



February 2011  
Volume 3, Issue 7

Member of WALPA & NALPA

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1, 2011  
7:30 pm  
Membership Meeting  
Cramer Hall  
...  
February 8, 2011  
6:30 pm  
House Committee Mtg  
...  
February 15, 2011  
7:00 pm  
Auxiliary Meeting  
...  
February 16, 2011  
7:30 pm  
4th District Meeting  
Todd Post  
Cramer Hall  
...  
February 21, 2011  
6:00 pm  
Smoker Planning Mtg  
7:00 pm  
Executive Bd Mtg  
...  
February 23, 2011  
7:30 pm  
Greendale Post 415  
Milw Cty Council Mtg  
...  
March 4, 2011  
6:30 pm - 12:30 am  
Annual Post Smoker  
Card Party  
...  
March 12, 2011  
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Last Man's Club  
Annual Dance



## COMMANDERS CORNER

As I look out my front window writing my article, I look out at the snow we got last Monday and think, it could have been worse. At least it was the light snow. The bad news is the cold January weather is coming, so stay warm. Before you know it will be February and that will be much closer to warmer weather. Which means it's that much closer to the SMOKER which is on Friday March 4, 2011. Again if you can help, please contact Gretchen Davies, Linda Pfeiffer or myself, phone numbers, email addresses are listing in this copy of the Tattler.

If you can't make it to the Smoker (card party) please let some friends, and family members know about the SMOKER, they might want to attend.

Another reminder if you haven't paid your membership dues to try and get them in to Linda. Besides money raised at the SMOKER, we use part of your membership dues to help fund some of our programs to help you and our fellow veterans. Your dues also pay for the Todd Tattler.

Our next membership meeting is on February 1, 2011. Please try and attend. Last month we did not have a quorum until the meeting was almost over. If we do not have a quorum, we can not vote on any Post business for that month. At this meeting we will also be discussing and voting on lowering our quorum, which now is 10% of the membership.

By-laws changes cannot be made without the membership's approval. We need 29 members to have a quorum to vote on any business.

Hope to see you around the Post.

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

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are currently at 268 paid members for 2011. To reach 100% we need 321 paid members. Please contact me if you have questions. For those of you who have not paid your dues, National considers you delinquent. Your \$1000 accidental death policy expired on December 31st. You will have to resubmit a form to reinstate the policy. Also, after the end of January, your name will be removed from the mailing list for the National Legion Magazine. Please pay your dues quickly to avoid loss of the publication.

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.

If you have decided not to renew your membership, please call and talk with the Commander or myself, to let us know what we can do to serve you better, and keep you as a member of the American Legion. The goal of the American Legion is for Veterans to serve Veterans. Help us serve you.

1st Vice Commander Linda Pfeiffer  
262-784-2807 and Editor  
waltlindapfeiffer@sbcglobal.net

## POPPY DISTRIBUTION

The "Legion Post Family" will be distributing Poppies at the Brewers Opening Game on Monday, April 4, 2011. This is a day game. The game is at 1:10 pm, so we are planning on caravanning from the Post, to the Stadium at 11:30 am. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming and helping us. This is a great opportunity to raise funds for the Veterans Programs of the American Legion. Sign-up sheets will be available at Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. meetings.

Remember that proceeds from Poppy distributions are used to benefit Veterans. This is not used for children and youth programs, or Legion functions.

Jim Marinkovich  
3rd Vice Commander  
414-327-342

## SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Hello! Greetings to all of you and your families and I hope that all is well. Spring will be here soon. If you or another vet need someone to talk to or are under a lot of stress, please read the article below. If you feel you don't want to talk to anyone there please give me a call and I would be willing to talk to you.

As always 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 at the end of the article. Thank You!

### VA Offers Lifeline for Troubled Vets

Week of January 03, 2011

The New Year can often bring stress, anxiety and depression. As a veteran or a family member or caregiver for a veteran, you are never alone; VA professional counselors are just a phone call away at 1-800-273-8255. There are also online chat capabilities at the <http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/Veterans/Default.aspx>.

You can call your local VA medical center to speak with the health care team. You also can contact the main social work office of the medical center to get assistance. Find your local VA medical center at <http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isflash=1>. Do not be afraid to seek help.

Nick Berg  
Service Officer  
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## POWER PROGRAM

Even though the VA's POWER program has officially ended, our Legion Post's involvement in the POWER program will continue! The POWER (Posts Working for VetERans Health) Program is a study which will compare 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 I are required to give a short presentation at every Legion Meeting - each on a variety of topics.

