

AMERICAN LEGION

The Post 36er

Lt. Ray Dickop Post 36

Wisconsin American Legion, West Bend, Wisconsin

Building Address: 712 Park Ave. West Bend 53090

Mailing Address: PO Box 921 West Bend 53095

Post Phone Number 262-277-1919

Commander

Jay Anderson

Phone: 262-677-1798

Adjutant

Jim Geldreich

Phone: 262-707-6686

First Vice

John Zink

Phone: 262-334-3055

Second Vice

Donna Kleinmaus

Phone: 262-305-4505

Holiday Party January 8th, 4 PM Social, Dinner at 5 PM

The Post 36 Auxiliary is hosting a Holiday Party on January 8th. Social time beginning at 4:00 PM, Dinner at 5:00 PM. **The meal will be \$10.00 per person and RSVP is requested.** Spouses and friends are welcome. Contact Shirley Tuttle, 262-629-9140, to purchase a ticket.

Last Bugle

We remember our comrades transferring to Post Everlasting during 2021:

Dewayne Stiefvater

Edmond Roney

Louis Renard

Harold Kissinger

Larry Schneider

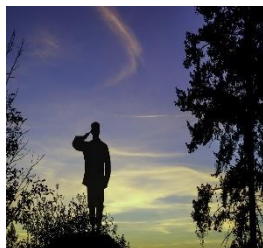
Gordon Sailer

Alyce Byrne

David Martin

Donald Zitlow

Robert Nowak



The Post Everlasting Ceremony will take place at the beginning of our February Membership Meeting.

Bathroom Renovations

Bathroom renovations are scheduled to take place on December 28th and 29th. Thank you to all who donated to this endeavor. It will be nice to have all the faucets and toilets working properly.

Commander's Corner

Again, I want to say "Thank You" everyone for all we have done this year. We have accomplished so much over the past years. Most recently, a new sign above our Post entrance. Bathroom renovations will begin at the end of December. New flooring is being planned for February. The biggest surprise is at the end of the newsletter!!

With new strains of COVID appearing, we still need to be careful if we wish to preserve our health and our freedom. I know we have all grown weary of precautions but we still need to think of others as we continue in our everyday lives. Masking is still optional at our meetings.

Thank you to the Auxiliary for stepping forward and hosting the Holiday Party. This is a party for all. If you're reading this, you are invited. Bring your spouse and/or significant other. Invite your neighbor and friends. More information in the newsletter.

As we close out this year, I feel we are heading in the right directions. We are increasing membership, building improvements, supporting our veterans and community, and morale has been boosted. Thank you to the entire American Legion Family for all your support.

Semper FI and God Bless,

Jay Anderson, Commander

Membership

I know I do not like getting reminders about bills, subscriptions or membership. I would think nobody does, but we must continue sending renewal reminders if we are to stay strong. **Membership renewals are due by December 31.** The national office has changed its membership vendor and some of you may not have received your renewal notice. Please contact John Zink, 262-334-3055, if you are unsure of your status or if you have any membership questions. Renewal is very easy on <https://www.legion.org/>. We know money might be tight these days so we felt it was important to have our renewal amount remain at \$40.

Are you a WI2930?

You may have heard some conversations at meetings about 2930 list and thought, "What is a 2930?". A 2930 is a member of The American Legion who is considered a Wisconsin American Legion member and not a member of a post. Some 2930 members do not realize they are not a member of the local post and can get frustrated by the lack of contact. We attempt to reach out to these members and ask them to join our Post. If you are a 2930 member, we welcome your transfer to Post 36. Contact John Zink 262-334-3055, johnandlouisez@yahoo.com or online <https://wilegion.org/post-transfer-request/> Feel free to attend our meetings, 7 PM on the first Tuesday of the month. 712 Park Ave. West Bend WI 53090

Please welcome our 2930 transfers since July:

- Bryan Klatt
- David Henderson
- John Kocourek
- Ronald Marino
- Wayne Stoffel
- Lyle Giessen
- Mickael Mikolajczak
- Matt Spafford

And welcome our newest members since July:

- Charles Clark
- Michael Reseburg - Transfer
- Eric Nielsen
- Richard Westerman
- Eugene Vadnais
- David Wellman – Transfer
- Brooke Newell
- Jerome Schamberger

Thank you for your continued service to America!

Pop Tabs



Please continue to collect tabs from soda and beer cans. These tabs are turned in to the Ronald McDonald House to fund their various activities. We have a large jar on the counter of the bar. Feel free to bring in your bag or handful and place them in the jar. If you are unable to get to the post, let us know and we will pick them up from your house. I recently dropped off just over 8 pounds of tabs collected at Post 36.

