



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



APRIL 2014

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 10

Commanders Message:



Thanks to everyone who attended the Vernon County Meeting that we hosted last month. The Auxiliary, as usual, served up a fantastic meal. I thank them for that support and all the support that they provide to us all year long.

Congratulations to SAL member Jacob Berg for not only achieving his Eagle Scout badge, but also for being selected as American Legion Department of Wisconsin Eagle Scout of the Year for 2014! Now it is on to National and we have great hope of you placing well there!

Palm Sunday breakfast is this Sunday, April 13th. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

As a reminder, the 7th District American Legion Riders is collecting donation items to take over to Camp American Legion. There is a box for collecting the items at the bar along with a complete wish list from Camp, so please take some time to help out with this endeavor as it greatly helps Camp help our veterans who are suffering from physical and mental issues as a result of their service.

Lastly, on Monday, May 26th, we will be observing Memorial Day. This will be a busy morning for us as we will be visiting local cemeteries to render honors for our departed comrades, hosting the parade through the village on Main Street as well as the program at the Veterans Memorial. This will be discussed in more detail at our next meeting, Wednesday, April 16th, as well as at our May regular post meeting. I look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

Gary M. Hess
Commander Post 116

April 16th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8pm Lunch Committee: Chuck Lind & Roger Starkey
April 26th	2nd Annual Micro Marathon and Pork Feed - CANCELLED
April 28th	Vernon County Meeting - Ontario - 8:00pm
April 28th	SAL Meeting - 7:30pm
May 5th	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
May 7th	Auxiliary Meeting with potluck at 7:00pm and meeting at 7:30pm
May 9-10th	Department Spring Meetings - Portage
May 17th	Armed Forces Day at Fort McCoy
May 17th	Freedom Honor Flight
May 18th	Syttende Mai Parade - Westby - begins at 1:30pm
May 21st	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Ken Kammel
May 26th	Memorial Day Parade and Program - Main Speaker - Col. Steven Nott
May 28th	Vernon County Meeting - Chaseburg - 8:00pm
June 2nd	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
June 8th	American Legion Chicken-Q
June 10th	Vernon County Meeting - Genoa - 8:00pm
June 18th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm

APRIL Newsletter

2013-2014

Last Bugle:

John Nerison
Willfred Bushek
Jacob Ward*
Mike Brown
Howard Hofslie



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

Richard Switzer
Not Present

April
Drawing will be:
\$100.00

**50/50
DRAWING**
None since done
during Cty Mtg

* The Legions portion of
the drawing is put to-
wards 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 pub-
lished monthly as a service
to our members. If you wish
to submit an article for a fu-
ture 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 - 189
2014 Membership Goal - 205

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

From the Adjutants Desk:

A new long term care facility has been finalized to be built at the King Veterans Home.
Bethany Knight has been hired as the new cleaning person.

Purchase updated Chaplain's Prayer Book

The Legion recently updated and expanded the Chaplain's Prayer Book, available to post, district and department chaplains. Included are suggested prayers for ceremonies, services and other occasions. To purchase a copy, contact Emblem Sales by phone or online: (888) 453-4466; emblem.legion.org

Paid Up For Life (PUFL) has never been easier

American Legion members interested in the discounted Paid Up For Life program can now easily join online: www.legion.org/join/pufl



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

I believe spring is finally here! First, I want to thank everyone who helped/ participated in the bean bag tournaments. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Our next meeting will be on April 28th at 7:30 pm at the Coon Valley Legion hall. The items to be discussed are the kids coloring contest, Memorial Day activities and the Brewers game.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you.

Thanks to everyone involved in organizing/making/serving the meal for the Legion County meeting in March. It was delicious and very much appreciated.

Gloria is creating the Easter baskets for our local homebound. Thanks to all who help deliver them.

Thanks to Joyce, Mary and Gloria for all of their work with the poppies this year. We will work further on poppies at our May meeting.

We will also discuss plans for Memorial Day at our next meeting.

More patriotic shawls were distributed to our homebound Auxiliary and Legion members. You all are very much appreciated by us. Thanks to our donor for these beautiful patriotic shawls.

