



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



JULY 2016

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1



Commanders Message:

Summer is definitely here and I hope that everyone had a great Independence Day holiday. The days are long, hot and humid, and everyone has a lot going on, and we have a little break in Legion activity. By the time you read this newsletter, we will have been represented at Department Convention by several of the Post Officers. Many thanks to them for representing. I know of many larger posts who don't send any delegates, so it is impressive to have so many from a smaller post.

Most of you already know this, but some of you might not. We lost our building and grounds keeper, Larry Torgerson. He passed away suddenly on June 10th. He was a good friend and he really cared about the Legion. He will be sorely missed. Thanks to everyone who helped provide funeral honors for him. Several legionnaires have stepped up and have been mowing the lawn and looking after the place, and I extend my gratitude to them. If anyone is willing to take on this task on a regular basis, please let me know.

We are still looking for a computer-savvy legionnaire to take over duties as newsletter publisher. If anyone is interested in this, please let me or Adjutant Charlie Nelson know and we will get you up to speed on the production of the newsletter.

Everyone should have received their 2017 Renewal notice in the mail by now. Please take care of your renewal promptly, while the notification is fresh in your mind. Our Legion can't exist without membership. Just as a friendly reminder, each membership year begins in July, so if the membership card that you currently possess says 2016 on it, then it is expired and your membership needs to be renewed as soon as possible!

I want to thank everyone who have done so much for Post 116. It truly is an honor to be a part of such a fine organization. Believe me when I say that just about every legionnaire in the State of Wisconsin knows all about Coon Valley Post 116. That is something to really take pride in.

Gary M. Hess, Commander Post 116

DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 17th Coon Valley Lion's Annual Chicken-Q at the American Legion Post 116
- July 20th Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm
Lunch Committee: Cox, Hoff, Cary, Banta
- July 20th SAL Regular meeting at 8pm.
- July 23rd SAL Brewer Bus Trip - Brewers vs Cubs at 6:10pm
- July 23rd Trout Fest - Coon Valley Veterans Memorial Park
- August 1st Executive Committee meeting at 6:30pm
- August 1st Vernon County Meeting - Westby - Meal at 7:30pm - Meeting at 8pm.
- August 3rd Auxiliary Meeting with potluck at 6 and the meeting at 6:30
- August 17th Post Everlasting Ceremony, 7:00pm with meal following with family and friends
Lunch Committee: Rod & Deb Ofte
Regular Post Meeting at 8:00pm only if necessary.
- August 17th SAL Regular meeting at 8pm.
- September 5th Legion Executive Meeting at 6:30pm - unless change for Labor Day!
- September 11th Flag Disposal Ceremony, 6:30pm - Chaseburg American Legion
- September 11th Cashton Fall Festival Parade - 12:30pm start
- September 14th Vernon County Meeting - Hillsboro 8:00 pm
- September 21st Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm
Lunch Committee: Roger Mathison
- September 21st SAL Regular meeting at 8pm.

July Newsletter

2016-2017

Last Bugle:

Larry Torgerson

* Not a Post 116 member



**BUCKET
DRAWING**

**Ruth Rupp
Not Present**

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

**50/50
DRAWING**

Not Done

Legion \$0.00



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

2017 Paid Membership - ??
2017 Membership Goal-197ish

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 **\$40.00** and send to: Coon Valley American Legion Post 116
PO Box 314
Coon Valley, WI 54623

Adjutant Notes:

- We are looking for someone who is willing to publish the newsletter each month. I am no longer able to commit the necessary time to perform the job at the level that I think is satisfactory. This is not a difficult job for someone who has the time each month to commit to the task. If no one steps up we will no longer have a newsletter. We will need to rely on work schedules being sent out when necessary by a committee chairman. Please contact Commander Hess or Adjutant Nelson if you are able to take on this very important task for the Coon Valley American Legion Post 116.
- The family of Larry Torgerson donated an apple tree that was planted in Larry's memory.
- Sunday, November 13 is tentatively the Veterans Day Chicken-Q at Coon Valley Post 116.
- National American Legion College is October 23-28, 2016 in Indianapolis, Indiana

Homeless Veterans Benefit from New Program

The "Welcome Home Veterans Pilot" is an innovative approach to use Federal Low Income Home and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds to provide housing and/or energy assistance to Veterans and spouses of deceased veterans experiencing homeless or at risk of homelessness in all 72 counties and seven Tribes of Wisconsin. Time period: May 31, 2016 – September 30, 2016. Veteran and/or spouses of veterans must meet the eligibility income guidelines. WHEAP identifies a veteran as anyone who has served or is serving in the US Military, to include National Guard or Reserve.

Eligible veterans or spouses of deceased veterans meeting the income limits can go to the following entry contacts to complete the appropriate paperwork. County Veteran Service Office, Continuum of Care Agencies, or the Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) specialists that serve 49 counties.