Veterans Day

Thank you to not only all of our Veterans but also to those who participated in the celebrations. Jim Maersch collected letters written by patrons at the library and distributed them to area homes where Veterans reside. Jim Maersch, Max Sommerfeld, Jay Anderson and Jim Geldreich participated in a ceremony at Jackson Crossings. Veterans were presented with a certificate and gifts. The West Bend Color Guard and Firing Squad presented an awesome ceremony at the Old Courthouse. Members, spouses and friends enjoyed the Veterans Day meal at the Post. Again, thank you to all who served and continue to serve.



Meals before meetings

Thank you to our Kitchen Commander Tammy Feller for putting together a small meal prior to Post meetings. Doors will open at 6 PM on meeting days to allow time to eat and socialize. Feel free to play cards or games. Please remember that this is supported by the donations at the meal.



Flag Disposal

A flag burning ceremony is being planned for this May. We would like this to take place on Flag Day, May 14th. We have a collection of flags from the downtown display and private homes ready for burning. If you have a flag ready for proper disposal, please bring it to a meeting and we will take care of it for you.



The Post has been looking for an old Post Office Mail Box to repaint and use for a flag drop off in front of our building. If you know of one, please let us know.

Oratorical

We did not have any participation in our Oratorical this year. We had students have interest but all dropped out before the actual competition. We are putting our efforts on a bigger and better next year. This is open to high school students. Please encourage your children/grandchildren to participate. Scholarship money is awarded. More information can be found at <https://www.legion.org/oratorical>

Scholarships

Each year Post 36 and the Washington County Post rewards scholarships to high school students. Applications are available at the high school. You may also get applications by talking to Donna Kleinmaus at dkleinmaus@charter.net , or 262-305-4505. Great opportunity for college money!

Buddy Check

Each member was called to see how things are going. This also allows us to help you besides updating your contact information. Thank you to all of those who helped us make calls. If you are not contacted, your phone number may be incorrect. If your information has changed, please correct your information on www.mylegion.org or contact John Zink to make the correction. Let us know if you are interested in helping contact your fellow members. Another Buddy Check will be done in March.

Virtual meeting attendance! – Jay Anderson

Still want to attend the membership meeting but have situations which make it near impossible to get to the building? Do you fear groups during the pandemic? Maybe you just can't make it?

I am broadcasting during our meeting on our private Facebook page. This will allow us to have a meeting in which only our members can see and will allow the members to comment during the meetings.

Are you a member of our **private** Facebook page? Search "West Bend American Legion Post 36" on Facebook, answer a few questions and await approval. This is only open to Post 36 American Legion Members.

I post our newsletter and other information on this page along with interesting information I receive from other sites. Non-renewed members will be dropped at the beginning of the year.

New Sign

Thank you to SAL member Mark Gebler for donating the new sign above the Post entrance. The previous sign was nice but this one is a great improvement and shows all of the Lt Ray Dickop Post 36 American Legion Family. Take a look next time you are at a meeting or driving past the Post.



Miracle Ear Presentation

Thank you to Michelle Krier of Miracle Ear for her presentation at our December meeting. She gave us a lot of information and

answered many questions. Feel free to contact her for a hearing exam.

Sons of American Legion

SAL elections held:

Elected officers of the Squadron:

- Commander: Steve Rohde
- 1st Vice Commander – Jeff Schwitz.
- 2nd Vice Commander – Glenn Pietschmann.
- Chaplain – Steve Spaeth
- Sergeants at arms – Todd Kaebisch, Scott Roffers
- Finance – Corey Doehrmann
- Adjutant – Tim Hansen
- Historian – Scott Mindel



Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative Barrels
Barrels are back in place at Fleet Farm and at the Post. Please consider donating items. Please contact Steve Rohde at 414-581-4381 for information.

Upcoming events:

- Brat Fry at the Post – Saturday, January 15, 2022
- Breakfast at the Post – February 26, 2022
- Details for both will be posted on Facebook:
- Sons of the American Legion – Lt. Ray Dickop Post 36

New Members: (now at 35 members)

- John Cashion
- Curt Carter
- Kurt Ullrich
- James Weston
- Ken Knop
- Jerod Cox



American Legion Auxiliary

December 2021 Meeting - It was reported that we received many compliments for the great dinner we served on November 13th in honor of Veterans Day.

We are serving the Christmas Party dinner on January 8, to be held at the Post. The cost is \$10/person and you can turn your reservation and money in to Shirley Tuttle. Social hour will begin at 4 p.m. with dinner following at 5 p.m. We will be decorating the night before so feel free to join us and help out.

Carol has worked on the memberships and we are almost at 100% - Yay! If you know of anyone who is eligible for membership you may get a form to sign them up from any of the Auxiliary members. Also, if we don't have your contact information or yours has changed, please contact Carolyn Schatz at cschatz2000@gmail.com or call 414.378.1703

We are happy to report we were able to make a \$100 donation to help a family in need as our Christmas project.

