

September 2012 Member of WALPA & NALPA  
Volume 5, Issue 2

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

**DATES  
TO REMEMBER**

- September 3, 2012  
Labor Day
- ...
- September 4, 2012  
SAL Meeting  
6:30 pm - Wimmer Room
- ...
- September 4, 2012  
Membership Meeting  
7:30 pm - Post Hall
- ...
- September 17, 2012  
Fund Raising Mtg  
6:15 pm  
Executive Bd Meeting  
7:00 pm
- ...
- September 18, 2012  
Unit 537 Auxiliary Mtg  
7:00 pm - Post Hall
- ...
- September 23, 2012  
Champagne Brunch  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Reception  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- ...
- September 29, 2012  
Pig (and chicken) Roast  
Noon - 6:00 pm
- ...
- October 13, 2012  
SAL Spaghetti Dinner  
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- ...
- December 8, 2012  
Childrens Xmas Party  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Joint Post Xmas Dinner  
5:00 pm



**CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH**

**Sunday, September 23, 2012**

**10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**\$15.00 per person**

advance tickets are available

followed by

**RECEPTION FOR STATE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**

(from UNIT 537)

**Diana Sirovina**

**2:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

The 537 Legion Family Champagne Brunch will be held on Sunday, September 23rd. The SAL will be "manning the kitchen". We need members to come and help with preparations, serving, clean-up, and lots of people to come and eat the delicious food being planned. Brunch will be served 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We will have music, provided by "Surfin' to Mecca" and dancing in the afternoon. A cash raffle drawing will be held at 4:00 pm. Our new Detachment Commader Steve Meyer has also been invited to attend this event, as well as State Commander Wayne Jensen. See Commander Bob Sirovina for brunch tickets and raffle tickets or contact Commander Wally Pfeiffer for tickets. You can mail a check to the post for advance tickets for this event, and tickets will be sent to you. Please make checks payable to Post 537, and to the attention of Robert Sirovina, and your brunch ticket will be mailed to you. We hope to see many of our members attend.

**S.A.L. SPAGHETTI DINNER (and news)**

On Saturday, October 13th, from 3 to 7 pm the SAL will host our first spaghetti dinner. We need all of our members to be part of this event. Whether you can help for the whole event or just an hour, your presence will make a difference and will help make this a success. Remember that it is also important to invite your friends and family to buy tickets for the dinner! Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 6-12 at the door or \$9.00 in advance. Tickets and flyers will be available at our September meeting.

More activities and events are being planned throughout the year, many as a Legion Family. Come and be part of the success of each of our projects. Have ideas you would like to share? Come to our next meeting on Tuesday, September 4th at 6:30 pm. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Commander Bob at 414-321-1479 or email durango1@wi.rr.com.

## COMMANDERS CORNER

Wally Pfeiffer

Our summer is drawing to an end, and it is now the beginning of a new Legion Season. I hope to see many of you at the membership meeting on Tuesday September 4th, at 7:30 pm. If you have a relative or friend, who is eligible to join the Legion, please bring them along and ask them to join the Post 537 family.

We are hoping to see many of our members at our events during the upcoming "Legion Season". On the front page we have news on the Champagne Brunch being sponsored by the "Legion Family" with our famous cooks from the SAL, planning a delicious buffet. On September 29th is the Annual Post Pig Roast (details on the back of the Tattler) with pork and chicken meals. Then we have the SAL's 1st Spaghetti Dinner on the calendar. On Halloween evening, the Auxiliary is planning their famous "Fashion Show", with lots of surprises to be announced. On Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11th, we are planning a pancake and omelet breakfast, with proceeds to be donated to "The Fisher House Project". December 8th, will be the Childrens Christmas Party followed by the "Legion Family" Christmas Dinner. We hope to continue with "family friendly" events throughout the 2013 Legion year. Have an idea for an event? Please contact Gretchen Davies with ideas, or better yet, attend the Fund Raising Committee meeting on September 17th at 6:15 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting or submit ideas. Just remember, that we cannot be successful with our projects, unless our members attend our events.

