

The American LEGION REPORTER



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Johnston-Blessman Post 38
and Auxiliary Unit 38

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Legionnaires,

We survived another Wisconsin winter, and spring is in the air! It's time again to come out of hibernation and support your Post.

Elections are coming soon, and we have contested offices. Your vote is important. If you cannot attend the May 4th meeting to vote, please use the enclosed absentee ballot to cast your vote. If you plan to attend the meeting, please arrive early to vote before the meeting starts. Voting ends at 7:00 p.m.

Thanks to all who assisted in the revitalization efforts to support our Post 38 membership drive. What a great success! Please continue to seek out new members who may join us in our efforts to support our veterans and their families.

This could be the year that our Post could achieve 100% membership in all three of our legion families: Legion, SAL and Auxiliary. What an exciting accomplishment as we host the 2015 Department Convention!

The 2015 State Convention is approaching quickly. Our state convention committee is diligently working on final details. When they ask for volunteers, please step up and participate to ensure that we have another successful convention.

Since this will be my last Commander's Message, a number of thank-you's are in order...

Thanks to Ray Gass and the House committee for all their hard work and patience to keep our Post alive and well.

Thanks to Steve Greely for countless hours and dedication. They do not go unnoticed. Keep up the good work!

Thanks to my vice-commanders over the past two terms. Your support and

assistance are greatly appreciated. Please continue on with the mission of the American Legion.

Thanks to our Honor Guard for rendering honors to our fallen comrades. Thanks to our Scarlet Guard for representing our Post in parades and other events with upmost professionalism.

Thanks to my fellow officers, executive committee, members and various committees for all that you do for the good of the Post.

A special thanks to those who are not members of our Post, but still volunteer many hours to enhance the American Legion.

Thanks to the Auxiliary for hosting our 96th birthday party and supporting the cause of Post 38.

A few important dates to remember: Memorial Day Parade – May 25 (9:00a.m. downtown Appleton, followed by programs at Riverside Cemetery and Legion Plot)

Flag Day Parade – June 13 (parade at 2p.m. followed by cookout, fun and concert at Post 38)

Car Show – August 23 (details to follow...looking for volunteers)

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your commander for the past two years. It has been a challenging, yet enjoyable experience. Dad's words of wisdom... If you can't dazzle them with brilliance, baffle them with bull...! That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Jeff Zwiers
Post 38 Commander

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

- 6 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 13 Auxiliary Exec. Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 14 House Committee Meeting .6:00PM
- 15 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 20 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 27 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

MAY

- 4 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 8 Poppy Day
- 12 House Committee Meeting .6:00PM
- 18 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 20 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 27 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

JUNE

- 1 Post Meeting 7:00PM
- 9 House Committee Meeting .6:30PM
- 15 Auxiliary Meeting 7:00PM
- 17 Scarlet Guard Meeting . . . 6:30PM
- 29 Executive Meeting 6:30PM

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LEGION POST 38**



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FIRST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Our current membership, per The Department is at 706 paid members putting us at 98.32% of our goal of 718. The post 38 unofficial tally is 716. We only need 2 members to reach our goal here at the post and 3 members to reach the Department Commander's Challenge.

My sincere thanks goes out to Laurel and Gordy Clewell and crew for their revitalization efforts. Laurel spearheaded the efforts and got an additional 64 transfers and/or new members to join Post 38. Certificates of appreciation signed by the Post 38 Commander has gone out to Laurel and her crew.

The Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs Secretary, John A. Scocos, presented the post with a plaque in appreciation for our efforts in meeting the informational needs of the veteran community by hosting a town hall meeting here at Post 38 on February 19, 2015. Top subject of discussion was veteran benefits as related to veteran clinics and hospitals.

Qualities of an excellent Commander is greatly due to the individuals who

work for the Commander.

That Commander always recognizes those who serve him, and issues the credit where credit is due.

