

The American LEGION REPORTER



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Johnston-Blessman Post 38
and Auxiliary Unit 38

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

For my American Legion members,

I have one half year as your commander already under my belt. What a half year it has been. Your post is progressing well and business for the club is improving. In the near future, an events monitor will be placed above the gaming machines in the post to show digital form of the Reporter newsletter, as well as to show what is happening around the Legion and your post. I would like to welcome aboard Jennifer Baltz, our new general manager of the club. Please join us for a meet and greet event (date TBD). Ideas presented to Jennifer are most graciously welcomed however direction is forbidden. She has full reign of club functions under direction of the house committee. We are looking forward to seeing what her skills and marketing experience can do for the club.

This past October, we had the pleasure of hosting an Honor Flight event which sent 65 desert storm veterans and gold star family members to IL for the Persian Gulf War memorial. It was a memorable event for many and photos from that event can be seen on the Old Glory Honor Flight Facebook page. The post was unexpectedly awarded a plaque and a donation of \$1,000 in gratitude for our hosting this event. They were so pleased by our post and our organization of all the details, that they want us to host the event again next year. This donation will allow us to purchase a meat slicer for the club which is greatly needed. The cost for us to set up this event was minimal due to many man hours that were donated by our paid staff and legion members who graciously volunteered their time for this well-deserved event. I want to personally thank all of you who helped make this a great day for all involved. We also had a recycling fundraiser for St. Jude's children's hospital in October which was chaired by our very own Bear from Y100. He notified us that \$3,500 was raised by this event and thanked us for allowing him and his group to use the parking lot at the post as a collection site. The funds that were raised exceeded his expectations and he plans to do this fundraiser again next year. Also, let's all thank Bob Johnson for fronting the Post Everlasting event in honoring the memories of the Legionnaire members that left this earthly world for a better place within the last year. May they rest in peace.

In November, we had a very busy month. It started out with a flag pole dedication at High Cliff State Park and ended with a Veteran's display at Associated bank where we attempted to win a contest by supplying items for their display of military items; however, we did not win the contest. We had an informal flag retirement ceremony where 2,810 flags were retired making it 4,871 flags total retired this year. My thanks and understanding goes out to Don Hawkins and his baseball crew for their help in regards to these ceremonies, which need to happen more often due to the number of flags that we receive from the community. My sincere thanks goes out to Laurel Clewell, Mark Jung and Don Eiden for the countless hours in retiring the flags. I can see now by the number flags that we do receive that flag retirement ceremonies need to happen quarterly rather than once per year. With November dedicated to veterans, we had many events which I was privileged to be a part of. First and foremost, I went nursing home hopping with your post adjutant, Laurel

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

- 4 Post Meeting (Initiation) . . . 7:00PM
- 14 Bingo 7:00PM
- 18 Auxiliary meeting 7:00PM
- 18 House Committee Meeting . 7:00PM
- 20 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 7:00PM
- 25 Executive Meeting 7:00PM
- 28 Bingo 7:00PM

FEBRUARY

- 1 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- State Commander will be at the February Meeting*
- 8 Auxiliary Executive Meeting 6:30PM
- 11 Bingo 7:00PM
- 15 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 17 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 7:00PM
- 22 House Committee Meeting . 7:00PM
- 25 Bingo 7:00PM
- 29 Executive Meeting. 7:00PM

Watch for the Valentine Special



MARCH

- 7 Post Meeting. 7:00PM
- 10 Bingo 7:00PM
- 14 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 16 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 7:00PM
- 21 House Committee Meeting . 7:00PM
- 24 NO Bingo
- 28 Executive Meeting. 7:00PM
- 31 Bingo 7:00PM

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Clewell, where we honored members of our post with certificates of continuous membership and visited with them bringing many smiles to those who haven't been able to get to the post by their own accord. These elderly members are a valuable asset to our organization and we will not forget them. My wife and I also personally hand delivered certificates to several veterans in their homes and all photos of these smiling faces are up on the post 38 Facebook page if you would like to see who has been a member for 60+ years.

