



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



OCTOBER 2015

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 4



### Commanders Message:

Autumn is in the air and the days are getting shorter, the leaves are changing color and the sounds of combines harvesting beans and corn fill the coulees and ridges. We have accomplished much in the past couple months, so to those who have pitched in and lent a hand in the Cashton Fall Fest parade, the Vernon County Fair, and in general just helping out around the post with maintenance and bartending, you have my eternal gratitude.

We have several events coming up in the next two months that require a lot of help. Our Veteran's Day Chicken Q is coming up on November 8th, so please check the schedule and if you can't make it, please find a replacement. If you are not on the schedule and can lend a hand, drop in and ask where you can help out! Our normal Veteran's Day Activities of visiting Coon Valley Elementary School, Westby High School and Norseland Nursing Home will be on the 11th of November and we can always use uniformed participants there.

Of course, there is also our December raffle and banquet on the 5th that we need tickets sold for. Remember, we will have an early-bird drawing at the November regular post meeting. We are only selling 200 tickets, so get them while they are hot and contact all your friends to get them sold!

Membership renewals is moving along at a slightly better pace than last year at this time with approximately 74% of the members renewed. Thank you to everyone who has renewed and to those who are helping get new members onboard and helping to renew some of the members who could use a helping hand.

For everyone in our entire American Legion Family, thank you for all that you do to help make our programs a success. This is why our Legion Post and our community is extraordinary; we come together to support a common cause and make sure that not only our servicemembers and veterans are taken care of, but the entire community as well. I am proud and humbled to belong to such an organization and am privileged to be the Commander.

I look forward to seeing all of you at this month's meeting. The Fishin' Crew will be serving up some of their bounty from a recent fishing trip, so you have some awesome food to look forward to! Thanks in advance to the Crew!

**Gary M. Hess, Commander Post 116**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 20th** Vernon County Meeting in Stoddard, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm
- October 21st** Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm  
Lunch Committee: Fishin' Crew
- October 21st** SAL meeting at 8:00pm in barroom
- October 25-30** National American Legion College in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- October 31st** SAL 6th Annual Halloween Party starting @ 7 pm
- November 4th** Auxiliary Meeting, potluck at 6pm, meeting at 6:30pm
- November 4th** Vernon County Youth Government Day
- November 7th** Coon Valley Fireman's Dance
- November 8th** Veterans Day Chicken-Q
- November 11th** Veteran's Day Program at Coon Valley Elementary and Westby H.S.
- November 18th** Regular Post Meeting, 7:30pm meal and 8:00pm meeting  
Lunch Committee: S.A.L.
- November 19th** Night at the Races - Tomah VA - meet at Legion at 5:00pm.
- December 5th** December Raffle - Coon Valley Village Hall - \$75/couple - Le Roy's catering
- December 17th** Family Night: CANDY PACK at 6:30pm, meal at 7:30pm, socializing until ??  
Lunch Committee: Officers

# October Newsletter

2015-2016

Last Bugle:

Stephen Sapuder\*  
Howard Mathison

\* Not a Post 116 member



## BUCKET DRAWING

Cory Rudie  
Not Present

October  
Drawing will be:  
\$50.00

50/50  
DRAWING  
Cal Manske  
\$50

Legion \$55



## 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

2016 Paid Membership - 145  
2016 Membership Goal - 197

On the web:

[www.coonvalleywialpost116.org](http://www.coonvalleywialpost116.org)

Webmaster - Don Salter: [dwsalter@gmail.com](mailto: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

### Adjutant Notes:

- ◇ A motion was made by Ron Miller and seconded by Mike Miller to donate \$300 to the National Emergency Relief Fund in memory of Jacob Ward. Motion passed.
- ◇ A thank-you was read from Becky Stakston and her family in memory of Ervin Jacobson, for the funeral and the Post Remembrance Ceremony.



### Message from S.A.L. Commander:

By the time you read this article, the leaves and temperatures are slowly falling. Yes, fall is definitely here! Our next meeting will be on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8 pm in the Legion hall. Topics include memberships, Halloween party and serving at the Nov. Legion meeting.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



### Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you. Thanks to everyone for attending our October meeting.

We honored certain Auxiliary members during a recognition ceremony at our meeting, so thanks to all who helped with this event. Paid-up-for-Life members Evelyn Dahlen, Audrey Nelson, and Virginia Nerison were in attendance and received certificates for their long service to the Coon Valley American Legion Auxiliary. Thanks for your dedication!

We are excited to announce a new member will be joining our Auxiliary Unit. Bianca Nelson, daughter of Legionnaire Charlie Nelson, will be our newest Junior Auxiliary member. Welcome Bianca!

We will finalize our Memorial Day poppy order at our November meeting.

