



Let Freedom Ring



Stenz-Griesell-Smith
American Legion Post 449

Four Forty Niner is the official newsletter of
Stenz-Griesell-Smith Post 449
3245 N. 124th Street
Brookfield, WI 53005
(262)781-0488

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

We are currently “revamping” our Post Website.
www.AmericanLegionPost449.org

Please **DO NOT SEND** any correspondence to this address. We will let you know when work is completed. Please contact the Commander or the 1st Vice Cmdr. if message requires immediate attention.

Thank You for your cooperation!

Commander’s Report...

By: David P. Latimer, Sr.



Greetings to All!

The New Year started off with a successful New Years Eve Party, it was attended by 90 party-goers, a great prime rib buffet by Athens & champagne toast and breakfast brunch. Frank Sternisha provided great new music, along with some of the standards for everyone’s enjoyment.

Midwinter Conference in Baraboo provided new programs to benefit our Legionnaires, the training classes proved to be very informative for improving operations to the various Posts. New candidates for Dept. level offices entertained with their Hospitality rooms to win support in the upcoming spring elections. This will be an interesting campaign. One side note of fun, a family completion between siblings of the Roloff family, Dept. Vice Commander Chuck Roloff’s children were competing to see who could make the most popular “shot” in their hospitality room. I should say they were all over 21 years of age and we all enjoyed the fun. Meeting old friends from across the state and making new ones is just one portion I really find exciting from such Legion Meetings, especially when we can “talk up” our Post 449.

The 22nd of January we honored the names of our members who have passed from us, but a special recognition of a devoted life member, Warren “Gabby” Meier, who was given Legion Honors that were not accorded previously by unusual circumstances. The Legion Auxiliary and Honor Guard complimented the service. Mr. Steven Hauser of the Elm Grove Independent Newspaper and our own Al Kolsch gave short comments about “Gabby”, both having known Gabby for many years, a very big Well Done to both gentlemen.

I must tell you the change of Bar Manager – Bill Simon – did not come to pass due to health issues, Bill feels badly about this, and thus I have asked Ryan Schaeckel to assume this position. He agreed and the board approved this appointment, Ryan brings much to the table with youthful vigor and a personality to make everyone welcome. We now have some new Members on the Board whose dedication to making our Post grow is only equaled by their efforts to keep our Post fun to come to. We have people coming forward as “volunteers”, non-members that want to help these fine efforts.

I ask of you to show support in all activities by the “Legion Family” by your attendance at these events. Remember our members and supporters who are ill and absent from us in your prayers. And ►

**a warm smile☺friendly handshake and hugs =
Great Medicine for the Soul.**

Finance Officer's Comments

By: John Horter (262) 641-0211



The good news regarding our financial status continues. We finished up the calendar year in December with a very strong financial performance. Bar revenue was very good and expenses were well controlled. We are starting to feel the effects of our cold Wisconsin weather, resulting in an increase in our fuel bill of \$700.00 over the past 2 months and I am afraid the next bill will be higher yet. So, please dress accordingly when you come to the Post because we are trying to keep our inside temperature in the 72 degree range.

This month I would also like to suggest that you may want to remember the Post in your Estate Planning or you may even have some spare life insurance policies that you could consider making the Post the beneficiary, e.g. G-I Life! Just a thought.

Till next time. Continue to visit your Post.

1st Vice Commander's

Comments...By Ron Anderson
(414) 774-8195



Thanks to all who sent cards and called while I was "out". I appreciate your *best wishes*.

Another month for me to ask those who haven't renewed your 2013 dues to do so NOW, or call me. I am interested in why some of you have delayed. Also, please call me, or Dick Strehlow, if your veteran has 'passed on'. If I can help answer your questions, please call.

Surgery for me is February 11th so I'll be home for awhile. See you later.

REMEMBER – You MUST HAVE your 2013 Membership Card to attend the meetings!!!!

2nd Vice Commander's

Message..By Mike Daigle (414) 817-2153



I want to express my sincere heartfelt appreciation for your trust and support for giving me this opportunity to serve as Second Vice Commander of Post 449. First off, we have been making great strides in the maintenance and cleanliness of our kitchen. A personal thank you to all that have contributed.

The Friday and Saturday entertainment has been extended to June due to your support. If you have not experienced it I personally invite you to come out and enjoy the great music and family environment.

Lastly, I would like to express my strong desire to work with ALL members of our 449 Family regardless of which branch you represent. I value every one of you and hope we can work together during existing events, and planning new and exciting events.

