



Rose Harms Legionnaire

February 2016

32ND LAS VEGAS NIGHT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016

FREE BEER BEING SERVED FROM 6:30 TO 7:30

GAMING WILL TAKE PLACE 7:00 TO 11:00

Please try to sell your raffle tickets that were enclosed in your December newsletter as this is a large part of the evenings profits. If you are in need of more tickets please call the post at 377-8887 and we'll see that you get additional tickets.

Tickets stubs and money can be mailed back to the post or can be placed in the mail slot at the front of the post.

More help is always needed to make this a successful evening. Contact Steve Shock at 377-3728 if you can give him a hand dealing cards.

Contact Kevin Dressel at 375-1283 if you can help him out with the craps tables.

Contact Butch Paegelow at 377-9596 with any questions or can lend a hand helping that evening.

Let's make this a successful evening for Rose Harms Post 355 by bringing family and friends for an evening of fun and games. Hope to see on February 20th for the 32nd annual LAS VEGAS NGHT!

Up Coming Events at the Post

February 1st	Post Executive Committee meeting
February 6th	State AL Riders meeting
February 8th	Post General Meeting
February 9th	BINGO
February 9th	SAL - Lower hall
February 16th	Historians Club
February 16th	Card Club - Lower hall
February 20th	Las Vegas Night



COMMANDER'S CORNER—Ken Kasprzak



Today, I reflect on the start of a new year, 2016. As your Commander, I have set some specific goals for the Post and myself. Among them are the following:

1. Improve Post security with cameras and alarm/key lock systems.
2. Additional volunteer programs for post members.
3. Update Post By-Laws.
4. Invite guest speakers for some meetings.
5. Continue a close working relationship with the Auxiliary, S.A.L. and Legion Riders.
6. Complete the Brick Memorial Project as planned for Spring 2016.

Thus far, my tenure as Commander has been very rewarding to me personally. Hopefully I can continue to improve my leadership skills in order to represent Post 355 to the best of my abilities.

Rose-Harms Post Brick Memorial Project is being promoted as a way for friends and families to continue honoring veterans. Amy Luft and Bill Reidl have been available after our last two meeting to assist members with completing brick order forms. Note that we have received the "equivalent" of 67 orders for 4x8 bricks. Dedication and installation is scheduled for the spring of 2016. Committee members as follows: Amy Luft, Bill Riedl, Ralph Beck, and Neil Mertz. You can contact me at 262-618-4925.

Security cameras and office monitor have arrived. Cables for six cameras have been installed. Thanks to Tom Grabow, Nick Schanen, and Jim Arentz for their work with placement of the camera cables.

At our February meeting, I will have two guest speakers.

- Mel Lightner, Superintendent Grafton Schools, will speak about the Board of Education referendum.
- Tom Stanton, Mel's Pig Roast, will discuss fund raising ideas and how we can partner.

GOOD OF THE LEGION

Grafton High School. Along with Bill Clayton, I attended an informational meeting for students interested in Badger Boys/Girls State. Orientation for selected junior high school students will be held at our Post on May 25. Approximately 885 young men will attend Badger Boys State this year. For 8 days, they will carry out all the main functions of city, county, and state government using basic laws & procedures with the State of Wisconsin as their guide.

The program is designed to teach young men government including justice, freedom, and democracy as principles of the Constitution. Our Post traditionally sponsors 3 students for Badger Boys State, which is held in June. Thanks to Bill Clayton for his work with Badger Boys.

Let's become knowledgeable on how we can help Veterans and their families learn about benefits and services available to them.

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you note was sent to 5 Corners Dodge. Roman Weinenger, Manager, provided a Dodge truck, which pulled a trailer for Legionnaires who could not march in Grafton's Christmas Parade.

Our Post donated \$250 to the Fisher House of Wisconsin. Veterans' families are provided a Home Away From Home while military men and women are being treated at facilities such as the Zablocki VA Medical Center. Food and other amenities are also included. Since 1990 over 250,000 families were served and presently there are currently 66 homes in operation. 100% of the funds raised in Wisconsin go to support the mission of Fisher House Wisconsin.

Chili Box Lunch Fundraiser for Family Sharing is February 26. Contact Amy Luft if you would like to volunteer as a driver.

Congratulations to Katie Lamb on her 2nd place award at the 2nd District Oratorical Contest. Very proud of her as our Post's representative.



I guess "The Year of the Veteran" is over

Or - why are our elected representatives in Madison trying to screw over our Veterans?

TO ALL CONCERNED VETERANS:

LRB-4524/1 is a bill which is being introduced (and pushed for some questionable reasons) which proposes to make some ***extremely negative changes*** to the way veterans are served in Wisconsin.

