



2020

Monday, December 7th

Executive Committee meeting

Monday, December 14th

Post General meeting

Tuesday, December 15th

Sons of the AL meeting

Sorry No BINGO yet

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



POST 355 MEETING on NOVEMBER 9, 2020



Guest Nathan Gear, Adjutant, Department of Wisconsin, The American Legion. He recognized Bill and Lauren Vorac for their generous donation of a new pier for Camp American Legion. Bill senior was recognized for his services to the Camp.

Membership; Gary Gilstrap reported membership is at 229 with a goal of 298. Gary and Ken used both email and USPS to notify members to renew prior to end of year. **New member** Tim Klug, U.S. Army, discussed his military service and why he joined our Post. Welcome Tim!

Gary said that with the assistance from GHS principal, Scott Mantei and Kelly Reick, they have created a virtual video featuring interviews of Post members. It will be viewed by students in their individual classrooms on Veterans Day. American Flags were displayed on Hwy 60 in front of the high school by the students.

Building; Jim Arentz, Nick Schanen and Butch Paegelow have been working hard to clean up the river area behind the Post.

Tents; Tom Grabow reported that during the wind storms three tent curtains were damaged. Two of the curtains were fixable, but third will need to be replaced.

Children & Youth; Doug Arendt noted school is still in session. Students and families need to be responsible about illness and their close contact to others that are ill.

New Business.

Grafton's annual Christmas parade has been

canceled for this year. A motion to donate \$500 for support of Grafton Christmas Tree Lighting was passed.

Good of the Legion;

The Kapco Company needs volunteers for a drive through event that is replacing the usual Kids-To-Kids Christmas fundraiser. Information will be sent to members via email and are also available at Post.

Donation of \$200 received from Bill Vorac for his brother-in-law's family funeral held at our Post.

Thank you to the Posts Auxiliary who donated and served our meal after the meeting in honor of Veterans Day. The pulled pork and buns, were donated by *Tony Roy BBQ*,



Public Safety; Due to the Covid-19, Sandra Krzewinski delivered the County EMT award to Chief Rice. She also attended the Village Board meeting to present the Law Officer of the year award to Patrick Brock.

This Months Calendar Raffle Winners;

Kim Schmidt, \$50.

Beth Martin, \$30.

Pat Lederer, \$25.

Ross Barbieri, \$20.

Al Richards, \$15.

Arlene Kaul, \$10.



CHAPLAINS CORNER-----KEN KASPRZAK-----11/18/20

At our November monthly meeting, attendance was at 22 members present. Thank you to Auxiliary ladies who served cooked pork sandwiches as donated by Tony Roy BBQ in honor of Veterans Day. After the meeting, beer and soda was provided by Bill Vorac.

Membership renewal. Gary Gilstrap and Ken Kasprzak used both email and USPS to notify members to renew prior to end of year. Help us get to 100% for 2021. Membership renewal is available at legion.org.

Our American Legion needs your support. A special "thank you" to Mel's Charities and Wayne's Drive-In for a meal in honor of Veterans Day. Many of us took part in this celebration to honor veterans for their service.

Students at Redeemer Christian Academy, in Wayzata, MN sent Veterans Day greetings to Neil Mertz to share with us;

From Julia K, "I thank you veterans for what you have done for me and my family, for everyone, so I give you my thanks because you made me free, and for what you have done for our country. Thanks for your service so we can call America home."

From Connor R, "I am so thankful that you took your time to keep this amazing country free. You are part of the reason that I get to go to a Christian school and be free, and I am so grateful for that. You put others before yourself. Your braveness has helped keep America the most free country in the world. You are truly are a hero and a servant. God bless you and America".

A high school friend of member Romie Monarski wrote a note to veterans who served our country. An excerpt from Thomas Chisholm, Colonel Medical Corps, US Army retired. I am a veteran, 45 years active and reserve years of duty and member of VeteransForPeace. I was assigned to medical units, in Japan, Central Pacific Islands, Viet Nam, Middle East, Pakistan, and Bolivia. I respect, honor and salute all veterans alive now and those lying in so many cemeteries nationally and abroad. They gave their last full measure of devotion. They served. They are the Hero's!

Living Well----Colorectal Cancer. New cases in adults younger than 55 have risen steadily over the past 3 decades. Poor diet and weight gain are risk factors. Get screened using doctor ordered colonoscopy if you're age 45-50 years. An excellent way to find and remove precancerous polyps. Get advice from your doctor. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

ENJOY TIME WITH FAMILY AND PROMOTE HEALTHY ACTIVITIES

Time to Renew Your Membership

January 1st, 2021 your Rose Harms Post membership for 2020 expires!

