DuWayne Teigen
- Adjutant**
Derick Gefke
- Judge Advocate**
Rodger Hansen
- Chaplain**
Edward Nowicki

Commander's Report



Hello American Legion Family,

I am back on track for the time being with my health. Still doctoring for maintenance. Thank you for your concerns and prayers.

Things have been real busy at the Post this month. Hall rentals, customer crowds, good bartenders and good music. We are busy with the fish fry on Fridays and do offer music on some Friday nights.

Dean Stenjem our newsletter editor is giving up the job. He will continue to do the web site and calendar. He has been doing the newsletter for a year so we thank him for taking on the job as he has done it well. I hope that someone will take over or we won't have one. Please think about it and let me know and I am sure that Dean would teach someone the ropes. All officers

should have some news to put in and the deadline will again be the 8th of each month. I am guilty as much as anyone so no excuses.

We will be back to our 4th Tues. night dinners in Jan. so mark your calendars. This is a good time for getting together and visiting your friends. I will try and get the menu for the dinner in the newsletter each month if we have a volunteer to take it over.

Come and celebrate New Year's Eve with the Northern Lites at the Legion with champagne and munchies at midnight. Hope you had a good safe Christmas and the flu bug did not get you.

Thank you volunteers,
Commander Sonny



Membership Report

Membership at the post has picked up recently and is going strong. The 2017 memberships are only good until December 31, so anyone who's dues are not paid by that date will be in delinquent status until they are paid. Let's not let that happen.

Currently we have renewed 322 out of 377 members for 85.41%. We have 8 new members, 3 transfers and 66 have renewed on-line.

That is more than any post in the district. Good job but we aren't done yet.

If you have not renewed your dues please do so. You may also pay your dues on-line

at www.wilegion.org, click on renew on-line,

enter your name and member ID# and pay with a credit card. It's that easy.

*Submitted by Bob Lloyd-
Post 59 Membership
Chairman*

*608-873-5926
Lloyd2364@sbcglobal.net*

MONTHLY POST MEETING SCHEDULE

Legion
2nd Monday
7:00 pm

Auxiliary
2nd Monday
6:30 pm

Sons of the American Legion
2nd Wednesday
7:00 pm

Meetings are held at the Post.
All members are encouraged to attend.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 8th- Dean's Blue Country 6:00-9:00pm

For Upcoming Legion Entertainment, call the Post at 608.205.9090 for a recorded message or go to post59.us and click on the Upcoming Events tab.

As always, there is no cover charge for Legion Entertainment

EVENT PRICING

Post Dinner: 6:30pm

\$11.00

Breakfast: 7:30-11:30am

\$8.00 Adults/\$4.00 Children under 10

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".

I wish all our American Legion members a Very Merry & Joyous Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Ed Nowicki

Post Chaplain

Auxiliary Members: If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Lynn Robertson at 608.692.6321.



2017-2018 OFFICERS

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Cathy Rigdon
873.5818
608.712.5312

1st Vice President

Amy Hermes
608.516.8720

2nd Vice President

Jona Chat
608.622.4574

Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

Linda Schmidt
205.2517

Chaplain

Lynn Robertson
608.692.6321

Membership

Lisa Olson
608.279.4847
Bonnie Kennedy
608.669.7744
Linda Swangstu
873.9428



Auxiliary News

Happy Holidays ~

The proceeds from this year's poppy distribution brought in enough money for our Auxiliary to donate over \$2,000 to veteran programs. A

percentage of the monies were forwarded to the Department, earmarked for vets. Additionally, our

Auxiliary chose to donate funds to the Veterans Creative Arts Festival, Homeless Female Veterans Grant Fund, Veterans & Family Assistance Fund, Fisher House – Milwaukee, Middleton Memorial VAMC – Madison, VA Great Lakes Health Care System – Tomah, WI Veterans House – King,

the Legacy Fund and Disabled American Veterans which we earmarked monies to be applied to their transportation fund for their vans to get vets to doctor appointments, etc. For more information on the transportation program visit

<http://www.dav-wi.org/veterans-services>

In a joint effort with the Post members and our Auxiliary, we were able to donate \$500 to Host-A-Family. Information was given to us relative to the ages of the children in the family and their wish list. Sherry Leick & Lisa Olson went on a fun-filled shopping spree to buy the gifts. They reported all the fun they had shopping and the big door-buster deals

they got. Thanks so much Sherry & Lisa for your help!

