

Post Notes

January, 2017



Commander.....	Bob O'Donnell	Service Officer.....	Russ Jenkins
First Vice.....	Bill Bley	Chaplain.....	Dale Sankey
Second Vice.....	Kathy Durant	Historian.....	Rob Blanchar
Adjutant	Russ Reppen	Sgt. at Arms.....	Darrell Krenz
Finance.....	Jodie Armstrong		Mike Verdico
Web Site.....	www.alp534.org	Post Phone Number.....	(608) 838-3249

Commander's Corner



Mike and Karen Larson had a tremendous turnout for their annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner held at Post 534, they served over 200 dinners!

If you are interested in attending the American Legion 2017 Mid-Winter Conference on January 19-22, 2017 at HO-CHUNK, Baraboo, WI,

go to www.wilegion.org to get all the details.

Post 534 Lounge needs additional volunteer **Bartenders**. This is an excellent opportunity to meet more people who visit Post 534. You do not need to be a member of the American Legion family, but the person must acquire and maintain a bartender's license. Please contact Sonny Stout or contact me directly at 608-838-3551 or robertodonnell@charter.net for additional details.

Job protections for Wisconsin Veterans may come under scrutiny in the 2017 legislature session. If you wish to sign a petition in support of maintaining current job protections for Wisconsin Veterans, go to the website below:

www.americanlegionpost139.org

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 11, 2017 for the American Legion Birthday Party at Post 534. More details to follow.

Have a Happy New Year! Commander Bob From the Chaplain



Happy New Year! Don't waste what time you have left worrying about yesterday. Move forward. Your best days are ahead. Reach forward; you cannot have your mind in yesterday and expect to move ahead. Ask God for fresh ideas for your life, talk to him daily, tell

Him what you want. God always works through people. It is amazing what he can do with just one person. Look back through history.

Regarding the Branson trip: We have the 30 needed to go but we still have room for 15 more. Call Dale Sankey [608-395-5942](tel:608-395-5942) to make your reservation for the week after Easter.

When you are planning/writing your will, or if a loved one dies, please remember America Legion Post 534. Your memorial gift is a beautiful way to help out, no matter how small or large a gift.

Each legionnaire should be alert to the physical and spiritual needs of his/her comrades. As Chaplain, I seek to minister to people wherever there is a need. Please notify me when there is a death, illness or special concern in the membership.

God is the source of all rights and privileges.
Thank you for your service.

Chaplain Dale
608-395-5942

PS. If you have anything against someone, drop it,
forget it. Say the Lord's Prayer and pay attention to
the words. Move on and live in peace.

Gerald Killerlain, a member of Post 534 and father
of Steve, recently passed away. A Pass and Review
will be held at Cress Funeral Home, E. Washington
Ave., on January 3 at 10:30 a.m. There will be a ride
share at 9:45 a.m. from Post 534. Our sympathies
reach out to the family.

Membership



If you have not
paid your 2017 American
Legion membership dues
in the amount of \$35.00,
now would be a great time
to do so. Nonpayment will
cause a break in your
continuous years and loss
of good standing in the
American Legion. Please
send your 2017
membership dues

payment (\$35.99) to:

American Legion Post 534
PO Box 196
McFarland, WI 53558-0196

Credit card payments can be made directly on line:

www.legion.org/renew

Click on Members

Click on Renew Membership

Have your Legion ID number and credit card
information ready or drop by the Post and give your
payment (cash or check) to the bartender on duty.

If you have any questions regarding membership or
recruiting, please call me at 608-579-1517 or email:

wrbley48@yahoo.com

Auxiliary News



Brrr! December
sure lived up to its
reputation... snowy and
very cold. Please do
not leave your pets
outside too long and
check on your
neighbors, family and
friends.

Ellyn Thompson
did a wonderful job
organizing the Giving

Tree Gift tags. We started out with 20 gift tags. Due
to the great generosity of our American Legion
Family we requested five additional gift tags. Bless
everyone for giving someone less fortunate a
Christmas happy.

