

The American LEGION REPORTER



3220 W. College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914

Phone 733-9840

Vol. 34, No. 01

January-February-March 2018

Email: legionpost38@yahoo.com

www.appletonpost38.org

Official Publication of
Johnston-Blessman Post 38
and Auxiliary Unit 38

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

Happy Holidays American Legion Family,

It has been a whirlwind of a year so far, but a good one. I had gone out and collaborated with our CVSOS, the Nam Knights and the Winnebago Marine Corp League, and helped to cook 3 full Thanksgiving dinners for families in the Valley, and then accompanied them to deliver to their homes. It was a great experience in collaboration with a few of the other Veteran's organizations in the area, as well as to be able to actually go out and help our Veterans and their families in need. It is a revelation and a life changing event, to be able to see our homeless Veterans, and those who've just gotten a new place. It's humbling to say the least. I am in constant contact with our CVSOS to see how we can most effectively continue to fulfill our mission.

For Christmas this year, we had decided to forego our traditional Children's Christmas party and adopt 2 Veteran families in the Valley through the Patriot Guard. At our Army/Navy game, we had not only collected a great number of toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program, but we had also raised \$669 in addition to our \$500 budget to go towards helping these 2 families in need for Christmas. Wade and Chris VanRyzin went shopping for the Marine Corp family and the little Charity and I went shopping for our Army family that we adopted. It was an amazing feeling to be able to get these families things that most of us may take for granted, along with fun Christmas toys. We have pictures on our Website and Facebook page if you'd like to see all that your generous donations went to.

Many of us then went to the Darboy Club on Sun, Dec 17th to help the Patriot Guard not only wrap the presents we donated, but presents for 600 Veteran families from around our great state of WI!

Sunday, February 18th we will then be going to Brewster Village for another Nursing Home Open House. What I've gone over here, is not all that we've been able to accomplish. I don't have the room for that.

Family, we are doing many great things for our Veterans and fulfilling our mission. It makes my heart overwhelming glad to be part of an organization who is involved in life changing actions. To see how you can get involved, follow us on Facebook, check out our website or give me or one of our officers a call and we'll get you started.

For God and Country,

Renee Kasuboski

Commander, Appleton American Legion Post 38

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

- 3 Post Meeting (Oratorical/Communications Workshop) . . .7:00PM
- 8 Events Committee Meeting .7:00PM
- 11 Bingo
- 15 House Committee Meeting . .6:30PM
- 19-21 Midwinter Conference:
Ho Chunk Casino
- 21 Club 38 Chili Cook Off
- 25 Bingo
- 29 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

FEBRUARY

- 5 Post Meeting - 4 Chaplains Svc & Dept Cmdr7:00PM
- 8 Bingo7:00PM
- 12 Events Committee Mtg . . .6:30PM
Auxiliary Executive Mtg. . . .6:30PM
- 14 Valentine's Day Dinner at the Club
- 19 House Committee Mtg . . .6:30PM
Auxiliary Executive Mtg. . . .7:00PM
- 22 Bingo

MARCH

- 3 Casino Night
- 5 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 8 Bingo
- 12 Events Committee Mtg . . . 6:30PM
- 15 American Legion's Birthday
- 17 St. Patrick's Day - Parade in New Dublin
- 19 House Committee Mtg . . .6:30PM
Auxiliary Pot Luck.6:00PM
- 20 Connect to Courage - FVTC Public Safety Building . . . 11AM - 7:30PM
- 22 Bingo
- 24 Children's Easter Party
- 26 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

APRIL

- 2 Post Meeting 7:00PM

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I am happy to report that we are over 85% for 2018 and need about 100 members to renew to reach our 100% goal. Remember that membership is our voice and we need a strong voice to continue to fight for Veteran's rights. If you have not renewed yet for 2018, please remember that you are investing in the future of all Veterans.

