



THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI
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VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2013

Commander's Report

2012-2013 OFFICERS

Commander

Sonny Swangstu

1st Vice Commander

Dean Silbaugh

2nd Vice Commander

Larry Ambrose

3rd Vice Commander

Larry Johnson

Service Officer

Cliff Maerz

Sgt. at Arms

Danny Call

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Odean Teigen

Adjutant

Dennis Rodenkirch

Judge Advocate

Terry McCardle

Chaplain

Rich Fries



Holiday Greetings,

Wow, how about this weather. I saw a gentleman out in his driveway in a t-shirt washing his car. When was the last time you saw this in December? Hopefully we get some moisture for the farmers and we don't end up with a drought next spring. We need some snow to get in the Christmas spirit.

It seems just when we think we have everything done and wrapped up at the Post, think

again. We have decided to put different flooring in the dining room area. It will be easier to keep clean. Not sure to what extent, but it will be done after the holidays. We also plan on redoing the bar floor. We intend on widening behind the bar to make it easier for the bartenders to work.

We had a little party for the Honor Guard and a few volunteer workers recently. All of these folks are a very important part of our Post and do a wonderful job. A BIG thank you to all!!!

To those of you who *have not* paid your Post dues, time is running out. Don't let your membership expire which will

happen at the end of the year. If you need help, please let us know at this time.

Bud Erickson is still looking for someone to take over the Onion Committee as Chairman. I'm sure he would give a person help to get started. This has been a very successful project for the Post, so we need to keep up the good work. Please talk to Bud if you are interested. After all, Bud has put a lot of work toward this fundraiser and we do not want it to end. So many people enjoy and look forward to those SWEEET VIDALIAS!

Commander continued on page 2

Auxiliary

President

Marlene Bierman

873-7397

Vice President

Julie Nygaard

333-9577

Secretary

Lisa Olson – 873-8924

Treasurer

Lynn Robertson

873-4889

Chaplain

Sharon Silbaugh

873-3927

Sgt. at Arms

Pat Christensen

873-7479

Historian

Kathy Teigen

873-7518

Membership

Lisa Olson – 873-8924

Junior Leader

Jona Chat – 622-4574

Auxiliary News



Hello America Legion Family,

Good 'ole Wisconsin, we have our ups and downs with weather. It goes from spring time to winter, but no snow yet, which is good.

The Auxiliary is sad to announce that we lost a couple of our devoted members this last month, Kathy Christopherson, John's wife, and Kathy Teigen, Odean's wife. Kathy Teigen was the Historian for the Legion and Auxiliary. They will be missed. The Auxiliary put on four funeral dinners the week of Thanksgiving. Thanks to all the ladies that helped cook, served, and brought food. It was a big commitment.

That is what we are here for to provide for our Veterans and their families.

The winner of the Christmas Raffle at the November breakfast was Dan Call. The Auxiliary will be selling lefsa at the December breakfast. This is a good time to buy your lefsa before Christmas.

The Legion put on a delicious prime rib and shrimp dinner for the Honor Guard and their significant other. Bill and Lori Redepenning were there, what a nice surprise. Lori looked great.

The proceeds from "Soups On" were donated to the Methodist Church Food Pantry. Thanks again ladies for all your help.

The Auxiliary gave a donation of \$200 to Host a Family. Thanks to Tracy and Mary Lloyd for doing the shopping. Combined with the Post we will be giving \$400 to two five-member families.

President continued on page 2

CALENDER OF EVENTS

December 11 - Legion dinner – 6:30 pm
December 15 - Universal Sound
8:00 - midnight
December 16 - Legion breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
December 22 - Mikey Fuss & the Cherokee
Three – 7:00 – 11:00 pm
December 25 - *Merry Christmas*
December 31 - New Years Eve
Northern Lights – 8:00 pm – 1:00 am
January 1 - *Happy New Year*
January 5 - Blue Moon
January 12- Universal Sound
8:00 pm – midnight
January 13 - Legion breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
January 22 - Legion dinner – 6:30 pm

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

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

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy for which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

Luke 2: 9-11

As we get ready to celebrate the holidays, let us not forget their true meaning. Have a happy and blessed holiday season.

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

Commander continued from page 1

I would like to welcome some new members to our Post. They are Rodney Nedlose and Robert Kocovsky of Oregon and Norman Sime from Stoughton. We are delighted to have their membership and want them to feel at home at our Post, so please make them welcome. We have many friendly people in our organization and have become one big family and have fun working together in harmony.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Keep an eye out for our New Year's activities.

Thanks to all,

Commander Sonny

President continued from page 1

Just a reminder, if anyone would like to donate food for the Christmas dinner at the VFW on December 25, please donate to the Legion or the VFW no later than December 22. We are asking for turkeys, hams, salads, or desserts. I have a sign up sheet for those who want to help serve or donate food that day. If you are interested, please call me at 873-7397.

The Auxiliary is using the rest of their Poppy Funds to give small Christmas trees to Veterans who are patients at the Skaalen Home; I think there are about 22 of them. I am sure they will appreciate a tree.

Thanks to all the Auxiliary members who helped to decorate the Post. It looks very festive.

A number of ladies are interested in playing Euchre at the Post. If you are interested, give me a call at 873-7397 or come to the Post on January 9 at 1:00 so we can see what we can work out. Bring a friend. You don't have to be a member to play. Men are invited too.

All you snow birds that will be leaving in a month or so, have a nice winter and see you in the spring.

The Auxiliary will not be having a meeting in January.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year!

President, Marlene

Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577

RICHARD S. DICKMAN

Dick, as he is known among Stoughtonites, was born in Delavan, WI on Jan. 19, 1935.