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

### HARV'S QUIK QUIZ

1. What is Oregon's chief industry based on?  
a. Timber                      b. Coal                      c. Oil
2. Which came first?  
a. Vietnam War                      b. Korean War  
c. Desert Storm
3. Where did Cesar Chavez speak out on behalf of poor migrant workers?  
a. Alabama                      b. Vermont  
c. California
4. What is the introduction to the U.S. Constitution called?  
a. The Preface                      b. The Prologue  
c. The Preamble
5. Which Founding Father designed the beautiful home called "Monticello"?  
a. Thomas Jefferson      b. John Adams  
c. James Monroe
6. What is the birth year and place of the American Legion?  
a. 1919 Paris                      b. 1941 London  
c. 1963 Washington DC

**"Veterans Still serving America"**

### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The February membership meeting of the S.A.L. will be held in the Wimmer Room at 6:30 pm on February 1, 2011.

The SAL Annual Valentine's Dance will be held Saturday, February 12th from 7:00 pm until midnight at the Post. Admission is \$10 which includes refreshments and snacks. There will be raffles with great prizes, SAL's shooters and Jello shots, and live music by The Avengers

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

### WE WILL CONTINUE TO COLLECT ALUMINUM CANS FOR THE OUTREACH FUND

Please save your aluminum cans throughout the Holiday season, and winter months. If you have several bags that need to be picked up, call Wally and we will make arrangements to pick them up, or meet you at the Post Clubhouse, if you prefer to drop them off there. Please do not just drop them off without calling, as there is nowhere to store them. We collected a little over \$37 worth of cans on November 14th. All proceeds from the cans go into the Outreach Fund, to help those in need in our local area. While Poppy donations are earmarked by the Legion, Auxiliary and Post for Veterans and their families, this fund can be used to help those in need outside the Veterans "Family". We have so many people in need, and this is just a small way to help with unexpected expenses, or donations to the food pantry. If you take off the Pop-Tops, please put them in a separate container, and those will be given to the Auxiliary for the Ronald McDonald House.

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

Wally Pfeiffer  
262-784-2807

## DISTRICT NEWS

Hey, it's February! Time to wish a Happy Birthday to Abe and George and me. The other two guys are really old and I'm just old enough to know better; which I never will.

As of this writing, we have three entrants for the District Oratorical contest. We have a place for the contest, we have judges, and timers, hopefully the young people will not decided to pull out of the contest.

I will have information on Mid-Winter in the next issue. There were a number of great training sessions at the midwinter.

If you get this in time, 4 Chaplains' Sunday will be on Sunday, February 6th at 2:00 pm, at the Zablocki VA Medical Center. The American Legion 5th District sponsors this event, and it would be nice to get as many people as possible to attend. Yes, it will be over soon enough for the Super Bowl.

Invitations have been sent out for the West Allis Memorial Day Parade. So if you are interested in participating, let me know. We are working on getting a bus for the parade. Let me know if you'd like to ride instead of having to walk the parade route. The more people the bigger the bus we will need.

Also, it is time get started on plans for the Memorial Day Pancake breakfast. If you are interested in helping, let me know. We'll set up a meeting and go from there.

The next meeting of the Mighty 4th District will be hosted by the Milwaukee Police Post 415, Wednesday, February 16th, at 7:30 pm, at the H. A. Todd American Legion Post. This would be a good opportunity for all our members to see what happens at a District Meeting.

Hmmm, let's see. If I start peddling my bike this month, maybe I'll lose a couple of pounds by the end of May and then I can eat Pancakes and gain it all back. Sounds like a plan.

See ya at the Post.

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

## AUXILIARY NEWS

We in the auxiliary are not letting the cold or snow get in our way. We are busy planning events for this Spring. April 11th is the date for our annual Veteran's Luncheon. We invite veterans from the Zablocki Medical Center for a Spaghetti Lunch and Bingo. They always have a good time and it is an enjoyable afternoon. April 12th is the date for our Spring Bus Trip to Oneida. The cost is \$30.00 per person, of which you receive a \$25.00 credit at the Casino. Please contact Vi Kaun 525-1025 or Audrey McClain 541-9622 for information. This event is open to all the Post, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members. Come, and bring a friend with for a good time.

Friday March 4th is the Annual Post Smoker and as always the auxiliary is looking forward to helping this event be successful. If you can volunteer any of your time please contact me for details. They are also looking for donations of some food items and I can provide you with that information.

Please join us at our next meeting, Tuesday February 15th, as we are having a speaker from the Spinal Cord Unit from Zablocki Medical Center. This should prove to be a very informative evening and all are welcome.

As always feel free to contact me with any suggestions or concerns

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

## FUND RAISING REPORT

We are gearing up for the annual Smoker on March 4, 2011. Remember, this is the only fund raiser that supports the administrative expenses of our Post so we need to concentrate on making it a success to keep future dues at our low rate. We do not want to raise dues, as we know that with the economy as it is, funds are tight for everyone.