2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
"One More Time" Dance Band 1:30—3:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 449

**St. Patrick's Day Party
& Saturday Sign-In**

March 16th

**Guinness and Harp Beer
Specials**

Include the Post in your St. Patrick's Day plans. The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. Start the day off with a Bloody Mary or Green Beer. Throughout the day **Chef Pierre** will be serving Corned Beef Sandwiches, Irish Stew (while it lasts), & dinners that include Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, and Carrots. We are working on continuous entertainment from noon until closing.

Enjoy the Food, Music & Irish Beer Specials!!!!



Free

Live Entertainment

At

American Legion Post 449
3245 N. 124th St., Brookfield

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
NIGHTS**

Friday Night

JOYCE BEVAN
AT THE PIANO ENTERTAINS
5:00—7:00 p.m.

**FOLLOWING JOYCE, MUSIC FOR YOUR
LISTENING & DANCING PLEASURE**

7:00—10:30 p.m.

February

1 Kate West & Groovy 15 Mike Eve
8 Chris Vesche 22 Frankie Donn

March

1 The Boomers 15 Tom Lehnigk
8 Chris Vesche 22 Frankie Donn
29 Red Deacon

Saturday Night

February 2 The Noyz Boys
9 Brew City Rockers
16 Nostalgia
23 Boomer Nation

March

2 Hat Trick
9 Liam Ford
16 Ricochettes
23 Larry Lynne
30 Freddie & The Cruisers

Service Officer's Message...

By: Richard Strehlow

Once again, your Honor Guard has been extremely active. These are the names of our following fallen heroes in the last Month;

Last Bugle (Members)... (a card, and a ceremonial coin and cartridge pouch were presented)

Raymond Stechauner WWII

Ervin Kemper WWII



Last Bugle (Non-Members)... (a cartridge pouch was presented)

David Sauer WWII

Ronald Haas WWII

Leonard Sargent Korea

Willard Lehmann Peacetime-

Wayne Legge Korea

Helen Doyle Korea

Robert Mueller Korea

Charles Schlieve WWII

Brad Desmore Peacetime

Joseph Sansone WWII

Russell Chinn WWII

Earl Benthein WWII

James Brown Korea

Alphonse Engelmeier WWII-

Howard Loessin WWII

Donald McGrath Korea

Wayne Pubanz Classified

Arthur Nunemaker II

Thomas Mitchell Korea

Reynaldo Renteria Vietnam

Sick Bay:.. Dennis Meyers, Bill Simon, Ken Lamster, Norm Kittson, Wallace Krueger, Hank Belling and Fred Withrow.

Important Notes - -

Your Honor Guard unit was not only proud, but was present, to provide a Military Honors Ceremony for Warren "Gabby" Meier at the latest membership meeting.

I'm happy to report that your Honor Guard received very generous donations to our Post from the following; The Auxiliary Unit, The Duffy Family, and the Muxfeld Family..

We have made a 3rd request to receive replacement rifles for the Honor Guard. Apparently the first requests were lost at TACOM headquarters.

V.A. News & Info.....

1- There is a new program for Wisconsin's Purple Heart Veterans which allows them free admission to the following venues; The Milwaukee County Zoo, The Milwaukee Public Museum, Discovery World, Milwaukee Art Museum, Harley Davidson Museum and all attractions at Milwaukee County Parks.

2- On October 1, 2013, more than 171K retirees will be pushed off Tricare Prime (the military's managed care program). The policy change will affect retirees, their family members and military survivors who reside more than 40 miles from a military treatment facility or from a base closure site. Affected veterans will need to shift health care coverage from Prime to Standard.

3- Walmart has announced a plan to hire every veteran who wants a job, provided that the veterans have left the military in the previous year and had an honorable discharge. The program will officially begin on Memorial Day and will eventually lead to the hiring of more than 100,000 veterans in the next five years.

4- Military OneSource & H&R Block have again joined forces to provide a free online tax preparation service for all service members. Two services, the Basic and Premium are provided through H&R Block. The Basic service is free, and the Premium service

would apply to taxpayers who must file Schedule C returns.

If you have any questions regarding any of this news, or need more info, please contact me and I will provide you with the proper, detailed information to pursue your interests. This also includes informing me of illnesses or deaths that may have occurred or questions regarding your VA benefits. You can contact me at (262)-641- 0977 or (262)-389-4638. If you don't contact me, I can't help you out.

May God bless our Veteran's and fallen heroes.



James (Jim) Krause, former member of Post 449, died peacefully Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at the age of 83. Jim was an owner and past president of Krause Funeral Home. He is the father of Mark, Gregg, John, and Mary, and brother of Daniel, Donna Cummings, William Jr., and Lorna Byrd. The funeral service was conducted on Tuesday, February 5th. Post 449 Honor Guard performed Military Honors, in honor of James.

