



POST 201 INFORMER

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



VOLUME 28, ISSUE 9

1 May 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

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

COMMANDER'S NOTES

The summer is almost upon us. That means election time at the Post. I cannot believe it has been a year already. I guess in thinking about it we have done some considerable changes to the Post. The kitchen and kitchen equipment has been thoroughly gone over and cleaned and updated. This has cost a quite a bit of money but I do believe in the end it has been worth the effort. We have slowly been on a gradual decline in the checkbook over the past 5 years. I think it is time to try and open up the doors to our building to raise some income. As you know it is hard to support the community in the fashion we are accustomed to if there are no funds with which to do it with.

I am looking into organizing a post entertainment committee in the hopes of bringing the checkbook back up to a point where we were about 4 or 5 years ago. If you are interested in being on the entertainment committee give me a call at (608) 387-0730. I think a few like-minded people with a specific goal is the key to bringing the Post back to where it should be. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Also, please remember that after the elections there are no meetings scheduled for July and August with the exception of the E-board. If I am elected I do plan on having E-board meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Since we do not have membership meetings over those months I would like to have open E-board meetings so that there is a channel in place for members to bring any issues before the E-board. I feel this would also be a great learning experience for newer members who have not yet held a position within the Post.

As Flag Day is fast approaching I thought this would be a great time to remind everyone that the American Legion does accept flags for retirement. Our Post has a flag drop receptacle at the Post outside the double doors next to our flagpole. If anyone needs to retire their flag after years of faithful and selfless service please stop by and drop her off and we will take care of her from there. We also have flags for sale to replace your old, torn or tattered flags. Call the Post and leave a message and we will get back to you.

There are some important events going on over the summer months and since we do not put the informer out over those months I would like to quickly mention a few of those dates now.

May 8-9, 2009	Dept. Spring Meetings	Dept. HQ. Portage
May 16, 2009	Armed Forces Day	Show your support
May 25, 2009	Memorial Day	Watch your calendar for local events
June 13-20, 2009	Badger Boys State	Ripon College
June 14, 2009	Flag Day	Give a friend a flag to fly with pride
June 27, 2009	7 th District Golf Outing	Holiday Lodge (hosted by Post 201)

Keep our service men and women in our thoughts and prayers, and thank them everyday.

CALVIN MARCELLIS
Commander

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WEBSITE UPDATE - We've had 995 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

Post 201 is still not at 100 %. Please get your membership dues in.

Put the following link in your browser on your computer and you will see our WWII VETERANS at the WWII memorial in Washington DC. CLICK the Link to read this message in your browser: If clicking doesn't work, copy the line above and paste it into your browser window <http://www.ne16.com/t/8993406/118824663/51371515/0/> .

For the second year, Fred Scheer's Lumberjack Village in Hayward is honoring the veterans of our country over Memorial Day weekend. Veterans are invited to enjoy a free 18-hole round of Mini-Golf and free admission to the Scheer's Lumberjack Show. No strings attached! The Lumberjack Village Mini-Golf is open all weekend 10:00 a.m.- 10:00 p.m. Friday through Sunday and 10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. on Monday and the Lumberjack Show is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 24. Veterans will be acknowledged at the Lumberjack Show to thank them for their service to our country.

Here is a message from American Legion Commander:

We are coming down to the end of our effective membership year. I know there are Departments that are out there working hard because they believe the next target at 95% is within reach. Unfortunately I also suspect there are also Departments who believe that this year's target is out of reach and are beginning to give up. Only you know which side of the line your Department is on. We won a big battle in Washington two weeks ago and helped shield our injured and ill comrades from having to worry about the effect their disability was having on the financial and physical health of their family. Please ask yourself if you think we would have won that battle if we didn't have nearly 4 Million members in the American Legion family. Would our voice have been strong enough to lead that effort if we were at 1.5 million Legionnaires instead of the 2.6 million we had last year? Would we have been able to pull together the resources quickly enough to fight that battle if our membership had been allowed to fall, if the leadership of ten years ago had decided to coast at the end of their year. My own home Department of Iowa won a similar battle concerning the reorganization of our state veterans' affairs department and the Iowa Veterans Home. That was also a battle that was won on the strength of the membership and the ability of the leadership to respond quickly because the resources were there ready to hand since the Department has worked hard to keep their membership up.

Our greatest battle right now is against apathy and pessimism. Each time a Legionnaire says "We are a dying organization", we take one more step down the road to actually being a dying organization. Use the example of the blast two weeks to help convince those reluctant to renew why it is important that they do, how they can help their comrades by renewing and helping keep us strong to fight the next battle. It has been a great year, one I will never forget. Now let's finish it strong. Let's make sure that when we hand off the leadership role to each of our successors that The American Legion is stronger than when we took on these jobs. We can do that best by continuing to lead, not by starting to coast. I will see you down the road somewhere, stay safe in your travels.

