

Commander's Corner

On April 11th we had the opportunity to host National Vice Commander Mark Shreve for dinner at our post. I cannot thank everyone enough for their efforts in making this evening a success. As you all know, I am always proud to highlight our unique efforts to work as one family, and the support from our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL and community volunteers for this event went off without a hitch. Commander Shreve was honored to have such a warm welcome and we enjoyed hearing from him on the American Legion's continued efforts of the Be The One campaign.

I'd like to congratulate the following award winners from our Past Commanders-Past Presidents Banquet held on April 21st. These individuals have done a wonderful job promoting their family's values and were instrumental in our success this past year.

Legionnaire of the Year: Mark Schaller
SAL Member of the Year: Dan Hass
Dual Member of the Year: Phil Parr
Auxiliary Member of the Year: Denys Morris
Volunteers of the Year: Roy Warthan & Melody Schmitz

Last month we held nominatinos for officers up for election this term. Elections will be held at the Membership Meeting on Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30pm. Attendance is very important this month to ensure you have a voice in this election. Newly elected officers will be installed in June - the nominees are as follows:

Commander: Ben VanHorn
1st Vice Commander: LaRae Ludeking
2nd Vice Commander: Mike Schaller
3rd Vice Commander: Jay Christianson
Finance Officer: Jim Jenks
Historian: Steve Craig
Chaplain: Ron Korn
Sgt at Arms: Warren Moquin
Sgt at Arms: Roy Warthan
Service Officer: Jay Christianson & Vern Tranberg
Executive Committee: Tim Noble, Jim Jenks, Nancy Brown, Doug Schaller, Ray Kline, Brad Morris, Patrick Wilkinson, Ben Guzman, Ty Schleppenbach

As always, I appreciate all of our volunteers and community support.

-Ben VanHorn, Post Commander Post 51

President's Corner

Hello everyone,

Happy May! It is a joy to see the trees budding and the dandelions popping up already. I hope you can get out and see the splendor of Spring too!

Congratulations to the Legion Member of the Year, Mike Schaller. SAL Member of the Year, Dan Hass. Dual Member of the Year (Legion and SAL), Phil Parr. Auxiliary Member of the Year, Denys Morris. Volunteers of the Year, Roy Warthan and Melody Schmitz. Also, congratulations to our Auxiliary Scholarship winners, Kate Fechner and Emily Fechner! We are very blessed to have each of these members be so involved within our organization. Thank you all for your time and dedication!

Since I'm on the subject of gratitude, I'd also like to take a moment to recognize the time, effort and talents of our Building Fund. Not only are they working so diligently to pay off our building loan, but they are also unsung heroes who are always putting others first and making sure the Legion is taken care of. They are truly awe inspiring. Stay well and take care of each other.

I'd also like to thank Nikki Vidal, Vern Tranberg, and Jim Jenks. I would be lost if it wasn't for their guidance along the way. I believe they did their best to set us up for success and it shows.

We are looking for people to be able to help prepare and/or serve food at funerals. Most funerals are short notice and it is difficult to find last-minute help. If you would like to be put on a volunteer list, please leave a message at the legion (608) 786-0051. Please let us know if you are: up for anything, only prep (cutting vegetables, help make a meal/dessert, etc.) or serving/clean up. If you sign up, you may be called each time, but you are not expected to be available every time. We also are looking for help on the 2nd Sunday morning of each month to help with breakfast. Again, you don't have to be available each time you're called.

Designer Purse Bingo tickets are still available for \$50 each. All are encouraged to dress up in Kentucky Derby style attire, including hats! We will have specialty drinks and food to help celebrate the day. We have Coach, Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Dooney & Borke and Portland Leather Goods to give away and bid on!

Join us for our Memorial Day program at Village Park at 10:00am on 5/27. There is a potluck luncheon to follow which is open to the public. Please join us for good food and fellowship.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

SAL

Hello All and Happy May!

We've made great progress on the Chicken Pit remodel and we were able to have it ready for the first Chicken Que on the 27th of last month. Thanks to everyone who donated to the remodel and all who volunteered their help in getting the work done. It is greatly appreciated. We'll have another fundraiser for the remodel on May 5th - join us from 4:30-6:30 for a \$10 Taco Buffet.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered this past month.

Congratulations to Dan Hass on being named Squadron 51 Member of The Year and Congratulations to Phil Parr on being named Dual Member of The Year.

We also acknowledged our milestone members at the Past Commanders - Past Presidents Banquet last month for their continuous membership:

Rod Staff - 40 years
David Effertz - 40 years
Stuart Anderson- 35 years
Ryan Thill - 35 years
Leroy Brown - 25 years
Mark Powell - 20 years
Dan Hass - 5 years
Scott Johnson - 5 years

ATTENTION ALL SAL MEMBERS:

We will be holding elections for officers at this month's meeting and I ask that all members who are able to attend, please do so. These elections are vital not only to the organization of our Squadron, but also to our continued support of the Legion Family, Veterans and community. So please attend if you are able.

Nominated Officers for Election at May's Meeting:

Commander: Scott Johnson & James Jacobson
1st Vice: Phil Parr & Dan Hass
Adjutant: Claire Sweet
Chaplain: Phil Parr
Finance Officer: Steve Craig

For the fifth straight year we have met our membership goal and we're always looking to keep our Squadron growing. So, if you are the male descendant of a Legionnaire or if your father or grandfather was in the service from December 7th,

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1941 onward and died subsequent to their discharge, you are eligible for membership in the Son's Of The American Legion. Anyone interested can contact myself or Steve Craig or stop down at the Legion club-room to get signed up.

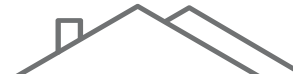
-James Jacobson, SAL Commander

Building Committee

Big thank you to all of our community support as we get closer to paying off our building loan. We have no additional updates this month.

Stay tuned for Chicken Q season!

-Mike Schaller



Building Fund Update
As of 4/25/24
Account Balance:
\$21,602.58
Loan Balance:
\$51,400.60

June Events

1-2 June Dairy Days
2 Private Party 2:00
3 Bingo 6:30
5 Exec Board & Legion Meeting 6:30
7 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
8 Private Grad Party
9 Private Grad Party
11 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30
13 TIC Medicare Mtgs 11:00 & 1:00
15 Private Baby Shower
16 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11
18 SAL Meeting 7:00
19 Building Fund Meeting 6:30
21 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
22 Chicken Q
23 Private Grad Party
28 Fish & Shrimp 5:30
29 Private Grad Party

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

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

**Join us for Cinco de Mayo
 Tacos & Margaritas!**

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 608-386-345

Post 51 Phone: 608-786-0051 / Email: amlgn0051@gmail.com

May 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Exec Board Mtg 6:30pm	2	3 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	4
5 Tacos & Margaritas 4:30- 6:30pm	6 Bingo 6:30pm	7	8 Legion Mtg 6:30pm	9 TIC Medicare Mtgs 11:00 & 1:00	10	11 Designer Purse Bingo 1:00
12 Aux Breakfast 8-11	13	14 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30pm	15 Build Fund Mtg 6:30pm	16 40/8 Mtg 6:30pm	17 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	18 Private Grad Party
19 Private Birthday Party	20 Class of '59 4:00pm	21 SAL Meeting 7:00	22	23	24 Senior Class Bfast 7:30am Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	25 Private Grad Party
26 Private Birthday Party	27 Memorial Day - Potluck following 10:00 ceremony in the Park	28	29	30	31 June Dairy Days	