



DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 30, 2011
7:30 pm
Milwaukee County Council Meeting
- ...
- April 4, 2011
Poppy Distribution
Miller Park
- ...
- April 5, 2011
7:30 pm
Post Membership Meeting
Election of Officers
- ...
- April 16 & 17, 2011
9:00 am -3:00 pm
Aluminum Can Collection at Post
- ...
- April 18, 2011
6:00 pm
Fund Raising Committee Meeting
- ...
- April 18, 2011
7:00 pm
Executive Board Mtg
- ...
- April 19, 2011
7:00 pm
Auxiliary Meeting
- ...
- April 20, 2011
7:30 pm
4th District Meeting
Post 180
Geo Wash -Bay View



POPPY DAY AT MILLER PARK

Opening Day--Monday, April 4th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED from the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary, and Son's of the American Legion to distribute poppies at Miller Park.

Volunteers should plan on being at Miller Park from approximately 11:00 am until 1:30 pm.

Poppies & donation canisters must be picked up at 1:00 pm on Sunday April 3rd at the Legion Post.

Complete information will be given to all volunteers when they pick up their poppies on April 3rd, along with permission slips.

To volunteer send an email to durango1@wi.rr.com or call 414-321-1479. Leave a message with your name and phone number.

If you wish to car pool on Monday April 4, 2011, please meet at the Post parking lot at 10:15 am.

This is a 537 Legion Family event so please participate!

All of our Poppies are handmade by Veterans as part of their rehabilitation.

Poppy monies that are collected are used only for Veterans and their families. This includes but is not limited to: Thanksgiving / Christmas Baskets, Camp American Legion, USO, Union Grove Veterans Home, programs at the Zablocki Medical Center, DryHootch of Milwaukee, and the upcoming Fisher House to be constructed at Zablocki.

COMMANDERS CORNER

I would like to thank the American Legion members, Ladies Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion who helped with the annual smoker. Everyone did a great job and you are all a credit to the Post. I also would like to thank all who attended the smoker. Without your presence, it would not have been a success.

Our next membership meeting is Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 pm. This is also our annual elections. PLEASE consider running for one of our Post offices. We need your help. IF you feel you are unable to run for a position on the board, PLEASE still come to the meeting so you can support those who are nominated. It is harmless to decline a nomination.

On May 14, 2011 plans are planning to have a joint installation with the Legion Family. A dinner is planned and afterwards we are having a dance. Please see reservation insert.

Last month I mentioned I was in the process of setting up a funeral honor training. It was discussed at the Executive Board meeting and it was decided to wait until September, when the 4th District is holding a training session. I will keep you posted when we get more information. See you around the Post.

Commander Brian Duerr
414-541-7703
brianduerr@hotmail.com

FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

If you have questions related to what is happening within the Post Clubhouse, please address those questions to the House Committee members at the April membership meeting.

We want to thank our S.A.L. members who helped clear parking spaces in the Post Parking lot in February. Your help was greatly appreciated by the House Committee.

Wally Pufahl
Doug Kueny
Danny Key

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We still stand 274 paid members for 2011 To reach 100% we need 321 paid members. Last year we ended with 294.

If you have not renewed your dues, please give me or the Commander a call, and let us know if there is something that we can do to help you. While we know that the economy has affected many with unemployment, rising gas costs, groceries, etc, we feel that the American Legion and it's dedication to Veterans and Veterans Rights, is an important reason for remaining a member of the American Legion.

We are here to serve each other.

Dues for 2011 are \$35.00. If you are retired and have been a member of Post 537 for 10 or more years, your dues are \$28.00.

1st Vice Commander Linda Pfeiffer
262-784-2807
waltnlindapfeiffer@sbcglobal.net

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The April membership meeting of the S.A.L. will be held at the Post, at 6:30 pm on April 5, 2011 in the Wimmer Room. This is our Annual Election of Post Officers, so we request that you attend and vote. If you wish to hold an office, this is the time to step forward.

