

Rose Harms Legionnaire

April 2023

39th Annual Las Vegas Night Fundraiser



Mark your calendars for April 1st and come for an evening of fun and to support Post 355.

Please try to sell the Las Vegas cash sweepstakes tickets and return the stubs to the Post, to be entered into the drawing that evening.

Ticket stubs can be placed in the mail slot at the front of the building.

If you volunteered to work Vegas Night please be at the post before 6:30 when doors open. Butch Paegelow can be reached at 262-377-9596 with any questions. Hope to see you at Vegas Night.

Saturday, April 1st

Post's Annual Las Vegas Night

Monday, April 3th

Post Executive Committee meeting

Thursday, April 6th

Ozaukee County Meeting at Fredonia Post

Monday, April 10th

Post General Meeting at 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 11th



Tuesday, April 11th

SAL meeting, lower hall at 6:30 pm

Monday, April 17th

Military Historians Club

Monday, April 17th

Card Club, lower hall



Have a Happy and Blessed Easter

 AMERICAN
LEGION

Highlights from our last Post Meeting

Membership: Gary Gilstrap reported current membership 249.

New Post member, Sam Bulgrin was welcomed aboard.

Sergeant-at-Arm: Mike Knoppa/Nick Schanen said that all the flags at Veterans Park have been changed over to new ones.

Funeral this Saturday for Post Member, Allan Gautier, at St. Joes.

Americanism: Bill Clayton reported four GHS students have been chosen and registered for Badger Boys State in June.

Athletic: Doug Arendt reported that the Post will once again have a senior team (The Grafton Patriots) as our American Legion Baseball Team.

Hall Report: Al Richards reported that he Post ice maker had to be repaired. Most of the damage was from calcium build up. We were also having trouble with the water heater. He recommended that the post purchase a water softener to help with the problem.

Camp American Legion: Crews to help open the camp will start going up the week of May 7th. The State spring committee meetings and the Department Executive Committee will be held at the camp on May 12th and 13th.

Tent Rental Program: Tom Grabow reported any crew member from last year not re-upping should advise him of the same.

Old Business:

2nd District Spring Conference will be held in Allenton on April 29

Executive Committee Recommendations;

Two recommendations were heard from the membership and passed.

Donate \$100 to the Danny J. Fullington Foundation (The Grafton Gladiators football).

To repair and update the Post's Defibrillator for approximately \$600 .

New Business:

Louise Matusek and other members of the "Quilts of Thanks" group spoke to the membership regarding their project. Each month they randomly select a Post member and award them with a handmade quilt.

A GHS student, Mary Arnet displayed a number of warmly personalized thank you cards created by students for veterans.

Following a number of meetings with Roy Harm's sister (Laura Harms) and her sons, Tim, Mike and Slade, the Post was given numerous large donations. Mike spoke movingly to the Post about our involvement with the community and the important work we do. Roy Harms remains will be coming home to Grafton with the funeral on May 6th at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Good of the Legion: Refreshments after the meeting were courtesy of Claude Taylor.



Post Public Safety Awards were given to those selected at the annual Legion Birthday Dinner. Police Officer James Menger, EMT Hailey Douglas, Firefighter Jamieson Vaccaro.

Calendar Raffle Winners this month:

\$50 - Doug Arendt

\$30 - Bill Vorac

\$25 - Danielle Harvey

\$20 - Butch Paegelow

\$15 - Lilly Didier

\$10 - Steve Shock

COMMANDER'S CORNER—Ken Kasprzak

The American Legion celebrated its 104th Birthday on March 15. Mary Arnett, Steve Shock's granddaughter, contacted me about a school project. A high school junior, she volunteers at Westlawn Elementary in Cedarburg. Her 1st grade students made Birthday cards. Mary read a few of them at our meeting (see display). "Happy 104th, thank you for your service. You are the best. From Arabelle".



Notifications.