I am seeking individuals willing to demonstrate their strengths in the following areas: 1) I need a Post 38 Historian chairperson, and a couple others to help 2) I need an advertisement chairperson and a couple others to assist that person in heading up the sale of adverting slots for the dinner placemats which we will be having in the dining hall. All of these efforts are for the good of the American Legion and will eventually help us to reduce operating costs by securing enough revenue to pay for the reporter and the placemats. Any members who are interesting in helping with any of these efforts please get in touch with any of your chair personnel.

I would like to announce my Membership chairperson, Laurel Clewell, who amongst many of her other duties has graciously stood up and accepted the chair to drive the Legion and the District to heights not seen in a long time.

I would like to thank all of the members who stood by me during my personnel crisis. The understanding that was demonstrated, and the individuals who took up the slack, in my absence, during my departure from the Post, has not gone unnoticed. It is nice to have a strong woman in my corner, who with her blessing has urged me on to continue for the good of the American Legion.

As I sign off as your 1st Vice Commander, and a 5 year member of your Post. I look forward what the future holds. Most of you have been so stagnant in your positions, and gravely afraid of change, fear the unknown. I ask you to walk with me, talk to me, and see a vision of a club that is self-supporting and a post on a mission to do, what the founding members set out to do..... Help those veterans who are less fortunate than ourselves and bring pride back in the eyes of our youth. For children are always only all the future that the human race has, teach them well.

Bill Falck

1st Vice Commander, Post 38

2ND VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

I would like to thank all of you for supporting me as your 2nd Vice Commander. It was a great ride and I'm looking forward to whatever the next year brings. I am on the ballot for 1st Vice Commander and am very much looking forward to serving you, my fellow legionnaires, in that capacity. Please come to the May meeting and cast your votes!

Bingo will begin here at the post on April 9 and will be held every 2nd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays of the month. I am still in need of some volunteers for our first night. Please call or text (920-285-6015) or email (michele.preston5@gmail.com) if you are willing to help. Also, please spread the word as this will be a great opportunity for Post 38 to be able to give more to the programs that

we support.

There are a few fundraisers coming up that I am putting together. The first is Goldfish Races to be held on Saturday, April 25, beginning at 1:00 pm. Bring the kids and grandkids for an afternoon of fun and camaraderie! Stop in the club for more details and to sign up. May the fastest fish finish first!

The next fundraiser is a rummage sale to be held on May 2 and 3. If you would like to sell your wares the cost of a table for both days is \$5.00. A second table is \$3.00 and if you need a 3rd table the cost is \$2.00. You get to keep all the monies from your sales! We are also accepting donations of which the monies will go towards the fundraiser. Items can be dropped off at the post anytime until the day of the sale. There

will also be a bake sale and am looking forward to donated items of that nature. I could also use some volunteers that weekend so if you are willing to help, please let me know. More information can be obtained at the club- just ask your friendly American Legion bartender!

Both of these fundraisers are for our Scarlet Guard as we plan on going to Baltimore at the end of the summer for a color guard competition. The monies raised will go towards new uniforms and travel and lodging expenses. We have a great team of Scarlet Guardsmen but are always in need of more. If being on the Scarlet Guard interests you, please contact me and I can steer you in the right direction.

Please join us for a Memorial Day

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THE SCARLET GUARD

The Scarlet Guard is the Color Guard for the Post, we are always looking for new members. If you were in a Color Guard or Honor Guard or wanted to be; we are the organization for you. If you are able to make a commitment and keep that commitment; we are the organization for you. If you are able to complete the Annual Memorial Day and Flag Day Parade; we are the organization for you. If you are looking for camaraderie and fellowship with a group of like-minded Legion Family members; we are the organization for you. Basic eligibility requirements are to be a member in good standing of the Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion.

We meet at 6:30 PM at the post on every third Wednesday of the month, except for December. If you have any questions please attend one of our meetings or e-mail or phone me.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Bill Burton
wmburton@juno.com
(920) 759-0142

The Ides of March have come and gone as you read this, which means spring has arrived. It also marks the beginning of our marching season. We will have already participated in our first parade of the year in New London, err I mean New Dublin, on March 21st.