Chaplain' Corner...

By: Harvin Abrahamson, Chaplain

Isaac Potts, a Quaker, was in his mid twenties, lived in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania when American Revolutionary Forces were encamped in the area during the winter of 1777-78. Mr. Potts was a Tory and was not in favor of the war against the British, but was involved with the grinding of requisitioned grain, which farmers were delivering for General Washington's 8000 starving men. Conditions were such that it was at one time reported that 3000 of Washington's troops were unfit for duty for lack of clothing and shoes.

Some leaders of Congress were plotting to relieve Washington of his command. Washington was considering disbanding his forces to avoid wholesale starvation.

Mr. Potts, a "rank" Tory, told of how he was converted to the cause of freedom. "There laid the army of Washington." (in a woods he one day was passing on horseback) "I heard the plaintive sound as of a man at prayer. I tied my horse to a sapling, went into the woods and to my astonishment I saw the great George Washington on his knees alone with his sword on one side and his cocked hat on the other. He was at prayer to the God of the Armies. Washington was praying for Divine aid when many were ready to give up the ship."

Potts went home, told his wife about what he had seen and they were both astonished that a soldier could also be a Christian...but if there's one it would be Washington. Potts then said, "We thought it was the cause of God and that America could prevail!!!"

Likewise, in our present circumstances, we of this great nation also may pray and have faith that again America can and will prevail.



**Welcome New Bar Manager
Ryan Schaekel**



If you do not know, or if you have not met, Ryan, he is at the Post, in his office, early every day. He is currently wearing three hats. In addition to his new bar manager's responsibilities, he serves as *Post Adjutant*, and is a member of the Post Honor Guard.

Congratulations Ryan and 'Thank You' for volunteering to serve Post 449!

----- SORRY-----

We inadvertently left out a *Thank You* in last month's newsletter.

Big Al sends a **BIG THANKS** to Bill Blamer for his donation of a large smoked salmon to the Tom & Jerry Party held Sunday, December 16th. The salmon was excellent Bill and all of us attendees also thank you for your contribution.



- supports Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion Post 449. ***Thank You for delivering our newsletter 'on-time' !!!!***
- St. Camillus Printing & Graphics is located just east of Hwy 100 and Bluemound Road, in Wauwatosa, and is a division of St. Camillus Health Systems Inc.

Sgt-At-Arms Memo

From: Bob Kelly

As I sit here getting ready to go out to freeze my tush off, I am trying to find something to warm us up. How about three summer and fall upcoming events the Post participates in.

To begin, the Memorial Service for Gabby Meyer January 22nd was very good and moving.

Although it is very early, my Parade Committee Co-Chair Pete Schiller and I are starting to work on this year's parades. We have been in contact with all three groups we participate in and we are laying out a plan for those parades. Now is the time for all Post members, Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons to start planning on participating in the parades so that we can show the pride of Post 449. I will have more details as time goes on.

Our Post Legion Color Guard is looking for a Legion member to do all three parades not only this year but in future years. Please contact Alan Johnson at (414) 550-9910 if you are interested in participating.

Don't forget to bring your 2013 Membership Card to the next General Meeting. I look forward to seeing you all at the February meeting.

A Message From the House Manager ...

Mike Desrosiers (414) 817-2153

Another year is now done and gone and we must move ahead in 2013. As House Manager, I want to improve several things to increase our bookings and hall revenues.

I would like to thank Commander Latimer for appointing me to this position and I really enjoy taking on the responsibilities. I also like the way members of our/your Post work together.

On Jan. 1, 2013, New Years day., the bar was supposed to be closed, but a decision was made at the last minute to open so people could come in and see our Wisconsin Badgers in the Rose Bowl. The lounge area was not in the best shape, from the night before. With a bit of chaos, a few members got together and cleaned up the lounge and we had a great time. A special thanks to Mick (Mickey) and his wife Kay Cucinello, Tony Cucinello (Mick's son) and my girlfriend Dana, for their outstanding help on that day. Let's keep up the team efforts.

