



Rose Harms Legionnaire

October 2015

Up coming Post events

October 1st	Ozaukee County Flag Retirement ceremony at the Belgium Post 6:00 pm with County Council meeting to follow.
October 5th	Post Executive Committee meeting
October 12th	Post general meeting
October 13th	BINGO
October 13th	SAL meeting - lower hall
October 19th	Historians Club
October 19th	Card Club - lower hall
October 31st	2nd District Fall Conference at Mequon Post
November 5th	SAL Beer Tasting at Fire Ridge Golf Course
November 8th	Homeless Veterans Initiative at the Post
November 11th	Veterans Day ceremonies at Veterans Park at 11:00 am followed by an open house lunch at the Post
November 14th	Veterans Day Dinner



COMMANDER'S CORNER—Ken Kasprzak



On September 12, I attended the 2nd District POW/MIA Silent March held in Cedarburg. Also, representing our Post were Jim Arentz, Gary Gilstrap, Al Richards, and Nick Schanen. Each year on the third Friday of September our country commemo-

rates U.S. service members who are recognized prisoners of war or are missing in action. Rallies and ceremonies are held at many veterans' organizations. The American Legion remains committed to achieving a full accounting of all POW/MIA's. Speeches of remembrance are given to emphasize comrades who have endured and may still be enduring the agonies of pain, deprivation, and imprisonment. Excerpts from the Legion's published speech are as follows:

- The table is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner, alone against his or her suppressors.
- A single rose in a vase signifies the blood they may have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep faith, while awaiting their return.
- The red ribbon on the vase represents an unyielding determination for a proper accounting of our comrades who are not among us.
- A slice of lemon on the plate reminds us of their bitter fate.
- The salt sprinkled on a plate reminds us of the countless fallen tears of families as they wait.
- The chair is empty. They are not here.
- The candle is reminiscent of the light of hope, which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation.
- The American flag reminds us that many of them may never return – and have paid the supreme sacrifice to insure our freedom.
- Let us remember and never forget their sacrifice.

An agenda topic at our September meeting was to introduce a project to honor veterans who have served our country. In conjunction with the SAL and Auxiliary, our Post plans to designate an area in front of our building where gift bricks would be placed. The exact location and design is yet to be determined, but should be visible to the public as they enter the Post. However, our goal is to have commemorative bricks similar to that at the World War II Memorial, Coal Dock Park in Port Washington. This memorial was planned and completed by volunteers from the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight and Port Washington residents. As this will also be a Post fundraiser, we will utilize Gift Bricks Co. for purchase, engraving, and assistance with marketing. Decisions to be made are as follows:

- Location and size of area where bricks would be placed.
- Design should be visible and appealing to the general public and us.
- Cost to donor for a 4x8, 8x8, & 8x16 brick.
- Total projected fundraiser dollars.
- Expected completion date.
- Actual launch date for sale of bricks.

Ideally we would like to begin sales on or near Veterans Day.

Amy Luft initially presented this idea to us. Since then, it has become a joint project of the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL.

SAL Commander Marc Eernisse has volunteered its members to perform the install work after the bricks are purchased and engraved.

Additional information is forthcoming at our October meeting.

Thus far, a working committee has been formed: Myself, Amy Luft, Bill Reidl, and Neil Mertz.

Anyone interested in assisting, please contact me. Home Phone 262-618-4925.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Special Thank You to Nick Schanen, Jim Arentz, and Butch Paegelow for their hard work in remodeling upstairs storage room.
- Thank You to all our Legion Family volunteers, without whom it would be very difficult to have such a great facility that is used by members and community.

Highlights from our last meeting

Chaplain Report: Les Williams reported Jim Hall is now home but having health issues. Harold Walsh also with health issues.

Membership: Gary Gilstrap reported membership at 186. He indicated that National is raising dues \$5.00 after January 1st
New Post member, Kyle Fortney USN, was welcomed aboard.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Nick Schanen reported one gratis funeral for the month. The 9/11 event at St. Joes was an impressive ceremony.

Athletic: Doug Arendt reported on the Post Golf Outing at Edgewater with a 1:00 pm shotgun start. 49 golfers as of Post Meeting this evening.

Hall Report: Al Richards reported a new ice-machine was ordered.
Beer and soda for the evening compliments of Frank Balistreri.

Scouts: Steve Shock reported the Post sponsored pack and troop for the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts will be at the next meeting to report on activities and goals. They will also elicit support for their major fundraising endeavors.

Bingo: Tom Peterson reported the bingo event for September had 78 players.

Oratorical: Lee Wiskirchen reported ready to contact Zach Gaeske, Grafton High School Oratorical Coordinator, to begin the canvas for oratorical contest contestants for the contest at the Post in December.

