

The American LEGION REPORTER



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Johnston-Blessman Post 38
and Auxiliary Unit 38

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Fellow Legionnaires,

Another year has come and gone, and I would like to thank everyone for electing me as your commander for one more year. I do believe that during this year we will be able to implement and complete many of the great ideas and projects introduced by our members.

A big thanks goes out to everyone who made last year a success. Thanks to those who stepped up in a time of need. You are the true definition of a legionnaire. Extra thanks go out to the Auxiliary for their hard work and dedication during the 2014 Poppy drive. The Legion received a donation of \$450 for veteran programs.

Flag Day turned out to be a beautiful day. We were accompanied by our Department Commander Ken Rynes and other district and county officers. And, of course our Scarlet Guard performed exquisitely!

Legion Baseball is up and swinging. The program is now hosting three teams with the help of many coaches and volunteers. Please consider donating to this very worthy youth program. Don't forget to attend a game. Schedules are available at www.appletonpost38.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. Manawa Rodeo Days: Again this year the Manawa Rodeo will be hosting a salute to the troops. This means free admission on Friday night, July 4th. Please bring a military ID or American Legion card. Also, our Scarlet Guard will participate in the parade on Saturday.

2. Department Convention: The convention will kick off with Rhino's Ride. The Department Commander will complete the ride at our Appleton Post 38 on the evening of July 16th at approximately 6:00 pm, with a pig roast and refreshments. Please plan to attend and support the Department Legacy Fund. The convention starts on Thursday the 17th and ends on Sunday morning the 20th. This all takes place at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. During this time the Post will be running food specials and entertainment. If you cannot make the convention, please come out and support our Post during convention week.

3. Corn Roast: Our annual Corn Roast is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 20th at 4:30. Same place, same price as last year. Come join the fun! Entertainment, raffles, food and of course all corn and refreshments for only \$5. See you there! Bring your family and friends.

Please take note of the "Dates to Remember. Mark these events on your calendar. We thrive on seeing old and new faces at our meetings and other events.

A few things to remember:

Promote our Post with a smile; show your enthusiasm when talking to perspective members.

Team work: If we work as a true team of Legionnaires, we can get through anything.

Jeff Zwiers
Post 38 Commander

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY

- 7 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 16 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 21 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 22 House Committee Meeting .5:30PM
- 28 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

AUGUST

- 4 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 18 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 20 Corn Roast 4:30PM
- 20 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 25 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 15 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 16 House Committee Meeting .5:30PM
- 17 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 22 Auxiliary Executive Meeting 6:30PM
- 29 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

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FIRST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIP

Comrades, as per our last meeting we stood at 702 members. Only 70 bodies shy of our goal of 100%. We stand now at 91%, it should be our goal to get those 70 bodies to reach 100%. I don't care if we dig them up, steal them from other post, or sign up military police dogs. Comrades they are out there—let's get em.

It is going to be a fun year, I am looking forward to working with the team we have in place to bring forth a positive environment for all the members.

I want to thank William Burton for filling in as our 1st Vice, and John Breitzman for stepping up and lending his support as our new and returning 3rd Vice. They both deserve a round of applause.

Now to the rest of us, we all know people who qualify to be members of our post. Get them signed up. If money is an issue we will pass the hat and guarantee them at least two years paid membership. Dam if that is not an excellent deal. I know I would have jumped on that myself if I was in need. So I implore you. Let's get some butts in the chairs.

We are still going to have the TV raffle, but due to circumstances beyond our control the raffle had to be put off. So now the TV will be awarded at the end of the corn roast event. Bartenders who sell the most tickets shall still be awarded \$20 for their efforts. I will enjoy the time working with our leadership team in the upcoming events.

