



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



July 2017

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1

Commanders Message:



Greetings to the Coon Valley American Legion Family. There may have been a little hiccup finding a Post Commander this year, but let me assure you I am very proud & honored to be the Commander of this awesome Post. I humbly ask each & every one of you for your support. Post 116 will have a great year, not because I'm your commander, but because we all will work together to make it a great year!

A great big "Thank You!" goes out to Past Commander Gary Hess for being a great leader and an outstanding Post Commander for four consecutive years. That is dedication above & beyond the call of duty. We also owe him a big thank you for continuing to publish our newsletter. Every successful post has a good system of communicating with their members. We need & value Gary's expertise.

As I was pondering this situation of being a Post Commander again, my thoughts went back to the first time I was elected. I was 24 years old, & now I am 71. The learning never stops!! A lot has happened in those years. I was a Commander the first time at Post 333, in Sun Prairie, Wis. After the meeting, two past Post Commanders approached me & offered their help, and they were great. They were both World War I veterans, and one had even attended the 1919 Paris, France caucus when the legion was formed. I thought those men were ancient, & poof, all of a sudden I'm their age.

There have been a lot of changes on how we do things, but one thing that does not change is the Four Pillars of The American legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, & Children & Youth.

July is Department Convention month & it is in Appleton this year July 13th through the 16th. Attending from our Post will be Past State Commander Roger Mathison, Vernon County Commander Mike Miller, and Post Commander Frank Mathison.

Thanks again to everyone who makes this such an awesome post. It is an honor to be associated with you.

See you at the meeting!!!

Frank Mathison, Commander Post 116

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 12th - 16th	Department Convention at Radisson Paper Valley in Appleton
July 16th	Coon Valley Lions Club Annual Chicken Q at the American Legion Post 116
July 19th	Regular Post Meeting, meal at 7:30pm, meeting at 8:00pm Lunch Committee: Cox, Hoff, Cary & Banta
July 19th	SAL Regular Meeting at 8pm
July 19th - 22nd	American Legion Regional Tournament in Coon Valley Village Park
July 22nd	Coon Creek Trout Fest - Coon Valley Veterans Memorial Park
July 30th	SAL Brewer Bus Trip - Brewers vs Cubs at 1:10pm
July 30th	Judge Michael Rosborough Retirement Open House at Post 116 3:00pm - 6:00pm
August 2nd	Auxiliary Meeting with potluck at 6pm and the meeting at 6:30pm
August 7th	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm
August 7th	Vernon County Meeting - Westby - Meal at 7:30pm, Meeting at 8pm
August 16th	Post Everlasting Ceremony, 7:00pm with meal following with family and friends Lunch Committee: Rod and Deb Ofte Regular Post Meeting at 8pm only if necessary
August 16th	SAL Regular Meeting at 8pm
September 5th (Tues)	Executive Committee Meeting at 6:30pm - Tuesday after Labor Day
September 10th	Cashton Fall Festival Parade - 12:30pm start
September 11th	Flag Disposal Ceremony, 6:30pm—Chaseburg American Legion

July Newsletter

2017 - 2018

Last Bugle:

* Not a Post 116 member



BUCKET DRAWING

June \$50

Gary Hess was the
one finally drawn
(The money was
donated back to the
Legion)

July Drawing Will
Be \$10

50/50
DRAWING

Not Held



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Francis Mathison
(608) 606-0156

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:

Gary Hess
(608) 788-1768

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 - 182

2017 Membership Goal-197

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



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

Hello Everyone,

We will have a meeting on July 19th @ 8 pm. We will be discussing the Brewers bus trip and other mischief. We need everyone to attend please.

Thank you!

Cal Manske,
SAL Commander

Message from Auxiliary President:



A warm hello to all of you. There was no meeting in July. Please make sure to attend the August meeting for elections.

We recently lost a Lifetime Auxiliary Member and former President Annette Ihle. Our organization extends our sympathy to her family. We are very grateful for all of her dedicated years spent in the Auxiliary. Her family designated the Coon Valley American Legion Auxiliary as one of the memorials, and we are appreciative for those donations received.

We are currently ordering Auxiliary Emblem magnets that we can wear on our shirts when we are working at events. The emblem is placed where you choose on your shirt, and then you put the magnet underneath and it stays tight while you are wearing it. They are only \$5 (which includes shipping). We already have 20+ paid orders, but we are not placing the order until right after our August meeting. If you want to order, get your order and money to us by Aug 2nd.

The next meeting is Wednesday, August 2nd. Pot luck is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Sincerely, Julie Nelson
President

Vernon County Veterans Service Office (Jim Young & Crystal Knoll) 608-637-5323

(veterans@vernoncounty.org)

The WDVA has changed how the process goes for getting the Wisconsin Property Tax Credit for qualifying veteran or their surviving spouses. The new form is WDVA 2096 and it does need to be signed by an accredited service officer in order for it to be submitted. So qualifying veterans or surviving spouses can stop in and see us or any Wisconsin County Veteran Service Officer to get this paper work taken care of.

