



Struck-Klandrud Post No. 336

Onalaska American Legion

731 Sand Lake Road • P.O. Box 326 • Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650 • Phone (608) 783-3300



Onalaska Community Days



We had another good year for Legion Community Days this year. The people numbers were down somewhat on Saturday, but Friday night was great with The Studebaker 7 providing great music and fun for those in attendance. Sunday was also a good participation day, so over all we were able to pay all the bills and put a little money in the bank to help out the Legion, Auxiliary and the Baseball Team.

A big thank you goes out to all the volunteers that helped us out in the weeks leading up to and throughout the weekend. It is greatly appreciated by the committee and we know full well we could not do this without all you great folks. If anyone has any suggestions, questions or ideas to make our Community Days bigger and better please let me know. You can reach me at legion3300@charterinternet.com or mikefries@centurytel.net.

We are always looking for ideas to improve. Along those lines

(Continued on back page)



Legionnaires, Auxiliary, S.A.L., and Friends



GREETINGS TO ALL FROM THE COMMANDER:

Hello October, goodbye September. It seems like the months come and go faster than they ever have. I can't say there isn't enough to keep busy, time just flies.

This summer has been a tough one for my bride of 43 years. First a "probable" neurological problem and then a few weeks ago she fell, broke her toe and hit her face on our concrete steps. Thank goodness no bones were broken, no concussion, no lost teeth, nothing too serious, but if she felt as bad as she looked, well anyway.

She's pretty tough, has a great attitude and still bosses me around like always. Other than being quite swollen and a lot of color in her face, she is doing pretty well.

2008 Legion Community Days are now history. A great turnout, a good time, excellent weather and we have now begun our planning for 2009. A big thank you to the Chairman of Community Days, Mike Fries, for all the hard work, planning, organizing and overall success of the 3 day celebration. Mike collected a great staff of volunteers and they did a superb job. It would be great if we could get a few new faces on our volunteer program. If you have some time, give us a call, we can always use the help. We know that people are reluctant to volunteer as it oftentimes turns into a lifetime commitment. I can assure you this is not the case. You decide how much time you wish to commit, a little or a lot, and on which program or project.

Coming up! LaCrosse Area Stand Down. Welcome all veterans! A special invitation to Iraq/Afghanistan veterans. If you need help, the following service providers will be available to you; Employee Assistance, Legal Consultation, IRS (Federal & State), Agent Orange/Gulf war information, Probate, Estate & funeral planning, health screen, Veteran Service Officers to assist with benefits, Financial counseling, Drug & Alcohol treatment information, VA Benefits/Enrollment/Referral, Veterans Service Organizations, Housing & Shelter information/referrals, Female veterans representative, Free hair cuts, Clothing, Flu shots. 9am to 5pm, Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at the Onalaska National Guard Armory, 910 Oak Forest Drive, Onalaska, WI. Lunch will be provided. For more information call (608)785-9719 or (800)872-8662, ext 66365.

We still have bar stools for sale. They are in great shape. Contact Al Topel mornings, Monday thru Friday at 783-3300.

Major Expenditures for July 2007 through June 2008: Dining Hall ceiling replacement tiles - \$2,835.00, New Roof on Post - \$19,371.00, Old Building Restoration - \$18,759.00, New Meat Slicer in kitchen - \$1,050.00, New TV Sets in Bar - \$6,098.00.

Operational Expenditures for July 2007 through June 2008: Garbage Collection - \$2,409.00, Electrical and Gas - \$25,903.00

Our first Big Al's chicken & dumplings night was another success. We also had our first fish fry, but that wasn't as well attended as usual. Must have been other activities going on in the area on the Friday night. Keep in mind we have both activities every month thru next May. Check the calendar, come on out and enjoy some good food, great camaraderie and a pleasant place to spend an evening. Speaking of our calendar; many activities are scheduled and it seems we are getting more and more events here at the Legion.


I would imagine by now that most everyone is getting a little tired of politics. August is over along with the Democratic and Republican Conventions. A little over one month until election day. Please remember to register to vote if you have not done so. If you are unable to get to the polls, request an absentee ballot from your local city hall. Please exercise your right to vote (responsibly). Voter fraud will again raise its ugly head. Do your part to ensure your vote counts.

God Bless our troops, their families and our veterans. God Bless America.


