



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



August 2024

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 3

Commanders Message:

The joy of summer is still with us as we gear up for a busy Autumn. In the next few weeks our post is involved in Post Everlasting, Coon Valley's 175th Anniversary, Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony in Chaseburg, staffing the American Legion booth at the fair, and hosting member Lorenz (Al) Pinski's 100th Birthday party.

In focusing this month's message, your commander, is combining current ideas and challenges of our National Commander, Dan Seehafer, of Beaver Dam WI and newly elected, WI Seventh District Commander, Chet Faith, of Tomah WI.

Outgoing National Commander Dan's July message quotes Capt Diane Carlson Evans who is recipient of American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal, "There is a place for each of us in the Legion." Its our challenge to reach out to find that place. As a member of Post 116 have you thought about your place in the Legion?

Chet Faith, addressing the August Vernon County meeting held in Westby, takes it a step further, and asks. "What do other Legion members need from us?" He challenges us to make our Post smarter, first through education, training for leadership posts, sharing experiences, and attending district and state conferences. Structured training is available and encouraged through the American Legion College at www.legion.org.

Through shared experiences we gain strength. We become strong! LEGION STRONG!

A final thought – There has been marked success on the National Buddy Check program. We are in early discussions on reaching out to every Post 116 member before the end of the year. Your membership is valuable to Post 116 We want you to feel connected and proud to be part of American Legion Post 116 Coon Valley WI.

Post 116 Commander,

Mike Callan

Calendar:

August 21 Legion Meeting/Post Everlasting; Social Hour 6:30pm, Meal at 7:00pm, Post Everlasting at 7:30pm, Meeting at 8pm

August 24 Coon Valley 175th Anniversary

August 23-29 National Legion Convention, at New Orleans

September 2 Exec Meeting at 6:30pm

September 11 County Meeting at Hillsboro, meal at 7pm, meeting at 7:30pm

Flag Disposal at Chaseburg Legion, 6pm meal and ceremony will follow...

September 12 Bingo

September 11-15 Vernon County Fair

September 19 Regular Legion Meeting

September 21 7th District Conference at Onalaska Legion and Freedom Honor Flight

August Newsletter

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Last Bugle:

Larry Lichtie
Bud McCormick
John Runice



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

Commander: Mike Callan
(608) 632 - 1538
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: Steve Nelson

Mailing Address:

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Post 116
PO Box 314
Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone Contacts:

Legion: (608) 452-3179

Membership Totals to Date

2025 Paid Membership - 98
2024 Membership Goal- 176

On the web:

www.coonvalleywialpost116.org
Webmaster - Wes Guy: Wes.j.guy@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

Or pay on MyLegion.org !



BUCKET DRAWING

July Membership
drawing no winner.

Next membership
meeting drawing
will be for 30
bucks.

50/50
No drawing.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

SAL meeting on Wednesday August 21st at 7pm. Memberships are dues.

Cal Manske
SAL Commander

Message from Auxiliary President:

Auxiliary met on August 7th, when we had the pleasure of celebrating Ellie Brye's birthday! She made a delicious lemon cake and we shared some great stories before our meeting began.

Getting down to business, Gloria Freitag, our Membership Chairperson, said 2025 dues can be paid beginning in September. Adult dues are \$34 and Junior dues are \$5.25.

We are ordering poppies for next year.

We had election of officers. We look forward to an exciting year with a new Auxiliary President. As always, please support all of our officers for the duties they perform throughout the year. So many volunteer hours are put in, and they all appreciate your help and support!

2024-25 Officers:

Auxiliary President: Kelly Callan
Vice President: Julie Nelson
Secretary: Ellie Brye
Treasurer: Nancy Miller
Chaplain: Mary Elsen
Membership Chairperson: Gloria Freitag
Sergeant-at-Arms: Mary Elsen
Historian: Julie Nelson

Our next meeting will be on Wed, September 4th at 6 pm, when Kelly will take over running the meeting. Please show your support and come to that meeting.

Thanks to all who have helped me as Auxiliary President throughout the years. This is a wonderful organization, and our members are great. Please join me in supporting Kelly as she takes on her Presidential duties. We are looking forward to a fabulous
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year with her, along with all of our other devoted officers and loyal members.

Sincerely, Julie Nelson
2023-24 Auxiliary President & Historian
2024-25 Auxiliary Vice President & Historian

Post Announcement:

Our legion baseball and softball teams were successful this year, both teams made it to state. The baseball team won the Sportsmanship Trophy at the State Tournament! Congratulations to the teams, players, and coaches! Thank you for your support with buying raffle tickets and other means of support!

Winners of the Annual Baseball/Softball Legion Fundraiser as follows:

Red Anderson, Westby; Kelly Hagen, Cashton; Kay Bluske, Chaseburg; Tori Pedretti; Dianne Holte, CV; Travis Lee; David Roethel, LaFarge; Mark Favor, Viroqua; John Nelson, Westby; Nathan Bean, CV; Brandon Cody, Holmen; Matt Hoff, Westby; Wyman Cade, Westby; Janet Proksch, CV; Jeff Kjelland, Viroqua; Carmen Fortun, Westby; Jermyn Balk, Cashton; Harlan Helseth, CV; Ron Hoff, CV; Garrick Olerud, Westby; Ron Paulsrud, Westby; Scott Torkelson, Viroqua; Robert Nelson, CV; Kathy Hankee, Cashton; Kennedy Brueggen, Westby; Derek Chistianson, Westby; Jennifer Kelley, Westby; Butzler Family, Rockland; Kim Johnson, Viroqua; Eric Evenstad, Westby; Robert Kerska, CV.

The last three months the Military Honor Guard has been busy! We had color guard for Baseball, Softball, and Goede Vernon County Breakfast opening ceremonies. Personnel attended Pete Swanson C.O.L. ceremony. We also had 2 other C.O.L and 2 military rites ceremonies. Thanks a million for your participation in these ceremonies! The families were so thankful you were there! Every ceremony done, a spouse and family members comes with tears in their eyes expressing their thanks for what you did!

The Coon Valley 175th celebration is coming August 24th. There will be a parade at 10am (we will have a color guard) down Main St., the Legion Hall will be open for lunch from 11am-2pm (serving hotdogs and hamburgers). A full bar will be provided from 11am until whenever the bartenders want to leave? In a big park tent, bands will play from 2pm to 10pm. Fireworks at 10pm. There will be food, beer, and games on the baseball side of the park (don't have any info).



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
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COON VALLEY, WI 54623-0314**

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