



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



September 2014

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 3



Commanders Message:

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with the many events of the past month; Opening Ceremonies for the Regional Legion Baseball Tournament in Viroqua, Cashton Fall Festival Parade, 9/11 Memorial Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony in Chaseburg, September Vernon County Meeting in Hillsboro, and the Vernon County Fair just to name a few. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

There is a Freedom Honor Flight on September 20th. If any of our Legionnaires are going on this flight, please let us know. If anyone is interested, the American Legion Riders will be there to see the veterans off in the morning and then we'll be there in the evening to greet their return. It is an awesome experience for the veteran to take this trip and it is an awesome experience to support them.

Other major events that we will be discussing at this month's meeting are the November Pork Feed and the December Raffle. So, I look forward to seeing everyone at the regular post meeting!

I want to remind everyone to get their membership dues paid up as soon as possible. We are well over 50% in the first month of our new membership year, so thank you to those who have brought their membership status up to date. Remember that if we get to 100% before year's end, then I will be hosting a dinner party for the post. Come on! Help the Commander part with his money! Get your membership dues sent in!

Gary M. Hess
Commander Post 116

September 17th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Roger Mathison
September 20th	14th Freedom Honor Flight
September 29th	SAL Meeting @ 7:30pm
October 2nd	Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30pm, with pot luck at 7pm (THURSDAY!)
October 6th	Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm
October 11th	7th District Fall Conference - Black River Falls Post 200 at 9:00am, by Armory
October 15th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Fishin' Crew
October 17-18th	7th District Exec Meeting in Portage
October 21st	Vernon County Meeting at the Stoddard Legion
Oct-Nov ??	SAL Halloween Party
Nov ??	?? Dinner and Fun Night at the Coon Valley Legion
November 3rd	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
November 5th	Vernon County Youth Government Day
November 11th	Veteran's Day
November 19th	Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting Lunch Committee: S.A.L.
December 6th	December Raffle - Coon Valley Village Hall
January 16-18th	Mid-Winter Conference in Baraboo.

September Newsletter

2014-2015

Last Bugle:

James Miller*
Howard Holen

* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

**John Thurk
Present - \$20**

**September
Drawing will be:
\$10.00**

**50/50
DRAWING
None**

* 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:

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Post 116
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Legion: (608) 452-3179

Membership Totals to Date

2015 Paid Membership - 122
2015 Membership Goal - 196

On the web:

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

From the Adjutants Desk:

- ◇ Thanks to the family of Jacob Ward for their donation to Post 116. The family held a friendly family swimming contest in Jacob's memory, at a lake that Jacob enjoyed very much, and donated the monetary gifts.
- ◇ Gary Grethel is resigning as building manager (rentals, reservations, etc.). Roger Mathison will assume these responsibilities. Thanks for all of your past work Gary, and thank you Roger!
- ◇ Commander Hess thanked everyone who helped with the Post Everlasting Ceremony at the last meeting.
- ◇ A motion was made and seconded to allow the CVABA and the Booster Club to hold their chicken-q fundraisers at our Hall again this year
- ◇ A thank-you was read from Shirley Berg for letting her use a wheelchair. She gave a \$50 donation.

Flag Disposal Box

Remember that we have a flag disposal box mounted on the Legion Building in the parking lot near the Veteran's Memorial. We just participated in the annual Flag Disposal Ceremony in Chaseburg and it is a very dignified way to dispose of worn flags. Please collect and bring in flags so we can properly dispose of them.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall like weather. We will have a meeting on Monday, September 29th @ 7:30 pm. Topics to discuss include the Halloween party, memberships, etc.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you. Thanks to everyone who attended our September meeting. We discussed a lot of items, so it was great to have fabulous participation.

Mycanzie Foster, our 2014 Badger Girls State Delegate, attended and spoke about her experience at Badger Girls State. She truly valued the experience and thanked the Auxiliary for sponsoring her.

We thanked Yvonne Berg for her many years of service as our Unit's Treasurer. And we offer a sincere thanks to Nancy Miller who just took over this important position. Thanks Nancy and Yvonne!

We will be discussing our bylaws at our October meeting. There are changes that are long overdue. Please attend this very important meeting.

We have also been compiling a wish list of items that our Auxiliary Unit may purchase for the kitchen. We will be finalizing potential purchases soon. Please attend our October meeting if you have input.

Our October meeting is NOT on Wednesday. Our October meeting is on THURSDAY, October 2nd at 7:30, with pot luck at 7.