Renew online at www.legion.org/renew

or mail your \$35 to; Rose Harms Post 355
1540 13th Ave.
Grafton, WI 53024

Or just drop it off at the Post. If you need some assistance, leave a message at the Post 262-377-8887





November 2020 SAL News

Membership: SAL Membership is now 86 members with 40 who have paid next year dues. Membership dues are due now and contact Paul Turowski @ 262-389-4645 for membership opportunities and to pay your annual dues.

SAL Clothing: Contact Brian Hadler @ 262-894-7465 we have plenty of items in stock.

Camp American Legion: The State Adjutant, Nate was at the Legion meeting last night and updated that the cabin is still progressing with the roof on and septic system in. The plan continues to be for the cabin to be the first year around cabin with others also being converted to year around cabins in the future.

Beer & Wine Tasting Fundraiser: Scheduled for last month was cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. Will explore next year.

SAL Volunteer Activities -

Vegas Night: Has been cancelled for now with a possible rescheduled date of April 17th 2021 being discussed by the Legion. The Legion sweepstakes tickets are still being planned.

Kapco's Christmas Event: Has requested volunteers to help with the annual fundraisers for gifts for kids.

Tree Lighting and Parade: The parade was cancelled.

Veteran's Park Gazebo Tree Lighting: Craig is coordinating decorating.

New: Legion flag pole light is out. Will be looking at other lighting options and bulb replacement. The Legion Family web site hosting invoice was sent to the SALs. A motion was made and seconded to pay the annual fee for a minimum of the 5 years and passed on voice vote.

Camp Hometown Hero's sent a letter requesting our support. Motion made to donate \$200 was made and seconded and passed on voice vote.

Legion Post Meeting Dinner: Volunteers planning to serve Dinner that starts at 7:45pm

December – Post

January – Neil & Chris

Next SAL Meeting: 12/8 @ 6:30pm





**American Legion Auxiliary
Rose-Harms Unit 355
Newsletter – December 2020**

Thanksgiving is now over and the Christmas Holidays are upon us. We hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving, even though it was probably different from anything we've known in the past. Our November monthly Unit meeting was held on Monday the 16th, with 13 members attending. We met upstairs, where we were better able to practice social distancing. As there will be no Christmas party this year, our December meeting will be held TUESDAY DECEMBER 15TH. We will again meet upstairs.
PLEASE REMEMBER THAT MASKS OR FACE SHIELDS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL MEETINGS.

The Poppy Committee reported that the poppy distribution held at Sendik's on Veterans Days was a great success. THANK-YOU to all who helped, and most importantly, to all who contributed.

Membership Chair Lora Linder informs us we presently have 135 members who have either renewed or recently joined our Unit. We've reached 75% of our goal for 2021! If you have questions about your membership or how to renew, contact Lora at 262-389-5339 or via email at youngph99@gmail.com. We'd love to begin 2021 at 100%, so please try to renew by the end of December.

VA & R chairman Mel Nowak thanks everyone who contributed items to the Christmas with the Vets 33rd Annual Holiday Show. This was more important than ever this year for hospitalized Vets who are unable to return home for the holidays. Be assured that your gift is making their holiday a little brighter. The Christmas Gift Shop is a program sponsored by the Department of WI and funded by Units and individuals. Hospitalized Vets are given the opportunity to pick out gifts for members of their family. These are then wrapped by volunteers and shipped to the families as a gift FROM THE VETERAN. In past years we individually contributed items. A few years ago, this process was streamlined to us donating cash which was used for select items from which the Vet could choose. Approval was given at the November meeting to donate \$100.00 to this program.

As announced in an earlier newsletter, our Unit ordered a replacement sign which now correctly reads VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK. We're happy to say it was installed on Veterans Day. The cost was approximately \$1,890.

Our Unit will have a display at the Grafton Library during the month of April. Note that mention of our 75th Anniversary will be included. Project chair Amy Luft asks that anyone having items for display contact her.

As last year's State Bowling Tournament had to be cancelled, we have again been given the opportunity to host it this year. Committee chair Toni Moegenburg reports it's been rescheduled for the weekends of April 10-11 and April 17- 18 at Circle B. Watch for details in upcoming newsletters.

