

# Rose Harms Legionnaire

July 2014



## Hamburgers Brats and Corn

Join us for our  
annual cookout!

Monday, August 11th

Starting at 5:30 pm

All Legion Family Members Are Welcome



# ***Highlights from our last Post meeting***

**Chaplain Report:** Les Williams reported that Herb Menzel has escaped a hip replacement operation at least for the present. Dave Colette has moved home after a stair master was installed.

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Mike Knoppa reported no funerals for the month. The Post Color Guard did present the Colors on the Gathering at the Green, which was an event in Mequon.

**Americanism:** Bill Clayton has extended invitations to the three Grafton High School boys, who attended the Badger Boys State, to attend our next Post meeting.

**Athletic:** Doug Arendt reported on the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> District Golf Outing on Saturday, August 9th with foursomes and sponsorships coming in. The outing offers many prizes.

**Building & Grounds:** Butch Paegelow reported on solutions for the Post's ice-damming issues.

1. Sandlin Heating and Sheet Metal will properly vent bathroom fans that are now just blowing into the attic. He will also tape and check existing heat runs.
2. DW Improvements Inc. will add more soffit panels to help with the ventilation in the attic.
3. DW Improvements Inc. will replace the 6 east side windows to match the ones he installed last year on the west side.
4. Economy Glass will remove and dispose of glass from the old windows.
5. The Post will have installed 6 new blinds on the newly retrofitted windows and trim them out. All of this is estimated to cost \$6,000.

**Camp American Legion:** Dick Lallensack reported that the dedications for Camp structures went well. The week of September 29th has been firmed up for Camp closing.

**Public Safety:** Ken Kasprzak complimented everyone involved on how well the Auxiliary sponsored picnic for Zablocki VA Center Vets went. Both the Vets and the Legion Family members had a great day!

## **Good of the Legion:**

- Thanks from Frank Balestreri to all who stood in for him at bingo at Grilling in Grafton when he suffered health issues from dehydration.
- Camp Hometown heroes lunch put together by our Post was great as was the entire event. The kids were wonderful and it was a moving experience for everyone.
- The Post received a \$50 check from 2nd District Vice Commander, Jim Lee, for our Post's 100% membership this year.
- Thanks to Post members who helped in Korai Kozak's Eagle Scout Project event.

**Correspondence:** Commander Jim Arentz read the following:

- A thank you letter from the Disabled Veterans Fish Outing for the Post's support.
- A thank you from the USO of Wisconsin for our Post's support of their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to the Troops Golf Outing.
- A thank you from Megan Longoria for the Post's Academic Scholarship.
- A thank you from Tyler Longoria for the Post's Technology Scholarship.
- Thank you's from the three Post Badger Boys Representatives', Aaron Rosselet, Zachary Ryan, and Michael McKelvey
- A thank you from Dustin Scott for the Post sponsorship at the Special Olympics
- A thank you from the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class at St. Paul's Lutheran School for the Post's support of their Washington D.C. trip.

## ***Calendar Raffle***

***\$50 – Megan Monarski***

***\$30 – Ronald Block***

***\$25 – Renata Quillen***

***\$20 – Linda Fass***

***\$15 – James Johnson***

***\$10 – Marilyn Jeske***

## **New Regulations Automate Burial Payments for Veterans' Survivors**

*Estimated 62,000 Surviving Spouses Benefit from Regulation Changes*

WASHINGTON – New burial regulations effective today will now allow the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to automatically pay the maximum amount allowable under law to most eligible surviving spouses more quickly and efficiently, without the need for a written application.

Under former regulations, VA paid burial benefits on a reimbursement basis, which required survivors to submit receipts for relatively small one-time payments that VA generally paid at the maximum amount permitted by law.

“VA is committed to improving the speed and ease of delivery of monetary burial benefits to Veterans’ survivors during their time of need,” said Acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson. “The recent changes allow VA to help these survivors bear the cost of funerals by changing regulations to get them the benefits more quickly.”

This automation enables VA to pay a non-service-connected or service-connected burial allowance to an estimated 62,000 eligible surviving spouses out of a projected 140,000 claimants for burial benefits in 2014. Surviving spouses will be paid upon notice of the Veteran’s death using information already in VA systems. The burial allowance for a non-service-connected death is \$300, and \$2,000 for a death connected to military service.

This revised regulation will further expedite the delivery of these benefits to surviving spouses, reduce the volume of claims requiring manual processing, and potentially make available resources for other activities that benefit Veterans and their survivors.

For more information on monetary burial benefits, visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/claims-special-burial.asp>.



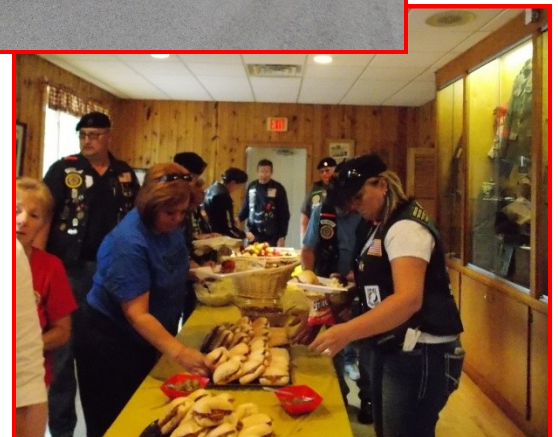
The Grafton Post is well represented on Rhino's Run for the American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Fund.

## **Rhino's Run**



Rose Harms Post hosts over 100 Legion Riders to lunch.

The Post Legion Family also donated \$1,500 to the Legacy Fund. The total donations from the Village, Ozaukee County and 2nd District Legion Riders was over \$4,500.





# Rose-Harms Unit 355

## American Legion Auxiliary

Our June Banquet was a very enjoyable evening for all those that attended. Both our Poppy Princess, McKenna, as well as our Junior Poppy Princess, Addison, were able to join us. We also were honored to have 3 guests with us for the evening. A good time was had by all. This year our member of the year was President Sue Turowski. Thank you to our Banquet Committee for making this event special.

We do not have a meeting in July, but we did have a busy month. Saturday, July 12th was our annual VA picnic at the Post. About 20 veterans from the Zablocki Medical Center arrived at the Post for a delicious luncheon of grilled hamburgers, beans and a variety of salads and desserts. Legionnaires and Auxiliary members become buddies for the day and visited with the vets, assisted them in any way needed to make sure they have a fun day. They played games, were entertained by a magician and even joined in the karaoke singing. They have commented in the past that they love coming to Grafton. We have such a beautiful site, and they always feel so welcome. Thank you to all who made the day possible for our Veterans.

On Wednesday, July 16th Legion Riders stopped at the Grafton Post for lunch as they make their way around the state on the Rhino Run. This was an amazing event for Our Community as well as our Legion Post. Members of the Riders were from all over the state so this was the perfect time for others to see our Post. We had a great showing of all of the other Post Families from District 2.

Thank you to everyone who worked to make our Post OUTSTANDING!

Have a wonderful summer and mark your calendar for our August meeting. It will be on **Monday, August 11th following the cook-out supplied by the Legion.** Come for fun, visits and dinner beginning at 5:30 and stay for the ALA meeting. As usual, any desserts or side dishes that you would like to bring, would be greatly appreciated.

See you in August.

Judy Kuta  
Secretary

