

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

**Annual Old Fashioned
 Party November 22nd!**

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

November 2023

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 Exec Board Mtg 6:30pm | 2 | 3 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm | 4 Oktoberfest Grenadiers 5pm |
| 5 | 6 Bingo 6:30pm | 7 | 8 Legion Mtg 6:30pm | 9 | 10 Feather Party | 11 Marine Corp Bday Party 4pm |
| 12 | 13 Turkey Dinner 5:30pm | 14 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30pm | 15 Build Fund Mtg 6:30pm | 16 40/8 Mtg 6:30 | 17 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm | 18 |
| 19 Aux Breakfast 8-11 | 20 | 21 SAL Meeting 7:00 | 22 Old Fashioned Party | 23 | 24 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm | 25 |
| 26 Holiday Craft/Vendor Show | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Commander's Corner

Greetings Members!

Hello everyone.

It's hard to believe there are only two months left of 2023. As always, I need to thank our dedicated volunteers and supporters. Post 51 is nothing without you. We are wrapping up our Custom Canine Dinners and fundraisers now, and we can't wait to share with everyone our total funds raised. The dedication of our members and community to this cause has been exceedingly generous.

Our community schools will be observing Veterans Day this year on Friday, November 10th with ceremonies at the following locations and times. I am looking forward to speaking at the Middle School and Elementary School, and I invite my fellow veterans to join me in attendance.

Middle School – veterans should arrive by 7:45 a.m.

Elementary School – veterans should arrive by 8:45 a.m.

High School – veterans should arrive by 10:00 a.m.

We're looking forward to some exciting events this month and hope you can make it down to the Post for the fun. Our annual Old Fashioned Party is a lot of fun. I hope everyone has a happy Thanksgiving as we head into the holiday season.

-Ben VanHorn, Post Commander Post 51

Quilts of Comfort

Post 51 has embarked on an effort to present patriotic quilts or blankets to veterans, similar to the Quilts of Valor program. We are calling it Quilts of Comfort! We currently have 12 veterans residing at Mulder which we would like to give quilts or blankets by November 11th for Veterans Day. Ways you can help:

- 1) Donate a patriotic quilt or fleece blanket
- 2) Donate patriotic fabric for the making of a quilt
- 3) Make a cash donation towards cost of quilting supplies
- 4) Participate in a fleece blanket making event when scheduled

Thank you for considering participation in this event!

President's Corner

Happy Fall y'all!

It sure is nice seeing all the Fall colors and feeling the crispness to the air. I hope you can enjoy it as well. Come on down to the Legion for the annual Feather Party on November 10th! What is a Feather Party? Why, it's turkey bingo and you win turkeys for prizes! Pair that with our Old Fashioned night on 11/22, where Rita and helpers hand muddle the best Old Fashioneds. Plus, we get to enjoy live music and relax a bit before the kickoff to the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. The proceeds go toward paying off the renovation loan. There is a Marine Corps birthday celebration on 11/11. Marines and their spouses are welcome to a cake cutting ceremony held at the legion hall at 4pm. This is a low-key, non-formal event. We also have our annual turkey dinner at 5:30 on 11/13. The meal includes turkey and all the fixings! The cost is \$14.00 per person, but Veterans get meals for free.

This month we will start collecting donations for Veteran's Christmas gift baskets, various snacks/juice boxes and holiday meal items to distribute to veterans, their families and community members in need. More information is available at the post.

Just a friendly reminder to get membership dues in ASAP. Renewing your membership allows our unit to continue to be of service to our veterans, military, and their families. Adult dues are \$36.00 and junior members are just \$6.75.

Please check in with friends and family to see how they are doing. Veterans Day and the holidays, in general, can be difficult for some of us. Sometimes just knowing someone cares can make all the difference in the world. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. I'm here to help.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

SAL

Hi everyone,

Thanks to everyone who helped with the demo of the Chicken Pit. We're looking forward to seeing the final product of the new pit.

Thanks to all who worked events this past month. I'd like to see more of our SAL members helping with events. If you're available please stop down at the clubroom or give me a call.

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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.

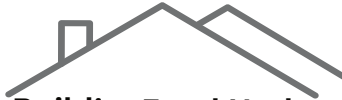
-James Jacobson, SAL Commander

Building Committee

On Wednesday, November 22nd we will be hosting an Old Fashioned drink night with several different types of Old Fashioneds being offered. Tom Carpenter will be playing music during this 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, 7 for \$20.00.

-Mike


BuildingFund Update
As of 10/19/23
Account Balance:
\$40,046.13
Loan Balance:
\$91,106.25

December Events

- 1 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
- 2 Breakfast with Santa
- 3 Private Birthday Party
- 4 Bingo 6:30
- 5 WW2 Documentary
- 6 Executive Board Mtg 6:30
- 9 Private Family Xmas Party
- 10 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11
- 12 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30
- 13 Legion Meeting 6:30
- 15 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
- 16 Bake Sale
- 17 Christmas Baskets
- 19 SAL Meeting 7:00
- 20 Building Fund Meeting 6:30
- 26 WW2 Documentary
- 31 New Year's Eve Party



248th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration

Saturday, November 11th @ 4:00 PM

Official cake cutting ceremony and camaraderie to be held at the
Berg-Hemker-Olson American Legion Post 51
148 South Leonard Street
West Salem, WI

This event is open to the public. All local Marines are encouraged to attend.

Semper Fidelis