



Struck-Klandrud Post No. 336

Onalaska American Legion

Chartered May 14, 1921

WEBSITE: WWW.ONALASKAPOST336.ORG EMAIL: ONALASKALEGION@GMAIL.COM

Officers:

Commander:
Robert Weber
 1st Vice:
Kent Stephan
 2nd Vice:
Alan Lauermann
 3rd Vice:
David Delimat
 Adjutant:
Vacant
 Finance Officer:
James Bialecki
 Judge Advocate:
Todd Bjerke
 Chaplain:
Gary Chesbro
 Service Officer:
Vern Reekers - 783-3913
 Historian:
Gary Chesbro
 Sgt. at Arms
Alan Lauermann,
Jim Binash
 Editor:
rfrechette@centurytel.net

To Post 336 Legionnaires, Auxiliary and S.A.L. Members and Friends

Here we are in December and, as I have said before, where has the year gone? I ask that you drive safely in your travels during the busy Holidays ahead. I hope that everyone had a good and successful hunting season.

Our Poultry Party was successful although I would have liked more people in attendance. While numbers will be finalized at a later date, it appears that our profit is about \$2,200. We still have some turkeys left over, but they are going quickly. If interested, please call me. I THANK everyone who helped with this event!

In the afternoon, prior to the Poultry Party, the DA CAPO CONCERT BAND performed in our dining room - turned concert hall. The band, consisting of about 40 members, performed for about 80 folks who attended. Band members passed the hat and generated \$740 in contributions for the Freedom Honor Flight. We look forward to future performances from this fine group of accomplished musicians.

I am disappointed in our membership. At our November meeting, we had 13 members in attendance. We have 640+ members and we only get 13 to 20 people on average for a meeting which is about 2% - 3% on average for a meeting. These people are the ones who make all the decisions on what happens here. So, if you want to be involved, COME TO THE MEETINGS.

People bitch at me about a variety of items. Unless it's a real problem, I most often blow it off, which isn't right. Most of the time, it's rumors or hear-say that are not accurate and lack facts. If you want to see that we go in the right direction, attend the meetings and express your opinions and help out or just be quiet if you do not have constructive input.

In the personnel area, I have a possible adjutant, but still need one House Committee (Bar Oversight) person. Any who is interested, please contact me.

Regards, Bob Weber, Commander (608) 526-4807

SONS of the AMERICAN LEGION

It was a sad day October 30th when we heard that our commander, Bill Sterling, passed away. Our hearts and prayers go out the Sterlings. Bill's positive attitude and personality will be sorely missed. He gave so much of his time and energy to the Legion, SAL, and Legion Riders that we all feel the loss but at the same-time, feel privileged that we had the chance to be part of his life. Bill gave unselfishly of himself and we are proud of what he has accomplished.

Our board of directors has decided that, in his honor, Bill will remain as Commander until his term expires in May 2016. Feel free to contact any Board member if you have any SAL issues or suggestions. We will need continued support and we want to thank all the members who belong to this great organization and especially for the people who also give up their time and energy to serve such a great cause.

On a lighter note, at last months board meeting we agreed to leave the price of the breakfast at \$8. October-June the third Sunday each month breakfast will be served from 7:30 AM -11:30 AM, except for Mothers and Fathers Day. Both will replace scheduled times for that month.

In 2014, we gave back all of our profits to various charities and will continue to do so this year. Because of your patronage and support we are able to give back to our community and be proud to be part of the American Legion Family. Again, thank you.

S.A.L. Officers

Commander:
Bill Sterling
 1st Vice:
Doc Hagel
 2nd Vice:
Neil Merritt
 3rd Vice:
Mathew Burnett
 Adjutant:
Ray Kline

~ Auxiliary ~

Greetings to my fellow auxiliary members and friends,

Our meeting was held on November 11, 2015. First of all I would like to thank everyone that helped with the funeral lunch for Bill Sterling, all of your efforts were very much appreciated. This was a sad time for all who knew him.