Ladies, please bring all ideas and list of
events to the January meeting. We need to select
the dates for next year's breakfast events, our
Super Senior Salute, and any other events. All ideas
and suggestions are welcome. I need to bring
theses dates to the calendar meeting on Jan. 10th.

January 15th will be our next Soup,
Sandwich & "B _ N _ O" otherwise listed on the Post
Note calendar as Feather Party. Spread the word.

If you haven't paid your dues, please pay
them ONLINE or send them to:

Auxiliary Unit 534 - Membership
PO Box 196
McFarland, WI 53558

Our next meeting is right around the corner
on January 3rd.

*Happy New Year! May 2017 be
healthier and most prosperous.*

Jodie Armstrong
Auxiliary President
(608-332-3688)

Please have your February articles to me by
Wednesday, January 18.

Thanks, Sharon Scallon, editor

January, 2017



Sick Call – Prayer List

Dennis Dancker, Roger Segebrecht, John Guler, John Lynch, Leo Endres, Karl Scheutz, Charles Rodefelf, Gary Venden, William Peters, Don Haugen, Dick Becker, Mackenzie Schoeller (Bob & Sue Hargraves granddaughter), Dale Everett, Sue Wipperfurth and Sue Schneider

Please notify the following Legion members for sympathy or get well cards:

Legion Chaplain – Dale Sankey (608-395-5942)

Auxiliary Chaplain – Ellyn Thompson (608-838-3395)

S.A.L. Chaplain – David Sawyer (608-444-3768)

Sunshine Person – Sue Wipperfurth (608-535-0495)

S.A.L. Corner



I do believe that winter has finally found us. I want to remind everyone that in sub-zero temperatures to watch out for your neighbors, especially the elderly and/or infirm.

Thank you to Mark Hanson for all of his efforts putting the tailgate party together. Job well done!!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas Party! Wish we could have attended but frigid weather and illness kept us home.

And, I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. It is always good to see family and friends this time of year!

Just a friendly reminder that our membership dues are due. You can pay at the legion – attn: Dick Schwerdsky. Or, better yet, fill out the form that was sent to you and send it back to Dick Schwerdsky with your dues.

In closing, we are only as strong as our

members are active. May God bless You and Yours.
Rick Schneider, S.A.L. Commander

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A special Thank You to everyone who participated in taking a gift tag from the Giving Tree. You have helped make the kids Christmas happier, and it is so good to have such a giving group of people in our Post.

Thanks, again,

Ellyn Thompson and the American Legion
Auxiliary Post 534

Karen and I would like to thank everyone for their generosity in helping to make Thanksgiving a success again this year: To Post 534 for the use of the hall, donors of turkeys and desserts, cash donations and especially the volunteers in the kitchen and dining room, and drivers for delivery. We served 200 dinners in three hours after cooking 17 turkeys. This is our 24th year and we hope to continue as long as we can.

Thanks again,

Karen and Mike Larson

3rd Annual Legion Family Christmas Party

Kudos to the over 50 partygoers who braved the bitter cold to come down on Sunday, Dec 18 to watch the Packers beat the Bears and bring in the Christmas Cheer.

Packer and Ugly sweaters were plentiful. Congratulations to Linda Sankey, winner of the Ugly Sweater contest.

I would like to thank my co-hosts, Mark Hanson and Sue Wipperfurth for a great job – well done!

Thanks, again,

Jodie Armstrong

January, 2017

Vietnam-Era Vets
(11/1/1955 – 5/15/1975)

American Legion Post 534 is one of 6 American Legion Posts in Wisconsin to be named a “Partner” in the DOD program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and, in particular, the veterans of that era. We hosted our first ceremony on Oct. 8, 2016. The feedback received from the veterans and their families was very positive.

We plan to host another ceremony honoring Vietnam-Era vets on Sat., March 11, 2017. If you served in any branch of the military or merchant marine, anywhere in the world, between Nov. 1, 1955 and May 15, 1975, we would like to publicly acknowledge your service and sacrifice. If you are willing to participate or would like more information, please contact:

Jim Wickert
(608) 241-2438
Jwick16060@tds.net

Please give me your name, dates of service and branch (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard or Merchant Marine) and contact information.