Current law requires each county in Wisconsin to elect or appoint a CVSO. This bill proposes to make CVSOs optional for counties, and in their place to provide a consortium or regional Veteran Service Office. As many of you know, without the assistance of County Veteran Service Officers our most vulnerable veterans and their surviving spouses would be tragically underserved.

The vast majority of veterans in Ozaukee County and Washington County were strongly opposed to a merger of County Veteran Service Offices. This proposal goes further yet and would allow for a multi-county consortium, the impact of which would be far worse than a two-county merger.

This is a long and confusing bill. Like most things in politics, they throw in a few good things to try to justify passing it. But, besides the fact that County Veterans Service Officers won't even have to be Veterans anymore, the state grants given to help CVSO are being very restrictive.

This bill also strips of the Board of Veterans Affairs of any oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Board members who must all be Veterans appointed by the Governor and approved by the full Senate.

Please contact your state representatives and senators to ask them to oppose this bill in its entirety.

These are a couple of legislatures from our area that I have contacted;
Past State Commander, Al Richards

Senator Alberta Darling

Room 317 East
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Telephone: (608) 266-5830
Fax: (608) 267-0588

Email: Sen.Darling@legis.wisconsin.gov

Representative Jim Ott

Room 317 North
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Telephone: (608) 266-0486
(888) 534-0023
Fax: (608) 282-3623

Email: Rep.OttJ@legis.wisconsin.gov

Senator Duey Stroebel

Room 18 South
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Telephone: (608) 266-7513

Email: Sen.Stroebel@legis.wisconsin.gov

Representative Robert Brooks

Room 107 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Telephone: (608) 267-2369
(888) 534-0060
Fax: (608) 282-3660

Email: Rep.Rob.Brooks@legis.wisconsin.gov

Highlights from our Last Post Meeting

Chaplain Les Williams reported;

- Romie Monarski is at home recuperating from knee surgery.
- Gerald Cook has pancreatic cancer.
- Christmas fruit baskets were delivered to Harold Walsh, Don Fransen, Don Proefrock, Jim Boehnlein, Bill Clayton, Gene Schmidt, and Claude Wollner.
- Also ailing is John Teuscher, Don Proefrock, Don Fransen, and Bill Clayton.

Sergeant-at-Arms Mike Knoppa:

New winter and summer gloves have been provided to the Honor Guard . . .

Americanism Bill Clayton:

Badger Boys State for 2016 is a work in progress with a new process for candidate selection at the High School.

Children & Youth: Doug Arendt reported: The Coloring and Essay Contest will be disseminated to the appropriate schools with the theme of Support the Red, White, and Blue. The winners will be at the Post's March meeting.

Vegas Night: Butch Paegelow reported: Vegas Night set up will be done the day before. Please sell your raffle tickets. Help is needed. Doors open at 6:30 pm, but be there by 6:00 to get ready.

Oratorical Contest: Lee Wiskirchen reported that our Post winner, Katie Lamb, has won the County Contest and now move on to the District contest at Mid Winter.

POW/MIA: Jim Stencel

The Defense Department has identified and returned to the United States for burial with full military honors 5 serviceman from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam .

Camp American Legion: Dick Lallensack

Camp opening is scheduled for the week of April 18, 2016

Executive Committee Recommendations:

- Donate \$250 to the Fischer House of Wisconsin.
- To donate \$250.00 to the Grafton Portal.

New Business: Upcoming events:

- Youth in Government March 10th
- 2nd District Bowling Tournament April 2-3
- 2nd District Oratorical January 16th.

Good of the Legion:

- 52 bricks for the Post Brick memorial have been ordered.
- Frank Balestreri, based upon how quickly it was devoured, will ensure another home-made sausage for next year such as the one he brought for the Christmas meal following the Post Meeting in December.
- The Milwaukee Metropolitan Military Historians will present retired US Marine Gunnery Sergeant Bryce Lockwood who was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the attack of the USS Liberty.
- The Auxiliary's third annual Chili Box Fund-raiser for Family Sharing will be held on Friday, February 26th.

Correspondence: Commander Ken Kasprzak read a thank you card from the Don Franzen family for the Christmas fruit basket

Calendar Raffle:

\$50.00 – James Krzaska
\$30.00 – Dave Tice
\$25.00 – Steve Shock
\$20.00 – James Johnson
\$15.00 – Kate Jozowski
\$10.00 – Brian Hadler

Visit us on - griftonlegion.org



Rose Harms Post 355



SAL News – January 2016

Treasurer's report by Bill Riedl. Checking account in the black.

Membership report by Paul Turowski. We paid for 73 members that included 3 new members. Only 4 members have dues that are outstanding.

Bill Riedl reported the Legion has 62 bricks to be sold. Encouraged any members who are interested to fill out a brick order form and sent in with check. Brick order form is available on griftonlegion.com.

Bowling tournament January 23rd from 11 am – 3pm. Will likely need to raise game fee next year as the cost continues to rise and we haven't raised the \$10 entry fee for some time. SAL volunteers are needed to run the raffles and miscellaneous tasks. Please show up when you can.

Paddle Prizes and help needed for our Las Vegas Night on Feb. 20. Contact Corey (375-0971) if you know of anything to donate or if you can help with games or raffles during any portion of the event.

Lighting was finally repaired. Found bad bulbs and wiring.

Marc asked about POW / MIA recognition during our meetings. Al has a flag we can use and Ken, our Sergeant of Arms, will execute at the beginning of each SAL meeting.

Sue Turowski announced the Grand Slam Charity Jam, that benefits Home Town Heroes, is scheduled for March 5th. Anyone who would like to help and enjoy this event, please contact Sue. For more information see: www.grandslamcharityjam.org

Sue also announced that Marquette Coach Steve Wojciechowski is in the running to win ESPN's Infinity Coaches Race for Charity. All of Coach Wojciechowski's winnings will be donated to Home Town Heroes. All we need to do is go on the website daily and cast a vote. The more votes, the more likely he is to win. See the Rose Harm's Facebook page or go to: promo.espn.go.com/espn/contests/infinity/2016/index?next=home and please vote!

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Contact Ed Summers to order SAL hats, shirts, jackets, etc. @ 262-721-7710 or esummers@yahoo.com

Legion Post Meeting Dinners: Volunteers obtain and setup food items by 7:45pm

February 8 – Jim

March 14 – Auxiliary providing meal in honor of the Legion's birthday

Upcoming Events

Feb 9 – SAL Meeting @ 6:30

Feb 20 – 32nd Annual Las Vegas Night at the Legion



Post 9/11, Veterans, (single or with family) – COME! This week is for you.

This week is the one that Camp American Legion sets aside just for Post 9/11 wounded veterans who want to come all together. Many of these veterans are younger with families and they all come. A family is any veteran who has minor age dependent children. That is what make a family and they bring them all and they have FUN! It is a week for veterans sharing, spouses relaxing (we do the cooking) and the kids all playing with each other. The fishing, swimming, daily trips to activities, paddle boating it is all going on and a flurry of activity.

I talk about the families BUT we have many single Post 9/11 veterans come and they enjoy great battle buddy time and sharing with other single comrades. They also enjoy the families as well. Whether single or families; the veterans share a common life experience. This is actually the fourth year for this week and it keep growing and getting more fun every year. Professionals and friends; think of the veterans you serve. How many of your Post 9/11 wounded warriors with PTSD, a TBI or a physical wound can have or afford a full week in the beautiful Northwood of Wisconsin, a fully furnished cabin, restaurant-quality food cooked by professional chefs, loads of recreation, fishing, cruising, all **** FREE**** to them. It is our GIFT to them for their service – as it is for all veterans who come to Camp.

Yes, you newly named Transition & Care Management Program Managers (OEF/OIF/OND) it's obvious that this applies mostly to you and the veterans you work with – BUT, BUT -- I would think almost all of you on this address list work with Post 9/11 veterans to some degree as well. Where ever you work you serve these veterans. All of you; let's reach out to them and get them to come to this special week. If you have a group of veterans from your area that with to come as a group that would be great and I encourage it.

NOW, IMPORTANT REMINDER; I say this with many of our special weeks; if any Post 9/11 veterans cannot make this week for any reason they can come any other week of Camp. Yes this week is special and exclusive to them but we have Post 9/11 vets (with family if they have) coming throughout the whole summer and we want that to continue and grow. So Post 9/11 wounded warrior vets come to Camp American Legion and let us serve you; during this special week



Women Veterans Week June 13-17, 2016

This week is Camp American Legion's longest running special week. Last year the women celebrated and marked their 5th Anniversary by planting a tree here at Camp. It is a living visual of our CAL women vets. A beautiful flowering crab tree. I look forward to seeing it in full bloom this spring. This week is a very special time for our women veterans. We fill the camp and it is a special time of camaraderie and sharing. There is a committee of women; many veterans led by the Wisconsin Vet Centers who plan the whole week. It is loaded with programs, workshops, gathering, classes and activities all focused at the needs and interests of women vets. They have a lot of FUN. It all creates a relaxing, safe, healing environment in the beautiful North woods. Some women plan and look forward to this week just for them all year. I have women veterans already calling me asking me when it is; so they don't miss it. I have working women vets already asking so they can plan their vacation for it.

