



POST 201 INFORMER

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



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1 Jan 2009

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

November is gone, December is here, and the spirit of Christmas is thick in the air. The Holiday Parade was an inspiring site. The Post had three entries this year; The Honor Guard led off with the colors; the float was behind Mayor Thompson and the Tomah Hockey players, and Larry had his bike in there also to show off the Legion Riders. The Float if you haven't seen it is on the Post website at www.tomahwilegion.org. Stop by and look at some of the things going on down at the Post. The Kids Christmas Party was on the 14th of Dec. I sure do enjoy watching those young kids making cookies and playing games and then Santa walks in and they forget everything else in the room. This is definitely a magical time of year. What I'm being longwinded about saying is we do so much for our local community and although that can be a lot of work it makes you feel good about who we are and what we do. If you don't want to come down to a meeting at least pick one thing that you enjoy that you truly love and get involved.

The Mid-Winter convention will soon be upon us, 16-18 January 2009. If you are interested in going please contact our Post Adjutant Mike Schoeny. Information for Mid-Winter is on the department website at www.wilegion.org.

The Spaghetti Suppers were cancelled for Nov and Dec due to all the activities going on and the holidays, as well as the January Fish Fry has been moved to Jan 9th instead of the 2nd. Packer parties are doing well. I know Dave and Lori put a lot of work in on those. Paying \$5.00 for all you can eat home cooking, you can't beat it.

I normally take the time and thank everyone for their hard work and dedication, this time is no different other than I would like to mention my personal appreciation for Linda Johnson and her folks down at Johnson Oil. Without their huge sacrifice of some really awesome equipment and time in their building our Post would not have been able to put on the float for the Holiday Parade. Linda Thank you so much, Kelly you are truly one in a million.

As always keep our troops first and foremost in our hearts and prayers. Thank them when you see them. Think of their families and help them to understand that we know what they are going through and that we will be there for them if we are needed. For they are our brothers and our sisters, and together we are family!!!

CALVIN MARCELLIS
Commander

WEBSITE UPDATE - We've had 711 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

The Post has 3 new members: Steven Schoeny, Eric Frank, and David Nance. We wish Albert Rhodes a quick recovery who is at the V.A. with pneumonia.

In the 12th and 11th grade we have Steven Cox and Zach Allen who placed high on the Legions Americanism and Government test program.

I want to thank everybody that donated to the Operation Homefront that was sponsored by the Monroe Tavern League.

In Monroe County, the lowest tavern donation was \$2.00 and the highest donation of \$272 came from POST 201. This money goes to Operation Homefront and is used to support Wisconsin National Guard Families while their loved ones are activated.

Legion Launches VetCam for Families of Military Vet: Military troops deployed overseas can now use their webcams to talk with their families back home without having to download software packages that might not pass muster with command cyber net security requirements. The American Legion has launched "VetCam," a free webcam service that enables U.S. military service members and veterans to talk face-to-face on their personal computers with friends and family simply by registering as a user. Once registered, each user can connect with two webcams and use the service 24/7 from anyplace that has Internet connection. "Webcam technology has been around for a while, but many required downloading software to make them work," said David K. Rehbein, National Commander of The American Legion. "We want our troops, our veterans, and their families to be able to enjoy the pleasure of talking face-to-face with their loved ones anywhere in the world, with just a couple of mouse clicks. Next to actually being there, seeing and talking with your spouse and kids, mom and dad, and best friends are morale boosters prior generations of veterans never had." To initiate the service, a user will need a webcam or a computer with a built in webcam. Then, just go to www.legion.org, click on VetCams, register and start communicating. Once registered, simply log in at any time to connect.

WISCONSIN VIETNAM STORIES PROJECT TO LAUNCH SOON

A wide-spanning statewide effort to honor Wisconsin Vietnam veterans will be officially launched soon. The *Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories* project began with the planning and production of a three-part documentary series produced by Wisconsin Public Television (WPT) and continues to grow in size and scope. The project now includes a proposed event coinciding with the documentary's premiere in 2010 to recognize and celebrate the efforts of Wisconsin's Vietnam veterans. Similar in format to the award-winning WPT projects *Wisconsin WWII Stories* and *Wisconsin Korean War Stories*, the *Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories* documentary will allow Wisconsin veterans to tell their stories in their own words, sharing experiences and memories from the war and their return home. Partners of the *Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories* project are working on several statewide outreach campaigns to identify and acknowledge Vietnam veterans in their home communities.

Production of the *Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories* documentary is in progress with producer Mik Derks interviewing veterans throughout Wisconsin. Other aspects of the project already underway include a companion book to the documentary, a centralized *Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories* project Web site, a school curriculum and a traveling portrait exhibit of Vietnam veterans.

An advisory board with representatives from many veterans' organizations has been created to begin planning. Members of the committee presently include the Vietnam Veterans of America-Wisconsin State Council, the CVSOs, the Disabled American Veterans, the Wisconsin National Guard, the Gold Star Families of Reaching Out, Being There, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and The American Legion of Wisconsin. The advisory group has already met to discuss proposed ideas for a premiere weekend event and will meet again in February 2009.