What the Program Can provide: (Case by Case situation): Security Deposit and First Month of Rent, Utilities and arrears (Electric, Gas & Propane) (Crisis Assistance), Eviction notice and arrears (Crisis Assistance)

If in doubt if someone qualifies or not, contact your local WHEAP agency or the Home Energy Plus Help Desk via (608) 267-3680 or heat@wisconsin.gov.

The success of this program along with federal funding opportunities will further determine if there is a future need to continue the program into the next Federal Fiscal Year.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

We will have a meeting on July 20th at 8:00 pm to finalize the Brewers bus trip.

Cal Manske, SAL Commander



Message from Auxiliary President:

A warm hello to all of you.
There was no July meeting. Our next meeting is August 3rd. Potluck at 6 and meeting at 6:30. It will be election night, so please attend. Thanks and have a wonderful summer!

Julie Nelson, Auxiliary President

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

Dreams for Veterans

Your help sharing this program with veterans in need enables us to fulfill their final dreams. Dreams range from basic need items (like a working appliance or mobility scooter) to bedside reunions, final vacations with family, meetings with personal heroes or reconnecting with aspects of former military service.

Dream recipients are U.S. military veterans 18 years of age or older with a life expectancy of 12 months or less. Dreams for Veterans collaborates with America’s hospice professionals and veterans organizations in all 50 states to meet the unique needs of our nation’s veterans.

Get involved. There are many ways to get involved including referring applicants, helping to make dreams come true, or donating time or resources to Dreams for Veterans. Dreams for Veterans is a program of Dream Foundation.

Refer a veteran and make a dream come true. www.dreamfoundation.org/veterans or 888-4DREAMS

Heroes With Hearing Loss

Designed to raise awareness and initiate meaningful dialog about shared hearing loss experiences among veterans, their families and friends – the Heroes With Hearing Loss program is a platform of engagement, providing insightful solutions and successful lifestyle-focused results.

For more information: call toll-free 800-974-1517, visit www.HeroesWithHearingLoss.org,

Email: info@HeroesWithHearingLoss.org

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

American Flags for sale from the Legion

Don’t forget that Post 116 has flags available for sale to any member as well as anyone in our Community or beyond. This can be a great fundraiser for the American Legion so spread the word and don’t forget the Legion when you need to order a flag. The 3’ x 5’ flags are \$25.00.

Westby/Coon Valley American Legion Baseball

2016 Schedule – Senior Legion

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
July 17	ONALASKA	4:00 PM
July 20-24	Regionals @ Soldiers Grove	
July 27-31	State @ Prairie Du Chien	

Westby/Coon Valley American Legion Baseball

2016 Schedule – Junior Legion

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent/Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
July 13-17	Regionals	
July 20-24	State	

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Mathew Tainter, Westby | 7 - Wes Guy, Coon Valley |
| 2 - Sharon Sharratt, Westby | 8 - Ihrcke Family, Westby |
| 3 - Ed Pedretti, Westby | 9 - Steve Humfeld, Chaseburg |
| 4 - Gary Olerud, Westby | 10 - Kim Harnish, Coon Valley |
| 5 - Maria Hellwig, Coon Valley | 11 - Marvin Lee, Westby |
| 6 - Jim Burkhardt, Viroqua | |

Installation of Officers

Installation of Officers will take place at our July meeting.

The officers we will install are: Commander - Gary Hess; 1st Vice Commander (Membership chairman) - Steve Nelson; 2nd Vice Commander (Children & Youth chairman) - Wally Cox; 3rd Vice Commander (Americanism chairman) - Wesley Guy; Chaplain - Michael Miller; Historian - Frank Mathison; Webmaster - Don Salter; Sergeant-at-Arms - Dan Hofslie; Service Officer - Bernie Roelser; and Finance Officer - Roger Mathison.

Barroom Entrance to Legion Hall

A committee is actively seeking ideas from contractors on design ideas for an entrance to the barroom. The body will then vote on one of these ideas or decide to leave the entrance as it is currently.



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

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2016 State Convention - Middleton, WI - July 13-17

The 98th Annual State Convention will be held in Middleton on July 13-17. Post 116 automatic delegates are Past Wisconsin State Commander Roger Mathison and Vernon County Commander Charles Nelson. Post 116 delegates are Richard Brye, Michael Miller and Francis Mathison. Post 116 is also allowed to have up to three alternate delegates if anyone is interested. 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.

Vernon County American Legion

Vernon County tickets are available. They are \$5.00 each. Drawings will be held at each of the seven County Meetings, plus one additional drawing. Each drawing will have a total of 5 winners, (\$50, \$25, \$25, \$15, and \$10).

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

See Commander Gary Hess if you wish to purchase a ticket. We have about 100 tickets to sell before August 1st.

We need your help to sell the remaining tickets!

2016 June Legion Chicken-Q

Thanks to everyone who once again made the June chicken-q a huge success! The 450 half chickens sold out somewhere around 2pm.