

Commander's Corner

Greetings Members!

As always August was another great month of events - and looking back to our very last event in July, our Custom Canine Dinner was an overwhelming success! AYCE Taco Bars are a fan favorite - duly noted. Thank you for the support of this cause and for your patience that evening. Don't forget we still have 50/50 raffle tickets available benefiting the Custom Canine Academy. Tickets are \$5 each and the drawing will be held at the end of October!

Of course September also marks the anniversary of the 9/11/2001 attacks on the U.S. and our fallen World Trade Center. Every year we hold our Flags of Honor display around the 11th to honor ALL heroes - veterans, police officers, firefighters, teachers, or whoever YOUR hero is. Stop down to Village Park September 8th-10th to view the breathtaking display. If you are a Legion Family member, or a community member, looking for a way to help out we'd greatly appreciate any extra sets of hands on Sunday afternoon to help tear down the display and fold flags.

I'd like to take a moment to remind all of our members that on September 13th we will hold our next Joint Family Meeting. This meeting is pertinent for attendance, and even if you aren't a regular attendee of monthly meetings we look forward to seeing you. During this meeting we will discuss Joint family matters and set the Legion event calendar for the following six months. A regular Legion Meeting will follow.

Have a great September, everyone.

*-Ben VanHorn,
Post Commander Post 51*

President's Corner

Hello all! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer, it sure seemed to go by quickly. We all are so incredibly proud of the Post 51 Softball team; they placed third in the Division 1 Legion State Championship!! It has been an honor to watch the young ladies play, see how hard they work at their sport, their embodiment of good sportsmanship and kinship of fellow players and their community. They have seen and have been inspired by how we, as a family, all work together to support each other and they are excited to be a part of that family! It's a humbling reminder that people are watching how we represent ourselves even when we least expect it.

There is a Chicken-Q on September 9th, a walk through the Flags of Honor and lunch after sounds like a lovely Saturday. Join us in honoring our community heroes by attending the Flags of Honor ceremony at the Village Park on Sunday, September 10th at 3:00pm. If you feel like showing off your folding skills or would like additional practice, we will have 600 flags waiting to be removed and packed away after the ceremony.

Please note: the September Auxiliary meeting will not be held on the second Tuesday as usual. We will meet on September 13th AFTER the Joint Family Meeting instead!

In addition, please join us for Bingo, a Friday fish fry, Sunday breakfast or the Custom K-9 dinner. Maybe you'll see some new faces; reach out, say hello and enjoy the fellowship the Legion has to offer.

May your September be filled with good health, cooler days, peace and togetherness.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

Building Committee

We had two successful Chicken Q's last month and a great response to our Raffles! Thanks to all for the support. Next Chicken Q is September 9th.

Flags of Honor will be on display September 8-10th, with a closing ceremony in Village Park at 3:00pm on Sunday the 10th. Setup and tear down of the Flags of Honor display is, of course, no simple task. Any and all volunteers willing to help early Friday morning or Sunday after the closing ceremony would be GREATLY appreciated! We have 600 flags to fold!

-Mike Schaller



Building Fund Update

As of 7/18/23

Account Balance:

\$53,087.74

Loan Balance:

\$109,644.20

SAL

Hi everyone,

The SAL is in charge of the first two Fish Fries this month, so any members able to help out would be greatly appreciated.

Membership renewal has arrived, so if you haven't renewed your membership yet please stop down to the Post to do so.

Months ago, the SAL undertook the task of raising money to straighten the pillars in the Court of Honor at the Village Park. Our goal was to raise \$12,000 and thanks to the wonderful support of the Community and the Legion Family, we exceeded our goal. Work was set to begin in Spring, but we were informed by the contractor that the pillars could not be straightened due to the original construction of them not being below the frost line so anything we would attempt to do would be all for naught. We are continuing to look at what our options are going forward, but I felt the need to inform everyone as to the situation and will keep you updated as to what we decide to do in the future.

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

-James Jacobson, SAL Commander

October Events

- 2 Bingo 6:30
 - 4 Executive Board Meeting 6:30
 - 6 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
 - 7 Craft Show
 - 10 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30
 - 11 Legion Meeting 6:30
 - 15 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11
 - 17 SAL Meeting 7:00
 - 18 Building Fund Meeting 6:30
 - 19 40-8 Meeting 6:30
 - 20 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
 - 23 Final Custom Canine Dinner 5-7
 - 26 Wicket Wine Walk
 - 27 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
 - 28 Meatball Dinner
 - 29 Private: Nelson Anniversary Party
- *October dates subject to change after official calendar is set 9/13 at a Joint Family Meeting**

10th Annual
WEST SALEM AMERICAN LEGION
FALL
Craft Show
Saturday, October 7th
9 - 2
Signature Cocktails, Hot Beef Sandwiches,
Raffle baskets & more
148 S Leonard St

This year's event will support our Custom Canines fundraising efforts to help train and provide a service dog for a veteran

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

**Flags of Honor In Village
 Park: September 8th-10th**

American Legion Post 51 Officers:

Commander: Ben VanHorn 608-797-6402
 1st Vice Commander: LaRae Ludeking 715-897-3815
 2nd Vice Commander: Michael Schaller 608-386-3451
 Finance Officer: Jim Jenks 608-451-5962
 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: Jay Christianson 608-397-5005
 SAL Commander: James Jacobson 608-317-8654

American Legion Auxillary Unit 51 Officers:

President: Brooke Parr 608-797-9613
 1st Vice President: Karen Schaller-Wolf 608-797-8399
 2nd Vice President: Lisa Brickl 608-317-9727
 Treasurer: Jen Christianson 608-738-4290
 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

Hall Rental contact Kate VanHorn 608-797-4734

Honor Guard Contact Mike Schaller 608-386-3451

Post 51 Phone Number 608-786-0051

September 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	2
3 WS Street Dance	4 Bingo 6:30pm	5	6 Exec Board Mtg 6:30pm	7	8 Flags of Honor	9 Flags of Honor & Chicken Q
10 Aux Bfast 8-11 Flags of Honor Ceremony 3pm	11	12	13 Joint Family Mtg 6:30pm Aux & Legion Mtgs to follow	14 Class Reunion	15 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	16 Class of '61 Reunion
17 WS Historical Society Mtg (evening)	18	19 SAL Meeting 7:00	20 Build Fund Mtg 6:30	21 40/8 Mtg 6:30	22	23 Hessler Anniversary Party 1-4
24	25 Custom Canines Dinner 5:00pm	26	27	28	29 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	30