



# THE LEGION POST

## Quarterly Newsletter

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59  
803 North Page Street - STOUGHTON, WI



POST WEB SITE: [www.post59.us](http://www.post59.us)



POST PHONE:  
608.205.9090

February/March/April 2022



## Commander's Report

Greetings everyone, and Happy New Year!

Well, another year has passed and this one was very challenging. I believe these challenges will make us all much stronger in 2022 and beyond.

We had a busy month of December with many events taking place. We had the Madison Navy League sponsor the Army/Navy game fundraiser here at our Post. The SAL had their annual Breakfast with Santa which was quite successful. Thank you to Santa Sonny for visiting with all the kids. The Auxiliary had their annual giving tree with donations going to the patients at the VA Hospital. The Post was able to collect fifteen donation boxes of toys for Toys for Tots, thank you all who donated to both these events. We had our annual ugly sweater event which is always a lot of fun. Finally Post 59 and the Stoughton VFW had their annual Christmas dinner for the Stoughton community.

Post member Larry Johnson put together a program that collects names of service members who would not be home for Christmas either stateside or overseas. He then collects donations and purchases items to box up and send these items to the service members. A little something from home for Christmas. Thank you, Larry!

We have now rebounded from the last year and a half of Covid that shut us down for so many months. We now can get back to supporting our veterans and the Stoughton community.

Over several months we are looking at having a number of fun events at the Post. Our events committee is working hard to prepare a number of events. The events on the planning table are Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, Saint Pat's Day, and Kentucky Derby parties and also having some band Jams. If you have any ideas for an event let us know.

My hope for all of you is to have a Healthy and Happy New Year! See you at the Post.

Commander Michael

## COVID-19 and Post 59

Many things can change regarding how Post 59 operates during COVID-19. With a quarterly newsletter it makes it difficult to get the most up-to-date information to everyone. Post 59 has a few ways to stay updated with current happenings here. The Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/post59stoughton](http://www.facebook.com/post59stoughton)) has all the events that are going on at the post as well as current information of the American Legion. We also have the Post 59 website ([www.post59.us](http://www.post59.us)). It has all the events as well as all the information you'll need regarding our post. If you don't have access to that information, you can contact anyone listed in the *Contact Information for Post 59* in this newsletter and they would be happy to get you the information you need.

As of the publication of this newsletter, we are cancelling the January & February breakfasts AND The Post dinners. We are hoping to have these rescheduled again in March.

Stay Safe

*"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."*

*Abraham Lincoln*

## Contact Information

### for Post 59

Post 59 Email:  
[alpost59@gmail.com](mailto:alpost59@gmail.com)

Michael Currie – Commander  
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Email: [Michaelcurrie@charter.net](mailto:Michaelcurrie@charter.net)

Bob Lloyd – Legion Membership  
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CELL: (608) 219-3086 messages or texts  
Email: [Lloyd2364@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Lloyd2364@sbcglobal.net)

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Amy Hermes – ALA President  
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[AHermes@stoughtonhealth.com](mailto:AHermes@stoughtonhealth.com)

Bob Hocking – SAL Commander  
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Email: [deanstenjem@charter.net](mailto:deanstenjem@charter.net)

# Thank you

to VFW 328 and American Legion Post 59  
Commanders for use of your facilities, to all those  
that helped set up and clean up, to the servers,  
to the drivers, and all those that donated  
food, money or time.

With your help we served over **400 meals!**

## 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 – 10:00pm
- Thursday: 3:00pm – 10:00pm
- Friday: 3:00pm - 10:00pm
- Saturday: 12:00 - 10:00pm
- Sunday: 12:00-6:00pm

## ATTENTION PLEASE!

*Want to be part of something special?*

*Want to honor Veterans and their families?*

*Post 59 is looking for members interested in becoming active Honor Guard members.*

Please contact:

Al Vick at 608-873-3481

Or

Michael Currie at 608-712-6747.

## HUGE QUILTING AND FABRIC SALE!

FROM THE ESTATE OF ALICE ASLESON

**FRIDAY MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> AND  
SATURDAY MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>  
9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**



- ❖ FABRIC
- ❖ QUILT KITS
- ❖ ACCESSORIES
- ❖ BOOKS
- ❖ YARN & THREAD
- ❖ QUILTS
- ❖ TABLE RUNNERS
- ❖ DECORATIVE PILLOWS
- ❖ UNFINISHED PROJECTS
- ❖ FEATHERWEIGHT MACHINES



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 59  
803 NORTH PAGE STREET  
STOUGHTON, WISCONSIN 53589**



## Auxiliary News Unit 59



Greetings All

*"So I enjoin you to enter 2022 with hope and with the unyielding determination that our hope and collective toil will succeed in bringing forth a more prosperous and just nation. Hope that things will be better."*  
~Bola Tinubu

I'm not sure any of us thought we would still be feeling the impact of the pandemic as we entered 2022. But here we are, continuing to try and navigate our way through the challenges of COVID.

