The American

LEGION REPORTER



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

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Legionnaires,

We survived a long, hard winter! Welcome to spring! Time to come on out of hibernation to support your Post. We have added a Friday night, all you care to eat, chicken and fish buffet that is second to none! This meal is a real value at \$10.95! Bring your family and friends! And remember, we also have family style broasted chicken dinner on Sunday. Bar opens at 3:00 p.m.

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

The 2014 State Convention is approaching quickly. Our state convention committee is diligently working on final details. They will soon be asking for volunteers. Please step up and participate to ensure that we have a successful convention.

More good news... Our raffle made a profit of over \$2,000! A big thank you goes out to Ray Gass and all who sold tickets. Let's continue on this profitable path next year!

In March, we discussed the idea of a corporate fundraiser to help with our Legion projects at the Post. I would like to kick off this initiative in June. Ideas and names of possible corporate donors would be greatly appreciated.

We are in the middle of an organ donor donation drive. We wish to get as many people signed up with the Wisconsin Department of Health as soon as possible. This organ drive is a joint effort to include the entire American Legion family. If you are already a donor, please come in and sign the banner. If you are not, please ask an officer from any of our organizations for the simple donor form.

On that line...if you wish to be buried in a military burial plot, the American Legion has plots available at Appleton Memorial/St. Joseph's Cemetery. Please contact Ray Gass or Post 38 for more information and forms. The cost is \$250 to all members in good standing.

May ends our fiscal year. I wish to extend a special thanks to all of our volunteers who make this Post possible. Countless hours are put in behind the scenes...too many to count. Kudos to the House Committee. Through your diligent work, things are looking up. Honor Guard and Scarlet Guard represent our Post at the highest level at military functions and events... always the pride of Post 38. To the officers and all the committee members who support our Post, thank you. We give to help others.

Jeff Zwiers Post 38 Commander

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL							
	7	Post Meeting					
	14	Auxiliary Executive Meeting 6:30PM					
	16	Scarlet Guard Meeting 6:30PM					
	19	Children's Easter Party					
		12:00–3:00PM					
	21	Auxiliary Meeting7:00PM					
	22	House Committee Meeting .5:30PM					
	28	Executive Meeting6:30PM					
		MAY					
	2	MAY Poppy Day 7:30AM-8:00PM					
	2 5						
		Poppy Day 7:30AM-8:00PM					
	5	Poppy Day 7:30AM-8:00PM Post Meeting					
	5 18	Poppy Day 7:30AM-8:00PM Post Meeting					
	5 18 19	Poppy Day 7:30AM-8:00PM Post Meeting					
	5 18 19 20	Poppy Day 7:30AM–8:00PM Post Meeting					

JUNE						
2	Post Meeting7:00PM					
16	Auxiliary Meeting7:00PM					
17	House Committee Meeting .5:30PM					
18	Scarlet Guard Meeting 6:30PM					
30	Executive Meeting 6:30PM					

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



FIRST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Greetings to all members of Post 38,

My fervent hope is that by the time you are reading these words the weather will have changed and we will all begin to recover from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). I do not like to see you sad. I also do not like to be sad. However, sad to say, some of our members are making me sad. We are presently at 87% of paid up membership for 2014.

In order not to preach to the choir I address these words to the 13%— if you have not yet paid your dues, will you please do so. I know you want to see a smile on my face at our next Legion meeting. Sometimes we get caught up in our busy lives and forget things.

Please take the time to pull out your wallet and look at your Legion card. If it says 2013 you need to pay your dues to the Adjutant so that he can send you your 2014 membership card.

William P. Burton First Vice Commander

2ND VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who brought food for the VIP dinner.

Church for Memorial Day activities is planned for Sunday, May 25, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on College Ave. Church service will begin at 9:30 a.m. The Scarlet Guard will post the colors at the start of service and then the veterans will be paraded down to their seats in the front of the church. We will be discussing the option of doing the four chaplain readings and may need volunteers to do that. My goal is to fill the church with veterans!

