

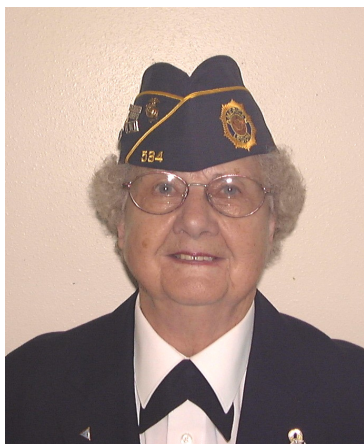
Post Notes

March, 2010



Commander.....	Marge Marshman	Historian.....	Rob Blanchar
First Vice.....	John Guler	Service Officer.....	Russ Jenkins
Second Vice.....	Kathy Durant	Sgt. at Arms.....	Tom Welch
Adjutant.....	Ron Hillson		Darrell Krenz
Financial.....	Chuck Mulcahy	Chaplain.....	Greg Simonis
		Post Phone Number.....	(608) 838-3249

Commander's Corner



THINK
SPRING!!!!

"As the soil makes the sprout come up – a garden causes seeds to grow."

All the football games are over and now we can turn our thoughts to spring. We had a great Packer party on February 13.

Polly Stout certainly went above and beyond to make this happen. Some lucky folks won prizes - - - and then there were those of us who just watched.

We are working our way towards the top as our membership is 90.5%. I'm sure our Membership Chairman will give us a full account in his column. For those of you that have not sent your dues, would you please take care of it now. John would like nothing better than to announce we have reached 100%. He is very willing and will be very happy to send your 2010 card as soon as he receives your dues. We thank you for taking care of this and then you will not have to read our pleas from month to month.

Chaplain Greg and I attended the Midwinter Conference held in Wisconsin Dells. Saturday, January 30 was surely a day of learning.

Thursday, March 11th is Dane County Youth Government Day. If you have never attended one, I

would suggest you make this one and see our youth in action. It will be held at the Dane County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m.

We are having our American Legion Birthday Dinner on Saturday, March 13th. More information may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The first Auxiliary breakfast for this year will be Sunday, March 7th, from 8:00 a.m. until Noon. Do come and enjoy a great meal and fellowship. Other breakfasts will be April 25, June 27 and November 7. Also, we will have Bingo on Sunday, March 21 – Lunch at Noon and Bingo at 1:00 p.m.

Don't forget the Dane County Council meeting at Post 59 in Stoughton on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m.

The Third District Spring Conference will be held in Fennimore on Saturday, April 24. I encourage you to attend if at all possible. Lots to be learned and more importantly, there will be elections. Do give this serious thought and let's have a good representation from Post 534.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be in the season of Lent. May we close the door of hate and open the door of love. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

And now - - - Peace! May the Lord hold our troops in his loving hands.

SEMPER FI
Marjorie Marshman
Commander

Greg's Grousings

February has just blown by and we are looking at March, 2010.



The State Oratorical Contest will be held At Ripon College on February 20th. The Boy Scout Eagle Scout Program will be held on March 20th, at 2:00 P.M., at the McFarland Lutheran Church. Commander Marge will be on hand to

deliver two Flags. The recipients will be Austin Brandt and Antonio Dominic Lugo-Caruso. County Government Day will be held on Thursday, March 11th. Anyone interested should talk to Commander Marge.

WOW!!! What an AWESOME PACKER POOL PARTY. Hats off to Polly Stout for one super party. It was really a lot of work on her part but a great fun time for us.

Please keep me informed on our members who are ill or in need of the Chaplain. We just had another member pass on to Post Everlasting. His name was Jim Butler. Another donation to Camp American Legion has been made.

Please do not forget Saturday, April 24th. This is The 3rd District Spring Conference. It will be held in Fennimore, Wisconsin. I will have room for two more riders. A bulletin with the information is included in this newsletter.

My next newsletter will be sent from the Grand Canyon State. It is time for me to get serious about spring training. When I return from the warm climate, I will be a much lighter person. Please help me reach my goals of weight loss. This will be healthier for me and make me a better sports official. My goal is to weigh 200 lbs by the end of August. Have a great rest of this month and remember that "MARCH MADNESS" is rapidly approaching. I'll be checking back in this state the end of March.

God Bless each and every one of you.

Greg.

March, 2010

The Chaplain's Corner

Wednesday, February 16th starts our Holy Lenten Season. Please participate within the framework of your Faith. Nancy, Doodles and I will get our ashes, vote and then leave for Omaha Nebraska to see our Grandson. It will be the first stop on our way to Sun City. We attend services at a small Catholic Church we discovered last year. This is really such a great time for our family and lets us unwind, contemplate and hopefully make me a much better person, Chaplain and Legionnaire. One of Nancy's best friends is waiting for us. Doodles will join his best buddy and make some more new friends. I really enjoy picking fresh Grapefruit whenever we want. The American Legion Family Members in Sun City are really gracious and fun to be with. They have a ton of social events on a weekly basis. I will be getting some new license plates from other Posts. May you help pray for us on our journey. We will really miss each and everyone of you while we are gone. May Jesus Christ hold and bless you all during our journey until our return. I once heard a person praying, "Lord how can I make a difference in this vast world. It is such a huge Place and there is only one of me." Jesus replied, "My son, I know what you say is true, but the answer to your prayer is simply, to be a better you". Let's work on this during this Lenten Season. Yours in thought and prayer. Chaplain Greg.

