



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



July 2014

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 1



Commanders Message:

Summer is officially here and we have gotten through a pretty busy period in our calendar year, so now we can briefly, collectively catch our breath.

State Convention is coming up, so several of the post officers will be in attendance, including our candidate for Department Vice Commander, John Thurk. I look forward to being at Convention, renewing some friendships and participating in the election process for the next year's Department Officers.

Everyone should have received their 2015 renewal notice in the mail this past week. I encourage everyone to take the time to renew their membership now, while the notice is still fresh and in our in-boxes. I encourage everyone who is able to pursue the Paid Up For Life Membership option. I recently updated my membership to PUFL and I will never have to worry about a renewal notice again. There is a lot of information about the PUFL Membership on the Wisconsin Legion website www.legion.org/join/pufl so please explore that if you are able. If you do not have a computer and are interested in the PUFL Membership, please see First Vice Commander Steve Nelson, Adjutant Charlie Nelson or myself and we will work through the process with you.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer! I look forward to seeing everyone at the July regular post meeting.

Gary M. Hess
Commander Post 116

July 16th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: S. Vance & E. Williams & F. Mathison
July 17-20	State Convention - Appleton, WI
July 26th	Coon Creek Trout Fest
July 28th	S.A.L. Regular Meeting at 7:30pm.
August 4th	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
August 4th	Vernon County Meeting - Westby - eat at about 7:30pm and meeting at 8pm. Get those County tickets sold!
August 6th	Auxiliary Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Pot luck starts at 7:00pm.
August 20th	Post Everlasting Ceremony, 7:00pm with meal following with family and friends Lunch Committee: Gary Grethel Regular Post Meeting at 8:00pm or appropriately when the meal is finished.
September 1st	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm - unless change for Labor Day!
September 7th	Cashton Fall Festival Parade - 12:30pm start
September 10th	Vernon County Meeting - Hillsboro 8:00 pm
September 11th	Flag Disposal Ceremony, 6:30pm - Chaseburg American Legion
September 17th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm-Lunch Committee: Roger Mathison
September 18-21	Vernon County Fair - Post 116 works on Sunday

JULY Newsletter

2014-2015

Last Bugle:

James Miller*

* Not a Post 116 member



BUCKET DRAWING

Don Kammel
Present - \$120

July
Drawing will be:
\$10.00

50/50
DRAWING
Frank Mathison
\$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 - ??
2015 Membership Goal - 20?

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org

Webmaster - Don Salter: dwsalter@gmail.com

From the Adjutants Desk:

- ◇ At the June regular meeting, Ronald Miller, introduced Bernard Roesler, who he signed up as a new member. Please welcome Bernard to our Post!
- ◇ Don Salter presented information about the website, including the cost of the Domain Name as well as the Web Service. He mentioned that these costs have been increasing somewhat significantly each year. He mentioned that he still thought that it was reasonable at roughly \$150/year. Thanks Don for doing this for us!
- ◇ The new Vernon County Veteran's Commissioner is our very own Frank Mathison. Congratulations Frank!
- ◇ Thanks to the members who presented Colors at the Coon Valley/Westby vs Viroqua Legion game on July 3rd in Viroqua. Sgt-at Arms Dan Hofslie, Stewart Peterson, Frank Mathison, Lary Hass, and Charlie Nelson.
- ◇ Any Purple Heart recipient from Wisconsin is eligible to purchase the State Patrons hunting license at a cost of \$10.00.

Rendezvous Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, June 22nd

The Post wishes to thank everyone who helped out with the Pancake breakfast on June 22nd. Although we have really enjoyed helping out with the Rendezvous event, the participation that we get at our breakfast has been very minimal. This year we only cleared about \$120 for a full morning of work.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

I want to thank everyone that went to the Brewers game on June 28th. I hope everyone had a good time. Also, thank you to everyone that helped to put this trip together. We will have a meeting on July 28th @ 7:30 at the Legion hall.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

Hello Everyone. Thanks to everyone who attended the July meeting. Officer positions were discussed and will be discussed again at our August meeting.

Please, please if you know of any eligible candidates to join the Auxiliary, have them contact me or any other Auxiliary member.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is on August 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Pot luck starts at 7. Please come if you can.

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

Veterans Benefits Expo – 21 August 2014 – 11:00am to 6:00pm @ Logistics Health Inc., 328 Front St. South, La-Crosse, WI 54601.-----Services and resource available for state, local and federal Benefits-----Determine eligibility to apply for state, local and Federal benefits-----Connect with Local employment Reps-----Navigate Educational Opportunities-----Submit Military Records requests and discharge review-----Learn about Wisconsin Veterans Homes and Cemeteries-----Engage with the Federal VA Regional Office.

There will be 3 workshops presented throughout the day by Wisconsin Procurement Institute on Veterans starting their own business.