So now for the skinny on me, where shall I start...? I was born into the military way, my father, God rest his soul, took my mother around the world and dragged my sister and me along for the ride. Sixteen years of my life was spent in Germany and Spain moving every 3 years to a new duty assignment. Needless to say you get a lot of acquaintances instead of friends. After high school I went to Florida Institute of Technology where I got an Associate degree in Diesel Tech, Marine

Propulsion. Every semester flying back to Spain via Space A travel. While in Spain I held a G3 job classification and worked for the NCO club and coached high school wrestling for The DODDS Torrejon AB High School. Then one day my father comes to me and states I have to go. His Commander has kicked me out of Spain. I was no longer eligible to retain my dependent ID card. So the choices were: come back to the States or become a Spaniard. So I talked to the Armed Forces Recruiters. The Navy had me for ten minutes..... Until the recruiter said I would be on a ship for 6 months to a year. I didn't care to dance with Marines—I didn't want my feet stepped on. However, if women were allowed on ships back then, I definitely would have been a Navy man. So I entered the Air Force in Torrejon Spain.

I took a maintenance job in Aero Space Ground Support. For the AC 130 Gunships and the MH-53 pave Lowe choppers. Was given the pay grade of E3 right off the bat because of my ASME degree and a nice bonus as well. Then the feces hit the fan. My first duty assignment winds up being The 1st Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida. I thought sweat, Florida. Wrong—I first end up TDY to Libya, then Panama, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Antarctica, Iraq, and the Bahamas. And also knee-deep in Oliver North's crap with the Iran Contras. So now you know why I don't talk much about my stuff. I don't even think I spent even 6 months in Florida besides college. So I separated from the military on Luke AFB, in Arizona only to continue to work for the government for another 4 years as a Navy and Army contractor rebuilding and or building Diesel engines for the Department of Defense. I went on inactive reserve status until 2008, once being called back into uniform in 2002, but was cancelled for reasons I still do not know.

So for 43 years of my life has been involved with the military in one

capacity or another, it was never a dull moment and I cherish all I have experienced. I have been on 6 continents and my bucket list holds the seventh, Australia.

The military has afforded me the opportunity to obtain my Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering which I completed in Arizona.

I am currently working for Lamers Bus Lines as a mechanic where I have been for the last 6 years. And if all my paperwork comes back in order and I have documents in hand I hopefully can retire in August.

I am a proud member going on 5 years now of the American Legion, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a Life Member of the Air Force Association.

I would like to go into business and hire people to run it for me in the near future. But it is all in the hands of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

My life is far from perfect, sometimes I should have turned left, instead of right, but I find myself humbled in the presence of all of you, My Comrades.

May each and every one of you be blessed.

Thanks,

Bill Falck

1st Vice Commander, Post 38

UNIT 38 MEMBERSHIP

Members in Nursing Homes
Ermgard Deffert, Carolina Manor
Agatha Davis, Alten House
Gladys Prah, Rennes

Membership Report:

We only have a few more members to reach our goal. If you have not paid your dues please renew as they support our Auxiliary programs. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Join us on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm for our meeting.

Linda Breitzman
Membership Chair

2ND VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Fellow Legionnaires,

First of all, I would like to thank you for having enough confidence in me to vote me in as your Second Vice Commander. I look forward to serving you as best I can while filling this position.

Now, a little bit about me. I am the proud mom of three great kids. Branden is 19, Zach is 24, and Andy is almost 29. Andy is married to Kristina and are the parents of my pride and joy, the light of my life; my 3-year-old grandson, Preston.

I am a transplant to the Fox Valley area since 1990 after growing up and going to high school in Watertown, Wisconsin. I joined the Army Reserves in 1982 and drilled in Beaver Dam until I went to Drill Sergeant School in 1988. I then did drill sergeant duties in Menasha, Oshkosh, and Appleton and after 15 years of that it was time to go "home" to Beaver Dam. In 2008 I was mobilized for two years to Walter Reed

Army Medical Center in Washington DC where I worked as the NCOIC of the Wounded Warriors Battle Company. I retired from the Reserves in 2011 and joined the American Legion. I also am a member of the Auxiliary, the Scarlet Guard, as well as newly appointed to the House Committee.

