



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



FEBRUARY 2014

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 8



Commanders Message:

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the various events in the past month. We presented colors at the Ski Jumping Competition, had a Superbowl Pancake Breakfast and presented colors again at the Westby Snow Cross event. I know that we had a good turnout for all of those events.

We are getting closer to reaching our 100% membership goal, but there are enough people who still need to renew their memberships. Please attend to this immediately.

We are in need of a cleaning person for the Legion hall. If anyone in the Legion Family is interested, or knows anyone who might be interested, please contact me. My contact information is on the newsletter.

Once again, thank you all for your continued service. I look forward to seeing everyone at the next regular post meeting on February 19th.

Gary M. Hess

Commander Post 116

February 19th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: Ron Miller & Mike Miller
February 22nd	Coon Valley Area Baseball Association's 18 th Annual Fundraiser - 5pm til gone
February 24th	SAL Meeting - 7pm
March 1st	SAL Bean Bag Tournament, doors open at 6pm
March 3rd	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
March 3rd	Auxiliary Meeting, potluck starts at 7 and the meeting starts at 7:30
March 8th	Vernon County Banquet - Stoddard American Legion Post 315
March 20th	Informal Legion Meeting - 7:00pm (THURSDAY) Meal by Auxiliary served at 7:30pm Vernon County Meeting - 8:00pm
March 31st	SAL Meeting - 7pm
April 5th	SAL Bean Bag Tournament, doors open at 6pm
April 7th	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
April 7th	Auxiliary Meeting, potluck starts at 7 and the meeting starts at 7:30
April 12th	7th District Spring Conference Black River Falls
April 13th	Palm Sunday Breakfast (work schedule will be in March newsletter)
April 16th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm Lunch Committee: C. Lind & R. Starkey
April 28th	Vernon County Meeting in Ontario

February Newsletter

2013-2014

Last Bugle:

John Nerison
Willfred Bushek
Jacob Ward*
Mike Brown
Howard Hofslie



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

Rueben Johnson
Not Present

February
Drawing will be:
\$80.00

**50/50
DRAWING
NONE**

* The Legions portion of
the drawing is put to-
wards the building
fund*



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Gary M. Hess
(608) 788-1768
Adjutant: Charles E. Nelson
(608) 452 - 3018

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:
Charles Nelson
(608) 452 - 3018
for more information.

Mailing Address:

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Post 116
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Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone Contacts:

Legion: (608) 452-3179

Membership Totals to Date

2014 Paid Membership - 174
2014 Membership Goal - 200

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

From the Adjutants Desk:

- ◇ It looks like we made about \$750 on our Superbowl Sunday Breakfast.
- ◇ Badger Boys State registration has been sent in by Roger Mathison.
- ◇ Gary Gilbertson is the new Public Relations Officer for Wis. American Legion Baseball.

The American Legion Department of Wisconsin, 2014 Midwinter Conference

The 2014 Midwinter Conference was held January 17-19, 2014 at the Ho-Chunk Hotel & Convention Center, S3214 Highway BD, Baraboo, WI 53913. 7th District Commander John Thurk had a hospitality room for his bid for State Vice Commander which the Post helped sponsor. Those attending were John Thurk, Roger Mathison, Frank Mathison, Gary Hess, Charlie Nelson and SAL Commander, Cal Manske.

5-Year Increment Pins

Thanks to the members who showed up and were recognized for achieving a 5-year milestone in the American Legion. If you would still like to receive your pin, I will bring the pins along to the February meeting. If your 2014 membership card "years of continuous membership" ends in a 0 or a 5, come get your pin.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

The S.A.L. will meet on Feb. 24th @ 7:00 at the Legion Hall. We will be discussing the Brewers trip and other matters. We will be having bean bag tournaments again this year. The dates are March 1st and April 5th at the Legion Hall. Practice/bar opens at 6pm with the tournament starting at 7 pm. Bring your own partner and the cost is \$20/ team.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you. It was nice to see all of you at the meeting this month – we had a lot to discuss.

Our Auxiliary Unit suffered a loss with Carol Kammel's passing – we send our thoughts and prayers to her family – she is fondly remembered for all of the work she did for the Auxiliary through the years.

