



# THE LEGION POST

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



Volume 16 Issue 2

March 2014

## Commander's Report

### 2013-2014 OFFICERS

- Commander**  
Sonny Swangstu
- 1st Vice Commander**  
Vik Malling
- 2nd Vice Commander**  
Mary Lloyd
- 3rd Vice Commander**  
Larry Johnson
- Service Officer**  
Bob Lloyd
- Sgt. at Arms**  
Danny Call
- Finance Officer**  
Jim Oler
- Historian**  
Lenny Swingen
- Adjutant**  
DuWayne Stellmacher
- Judge Advocate**  
Terry McCardle
- Chaplain**  
Rich Fries



Greetings Legionnaires,

Well, the ground hog isn't being very nice to us this year is he? This has sure been one long, cold winter. Thirty-seven days below zero...and counting.

We recently had a volunteer appreciation dinner at the Post and I am happy to say we had a very good turnout. Thanks to all the folks who came and enjoyed it. Our Post is very fortunate to have so many folks helping out and keeping it doing

so well. Thanks to everyone again!

We had karaoke a couple of weeks ago on a Friday night after the fish fry was over and we had several folks stay and enjoy the fun. Even if you don't think you are talented enough, you can come and give it a try. Who knows, you might really enjoy singing and it's all in fun. Larry J. will be scheduling it again from time to time as well as alternating it with Saturday nights.

Bud Erickson and his merry bunch of onionites are going to be selling more brands of Vidalia onion salad dressings, relishes, and sauces this year. We should be looking for them

soon. We will be selling them at our breakfasts, Friday night fish fries, and Post dinners. We will also be taking onion orders as well and calling on our regular customers. Please pass the word to your friends and relatives. We will be ordering the dressings, etc. immediately and the onions will be coming the first part of May as usual. Bud is still looking for someone to take over this task. He has done an excellent job and deserves a rest. With as many members our Post has, I believe we can find a volunteer for this. Please think about this.

*Commander continued on page 2*

### Auxiliary

- President**  
Marlene Bierman  
873-7397
- Vice President**  
Linda Swangstu  
873-9428
- Secretary**  
Linda Schmidt  
205-2517
- Treasurer**  
Alice Moen  
444-7320
- Chaplain**  
Sharon Silbaugh  
873-3927
- Sgt. at Arms**  
Pat Christensen  
873-7479
- Historian**  
Sherry Leick  
873-6687

## Auxiliary News



Hello American Legion Family,

I hate to keep bring this up but winter is still here. I am too old to play in the snow, so I just shovel it!

The Auxiliary doesn't have too much to plan for in February. At the February breakfast, the Auxiliary will have a pizza and movie raffle. If anyone would like to help at the breakfasts and aren't on the calling list, please let me know: 873-7397 or [nickbierman@att.net](mailto:nickbierman@att.net); or Lisa Olson: 873-8924 or [waucoman@hotmail.com](mailto:waucoman@hotmail.com). March will be a ham raffle. The April breakfast falls on Easter Sunday this year, so it will need to be discussed if we will

have it or change the date. It day will be in the next newsletter.

The Auxiliary will sponsor four girls to Badger Girls State this year. The Lioness, Rotary, Auxiliary, and an anonymous donor, are donors for the girls. Badger Girls State will be held in Eau Claire June 15-20. We would like to thank all the donors.

On March 4, the Auxiliary will meet at 5:30 to prepare the Poppies for mailing in April and distribution on Memorial Day. We plan on inviting our new members and having pizza. Also, if there are any Juniors that would like to help, you are invited, too.

Remember to save any merchandise that you don't want, but maybe someone else does, for our Garage Sale, June 26-28. Clothes are not needed.

The Legion and Auxiliary will be hosting the Dane County Birthday meeting at the Post, March 27 at 6:00. It is a pot-luck. The Auxiliary will be making barbecue. If anyone wants to bring chips, pickles, etc., they will be welcome. There will be a birthday cake.

*President continued on page 2*

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

- February 15 - Universal Sound – 8:00 - midnight
- February 16 - Legion Breakfast  
7:00 – 11:00 am
- February 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- March 1 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 – 11:00 pm
- March 15 - Universal Sound – 8:00 - midnight
- March 16 - Legion Breakfast  
7:00 – 11:00 am
- March 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- April 5 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 – 11:00 pm

*Commander continued from page 1*

I hope people are enjoying our automatic doors and find it very useful when you have your hands full of items or are handicapped in some way. We will soon be painting our hall and will need volunteers. Please let us know if you are interested in helping out.

