



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



December 2024

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 7

Commanders Message:

Holiday Greetings! For many this time of year can be overwhelming. Family activity, holiday preparation and the spirit of the season can be quite intense. As you read this monthly message I ask you to take a moment to be mindful of area veterans and their families who have fallen victim to unfortunate events and are less fortunate than we are.

Buddy Checks Our very own First Vice Commander, Wes Guy, is reaching out to Post 116 members offering buddy checks. Please welcome his call. If you are aware of a veteran struggling with health particularly mental health issues please alert Wes. Every veteran, Post 116 member or not, deserves our attention and direction for help.

Post Funds A reminder that Post 116 for many years has had a funds available project for veterans in need. If you know a veteran in the area who has recently had an emergency or financial setback let us know. In past years our post has helped secure delivery of a winter's supply of firewood, replaced a major appliance, and assisted with emergency furnace repairs to name a few crises.

Packing Candy After our December 18 regular meeting, a short one, I promise, we will fill bags with candy for Coon Valley Elementary School students. Post members in assembly line fashion fill the bags in a remarkably efficient and timely manner. After a morning of official visits to shut-ins the bags are delivered by Santa, escorted by Roger Niedfeldt and several legion members in a Coon Valley fire truck on December 19.

December Fundraiser A huge Shout-Out and thank you's to members of Post 116 who made our recent December fundraiser a success. We are dependent on this annual event and the dedication and "all-in" effort is appreciated.

Army Navy Game Mark your calendar for December 14 to attend the broadcast of the Army Navy Game at the Legion Hall. Doors open at 1:00, game starts at 2:00. Fun, food and football all afternoon. Legion National begins the first of a four year sponsorship contract with the Army Navy Game and we expect a strong American Legion presence over the course of the game.

Seasonal Gifts In the spirit of giving during this holiday season please consider a gift of financial support to:

Post 116 Veterans Emergency Fund
NEF American Legion Nation Emergency Fund
or other Legion charities at legion.org/donate

May all you Holiday wishes come true,
Your Commander,
Mike Callan

December Newsletter

2024- 2025

Last Bugle:

Larry Lichtie

Bud McCormick

John Runice

Roger Strangstalien

Everette Olson



BUCKET DRAWING

November Membership drawing
Josh Gunderson.
Not Present.

Next membership meeting drawing
will be for 60 bucks.

50/50
Not Done



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Mike Callan

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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: Steve Nelson

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

2025 Paid Membership - 136

2024 Membership Goal- 176

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Wes Guy: Wes.j.guy@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

Or pay on MyLegion.org !



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

No meeting this month. Bean bag dates are January 4th and February 8th.

Cal Manske

Post 116 SAL Commander

Message from Auxiliary President:

Happy Holidays to you all! Six members braved the blustery Wisconsin snow and got together for a holiday potluck. Fun, laughter and great food was enjoyed by all! We will not have a meeting in January. Our next meeting is Wednesday February 6th at 6pm at the legion hall. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Kelly Callan

Auxiliary President

Post Announcements:

We will pack candy at 6:30pm, for the CV Elementary School visit with Santa, on Wednesday, December 18th, before our regular meeting (expect a short meeting).

Please consider attending “Wisconsin Virtual Legion College”. Wes Guy is doing this and he might be a good person to ask more about this program.

Wisconsin took its Legion College course material and converted it to virtual. Its core curriculum includes three courses – basic, intermediate and advanced – and each course has about seven hours of material. The first two courses are completed in six hours, which results in two three-hour sessions on consecutive weekdays from 6-9 p.m. or weekends from 9 a.m. to noon. The advanced course takes a little over three hours each session. Each virtual course is \$10. You can go to Facebook to gain more information, do a search for “Wisconsin American Legion College” and the page will show up or use wilegion.org website.

In 2025, a Legion Class A baseball tournament will be held at the Westby Baseball field. The dates are Aug. 1-5.

On December 18th meeting night, the SAL and Auxiliary are invited to attend to enjoy a meal and drinks together, a chance to wish each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Kegerator in the bar will be sold, legion members will be given first chance to buy this, stay tuned for more information on how and when bids will be taken.

We will be visiting the shut-ins this Christmas, meet at the Legion Hall at 8:30am, Thursday, December 19th. There will about 10 visits, transported via fire truck, providing escort for Santa. Lunch at the Legion. Also, in the afternoon, at 1:15pm go to CV Elementary School to disperse 150 bags of candy with room to room visits with Santa.

Winners of the Legion Raffle are as follows: 1st, Sandy Wee; 2nd, Carissa Gabrielson; 3rd, Marty Stenslien; 4th, Joel Morrison; 5th, Barry Bergum; 6th, Wade Marshall; 7th, Kevin King; 8th, Todd King; 9th, Marty Erlandson; 10th, Don Hess; 11th, Don Whitacre; 12th, Alan Jorstad; 13th, Devi Manske; 14th, Kevin Larson, 15th, Dave Larson.

Calendar:

December 12 Bingo

December 14 Army-Navy Game Watch at the Legion 2pm

December 18 Regular Meeting, 7:00pm meal, 7:30pm meeting, pack candy for kids

December 19 Visit shut-ins, Santa visit to Coon Valley Elementary

January 16-19 Winter WI American Legion Conference in Appleton

January 25 SAL Bean Bag Tournament



THE AMERICAN LEGION
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