Another joint project between the Post members and our Auxiliary was to send Christmas care packages to deployed service members. There were four care packages send out with lots of sweets, treats and goodies. Hopefully, these packages will help to make their Christmas a little brighter when they are so far away from home.

There are American Legion Auxiliary scholarships available for high school and college students. The application period is January, 2018. Lisa Olson will be the contact. More information will come out in January.

Have a safe and happy holiday!

Cathy



Sons of the American Legion Report

Let's put a bow on the year that at the time of my writing this article is coming to a finish. As is customary in this space, I find myself wanting to express gratitude to the members of the Sons of the American Legion, volunteers and helpers that made it a fantastic year. The latest efforts were on colorful display at the Breakfast with Santa. We all enjoyed the event and the smiles, laughter, and excitement of the visiting children made our day. I am excited to announce that the SAL has made a commitment to do it again next year. I'll go through the list and I'm sure that I'll have missed someone, and if I do they can count on my most sincere apology. Amy Hermes, Denise Carter, Tim Carter, Ray Dzieciol, Jeff Gassen, Janelle Geitt, Mark Geitt, Mike Griggs, Pam Griggs, Truman Harried, Bob Hocking, Al Metzler, Jim Oler, Chris Onsrud, Larry Onsrud, Mary Onsrud, Stephanie Onsrud, Dean Stenjem, Donna Strandlie, Roger Strandlie, Tyler Strandlie, Marilyn Teigen, Colin Williamson, Traci Williamson, Polly Stout, and Dennis (My apology Dennis but I don't know your last name) but you did an awesome job in the kitchen with the pancakes, French toast, and helping with the cleanup. . A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Santa (Darren Dunn), our beautiful Elf (Julie Stenjem), and our very talented face painting artist, (Emily Brantmeyer).

Volunteers and helpers are the life blood of our organization and we owe all that we have and will accomplish to their generosity. I know our community is appreciative of our efforts and so are all those smiling young faces.

Thanks again,
Bob Hocking

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Jeff Gassen
- Adjutant**
Roger Strandlie
- Chaplain**
Dan Blomgren



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Sunday, December 10th



Sons of the American Legion Squadron 59

4th ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 59 would like to thank everyone who donated toys this year for our 4th annual toy drive. We collected over 450 toys this year to be donated locally and distributed by the Stoughton office of the Dane County Health and Human Services. Pictured below are just a few of the toys collected this year.



HAPPY
New Year

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Bar Open to Serve You: Tuesday - Sunday

- Tuesday: **11:00am – 3:00pm**
- Wednesday: **Open at 3:00pm**
- Thursday: **Open at 3:00pm**
- Friday: **Open at 3:00**
- Saturday: **Open at Noon**
- Sunday: **Open at 11:30am**

TUESDAY IS TACO TUESDAY

2/ \$4.00 – Open at 11:00am

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES NIGHT

\$.50 off any Ladies Drinks

THURSDAY IS THIRSTY THURSDAY

Bud Light or Miller Light Taps

12oz.- \$1.00 / 16oz.- \$1.50

FRIDAY IS OUR FISH FRY

5:00 – 8:00pm

LEGION POST JOKE OF THE MONTH

During orientation at Fort Sill, in Oklahoma, our first sergeant stated that if anyone lost his locker key to see him, as he kept a master key in his office. Sure enough, a few weeks later, I lost my key. I walked into the orderly's room and asked Sarge if I could borrow his master key.

“Why, certainly, young man,” he said, as he reached under his desk and handed me a large pair of bolt cutters.



November 18th, 2017

High School seniors, Sydney Tone and sister, Shelby Tone, both age 17 and from Stoughton, attended this year's American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State from June 18-23, 2017. While there Sydney ran for Badger State Supreme Court Justice and Shelby ran for Governor of the mock state. Each served in local, county, and state positions as Badger State citizens. Both fully enjoyed the week-long program. They were initially introduced to the program itself by their mother who was familiar with it, having herself attended Badger State in 1981.