We are very proud of our S.A.L. members who participated in the 4th District Bowling Tournament in February. They placed first in the competition. Good Job guys.

Several of our Squadron brothers helped with snow removal at the post, following the "blizzard" in February. We are here to help the Post, and are glad to be of service. On behalf of the Squadron - thank you gentlemen.

Adjutant Jim Thomas
414-640-5132
jthomas26@wi.rr.com

HARV'S QUIK QUIZ

1. What is the Capitol of the State of New York?
a. New York City b. Albany c. Buffalo
2. What covers the American Prairies?
1. Tall Grass b. Rocks c. Sand Dunes
3. What became the most important crop in the Southern States?
a. Tobacco b. Wheat c. Cotton
4. Where does the world's longest hiking trail run through?
a. The Grand Canyon
b. The Appalachian Mountains
c. Yellowstone National Park
5. "I'm nobody!" "Who are you?" are the first words of a poem written by?
a. Emily Dickinson b. Edna Street
c. Vincent Millay
6. Who wrote the Music to the National Anthem.
a. John Stafford Smith b. Samuel A. Ward
c. Katharine Lee Bates d. Francis Scott Key

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and happiness. Please remember to contact me if you have a health issue. Please have your family call me, if you are unable to do so, so that I can do what needs to be done to help you or your family.

Nick Berg
Service Officer
Home: 414-329-8184
Cell: 414-698-3181
nberg99@yahoo.com

POWER PROGRAM

Even though the VA's POWER program has officially ended, our Legion Post's involvement in the POWER (Posts Working for VetERans Health) Program is a study which compares two ways to help people learn how to control their high blood pressure. As part of this study, and even now that the study is complete, Gretchen and/or I are required to give a short presentation at every Legion Meeting - each on a variety of topics.

We will be presenting 1 topic at the April meeting: GOUT. Here's a brief explanation of the topic to be presented: The POWER Program has always stressed maintaining good health. At our next meeting, we will be discussing gout - causes, symptoms, treatment, and prevention. Many lay people, and even some doctors, call all forms of arthritis in the foot gout. It is important to separate these because gout, which is caused by uric acid crystals in the joint, can be treated with medicines that don't do anything for the usual forms of arthritis. On top of that, there are medicines that lower the level of uric acid in the blood and therefore gradually decrease the amount of uric acid crystals in the joint. So, this is a pretty important diagnosis to make accurately.

Again, thanks for your continued participation and support in the POWER program. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Robert Fyfe
414-208-9731 (cell phone)
RFYFE@WI.RR.COM

MAY POPPY DAYS

At the April and May membership meeting, we will have a sign up sheet for Poppy Days, , scheduled for May 20th, and 21st.

3rd Vice Commander Jim Marinkovich
414-327-3420

4TH DISTRICT NEWS

Hey hey hey! We made it to Spring. That's right, it's the vernal equinox, where the night and day are the same length of time, and where the days are getting longer than the nights. No more trudging thru snow or scraping windows or taking an extra hour to put on your sweater, overcoat, boots mittens, scarf, ear muffs, well, you know what I mean. It's the beginning of new life. The crocuses and lillies are blooming. It's getting warmer and you can hear the birds in the morning. Spring also means Post and District elections. We will hold elections at the next membership meeting. Try to make it to the meeting. We have positions available and need people to fill them. If you don't want to run for office, then come out and vote for those who wish to hold an office. Hope to see you there.

4th District Commander Wayne Jensen is running for the position of Department Vice-Commander. All delegates to the State Convention in Appleton are encouraged to vote for Wayne.

The annual Veterans' Salute to the Legislature and Capitol Rally will be held on April 13, 2011. For more info contact Max Dulberger at 1-608-267-0784 or go visit the website at www.WisVets.com.

We held our first Pancake Breakfast meeting and it went very well. If you are interested in donating time for a worthwhile cause, see Auxiliary President Sue Hembrook or myself. If you are interested in having a great breakfast on Memorial Day, then stop by and we'll be happy to feed you. I guarantee you won't leave hungry. The next breakfast committee meeting will be held, on April 19th, following the Auxliary membership meeting. Please attend if you are interested in helping.

