



# POST 201 INFORMER

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



VOLUME 31, ISSUE 2

1 OCT 2011

## 2010-2011 Legion Officers

Commander: Pete Peterson  
Adjutant: Gloria Aarness  
1st Vice: Todd Steffel  
2nd Vice: Dave Goldbeck  
3rd Vice: Casey Harp  
Finance Officer: Vince Rowan  
Chaplain: Bill Rice  
Service Officer: John Hubert  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Lamont Dechant  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Calvin Marcellis  
Historian: Vacant

## 2011-2012 Auxiliary Officers

President: Lori Goldbeck  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Pat Flanders  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Helene Stein  
Secretary: Michelle Kudlacik  
Treasurer: Rita Steffel  
Chaplain: Evelyn Noyes  
Hospital/Sunshine: Velma Lutz  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Betty Scherer  
Historian: Sue Prielipp

## FROM THE COMMANDER

Last month in my commander's comments I raised two questions. The first question was "How do we increase hall rentals?" The second question was "How do we increase membership?"

Those questions are being addressed by committees I have appointed. The activities committee has met and reported back on some ideas to increase hall rentals and possible future events. It will take some time to notice an increase in rentals. The first event the Legion is looking at is a dance on November 12<sup>th</sup>. More information will be forthcoming in next month's Informer.

As of this date, the membership committee has not met. They intended to meet at last month's Legion meeting but unfortunately we did not have a quorum and did not have our regularly scheduled meeting. The committee will meet at the conclusion of the October meeting. I think we all know membership is an issue that is everyone's responsibility. I urge those who do attend the Legion meetings to bring a friend.

This brings me to a third question. Where is everybody? **To not have a meeting for lack of a quorum just isn't right.** I realize the Packer's played their season opener that night, but a post with a membership of 400 people ought to be able to entice 15 people to attend. The lack of enthusiasm in the post is obvious. Yet at the same time when it appears that we might want to sell or rent the post building post to someone, more than 30 people attended and responded with a loud and overall sentiment of don't sell or rent the building.

## **Inside this issue:**

<b>Commander's Notes</b>	1
<b>Web Site Update</b>	1
<b>Adjutant's Notes</b>	2
<b>Auxiliary News</b>	3
<b>Financial Report</b>	4
<b>Bar/Hall Manager</b>	4
<b>Upcoming Dates</b>	4

**We need those same people and a whole bunch of others to stand up for the Post.** If you reside within the local area you should be able to attend a meeting to see what is happening now and in the near future. We need your thoughts and ideas. Positive thoughts and ideas are appreciated.

Our first Fish Fry this year will be October 7<sup>th</sup>. Please consider volunteering to help with the effort putting on the fish fry. It takes a lot of work to make a fish fry successful. All in all, it's not hard but it is quite a bit of work. Thank you to all who have been helped in the past. I look forward to seeing you all on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**PETE PETERSON**  
Commander

**WEBSITE UPDATE** - We've had 2935 visitors as of Sept 1st. 2008. The address is [www.tomahwilegion.org](http://www.tomahwilegion.org) . Check it out on occasion and see what we've been doing. Also visit the Auxiliary Web site at [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)

## ADJUTANT

September has been a pretty slow month for me. I only processed 5 membership renewals for 2012. So far I have processed 257 membership renewals for 2012. Our goal is 435 members for the year. If you haven't submitted your dues yet, be prepared to get your 2<sup>nd</sup> notice. They should be coming out soon. There is always a little lag time between when you mail your renewal to me and when state gets them posted, so if you get a 2<sup>nd</sup> notice and you think you have already paid your dues, just give me a call and I can look it up. Last year I had about 50-60 members pay their dues a second time and I had to return their checks to them. It only takes a few minutes to look it up, so give me a call at 372-7243 if you have any questions about the status of your 2012 dues. We have three new members for the month – John A. Stoczynski, Stephen Shumway and John Gerzel. Welcome to Post 201!!! I also processed one “Last Bugle” for Durward Lawrence who passed away August 20<sup>th</sup>. Our sympathy to his family.

Legion meetings have started up again. They are the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Also, Fish Fries begin in October. Fish fries are the first Friday of the Month, serving 5:00 – 7:00 PM. I look forward to seeing you at one or both of these events.

