



POST 201 INFORMER

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



VOLUME 29, ISSUE 6

1 Feb 2010

2009 - 2010 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

2009 - 2010 Aux Officers

President: Lori Goldbeck
1st Vice: Helene Stein
2nd Vice: Toni Palmer
Secretary: Laura Hubert
Treasurer: Rita Steffel
Chaplain: Evelyn Noyes
Sunshine / Hospital: Velma Lutz
Sgt at Arms: Kym Meltesen

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From the COMMANDER

Hello once again. I can't believe another month has come and gone. I must admit though it has been a very busy time for the Post. The weather has been holding out and I'm thinking that even though it seems pretty nice out I'm sure some of our snowbirds will be heading south and warm up. Let's wish them a safe journey.

I always try to remember to thank all the wonderful volunteers that have made this Post what it is today and this article isn't any different. I would like to thank Pete and Trudy Peterson for putting on a great dinner party for the volunteers on the 21st of January at the Ground Round in Tomah. The food was excellent and the company was even better. The Post couldn't function without the support of all the dedicated volunteers who work hard and sacrifice their time to the community that we live in. I'm not just talking about the Legion either, the Post has members that volunteer their time at places like the VA, the Senior Center and the Tomah Hospital just to name a few. I am honored to work alongside of men and women of your caliber. Thank you all so much.

There is groundwork being laid at this time to get a golf tournament together to raise funds for the Tomah Veterans Memorial. I believe that this is a just and good cause. Not just because it honors the area veterans, but this endeavor allows the community to come together to work together for a common cause. Anytime you have such an opportunity it allows a community to grow and become a much tighter knit community. I would challenge the City of Tomah to come together on this project, get to know each other and work together so that future generations of Tomah citizens, her sons and daughters will always remember those who served.

The 32nd BDE is home from a long deployment overseas. They went through their demobilization briefings at Fort McCoy. The 7th District has been up there for the last 2 weeks with coffee and water and soda so the troops have plenty to drink while they go through their briefings and putting on lunch prior to their trip back home. Sparta Post 100 was instrumental in their assistance, keeping things cold, hauling cases and cases out to Fort McCoy and cooking. I would like to thank Jay Lewis for his help on this endeavor. (Page 2)

WEBSITE UPDATE - We've had 1546 visitors as of Sept 1st. 2008. The address is www.tomahwilegion.org . Check it out on occasion and see what we've been doing.

From the COMMANDER (Cont)

Our Post hosted the 7th District Oratorical Competition on the 17th of January. There were some very deserving young men and women here that day. I must admit though with 8 counties and 53 Posts within the 7th District that there were only 3 contestants. Jackson County took 1st place, Vernon County took 2nd, and La Crosse County took 3rd. This is a program for our High School students to learn more about our constitution and practice public speaking and move up through the program all the way to nationals. It would seem to me that more people would want to get involved with this program with first place at nationals being \$18,000.00 second place \$16,000.00 and third being \$14,000.00. Let's use these programs to help our students make a difference. I would like to thank the people who volunteered to be judges for our competition, Tom Flock, Wes Revels, Marlon Mee, Cindy Zahrte and Cindy Best. Thank you all so much for your time and assistance.

The 7th District Bowling Tournament is coming up, Feb 13-14 and Feb 20-21, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Loyal. If you are interested, please call the Post and leave a message (608) 372-6028. The 2010 Department State Bowling Tournament will be held in Shawano, WI. Further information is listed in the Adjutant News. Information and entry forms can also be found on the Wisconsin American Legion website www.wilegion.org

The Lincoln Pilgrimage is coming up, February 11-12 at Springfield, IL. If you are interested, you can contact Chris Schmidt at (608) 745-1090. This is the 76th Annual National American Legion Pilgrimage to the Tomb of Abraham Lincoln.

It would seem our membership numbers have slowed drastically. Our goal is 490 members and for the 3rd week in a row we are at 407. This gives us an 83.06%. If you know of anyone that might be interested in becoming a member, have them fill out an application or call the post and leave a message.

Let us always remember and never forget that the cost of freedom is high, not only to our service members but even more so to the friends and families that love them. Let them know when you see them that you appreciate their sacrifices and remember to thank them for their service. Veda, I know you are one very happy and proud mom! Welcome home SGT Frank and thank you!