Sometimes it's important to remember The American Legion is not only the nation's largest veterans service organization, but we are also the largest Vietnam Veterans Organization and the largest Persian Gulf Veterans Organization. Here are the current figures on The American Legion's membership. A useful tool for recruiting members.

Active 08 and 09

WWI 1, WWII 558,514, Merchant Marine 2,663, Korea 516,608, Vietnam 987,587, Lebanon/Grenada 102,450, Panama 42,244, Persian Gulf 158,911, Unknown 286,913, Total 2,655,891

MICHAEL SCHOENY
Adjutant

VOITURE 40et8

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

ERROL MROTEK
Correspondent

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.

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!

Don't forget our last Packer Sunday is December 28th. Would like to thank those who joined us and thank Lori for providing the great food.

DAVE GOLDBECK
2nd Vice Commander

FINANCE REPORT

Checkbook Balance as of Nov 1, 2008: \$6711.68
Checkbook Balance as of Nov 30, 2008: \$7140.69
CD Balance: \$22,339.65
Tips: \$330.00

VINCENT ROWAN
Finance Officer



1st Vice

Greetings and salutations to all of our members. I hope everyone has a great holiday and new year. New Year, that speaks of New Year's resolutions. I have more than a few to work on this year. Mid-winter Convention is coming up for anyone that would like to learn about the inner workings of the legion at a state level. Educating and mentoring our younger members is the key to long term success of the Legion. Keep the communication channels open. Once again, have a great New Year.

SCOTT JOHNSON
1st Vice
Honor Guard Quartermaster

Honor Guard

I want to thank everyone who attended the Holiday parade and those Legion members that rode on our float this year. A big thanks goes out to the members of the Honor Guard who marched in the parade that night. I want to give personal thanks to the following members for participating in this years parade, Jay Lewis, Scott Johnson, Mike Schoeny, Hilary Johnson, and Robert Anthony. A very special thank you to JewelMarie and Jay Johnson for carrying our banner this year.

The Honor Guard will be doing more things in the year to come along with our 2nd annual SportsPersons Night Out.

I want to invite any member that wants to see what the Honor Guard is all about to attend one of our meetings. We meet the 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Legion.

RAY FREDRICKSON
Chairman Honor Guard



AUXILIARY NEWS

Hope you all had a very "Merry Christmas" and we wish you a safe "New Year"!!! It is hard to believe that we are going into a new year already! Boy where does the time go? I am looking forward to a new year filled with good health, prosperity and happiness as I wish the same to all of you!

Last meeting, Angela Modjeski gave a presentation on her and Nicole's experiences at Badger State girls. The two were chosen last year by the auxiliary. Angela thanked the Auxiliary for giving them the opportunity to attend. The Auxiliary pays for this and gives each girl \$25.00 for spending money. Angela said it was a very busy schedule and a good learning experience. They also had the opportunity to meet a lot of new people. She is willing to share her information with the two girls chosen this year. Thank you Angela and sorry Nicole was unable to attend. She did send her apologies.

The craft sale was down this year. I'm sad to say we did not have as many booths this year. I do want to thank all the crafters who had a booth with us and all the volunteers for all their work that day. I would also like to thank the euchre players for supporting us. Hope to have a lot of vendors next year. Again thanks to ALL!

I am pleased to say that Toni made it to the meeting. It was nice to see her doing well. I am also pleased to say that our membership is up since last meeting. PLEASE if you have not paid your dues PLEASE do so ASAP! **THANK YOU!!!** If you have not been to a meeting lately now is a great time to come and see what's new and what we are involved in. It is a great organization and you should be proud to be part of it.

It was brought up that the VA is in need of volunteers for all different areas. So if you can help please do.

Our Historian Bonnie has put a book together. She has all the legion events posted with pictures. She is doing a really nice job. If you have a chance be sure to take a look!

It was voted on that we order 10 backpacks for each age category 3-8 & 9-18. These are for the HERO Backpacks for Operation Military children. Once we get the backpacks we will see what we need to add to each one. We will then give them to our local Operation Homefront to be sent to the children of soldiers overseas.

The Children's Christmas party was Sunday, December 14th. I think all the little ones had a good time. Thanks Santa for being there! Thank you so much Heather and your 3 young ladies for putting together a great Christmas party for the kids. I would also like to thank Helen, Veda and Rita for all your help! And thank you Calvin for finding Santa for us!!!

I want to express our congratulations to Evelyn Noyes for her 45 years of dedicated public service with the Juneau County Veterans office located in Mauston. She received a very nice plaque for recognition of her services.
"CONGRATULATIONS"

Again I want to THANK ALL the volunteers for ALL your help throughout the year with different events! If not for you we would not have an Auxiliary. I also want to thank all who have helped me as President.

"HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR"

God Bless America, United We Stand!!

LORI GOLDBECK

Auxiliary President

DEC 2008

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.)

28 Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)

FEB 2009

1 National Freedom Day

2 Groundhog Day

6 Legion Fish Fry

8 Boy Scouts of America Founded (1910)

12 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:30 p.m.)

14 VALENTINE'S DAY

14 Lincoln's Birthday

16 President's Day

16 Washington's Birthday Observed

23 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00p.m.)

24 Spaghetti Feed (starts 4:30 p.m.)

