

December 2012 Member of WALPA & NALPA  
Volume 5, Issue 5

9159 W. Beloit Rd., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227  
414-543-2030

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- December 4, 2012  
Membership Meeting  
7:30 pm - Post Hall  
...
- December 4, 2012  
SAL Meeting  
6:30 pm - Wimmer Room  
...
- December 8, 2012  
Childrens Xmas Party  
Santa, Mrs Santa, An Elf,  
and Magician  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
reservations required  
...
- December 8, 2012  
Joint Post Xmas Dinner  
6:00 pm  
reservations required  
...
- December 17, 2012 -  
Four Pillars Project Mtg  
6:15 pm  
Executive Bd Meeting  
7:00 pm  
...
- December 19, 2012  
4th District Meeting  
...
- December 24, 2012  
Christmas Eve  
Bar Closes 5:00 pm  
...
- December 25, 2012  
Christmas Day  
BAR IS CLOSED  
...
- December 31, 2012  
New Years Eve  
Bar Closes at 6:00 pm



## COMMANDERS CORNER Walter Pfeiffer

I want to thank all the Post Veterans and their family members who attended the Post Everlasting Ceremonies on November 6th. The Ceremony was well attended, allowing the Post and its members to honor our departed comrades. I also want to thank everyone who attended and helped at the Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. We raised \$789.50 for The Fisher House.

There is only one more month for the Sportsman Raffle. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Prizes, which are certificates to Cabela's are: 1st prize, \$400.00; 2nd prize, \$200.00; 3rd Prize, \$100.00; 4th prize, \$50.00; 5th prize, \$50.00; 6th prize is a \$25.00 certificate to Sherpers. We need help in selling these tickets, so if you wish to purchase one, please send your check or money order to the Post and we will mail your ticket portion to you. Tickets will be available at the December meeting, the Post Christmas Party, and are available at the bar. If you wish to help in selling and need tickets, please call me or Linda, and we will get tickets to you. Drawing will be at 9:00 pm on January 8, 2013. Proceeds for this raffle will be used for Children and youth activities sponsored by the Post Family. This includes, but is not limited to: Badger Boys and Girls State, Oratorical Contest, Coloring Contest, Adopted 4th grade class, and the list goes on. However, if we do not sell the tickets we cannot fund the programs. These certificates, if won by you, would make a great gift for someone.

We, as a Post Family, want to show the Veterans of the community that we are here, not only for them, but for the children of our community, who are the future of our Great Nation. If you are not sure what the American Legion does for children, and you have internet access, please check out the Wisconsin American Legion Website for information. We, as a Post, cannot participate in all the programs, but we can surely try.

Information: On the Wisconsin American Legion website, and the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary Website, contains is a list of scholarships that are available to the children of Legion Members. Please check this site out if your children or grandchildren are planning to attend college. Applications have deadlines. If one does not apply for help, one cannot receive help.

Linda & I wish each of you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a very safe and Happy New Year.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Linda Pfeiffer

We have 264 paid memberships as of this mailing. We need 293 to make 100%. So we have 29 members who we would like to pay their dues to reach this goal by Christmas. If you are not paid by the end of December, in January your Legion Magazine and Badger Legionnaire are discontinued, along with other benefits that we all have as Legion Members.

Dues can be mailed to the Post, left at the Post Bar for me to pick up, or you may pay online. If your dues are not received by December 6th, you will get another notice in January. This is a timing issue with printing of notices. It would be great if I did not have to pester you in the January newsletter. I sometimes feel like a mosquito.

**To all of our members: "Thank you for serving, and for continuing to serve".**

Dues for 2013 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. Invite someone to join.

## 2ND VICE COMMANDER REPORT

Brian Duerr

On December 8, 2012 the post will again host the Children's Christmas Party from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Santa, Mrs Santa, a special Elf, and our friendly Post Magician will be there to entertain the children. We are also planning an activity for the children. Reservations were enclosed with the October and November Newsletters. We hope everyone returned their forms.

Following the Childrens party, at 6:00 pm, we will have our Annual Legion Family Dinner. Again, reservations were required.

## ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Gretchen Davies

Just a reminder: Volunteer Hours are very important in the Legion. If you have a relative in the Auxiliary you can see how much time the ladies report. I am sure Post members devote as much time to volunteering as our counterparts so we need to keep track also. Please, please, turn your time in monthly so it can be collated for the annual reports. Volunteer

hours include helping a Veteran, volunteer hours at your Church, Blood Donations, making items for Veterans, and the list goes on. These hours are turned in to the National American Legion in May. They are then presented to Congress each year, to show them what Veterans do for Veterans and community. This helps when the Legion and other Veterans Organizations fight for Veterans Benefits.

If you have gently used (clean) clothing to donate for needy Veterans, please contact Linda Pfeiffer, and a home will be found for these items. Our homeless female Veterans are in need of clothing and personal items as well.

## SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Nick Berg

If you are aware of a Post Member that has become ill or who has passed away, please let me know as soon as possible so I can take care of what I need to do. If there are any other questions please let me know. My contact information is on page 5 of this Newsletter.

If you need help with filing claims, or getting information on your rights as a Veteran, please contact:

Milwaukee County Service Officer Jim Duff  
6419 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI  
Phone 414-266-1234

## 4TH DISTRICT REPORT

Mark Sandow

4th District 1st Vice Commander

The next meeting of the Mighty 4th District will be held on Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 pm, at Oak Creek Post 434, 9237 S Shepard Ave, Oak Creek, WI. This is the Districts annual Christmas Party. There will be a short meeting followed by a luncheon. All members and a guest are welcome to attend the District Meetings.

## ALUMINUM CANS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH FUND

Please continue to save aluminum Cans and other recycleable metal for Children & Youth. You can bring the cans to the post and give them to the Commander. You can also call Commander Pfeiffer and he will make arrangements to pick them up from you.

## ED'S HEAD BANGIN' QUIZ

1. What President was an artist, and still has paintings in galleries?
  - a. Thomas Jefferson
  - b. Ulysses S Grant
  - c. Franklin Pierce
2. What is the deepest river in the world, with a depth of up to 730 feet?
  - a. Nile
  - b. Mckong
  - c. Congo
3. How many times has the design for the US Flag changed since 1777?
  - a. 6
  - b. 16
  - c. 26
4. What President declined a third term by saying "I'm 65 and I'm tired"?
  - a. George Washington
  - b. John Adams
  - c. James Madison
5. Who was the first President to have been the head of the CIA?
  - a. Harry S. Truman
  - b. Lyndon B. Johnson
  - c. George H. Bush

## UPDATE ON THE WAR MEMORIAL and MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

Wow, what the Veterans of the Community were able to do. If you read the paper or watched the news on TV, you know that the County Supervisors listened to what the Veterans had to say about the War Memorial. They allocated funds for repairs. Thank you to each of you who contacted your County Supervisor and / or signed petitions. They heard us. Great job Veterans!

Negotiations are continuing between the Veterans Team and the Art Museum Team. While I cannot give specific information at this time, I can tell you that progress is being made. Hopefully, in January I can give you details. Meantime, watch the news and /or read the Milwaukee Journal, or Business Journal, should things be resolved before the next Tattler.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH 4th GRADE ADOPTED CLASS

Manitoba School  
3rd Vice Commander Jim Middlestead

Jim Marinkovich and I visited our Adopted 4th grade class on November 9th, and took them all sorts of school supplies, a book on flag etiquette, and a flag, and spent time talking with them. Each student was grateful for all the supplies they received. They are a super group of students. Thank you to Mrs. Diane Wirth, for allowing us to visit her classroom.

We are still looking for High School Students to participate in the Oratorical Contest.

## FOUR PILLARS SUPPORT "SPORTSMAN'S RAFFLE"

Gretchen Davies / Linda Pfeiffer - co-chairs

The Sportsmen's raffle proceeds are designated for the 537 Family "Children & Youth" fund. This fund allows sponsorship of Badger Girls & Boys, Oratorical candidates, Scouting and the adopted class room. Remember: your children or grandchildren could benefit from these programs. Contact our 3rd Vice to hear more about the individual events or to recommend a candidate for a program.

Thank you to ALL who supported the Veteran's Day breakfast by eating and/or volunteering. It was a fabulous turn out for this fledgling event. Hopefully it will grow as the community becomes aware that it will be an annual activity. 100% of the funds will be donated to The Fisher House at the January 8, 2013, meeting.

## PEARL HARBOR MEMORIAL SERVICE DECEMBER 6, 2012 AT 7:00 PM War Memorial Center, Veterans Gallery 750 N Lincoln Memorial Drive

Refreshments will be served after the service.  
This is being hosted by Amvets 2nd District.