CALVIN MARCELLIS
Commander

From the ADJUTANT

The 83rd Annual Wisconsin State American Legion Bowling Tournament is being sponsored by S.A.L. Squadron 117 and American Legion Post 117 in Shawano, WI.

Tournament Opens: March 6, 2010 and Closes: April 25, 2010. Entries received after Midnight Feb. 18th will not be listed in schedule book. Note: No Bowling Easter Weekend - April 3rd and 4th.

All American Legion members (male and female, all ages) and all Sons of The American Legion members (provided they are 18 years of age or older) are encouraged to participate in the tournament.

From the ADJUTANT (Cont)

Troop and Family support continues to remain an important focus of the Department. We have been reaching out in many different ways to help those deployed and those returning. The Wisconsin American Legion has had a large presence at Fort McCoy this month assisting with the demobilization efforts of the 32nd Infantry.

Many members of the Legion Family have volunteered to assist with this effort and members of the community, including corporate sponsors, have stepped up to the plate to lend support. Please take a look at the Letter to the Editor the Legion commander had published in the Wisconsin State Journal and the fundraiser coming up at Sobelman's to see some of the other activities we are engaged in to support our troops and their families. You can help by making a secure online credit card donation to the Troop and Family Support Fund at <http://wilegion.org/howcanyouhelp/>. We are also in need of volunteers to help out at Fort McCoy over the next couple of weeks and at their local armories over the next few months. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kathie at info@wilegion.org or (608) 745-1090. **This is a wonderful opportunity for individuals running for Department office to demonstrate leadership and I encourage you to get involved either at Fort McCoy or at your local armory.**



Are you looking for a really unique, fun winter event in one of Wisconsin's most scenic locations? How about something filled with thrills for participants - but that is safe for spectators! Something that you could see at the Winter Olympics - if you could get a ticket! And, it's something that's FREE FOR VETERANS and their families!!! **On February 5 and 6 at the Snowflake Ski Club near Westby, WI, 25 miles southeast of LaCrosse, over 25 male ski jumpers from Norway, Finland, Poland and across the US will gather to compete in the 88th Annual Snowflake Ski Jumping Tournament. The US Women's Ski Jumping Team has been invited to attend as well.** All jumps will be on a "118 meter hill" - meaning the hill meets the same engineering specifications that are used in Olympic competition. Competition will begin at 7:00 p.m. Friday evening - jumping at night with lighting will add an exciting and unique venue! Saturday's competition will begin at 12:30. Results of both competitions will be used to determine winners. For the third year in a row, the Ski Club with the assistance of Logistics Health Incorporated (a LaCrosse based company that processes medical claims for many active duty military personnel and veterans) is admitting all veterans and their spouses at no charge upon display of a DD Form 214 or membership card in the American Legion or VFW. If you are serving on active duty, are an active member of the National Guard or Reserves, or are a retiree of any of these components, you and your spouse and children will be admitted free. Just present an ID card at the gate. Normal admission is \$20 per person for the weekend.

In addition to ski jumping, there will be opportunities for children to sled on smaller hills and dig in a large snow pile for over \$100 in quarters. An excellent food stand will provide refreshments both days. This is a great winter festival for the entire family. Check out the following website for pictures, a map, admission fees and an exciting YouTube video: www.snowflakeskiclub.com.

If you have not paid your Legion dues yet please do. We are around 85% and would love to be 100 % for Post 201. If you know any Legion member that is sick or deceased please make sure you contact the Post so that they can update the rosters and get cards out to the families.

IN GOD WE TRUST!!!
MICHAEL SCHOENY
Adjutant



VOITURE 40et8

For our members that haven't paid their dues, please mail them in and I'll mail your 2010 card back to you ASAP. If you find a Legionnaire that you feel would make a good Voiture, let us know and we will send you the nomination forms.

ERROL MROTEK
Correspondent

BAR/HALL MANAGER

Please remind all your friends and family to call the legion to book for their special events early! It is a great place to have a party! Call Dave Goldbeck @ 374-4180 to book now!!

