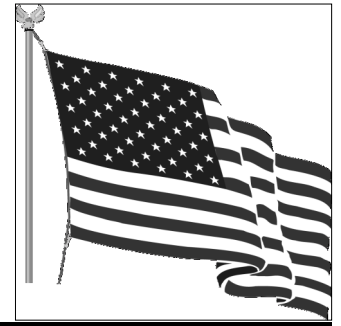




COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



December 2014

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 6



Commanders Message:

It is my privilege to wish everyone a most joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. It has been an eventful and busy 2014 for Post 116, and I appreciate all of the effort that so many of you put into our organization! We have had a very busy past couple of months, so now we have an opportunity to catch our collective breath.

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! Bring your spouse for dinner at the December meeting and we will all have some fun and celebrate the completion of our busy year.

Thanks to everyone who went to the VA to participate with Night At The Races.

Thanks also to everyone who worked so hard to make our December raffle a success! I think everyone there had an excellent evening!

Thank you all for your service to your country, both in the military and now as veterans with the American Legion. To all of the Auxiliary and the SAL members, thank you as well for your contributions to our organization. A lot of our events require the help that you all provide and we could not be

the organization that we are without you all.

Gary M. Hess

Commander Post 116

DATES TO REMEMBER

- December 17th** Spouse Meeting, Pot Luck with Legion providing main course.
CANDY PACK at 6:30pm, meal at 7:30pm, social hour at 8pm
- December 18th** Santa at Books for Breakfast - Coon Valley Elementary School
- December 19th** Santa Day! Shut-ins @ 9am and School @ 1:00pm (Friday)
- January 5th** Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- January 5th** SAL Meeting at 7:30pm (In large meeting room if Exec meeting still going on)
- January 8th** Vernon County Meeting - Viroqua (Thursday)
- January 8th** Auxiliary Kitchen Cleaning Day at the Legion at 9am (Thursday)
- January 10th** Westby Booster Club Fundraiser at the Legion Hall
- January 16-18th** 2015 Midwinter Conference - Ho-Chunk Hotel and Convention Center - Baraboo
- January 18th** Chaseburg Trail Days Parade.
- January 21st** Vernon County Oratorical Contest at the Coon Valley American Legion
- January 21st** Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting
Lunch Committee: Steve Nelson and Charlie Nelson
- January 24th** 7th District Oratorical Contest at West Salem Post 51
- January 30th** Present Colors at Opening Ceremonies of the Westby Ski Jump
- February 1st** Superbowl Sunday Breakfast
- February 2nd** Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- February 4th** Auxiliary Meeting, 6:00pm Potluck and 6:30pm meeting
- February 7th** Vernon County Banquet - Coon Valley Post 116
- February 14th** Lion's Vegas Night at the Village Hall
- February 18th** Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting
Lunch Committee: Ron Miller & Michael Miller

December Newsletter

2014-2015

Last Bugle:

James Miller*

Howard Holen

Rodney Berg, Sr.*

* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

**Daniel Elsen
Not Present**

**December
Drawing will be:
\$40.00**

**50/50
DRAWING
Ronald Hoff
\$83.00**

Legion \$83

* 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

2015 Paid Membership - 172
2015 Membership Goal - 196

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP: Please make your check payable to C.V. Legion Post 116 in the amount of \$30.00 and send to:
Coon Valley American Legion Post 116
PO Box 314
Coon Valley, WI 54623

From the Adjutants Desk:

- ◇ Congratulations to Richard Brye for passing 10,000 hours of volunteer service at the VA hospital in Madison!
- ◇ We will once again be sponsoring Badger Boy's State. \$250 registration will be sent in.



Message from S.A.L. Commander: Calvin Manske

There will not be a meeting in December due to the holidays. First, I want to give thanks to everyone that helped serve at the November Legion meeting and also everyone who helped with the Legion fundraiser this past Saturday. Our next meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 5th @ 7:30 pm. Topics to discuss include beanbag tournaments, Brewers bus trip and a possible fun day for S.A.L. members. Please try to attend to give suggestions. Happy Holidays to everyone.



Message from Auxiliary President: Julie Nelson

Here's wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Auxiliary had our annual Christmas party on December 3rd. We had a very nice time at the Stockyard with good food and great members, including some of our Junior Auxiliary Members. We collected money which will be donated to Bethel Butikk.

We are very excited to announce 2 new members to our Coon Valley American Legion Auxiliary Unit. Please welcome Linda Keuser and Taylor Berra (both related to a long-time Legion member: Sherman Olson). We look forward to working with both Linda and Taylor in the Auxiliary!