I am currently employed part time as a medical transcriptionist for Winnebago County Human Services. The other part of my time consists of spending time with family, gardening, quilting, and hiking. I live in Sherwood, Wisconsin, with my youngest son Branden, dog Sammy, and cat Sam-Ruby. I am an avid reader, I love lighthouses and waterfalls, and, when time permits, I love to travel.

Again, thank you for allowing me to represent this great club as your Second Vice Commander.

*Michele A. Preston, US Army, Retired
2nd Vice Commander, Post 38*

CHAPLAINS CHATTER

"HELP WANTED" Bulletin

As chaplain of our post and an active member of the Military Funeral Honor Guard, this leads me to the purpose of the "HELP WANTED" notice above. The post's Military Funeral Honor Guard is extremely short of members and we need to replenish the membership to keep up with the demand for the services we provide to the families and honoring the deceased veteran for his or her dedicated and faithful service to our country.

The reward we receive for this service is the sincere gratitude expressed by the family of the veteran and their tearful thanks after the ceremony is over. The rifle volley and taps really tug at the heart strings and afterwards, we feel good about our participation in honoring our comrade.

The ceremonies usually last no more than forty-five minutes. Before the ceremony, there is a very short period

of preparation time to make sure we are as professional as possible. So that being said, I am asking you, on behalf of the MFHG members, to give us a very small piece of your time so we can continue to provide this service to our members and their families. If you can hold a flag pole or fire a rifle, we could use your help. Training is provided, if necessary. Please considerate this request, and let us know if we can count on your assistance.

"The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

— 1 Samuel 16:7

Please contact Dick Staedt at 734-9495 or Karl Heinz at 734-7570 for more information and joining this great group.

*Bob Johnson
Chaplain*

PS: Remember the Second Commandment.

3RD VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

I would like to thank all of the Legion Members who voted for me at the last election. The annual Corn Roast will be at the Legion Club on August 20, 2014, beginning at 4:00 PM. I would appreciate any door or raffle prizes that can be donated for this fund raiser. I will also need people to volunteer to help with this event. Please contact me if you can help it will be appreciated.

*John Breitzman
Third Vice Commander*

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

June 15, 2014

LOST MEMBERS:

Betty Howe 06.02.14
Donald Tate 06.05.14
Carl Dohr 06.07.14
Clyde Klemp 06.13.14

Recuperating at home or a Nursing Care Facility:

- Eugene LaPlante is recovering at home.
- Leroy Meinhardt is recuperating at Colony Oaks.
- Don Huth is recuperating at Brewster Village.
- John Erdman is at Appleton Health Care on Meade St. It is the old Franciscan Care facility north of OO.
- William Hoffman is at Brewster Village.
- Don Harris is recuperating at home.
- Michael Miller is back home and doing therapy at home; doing well.
- Earl Grelson is back at Carolina Manor.
- Dick Shimek is home recuperating from back surgery.
- Jerry Miller is at Manor Care.
- Joe Murray is back home recuperating.

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*

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's already June and wow, this past year has gone by so fast!

I'd like to start by "Thanking" all the ladies who have diligently helped me over these past two years, I was blessed with these ladies' help. And I know they will continue to help me and the Legion Family during my next two year term. We have our work cut out for us, but together we can do anything. Appleton is hosting with the Legion the State Convention of 2014 and 2015, The Auxiliary also will be hosting the Auxiliary State Bowling held in Appleton in April of 2015.

I'd like to also thank Commander Jeff Zwiers and all of the Officers for their service to the Legion family this past year. We appreciate the service you gave to our country while serving, and also the service and hours you give to our Legion families. You did a great job!

Congratulations to our returning Commander, Jeff Zwiers and all the new officers. Unit 38 and I look forward to working with you during the coming year.

I wish to thank Jessica Garza for the success of Poppy Day this year. It started out rocky but the Legion Family came together to do a second day and it was a BIG SUCCESS!!! Jessica has served and now will take on a new roll as our Assistant Sergeant at Arms. We thank Jessica. The poppy funds allow us to help fund activities and purchase items needed for our veterans facilities. Thanks to all people who helped with this yearly fundraiser. Next year we are looking at possibly doing a Friday and a Saturday again, but on the same weekend. Watch for more information next year.

