



THE LEGION POST

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



Volume 18 Issue 10

October 2016

Commander's Report

2016-2017 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

Dale Seffens

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Lenny Swingen

Adjutant

Bob Lloyd

Judge Advocate

Terry McCardle

Chaplain

Rich Fries



Greetings Members,

Hope everyone is ready for fall because it is coming fast. The dew is on the grass in the mornings and our first frost is likely to come anytime. I think they say the full moon could be the night which is on the 30th of this month.

I see we are having many people stopping by the Memorial Park to find and observe the pavers. If you grew up in Stoughton, you probably

recognize many of the names. I find it very fascinating walking down through the two rows and taking it all in. We still have room for more pavers of all sizes, so it is not too late to purchase one. When the benches get set in place, with the flags flying, with the wall up, with the pillars in place, and the great pentagon center piece, oh what a wonderful sight it will be! I think the tears will be flowing. Hope the weather man in November is good to us for our Grand Opening.

With the vacations over, camping and the cook outs coming to an end, we hope our Friday night fish fry will increase. We are having one

man and woman music on Friday and Saturday evenings. Come down and enjoy the variety. Don't forget the Country Jam on the 4th Sunday afternoon. We enjoy seeing everyone even if you stop in just to say hello. We are still having our Post dinners and Wally, the cook, is coming up with some great meals.

We are in the process of thinking about increasing our bar area for when we have large events going on. We will keep you posted on our plan, but for now we will just keep you guessing.

Commander continued on page 2

Auxiliary

President

Cathy Rigdon

873.5818

608.712.5312

1st Vice President

Amy Hermes

608.516.8720

2nd Vice President

Jona Chat

608.622.4574

Secretary

Lisa Olson

608.279.4847

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



Greetings,

August was a very busy month for our members both working at, and attending, fund-raisers and special events.

Fund-raisers included our August breakfast, Gazebo Muzik, and Culvers Day. Although the August breakfast had fewer participants than expected, it was still successful. Joanne Broughton won the golf basket raffle. The Gazebo Muzik was held on a very hot day with threatening weather, but that didn't stop the members from serving food during the event. Some members also helped serve food and buss tables at the Culver's Day fund-raiser. That was also a rainy night, but still a success. In addition to all of that,

several members volunteered and attended Operation Badger Base. A special thanks to all of those who helped!

Mount Horeb hosted the 3rd District picnic. Linda Schmidt and Mary Curran attended, representing our unit.

New cloth tablecloths have been purchased for the serving and dessert tables during funerals and other events hosted at the Post. Additionally, new aprons were purchased for auxiliary members who work at events. The aprons have the ALA logo stitched on them so it will easily identify an auxiliary worker. Styles and colors of new ALA shirts and fleece jackets were selected, orders were placed, and logos are being stitched on.

The VFW hosted an event for the *Custom Canine Service Dog Academy*. Auxiliary members were invited to attend one of the two presentations. This program provides service dogs to vets. The auxiliary is donating to this very worthwhile project. For more information, visit their Web site at <http://www.customcanines.org>.

President continued on page 2

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- September 18 - Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30 am
- September 25 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss – 2:00-6:00 pm
- September 27 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- October 1 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 pm-1:00 am
- October 15 - SAL Fish Boil – 4:00-7:00 pm
- October 16 - Legion Breakfast – 7:30-11:30 am
- October 21- Dean’s Blue Country – 7:00-10:00 pm
- October 22- Auxiliary Chicken ‘N Biscuit dinner
4:00-7:00 pm
- October 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- October 23 - Country Jam with Mikey Fuss – 2:00-6:00 pm
- October 21- Jackie Marie – 7:00-10:00 pm
- October 31 – Halloween
- November 12 - Veterans Memorial Park Dedication
11:00 am

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

Breakfast: 7:30-11:30 am
\$8.00 adults, \$4.00 children

For upcoming Legion entertainment, call the Post at 205.9090 for a recorded message.

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.”

Francis of Assisi

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

Auxiliary Members: If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Lynn Robertson at 608.608.692.6321.

Hall Rentals

Call Linda Swangstu – 608.873.9428

Commander continued from page 1

We try to keep our Post accommodating for all functions and there are always changes to make for the betterment of our customers. It seems the work never ends and some day we hopefully will be able to say the end!

Volunteers – keep volunteering and Customers – keep coming!

Thanks to all,

Commander Sonny

President continued from page 1

The next ALA fund-raiser will be our Chicken ‘N Biscuit Dinner held on Saturday, October 22 from 4:00-7:00 pm at the Post. Cost is \$9 for adults and children \$5. We hope you can attend this dinner.

Did you know? Members may pay their dues via debit or credit card by simply visiting the national website www.ALAforVeterans.org, going to the “Members Only” tab, and creating a log-in ID if they don’t already have one. The pay dues option will be at the top of the screen. Members needing assistance with creating a log-in ID, please contact the national organization’s helpline at alahq@alaforveterans.org / 317.569.4536.