Please keep in mind that election of officers will be in June, so please try and attend our very important upcoming meetings.

Our next meeting is on May 7th, with potluck at 7 and meeting at 7:30. We look forward to seeing you there! Thanks.

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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.

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

Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect recently.

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year's provision also applied to members of the armed forces while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14.

Please contact Jim Young or Tami Saleska with any VSO questions at 608-637-5323.

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. The 3x5 outdoor flags are \$25.00.

Coon Creek Trout Fest

We are still waiting to hear what the Trout Fest Committee is planning for 2014.

2nd Annual Coon Valley Micro (.001) Marathon and Pork Feed - CANCELLED

Fire Inspection Report - Just a Reminder!

Post 116 had a fire inspection performed at our Post last year. There were no major issues found, but we need to make sure we maintain the 3' clearance around the electrical panels and make sure exit and emergency lights work. Also, the calculated maximum capacity for the Legion are: Bar = 43 people and Hall = 234 people.

Landscaping

The Legion had plans drawn up several years ago for landscaping around almost all of the Legion Hall. Due to the cost, it was decided to break up the cost over several years and try and complete it in phases. We completed phase one a couple years ago and now that Spring is on the way let's revisit the discussions that we had this past fall concerning what should be included in phase 2.

Brewer Game Perk for Active and Retired Military Personnel

For each Sunday home game in 2014, the Brewers offer two FREE Terrace Level tickets to active and retired military personnel. The offer applies to all branches of the military service. Active and retired military personnel must present valid military identification which entitles them to two FREE Terrace Level tickets redeemable at windows 7-12 at Miller Park on the day of game only. This offer is based on ticket availability. Please contact the Brewer Ticket office directly at (414) 902-4000 for more information.

Show your military ID, VA ID or DD-214 no sooner than two hours before game time, at the ticket window under the clock tower (faces north, behind home plate).

VA Home Loan Seminar - Viroqua VSO

There will be a VA Home Loan Seminar at 6:00pm on Thursday, May 1 at the Vernon County Veterans Affairs Office, 402 Courthouse Square, Suite 100, Viroqua, WI 54665.

Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Vernon County Veterans Affairs at 608-637-5323.

The American Legion Department of Wisconsin, 2014 State Convention

The 2014 State Convention will be held July 17-20, 2014 in Appleton, WI.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
COON VALLEY POST No. 116
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2014 Wisconsin Eagle Scout of the Year - JACOB BERG

The Coon Valley American Legion wishes to congratulate Jacob Berg on receiving the 2014 Eagle Scout of the Year award from the Wisconsin State American Legion. Jacob was nominated for this award through the Coon Valley American Legion and eligible to apply through the service of his grandfather, Ken Berg. Jacob also had the backing of Chaseburg Post 202. Jacob will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the WI Legion, be invited to attend and receive his award at the WI State Convention in Appleton on July 19, and his nomination was forwarded to the National American Legion for consideration for the National Eagle Scout of the Year award. At the National level a \$10,000 scholarship is given to the winner and several runner-ups receive \$2,500 scholarships.

2014 Badger Boy's State Representative

The 2014 Badger Boys State Representative is Alec Meuer, the son of Bob and Patti Meuer from Coon Valley. Congratulations to Alec! Alec will be introduced to everyone at the Memorial Day Program.

2014 Memorial Day

We will need someone to be in charge of getting everything in order for the Program at the Legion Hall. We need volunteers to haul chairs from the Village Hall and to help set up chairs at the Legion Hall at 8:00am.

We will once again need volunteers in uniform for the ceremonies at the cemeteries. We will meet at the Legion at 7:00am. The cemetery schedule is 7:30am at Koethe, 7:45am at Mormon Coulee (both cemeteries), 8:15am at St. Joseph Ridge, 8:30am at North Ridge, 9:30am at Esofea, and 10:00am at Coon Valley Lutheran Church. The Parade will begin lining up at 10:00am by the Post Office.

The ceremony will begin after the completion of the Parade. The guest speaker will be Fort McCoy Garrison Commander, Col. Steven Nott. Lunch after the ceremony will be provided by the Legion Auxiliary.