Executive Board Recommendations approved at this meeting were that we take on the Buddy Basket project and that we explore the possibility of adopting Veterans at a local Care Facility. Village Pointe Commons welcomes our involvement with the Veterans at both the Assisted Living and Skilled Care levels. Due to COVID restrictions, at this time our involvement will be limited to sending cards and notes. In the future we anticipate inviting these Vets to the Post for Memorial and Veterans Days, and visiting with them individually at the facility. Watch upcoming newsletters for additional information.

The Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (MHVI) is an organization which assists Homeless and At-Risk Veterans. They've been in existence for over 12 years, have served over 5,000 Vets, and have assisted them in obtaining/moving into housing. They've also furnished over 2,000 Veterans homes, using donated items such as furniture, cleaning supplies, food and personal items. "Buddy Baskets" is the Auxiliary's term for these baskets of cleaning items, and a project we've voted to take-on.

From the MHVI website, suggested items include the following:

All-purpose cleaners,
Bleach wipes (Lysol, Clorox, etc.),
Lysol spray,
Window/Glass cleaner,
a roll of paper towels,
Cleanser (such as Comet, etc.),
Brooms/dust mops,
Buckets,
Floor (scrub) mops,
Floor cleaners,
Sponges,
Dish soaps,
Laundry baskets,
Fabric sheets,
Toilet bowl cleaners,
Toilet bowl brushes,
Furniture Polish (such as Pledge, etc.),
Toilet paper

Note that Laundry DETERGENT is not listed, as a member has already promised to supply it for each basket. Donations of any of these items (or cash to purchase items) would be greatly appreciated. We estimate the cost of an entire basket to be about \$50. While we have some money budgeted for this project, donated items will enable us to make more than 5 baskets.

As the MHVI assists several Vets each month to move into housing, 5 will be gone in no time. Many of these items can be purchased at the Dollar Tree Store while others (broom, mop, bleach wipes, laundry basket, etc.) can be found at Wal-Mart, Target, Costco, Walgreens, or your favorite grocery store, etc. We'd originally planned to do this later in the year, but the MHVI has informed us that donations are down this year due to COVID, that their supply of these items is extremely low, and they can use whatever we can send.

NOTE: THEY'RE ESPECIALLY IN NEED OF BLEACH WIPES (LYSOL, CLOROX, ETC.). Not wanting to ask for donations in December, we ask that you bring any donated items to the January meeting. They'll be packed and delivered later that month. (Of course, items will be gratefully accepted if brought to the December meeting on Tuesday the 15th.) You can learn more about the MHVI by Googling MILWAUKEE HOMELESS VETERANS INITIATIVE. If you have any questions about the Buddy Basket project, please contact project chair Linda Faas and leave a message for a call back at 262-375-1833, or via email at lindaFaas97@gmail.com.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, although again it will be different this year. We hope for better things to come in 2021. Stay safe and let's take care of each other. A phone call or card to someone who's alone and restricted to their home at this time can go a long way to making a more pleasant time for them.

Submitted by Linda Faas

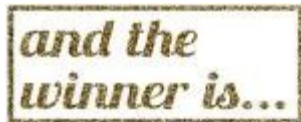
Please see the following messages from our District President Amy Luft:

Subject: Zoom Into Membership - Dec 10

2nd District Members, Membership is everyone's job. In order for our organization to grow and our legacy to continue, we must have members. Your District leadership team is here to help you become successful with your membership efforts! Join us for our next District Zoom session, Zoom Into Membership, on Thursday, December 10 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. In this session you will learn: Tips on recruiting new members, how to successfully retain the members you have, how to utilize MIS, The role of Department membership forms and ways to promote membership within your community. This session is open to all members. RSVP to amyjluf@gmail.com (attendee name and email address) by December 6. Prior to the session make sure to download Zoom onto your computer or mobile device. Information on how to utilize Zoom can be found here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362033-Getting-Started-on-Windows-and-Mac>. Please let me know if you have any questions. Looking forward to having you join us!

Subject: Giving Tuesday Team,

The #Giving Tuesday campaign for the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation comes to an end in two short weeks before the number of donations from each department will be tallied the #GivingTuesday Department of the Year will be determined. To date, the highest number of donations from one department is 12. Wisconsin already has 9 donations. Can Wisconsin bypass this number? Not only will the Department with the highest number of donations be recognized, but the ALA Foundation will also be a WINNER with funds to continue to support local Veterans Creative Arts programs and competitions, branding for units and ALA Girls State programs, and grants for projects that impact veterans and provide them better opportunities. Donations to the ALA Foundation may be made via this link: <https://donate.legion-aux.org/CSiDonate/Give.aspx/QDSQ9AAB#c>.



