



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



FEBRUARY 2013

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 8



## Commanders Message:

I would like to thank everyone who helped perform opening ceremonies for the Westby Ski Jump; I received many thanks and comments on how professional we were.

We had a great turn out for our Annual Super Bowl Sunday breakfast; thanks to all who helped cook and clean!

We continue to work on membership and have a few more that need to pay so we can be 100%; this is very important because we need to be 100% to send 4 delegates to the state convention.

Reminder - We are hosting the Vernon County Banquet on March 16th; Please contact one of the Officers if you are able to help. Also we need desserts for the meal; please drop off by noon.

Hope to see you at the next regular post meeting on Thursday February 21st (Change due to Lent).

**Gary J. Grethel  
Commander Post 116**

## Dates to Remember

**February 21st** Regular Post Meeting (THURSDAY), meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm  
Lunch Committee: R. Miller & M. Miller

**February 23rd** Coon Valley Area Baseball Association's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser - 5pm til gone

**March 4th** Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm

**March 16th** Vernon County Banquet - Coon Valley Post 116

**March 21st** Informal Legion Meeting - 7:00pm (THURSDAY)

Meal by Auxiliary served at 7:30pm

Vernon County Meeting - 8:00pm

**March 23rd** SAL Bean Bag Tournament

**March 24th** Palm Sunday Breakfast (work schedule will be in March newsletter)

**April 1st** Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm

**April 3rd** Auxiliary Meeting

**April 17th** Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm

Lunch Committee: C. Lind & R. Starkey

**April 21st** Legion Baseball Fundraiser (Micro-Marathon)

**April 22nd** Vernon County Meeting in Ontario

**April 27th** SAL Bean Bag Tournament

# February Newsletter

2012-2013

## Last Bugle:

Oswald Ihle  
Leonard Olson\*  
George Bahr  
Merwin Bjornstad

\* not a Legion Member



## BUCKET DRAWING

Garret Bjornstad  
Not Present

February  
Drawing will be:  
\$30.00

50/50  
DRAWING  
Virgil Hanold  
\$65.00

\* The Legions portion of  
the drawing is put to-  
wards the building  
fund\*



## COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Gary J. Gretzel  
(608) 452-2261  
Adjutant: Charles 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

2013 Paid Membership - 187  
2013 Membership Goal - 205

On the web:

[www.coonvalleywialpost116.org](http://www.coonvalleywialpost116.org)

Webmaster - Don Salter: [dwsalter@gmail.com](mailto:dwsalter@gmail.com)

## From the Adjutants Desk:

Thank you to Hoff, Banta, Cox, and Cary for serving an excellent meal that was enjoyed by all. Thanks also for donating the meal!

The Coon Valley American Legion would like to thank Annette Ihle for the many years of service she gave to the Coon Valley American Legion, cleaning the Hall. Few of us realize that this is a job that requires a great amount of time, dedication, commitment, and working many non-conventional hours. A huge thank-you goes out to you Annette!

The Coon Valley American Legion has hired LouAnn Wolff to clean the hall. Please give LouAnn a large Legion welcome when you see her.

Mid-Winter was January 18-20<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin Dells Ho-Chunk Casino. Roger Mathison, Frank Mathison and John Thurk attended from our Post.

Roger Mathison is looking into the cost of another set of Legion Colors to leave permanently in the hall. The current ones will be used for parades, etc.

A thank-you was received from the family of Ervin Jacobson for the shut-in delivery.

A thank-you and donation was received from the family of George Bahr in the amount of \$400.

A donation was received from Elmore Haugen in memory of Marjorie in the amount of \$5,000 to go towards the roof.

Thank-you to Ron Miller, Gordan Hellwig, and Jim Schmidt for the work they did on the chairs and tables at the Legion hall.

The body voted to purchase up to three restaurant grade highchairs for the Legion Hall.



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

We will have an informal meeting prior to the Legion meeting Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 pm. Various items will be discussed at this meeting. Beanbag tourneys are scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully we will see you there!

