



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



April 2018

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 10



Commanders Message:

Greetings Coon Valley American Legion Family

Officially spring is here. The other day I looked out my living room window, we live on the fourth floor of Salzer Square, and counted 11 robins sitting in the branches of the tree. The next day the branches were full of snow. But it will get here, and Memorial Day will be fast approaching. We are busy making plans and I would like to remind everybody that has something to do with that sacred day to start planning. It takes a big team effort every year and we are grateful for your support.

At our last Post meeting we voted to support the Trout fest this year by hosting a kickoff Pancake Breakfast on the morning of Saturday, July 28. We voted to give the Trout fest committee 20% of the profits and it is their responsibility to handle the advertising. We voted to use our 80% to go towards the purchase of a defibrillator for our clubrooms due to the many public events held there. Please mark this date in your calendars, and please support this community wide event.

Work has started on the south entrance to the clubrooms, and is estimated to be about a \$2,000.00 project. Will be completed before Memorial Day. We are also looking at a project to improve the barroom entryway. Stay tuned. Also, the barroom project, paneling, ceiling, etc. will be completed soon. Thanks to everyone involved in all these projects.

April is the month we will make nominations for the election to be held in May. Remember, if you are running for office, we have no campaign finance limits. You can buy all the beer you want.

I will leave you with one more nugget of knowledge: "Being old is like being a dog. The high points of the day are scratching, peeing, and watching for the mailman."

Frank Mathison, Commander Post 116

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| April 18th | Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: Charles Lind & Roger Starkey |
| April 18th | SAL Regular Squadron Meeting at 8:00pm |
| April 21st | Seventh District Spring Conference, 10:00am, Post 336 Onalaska |
| April 23rd | Vernon County Meeting in Ontario - 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting - Monday |
| May 2nd | Auxiliary Meeting, Potluck at 6:00pm, Meeting at 6:30pm |
| May 7th | Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm |
| May 12th | Freedom Honor Flight (5:00am arrival, flight leaves around 7:00am, return flight around 10:00pm) |
| May 16th | Tomah VA Fishing Tournament (Volunteers are helpful to assist the Veteran Residents) |
| May 17th (Thursday) | Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm Meeting - Officer Elections Lunch Committee: Ken & Don Kammel |
| May 17th | SAL Regular Squadron Meeting at 8:00pm |
| May 23rd | Vernon County Meeting in Chaseburg - 7:30pm meal, 8:00pm meeting - Wednesday |
| May 28th | Memorial Day Program |
| June 4th | Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm |
| June 6th | Auxiliary Meeting, Potluck at 6:00pm, Meeting at 6:30pm |
| June 10th | Coon Valley Legion Chicken Q |
| June 16th | Legion Riders District 7 Legacy Scholarship Ride |
| June 20th | Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm Meal, 8:00pm Meeting - Installation of Officers Lunch Committee: Steve Vance & ?? |
| June 20th | SAL Regular Squadron Meeting at 8:00pm |
| July 2nd | Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm |
| July 11th - 15th | Department Convention at the Oshkosh Convention Center, Oshkosh, WI |

April Newsletter

2017 - 2018

Last Bugle:

James Hammes

Norman Oliver

Leon Minor

Howard Moilien

Steven Kapanke*

* Not a Post 116 member



BUCKET DRAWING

March \$10

Kendon Kammel

(Not Present)

April Drawing
Will Be \$20

50/50

March

Not Held



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Francis Mathison
(608) 606-0156

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

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

2018 Paid Membership - 184

2018 Membership Goal-195

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: 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,

We will be having a meeting on April 18th at 8:00 pm. Topics to discuss are the Brewers bus trip and youth baseball programs. The date for the Brewer Bus Trip will be July 21st with the Brewers hosting the Dodgers. It is a 6:10pm game. Contact me or Brad Role for tickets.

Cal Manske
S.A.L. Commander

Message from the Auxiliary:



Spring is always a busy time for everyone - our Auxiliary is no exception. There are scholarship forms to be read and decided on, our Badger Girls State representative is announced, poppy sales and, of course, our Memorial Day lunch. A work schedule will be included in the May letter so be sure to see if you are on it. We hope you will be able to work but if you can't, please let us know and try to find a replacement. We need all the help we can get. And, as always, wear red/white/blue.

Gloria, our Membership Chairperson, has seven unpaid memberships left. If you haven't sent your renewal in, please do so asap. Even if you are not an active member, we value your membership and hope you will help us reach 100%.

Thinking ahead, election of officers is coming up and we are still in need of a President. The letter we sent out earlier this year only yielded two responses. We still need members to attend the meetings and help us continue to be a thriving Unit. Won't you please consider joining us on the first Wednesday night of the month. We would welcome you with open arms.

Ellie Brye, Secretary

Badger Boys State

Congratulations to Ronald Inglett for his selection to attend Badger Boys State! Ron is the son of Patti Inglett and is a resident of Coon Valley. We look forward to hearing about your experience at Badger Boys State!

