

Post Notes

September, 2014



Commander.....	Mike Larson	Service Officer.....	Russ Jenkins
First Vice.....	Bob O'Donnell	Chaplain.....	Chuck Wedekind
Second Vice.....	Kathy Durant	Historian.....	Rob Blanchar
Adjutant	Ron Hillson	Sgt. at Arms.....	Mike Verdico
Finance.....	Jodie Armstrong		Mike Valdovinos, Darrell Krenz
Web Site.....	www.alp534.org	Post Phone Number.....	(608) 838-3249

Commander's Corner



We had a very successful raffle again this year. Congratulations to Tim Blum who was the grand prize winner. I want to thank everyone who made this event the success it was. Ticket sales sold out by Friday, eight days before the

event. That is the fastest they have ever sold out. Three years ago, we had 9 tickets left on the day of the raffle and we were barely able to get rid of them before we started. This year, we had a waiting list of 10 in case someone turned in unsold tickets or wanted to get rid of tickets they had already purchased. The food was great and, again, thanks to our cooks, kitchen help and wait staff.

On July 18 and 19, Chuck Wedekind, Ron Hillson, DJ Krenz and I attended the 2015 state convention in Appleton. We had fun socializing and checking out the vendors. The election was a little boring because all the elected offices were uncontested.

The new walk-in compressor bid was awarded to D&J Heating and Cooling (Denny Franks) and was installed the week before the raffle. The new unit is outside instead of in the ice room. That has already

made a big difference in the heat there and will help let the ice maker be more efficient.

Until next month, God bless.

Commander Mike

From the Chaplain



Some little known facts regarding our Pledge of Allegiance:

At the first National Flag Conference in Washington D.C., on June 14, 1923, a change was made for clarity: the

words "the Flag of the United States" replaced "my flag."

In 1942, Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance.

In June of 1954, an amendment was made to add the words, "Under God." President Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."

Each time we say The Pledge of Allegiance, we should remember these changes that were made and the reasons that they were made. Also

remember that God was added for a reason and we should give thanks.

Sincerely,
Chaplain Chuck

THANKS!!!!

Post 534 salutes all those who helped make our raffle a success. To all who gave your time and efforts, we thank you! From the smallest task to the largest job, we couldn't have done it without you.

THANKS!!!!

Membership News 2015

Thank you to the members of Edwards-Foye Post 534 who have promptly paid their 2015 membership dues. The State and National Headquarters has our payments, but there may still be a few in transit via snail mail to HQ.

In September, the National office will begin sending **second notices** to approximately 30% of our members requesting payment of the 2015 dues.

- If you **have paid** your 2015 dues and receive this second notice--forgetaboutit! You can shred it, recycle it or rip it up and toss it in the trash!
- If you **have not sent your payment** for 2015, please do so to keep HQ happy. If you cannot find an envelope and stamp, use the internet and pay on line with a credit card. If you have any questions regarding membership or payments, please contact me at your convenience at (608) 838-3551 or email: robertodonnell@charter.net.

Have you moved and forgot to notify us? If yes, please indicate any change and we will correct the mailing list and our records.

Have a great Labor Day celebration!
Bob O'Donnell
(still Skip's trainee)

Auxiliary News



On July 27th, Bonnie, Jodie and I helped the Lioness fill 101 back packs for children in McFarland which were distributed through the McFarland food pantry. Supplies for the high school students were given to the high school as well. If anyone would like to

donate a monetary gift, please contact Polly at 608-513-5378.

The breakfast for September 21st has been canceled and rescheduled for Sunday, October 5th due to the fact that Family Fest is that weekend.

Mark your calendars for fall cleanup which is scheduled for Saturday, October 11th @ 9:00am.

Bingo will start the third Sunday in October. Lunch will be at noon followed by 21 games of Bingo at 1:00 pm.

With Labor Day coming up, we are reminded that school will be starting. Please drive with care and watch for children as they will be excited and want to share stories with their friends.

Soon the trees will be turning color and fall will be on its way.

Take Care and God Bless
Auxiliary President
Polly Stout

Editor's Note: Please have your October newsletter articles to me by Wednesday, September 17.