Cathy Rigdon
Unit 59 President

Super Raffle Supports Veterans Memorial

The recently completed Super Raffle, under the leadership of fund-raising co-chairman, Randy Robertson, raised funds to support the Veterans Memorial. Among the Stoughton area winners were : Linda Schmidt, a Colt .45 pistol; Ron Erstad, knife set; Melissa Lund, \$1,000; Larry Johnson, notebook computer; Jeff Gassen,\$500, and Pat Erickson, custom golf set. Other winners were: Danny Nelson, Madison, diamond pennant; Gary Chille, Madison, Desert Eagle pistol, and Jerrot Feltz, Riley, 55" HD TV.

Submitted by Bud Erickson

AMERICAN LEGION *AUXILIARY* UNIT 59

CHICKEN 'N BISCUIT DINNER



**Saturday, October 22nd
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

**American Legion Post 59
803 N. Page St. Stoughton, WI**

MENU

**Chicken & Gravy on Amish Biscuits
Mashed Potatoes, Cole Slaw & Cranberry Sauce
Coffee & Milk & Water
Homemade Desserts**

Cost: Adults \$9.00 Children 10 & under \$5

Sons Happenings



Hi Everyone,

What happened to summer? It seems like we were making all these plans and now here we are into fall already.

We had a nice turnout for our cookout held on Sunday, September 4. We plan to have a Fish Boil on Saturday, October 15. We'll have more information on that soon.

If you haven't seen it yet, check out the new Website for Post 59. The old site had encountered some problems, so the decision was made to change the entire site with a new address. It is now (post59.us). If you do go to the old address it will give you a link to the new Website, so it's easy to find. There are many new features including a calendar that has every event at the Legion. It also has who is bartending on any given day. If there is anything you would like to see or if there are any problems on this new site, just e-mail me at

sonsofthelegion59@gmail.com and we'll take care of it. Also, Post 59 has our own Facebook page. It is under Otis Sampson American Legion Post 59 if you would like to see it.

There are a few new things that are being worked on to make the Legion a better place for everyone. Cathy Rigdon, Auxiliary President, and Amy Hermes, Auxiliary Vice-President, have formed an executive committee with themselves, the Commander and Vice-Commander of the Legion, and the Commander and Vice-Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. We meet every other month to make sure that everyone is on the same page with regard to Post 59. Hopefully, this will make everything run just a little smoother.

Thank you,

Dean Stenjem
Commander, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 59

2016-2017 OFFICERS

Commander

Dean Stenjem

1st Vice Commander

Jeff Gassen

2nd Vice Commander

Jim Oler

Sgt. at Arms

Alan Metzler

Finance Officer

Jim Oler

Historian

Roger Strandlie

Chaplain

Dan Blomgren

Adjutant

Clark Anderson

Monthly Post Meeting Schedule

Legion – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm

Auxiliary – 2nd Monday – 6:30 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



Progress Report on Veterans Memorial Park

Although several days of heavy rain slowed the construction on Veterans Memorial Park, plans are still on track. All 11 flag bases and poles have been set; 630 pavers and 24 benches are in place. Four of the educational pillars have also been put in place. The well has been dug. Landscaping has started. Finishing touches are being put on the centerpiece and the bronze eagle, and they will soon be shipped to the park. The archway is nearly complete.

Also, plans are moving along for the dedication of the Memorial on Saturday, November 12, 2016, at 11:00 am.

Paver sales and cash donations continue to come in. There remain about 300 pavers to purchase and 14 pillar faces are still available. Depending on the size, pavers cost \$150, \$250, and \$550. The cost of a four-sided pillar is \$16,000 and a one-sided face can be purchased for \$4,000. Paver and pillar order forms can be picked up at the VFW or the American Legion. Donations can be sent to P O Box 16, Stoughton, WI 53589.

Submitted by Bud Erickson





The relationship between donors and charities is based on trust. Donors trust the organizations they support to fulfill their stated mission and to use their gifts appropriately. They expect the charity to follow both IRS regulations and the law.

A number of fraudulent entities and scams undercut the trust given to the social sector by donors. They prey upon the emotions and positive intentions of the public by posing as real charities. They are not registered with the IRS, and many are under investigation for fraud. Also, because of this, donations to these entities are **NOT** tax deductible.

The following is just a small sample of such “charities”:

FAKE or Zero Rating

***(DVA)** Disabled Veterans of America

***(PAV)** Paralyzed American Veterans

National Vietnam Veterans Foundation

VietNow National Headquarters

United States Disabled Veterans

LEGITIMATE/4 Star Rating

(DAV) Disabled American Veterans –
Charitable Service Trust

(PVA – WI) Paralyzed Veterans of America
-Wisconsin Chapter

Fisher House

Homes for our Troops

Honor Flight Network

* **Fake** - Intentional acronyms used to syphon off donations meant for the legitimate charities.

Ratings source – Charity Navigator - www.charitynavigator.org

For a more complete list of Fake Charities or Charity Rating Services, contact me at Waucoman@gmail.com or through VFW Post 328

Ole, Doug, Etc.

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Roast Beef and Mashed Potatoes
September 27, 2016

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES THE 8TH OF EACH MONTH
VISIT THE POST WEB SITE AT POST59.US
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