



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



January 2009

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 7



### Commander's Message:

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and thank everyone for their efforts last year. I encourage you to come to our meetings, activities, and fundraisers throughout this year and enjoy the camaraderie with your fellow Legionnaires. I thought things would slow down a bit after the holidays, but we have a busy schedule planned for the next few months. We have the Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast coming up, the Vernon County Banquet hosted by our Post, we will be having an HDTV raffle once again, etc. All of these activities ensure that we will be able to continue supporting all of the Legion programs as well as the needs of our Post. One of the big needs our Post will deal with in the near future is replacing the roof on our Legion Hall. The membership voted at our December meeting to create a building/repair fund to address these types of needs and many of our fundraising efforts will be focused towards this goal. We are only 4 members short of reaching

our membership goal of 222!!

Charles Nelson  
Commander Post 116

January 21st	Meal for Legion & SAL Members and their significant other 7:00 pm, Regular Post Meeting, <u>after meal.</u>
January 25th	District Oratorical Contest - Black River Falls 1:00 pm
February 1st	Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast - See work schedule on last page
February 2nd	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
February 4th	Auxiliary Meeting, 7:30pm
February 18th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm Lunch Committee: Ron Miller and Michael Miller
February 28th	Coon Valley Area Baseball Association Chicken-Q
March 2nd	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
March 4th	Auxiliary Meeting, 7:30pm
March 14th	Vernon County Banquet - Coon Valley 7:00 pm
March 18th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm Lunch Committee: Auxiliary
March 19th	Vernon County Meeting - Coon Valley
April 27th	Vernon County Meeting - Ontario
May 27th	Vernon County Meeting - Chaseburg



**COON VALLEY  
AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 116**

Commander: Charles Nelson  
(608) 452-3018  
Adjutant: Gary J. Grethel  
(608) 452-2261

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:  
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or  
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Post 116  
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Legion: (608) 452-3179

**Membership Totals to Date**

2009 Paid Membership - 218  
2009 Membership Goal - 222

On the web:

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



**\*Reminder\* Please take a break from the cold weather and join us for a hearty meal of Ribs, Corn & Scalloped Potatoes at our next meeting on Wednesday January 21st.**

**Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast - February 1st**

**Please be sure to read the work schedule on the last page. If you aren't on the work schedule please show up and we will put you to work!**

**County Banquet - March 14th - We need your help!**

We need help with cooking, setup and clean-up; please contact the Commander or Adjutant if you are able to work. Also we need members to help by providing a cake for dessert; please drop off by noon.



**BUCKET  
DRAWING**

Mary Schmidt

Not Present

January  
Drawing:  
\$70.00

50/50  
DRAWING  
\$52  
Don  
Kammel



**Message from Auxiliary President Annette Ihle:**

Our next meeting will be on Feb. 4th at 7:30 pm it will be potluck. Start thinking about Memorial Day so we can get the poppy corsages made ahead of time.

I hope everyone saw our tree (across from the Stockyard); thanks to Joyce Temp and Mary Elsen for doing the setup and decorating.

In February the baseball team is having their Chicken Fry; please try to attend.



**Message from S.A.L. Commander Brad Role:**

We will have a short meeting on Wednesday, January 21st immediately following the Legion meeting. We need to discuss work schedules for the upcoming super bowl Sunday breakfast.

### **Veterans Bus Trip**

Have you ever wanted to visit Washington, DC? Now is your chance! French Island Post 417 is sponsoring a trip May 27th - June 1st, 2009.

#### **Highlights include the following:**

- 1 Night Toledo, Ohio
- 3 Nights in Fairfax, Virginia
- Tour WWII War Memorial
- Tour Smithsonian
- Tour of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- Tour Washington Monument
- Tour Gettysburg

#### **Costs are as follows:**

Double Occupancy            \$320

Triple Occupancy            \$270

Quadruple Occupancy       \$240

\* Prices are based on 50 people attending

Contact: Bernie Duerkop (608) 269-5677 or Ralph Jurens (608) 796-9790

### **Facts About the National Emergency Fund :**

- Total grants given to American Legion family members in 2008 totaled just under \$265,870 as of late September 2008, with total donations exceeding \$275,000 while still processing claims for Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
- Each and every dollar donated to the fund is used for the express purpose of rendering financial assistance to American Legion Family Members.
- The total amount of grant monies awarded since the NEF was reinstated in 1989 is more than \$6.9 million.
- Currently there is \$2.1 million available in the fund

What makes the NEF program so unique is our members know they can turn to The American Legion for immediate financial assistance without the red tape or repayment requirements normally associated with outer federal and state agencies.\*

\* must meet criteria to obtain funds

### **Some Veterans to See Another Travel Reimbursement Increase**

Service-disabled and low-income veterans who are reimbursed for travel expenses while receiving care at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities will see an increase in their payments beginning January 9.

A recently passed law allows VA to cut the amount it must withhold from their mileage reimbursement. The deductible amount will be \$3 for each one-way trip and \$6 for each round trip -- with a calendar cap of \$18, or six one-way trips or three round trips, whichever comes first. The previous deductible was \$7.77 for a one-way trip, and \$15.54 for a round trip, with a calendar cap of \$46.62.

In November, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake announced VA's second increase in the mileage reimbursement Rate during 2008, from 28.5 cents to 41.5 cents a mile.



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**COON VALLEY POST No. 116**  
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**COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314**  
  
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**Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast - Sunday February 1<sup>ST</sup>**

\$6.00/adults

Work Schedule

\$4.00/children age 6 to 12

	<b>7:00-10:00am</b>	<b>10:00am-1:00pm</b>
<b>Cooking Scrambled Eggs</b>	Roger Mathison Charles Nelson	Steve Vance Rod Ofte
<b>Cooking Pancakes</b>	Chuck Lind Gary Hess	Ron Miller Dennis Kammel
<b>Cooking Sausages</b>	Stuart Peterson Dan Hofslie	Dennis Miller Richard Reget
<b>Tables, Beverages, Coffee</b>	Michele Kammel Brad Role Herb Cornell Ron Hoff Tom Elsen Frank Baker	Don Kammel Ken Kammel Don Salter Charles Hendrickson Reuben Starch Wally Cox Ron Hoff
<b>Cashier</b>	Frank Mathison	Ken Berg
<b>Bartender</b>	Mike Miller	Gary Grethel
<b>Cleanup ( 12:00 - 1:00)</b>	Frank Mathison, Roger Starkey, Tom Sharratt	