

Rose Harms Legionnaire

April 2019



Congratulations

Jim Arentz and Commander Ken Kasprzak presented Kevin Dressel with Legionnaire of the Year and a life time membership.

This is the highest honor the Post can give to a member.



Monday, April 1st

Post's Executive Committee meeting

Tuesday, April 2nd



Thursday, April 4th

Ozaukee County meeting

Sunday, April 7th

National Beer Day

Monday, April 8th

Post's General Meeting

Tuesday, April 9th

BINGO

Tuesday, April 9th

SAL meeting—lower hall

Monday, April 15th

Military Historians meeting

Monday, April 15th

Play cards in the lower hall

Sunday, April 21st

Happy Easter



Highlights from our last Post meeting

Chaplain Les Williams reported that Post member, Walter Wegner, has passed away.

Membership: Gary Gilstrap reported Post membership was at 272 and counting. Congratulations to Joe Heidel and Norb Studelska for 65 years as Post members.

Las Vegas Night: Butch Paegelow reported attendance at Vegas Night 2019 was down a bit from the previous year, but the \$12,800 profit was within \$50 of last year's. Thanks again to everyone who made it a huge success.

Camp American Legion: Dick Lallensack reported that all is well at Camp. There is still lots of snow remaining. The week of May 13th will be the Ozaukee County work week with Camp opening set for May 22nd. June 17-24 is Vietnam Veterans Week.

Unfinished Business:

The new Post sign is complete and waiting for warmer weather to be installed in front of the Post.

New Business:

Guests, Amy Luft and Kelly Rieck, spoke to the membership regarding a GHS service project dealing with the transition of homeless veterans to housing. The project would create Buddy baskets at a cost of \$25 per basket to be distributed until the planned 50 baskets run out.

A motion to donate \$500 to this project was tendered, seconded, and passed.



Good of the Legion:

- The Military Historians will feature a Vietnam Veteran at their monthly meeting at the Post on April 15th.
- Beer and soda after the meeting were compliments of Dave Theis and Claude Taylor.



Congratulations to the Rose Harms Post's - Public Safety Awardees.

Right to Left;

James Cawley---Law and Order.

Peter Knauer--- Firefighter.

Olivia Landowski---EMT (Paramedic).

Monthly Calendar Raffle Winners:

\$50 - John Blunk

\$30 - Les Williams

\$25 - James Lee

\$20 - Linda Buchholtz

\$15 - Romie Monarski

\$10 - Dorothy Andrews

COMMANDER'S CORNER—Ken Kasprzak



The 2019 US Bank “Fight for Air” Stair Climb was held on March 9. This was my sixth year as a participant in this American Lung Association fundraiser. Note that 3,000 fellow climbers walked 1,034 steps to the top of the US Bank in Milwaukee.

The American Lung Association fights lung disease through education, community services, public policy and research. Founded in 1904, it is the oldest nationwide voluntary health agency in the U.S. It works to help those who suffer from lung disease today and to stop the spread tomorrow. All climbers raise a minimum of \$100 prior to the event.

GOOD OF THE LEGION.

Wisconsin Legion Annual Department Convention, July 17-21, Middleton WI. Info on registration, let me know. A can't miss event.

Congratulations to our Public Safety Awardees.

James Cawley---Law and Order.

Peter Knauer--- Firefighter.

Olivia Landowski---EMT (Paramedic).

With their family and friends, they attended our Legion 100th Birthday party on March 9. Thank you Sandra Krzewinski for an excellent presentation ceremony and biography of each awardee. All had a good time. In addition, I presented 60 year Continuous Membership Certificates to Daniel Sieracki and Norb Studelska.

CKC Graphics has notified our Post that the sign has arrived and graphics are printed. Final approval is needed and then magnets to advertise Post activities will be made. SAL will be notified so that installation can be done as weather permits. Total cost for sign is \$4.350. which the Auxiliary has agreed to help fund.

Grafton High School students, Olivia Konzen and Thu Vo, along with Amy Luft and Kelly Rieck attended our March meeting to present a service project that the students have begun. Dollars were requested and

\$500 approved by our members. Students will prepare and distribute “Buddy Baskets” to homeless veterans who move to transitional and apartment living quarters. Baskets will contain household, toiletry, and other necessary items to get started.

CARE FOR THE CAREGIVES

If you are caring for a loved one, you are not alone. More than 41 million Americans provide unpaid elder care. The health of caregivers is important as numerous burdens increase the risk of depression, heart disease, and dementia for those giving care to loved ones. Caregiving entails responsibilities such as finances, legal issues, navigating the health-care system, and planning for hospice arrangements. Support services are available for caregivers. They include community support groups, senior centers, hospitals, social services, medical and religious professionals. Other helpful tips are as follows:

- Utilize caregiver websites.
- Ask family members or neighbors for help.
- Practice techniques designed to convince yourself that say, “I’m doing my best”.
- Devise a respite care plan that allows you as a caregiver to take breaks.
- Relieve stress with music, nature, herbal teas, short walks, practice deep breathing, etc. Our nation depends on caregivers. If you are serving in that role, be sure to care for yourself, too.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you so much for the wonderful Military Honors that you did for Bob. It was a beautiful ceremony. We appreciated it. Family of Robert Wheelock. Nancy, Scott, and Steven.
- Mighty 2nd District Spring Conference. April 27, Saturday, Horicon Post 157. Cost is \$17 per person which includes a buffet lunch.



Sons of the American Legion News – April 2019



SAL Membership: 2019 SAL membership has a total of 87 members with only 67 who have paid their renewal dues so far. Please contact Paul Turowski @ 262-389-4645 to renew.