We ask the Americanism Essay winners to attend our unit meeting and read their winning essays, we had both of the essay winners attend our May meeting.

Unit 38 also had the privilege of presenting two of the seven Department Merit & Memorial \$1000 Scholarships. One was presented to Aimee Conley from Xavier High School at the Xavier Awards night. The other to Thomas Ulrich, who attends UW-Madison, and

was present at our May meeting.

At our May meeting there was a memorial service conducted for the three Auxiliary members we lost over the past year. Thanks to chaplain, Joan Hawkins and Gwen Schwandt for the nice service they conducted.

I also would like to thank all the ladies, that helped and took part in the many Memorial Day activities, including putting flags on the cemetery, the courthouse service, the church memorial service, the parade, cemetery services and the many events the ladies participated in while represented our unit. A great big THANKS!

I'd also like to thank Commander Jeff Zwiers and the Legionnaires for including me in the Flag Day festivities again this year. A big Thanks to our vehicle drivers, Michelle Preston and Diane Zwiers. Once again I had a SUPER time, thanks.

The 484th Army band at the post after the parade was awesome. Thanks to all the legionnaires and their families who made these festivities possible. A big Thanks to the workers frying burgers and brats, selling concessions, and the set up and take down for this event. We sometimes have such a good

time enjoying these events and forget how much planning and work it takes to put it all together for us to enjoy.

On Monday June 23rd we will hold our executive meeting at 6:30pm at the club.

Don't forget Appleton is hosting the State Convention at the Paper Valley, and if you have a little time to volunteer please contact myself at 739-4283, or Linda Breitzman at 731-3703.

Keep in mind we will start collecting school supplies again, so when you are out, pick up an item or so to donate and bring them to the meetings.

Please remember in July we will start our membership renewals, we invite you to renew your membership and sign up new members at that time.

Our \$5.00 attendance winners were: April—Phyliss Duquette, Debra Ragen, and Lori Hansel; May—Karen Kranzusch, Michelle Preston, and Darlene Giles; June—Anita Kapp, Debra Ragen, and June Endres.

Please see the back of the Reporter for the new Auxiliary officers. We will have installation at our July meeting.

See you at the Post.

*Marian Brown
President, Unit 38*

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Thank you to all my fellow Legionnaires for your support in electing me your new Finance Officer. I have assumed all responsibilities and am poring through all of the past records to get familiar with our financial obligations. I will be meeting with each subsidiary that holds accounts at the Post or that is operating under the Legion brand name to review their records as well.

The goal of any Finance Officer is to ensure the financial success of the area they represent. My personal goal is to ensure Post 38's short range planning meets the immediate needs of the Post and to establish a 3 year and/or 5 year budget plan to sustain the future success of the Post.

The Post is operating on a small budget right now and it is critical that we support Commander Jeff's request for more fundraising efforts. Reach out to your friends and neighbors and local businesses for donations; reach out to your veteran friends, family members and neighbors to get them to join our American Legion Post; get involved in a fundraising activity. Remember that we are supporting our fellow veterans and their families through the many programs the Legion has to offer. We are a prideful bunch and it feels good to be able to give back to our community.

Again, thank you for your trust in me to be the caretaker of the finances of the Post. I will do my very best!

Steve Greely, Post 38 Finance Officer

BADGER GIRLS STATE: JUNE 15- 20, 2014

As the Hoard County Counselor, it was my privilege to be there with the other counselors for a great week of teaching Americanism and Government to these over 700 wonderful, bright young ladies.

