



THE LEGION POST

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



VOLUME 14 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2012

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



Dear Legion Family,

We finally have some relief from the hot weather. The grass has greened up and the lawn mowers are in full swing again. Cliff – your vacation is over!!!

Some of our members attended the Department convention in July at the Marriot Hotel in Middleton. Our post received the Post excellence award along with 33 other posts in the state. The award was presented by

the National Commander, Fang Wong, of New Jersey.

Our Post project is nearing the end and everyone will be happy to see the finished results. We still need a retaining wall along the north lot line, trees, shrubs, and landscaping of the horseshoe pits with some grass seeding on the edge between the pits and parking lot. The dumpster enclosure will be done by the time the newsletter reaches members.

We have not spent the whole general fund in our accomplishments, but we still need your help. As you all know, we sent out letters to all members for donations and the response has been pretty good

so far. We have received 143 responses for a total of \$15,500 With 350 members remaining, we hope to hear from many more. I want to thank those who have responded.

To help our fundraising, we are going to have another raffle. Steve Grady is in charge again and we hope to have another successful turnout. The chance to win \$1,700 will be 1st prize. We will be selling 200 tickets again @ \$50 each..

See Commander page 3

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 Auxiliary Family,

My computer went down so I am winging this newsletter. We were on vacation in Virginia this past week, when we returned the computer wouldn't start up. I lost everything I had printed and everything else. Had to go to my daughter's and write it up again!

Hope everyone is enjoying the last of summer and finally some cooler weather. We also got some needed rain to help the farmers and our gardens. Even the lawns are starting to grown green again.

I would like to thank all the Auxiliary members and Legion wives that

participated at the Dane County Fair Military Appreciation Day. It was a very impressive ceremony for the raising of the flags in the morning and the lowering in the evening. Everyone that went had a part in the ceremony.

Julie Nygaard, Mary Curran, and I attended the District Convention in Madison. I attended a few sessions each day. It was very informative. I am sure Mary and Julie will have more to report. I want to thank Marie Matejka for doing up a "tastefully simple" basket for the raffle at the convention.

A reminder to all Auxiliary members that work for any of the breakfasts or any other functions at the Legion: **you must pay for your meal!** I know I have heard it too, if you work you don't have to pay, but you do! We are having these functions to benefit the Post. Both the Legion and the Auxiliary can use the money.

See President page 3

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- August 19 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00am
- August 28 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm
- September 1 - Blue Moon Karaoke
8:00 – 11:00 pm
- September 16 - Legion Breakfast
7:00 – 11:00 am
- September 21 - Universal Sound
8:30 pm – 12:30 am
- September 22 - Fish Boil – 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Country music jam - 8:00 pm – midnight
- September 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm

Event Pricing

Post Dinner: 6:30 pm \$11.00

Breakfast: 7:00-11:00 am
\$8.00 (*new price*) adults, \$4.00 children

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Positive Thought

The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take of you tomorrow

and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to beat it. Be at peace...

St. Francis De Sales



Post Commander Sonny Swangstu is presented the Post Excellence Award from National Commander Fang Wong



Pictured is Post Commander Sonny Swangstu, Mary Lloyd, Bob Lloyd, and Archie Christensen being presented the "Knowledge is Power Award" from Department Commander Denise Rohan Along with National Commander Fang Wong (far left).

Commander continued from page 1

I am happy to announce Rich Fries is our new Post Chaplain. He will relieve Monte Whitford and Al Phelps who stepped up temporarily until the position was filled.

Mark your calendar for September 22. The Post is having a fish boil. Please join us and help make this a huge success.

Thank you to all volunteers,
Commander Sonny

President continued from page 1

The Post parking lot is finally paved. It looks wonderful and it sure cleaned up the area. Now trees will need to be planted and a fence erected. Thanks to all who donated to get this project completed.

Marlene Bierman
Auxiliary President

Don't forget the faces of war

Over time, the face of a soldier has never changed. Beginning in ancient times, using charcoal and pigments, artists rendered their interpretations in paintings of those faces. Sculptors used clay, stone and metal to give us an idea of what it looked like to be there. The equipment changed as time went by. The weapons steadily evolved, but the faces still have a familiar resemblance.

Not every soldier is brave. Every soldier is scared. No matter what your line of duty or what your job was, the fact that you were participating in a war etches itself into who you are. It is something you will carry for the rest of your life.

