



Volume 16 Issue 3

# THE LEGION POST

OTIS SAMPSON POST 59 STOUGHTON, WI  
POST WEB SITE: POST59.ORG POST PHONE: 608.205.9090



April 2014

## Commander's Report

### 2013-2014 OFFICERS

#### Commander

Sonny Swangstu

#### 1st Vice Commander

Vik Malling

#### 2nd Vice Commander

Mary Lloyd

#### 3rd Vice Commander

Larry Johnson

#### Service Officer

Bob Lloyd

#### Sgt. at Arms

#### Finance Officer

Jim Oler

#### Historian

Lenny Swingen

#### Adjutant

DuWayne Stellmacher

#### Judge Advocate

Terry McCardle

#### Chaplain

Rich Fries



Greetings,

Old man winter is still hanging on isn't he? Maybe the snowbirds will bring some warm weather back with them.

On Thursday, March 27 we will have the Dane County American Legion Birthday Potluck starting at 6:00 and our meeting at 7:00. Please bring a dish to pass if you are attending. Let's have a good turnout this year. Our Post will be serving BBQ'S and birthday

cake. The ladies Auxiliary will have a raffle basket. Come one, come all!!! Show your support!

The Post is doing well these days and it has been very busy with various activities. We are busy planning for Don Heiliger Day which is recognition long overdue. Don will be the main speaker and will share some interesting stories I am sure. We will have some other dignitaries there as well. Please note in the newsletter the invitation to the event. Clip it out and get your reservation in ASAP as seating is limited.

The onion sale is still going on until April 1. Remember we will have, as of March 10, our salad dressings, relishes, and BBQ

sauce available. The committee members are working hard on this fundraiser as the proceeds go for different Veteran programs as well as back to our community programs.

The local quilter group (Quilting by the River) is celebrating their 10th year for giving quilts to the Veterans at the VA Hospital. They are distributed on Veterans Day. These quilts are beautiful and many hours of work are put into each one. The ladies deserve a HUGE THANK YOU!!!!

*Commander continued on page 2*

### Auxiliary

#### President

Marlene Bierman

873-7397

#### Vice President

Linda Swangstu

873-9428

#### Secretary

Linda Schmidt

205-2517

#### Treasurer

Alice Moen

444-7320

#### Chaplain

Sharon Silbaugh

873-3927

#### Sgt. at Arms

Pat Christensen

873-7479

#### Historian

Sherry Leick

873-6687

## Auxiliary News



Hello American Legion Family,

WOW! What a winter, cold-cold-cold. Hope everyone is staying warm and healthy. Spring will be coming soon, I've been told.

Dick Boyd won the pizza and movie raffle at the February breakfast. Congratulations Dick. In March we will have a ham raffle at the breakfast.

Remember on **March 27**, the Legion and Auxiliary will be hosting the Dane County Birthday meeting. It starts at 6:00 pm with a pot-luck. The Auxiliary will make the barbecue and get buns. We will need some chips, pickles, and a dish to pass. We will also have a birthday cake. I would see

*Auxiliary members attending. Also we will have a beer, wine and cheese raffle. Our Department President Joyce Enders will be attending. Hope to see you there.*

Our Auxiliary Board met to distribute some of our general funds. We made donations to our community. They were: the Senior Center, Seniors in Need, Youth Center, Methodist and the City Food Pantry, START program, Dream Park, and Personal Essentials.

We also donated to veterans programs: Quilting by the River (the group makes quilts to take to the VA Hospital), Cameo Quilts (made to be sent to those in service overseas), VA Hospital, American Legion Camp, Badger Honor Flight, and Support Military Families. The total was \$3,000. Thanks to everyone who has helped to support these programs. The money that we get from raffles goes into the general fund to be distributed to causes like these.