I attended the Fox Valley Veterans Council meeting on February 11. They are looking for volunteers to man their audit committee, emergency fund committee and work for Habitat for Humanity builds. They are also doing a fundraiser at Timber Rattler games on July 1, 2, and 3 and looking for volunteers to solicit funds. All proceeds go the emergency relief fund. If you would like to volunteer for any one of these functions please call or email me.

I have been working closely with the Legion Club bar manager to increase patronage at the Club. Club specials are now on Facebook and being managed by the bar manager and our public relations representative. I have created a page on our new and improved website for the Legion Club and have listed specials and daily menus.

Please visit our Post 38 website at www.appletonpost38.org and wander through the website for upcoming event information, Legion Club specials and menus, state convention news, parade information, etc. You can also go to the Legion Department of Wisconsin website at www.wilegion.org to check out Legion programs and events throughout the state. Stay informed!

In an effort to spruce up the Legion Club sign outside, I have contacted some sign companies for a proposal to replace the light bulbs. They estimated it to be around \$700. If you know of anyone who has the ability to change the bulbs and could do that at minimal cost it really needs to be done. I also asked about the possibility of replacing the sign with a programmable LED display. The cost can range from \$8K to \$20K. I was advised of what to look for and what to look out for. Again, if you know of someone, or some company who would like to donate a sign, or funds towards a new sign, please let me know and we can get the ball rolling.

The post is in need of a portable projector for displaying presentations on our big screen in the dance hall. The presentations will be used at our monthly membership meetings and for some lunch and learn activities at the post. Activities such as "Using Microsoft Word/ Excel/Power Point", "Using smart phones", VA benefits, health and wellness, etc. If you have a projector or know of someone who may donate one to the Post, please let me know and I will get the ball rolling.

Steve Greely 2nd Vice Commander, Post 38

3RD VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Greetings Legionnaires,

The upcoming activities currently slated for the Post are as follows:

The Children's Easter party is scheduled for Saturday, April 19, 2014 here at the post from noon to 3 p.m.

We will be planning the same types of activities as we had at the Christmas party.

I would to like to thank in advance all those who have volunteered to assist in this worthwhile event. I know the wonderful people who have signed up to help will bring joy to all who attend. So bring your children and your grandchildren; hell, if you have no children, steal your neighbor's kids. Come and support your post.

I have permission and will be

purchasing another TV for raffle. This time we will go with a 50 inch LCD TV to be won at State Convention. You need not be present to win. Tickets will be at the bar the entire time for sale. The bartender who sells the most tickets will receive \$20.00 after the contest is over. Ticket prices are: 1 (one) for \$5, 3 (three) for \$10, and 7 (seven) for \$20. The success of the last TV raffle has put the post at a start profit for this new opportunity so come and continue in the support of your post.

Still seeking interest in a Polka dinner dance. Please let your leadership team know your feelings on this topic.

Bill Falck 3rd Vice Commander, Post 38

THE SCARLET GUARD

The Scarlet Guard is looking for a few good men and women. We are a Color Guard that posts and retrieves the American flag colors for veteran and civic organizations. You must be a paid up member of the Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion. If you are interested in being in the Guard please attend our next meeting. Our regular meetings are at 6:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month. We will be having practices in the parking lot for upcoming events. If you like to march and appreciate the camaraderie of a close knit organization please come join us. If you have any questions please contact me billburton62@gmail.com or phone (920) 759-0142.

William Burton, Secretary Scarlet Guard

POST 38 SCARLET GUARD

The Scarlet Guard is the Color Guard unit for Post 38. It has been described as the "showcase" unit for the Post. The Guard is in its 30th year, having been founded in 1983.

A sample of activities that the "Guard" participates in, includes (but not limited to):

- Memorial Day parade & cemetery ceremonies
- Flag Day parade
- Christmas parade
- Present Colors prior to Timber Rattlers' games
- Local community parades
- Escort Colors at State Legion conventions

The Scarlet Guard is always looking for new members. Membership is open to Legion



members of Post 38, Auxiliary Unit 38 members and SAL Squadron 38 members. Prospective candidates have to go through an interview process with the Executive Committee. The uniform is provided, except for black foot wear.

Monthly meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm (except December). Check out the Events Calendar for specific dates and times.