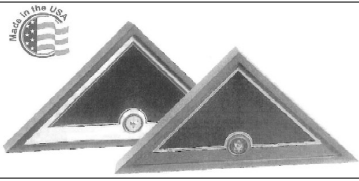
We discussed our Christmas party and planned to have it on our regular meeting night in December. However when I got home and looked at my calendar, it looks like there may be a potential conflict that we have rescheduled for in the past (Hanging of the Greens). Therefore, let's discuss our Christmas party further at the November meeting.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, with pot luck at 6 and meeting at 6:30. Hope to see you there!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

### ***Flag Display Cases available at the Vernon County Veterans Service Office***



Constructed of rich mahogany colored hardwood and inserted with thick glass each display case holds up to a 5' x 9.6' cotton flag. A die-cast, gold-plated United States Armed Forces medallion is centered on a bevel-cut double-mat. Easy open back panel and felt lined, scratch resistant bottom. Available with or without a 5' x 9.6' embroidered cotton Interment flag which is identical to those manufactured for the Veterans Administration. Manufactured in the U.S.A. Outside dimensions:

26" x 13" x 3.5". The cost is \$30.00 for the regular ones and \$40.00 for Military specific ones.

***The La Crosse Stand Down*** will be a one day event on October 29th from 8am to 3pm, which will be held at the Logistics Health Incorporated (LHI), Cargill Room, Front Street South, La Crosse, WI. Free services for Veterans in need, hot lunch served, employment services, medical assistance, housing referrals, social services, VA benefits, haircuts, toiletries, flu shots, clothing, boots and shoes, sleeping bags, jackets, gloves, hats. Questions, call (800) 872-8662 ext.64201.

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

### **Vernon County Youth Government Day**

Vernon County American Legion Vice Commander, Gary Gilbertson, has set the date for the 2015 Vernon County Youth Government Day for November 4. It will be held at the Vernon County Courthouse in Viroqua.

### **December Raffle, Saturday December 5th**

Many of the tickets are handed out, but we still need help getting them all sold. The early bird drawing will be at the November meeting. There will once again be only 200 tickets sold, at \$75/couple. LeRoy's Catering will be serving the meal this year. Please help us by purchasing a ticket and enjoying an evening with family and friends.

### **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.

### **Dues increase:**

National has ordered a dues increase effective January 1, 2016. The cost of State and National dues is increasing from \$25 to \$30. Post 116 dues currently are \$30, which allows no extra money to cover expenses the Post incurs each year for newsletters, etc. Do we want to increase our dues at this time? *The Post needs to vote and decide what we want to do*, so we will be presenting a few options at this month's meeting.

- 1.) Do we want to leave the dues at \$30 through June 2016, and then raise them for the next membership year?
- 2.) Do we want to raise the dues in line with National, so the increase takes effect January 1, 2016?
- 3.) How much should the increase be? \$5? \$10? \$15 It costs the Post just under \$10 to cover newsletter costs per member each year.

**Roger Mathison spoke to** the members in attendance about the National Convention. Roger has been to the past 21 of 22 National Conventions. Some dignitaries had approached Roger and asked him to give insight to them, and then to our Post and others, as to why it is important for him to attend National Conventions. In this regard, Roger gave the Post nice insight on what is important to the National American Legion. Roger Mathison was really honored to have them ask and listen to him.

**Anyone interested in** helping on a committee to look into design options for a front entrance to the barroom? The options would be brought in front of the body in several months to see if it should be pursued or dismissed. A motion was made by Frank Mathison and seconded by Michael Miller to give approval to the Executive Committee to formulate a three person committee of volunteers to look into the scope of work for this project. Motion passed.



**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
COON VALLEY POST No. 116  
PO BOX 314  
COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314**

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### **Work Schedule for Chicken-Q on November 8th:**

<b>Cooks:</b>	<u>7:00am</u>	Mike Miller	Ron Miller	Steve Nelson
		Brian Janes	Charles Nelson	Carl Holte
<b>Potatoes, etc.</b>	<u>7:00am</u>	Roger Mathison (could use help washing & wrapping potatoes on Nov 7)		
<b>Bartenders:</b>	<u>10:30am</u>	Rod Ofte	<u>1:00pm</u>	Gary Hess
<b>Tipboards:</b>	<u>11:30am to 1:30pm</u>	Dan Hofslie & Ron Hoff		
<b>Cashier &amp; Tickets:</b>	<u>10:30am</u>	Charles Servais	<u>1:00pm</u>	Frank Mathison
		Herb Cornell		Steve Vance
<b>Kitchen Servers:</b>	<u>10:30am</u>	Roger Starkey	<u>1:00pm</u>	Harlan Helseth
		Bernie Roesler		Wesley Guy
		Wally Cox		Richard Zube
		Rolv Ihle		Jeff Hanson
<b>Dining Room:</b>	<u>10:30am</u>	Mike Callan	<u>1:00pm</u>	Dennis Kammel
		Sherman Olson		Ken Kammel
		Don Salter		Jim Hammes
		Mary Schmidt		Don Kammel

**Cleanup:** Chairman-Gary Hess

Charles Nelson, Steve Nelson, Michael Miller, and others PLEASE!