On a personal note, my youngest son, Brian, sucessfully completed Army Drill Instructor school at Fort Jackson, SC. He is assigned to train the Infantry at Fort Benning, GA. He looks good in his Army Dress Blues and "Smoky Bear" hat.

The next meeting of the Mighty 4th District will be on April 20th, 2011, at George Washington-Bay View Post 180, 2860 S Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee,

at 7:30 pm. Everyone is always welcome to attend.

Hope to see you at the Post.

Post Historian Mark Sandow
4th District, 4th Chair
414-418-0993 - Cell
414-545-0409 - Home
MarkSandow@wi.rr.com

AUXILIARY NEWS

Happy Spring! Hopefully soon we will be experiencing spring like weather. We have had a few days of nice weather and hopefully more are on the way. I hope everyone who can help at Miller Park on April 4thm is signed up to help distribute poppies. We have ordered good weather for that day so if you can contact an officer to let them know you are available.

On April 11, 2011, will will hold our annual Veteran's Luncheon. We will be serving a spaghetti lunch to some of the veterans from Zablocki Medical Center. If you are available to come to the post to interact with these men and women please do so. After lunch we play bingo with them. Everyone always has an enjoyable time.

The very next day, April 12th, is our bus trip to Oneida Casino. There are still seats available, so please come on along. For reservations contact Vi Kaun at 414-525-1025, or Audrey McClain at 414-541-9622. We have two buses going and there are fun activities planned during the ride up to Green Bay.

Our next meeting is April 19th at 7:00 pm; please plan on attending as we are already planning for next year. We need as much input as we can to make our organization successful. It is a great honor to be able to serve our veterans and our community. Please support our Legion Family.

Auxiliary President Sue Hembrook
genesuehem@wi.rr.com
262-843-4791

FUND RAISING

The fund raising committee is alive and well and the co-chairs are VERY GRATEFUL for all the donations of raffle items, food and time spent organizing and running the 2011 Smoker. It was a successful night that went by quickly & smoothly. Thank you again and again to all AUXILIARY, POST & S.A.L. members that helped and/or attended!

Now we want to pursue other fund raising avenues. Feel welcome to attend the monthly meetings at 6:00 p.m on the 3rd Monday of each month; prior to the Post executive board meetings. If you are unable to attend please email or call in your ideas; we are in need of new, exciting, eye catching ways to support our community and Veterans.

Chairperson Gretchen Davies
414-731-8240
Gretchen.Davies@revenue.wi.gov
Co-Chairperson Linda Pfeiffer
262-784-2807

ANNUAL REPORTING TO THE AMERICAN LEGION

What do you as an individual do to help in your local church, neighborhood, hospital or community? Do you take a person who needs help to the doctor, or grocery shopping? Do you serve at Church for ushering or teaching? Do you help someone with lawn work or snow shoveling? Why do we ask. Have you donated blood? If so, we would appreciate knowing how many pints you have donated. Hours from May 1, 2010, thru April 30, 2011 are reportable. This includes hours you may spent distributing poppies, as well. Please let us know.

Under the Four Pillars of the American Legion, all volunteer hours that you do, as a Veteran can and should be reported on the Post's Annual Reports. This information is consolidated nationwide, and is reported to Congress, to tell them what we as Veterans do for others. Please jot down your volunteer hours and bring them to a meeting, email them to the Post Editor (they will be passed on

to the Adjutant) or call and let us know. What you do is important, what we report is important to the Legion as a whole.

Brief summary of the DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Full reading of duties will be at the
Post Elections in April

Section 1. Duties of Post Commander. It shall be the duty of the Post Commander to preside at all Post meetings, exercise the powers and perform the duties assigned to him/her in these Bylaws. He/she shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Post and, as such, subject to the Constitution and Bylaws, generally supervise the management of its affairs. He/she shall approve all orders directing the disbursement of funds and shall at the last business meeting of his/her term of office submit a statement relative to the condition of the Post, its activities and progress. He/she shall also perform such other duties as directed by the Post. The Commander shall be an ex-officio of all committees, with no voting power except to break a tie. A Commander may succeed himself/herself for a second term only as Commander. Among duties, the Post Commander is an automatic delegate to 4th District, Milw County Council, and State Convention, and should attend unless he /she is unable to do so.