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

In reading the last issue of the Wisconsin American Legion Newsletter I was surprised by the number of Post 38 Legion members that had passed and did not have Military Funeral Honors.

If you are a Veteran with an Honorable discharge and a DD214 you are eligible for Military Honors. The process is very simple. When you arrange your estate all you have to do is add the statement that you would like to have Military Honors at your funeral. Your survivors will notify the funeral director that you would like Military Funeral Honors and they will handle all the arrangement for your funeral. Something to add to your estate planning is your copy of your DD214. Often times the survivors cannot locate it and it causes them. undue concern.

As a Veteran, you served your country. You deserve a Military Funeral. The members of American Legion Post 38 Military Funeral Honor Guard are honored to render a final "SALUTE" to our Veterans when the leave us.

Dick Staedt Post 38 Chairman MFHG

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, DISTRICT 9



The Riders of District 9 are anxious to get on their bikes and ride in a few parades! We've started holding monthly meetings for 2014 in preparation for a busy summer. Our draft schedule for 2014 has us hosting 3 brat frys and participating in 17 parades, 11 events and more.

We are really excited about "Rhino's Run". This ride around the state has a goal of raising \$50,000 for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. The ride's final destination is Post 38 and the AL State Convention, arriving

here on July 16th for a pig roast party. Be a supporter! Check it out at www.wilegion.org.

Over the winter we added three new Riders and are always looking for more to assist. Our District meetings are at 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd Saturday and are often held at Post 38. We are also hosting the State Quarterly meeting on May 3rd at 12 p.m. at Post 38.

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



REMEMBER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Poppy Day is Friday, May 2, 2014

Please consider volunteering a few hours of your day to help distribute Poppies.

Sign up ahead of time or come to the Legion that day and I will find you a spot.

Poppy Chairman, Jessica Garza

FINANCE OFFICER NOMINEE

Legionnaires,

It is my pleasure to inform you that members of the Post 38 Nomination Committee have nominated me as a candidate for the title of Post 38 Finance Officer. I am well acquainted with you as 2nd Vice Commander of the Post for the last year. So I solicit your support to vote for me in the forthcoming election of Post 38 Officers.

You know I have dedicated myself to the service of the veterans of the American Legion. I spare no pains to do everything possible for the good of the Post in regards to the needs of the many veterans we support. My qualifications to serve as Financial Officer include a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Grantham University; various leadership positions of other local organizations, and a diverse knowledge of financial planning and word processing software (Microsoft Office).

I have relinquished my nomination as 1st Vice Commander on the ballot in favor of fulfilling the vacant Finance Officer position. In my heart and mind I feel that I could better serve Post 38 in that capacity. If elected, I will try my best to lead Post 38 in its financial

affairs, to help resolve issues related to day-to-day operations and guard the best interests of the Post and its membership.

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.

Sincerely, Steve Greely Nominee, Post 38 Finance Officer

ELECTION TIME MY COMRADES OF WORLDLY CONFLICTS

My fellow Legionnaires,

You all know me, you have seen me in action as your 3rd vice commander.

I am Bill Falck, the one who takes the ball and runs with it.

My success in fund raising has put dollars in the bank and admiration in my word.

I get things done. I could not do it without a strong support team. I would like that team to remain strong.

Our ship may have some holes, but with the right maintenance personnel in the key positions we may just make it to that enchanted island of peace and harmony.

I have decided to remain in the chairs and run for the position of

1st Vice Commander. I pray that my attributes have shown all of you that your vote shall land me that chair. I aim high and fly straight. I am the go-getter—I will not be left under the bus, because nothing gets done when you sit there quietly.

I have worked hard for this post as your 3rd vice, I can do a even better job as your first vice.

So vote for what you feel is best for the future of your post. Let the success of our progress continue thorough you individual effort. Vote to continue to improve the post and ALWAYS SUPPORT YOUR POST.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Falck, running for 1st vice commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Spring!

Spring is finally here, even if the weather is cold and there's still snow on the ground. We are starting to see signs of Spring—and that makes us all "very happy".

We've had an exciting last couple of months to keep up with the weather and our meetings. We had to cancel meetings due to weather and reschedule them, and I want to thank all the people involved for making the best of it and making arrangements to attend.