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

100th Anniversary of the National American Legion

Planning is in the works for the 100th Anniversary of the National American Legion and each Post is being asked to contribute something to the National American Legion website. Past Wisconsin State Historian Frank Mathison has volunteered (actually he already had things in the works!) to update the History of Post 116 for the National Legion's 100th Anniversary sometime when the weather gets cooler in the next several months. In doing so he will be updating the current Post History pamphlet. He could use someone to help him type up the information as well as layout the History pamphlet on a computer. If you are good at typing and computer literate please contact Frank Mathison! In addition if anyone has any ideas of anything else that would be of historical interest that we could send to the National website about Post 116, please run it by Frank Mathison.

Vernon County American Legion

County tickets are available. They are \$5.00 each. Drawings will be held at each of the seven County Meetings.

August – 1 st Monday- Westby	March – 3 rd Thursday – Coon Valley
September – 2 nd Wednesday – Hillsboro	April – 4 th Monday – Ontario
October – 3 rd Tuesday – Stoddard	May – 4 th Wednesday – Chaseburg
January – 2 nd Thursday – Viroqua	

See Commander Gary Hess if you wish to purchase a ticket. ***We need your help to sell the remaining 20 tickets!***

June Monthly Meeting Bucket Drawing Results - Drawn until a winner was in attendance

The June monthly meeting bucket drawing was up for grabs at the maximum amount of \$120. Since June is the last meeting for us, of the Legion year, the drawing is held until a member in attendance is drawn. The names that were drawn: Howard Moilien, Edward Bena, James Torgerson, Wade Kammel, John Sisbach, Jefferey Thoreson – All Not Present, The lucky winner in attendance was Donald Kammel. The July drawing will be for \$10.00.

Installation of Officers

Installation of Officers took place at our June meeting and was performed by 7th District Commander John Thurk.

The officers installed were: Commander - Gary Hess; 1st Vice Commander (Membership chairman) - Steve Nelson; 2nd Vice Commander (Children & Youth chairman) - Larry Hass; 3rd Vice Commander (Americanism chairman) - Rod Ofte; Chaplain - Rolv Ihle; Historian - Frank Mathison; Webmaster - Don Salter; Sergeant-at-Arms - Dan Hofslie; Service Officer - Tami Saleska; and Finance Officer - Roger Mathison.

*** Remember, that as an elected official, and recent Past Commander, you are expected to attend the Executive meetings! ***

July \$50 winners in the Westby/Coon Valley American Legion Fundraising Raffle

1 - Don Hess	7 - Barb Wolfe
2 - RogerNiedfeldt	8 - Michele Meyers
3 - Ron Hole	9 - Marypat Peterson
4 - Marvin Lee	10 - Cindy Janiero
5 - SteveHolte	
6 - JasonHundt	



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

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John Thurk

Candidate for
 Department Vice Commander



7th District Commander John Thurk is a candidate for the office of Department Vice Commander. John earned his eligibility to join The American Legion by serving in the United States Army during the Korean War era. Commander Thurk has been an American Legion member since 1996 and is proud to belong to the Coon Valley Post No. 116.

John has served in a number of positions at Post No. 116 including 5 years as Post Commander. The post reached all-time highs in membership 3 times during his tenure. John has served as Vernon County Commander and currently serves as 7th District Commander. Commander Thurk has also served as the Department Americanism & Government Scholarship test program Chairman for 4 years.

John encourages everyone to ask a veteran they know to join The American Legion and is asking for your support and your vote for the high office of Department Vice Commander.

2014 State Convention - Appleton, WI - July 17-20

The 96th Annual State Convention will be held in Appleton on July 17-20. Post 116 automatic delegates are Past Wisconsin State Commander Roger Mathison and 7th District Commander John Thurk. Post 116 delegates are Frank Mathison, Gary Hess, and Charles Nelson. Post 116 alternate delegates are Steve Nelson, Michael Miller, and Gary Grethel. Please remember that any member is eligible to attend the State Convention!

The delegates from our Post will participate in the 7th District Caucus each day from 7:30am to about 9am and also the Convention Sessions which usually take place from about 9am to noon. They also have the responsibility to vote for the new State Officers on Saturday.

Post 116 member, John Thurk, is running for the high office of Wisconsin State Vice Commander. Past Wisconsin State Historian Frank Mathison will be giving John's nomination speech on the Convention floor. Please wish John the best in his run for State Vice Commander!

Vernon County Drawing (May) Winners:

\$50 – Forrest George-----\$25 – Post 138-----\$25 – Richard Sebranek-----\$15 – Robert Anderson-----\$10 – Post 138

Vernon County Drawing (June) Winners:

\$50 – Elizabeth Kruck-----\$25 – Cal Manske-----\$25 - Teresa Rose-----\$15 – Post 155-----\$10 – Robert Anderson