Remember that this is a fun evening and a favorite tradition!! Please help out with all the leg work involved in donations for raffles and the evening's meal. Non-perishable items can be dropped off any time. If you drop something off at the Post, please let the bartender know, so that they can advise us, and we can put your donation in a safe place. All donations must be received no later than the evening of March 3rd. Any contribution of relish trays, cheese, sausage, crackers, or desserts will be welcomed with open arms.

We currently have several Post Members, Auxiliary Members and SAL members who have stepped forward to be chairpersons for our sub-committees, so that no one person is overwhelmed by the many duties of the Smoker.

In addition is the fun part - Clean up. While we prepare for a party at home and clean our houses to look great for our company, the task of putting things away, taking out trash, sweeping floors, etc, is not our favorite part of the party. But it is necessary. So, we are in need of people to step forward wipe down tables, put tables and chairs away and do the general cleanup that comes with an event of this size.

Contact me or co-chair Linda Pfeiffer. We are here to guide and delegate. Whatever you are good at doing, we are willing to let you do. Contact one of us if you have questions, want to volunteer or donate but cannot make a meeting, or if you need raffle tickets!!!

### RAFFLE TICKETS CANNOT BE MAILED.

This is per postage regulations. So, if you wish to obtain raffle tickets or help to sell the tickets to your friends, family, or co-workers, please let us

know. You can get them at any time at the Post Bar, the February Membership Meeting, or we will arrange to drop them off at your home. Should you wish to participate in the raffle, you may mail a check or money order to the Post for the tickets, ATTN: Smoker, and we will mail back your ticket stubs as receipts for your tickets. Tickets are 6 for \$5.00 or \$1.00 each. 1st Prize is \$500.00, second prize is \$250.00, 3rd prize is \$125.00, and there are many other prizes as well..

We also need people to sit on the planning committee and let us know your ideas and contribute your expert advise on running a successful Smoker. The next meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Monday February 21, 2011 in Cramer Hall.

Gretchen Davies  
414-731-8240  
Linda Pfeiffer  
262-784-2807

## FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Please remember to stop in and spend some time at the Post Clubhouse. Remember that this is OUR Legion Post, and a place where each of us can come and meet with various members of the Post, Auxiliary, Son's of the Legion, employees, and our usual patrons. We are a smoke-free facility, and a great place to gather.

Please remember that "Post Business" does not belong in the Bar, but at Post Meetings. This is a public bar, and we have many people who come in who are not members of the Post Legion Family, and they do not have a need to know about Post business. If you have a question about the operation of the Post Bar, please talk with Wally Pufahl, Doug Kueny or Danny Key, as they are the Chairpersons of the House Committee. They will answer your questions.

## MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In March of each year, it is the tradition of Post 537 to initiate new and or transferred members of Post 537, into the American Legion family, This includes initiation of S.A.L. members. Explanations of how the American Legion came to be, what the

Legion Flag stands for, and other valuable information is given during this ceremony.

If you have never been initiated and wish to participate in this program and be initiated, please contact Adjutant Wanda Fremut at the February Membership meeting, or call her no later than February 24th, so that certificates can be made and so that we have the articles on hand that we need for your initiation.

The March meeting will be held on Sunday March 6th at 2:00 pm in Cramer Hall. Your family is welcome to attend this ceremony.

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

## **MEMBERS WITH 50 OR MORE YEARS IN THE AMERICAN LEGION**

We will be honoring our Todd Post members who have 50 or more continuous years in the American Legion at the March Membership meeting.

This is in addition to the Post initiation. All members with 50 or more years, will be given a plaque for their dedicated years of service. We will be sending out personal invitation to these dedicated men and women. Please be sure to attend this meeting to not only support and welcome our newest members, but to honor those who have served other Veterans for so many years.

## **FUNERAL HONORS TRAINING**

At the mid-winter conference, one of the training sessions was on Funeral Honors. As Post Commander I am asking that ALL members who would like to have formal training in the proper way to honor our Veterans who are called to the ranks of Post Everlasting, contact me at the February membership meeting, or call me to indicate that you would like to have this training. We are looking at having the State Trainers come in to show us the proper procedures for honoring our deceased members. We also need to update our list of members who wish to be called when a post member passes, and wishes to

participate in Funeral Services. Formal Training is not necessary, but is very helpful, to be sure that we are doing the services in the correct and respectful way that the American Legion has laid out for us.

Many of the members who have been performing this rite are aging, and while they wish to continue, are not always able to do. We need to ask that our younger members step forward for this respectful responsibility.

