

Post Notes

August, 2011



Commander.....	Mike Larson	Historian.....	Rob Blanchar
First Vice.....	John Guler	Service Officer.....	Russ Jenkins
Second Vice.....	Kathy Durant	Sgt. at Arms.....	Ray Van Kylen, Denny Haugen, Darrell Krenz
Adjutant	Bob Hargraves	Chaplain.....	Mike Valdovinos
Finance.....	Jodie Armstrong	Post Phone Number.....	(608) 838-3249
Web Site.....	www.alp534.org		

Commander's Corner



Hi to everyone from your new commander (again). Thanks to all for the congrats you have accorded me.

On Saturday, June 25, the day after installation, I had the privilege to present a United States flag and a certificate from our

legion to Jimmie Starke in honor of him reaching the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 53. I also presented a certificate to Jimmie's parents, Jeff and Lisa Starke, for their guidance and support in order for him to reach this goal. Thanks to Bob Hargraves and Mike V. for accompanying me. (By the way, I was a scout in Troop 53 in 1954 and 1955.)

On June 30, we hosted the Dane County Meeting. It was my first County Meeting in many years and it was quite interesting.

The flags went up on July 4th at 6:00 AM and came down at 5:00 PM. Thanks to all for the help.

On July 15, Denny Haugen and I went to the American Legion State Convention in Appleton where we met Greg Simonis. During the presentations, our post received four awards, Americanism, Children and Youth, Honor Guard and the most important, Greg received the

Chaplain of the Year Award. Thanks to Greg for his work on these projects so we could get these awards.

Lastly, don't forget about the building raffle on August 13. We need everyone to step up and buy and/or sell tickets. \$3000 – first prize, \$1800 – additional cash prizes, drinks and dinner. This is our one main fundraiser.

Thanks, again, for allowing me to serve as your Commander this upcoming year.
Mike

Father Mike Here



Yes, I am your New Chaplain (Mike Valdovinos) and proud to be a new member of this post. I joined in January of this year. To introduce myself to those who haven't met me, I served in the Marine Corps in the 1st Air Wing '69-'73 and in Vietnam '70 to '72. Just

this month I got my bartender's license and volunteer some weekends and when needed. I retired from state service as an Architectural Engineering Consultant for 28 years on June 29th. Some of you have met the Love of my life, Marsha from Wausau. We plan on traveling this great

country of ours. Also have 3 married children and 3 beautiful grandchildren. Being new to my office, I'd enjoy getting to know all of you. Come to the meeting on the 1st Friday of the month @ 7:00 pm so we can meet.

Hope this finds everyone healthy, happy and safe. As Red Skeleton used to say in closing: "Good Night and May God Bless".

Sick Call - Prayer List

Jan Bliese passed away in June and David Natvig passed away in July. We will miss them and keep them in our prayers.

PLEASE LET MIKE VALDOVINOS (438-5538) OR SUE HARGRAVES (838-8807) KNOW OF ANY OTHER AUXILLARY, LEGION OR S.A.L. MEMBERS NEEDING CARDS.

From the Ladies Auxiliary

I would like to introduce our new Auxiliary

officers:

President	Polly Stout
Vice President/Membership	Ann Kleist
Secretary	Jessica Schwedrsky
Treasurer	Kay Klema
Chaplain	Sue Hargraves
Sergeant of Arms	Sandy Haugen and Sandy Larson

The ladies of the Auxiliary and I would like to thank Carol Welch and Joann Gerl for their hard work and dedication to the Ladies Auxiliary for the many years of President and Vice-President/ Membership. Although JoAnn is going to still take care of Bingo which occurs every 3rd Sunday of the months of October through March. However, we rely on all members being Legion, S.A.L. or Auxiliary to volunteer to help with this community function. The people really enjoy this. They say the food is wonderful, the price for playing bingo is within their budget and the payoff is good if you win. Where else can you go spend \$5.00 for 21 games of bingo and a good lunch which is donations only. So, if you are available the 3rd

Sunday of these months, come and join us for some good home made food and fun.

