

Commander’s Corner

Happy September, Fall is upon us!

Regular Fish Fries return on the 1st and 3rd Friday this month, and continuing the SAL Old Fashioned Fish Fries on the last Friday. With that, volunteers are always welcomed. If you know any students looking for volunteer hours for organizations such as Nationa Honors Society or otherwise, please reach out! We have had many students join us for Fish Fries in the past to fulfill these hours by serving food and clearing tables.

Beginning soon will be the online classes for the Wisconsin American Legion College. Anyone looking to be a graduate of the WI American Legion College should enroll at the WI American Legion website. Enrollment is open to Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members!

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. 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 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

I can’t believe school has already started and the weather is already so cool. I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful summer. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers who helped with baseball, softball, baseball regionals and the events we held

at the legion this summer! You all rock!! Our Membership Picnic was another great success! We went through 160 halves of chicken in under two hours. The Sons always do an amazing job on the chicken!

Hopefully everyone got in the Flags of Honor forms in to honor a veteran, EMS/Police or outstanding community member. Be sure to take a stroll through the park!

Legion activities go back into full swing starting with our Fish, Shrimp and More dinners on September 5th and 19th. SAL will have their Old Fashioned Fish Fry on 9/26. The Pillar Committee is meeting on the 7th and 7pm. The project wound up being much larger than anyone expected so a multi-family committee has been formed. They are looking for volunteers who want to be part of the planning and fundraising. The auxiliary will have the traditional breakfast buffet on the 21st this month.

THERE WILL NOT BE AN AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON THE 9TH. The Executive Board only will meet this day but there is a joint family meeting on the 10th, all are invited and encouraged to attend. This meeting is where we set the schedule for the next six months as well as discuss and vote on important issues that affect the legion as a whole.

Membership renewals are underway again! There are multiple ways to renew your membership: In person at the hall or contact Nikki Vidal (phone number is in the officers list. PHONE - Call National direct @ (317) 569-4570 (Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am – 3:30 pm) National will now be taking member’s dues payments over the phone via debit or credit card. You will speak to a real person. ONLINE - Payments of multiple members should be done over the phone. Members may pay their dues via debit or credit card by visiting the national website www.ALAforVeterans.org. You will need to create a log in ID if you don’t already have one. An email address and member ID# is required. Please contact Nikki or I if you don’t have an old membership card to reference.

The District and State newsletters, as well as information about all things Auxiliary, can be found on the State website. <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org>. Stay well and take care of each other.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

SAL

September 2nd marks the 80th Anniversary of Japan's surrender to Allied Forces, marking the official end of World

War II. The surrender took place on the USS Missouri, which was anchored in Tokyo Bay. During the four year struggle, on two world fronts, the United States suffered 1,076,245 casualties. Of those casualties: 405,399 soldiers, sailors and airmen were killed in action or died as a result of wounds sustained in combat. 670,846 were wounded and another 72,491 were reported missing. The total monetary cost, when adjusted for inflation, was just shy of \$5.7 Trillion, making it the most costly military conflict in United States history. World War II was the most important conflict of the 20th Century and the Allied Victory over tyranny and imperialism was the defining moment for all free people and all free nations across the world. We owe everything and then some to The Greatest Generation for the courage and sacrifice made in that twilight struggle for humanity. So please, at some point, take a moment to raise a glass, tip your hat, or offer up a silent prayer for the heroes of World War II.

Thanks to everyone who helped work events this past month.

Our Old Fashioned Fish Fry will be on Friday, September 26th. Prep will be Thursday the 25th at 6:30. If you're able to lend a hand for either one or both, stop down.

The Court of Honor Committee meeting will be Monday, September 8th at 7:00 at the Legion. For any questions, contact Steve Craig.

Be sure to stop and see the Flags of Honor at the Village Park, September 5th - 7th. It is a great tribute to our heroes.

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.

For current members, it’s time to renew your membership! Renewing before December at Post 51 saves the organization millions of dollars in postage fees - which is money we can use to help move veterans.

-James Jacobson, SAL Commander

Building Commission

Holy cow, it is already September! The students are back at school and so am I. I don’t know about you, but this summer flew by. On that note, please keep an eye out for pedestrians and school buses.

By the time you read this, we will have already had the West Salem Street Dance and Rock The Vets. Summer is winding down, but we have several events that you should plan on attending.

Flags of Honor will be in Village Park on Friday, September 5th -7th . If you have never experienced Flags of Honor, please do. It is a spectacle to behold.

Also on Friday, September 5th , we will be having our first Fish and Shrimp Dinner of the season, which I know many of you are looking forward to. The Fish and Shrimp Dinner will be held at Post 51. To wrap up Friday night, please join us in Village Park for a fireworks display at dusk. This is our way of saying “Thank You” to our community for all of their ongoing support.

One more thing about Flags Of Honor. If you have seen it, you can probably imagine what an undertaking it is to set up and tear down. If any of you have time on Friday morning and would be able to lend a hand, your help would be greatly appreciated. We will start setting up at 7:00 AM.

Wednesday, September 10th is our next Family meeting. I would like to encourage everyone reading this to attend. At the family meeting, we not only set our events calendar but also discuss items that impact our entire Post 51 family. If you have ideas or constructive criticism on how we can do better as a Post, this is your opportunity to let your voice be heard,

On the evening of October 9th, we will be hosting the Wicked Wine and Beer Walk from 5-7 PM. Tickets are now on sale for \$30, or \$35 the evening of the event (if available).

Lastly, it doesn’t matter if you are a Legion, Auxiliary, SAL or Family member, we all need to keep track of our volunteer hours. Long story short, reporting volunteer hours is what gives The American Legion voting power, and those votes can have a direct impact on our Post. In the near future, you should start seeing sheets being passed at our monthly meetings and events. Please document your time, to the best of your ability, so our Post can better capture our volunteer hours. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. At a time when many posts are struggling, we are flourishing, and it is because of all of you. Thank You All!

-Phil Parr

Berg Hemker Olson
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Sgt at Arms:
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September 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Bingo 6:30pm	2	3 Exec Board & Legion Meetings 6:30pm	4	5 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm Flags of Honor	6 Wedding Reception Flags of Honor
7 Flags of Honor	8 Pillar Commitee 7pm	9	10 Joint Family Meeting 6:30pm	11 Medicare Mtngs 11 & 1	12	13
14 Garland Days	15	16 SAL Meeting 7:00pm	17 Building Comm Meeting 6:30pm	18 40-8 Meeting 6:30pm	19 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	20 Private Event (Chicken Q in Park)
21 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11	22	23	24 Membership Committee 6pm Investment Club 7pm	25	26 Old Fashioned Fish Fry 5:30	27 Private Anniversary Party
28	29	30				