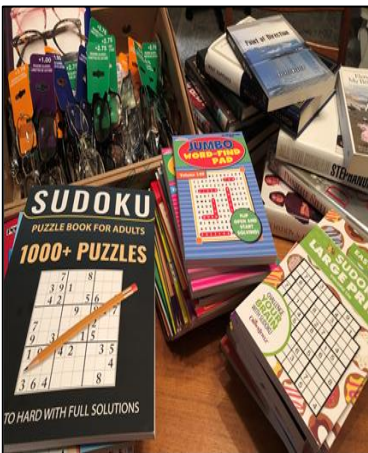
Our membership is strong thanks to Dawn Clark and Lisa Olson. We were recognized by Department for exceeding 75% membership by Pearl Harbor Day and with that recognition we were entered into a drawing and won \$50. We have also been recognized for achieving 100% membership for 2022. Our newest member, Betty Linnerud, has been welcomed to our club.

Sherry Leick has been busy scheduling Celebrations of Life/Funeral Lunches. This is a big job and takes many hands to ensure they are special events for our families and friends. Cathy Rigdon has also instrumental in helping Sherry and finding bartenders for these events. Next time you see these two ladies, please be sure to thank them.

April Vingum has been working closely with the Stoughton Area High School with regards to Badger State Girls. At this time, it looks like we will be sending three juniors and possibly one senior. It is anticipated that this event will be held in person this year.

As a reminder, there are many Wisconsin Auxiliary Scholarships for graduating seniors. The deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup> and you can find out more information and applications on the Department Website under scholarships [www.amlegionauxwi.org/scholarships](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org/scholarships). You can also contact Lisa Olson for any question you or your families might have. In friendship and fellowship,

*Amy Hermes*



The Auxiliary Giving Tree this Christmas proved once again the generosity of our members and friends. We collected over 30 pairs of reading glasses, 10 hardcover reading books, 22 Sudoku puzzle books and 25 Word Search books. The value of all these donations is well over \$400. All will be donated to the Madison VA Hospital.

## Significant Dates for this Quarter

### FEBRUARY

February 3<sup>rd</sup> – [Four Chaplains' Day](#)  
February 7<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 6:00pm](#)  
February 9<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly SAL Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day  
February 14<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Legion Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – [Susan B. Anthony Day](#)  
February 19<sup>th</sup> – [Coast Guard Reserve Birthday](#)  
February 21<sup>st</sup> – [Presidents' Day](#)

### MARCH

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – [Navy Reserve Birthday](#)  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 6:00pm](#)  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> – [National Anthem Day](#)  
March 9<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly SAL Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> – [Quilt & Fabric Sale from the Alice Asleson Estate](#) 9:00am-4:00pm  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – [K-9 Veterans Day](#)  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 14<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Legion Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
March 15<sup>th</sup> – [American Legion Birthday](#)  
March 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day  
March 20<sup>th</sup> – [BREAKFAST @ The Legion](#) 7:30-11:30am  
March 21<sup>st</sup> – [Rosie the Riveter Day](#)  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – [Medal of Honor Day](#)  
March 29<sup>th</sup> – [Vietnam Veterans Day](#)

### APRIL

April 4<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Auxiliary Meeting @ 6:00pm](#)  
April 15<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday  
April 11<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly Legion Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
April 13<sup>th</sup> – [Monthly SAL Meeting @ 7:00pm](#)  
April 17<sup>th</sup> – Easter  
April 5<sup>th</sup> – [Gold Star Spouses Day](#)  
April 14<sup>th</sup> – [Air Force Reserve Birthday](#)  
April 17<sup>th</sup> – [BREAKFAST @ The Legion](#) 7:30-11:30am  
April 9<sup>th</sup> – [Nat'l Former POW Recognition Day](#)  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> – [Army Reserve Birthday](#)  
April 30<sup>th</sup> – [Nat'l Military Brats Day](#)

Any events that are listed here for Post 59 are subject to change. Please check our website @ [www.post59.us](http://www.post59.us) or our Facebook page @ [www.facebook.com/post59stoughton](https://www.facebook.com/post59stoughton) for any changes to the events listed.





## Sons of the American Legion Report

### Squadron 59



Happy New Year,

One more trip around the sun completed and we find ourselves in a familiar place. The virus that has continued to wreak havoc on our friends, families, loved ones, hospitals, schools, businesses, and world, does not seem to be ready to relent. Please do what it takes to assure yourself a happy and healthy 2022.