Lon Bartsch did a great job putting together our Veteran's dinner this year. A great time was had by all as we ate together, enjoyed each other's company and camaraderie. We also had fun dancing and listening to music brought to us by Sam Brown & the BRINK. Thank you Lon, Rose Heinz and all of the others who helped to put on this event. Please remember Fred Gloede, your 3rd vice, has stepped down due to conflicts with his job. We still have an open chair if anyone is interested in joining the team. We thank Jeff Zweirs and his wife, Diane, for coming forward to get us through the children's Christmas party this year.

During December, we collected 75 Toys for Tots donations and participated in two Christmas parades. I want to thank everyone who stepped up and helped to make our presence known in the community. I also would like to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for their practical, generous and much needed donation of oven mitts given to the club and the \$750 donation as well. The annual sweepstakes, Packer games, not to mention the Army vs. Navy game again brought several of you out to the post to enjoy the game with your fellow comrades for some friendly competition. Unfortunately, the Navy won again...sorry Army fans!!! Maybe the Air Force team can show you how it's done. Sorry the Marine's doesn't have a team but the Navy needs cheer leaders.

Historic opportunity at your last post meeting, where I started the post IT Committee and Mark Toll has offered to chair this committee. This, in conjunction with the monitor system previously mentioned, will allow all of our activities to be digital and accessible to all members via our post web site or Facebook or live at the post. We also have WiFi available again for those of you who like to use your tablet or cell phone instead.

Future activities happening at the Post will include the Christmas party and New Year's Eve party that, as of this write up, still have not taken place. We are currently doing a joint VFW/Legionnaire membership drive and an adopt-a-family venture for Christmas with a family who has 3 children. I hope you all enjoy a safe holiday season and hope to see you all back here next year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Bill Falck
Commander, Post 38
AppletonCmdrPost38@gmail.com

FIRST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Appleton Post 38 is at 638 renewed and/or new members. We need to reach a goal of 755 paid members to reach 100% and we are now at 84.5%. Let's keep those memberships coming in! Remember, for every new member you recruit you are put into a raffle drawing worth \$1000 courtesy of Dale Oatman, Department Commander. This drawing will be held at mid-winter conference.

Bingo: We finished our first 6 months of bingo with a net profit of \$1855.30. I would like to personally thank all of those who have helped to make this venture a success. I believe it will only get better. We have Bingo every 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. If you haven't already, come on by and check us out. Doors open at 6:00 pm and play begins at 7:00 pm. Also, we are always in need of volunteers to help out on those nights. Please contact me or Marian Brown, Auxiliary Unit 38 President, for more information.

Army-Navy Game/Toys for Tots/Cash sweepstakes: We just finished up a great football weekend here at the Post. On Saturday, December 12, was the Army-Navy football weekend along with the Toys for Tots drive. We collected 75 toys and \$236.00 to donate to this great cause. On Sunday, December 13, we held our annual cash raffle. Thank you so much for everyone who bought and sold tickets. This year's sweepstakes was a great success with a net profit of \$2942.61!

Michele Preston
1st Vice Commander
Post 38



Daniel Schultz is a 60 year continuous member of Post 38

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS – GOD BLESS YOU IN 2016

This has been a great year and I look forward to 2016. Post 38 currently has 638 which is 84.50% of the goal of 755. We are 3rd in the state for having the most members in a post and I would love to see Post 38 be Number One in the State. Our State goal is 755 but my goal is 800 and to be number one we will have to achieve a membership of about 840. I know we can do it and I need your help – just ask your friend, neighbor, or family to join us.

We will be having a new member initiation at the January 4th meeting. If you have never been through this initiation, then we invite you to join us. Our meeting begins at 7pm.

This is just a reminder that with your membership dues, you are eligible for No-Cost to you Legion Care Insurance. You can call 800-235-6943 or get a card from the post and send it to Legionnaire Insurance Trust.

