



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



October 2011

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 4



Commander's Message:

The next few months are very critical for our Post. We need to get everyone's dues in before the end of year. The Legion's overall membership is critical as we go to Congress and ask for support for our programs – it is true that strength comes in numbers.

We have the following upcoming events/activities: Saturday October 15th - A much needed work day starting at 8:00 a.m. where we will concentrate on cleaning the inside/outside of our Post before winter. Tuesday October 18th – County Meeting in Stoddard (Starts at 8:00 p.m.) Wednesday October 19th – Meal at 7:30pm with Post Meeting following, Friday November 4th - Pork Feed and Family Fun Night

Wednesday November 9th - County Youth Government Day, Thursday

November 17th - Tomah Night at the Races (Leave Legion at 5:00 pm), Saturday December 3rd - December Raffle - Building Fundraiser, As you can see we will be very busy and need all "hands on deck" to complete our mission of serving are fellow Veterans and our community.

Gary J. Grethel
Commander Post 116

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| October 15th | Clean Up Day at the Legion - 8:00am - Need Volunteers to help!!!!!! |
| October 15th | Cancer Run Walk at Chaseburg |
| October 18th | County Meeting at Stoddard 8:00pm |
| October 19th | Regular Post Meeting: |
| | -Meal at 7:30pm & Meeting at 8:00pm |
| | -Lunch Committee: Fishing' Crew |
| October 29th | SAL 2nd Annual Halloween Party |
| November 2nd | Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00pm |
| November 4th | Pork Feed and Family Fun Night |
| November 7th | Executive Committee Meeting - 6:30pm |
| November 16th | Regular Post Meeting |
| | -Meal at 7:30pm & Meeting at 8:00pm |
| | -Lunch Committee: S.A.L. |
| November 17th | Night at the Races - Tomah VA - meet at hall by 5pm |
| December 3rd | December Raffle Fundraiser and Meal |
| December 5th | Executive Committee Meeting - 6:30pm |

October Newsletter

2011-2012

Last Bugle:

Boob Nelson (Layton)

Jerrold Nestingen

Leonard Jorgenson



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Gary J. Grethel
(608) 452-2261

Adjutant: Michele Stahl
(608) 782-4258

Post 116 Newsletter is published monthly as a service to our members. If you wish to submit an article for a future edition, please contact:
Michele Stahl
(608) 782-4258
for more information.

Mailing Address:

Coon Valley American Legion
Post 116

PO Box 314

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone Contacts:

Legion: (608) 452-3179

Membership Totals to Date

2012 Paid Membership - 136

2012 Membership Goal - 223

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com



Message from S.A.L. Commander : Geoffrey Lenser

Hello. The month of October will be a busy month. The Chaseburg run/walk is on Oct. 15th. Volunteers are needed to run the bean bag tournament which starts at noon. Call me if you can help. The Chaseburg's Haunted Trail is on October 22nd. Volunteers are needed to help scare those who dare to travel along the trail. The 2nd Annual SAL Adult Halloween Party is on October 29th at the Coon Valley Legion Hall. Will hold a costume contest at 10:00 pm. Contact myself if you can volunteer to help. I am looking forward to having lots of fun in October and welcome the younger members to come and volunteer to work at these events. Hope to see you in October. I also encourage all of our members to join on every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Our meeting will follow the Legion meeting. If you need to contact me call me at: 608-698-5434. Thank You.



Message from Auxiliary President : Julie Nelson

A warm hello to all of you. Thanks to all who attended our meeting in October. Once again, we had a great turnout and a great potluck. If you are able to join us next month, please do so. Among other things, we will be planning our December Christmas night out.

It seems like lately, with each month that passes, we have experienced the loss of several longtime Legion members. Visitations and funerals are always hard, but I think a military funeral always pulls extra-hard on my heartstrings. The respectful way the Legion honors its members at funerals is really something everyone should witness during their lifetime. There are so many dedicated members of our Legion who set their own jobs and personal commitments aside to attend a funeral of a fellow legionnaire. The first military funeral I remember attending was that of my uncle Ralph Dahlen. That was a really sad funeral for me, and I still get teary-eyed as I write this. I remember trying to sing The Battle Hymn of the Republic with the rest of the congregation, but my tears wouldn't let me. Even though I was just 10 years old, I still remember the guns being fired in unison in the cemetery. Since then, I've attended many military funerals. I've lost some very dear friends and family. Of course my brother Scott's funeral and my Dad's funeral were by far the most difficult. But in each of these, as with so many others, the Coon Valley American Legion proudly and honorably remembers their fellow legionnaires... and in the process, the Legion makes attendees proud of our military and proud to be an American. So as Veterans Day quickly approaches, I want to extend a sincere "thank you" to all of you legionnaires out there. We appreciate everything that you do/did while enlisted, and we thank you for everything you continue to do.