Camp American Legion: Dick Lallensack reported 17 Post volunteers have signed up for Camp closing, and help will be needed for erecting Camp boundary signs at a later date.

Unfinished Business:

- The Post By-Laws committee is to review and update same.

- Materials for curtains have been ordered, and will be sewn, ironed and installed.
- County Flag retirement ceremony is at 6:00 pm at the Belgium Post 412 on October 1st.

New Business:

Guest Amy Luft spoke to membership thanking all who helped with the Stars and Stripes Honor Tour. She also spoke of upcoming flights bound to Washington D.C. The Post was awarded a certificate for support of the Honor Flights. Initial information was also supplied about Operation Peril which is a fundraiser to serve waiting vets.



Good of the Legion:

- Ken Grigas reported on the Metro Milwaukee Military Historians. October 19th will feature Jerry Witt, a dog handler during the Vietnam War. He will have dogs with him.
- Two American flags and a Marine uniform were donated to the Post in memory of Butch and Joe Dohr by their family.

Calendar Raffle:
\$50 – Toni Moegenberg
\$30 – Mike Knoppa
\$25 – Helen Barlow
\$20 – Janet beck
\$15 – John Teuscher
\$10 – Mary Zipperer

DUES NOTICE!

A Resolution, passed at National Convention, has raised the dues \$5.00

We have researched a number of organizations including the VFW, Lions, Elks, Rotary, Knight of Columbus and AMVETS. The dues for these organizations range from \$30- \$100 plus. The American Legion's adjusted per capita dues to the Post, Department and National will total \$35 after January 1st.

This compares favorably, especially when considering that subscriptions to the Department newspaper and the National American Legion Magazine are included, along with the other member discounts. You can check them out at

legion.org/benefits Members are also entitled to free AD&D coverage through the Legionnaire Insurance Trust.

The American Legion continues to be the leading Veterans Service Organization in the country; doing more for veterans than any other organization. As an organization we need to continue to focus on what the mission of the Organization which is *Service to veterans, their families and their communities*.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

All dues received at Department headquarters which are post-marked by December 31, 2015 will be at the current per capita of \$30. Dues received which are post-marked after 01/01/16 will be \$35. No exceptions.

Rose Harms Post members, this means that if you pay your dues by November 11th, you not only save \$5.00, but you get a free Veterans Day dinner too!



Thank you to all the Legion Riders who helped put on our annual picnic at the Zablocki VA Day Care Center. The Veterans and their care givers really enjoyed the afternoon.

We are also looking into doing a little Christmas party there in December with cookies, hot chocolate and Christmas songs sing-along.

We had a great turnout for the POW/MIA silent march in Cedarburg and the Gemuetlichkeit Days parade in Jefferson. It's sure been wonderful riding weather.

The next 2nd District Legion Riders meeting will be held at the Juneau Post on October 3rd. Our last rides will probably be Veterans Day and the Christmas parade ... weather permitting.



Sons of the American Legion

Membership renewal underway with a total of 64 members. Obtaining email addresses during registration to enhance communication.

Concordia University Legion Post sent a thank you for our donation to purchase care packages for their Operation Falcon Support a program to assist our Wisconsin troops in Afghanistan.

Memorial Day flags are being stored in a Lauer's storage shed unit. Linda Faas family donated \$225 to help purchase more flags and dog tags for the Memorial Day display.

Dick Rieck will chair the new Camp American Legion committee. We will travel to the camp on September 27 thru the 29th to complete work needed at our sponsored cabin. Camp will be open until October 2. Also, help is needed to post signage along camp boundary in fall. Anyone wishing to attend or help by other means, please let Dick know. Options for a possible dock will need to be investigated over the winter.

Brian Hadler volunteered to adjust and paint the flag poles at the Memorial to ensure the American Flag is higher than the others.

Bill Riedl volunteered to help research the design of a Legion post memorial for families who can purchase engraved memorial bricks to honor their loved ones. Neal motioned SAL to be in favor of the project and Dick 2nd the motion. Approved unanimously.

Al attended the National Convention where Denise Rohan was nominated to become National Commander. This will be a two year campaign, with Denise being elected in Reno at the 2017 National Convention. Al also mentioned that SAL needs to be represented at the State Conventions. Next convention is in Middleton on July 14-17, 2016.

Dick motioned to fund the Veteran's meal in conjunction with the Auxiliary. Passed unanimously.

Need a SAL shirt or cap? Contact Scott Ritter at 414-690-5156 or email: rritter2@wi.rr.com.

Legion Post Dinner Volunteers – obtain and setup reimbursable food items by 7:45pm

October 12 – Dave Wegner

November 9 – Bob Rieck

Upcoming Events

September 27 – Camp American Legion: More work is needed at the cabin.

If you would like to help, contact Dick Rieck at: 377-4190.