We then will be marching in the Appleton Memorial Day and Flag Day parades as well as the Brillion nighttime and Manawa Rodeo parades. We are always looking for new members of the Scarlet Guard and can always use other Legion members to help with banners and service flags.

The Scarlet Guard meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the Post. Any Legion, Auxiliary, or Sal members in good standing, are welcome to join us. All you need is a commitment to practice and march and to help out at fund raisers during the year. Uniforms are provided except for footwear. Our upcoming meetings will be on April 15th, May 20th, and June 17th.

John Bourassa
Scarlet Guard Chairman

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, DISTRICT 9

The Riders of District 9 had a busy 2014 season and are getting ready to be seen in 2015!

Our draft schedule for 2015 includes 21 parades, 15 events and more. We start the season with the presentation of colors at the Timberrattlers game on May 16th.

This years Wisconsin State Legacy Scholarship fundraiser ride is named "Spirit Run" with a goal of \$59,600. The ride will be ending at the King Veterans Home at Legion Day at King on June 21st. We hope to see you there for BBQ chicken and motorcycles.

Be a supporter! Check it out at www.wilegion.org.

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

Paul.Heit@att.net

American Legion
Riders Association of
Wisconsin District 9 President



POPPIES

Poppies were first worn to honor the nation's war dead on November 9, 1918 in New York City and in October 1920, the Auxiliary adopted the Poppy as the national memorial flower at their national convention, following suit of the American Legion who had adopted it at their convention. In 1923 Mrs. Adalin Wright Macauley, National Poppy Chairwoman, taught the first veterans how to make them, for which they earned a penny/poppy, transforming them from listless men into happy workers. This tradition still continues, with disabled veterans making the poppies.

Please volunteer on May 8th to distribute the Poppies throughout our community by contacting: Wendy Yingling at 920-850-0533 or yinglingw@hotmail.com. The sign-up book will be available at the Post and Unit meetings in April and May.

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.

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

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 .

At our March meeting we honored the "American Legion's Birthday" with a pot luck supper, a brief meeting and some entertainment from the Fox Valleyaires Chapter Quartet. It was fantastic and enjoyed by all that attended. Thanks to all that helped with the evening and to all that attended. We all had a good time.

Our unit still hasn't hit 100%, and we only need like 12 more members to do so. 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 is hosting the Auxiliary State Bowling at Sabre Lanes in Menasha on April 11-12, and April 18-19. There will be a few vendors, 50/50 raffle and some raffle baskets. If you are interested in helping us out please contact Rose Heinz at 734-7570.

The Auxiliary Executive Meeting is set for Monday April 13, at 6:30pm at the Post.

Please give a little time on Friday May 8th 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 to sign up.

The State Convention is getting here fast and we are looking for lots of volunteers to help make this a big success for the Auxiliary and the Legion. There are many activities planned, so please ask how you can get involved and help. We all appreciate the many hours you contribute. Want to help please contact myself, or another auxiliary officer to have your name added to our list. The convention will be held in Appleton, July 16-19th . Mark your calendars. There are monthly Convention meetings held at the Post, the next one being on Tuesday April 7th at 6pm.

The auxiliary collects school supplies every year and distributes them to area schools with the most need. In January the Auxiliary delivered pencils, notebooks, markers and more to five Appleton Schools. These schools were Badger, Columbus, Foster, Jefferson and Richmond. 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 with the most need. We will start collecting school supplies again in September with a new list of needed supplies.

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.

God Bless America,

Marian Brown

President, Unit 38

2nd VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT,
continued from page 2

church service that will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2220 E. College Avenue, on Sunday, May 24. Service to begin promptly at 9:30.

Again, thank you for supporting me as your 2nd Vice Commander.