Will this be the Department of Wisconsin?
Wishing you the best, Diane Duscheck
ALA Foundation Board Member,

Subject: Wanted - Face Masks!

Team, please see the needed request below. Make sure to forward this to your members and/or any friends of the Auxiliary who would be willing to help out. Thank you!

From: Bonnie Dorniak <deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org>

Do you sew?!? Sue Hembrook, Hospital Representative at Dayton Care Center in Kenosha, has requested face masks for the veterans at her facility. If you or anyone you know would like to sew masks and donate them to Dayton Care Center, please mail them as soon as possible to: Sue Hembrook, 24215 60th Street Salem, WI 53168. All masks should be adult size. Any fabric pattern is fine, but patriotic patterns or solid colors would be especially appreciated. Questions? Please contact Sue directly at genesuehem@wi.rr.com, home: 262-843-4791 or cell: 262-945-9791. Thank you for your generous response to this urgent need,

Subject: ALA in the Know Session - Update

The ALA in the Know Session at Midwinter Conference is scheduled for Saturday, January 16, 2021. Depending on room availability, it will start at 8:00 am or 9:00 am (TBD closer to the conference) and run until approximately 3:00 pm with a break for lunch on your own. You will need to register for the conference in order to attend the ALA In-the-Know session.

Thank you,

Amy Luft

2nd District President, American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of WI
amlegionauxwi.org



FREE YOGA WORKSHOP

We all are going through difficult times right now and a lot of uncertainty. Our world and our lives have been turned upside down. Many of us are finding we need to change or cancel our Family holiday traditions which we hold dear. All of these factors put stress on our health, both emotionally and physically. Wouldn't it be a blessing to find a little relief from it all for just an hour each week, making time and space for self-care? If you answered yes, then I might have what you are searching for. Come join me for a Free Gentle Yoga Workshop. No need to have previous experience. This is a Beginner friendly class but also a beautiful refresher for the practiced yogi, meeting for 1 hour each week for four weeks offered online in the comfort of your own home.

My name is Ellen, a member of the ALA and VFW Auxliary, and the wife of an Army Veteran. I have recently completed my 200 Hour IYT instruction and wish to share the joys of yoga with you. I have been practicing yoga on and off for the last 40 years and have had the good fortune of trying different branches of yoga through my own personal journey of growth and self-discovery. Now I am looking at my practice as a wonderful way to stay centered and healthy with a mindful, sustainable practice. Come join me to discover the benefits of yoga.

Registration is easy. Contact Ellen Liska @ liskaellen1@gmail.com to sign up. A zoom invite will be sent to your designated email address 30 minutes prior to the start of each class.

Classes Meet @ 6:00 PM

Monday, November 30th

Monday, December 7th

Monday, December 14th

Monday, December 21st

2021 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

JANUARY 14-17, 2021

HO-CHUNK HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

S3214 HIGHWAY BD ~ BARABOO, WI 53913

REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-register for The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin 2021 Midwinter Conference by returning this registration form and \$20.00 per person (1 person per registration form) to Department Headquarters by January 4, 2021 and save \$5.00! Registrations received after January 4, 2021 will be \$25.00 per person. Or Register online at wilegion.org.

(Please type or print clearly in order for your badge to be printed correctly)

NAME _____ MEMBER ID # _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ DISTRICT _____ POST _____ UNIT _____ SQUADRON _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

ITEM	✓	PRICE	TOTAL
Registration Fee		\$20.00	
Reg. Fee After 1/4/21		\$25.00	
Post Commander's Course		No Charge	0.00
Post Adjutant's Course		No Charge	0.00
Forward Together Celebration Featuring <i>The Game Show DJ</i>		\$35.00 (Banquet registration deadline is 1/1/21)	
Total Enclosed			

____ Please Check Here if you plan to attend the ALA in the Know Session

Make check payable to The American Legion, or Enter Credit Card Information Below

Cash _____ Check # _____

OR

Name on Card _____ Card Type _____ Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Sec. Code _____

Return to:

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin

Attn: Chris Schmidt

P.O. Box 388

Portage, WI 53901

or email to chris@wilegion.org