DAVE GOLDBECK
2nd Vice Commander

FINANCE REPORT

Checkbook Balance as of Oct 1, 2009: \$8533.33
Checkbook Balance as of Oct 31, 2009: \$7183.77
CD Balances (end of Oct): \$16,872.34
Fish Fry Tips (end of Oct): \$947.00

VINCENT ROWAN
Finance Officer

**1st Vice**

No Report

SCOTT JOHNSON
1st Vice
Honor Guard
Quartermaster

Honor Guard

No Report

RAY FREDRICKSON
Chairman Honor Guard

UPCOMING DATES**FEB 2010**

- 5 Legion Fish Fry
- 11 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:00 p.m.)
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 President's Day
- 19 Battle of Iwo Jima begins (1945)
- 20 John Glenn 1st U.S. Orbit of Earth (1962)
- 22 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 23 Desert Storm Ground War begins (1991)
- 27 Desert Storm Ground War ends (100 hrs)

MAR 2010

- 5 Legion Fish Fry
- 7 US Invasion over Bridge at Remagen (1945)
- 11 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:00 p.m.)
- 14 Daylight Saving Time begins (set clocks forward 1 hr)
- 17 St Patrick's Day
- 19 Operation Iraqi Freedom begins (2003)
- 20 First Day of Spring
- 22 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 28 Palm Sunday



AUXILIARY NEWS

Well here we are, another "New Year" "New Beginnings"!!!

We are looking for more members to join us at the meetings. The meetings are held every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Now is the time to come see what is going on and what is new with the Auxiliary. What a great way to show your support. Also if you have not paid your dues, Please send them in now. It would be greatly appreciated! We are at 68% and would love to get to 100% this year!

Three ladies were recognized for recruiting. Thank you to Betty Schreier, Zetta Fredrickson and Lori Goldbeck.

The Auxiliary will hold a 50/50 raffle at the February fish fry to help support our funds.

Please also note that you still have time to submit your ideas for the inscription to go on the Veterans Memorial plaque for the Auxiliary. Come to the next meeting and bring your ideas and bring another fellow Auxiliary member with you too!! We are always looking for new ideas and input.

February 7-13 is National Hospital Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. They are looking for volunteers. There are many activities planned. Not all volunteer hours are during the daytime. Also, the Valentine's Dance is Feb 10th, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Again, volunteers are needed to push wheelchairs. You can contact Laura Bishop at 372-1727.

They are also looking for volunteers for the Creative Arts Festival that will be held at the Tomah VA Medical Center this year. There are several ways to help with this. Please call Jean Calhoun at 372-1262 for information.

Don't forget to keep tally of your home service hours and field service hours.

National President Rita Navarrete suggests members can celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary throughout the year. The celebration of the Auxiliary's 90 years of service will have its grand finale at the National Convention in Milwaukee in August 2010. Circle August 27-Sept 2nd 2010 on your calendars. The graphic for the 90th Anniversary Pin is available on the National website, www.legion-aux.org home page, top bar, national leaders tab, national president and scroll down.

We are encouraged to use the 90th Anniversary Pin graphics, to use the tagline "Celebrating 90 Years of Service Not self, for Veterans, God and Country".

An early note, the Auxiliary is planning their Spring Fling for April 17th this year. We are open to all crafters & vendors. So if you are interested in a booth contact Helene Stein at 372-6496.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting February 11th.

Reminder, if you wish to send in a donation toward the Auxiliary plaque at the Veterans Memorial site, please send it to: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 201, Attn: Veteran Memorial Fund, PO Box 306, Tomah, WI 54660. THANK YOU!

We Serve Because They Serve
GOD Bless America
LORI GOLDBECK

MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT

Held Tuesdays 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Sparta - 1st Tuesday of each month

American Legion Post 100, 1116 Angelo Road

Black River Falls - 2nd Tuesday of each month

National Guard Armory, 441 Highway 54 W

Tomah - 3rd Tuesday of each month

American Legion Post 201, 800 Wisconsin Avenue

La Crosse - 4th Tuesday of each month

American Legion Post 52, 711 S 6th Street

This meeting is for Family members of Soldiers who are preparing for deployment, who are presently deployed or who have returned from deployment.

This open process meeting will provide a time for family members to share their experiences and provide an opportunity for others to gain greater insight, possible solutions and caring support.

You need not be a military dependent to attend; parents, adult children, siblings and close friends are welcome. Attendees must be 18 years or older.

For more information, contact Fort McCoy Army Community Service, (608) 388-3505 or (800) 982-3585, ext 3505