In March the Auxiliary presented the Post with some funds from our spaghetti dinner profits to help with the kitchen floor at the Post. We also presented several items for the Legion's birthday, such as trash cans, Nesco, coffee maker, some containers used for Friday night fish, brooms, and a few other kitchen needs for the Post's kitchen. Auxiliary members Jennifer and Joanne Klemp made new table numbers for Post also. Thanks to all who helped with these items.

The Auxiliary has a team going to Green Bay to bowl on Saturday and Sunday April 12–13 for the Auxiliary State Bowling. Good luck ladies and have fun.

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 of labor you give. Want to help? Please contact me or another auxiliary officer to have your name added to our list. The convention will be held in Appleton July 17–20. Mark your calendars.

The auxiliary collects school supplies every year and distributes them to area schools with the most need. In January the Auxiliary delivered 754 pieces of pencils, notebooks, markers and more to five Appleton schools. These school were Badger, Columbus, Horizons, Lincoln, and Jefferson. 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.

At this time of year we need to fill the elected and appointed offices of the Auxiliary and are seeking anyone interested in an office or has questions to please contact me or Joan Hawkins, who is chairman of the nomination committee.

We have Poppy Day coming on Friday, May 2, 2014. If you can help us distribute poppies please contact Jessica Garza. Remember the funds raised from the poppy distribution are 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. At this time there is a possibility that we will also offer the poppies at certain locations on Saturday, May 17th, as these venues are not available on May 2nd. Please contact Jessica for more information.

Lastly, remember Memorial Day, and our veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. And all the veterans who served to keep us free. There are many activities to which you have the opportunity to be involved with. By participating in the Memorial Day activities you are showing our Veterans a huge "Thank You" and we haven't forgot what they did for us all!!!

God Bless America, Marian Brown President, Unit 38

SPECIAL NOTICE

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.





2014 AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES

Dear American Legion Family Members:

Did you know that if you sign up a new Auxiliary member or members you could possibly win \$25.00 at the State Convention being held in Appleton in July?

All you have to do is sign up an adult (over 18) or junior (age 1–17). Please contact Linda Breitzman, Rose Heinz or any of the Auxiliary officers for more information.

Thanks and lets grow our membership and be gems of service to our veterans.

Linda Breitzman and Rose Heinz

UNIT 38 MEMBERSHIP

Members in Nursing Homes

Ermgard Deffert, Carolina Manor

Membership News:

Welcome to our new member, Farragh Mae Rivers, born March 9th, 2014.

We have 173 paid members. If you are not sure if you paid your dues feel free to contact me. Please renew as your membership supports our Auxiliary programs.

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

Linda Breitzman Membership Chairman

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

March 19, 2014

LOST MEMBERS:

Warren Shedden..... 03.06.14

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.
- Clyde Klemp is in Rennes Nursing Home, #316.
- 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
- Carl Dohr is recuperating at home and doing well .
- Dick Shimek had back surgery.
- Jerry Miller is at Manor Care.

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

LEGION BASEBALL OPENING DAY

The 89th season of Appleton Legion Baseball is fast approaching with opening day scheduled for June 11th. Our program is one of the longest continuously run baseball programs in the nation. This season we will once again have three teams representing Post 38 in competition.

The 2014 season will see a change at the helm of our Senior team, as long time manager Dave Emmers has decided to retire from coaching. During his 30+ year tenure with the team, Post 38 won four state championships and participated in numerous state tournaments. Jon Piette will move up from the 17-U program and take over the managerial duties when the Senior team takes the field on June 12th.

On August 2nd we will be playing host to the first ever Fox River Valley Legion Baseball League Junior All Star Game. Hopefully this will turn into an annual event as we honor the up and coming baseball players.

Other dates to remember are:

- June 27–29, our 17-U team will be hosting their annual tournament.
- July 10–13, the Senior team will be hosting its 27th annual round robin tournament.
- July 16, regional competition begins for our Junior teams.
- July 23, regional competition begins for our Senior teams.
 We hope to see you at a ballgame this season.

