

The American LEGION REPORTER



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Johnston-Blessman Post 38
and Auxiliary Unit 38

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

American Legion members,

Time is a constant that cannot be changed. Dwellers of the past remain there, for them comfort rests there. However, we all need to remember that none of us know how much time we have. Those who embrace change can strive to be successful because they are positive and look beyond the future.

The American Legion was never united by blood, birth, soil, age, particular battle or conflict in which one's particular time was served. We were bound by the principles that moved us beyond our backgrounds, lifted us above our own interests and taught us what it means to be Legionnaires.

I gambled with time, I rolled the dice, I made the difficult decisions, and I kept my word. I am saddened by those of you who have disliked my decisions, but I would do it all again. As I said back in the beginning, I am not here to make friends...I am here for the good of the American Legion, what it stands for, and for what it represents. The American Legion's preamble to our constitution was written with specific meaning and my goal has not changed. We are not there yet, but many of us are working together as a team towards a common goal and that is to get back to the purpose the American Legion is all about and what it is meant to be in this community.

Success of my term is by no means from all of my own efforts. Every one of you should thank Gordy Clewell, for without his efforts, this bar and grill would have been closed before the New Year. He is the MVP of my support staff. As far as my support staff is concerned, those of you who have contributed, who have worked hard, who have volunteered and who will continue to contribute, have shared the success we all now enjoy. I would never have been able to do it alone. You ALL have my heartfelt thanks and sincere gratitude!

As far as the members who dwell in the past, who have been with negative thoughts and attitudes throughout, I pray the positives the current administration and I have gained will lessen your resistance. You all have made us stronger because we know the best way to destroy our enemy is to make him our friend. Some of you have returned. Those of you who quit on the heels of some of the most difficult decisions I have had to make, are always welcomed back without prejudice from me. For I know the truth and I shall walk in the path of our savior and forgive, as I too have been forgiven for my many shortcomings.

My staff and I, and all of you who have been there to back us up, have seen that we have turned things around in a short amount of time; however, this is just the beginning. Round two is right in front of us and I will continue to need all of your help and support. I know things will get even better, even though time can be our friend, the hard work isn't over yet. I pray you all go along with me in the journey ahead.

Bill Falck
Commander, Post 38
AppletonCmdrPost38@gmail.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

31 Bingo7:00PM

APRIL

4 Post Meeting7:00PM

10 Scarlet Guard at Boys Choir
Concert4:00PM

11 Auxiliary Executive Meeting .6:30PM

14 Bingo7:00PM

17 9th District Spring Meeting
at Post 388:00AM

18 Auxiliary Meeting7:00PM

18 House Committee Meeting .7:00PM

20 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . .7:00PM

23 9th District Auxiliary Spring
Conference - Elcho

25 Executive Meeting7:00PM

28 Bingo7:00PM

MAY

2 Post Meeting7:00PM

12 Bingo7:00PM

13 Poppy Day

16 Auxiliary Meeting7:00PM

17 Auxiliary County Council - Hortonville

18 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . .7:00PM

21 Scarlet Guard at Fort McCoy –
Armed Forces Day Event

23 House Committee Meeting .7:00PM

26 Bingo7:00PM

29 Memorial Day Church Service
Good Shepherd Church on 2220 E .
College Avenue at 9:30 am

30 Appleton Memorial Day Parade
9am with a ceremony at Riverside
Cemetery after the parade

JUNE

1 Executive Meeting.7:00PM

6 Post Meeting.7:00PM

9 Bingo7:00PM

continued on page 2

FIRST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Legionnaires,

I am writing to you from the beautiful city of Playa Del Carmen, Mexico, where I have been for the last several weeks with a few weeks to go before I head back to Wisconsin. While here, I have been doing a lot of relaxing, regrouping, and soul-searching. I would like to share with you what I have come up with.

Life is short! But I think we all know that. Some of you may know that my dad has some health issues and while here in Mexico he was in the hospital for 4 days before they flew him to Miami; the nearest hospital in the states that is capable of taking care of him and his condition. As of this writing, he is doing well and recuperating back at home with my mom. I'm so glad I was fortunate enough to spend a few weeks of quality time with my folks. As I said before, life is short. Spend as much time as you can with the people you love.

