

AMERICAN LEGION

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

Quilts of Honor

At the December meeting, representatives from Quilts of Honor came to the meeting and presented 25 quilts to some of our membership.



Quilts of Honor originated in California in 2005 and the Wisconsin SE Chapter started in 2014. To date they have made over 1,100 quilts and 289 of those have been this year alone!

The mission of Quilts of Honor is to bestow a universal symbol and token of thanks, solace, and remembrance to those who serve in harm's way to protect and defend our lives and freedoms.

Quilts of Honor are made by the loving hands of countless volunteers who wish to thank those who have served and to honor their service and sacrifice. Each quilt is personalized to the service member and takes 40-50 hours to make!



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*

Commander's Corner

As we end the year and enter a new one, we often look back and contemplate everything that has happened. At Post 36, we can be happy and proud as we look in the rear-view mirror. We have been blessed in so many ways and for that I am very thankful. I am also sad for the many members we lost this past year. Their presence will be missed.

Our Capital Improvement Fund donations have allowed us to fully fund our flooring project. We hope to confirm the installation date of the flooring at the beginning of the year. We should have color samples at our next meeting. Thank you to all the contributors and those involved with this project. This will be such an improvement.

Thank you to everyone who said they will be willing to be on a committee. We hope to get these moving along following the holidays. I am very impressed by those willing to help our Post grow and continue moving in the right direction.

I wish each of you a blessed holiday season and a healthy bountiful new year. Please keep our Post, our family, our service members, and all those who serve or have served in your prayers.

Thank you and God Bless,
Jay Anderson, Commander

What's New?

Wills and Estate Planning

We all need to plan for our future and that of our families. So, we have asked Doug Fitzgerald to share his knowledge of wills and estate plans with us here at the Post. Doug is an experienced attorney who has served the West Bend area for over 25 years.



Tuesday, January 17 at 7 pm is a special program event for you, your spouse and sons and daughters. Doug will present an overview for an hour or more on wills and estate planning. There will be plenty of time for Q & A as well. This is a FREE event and no pressure to buy anything, sign up for anything or do anything. It is simply an informational meeting and service that Doug is providing to us as veterans.

Post 36 Holiday Party

Join us Sunday, January 8th at noon for the Post Holiday Party / Social / Beer Dump / Chili Cook-off. There may even be some football on the last weekend of the regular season for the NFL.



Let's start with the Chili cookoff. This is not a chili dump! It is a cook off to see who has the best chili. Brew up your best big batch of chili and bring it in to share!

Now for the beer dump! Never heard of this before, so a little explanation. Do you have some of that beer just sitting around that sounded good but wasn't what you expected. Someone else may crave it! Bring it in and we will dump it in a cooler to share with others. Pick out what you like to drink!



And now the social and holiday party. I think all of you have this down. Feel free to bring some cards, cribbage or something else and let's spend the afternoon enjoying each other's company and have some fun. Did I mention there may be a football game or two on?

Hope to see you there! I will be bringing in a great batch of chili. You won't want to miss it!

Post 36er Volume 33 Issue 1

Love History?

The Inaugural Meeting for the West Bend Library History Club will be January 9th at 6:30 PM at the West Bend Community Library. The meeting is open to anyone and everyone who enjoys or would like to know more about history!



Snow Shoveling at the Post

Each year we are responsible to doing the shoveling at the Post by the doors and in front of the Post to the parking curbs.

There are still 7 weeks to fill for the season!

Sign-ups are for a 7-day block, starting on a Monday and ending on the following Sunday. Shoveling includes the area around the doors of the Post and the area in front of the Post by the parking curbs. We do not have to shovel the sidewalk. Please DO NOT shovel the memorial. The stones are very slippery!



BYOS – Bring Your Own Shovel

The 7 weeks remaining are 2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/6, 3/20, 3/27, & 4/3. You can sign up online by following the link below:

[SNOW SHOVELING SIGN-UP](#)

1st Annual He Haw Ball

The Washington County American Legion will be hosting the 1st Annual He Haw Ball Saturday, February 18, 2023 at Post 1 Germantown from 1800 – 2300. This is an opportunity for the Posts of our county to gather and socialize. Come meet members from other Posts. Make new friends, meet old friends. As the title expresses, this is not a formal event. We will have a DJ, dancing, heavy hors d' oeuvres and cash bar. Cost is \$15.00 and is limited to the first 200 tickets. See Jay Anderson for tickets. Remember, space is limited so do not delay.