Sydney and Shelby are homeschooled by their parents, Steve Tone and Laurie Schellinger, and anticipate a high school graduation date of June 2018. Sydney and Shelby each plan to pursue a four-year college degree, either in biology or animal science, followed by Veterinary school to obtain a Doctor of Veterinary medicine degree. Sydney and Shelby would both like to engage in a mixed-animal practice of companion and large animals, and including exotics such as rabbits and birds as well.

The young ladies have been members of the Triangle Troopers 4-H club here in Stoughton since 2010. Each has served in five different club officer positions over the past five years. Shelby is the current president and Sydney is

the current secretary. They also serve as youth leaders in the club and for Dane County 4-H in numerous projects, including rabbits, poultry, dairy goats, and computers. The young ladies are also Youth Representatives on the Dane County 4-H Leaders Association Board. The sisters are members of numerous other state and national animal related associations and have served as state officers in one of them and as queens of another. They are also twelve-year members of the Oregon Area Homeschoolers Group.

Sydney and Shelby have been showing poultry, rabbits and dairy goats competitively since 2011 and each has been named the Stoughton Fair Master Showman. Shelby in 2016 and Sydney in 2017. Each has won numerous state and national awards for their animals, in animal showmanship and in other animal related contests.

Sydney and Shelby were also named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists this past September.

The two young ladies did a presentation at the November 13th Auxiliary meeting regarding their Badger Girls State experience. They thanked Auxiliary members for the scholarships that made attending Girls State possible. At the close of the presentation, Sydney and Shelby were each presented by the Auxiliary with a Good Citizenship Citation. These were presented by Auxiliary President, Cathy Rigdon and Auxiliary Vice-President, Amy Hermes.



Submitted by Evelyn Kahl



NEW EDITOR NEEDED

The Legion Post Newsletter is in need of a new editor. This January edition will be my final publication. I will still continue to run the Post 59 website (post59.us) and the Otis Sampson American Legion Post 59 Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/post59stoughton) as well as the Facebook page for the Stoughton Area Veterans Park (www.facebook.com/SAVMP2015).

The person interested should be able to use email and have a working knowledge of Microsoft Word.

Please contact Sonny Swangstu at 608.873.9428 or you can email me at 59legionpost@gmail.com for more information.

Thank You,

Dean Stenjem

Hall Rentals

Call

Linda Swangstu 608.873.9428

Or email:

hemirt2017@gmail.com

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY:

January 1, 1776 - During the American Revolution, George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the first national flag in America.

January 4, 1790 - President George Washington delivered the first State of the Union address.

January 5, 1972 - President Richard Nixon signed a bill approving \$5.5 billion over six years to build and test the NASA space shuttle.

January 12, 1991 - Congress authorized President George Bush to use military force against Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

January 16, 1991 - The war against Iraq began as Allied aircraft conducted a major raid against Iraqi air defenses. The air raid on Baghdad was broadcast live to a global audience by CNN correspondents as operation Desert Shield became Desert Storm.

January 17, 1945 - During World War II, Warsaw, Poland, was liberated by Soviet Russian troops.

January 21, 1954 - The *USS Nautilus*, the world's first nuclear powered submarine, was launched at Groton, Connecticut.

January 22, 1943 - During World War II in the Pacific, Japanese resistance ended in New Guinea, resulting in the first land victory of the war for Allied forces.

January 24, 1972 - Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.

January 27, 1973 - U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War ended as North Vietnamese and American representatives signed an agreement in Paris. The U.S. agreed to remove all remaining troops within 60 days thus ending the longest war in American history. Over 58,000 Americans had been killed, 300,000 wounded and 2,500 declared missing. A total of 566 prisoners-of-war had been held by the North Vietnamese during the war, with 55 reported deaths.

January 28, 1915 - The U.S. Coast Guard was created by an Act of Congress, combining the Life Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service.

January 31, 1945 - Eddie Slovik, a 24-year-old U.S. Army private, was executed by a firing squad after being sentenced to death for desertion, the first such occurrence in the U.S. Army since the Civil War.

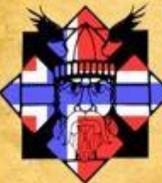
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Post Dinner Menu

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Or Call 608.205.9090



Otis Sampson American Legion Post 59
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH
VISIT THE POST WEB SITE AT POST59.US
Editor: Dean Stenjem: 59legionpost@gmail.com