Hope to see you there!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

This is just a snippet concerning the DVA's release of names and addresses.

Department of Veterans Affairs Release of Names and Addresses General Information

1. Title 38 of the United States Code authorizes the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to release the names or addresses, or both, of any present or former members of the Armed Forces, and/or their beneficiaries:

- To nonprofit organizations (including Members of Congress) when the purpose of the release is directly connected with the conduct of programs and the use of benefits covered by title 38.
- As part of VA's Outreach Program for the purpose of advising veterans of non-VA Federal, State and local benefits and programs.
- To Federal, State, or local agencies, and to any criminal or civil law enforcement governmental agency or instrumentality charged under law with the protection of the public health or safety if a qualified representative of the agency or instrumentality has made a written request stating the names or addresses will be used for a purpose authorized by law.

2. Names and addresses may not be released for such purposes as soliciting memberships for an organization or so that the names may be listed or inscribed on monuments or memorials. If a request is denied, a requester has the right to appeal the denial to the VA General Counsel.

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

Flag Disposal Ceremony

Thanks to everyone who participated in our annual Flag Disposal ceremony that we participated in with the Chaseburg Legion and Coon Creek VFW on September 11th. This was also a time to reflect on the tragedy of 9/11.

Vernon County Fair - September 10-14

Thanks to the group of members that manned the Vernon County American Legion booth at this year's Vernon County Fair. This is one of the few Community activities that the Vernon County American Legion gets involved in, so it is very important to get our presence in front of the community. Also, all of our members should be very proud that they have allowed our Post to donate an American Legion flag to give away at the Fair for many, many years.

Vernon County Youth Government Day - November 5th

Vernon County Vice Commander, Gary Gilbertson, has announced that the 2014 Vernon County Youth Government Day will be held on Wednesday, November 5 from 9am to 12:30pm at the Vernon County Courthouse in Viroqua.

Cashton Fall Festival Parade

Thanks to everyone who marched in the Cashton Fall Festival Parade on September 7th.

La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program

The La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program is looking for volunteers that would be willing to help area Veterans that may need help in their lives. For more information call 608-785-6420 or go to lawmp.org

?? Dinner and Family Fun Night

The Executive Committee recommends holding a chicken-q in place of the Pork Feed. May want to do something in the beginning of November for a Veterans Day chicken-q?

December Raffle, Saturday December 6th

Roger Mathison will co-chair this event. The tickets will be printed and possibly distributed at the September meeting. The early bird drawing will be at the November meeting. There will once again be only 200 tickets sold, at \$75/couple, which should not be hard to do!

Service Awards

It is once again time to begin thinking about who we can nominate for the Service Awards from our community. A First Responder of the Year award and the Teacher of the Year award will be recognized at the Post and the County Level. The other awards that can go all the way to the National level are EMT of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, and Legislator of the Year.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
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COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314

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Vernon County Drawing (September) Winners:

Thanks to everyone who traveled to the Vernon County meeting in Hillsboro on September 10th.

\$50 – Steve Campton-----\$25 – Ruth Curti-----\$25 – Post 223-----\$15 –Mark Foss-----\$10 – Brad Lepke

National POW/MIA Recognition Day - Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center will honor prisoners of war and troops missing in action during a ceremony for National POW/MIA Recognition Day at 1 p.m. Sept. 19 in the center's chapel.

Guest speaker will be Staff Sgt. David G. Moseley, the human resources sergeant of the 1-338th Training Support Battalion of the 181st Infantry Brigade at Fort McCoy. Dr. David J. Houlihan, the center's chief of staff, also will speak.

The Tomah High School Choir will provide music.

The program will include the introduction of former prisoners of war attending and the annual tribute to Wisconsin natives still missing in action and prisoners of war.

Former prisoners of war, families of those missing in action and their guests, as well as the general public, are invited to attend.

La Crosse Composite Squadron

The La Crosse Composite Squadron meets at 9 a.m. Saturday mornings at the CAP Center located at 2906 Fanta Reed Rd. on the east side of the La Crosse Municipal Airport. Prospective cadets, ages 12-18, and their parents are always welcome. Adults seeking mentoring opportunities or opportunities to serve are invited as well. For more information, e-mail lacrossecap.pa@gmail.com or call Maj. Todd Mandel at 608-633-1496. Information is available on the unit website at <http://caplacrosse.org> or the unit's Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/lacrossecap>.