1st & 2nd Vice

Membership

Our goal is to hit 265 for 100% by December 31st of 2022. That's right, 100% by the end of this year. No sense in putting off till tomorrow, what you can do today. As of December 20th, we are at 219 members which is 82.6%. Still a way to go but we can still do it!

Take 5 minutes out of your day and go to <http://www.mylegion.org> and renew your membership for 2023.

If you know of someone that has served in the military, talk to them about the American Legion. Remember, the dates of service are NO longer an issue to join.

New members can continue to join Post 36 for only \$30.

1st Vice Position Open

Sadly, in December Paul Sipe stepped down from the position of 1st Vice. Paul is relocating to Canada and is not up to the commute to WI to continue to hold the position. While it is a loss to our Post, he is hoping there is a Post nearby to relocate. He will remain a member of Post 36 until that happens. Thank you, Paul, for all of your hard work and dedication.

While this may be a loss to our Post, it is your opportunity to get involved! Why wait till the elections in the spring when we currently have two open positions: **1st Vice and Parliamentarian**. If you have an interest in either of these positions, see Jay Anderson or one of the Executive Board Members for more information.

Capital Improvement Funding

Thanks to a donation of \$2,000 from the SAL, we have surpassed the \$30,000 goal for the new flooring for the Post. We hope to get the final decisions on the flooring made soon. We will continue to raise funds for Capital Improvements as there will always be things to be improved upon. Thank you to all those who have contributed to our future.

Notes from Our 2nd Vice – Donna Kleinmaus

The Oratorical contest was held at our Post on December 11th. Special thank you to the 3 judges! We had one participant, Haley Jo Hubert who is a sophomore in high school. While she will move on to the County judging in Jackson by default, she was very good, and we hope to see her move on to the District Meeting in January at the Midwinter Conference I Green Bay.

County Government Day will be March 14th. There will be tours of the Courthouse and Sheriff's Department. More details will be coming out in the upcoming meetings and in the next newsletter. If you are planning on attending and assisting, please let Donna know as she will need numbers for the lunch that day! Watch for more details as they become available.

The Americanism and Government

Scholarship Test dates for 2023 are March 6-17, online. This is for students in 10th-12th grades. Parents and grandparents, please share this with your young'uns.

Any questions on youth programs should be directed to Donna at 262-305-4505.

Blood Drives

Thanks to everyone who gave blood in 2022. The next blood drives at the Post are **December 30th, January 20th & February 9th**



Some additional dates for 2023 are: May 8, August 17, & November 30
More dates will be added. Stay tuned!

Be the One

Be sure to 'like' and support the Facebook page,
'BeTheOne4WIYouth'

Together we can make a difference with our military veterans and with our kids.

American Legion Family

Sons of the American Legion

Membership continues to grow and is now at 51 members.

SAL membership continues to grow. If you have family members who might qualify, please encourage them to join.

Contact Jeff Schwitz with any membership questions. Jeff's cell phone is 262-483-2857 and hi e-mail address is j.schwitz@att.net



Tile Bracelets for Sale

Check out the cool new tile bracelets that are now available!! These will be available at brat fries, the golf outing and anywhere fundraising for the Post is happening!



Legion Family Calendar

Scott Mindel has put together a calendar in Google Docs for posting all Legion activity. While this is a work in progress, it will be a great tool and resource to know what is going on across the family. If you get this email electronically, click on the calendar and it should take you there.

FEBRUARY 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

CALENDAR

Drive-Thru Brat Fry – Maybe?

The SAL is looking at possibly doing a drive-thru brat fry on January 21 at the Post. It is still up in the air because of the fire next door.

American Legion Auxiliary

No report or information.



50/50 Raffle



Thank you to everyone who continues to support the 50/50 raffle!

Meals before meetings

Meals before the meeting have been suspended. The Post will continue to open at 1800 for social gathering before the regularly scheduled meetings. Feel free to come socialize. The bar should be open as well.

Finance – Bank Deposits

If you make a deposit into the Post accounts, in addition to the normal processing of the deposit slip, PLEASE also send Mike Feller a quick email at michael.feller73@gmail.com With the date of the deposit, amount and what it was for!



Washington County Meeting

We are the Host Post for the Washington County American Legion Meeting on January 7th. Social starts at 1700, followed by dinner at 1800 and the meeting at 1900. Cost is \$17/person. Let's have a good showing from our Post, as we are the Host! Contact Jay Anderson to RSVP.

Midwinter Conference in Green Bay

The Midwinter Conference will take place at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay from January 12-15. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Legion. There are numerous breakout sessions with different topics.

