



The Todd Tattler



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Commander Brian Duerr 414-541-7703

Service Officer Nick Berg 414-698-3181

Todd Post Website: www.toddpost537.org



COMMANDERS CORNER

Where did the summer go? It seems the older you get, the faster the year flies by.

I hope everyone had a good summer. I can say that I have had a good summer so far, except for a brief period where I hurt my back and was off work for 6 days.

During the month of July, my wife and I spent 11 days in Alaska. We spent the first four days in Fairbanks, Denali National Park and Anchorage. We then took a 7 day cruise, visiting Ketchikan, Skagway, Juneau and Sitka. The glaciers were beautiful and we saw plenty of wild life, including Grizzly bears, Moose, Caribou, Eagles, Dahl Sheep, Lynx, Sea Otters, Whales and Seals. The weather ranged from the 90's to low 60's. It was very hard to sleep the first few days with there being over 20 hours of sun light.

When I returned home, I attended the American Legion State Convention in Milwaukee. I would like to congratulate Linda Pfeiffer for winning 1st Place for the Todd Tattler in the Publication Contest from the Wisconsin American Legion Press Association, Class III (which is for Posts with over 301 members). Linda does great work in publishing the Todd

Tattler. (Note from the Editor - it takes a team to do a good job. I thank the Executive Board and the Post members (and bar members) for submitting articles for publication. Without all of you this award could not have happened).

I hope those of you who attended the Legion picnic had a good time. I was surprised at the turn out, considering the rain we had in the morning. It made loading up at the Post and setting up at the park miserable. I would like to thank 2nd Vice Grant Nothnagel for running the picnic. I would like to thank Steve Johnson for donating the delicious corn. I would also like to thank Rico Sergio and Dave Wischer for cooking the food. I also want to thank Linda and Wally Pfeiffer, Chuck Cooney, Wanda Fremut, Gully Murphy, Jim Linneman for all there help setting up, running the raffles and cleaning up, and the Ladies Auxiliary for their donations and help. If I missed naming someone, it is that that we do not appreciate your help, I just forgot a name. Thanks to everyone for helping and attending and having a good time.

Our first Membership of the Fall will be held on Tuesday September 1, 2009, at 7:30 in Cramer Hall. I hope to see many of you at the meeting. Following the meeting, I would like to meet briefly with anyone interested in helping on the 150 anniversary committee. Also don't forget to support our Children, Youth and Veteran Benefit Fund. Tickets are \$25.00 each. The

drawing will be on Veterans Day.

If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding the Post, please feel free to contact me or any other Post Officer. Also if you know anyone who is eligible to join the American Legion, please talk with them about joining our Post.

See you at the next Membership Meeting.

Commander Brian Duerr
414-541-770 brianduerr@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As I write this article, I want to thank the 191 members who have paid their dues for 2010. This includes the 19 members who are PUFL members (paid up for life). This puts the Post at 59% of our membership paid to date. Thank you. Now I have to ask that the remainder of our members submit your dues as soon as you can please. REMEMBER that if you are retired and have 10 years in the Todd Post, your dues are \$28.00 for 2010. The dues notice from National does not state the reduced amount for retired persons, as this is at Post level only. It would be wonderful to have the Post at 100% by Veterans Day. But - that means that I need to have your dues by October 20th, in order to have the dues to State and National on time.

Your voice by paying your dues is being heard in Washington and Madison. The American Legion is always on top of any proposal which may adversely affect Veterans and the rights of Veterans and their families. This is especially important during this time, with the economy so slow. For Veterans who have lost their jobs or been forced to retire early without medical insurance, please note that the Veterans Administration has increased the income levels for being able to use the VA Medical Center. If you think you may be eligible to receive medical care at the VA, please call the main number

414-384-2000 and ask for help in who to see, and where to apply for help. This is a right that every Veteran is entitled to receive, but you have to apply for those rights. If you have questions, you may also contact Service Officer Nick Berg, or myself for help.

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

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Only 4 months until Christmas! Get your shopping done before it's too late. The snow should be flying soon! I can't wait. 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 is any other questions please let me know. My contact information is at the end of the article. Thank You!