Section 2. Duties of 1st Vice Commander. The 1st Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the Office of Commander, in the absence or disability of the Post Commander. He/she shall be the Chairperson of the Membership Committee.

Section 3. Duties of 2nd Vice Commander. The 2nd Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the Commander in the absence or disability of the Commander and the 1st Vice Commander. He/she shall also be Chairperson of the Entertainment Committee. NOTE: This includes, but is not limited to: Post Picnic, Post sponsored Dances, and Post Sponsored Parties.

Section 4. Duties of 3rd Vice Commander. The 3rd Vice Commander shall assist the 2nd Vice Commander on the Entertainment Committee. He/she shall coordinate the efforts of the Chaplain, Service

Officer, and the Burial Squad for the burial of Post members. He / She is the Chairperson of the Children & Youth Programs and includes but is not limited to arranging the Children's Coloring Contest, Candidates to Badger Boys State, and he / she is the Chairperson of Post Poppy Fund Raising.

Section 5. Duties of Adjutant. The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and correct records of all proceedings of all meetings, keep such records as the Department and National Organization may require, render reports of membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, and under direction of the Commander handle all correspondence of the Post.

Section 6. Duties of Finance Officer. The Finance Officer shall be the custodian of Post funds. He/she shall pay out money only for such purposes authorized by the Post. He/she shall keep a full and complete record of all transactions, including receipts and disbursements. He/she shall render to the Executive Committee and the Post, a report of the financial standing of the Post.

Section 7. Duties of Chaplain. The Chaplain shall have charge of religious services and shall officiate at Post meetings, dedications, funerals, public functions, etc. Such Divine Services shall be non-sectarian and he/she shall adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department Headquarters from time to time. He/she shall assist the Service Officer whenever called upon.

Section 8. Duties of Judge Advocate / Parliamentarian. The Judge Advocate / Parliamentarian is the interpreter of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Post, and may at any time be called upon by the Commander or other Officers and members of the Post to rule on the legality of their actions and decisions insofar as they affect the good of The American Legion. He/she shall be Chairperson of the Legal and Legislative Committees.

Section 9. Duties of Historian. The Historian shall prepare a history of this Post during his/her term of office and shall collect and compile such other information as may be required to complete the history of the Post from its inception. He/she shall

preserve such historical records and events in written form in books or records kept by him/her for such purpose and shall perform such other duties as may properly pertain to his/her office relative to the preservation of Post Historical data as he/she shall deem appropriate.

Section 10. Duties of Sergeants-at-Arms. (2) The Sergeants-at-Arms shall preserve order at all meetings. He/she shall have charge of the Post colors.

Section 11. Duties of Service Officer. The Service Officer shall render assistance to all members, their heirs, representatives or dependents, relative to obtaining benefits entitled to them by law. His/her primary duty shall be Chairperson of the Visiting Committee.

Section 12. Duties of Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee shall consist of three (3) members: the Judge Advocate / Parliamentarian and two (2) elected committee persons.

Section 13. Duties of Executive Committee persons. The three (3) Executive Committee persons shall advise and assist the Officers in the government and management of the Post. They shall also perform such other duties as directed by the Post.

Section 14. Duties of House Committee. The House Committee shall consist of the Post Commander and three (3) members. One member will be elected annually for a three (3) year term. The House Committee shall have charge of all matters pertaining to the care of the Post quarters.

ARTICLE V - DELEGATES

Section 1. Delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected by ballot by the Post members at the annual election of Post Officers.

Section 2. The Post Commander and immediate Past Commander shall automatically become delegates to the Department Convention.

April is National Children Youth Month

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 30

7:30 - County Council Meeting
Todd Post - Cramer Hall.