As Commander, I want to thank everyone who have paid their dues for 2013. Again, our 1st Vice has the challenge of getting all of our members to pay their dues, please help her, and get her to stop bugging me.

I was asked what the Fisher House is all about. Briefly, it is similar to the Ronald McDonald House, only this will be on the Zablocki VA Grounds, and be available for the family members of Veterans who are receiving treatment at the VA Center.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Linda Pfeiffer

We have 175 paid memberships, and 19 Paid up for life (PUFLS) for a total of 194 paid memberships for 2013, as of this mailing. We need 293 to make 100%. So there are 99 members who have not yet paid their dues.

To our Active Duty members, please be sure to notify me of address changes. If you are still on Active Duty, I need to hear from you as quickly as possible. An American Flag is placed next to your name on the Post Bulletin Board, so our members know who is on Active Duty. If you are currently stationed overseas, please let us know, so that we can send you a "Care Package". Communication is an important part of our Legion Post. I hate being a pest. 100% by Veterans Day would be wonderful.

Please be sure to contact Service Officer Berg, the Commander or myself, if you need help with something. We, as a Legion, are here to serve our Veterans, which means each and every one of our members needs to know that we are here for each other. Do not hesitate to let us know if we can help you.

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.

## 2ND VICE COMMANDER REPORT

Brian Duerr

Thank you to all who came to the Post Picnic. Thank you to all the members of the Legion Family, who helped with getting everything to and from the Park, and helped with the set-up and cooking. It takes a team to accomplish a fun event. We hope that everyone enjoyed the good food and visiting.

Mother Nature decided that we needed rain, so we did end the picnic a little early, but we believe that everyone needed to be safe from the predicted storm. Again, thank you for attending and helping.

## ED'S HEAD BANGIN' QUIZ

1. What is the only city to have hosted the Olympics three times?
  - a. Paris
  - b. London
  - c. Berlin
2. In the Civil War, which President was wounded five times, and had four horses shot under him?
  - a. Ulysses S. Grant
  - b. James Garfield
  - c. Rutherford B. Hayes
3. What company operates in 206 countries? (More than the U.N.)
  - a. McDonalds
  - b. Coca-cola
  - c. Disney Corp
4. What President did not attend a single day of school, and taught himself to read?
  - a. Millard Fillmore
  - b. Andrew Johnson
  - c. Martin Van Buren
5. What did George C. Parker do six times?
  - a. Throw a no-hitter
  - b. Fly solo around the world
  - c. Sell the Brooklyn Bridge

## SUMMER PROJECT

If you are shopping at our local stores and notice a sale on school supplies, and you have a few dollars to share with our Adopted 4th grade class, please feel free to pick up supplies and bring them to any post function, or to the membership meeting in September. Items needed by the students: wide lined loose leaf paper; Crayola crayons, markers and colored pencils (they do not stain the desks); pocket folders for papers; pink erasers; #2 pencils; glue sticks and washable Elmers glue.

If we get more than enough school supplies, we can adopt another class, or help the children of deployed troops with items for filling "buddy backpacks".

## 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 page 6 of this Newsletter.

### Health Notice for Vets at Camp Lejeune 50s through the 80s

If you served on active duty at Camp Lejeune between 1957 and 1987, you may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water.

Under a new law (pdf) just signed by President Obama, you can receive VA medical care if you are suffering from any of the medical conditions described in the law: Subject to paragraph (2), a veteran who served on active duty in the Armed Forces at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for not fewer than 30 days during the period beginning on January 1, 1957, and ending on December 31, 1987, is eligible for hospital care and medical services under subsection (a)(2)(F) for any of the following illnesses or conditions, notwithstanding that there is insufficient medical evidence to conclude that such illnesses or conditions are attributable to such service:

