



COON VALLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 116



July 2024

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

Commanders Message:

Thank you, again, members of Coon Valley American Legion Post 116 for the trust and confidence you have placed in me to serve another year as your post commander. We continue to have a well run post, with good involvement of members supporting post projects. We also do a fine job in the community as examples, when there is a need for manpower or our facility, when our honor guard is summoned for ceremonies, and when called upon to support projects involving youth and our local schools.

Of great interest at Post 116 is the beginning of Roger Mathison's National American Legion position as First Vice Commander. His new leadership responsibility begins in early July and will entail all Legion activity in 10 states. We have been blessed with Roger's leadership in Post 116 positions for 35 years several positions consecutively. If you see him, wish him well. Several concerned members have asked, "After a year, then what?" We do know that while he is gone there is a big, big role to fill.

As the Legion New Year begins we are 174 strong in membership. Be ready when you are mailed renewal notice for your dues. We have plenty of paid up life members, (something to consider.) This year there is an offer to renew membership at current rate for three years at current rate to postpone a future rate increase. (We like that idea too.) Once again please renew in a timely manner when your mailing arrives.

Looking ahead! Please join Coon Valley in celebrating its 175th anniversary on August 24. The Hall will be open early in the day with a meal for purchase and the bar open. Other activities include a classic car show, baseball all day, a Central Ave parade, food and vendor booths and a tractor parade.

Our regular August meeting is post everlasting, a final remembrance in honoring post members who have passed away in the last 12 months. - A touching and meaningful event. All post members and families of deceased welcome to attend!

Happy to report that attendance at meetings is trending upward, with 25 at the June meeting. Three observations come to mind. There is a friendly atmosphere and camaraderie over beers at the bar prior to the meeting. The meal crews impress us with their culinary skills, serving fine meals and we make an earnest effort to keep the meeting on track start to finish. Post 116 is your Post. We are at our best working together.

The following is a scam alert. Information gathered from several sources encourages veterans to be on heightened alert about new methods and technology used to target your military pensions, disability checks, and benefits. Scammers can target you by phone, mail, email, electronic or print advertising. An unfortunate vet in Texas recently was out \$300,000 and was led to believe his lifetime accumulation would be used to help war veterans with PTSD. He believed the calls came from reliable sources including his clinic asking for help with medical expenses including vets and dependents. In the recent past our federal government expanded veterans benefits by 16.9 Billion Dollars. The scammers are focused on the enhanced benefits and will use you and your good name to pilfer from funds intended for VA benefits, such as housing, education, medical benefits and disability awards. Our County and State Veterans Service Officers are a good resource. In addition you may learn more by searching aarp.org/veterans.

Mike Callan, Your Post Commander

Calendar:

July 10-14 State Legion Convention, at Appleton (one delegate is still needed)	August 8 Bingo
July 14 Donald McCormick C.O.L. at Legion Hall, Ceremony at 1:30pm.	August 21 Regular Legion Meeting/Post Everlasting
July 17 Regular meeting 7:00 meal, 7:30 meeting	August 24 Coon Valley 175th Anniversary
July 21 Lions Chicken Q	August 23-29 National Legion Convention, at
August 5 Exec Meeting, 6:30pm and Vernon Co. meeting at Westby	New Orleans

July Newsletter

2024- 20

Last Bugle:

Larry Lichtie



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:

Coon Valley American Legion
Post 116

PO Box 314

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone Contacts:

Legion: (608) 452-3179

Membership Totals to Date

2025 Paid Membership - 0

2024 Membership Goal- 174

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

May Membership
drawing was Steve
Nelson, won 30
bucks.

Next membership
meeting drawing
will be for 10
bucks.

50/50
No drawing.



Message from S.A.L. Commander:

SAL meeting on Wednesday July 17th at 7pm. Discuss membership dues, etc.

Cal Manske
SAL Commander

Hello everyone!

I hope all of you are enjoying summer!

Thanks to all of you who worked at the Chicken Q on June 9th, and for those who did the prep work on June 8th. It was a great day for chicken! We decided for next year, we'll try to do a 2-shift schedule on Sunday, so that the shifts aren't so long.

As usual, we did not have a July meeting. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, August 7th at 6 pm (which also happens to be our secretary's birthday). We will have elections at that meeting. Please come and join our wonderful group of Auxiliary members.

Sincerely, Julie Nelson
Auxiliary President

Post Announcements:

Our newly installed officers:

Commander: Mike Callan, 1st Vice Commander: Wes Guy, 2nd Vice Commander: Richard Zube, 3rd Vice Commander: Ron Piojda, Chaplain: Bernard Roesler, Service Officer: Harlan Helseth, Sargent-of-Arms: Steve Nelson, Finance Officer: Gary Grethel, Historian, Frank Mathison and Adjutant: Charles Nelson.

Please return unused legion uniforms or coats. We can give these to new color guard and fire squad personnel. We have had some success getting new members these uniforms. Thank you to you who have returned unused uniforms! There's a big push to get members uniforms for doing military rites at funerals. This is the best way to start getting involved in this post! So, please let Steve Nelson (608-330-1103) know you want to do this and he will do whatever he can to get you your uniform. This is a great way for you to honor and remember our veterans!

One delegate is still needed for the State Legion Convention. We can have up to 3 delegates. The convention is in Appleton this year on July 10-14. If you want to be a delegate contact Steve Nelson (608-330-1103).

Roger Mathison will be elected National State Vice-Commander at the National Legion Convention at New Orleans this year. This convention will be held August 23-29th. This is a great honor for Roger and he will represent the legion very well. You can still book your trip to witness this rare event now, but I'm sure rooms are filling up fast for this convention. Roger could probably help you with some ideas where to stay and when to attend the convention. Congratulations Roger!

Congratulations Historian Frank Mathison on your Post Yearbook entry being awarded the 2024 Post Yearbook Award and the 2024 District Yearbook Award! On top of all this he will receive a National Award for this work! Please congratulate Frank for all these achievements!

Look at your Legion Baseball and Softball game schedules (posted on facebook), the last games are coming up! Support our youth, by showing up!

Below is a proud moment being at the Vernon County Fair, at the Loren Goede Farm! Al Goede is holding the American flag for the National Anthem at his brothers farm opening ceremonies! Charlie Nelson and Vernon County Police joined in!





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

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