



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



NOVEMBER 2013

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 5



Commanders Message:

I want to thank everyone who pitched in over the past month in everything that has taken place. For those who helped out with the November Pork Dinner, you have my deepest gratitude. For everyone who helped with the tree trimming, especially Mike Schedivy, my thanks are not enough. For those who participated in the Veteran's Day ceremonies, thank you not only for your service to your Country but your continued service to your community in your participation with the American Legion. We have more events coming up that we need as much membership participation as is possible. The December Raffle and banquet is our largest event of the year, the one that we really need to make successful. If every member sold but one or two tickets, we would sell out at this event. Understanding that we have members all over the country, that is not such an easy equation, but none the less, if we all pitch in just a little, then many hands make light work.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you, the proud Veterans of the American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, Coon Valley Post 116.

Gary M. Hess
Commander Post 116

November 20th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: S.A.L.
November 21st	Night at the Races - Tomah VA - meet at Legion at 5:00pm.
December 2nd	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
December 3rd	Auxiliary Christmas Party - Stockyard - cocktails at 6pm, meal at 6:30
December 7th	December Raffle - Coon Valley Village Hall - \$75/couple - Pogy's catering
December 10th	Books for Breakfast at Coon Valley Elementary School, 7:15am to 7:45am.
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
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 16-19th ???	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 22nd	Baseball Association Chicken-q fundraiser

November Newsletter

2013-2014

Last Bugle:

John Nerison
Willfred Bushek
Jacob Ward*

* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

**Dane Hofslie
Not Present**

**November
Drawing will be:
\$50.00**

**50/50
DRAWING
Tom Sharratt
\$73.00**

* 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 - 135
2014 Membership Goal - 200

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org
Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

From the Adjutants Desk:

Commander Hess would like to remind all of us: We are still striving towards a good membership renewal season. If you have not renewed your membership, please tend to this matter immediately. First renewal notices went out in July and it should not take this long for members to renew their dues. Remember, membership is not a right but a privilege. We can not secure our rights as Veterans without the membership numbers that make us strong, for there is strength in number when it comes to Veterans Rights.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

We will have an S.A.L. meeting on Monday, Nov. 18th @ 7 pm at the Legion Hall. Topics to discuss are 1) Serving at the Legion meeting on Nov. 20th, 2) Annual memberships, 3) Bean bag tourneys, 4) Officers and bylaws, etc.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

At our November meeting, we heard from our 2013 Badger Girls State Delegate, Emma Frydenlund, regarding her experience at Badger Girls State this summer. She provided very interesting information and we all enjoyed her presentation. She thanked the Auxiliary for providing her with this opportunity.

If you haven't already paid your dues for 2014, please do so before the end of the year. If anyone is interested in becoming a "paid up for life" member, talk to Gloria, our Membership Chairperson.

We began discussing our by-laws at the November meeting. More to follow in 2014.

Our next meeting is our Holiday Party at the Stockyard on Tuesday, December 3rd. We'll plan on cocktails at 6pm and ordering our meal at 6:30. If you can join us, please call Ellie Brye (452-3549) by Friday, November 29th, since she is organizing our reservation. As we have in years past, please bring a \$5 monetary donation for the food pantry, rather than a Christmas gift.

Please all have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving. We have a lot to be thankful for in this community... in particular, our veterans. I am also thankful for each and every one of you in our Auxiliary membership who help support our veterans by belonging to this organization.

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

Work Schedule—\$75.00 Raffle—December 7th 2013

Set-up: 2:00pm:	John Thurk	Charles Nelson	Roger Mathison
	Ron Miller	Frank Mathison	Mike Miller
	Steve Vance	Gary Hess	Gary Grethel

7-9 pm

Sign in/Meal Roster: Carl Holte
Charles Servais

6-8 pm

Chuck-a-luck:	Richard Brye	8-Drawing	
	Roger Hofslie	Frank Mathison	
	Jim Padesky	Jerry Dunnum	
	Mike Callan	Wally Cox	
	Mike Miller	Steve Vance	
	Eric Rude	Larry Hass	
		Harlan Helseth	

Drawing - 1:00 a.m.

Tipboards:	Roger Mathison	Roger Mathison	Charles Nelson
	Dan Hofslie	Ron Hoff	Chad Hofslie
Poker:	Larry Torgerson	Bryan Berg	Scott Berg
	Orlin Clark	Calvin Manske	Darin Berg
Beat the Dealer:	Herb Cornell	Gary Grethel	LaMont Hagen
	Richard Zube	Rolv Ihle	Steven Larson
Black Jack:	Steve Olson	John Elsen	Brad Role
	Steve Nelson	James Elsen	Gary Hess
Cashiers & Vegas:	Jim Hammes	Roger Starkey	
	Chuck Lind	John Thurk	
Mini Raffles:	Ron Miller	Jeff Berg	
	Tony Jefson	Glenn Stakston	

Clean-up : Sunday 9:00am
Steve Vance Ron Miller Gary Grethel Mike Miller
Roger Mathison Gary Hess

Please call Steve Vance (608-780-6451) if you cannot work as scheduled.

December Raffle, Saturday December 7th

Roger Mathison, Frank Mathison and Steve Vance are co-chairing this event. The tickets are printed and Roger has been distributing the tickets which need to be turned in at the November meeting for a chance at winning the early bird drawing. The caterer and meal will be the same as last year. I want to re-emphasize that ***we need help from all of you!*** This is our big fundraiser of the year and we need the money to pay off our loans and to keep improving our facilities. There are only 200 tickets sold at \$75/couple which should not be hard to do! Please let Roger know if you either need a ticket or can help sell a handful of tickets. If anyone has any items that they would be willing to donate as raffle items, please contact Roger Mathison.

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.

Pork Dinner and Family Fun Night, Friday November 1st

Thanks to everyone who came and supported our annual Pork Dinner and Family Fun Night. A special thanks to everyone who worked and lent a helping hand!

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.



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

VA is implementing a comprehensive national VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) to give enrolled Veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase dental insurance through Delta Dental and MetLife at a reduced cost. Participation is voluntary. Purchasing a dental plan does not affect Veterans' eligibility for VA dental services and treatment. VADIP opens November 15 for the purchasing of plans, with coverage beginning January 1, 2014.

Covered services include diagnostic, preventative, surgical, emergency and endodontic/restorative treatment. Delta Dental and MetLife are offering multiple plans. Each participant pays the fixed monthly premiums for coverage and any copayments required, depending on the type of plan selected.

Dependents of Veterans, except those eligible under CHAMPVA, are not authorized to participate in VADIP. Those individuals may be eligible for separate dental insurance coverage offered by these carriers.

Backlog of Disability Claims Reduced by 34 Percent since March

93 Percent of Claims Over One Year Old Completed

WASHINGTON (Nov. 7, 2013) –The Department of Veterans Affairs has made significant progress in reducing the backlog of disability compensation claims – from 611,000 to 400,835 or 34 percent -- since peaking in March.

One Million Now Benefit from Post-9/11 GI Bill

Over \$30 Billion in Benefits for Veterans, Servicemembers, Families

WASHINGTON (Nov. 8, 2013) – The Department of Veterans Affairs announced today that 1 million Veterans, Servicemembers, and family members have benefited from the Post-9/11 GI Bill since the program's inception in August 2009.