On **March 27**, we will be hosting the Dane County Birthday meeting. There will be a **raffle and everyone attending is asked to bring a dish to pass**. So, please mark your calendars.

We have music at the Post a couple of times a month, so come on down and enjoy. Larry J. has the information on the message board outside of the Post as to what band plays and when.

The fish fry is still going on from 5:00-8:00 pm every Friday night...come and enjoy.

Hope to see you soon and stay well.

Commander Sonny

*President continued from page 1*

I want to thank everyone who came to the volunteers' appreciation supper on February 4. The meal was great, thanks to Mike. He did a great job! I guess this would be a good time for me to thank everyone who has helped with all the Auxiliary projects and also the great help I get for doing the funeral dinners. We get nothing but great complements. What a joy it is working with great women, plus we fun too! I know there are more great Auxiliary women; we would like to have you join us.

This is my last year as President, so someone please step up to the plate. There are past officers in our unit that will help you get organized.

*The shortest distance between two people is a smile.*

President  
Marlene

### Event Pricing

**Post Dinner:** 6:30 pm \$11.00

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

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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

### Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577



## Archie Christensen Top State Recruiter

While many American Legion posts across the country are struggling to grow or to even maintain their membership, this is not the case for Post 59 of Stoughton. This is due in large part to the ongoing efforts of Archie Christensen.

Archie was the membership point man for Post 59 for many years. As adjutant and membership chairman he not only actively recruited new members, but also worked to ensure that current members maintained their active status.

When Archie first became the chairman, the membership at Post 59 stood at 250. Today, it stands at 363. Archie, a four-year Air Force veteran, has received many awards from the Wisconsin American Legion for his efforts. For nine straight years, he received the "100% Achievement Award." He recently received a "Top Recruiter of the Year" plaque. The plaque, signed by the national American Legion commander reads: "in recognition and appreciation for recruiting more new members in the state of Wisconsin for our great organization than any other legionnaire."

In addition to his membership accomplishments, Archie was also the Post's finance officer for several years. In 2009, he was selected as the Stoughton area "Volunteer of the Year." He has also been the Memorial Day parade coordinator, as well as serving on the Stoughton committee to replace old American and Norwegian flags that fly on Main Street. When Post 59 moved into its present home on Page Street, Archie, along with Joe Erickson, was in charge of setting up the bar and lounge. This consisted of getting the permits and license, setting up the tax structure, contacting vendors, plus ordering the liquor and supplies. When the bar opened for business, Archie was the first bartender.

Several years ago, Post 59 began publishing and mailing monthly newsletters to all members. Since the inception, Archie and his wife, Pat, has handled the complete distribution of these newsletters.



## Moving Force Behind the High School Flag Pole



*Archie Christensen and the flag pole at Stoughton HS*

In addition to his volunteer work at Post 59, Archie has also been very active in community projects. For many years, he and Pat ran the concession stand for all high school and Legion baseball games. With the profits, Archie spearheaded the project to build the flag pole monument and subsequently to erect the flag pole at the high school baseball diamond. Asked how this project came about, Archie replied, "I just felt it needed to be done."

This low key, behind the scenes, man has contributed a great deal, not only to the American Legion, but also to the Stoughton community.

*Submitted by Bud Erickson*



**General Post Meeting Minutes: January 13, 2014**

*Note: these are the abridged minutes of the January meeting*

Sid Borsma reported back to the membership that the flags and Poles that the city use for city celebration events need replacing. He is coordinating this project with the VFW, Stoughton Chamber of Commerce, and the Legion Post. When these parties get the necessary information we need to make a decision as to the cost of this project, We can act on it.

**Service Officer:** Mary Lloyd reported that we received a lot of feedback from the recipients of our care packages that we sent to our service personnel in the Armed Forces.

**Badger Boys:** Mary Lloyd reported that we received sponsorship of three parties to the Badger Boys Scholarship. They are Mrs. Hoffman, Rotary Club, and the Lions Club. She then made a motion to donate \$ 118 to the Stoughton High School for the Badger Boys, Athletic Awards Program, Scholarship, in which she said could be funded from the Post Education Fund. Motion seconded **PASSED**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Vic Malling informed the membership that 91% of the Post membership had renewed their membership. Mary Lloyd made a motion to Pay for 5 WWII Veterans and a Purple Heart Recipient, at the cost of \$25 each. The beneficiaries of this motion are Andrew Howard (Purple Heart) Vigil Martison, Richard Halverson, Martin Guthrie, Robert Protratz, Harry Hayter. Seconded by Larry Johnson. **PASSED**

**Outside Organizational Dinner Policy:** It was discussed at the Exe. Meeting that we have a policy in place pertaining to out side service clubs using our facilities for fund raising events. After reviewing the language of the policy, it was modified with the following wordage to read as " Any local organization using our facilities for a fund raiser dinner will be charged 20% from the gross

income for the use of the facilities. If they want us to provide the food and/or beverages these cost will be added to to the 20% charge. (if the dinner is a Spaghetti dinner we will furnish the ingredients) A motion was made by Terry McArdle, to accept the new wordage, seconded by DuWayne. **PASSED**

**Painting Legion Hall (inside)** It was decided after reviewing the bids that were received from 2 outside bidders, that the inside of the Post could be done by the volunteer services of the membership.