October 13 – SAL meeting starting at 6:30 pm

October 31 – American Legion 2nd District Conference: Mequon Legion Post 457 at 9:00 am.

November 5 – Beer Tasting

November 10 – SAL meeting

November 14 - Veterans Day Dinner at the Post - Everyone is welcome!



Rose-Harms Unit 355 American Legion Auxiliary October 2015

Thank you to Mel Nowak and our junior members for hosting a wonderful baby shower prior to our September meeting. The items gathered will be donated and used by expecting women veterans at Zablocki VA. What a great way to support our women veterans!

Important – Please note: Beginning in October our new meeting start time will be 6:30 p.m.

Thank you to the Sons of the American Legion for purchasing 20 plastic bins for use at the Women's Health Project Clothing Room at Zablocki VA. Special thanks to Ron Kuta for delivering the bins!

The Cedarburg Unit will be hosting our Fall County Council meeting on Wednesday, October 14. Registration and social time begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m., followed by our meeting at 7:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$1 and all members are asked to please bring one nice item for the White Elephant sale. Please contact President Cathy Brunnquell (262-377-0718) if you are interested in attending.

Please renew your membership soon! If we reach our goal of 187 members (set by Department) by December 31, our Unit will receive \$100! To help sweeten the deal, our Unit membership team is offering another great incentive - for every member you recruit, you will have a chance to win \$25 gift card. The more members you recruit, the more chances you have. Make sure to carry membership applications with you wherever you go and always be ready to talk about the Auxiliary membership to everyone you meet! If you have questions about membership, please contact Membership Chair, Renata Quillen at 262-377-0370.

Second District is in 1st!



You can now renew your membership on-line! Membership dues may be paid via debit or credit card by simply visiting the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). Go to the "Members Only" tab and create a log in ID if you don't already have one. The pay dues option will be at the top of the screen. If you need assistance with creating a log-in ID, please contact the national organization's helpline at alahq@alaforveterans.org.

We still have several Unit programs and events that need chairpersons. Please consider teaming up with a partner to keep our programs active. To learn more about the Auxiliary programs and events, contact President Cathy Brunnquell at 262-377-0718.

Please consider clipping box tops for education. Box tops can be found on hundreds of items are worth ten cents each for our schools. Don't toss them, clip them and bring them to our monthly meetings!



Next Post BINGO will be on **Monday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m.** The Auxiliary will be serving sandwiches and refreshments - please consider volunteering to assist. Contact Renata Quillen (262-377-0370) to sign-up. This is an on-going fundraiser for the Auxiliary and your assistance is appreciated.

The next Stars & Stripes Honor Flights will take place **on October 24**, and just announced a third flight on November 7! Help us find the WWII and Korean veterans who have not yet signed up. Applications are available at www.starsandstripeshonorflight.org or contact Amy Luft (414-651-7300) for info.

Our annual Veteran's Day parade and luncheon will be held at the Post on **Wednesday, November 11**. Make sure to save the date for the Veteran's Dinner Dance on **Saturday, November 14!**

Discounted Marcus Movie Tickets are back! Proceeds from the sales benefit our veterans and their families. Upcoming order dates are: **November 20 and December 11**. Marcus Movie tickets make great holiday gifts! Contact Laurie Schwalbe (414-659-6951) to order yours now!

Upcoming Events

October 6 – Auxiliary Executive Meeting 6:30 p.m. Lower Level of Post

October 12 – Bingo at Post

October 14 – Auxiliary County Meeting at Cedarburg Post





Free Dinner
For all Post Veterans
Saturday, November 14th
Everyone is welcome!

All paid up members of the Rose Harms Post get a **Free Dinner**,
Compliments of the Sons of the American Legion and the Auxiliary.

6:00 p.m. Social hour

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Please mark down if you are a Post Veteran

Non-Veterans _____ **x \$15 = Total enclosed \$** _____

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Make checks payable to and mail to;
Rose Harms Post 355
1540 13th Ave.
Grafton, WI 53024





Please Join Us

Milwaukee Homeless Veterans

Initiative Information Event

**Sunday, November 8th
at 5:00 pm**

**Located at the
Rose Harms Post 355
1540 13th Avenue
Grafton, WI 53024**

- This is an event to provide support for the homeless population, which make up 60% of Wisconsin's homeless population.
- American Legion Post 355 Grafton Color Guard Ceremony will be held at 5:00 pm, followed by a presentation from the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative.
- Refreshments will be provided after the presentation by your Ozaukee County Chapter of Thrivent Financial.
- Monetary donations are welcome. To view what other donations would be appreciated, please visit Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative website at mkehomelessvets.org. A representative will be present from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm to collect donations.
- This event is open to both the public and the veterans, registration in advance is appreciated, but not necessary.
- For more information, please contact Neil Traxel at (262) 377-7223 or ntraxel@yahoo.com.