I should also mention that we, in the Auxiliary, recently lost a longtime, dedicated Auxiliary member: Helen MIsna. She will be greatly missed by our organization. It is very hard on us, too, when we lose one of our own. It reminds us to appreciate all of the wonderful members we do have. Thanks to all of you!



BUCKET DRAWING

Rostislar
Yerokhin
Not Present

OCTOBER
Drawing will be:
\$20.00

50/50 -
DRAWING
Clifford
Bakkum

\$75.00

* The Legions portion of the drawing is put towards the building fund

From the Adjutant's Desk

- ◆ Please remember to pay your membership dues.
- ◆ Please get the address of the **new members** to Michele so she can ensure they receive a newsletter every month.
- ◆ If you have had a recent **address change** please go on the legion website and update your information. Please also forward your new address to your adjutant. Please forward as necessary, to Michele, so she can ensure you continue to receive the newsletter.

Help Needed

-- **October 15th:** Clean up day at the Legion. Need volunteers to help clean inside, outside, shed, lawn, and winterizing. This year before the snow hits we need to help protect the air conditions and gas line from the snow and ice. Shelter roofs or dog house like structures need to be built. Jim and Herman will be working on the shelter/roof over the air conditioners. Please contact Jim Schmidt to see if he needs help. It would be nice to have all this done and well before the snow flies. If we have the people and supplies we could work on this on the clean up day. If someone has a gently used dog house type structure, that they no longer need and would like to donate it to the Legion to place over the gas line to protect it from the winter weather, please call Michele Stahl at 608-782-4258. We will modify it to fit over the gas line. We do really appreciate any help you can provide, and I would like to thank those members who have faithfully helped on clean up days in the past.

-- **October 15th for SAL:** Bean bag tournament at the Cancer Run/Walk which starts at noon.

-- **October 22nd for SAL:** Chaseburg's Haunted Trail

-- **October 29h for SAL:** 2nd Annual SAL Adult Halloween Party

*****Thank you in advance if your are able to help with the above dates.*****

Flag Disposal Box is mounted by the front of the Legion Building. Please collect and bring in flags so we can properly dispose of them.

Active Duty Map/Board

If you know of any active duty members that we do not have posted on our map and bulletin board, please let us know. We would want any of the following information: name, where they are stationed, address, and picture if you have one. You can forward this information to any of the Officers. If you want to e-mail me the information, my e-mail is: shel-lykam@hotmail.com.

Update from Service Officer: Pension vs. Compensation. Pension is Income Driven. It is available to war time veterans, who are not able to work, with low incomes, and that are under the age of sixty-five. Compensation is for anybody with a service connected disability.

WISCONSIN Resource Links

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) 1-800-947-8387 – <http://dva.state.wi.us>

Funeral Honors – 1-800-947-8387 – http://dva.state.wi.us/Ben_funeralhonors.asp

WI Job Center, La Crosse, Job Service Veterans' Representative – 1-608-785-9376

Madison VA Hospital – 1-888-478-8321 – <http://www.madison.va.gov/index.asp>

Tomah VA Hospital – 1-800-872-8662 – <http://www.tomah.va.gov/index.asp>

Tomah Homeless Veterans Programs – 1-800-872-8662, ext. 67768 –

http://www.tomah.va.gov/Homeless_Asstance_Resources.asp

La Crosse VA Clinic – 1-608-784-3886

La Crosse Vet Center – 1-608-782-4403

Retirement Services Officer, Ft. McCoy – 1-800-452-0923



THE AMERICAN LEGION
COON VALLEY POST No. 116
PO BOX 314
COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Work Schedule for Pork Feed on November 4th:

Cooks: 3:00pm John Thurk, Ken Kammel, Don Kammel,

Bartenders: 3:00pm Jim Schmidt 7:00pm Rod Ofte

Tipboards: 5:00pm Dan Hofslie 7:00pm Ron Hoff

Cashier: 4:45pm Charles Servais 7:00pm Frank Mathison

Kitchen Servers: 5:00pm Roger Mathison 7:00pm Harlan Helseth
Charles Lind Michael Miller
Rich Roesler Charlie Nelson
Ron Miller Michele Stahl

Dining Room: 5:00pm Dennis Miller 7:00pm Dean Sorenson
Dick Reget Steve Mader
Carl Holte Reuben Starch
Dennis Kammel Wally Cox
Irv Shattuck Don Salter
Steve Vance Jeff Hanson

Cleanup: Charles Nelson, Gary Grethel, Michele Kammel, Michael Miller

If you aren't on the list and are able to work please contact Co-Chairmen John Thurk or Ken Kammel