S.A.L. Corner



Dates to remember:

3/7/10 Auxiliary Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

\$6.00 Adults;

\$3.00 8 and under

Treat your friends and family.

4/11/10 Home Talent Baseball Fundraiser

Breakfast Hope to see you there.

4/17/10 S.A.L. Spaghetti Dinner

4 – 7 p.m. - \$6.00 per person

Please sign up for set up, serving and cleanup.

March, 2010

S.A.L. members can expect to receive a member survey in the mail. Your participation is expected and important. Please respond!!

What's new on the S.A.L. Board?

- Ribbon 100% Squadron 2009
- Four new Certificates of Award

Congratulations Post 534 S.A.L.!!

I want to thank all of you who participated in last month's meeting. I hope to see all of you (and a few more), again, on the 1st Wednesday of March at 6:30 p.m. Our strength is in our numbers!

I feel we had a great turnout at the Packer Party. A great big "Thank You" goes out to all who made this such a success. It was great to see all of you!!

Sincerely, Sonny

From the Ladies Auxiliary

Been fortunate not to have too much snow so

far this winter. Jimmy the Groundhog didn't see his shadow on February 2, so spring is supposed to be here within 6 weeks of that date. His accuracy rate is pretty good, we'll have to wait and see how things go.



Sick Call –

Prayer List: Larry Day, Dale Everett, June Kern, Peter Pierce, Gary Salverson, Bev Dexter's son-Robert Dillman, Alan Ahrensmeyer, Jim Butler, Fred Doyle (Cheryl is also recovering from surgery), Donna Thompson Ray Van Kylen, Lone Schwedsky, Trudy & Eric Garland, Steve Killerlain and Chris Meier, who was injured in Afghanistan. These are the only ones I am aware of at this time. **PLEASE LET SUE HARGRAVES KNOW OF ANY OTHER AUXILIARY, LEGION OR S.A.L. MEMBERS NEEDING CARDS – 838-8807.**

If you haven't paid your 2010 dues yet, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to all who have already paid. If you know of someone who might be interested in joining,

bring them to one of the meetings.

The next Auxiliary meeting will be March 2, please plan on attending. Since the Hunter's Safety Course is being held in the hall, our meeting will be in the bar area and the bar will be closed during our meeting - sorry. Help us plan for our projects for the upcoming year.

FUTURE AUXILIARY BREAKFAST DATES ARE: MARCH 7, APRIL 25, JUNE 27 AND NOVEMBER 7. PLEASE MARK YOU CALENDARS TO ATTEND AND TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO HELP THE VETERANS AND COMMUNITY.

I am going to ask everyone who knows of service persons – men and women – to please give me their addresses. We are going to start listing them on the bulletin board at the Legion Hall, on our website, and in the newsletter. Please send cards to them and let them know they haven't been forgotten.

Late last year we started selling tickets for chances to win a patriotic blanket and afghan. If anyone is interested in a chance to win one of them, please let me know. We will be selling tickets at our March 7 Breakfast and we will draw for the winners that day. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

In addition to the blanket and afghan, Laura and Bill Larson have donated a quilt (below) that will be raffled off with the drawing at the April 25 breakfast. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will go to needy widows and orphans of veterans. Please let me know if you have thoughts for any projects to benefit veterans and their families and our community.

Carol Welch
608-838-3733

ctwelch1@verizon.net



Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast

McFarland American Legion

4911 Burma Road



Scrambled Eggs <> French Toast <> Sausage <> Bacon
Sausage Gravy / Biscuits <> Milk / Juice / Coffee

Sunday - March 7, 2010

8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Adults \$6.00 - Children 8 & Under \$3.00

Future Breakfasts: April 25, June 27, Nov. 7, 2010

Treat Your Family & Friends

ANNUAL AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY DINNER (91ST)

Saturday,

March 13, 2010

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Attire: Legion Blue Suit

American Legion Post 534

4911 Burma Rd.

McFarland, Wisconsin

Dinner Menu: Pot Luck. Legion will provide Meat, Potatoes, Cake, Ice Cream.

Members with last name beginning A through I are asked to bring Hors d'oeuvres.

Members with last name beginning J through R are asked to bring a Salad or Veggies with Dip.

Members with last name beginning S through Z are asked to bring a Hot Dish.

Any questions: Call 838-3249

The Power of a Badge

An officer stops at a ranch in Texas, and talks with an old rancher. He tells the rancher, "I need to inspect your ranch for illegally grown drugs." The rancher says, "Okay, but don't go in that field over there," as he points out the location.