[Click Here for more details.](#)

Thank you!

A special thank you to Max Sommerfeld, Dale Tuttle, John Zink and Jim Maersch for taking down the flags at Veterans Plaza back in November!

POST OFFICERS and OTHER CONTACTS

*Commander	Jay Anderson	262-677-1798	vicecommander36@gmail.com
*First Vice	Open Seat		
*Second Vice	Donna Kleinmaus	262-305-4505	dkleinmaus@charter.net
*Adjutant	Jim Geldreich	262-707-6686	jgeld@charter.net
*Finance Officer	Michael Feller	715-216-7485	michael.feller73@gmail.com
Historian	Sharon Prag	920-285-2504	queen.shari@gmail.com
Chaplain	Richard Gerard	414-916-8253	rpgerard@yahoo.com
SGT at Arms	Ed Draeger	262-689-4144	drygulch@reagan.com
Service Officer	James Maersch	262-338-0991	jamesmaersch@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Open Seat		
*Past CDR Position	John Zink	262-334-3055	johnandlouisez@yahoo.com
*Past CDR Position	Gary Logan	262-442-8024	glogan181@gmail.com
*Past CDR Position	Ed Draeger	262-689-4144	drygulch@reagan.com
*Member at Large	Mike Hartwell	262-305-4036	wibmwrider@gmail.com
*Member at Large	Mike Adel	262-384-0404	bigfish-54@hotmail.com
*Member at Large	James Maersch	262-338-0991	jamesmaersch@gmail.com
Newsletter Submissions			newsletterpost36@gmail.com

*Executive Board Member

12/15/22

E-Mail vs Snail Mail – mylegion.org

We are still looking for your email address so we can send the email to you electronically and save on the printing, postage and time it takes to send it out through the snail mail.

Adding your email to your account is easy. Anyone can do it by going to <https://mylegion.org> , log into your account and add your email.

Or give us your email on a slip of paper and we can make the change for you. If you need help setting up internet or an email or getting into your **mylegion** account, call Mike Hartwell at 262-305-4036 and I will get you all set up.

Volunteer Service Hours

Remember to continue to keep track and turn in your Service Hours that you perform in the community. The hours do not have to be Post related, but the Post can claim the hours for our CPR. Forms are available at each meeting on the tables. If you have questions, ask Jay or one of the Post Officers for more information.

Newsletter Information

The Post 36er is only as good as the information that is provided to be included in it. I am not going to make up stuff to just take up space. I need your contributions! If you have information you would like to see in the Post 36er, please send it to newsletterpost36@gmail.com .



Submissions are normally due by the 15th (even months) of the month prior to publication. **However, due to a planned vacation, (trip to Aruba), the next deadline is February 10th.** Thank you!

Trailer Purchased!

In case you missed it, the Post has purchased an enclosed utility trailer to be used for storing and hauling all the brat fry equipment. While the Post had set aside \$2,000 for the purchase of a trailer, finding one at that price that was in good shape, was not happening. We did locate a trailer at B&B Trailers in Hartford. The trailer is in great shape and had been gone through after being traded in at B&B. Unfortunately, it was \$3,000. As Paul Harvey would say, and now for the rest of the story: The SAL stepped up and contributed the additional \$1,000 in order to purchase the trailer. Thank you to the SAL for your contribution!



Calendar of Events

January

- 1** **New Year's Day**
- 2** **New Year's Day Holiday-Observed**
- 2 SAL Meeting, 1900
- 3 Post Membership Meeting/Auxiliary, 1900
- 7 Wash Co Dinner Mtg, 1700 – Post 36 RSVP
- 8 Post Holiday Party, 1200 -?
- 9 WB Library History Club Mtg, 1830
- 12-15 Mid-Winter Conference, Green Bay
- 16** **Martin Luther King Day**
- 16 Building Committee Mtg
- 17 Exec Council Mtg 1700

February

- Black History Month
- Week of 2/14 – National Salute to Veteran Parents
- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 3 Four Chaplains Day
- 4 USO Birthday - 1941
- 6 SAL Meeting, 1900
- 7 Post Membership Meeting/Auxiliary, 1900
- 9 Blood Drive at Post
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 18 Washington County He Haw Ball G-town - RSVP
- 19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday - 1941
- 20** **President's Day**
- 20 Building Committee Mtg
- 21 Exec Council Mtg 1700

BOLD - Federal Holiday

*** - Flags flown at Half Staff**