With that said, I also have come to the conclusion that one must take care of themselves, do what you love, and enjoy every minute of your life. Most of you know that I love the American Legion and have committed myself to their mission. Being your 1st Vice Commander this year, being in the Scarlet Guard, the Honor Guard, and a member of the Auxiliary has been very fulfilling for me. Starting and running Bingo also has brought a sense of accomplishment. Some of you may know that I am also the 1st Vice Commander of Outagamie County.

I had planned on writing this article believing that all I wanted was to become your commander; to right the wrongs I see going on and to keep us doing all the right things for our vets and our community. I would really love to be that person but here is my dilemma: Because I am so involved with our Post, including the club side, the stress that comes with it was welcomed. I used to believe that I strived on stress; that life was boring if I wasn't worried about something. Being here in Mexico has changed my thinking completely. Life here is stress free. There is no concept of time, or days of the week. Granted, I am on vacation, but I have come to the realization that I enjoy this way of life and can see myself living here six months out of the year. I have the resources, I have the support of my family, and I have a plan.

So, with a heavy heart, this, to you, is my farewell letter. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of you and being your 2nd and 1st Vice Commanders for the past two years. This wasn't an easy decision for me as I honestly believe that, with your support, I would have been a great commander for Post 38. It's just time for me to move on. I do believe that God works in mysterious ways and he brought me here to Mexico, for this length of time, for a reason. That reason is still unclear, but I have to follow my heart. I will, however, fulfil my obligation as your 1st Vice Commander until June and after that I will do the best I can to help out wherever I am needed until I come back to Mexico.

Thank you again for entrusting me in the positions I have held. It's been a great ride!

*Michele Preston
1st Vice Commander
Post 38*

DATES TO REMEMBER

continued

JUNE

- 10 Scarlet Guard in Brillion
Parade 9:00PM
- 11 Appleton Flag Day Parade 2PM
- 11-12 WI Legion College at the Post . .
. 8AM-4PM
- 15 Scarlet Guard Meeting 7:00PM
- 20 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 20 House Committee Meeting 7:00PM
- 23 Bingo 7:00PM
- 27 Executive Meeting 7:00PM

July 2nd – Scarlet Guard in Manawa Rodeo Parade at 10am

July Post meeting will be on Wednesday, July 6th at 7pm

Bingo Future dates are July 14th and 28th – August 11th and 25th – September 8th and 22nd

BINGO

Bingo Future Dates

July 14th and 28th,
August 11th and 25th
September 8th and 22nd

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

*Every Tuesday
check out the
specials at
the Club*

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

IT COMMITTEE UPDATE

This past February, a new IT (Information Technology) Committee was formed. The first three tasks that are being tackled include:

- Gathering all member's email addresses
- Attempt to keep the Post's website up-to-date
- Set up a message board at the Post (TV with scrolling information)

To assist in accomplishing the first task, we need everyone (Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members) to send their email address to us at: adjutant@appletonpost38.org. These will be used to send out the "Reporter" and other news items. This will allow the Post to save money on printing and mailing.

If you do not have an email address, please let us know that also by sending a note to Post 38 – Attention of the Adjutant.

As to the second task, if you have something that you want put on the website, send it to: siteadmin@appletonpost38.org. All submissions for the website will be reviewed for appropriateness.

Mark Toll
IT Committee Chairman

BYLAWS REVIEW UPDATE

Back in November, a committee was formed to review the current Bylaws of the Post. The committee wrapped up the review in February and presented the changes to the Executive Committee. Approval was given to have the changes ratified at the May Post meeting.

The revised Bylaws are available for viewing at the Post's website: appletonpost38.org.

For those of you without internet access and would like a copy, contact Mark Toll at 920-422-2771. If I'm unavailable, leave your name and address.

Mark Toll
Bylaws Committee Member

Renee Kasuboski **Candidate for 1st Vice Commander, Post 38**

Candidate for 1st Vice Commander, Post 38 Renee Kasuboski is currently 3rd Vice Commander. She has been a member since August 2015, and is a member of the Scarlet Color Guard, Honor Guard, IT Committee Secretary and Auxiliary.

She has a number experiences in and out of the organization which will prove her drive and dedication to the American Legion.