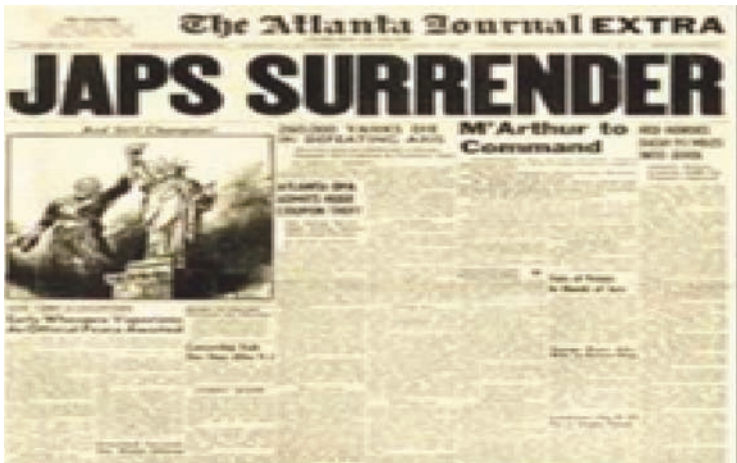
THE JAPS SURRENDER. This article was passed along to me by one of our veterans, Bob Manske. I told him that I would add it to my article in the newsletter the first chance I got because I thought it was an important message to pass along. As a veteran and a member of the American Legion we say an oath that states we will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States. I am not an expert, but somewhere in there, I know it talks about freedom of speech. And I don't think it states anywhere in the Constitution that if it offends someone then you are not allowed that freedom of speech. The Japanese were our sworn enemies during the period of time that this article was written. It is a part of our history. Ask the family members of the people that died at Pearl Harbor if they find this term or article offensive.

America isn't easy. America is advanced citizenship. You've got to want it bad, because it's going to put up a fight. It's going to say, you want

REQUESTS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL DEPLOYED OVERSEAS

free speech. Let's see you acknowledge a man whose words make your blood boil who is standing center stage and advocating at the top of his lungs that which you would spend a lifetime opposing at the top of yours. (1) Political Correctness should never hinder our freedom of speech. The following is the actual article that was passed to me. I will let you decide. Thanks, Bob for the info.

This framed front page of the Atlanta Journal had been hanging at the Roudebush Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Indiana for more than 60 years. Director Tom Mattice said he decided to take it down after a new employee complained about the display of an ethnic slur from World War II. What a bunch of garbage! After the sacrifice of thousands of military in the Pacific conflict; one malcontent can erase all of that rich heritage by being offended!!! PARR feels that Tom Mattice should be replaced by a person partial to veterans and their accomplishments. Not addicted to political correctness.



Footnote:

(1) The quote on Americanism was taken from the movie The American President. I did not want to be accused of plagiarism.

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

As Chaplain I know I should be writing profound and enlightening articles about the world today, but I am not much of an author. I can tell you it is uplifting to be surrounded by so many non-Legion affiliates who have donated to the care packages for our deployed Post members. In addition to my friends & co-workers who have donated books, magazines and dvd movies; a generous bar patron donated \$100 which went a long way at Sam's club to buy batteries, snacks & coffee for the most recent batch of boxes. I hope that this report will instill each of you to visit " www.toddpost537.org" to review what kind of items are needed by our active duty personnel. Currently boxes are sent quarterly, it would be nice to send them more often!

Please remember, if you have a relative on active duty please provide their special anniversary & birthdates so appropriate cards can be sent to honor them!

I will conclude in a Chaplain-ish manner: May all of you have a safe and peaceful month, with special thoughts & prayers for the members who are ill, injured and deployed.

We ask that all our Active Duty Members keep us up to date on your current address, especially if you are deployed, so that we can send a "care package" to you. When you are deployed please provide Linda Pfeiffer (our editor) with a stateside address, so that she can mail your copy of the Tattler to your family. If you are able to receive a PDF file, you may email Linda and she can send you a copy of the Tattler via the internet. Linda's email address is: waltnindapfeiffer@sbcglobal.net.

Chaplain Gretchen Davies
414-227-4301

HARV'S QUIK QUIZ

1. Which President spoke French, German, Spanish and Greek?

- a. Woodrow Wilson
- b. Thomas Jefferson
- c. John Quincy Adams

2. What President could simultaneously write in Latin in one hand and Greek with the other?

- a. Thomas Jefferson
- b. William McKinley
- c. James Garfield

3. F.D.R. was a "triskaidekaphobic", which is what?

- a. Fear and dislike of the number 13
- b. Fear of insects
- c. Fear of flying.

4. Whose wife was the only cross-eyed 1st Lady?

- a. Franklin Pierce
- b. Milliard Fillmore
- c. Ulysses S. Grant

5. What President scored a hole in one while golfing in Palm Springs?

- a. Dwight D. Eisenhower
- b. Gerald Ford
- c. Lyndon Johnson

POST BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING Power Program

Our Legion Post's involvement in the POWER program continues! 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, Gretchen and I are required to give a short presentation at every Legion Meeting - each on a variety of topics.

Considering that we will not have our next Post meeting until September 1st, we will have to present 2 topics in order to remain current with the POWER Program. The topics that will be presented at the next meeting will be "Calories and Food Labels" & "Preparing for Doctor Visits". Here's a brief explanation of the topics to be presented:

CALORIES AND FOOD LABELS

Lots of studies show that the people who are able to count calories are the most successful at losing weight, and avoiding gaining it back. To help us count our calories, Gretchen and I are going to teach you how to read a food label. You will learn about the calories in a serving size ... and the calories you actually eat! We will have handouts to share with your family when you get home after the meeting.