Such an exciting year for the Legion and Post 38. We are getting back to the 4 pillars and our mission to help Veterans. Please join me in thanking the Commander and the Officers for their dedication and devotion to our community. The Post is taking huge steps in connecting with other organizations to improve the communication and events that will assist our local Veterans.

Please contact me if you have an email that we can add to our communications list. My email is: laurel.clewell@yahoo.com.

May God Bless All of You in 2018,

Laurel Clewell
Adjutant

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year,

I hope everyone enjoyed their Holiday Season. I want to thank the Auxiliary ladies who put up the decorations at the Post and decorated the trees. They did a great job and everyone should try to stop out at the Post to check it out.

In November, the Unit Hosted County Council and we had several Legionnaires help serve for us, the Unit would like to "Thank" them for their help on a job well done.

Remember there is "NO" Meeting in January. Next meeting will be Monday February 19th at 7pm.

There is an Executive Meeting on Monday February 12th at 6:30 pm at the Post, officers if you are unable to attend you need to contact myself or Rose prior to the meeting.

Auxiliary will be collecting for Department Membership to PPP, any Past Unit Presidents wanting to join, please pay Debra Ragen the \$5.00 by the February 19th meeting, so it may get forwarded to Department.

We will be having a Pot Luck at our March meeting, to begin at 6:00pm. We are inviting the Post members to join us for dinner in honor of the Post Birthday Month. Along with this we will have the initiation of our new members over the last year or so. We will bring a sign up sheet to the Post meetings in January and February, or you may contact Rose or myself if you plan on attending.

In Spring of 2018, we will hold elections for new officers, we need a nominating committee, if you are interested in being on that committee or would like to become an officer for the Auxiliary, please contact Rose or myself, prior to February 12th .

Cont. on page 3

POST 38 SPONSORS BOY SCOUT TROOP 71

We have had a Cub Scout Troop, but we are now working with both the Boy Scouts and the Cub Scouts.

In the future, we will have a wish list from the groups so that they can function and accomplish their tasks. So please check the website to see if there is anything that you can contribute. We are looking forward to working with them and helping to groom good patriotic citizens.

Another big step for Post 38 and getting back to the 4 pillars of the legion.

BINGO
*every 2nd & 4th
Thursday
each month*

**Come to the
Club for Friday
Fish Fry –
Every Friday**

**Remember to support your post
at the Friday fish fry!**



**BECOME A FAN OF
APPLETON AMERICAN
LEGION POST 38**



We are searching for 100% Membership, so please submit your renewals. The Unit has voted on **not** increasing the dues for the 2019 year. Department and National dues will increase for the 2019 year.

Remember the Auxiliary meets once a month on the 3rd Monday at 7pm in the hall at the Post. Come see what projects we have going on.

Poppy Day for "2018" will be on Friday, May 18th and Saturday, May 19th, so please mark your calendars. These funds are to help our Veterans and their families. Without these funds we can't give the scholarships out at Fox Valley Technical College, help Camp American Legion's wish list all year, treats for the VA hospitals, Wreaths Across America, and the list goes on. Please try to help on Poppy Day.

May God Bless you with love, joy and peace.

Marian Brown
President, Unit 38

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Ladies of Unit 38 and Legion Family, I am now collecting for the 2018 Auxiliary membership year of Unit 38, the cost is still **only \$25.00**. There is a Department and National increase of dues starting the 2019 year, so you may want to consider becoming a PUFL (Paid Up For Life) before the increase goes into effect. You can do this by going online or contact me. You can pay your 2018 dues by sending it to the address below, dropping it off at the Post, mailing it to the Post and mark it Auxiliary Membership, giving it to me directly, or any other means that gets it to me to activate or renew your membership.

National has set the goal of 170 members for our Unit this year, and with everyone's help we can make this goal. Legion members please submit your spouse, daughters, granddaughters, your step-daughters, and step granddaughters membership.

Once again this year the Auxiliary will offer a fully paid 2018 membership to a first time Lady Veteran member.