Direct all questions to: CAMP AMERICAN LEGION
Kevin Moshea, Director Rehabilitative Services
The American Legion Department of Wisconsin
www.wilegion.org < <http://www.wilegion.org/> >
(P) 715.277.2510 (F) 715.277.3425



Auxiliary President Cathy's Thoughts

Since I became Auxiliary President, one of my goals is to try and shorten the time of our monthly meetings. You will see in the meeting notes I have asked our Executive Board to meet monthly. I think this will help shorten many of the discussions that we have at our Unit meetings and help in the long run. My executive board is a group of awesome ladies that make my job easier and has members that I would consider my mentors. When I first became an Auxiliary member, over the past 13 years, they were our Unit President. So they have agreed to meet monthly. We are a very active Auxiliary and I have been told this by many others. Our old business to discuss is just as lengthy as our new business.

We have started a social time before the meetings, with refreshment volunteers. If you have the time you can join us at 6:00 pm and our meeting starts at 6:30 pm sharp! (Who am I kidding?) We try to start the meeting at 6:30 pm. With great friendships, respect and good intentions we all have a good time at our meetings, and it is all for our mission to help the Veterans. So remember the 3rd Tuesday of the month is your Auxiliary meeting.

Come join us! With a little warning.....our volunteering and ideas are contagious! All you need to do is look at our newsletter and see the great things we do.

Rose-Harms Unit 355 American Legion Auxiliary

February 2016



In the spirit of service, not self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Thank you to our Refreshment Committee volunteers – Cathy Brunnquell, Angie Dedlow and Lucretia Limerick for their delicious food supplied at our January meeting! Remember, refreshments and socialization begins at 6:00 p.m. with our Unit meetings starting promptly at 6:30 p.m. Feel free to stop in early for a bite and drink prior to our meetings.

THE AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP RATES HAVE NOT CHANGED IN PRICE! Our Unit membership rates remain at \$22 for Seniors and \$5 for Juniors. The increase that was noted in previous publications is for the Legion, not the Auxiliary. Thank you to everyone who has renewed their Auxiliary membership on time. Any members not renewed by January 31 are considered delinquent and will be removed from all member benefits. Don't jeopardize your good standing! You can simply renew online by 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. Or, contact our Unit Membership Chair, Renata Quillen (262-377-0370) for assistance.

Do to popular demand a "mid-winter" Marcus ticket order is happening now! Please contact Laurie Schwalbe ([262-375-4191](tel:262-375-4191) or laurieschwalbe@northwesternmutual.com) to place your order. Orders are due January 25. This is a top fundraiser for the Auxiliary. Thank you to Laurie Schwalbe for her commitment and time towards this worthy cause!

Mark your calendars for the following events:

Post bingo will be on **Tuesday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m.** The Auxiliary will be serving food items 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.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is **Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.**

Stop in early for snacks, refreshments and socialization beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Las Vegas Night will be held **Saturday, February 20** at the Post. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The Auxiliary will be serving food and snacks. Please contact Cathy Brunnquell 377-0718 if you are able to help with serving, selling, or even walk around with snacks. We need a couple more volunteers.

The American Legion Birthday will be celebrated with a joint meal on **Monday, March 14.** Come early for a meal and stay for our Auxiliary meeting. More information will be available next month.

The Ozaukee County Council meeting will be held at the Grafton Post on **Wednesday, April 20.** Social time at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. and a meeting to follow. There will also be a white elephant sale you can participate in. This is a great opportunity to find out what our County Units are doing to serve our veterans, our military and our community.

The Auxiliary annual Wine Tasting event will be held at the Post on **Saturday, April 23.** Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door. Awesome appetizers and a food will be supplied by Fire Ridge along with an evening filled with Raffles, 50/50 and karaoke! Please support the Auxiliary by attending this fundraiser. Contact Diane Riedl (262-483-8823) or Ann Fields (262-384-1982) for information.

Hometown Heroes is in need of the following items for camp:

- white cotton t-shirts - mix of sizes
- rain ponchos
- bath and beach towels & washcloths
- sleeping bags

Please start collecting items now and bring them to our 2nd District Spring Conference on **Saturday, April 30.** Contact Sue Turowski at 262-389-4644 for more information.

Don't forget to cut coupons and collect box tops for education. Bring them to our monthly meetings.

Make sure to like us on Face Book at our Rose-Harms American Legion Auxiliary page.

Thank you to Lucretia Limerick for helping with this important publicity mission!

Upcoming Events

Post Bingo – February 9

Auxiliary Meeting – February 16

Legion Birthday Meal & Auxiliary Meeting – March 14

Ozaukee County Council Meeting – April 20

Wine Tasting – April 23

2nd District Spring Conference – April 30