Jim Nelson, Commander

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Jim Nelson - 783-1715
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2nd Vice:
Rich Hoeth
3rd Vice:
Clarence Stellner
Adjutant:
Dave Loomis
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Todd Bjerke
Chaplain:
Claude Deck
Service Officer:
Vern Reekers - 783-3913
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SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT

Sick Call - Robert C. Guenther, LeRoy Hougom, Don Blank, Gary Blanchard, Wesley L. Schuppel. As of this report, Wes Schuppel was in the VA Hospital at Tomah.

Last Bugle - Frederick A. Shove, Gary C. Loss. A military funeral was performed on the Legion grounds for Leland O. Alseth (non-member).

The Honor Guard participated in the 9-11 Freedom Walk and program at Riverside Park in LaCrosse on September 11.

Submitted by Vern Reekers, Service Officer

American Legion Membership

Greetings to all on this wonderful autumn day. What happened to the summer months this year?

Could it be that we enjoyed the time too much or not enough?

Well, our 2009 membership year dues time is certainly upon us. We have already reached approximately 2/3 of our membership goal. Thank you to all the "early birds" who have already participated. We still have another month left for the "early bird" stamp and our annual free drink in the bar upon presentation of our membership card. Many have taken advantage of this, how about you?

Welcome and thank you to Richard Mickelson, Jr., one of our newest American Legion members.

Hope that you can enjoy some of our many activities and events here at Post 336.

See you at the Post.

Ralph Amundsen, 1st Vice Commander

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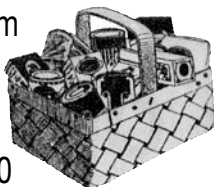


Everybody's Flavor Favorite
"Official Snacks of the Onalaska Legion"

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



FROM THE BAR BOSS

I want to say thank-you to those members who have taken a few minutes to chat with me! I am still learning and member input and constructive criticism helps! Currently I would like input on Legion Logo embroidered polo shirts that would be available for purchase, if you have any thoughts, or would be interested in buying one, please talk with me!

We have a first time (here) show by "Happy's Garage" on Friday the 3rd; they're good pals with the baseball crew, so I figured we'd just turn it into a party! Thursday the 9th, stop in for a burger on your way to see our soon-to-be-famous tank in the Oktoberfest Torchlight Parade @ Old Towne North in La Crosse. Saturday the 11th, Steve Mace will be here DJing; Saturday entertainment is a new idea! The few trial runs went over well, so look for Steve on the band schedule! With support, hopefully he'll have many more Saturday shows to come!

Soup season is arriving; until the cold weather hits, the grill will offer a select daily soup for \$1.00 cup or +50 cents as substitution for fries with any basket. Speaking of soup... The upcoming 3:15 pm Packer games will be a Chili Cook-off (Sunday 10-12) (Bring your best!! win prizes!!) and a Soup Smorgasbord (Sunday 10-19.) The bar will serve pulled pork at the 10-5 Packer Potluck, and there is no game on 10-26. 100% Payout Packer boards are always running behind the bar, just ask your bartender for more info!!

I want to congratulate all of our food volunteers/workers on their cooperation with the newly adapted kitchen sanitation policies. We have made GREAT improvement on our health code/sanitation compliance! For anyone curious, there is a binder located in the kitchen and copies are available upon request. I want to remind all the volunteers again that drink tickets need to be used or traded for chips on the day they were given. The drink tickets may be traded for any drink or chip with a value of \$2.50 or less.

As I mentioned last month, we now have a 25 cent increase for drinks made with canned soda as the mixer, pint bloody mary's w/ a small chaser are now \$3.25.

We have had several wonder bar parties in the last few months, and I just want to give everyone a little bit more information on how to hold a bar party here. There is no rental fee to use the bar area. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate parties larger than 100. Food tables will be available upon request, food may be brought in, or catered by the Auxiliary or bar depending on the amount required. The kitchen/kitchen equipment is not available for use, and all napkins, plates, serving utensils, etc are provided by the party holder. All food served is open to ALL bar patrons, so bring enough to share! Entertainment (bands, DJs) are welcome upon approval, and in some situations may be paid for by the bar entertainment budget. Decorations are possible, please get the guidelines from me on what is okay to use before hand! Please "book" your party with me! Surprise parties that surprise the staff mean poor service (understaffing, prep work not done) and you might receive slow or unsatisfactory service by an overwhelmed bartender!! There are no drink discounts at all for parties held in the bar, bar tabs may be arranged prior to the event if that is something you would like to provide! We've had several very successful well-planned parties lately, and it would be great to be part of upcoming momentous occasions!

And, last but not least!! Join us Friday the 31st for a show by BUCK HOLLOW; Come in costume and get "BUCK" specials from 6-8pm for our "HOLLOW" een party!