PREPARING FOR DOCTOR VISITS

Gretchen and I learned some tips on making sure you get the most out of visits with your doctor. We will go over these tips and will provide copies of a booklet with lots of advice, and a handy summary. This is an area where all of us know a fair amount already about what works and doesn't work, so come prepared to share your thoughts.

The doctors that work in the POWER Program all agree that the people who get the most out of their visits are the ones that come prepared. You only get 15 or 20 minutes at most visits, so be sure your doctor knows what you want to talk about. It turns out that no matter how smart they are, most doctors can't read minds! You can help by bringing your questions on a piece of paper so you don't forget them. And remember your blood pressure card!

You have probably noticed that even though the POWER Program is focused on high blood pressure, most of the things we talk about are useful for people with many chronic conditions, or for people who are fine now and want to stay that way. So come prepared to learn, even if you don't have high blood pressure!

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Enjoy the Summer break!

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

CHILDREN - YOUTH - VETERANS FUND RAISER

Well here we go again. I know everyone was thinking that during the summer the sun would fry my brain and you wouldn't have to hear about fund raising any more. Well, that wouldn't be any fun. But seriously folks if we want to have a successful Legion Post with great programs for Veterans and Children we need money to do so. This is just a friendly reminder that our Benefit Raffle is the only source of income for these programs. If you need a ticket for this Raffle please read the information below. Tickets are \$25.00 each with \$2500.00 as the top prize. There are 50 prizes.

The fund raising committee has worked hard and long to make this a success again. The other alternatives to having money for the above mentioned programs are: cutting back lunches after meetings, reducing or eliminating the Post picnic, and / or everyones favorite, a DUES INCREASE. I don't want to scare anyone but share with us your alternatives to the fund raiser. I hope my phone rings off the hook with requests for tickets. I will hand deliver to anyone in the area.

Again thank you for supporting Your fund raiser.

The committee is looking at applications for donations for Childrens and Veteran's programs. There is a set of guidelines that will be used to help determine where money will be sent to assist programs. As stated earlier this is a limited amount of money so don't expect a large amount this year, but with the help of ALL members we can sell all 537 tickets for the next raffle that will be drawn on Veteran's Day, November 11th. Tickets are now available at the Post bar, or call any member of the committee, and we will insure that we will have tickets dropped off at your home.

Chairperson Dave Wischer	414-429-2429
Chuck Cooney	414-852-5782
Linda Pfeiffer	262-784-2807
Mark Sandow	414-545-0409
Nick Berg: Cell:	414-698-3181

AUXILIARY NEWS

I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing summer. Fall is near and the Auxiliary is gearing up for another year filled with exciting happenings. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 PM at the Post. We have a project which needs some help from everyone. We have approximately 40 backpacks to be filled with school supplies, stationery, small personal articles, etc. These are going to be filled and handed out to children of active duty military. We would like to fill these backpacks as soon as possible. The grades of the children to be supplied are from 4th to 12th. Articles should be appropriate for these ages. Please bring any donations to the Post and there will be a collection bin for them. Thank you in advance for your help in this endeavor. If you have any questions on this or any other matter please contact myself or any Auxiliary officer.

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee hopes everyone enjoyed their summer or whatever the last three months were called. It was relaxing for us to not have a project going on, as we all needed a break. But with that being said, we are accepting bids for the Cramer Memorial Hall remodeling. If anyone would like a copy of what we have in mind please speak to a committee member. Remodeling will take place in 2010, between June 14th and August 14th.

The committee along with our employee's and the bar patrons and Manager Bill Marten, wish to thank everyone that attended the annual Corn Roast. A great time was had by all. We hope to see everyone at the September Membership meeting as it is now time to get back to work. Speaking of work we need volunteers for the OctoberFest Celebration being held on Saturday September 26th. We hope to see all of you there.

Committee Chairman Dave Wischer

CONVENTION REPORT

The 91st American Legion State Convention is now history and I believe it was a great convention. There are not many people in the upper part of the State that want to come to Milwaukee, but we did put on a great Convention. The 4th District sponsored the Convention. It was well attended, well organized and was held at the Wyndham Hotels (airport). Thanks to Wayne Jensen, our 4th District chairman, Diana Sirovina and Sue Hembrook, from our Auxiliary, all of the volunteers, and our Department Headquarters Staff for all of their hard work.

The Todd Post was well represented by members volunteering and attending the convention activities. Our Todd Post is always very active in the District and at the State level.

This past year we signed up some new members, but also lost many members who transferred to "Post Everlasting". We cherish the time that these members gave to the Todd Post.

