



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



JUNE 2016

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 12



### Commanders Message:

Greetings Legion Family! June is finally here, which means warmer weather and lots of indoor and outdoor activity, not only at home and farm but also at the Legion. We had some volunteers sprucing up around the Legion Hall last month with door and window cleaning and painting, new mulch placed in the landscaped areas, new gravel spread in the parking lot, and a floor so shiny you could shave from the reflection. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand in tidying up! The results are outstanding!

Thank you also to everyone who had a role in our Memorial Day observance. Our executive meteorologist did his sun dance and it worked out perfectly. For the first time in four years, we were able to have the ceremony at the Veterans' Memorial. I received a great many compliments on our parade and ceremony. The Firing Squad was sharp as ever with not a single itchy trigger finger in any of the volleys! The echo taps as always touched the soul. We had several people working hard to get everything set up and taken down and that effort is greatly appreciated. The Auxiliary, as usual, put on a very fine meal that was well attended. Once again, we have some lessons learned, but they are minor. As in years past, Memorial Day is the perfect example of how everyone just pulls together and the whole affair

seems to go off in excellent fashion. Again, thanks to everyone who pitched in, participated and helped out.

We have several events coming up that we need as much help as we can get, so check out the events below and the work schedule for the June 12th Chicken Q was published in the May newsletter. I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events and at the next regular Post meeting.

I would like to welcome our two newest Legionnaires to Coon Valley American Legion, Vito and Rachal Strimaitis! Vito is a USMC Staff Sergeant and is stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA. Rachal is a Navy Petty Officer First Class and is stationed at Naval Air Station North Island. Welcome aboard!

**Gary M. Hess, Commander Post 116**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 15th** Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm  
Lunch Committee: Steve Vance and Frank Mathison
- June 15th** SAL Regular meeting at 8pm. Poker game to follow??
- June 17-19th** Commander Oatman's 2016 Run For Pride for the Legacy Scholarship Fund (motorcycling)
- July 5th** Executive Committee meeting at 6:30pm (Tuesday??)
- July 14-17th** 2016 Department Convention - Madison Marriott West, Middleton, WI
- July 20th** Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm  
Lunch Committee: Cox, Hoff, Cary, Banta
- July 20th** SAL Regular meeting at 8pm. Poker game to follow??
- July 23rd** SAL Brewer Bus Trip - Brewers vs Cubs at 6:10pm
- July 23rd** Trout Fest - Coon Valley Veterans Memorial Park
- August 1st** Executive Committee meeting at 6:30pm
- August 1st** Vernon County Meeting - Westby - Meal at 7:30pm - Meeting at 8pm.
- August 3rd** Auxiliary Meeting with potluck at 6 and the meeting at 6:30
- August 17th** Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm  
Lunch Committee: Gary Grethel
- August 17th** SAL Regular meeting at 8pm. Poker game to follow??

# June Newsletter

2015-2016

Last Bugle:

Stephen Sapuder\*  
Howard Mathison  
Lester Gilbertson  
Virgil Lee\*

\* Not a Post 116 member



## BUCKET DRAWING

Steve Vance  
Not Present

June  
Drawing will be:  
**\$130.00**

50/50  
DRAWING

Cal Manske  
**\$65.00**

Legion \$65.00



## 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:

Coon Valley American Legion  
Post 116  
PO Box 314  
Coon Valley, WI 54623  
**Phone Contacts:**  
Legion: (608) 452-3179

### Membership Totals to Date

2016 Paid Membership - 195  
2016 Membership Goal - 197

On the web:

[www.coonvalleywialpost116.org](http://www.coonvalleywialpost116.org)  
Webmaster - Don Salter: [dwsalter@gmail.com](mailto:dwsalter@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP:

Please make your check payable to C.V. Legion Post 116 in the amount of **\$40.00** and send to: Coon Valley American Legion Post 116  
PO Box 314  
Coon Valley, WI 54623

### Adjutant Notes:

- We are looking for someone who is willing to publish the newsletter each month. I am no longer able to commit the necessary time to perform the job at the level that I think is satisfactory. This is not a difficult job for someone who has the time each month to commit to the task. If no one steps up we will no longer have a newsletter. We will need to rely on work schedules being sent out when necessary by a committee chairman. Please contact Commander Hess if you are able to take on this very important task for the Coon Valley American Legion Post 116.
- 2016 State Convention - Middleton, WI - July 14-17**  
The 98th Annual State Convention will be held in Middleton on July 14-17. We need to decide who we will be sending as delegates and alternates. We will be allowed three of each. The delegates from our Post will participate in the 7th District Caucus each day from 7:30am to about 9am and also the Convention Sessions which usually take place from about 9am to noon. They also have the responsibility to vote for the new State Officers on Saturday.



### Message from S.A.L. Commander:

The S.A.L. will have a meeting on June 15th @ 8 PM. Topics to discuss are the Brewers bus trip, etc.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



### Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you.