Thanks! Valerie Driscoll, Bar Manager

Auxiliary:

President:

Elaine Schickowski
781-9883

1st Vice:

Sue Kelley - 769-3628

2nd Vice:

Rhonda Hoeth

Treasurer:

Colleen Kujak

Historian:

LaVonne Rivers

Sgt. at Arms:

**Annette Kujak &
Jan Stanienda**

Chaplain:

Eunice Christensen

Members at Large:

**Wilma Dettinger &
Judy Nimmo**

Secretary:

Sonja Kerr

Parliamentarian:

Delores Kenyon

Sunshine Chairwoman:

Liz Reekers



Auxiliary - October 2008

October and we are starting to feel the fall in the air.

I would like to thank Sue Kelley for conducting the September meeting in my absence. My husband won a trip to Wendover, Nevada and it was a great get-a-way for the both of us for four days.

The catering functions have been pretty busy. Since my last newsletter I have done 2 weddings, 4 funerals, 2 retirement parties and one class reunion. Help from some of the ladies and SAL members was really appreciated and I could not have done it without them. THANK YOU!!!!!! Those who assisted me know who you are, so just know that I am most thankful for what you did. It sure would be nice to see other Auxiliary members volunteering also.

To put is bluntly, I'm beat!!! But, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We have hired a kitchen coordinator. His name is Lance Larson and comes to us highly recommended by the Moose Lodge. He also is Sanitation Certified and attended the Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts School. That and his restaurant management training and background seem to make him a good fit for us. When you see him be sure to extend your welcome to him.

We had a nice turnout for our membership drive this past Sunday. Good food, good door prizes, but guess who didn't win a thing ... me.

The Legion Community Days group will be in the Torch Light Parade again this year. So, come out and enjoy the parade and watch for us.

Thanks also go out to Annette Kujak and crew for working the Blood Drive for the Red Cross. I know you were 2 short of you goal of 25 donors, but I know you will make it happen next time.

DATES TO REMEMBER: Oct. 2nd – Torch Light Parade; Oct 8th – Auxiliary meeting @ 7 PM; Oct. 17th & 18th – Fall Forum @ Wisconsin Dells, (If you are interested in attending, please let me know. I didn't get the information on it from Department in time for our September meeting and the paperwork needs to be in before our next meeting. As for myself, I will not be going due that fact that I have another out of town commitment for those dates. I would still like to see some of our membership go, you do learn a great deal at this forum.) Oct 19th – SAL Breakfast and Oct 26th – Kids Halloween Party @ 1 PM (Sue Kenyon has offered to take care of this event. Thank you Sue!!)

Well, enjoy the nice fall weather, we all know what is just around the corner.

SERVING COMMITTEE FOR OCTOBER: Mary Martin, Arlene Liebold, Jan Stanienda and Colleen Kujak.

Until next month ... remember, "Great works are performed not by strength, but by perseverance".
God Bless America!!!

ELAINE SCHICKOWSKI, President

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Hello,

I want to thank everyone that paid their dues at the Legion Family picnic on September 14. The lucky winners for our drawing were Lil Smith, Susan Kenyon and Joan Haar. We are on our way to a good start of making our goal of 100% in membership. The dues are \$13.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for juniors. Pretty good deal to belong to our organization. If you have an questions regarding membership, please feel free to contact me.

See you at the Post,

Sue Kelley, First Vice President

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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!

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: Ralph Amundsen: 783-7599

LEGION BASEBALL TO HANDLE WINTER STORAGE

The Onalaska American Legion Post 336 Baseball Committee has announced that it will, once again, handle WINTER STORAGE of boats, campers, cars, etc., in the Legion's Activity Center.

General storage will be handled on Saturday, November 1 from 9 AM until Noon. Should the building not be filled on that date, further availability will be announced via notices at the Legion. For further information, contact Merle Cunningham AFTER October 18. Phone: (608) 783-7523. Note that space cannot be reserved or held for anyone! It's first come/first served. Full payment is made at the time of storage. Legion Baseball thanks you for your patronage of this important fundraiser!

TRICK OR TREAT

Kids Halloween Party
October 26th, 1:00 pm
at the Legion.



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Chaplain:

Joe Erickson

Sgt. at Arms:

Brad Drury

Historian:

Matt Erickson

S.A.L. Advisor:

Clarence Stellner

S.A.L.

I can't believe it is October already. This year is going by so fast.

The S.A.L. has started their Wings & Shrimp every Tuesday. We also have the S.A.L. Breakfast every 3rd Sunday of the month from 8:00 to Noon. We have had a very good turnout in the past and hope to see a lot of new faces this year.

