

Post Notes

May, 2011



Commander.....	Marjorie Marshman	Historian.....	Rob Blanchar
First Vice.....	John Guler	Service Officer.....	(Open)
Second Vice.....	Kathy Durant	Sgt. at Arms.....	Ray VanKylen, Denny Haugen, Darrell Krenz
Adjutant.....	Ron Hillson	Chaplain.....	Greg Simonis
Finance.....	Jodie Armstrong	Post Phone Number.....	(608) 838-3249
Web Site.....	www.alp534.org		

Commander's Corner



Hard work spotlights the character of people. Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses and some, don't turn up at all!

I hope a number of you will be able to help at our Spring Clean-Up

on Saturday, May 7 at 9:00 a.m. I truly appreciate your giving up a Saturday to help make our Post look great. We will break for lunch and a cold drink and back to finish up, if necessary. We will not keep you any longer than needed.

A big thank-you to those who helped with Bingo. It was held on the third Sunday of each month from October through April (excluding December). There are a number of people to thank because each Bingo Sunday a soup/sandwich/dessert lunch was prepared by the Auxiliary. Legionnaires were in charge of the duties of the game. So-----many thanks to all of you that helped in any way.

Friday, May 6 is the Post meeting. This is the night for nomination of officers for the year 2011-2012. If you know someone who would be a good officer, be sure and be present at that meeting.

With election coming up at the Friday, June 3 meeting, I would like to share with you the following:

HOW TO KILL AN ORGANIZATION

Don't come to meetings. If you do come, be late. If the weather doesn't suit you, don't think of coming.

If you attend, find fault with the work of others. Never accept an office – it's easier to criticize. Be angry if you're not appointed to a committee.

If you're asked your opinion, say nothing.

Afterward, tell everyone how things should be done.

Do no more than necessary. If a few persons work tirelessly, complain that the group is being run by a clique.

Don't bother to help get new members.

Don't tell leaders how the group can help you or achieve certain goals – but if it doesn't, quit coming.

Agree to everything at the meeting; disagree later at the bar.

LET'S NOT KILL OUR ORGANIZATION.

Now, start being a GOOD member of OUR Post.

The newly elected officers will be installed at the Post meeting on Friday, June 24 at 7:00 p.m. Do try and attend these important meetings.

The Dane County Council meeting will be at Post 245 in Cross Plains on Thursday, May 26. Food will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting is at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day, we put up the flags at 6:00 a.m. (weather permitting). Then to the cemeteries at 8:00 a.m. The parade is at Noon – starting at Christ the King Catholic Church and ending at the Post. Kathy Durant, Second Vice-Commander is in charge of the parade. My heartfelt thanks to all she has done for a number of years in having a parade for the Village of McFarland.

Our Memorial Day program will be at 1:00 p.m. at the Post. The guest speaker will be John Stofflet, Evening News Anchor, WMTV, Madison. John has traveled on assignment to 40 countries on all seven continents - - including Antarctica.

At the conclusion of the program, we conduct our Post Everlasting Ceremony. The flags will then be taken down at 5:00 p.m., folded and put away. It will be a full day, but a great day. There are a lot of people to thank and you may be assured it is appreciated by many.

I hope you had a Blessed Easter. Our weather has not been the greatest but the best is yet to come.

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

SEMPER FI

Marjorie Z. Marshman
Commander

Greg's Grousings



It seems that old man winter does not want to leave. The robins are here and flowers are blooming. My rakes in the shed awaiting the grooming. Well, it is a bit early so we will just have to wait until the sun's rays are warm and often. There

were some loons on Lake Monona this week on their trip to the northern part of the state. Apparently enough of them stayed in Madison to shout down the Tea Party rally. Oops!!!

Do not forget to come to the meeting to promote your candidate for office. This really is important. We had a pretty good turnout at the last meeting, let us continue that trend. Do not forget that Memorial Day is quickly approaching.

I still have room for one more person to go to the 3RD District Meeting in Monticello on April 30th.

We have named our Stephen A. Foye Scholarship winners for 2011. The one to McFarland High School goes to Steven M. Jordan and the Post 534 winner is Sadee M. Sterling. Congrats to William Elgas. I really appreciate the help I got in doing the judging. Next up is the American Legion Award. I will be calling for help on the judging soon.
God Bless you, Greg.

Insights By The Chaplain

Here comes the Easter Parade. Break out your Easter Finery, decorate your eggs and get your wife some good candy and beautiful flowers. Remember what Easter is all about. It was this final act of Love we should always remember. He gave His Life so we all could live. It is this unconditional love that should always be cherished by all Christians. By His DEATH and RESURRECTION, we have been given new life. My prayers are that each of you and your families accept this absolutely miraculous gift. May you rejoice in your God given gift. Peace, love and joy be with you all.
Chaplain Greg.



From the Ladies Auxiliary

April Fools Day came late this year – the snow was quite a surprise for the middle of April. Keep praying those

couple of warm days weren't our summer!

The next Auxiliary meeting will be May 3, and will be the nomination of officers. Please try to attend.

If you haven't already done so, please pay your dues as soon as possible. If you know of someone who might be interested in joining, bring them to one of the meetings. We missed making 100% of our quota by 4 people this past year.