Everyone is invited to attend this Service, to honor those who perished in Pearl Harbor.

The War Memorial is here to "Honor the Dead" by serving the living.

## **Tribute to a Post Veteran**

**From his granddaughter, Erica, at her school.**

Here today with me is my Grandpa, Joseph Zubarik. He celebrated a milestone birthday on September 28th, of turning 95, this year.

But his age is only one of many milestones in his lifetime. He was born at the end of World War I. He survived the Great Depression as an orphan, as his parents couldn't afford to care for him and his two brothers. He was later reunited with his father after the depression. Time went on and he saw the cold war unfold, and watched the first man walk on the moon. He read about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and lived through a major technological boom, including the birth of the internet. He also watched the twin towers fall on 9/11, and he understood the effect that the terrorist attack would have on the young adult generation of the millennium.

He also has experienced plenty of joy. He married the love of his life on June 12, 1947, being married for 65 years, as of this year. Being in the orphanage when he was younger, it was his dream to have a large family, and that he did; going on to have 11 kids. My Grandpa also has 31 grandchildren to carry on his legacy.

My grandpa is a witness to history. But, he is here with me today, specifically, as a witness to World War II, for he as a man that belongs to, and defended the Greatest Generation that ever lived.

After surviving the many struggles of the Great Depression, my grandpa was drafted into the air force in 1943. First, attending basic training in Miami, he then continued his education in air force mechanics. He specialized in the training of B-24 Bombers. In Texas, my grandpa tested P47s, a fighting aircraft, to ensure that they would work safely in Europe. He continued to

work in the states on airplanes and over-saw the repairs on the fighter planes shipped back from Europe, to prepare them for another deployment.

Not surprisingly, his brother also contributed to the war efforts. His older brother, Tony, worked in a tank division, while his younger brother, Ricky flew p-38s. Ricky earned the title of an "ace", having shot down at least 5 other planes in Europe. Ricky's plane was forced to land and he was held as a Prisoner of War, for 3 years.

Personal Reflection from Erica:

We will never be able to fully understand the true horror of what happened in Europe during WW II. Planned genocide in a civilized country was never easy to understand, and it seems even more far fetching today. But, I am so proud of my Grandpa and his generation. They fought for human dignity and human rights. Fighting against the oppression of imprisoned people, people who were imprisoned by their own government. The United States is a proud country because of him - earning us the title of defenders of freedom, and promoters of democracy. My grandpa is a humble man, he has never demanded respect or recognition for his actions, yet he and his brothers were willing to dedicate their lives for this country and for the future generation of it, which would be all of us sitting here today. Thank you Grandpa, for your service to your country and family, I am proud to be your Granddaughter.

NOTE from Editor: Joseph is a 10 year member of the American Legion.

We, as a Legion, thank each and every man and woman who served during WW I, as they are all gone now, and WW II, who are fast going to the Great Commander. We also thank all who have served since WW II. Without your service, we would not be free.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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S.A.L. Squadron Commander  
Robert Sirovia Jr.  
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### ED'S HEAD BANGIN QUIZ ANSWERS

1. b. Ulysses S. Grant
2. c. Congo
3. c. 26
4. a. George Washington
5. c. George H. Bush

## SAL SQUADRON 537 Bob Sirovina Jr, Commander

We need your help! We have already kicked off our annual food drive! Bring your non-perishable food items to the containers in the Post bar. Cash donations are also accepted by check only. Please make your check payable to SAL Squadron 537 and leave it at the Post bar or send it to Roger Pufahl. All items will be donated to a local church that assists veterans. We need everyone to help with this project. There are many veterans in our community in need of assistance so please donate generously to this great project.

Looking back over 2012 we have had a very successful year and I want to thank everyone that made our projects so successful, and I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 414-321-1479 or durango1@wi.rr.com

## UPCOMING ANNUAL POST CARD PARTY /SMOKER

Support Post 537. The annual Smoker proceeds offset the administrative costs of maintaining our Post. Not just printing and postage and office supplies! Post 537 gives reduced dues for any retired member with more than 10 years membership in the Post. And, upon occasion, we waive dues for hardship, contact the 1st Vice or Service Officer, if you know of anyone having financial difficulties. The Post also assists with registration fees for members that attend Mid-winter or State Convention> Contact the Commander to find out

about attending these informative conferences. There are other items that come under the "general fund" and the Smoker is the only fund raiser that fills those coffers. Please support the Smoker by donating items towards the meal or mini-raffles, by contacting your favorite vendors to obtain gift certificates. Tickets are printed, so you may purchase the main raffle tickets: 6 tickets for \$5.00 or \$1.00 each. We also ask that you generously give of your time as March 1, 2013 approaches! You may contact me or the 1st Vice for the solicitation letters and or tickets.