The DEA officer verbally explodes saying, "Mister, I have the authority of the Federal Government with me." Reaching into his rear pants pocket, he removes his badge and proudly displays it to the rancher. "See this badge? This badge means I am allowed to go wherever I wish . . . On any land. No questions asked or answers given. Have I made myself clear? Do you

understand?"

The rancher nods politely, apologizes, and goes about his chores.

A short time later, the old rancher hears loud screams and sees the DEA officer running for his life chased by the rancher's big Santa Gertrudis bull. With every step the bull is gaining ground on the officer, and it seems likely that he'll get gored before he reaches safety. The officer is clearly terrified. The rancher throws down his tools, runs to the fence and yells at the top of his lungs

"Your badge. Show him your BADGE!"

American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary
 Department of Wisconsin
Third District Spring Conference
 Invitation and Lunch Reservation

Saturday, April 24, 2010

We will be meeting in the Southwest Tech College
 1800 Bronson Blvd – Fennimore, WI
 Legion will be in the Lenz Conference Center
 Auxiliary will be in the Cafeteria
 This is all near Building 400
 Handicap accessible

\$5.00 Legion Conference Registration Fee – **Pay the day of the conference**

\$1.00 Auxiliary Conference Registration Fee – **Pay the day of the conference**
Registration 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Conference at 9:00 a.m.

Conference Chairperson – Delores Woolf 608-348-7403

Breakfast Menu: \$2.95

Coffee, Juice, Roll, Fruit

Lunch Menu: \$10.00

Roast Beef, Potatoes/Gravy, Carrots, Roll, Angel Food Cake w/berries & cream

Reservation Deadline April 12, 2010

Legion and Auxiliary attendees:

Please make a lunch reservation and pay in advance

Detach and Mail

Lunch reservations and money must be in by April 12, 2010.

Send reservations to: Merry Cooley – 5363 Pine Road – Fennimore, WI 53809-9618

Make check payable to: Grant County American Legion Auxiliary

Post/Unit Number & Name: _____

Number of Lunch Reservations _____ @ \$10.00 each = \$_____

Pay Registration Fees at Conference

Number of Lunch Reserved: Post _____ Unit _____

List Legionnaire/Auxiliary Names on back of form

Pick up your lunch tickets the day of the conference at the registration table.

Love him or loathe him, he nailed this one right on the head.....

By Rush Limbaugh:

I think the vast differences in compensation between victims of the September 11 casualty and those who die serving our country in Uniform are profound. No one is really talking about it either, because you just don't criticize anything having to do with September 11. Well, I can't let the numbers pass by because it says something really disturbing about the entitlement mentality of this country. If you lost a family member in the September 11 attack, you're going to get an average of \$1,185,000. The range is a minimum guarantee of \$250,000, all the way up to \$4.7 million. If you are a surviving family member of an American soldier killed in action, the first check you get is a \$6,000 direct death benefit, half of which is taxable.

Next, you get \$1,750 for burial costs. If you are the surviving spouse, you get \$833 a month until you remarry. And there's a payment of \$211 per month for each child under 18. When the child hits 18, those payments come to a screeching halt.

Keep in mind that some of the people who are getting an average of \$1.185 million up to \$4.7 million are complaining that it's not enough. Their deaths were tragic, but for most, they were simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. Soldiers put themselves in harms way FOR ALL OF US, and they and their families know the dangers. (Actually, soldiers are put in harms way by politicians and commanding officers.

We also learned over the weekend that some of the victims from the Oklahoma City bombing have started an organization asking for the same deal

that the September 11 families are getting. In addition to that, some of the families of those bombed in the embassies are now asking for compensation as well.

You see where this is going, don't you? Folks, this is part and parcel of over 50 years of entitlement politics in this country. It's just really sad. Every time a pay raise comes up for the military, they usually receive next to nothing of a raise. Now the green machine is in combat in the Middle East while their families have to survive on food stamps and live in low-rent housing. Make sense?

However, our own US Congress voted themselves a raise. Many of you don't know that they only have to be in Congress one time to receive a pension that is more than \$15,000 per month. And most are now equal to being millionaires plus. They do not receive Social Security on retirement because they didn't have to pay into the system. If some of the military people stay in for 20 years and get out as an E-7, they may receive a pension of \$1,000 per month, and the very people who placed them in harm's way receive a pension of \$15,000 per month.

I would like to see our elected officials pick up a weapon and join ranks before they start cutting out benefits and lowering pay for our sons and daughters who are now fighting.

Editor's Note

Please have your April articles for the newsletter to me by Wednesday, March 17. You can leave them behind the bar at the Legion or email me at gs2scal@sbcglobal.net. The folding and sealing will then be the following Monday, March 22, 2010.

Thanks, Sharon



American Legion Post 534
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**PRSRT STD
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MADISON, WI**

Bar Manager.....	Sonny Stout
Rental Officer.....	Paul Peters
Newsletter.....	Sharon Scallon
Internet/Website.....	Scott Virtue
Building/Grounds.....	Karl Schuetz, Denny Haugen