Shirley Berberich, our First Vice is working very diligently to get our membership up to date and would like to remind everyone who hasn't already paid their dues to please make an effort to pay them as soon as possible.

Our auxiliary Christmas party potluck will be December 9 starting at 6:00 p.m. Instead of a gift exchange this year, please bring a donation of non-perishable food or paper products for the Food Basket. To assure a variety of food for the potluck, members with the last names beginning A through H please bring a hot dish, I through P bring a salad and Q through Z bring a desert, please contact Sue Kelley at 608-769-3628 with what you are bringing, if you haven't already. There will be a short meeting on December 09, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. with the potluck and our festivities to follow, please be sure to attend.

Thank you for supporting our organization and our deserving veterans. See you at the Post.

Mary Grenier, President, 608-317-6673

Auxiliary:

President

Mary Grenier, 317-6673

1st Vice President

Shirley Berberich

2nd Vice President - vacant

Treasurer - Sue Kelley

Secretary - Liz Weber

Chaplain

Wilma Dettinger

Sergeant at Arms

Colleen Kujak, Sue Kelley

Historian

Luella Chesebro

Sunshine Chairwoman:

Liz Reekers

POST 336 MEMBERSHIP

Hi to all members. As we get near the end of the year, we are pushing to reach our 100% membership goal. We are currently at 78% of our goal of 622 members, meaning 137 to go.

We thank all who have renewed, and ask for support from those who haven't. We look forward to seeing you at the Legion. Have a great and safe Christmas season.

Kent Stephan, 1st Vice Commander (608) 780-3294



Texas Hold'Em

It is with great sorrow that I send this letter to all of the Texas Hold 'Em players and friends on the passing of a dear friend, BILL STERLING. Billy Bird Seed will be missed.

With this we can only go on having a great time and enjoying the friends we make at the Onalaska Legion.

Chris Rip and the Pit Bull (Clarence Stellner)

TOMAH VA MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC) NEWS

Mike Christianson, American Legion Representative to the VA Hospital in Tomah has provided a statistical recap concerning voluntary service at that facility for the fiscal year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014 - Sept. 30, 2015).

THE ONALASKA AMERICAN LEGION POST 336 is credited with sponsorship of Bingo games for the vets. The Post provides \$50 per month (\$600 annually) for prizes. In addition, several Post 336 members traveled to Tomah to help out with the Annual Fishing Opener Celebration, primarily cooking mounds of burgers and brats. Throughout the year, there are significant donations of clothing, caps, instant coffee and other beverages from Post members and friends as well. There is a collection box for these materials inside the front entryway to the Legion.

Accolades go out to our Sergeant-At-Arms, Jim Binash who made 25 visits to Tomah and 188 hours of service to vets during those visits.

When asked, our own Mike Christianson, a very modest fellow, dodged a question of his own trips and hours. Let's just say many people can't count that high.

OTHER VOLUNTEER STATS included La Crosse area Legion Posts with 88 regularly scheduled volunteers, 5141 total hours and 1048 visits.

There were 538 total volunteers who worked at Tomah during the year; 36,162 "regularly scheduled volunteer" hours (a 5,000 hour increase over the prior year); occasional volunteer hours were 2,497; and the hourly value of volunteer labor, at \$22.55 per hour, totaled \$891,863. Accounting for these hours, plus the value of monetary, activity and items donation, TOTAL FINANCIAL IMPACT = \$1,229,454.

Anyone with questions or to get advice on how to volunteer your services to the hospitalized vets at Tomah, contact Mike Christianson as noted below. In the meantime, we ask that you do not forget the fallen, missing or hospitalized vets.

*Mike Christianson, American Legion Rep., Tomah VAMC
(608) 519-5818*

THE ONALASKA LEGION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650**

Legion Baseball Collecting Cans

The Baseball Committee of our Legion Post 336 has a site in the parking lot to collect aluminum cans to raise money for our Legion Baseball. All are encouraged to donate their aluminum cans to this most worthy cause!