Beginning with the Civil War, when photography entered the battlefield, the realities of war were shown in detail. A photograph captures a moment in time and preserves that soldier's face, living or dead. Many of our old newsreels show sailors smiling and waving as their ship departs for war. Our televisions show us the cheerful reunions as well as the photos of those who died.

After the Civil War, Decoration Day was created to take care of the graves of those whose journey ended while serving their country. Today

we have Memorial Day when we stop to remember and give thanks to all those who have gone before us. We proudly wave our country's flag and celebrate with a parade in their honor. We also bow our heads in prayer to thank them for the freedom we enjoy today. We owe our departed comrades many thanks and will never forget their faces.

— Patrick A. Nowlin, *Stoughton, Vietnam vet, Commander, Post 328*

The above editorial was written by Patrick Nowlin a member of Post 59 and recently published in the *Wisconsin State Journal*.



Membership

No report this month.

Dennis Rodenkirch
American Legion Post 59

VA Hospital Needs

The Community Relations Service at the William S Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital regularly accepts the following items as donations. These items support a variety of our programs and customer service initiatives.

Clothing Room Needs:

- New packages of men's briefs/underwear – sizes 32-40
- New packages of men's tube/crew socks
- New tennis shoes – men's sizes 8 ½-12
- New small backpacks (NO duffel bags)
- New or gently used men's adult winter coats
- New or gently used gloves/winter hats

Craft Room Needs (all NEW items please):

- Small packages of model paint (6-8 assorted colors)
- Paint brushes (assorted sizes for use with models, paint by number, sun catchers, etc)
- Non-spiral sketch or drawing pads
- Small canvas boards for painting
- Acrylic paint sets
- Sandpaper
- Small cans of wood stain (the smallest size available)
- Puzzle books (crosswords, word search, Sudoku, etc)

Other regularly-needed items:

- NEW Afghans, quilts, lap robes, and fleece blankets (approximate sizes of 6'x5' or 3'x2')
- Gas cards (\$10 or \$20 denominations are best) – BP, Kwik Trip (make sure they are "gas only" cards)
- Pocket calendars/planners
- Composition books
- Postage stamps – 1st class stamps for patients to mail letters/cards
- Small or medium size cribbage boards or other peg-board games
- Reading glasses
- Used paperback books in good condition – bestsellers, westerns, and thrillers are the most popular
- Used magazines, *within three months of publication*, in good condition and of appropriated content for general reading

All donations should be coordinated through the group sponsoring the donations drive.

Thank you for your support of the VA Hospital and the veterans we serve!

A big *Thank You* goes out to Pat Nowlin for all he has done and continues to do for our Post. We thank him for, not only for his generosity to the Post, but also to the community. Let him know how much you appreciate what he does. Thanks Pat, you are appreciated by one and all!

Also a *Thank You* to Archie Christenson for all the behind-the-scenes things he does. Without people, like Archie, and there are many in our Post, undertakings would not get accomplished like they do. Thank you!

A shout out goes to the Auxiliary for continually contributing to the Newsletter Fund each month. Thank you. Keep up the great work that you do!

The parking lot and fence look great. A terrific job by the Parking Lot Committee and Commander Sonny for pushing forward. A great big *Thank You* to the members who have donated and continue to donate to the cause. Keep those donations coming.

Jim Oler
Finance Officer

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

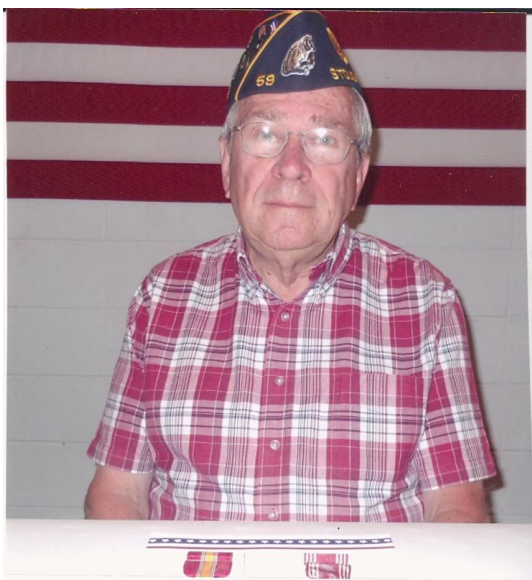
\$.50 off any Ladies drinks



Allen E. Vick

Allen was born in Stoughton, WI on Friday, October 13, 1939. He grew up living on Giles St a block from Stoughton Hospital, where he was born. During his early education he attended the East Side School, Central School, Junior High, and graduated from Stoughton HS in 1957. He then attended Madison Business College where he earned a degree in accounting in 1959.

