



POST 201 INFORMER

Grassman - Sowle - Larsen - Senz Post 201
Tomah, WI



VOLUME 28, ISSUE 4

1 Dec 2008

2008 - 2009 Legion Officers

Commander: Calvin Marcellis
Adjutant: Mike Schoeny
1st Vice: Scott Johnson
2nd Vice: Dave Goldbeck
3rd Vice: Jay Lewis
Finance Ofc: Vince Rowan
Chaplain: Bill Rice
Service Ofc: John Hubert
Sgt. at Arms: Tony Adams
Larry Caliguire
Historan: Vacant

2008 - 2009 Aux Officers
President: Lori Goldbeck
1st Vice: Helene Stein
2nd Vice: Toni Palmer
Secretary: Geri Grandinetti
Treasurer: Rita Steffel
Chaplain: Evelyn Noyes
Sunshine / Hospital: Velma Lutz
Sgt at Arms: Kym Meltesen

Inside this issue:

Commander's Notes	1
Web Site Update	1
Adjutant's Corner	2
1st Vice / Honor Guard	3
Financial Report	3
Bar/Hall Manager	3
Auxiliary News	4
Upcoming Dates	4

COMMANDER'S NOTES

Hello everyone. It's hard to believe it's time for yet another Informer article. As always I want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication.

The Veterans Day Dinner put on by the Veterans Association on the 11th of November was a big success even though the weather didn't cooperate. November and December are both going to be very busy months for all of us: Thanksgiving and the Holiday Parade at 7:00 p.m. on the 28th of November. Then in December we have the Kids Christmas Party on the 14th from 2:00-4:00 p.m., Christmas and we can't forget New Years Eve. And we can't forget the Fish Fries, Spaghetti Suppers, Meeting Nights, and Packer Parties.

PLEASE READ-NEED YOUR HELP: The Post is having a float in the Holiday Parade. It's huge, a 48 foot flatbed semi trailer. **I need people to walk and ride, Veterans, Families, Service Members.** The float will be at the Tomah High School at 5:30 p.m., line up is at 6:00 p.m. at the Tomah Middle School and the parade starts at 7:00 p.m. **Please call me at (608)387-0730 to ride or walk.** If you need assistance to get on and off the float meet us at the High School to assist you, otherwise if you are going to walk meet us at the line up by the Middle School. Please come out and show your support. Thank you.

Please make note of the following changes: Due to the busy holiday season, there will not be a spaghetti feed in December. Also, the January fish fry will be on the 9th of January!!!

As always when you see our service men and women and our veterans welcome them with open arms and thank them and their families for their unending sacrifice and service

CALVIN MARCELLIS
Commander

WEBSITE UPDATE - We've had 618 visitors as of Sept 1st. The address is www.tomahwilegion.org. Check it out on occasion and see what we've been doing.

Adjutant's Corner

Please, if you have not renewed your membership for 2009 please send it so we can be at 100% for Post 201!!! If you have internet and you want to save Tomah Post 201 some money please email me at schoeny@centurytel.net and say that you do not need a hard copy of the Informer. It saves postage and printing. Right now we have over 30 members that do not need a hard copy. The web site is www.tomahwilegion.org

BURIAL FLAGS: The VA provides a United States flag to drape over the veterans casket. After the funeral service the flag may be given to the next of kin or close associate of the deceased. The next of kin may keep or donate the flag to a national cemetery for the Avenue of Flags program. Flags are issued at VA regional offices, post offices and national cemeteries. The flag is issued once only for burial purposes and will not be replaced if lost, stolen, damaged, or destroyed. The standard issue burial flag is made of cotton and will not withstand continuous outdoor display.

PASSPORTS TO VISIT OVERSEAS CEMETERIES: NO-FEE passports are available for family members visiting overseas gravesites and memorial sites of WW1 and WWII dead. For additional information, write to the American Battle Monuments Commission, Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500, 2300 Clarendon Blvd, Arlington VA 22201 or call 703-696-6900 or visit www.abmc.gov.

LEGION LAUNCHES NEW GI BILL WEB SITE: The American Legion has launched an informative new web site to help veterans and their families understand the Post 9/11 GI Bill which takes effect Aug 1, 2009 and how it compares with other federal education benefits for veterans. The site www.mygibill.org includes clear explanations of the different GI Bill benefits, news alerts and updates, frequently asked questions, state by state benefits and online application opportunities. The site also includes information about the American Legion historical and ongoing role in the evolution of veteran's education benefits. The Legion was actively involved as well in the creation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill last spring which aimed to improve portability of the benefit especially members of the National Guard and Reserve, and o make it transferable to spouses and dependents.

BADGER BOYS STATE 2009 SESSION: At our last meeting, the Post approved to fund 2 young men from Tomah to go to Badger State on June 13-20 2009. The cost is \$235 per applicant.

I am proud to announce that at our last meeting Post 201 donated \$500 to the Freedom Flight program. Post 201 had at least 4 WWII veterans go on the trip to Washington DC to see the WWII memorial. It was a great and proud moment for these Veterans. This is what the Legion is all about.

MICHAEL SCHOENY
Adjutant



VOITURE 40et8

Seasons greetings from your Voiture. At the last meeting at Sparta Post 100, we were unable to have a Promenade. For some reason we don't have the turnout like we do at Post 201.

One of the items we discussed was how to get the Sparta Voiture's to a Promenade. Also, we are at that time of year when some our members will be going south for the winter. The December Promenade will be our last meeting until April 2009.