Please turn in your volunteer hours to Jeni so we can file our report in March of 2022. If you need a form to record your volunteer hours, you may contact Tammy or Shirley.

Our kitchen remodel project is in the works and a security camera has been installed.

The next Auxiliary meeting will be held at the Post on January 4, 2022. Light luncheon served at 6 p.m. followed by our meeting at 7 p.m.

Our Sympathies

We attempt to contact our members who are in the hospital, fallen ill or have lost a close family member. Much of the information we receive is by word of mouth. We look through the obituaries but it is often difficult to know if that is a loved one of a member. If you or your loved one is hospitalized, greatly ill or a death has occurred, please contact either James Maersch, 262-338-0991, or one of the officers. We are very sorry if we missed an opportunity to express our thoughts.

West Bend Color Guard and Firing Squad Donation

Thank you to the West Bend Color Guard and Firing Squad for their generous donation of \$1000. The check was presented at our December meeting and members voted to apply this amount towards the payment of the mortgage.

New Post Flooring

The members voted at the December Membership Meeting to pursue replacing the old worn/stained carpet with new vinyl flooring. The new flooring will certainly be an improvement, safer, and will allow us more options in renting.

The estimates for new flooring have been around \$30,000, yes \$30,000. Options for funding the flooring project will be determined at the January meeting with the possibility of a February replacement.

Flooring Donation



Mike Hartwell, Shorewest Realtors and Post 36 American Legion member, has graciously donated \$1000 to help get the new floor funding off the ground. Check

out Mike's Facebook post

<https://www.facebook.com/mhartwell.shorewest/> and his website

<https://www.mikehartwell.com/mhgivesback.html> .

This is not his first donation to Post 36. Thank you, Mike, for your continued service and continued support.

Automated External Defibrillator AED

Mike Adell died while attending a Korean War Veteran meeting at our Post. Fortunately, he was brought back to life by a quick 911 call and the advanced actions of the West Bend Fire Department.

Mike thanked those who saved him by purchasing them a meal. The fire department members instead used the money to purchase Post 36 an AED. The AED will reside in a cabinet mounted on the wall.

Thank you to West Bend Fire for not only the AED but more importantly for your quick response saving Mike's life!



New Newsletter Writer

Jay Anderson is stepping down from writing and publishing the newsletter. We needed someone willing to take it over. Mike Hartwell has volunteered to attempt the newsletter. Please help him out while he is getting his feet wet. If you have information you would like to see in the Post 36er, send it to Mike at newsletterpost36@gmail.com . Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Mike is planning to publish the March/April newsletter. Thank you!



Snow Shovelers Needed

That time of year again. Snow has begun to fall and we need to remove it from our building entrances. We need people willing to break out the shovel and help. Please consider signing up for a week (Sunday through Saturday) this winter to help clear the path. We are looking to clear the area in front of the building to the concrete parking blocks and the area around the side and back doors. Team up with another member or two and it might be fun. Sign-up sheet is on the front table.

Thank you to Jason Pedersen for providing us with snowplowing again this year. Jason feels privileged to be able to serve those who have served our country. Please thank him when you see him and use his company for snowplowing and landscaping needs.



Heritage Hill Nursery, Inc.
10801 Pleasant Valley Road
Cedarburg, WI 53012
Phone: 262-305-4045
<https://heritagehillnurseryinc.com/>

Trees, Shrubs, Design and Installation, Snowplowing
Jason Pedersen, owner

Now for the Big News!

Post 36 is Mortgage Free!

Yes, it's true! **We have paid off the mortgage and we now own the building outright!** Thank you to each and every one of you. I am not going to point out every effort put towards the debt reduction but it is very impressive that we were able to pay off a \$150,000 mortgage in less than 8 years. In that time, we were still able to support our veterans and community. You can be very proud of what you accomplished and in knowing this is not a burden we are leaving for our next generation of veterans. We will be planning a mortgage burning party in the near future!



Calendar

January

- January 3 – SAL Membership Meeting 7 PM
- January 4 – Membership and Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM
- January 8 – Holiday Party, 4/5 PM
- January 8 – County Dinner Meeting, Hartford
- January 13-16 – Mid-Winter, Baraboo
- January 15 - SAL Brat Fry 10 – 2
- January 18 - Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
- January 18 – Executive Board 5 PM

February

- February 1 – Membership and Auxiliary Meeting, 7 PM
Post Everlasting Ceremony
- February 7 – SAL Membership Meeting 7 PM
- February 3 - Four Chaplains Day
- February 15 – Executive Board 5 PM
- February 19 - Coast Guard Reserve Birthday
- February 21 – President's Day