Other familiar events since the last Newsletter include Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 59 holding their annual Amish Candy sale which sold out earlier than expected. We took note on the ever-increasing popularity and will do our best to have enough in the 2022 sale to assure product for the holidays. The money raised has already started to be distributed to various causes, community members and neighbors that need a helping hand. The Toys for Tots campaign was again extremely successful. The generosity of our friends and neighbors always amazes me but it shouldn't. There's a lot of good people in the Stoughton area. The crown jewel of the year was without a doubt our Breakfast with Santa. Unsure as to just what to expect as far as attendance, we privately hoped for what would have been considered a slightly less than average turnout in past years. We were blown away when the attendance record for Breakfast with Santa was beaten by nearly forty people. Thanks to all from the Legion Family, and numerous volunteers that helped make this breakfast successful. Going above and beyond were Emily Brantmeyer our Face Painter Extraordinaire, Darren Dunn for providing his favorite red suit, and past Commander Sonny Swangstu who stepped in as a last-minute replacement for an ailing "BIG GUY." Here's to continuing with our successes and saying good riddance to the sickness and misery.

SAL Squadron 59 Commander  
Bob Hocking



## Post 59 Service Officer Report



### Post 59 Service Officer Updates

On the evening of November 10<sup>th</sup> Legion Post 59 and VFW Post 328 co-sponsored a Veterans Town Hall Meeting at our Post with area representatives providing information regarding their programs and services. Another Meeting is being planned at the VFW for this upcoming spring.

I will be continuously reviewing and updating the Veterans Resources listed on our Post Web Site ([www.post59.us](http://www.post59.us)) under the "More" Tab and "Post 59 Links" ([www.post59.us/post-59-links](http://www.post59.us/post-59-links)).

I would like to introduce two excellent veteran resources.

**The Dane County Veterans Service Office:** Dan Connery and his staff can assist veterans and their families in determining eligibility and application in applying for benefits and services. They will review your need and if they cannot assist will refer you to the appropriate authority. When I am asked about veteran's eligibility and where to start, I always refer them to this office. You can find more information on their web site at [danevets.com](http://danevets.com) or by calling 608-266-4158.

**Heat 4 heroes:** Is a Wisconsin Nonprofit Organization dedicated to assisting veterans and their families faced with no heat, disconnection notice, and/or unpaid utility bills or even a broken or failing furnace. Heat 4 Heroes is an excellent resource and responds quickly to inquiries or request. You can find more information and services on their web site at [Heat4Heroes.org](http://Heat4Heroes.org) or by calling 1-800-891-9276 or 608-333-0813.

If I can be of assistance or point you in the right direction, please feel free to contact me at my email [tqmgr@yahoo.com](mailto:tqmgr@yahoo.com) or for more dire needs by phone at 608-335-1771.

Mike Ayers  
Post 59 Service Officer

## ATTENTION PLEASE!

Next Quarters Newsletter  
article deadline is:  
**APRIL 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

## Hall Rentals

For More Information, please contact  
Sherry Leick @  
[post59hallrental@gmail.com](mailto:post59hallrental@gmail.com)  
or go to our website @  
[Post 59-Otis Sampson American Legion  
Stoughton/Hall Rental Information](http://Post59-OtisSampsonAmericanLegionStoughton/HallRentalInformation)

## CHAPLAINS' CORNER

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022**

*God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly,  
thoughtful of who  
we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our  
steps make an  
impact and our words carry power.*

*May we walk gently.*

*May we speak only after we have listened well.*

*Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year  
reverently, aware that  
you have endowed every creature and plant, every  
person and habitat  
with beauty and purpose.*

*May we regard the world with tenderness.  
May we honor rather than destroy.*

*Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year  
joyfully, willing to laugh  
and dance and dream, remembering our many  
gifts with thanks and  
looking forward to blessings yet to come.*

*May we welcome you with lavish love.*

*In this new year, may the grace and peace of  
Christ bless us now and, in  
the days ahead.*

*Peace to All,  
Ed Nowicki  
Post 59 Chaplain*



## Legion Membership News

The good news is our post has 9 new members, 34 PUFL's (paid up for life), and 227 renewals. That puts us at 270 members out of 374 for 72.2%.

Since I last sent a membership transmittal to Dept. Headquarters on Nov.17 2021, I have received 6 memberships renewals in the mail. I hope our members are renewing on-line because we are lagging a bit behind.

To quote American Legion National Commander, Paul Dillard, "Recruiting new members will always be important but renewals are imperative if we are to stay effective." I couldn't say it any better myself.

If you are still receiving a red envelope with the words "Past Due" or "Delinquent" on it, that is your membership renewal notice from National Headquarters. It is not junk mail. Please don't ignore it any longer.

If you have not renewed your membership dues as of yet, I can think of no better way of starting off the new year.

Remember, you can always pay on-line at [www.wilegion.org](http://www.wilegion.org) and click on "RENEW" on the far right, then go to "MEMBERSHIP" and "RENEW." Enter your member ID# (found on your membership card) and pay with a credit card. It's as easy as 1-2-3.