When the Music Stopped...

(For those unaware: at all military base theaters, the National Anthem is played before any movie begins.)

This is written from a Chaplain in Iraq :

I recently attended a showing of ‘Superman 3’ here at LSA Anaconda. We have a large auditorium that we use for movies as well as memorial services and other large gatherings. As is the custom at all military bases, we stood to attention when The National Anthem began before the main feature. All was going well until three-quarters of the way through *The National Anthem*, the music stopped.

the States? I imagine that there would be hoots, catcalls, laughter, a few rude comments and then, everyone would sit down and yell for the movie to begin. Of course, that is, only if they had stood for *The National Anthem* in the first place.

Here in Iraq 1,000 soldiers continued to stand at attention, eyes fixed forward. The music started over again, and the soldiers continued to quietly stand at attention. Once again though, at the same point, the music stopped. What would you expect 1,000 soldiers standing at attention to do? Frankly, I expected some laughter and everyone would eventually sit down and wait for the movie to start.

No!! . . . You could have heard a pin drop while every soldier continued to stand at attention. Suddenly, there was a lone voice from the front of the auditorium, then a dozen voices and soon the room was filled with the voices of a thousand soldiers, finishing where the recording left off:

“And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave, o’er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.”

It was the most inspiring moment I have had in Iraq, and I wanted you to know what kind of U.S. Soldiers are serving you! Remember them as they fight for us!

Please pass this along as a reminder to others to be ever in prayer for all our soldiers serving us here at home and abroad. So many have already paid the ultimate price.

McFarland AREA VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Veterans Memorial is intended to include names of all residents who served in the military from the Civil War to the present. Anyone who served during the Civil War Conflict/peacetime is also eligible. Necessary criteria are to have served one enlistment and have been honorably discharged.

The McFarland Area Veterans Memorial is to honor those courageous men and women who answered their country's call to duty, who served and sacrificed to preserve and protect our liberty and freedom. We ask everyone to help us reach our goal: veterans, business people, farmers, factory workers, retired people, as well as our youth.

Engraving on Bricks and Granite Memorial are available for anyone living or deceased. They make good gifts for memorials, weddings, birthdays, etc. If you have any questions, contact McFarland American Legion at (608) 838-3249. Contributions are tax deductible and can be sent to the McFarland Area Veterans Memorial, c/o American Legion Post 534, P.O. Box 196, McFarland, Wisconsin 53558.

LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP

(Check one or both)

_____ Lifetime Brick - \$50.00

White letters engraved on a 4" x 8" standard sized brick
(Your brick message may use 3 lines and up to 12 characters per line, including spaces)

_____ Granite Memorial - \$50.00

Your full name engraved on the granite memorial

Print full name: _____

(check served during) ___ Civil War ___ WWI ___ WWII ___ Korea ___ Vietnam

___ Saudi Arabia ___ Desert Storm ___ Kuwait ___ Iraq ___ Persian Gulf ___ Peace Time

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Purchaser's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Amt. Enclosed \$ _____

*** All applications and payments should be made by April 1st to be included in the 2017 Memorial Day ceremony.



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

PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 PERMIT # 2944
 MADISON, WI

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

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Hope Rod & Gun Club 7 pm	3 Auxiliary Mtg 7 pm Funeral Luncheon 1-5 pm	4 S.A.L. Mtg 6:30 pm	5	6 Logion Mtg 7 pm IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	7 Dane Co Oratorical 1 pm
8	9	10 Legion Family Calendar Mtg 7 pm	11 IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	12	13 IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	14 2nd Harvest
15 Feather Party 12 noon	16	17 Exec Bd Mtg 7 pm Newsletter Articles Due IMMS Dance	18	19	20 IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	21
22	23	24	25 IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 S.A.L. Mtg 6:30 pm	2	3 Legion Mtg 7 pm	4
5	6 Hope Rod & Gun Club 7 pm	7 Auxiliary Mtg 7 pm	8 IMMS Dance 4-5:30 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Exec Bd Mtg 7 pm Newsletter Articles Due	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				