



Post 36er

Lt. Ray Dickop Post 36

Wisconsin American Legion, West Bend, Wisconsin

Building Address: 712 Park Av, West Bend 53090
Post Phone Number: 262-277-1919

Mailing Address: PO Box 921, West Bend 53095
Website: Post36WestBend.org

LEGION FAMILY MEETING SCHEDULE

NO JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING – HOLIDAY PARTY JANUARY 4, 2026 at 1 PM

Post and Auxiliary– 1st Tuesday of Month, 7 PM

SAL – 1st Monday of Month, 6 PM

COMMANDER'S QUOTE

Territory is but the body of a nation.
The people who inhabit its hills and valleys
are its soul, its spirit, its life.

James A. Garfield

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Yes, Legion family we are, the soul, spirit, and life
of this nation. Garfield was a wise but overlooked
President because of his short term in office. He set
the tone to rid the federal government of corruption
which his successor Chester Arthur took up.

As we look forward to this cold and snowy winter,
many of you may be snowbirds and travel to warmer
and exotic climates. When you return, please
consider regaling us with your adventure as a
monthly speaker. Pictures are much appreciated.
Your comrades would be grateful, especially if they
stayed home.

Lastly, we want to get our membership to 100+% and
we start with renewals. If you haven't yet, please
contact myself or the 1st Vice to get your account up
to date. Remember we are stronger together than
alone and we do strengthen America. If you are
already renewed, recruit. We all know veteran
friends who could benefit from membership so give
them this gift and bring them into the fold.

Enjoy this winter and stay safe. God Bless you all.
Commander
Charles Young

RAFFLE TICKETS – WIN \$15,000

Commander Young has received several
dozen tickets to sell for the Cash Paradise
Raffle that will take place at the Legion
Conference on July 18, 2026 in Appleton.



You DO NOT need to be present to win!

Tickets are \$20 each and there are 10 cash prizes:
\$15,000, \$6,000, \$4,000, \$3,000, \$2,000,
\$1,000, \$800, \$600, \$400, \$200

Proceeds from the raffle support various programs
through American Legion Wisconsin.

Cash Paradise Raffle
2930 American Legion Drive, Portage, WI 53901
Cash Prizes: 1st - \$15,000, 2nd - \$6,000, 3rd - \$4,000, 4th - \$3,000, 5th - \$2,000, 6th - \$1,000, 7th - \$800, 8th - \$600, 9th - \$400, 10th - \$200
Drawing @ 8pm Saturday, July 18, 2026
Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel
333 W. College Ave
Appleton, WI 54911
Supports American Legion programs, youth programs and community projects by the American Legion. Scan the QR code and click on Programs!
License # R0041683-A-86398 \$20/Ticket Need Not Be Present to Win

Please see Charlie to purchase a ticket or to get some
tickets from Charlie to sell.

Between February and June, you can also win one of
the tickets by participating in the Post 50/50 raffle at
our Membership Meetings!

1st & 2nd Vice Commanders

1st Vice Commander – Mike Hartwell

MEMBERSHIP

As I write this newsletter we are 11 days from the end of 2025. If you have not renewed your 2026 membership, it is time! Most likely as you read this, it is 2026. That's right, once again we are starting a new year, so PLEASE, if you have not done so, **renew your 2026 membership!**



We are currently at 77% of our goal with 214 members out of our goal of 278. We are making progress with renewals and a few new members, but we are still last in the County (83.5%) and District (82.3%).

Take 5 minutes out of your day and go to <http://www.mylegion.org> and renew your membership for 2026.

AWARDS

Nominations are open for awards recognizing efforts and accomplishments in 2025. Our awards ceremony will take place at our June Membership Meeting, however all nominations for awards are due to the 1st Vice Commander by January 31st, 2026.

We are looking for nominees for the following awards:

- Legionnaire of the Year (Gung-Ho Award)
- Police Officer of the Year
- Firefighter of the Year
- EMT of the Year
- Educator of the Year
- Outstanding Enlisted Soldier of the Year

Please contact the 1st Vice with any questions or for a nomination form.

BUDDY CHECKS

Buddy Checks are still in progress. If you have not received a call this fall for a Buddy Check, please call the Mike at 262-305-4036.

Thank you to those who have made Buddy Checks calls and stopped at some of our members' homes. I would like to give a special shout out and thank you to Cliff Van Beek for going above and beyond with all of the pages of names he took upon himself.

