



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



JANUARY 2013

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 7



## Commanders Message:

Thanks to everyone for all of the work/help you provided for the Legion in 2012.

We still have several members that have not paid their dues; please pay as soon as you can.

Please look over the upcoming events (listed below) and contact me if you need more information or if you can assist.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Gary J. Grethel

Commander Post 116

## Dates to Remember

<b>January 16th</b>	SAL Meeting 6:30pm
<b>January 16th</b>	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm Lunch Committee: Cox, Hoff, Cary, Banta
<b>January 17-20th</b>	2013 Midwinter Conference - Ho-Chunk Hotel and Convention Center - Baraboo
<b>January 20th</b>	Traildays Parade - Chaseburg - We will be marching!
<b>January 26th</b>	La Crosse County Banquet
<b>February 1st</b>	Present Colors at Opening Ceremonies of the Westby Ski Jump
<b>February 3rd</b>	Superbowl Sunday Breakfast
<b>February 3rd</b>	Four Chaplain Sunday
<b>February 4th</b>	Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
<b>February 6th</b>	Auxiliary Meeting, potluck at 7pm, meeting at 7:30pm
<b>February 20th</b>	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm Lunch Committee: R. Miller & M. Miller
<b>March 4th</b>	Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
<b>March 16th</b>	Vernon County Banquet - Coon Valley Post 116
<b>March 21st</b>	Informal Legion Meeting - 7:00pm (THURSDAY) Meal served at 7:30pm Vernon County Meeting - 8:00pm
<b>March 24th</b>	Palm Sunday Breakfast

# January Newsletter

2012-2013

Last Bugle:

Oswald Ihle  
Leonard Olson\*  
George Bahr  
Merwin Bjornstad

\* not a Legion Member



## BUCKET DRAWING

Gordon Hellwig  
Not Present

January  
Drawing will be:  
\$20.00

50/50  
DRAWING  
John Thurk  
\$55.00

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



## COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Gary J. Grethel  
(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 - 177  
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 all the members who attended last month's meeting to receive their 5 year increment pin(s).

Thanks to the members who delivered the Candy to the C.V. Elementary School. Since our date before Christmas was cancelled it needed to be done after Christmas.

### 2013 Vernon County Banquet

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.

### Happy Birthday Boys!

Don and Ken Kammel will be celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party at the Legion Hall on February 9th from 3pm to 8pm. They welcome your attendance, but wish for no gifts.

### Email notice for when to fly flag at half-staff

Sign up to receive an e-mail notice when the U.S. flag is flown at half-staff. Go to <http://www.legion.org/flag/notification>.



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

We will have an informal meeting @ 6:30pm prior to the Legion meeting on Jan. 16th.

We will discuss the beanbag tourney, etc.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



### Message from Auxiliary President:

We did not have a meeting in January. Our next meeting is on February 6th. Remember pot luck is at 7pm and the meeting starts at 7:30pm. We hope to see you there!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

**Nominees for the Service Awards are:**

**Teacher of the Year:** Mark Luebke, selected by the County as well.

**Firefighter of the Year:** Russ Cornford

**EMT of the Year:** Daryl Brye, selected by the County as well.

The paperwork was completed and turned in at the County Meeting Feb 10th at Viroqua. Post 116 wishes the best of luck to all of the above nominees.

**Westby Snowflake Ski Jump—February 1st**

The Coon Valley American Legion will be presenting Colors at opening ceremony at this years Snowflake Ski Jump on Friday, Feb. 1st at 7:00pm. Thank you to those who have agreed to show colors. We look forward to mingling with all of our members who take such special care of the Color Guard that evening!

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

Part of every company's identity is its tagline. What company do you think of when you read: "Semper Fidelis"; "Where's The Beef?"; "Don't Leave Home Without It"; "No One Does More For Veterans" (yes, even VFW has a tagline); "We've Got Your Back"; or "The UnCola"?

Through the years the Legion has had many slogans such as "Marching Together Again"; "Veterans Serving Veterans"; "Every Day is Veterans Day"; "Still Serving America"; "For God and Country" which will never go away but doesn't serve as an effective tagline.

You can help us craft an American Legion tagline by submitting your ideas by email to [tagline@legion.org](mailto: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.

If your tagline is the one recommended to the NEC, and adopted exactly as submitted, you will receive a \$500 check, and a Certificate of Appreciation plaque signed by the National Commander in recognition of your winning entry. The winning entry will be posted on [www.Legion.org](http://www.Legion.org) after the NEC meets in mid-May 2013. In the event of duplicate winning entries, the earliest received will be declared the winner. Please include your name and phone number on each entry. Only one entry per email submission. All entries will be acknowledged by a return email. Save that return receipt as proof of your submission.

**Veterans Affairs update on Annual Eligibility Verification Report**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced that veterans will no longer have to complete an annual Eligibility Verification Report (EVR). This elimination will allow more than 100 VA staff to focus on the compensation claims backlog.

Completion of an EVR has been required annually of beneficiaries to ensure pension benefits are received. Now, VA will work with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to verify continued eligibility for pension benefits.

VA will send a letter to beneficiaries who currently receive pension that explains the changes and provides instructions on how to continue to submit their unreimbursed medical expenses.

Visit [www.benefits.va.gov/pension](http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension) for more information about VA pension benefits.

**Five-Year Membership Plan**

The American Legion's National Membership & Post Activities Committee is gathering in Indianapolis over the next few days to look at a five-year membership plan for the organization.

During the 2012 Fall National Executive Committee Meetings, the NEC passed Resolution 64, which charges the M&PA Committee with devising a five-year plan to hit 3.3 million members and eclipse the previous all-time membership high set in the 1990s.

On Friday and Saturday, the committee will gather together to discuss the plan.



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

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### **Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast - Sunday, February 3rd**

	<b>7:00-10:00am</b>	<b>10:00am-1:00pm</b>
<b>Cooking Scrambled Eggs</b>	Roger Mathison Charles Nelson	Steve Vance Dennis Kammel
<b>Cooking Pancakes</b>	Chuck Lind Ron Miller	Harlan Helseth Michael Miller
<b>Cooking Sausages</b>	Stuart Peterson Dan Hofslie	Rolv Ihle Gary Hess
<b>Tables, Beverages, Coffee</b>	Sherman Olson Jeff Hanson Mary Schmidt Leon Minor Ken Kammel Don Kammel Herb Cornell	Tom Elson Tom Sharratt Don Salter Roger Starkey Reuben Starch Wally Cox Carl Holte
<b>Cashier</b>	Frank Mathison	James Hammes
<b>Bartender</b>	“Hey Load”	Rod Ofte
<hr/>		
<b>Cleanup ( 12:00 - 1:00)</b>	Richard Reget    Michael Miller    Harlan Helseth    Gary Hess Rolv Ihle <b>Need additional volunteers to stay &amp; help!!!</b>	
<b>Jack of all trades:</b>	Commander Gary Grethel	