Renee has been the National Account Coordinator for Gannett WI Media for the past 3 years. She started out at the front desk 4yrs ago and made her way to National Advertising within a year. She currently has 156 of her own accounts which she sell's and coordinates, as well as million dollar accounts that she shares with 5 other Sales Reps on Regional and National levels. Renee manages and performs customer service, data entry for print, digital and mobile applications as well as accounts receivable, payable, reporting, and designing of advertisements on all of our different applications to create customized timely solutions for her advertising customers. She works within all of their group departments including marketing, automotive, finance and digital to assure seamless transactions. A total of over 21 years in business administration.

Her other accomplishments include:

- Team leader at work for Project Linus on a local level (create and collect homemade blankets for children in medical or crisis situations to bring comfort), twice annually for the past 4 years.
- Team leader responsible for creating and conducting our 3rd Annual Memorial Day fundraiser in 2016 for Gannett WI Media. 2015 raised a little over \$2,000 for the Andrew Steiner Foundation. 2014 sent blankets, gift cards and letters to the Wounded Warriors in Ft. Hood, TX.
- Member of the Nursing Home Committee (Veterans Mentor Group)

Coming from a family of Veterans, she has always had a deep appreciation and respect for our Armed Forces. She feels the American Legion is her outlet in helping enlisted and Veterans in any capacity necessary to continue our principles, to help and encourage them. She was a homeschool mom for 12 years and believes that the learning process never truly ends. In order to be highly successful in this organization I believe that a deeper understanding is necessary to personally grow and lead others in helpful directions. As she moves to serve the American Legion at higher levels, she will require more knowledge of what we stand for as the American Legion and how and what ways she can assist. She believes that a good leader should be humble, confident, knowledgeable, and teachable and above all else a servant to those they lead.

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

WE NEED YOU TO RENEW. If your membership card doesn't say 2016 then you need to renew before you are eligible to vote this year. Please Vote – we need new faces and new ideas so please let us know if you or someone you know would be an asset to the officer ranks.

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.

Post 38 currently has 721 which means 95.50% of the goal of 755 – we are close and Need You.

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

For God and Country,

Laurel Clewell

Your Adjutant

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is on its way...

Soon flowers will be blooming and everything will start to turn green again. I know we all can't wait to get outside and get in the fresh air. But, as we do that maybe consider doing one kind act for a friend, veteran, neighbor or a stranger, to help brighten their spring. They will appreciate it and you will feel better, and hopefully they will pass on the kindness of a new spring.

The auxiliary collects school supplies every year and distributes them to area schools with the most need. In January the Auxiliary delivered 873 pieces of school supplies to include items such as; pencils, notebooks, markers and more to six Appleton Schools. These schools were Badger, Columbus, Ferber, Jefferson, Edison, and Lincoln. Thanks, to all who donated and thanks to Darlene Giles for her time and effort put into collecting, sorting, and dividing them up for the schools she has researched what and where the most need is. We will start collecting school supplies again in September with a new list of needed supplies.

At the Post March meeting the Auxiliary wished the "American Legion Happy Birthday" with a gift and a new clock for the hall.

Our unit still hasn't hit 100%, and we need everyone's help to reach our 2016 goal of 203 members. Those who still haven't renewed please do so, and ladies also sign up your daughter, granddaughters, and friends. Those members who decided not to renew, thanks so much for your past support.

The Auxiliary Executive Meeting is set for Monday April 11, at 6:30pm at the Post.

At the May Auxiliary meeting we will hold elections for the June 2016 to May 2018 officers. Anyone interested in an office or wanting information on an office. Can contact one of the nominating committee members; Rose Heinz 734-7570, Debra Ragen 733-7107, or Ruth Eiden 733-2957. We would like to see some more members step forward to take an office. There are many of us here willing to help guide you. The Auxiliary needs to see more of the units members get involved in the many activities and programs the Auxiliary has to offer for our Veterans, their families and the community. Please consider this opportunity for an office or more direct involvement to our organization.

Please give a little time on Friday May 13th for our annual "Poppy Day" fundraiser. Please be generous in supporting our Veterans and their families. Remember the funds raised from the poppy distribution is used to help our Veterans, be it locally, at the many VA facilities or through the Creative Arts projects, and many other areas. Please help us better service our Veterans needs. And if you can give just one hour of your time to distribute poppies on that day call Wendy Yingling (920) 850-0533 or Marian (920)810-0737 to sign up. We will be at the April and May Post meetings with the sign-up notebook and more information.