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La Crosse County Aging Unit

Do you have some spare time? Would you like to feel good about helping the great community of Onalaska?

We are looking for people to deliver meals to homebound seniors and to help out at the Onalaska Senior Dining Center.

Who knows you may see your neighbor there?

Please contact La Crosse County Aging Unit @ 785-6137.

festival
foods

**Retired and Active Railroad Employees:
Protect your (NARVRE)
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**Call: Doug Fischer
at 608-786-0694.**

**Meetings are every
2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am
at the Onalaska American Legion.**



LA CROSSE AREA VETERANS MENTOR PROGRAM

Heard in the news lately about a veteran that needs some help? The La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program (LAVMP) is there to help fellow veterans receive necessary services to enable them to reach their full potential as productive members of their Wisconsin Hometown Community. Want to be a mentor to a fellow veteran in need?

It doesn't take a lot of time, just desire! Interested? ... Call the La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program at (608) 785-6420, or visit its website at www.lavmp.org

The LAVMP . . . Never Leaving a Fellow Veteran Behind.



SAM'S BAR

2116 George St.
La Crosse, WI

(608) 781-2060

Top of the Golden Strip

AMERICA IS AT WAR

A tradition continues



A Blue Star Service Banner in the window of a home shows a family's pride in their loved one serving in the U.S. Armed Forces - and reminds others that preserving America's freedom demands great sacrifice.

To each and every one who serves, we say "thank you."

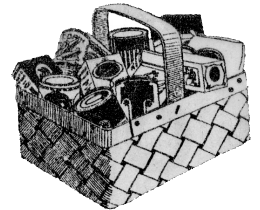


The American Legion Family
www.legion.org

The Food Basket is serving an increasing number of people and requests donations of food and money.

Donated items can be brought to:
735 Sand Lake Rd. - Mon.-Sat., 9-11am

Checks may be sent to:
Onalaska-Holmen Food Basket
P.O. Box 311, Onalaska, WI 54650



What's Your Current ID Number?

Somewhere in this newsletter is a member's membership number. If it's your number you win \$10.00 - easy way to get \$10.00.

If it's your number call:
Bob Weber: 526-4807

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THE ONALASKA AMERICAN LEGION COLOR GUARD HONORS VETERANS, OUR POST & OUR COMMUNITY

The Post 336 Honor Guard continues to be busy with funerals, but also blessed to do some other things.

Recently we provided posting & retiring of colors for the remodeling dedication at Northern Hills Elementary School.

On Veteran's Day we conducted a flag ceremony at YMCA - Onalaska (to include firing and taps); posted & retired colors at the annual Luther High School Veteran's program; provided a flag raising with 21 gun salute & taps for the annual Veteran's Recognition at Gundersen Health - Onalaska campus; and conducted a program for the residents at Brookdale Senior Care facility in Onalaska.

The members of your Honor Guard feel it a great privilege, honor, and opportunity to serve our wonderful community.

I take this opportunity to thank them for ALL they have done / do: Chris Carlson, Claude Deck, Wayne Henthorn, Neale Horman, Warren Johnson, Alan Lauermaun, Julie Malin, Charles Nick, Dick Polodna, Tom Puent, Carl Sjolander, Al Topel, Rip Van Riper. And Bill Sterling.

Special recognition goes out to our long-term leader and mentor, Vern Reekers.

We look forward to continuing our services and honorably representing our Post.

Rich Musolf
Co-Coordinator

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Service Officers Report

~ **LAST BUGLE** ~

WILLIAM J. (BILL) STERLING
30 October 2015

KENNETH BEN McCONNELL*
28 October 2015

Vern Reekers, Service Officer



* Non Member

LOOKING FOR HONOR GUARD MEMBERS

Are you interested in participating in Military Funerals, posting/presenting of Colors at events, being part of local schools programs, Memorial Day activities, and representing Post 336? We are seeking additional Honor Guard Members from our Post. Contact Vern Reekers at 783-3913, or Rich Musolf at 397-9548 for additional information.