2017/2018 Post 116 Officers

Congratulations to all of the officers who were elected and installed at the June meeting! Our 2017/2018 Officers are:

Commander: Frank Mathison
1st Vice Commander: Steve Nelson
2nd Vice Commander: Matt Semke
3rd Vice Commander: Ryan Chambers
Finance Officer: Roger Mathison
Sargent at Arms: Dan Hofslie
Historian: Don Salter
Service Officer: Kyle Bethauser
Chaplain: Sue Anne Schwartz

Commander Mathison requests that all officers be present at the July meeting for photographs.

E-Mail Receipt of the Coon Valley American Legion Newsletter

As always, we are trying to find ways to be minimize our expenses and one way that all of us can contribute to that is to have the newsletter e-mailed to you instead of receiving it via US Mail. This saves us costs in publishing as well as in postage costs. If you would like to have your newsletter delivered to you via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Gary Hess at garyhess@centurytel.net and you will be added to the e-mail roster and taken off of the mailing roster. All e-mails are send "in the blind" to protect members' privacy and are kept in the strictest confidentiality.

Brake Check

One dark night just outside Westby, a fire started inside the local chemical plant and in a blink of an eye it exploded into massive flames. The alarm went out to all the fire departments for miles around. When the volunteer fire fighters appeared on the scene, the chemical company president rushed to the fire chief and said, "All our secret formulas are in the vault in the center of the plant. They must be saved. I will give \$50,000 to the fire department that brings them out intact."

But the roaring flames held the firefighters off. Soon more fire departments had to be called in as the situation became desperate. As the firemen arrived, the president shouted out that the offer was now \$100,000 to the fire department who could bring out the company's secret files.

From the distance, a lone siren was heard as another fire truck came into sight. It was the nearby Town of Coon volunteer fire company composed mainly of Norwegians over the age of 65. To everyone's amazement, that little run-down fire engine roared right past all the newer sleek engines that were parked outside the plant. Without even slowing down it drove straight into the middle of the inferno. Outside, the other firemen watched as the Norwegian old timers jumped off right in the middle of the fire & fought it back on all sides. It was a performance and effort never seen before. Within a short time, the Norske old timers had extinguished the fire and had saved the secret formulas.

The grateful chemical company president announced that for such a superhuman feat he was upping the reward to \$200,000, and walked over to personally thank each of the brave fire fighters.

The local TV news reporter rushed in to capture the event on film, asking their chief, "What are you going to do with all that money?" "Vell," said Ole Larsen, the 70-year-old fire chief, "Da first thing ve gonna do is fix da brakes on dat fire truck!"



THE AMERICAN LEGION
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Judge Michael Rosborough Retirement Open House July 30th

You are cordially invited to the retirement open house in honor of Judge Michael J. Rosborough. Please join us to celebrate over thirty years of dedicated service to Vernon County on Sunday, July 30, 2017 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (short presentation at 3:30 p.m.) at Coon Valley American Legion-Post 116. Appetizers, beer, wine and soft drinks provided by The Vernon County Bar Association & The Rosborough Family (cash bar also available).

Troutfest

Troutfest is being held at the Village Park near the Legion Hall on Saturday, July 22nd. We have been asked to help support with bingo helpers in the afternoon and bartenders in the evening. If you have a little free time on the 22nd, consider coming on over and lending a hand. We will discuss this at the July meeting.

American Legion Regional Baseball Tournament

You may have noticed in the "Dates To Remember" section on Page 1 that Coon Valley is hosting the American Legion Regional Baseball Tournament on July 19th to the 22nd in the Village Park. Baseball games will be played at 3:00, 5:30 and 8:00pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Saturday the Championship Game is at 1:00pm. We need help in the concession stand, so if you are free at any of the above posted times, please come on down to the ball park and help out.

June Bucket Drawing Update

We had quite a time selecting a bucket drawing winner at the last meeting and the bucket went around the room at least twice before a winner was drawn. Several people had left the meeting before the bucket drawing since we had gone long in selecting a new Commander and had those folks stayed, they would have won \$50. Here is the list of people who could have won had they been there:

Kenneth Rupp, Charles Wuensch, Kendon Kammel, Kevin King, Ron Hole, Harlan Helseth, David Fladhammer, Leon Minor, Rich Roesler, Paul Nelson, Tom Daniel, David Moilien, James Onshus, Richard Nestingen, Don Bahr, Syl King, Gerald Niedfeldt, Wade Kammel, Alan Walker, Richard Schultz, James McGuin, Douglas Sveum, Amy Stafslie, Kenneth Kammel, Richard Zube, Mary Schmidt, Orlin Clark, Troy Hofslie, Roy Stephan, Stuart Peterson, and Richard Brye.