April 1 - April Fool's Day

April 2 National Peanut Butter
and Jelly Day

April 4 MILLER PARK POPPY DISTRIBUTION

April 5

6:30 - Blood Pressure Screening
6:30 - SAL Membership Meeting - Elections
7:30 pm - Membership Meeting

POST ELECTIONS

April 6 Army Day

April 8 World War 1 Began - 1917

April 12

6:30 - House Committee Meeting

April 16 and 17 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Aluminum Can Collection - Parking Lot

April 17 Palm Sunday

April 18 Patriot's Day

6:00 pm - Fund Raising Committee Meeting

7:00 pm - Executive Board Meeting

April 19 Passover

7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting

April 20 Volunteer Recognition Day

We thank everyone who volunteers
their time for the Good of the Legion,
Community, State and Nation

April 20

7:30 pm - 4th District Meeting

George Washington - Bay View Post 180

2860 S Kinnickinnic Ave, Milwaukee, WI

April 22 Earth Day

Good Friday

April 24 Easter Sunday

April 27

6:00 pm Milwaukee County Council

Children & Youth Dinner

Tanner Paull Post 120

6792 W Orchard St, West Allis, WI

May 14

5:00 pm - Joint Post Installation Dinner

8:00 pm - Post Dance

August 6

POST PICNIC

Harv's Quik Quiz Answers

- b. Albany - note: Albany was once an important fur trading settlement on the Hudson River.
- a. Tall grass
- c. Cotton. It was so important the it came to be know as "King Cotton".
- b. The Appalachian Mountains, which extend down through the East Coast of the United States.
- a. Emily Dickinson. Emily was a 19th century poet who lived a solitary life at her home in Amherst, MA.
- a. Francis Scott Key wrote the poem "Defense of Fort McHenry" on which "The Star-Spangled Banner" is based, however, its tune come from a song from a British Gentlemen's Social Club in London, composed by John Stafford Smith.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VETERANS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR BENEFITS FROM THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

We are often asked for information about applying for VA Benefits. Please keep this information in a safe place for future use.

Milwaukee County Service Officer
Jim Duff, Acting CVSO
VA Hospital Grounds, Bldg. 4
5000 W. National Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53295-0002
(414) 382-1753 FAX (414) 382-1708
Email: jduff@milwcnty.com

Waukesha Service Officer
Thomas Ludka
Human Services Center
500 Riverview Ave., Rm. G138
Waukesha, WI 53188-3680
(262) 548-7732 FAX (262) 896-8588
Email: tludka@waukeshacounty.gov

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2006-2007 Past State Commander
Charles Cooney

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Service Officer Nick Berg 414-698-3181
Todd Post Website: www.toddpost537.org

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AND STARS

Continuous Member Membership Certificates and State will be handed out to members present at the May 3rd Membership Meeting. All members who have 5 & 10, years in the Legion will receive a star. Members with 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 45 years will receive a certificate and a star. Please check your membership card to see if you are due for a certificate and / or a star. If you wish to receive this honor, please contact me so that I can have the certificates prepared for the meeting date.

Adjutant Wanda Fremut
wfremut@yahoo.com
414-462-4246.

APRIL ALUMINUM CANS COLLECTION FOR THE OUTREACH FUND

On Saturday April 16th and Sunday April 17th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, we will have a trailer in the Post Parking Lot for Aluminum Cans. If you have several bags that need to be picked up, call Wally and we will make arrangements to pick them up.

If you take off the Pop-Tops, please put them in a separate container, and will be given to the Auxiliary for the Ronald McDonald House.

Also, the Auxiliary is continuing to collect Box Tops for Education for our local schools. There is a box in the side entrance to the Post to put your labels for education in.

Wally Pfeiffer
262-784-2807

TAPS

correction

John P Jones
January 18, 2011
Vietnam Era

Jerome D Schmitz
March 18, 2011
WWII
Army Air Corps



**May they rest in peace in the Arms of the Great
Commander.**

Our sympathy is extended to their families.