- 1.** To date, we have **23** members that have not paid dues for 2023. Notification sent and hopefully they will support our American Legion goals to assist Veterans.
- 2.** Election of Post Officers is coming soon so please consider having me as your Commander for 2023-24. I will continue to work with our Legion Family and the Grafton community to promote the mission of the American Legion.
- 3.** Badger Boys State. GHS students chosen to be delegates as follows: Braden Meyer, Harrison Diamond, Trevor Nauta, Jacob Dempsey. Thank you to Kelly Rieck GHS for help in the selection process.

- 4.** Congrats to our outstanding Public Safety Award recipients: Police Officer James Menger, EMT Hailey Douglas, Firefighter Jamieson Vaccaro. Award plaques were donated by Lori Rudolph, US Patent Services, Grafton.
- 5.** Sad to report that former Post Commander Tim Roy passed away on March 17. Tim served as Post Commander 1982-83. He served in the US Army during Vietnam and was a member for 46 years.
- 6.** Allen Gauthier, Post member and U.S. Air Force veteran passed away on February 23. Served in 1955-59.
- 7.** American Legion Family Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 29. More info to come about this national event.
- 8.** 2nd District Spring Conference will be held on Saturday, April 29, Allenton WI. Cost is \$20 and hosted by Post 483. See me for more info about attendance.
- 9.** Each year our American Legion honors members for continuous service beginning at 50 years. Surpassing this milestone exemplifies the endurance of our organization as the leading advocate for veterans' rights and benefits. This year we honor George Furlick as a 60-year member and a certificate will be mailed to him.
- 10.** Louise Matousek, Quilts of Thanks, attended our March meeting as our guest. Her group of volunteers makes quilts for veterans to show appreciation to men and women who serve our country. Quilt patterns are in patriotic colors and the preferred size is 50x60. Quilts were presented to Auxiliary Legionnaire of the Month awardees: Gary Gilstrap, Butch Paegelow, Norb Studelska, Kevin Dressel, John Meyer. Thanks so much to this Cedarburg Volunteer Organization.

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American Legion Auxiliary Rose-Harms Unit 355
April 2023 Newsletter



The Legion Birthday dinner we served On March 13th was a success with; Broasted Chicken, Potato Salad, Slaw, Jell-O, Rolls and birthday cake for dessert. After our meal Mr. Mike Murphy, the nephew of our name sake Lt Roy Harms addressed us. Mr. Murphy explained how much his mom appreciated our Legion Family and just how important we were to his family. He talked about just how crazy it was that they found his Uncle Roy's body 79 years and 1 day after the day he was lost! He mentioned that his family is very grateful that we will be honoring the return of his Uncle's body on May 6th.

Lora Linder reported that we have 146 members paid which puts us at 85%. Lora mentioned that there is going to be an increase in our dues for 2024. Senior Dues will be \$38.00 and Junior Dues will remain at \$6.00. The change in the dues is do to an increase at the National level. Department of Wisconsin will NOT be having an increase. Any questions regarding membership please reach out to Lora Linder (262-389-5339) or Carolyn Knoppa (414-651-7768).

Our interim Chaplain Judy Kuta thanked Mary M, Cathy B and Sue T for the prayer they donated for President Linda's prayer book. If you have a prayer ready, please reach out to Judy (414-510-2545) so that she may plan to get it from you.

Mel Nowak reported that the Girl Scouts of Manitou Council (Oz County) and their customers have donated 100 cases of cookies to the Veterans at Zablocki VA Medical Center and Boudicca House. Just to break that down a little for you..... that is 1200 individual boxes of cookies.

A SUPER BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF THOSE GIRL SCOUTS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS!!!!

Mel also reported that CVI and Boudicca House are willing to come and take all the pink and grey dishes in the kitchen pantry as soon as we are ready to get rid of them.

April 1st is the Legion Annual Las Vegas Nite; the Auxiliary will be selling Sloppy Joe meals for \$7.00 as well as Salty Snacks. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR AUXILIARY BY PURCHASING MEALS. Thank You!