**GLORIA AARNES**  
Adjutant

## VOITURE 804

Greetings from your Voiture. By the time you read this, our PG's would have been wrecked and this will be their first Promenade. It would be nice if we had a good turnout.

We're still looking for someone to fill our Nurses Training Scholarship. If you have someone in mind, tell it to one of our Voitures.

This is a reminder, send in your American Legion dues first, then think about your 40/8 dues. I have to apologize for not informing all of our members as to what we are doing each month. The trouble I'm having is, our promenade is on the third Wednesday of each month and the Informer goes to print on or about the third Thursday.

Remember, your Promenade is at Tomah Legion Post, on the third Wednesday of each month.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE PROMENADE!!!  
**ERROL MROTEK**  
Correspondent

## TOMAH VETERANS MEMORIAL

The dedication ceremony of the Tomah Area Veterans Memorial on September 10<sup>th</sup> was great. From the time the F-16's from the 115<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, Truax Field, WI at 10:45 provided the fly over to begin the ceremony until the ribbon cutting at end; the energy and excitement throughout the audience was very evident and greatly appreciated. The weather for the dedication was beautiful for the crowd of approximately 1000 attendees. The speeches by Tom Flock and retired Major General Blaney were outstanding and very appropriate to the purpose of the memorial.

The committee is thankful of the support by those who had purchased tiles, bricks and made donations to the building of the memorial. We will continue to sell tiles and bricks until the walls are full. If you have recently purchased either a brick or tile we will attempt to have those completed and on the wall as soon as possible.

REMINDER: The price of a 4 x 8 brick is \$100 and the 12 x 12 granite tile is \$250.00. We want to thank everyone again for honoring our Veterans!!!

**JIM STEELE**  
Treasurer  
Tomah Area Veterans Memorial



## AUXILIARY NEWS

Unfortunately I wasn't able to make the September meeting; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pat Flanders presided over the meeting in my absence. There were several items discussed. Our Unit's Annual Fall Craft/Bake Sale is scheduled November 19<sup>th</sup>. *We are asking for donations again for our bake sale.* Everyone always enjoys the home baked goods. Euchre is going to be at noon this year. If you know of anyone interested in having a booth please contact Pat Flanders. We will again have basket or 50/50 raffles at the October and November fish fries. I, Helene Stein and Pat Selke will be providing the baskets for this year's basket raffles.

We are also selling \$25 raffle tickets for a top prize of \$500. There are only 100 tickets being sold and prizes are cash only. There are still plenty of tickets for sale.

The Kids Christmas Party is set for December 4, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Legion/Auxiliary kids/grandkids 10 and under are encouraged to sign up.

**Reminder to those who need to pay their dues. Next goal is 2012 Membership Goal Awards** - Let's work on erasing those "Goose Eggs" and reaching our Milestone of 55% by October 6th. As of September 18, Unit 201 has 93 of 199 (46.73%) paid memberships.

I wasn't able to watch it, but the American Legion Auxiliary was recognized on the NBC Nightly news with Brian Williams which aired Sept 22nd. Hope some of you were able to see it. The recognition included **WI's Unit Member of the Year and four times presented workshops in District 7. We are proud!**

Look forward to seeing everyone at our October 13 meeting.

We Serve Because They Serve

GOD Bless America  
**LORI GOLDBECK**  
Auxiliary President



## BAR/HALL MANAGER

The Legion is now sponsoring a pool league team on the Over 35 league that shoots on Thursday nights. Do not worry; the league can work the schedule around our second Thursday night meeting. The next Informer article will have the dates that our new team will be shooting at the Legion. **The bar will be open for any members to come down and cheer them on**, even though the team we have has always been in the top three every year. Bar will open at 6:00 p.m.

Look in the paper for the dates that Lori and I will have the bar open for the Packer games. The dates that I have for now are Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, the bar will open at 2:00 p.m., which includes a CHILI DUMP. Oct 16 is a noon game; the bar will open at 11:00 a.m. On Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, the bar will open at 2:00 p.m.