We need all of our members to remain active in some way. Attending Post meetings is a great way to be active, as well as attending Post activities. Just stop in at the Post Bar and enjoy a relaxing drink and visit with members and patrons. Take a look at the refinished parking lot, remodeled bathrooms, new flooring in the bar and the refinished floor in Cramer Hall.

This is "your" Post, and we need each and every one of you to be active. Bring in a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative, and show him or her around, and if they are eligible to join the American Legion, invite them to do so. If you have not already paid your dues for 2010, please renew your dues today. Help the Todd Post remain one of the top Posts in Wisconsin. Help support our men and women in uniform today, our children and youth programs, our Veterans programs and our community. Without the support of Legion members, many of the great Programs of the Legion will fall by the wayside, and that is not a good option.

May god bless each and everyone of you. We all hope you will stop at the Post and say hello and visit with all of us.

Chuck Cooney
Past Department Commander

HARV'S QUIK QUIZ ANSWERS

1. b - Thomas Jefferson
2. c - James Garfield
3. a - Fear & dislike of the number 13
4. c - Ulysses S. Grant: Note, Julia was hit in the head at a young age with an oar.
5. a - Dwight D Eisenhower

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 VA Blood Pressure Screen - 6:30 pm SAL Mtg - 6:30 pm Membership Meeting 7:30 pm	2 VJ DAY	3	4	5
6	LABOR DAY	7 House Committee Mtg 6:30 pm	8	9 US Naval Sea Cadet Core Inc 1962	10 Patriot Day	11 Wis Dept Golf Tournament
13 Grandparent Day	14 Star Spangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key 1814	15 Auxiliary Mtg 7:00 pm Ex Bd Mtg 7:00 pm	16 4th District Meeting Greendale Post 416 7:00 pm	17 Citizenship Day US Constitution approved 1787	18 POLYNIA Recognition Day US Air Force Estb 1947 Womens' Veterans Conference	19 Rosh Hashanah Womens' Veterans Conference
20 End of Ramadan Women Veterans Conference	21	22 1st Day of Autumn	23	24	25	26 Octoberfest at Post
27 Gold Star Mothers Day	28 Yom Kippur	29 VFW DAY Estb 1899 VFW Meeting	30			

September 2

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

September 8

House Committee Meeting - 6:30 pm

September 15

Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 pm - Cramer Hall
Post Ex Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
Wimmer Room

September 16

4th District Meeting - 7:00 pm
Greendale Post 416

September 23

Milwaukee County Council Mtg - TBA

September 26

Octoberfest Celebration - Cramer Hall

REQUESTS FOR FUNDS FROM THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND VETERANS FUND

There have been several questions regarding the funds from the Children, Youth and Veterans Fund, and why a request cannot be made from the floor at a membership meeting. When the Committee met to set up the Benefit Fund, many ideas were brought up for discussion, including how the funds would be dispensed. We set up strict guidelines, as a committee of 12, not a person of one, so that the funds could be used to benefit as many Children, Youth and Veterans programs, as possible. The idea is that the funds would not all go to one (1) person each year, or spent for something other than Local Children, Youth and Veterans. When motions are made on the membership floor, it is often done without complete information and on the spur of the moment. We need to know where the funding is coming from: Membership account, Benefit Fund, Poppy Fund, etc. The Post, like everyone else, needs to follow a budget and account for where funds are spent. The guidelines for the Benefit Fund are there so that we can serve our local community. Please submit requests for funds in writing. The Committee will review the request, make recommendations to the Executive Board and then bring the requests for expenditure to the Membership Meeting for approval.

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Charles Cooney

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PUFL APPLICATIONS (Paid up for life)

It is sad, but like everything else the PUFL application dues will rise substantially October 1, 2009. If you are interested in becoming a PUFL member, which means that your dues are paid forever and no pesky dues notices, or 1st Vice Commanders bugging you, please contact the 1st Vice Commander quickly. In order for you to receive the current PUFL rate, all applications must be submitted to Wisconsin State Headquarters no later than the 25th of September. This means you must have them to the 1st Vice Commander no later than September 15th, so that we can be sure to have them to Portage on time. If you need an application, you can obtain one online from the Todd Post Website, the State or National Websites, or at the September Membership meeting. Please call Linda at 262-784-2807 if you want one mailed to you. If you live near the Post, applications are available in the brochure display in the Hallway.

UPCOMING EVENTS.

Octoberfest Celebration.
Saturday September 26th,
11:00 am to 5:00 pm - Cramer Hall

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The September membership meeting of the S.A.L. will be held in the Wimmer Room at 6:30 pm on September 1, 2009.

S.A.L. Commander Danny Key
414-51-8386

TAPS

Sam R. Beaumont
July 9, 2009
Navy - WWII

Ralph G Stromski
July 11, 2009
Army - Korea



We offer our deepest
sympathies to their families.

May their souls rest in Peace.