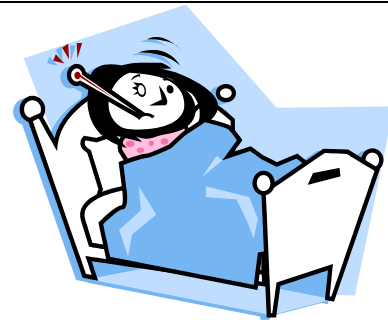
Reminder, membership dues are due for 2012. Please send them in so we can achieve 100% on time. Try to recruit any new members that you think would like to join a fine organization.

Please help support our Legion by purchasing a ticket for the Benefit Building Raffle, which goes to help maintain our Legion, so we can keep it looking nice. We get many compliments on how clean and nice our Legion looks. I know this first hand as a bartender for the rentals. We are constantly getting compliments on how nice it is kept up both inside and out.

Put on your calendars that the Auxiliary breakfast is coming up on September 18th.

Take care and God Bless

Polly Stout – Auxiliary President



Sick Call – Prayer List

Dale Everett, Gary Salverson, Bobbi Zbiegien, Ken Dunbrook, Howie Davis, Steve Killerlain, Dave Natvig, Bert Pullar, Margarete Johnson, Fred and Cheryl Doyle, Jerome Erickson, Sharon Scallon, Mark Egner, Wayne Halverson, Tilden Kaup, Ione Schwedrsky and Riley Becker (Sue Hargraves' grandson).

PLEASE LET MIKE VALDOVINOS (438-5538), MYSELF (838-9420) OR SUE HARGRAVES (838-8807) KNOW OF ANY OTHER AUXILIARY, LEGION OR S.A.L. MEMBERS NEEDING CARDS.

A smile is like one open blossom facing another.

Editor's Note: Please have your September Newsletter articles to me by Wednesday, August 24. The folding and sealing will then be the following Monday, August 29. You may leave the articles for me behind the bar or email them to me at: gs2scal@sbcglobal.net.
Thanks, Sharon

S.A.L. Corner



I'd like to start by thanking Sonny Stout for his 8 years of service as Commander of the S.A.L. Great job, Sonny, Thank you!

This is my second term as S.A.L. Commander. I'd like to ask our S.A.L. members to think

seriously about why we are really here. Please remember that our parents and grandparents gave us the right to belong to a great organization – the American Legion Post 534. So let's not forget what we stand for when we volunteer for the events we schedule. We need more members to attend meetings and volunteer for dinners. Let's step up and be proud to be a member of this Post. In the past, we've had to ask the Boy Scouts to help serve at the last minute (a big Thank You to them), but I'd rather see our own members helping.

Our next dinner is in October. Save the date! Plan ahead and take care of dues.

"Dog" is the only Legion member catching fish (so I hear) but there are no pictures!

Thank you,
Don Egner a.k.a. Hook
S.A.L. Commander

P.S. Don't be afraid to stick your neck out!

Membership Dues News



Fellow Legionnaires and Post 534 members: Thank You!!! The response to the 2012 membership dues has been great. Please submit your Post dues as quickly as possible. Any Post member who knows of anyone (qualified

military) that is not a member, let's get them activated to our Post.

Virgil Houff is a new Post 534 member having transferred from Post 2930. Welcome, Virgil, to 534.

Come on "Early Birds", get your dues in!!!
Thanks, John Guler, 1st Vice Commander

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

I want to say "Thank you" and give a Post 534 appreciation to the McFarland Kwik Trip.

The management and employees of this location have given support and donations to Post 534. I want to specifically thank:

Sheila Mickelson, Manager
Juan Alfonso Primo, Ass't Manager
Melissa Clark, Employee
for their time and donations to Post 534 on Memorial Day.

Thank you, John Guler
1st Vice Commander

DANE COUNTY STAND DOWN

Dane County has been honored to be invited to participate in the first Stand Down in the Madison area since the War on Terror has begun. Dane County has been asked to participate by: 1) providing volunteers (manpower) at the event. There will be all kinds of jobs that need to be done.

