

Commander’s Corner

Happy October to all,

We hope to see you at the post for our many events this month and for membership meetings.

A message from 1st Vice Commander LaRae Ludeking:
While conducting buddy checks recently we have found that many members have incorrect or out-of-service phone numbers on file, or no phone number listed at all. We would love to be able to reach more of you for check-ins! You can update your phone number online via MyLegion.org or by calling the post directly and we can update your phone number on you behalf for national and post level communication.

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

Happy Fall to all!

Thank you to all who attended the Joint Family Meeting! It was great seeing so many in attendance. Due to costs and volunteer constraints, the family voted to discontinue having the salad bar with our regular fish fries. We also will only have fish on the second Friday of each month. I understand this is a huge change for our Legion family, but we are hopeful it will be received well. We also heard from two young ladies who shared their experiences of going to Badger Girls State this past June. They were excited to go and were glad they did! We have a volunteer sign-up sheet in the office to keep track of which events and duties each volunteer would be willing to lend their time. Please stop in and fill out a sheet as you are able. As always, we are willing to train!

At the August Auxiliary meeting, it was decided that we would give poppy donations to each of these groups, \$400 went to each - Tomah VA, Creative Arts Festival, Veterans Female Homeless and the Veterans Emergency Fund. Donating money when you receive a poppy is not necessary but we, and the groups mentioned above, are very grateful!

It’s that time of year for membership renewal! You should have received your membership renewal notice, if not, you should receive it shortly. You can use your credit or debit card to pay dues over the phone by calling (317) 569-4570 (Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am – 3:30 pm) or you can renew online at <http://www.alaforveterans.org/>. You will need to create a log in ID, add your email address and have your membership number handy. Membership numbers are on your Auxiliary ID card. If you missed renewing last year, it’s ok! You can choose to pay for last year and this year (to keep continuous membership) or pay \$36.00 for 2026.

We are having our annual craft show on October 4th, I’m sure the hall will be filled with plenty of cute and handy items! We are also hosting the annual Wine Walk on the 9th. Buy tickets and visit business all over town while sipping on samples of beer and wine and nibbling on snacks. We will have our regular fish dinner on the 10th. Karen is also hosting her famous meatball dinner on the 25th. See you at the Legion!

Be well and take care of each other.

-Brooke Parr, ALA Unit 51 President

SAL

Hello All and Happy October.

October 17th marks the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Pyongyang during the Korean War. The previous month, UN forces had recaptured Seoul, the capital of South Korea during the Battle of Inchon. Shortly afterwards, UN forces crossed the 38th Parallel into North Korea during the Battle of Pyongyang. By October 19th, Pyongyang would be under UN control as the Korean People's Army retreated to the outlying areas. The UN victory would be short lived as Pyongyang would fall back under the control of North Korea by December. Please take a moment to honor the sacrifices our Father's and Grandfather's made during the early days of the Korean War.

Thanks to everyone who helped work events last month.

Due to the Halloween Festivities going on in Downtown West Salem on the 31st, we decided to move our Old Fashioned Fish Fry up a week to the 24th. Prep will be at 6:30 on Thursday the 23rd at the Legion.

The Court of Honor Committee meeting will be Monday, October 13th at 7 PM at the Legion. Anyone interested stop down or contact Committee Chairman Steve Craig with any questions.

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

A huge thank you to all of the volunteers that helped make the Flags of Honor event a success again this year, it takes a lot of time and effort to put such a beautiful display together every year.

October is another busy month for the Building Commission, the 12th Annual Craft Show is Saturday October 4th and our Wicked Wine & “Potion” walk is on Thursday October 9th.

Melody has another beautiful quilt that she has made that is being raffled off for the benefit of the building fund. The winner will be drawn at the annual bake sale on December 20th. Which brings up the bake sale – we are always looking for baked goods for the bake sale, so if you love to bake please let us know and we would love to have you be a part of the annual Christmas bake sale that benefits the building fund as well.

We are once again doing the Old Fashioned night on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and Tom Carpenter will be here providing music. If you are in town for the holiday we would love to see you.

Thank you everyone that continues to support our renovation plans, we couldn’t do it without you.

-Nikki Vidal

Berg Hemker Olson
The American Legion Post 51
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Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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West Salem WI
Permit No. 34

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3rd Vice Commander: Jay Christianson 608-397-5005

Finance Officer: Jim Jenks 608-451-5962

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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

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Historian: Jenny Christianson 608-738-4290

Sgt at Arms:

Sgt at Arms:

Secretary: Fran Amundsen 608-790-4860

Sunshine Chairman: Sue Haack 608-786-2923

October 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Exec Board Meeting 6:30pm	2	3	4 Craft Show
5	6 Bingo 6:30pm	7	8 Legion Meeting 6:30pm	9 Wine Walk 4:30-8	10 Fish & Shrimp 5:30pm	11 Class Reunion
12 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11 Legion Riders Meeting	13 Pillar Commitee 7pm	14 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00pm	15 Building Comm Meeting 6:30pm	16 40-8 Meeting 6:30pm	17	18 Chicken Q in Park Private Event
19	20	21 SAL Meeting 7:00pm	22	23 Medicare 101 Meetings 11 & 1	24 Old Fashioned Fish Fry 5:30	25 Meatball Dinner
26	27	28	29 Membership Committee 6pm Investment Club 7pm	30	31 Downtown Trunk or Treat	