Please call me if you have any questions at (920) 427-4234

For God and Country,

Laurel Clewell
Your Adjutant

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, DISTRICT 9

Most of us put away our motorcycles for the year, but many were out during our unseasonable December. With the year over, it is time once again to reflect on our accomplishments.

We displayed our Nation's Colors in 19 parades throughout District 9 and rode or participated in over 12 other large events.

We also honored our veterans by participating in many funeral ceremonies and escorts.

Cash donations to Camp American Legion, the Veterans Home at King and others totaled \$4850.

All of the Riders Districts are very active and support each other. On December 12th we joined District 8 at the cemetery at King for the Wreath Across America ceremony and wreath laying. January 10th we'll be enjoying our annual Christmas lunch at the Main Event in Cecil.

Membership in the American Legion Riders is open to anyone in the Legion Family with a motorcycle of 500cc and larger.

Check us out at www.alrawis.org and on Facebook. Come and join us!

Paul Heit
American Legion Riders Association of Wisconsin District 9 President
paul.heit@att.net

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

I am the new manager of your American Legion Club. I'm so excited to start working with all of you in the future. We will be making a few changes in hopes of making the club your favorite place to stop for lunch or dinner.

Looking forward to meeting all of you soon

Jenni Baltz

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome 2016,

Now that the holidays are over we start a new year and that will bring us to set new goals and dreams.

This past year we had help with many Auxiliary and Legion activities and we want to say "Thank You" to the Legion Family for all their help with these functions, and look forward to working with you in 2016!

We are searching for 100%!! So please send in your renewals and Legionnaires sign up your wife, daughters, or granddaughters. Any questions feel free to contact myself or Membership Chairman, Linda Breitzman. Remember the Auxiliary meets at 7pm, the 3rd Monday of the month at the Post.

We will hold an Auxiliary Executive Meeting on Monday February 8th at 6:30pm at the Post.

Remember the Auxiliary meets at 7pm, the 3rd Monday of the month at the Post. By attending our meetings you may win one of the three \$5.00 door prizes given out. please come join us and help with our veterans and community activities.

Don't forget "Poppy Day" will be Friday May 13th . There will be more information to follow, with signing up to help distribute poppies. Remember these funds are used for the programs for our veterans.

The Auxiliary will award a \$500 FVTC Scholarship again in December.

March is the official birth month for the American Legion. So Commander Bill, Post Officers and members, The Auxiliary wishes you a Happy 95th Birthday!!

Wishing you all a "Happy New Year" and all the best for 2016.

Marian Brown
President, Unit 38

SCARLET GUARD

Hoping everyone had a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. It seemed a very strange way to end a great year with all the rain and high temps. The Scarlet Guard had a great year, participating in many parades and educational presentations. We presented the colors at four different high schools and many events during Veterans Day week. The highlight of the year came in August when the Scarlet Guard competed in the Color Guard completion at the American Legion National convention in Baltimore, MD. It had been a long time since the unit competed at this level and placing third and fifth was a great achievement. We are looking forward to competing again in 2016, this time in Cincy.

Our January meeting will be on the 20th at 7:00 pm and anyone interested in joining us is welcome. We are always looking for new members and any Legion Family member in good standing are eligible. We meet once a month and are looking forward to another successful year.

John Bourassa
Scarlet Guard Chairman



UNIT 38 MEMBERSHIP

We welcome our new members Judith Johnson, Amanda Petersen, Mary Schmidt and Debra West to our Unit. We are happy to report that 115 members have paid their dues. If you have not paid please support Unit 38. Forward your dues to me at 1718 Carriage Lane Appleton 54914 for processing.

Remember our meetings are on the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm. Guests are welcome.