The S.A.L. is also calling Bingo at the Onalaska Care Center once a month. I really enjoyed doing this and see their eyes light up when they get a bingo.

We also have our meetings every 3rd Sunday after the Breakfast. We would like to see more S.A.L. members attend to get new ideas on doing things for our vets.

Have a good October.

Keith Brierly, S.A.L. Commander



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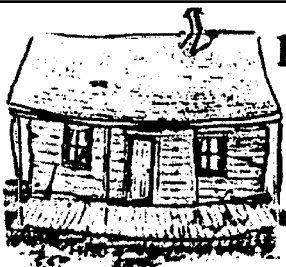


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OCTOBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY						
WORLD'S GREATEST FISH FRY OCTOBER 10 th • 4:30-7:00 pm			Big Al's Chicken & Dumplings 4:30 - 7:00p	1	Burger Night - 5-8p Texas Hold Em - 7:00p Oktoberfest Torchlight Parade - 7:00p Fall Cooler Clearance - \$1.50 Select Beer	2	Happy's Garage Band - 7:30p-11:30p Baseball Appreciation Party	3	Reception 5:00p-12:00a (Hall)	4		
Venture Group 7:00-8:00p	5	6	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7:00p	7	Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00p	8	Burger Night 5:00-8:00p Texas Hold Em 7:00-10:00p	9	Fish Fry 4:30-7:00p Time & A-Half Band 7:00-11:00p	10	Dennis DeGier Benefit (Activity Center) Steve Mace - DJ 7:00-11:00p, (Bar)	11
Tracy Latchke Benefit (Hall)	12	Executive Mtg. 13 6:00p Legion Mtg. - 7:00p	14	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7:00p La Crosse Area Stand Down, Onalaska NG Armory, 9:00a-5:00p	15	16	Burger Night 5:00-8:00p Texas Hold Em 7:00-10:00p Legion Community Days Com. - 6:30p	17	Stoney Ridge Band 7:00p-11:00p	18	Coulee Sno Drifters Chile Feed - (Activity Ctr.) Reception - 5p-12a (Hall)	19
Venture Group 7:00-8:00p SAL Breakfast Buffet 8:00a-12 noon Packer Soup Party & Game - 3:15p	19	20	21	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7:00p	22	23	John Stevenson DJ & Karaoke 7:00p-11:00p	24	Reception (Hall)	25	FALL FORUM at WISCONSIN DELLS	
Kids Halloween Party 1:00p 	26	27	28	Wings & Shrimp 4:30-7:00p Building Committee 6:00p House Committee 6:30p	29	30	Buck Hollow Band 7:00p-11:00p	31				

ONALASKA AMERICAN LEGION • POST 336
731 SAND LAKE ROAD • PHONE (608) 783-3300

TEXAS HOLD-EM

Another season of Texas Hold'Em is underway at our great Onalaska American Legion Post 336. Not only that, but the great camaraderie that comes with people who love poker and the friendships made with great people. We are very proud to be recognized as the most honest, well structured and fun place to play. We do this in honor of all the members of our Post. We served a great country and will continue to serve a great community!

In our first two weeks, we have had 67 players and a double winner. Chris Emery has been the champion in both weeks. Congratulations, Chris! But who will come forward and take this young pup on?

I want to thank all the players and the club members who helped make my 76th birthday a week long celebration. They sure know how to make an old man cry! Thanks again to all you guys and gals!

We will be playing for the next 12 Thursdays. So come on down and try to make your life more interesting with some great people. Til next month.....

Pit Bosses Jerry, Les, Terry and Pit Bull Clarence

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."



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THE ONALASKA LEGION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Onalaska, WI 54650



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American Legion

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Onalaska Community Days

(Continued from front page)

we could use a few folks to step forward and help us with the planning and over all operation for next year. We are specifically looking for people who would maybe help co-chair one of the activities. It is always a good idea to get some fresh new ideas and outlooks on the different things going on. Again, if interested, shoot me a note at the above address and we will get you onboard. We have already made some changes for the 2009 version of Community Days and we think you will see some big improvements. Stay tuned to the newsletter and the website www.onalaskapost336.org for important updates as we press on towards August 21-23, 2009. Mark your calendars; you won't be disappointed.

Again, thanks to all those who helped, partied, danced and had a great time this year. It is great to have you with us.

Our next meeting for the Legion Community Committee is October 16, 2008 at 6:30 pm.

Mike Fries, Community Days Chairman