A very special young woman from Seymour was elected **Governor for the State of Badger**. She is **Madilyn Heinke**. Congratulations to Madilyn, her family and the small town of Seymour, Wisconsin.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 38 sent 11 girls from 5 high schools in Appleton and one home schooled student to Oshkosh. Contributors and delegates are:

- American Legion Post 38 Elise Austin, Appleton East H.S.
- FVL Alumni Association Emma Neuberger, Fox Valley Lutheran
- Herbert H. Kohl Charities Katelyn Hermsen, Appleton East H.S.
- VFW Auxiliary Post 2778 Danielle Voss, Fox Valley Lutheran
- Appleton Noon Lions Bridget Metcalf, Appleton East H.S.
- Grand Chute Lions Megan DuBois, Xavier H.S.
- Kiwanis Club-Golden K Madison Andropolis, Appleton West H.S.
- Kiwanis Club-Golden K Olivia Allen, Appleton West H.S.
- Kiwanis Club-Golden K Brielle Petit, Appleton West H.S.
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 38 Maya Murzello, Appleton North H.S.
and Julia Lammers, Appleton North H.S.

Wisconsin Chess Academy Anne Ulrich, home schooled student
Kaitlyn Squire from Appleton North was also a delegate. Her sponsorship is thru Oconto Falls Unit 302, as their delegate was unable to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS to the delegates as they represented their schools and a very special Thank You goes to all our contributors for their support in this outstanding program of Americanism, Youth, and Government.

Rose Heinz, Badger Girls State Chairman, Unit 38

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, DISTRICT 9

The Riders of District 9 have been busy. We've been to King twice!

For Memorial Day we joined the Oneidas for their Code Talkers Ceremony, rode in two parades—Mountain and Appleton—and participated in various Post activities throughout the District.

Then came Little Chute's Cheese Fest Parade and two parades in the same day—Flag Day in Forestville and Appleton. We've been putting on the miles.

The 4th of July will be busy with three parades and a brat fry in just a couple of days. We are looking forward to our 3rd Annual Ride for the Veterans at King to be held September 20th in concert with POW / MIA Remembrance Day. Check it out at www.alrawis.org/ridetoking.

Don't forget to join us for a pig roast at Post 38 when Rhino's Run arrives late afternoon on July 16th.

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

POPPY DAY REPORT

Another Poppy Day has come and gone. With great help this year after a rocky start we were able to come back and surpass last year's goal. I cannot thank everyone enough for your help. It would not have been a success if you didn't volunteer so thank you again.

Poppy Chairman

Jessica Garza

BADGER BOYS STATE

We sent 11 boys from Fox Valley Schools this year. They started classes on 14 June in the afternoon.

The boys are as follows:

- Adam Larsen, Weston Floerke and Blake Ebben, Appleton North H.S.
- Jack Grundmeier, Fox Valley Lutheran
- Hunter Van Asten and Kyle Van Hammond, Xavier H.S.
- Troy Howard, Spencer Lucy, David Gregg, Appleton West H.S.
- Shane Pociask, Gabe Heindel, Appleton East H.S.

This year's sponsors are: Appleton Noon Lions, VFW Post 2778, Knights of Columbus, Don and Joan Hawkins, Golden K Kiwanis, American Legion Post 38, American Legion Auxiliary, Grand Chute Lions

Submitted by Don J Eiden

Coordinator for Fox Valley Schools

2014 SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

This year five scholarships were awarded to students at the five Appleton High schools. The winners were:

- Megan A. Stumpf of Appleton North High School;
- Austin J. Mullins of Appleton West High School;
- Megan L. Larsen of Appleton East High School;
- Aimee J. Conley of Xavier High School;
- Collin D. Wenzel of Fox Valley Lutheran High School.

I would like to thank the people who helped to judge the scholarship applications, Linda Breitzman, Karl Heinz, Rose Heinz, Michael Breitzman and Gwen Schwandt.

John Breitzman

Scholarship Committee Chairman

OFFICERS 2014-2015
Johnston – Blessman Post No. 38

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Scarlet Guard John Bourassa 858-6367 Lloyd Dumke 257-8962	House Comm. Chairman Ray Gass 687-6152
	Military Funeral Chairman Dick Staedt 734-9495 Dick Shimek 733-6038 Karl Heinz 734-7570

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2014-2015

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Secretary Rose Heinz (920) 734-7570	Membership Linda Breitzman (920) 731-3703
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Poppy Treasurer Wendy Yingling (920) 850-0533	
Chaplain Joan Hawkins (920) 734-8919	



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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