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

3RD VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

As reported in the last Reporter, the Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 28, 2015. The event will be from 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. at the Legion Club. If the weather allows, the eggs will be hidden outside and if the weather is bad we will hide the eggs in doors.

*John Breitzman
Third Vice Commander*

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

The scholarship applications have delivered to the five high schools in Appleton. They are to be postmarked by March 31, 2015. Once we have received all the applications I will get the committee together to determine the winner from the five high schools.

*John Breitzman
Scholarship Committee Chairman*

UNIT 38 MEMBERSHIP: MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

We welcome to our new members Robin Billings, Teodora Dangherty, Karen Newhouse, Lois Smith and Carol Walter to our Unit. We are happy to report 158 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*

GREETINGS FROM YOUR HOUSE COMMITTEE

We have put in place a few changes to our monthly menu.

First Tuesday of the month: Steaks cooked on the grill by me.

Second Tuesday: Liver and Onions

Third Tuesday: Ribs

Fourth Tuesday: Cooks Choice.

Fifth Tuesday: Broasted Chicken

Come out and try our delicious Fish fry on Friday.

Many thanks to John Breitzman, Jeff

Zwiers, Paul Heit, Bill Burton and Carl Abendroth for the hard work they put in on the floor in the hall.

Remember your club for special events our talented staff will take care of you, your family and friends.

Respectfully,

*Ray Gass
House Committee Chairman &
Adjutant - Post 38*

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

If you have recently transferred to Post #38 from the holding post and received a letter from the Department Commander saying your dues are \$50.00, be advised those dues are not due until after July of this year.

Karl Heinz-Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

March 8, 2015

LOST MEMBERS:

Joseph De Noble 1.21.15

Robert Mitchell 1.21.15

Donald Wechsler 2.03.15

Dr. Fred Schuette 2.20.15

George Floodstrand. 2.27.15

Recuperating at home or a Nursing Care Facility:

- Eugene LaPlante: Recovering at home
- Leroy Meinhardt is at Colony Oaks recuperating.
- Don Huth is at Brewster Village recuperating.
- John Erdmann is at Appleton Health Care on Meade St.
- William Hoffman is at Brewster Village.
- Don Harris is recuperating at home also.
- Jerry Miller is at Manor Care.
- Duanna Diedrick is recuperating at home following heart surgery.
- Arden Peterson is in Willow Lane Rehab Facility. Address is 850 W Elsner Rd. Appleton.
- Rita Linzmeier called to let me know Leonard M. Kutz is in Willow Lane at 850 W. Elsner Rd. in Appleton. His phone # is 920-733-7572. She is his Power of Attorney. Her email is buttonnoserita@outlook.com

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

OFFICERS 2014-2015
Johnston – Blessman Post No. 38

Commander Jeff Zwiers dzwiers@live.com 460-0678	SAL Commander Bob Seide 715-853-3901
1st Vice Commander Bill Falck 358-5979	Finance Officer Steve Greely 858-2294
2nd Vice Commander Michele Preston 285-6015	Asst. Finance Officer John Bourassa 858-6367
3rd Vice Commander John Breitzman 731-3703	Service Officer Don Eiden djeiden@new.rr.com 733-2957
Adjutant Karl Heinz 734-7570	Chaplain Robert Johnson 731-1844
Asst. Adjutant/SAL Adj. Ray Gass 687-6152	Sgt.-At-Arms Mark Jung 731-4558
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

AUXILIARY OFFICERS
2014-2015

President Marian Brown mbrown4283@yahoo.com (920) 739-4283	Sgt-At-Arms Georgia Altizer (920) 428-0209
1st Vice President Beth Griesser (920) 832-0639	Asst Sgt-At-Arms Jessica Garza (920) 687-9958
2nd Vice President Phylliss Duquette (920) 733-6801	Illness & Sick Call Lori Hansel (920) 788-9696
Secretary Rose Heinz (920) 734-7570	Membership Linda Breitzman (920) 731-3703
Treasurer Debra Ragen (920) 734-7107	
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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