

*Berg-Hemker-Olson American Legion Post 51*

# NEWSLETTER



## Commander's Corner

**Ben VanHorn, Post Commander Post 51**

Happy June, everyone -

As with previous years, please note during the Summer months we will hold a combined Executive Board and Legion Membership meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. This month, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will be installing our newly elected Officers as well.

As my term as Commander comes to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of our Post for your support, dedication, and commitment to our shared mission of service. It has been a true honor and privilege to serve alongside such a strong and caring group of Legionnaires. Together, we have continued the important work of supporting veterans, strengthening our community, and upholding the values of The American Legion. I am deeply grateful for your encouragement, your volunteer spirit, and the many ways each of you has contributed to the success of our Post.

I also want to offer my sincere congratulations and best wishes to our incoming Commander, Phil Parr. I am confident that with your support, our Post will continue to grow and thrive in the months ahead.

I'd like to extend one final thank you to my own predecessor, Vern Tranberg, for his mentorship over the last four years. Your guidance, and more importantly your friendship, was pivotal during my terms. I strive to do the same for Commandor Parr.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your Commander. I will always be proud to stand with this Post and all it represents.

## President's Corner

**Brooke Parr, ALA President Unit 51**

Happy June, everyone! Welcome to Summer – longer days, cold drinks, and plenty of chances to get involved. I hope this finds you all doing well.

**Calling for help!** June Dairy Days is this weekend, and we're still short on volunteers. We need 8 people on Saturday and 2 on Sunday to help serve chicken.

- Saturday shifts: 10-1, 1-4, and 2-5 (or until sold out)
- Sunday: 11-sold out If you can spare a few hours, we'd love to have you jump in.

Be sure to wave to this year's Poppy Princess, Adrionna Bayer Grant, in the June Dairy Days parade. I was out of town for the Memorial Day Ceremony, but I heard she did a fantastic job reciting In Flanders Field.

We're also looking for help staffing the concession stands for Legion Baseball and Legion Softball this summer. Baseball is hosting Regionals July 23-27, and we'll need all hands on deck to cover the many roles that week.

We are accepting renewals and applications. You can renew by check or credit card in person or through the mail, [click here to renew online](#), or call National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570. Please have your member ID ready, give your membership number, and tell them you're with Unit 51 in West Salem, WI. Please reach out to me or Nikki Vidal if you have any questions or concerns.

**July's Upcoming Events:**

- **Bingo – July 6** Doors open at 5:30, bingo kicks off at 6:00. Light dinner and dessert included. Come hungry and ready to shout “BINGO!”
- **District 7 Auxiliary Family Picnic – July 4** Andrew Blackhawk Post 129 in Black River Falls is hosting the first-ever 7th District Auxiliary Family Picnic at the Pow Wow grounds (W8426 State Highway 54). Bring a dish to pass and enjoy the Pow-Wow, which is open to the public.
- **La Crosse Interstate Fair – July 15–19** Did you know we sell beer at the fair? We sure do – and there are plenty of open shifts if you'd like to help pour.
- **Old Fashioned Fish Fry – July 31** – The Sons of the American Legion host this popular event with fried fish, vinegar based coleslaw, beans, a roll and choice of baked potato or french fries.

Thank you for everything you do to keep our Legion family strong. Your time, energy, and heart make all the difference – especially during our busy summer season.

Stay well and take care of each other.

## SAL

**James Jacobson, SAL Commander Squadron 51**

Hello All and Happy June.

Please take a moment on June 6th to honor the men of Normandy on 81st Anniversary of D-Day.

Thanks to everyone who worked events this past month. The next few months will also be very busy at the Post, so any and all help from more SAL members would be appreciated.

Due to rising costs, we decided to raise the price of our Old Fashioned Fish Fry to \$15, starting this month.

The Old Fashioned Fish Fry will be Friday, June 26th. Prep will be on Thursday the 25th.

The Pillars Committee will meet on June 8th at 7 PM at the Post. Anyone interested in attending, feel free to stop down or contact Steve Craig with any questions.

There's a few last minute openings to cook onion rings at June Dairy Day's, June 5-7th. Anyone interested in signing up, please contact me.

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.

## Building Commission

Building Commission successfully sold nearly all of the \$10 Calendar Raffle tickets to benefit the Kitchen Remodel. Winners were announced on Facebook and notified directly, please see the list of winners below. Congratulations to all!



Berg Hemker Olson American Legion Post 51, West Salem

FILL THE GRILL  
**BINGO**  
SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH



Come Play Bingo for Meat Bundles

Meat Raffle Baskets

Bingo starts at 2pm  
Basket drawing at 4:30

All meat from Craig's Meats,  
Mindoro, WI

148 S Leonard St, West Salem, WI

All proceeds benefit the Court of Honor Pillars Project



See the President's Corner on Page 2 for details!

# June 2026 Post 51 Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Bingo 6:30pm	2	3 Executive Board & Legion Meeting 6:30pm	4	5 June Dairy Days	6 June Dairy Days
7 June Dairy Days	8 Pillar Committee Meeting 7:00pm	9 Auxiliary Meeting 6:30pm	10	11 Medicare 101 Meetings 10am-3pm	12	13
14 Private Wedding Shower	15	16 SAL Meeting 7:00pm	17 Building Commission Meeting 6:30pm	18 40-8 Meeting 6:30pm	19	20
21 Auxiliary Breakfast 8-11 Private Grad Party	22	23	24 Membership Committee 6:00pm Investment Club 7:00pm	25	26 Old Fashioned Fish Fry 5:30pm	27 Chicken Q in Village Park
28 Fill the Grill Bingo 2:00pm	29	30				