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU

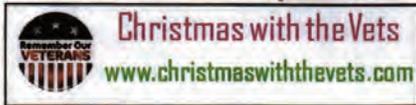
We had 6 wonderful Marquette Army ROTC students help us at the Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. This group of young, uniformed people did a terrific job. They also participated in the Veterans Day Services with VFW Post 7485 at 11:00 am, in the Post Parking Lot

The Milwaukee American Legion Band  
presents our 37<sup>th</sup> annual



**Christmas Concert  
& Party**  
**Sunday December 9, 2012**  
**3:00p.m.**

Milwaukee Lutheran High School  
9700 W. Grantosa Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53222



24th Annual  
Hospitalized Veterans Christmas Show  
December 15, 2012

Bringing Christmas to our Soldiers - Sailors - Airmen - Marines  
THIS EVENT IS ONLY FOR OUR HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE CHRISTMAS SHOW

Cookies - Cakes - Doughnuts - Pies-Brownies - Kringles - Ear Muffs - Batteries(All Sizes)  
Cheese/Sausage trays - Fruit Trays - Deli Trays - New Denim / Flannel Shirts L-XL- New Gloves - New Beanie Hats -  
New Sweat Socks - 24 Qts of Juices - 12 Gallons 2% Milk - Pen/Paper Sets - Oranges / Apples - Door Prizes - Beef  
Jerky - Sausage Links - Chips - Pretzels - Muffins-All Flavors - All Types of Nuts - Disposable Razors - Large Sub  
Sandwiches - Thermal Tops (Lg / XL) - Lap Blankets - Plastic Forks / Spoons - 12oz Plastic Cups - Heavy Duty Paper  
Plates - To Go Containers - Chocolates - Popcorn Tins - Candy Bars

**Cash Contribution's  
For Bingo Prizes  
Christmas Gifts  
Appreciated**

Send To:  
Jeff Dentice  
SI08 W19843 Red Oak  
Court  
Muskego, WI. 53150  
Please Put:  
Christmas VA Vets 2012  
On The Check Memo Line

Contact Jeff Dentice WE MAKE PICKUPS - 414-218-3030  
December 14th (8am - Noon) is the last day for pickups.

The VA hospital does not run this event  
Jeff & his Volunteers bring the show to the VA hospital.

Northern Milwaukee county / Suburbs  
Non-perishables items can be dropped off  
Dec. 1- Dec. 14 9am - 5pm  
Food items dropoff - Dec. 12 - 14 9am - 5pm  
Paratech Ambulance 94th Brown Deer Road

Last Minute Dropoff's Only  
Attach note with your name & address  
ATTENTION - JEFF DENTICE  
Can be dropped off at the East entrance to the VA hospital  
Enter from 44th National Ave.  
Drive right up to hospital doors.  
December 15th from 11:30am to 12:30pm  
Volunteers will be there to take your contribution.

**VOLUNTEER'S  
WE HAVE ENOUGH  
THANK YOU**

Visit the Vets Christmas Site for More Info  
[www.christmaswiththevets.com](http://www.christmaswiththevets.com)  
Email: [christmaswiththevets@wi.rr.com](mailto:christmaswiththevets@wi.rr.com)



2 Shower Stall seats donated by Post Member Don Johnson, and presented to Adjutant Kurtz, for Camp American Legion



Grand opening of Walmart Neighborhood Mart on 70th and Main in Milwaukee.

Flags were posted and ceremony was held by a local Boy Scout Troop and Post 537 members

Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade

Chuck Cooney attended the parade, while post member Jim Linneman drove a tractor in the parade.



Alderman Dan Roadt of West Allis was presented with a plaque from Post 537 and Post 120, for providing the trolley for the West Allis Day Memorial Parade for the Veterans to ride in during the parade.

**TAPS**

We pray that our departed Members, rest in peace.

