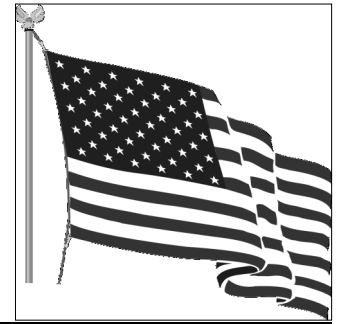




COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



DECEMBER 2013

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 6



Commanders Message:

As December bears down upon us and the holidays draw near, I would like to wish everyone a most joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. It has been an eventful and busy 2013 for Post 116, and I appreciate all of the effort that so many of you put into our organization!

We have several membership renewals outstanding still, so if you have not renewed your membership, please attend to this matter immediately.

Please come early to the regular post meeting and help out with the candy pack! We will need all the help that we can get for this.

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make our December raffle a success! I think everyone there had a real nice evening!

Thank you all for your service to your country, both in the military and now as veterans with the American Legion.

Gary M. Hess
Commander Post 116

December 18th	Regular Post Meeting, CANDY PACK at 6:30pm, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm Lunch Committee: Officers
December 19th	Santa Day! Shut-ins @ 9am and School @ 1:00pm (THURSDAY)
January 6th	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
January 9th	Vernon County Meeting - Viroqua
January 11th	Westby Booster Club Fundraiser at the Legion Hall
January ??	Vernon County Oratorical Contest at the Stoddard American Legion
January 16th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: Steve Nelson and Charlie Nelson
January 19th	Chaseburg Trail Days Parade.
January 17-19th	2014 Midwinter Conference - Ho-Chunk Hotel and Convention Center - Baraboo
January 31st	Present Colors at Opening Ceremonies of the Westby Ski Jump
February 2nd	Superbowl Sunday Breakfast
February 3rd	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
February 5th	Auxiliary Meeting - 7pm potluck and 7:30pm meeting
February 15th	Lion's Vegas Night
February 19th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: Ron Miller & Mike Miller
February 22nd	Baseball Association Chicken-q fundraiser

December Newsletter

2013-2014

Last Bugle:

John Nerison
Willfred Bushek
Jacob Ward*
Mike Brown
Howard Hofslie



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

**Mervin Broten
Not Present**

**December
Drawing will be:
\$60.00**

**50/50
DRAWING
Frank Mathison
\$69.00**

* The Legions portion of the drawing is put towards the building fund*



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

2014 Paid Membership - 145
2014 Membership Goal - 200

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

From the Adjutants Desk:

Fruit Baskets and Candy Pack

The fruit baskets and candy packs that will be handed out for the shut-ins and the elementary school are sponsored by the American Legion Post 116, Coon Valley Lions, and the Coon Valley Conservation Club. Thank you for your support!

Superbowl Sunday Breakfast—February 2nd & Palm Sunday Breakfast—April 13th

Preparations are underway for these two important fundraisers. We will be sending out work schedules in the upcoming months so please be aware of when you are asked to work.

Membership - NOW IS THE TIME!

Since Charlie Nelson is on the State Membership Committee he would like to take this time and remind everyone that we need to get our 2014 memberships turned in. **If your membership card still says 2013 you are not up to date with your dues!** After the State membership report comes out this Thursday, the State membership Chairman, Dallas Loesel, will be contacting every Post in the Department. We need to get Post 116 to 100%. The State of Wisconsin has been 1st in the nation for over a month. Now we need to work harder than any time of the year.

As part of this responsibility, Charlie will contact the many Past Department Commanders, Past Department membership chairman, District officers, County Commanders, and Post Commanders from the 7th District to help get us to a 100% District. It takes personal contact with the members not paid, from here on out!



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

First of all I want to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Second, I want to thank everyone for their contributions for the past year. If you haven't paid your dues yet, you can send me the \$10 to my address. Box 132 Chaseburg WI 54621. We won't meet until January due to the holidays.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

Thanks to everyone who attended the Christmas party this month. A fun time was had by all. As usual, we will not have a January meeting. Therefore, our next meeting is on February 5th, 2014 at 7/7:30.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

December Fundraiser

Thanks to everyone who attended and/or worked at the December Fundraiser. A special thanks to Steve Vance and Frank Mathison for calling the people on the work schedule and verifying their availability. We had a good turnout this year, but we once again were not able to sell all of the tickets. Thanks to Chairman Roger Mathison.