DAV VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED


Legion member Jim Binash advises that the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is in need of volunteer drivers. This is a non-paying service. The drivers are needed in Tomah, Madison and further North. If you are interested, or have friends in those area who may be interested, please call Voluntary Services in Tomah at: (608) 372-1727. The VA Hospitals in Tomah and Madison are also in need of volunteer escorts.

Thank you for your consideration.

POST 336 WEBSITE:
www.onalaskapost336.org

DECEMBER 2015

POST 336 EMAIL:
onalaskalegion@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Insurance center 9-11:30am- hall Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7pm Ladies Night 6-close Bar Bingo 6:30pm	Chicken and Dumplings 4:30-7pm	Burger Night 4:30-8pm Texas Holdem 7pm	The Buck Hollow Band 7:30-11:30pm	
6	Dj Trivia 6:30pm	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7pm Ladies Night 6-close Bar Bingo 6:30pm NARVRE Christmas party 5-pm	Auxillary Meeting 7pm Pizza Night 5-8pm	Burger Night 4:30-8pm Texas Holdem 7pm Market & Johnson Christmas Party	Fish Fry 4:30-7pm Music Mix Karaoke 7:30-11:30pm	Santas List
13	Executive Meeting-6pm Membership Meeting-7pm Dj Trivia 6:30pm	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7pm Ladies Night 6-close Bar Bingo 6:30pm BLET Christmas Party 5pm	Pizza Night 5-8pm	Burger Night 4:30-8pm Texas Holdem 7pm	The Memory Brothers 7:30 - 11:30pm	
20	S.A.L. Breakfast Buffet 7:30am - 11:30am BLET 9:30am Local 18 3-6pm Dj Trivia 6:30pm	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7pm Ladies Night 6-close Bar Bingo 6:30pm Building Comm mtg 4pm House Comm mtg 5:30pm	Pizza Night 5-8pm	Christmas Eve. closing at 5pm	Merry Christmas Club Closed	
27	Dj Trivia 6:30pm	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7pm Ladies Night 6-close Bar Bingo 6:30pm	Pizza Night 5-8pm	New Years Eve Party Featuring The Craig Olson Project 8:30pm		

ONALASKA AMERICAN LEGION • POST 336 • 731 SAND LAKE (608) 783-3300 • Schedule & Times provided by the Bar Manager.

DECEMBER 2015 Newsletter
Onalaska, WI 54650

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American Legion

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Happy Holidays from the American Legion Riders District 7



Who are the American Legion Riders?

We are not a motorcycle club. We are an association, a group of American Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion members who ride for a cause.

Whether it is working together on Veteran's issues, participating in a local parade as a motorcycle color guard, raising monies for a charity or cruising together on a beautiful fall colored highway, the American Legion Riders program has provided a lot of enjoyment for those members who share a common interest in motorcycling.

If you are a Veteran, a Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL member and love the "freedom of the road" on two wheels, and sometimes even three, then consider joining. We would love to have you!

Hello Members, Patrons and Friends

As I type these very words I find it hard to believe that another year has flown by. What a great year it has been with you all. But... its not over yet. Make sure to come to our annual New Years Eve party! The Craig Olsen Project will be providing the entertainment and the banquet hall dance floor will be hot! Come in early to get a table as they do fill in fast as we do not take reservations for the event. The best part is that its FREE!! Snacks will also be provided.

We still have plenty of other fun options during the week featuring the new DJ TRIVIA! Its free to play and you can win a bar tabs for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Check the calendar for all fun.

Thanks everyone for a great 2015, and I look forward to a prosperous new year!

Have a great day and we will see you at the Legion.

Neil Merritt, Bar Manager (608) 783-3300