We will be starting over again in March with a goal of finishing them by Memorial Day!

SERVICE OFFICER

1. The flag flying at Veterans Plaza is still there. I'm experimenting on flags regarding the trouble we've been having.
2. Four flags fly year-round and are at the West Bend News in remembrance of the Four Chaplains.
3. Christmas cards from the Post Christmas card project will be delivered to 9 locations on Thursday. We received over 300 cards.
4. Boxes of candy and Christmas cards were delivered to the Compassionate Care Nursing Home.
5. An article regarding our Christmas card project and our partnership with Froedtert Hospital was sent to the Badger Legionnaire.
6. A wreath from Wreaths Across America has been placed at our Post monument. A wreath laying was also done at the Veterans Plaza.
7. The next display at the library will be the Four Chaplains. It will go up on January 30 until Feb. 4.

RENTAL COMMITTEE

Hall rentals for the General Public are \$260.00 for the day and only full day rentals are available. Discounts are given to members of the Post. More information can be found online at Post36WestBend.org.

NATIONAL SECURITY BLOOD DRIVE DRIVES

The next Red Cross blood drive is on February 12th from 12-5. Additional blood drives are: April 15th, June 17th, August 13th, October 8th, and December 10th.



American Legion Family News

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

SAL Squadron 36 membership stands at 79 members. If you know anyone who is eligible and/or interested in joining our squadron, please have them contact Jeff Schwitz with any membership questions at j.schwitz@att.net or 262-483-2857.

Patriotic bracelet sales continue in businesses throughout West Bend. This fundraising effort continues to provide funding exclusively for Camp American Legion in Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

Squadron 36 will be presenting one of its members with a Son of the Year Award. Please stay tuned for the name of the award winner and background information on their contributions to the success of the squadron.

The squadron will be hosting a fundraising event at the Pizza Ranch restaurant in West Bend during the evening of March 2, 2026. Please consider stopping by to enjoy some good food and help support veteran causes.

The members of the squadron will coordinate with the City of West Bend to replace damaged brackets that display the banners of the West Bend High School military veterans who were killed in action while serving. These banners have been displayed on light posts along the streets around the Old Courthouse for the past several years to honor those veterans. The brackets need to be replaced in order to continue to properly display those banners.

Members of the squadron are trying to assist in any way possible the efforts of the Post leadership to petition the U.S. Government to elevate the award status of the namesake of the Post, Lt. Ray C. Dickop, from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor.

There is NO MEETING in January 2026. Our next meeting will be February 3rd 2026.

We are currently at 22 members and always welcome new people to join us in serving our Veterans and community. There is an application to fill out which gives the criteria for eligibility; this can be obtained from any Auxiliary member or you can contact Carolyn Schatz at 414-378-1703. Men please encourage your wives and daughters to join us!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The all Legion Family Christmas Party is being held on Sunday, January 4th starting at 1 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share for that day. Hope to see you all there!

We donated a great selection of candy, cookies and frostings/sprinkles, crafts, etc. to keep the kids busy at the Family Promise Christmas Party! This was our donation for December.

Our donation for the month of January 2026 went to St. Dymphna which is a local mental health ministry and was for \$100 towards the purchase of workbooks for their sessions.

The Sons have asked us to partner with them at Pizza Ranch on March 3rd of next year and we agreed at our last meeting to do this. We will help clear tables, clean up, etc. Whatever money is made will be split between us and the Sons. This is usually only for a couple of hours so if anyone wants to do one or two hours, or more, we will take it. When we get closer I will get a sign up list going. Several businesses around town are doing this for community groups as a fundraiser, plus it helps them with staff shortages, and hopefully brings in more customers!

We also need to start working on getting girls to go to Badger Girls State for 2026. They need to be a high school junior or equivalent if homeschooled. The Auxiliary will be sponsoring girls for this event so you can contact Carolyn Schatz at 414-378-1703 or they can talk to the guidance counselor at the West Bend High Schools who will get them to the right person.

Christmas Blessings and the start of a great New Year to all!

What's New?

SNOW REMOVAL

Winter is upon us and so is the snow. Well, it was until Christmas got here. However, we know there will be more. As always we are looking for volunteers to shovel snow at the Post. The shoveling includes the areas around all 5 doors as well as the walking area and parking bumpers in front so no one trips over them.

Sign ups run from Monday through Sunday so they only impact one weekend.