Lastly, Memorial Day is drawing near and I ask that you take time during the month of May especially to "Thank" our Veterans and military families for their sacrifices they have made for our freedom. And all the veterans who served to keep us free. Please plan on attending the Memorial Day Parade and the ceremonies at Riverside Cemetery. This is one way to show our appreciation to our veterans and their sacrifices they have made. These military service men and women don't get "thanked" enough for all the good we have living free in the USA! Thank You Veterans and Happy Memorial Day.

Happy Easter and let's bloom this spring in helping our veterans and the community.

Marian Brown

President, Unit 38

UNIT 38 MEMBERSHIP

Our condolences go to the family of Geraldine Van Handel who passed away February 4, 2016. She was a 30 year member.

We welcome new members Janis Brady, Tammy Brock and Renee Kasuboski to our unit.

Unit 38 has 153 paid members. If you have not paid your 2016 dues please forward them to me at 1718 Carriage Lane, Appleton, WI 54914 for processing.

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

Linda Breitzman
Auxiliary Membership Chairman

41ST COUNTY YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY

Did you know that the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary of Outagamie County hosts this one day event once a year? Each Post and Unit in Outagamie County donates \$35 to help defray the cost of the expenses of this great Americanism program.

39 freshman students from Appleton East, West, North, Freedom, Hortonville, Kimberly, and Shiocton attended. Helen Nagler, the County Board Chairman explained the structure and Process of County Government. The students then broke up into discussion groups to talk about various mock resolutions.

This year I had the privilege to listen to the students from Appleton East & West discuss making a resolution to approve the formal creation of the Outagamie County Truancy Court which will allow cost centers to be established to account for future funding. They also talked about extending the Truancy Court into the middle schools. I must commend the students as they were well versed and articulate in their discussions.

Later they students, their advisors and County board members met at the Post to have a light lunch and to listen a guest speaker. Each student received a certificate. Thanks to the Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who made this event a success.

Rose Heinz
2nd Vice President

POPPY DAY 5-13-16

Did you know? **THAT** the public is given an opportunity each year to help in the significant work of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, as well as an opportunity to pay tribute to all who died in service, by wearing a poppy on Poppy Day?

Please volunteer on May 13th to distribute the Poppies throughout our community by contacting: Wendy Yingling at 920-850-0533 or you can email: yinglingw@hotmail.com; or the sign-up book will be available at the Post and Unit meetings in April and May. If you are available to help, but can't sign-up, just stop at the Legion Post on May 13th, we can assign you a location on that day.

Wendy Yingling
Unit 38 Poppy Chairman
Post 38 Jeff Zwiers

If you want to contribute and are unable to volunteer.

Please cut and mail your Poppy donation to:

Poppy Fund, ALA Unit #38
3220 W. College Ave.
Appleton WI 54914

POPPY DONATION:

\$ _____

Thank you for your donation to help our veterans and their families.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

March 14, 2016

LOST MEMBERS:

Arvin T. Wolfgram 02.18.16
Russell Hoover 02.25.16
Leonard M Kutz 02.27.16
Roy Rodgers 03.01.16
Earl F. Christensen 03.11.16

Recuperating at home or a Nursing Care Facility:

- Eugene LaPlante: Recovering at home
- Leroy Meinhardt is at Colony Oaks recuperating.
- 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, Address is 850 W Elsner Rd. Appleton WI.
- Clint Robson is at Rennes recouping.
- Marian Hooyman is at Peabody manor at #101 Birchwood.
- Mary Weyenberg is recuperating at home at the present
- Earl Breitenfelt is at Rennes, 325 East Florida, Appleton, WI
- Len Spreeman & wife are at Appleton Retirement Community, 200 W. Packard St. #308, Appleton, WI

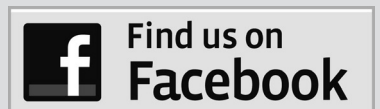
PLEASE NOTIFY ME IF ANY ONE IS RECOVERING FROM SURGERY OR ANY OTHER ILLNESSES SO I CAN GET THEM IN THE NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU.

Don J Eiden Service Officer Post 38

E-mail: djeiden@new.rr.com

Phone# 733-2957

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



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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 Johnston-Blessman Post 38
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