So far I have received several ladies' membership of the 2018 year: *Trinity Froehlich, Lilly Froehlich, Michelle Froehlich, Judy Johnson, Arlene Rasmussen, Alison Rath, and Sharon Schulz.*

Thank You to the ladies that have sent in their memberships.

Send Membership to: Marian Brown
1312 S. Casaloma Drive, Appleton, WI 54914
Phone 920-739-4283

BINGO

Next we move on to Bingo at Post 38. Bingo has been going fairly well here at the Post. We have Bingo the 2nd and 4th Thursday at the post. It starts at 7:00 pm and is done by 9.30 pm

We serve food and you can make some easy money.

Don J Eiden
Bingo Chairman

BADGER BOYS

The first phase of Badger Boys paper work has been sent to the (5) five school councilors two weeks ago. The sponsorship letters have been sent to the sponsors but I do not have all the checks yet and I need them by January 25th so they can be sent to Ripon by 31 January.

As we speak no one has come forward to take over this BBS job so this could be the last year of this program. It would be a shame to lose it now.

Don J Eiden
Badger Boys Chairman of the Fox Valley schools

B I N G O

AT POST 38:

Bingo is going strong at the Post. As always we are looking for some more volunteers to help out.

Some of the things the Bingo funds have helped by sponsoring a Badger Boy and a Badger Girl for 2018, purchased gifts for the Post adopted family, and some building upkeep and supplies.

We want to "Thank" the volunteers who come faithfully and the volunteers who come and help when they can. It's not hard and you will have fun, so please come out and give us a little of your time, or just come and play some BINGO.

Stop by on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month and check it out.

The Jackpot is always on the rise!!!

Next Bingo Dates in 2018

- Thursday, January 11th 7pm
- Thursday, January 25th 7pm
- Thursday, February 8th 7pm
- Thursday, February 22nd. 7pm
- Thursday, March 8th 7pm
- Thursday, March 22nd. 7pm

We need volunteers each night to help with bingo and clean up.
All guests receive
FREE POPCORN!

BLUE STAR BANNER PROGRAM

Auxiliary Unit 38 has a few blue star banners available for distribution. The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry who had two sons serving on the front line. It quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in the service.

Today Blue Star Banners are displayed by families who have a loved one serving in the armed forces including the National Guard and Reserves of all military departments. The banner is usually displayed in the front window of a home to show the family's pride in their loved one serving in the military, and reminds others that preserving America's freedom demands much.

So if you or someone you know would like to have one, please contact *Rose Heinz* (920) 734-7570.

PAST COMMANDER PHOTOS RECOVERY EFFORT

Earlier this year I was tasked as Post Historian to preserve the Past Commander photos. There was evidence of severe sun damage to many of the photos. We took the photos out of the front entryway to remove them first from sun exposure.

Our original idea was to move them to a scrapbook which would limit the photos to further light damage and exposure. Additionally, I scanned the photos to preserve a digital copy. I was then made aware of processes to restore sun damaged photos. I'm eliciting quotes from area businesses which provide the photo restoration service. A key part of this process is the ability to not only restore the photos digitally but in a manner which provides quality reprints of the photos to be displayed in the post.

If anyone wants more information about the process of restoration and the nature of the damage, please feel free to reach out to me. I have a video recording of the past commander photos as they were displayed in the front entryway. I also have examples of a restored digital photo completed urgently for family of a past commander which unfortunately was one of the most damaged photos. The process to fix the photo took over 3 hours to restore.

I have three long term visions for the past commander photos: Create a Post History Timeline with each Commander's Photos and significant events - Create a Post Scrapbook with detailed profile information - Create a respectful display in the post remembering those who have served as Post Commander.

My timeline at the moment is extended. I have several tasks to complete my long term vision. The first of which I need your help. I've been talking about gathering profile information of the Past Commanders for quite a while now. We will have Past Commander Profile forms available at the member meetings as well as a way to complete the information sheet online. If you were or know a past commander I ask that you fill this sheet out. It's acceptable for more than one sheet for the same commander.