We are currently covered through February 15th. Please take a look at your calendar for February, March and April and see where you can help out!

To sign up, [CLICK HERE](#) or go to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4AADAD2EA7FA7-60804476-copy>

CHANGING THE MEETING TIME?

At the February membership meeting, we will be looking for input on changing our meeting times. We are looking at the possibility of backing everything up one hour. So the social/meal would start at 5, followed by the meeting at 6.

We would like to hear from the membership on the idea. If the membership chooses to make the change, it would be implemented at the first meeting in April.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline is February 15th.

Deadlines will always be on the 15th of the even months.

Please submit any information to NewsletterPost36@gmail.com. Thank you!



50/50 RAFFLE RETURNS

At the February membership meeting, the 50/50 raffle will once again return with two ways to win.



We are continuing the 50/50/TWIST! In addition to someone winning half of the pot collected, someone will win a ticket Cash Paradise Raffle being put on by American Legion Wisconsin with the drawing taking place on July 18th in Appleton at the state conference. You DO NOT need to be present to win. You can win a ticket here in the 50/50 raffle or you can also purchase a ticket from Charlie for \$20. Within the raffle, there are ten cash prizes ranging from \$15,000 to \$200 with a total payout of \$33,000. You can't win if you don't play, so empty out those piggy banks!

Cash Paradise Raffle
2930 American Legion Drive, Portage, WI 53901

Cash Prizes	
1 st - \$15,000	6 th - \$1,000
2 nd - \$ 6,000	7 th - \$ 800
3 rd - \$ 4,000	8 th - \$ 600
4 th - \$ 3,000	9 th - \$ 400
5 th - \$ 2,000	10 th - \$ 200

Drawing @ 8pm
Saturday, July 18, 2026
Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel
333 W. College Ave
Appleton, WI 54911

*Supports American Legion programs, youth programs and community projects by the American Legion.
Scan the QR code and click on Programs!

License # R0041683-A-86398 **\$20/Ticket** Need Not Be Present to Win

HOLIDAY PARTY

On January 4th, the Post will be having a Holiday Party starting at about



1:00 PM. No charge for the meal and guests are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Depending on the flex scheduling of the NFL, the Packers may be playing the Vikings during this time. Either way, we will have week 17 of the NFL games on the big screen TV.

GO PACK GO!!!

LEGION FAMILY WEBSITE

www.Post36WestBend.org

Family Contacts

LEGION FAMILY CONTACTS

Post 36 - Legionnaires

Commander	Charlie Young	920-948-6602	c_young@charter.net
1st Vice Commander	Mike Hartwell	262-305-4036	wibmwriter@gmail.com
2nd Vice Commander	Joyce Bultman	203-249-1933	jbultman16@hotmail.com
Adjutant	Jim Geldreich	262-707-6686	jgeld@charter.net

Unit 36 - Auxiliary

ALA President	Carolyn Schatz	414-378-1703	cschatz2000@gmail.com
1st Vice Commander	TBD		
ALA Secretary	Shirley Tuttle	262-573-3668	

Squadron 36 - Sons of the American Legion

Commander	Steve Rohde	414-581-4381	Sprohde@charter.net
1st Vice Commander	Jeff Schwitz	262-483-2857	j.schwitz@att.net
2nd Vice Commander	Glenn Pietschmann	262-689-9329	Glenn440@charter.net
Adjutant	Scott Mindel	262-689-1274	sal36.sec@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

JANUARY

- 1 *New Years Day*
- 4 **Post Holiday Party**
- 5 **SAL Mtg – 1800**
- 19 *Martin Luther King Day*
- 20 **Post Exec Council Mtg – 1700**
- 24 SAL Drive-thru Brat Fry

FEBRUARY

- Black History Month
- 2 **SAL Meeting – 1800**
- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 3 **Membership & Auxiliary Mtg – 1900**
- 3 Four Chaplains Day
- 4 USO Birthday (1941)
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 16 *President’s Day*
- 17 **Post Exec Council Mtg – 1700**
- 19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday (1941)

Federal Holiday

****Flags at Half-staff till Noon****



Be sure to check the Post website Event Calendar for additional events and information.

www.Post36WestBend.org



Lt Ray Dickop Post 36
P.O. Box 921
West Bend, WI 53095

«Name»
«Address»

HAPPY
New Year

*More information on additional events, news, notes,
and information can be found on our family website:*
www.Post36WestBend.org