

## Commander’s Corner

Happy Summer!

Check out our calendar of events this month and next, we’d love to see you. Please note we will *not* have a Fish Fry on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month over the Summer - but we’d love to see you at the Old Fashioned Fish Fry hosted by the SAL on the last Friday of the month.

A new event we’re hosting this year is a Steak Fry in Village Park on June 14th beginning at 3:00pm. Last year Kate and I were invited by my Uncle Neal VanHorn, an Officer at Post 352 in Elgin, Iowa to their own Steak Fry. This was a hands-on event where we grilled your own steak around the pit and enjoyed the comradery. We liked the event so much I wanted to bring the tradition back to Post 51. Tickets are \$25 in advance (price increase day-of) and include a 10oz Ribeye or Chicken Breast, baked potato, salads and dessert. Bring the grilling masters themselves for a Father’s Day outing!

We are looking for memebbers to join the new Court of Honor Committee to plan the reconstruction of the Court of Honor in Village Park. Anyone interested in assisting with this committee please contact Steve Craig at 608-797-1735.

Over the coming months the Post 51 families will be transition to an all electronic newsletter. Phase 1 of the transition will begin with those individuals currently receiving a newsletter whom reside outside of the state of Wisconsin - these individuals will conver to an emailed newsletter first. Over the coming months we will convert all individuals registered to receive a newsletter to an electronic copy via email. If you find you have not been receiving a printed newsletter or copy via email, please do not hesitate to reach out. Please send correspondence to Post 51 via email at amlgn0051@gmail.com so you can be added to the email registry. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate this transition.

*-Ben VanHorn, Post Commander Post 51*

## President’s Corner

Hello! Happy June everyone! I want to start off by thanking everyone who helped with the June Dairy Days chicken-que. It takes a lot of volunteers to pull off this event and we are truly grateful to everyone who helped with ordering food, picking up food/supplies, cooking the chicken, preparing the sides, serving and cleaning up. This event is split between all three families, and it takes all three families to make it happen. Y’all are the best! A special thank you to Lisa Brickl for spearheading a new float for the Poppy Princess, Alanna Woodard, to ride on for the parade. Also, a big thank you to TAL Adjutant and Tech Ed Instructor, Phil Parr, and his Advanced Metals class from West Salem High School.

Congratulations to all our new and returning officers! Installation will occur at the next Auxiliary meeting on June 10th. I will remain President for another term, 1st Vice is Annette Fechner, 2nd Vice will remain Lisa Brickl, Treasurer is Nikki Vidal, Chaplain is Karen Schaller-Wolf, Historian is Jenny Christianson, Secretary will remain Fran Amundson. We are missing a Sargent at Arms. The Sargent at Arms carries the flag at official events and usually for the June Dairy Days parade as well as help to keep the meetings on track. We all step up to carry the Auxiliary flag if someone isn’t available and we understand if someone can’t walk the parade route or attend many events with it.

We are excited to have a baby at the Legion again!! Join us for a Baby Shower for 1st Vice LaRae Ludeking and her new son on June 6th at 5:30pm. We are going with a woodland animal theme and everyone is invited. Baby Ludeking is absolutely adorable and is also the 100th member of the Son’s of the American Legion!!

Reminder only the Sons of the American Legion will host fish frys this summer. Join us for Father’s Day breakfast on Sunday, June 15th; we’ll have cheesy potatoes! No breakfast in July or August. June 14th is the first Steak Fry in the park. Be sure to get your tickets early! June 21st is the annual brat fry at Hanson’s. All money raised goes to buying Christmas presents for West Salem families. We were able to help four families last year. If you’re a baker, we’d love and appreciate donations of baked goods. You don’t have to worry about pricing and plating/bagging does not have to be fancy.

Be well and take care of each other.

*-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President*

## SAL

Hello All and Happy June.

**It's hard to believe that a year ago this month I started doing a history lesson in the newsletter to honor the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. Since then, I've covered many different battles in both Theaters of Operations during World War II. As the Greatest Generation nears it's end, I felt it has been my duty, both as an American and a Grandson of the Greatest Generation, to tell their story so it doesn't get lost to time or become a simple footnote in history. I will continue in the upcoming months, to tell the stories of courage and sacrifice in Korea and Vietnam. I don't have a history lesson for this month as the Battle of Okinawa was still raging on for most of June 1945. So please take a moment to recognize and honor the sacrifices our Father's and Grandfather's made in the closing months of World War II.**

Thanks to everyone who helped work our events last month. It was a busy month with Memorial Day, June Dairy Days and many other events. Your help is greatly appreciated.

I'm proud to say that Squadron 51 has reached 100% for the 5th (I think) consecutive year. We're not done though as we are always looking for new members.

Our meetings are held at 7:00, the third Tuesday of every month at the Legion. I ask anyone who is a member or interested in becoming a member, to attend the meeting. You can also contact myself or Dan Hass or stop down at the Legion Clubroom to join.

*-James Jacobson, SAL Commander*

## 4th of July Celebration

Join us for an early Independence Day Celebration on July 3rd at the Post. We’ll have Pork Fritter Sandwiches, Apple Cole Slaw and Maragaritas! Food will be served 5:30-7:30pm and all are welcome.

## Building Commission

There is nothing major to report for the Building Commission, for this month.

Upcoming dates and events have been posted. Post 51 just hosted the Senior Breakfast for the graduating class of 2025 and we are gearing up for Memorial Day and then June Dairy Days weekend. Thank you to those of you that helped.

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage the membership of all of our families to lend a hand when you can. We are a small community but Post 51 has a great impact within our community.

Thank you all.  
Semper Fidelis

*-Phil Parr*

## July Events

- 3 - July 4th Party 5:30
- 7 - Bingo 6:30
- 8 - Auxiliary Meeting 6:30
- 9 - Legion & Exec Board Meeting 6:30
- 12 - Private Family Reunion
- 15 - SAL Meeting 7:00
- 16 - Building Comm Meeting 6:30
- 16-20 - Lax Interstate Fair
- 17 - 16 & Under Regional Baseball Tourn
- 19 - Private Baby Shower
- 26 - Private Family Reunion
- 30 - Membership Comm Meeting 6:00
- 30 - Investment Club Meeting 7:00

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

Steak Fry In Village Park  
June 14th!

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  
3rd Vice Commander: Jay Christianson 608-397-5005  
Finance Officer: Jim Jenks 608-451-5962  
Chaplain: Ron Corn 608-799-6804  
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: Vern Tranberg 608-769-1045  
SAL Commander: James Jacobson 608-317-8654

Honor Guard contact Mike Schaller 608-386-345  
Post 51 Phone: 608-786-0051 / Email: amlgn0051@gmail.com

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: 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 608-399-9020  
Secretary: Fran Amundsen 608-790-4860  
Sunshine Chairman: Sue Haack 608-786-2923

June 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 June Dairy Days	2 Bingo 6:30pm	3	4	5	6 Baby Shower 5:30pm	7
8 Softball Team Signup 1:30pm	9 COH Redo 7:00pm	10 Aux Meeting 6:30pm	11 Exec Board & Legion Meetings 6:30pm	12 Medicare 101 Meetings 11:00 & 1:00	13	14 Steak Fry in Village Park 3:00pm
15 Auxiliary Father's Day Breakfast 8:00-11:00am	16	17 SAL Meeting 7:00pm	18 Building Comm Meeting 6:30pm	19 40-8 Meeting 6:30pm	20	21 Graduation Party
22	23	24	25 Membership Committee 6pm Investment Club 7pm	26	27 Old Fashioned Fish Fry 5:30pm	28 Chicken Q in Village Park 11:00am
29	30					