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| (i) Esophageal cancer.            | (ii) Lung cancer.      |
| (iii) Breast cancer.              | (iv) Bladder cancer.   |
| (v) Kidney cancer.                | (vi) Leukemia.         |
| (vii) Multiple myeloma.           |                        |
| (viii) Myelodysplastic syndromes. |                        |
| (ix) Renal toxicity.              | (x) Hepatic steatosis. |
| (xi) Female infertility.          | (xii) Miscarriage.     |
| (xiii) Scleroderma.               |                        |
| (xiv) Neurobehavioral effects.    |                        |
| (xv) Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma       |                        |

and resided or served on active duty at Camp Lejeune for not fewer than 30 days between January 1, 1957 and December 31, 1987. VA will provide care immediately for those conditions while your eligibility under the new law is confirmed. VA's Public Health web site contains important information about the law along with links to other useful web sites. Or call 877-222-8387 for assistance.

Veterans already enrolled in VA health care, contact your local VA health care facility to receive care under the new law.

Those not already enrolled should call 877-222-8387 for assistance. Care for family members will be available after Congress appropriates funds and VA publishes regulations. The new law applies to health care, not disability compensation. You may also register to receive notifications from the Marine Corps regarding "Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water." The Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to providing the best quality care for eligible Veterans and their families who lived or worked at Camp Lejeune and were exposed to contaminated water. The law signed by President Obama on August 6, 2012, is titled Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012.

### CHAPLAIN NOTES

Doug Kueny

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TO SERVICE TO GOD AND COUNTRY

Our Heritage. "Service to God and Country" is basic Americanism. It is not a fostering of religious worship in order to appease any element of our citizenry or to draw attention from any less desirable social activities. Since it is essentially basic Americanism, it is strictly non-denominations, non-sectarian. It is not intended to act independently of religious groups but to cooperated with them to the end that the American people might never forget that God is the source of all their rights and privileges. Let us recall a scene from the Constitutional Convention that met in Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1787. Benjamin Franklin, the oldest member of the group, was making one of the greatest speeches of his lifetime. He was saying, "I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men... We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that 'except the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that built it'." "I firmly believe this," said Franklin, "and also I believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of

Babel."

It is this same observation that has caused the great American Legion to reemphasize the spiritual foundations upon which are Nation rests. For this is the day when Americans must be spiritually stong, if American is to live. It is the aim and objective of this American Legion program: Service to God and Country", to bring God to the foreground in American life, not merely the religious life, but the social, economical and political life as well. God is an essential part of Americanism. Without God, there is no Americanism.

Quote from US President George Washington: Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace an harmony with all. Religion and morality enjoin this conduct.

### ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Gretchen Davies

The average Legion member does so much for friends, family, fellow Veterans, the community and church that it is viewed as part of life, nothing special. But all that volunteer time IS special and when added together with all the other volunteer hours of all the Legionnaires worldwide it shouts to the government that the American Legion is a very important entity.

The Legion is paramount in helping sustain or supporting new legislation that focuses on Veteran's benefits. Please, take a few moments every month to document and total your personal volunteer time. There is a form on our Todd Post website, or if you prefer anonymity, there will be a tally sheet available at the general meetings. Look at the form, you will be surprised how many of your routine activities could count as good deeds!

**REMEMBER TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS AND GIVE ADJUTANT DAVIES A COPY FOR OUR REPORTS**

### Special Note

We extend our sympathy to Chuck Cooney and his family, on the loss of his wife Jean. Jean was also a member of the Post Unit 537.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Unit President Sue Middlestead  
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Robert Sirovia Jr.  
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## ED'S HEAD BANGIN QUIZ ANSWERS

1. b. London (1908, 1948, 2012)
2. c. Rutherford B. Hayes
3. b. Coca-Cola
4. b. Andrew Johnson
5. c. Sell the Brooklyn Bridge

## FUND RAISING

Chairperson Gretchen Davies

Our next meeting is Monday, September 17th at 6:15 pm. The Annual Post Smoker (Card Party) will be March 1, 2013, however it is not too early to start planning for the event. We are always looking for small and large raffle items for the smoker, so if you received a gift that needs re-gifting, or won an item in a raffle you do not want or need, remember to bring it to a membership meeting. If it is a large item, we need to know ahead of time, so we have a place to store it. Thank you.