*President continued on page 2*

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

March 25 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm  
March 28 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 7:30 – 10:30 pm  
April 1 - Election Day  
April 5 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 8:00 – 11:00 pm  
April 12 - Northern Lights – 8:00 – midnight  
April 20 - Easter  
April 22 - Legion Dinner – 6:30 pm  
April 25 - Blue Moon Karaoke – 7:30 – 10:30 pm

### Event Pricing

**Post Dinner:** 6:30 pm \$11.00

**Breakfast:** 7:00-11:00 am  
\$8.00 adults, \$4.00 children

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:19 - 21

*If you know of anyone who is hospitalized, or in need, please contact Rich Fries at 608.273.8758.*

### Hall Rentals

Call Julie Nygaard at 608.333.9577

*Commander continued from page 1*

The new library is coming along and as soon as we get the glass doors in (on order); we will be well on our way for the final step. We have accumulated many books on war stories, military, history, etc. We hope people will come and check out books and become more knowledgeable and appreciative of how our country survived the great battles.

**There will not be an April breakfast at the Post because the third Sunday falls on Easter Sunday.**

It will be difficult to get volunteers to work since people want to be with their families that day and attend church services.

Thank you again volunteers for all that you do for our Post. Without you, we would not survive!

Commander Sonny

*President continued from page 1*

The Funeral Committee gave the Post \$4,500 this year. It is great that we have a nice facility so we can host funeral dinners for our veterans' families and other people's funerals. Thanks also to everyone who has given us donations.

The first of this month some of the Auxiliary members got together to prepare the Poppies for distribution to Legion and Auxiliary members, so that must mean that Spring is on its way. Please let Elvera Phelps or me know if you would like to help distribute Poppies—May 22-24 at the Pick n Save or Kwik Trips.

**REMINDER:** The Garage Sale will be June 26-28. Start rounding up your items. This sale is for men and women's merchandise, no clothing please.

The Third District American Legion Auxiliary Spring Conference will be held April 12 in Richland Center. It would be great to see a good showing from our Unit. The cost is \$10 for registration and lunch. Deadline is April 4 for registration.

I made an error in the last newsletter. Badger Girl's State will be held June 15-20 2014 in Oshkosh not Eau Claire.

This is my last year as President, so someone please step up to the plate. There are past officers in our unit that are great help.

**The April breakfast has been cancelled because it falls on Easter Sunday.**

*We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing.*

President  
Marlene



### **DON HEILIGER DAY – JUNE 29**

AMERICAN LEGION POST 59 IS PLANNING A DON HEILIGER DAY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JUNE 29, AT THE LEGION HALL. THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS: 12:00-1:00 SOCIAL HOUR (meet and greet Don), 1:00-2:00 LUNCHEON, 2:15 PROGRAM.

DON WILL BE THE FEATURED SPEAKER FOCUSING ON HIS NEARLY SIX YEARS AS A PRISONER OF WAR AFTER BEING SHOT DOWN AND CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

RESERVATIONS FOR THE NOON LUNCHEON WILL BE ON A FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED BASIS FOR THE FIRST 150 RESPONDENTS. NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED FOR THE SOCIAL HOUR OR THE PROGRAM. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL RESERVATIONS TO: SONNY SWANGSTU

701 BICKLEY CT

STOUGHTON, WI 53589

\*IF, FOR ANY REASON, YOU NEED TO CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION, LET SONNY KNOW.

## Cards of Thanks

Dear American Legion Post 59  
 you will never know how  
 very much we appreciate  
 all you have done for our  
 family. Your tribute and  
 military honors for Dad were  
 absolutely beautiful and  
 amazing.  
 As hard as it has been ~  
 you gave us peace when  
 saying Dad to rest. It was  
 unbelievable to witness ~ just  
 as Dad would have wanted.  
 Thank you from the bottom  
 of all our hearts ~ for all  
 you have done. It meant the  
 world to us that you gave  
 our hero his final farewell.  
 Thank you again!  
 Sincerely Michelle Pace

During a time like this  
 we realize how much our  
*Friends*  
 really mean to us.  
 Your expression of  
*Sympathy*  
 will always be remembered.