Our post has a rich history in our community and was led by highly capable commanders for close to 100 years. I respectfully request all with knowledge of our post history to fill out the information sheets so that we may share with our future generations what it means to be in The American Legion Oney Johnston-Edward Blessman Post 38 of Appleton.

Respectfully,
Christopher M. Petersen
 Post Historian
 Email: 86petersen@gmail.com
 Phone# 920-427-0174

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

December 14, 2017

LOST MEMBERS:

Gerald Bayer 10.16.17
Gerald Long 10.23.17
Donald Hammond 11.23.17

RECOUPERATING

at home or a Nursing Care Facility:

- *Eugene LaPlante* is recovering at home
- *Arden Peterson* is in Willow Lane Rehab Facility, Address is 850 W. Elsner Rd. Appleton WI.
- *Bob Lichfuss* is at Appleton Retirement assisted living home. He is doing OK
- *Ken Kemps* is at Touchmark and is battling Alzheimer Disease. His phone # is 733-1192 and address is 805 S. Summit St. Appleton, WI. 54914
- (James) *Jim Smith* is at Brewster Village in the Rosewood branch.
- *Rick Eisenach* had back surgery again. He is up and around and I think he looks great. Just goes to show how determination can get you through many obstacles. We wish you and your lovely wife a speedy recovery because we miss you.
- *Laurel*, we are all praying for you and hope Gordy will take good care of you also.

PLEASE NOTIFY ME IF ANY ONE IS RECOVERING FROM SURGERY OR ANY OTHER ILLNESSES SO I CAN GET THEM IN THE NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU.

Don J Eiden
 Service Officer Post 38
 Email: djeiden@new.rr.com
 Phone# 733-2957

POST LEADERSHIP
Johnston – Blessman Post No. 38

Commander
 Renee Kasuboski
 (920) 450-8209

1st Vice Commander
 Larry McArthur
 (920) 810-9891

2nd Vice Commander
 Frank Billings
 (920) 730-2954

3rd Vice Commander
 Bill Trombley
 (920) 309-2057

Adjutant
 Laurel Clewell
 (920) 427-4234

House Comm. Chairman
 Wade VanRyzin
 (920) 734-9638

Scarlet Guard
 Eric Stadler
 (920) 450-6907

Communications Committee
 Chris Petersen
 (920) 427-0174

Finance Officer
 Wade VanRyzin
 (920) 734-9638

Asst. Finance Officer
 Chris Petersen
 (920) 427-0174

Service Officer
 Don Eiden
 (920) 733-2957

Chaplain
 Robert Johnson
 (920) 454-0842

Sgt.-At-Arms
 Migeal Babino
 (920) 858-5144

SAL Commander
 Bob Seide
 (715) 853-5901

Military Funeral Chairman
 Rick Eisenach
 (920) 574-8833

AUXILIARY OFFICERS
2017-2018

President
 Marian Brown
 (920) 739-4283

1st Vice President
 Beth Griesser
 (920) 832-0639

2nd Vice President
 Ruth Eiden
 (920) 733-2957

Secretary
 Rose Heinz
 (920) 734-7570

Treasurer
 Debra Ragen
 (920) 734-7107

Poppy Treasurer
 Linda Breitzman
 (920) 731-3703

Chaplain

Sgt-At-Arms
 Darlene Giles
 (920) 739-1523

Asst Sgt-At-Arms
 Jessica Garza
 (920) 687-9958

Illness & Sick Call
 Lori Hansel
 (920) 788-9696

Membership
 Marian Brown
 (920) 739-4283



The Reporter is published quarterly, four times a year. The Reporter is an official publication of Johnston-Blessman Post 38 and Auxiliary Unit 38 c/o The American Legion, 3220 W. College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914.



The American Legion Dept of WI
 3220 W. College Ave.
 Appleton, WI 54914
 Johnston-Blessman Post 38
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED