

Commander’s Corner

Happy August Legionaires!

Last month was a very busy month, Department Convention came as fast as it went. Post 51 was awarded another Membership Streamer for our Post flag, And I would like to personally Congratulate Vice Commander Ludeking and all who participated on the Membership Committee! Buddy Checks are working! We're connecting with our membership, and our engagement with renewals shows it. THANK YOU for showing our Veterans the compassion for a phone call, it goes along way! I would also like to thank our Legion Baseball and Legion Softball teams for another great season! Through some of the games may not have turned out the way we wanted, one constant remains, Post 51 Legion Teams have set the standard in Wisconsin. From our Coaching staff, to the Players and volunteers, everyone knows we as a Team hold ourselves to a higher standard, and all who are involved have represented the Post in a great way! I cannot be more proud of our teams this year, so, THANK YOU!

Fall will be coming to us fast, so please, enjoy what's left of the summer, But here are a few more reminders:

We are looking for members 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. There will be a Court of Honor Committee meeting on Monday September 8th at 7:00pm as well, feel free to join.

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 convert 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

Happy August!

I hope your air conditioning is working well, and you've been able to spend quality time with friends and family this summer. I was very happy to see such a great turnout for our Workers Appreciation Party! We had an excellent dinner catered by Features and gave away a bunch of prizes. This dinner and prizes are paid for by the tips we receive throughout the year.

The annual Membership Picnic is on August 23rd. When you renew your membership(s) at the Legion on the 23rd, you get a free chicken-q dinner(s)! Auxiliary membership prices are holding at \$36 for adults and \$6.75 for Junior members. Dues are for the 2025-2026 year. If you paid your dues late, it does not cover this next year.

We have our Auxiliary meeting on the 12th at 6:30, the Sons of the American Legion have their Old Fashioned Fish Fry on the 29th and the West Salem Street Dance is on the 31st. Come down to see the delicious food the Post has on offer!

Just because we haven't been serving fish and shrimp does not mean our volunteers are resting on their laurels! Just in July, our team has been busy still offering bingo the first Monday of the month, working softball and baseball concession stands and food pit (including the 16U Regional tournament during fair week - wow!) plus helping with different events at the fair. I truly feel blessed to work with such a fun, dedicated group of individuals and am so excited seeing new faces wanting to help too! The more the merrier! While we have hard work to do, we do our best to have fun and enjoy each other's company while we do it. What better way to serve others than with a smile on our faces!

A big congratulations to the 2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary of Wisconsin officers! President Sue Hembrook, Sr VP Amy Luft, 1st Vice Christina Petranovich, 2nd VP Betty Stone, Sgt-at-Arms Sue Turowski, Asst Sgt-at-Arms Linda Coppock, Chaplain Sandy Mack, Dept Historian Christine Johnsen, Executive Secretary and Treasurer Bonnie Dorniak, NEC Maggie Geiger, alternate NEC Becky Mueller. We are excited to see what they have in store for us this year!

Be well and take care of each other.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

SAL

Hello All and Happy August!

August 2nd marks the 80th Anniversary of the end of the Potsdam Conference. As mentioned in last month's history lesson, one of the agreed upon measures of the conference was the total and unconditional surrender of Japan. That measure led to President Truman to make the necessary but controversial decision to bring the Manhattan Project to fruition. On August 6th, the first of two Atomic Bombs was dropped on Hiroshima. Three days later on August 9th, the second was dropped on Nagasaki. This decision, still controversial and still widely debated 80 years later, was made with the hopes of preventing the invasion of mainland Japan and to bring about the total and unconditional surrender of Japan. It accomplished both goals. President Truman's decision in August 1945, saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of American GI's, but at what cost to humankind? Please take a moment to reflect on and honor the sacrifices our Father's and Grandfather's made in the closing weeks of World War II.

Thanks to everyone who helped work events last month, it was a busy month for the Legion Family.

If you haven't done so already, please honor the veterans in your life and your community by purchasing a flag of honor for the Flags of Honor display at the Village Park next month.

There will be no Court of Honor Committee meeting this month. The next meeting will be September 8th at 7:00 at the Legion. Please attend if you're interested.

The SAL Old Fashioned Fish Fry will be the last Friday of the month, August 29th. Prep will be Thursday the 28th at 6:30. Any and all help would be appreciated.

We're always looking for new members, so if you're the male descendant of a Legionnaire or the male descendant of a veteran who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from the service, you're eligible. Anyone interested please contact myself or Dan Hass, or stop down at the Post to get signed up.

-James Jacobson, SAL Commander

Building Commission

**** ATTENTION ****

Building Commission Raffle Tickets are currently on sale!

If you have tickets for sale, please get out and do so. Tickets are available for purchase at Post 51 or from the Post Officers and Building Commission members. If you need more tickets to sell, please see Mike Shaller.

July has flown by. I would like to take this opportunity to give all our volunteers from the Post 51 Family a HUGE heart-felt "Thank You." Having the State Convention, the Legion's Regional Baseball Tournament and the La Crosse Interstate Fair in the same week had us spread a little thin. Great job, everyone.

Just a reminder, August 2nd is the Building Commission Chicken Q, as well as the Sip & Savor event starting at 5:00. Please come out and support the Building Commission while you enjoy some amazing appetizers and cocktails.

Be sure and put August 31st on your schedule. That is the date for the 2025 West Salem Street Dance. The Post will be open, and the Building Commission & SAL will be selling food.

Flags of Honor is approaching quickly. September 5th - 7th are the dates for this year. Flags of Honor forms were sent out with your July newsletter. They are also available at the Post.

I hope you have an amazing August!

-Phil Parr

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August 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Chicken Q 11:00 Sip & Savor 5:00
3 Baby Shower	4 Bingo 6:30pm	5	6	7 Medicare Mtngs 11 & 1	8	9 Class Reunion
10	11	12 Aux Meeting 6:30pm	13 Exec Board & Legion Meetings 6:30pm	14	15	16 Wedding Reception
17	18	19 SAL Meeting 7:00pm	20 Building Comm Meeting 6:30pm	21	22	23 Membership Picnic
24 /31 31st - Street Dance	25	26	27 Membership Committee 6pm Investment Club 7pm	28	29 Old Fashioned Fish Fry 5:30	30