

Commander’s Corner

Greetings Members!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our February events and took part in our Valentine’s candy sale and special breakfast. Your continued support is so very much appreciated.

We have more fun and tasty events this month, including our annual Corn Beef Dinner on Monday, March 13th, another SAL Brat Sale on Saturday, March 25th, and our Ham Party on Friday, March 31st.

A new event this year that I am very excited for is our 1st Annual Commander’s Gun Raffle. On Saturday, March 11th the doors will open at 4:30pm for the 25-gun (and many more raffles!) event. Tickets are \$40 and include your meal, or \$50 at the door pending ticket availability. Call or text my wife, Kate VanHorn, at 608-797-4734 for tickets, or stop down to see our SAL Commander James at Auto Value in West Salem to purchase. In addition to Holmen Pawn’s help with the gun selection, we have many local businesses donating to the cause. Join us for an evening of food, drinks, and share my love for the great outdoors.

Our Legion family works very hard on all of four community events, so I’m very excited to add the Commander’s Gun Raffle to the roster as my own creatvie way to give back. If you are interested in helping out with this event, or any future event, don’t hesitate to give me a call. We can always use an extra hand serving food, setting up for events, or behind the bar.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe St. Patrick’s Day, and HAPPY SPRING!

*-Ben VanHorn,
Post Commander Post 51*

President’s Corner

Happy St. Patrick’s Day everyone,

Thank you to everyone that volunteered in February at one of our many events. We received so many compliments from the people in attendance about our food, facility and volunteers. I am so very proud of our beautiful facility and our wonderful volunteers.

March is looking to be a very busy month too, if you are available to help during the day to prep or would be willing to volunteer at an event, we would love to have you here. Did you know that if you volunteer at 5 or more events in a year (running June 1 – May 31) you are invited to a “volunteer appreciation dinner” in July? This is a fun event to honor everyone that makes our events so successful throughout the year. There is still time to get your 5 events in before May 31.

Reminder we have our joint meeting on the 8th at 6:30 – this meeting is very important for all members to attend. This is where we set the calendar/events for April – September and discuss and vote on Legion Family matters. If you have suggestions or ideas bring them to this meeting. In order to vote you must be a member (TAL, ALA & SAL) in good standing, which means that your 2023 membership is paid. All members are welcome to attend and have their voices heard. If you are unable to attend, but have something you would like discussed, please reach out to me or another officer and we can bring it up.

Auxiliary Officer elections are held in May, if you have an interest in running for an office please let us know. Officer terms run from June 2023 – June 2025.

Here's hoping Spring is just around the corner.

*-Nikki Vidal,
Unit #51 President*

Building Committee

The candy sale for Valentine’s day was a success.

The 2nd raffle on the quilt was won by Randy Otto. Kenny Garbers and Sue Davis won the money prizes.

The bowling tournament at Features managed by Vern Tranberg was a huge success. Thank you to all who participated.

-Mike Schaller

SAL

Hello All and Happy St. Patty's Day!

Thanks to all our SAL members and everyone who helped work our February events. You're help was and is, greatly appreciated.

We're continuing toward our goal of raising \$12,000 for the Court of Honor Restoration at the Village Park. To date, we've raised almost \$8,000 and we thank all those who have donated. If you're interested in donating please make checks payable to the SAL Restoration Fund.

We'll be having another Brat and Pork Chop fry on Saturday March 25th from 11-2. We'll also have onion rings available as well.

The SAL is always looking for new members. If you're the son or grandson of a Legionnaire or your father or Grandfather passed away subsequent to their discharge from the military, you're eligible. Dues are \$15. Anyone interested stop down at the clubroom or contact Steve Craig or myself to get signed up

*-James Jacobson,
SAL Commander*

April Events

- 1 Dobbs Baby Shower
- 3 Bingo 6:30
- 5 Ex Board Meeting 6:30
- 7 Fish & Shrimp 6:30
- 8 Retirement Party 1-4pm
- 9 Easter Sunday
- 11 Aux Meeting 6:30
- 12 Legion Meeting 6:30
- 13 40-8 Meeting 6:30
- 14 Smelt Fry
- 18 SAL Meeting 7:00
- 21 Fish & Shrimp 6:30
- 28 Fish & Shrimp 6:30

*Be sure to double check April events in the April Newsletter, as we’ll be setting the official calendar of events for April-September at this month’s Joint Family Meeting!

Veteran Services Outreach

On Thursday, March 2nd La Crosse County Veteran Services will be holding an informational event at the West Salem Library! From 12:00-4:00pm Veteran Services will be available at the library to help local veterans with any benefit assistance needed.

Berg Hemker Olson
The American Legion Post 51
148 South Leonard Street
West Salem, WI 54669

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Salem WI
Permit No. 34

Happy St. Patrick’s
Day!

American Legion Post 51 Officers:
Commander: Ben VanHorn 608-797-6402
1st Vice Commander: Gary Merfeld 608-304-3899
2nd Vice Commander: Michael Schaller 608-386-3451
Finance Officer: Jim Jenks 608-406-1430
Chaplain: Al Johnson 608-386-4578
Historian: Steve Craig 608-797-1735
Sgt at Arms: Roy Warthan 608-786-2047
Sgt at Arms Warren Moquin 608-399-8898
Adjutant: Phil Parr 608-343-4283
Service Officer: Jim Gilbertson 608-769-9069
SAL Commander James Jacobson 608-317-8654
Hall Rental contact Kate VanHorn 608-797-4734
Honor Guard Contact Mike Schaller 608-386-3451
Post 51 Phone Number 608-786-0051

American Legion Auxillary Unit 51 Officers:
President: Nikki Vidal 608-385-1838
Vice President Barb Thill 608-385-4713
2nd Vice President Mary Schaller 608-786-2398
Treasurer Nikki Vidal 608-385-1838
Chaplain: Joyce McLaughlin 608-799-2214
Historian: Wendy Tranberg 608-769-6110
Sgt at Arms: Judy Merfeld 608-786-3577
Sgt at Arms Amy Moquin 608-399-8898
Secretary: Fran Amundsen 608-790-4860
Sunshine Chairman: Sue Haack 608-786-2923

March 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ex Board Mtg 6:30pm	2	3 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	4
5 Celeb of Life	6 Bingo 6:30pm Girl Scout Cookies for sale @ Bingo!	7	8 Joint Family Mtg 6:30pm - Aux Mtg to follow	9	10	11 Commander's Gun Raffle 4:30
12	13 Corn Beef Dinner	14 4H Mtg 6:30pm (back room)	15 Building Fund Mtg 6:30pm	16 40-8 Mtg 6:30	17 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	18 Elsen Bday Party 7-11pm
19 Aux Breakfast 8-11am	20	21 SAL Mtg 7:00pm	22	23	24 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	25 SAL Brat Sale 11-2
26	27	28	29	30	31 Ham Party	