The Family of  
 Gerald H. "Terry" Olson

Legion Members  
 Many many thanks for the festive and very impressive  
 New Year's Eve Party hosted by your Post for all to enjoy.  
 Your service and dedication to our Country, the  
 American Legion and this community is and always  
 will be very much appreciated.

With Sincere Thanks,  
 Linda Helen Holmstrom

\$100.00 donation - token of appreciation.

### Monthly Post Meeting Schedule

**Legion – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm**

**Auxiliary – 2nd Monday – 7:00 pm**

**SAL – 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 pm**

Meetings are held at the Post.

All members are encouraged to attend.



### AMERICAN LEGION BAR 803 N. Page St. Stoughton, WI

Open to the Public

**Bar open to serve you Wednesday - Sunday**

**Wednesday & Thursday: 3:00 pm or later**

**Friday: 3 – 10 pm or later**

**Saturday: Noon – 10 pm or later**

**Sunday: 11:30 am – 6 pm or later**

**Wednesday Ladies Night**

**\$.50 off any Ladies drinks**





## It's 5:30 am – Time to Get to Work

Why do the bar room and kitchen always look so clean and neat? For the past several years, three Legion member volunteers show up every morning, five days a week, at 5:30 to do the cleanup job so the rest of us can enjoy our Post. These three are Dick Boyd, Joe Erickson, and Dean Horner.

Although the tasks overlap at times, each has his primary area of responsibility—Joe cleans all the bar area including washing the floor mats and the area under the mats; he also cuts up the celery and fill the condiment trays; Dean stocks the coolers and shelves as well as taking inventory and ordering; Dick does all the sweeping and mopping. Dick also takes out all the cans to the recycle bin; then loads the USS WB17 and takes all the trash down to the dumpster.

In addition, Dick and Dean perform all the snow shoveling and snow blowing. In summer, when deliveries arrive, both empty the boxes and put the frozen food in the freezers and the rest of the merchandise on the shelves. Dick makes sure the trees and lawn in the horseshoe area are watered then too.

Each spends 2 1/2 to 4 hours completing these jobs each day.

Joe has been a fixture around the Post for 31 years. In addition to the above, he has tended bar on Friday nights and also during our monthly dinners and breakfasts.

"I like it. I like working with these guys."  
— Dick Boyd

There are others who help out regularly. John Christopherson shows up daily to keep the grills, pots, pans, and stoves in the kitchen sparkling clean. Don Helmke is there every Saturday morning to scrub the grease and gunk off the drip pans on the stoves. Johny Drogsvold is there every Sunday morning to help as needed when the others can't make it. Jack Lyon is also there regularly to help with the cleaning and stocking.

When asked why he does this all the time, Dick replied, "I like it. I like working with these guys."

If you appreciate what these guys do for our Legion, give them a pat on the back.

*Submitted by Bud Erickson*



*The caretakers of the Legion bar and restaurant  
From left to right: Joe Erickson, Dean Horner, and Dick Boyd*

## America's Wars



### WORLD WAR I (1917 - 1918)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	4,734,991
Battle Deaths.....	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings.....	204,002
Living Veterans.....	0



### WORLD WAR II (1941 - 1945)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	16,112,566
Battle Deaths.....	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings.....	670,846
Living Veterans.....	1,711,000



### KOREAN WAR (1950 - 1953)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	5,720,000
Battle Deaths.....	33,739
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	17,672
Non-mortal Woundings.....	103,284
Living Veterans.....	2,275,000



### VIETNAM WAR (1964 - 1975)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	8,744,000
Battle Deaths.....	47,434
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings.....	153,303
Living Veterans.....	7,391,000



### GULF WAR (1990 - 1991)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	2,322,000
Battle Deaths.....	148
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	1,565
Non-mortal Woundings.....	467
Living Veterans.....	2,244,583



### GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR (2001 - PRESENT)

The Global War on Terror is an ongoing conflict. For the most recent statistics, please visit the Department of Defense Web site:  
[http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot\\_component.pdf](http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot_component.pdf)



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March 25, 6:30 pm

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