



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



MARCH 2017

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 9



### Commanders Message:

Greetings Legion Family Members of Post 116! It seems that the typical March is here where one day the weather is beautiful and the next it leaves something to be desired. Such is life in western Wisconsin, I guess!

Now that Spring is right around the corner, our thoughts turn to spring cleaning and sprucing up the Post a little bit. There are always plenty of projects to perform in order to keep our post as presentable as it can be, so if you have some free time, please consider spending some time at the Legion in this effort!

On February 18th we presented the Colors at the Timber Coulee Thunder Snowmobile Races. Thank you to Bernie, Kyle and Mary Jo for assisting and for being patient!

Our annual Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast is coming up on April 9th. Please check the work schedule is at the back of the newsletter. If you can't be here, please find a replacement.

If you are not on the list and can help out, please come on down and jump right in! We can find a role for you to fulfill!

Membership renewals are coming to a critical state. We are at 170 out of 197. If you have not renewed your membership for 2017, please take care of this immediately. We will be making phone calls for those who are not renewed yet.

Once again, it is an honor and a privilege to serve as Commander of this fine post. As I look back on all of our accomplishments over the past 3-1/2 years, I am humbled by the amount of effort and care that everyone puts in to our awesome Post. Please continue that effort with our next Commander!

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

### DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>March 16th</b>	Informal Post Meeting (if needed) THURSDAY at 7:00pm (LENT) 7:30pm Meal, 8:00pm Vernon County Meeting Lunch Committee: Auxiliary
<b>April 3rd</b>	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm
<b>April 3rd</b>	Auxiliary Meeting, Potluck at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:00pm
<b>April 3rd-April 14th</b>	Americanism and Government Testing accessible online
<b>April 9th</b>	Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast
<b>April 17th (Tentative)</b>	Fire Department Appreciation Dinner at the Legion
<b>April 19th</b>	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: Charles Lind & Roger Starkey
<b>April 22nd</b>	Seventh District Spring Conference, 10:00am, Post 336 Onalaska
<b>April 24th</b>	Vernon County Meeting in Ontario - 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting - Monday
<b>May 1st</b>	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm
<b>May 1st</b>	Auxiliary Meeting, Potluck at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:00pm
<b>May 17th</b>	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm Meeting - Officer Elections
<b>May 24th</b>	Vernon County Meeting in Chaseburg - 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting - Wednesday
<b>May 29th</b>	Memorial Day Program
<b>June 11th</b>	Coon Valley Legion Chicken Q

# March Newsletter

2016-2017

Last Bugle:

Larry Torgerson  
John Sisbach, Jr  
Leo Lusk\*

\* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET  
DRAWING**

February \$10

Rod Ofte  
(Not Present)

March Drawing  
Will Be \$20

**50/50  
DRAWING**

February  
\$63 for Legion  
\$62 for  
Darin Berg



## 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:  
Gary Hess  
(608) 788-1768  
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

2017 Paid Membership - 179  
2017 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



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

Hello Everyone,

Our next meeting will be on March 16th at the Legion at 8:00 pm. We will finalize the 2017 Brewers bus trip date and talk about whatever wanders into our minds. If you haven't sent back your membership dues, please do so ASAP.

Thank you!

Cal Manske,  
SAL Commander



### Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you. I hope Spring is right around the corner!

This month, we cook and serve for the **American Legion's Birthday dinner on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**. Thanks to our members who are doing so much work behind the scenes (purchasing turkeys and other ingredients, preparing food, etc).

Auxiliary members: please meet at the Legion Hall at 5:00 p.m. (or when you are able to get there) to help get everything ready, serve the meal, and clean up. **Please wear red, white and/or blue to this event!**

Gloria Freitag is once again assembling **Easter baskets** for our local homebound. The Auxiliary has been doing this for many years and it is a wonderful service for our community, including many members of the Auxiliary and Legion family.

We discussed Memorial Day plans, including the food and poppies. We will finalize this discussion next month in April. Please attend if you can. A tremendous amount of work goes into this very special day. The more helpers we have, the easier these tasks become. Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

Our **next meeting is on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> (because Lent is on our usual Wednesday meeting night)**. We have potluck at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Let's have a great turnout. Hope to see you then! Also remember our May meeting will be on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (due to another conflict on our regular Wednesday meeting night). Both the April and May meetings will be very important to attend for finalizing Memorial Day plans. Please mark your calendars! Thank you.