Operation Homefront needs your donations for the Troops overseas. We have over 3500 Wisconsin Troops in harms way. There are collection boxes at Burnstads, Senior Center, J&R Variety Store and Walmart. Volunteers meet at the Tomah VA every 3rd Tues from 1-4 to pack boxes that go to our Wisconsin troops. Just to name a few, the following items are needed and you can put them in the boxes at the locations mentioned above. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, bars of soap, hand sanitizer, lotion, deodorant shaving cream, shampoo, conditioner, candy, batteries, trail mix, beef jerky, gum, writing paper, and Pringles.

MICHAEL SCHOENY

Adjutant

VOITURE 40et8

I'm glad to hear that most of our winter birds have migrated back home for the summer. We missed you.

We're at a start of a new year and the new cards are in. Our membership is way behind last year's. Please send in your membership dues and I will see about getting your new card back to you. If you find a Legionnaire that you think would be a good Voiture, let us know and we will send you the nomination form.

Our next promenade will be May 29, 2009 at the Laxton Ranch.

ERROL MROTEK
Correspondent

1st Vice

No Report

SCOTT JOHNSON
1st Vice
Honor Guard
Quartermaster

Honor Guard

No Report

RAY FREDRICKSON
Chairman Honor Guard

BAR/HALL MANAGER

Please note anyone interested in using the Hall or Bar area must book with the Bar Manager.

It is that time of year again so the calendar is filling up fast. Just call the Bar Manager today to reserve your special date. Please pass the word the Legion is a great place to have your special occasion. Plenty of room and benefits.

DAVE GOLDBECK
2nd Vice Commander

UPCOMING DATES

MAY 2009

- 1 Legion Fish Fry
- 8 V-E Day (1945)
- 10 MOTHER'S DAY
- 14 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:30 p.m.)
- 15 Peace Officers Memorial Day
- 16 Armed Forces Day
- 18 Veterans Association Meeting followed by **FLAGS AT CEMETERY**
- 25 Memorial Day (Observed)
- 30 Brandau Graduation

JUNE 2009

- 11 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings after 5:30 potluck
- 13 Larson Wedding
- 14 Clark Graduation
- 20 Modjeski (Goldbeck) Graduation
- 27 LEGION GOLF OUTING

FINANCE REPORT

Checkbook Balance as of Mar 1, 2009: \$686.47
 Checkbook Balance as of Mar 31, 2009: \$1277.78
 CD Balances (end of Mar): \$16,585.29 (cashed CD for \$6042.58)
 Fish Fry Tips (end of Mar): \$599.00

VINCENT ROWAN
Finance Officer



AUXILIARY NEWS

Don't miss our Spring Fling on Saturday, May 2nd, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There will be basket raffles, lunch is available and there will be a euchre tournament in the bar at noon. For those of you who wish to donate baked goods you can drop them off at Friday night's fish fry or Saturday morning.

We still need people for POPPY distribution. Please call Helene Stein before May 1st.

I would like to thank all the volunteers for helping out with the Good Friday Fish Fry. The Auxiliary had a 50/50 raffle and Lori Goldbeck was the winner. Treasurer Rita Steffel drew the name and verified funds. Congratulations Lori and thank you everyone for the donations to the Auxiliary Scholarship Fund in Memory of Doris Preuss.

The nominating committee announced that the current officer names will be submitted for reelection. We will be voting in May so please plan on attending the meeting. You can still become an Auxiliary officer; contact Bonnie Owen, Kym Meltesen or Rita Steffel.

Please plan to attend the next meeting on May 14th. Hope to see you all there and to see many new faces! Along with installation of officers, we are planning a potluck for the June meeting. Time will be announced in next Informer.

We will be meeting at 6:00 on May 18th to place Auxiliary flags at the Oak Grove Cemetery. Please come and help us honor our deceased members.

God Bless America, United We Stand!!!

LORI GOLDBECK

Auxiliary President



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

OPERATION MILITARY KIDS

Supporting Wisconsin Military Youth

SUPER SUMMER CAMP SPECTACULAR

CAMP UPHAM WOODS, WISCONSIN DELLS

August 23-25, 2009

Grades 3-5

3 day/2 night camp

August 26-29, 2009

Grades 6-9

4 day/3 night camp

Camp costs are covered by the Operation Military Kids Program, but there is a registration fee of \$25 to reserve your space. Hardships and special circumstances will be handled on an individual basis.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 10, 2009

For more information and application materials

Visit: www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/omk

Call: (608) 647-6148

E-mail: pamela.hobson@ces.uwex.edu

Laura.pettersen@ces.uwex.edu

The camp is open to all military dependents, but those youth who have a family member deployed between October 2007 and October 2009 will have priority.