OFFICERS 2012–2013 Johnston – Blessman Post No. 38

Commander Jeff Zwiers 460-0678

1st Vice Commander Bill Burton 759-0142

2nd Vice Commander Steven Greely 858-2294

3rd Vice Commander Bill Falck 358-5979

> Adjutant Karl Heinz 734-7570

Asst. Adjutant/SAL Adj. Ray Gass 687-6152

> Scarlet Guard John Bourassa 858-6367 Lloyd Dumke 257-8962

SAL Commander Bob Seide 715-853-3901

Finance Officer OPEN

Asst. Finance Officer
John Bourassa
858-6367
Service Officer
Don Eiden

733-2957 **Chaplain** Robert Johnson

731-1844 Sgt.-At-Arms Fred Gloede 830-2483

House Comm. Chairman Roger Zwiers 470-1283

Military Funeral Chairman
Dick Staedt 734-9495
Dick Shimek 733-6038
Karl Heinz 734-7570

AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2012–2013

President Marian Brown (920) 739-4283

1st Vice President Vacant

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

> Secretary Rose Heinz (920) 734-7570

> **Treasurer** Debra Ragen (920) 734-7107

Poppy Treasurer Jessica Garza (920) 687-9958

Chaplain Joan Hawkins (920) 734-8919 Sgt-At-Arms Darlene Giles (920) 739-1523

Asst Sgt-At-Arms Ruth Eiden (920) 733-2957

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

Membership Linda Breitzman (920) 731-3703



American Legion Post 38 Voting Procedures Article 3 - Elections

Article 3.6

(b) **Voting by mail.**

A copy of the ballot shall be published in the Post Reporter, Downloaded from Web Site or otherwise distributed to all members in good standing within two weeks of the April Post meeting with instructions for balloting by mail.

All Post members who desire to vote by mail shall return the ballot sent to them either by mail or in person in a sealed envelope with the Voter Name, Membership Number and Address Legibly written on the outside of the envelope and Delivered to:

Attn. Ballot Committee Legion Post 38 3220 W. College Ave. Appleton, WI 54914

All MAILED ballots must be received by the Ballot Committee prior to the May Post meeting to be counted as mail ballots. They shall remain sealed in the original envelope until the ballots are counted. The Ballot Committee shall determine if the voter is a member by consulting the Adjutant's roster.

(c) Voting in Person

All members of the Post in good standing who attend the May Post meeting shall be entitled to vote in person on a ballot provided to them by the Ballot Committee at the meeting. In the event that any member who wishes to vote in person has already sent or delivered a ballot by mail to the Post, the Ballot Committee shall destroy that ballot at the time that it provides the member with a ballot to vote in person.

(a) Election

The election of officers and members of the Executive Committee shall take place by secret ballot at the **May Post Meeting From 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.**

At the conclusion of the time for voting at 7:00 PM, the Ballot Committee shall take into custody and tally the results of all ballots cast, whether in person, by mail or by personal delivery.

The Ballot Committee will construct a ballot listing the candidates as follows:

- (a) Those from the nominating committee
- (b) Those nominated from the floor at the **March Post Meeting**
- (c) The order of names nominated for the Executive Committee on the ballot will be determined by a drawing.

BALLOT

This Ballot May Be Mailed, Delivered in Person or Used the Night of Election

Vote for Post Officers by placing an X after the name you select

Post Commander:	Jeff Zwiers	1st Vice Commander:	Bill Falck
Write In:		Write In:	
2nd Vice Commander:	Michelle Preston	3rd Vice Commander:	
Write In:		Write In:	
Finance Officer:	Steve Greely	Assist Finance Officer:	John Bourassa
Finance Officer:	John Breitzman	Write In:	
Write In:			
Adjutant:	Karl Heinz	Assistant Adjutant:	Ray Gass
Write In:		Write In:	
Service Officer:	Don Eiden	Chaplain:	Bob Johnson
Write In:		Write In:	
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Mark Jung		
Write In:			
	Exec	utive Committee	
	Vote for (8) only by pl	acing an X after the name you so	elect
1. Bill Burton		6. Bob Weyenberg	
2. Roger Zwiers		7. Dennis Giles	
3. Don Hawkins		8. Bob Lemke	
4. Steve Greely		9	
E Carl Abandrath		10	