Membership renewals can be mailed to our post also at:  
American Legion Post 59  
Attn: Bob Lloyd  
P.O. Box 16  
Stoughton, WI. 53589

Submitted by,  
Bob Lloyd  
Post 59 Membership Chairman

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## MONTHLY POST 59 MEETING TIMES



**AMERICAN LEGION**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Each Month @ 7:00pm**



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Each Month @ 6:00pm**



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month @ 7:00pm**



## For your country's sake today-

Although women veterans can fly on Badger Honor Flights, an all-women flight enables a tailored itinerary that will take these heroes to monuments, memorials, and special events specific to their military service, something that is not usually included in routine Badger Honor Flights.

### **Women Veterans should not be invisible.**

Woman's roles in the military have always been downplayed, and many public ceremonies and tributes refer to veterans as "he."

An all-women Honor Flight tells women that their sacrifices, service, and commitments to our country are recognized, and that Americans understand they were willing to give their all.

If you are a Woman Veteran or know a Woman Veteran that served during the eligibility dates below, we urge you to fill out an application so that you can participate in our upcoming all-women flight.

WW II: December 7, 1941- December 31, 1946

Korean War: June 25, 1950 – January 31, 1955

Vietnam War: February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975

<https://www.badgerhonorflight.org/applications/veteran-applications/>

\*Flight originates from Madison, WI.

Female Veteran Charter Flight Fully Funded by  
Alice Ladwig Bequeath

If you have any questions, you can email Eileen at  
[administration@badgerhonorflight.org](mailto:administration@badgerhonorflight.org)

**For your own sake tomorrow-**

## The Post 59 Website

Some of you may have visited and some may not be aware that our post has a website. It is updated with information on a weekly basis. All things Post 59 can be found here.

### -Home

This is the Home Page for the website. It has what's happening at the Legion and some general information that changes.

### -Directions and Contact Information

This has directions to the legion using Google maps. It also has contact information for the Commander, Auxiliary President, SAL Commander, Finance Officer, Membership Chairman, Service Officer, and Newsletter Editor.

### -Upcoming Events

This has a calendar of events for the Legion updated almost daily by Sherry Leick.

### -Legion Hall Rental Information

This has all the information needed for renting our hall including photos of the hall, kitchen, and bar areas.

### -Service Officer Post 59

This page has information on our Post 59 service officer, Mike Ayers. It links to our Post 59 Useful Links page also.

### -Post 59 Photo Gallery

This page has photos of past events at the Legion.

### -How to become a member of Post 59

This page has all the information needed for becoming a member of The Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and the Legion Riders.

### -The Legion Bar

This page has hours and photos of the Legion Bar.

### -The Legion Newsletter

This page has the current newsletter, a subscribe to link, and archived newsletters going back to 2008.

### -Stoughton Area Veterans Memorial Park

A link page to the SAVMP website.

### -Post 59 Links

An entire page of Veteran resource links and local links.

### -Post 59 Officers

All officers of the Legion, The Auxiliary, and The SAL.

### -Post 59 Meeting Times

Times for the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL monthly meetings.

### -Flag Etiquette

When to display the flag and how to properly fold.

<https://www.post59.us/>








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**2021-2022**

**POST 59 OFFICERS**

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Michael Currie

**1st Vice Commander**

Rodger Hansen

**2nd Vice Commander**

Dale Seffens

**3rd Vice Commander**

Cliff Maerz (In Honor)

**Service Officer**

Mike Ayers

**Sgt. At Arms**

Randy Robertson

**Finance Officer**

Jim Oler

**Historian**

Steve Grady

**Adjutant**

Joshua Holt

**Judge Advocate**

Doug Nelson

**Chaplain**

Edward Nowicki

**2021-2022**

**UNIT 59 AUXILIARY  
OFFICERS**

**President**

Amy Hermes

**Vice President**

Dawn Clark

**Secretary**

Randi Johnson Hanson

**Treasurer**

Lisa Olson

**Chaplain**

Anna Paul

**Membership**

Lisa Olson

Dawn Clark

**2021-2022**

**Squadron 59 SAL  
OFFICERS**

**Commander**

Bob Hocking

**1st Vice Commander**

Dean Stenjem

**2nd Vice Commander**

Richard Budden

**Sgt. At Arms**

Bob Crofoot

**Finance Officer**

Jim Oler

**Adjutant**

Roger Strandlie

**Historian**

Rob York

**Chaplain**

Dan Blomgren

**Otis Sampson American  
Legion Post 59**



**Editor: Dean Stenjem**  
**[59legionpost@gmail.com](mailto:59legionpost@gmail.com)**

**Website:**

**[www.post59.us](http://www.post59.us)**



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