Linda Breitzman
Membership Chairman

UNIT 38 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT 2015-2016

Your Appleton Unit 38 is currently involved in a project for our Children and Youth in our communities. We are counting our Box Tops, Labels for Education and Moo Caps. We also are collecting ink cartridges that need to be recycled. Why not purchase Kohl's Cares or JC Penney items and include them in your report. These items are worth \$5 each. If you could report these items for Unit 38, give me a call. I can mail a form to you for you to keep track of your items. If you just usually throw away your Box Tops, Labels for Education why not mail your items to me at 333 Parkview Ln, Kimberly, WI 54136 and I will distribute to one of the area schools. If you discard your ink cartridges or moo caps, when not drop them off at the Legion Post and I will pick them up (be sure to label them to my attention). Or if you already donate these items to a particular school, all you have to do is to report the number of items to me, email me the totals at rozkar@new.rr.com. If you have any questions, about our Community Service project, and how you might be able to help, just give me a call. We really would appreciate your participation. Unit 38 also collects the tabs from soda, beer, and other cans to send to the Ronald Mc Donald House.

Rose Heinz
Unit 38 Community Service Chairman & Secretary

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

December 13, 2015

LOST MEMBERS:

Bruce Marcks 11.03.15
William Bartell. 11.15.15
Jimmie Cutler. 11.17.15
Clarence J Dahlen 11.18.15
James Pappas 11.26.15
John T Schultz 12.01.15

Recouperating at home or a Nursing Care Facility:

- Eugene LaPlante: Recovering at home
- Leroy Meinhardt is at Colony Oaks recouperating.
- John Erdmann is at Appleton Health Care on Meade St. It is the old Franciscan Care facility north of OO.
- William Hoffman is at Brewster Village.
- Jerry Miller is at Manor Care in Appleton.
- Arden Peterson is in Willow Lane Rehab Facility and he has Dementia. Address is 850 W Elsner Rd. Appleton WI.
- Leonard M. Kutz is in Willow Lane at 850 W. Elsner Rd. in Appleton. His phone # is 920-733-7572.
- Alden P Edwards is at Rennes Health and Rehab center. Phone # there is 731-7310 325 E Florida ave Appleton

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
E-mail: djeiden@new.rr.com
Phone# 733-2957

*Every Tuesday
check out the
specials at the Club*

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



Bingo Future Dates
January 14th and 18th, February 11th and 25th
March 10th and 25th

*Bingo at Post-open to the public 2nd, 4th,
and 5th Thursday starts at 7pm*

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

 Find us on
Facebook

OFFICERS 2015-2016
Johnston – Blessman Post No. 38

Commander
Bill Falck
277-6561

1st Vice Commander
Michele Preston
285-6015

2nd Vice Commander
Lon Bartsch
540-0018

3rd Vice Commander

Adjutant
Laurel Clewell
427-4234

House Comm. Chairman

Scarlet Guard
John Bourassa
858-6367
Rick Eisenach

Informational Technologies
Mark Toll
422-2771

Finance Officer
Gordy Clewell
284-0506

Asst. Finance Officer

Service Officer
Don Eiden
733-2957

Chaplain
Robert Johnson
731-1844

Sgt.-At-Arms
Mark Jung
740-7590

SAL Commander
Bob Seide
715-853-5901

SAL Adjutant
Al Watry
997-4629

Military Funeral Chairman
Mark Jung
740-7590

Club Manager
Jenni Baltz
733-9840

AUXILIARY OFFICERS
2015-2016

President
Marian Brown
(920) 739-4283

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

2nd Vice President
Phyliss Duquette
(920) 733-6801

Secretary
Rose Heinz
(920) 734-7570

Treasurer
Debra Ragen
(920) 734-7107

Poppy Treasurer
Wendy Yingling
(920) 850-0533

Chaplain
Joan Hawkins
(920) 734-8919

Sgt-At-Arms
Georgia Altizer
(920) 428-0209

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

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

Membership
Linda Breitzman
(920) 731-3703



The Reporter is now on the Post Web Page. If you wish to read it online rather than have it mailed to you, contact Karl Heinz 920-734-7570 or rozkar@new.rr.com to have your name removed from the mail list. Copies will remain on the website for one year.

SPECIAL NOTICE



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
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