**2013 Wish List:** Some items from the 2013 wish list that have been completed are: 1. Security System is in place, there are 8 cameras located through out the Post and are operational; 2. The Handicap door openers are installed, in the rear and front entrances.

**A NEW WISH LIST (2014):** A new Wish List has been prepared for submission to the Bryant Foundation for 2014. A copy is available on request. So far we have 15 items indentified for consideration. After we receive the grant, and how much, we will prioritize the list. A motion was made by Sonny to accept the New Wish list for 2014. Seconded by Bud Erickson. **PASSED**

**Griddle & Dish Washer:** After reading the recommendation from the Exe. Committee, a Motion on exchanging the griddle for a hot dog machine for \$ 600 and selling the old dish washer for \$400 to Vic Malling, Sonny made a motion to this transaction, seconded by Patrick Knowlin. **PASSED**

Submitted January 20, 2014  
DuWayne Stellmacher, Adjutant

**Monthly Post Meeting Schedule**

**Legion – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm**

**Auxiliary – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm**

**SAL – 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 pm**

Meetings are held at the Post.

All members are encouraged to attend.



**AMERICAN LEGION BAR  
803 N. Page St. Stoughton, WI**

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**



### Membership Good News Bad News Story

For large membership Legions in the state, we are among the leaders with just over 96% of us renewing our 2014 dues...thanks for continuing to maintain your membership in what I think is the best Post in Wisconsin. The bad news is there are still 17 who need to send in their dues or risk being dropped off the rolls by the National Legion HQ. I would hate to see that happen, plus it would ruin our 11 years now of having 100% renew! Going on-line is still the easiest way to renew or send your check for \$35 to the Post and I'll get your 2014 membership card to you ASAP.

Thanks.

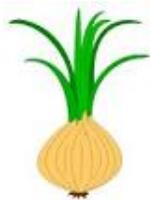
Vik Malling  
1st Vice Commander

### VIDALIA ONION TIME

On February 10 the fifth annual Vidalia onion fundraising project kicked off. Orders must be placed by April 1. The onions will be delivered to the Post from Georgia for pickup around May 10. The cost remains the same as last year—\$10 for a 10-pound bag; \$6 for a 5-pound bag. Onions can be ordered from any committee member or stop by the Legion lounge to place your order.

In the past four years, the Post has sold more than 3100 bags. In 2013, the proceeds were used to purchase the mural placed on the northwest corner of the Legion building. Donations were also made to the Stoughton Senior Center, the Veterans Hospital in Madison, and Camp American Legion.

Bud Erickson  
Chairman, Vidalia Onion Project



### Letter of Thanks

Dear Mr. Erickson,

Thank you once again for the package. It was kind of funny I was thinking about if you knew I was on a deployment and if I was going to get another package from you. A few days later it showed up on the ship. I really appreciate all the packages you have sent me and I know that I have not responded to all of them and I am sorry for that. I am sure that I am not the only person you send them to so I know I am not just speaking for myself when I say that the stuff in there really brings a smile to the faces who receive them.

Keep up the support for us because without the people who care about us being out here then it happens without reason. Please share this with the other members of the American Legion and again, thank you very much for the support and prayers.

Sincerely,  
BMC Kristian Entwistle  
Operations Dept. LCPO  
USS *Carney* (DDG 64)

*Editor's note: BMC Entwistle is one of the recipients of the Christmas care packages sent to service members in December 2013 by Post 59.*

### Thanks to Post Volunteers

I would like to thank American Legion Post 59 for a fantastic "volunteers" dinner. It was enjoyed by many of our great volunteers. Thanks to Mike Dickman, our cook, who did a superb job in preparing the meal and to those that lent a helping hand. Without volunteers, we would not be able to do what the Post does for our members and the community. Thank you all.

Jim Oler  
Finance Officer

# America's Wars



**WORLD WAR I**  
(1917 - 1918)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	4,734,991
Battle Deaths.....	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings.....	204,002
Living Veterans.....	0



**WORLD WAR II**  
(1941 - 1945)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	16,112,566
Battle Deaths.....	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings.....	670,846
Living Veterans.....	1,711,000



**KOREAN WAR**  
(1950 - 1953)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	5,720,000
Battle Deaths.....	33,739
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	17,672
Non-mortal Woundings.....	103,284
Living Veterans.....	2,275,000



**VIETNAM WAR**  
(1964 - 1975)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	8,744,000
Battle Deaths.....	47,434
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings.....	153,303
Living Veterans.....	7,391,000



**GULF WAR**  
(1990 - 1991)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	2,322,000
Battle Deaths.....	148
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	1,565
Non-mortal Woundings.....	467
Living Veterans.....	2,244,583



**GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR**  
(2001 - PRESENT)

The Global War on Terror is an ongoing conflict. For the most recent statistics, please visit the Department of Defense Web site:  
[http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot\\_component.pdf](http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot_component.pdf)

**"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."**

**—Ronald Reagan**



**Gunderson**  
Funeral and Cremation Care  
*A life celebration center*

Laurie Dybevik – Pre-Planning  
Jodi Corbit, Jim Dupor, Pete Gunderson  
Dale Holzhter, Mike Smits – Funeral Directors  
Paul Selbo, Herb Gundlach  
Larry & Sharon Ambrose – Service Assistants

We take care of every detail.



**CRESS**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE  
SINCE 1889

We're Here for You.

West Madison East Madison  
Middleton Sun Prairie Waunakee  
McFarland Stoughton Deerfield

[www.CressFuneralService.com](http://www.CressFuneralService.com)

MATTHEW KRIPSCHACK  
Commercial Insurance Advisor

Matt.Kripschack@Ansay.com  
DIRECT 608-828-0245  
MAIN 608-831-9700  
TOLL-FREE 800-643-6133 x2245  
CELL 608-512-5766  
FAX 608-831-4777  
www.ansay.com



**Ansay & ASSOCIATES**  
Insurance & Benefit Solutions

702 North High Point Road, Suite 201 • Madison, WI 53717-2283

*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

Hanson Electronics  
22-C115  
2380 Jackson St.  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
608-877-9548

Hanson Electronics  
22-C403  
613 E. Main St.  
Evansville, WI 53536  
608-882-0690





**RadioShack.**  
A Division of Tandy Corporation

SENSIBLE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

**Eldon L. Anderson**  
1060 West Main St.  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
Phone: (608) 873-5134



Custom Built Computers  
Computer Repair/Tune-ups  
Hardware/Software Upgrades  
House Calls by Appointment



**Microsoft CERTIFIED**  
PROFESSIONALS

Email: [scs.consulting@charter.net](mailto:scs.consulting@charter.net)  
[www.scsconsultingservice.com](http://www.scsconsultingservice.com)

**Stoughton Collision Center Inc.**  
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

**Thomas M. Fendrick**  
Financial Advisor

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



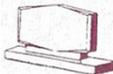
1609 Hwy 51/138  
Suite 102  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
Bus. 608-873-8502 Fax 877-222-4313  
TF. 888-873-8550  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**HOME SAVINGS BANK**

400 W. Main Street • Stoughton  
[home-savings.com](http://home-savings.com) • 282.6160

Equal Housing Lender | Member FDIC

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

**GIS Greater Insurance Service**

414 Atlas Avenue  
Madison, WI 53714

**DANIELLE OTT**  
Commercial Sales

Cell: 608-235-0014  
Office: 608-221-3996 Toll Free: 800-747-4472 Fax: 608-221-0484  
E-mail: [danielleo@greaterinsurance.com](mailto:danielleo@greaterinsurance.com)

**Friend of the Legion, Sponsor of the Month**

**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](http://www.conantauto.com)  
Joe & Erin Conant - Owners

**The Koffee Kupp**

Hours:  
Mon - Sat 5 am - 8 pm  
Sunday 5 am - 2pm  
(608) 873-6717

Smoke Free Environment

Come Join Us for Dinner




Restaurant LLC

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59  
PO BOX 16  
STOUGHTON WI 53589  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WISCONSIN AMERICAN  
LEGION PRESS  
ASSOCIATION

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

Swiss Steak  
February 25, 6:30 pm

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 8<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH**  
VISIT THE POST WEBSITE AT [POST59.ORG](http://POST59.ORG) Post e-mail [AmericanLegionPost59@ TDS.net](mailto:AmericanLegionPost59@TDS.net)  
Editors Cliff Maerz and Tim Carter: [C\\_Maerz@msn.com](mailto:C_Maerz@msn.com)