2011 Breakfast Dates are September 18 and November 6. Please support us by joining us for breakfast.

Thank you to everyone who came to the breakfast to eat. Especially, thank you to everyone who worked to help make it a success. THANKS TO DENNY HAUGEN AND RUSS JENKINS FOR PUTTING UP THE BANNERS AND TO POLLY STOUT FOR DOING THE LEGION SIGN.

As a reminder, I am not running for re-election this year. I will help anyone interested in taking this job and we can schedule a Leadership Training at our Post or you can attend one being held elsewhere. I will also do my best to have everything organized and will help to train my replacement. We also have several knowledgeable Auxiliary resources in the area that would also be a help to train the new President.

Also, Joann Gerl will not be running for re-election for Vice President – the main job of the Vice President is Membership. Joann will train whoever is elected to this post and will work with her for several months to get things going.

Nominations will be made at our May meeting and the election will be at our June Meeting. Someone needs to volunteer to be nominated for these two positions. Neither Joann nor I are able to continue to serve in these positions.

There is a knitting group meeting the second Wednesday from 6 to 8 in the bar area. Please

show up if you are interested in getting together with everyone. If you feel a different time would be easier for you, please contact Sue Hargraves to discuss. Her phone # is 838-8807.

If you can think of any activities that will help our veterans/ community, please let me know.
Carol Welch 608-838-3733
ctwelch1@frontier.com



Sick Call – Prayer List

Dale Everett, Gary Salverson, Bobbi Zbiegien, Ken Dunbrook, Howard Davis, Jan Bliese, Steve Killerlain, Dave Natvig, Bert Pullar, Betty Peters and Margarete Johnson.

These are the only ones I am aware of at this time. **PLEASE LET GREG SIMONIS (223-1843) OR SUE HARGRAVES (838-8807) KNOW OF ANY OTHER AUXILIARY, LEGION OR S.A.L. MEMBERS NEEDING CARDS.**

S.A.L. Corner



Hey Guys! It's me again.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the Spaghetti Dinner. Your help made it a success.

Remember, nominations are coming up in May and elections in

June. **DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES ARE DUE!**
Sonny Stout, S.A.L. Commander

BARTENDERS WANTED**EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS**

This is a voluntary position. Get to know your fellow Legionnaires, while helping your Post.

If interested, contact Sonny Stout at 513-5379

Membership Dues News

This is getting close to the last membership roundup. Those of you who haven't paid your 2011 dues have just a short time left to do so. Your membership is very important to the American Legion, more so to your local post and its

activities.

Please read about the activities going on at the National level that will have a big impact on veterans' benefits. VA care for approximately 1.3 million veterans is or could be eliminated. If any of you don't feel your membership in the American Legion is important – think again!!! All veteran organizations need to be aware and show that their membership strength is supportive of veterans' care and rights.

Please take the time to read the article by Tom Philpott, senior editor with Army Times Publishing Company posted on the bulletin board at Post 534 or you may access it at

<http://www.military.com/features> or at <http://www.thenewstribune.com>.

John Guler, 1st Vice Commander
Membership Chairman

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 30, 2011

We are remaining hopeful that Spring will be here soon ... it's the first week of May already! And just around the corner is Memorial Day! With that comes an activity filled day here at American

Legion Post #534. The members of American Legion Post #534 of McFarland sponsor our annual Memorial Day Parade here in McFarland. Memorial Day falls on May 30th this year. The parade will begin at Noon. The parade route starts at Christ the King Church and ends at the American Legion Post #534. This will be followed by our Memorial Service at the American Legion Post #534, 4911 Burma Rd, at 1:00pm, with Flag Retirement and Disposal to follow.

Our Post #534 also provides the Firing Squad for the flag rising at each of the three cemeteries in McFarland that morning. Any interested veteran is more than welcome to join us. Just give a call to Jodie Armstrong at 838-3745. The dress uniform for the firing squad is: white shirt ... black slacks ... black shoes and your garrison cap.

We are currently making the arrangements for the parade line up. There's still plenty of room for your entry! Invitations can be found at Post 534, just stop by and pick one up, fill it out and drop it in the mail box for Kathy Durant, 2nd Vice, behind the bar. Or just give Kathy a call at 442-9744.

Mark your calendars, come on down and join us for a day of remembering every veteran, every family who ever fought to protect and defend American ideals. Make this a day to celebrate our freedom, liberty and independence.

Memorial Day Celebration Events:

Put Up Flags - 6:00a.m.

Lions Chicken BBQ - 11:00 a.m. to 6:00p.m.

Post 534 Ladies Auxiliary - Brats, Hot Dogs, Chips & Soda - 11:00 a.m.

Memorial Day Parade - 12:00 noon

Memorial Day Services Program - 1:00 p.m.

Take Down Flags, Fold and Store - 5:00p.m.

Chairperson - Kathy Durant 442-9744

Editor's Note: Please have your June articles for the Newsletter to me by Wednesday, May 18. The folding and sealing will then be the following Monday, May 23.

Thanks, Sharon

McFarland

American Legion Post 534



Memorial Day Celebration

Monday - May 30, 2011

0600 - Put Up Flags

1100 to 1800 - Lions Chicken BBQ - McF. H.S.

1100 - Ladies Auxiliary - Brats, Hot Dogs & Chips

1200 - Memorial Day Parade

1300 - Memorial Day Services Program

1700 - Take Down Flags, Fold & Store



Join Us In Honoring Our Veterans