Like all young men at that time he would have been drafted, so he enlisted in the National Guard. Three days after graduating from college he left on the train for six months active duty with the US Army at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. A day and a half later he arrived at Fort Leonard Wood's reception center for processing and then to Company A, 4th Battalion, 3rd Training Regiment for basic training. After basic Allen was sent to Army Administration School also at Fort Leonard Wood. After completing Administration School he worked in a supply facility until his six months active duty ended in April 1960. On returning home he was in the 232nd Transportation Battalion, 32nd Infantry Division, based in Madison near Truax Field to complete his required reserve duty, where he became a truck driver. Although his MOS was for a clerk the 232nd Trans Bn needed drivers, which was a job he liked much better than being a clerk.



While in college he worked part-time at an insurance company. Shortly before completing Army active duty, his name was called on the PA and told to report to the orderly room. That wasn't always a good thing, although this time it was a phone call from another insurance company that offered him an accounting position at their Madison office based on a recommendation from the company for he worked part-time. He accepted the job and was getting along well until 1961 when the Soviet Union built the Berlin Wall and the entire 32nd Division was called to active duty for a year at Fort Lewis, WA. Still a truck driver, he hauled troops and supplies. A memorable experience Allen recalls vividly is driving to Fort Irwin, CA with a jeep loaded on his truck, pulling a trailer, and crossing Mount Shasta in a snow storm. Army trucks weren't good in snow, but with a little luck and some white knuckles he made it to that night's stop at a National Guard Armory in Shasta, CA.

In 1962 when the 32nd was released from active duty, Allen went back to his civilian job, married his wife, Agnes, and raised three children—Marsha, Jon, and Peter. They have seven grand children—Kristin, Megan, Eric, Anna, Sarah, Hannah, and Andrew—who range in age from 12 to 20. In 1974 he changed jobs and spent the next 27 years as an auditor for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. He retired in January 2002 at age 62.

During his reserve time, Allen attended several two-week summer training camps at Fort McCoy with the 232nd Transportation Battalion—still driving a truck! Allen's highest rank was Specialist 4. He earned the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Sharpshooter Badge, and Truck Driver's Badge.

He has been a member of Post 59 for 22 years and the Honor Guard four years. Allen enjoys being a member of the American Legion and the Honor Guard and considers it a privilege to have served his country.

Submitted by Evelyn Kahl



Coming to the
Stoughton VFW
200 Veterans RD
Stoughton, WI



Honor Flight Comedy Show

September 29th at 8pm

Tickets **\$10** - Gen. Admission

Come out and see

Nate Ford, 'Uncle Mikey' O'Neill, Joel Kunz, Alan
Gregory, James Thorn, Joel Knuz, Tommy V

As they put on their best show all to help send WW II Veterans to
visit the National World War II monument in Washington DC!

Tickets Available at

The Stoughton VFW

&

www.HeartlandComedyExpress.com

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

Hanson Electronics
22-C403
613 E. Main St.
Evansville, WI 53536
608-882-0680





RadioShack.
A Division of Tandy Corporation

Thomas M. Fendrick
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



2368 Jackson St
Stoughton, WI 53589
Bus. 608-873-8502 TF Fax 877-222-4313
TF. 888-873-8550
www.edwardjones.com



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

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



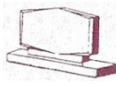
Email: scs.consulting@charter.net
www.scsconsultingservice.com

CRESS
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE
SINCE 1869



BCress@CressFuneralService.com

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

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
Joe & Erin Conant - Owners



HOME Savings Bank
There's no bank like Home!

400 W. Main Street
Stoughton

Member FDIC

home-savings.com 282.6160

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

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




Matthew Kripschack
CAREER AGENT
373 W. 6th St. suite A
Richland Center, WI 53581
Office: 608-647-2251 • Fax: 608-647-1110
Cell: 608-512-5766
mkripschack@ruralins.com

The Coffee Kupp
Restaurant LLC



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

Smoke Free Environment

Come Join Us for Dinner



Friend of the Legion, Sponsor of the Month



Prizepromos
Bright Ideas That Shine

Julie Nygaard
Promotional Products
Sales Representative

(608) 873-7673 phone
(608) 205-9245 fax
(608) 333-9577 cell
julie.n@prizepromos.com

2438 Skaalen Road Suite B
Stoughton, WI 53589
www.prizepromos.com

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

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

Stuffed Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Baked Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Milk and Coffee
August 28, 6:30 PM

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