Remember the Auxiliary Kitchen Cleaning Day at the Legion is **Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 9 a.m.** It will most likely take awhile, so plan on bringing a dish to pass so that we can take a break and have a bite to eat over the lunch hour. Please come if you are able (even if you can't be there right away, come later). We will need help climbing up to get things in and out of cupboards, washing dishes, washing cupboards and drawers, making labels for cupboards and drawers, etc. Feel free to bring any of your favorite cleaning supplies, since there are lots of nooks and crannies to be cleaned and organized. This can be a wonderful New Year's Resolution, so join us if you can.

As usual, we will not have a meeting in January, so our next meeting is Wednesday, February 4, 2015. Potluck at 6 and the meeting begins at 6:30.

To all of our Auxiliary members: Thank you for all that you do: your loyal membership, working at events, coming to meetings, donating your time and talents, honoring veterans, supporting veterans, and everything else that you do. I am thankful for another year of being a member of such an important group. I look forward to serving with each of you in the New Year.

December Raffle, Saturday December 6th

Thanks to everyone who attended and/or worked at the December Fundraiser. We had a good turnout this year, and finally had nice weather. Thanks to Chairmans Roger Mathison, Steve Nelson and Michael Miller.

The lucky winners at this years event were:

1st—Roger Hofslie—\$2500	7th—Ed Klos—\$150	13th—Mark Seland—\$75
2nd—Roger Starkey—\$1000	8th—J. & J. Stalsberg—\$150	14th—Jill Gettleman—\$75
3rd—John and Sarah Rudie—\$500	9th—Brian Role—\$150	15th—Steve Nelson—\$75
4th—Ed Niemyński —\$250	10th—Earl Hofslie—\$75	16th—Kyle Kruizenga —\$75
5th—David Fladhammer—\$150	11th—Orrin Stakston—\$75	17th—Charles Servais—\$75
6th—Richard Schulz—\$150	12th—Wally and Shelby Cox—\$75	
Early Bird—Randy Strangstalien—\$150		

5-Year Increment Pins

We will be presenting the 5 year Increment Service Pins at the Regular Meeting in December. If your 2015 membership card “years of continuous membership” ends in a 0 or a 5, come get your pin.

Service Awards

I do not know at this time who our Service Award nominees will be. They need to be turned in at the County meeting in Viroqua in January.

Night at the Races - November 20th

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: Ron Miller, Frank Mathison, Stuart Peterson, Jim Hammes, Don Kammel and Bernie Roesler. Also, thanks to the members who donated clothing, blankets, etc. throughout the year. I think the members paid out around \$120 during the races this year.

Thanks to Santa and Helper—Mike Perkins and Roy Stephan

I would like to thank our Santa and his helper for taking the time again this Year to visit the Coon Valley Elementary School students during Books for Breakfast on December 18 and also for the visit to the shut-ins and the Coon Valley Elementary School on December 19. If you see these gentlemen give them a thank-you!

Roof update

The loan currently stands at around \$3,691.03 with our \$2,010.70 semi-annual payment due on 1/13/15. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to paying down this considerable amount of debt.

2015 Vernon County Banquet - February 7

The 2015 Vernon County Banquet will be held at Coon Valley American Legion Post 116. The date of the banquet will be February 7.

December Spouse Meeting and Potluck - December 17

The Legion will be providing a main course from leftovers from our December Raffle and therefore we are asking that members and their spouses/significant others bring a side dish, salad or dessert to pass. Let's have some fun!



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

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

Please keep in mind when posting on social media:

Our friends at the FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigation issued a warning to current and former military members to review their social media accounts and avoid posts that might attract attention from the group calling itself the Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL) and its supporters.

The FBI and DHS notes that the Islamic State group already has publicly encouraged attacks against law enforcement and military Servicemembers.

The bulletin includes a concern that ISIS members are "spotting and assessing" individuals in the U.S. who they believe may be interested in carrying out attacks on US soil against members of the U.S. military.

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

The American Legion Department of Wisconsin, 2015 Midwinter Conference, January 16-18, 2015

The 2015 Midwinter Conference will be held January 16-18, 2015 at the Ho-Chunk Hotel & Convention Center, S3214 Highway BD, Baraboo, WI 53913. To pre-register for the 2015 Midwinter Conference go to the Wisconsin State American Legion website(www.wilegion.org) and fill out a registration form. If turned in by January 4 the cost will be \$20/person, and after January 5 it will be \$25/person. The housing form is also located on the website

This year there will be a Saturday Evening Dinner Celebration. The special guest speaker will be Colonel Jeffrey J. Wiegand. Colonel Wiegand is Commander of the 115th Fighter wing of the Wisconsin Air National Guard, located at Dane County Regional Airport - Truax Field in Madison. For more information on Colonel Wiegand and the 115th Fighter wing go to www.wilegion.org.

Westby Snowflake Ski Jump—January 30th

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.