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

## **Vernon County Veterans Service Office (Jim Young) 608-637-5323**

Congratulations to Tami Saleska on the new position that she has accepted in the Barron County Veterans Service Office! We are going to miss you here in Vernon County, but since there are more veterans in Barron County, we know you are going to do a fine job taking as good of care for them as you did for us!

### **THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN SERVICE OFFICE**

We assist with compensation, pension, appeals, education, vocational rehabilitation, home loan guarantee and death benefits. Additionally we assist with obtaining records, awards and decorations, discharge upgrades and answer questions of general nature pertaining to veteran's programs. We work with your County Veteran's Service Officer to process your claims and represent you at Regional Office and Board of Veteran's Appeals Travel Board hearings.

If you need assistance you may contact us at:

#### **VA Regional Office**

**5400 W National Ave. RM#164**

**Milwaukee, WI 52314**

**(414) 902-5722**

**Fax (414) 902-9401**

Department Service Officer [james.fialkowski@va.gov](mailto:james.fialkowski@va.gov)

Veterans Service Representative [bryan.gorski@va.gov](mailto:bryan.gorski@va.gov)

Veterans Service Representative [mitchell.woytych@va.gov](mailto:mitchell.woytych@va.gov)

Veterans Service Representative [michael.french@va.gov](mailto:michael.french@va.gov)

Veteran Service Representative [maynard.perszyk@va.gov](mailto:maynard.perszyk@va.gov)

Veteran Service Representative [kurt.goeller@va.gov](mailto:kurt.goeller@va.gov)

#### **Additional Links:**

Federal VA Benefits Information [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Information <http://dva.state.wi.us/>

## **Main Street Flags**

The proceeds of the Super Sunday Pancake Breakfast were raised to provide an annual stipend to the Village of Coon Valley to purchase American made flags for Central Avenue. These flags give the village a decidedly patriotic appeal and we receive many compliments on how nice the main route through town looks. Roger Mathison recently presented our annual check of \$500 to the Village for this effort.

## **E-Mail Receipt of the Coon Valley American Legion Newsletter**

As always, we are trying to find ways to be economic with our expenses and one way that all of us can contribute to that is to have the newsletter e-mailed to you instead of receiving it via US Mail. This saves us costs in publishing as well as in postage costs. If you would like to have your newsletter delivered to you via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Commander Hess at [garyhess@centurytel.net](mailto:garyhess@centurytel.net) and you will be added to the e-mail roster and taken off of the mailing roster. All e-mails are sent "in the blind" to protect members' privacy and are kept in the strictest confidentiality. Thank you!

## **Long Range Planning Committee**

The Long Range Planning Committee has been discussing ways in which to attract new members, especially our newer eligible veterans, how to attract them to the meetings and to participate in the meetings and events that we participate in. They are developing a survey that will be published in a future newsletter, so look for that survey soon and please give it your fullest participation.

## **Fire Department Appreciation Dinner Tentatively Set For April 17th**

Everyone appreciates the job that our local emergency services does for our community, so we are going to host an Appreciation Dinner for the Coon Creek Fire & Rescue. We have some coordination to do yet, so a tentative date has been set for Monday, April 17th. More to follow regarding this.



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

Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Coon Valley, WI 54623  
 Permit No. 10

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

«FirstName» «LastName»  
 «Address1»  
 «City» «State» «PostalCode»

### Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, April 9th

	<b>7:00-10:00am</b>	<b>10:00am-1:00pm</b>
<b>Cooking Scrambled Eggs</b>	Roger Mathison Charles Nelson	Steve Vance Dennis Kammel
<b>Cooking Pancakes</b>	Charles Lind Ron Miller	Carl Holte Michael Miller
<b>Cooking Sausages</b>	Harlan Helseth Dan Hofslie	Rolv Ihle Gary Hess
<b>Window Servers</b>	Steve Nelson Wesley Guy	Ron Hoff Wally Cox
<b>Tables, Beverages, Coffee</b>	Mary Schmidt Sherman Olson Roger Starkey Tom Elsen Richard Zube	Don Salter John Thurk Reuben Starch Don Kammel Bernie Roesler
<b>Cashier</b>	Frank Mathison	Mike Callan
<b>Bartender</b>	Rod Ofte (9am to noon)	

**If your name is on the schedule but can't make it, please find a replacement. If your name is not on the schedule and you are able to help out, please stop on by and we will find a position for you!**

**Clean up (12:00—1:00) The late shifts will clean up from noon to 1:00pm. Anyone else is also welcome to help!**