SAL Clothing: Plenty of clothes are in stock. Contact Brian Hadler @ 262-894-7465 to order.

Grafton High School will get \$500 from SAL to put towards Buddy Baskets that contain essential supplies for participants in the Homeless Veterans Initiative. This initiative helps move, formerly homeless, veterans into new living spaces, providing everything they need to set up housekeeping and begin their new lives.

Dog Tags for SAL's American Flag Memorial Day display at Veteran's Park are being organized. Dog tags can be made available for a deceased Veteran who has ties to Grafton.

Camp American Legion will receive donations to aid in the Cabin 22 rebuild this year from the combined efforts and offerings from Grafton SAL, Grafton Legion, Grafton Auxiliary, Legion Riders District 2, Grafton Lions Club and Heinz and Sons 57 Auto Body. Any additional organizations that donate will be able to get their name on a planned appreciation plaque.

Cabin 22 Kayak Raffle tickets are still available at Heinz & Sons 57 Auto Body, Grafton Mobile and Grapes and Taste in Cedarburg. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Raffle drawing is planned at the June Golf Outing. A GoFundMe page for the Cabin 22 replacement project is still available for those who do not want to participate in the Kayak raffle. Go to <https://www.gofundme.com/camp-american-legion-cabin-22-replacement>. Any questions, contact Craig Butler @ 262-377-1046

Milwaukee's VA Fisher House, built in 2016, houses family members visiting Veterans at the VA Hospital. It is large enough to house sixteen families. Meals are provided by volunteers who mainly cook and serve diners. The information below is for anyone who would like to help. You pick a date online that best works for you.

Post Meeting Dinner:

SAL Volunteers serve at 7:45pm

Apr – Corey

May – Chris



Upcoming Events:

Wine and Whiskey Tasting – May 11

Sweat4 Vets – May 18

Memorial Day Ceremony – May 27

Sons of the American Legion

10th Annual Golf Outing – June 1

Next SAL Meeting: 4/9 @ 6:30pm



Milwaukee VA Fisher House

5000 W National Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53295-0001

414-384-2000 x45005

VHAMIWFisherHouse@VA.GOV

Sign-up to cook a meal at the house or bring in a meal for our guests at: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/39yovl>

Amazon Wish List: www.Amazon.com

Choose 'Find a List or Registry' then type in Fisher House Wisconsin

Interested in volunteering at the Milwaukee VA Fisher House? Please email: VHAMIWFISHERHOUSE@VA.ORG

Interested in volunteering for Fisher House Events? Please email: Volunteer@fisherhousewi.org





Poppy season is coming soon.

May 10th & 11th.

Our Poppy Committee will be coming to your

April Meeting

to ask for your help



*Friendship, Fun, and Healing for
Children of Fallen U.S. Soldiers*

The 9th annual Grand Slam Charity Jam was a successful event featuring silent and live auctions with 225 items, as well as a cocktail party.

Most importantly over \$142,000 was raised to create life changing experiences for children of families of the fallen.

The Rose Harms American Legion Family and the Legion Riders together donated \$5,000 to help sponsor kids to attend the Camp.



AlGator Gilstrap, Kevin Dressel and Jim Stencel volunteer at the 2019 Grand Slam.

They also presented the colors for the Village People concert.

Richards, Sue, Paul and Mike Turowski volunteered to be bartenders. They raised over \$500 in tips for Camp Hometown Heroes.

UNIT MEETING was held March 11, 2019

Due to the Legion's Birthday Dinner, serving and cleaning up. We had a shorter meeting with discussions of upcoming events we will be participating in.



Following updates were discussed:

- Thank-you to all who came for the Legion Birthday Dinner March 11th.
- VA&R Mel Nowack reported the current project of providing patients at the VA with hand mirrors, dry erase boards and refilling the craft carts with supplies.
- Congratulations to Lora Linder as Member of the Year
- 4th Annual Wine Tasting is May 11th - Please note date change. This year a new addition of a Bourbon/Whiskey/Cigar bar will be in the lower level Committee it looking for members wanting to donate baskets for the raffle

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spring County Meeting Grafton Post	April 17th	
2nd District spring Conference	April 27th	sign up due April 13th
Wine Tasting	May 11th	
Poppy Sale	May 10th – 11th	
Sweat4Vets post to post walk	May 18th	

Next Meeting: April 16th Social Hour at 6pm/ Meeting begins at 6:30.

Elections:

The annual election of officers will take place this year at our May meeting on Tuesday May 21st. The following are elected offices: President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, and Sgt-At-Arms. Information on each of these positions is available. If you're interested in learning more or would like to run for one of these positions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee by April 9th. Nominations can also be made from the floor.

Linda Faas	lindaafaas97@gmail.com	262-375-1833
Judy Kuta	judykuta44@gmail.com	414-510-2545

Reminder:

If you signed up to donate items for the Veterans Job Fair they need to be to Cathy Brunnquell by April 1st. If you have any questions or need to coordinate a time to drop off at Cathy's house, please call Cathy 262-377-0718. Shirley Krier has emphasized how much the veterans love home baked cookies.



POST TO POST WALK

PRESENTED BY **usbank**

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, May 18, 2019

The Cedarburg and Grafton American Legion Auxiliary Units are excited to announce the fourth annual Post-to-Post walk, Sweat4Vets, benefiting Patriot K9s of Wisconsin. This year's 2.5-mile walk will begin at the Grafton American Legion Post and end at the Cedarburg American Legion Post. After the walk, participants will be able to enjoy lunch, beverages and music.