We discussed plans to serve for the Legion next month on March 20th. We will finalize those plans at our March meeting.

Mark your calendars: Our next meeting is on Monday, March 3rd. Our April meeting will be on Monday, April 7th. Please note the date changes, due to Lent. As usual, potluck starts at 7 and the meeting starts at 7:30.

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

Roof update

The loan currently stands at around \$5,500.00. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to paying down this considerable amount of debt.

Vernon County Veterans Service Office (Jim Young and Tami Saleska)

Congratulations to Tami Saleska on being selected as the U.S. Air Force representative to the Fort McCoy Military Retiree Council. The Council represents military retirees residing in Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan and Northern Illinois and serves as a link through the chain-of-command for issues concerning retiree benefits.

Please contact Jim Young or Tami Saleska with any VSO questions at 608-637-5323.

Paid Up For Life (PUFL) has never been easier

American Legion members interested in the discounted Paid Up For Life program can now easily join online: www.legion.org/join/pufl

For more information about the Paid Up For Life program: call (800) 433-3318 or email ia@legion.org

Message From Commander Hess concerning Memorial Day 2014

I have secured Fort McCoy's Garrison Commander, Col. Steven Nott, as our key note speaker for our Memorial Day program!

American Flags for sale from the Legion

Don't forget that Post 116 has flags available for sale to any member as well as anyone in our Community or beyond. This can be a great fundraiser for the American Legion so spread the word and don't forget the Legion when you need to order a flag.

Westby Snowflake Ski Jump

Commander Gary Hess would like to thank all of the members of the Color Guard who presented Colors at the 2014 Snowflake Ski Jump. Thanks to Rod Ofte for supplying a Veteran's Warming Shelter once again this year as well as some food and refreshment. Thanks to Daryl Brye for warming us up as soon as we completed our presentation of Colors with some secret blend of apple juice!

In addition, a special thanks goes out to the Chaseburg American Legion for joining us this year in presenting the Colors. They were a wonderful addition and much fun!

2014 Sno-Cross at the Ski Hill

Commander Gary Hess would like to thank all of the members of the Color Guard who presented Colors at the 2014 Sno-Cross at the Ski Hill.

Coon Creek Trout Fest

The Coon Creek Trout Fest will be held again this summer. As of yet, we have not heard any definite on what is being planned or what we may be asked to help with. I am sure that we will have some additional information that we can present at an upcoming regular monthly meeting so we can make an informed decision.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
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COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314

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2014 Vernon County Banquet

You are cordially invited to the Annual Vernon County American Legion Banquet on Saturday, March 8, 2014. It will be held at the Stoddard American Legion Hall at 414 Broadway Street in Stoddard. Social hour will begin at 5:00 PM with the meal to be served at 7:00 PM.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Terry Creegan, AF CMSgt, Retired. As Chief Enlisted Manager, Chief Creegan managed all aspects of Personnel, Manpower and Services functions. His assignments included various locations in SW Asia, Pacific Air Force and two tours to Bagram Airfield Afghanistan. He is currently serving as the Director of Veterans Affairs for Jackson County, IA. Chief Creegan's speech is entitled "The Importance of Maintaining Relevance."

American Legion dignitaries from throughout Wisconsin have also been invited to attend as well as local civic and school leaders. The main highlight of the evening will be to honor our American Legion Yearly Award winners for: Teachers, Firefighters, EMTs, First Responders, and Law Officers.

The menu for the banquet meal will be ham, meatballs, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, with brownies and ice cream for dessert. Cost for the banquet is \$12.50 per person. Reservations are requested by February 28th to Lisa McCarty by email lisarmc@aol.com or by phone 608-457-2032.

2014 Eagle Scout - Jacob Berg - Congratulations

Please congratulate Jacob Berg on achieving Eagle Scout. Jacob has filled out all of the necessary paperwork and we will be forwarding his application to the Wisconsin State American Legion for consideration for Eagle Scout of the Year. If interested, please take a look at the Eagle Scout of the Year application (can be found on the wilegion website) and you will see that the application is not a trivial task to complete. Jacob, we wish you the best of luck!