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



## Message from Auxiliary President:

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 4th. Please note we are not meeting on Wednesday that week, due to Lent. As usual, potluck starts at 7 and the meeting starts at 7:30. Please try to make it, since we will have a lot of information to discuss. In particular, we will discuss serving for the Legion meeting in March, as well as other upcoming events. Thanks!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

## Service Award Winners are:

**Vernon County Teacher of the Year:** Mark Luebke

**Vernon County EMT of the Year:** Daryl Brye

The paperwork for Daryl was forwarded on to the 7th District.

## 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.

## American Legion tagline contest – deadline April 19, 2013

You can help us craft an American Legion tagline by submitting your ideas by email to tagline@legion.org. Submissions may be submitted by individuals (membership is not required), posts, districts, counties or departments; there is no limit to the number that may submitted but each submission must be contained in a single email.

## DOD and VA to scrap electronic health record program

WASHINGTON (Feb. 6, 2013) -- The departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs are scrapping their joint effort to create an Integrated Electronic Health Record (iEHR) system by 2017, after spending about \$1 billion on the project.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Eric Shinseki and Department of Defense (DoD) Secretary Leon Panetta made the announcement Feb. 5 at VA's Central Office here.

## Why The Services Can't Work Together (from jumbojoke.com)

One reason the Services have trouble operating jointly is that they don't speak the same language.

For example, if you told Navy personnel to "secure a building," they would turn off the lights and lock the doors.

Army personnel would occupy the building so no one could enter.

Marines would assault the building, capture it, and defend it with suppressive fire and close combat.

The Air Force, on the other hand, would take out a three-year lease with an option to buy.

## Westby Snowflake Ski Jump

Commander Grethel would like to thank all of the members of the Color Guard who presented Colors at the 2013 Snowflake Ski Jump. We all were glad to have "ol' left shoulder arms" with us again this year. Thanks to Rod Ofte for supplying the Color Guard units with a warming house this year as well as some food and refreshment. Thanks to Daryl Brye for warming us up as soon as we completed our presentation of Colors with some form of apple juice!

## 7<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Contest

The 7<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Contest was Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at West Salem. There was one contestant from Holmen.

## 2013 American Legion Chicken-Q

The Westby American Legion baseball team will be playing Viroqua at 1:30pm for our chicken Q with the jrs. playing West Salem at 4:00pm.

## 2013 Westby American Legion Baseball

One interesting note on the schedule this year is the team will travel to Shakopee MN to play a double header with them. They are coached by former Westby player Ryan Niedfeldt.

## 2013 Sno-Cross at the Ski Hill

Commander Grethel would like to thank all of the members of the Color Guard who presented Colors at the 2013 Sno-Cross at the Ski Hill.



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
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### **Coon Creek Trout Fest**

The Executive Committee discussed the Coon Creek Trout Fest at our last meeting. We will have some additional information that we can present at the regular monthly meeting so we can make an informed decision.

We do know that the Trout Fest will allow food vendors this year. They will charge \$100 for a booth, but non-profits will be charged \$50. Electricity will be \$25. We will need to decide at the regular meeting on whether or not we want to do anything.

### **2013 Vernon County Banquet - March 16, 2013**

The 2013 Vernon County Banquet will be held at the Coon Valley Legion Post 116 on March 16, 2013. The meal will be meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, vegetable, assorted cakes and homemade bars at a price of \$12.50. We will hire bartenders for the night. Bar will open at 5pm, eat at 7pm, with the program following. Candidate for National Commander, Denise Rohan, will speak at our Vernon County Banquet this year. Reservations are requested by March 8th to Roger Mathison by email to [cvpstcmd@mwt.net](mailto:cvpstcmd@mwt.net) or by phone at 608-452-3965. We are asking members to bake bars/cakes/cookies for dessert and drop them off that morning.

### **COON VALLEY MICRO (.001) MARATHON - April 21st**



An untimed non-Olympic sanctioned event (138.435'). Refreshment of your choice at the 75' mark. We are planning to serve steak sandwiches, burgers, and chicken sandwiches, and of course the full bar that day. Serving will begin at 11:00am and continue throughout the day. We will run the races periodically during the day. There will be a Celebrity race at 3:00pm. To preregister email [cvpstcmd@mwt.net](mailto:cvpstcmd@mwt.net) with T-shirt size. We will need some help from Post members to tend bar and cook. Parents will also help. \$20 pre-registration/\$25 day of event/includes T-shirt. All Proceeds to benefit American Legion Baseball