



# COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



SEPTEMBER 2015

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 3



### Commanders Message:

Greetings to everyone! Summer is winding down and our attention turns to all of the fall activities around the farms, the yards, schools and in the woods hunting. We have several Legion activities going on as well that we will need participation in. By the time you get this newsletter, it will be close to happening or already has happened, but we have the 9/11 Observance and Flag Retirement in Chaseburg on Friday the 11th and the Cashton Fall Festival Parade on Sunday the 13th. We also have the Vernon County Fair where we will be manning the Legion Booth on Sunday, the 20th. Looking further ahead, there will be a Freedom Honor Flight on October 17th, so show up early in the morning or later at night (or both) to show your support for our veterans flying off to DC.

We have a lot on our agenda to discuss at the September regular post meeting, so come early and have some FREE BEER! We have some leftover half-barrels from a couple weddings that need to get taken care of. We will be discussing our Veterans Day Chicken Q and our annual December Raffle among other things.

Membership renewal is coming along at a brisk pace and we are at approximately 70% renewals as of September 3rd! That is 15% better than this time last year, which is outstanding! For those of you who have renewed your membership, thank you! For those of you who need to renew yet, please do so while the reminder is fresh.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 16th at the meeting. We will start using the PA system so everyone can hear me better and, oh, did I mention the free beer?

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

### DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>September 16th</b>	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Roger Mathison
<b>September 16-20th</b>	Vernon County Fair - Post 116 works the booth on Sunday - 10am to ??
<b>September 26th</b>	Chaseburg Cancer Walk
<b>October 3rd</b>	7th District Fall Conference - Melrose Post at 10:00am (303 N. Washington, Melrose 54615)
<b>October 5th</b>	Legion Executive Meeting
<b>October 7th</b>	Auxiliary Meeting, pot luck at 6pm, meeting at 6:30pm
<b>October 10th</b>	7th District Legion Riders Meeting at Post 116
<b>October 16-17th</b>	7th District Exec Meeting in Portage
<b>October 17th</b>	Freedom Honor Flight out of La Crosse
<b>October 21st</b>	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Fishin' Crew
<b>November 8th</b>	Veterans Day Chicken-Q

# September Newsletter

2015-2016

Last Bugle:

Stephen Sapuder\*  
Howard Mathison

\* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET  
DRAWING**

??

Not Present

September  
Drawing will be:  
\$40.00

50/50  
DRAWING  
??

Legion ??



## 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 - 133  
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:

- ◇ The Post Everlasting Ceremony was held at the August meeting. Thanks to all that attended!
- ◇ National American Legion College is October 25-30, 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- ◇ We will have family night at our December meeting along with Candy Pack. No meeting.



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

The summer is gone and fall is here! The year keeps rolling by fast as always. We will have a meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 pm. Topics include the Halloween party and memberships. Memberships are due now. The dues are \$10. The dues can be sent to me @ Cal Manske, Box 132, Chaseburg, WI 54621.

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.

Annika Olson, our 2015 Badger Girls State Delegate, attended and spoke about her experience at Badger Girls State. She indicated she learned a lot about government and thanked the Auxiliary for sponsoring her.

The Coon Valley American Legion presented a certificate to us during our meeting. It was a surprise to us. Legion Commander Gary Hess presented the certificate and thanked us for our help with the Chicken Q as well as paying off the Legion Hall roof debt. We are grateful for this certificate. As Auxiliary members, we are always ready and willing to help our legionnaires. Thank you!

At our October meeting, we will present certificates to certain Auxiliary/Junior Auxiliary members who have achieved a 5-year milestone in their membership, as well as those members who are "Paid-Up-For-Life." In last month's issue, I listed the members who will receive a certificate because of a 5-year membership milestone. In this issue, I will list those paid-up-for-life members who will also be receiving certificates: Evelyn Dahlen, Annette Ihle, Audrey Nelson, Virginia Nerison, and Evelyn Williams.

In the past, our Auxiliary Unit gave teachers at Coon Valley Elementary School apples each year during education week. We have not done this recently. We discussed revitalizing this tradition, in some way, by giving something to teachers once again at our local school. Becky Lind suggested distributing poppy seed packets to teachers, and we all thought this was a wonderful idea to do in the spring, prior to Memorial Day.

Ellie Brye mentioned that anyone who is willing and able to donate baked goods and/or gift baskets to the PaulskiBenefit (on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Coon Valley Village Hall) can contact her or Coon Valley Lutheran Church for further information.

Our October meeting is on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, with pot luck at 6 and meeting at 6:30. Remember we will be recognizing some of our members with membership milestones. Hope to see you there!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

**Share the Warmth** - Sure, it seems strange to be talking about keeping warm with the weather we have had recently, but it is time to think about the cold weather and our veterans who may need some help keeping warm this year. We will be collecting donations of new and "Very Gently Used" Items for our veterans throughout the State of Wisconsin. The items we are looking for are as follows: Coats, Hooded Sweatshirts, Hats, Gloves, Warm Socks, Fleece Wear, Boots, Hand & Foot Warmers.

Appleton Harley Davidson & Wausau Harley Davidson have graciously allowed us to set up donation boxes at their locations for **NEW ITEMS ONLY**. For those who wish to donate "**Gently Used Items**" that have been cleaned, you can contact the members listed below to make arrangements.

In the Southwest part of the state contact John Curran at [jcurran516@aol.com](mailto:jcurran516@aol.com)

**Please be sure these items are gently used, cleaned and ready to be given to our Veterans.**

For anyone wishing to make a cash donation we will be happy to do the shopping for you. Please make checks payable to Patriot Guard Riders-WI and in the memo line write Share the Warmth.

Please send your donation to the following address. Patriot Guard Riders-Wisconsin, 148 Kings Court, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

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 Youth Government Day**

We are waiting to hear from Vernon County Vice Commander, Gary Gilbertson, as to when the 2015 Vernon County Youth Government Day will be held. It will be held at the Vernon County Courthouse in Viroqua.

## **Cashton Fall Festival Parade**

Thanks to everyone who marched in the Cashton Fall Festival Parade on September 13th.

## **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 [lavmp.org](http://lavmp.org).

Vernon County has a similar program and you can contact the Vernon County Veterans Service Office for more info.

## **Veterans Day Chicken-Q, Sunday November 8th**

We will once again be having a Veterans Day Chicken-Q. It will be on November 8, 2015.

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

The tickets will be printed and distributed as soon as possible. The early bird drawing will be at the November meeting. There will once again be only 200 tickets sold, at \$75/couple. 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.



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

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### **Vernon County American Legion**

Names drawn at the September meeting in Hillsboro were:

\$50 – Donna DeWitt-----\$25 – Forest Dowling-----\$25 - Harold Olson-----\$15 – Duane Robbins-----\$10 –  
Post 223

### **Vernon County Fair - September 16-20**

The Coon Valley American Legion will work at the Vernon County American Legion Booth at the Fair on Sunday, September 20 from about 10am to 6pm. It would be really nice if we could get a few members to work from 10am to 2pm and a second handful of members to work from 2pm to 6pm (or whenever things start closing up).

### **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](mailto: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>.