2) providing 100 survival bags (ditty bags)
 The survival bags have been started, but here is what is still needed:
 90 towels
 100 stadium sized blankets
 50 reusable shopping bags (this is what the items will go in)
 100 each of tooth paste, tooth brushes, combs, hair brushes, liquid soap, shampoo, etc...
 100 stocking hats, gloves

Keep in mind that they are going into the Wisconsin winter season. Items that are light weight but warming are needed. If you could advertise our needs in your newsletters, put out donation boxes, hold fundraisers it would be appreciated. Please keep me informed as to what you are doing and what you are/have collected so we don't duplicate our efforts.

As for volunteering, you will notice that this is the same day as the 3rd District Fall Conference. If you are not attending the conference, this is a great alternative. If you wish to volunteer or want more information, you can contact Jim Blankenheim(member of the Vietnam Era Stand Down) and ME (Mary Lloyd at lloyd2364@sbcglobal.net)please, so I can be kept in the loop. Also, I will need someone who can be the Dane County representative as I will not be able to attend since I will be taking minutes at the district meeting.

I hope we can help with this great event. I see many of these homeless veterans every day as I work downtown in Madison. They really need any help we can give them and this certainly fits in with what our Legion family missions are.

Thank you.

Mary Lloyd, Dane County Commander

WAYNE D. HORNER MEMORIAL STAND DOWN



P.O. Box 14496

Madison, WI 53714

Stand Down for Homeless Veterans
Saturday, October 8th, 2011 0700-1500
Madison National Guard Armory
1420 Wright Street, Madison, WI 53562

Stand Down is a military term for soldiers returning from battle, where they can rest and rehabilitate in a safe environment. A Stand Down for homeless veterans revolves around the same principal. Our goal is to provide a wide array of services for those homeless veterans who are living out on the streets. Services may include: referrals for emergency housing, medical services, employment and training, alcohol and drug treatment, clothing, toiletries, barbering, federal, state, and county community based veteran specific services. We will also be providing a hot breakfast and lunch for the homeless veterans.

If you are a homeless veteran and interested in attending the Stand Down, please register with your local VSO for additional information and to arrange for transportation. All registered veterans will be offered round trip transportation from their local armories or other designated location.

For safety reasons, we are asking that no weapons or drugs are brought on to the premises.

Proof of veteran's status will be required. If you do not have your DD-214, you can obtain a copy through your local VSO.

August, 2011

Blood Donor Program

Currently there exists a need for blood donations. If you are healthy and able, please consider giving. At the 89th National Convention earlier this summer, The American Legion adopted Resolution 33, calling for our organization to assist in Homeland Security preparedness - the blood supply is a matter of Homeland Security. To read the resolution, [click here](#). To read a letter from the Red Cross concerning preparedness for an influenza pandemic, [click here](#).

The American Legion is the largest collective blood-donor to the Red Cross. The most important part about donating blood is to remember that it saves lives. Waiting for an emergency to donate will not get the blood to the receiver in time.



There are several ways we can help. You can be a donor, recruit donors and/or offer to sponsor a blood drive at your post. Don't assume you're not eligible because of your age or medications. There is no age maximum for donating and in most cases, as long as you feel healthy, you can donate.

For more information about blood donations, blood drives in your area, to ask medical questions, general questions about blood services, or other local activities of the Blood Services, call:

1-800-GIVE-LIFE

The following sites are also available for reference:

Badger Chapter, Madison - <http://www.arcbadger.org>

East Central WI Chapter, WI - [http://www.ecw-](http://www.ecw-redcross.org)

[redcross.org](http://www.ecw-redcross.org)

Lakeland County Chapter - <http://www.arclakeland.org>

South Central WI Chapter - <http://www.scwiredcross.org>



American Red Cross

ANNUAL BUILDING FUND RAFFLE

Saturday, August 13, 2011

\$50.00 per ticket

Drinks and hor d'oeuvres at

5:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

(Your choice – chicken or steak)

Raffle at 7:00 p.m.

**Call Mike Larson at 576-4536
or the Post at 838-3249 for tickets**