Dick received his early education in the Delavan School System, K-12, graduating from Delavan High School. When he was 18 years old, he went to the county seat in Walworth County and volunteered for the draft, enlisting in the US Army on September 23, 1953.

He received his Basic Training at Camp Rucker, Alabama where he was stationed for approximately eight weeks. During basic, Dick was injured in physical training and was hospitalized with a knee injury. He was offered a medical discharge, but he refused and was given a physical profile to remain in camp, but with very limited activity such as no kneeling, no crawling, and no jumping. He was very limited as to basic requirements for the entire two-year period of his service.

He was then assigned as a Troop Information and Education NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer.) His responsibilities included lecturing to the company dealing with military protocol. This was Dick's first teaching experience during this two-year period of duty, first at Camp Rucker and then also in Ft. Benning, GA.

One of Dick's most memorable experiences was teaching very young adults how to prepare for Army life. Most were attentive and willing to learn this new and different lifestyle. For Dick, this was a very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

After Dick had volunteered for the draft and after being call to duty in August, the Korean War had ended, so Dick missed serving during wartime. His highest rank was Specialist-3 Infantry. After being honorably discharged in September 1955 from Ft. Benning, Dick enrolled at LaCrosse State Teachers College and spent four years there, graduating in 1959. After receiving his college degree, he signed a teaching contract with the Madison Public Schools and continued his teaching profession for five years. He then became an elementary principal with in Madison. He retired from teaching profession after 30 years of service.

In 1971 Dick suffered a mild heart attack and then a major one in 1993. He received a pacemaker, which he had very good luck with and it has allowed him to lead a very active life.

In 1957, Dick married Eileen Leary. They have six children and 15 grandchildren. Some of them live out-of-state.

Dick has been a member of American Legion Post 59 for five years.

He is proud to have served his country in the US Army!



Richard S. Dickman

Interviewed by: Evelyn Kahl



2013 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE January 18-20 in Ho-Chunk in the Dells

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the American Legion? At this conference trainings are held so members like you can learn more about our organization. Hour-long trainings are held throughout the day on Saturday, January 19, 2013. Save this date and more information will follow.

<http://wilegion.org/page/content/about/2013-midwinter-conference>

Dennis Rodenkirch
608.438.8768

Membership

If you haven't renewed by the end of December, your membership will expire. Don't ever think your membership in the American Legion is just paying your dues. Your membership is one of hundreds of thousands of other veterans who show their support for veteran causes by belonging to the American Legion. Currently our Post has 309 members renewed which put us at 87%.

Welcome new Members:

David Nielsen
John Carrier
Jesse Tougas

Thanks,
Dennis Rodenkirch
608.438.8768

A thank you goes out to Dick Boyd, Don Helmke, Dean Horner, and Johnny Drogsvold for the great job you do in keeping our bar and kitchen areas clean and tidy. Thanks goes out to the Auxiliary Ladies for the great Christmas decorations and for all you do for the families at the funeral lunches—a job well done! Our condolences go out to John Christopherson and Odean Teigen for the loss of your loved ones and may God bless you and your families. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Lori Redepenning, Bill, and family. It was great to see you and Bill at the Honor Guard dinner. Finally, Christmas is just around the corner, this is wishing one and all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. GOD BLESS!

Jim Oler, Finance Officer.



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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



Euchre Party

January 9, 2013 at 1:00
Otis Sampson Post 59
Stoughton, WI
Bring a friend!



THE STRAIT SKINNY

This article is the first in a series (meaning maybe more than one) dedicated to informing you of everything you ever wanted to know about military stuff. If you have a question just send it to us in a letter care of the Post here in town and eventually you'll get an answer. You can also get a "rapid response", if the likeness (or two) of President Jackson accompanies your request.

If we don't know the answer, we'll defer to that military legend, Captain Thorvald "Nomad" Thorvaldson (retired – at gun point). Over his illustrious career, he served in many branches of the service and even on our side at times. (Based on his military record, he was asked by our side to join their side.) While with the Air NERDs (Non-descript Expeditionary Reserve Detachments), his exploits as a kamikaze pilot, with 38 missions, brought tears to the eyes of his commanders. Logging hundreds of hours in his aircraft (some even in the air), he soon discovered that it was more expedient to land his aircraft with the wheels toward the ground.

Anyway, to get the "caissons rolling along", this month we'll feature items from Army training manuals (kinda). We decided to start with the Army because (one) it starts with "A" and (two) it's a four letter word, many of which are very familiar to military personnel. Here are a few:

'If the Enemy is in range, so are you.' - Infantry Journal

Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.' - General MacArthur

Five second fuses only last three seconds' - Infantry Journal

'If your attack is going too well, you're walking into an ambush.' - Infantry Journal

'A slipping gear could let your M203 grenade launcher fire when you least expect it. That would make you quite unpopular in what's left of your unit.' - Army's magazine of preventive maintenance.

Tracers work both ways.' - U.S. Army Ordnance

Try to look unimportant; they may be low on ammo.' - Infantry Journal

'Don't draw fire; it irritates the people around you.' - Anon

So until next time (if there is one) keep your head down, your feet dry and stand in the middle of the formation.

And yes, Strait is spelled that way - on purpose.

"Ole"

Submitted by Doug Olson



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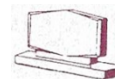
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Stuffed Pork Chops
December 11, 6:30 PM

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VISIT THE POST WEBSITE AT POST59.ORG Post e-mail [AmericanLegionPost59@ TDS.net](mailto:AmericanLegionPost59@TDS.net)
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