The December Promenade will be our Christmas gathering. It will be held 17 December at 6:30 p.m. at the Tomah American Legion, Post 201. We will have a short Promenade at 7:00 and eat after. We are asking each member to bring a dish to pass, the entrée will be provided. Bring your wife or girlfriend.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

ERROL MROTEK
Correspondent

1st Vice

Hello fellow members. The election has come and gone. It was truly a historic election. Let's take this opportunity to become more involved in our local community by letting our newly elected officials know our opinions and concerns. My ear is also available to the members with any and all comments, opinions, concerns, etc., as this is my 1st elected position with the Legion. As we enter the holiday season let us remember the sacrifices our fellow soldiers have made as well as our own. Think of the countless places around the world that our troops have spent the holidays be it in war as well as peacetime. I salute you. Thank you for your sacrifices to this great country.

SCOTT JOHNSON
1st Vice
Honor Guard Quartermaster

BAR/HALL MANAGER

Please note that anyone interested in using the Hall or Bar area must book with the bar manager. The calendar is filling up fast! Please help spread the word the Legion hall is a great place to have an event and is open for rentals, just call the bar manager for bookings.

Don't forget to join us for Packer Sundays! The bar will open at 11:00 on the following dates: Nov 30, Dec 7, Dec 14, Dec 28

These dates are scheduled but always check the paper for the advertisement or the Legion website calendar for schedule of events. To be sure, you can call the Legion as we may have cancellations or changes!

DAVE GOLDBECK
2nd Vice Commander

Honor Guard

It's been a couple of months since I last wrote anything concerning the Post Honor Guard. Since the last writing, the Honor Guard had its First Annual Sportspeople's NightOut, which was held at the Legion. We had a great turnout and we are already in the planning stage for next year's event. I want to thank all the members of the Honor Guard and Legion members who helped and even donated items to be raffled off that night.

The Honor Guard participated in the Cranfest Parade in Warrens and ended up taking second place in the military division. Great job for all members who participated in this event. We are now getting ready for the Tomah Holiday Parade. The parade is on Friday, November 28th and starts at 7:00 p.m. We will be sporting a new look this year for the holiday parade.

Hopefully, we can get our members' support to come out and see our new look. With the support of the Legion members and the community we will keep on growing. Remember that the Honor Guard meets on the 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Post. I encourage any member to stop down and see what we are all about and possibly think about becoming an Honor Guard member and being a member of an elite group of men and women from Post 201.

RAY FREDRICKSON
Chairman Honor Guard

FINANCE REPORT

Checkbook Balance as of Oct 1, 2008: \$4191.30
Checkbook Balance as of Oct 31, 2008: \$6711.68
CD Balance: \$22,339.53

VINCENT ROWAN
Finance Officer



AUXILIARY NEWS

Hope you all had a "Happy & Safe Thanksgiving". I like to reflect on all the things I am thankful at Thanksgiving as most of us do. I must say for myself I am most thankful for my husband, my children and family & good friends! I am certainly thankful for health and well being for each of us. I am thankful for a great Legion Auxiliary and all the helpful volunteers.

At the last meeting we had our memorial service for our Auxiliary members who have passed on. It was a great experience and very good remembrance of all past members.

We were pleased to have with us at our meeting Kelli Mader, 7th District President and Sarah Rick, 7th District Membership. Thank you for the support and information so we can get our membership up to where it should be. We are not at our quota at this time. So if any of you members have not yet sent in your dues PLEASE do so ASAP! IT is of the utmost importance to keep our memberships up-to-date to keep us in good standing. We have a great post and unit and would really like to see us at 100%!

We value all of you and welcome you back to the meetings! There is so much good going on and it is wonderful to help out the troops, vets and families. It is very rewarding to see members help out and see what good we are doing for so many people! Plus we reward with the bowling and golf outings, and other legion functions. We have a good time and it is a good way to meet new people and reconnect with old acquaintances.

A thank you to Heather Wallace and all the volunteers and donations for the Halloween party held at the Legion. It was a good turn out and a lot of FUN! Thank you!

The Auxiliary has donated again this year to the Holiday Love Lights for the Hospice Touch being held at the Tomah Memorial Hospital on Sunday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m.

The Auxiliary also matched the Legion donation for the candy and float entered in the Holiday parade on November 28th.

We would like to send our thoughts & prayers to Toni Palmer, our Second Vice. Toni has been out ill for some time. We wish you the very best, Toni! Please take a moment to include her in your prayers. Thank you!

Hope to see you at the next meeting on December 11th at 7:30 p.m.

Keep our veterans and their troops and their families in your thoughts and prayers. There is an everyday commitment, not just seasonal.

God Bless America, United We Stand!!

LORI GOLDBECK
Auxiliary President



Upcoming Dates

NOV 2008

- 27 Thanksgiving
- 30 Packer Party (Bar opens at 11:00)

DEC 2008

- 5 Legion Fish Fry
- 6 I-Dividers Christmas Party
- 7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 7 Packer Party (Bar Opens at 11:00)
- 8 War Declared on Japan (1941)
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 11 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:30 p.m.)
- 11 Germany and Italy Declared War on U.S. (1941)
- 14 KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY (2:00-4:00)
- 14 Packer Party (Bar opens at 11:00)
- 15 Bill of Rights Day
- 20 Johnson Christmas
- 21 WINTER BEGINS
- 22 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 25 CHRISTMAS
- 26 Anger Wedding Reception
- 28 Packer Party (Bar opens at 11:00)
- 31 Official End of WWII (1946)

JAN 2009

Make a note-the fish fry is on the 9th this month.

- 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!
- 3 Dettinger Wedding
- 8 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:30 p.m.)
- 9 Legion Fish Fry
- 17 Persian Gulf War Began (1991)
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr Day
- 20 INAUGURATION DAY
- 26 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 27 Spaghetti Feed (starts 4:30 p.m.)
- 27 Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)

WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND HAPPY 2009!!!