Thanks to everyone who helped with Memorial Day activities! There are so many Auxiliary members who work behind the scenes and the day of the event. We could not do this without each and every one of you.

This year 11 kids distributed poppies door-to-door so a huge thank you to all of them: Bianca Nelson, Abby Miller, Olivia Nelson, Hanna Nelson, Will Berra, Rianna Oliver, Jay Jackson, Anna Dunnum, Maddie Grethel, Maggie Grethel, Bella Grethel. Thanks also to the adult helpers: Linda Keuser, Angie Nelson, Michael Miller, and Kim Nelson. I could not do this every year without all of you! Thanks to Auxiliary members who brought cakes, made poppy corsages, distributed and picked up poppies from businesses, picked up food, served food, cleaned, etc. Thanks to Organic Valley and Kwik Trip for their donations.

Remember Chicken Q is this month. It is always a nice time working with the legionnaires. Check the schedule printed in the May newsletter for when you should be there to work. We will not have a meeting in July, so our next meeting will be August 3rd with potluck at 6 and the meeting at 6:30. We will plan to have election of officers at that time. It would be WONDERFUL to have a full house on that night.

Hope to see you all in August, and have a fantastic summer!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

The VCVSO has a limited number of tickets available at the office for Military Veterans Family Day at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Sunday, July 3, 2016--9:00 am to 5:00pm--Milwaukee County Zoo--1001 W. Blue Mound Rd--Milwaukee, WI 53226--1-414-771-3040

Tickets can be picked up at the office – Mon. to Friday 8:30 to 4:30pm – 402 Courthouse Sq., Viroqua, WI 54665 Phone 608-637-5323. Please pass along to other veterans if you know of any.

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

**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. Get a new flag in time for Memorial Day!! The 3' x 5' flags are \$25.00.

**Westby/Coon Valley American Legion Baseball**

**2016 Schedule – Senior Legion**

Date	Opponent/Location	Time
June 16	@Holmen	5:30 PM
June 18	G-D-S @Chaseburg (Fun Days)	1:00 PM
June 20	BLACK RIVER FALLS (DH)	5:00 PM
June 22	NORTH CRAWFORD	TBD
June 23	Holmen @ Viroqua Tourney	6:00 PM
June 24	Shakopee, MN @ Viroqua Tourney	6:00 PM
June 25	West Salem @ Viroqua Tourney	5:30 PM
June 26	TBD @Viroqua Tourney	
June 27	@La Crosse North Stars	6:00 PM
June 29	WEST SALEM 17U	5:30 PM
June 30	Prairie Du Chien @ La Crescent	TBD
July 4	@Viroqua	6:30 PM
July 6	@La Crescent	7:00 PM
July 7	Onalaska Tourney	TBD
July 8	Onalaska Tourney	TBD
July 9	Onalaska Tourney	TBD
July 10	Onalaska Tourney	TBD

**Westby/Coon Valley American Legion Baseball**

**2016 Schedule – Junior Legion**

Date	Opponent/Location	Time
June 15	@La Crosse A's(Aquinas) (DH)	5:00 PM
June 17	@Sparta	6:00 PM
June 20	CASHTON	TBD
June 23	@La Crosse North Stars (DH)	5:30 PM
June 27	LA CRESCENT (DH)	5:00 PM
June 29 @PDC (DH)		5:00 PM
June 30 @La Crosse Raiders		5:00 PM
July 7	VIROQUA (DH)	5:00 PM
July 13-17	Regionals	
July 20-24	State	



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
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### **Election of Officers**

Election of Officers took place at our May meeting and was led by Past Post Commander Michael Miller. The officers we elected are:

Commander - Gary Hess  
1st Vice Commander (Membership chairman) - Steve Nelson  
2nd Vice Commander (Children & Youth chairman) – Wally Cox  
3rd Vice Commander (Americanism chairman) – Wesley Guy  
Chaplain – Michael Miller  
Historian - Frank Mathison  
Webmaster - Don Salter  
Sergeant-at-Arms - Dan Hofslie  
Service Officer – Bernie Roesler  
Finance Officer - Roger Mathison.

\*\*\* Remember, that as an elected official, and recent Past Commander, you are expected to attend the Executive meetings! \*\*\*

### **2016 Memorial Day**

Thanks to everyone that helped with the 2016 Memorial Day cemeteries, parade, and ceremony. The help goes well beyond the reaches of the Coon Valley American Legion. Thanks to all!

The guest speaker was Gary Daines from Westby and he gave a great speech reminding us all of the sacrifices that have been made for all us.

### **Vernon County American Legion Officers for 2016-2018**

The new Commander of the Vernon County American Legion is our very own Michael Miller. Please congratulate him when you see him. I hear that he has asked Steve Nelson to continue acting as Vernon County Adjutant. Congratulations to both of these gentlemen!