Thank you to all members for your continued efforts in coupon clipping! Keep on clipping coupons and bringing them to our meetings or call/email the Coupon Chair **Patty Wollner (262-707-5485)**

pawollner@icloud.com to plan for pick up/delivery. Please note the expiration dates on all coupons. The Veterans have a 3-month window for usage.

Upcoming Events:

Friday March 31st – ALL REPORTS DUE TO PRESIDENT RIA

Saturday April 1st – Legion Las Vegas Nite – Kitchen help start 5:00

Tuesday April 4th – Exec Board Meeting Lower Hall 6:30

Tuesday April 11th – Bingo

Saturday April 15th – Ozaukee County Spring Meeting at Waubeka Americanism Building 4200 Valleyview Dr. Waubeka

Saturday April 15th & 16th - WALA State Bowling tournament - Please come and root us on at SCHWOEGLER'S PARK TOWNE LANES 444 Grand Canyon Drive Madison WI 53719

April 18th – Auxiliary Unit Meeting refreshments start at 6:00 meeting starts at 6:30

April 29th – Dist. 2 Spring Conference – Germantown American Legion Post 8:00 am registration

Congratulations to our March 2023 Veteran of the month Kevin Dressell!



Kevin served in the United States Marine Corp ~ Thank you for your service Kevin!

This month at our Legion Birthday Party we were honored to award each of our Special Veterans with a Valor Quilt made by: Louise Matousek and Loye Blader



We would like to offer a special thank you to our Veteran of the Month committee members for all their efforts on this very special project; Diane Riedl, Sherrie Pals, Ann Fields & Kelly Rieck.



Happy Easter and Happy Birthday to all members with April Birthdays!

Submitted by: Sue Turowski, Secretary



April 2023 SAL News



Membership: Paul is still working on collecting dues for 2023. We currently have paid dues from all but 10 members. If you haven't already done so, please mail your check for \$25, payable to "Sons of the American Legion", to Paul Turowski, 1478 N Green Bay Rd, Grafton, WI 53024. Questions regarding membership should be directed to Paul @ 262-389-4645.

SAL Clothing: Silk Screen Specialists in Grafton is the place to go for all of our SAL clothing. Their address is 1231 11th Ave. Brian has order forms which you can fill out and drop off at Silk Screen. We also now have the option of buying a long sleeve shirt with the SAL logo. Great for the colder months! SAL baseball caps are available for \$15. Questions regarding clothing should be directed to Brian Hadler @ 262-894-7465.

Legion Vegas Night: Event is Saturday, April 1st from 6:30pm to 11:00pm. If you're available to help out that evening, please show up in your SAL shirt and help the Legion with their biggest fundraiser of the year.



Meat Raffle: Event is planned for Saturday, April 29th from noon to 3:00pm at The Hutch in Grafton. Save the date on your calendar and tell your friends. Last year's meat raffle was a huge success and was very busy so we could use more help from our members this time.

SAL Golf Outing: Event is scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd at Fire Ridge golf course. Please save the date on your calendars. More details to follow.

Memorial Day flag display: The dog tags are being updated this spring. All the old tags that are on the flags will be removed and replaced with the new ones.

Roy Harms: As you may have heard, the remains of Grafton native Roy Harms (the namesake of our Grafton Legion) were identified last year and have finally come home to Grafton. A memorial service is planned for May 6th, 2023 at the Grafton Legion hall. See the Legion newsletter for more details.

Camp American Legion clean-up: Spring clean-up needs to be completed the week of May 8th. Please contact Dick Rieck at 414-526-6409 for more details.

Legion Post meeting dinner: Volunteers are needed to serve the Post meeting dinner on the 2nd Monday of each month. Meetings start at 7:00pm and dinner is at about 7:45pm.

April - Ryan & Corey

May - Gary & Kurt

June - Dick & Bob

Do you have something that you want in the next SAL newsletter?

Contact Dan McKelvey at dmckelvey2038@gmail.com

Next SAL Meeting: 4/11/2023 @ 6:30pm