Vernon County Veterans Service Office (Jim Young & Crystal Knoll) 608-637-5323

(veterans@vernoncounty.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/Vernon-County-Veterans-Service-Office-244550219077062/>

Are you 55 years old or older? Do you experience low income or unemployment? Do you reside in Crawford, Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, La Crosse, Lafayette, Richland or Vernon Counties? Are you looking for employment? SER-Jobs For Progress has been working with employers and potential employees, helping gain access to a US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration program called Senior Community Service Employment Program. They look specifically for older workers to help train potential employees on new job skills needed in today's workplace. The SCSEP has helped older workers find productive, unsubsidized jobs for more than 40 years. For more information, contact Bonita Platta, an Employment and Training Specialist for SER SCSEP - Madison Region. Phone number: 608-826-1059. E-mail address: bplatta@ser-national.org. Website: www.ser-national.org. Mailing address: 6320 Monona Dr., Suite #309, Monona, WI 53716.

Also there is a Veterans Outreach and Enrollment Day from 10am to 3pm May 10th at Viroqua Legion Post 138.

Membership Message from 1st Vice Commander Steve Nelson

This is a reminder that everyone should have 2018 Membership Card right now! If you don't have a 2018 card you need to contact me to get one or pay your membership dues now! If you don't have a 2018 membership card that means your membership dues are due now! Pay now!! I will be knocking on your door soon, because I'm feeling better! Thanks. Steve

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. The 3' x 5' flags are \$25.00.

American Legion Riders News

Wisconsin District 7 American Legion Riders have a pretty full calendar of events coming up! April 21st is the Annual Flood Run which many members will ride in order to promote our Legacy Scholarship Ride. May 12th is the Freedom Honor Flight which we will attend to greet the Veterans and their families as they arrive at Colgan Air Hanger #4 at 5:00 AM, stand a flag line as they board the plane, and stand a flag line again as they return that night. We will also hold our monthly District meeting after the flight takes off on the 12th.

May 16th we will be assisting Veteran residents at the Tomah VA fishing tournament. May 20th we will be grilling and selling brats at the Holmen Festival Foods. May 26th we will be presenting Colors at the La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway in honor of Memorial Day. June 10th we will be in the Butterfest Parade in Sparta and hold a District meeting after the parade. June 16th will be the 7th District Legacy Scholarship Run, leaving from Onalaska Post 336, heading through Coon Valley to Viroqua Post 138, then on to Sparta Post 100, Holmen Post 284 and back to Onalaska. This is in conjunction with Onalaska American Legion's Community Days celebration.

This just takes us into June and we have a lot more to report on, so stay tuned for more District 7 Legion Riders news!

Construction Corner

We have several construction projects in the works as Commander Mathison mentioned. As most of you know, our cooler installation and sanitary drainage projects are technically complete, however we still have to finish the ceiling and texture & paint the walls in the bar room. Charlie Nelson and Gary Hess will be spearheading that effort and will be communicating regularly with as many members as possible about upcoming work days to finish that project before Memorial Day. Thank you to Matt Semke for taking charge of the Cooler Project!

Long Range Planning Committee Update

After analyzing Post 116 surveys, the committee recommended more attention in three areas: requests to shorten regular monthly post meetings, timeliness of delivery of monthly newsletter, and sustaining membership.

At the most recent gathering the committee enthusiastically elected to put our energy into membership.

Ongoing membership renewal and new memberships are vital to Post 116 and the American Legion in general. In addition, there is consensus to have programs in place to encourage new members to be active and involved. We are hopeful to coordinate with the post membership committee to take the enthusiasm to the next step, to benefit the Auxiliary, SAL, and regular Legion member rolls.



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»

Military Trivia - Impress Your Family and Friends With Some of These Little-Known Facts

1. 30 of the 43 Presidents served in the Army, 24 during time of war, two earned the rank of 5-star General (Washington and Eisenhower) and one earned the Medal of Honor (T. Roosevelt)
2. Less than 28 percent of Americans between the ages of 17-23 are qualified for military service, that's only about 1-in-4.
3. Only one President (James Buchanan) served as an enlisted man in the military and did not go on to become an officer.
4. The Department of Defense employs about 1.8 million people on active duty. It is the largest employer in the United States, with more employees than Exxon, Mobil, Ford, General Motors, and GE combined!
5. The Department of Defense owns worldwide 29,819,492 acres of land worldwide.
6. The United States has 737 military installations overseas alone.
7. The Navy's bell-bottom trousers, are commonly believed to be introduced in 1817 to permit men to roll them above the knee when washing down the decks and to make it easier to remove them in a hurry when forced to abandon ship or when washed overboard. In addition the trousers may be used as a life preserver by knotting the legs and swinging them over your head to fill the legs with air.
8. The Coast Guard seizes 169 pounds of marijuana and 306 pounds of cocaine worth \$9,589,000.00 everyday.
9. The Coast Guard is smaller than the New York City Police Department.
10. The English Bulldog, also known as "Teufel-hunden," or "Devil Dogs," is the unofficial mascot that symbolize the ethos of the Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines. The U.S. Marine Corps earned this unofficial mascot during World War I, when many German reports called the attacking Marines "teufel-hunden," meaning Devil-Dogs. "Teufel-hunden" were the vicious, wild and ferocious mountain dogs of German Bavarian folklore. The traditional name for each and every bulldog is Chesty, named after legendary Marine Lieutenant General Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller.
11. The U.S. Army was in charge of exploring and mapping America. The Lewis and Clark Expedition was an all Army affair. Army officers were the first Americans to see such landmarks as Pike's Peak and the Grand Canyon.
12. The Air Force's F-117 fighter uses aerodynamics discovered during research into how bumblebees fly.