The lucky winners at this years event were:

1st—Joanne Fletcher—\$2500	7th—Harlan Helseth—\$150	13th—Randy & Carol A.—\$75
2nd—Mike & Connie E.—\$1000	8th—Arlyn Jorstad—\$150	14th—Bruce King—\$75
3rd—Richard Schulz—\$500	9th—David & Dawn H.—\$150	15th—Monte Hagen—\$75
4th—M. Manske&K. Bluske—\$250	10th—Paul Larsen—\$75	16th—Charles Lind—\$75
5th—David Hofslie—\$150	11th—Geoff Lenser—\$75	17th—Geoffrey Bnata—\$75
6th—Ray King—\$150	12th—Carol Saxton—\$75	
Early Bird—Troy & JJ Mendiola—\$150		

5-Year Increment Pins

We will be presenting the 5 year Increment Service Pins at the Regular Meeting in December. If your 2014 membership card “years of continuous membership” ends in a 0 or a 5, come get your pin.

Night at the Races – Thank-You

Thanks to Roger and Sandy Mathison for preparing the meal for the Night at the Races. Thank you to those who attended and made this a great night at the Tomah VA: John Thurk, Don Kammel, Ken Kammel, Jim Hammes, Ron Miller, Steve Nelson, Charles Servais, and Charles Nelson. Thanks to the members who donated clothing, blankets, etc.

Thanks to Santa and Helper—Mike Perkins and Roy Stephan

I would like to thank our Santa and his helper for already taking the time this Year to visit the Coon Valley Elementary School students during Books for Breakfast and also for the upcoming visit to the shut-ins and the Coon Valley Elementary School. If you see these gentlemen give them a thank-you!

Service Awards

I do not know at this time who our Service Award nominees will be. Tami Saleska and Ron Hoff are working on them this year. They need to be turned in at the County meeting in Viroqua in January.

Roof update

The loan currently stands at around \$5,500.00. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to paying down this considerable amount of debt.

2014 Vernon County Banquet

The 2014 Vernon County Banquet will be held at Stoddard American Legion Post 116. We are still waiting to hear the date.

Tagline Contest

The Internal Affairs Commission revisited the tagline contest during the Fall Meetings in Indianapolis and concluded that since departments and posts were already using taglines of their own, the resolution was withdrawn and the contest was called off. The \$500 budgeted for the winning submission will be applied to the National Emergency Fund.

DD214 and the IRS

The latest IRS information on the DD Form 214 issue is that it is no longer absolutely required by the IRS. If you go out to the Wisconsin State American Legion website there is a memo from the National Adjutant and a Memo from the IRS. Please review both memos if you have a concern.



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

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

The address for the Veterans Service Office is 402 Courthouse Square, Banta Bldg. Suite 100, Viroqua, WI 54665. Office: (608) 637-5323 or (608) 637-5327. Fax: (608) 638-2327 Tami can also be reached via email at tami.saleska@vernoncounty.org

Starting Monday, December 2, you may visit your local Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) service center to request the Veteran Identifier be put on your Wisconsin Driver's License. If it is not your regular renewal time you will be charged the \$14.00 duplicate license fee. If it is your regular renewal time you will be charged the standard renewal rate. You will need a copy of your DD 214 and a WDVA 2241, this form can be gotten online or at your local Veteran Service Office. If you have any questions please call Jim or Tami at 608-637-5323.

The American Legion Department of Wisconsin, 2014 Midwinter Conference, January 17-19, 2014

The 2014 Midwinter Conference will be held January 17-19, 2014 at the Ho-Chunk Hotel & Convention Center, S3214 Highway BD, Baraboo, WI 53913. To pre-register for the 2014 Midwinter Conference go to the Wisconsin State American Legion website(www.wilegion.org) and fill out a registration form. If turned in by January 6 the cost will be \$20/person, and after January 6 it will be \$25/person.

The housing form is also located on the website and the deadline is January, 3 2014. The cost will be \$89.00 + 10.5% tax per room + \$5.00/room/night tribal tax.

This year there will be a Rhino's Midwinter Team Building Ball at 7pm on Saturday. The special guest speaker will be Guy Gruters. Guy Gruters was raised in New Jersey. He accepted a bid to the Air Force Academy and graduated with a B.S. in Engineering Science. After Pilot Training and gunnery school, he volunteered for Vietnam and served six years in Vietnam, more than five years as a POW. Guy will share team building that he learned from the best team he was ever with, his POW team.

Westby Snowflake Ski Jump—January 31st

The Coon Valley American Legion will be presenting Colors at opening ceremony at the Snowflake Ski Jump on Friday evening at 7:00pm. Commander Hess will be contacting members to help with this.