Thanks,
Sharon Scallon, editor



Sick Call – Prayer List

Gary Salverson, Frank Hlavac, John Guler, Jim Leyda, Lorraine Jackson (mother of Sue Wipperfurth), Marilyn Paulus (mother of Carol Welch), Dennis Dancker, Roger Segebrecht, Dale Everett, Ray VanKysten, Phyllis Rodefeld (sister of Polly Stout) and Mike Valdovinos
Please notify the following Legion members for sympathy or get well cards:

Legion Chaplain – Chuck Wedekind (838-7452)

Auxiliary Chaplain – Kathy Koenig (514-9400)

Sunshine Person – Jodie Armstrong (838-3745)

S.A.L. Chaplain – Sonny Stout (838-9420)

S.A.L. Corner



Hello SAL Members,
 The August meeting was attended by 8 members. We have 37 members paid up as of August 6 for 2015, so let's keep them coming in. We received our 100% membership ribbon from Ray at our meeting. He picked the

award up at the State convention in Appleton last month. Thanks Ray!

We discussed our Swiss steak dinner which will be Saturday, October 25th from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. Prices will be posted next month.

Just a reminder to all SAL members to read your newsletter for the time of our meetings. They are held the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 sharp. Some members think I need to call them - I don't call anyone! Let's be responsible for our duties. p.s. The fox that sits on the hill by the flag poles is

now the "fox of honor!"

SAL Commander

Don (Hook) Egner

Congratulations to Tim Blum this year's raffle

winner! I am happy to report this year's raffle was a huge success. This year we sold all the tickets by August 4th. This was an awesome accomplishment; normally we have a few straggler tickets left on Raffle Day. We were also fortunate to have 30 more door prizes this year. This made it possible for us to give out a total of 121 prizes - every ticket had a 61% chance of winning. Not bad odds! I want to thank everyone who helped sell tickets, collected door prizes, setup and worked the event, the cooks and Ladies Auxiliary for helping in the kitchen and dining room and SAL members who helped in the kitchen. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Without your support this event would not be possible. Raffle proceeds will be used to help pay for the cooler compressor upgrade.

GREAT JOB EVERYONE!

Jodie Armstrong

Finance Officer



Normandy American Cemetery

Do you have a family member or friend among the heroes buried at the Normandy American Cemetery? I am going to visit the cemetery near Omaha Beach, Colleville-sur-Mer, France in September and would be honored to bring back a picture of their headstone for you.

Information needed: **First, Last Name (middle initial if known) and Branch of Service. Your**

name and phone number and email address, if you have one. There is a sheet at the Legion, below the counter for writing down your information. You may also call or email me as shown below. We are going to be there September 10th and would like the above information by Friday, September 5th at the monthly meeting.

If you are interested in searching for someone at any National Cemetery in any war, use this website:

<http://www.abmc.gov/search-abmc-burials-and-memorializations>

Russ Reppen

Phone: (608) 770-6230

Email: ruslinrep@gmail.com

Interesting Veterans Statistics off the Vietnam Memorial Wall – A little history most people will never know.

- There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.
- The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date, the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties.
- The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965. There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.
- 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger. 8,283 were just 19 years old. 33,103 (the largest age group) were 18 years old. 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old. 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old. One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.
- 997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam. 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.
- 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall. 31 sets of parents lost two of their sons.

- 54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia
- 8 women are on the Wall, nursing the wounded.
- 244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.
- Beallsville, Ohio, with a population of 475, lost 6 of her sons.
- West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.
- The Marines of Morenci – They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.
- The Buddies of Midvale – LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez and Tom Gonzales – were all boyhood friends and lived only a few yards apart in Midvale, Utah. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field and they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed.
- The most casualty deaths for a single day, was on January 31, 1968 – 245 deaths. The most casualty deaths for a single month, was May 1968 – 2,415 casualties were incurred.

For most Americans who read this, they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors.



American Legion Post 534
 P.O. Box 196
 McFarland, WI 53558

PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT # 1
 MADISON, WI

Bar Manager.....Sonny Stout
 Rental Officer.....Jim Wickert
 Newsletter.....Sharon Scallon
 Building/Grounds..... Karl Schuetz, Denny Haugen

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Auxiliary Mtg 7 pm	3 S.A.L. Mtg 6:30 pm	4	5 Legion Mtg 7 pm	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Rental Wedding
14	15	16	17 Exec. Bd Mtg 7 pm Newsletter Articles Due	18	19	20 McF Softball Assoc. 10am-noon
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Rental Baby Shower	29	30				

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 S.A.L. Mtg 6:30 pm	2
					3 Legion Mtg 7 pm	4 Wounded Warrior Project 9am-6pm
	5 Auxiliary Breakfast 8am-noon	6	7 Auxiliary Mtg 7 pm	8	9	10
					11	12 Fall Clean-up 9 am-?
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 McF Softball Assoc. 10am-noon
19 Soup, Sandwich, Bingo noon	20	21	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23	24	25 Auxiliary 9-11 am SAL Swiss Sausk Dinner
26	27	28	29	30	31	