Another reminder, do not forget that we have lowered our hall rental charges. If you hear anyone talking about having a special event (weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) have them call the Legion to check for open dates

**DAVE GOLDBECK**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

## FINANCE REPORT

Checkbook Balance as of August 1, 2011: \$1532.96

Checkbook Balance as of August 31, 2011: \$774.39

CD Balances (end of Aug): \$10,538.06

Loan: \$3000.00

**VINCENT ROWAN**  
Finance Officer



## UPCOMING DATES

### OCTOBER 2011

- 2 PACKER PARTY (bar opens 2:00 p.m.)**
- CHILI DUMP**
- 7 FISH FRY** (1<sup>st</sup> One for the New Year)
- 7 Operation Enduring Freedom begins (2001)
- 10 Columbus Day
- 13 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:00 p.m.)**
- 13 US Navy established (1775)
- 16 PACKER PARTY (bar opens 11:00 a.m.)**
- 24 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- 31 Halloween

### NOVEMBER 2011

- 4 FISH FRY**
- 6 Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back 1 Hour)**
- 6 PACKER PARTY (bar opens 2:00 p.m.)**
- 8 Election Day
- 10 US Marine Corps established (1775)
- 10 Legion/Auxiliary Meetings (7:00 p.m.)**
- 11 Veterans Day**
- 13 Vietnam Veterans Memorial dedicated (1982)
- 19 Auxiliary Craft/Bake Sale**
- 24 Thanksgiving
- 28 Honor Guard Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**



## **TOMAH VAMC - HOSPITAL NEEDS**

The following items are put in Welcome Tote Bags delivered to all new inpatient admissions. Approximately 100 tote bags are distributed each month.

Welcome Tote Bags (check pattern book)

"Forever" Postage Stamps	Pens	Small Package of Kleenex
1st Class Stamps/.28 stamps	Plain Envelopes (large & small)	Small Shampoo
Combs	Playing Cards (NEW)	Small Toothpaste
Liquid Soap ONLY	Quarters for Veterans	Socks (crew style)
Pencils	Small Bottle of Hand Lotion	Tootbrushes
	Small Deodorant	Writing Tablets

Items below are those enjoyed and used by Veterans during their hospital stay:

After-shave (alcohol free)	Emery Boards	Peanut Butter Cracker Snacks
All-occasion Cards	Female Personal Hygiene Items	Pocket Novels (esp Westerns)
Artificial Lures (casting-any variety)	Frozen Pizza	Polident or Efferdent
Body Wash	Fruit	Pre-shave (for electric shavers- alcohol free)
Bread Machine Mixes	Gloves	Puzzle Books (NEW, esp large print)
Checkers & Domino Sets (NEW)	Golf Balls (new & used)	Reading Glasses
Cheese & Cracker snacks	Graham Crackers	Scarves
Coffee (regular & decaf)	Handkerchiefs	Shampoo (large bottles)
Coffee Creamer	Hard Candy	Shaving Cream
Cookies	Headphones	Shoelaces
Crackers	Jelly	Slippers (various sizes, esp XL)
Crossword & Word Search	Jigsaw Puzzles (NEW)	Stocking Caps
Puzzle Books (NEW esp Large Print)	Lap Robes (see pattern book)	Sugar-free Hot Chocolate Mix
Current Magazines	Liquid Soap ONLY	Sugar-free Kool-Aid
Dictionaries (current edition)	Mouthwash	Sugar-free Lemonade
Disposable Razors	Nail Clippers	Sugar-free Popsicles
Electric Toothbrushes	Peanut Butter	

**CANNOT ACCEPT BAR SOAP, IT MUST BE THE LIQUID SOAP ONLY!!!**

**CANNOT ACCEPT ANY TYPE OF KNIT OR CROCHETED SLIPPERS!!!**

Any of the items can be donated in-kind and in any quantities. They will be distributed accordingly to the patient wards and/or clinics. Monetary donations in any amount are also welcome and items will be purchased according to the needs. Monetary donations should be sent to ALA Headquarters in Portage with a notation if you have a particular need you wish to have your donation go to.

If you do not have a pattern book and need a particular pattern, please let me know and I will send it to you. All in-kind donations should be mailed to:

Veterans Administration Medical Center  
Ms. Patricia Flanders  
American Legion Auxiliary - Bldg 407, Room 1739  
500 E Veterans Street  
Tomah, WI 54660

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!!**