

Commander's Corner

Greetings Members!

Hope everyone is having a good Fall so far. We had a productive Joint Family Meeting last month and we are looking forward to some fun Fall events this month and next.

I'm going to keep my thoughts short and sweet this month to focus on giving thanks. THANK YOU to all our members, volunteers, and community members for supporting our Post. We continue to be successful because of you and we are the ones setting an example for other Posts. Whether you realize it or not, you make a difference.

-Ben VanHorn, Post Commander Post 51

SAL

Hi everyone,

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.

Thanks to some generous donations, the Legion Family is going to remodel the Chicken Pit after the last Chicken Q of the year. Demo Day is set for October 21st, and volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work.

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

President's Corner

Hello everyone,

The membership drive is currently underway. You all should have received renewal notices by now, if you have not, please let me or Karen Schaller-Wolf know. Dues are now \$36, or \$6.75 for Junior members. You have multiple ways to renew your membership this year. You can mail it to American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 40, West Salem, WI 54669, online at www.legion-aux.org/renew or by phone at 317-569-4570. In 2023, our unit had 187 members - the third largest auxiliary in the state of Wisconsin, only 12 behind Brookfield and 7 behind Dane county! That is impressive for a "little" town! Let's all work together to achieve that goal again! Let me know if you need help in any way, my email address and phone number are at the bottom.

Fundraising for Custom Canines is over at the end of the month. The take-home for the split is over \$800! Get your tickets while you still can!

We have a district 7 Auxiliary Purse Raffle going on 10/21 at the Neillsville American Legion. Tickets are \$30.00 and covers a two-meat meal with an automatic door prize entry. Cocktail hour starts at 4:00, dinner at 6:00 and raffle at 8:00. There are a few of us already driving up there, let me know if you'd like to carpool or follow us!

I welcome you share your ideas for get togethers, fundraisers or community events with me or someone else from our unit. I have some ideas and will share in the coming months, but we do not all think the same way nor have the same experiences. Please don't hesitate to reach out, even if you are not able to help, but you think something would be fun to do. Points for creativity; let's see what magic we can make together!

We have some cool things happening in and around the legion this month:

Fish and Shrimp dinners start at 5:30pm on 10/13 and 10/27.

No fish on 10/6 this month.

10/7 - 10th Annual Fall Craft Show

10/8 - All You Can Eat Auxiliary Breakfast starting at 8:00AM and goes until its gone or 11:00, whichever comes first.

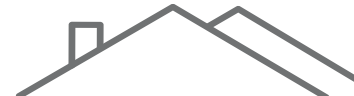
10/14 - The last drive through Chicken Q of the season is at the Village Park starting at 11:00

10/23 - The last Custom Canine supper 5pm-7pm

10/26 - Wicked Wine and Beer Walk - (Halloween themed) Town wide. Stop down and see us starting at 5:00! We're doing the 50/50 drawing too.

10/31 - Trunk or Treat from 5pm -7pm.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President



Building Fund Update

As of 9/19/23

Account Balance:

\$55,650.34

Loan Balance:

\$107,958.76

Building Committee

The building fund raffle drawing was held on August 25th. Thank you to all who purchased and sold tickets. Special thanks to Lisa Brickl, Vern Romskog and Stu and Dawn Anderson for your outstanding selling efforts. Listed below are the lucky winners:

\$1,000 Harold Berberich

\$ 500 Pam Viner

\$ 250 Merlin Wehrs

\$ 50 Kathy Knudtson

\$ 50 Roger Ondeck

\$ 50 Doug Schaller

\$ 50 Jake Viner

\$ 50 Amanda Bue

Our next and last Chicken Q of the season will be on Saturday, October 14th.

Flags of Honor in the Village Park was a huge success. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made this event possible.

Our Fall Wicked Wine and Beer walk will be Thursday, October 26th. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Legion. We are limited to 300 participants. If you plan on attending, buy your tickets early. Tickets are \$30.00 in advance, and \$35.00 day of event.

Building fund is having a holiday quilt raffle! Tickets can be purchased at the Legion or from Melody Schmitz. Drawing will be held on December 16th. Tickets are \$5.00 each, 3 for \$10.00, or 7 for \$20.00.

-Mike Schaller

November Events

1 Executive Board Meeting 6:30

3 Fish & Shrimp 5:30

4 Oktoberfest Grenediars Dinner

6 Bingo 6:30

8 Legion Meeting 6:30

10 Feather Party

11 Marine Corps Bday Party

13 Turkey Dinner

14 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30

15 Building Fund Meeting 6:30

16 40-8 Meeting 6:30

17 Fish & Shrimp 5:30

19 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11

21 SAL Meeting 7:00

22 Old Fashioned Party

23 Thanksgiving

24 Fish & Shrimp 5:30

26 Holiday Craft Show (non-Legion)

10th Annual Fall Craft Show
American Legion
Show
Saturday October 7th, 9am - 2pm
148 S Leonard St, West Salem, WI

FEATURING:

- BoutiqueKL
- Tres' bien Charcuterie
- Velvet Couch Candle Co
- Farm Dog Supply
- Hank's Barkery
- Sew Hope
- Bluefeather Silver Studio
- Angus & Abe Leather Co
- Forest Witch Enchantments
- Kathy's Fun Crochet
- Summit Baby Boutique
- T's Gifts and more
- Woodnote Co
- Bitches Get Stitches
- Bark & Bloom Candle Co
- Lynda Schaller
- JJP Designz
- GiGi's Creations
- Ashley & Carolyn's Sweet treats
- Mollidoll Made it
- 3 Sisters
- Tastefully Simple
- Desi's Creations
- Yes, I Made That, Wendy Tranberg

Signature Cocktails: Twisted Apple & Cinnamon Roll
Door prizes, Raffle baskets and more...

All funds from booth rental, signature cocktail sales and raffle baskets will be donated towards our Canines fundraising efforts to train a service dog for a veteran.

Lunch will be provided by ALA Unit 51 Junior Auxiliary:
Hot Beef Sandwich & Chips
Proceeds from lunch benefit the high school medals program for seniors entering the military after graduation.

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

**Wicket Wine Walk
 October 26th!**

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

October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Bingo 6:30pm	3	4 Exec Board Mtg 6:30pm	5	6 NO FISH	7 Craft Show
8 Aux Breakfast 8-11	9	10 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30	11 Legion Mtg 6:30pm	12 TIC Medicare Mtgs 11 & 1	13 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	14 Chicken Q Ferguson Celeb of Life 4pm
15	16	17 SAL Meeting 7:00	18 Build Fund Mtg 6:30	19 40/8 Mtg 6:30	20 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	21
22	23 Custom Canines Dinner	24	25	26 Wicked Wine Walk	27 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	28 Meatball Dinner
29 Nelson Anniversary Party	30	31				