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

## **MIDWINTER GREETING NATIONAL COMMANDER JIMMIE L FOSTER**

On the legislative front, a concentrated lobbying effort by the American Legion led to the passage of the Post-- /11 Veterans Educational Improvements Act of 2010 - increasing benefits to the new GI Bill. The legislation provided for expansion and improvement of federal college benefits for veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces on or after september 11, 2001. We fought hard to defeat amnesty for illegal aliens and led the way in urging Congress not to rush blindly into repealing Don't Ask, Dont Tell while our forces are engaged in two wars and until a full evaluation of all of the potential impacts have been discovered, evaluated and discussed in critical detail.

You have consistently, throughout the year, reached out to veterans and their families throughout the state, welcoming them into the American Legion Family with enthusiasm. Wisconsin hosted a superb National Convention in Milwaukee and extended outstanding hospitality to Legionnaires across the nation. It is indeed an honor that the Eagle Scout of the year, Joe Phillips and Mary Catherine Asma, a Samsung scholarship recipient, both hale from Wisconsin. Your Camp American Legion set a record attendance in 2010, in increase of 10 percent from the previous year.

I salute each and every member of the Wisconsin American Legion family for your dedication to God and country.

## February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Blood Pressure Screening SAL Meeting Membership Meeting	Groundhog Day	Chinese New Year		
4 Chaplains Sunday		House Committee Meeting Boy Scout Day				SAL Valentine Day Dance Lincoln's Birthday
4 / 5 <sup>th</sup> District Bowling Tournament		Auxiliary Meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting			
	Presidents Day Smoker Meeting Ex Bd Meeting	Washington's Birthday	County Council Meeting			

### February 1

- 6:30 pm - Blood Pressure Screening
- 6:30 pm - S.A.L. Meeting - Wimmer Room
- 7:30 pm - Post Membership Meeting

### February 8

- 6:30 pm - House Committee Meeting

### February 15

- 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting

### February 16

- 7:30 pm 4th District Meeting  
Hosted by Police Post 415  
H. A. Todd Post - Cramer Hall

### February 21

- 6:00 - Smoker Committee Meeting
- 7:00 - Executive Board Meeting

### February 23

- 7:30 - County Council Meeting  
Greendale Post 415  
S.A.L. Presentation

### March 4 ANNUAL POST SMOKER

### March 6

- 2:00 pm - ANNUAL Initiation  
Membership Meeting - Cramer Hall

### April 5

- 7:30 pm - Membership Meeting  
POST ELECTIONS

### august 6

- POST PICNIC

## Harv's Quik Quiz Answers

1. a. Timber - Oregon's Forests cover more than 27 million acres of its land.
2. b. Korean War - 1950-1953
3. c. California - as President of the United Farm Workers, he took on the powerful grape industry.
4. c. The Preamble
5. a. Thomas Jefferson - Note - visit his home in Virginia to see some of his inventions, including the dumbwaiter.
6. a. 1919 - March 13 -15, 1919, in Paris.

## LAST MAN'S CLUB DANCE

March 12, 2011

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

\$8.00 per person

Mark your calendar for a fun evening and come out and join us for music with "Surfing to Mecca". This group plays 50's and 60's music and also accepts requests for your favorite songs. Admission includes refreshments and snacks.

The Last Man's Club is a support group in the H.A. Todd Jr Post 537. In 2010, the club purchased several new 8 foot white tables and several white card table for use in the Post Hall.

Please come join us and have an evening of fun. As we raise funds for the club, we will put those funds to good use in our Post Clubhouse.

**WAUKESHA COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

**ROBERT L. FYFE**  
Public Safety Systems Administrator

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Call Post member  
Robert Fyfe  
if you need help  
with you  
computer needs

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2006-2007 Past State Commander  
Charles Cooney

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Todd Post Website: [www.toddpost537.org](http://www.toddpost537.org)

**PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE  
(2nd Notice)  
ARTICLE IX  
QUORUM**

Section 1. At any regular or special meeting of this Post a quorum for the transaction of business shall exist when there are present not less than ten percent (10%) of the duly qualified members of the Post.

**Change to read:**

Section 1. At any regular or special meeting of this Post a quorum for the transaction of business shall exist when there are present not less than one (1) member more than the number of duly qualified members serving on the executive board.

PLEASE NOTE: This does not mean that this is the executive board plus one member. It means that if there are 18 elected members of the board, there must be 19 POST members available to vote on any business. So if there are 2 members of the Executive Board that are absent, there still must be 19 Post members present to conduct business. Should the number of elected positions increase or decrease, there must still be one (1) more than the elected amount of members needed to conduct business.



**SON'S OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
ANNUAL VALENTINE DAY DANCE  
February 12, 2011  
7:00 pm to Midnight**

Admission is \$10.00 which includes refreshments and snacks. There will be raffles with great prizes, SAL's shooters and Jello shots, and live music by The Avengers.



**TAPS**

May all those who have gone before us rest peacefully in the Arms of the Great Commander of us all.