## 4TH DISTRICT REPORT

Mark Sandow  
4th District 1st Vice Commander

4th District Commander John Edelblute has stepped down for personal reasons. Filling out the rest of his term as Commander is Claire Goodfellow. I have moved up to 1st Vice-Commander with a greater emphasis on membership. Ray "Godfather" Pasbrig is the District's new 2nd Vice-Commander, Dan Conatty (Sarge) is the new 3rd Vice-Commander and Tim Baranzky is the new 4th Vice-Commander. I have been renominated by Commander Jensen to be the Department Blood Donor Program Chairman for 2013 and will sit on the National and Homeland Security Troop and Family Support Committee.

We were able to help out Veterans who needed some sort of urgent monetary support up to the sum of \$1500.00 with the approval of

the Department Commander. However, because of dwindling funds, we decided at our last meeting that the maximum amount now available for urgent monetary requests is \$500.00.

The Blood Drive at Convention in July had 35 units donated.

The Mighty 4th District is 3rd in the State in membership standings. Lets keep it up! I encourage all of you to consider paying your dues before January 1st. That way you won't have to listen to Linda beg and plead and grovel for you to pay up. My job as membership chairperson for the District will be easier as I will have one less Post to remind to pay up and of course Commander Jensen will be happy. We all want Commander Jensen to be happy now, don't we?

I went on board the USS De Wert (FFG-45) while it was here for Navy Week. Shook hands with the Captain, the Chief of the Boat and spoke with a few sailors while on tour. They had just come back from a 7 month tour of Africa watching out for pirates. They were very glad to be back in the States.

The next meeting of the Mighty 4th District will be on Wednesday, September 19th at 7:30 pm at Post 27 in South Milwaukee. Members are encouraged to attend. See ya 'round the Post!

## 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. Please call if dropping items off at the post, so that they can be properly stored.

**FROM POST MANAGER JULIE  
Corn Roast**

AMAZING! Thank you one and all for your hard work and dedication at this years corn roast. An enormous thank you to Mr. Steve Johnson for the donation of the corn. Thank you to Mr. Tim Hansen for the donations for the kids prizes, and the Post for smaller prizes.

Thank you to our S.A.L for a monetary donation. I am truly thankful and blessed for all the volunteer help I received. Words can't express how truly grateful I am.

And I want to add A thank you to RED DEACON for the music. There was a great turnout.



**PIG ROAST  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29th 2012  
12:00 - 6:00 pm  
PIG AND CHICKEN DINNERS  
fresh off the spit.  
GREAT FOOD, BEER AND PRICES.  
RAFFLE TICKETS \$1.00 OR 6 FOR \$5.00  
\$250.00 1st prize.  
\$150.00 2nd prize  
\$100.00 3rd prize.**

Raffle tickets will be available at the bar.

**POST CLEANUP HELP NEEDED**

It is time to clean the tables at the Post, so we are looking for several people to help with scrubbing the tables. We will have a pressure washer available to clean the tables, but elbow grease is always necessary. A sign up sheet will be available at the Membership meeting. And of course we need nice weather.

Monday, September 17, 2012 at 8:00 am  
if raining on Monday

Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 8:00 am.

If we have enough people, we can clean the chairs as well.

**TAPS**



Rev. William Kohlmeier  
July 19, 2012  
Navy - Korea

George Ropiak  
Aug 11, 2012  
Navy - Korea



We extend our sympathy to their families.  
May they rest in peace in the arms of the  
Great Commander of us all.

THANK YOU to Post Member John Sellman and his wife for the donation of gently used clothing for Kenosha Outreach for needy Veterans. The Veterans were happy to receive this "gift" from the Legion.

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.

Kenosha outreach is near Lake Michigan. Fishing poles and gear would be nice items for the Veterans to use for recreation, and of course fish to eat.