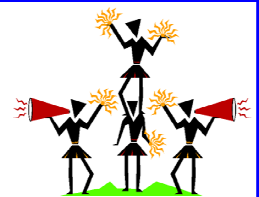


LET'S HERE IT FOR **Chef Pierre** AND THOSE "GREAT"

NOON LUNCHES
HE SERVES *MONDAY - FRIDAY*
11:30 A.M.-TO-2:00 P.M

AT

LEGION POST 449
3245 N. 124TH STREET, BROOKFIELD, WI





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Empowering Women, Inspiring Communities

AUXILIARY DIRECTORY

President	LILLI K. SCHWANTES	262-785-5520
1st Vice President	JENNIFER MICHAELS	262-781-5369
2nd Vice President	LYLETTE SMITH	414-378-4107
Secretary	KATIE METZELFELD	262-782-7313
Treasurer	DOLORES KROENING	262-253-0994
Chaplain	SANDY DEARING	262-796-1126
Honorary Chaplain	GABRIELA VESCHE	
Membership	JOANN ROSS	414-464-5768
Sgt.-at-Arms	BONNIE PISZCZEK	414-257-3919
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms	KATHY SCHILLER	414-464-9210
Historian	CAROL LERS	262-691-5873
Parliamentarian	KITTY LARKIN	262-649-3399
Jr. Past President	BETTY CONLON	262-691-8725
Members at Large	JOANN ROSS	414-464-5768
Members at Large	KRISTINE VESCHE	262-674-1221

UPCOMING EVENTS – PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Feb. 3 Sun. 4:30pm	SAL Super Bowl Chili Cook Off
Feb. 9 Sat. 11:30am	Aux. Past Presidents Sign-In lunch and raffles
Feb. 18 Mon. 10:30am	George Washington Luncheon at Klemmers Banquet Center 10401 W. Oklahoma (by rez only)
Feb. 19 Tues. Noon	Aux. DAY meeting
Mar. 1 Fri.	Scholarship deadline (see Jan. newsletter for details)
Mar. 15 Fri.	All scholarship applications due to Dept. of Wisconsin, Portage
Mar. 19 Tues. 7pm	Aux. monthly meeting
Apr. 3 Wed. 11am	Past Presidents Card Party
April ?	Americanism Program with 8 th graders at Metcalfe Elementary School

The President's Message...

By: Lilli K. Schwantes
jschwan102@aol.com

"Service, Not Self"



Our January 15th Day meeting was a relaxing experience with a delicious lunch and attended by 40 smiling members. The following donations from the Holiday Craft Fair, Bake Sale and Lunch profits were approved by the membership: \$500 to sponsor an Honor Flight Veteran, \$250 to the Homeless Women Veterans Project and \$250 to the Post Honor Guard.

If you weren't at the January 26th Auxiliary Sign-In Lunch and Raffle Party, you missed a fun time. The raffle crew of Sam Catura, Chris Ertl, Jennifer Michaels, Monica Roux and Gary Roux had one of the highest raffle ticket sales ever. Great job! The kitchen crew of Sharon Miller, Colleen Rupert, Kathy Schiller and myself were hardworking "Domestic Goddesses". Once again the Auxiliary "Dessert Queens" came through with many colorful and scrumptious desserts. Thank you to all of you who donated raffle items, bought tickets and lunch.

Many thanks and appreciation go out to **everyone** who helped to make it a success.

Saturday, February 9, the Auxiliary **Past Presidents** group will be hosting the Sign-In Lunch and Raffles. We would greatly appreciate donations of raffle items and desserts. Also the Auxiliary Card and Games Party sponsored by the Past Presidents is April 3. Get your reservations in early. You don't have to play cards or games. Just come, have lunch and socialize if you wish.

Reminder: The February 19 Auxiliary meeting will be a DAY meeting with lunch at noon and meeting to follow. Please come and join us.

Happy Birthday and God Bless to our February **"Special Birthday Lady"**: (4) Carol Rzepny.

Peace and Love to All!
Happy Valentine's Day too

2ND Vice President's Message

By Lylette Smith
(414) 378-4107
Lytehse3@yahoo.com

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!

The January Auxiliary Meeting was on Tuesday, January 15th at noon and it was an in-service meeting. Everyone enjoyed writing notes on cards to the Veteran's and taping money to the card for Veteran's to use. The February Auxiliary meeting will be on Tuesday, February 19th at "NOON" and we will have entertainment.

Thank you to our January Hostesses, Chris Ertl, Betty Bertino and Monica Roux. Our hostesses did a spectacular job and the food was scrumptious! Great job ladies!! Reminder; our Hostesses for February 19th are Gerry Race, Betty Conlon, JoAnn Ross and Chris Ertl.

Please consider visiting Ken Lamster and Dennis Meyers and sending cards and letters. They both were on the Honor Guard and have supported Post 449 in many ways, for many years. Their addresses are as follows:

Ken Lamster	Dennis Meyers
Mercy Rehab	Waukesha Springs Health & Rehab Ctr.
2727 W. Mitchell St., Room 25	1810 Kensington Dr.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215	Waukesha, WI 53188

Ken and Dennis want to thank the many people who have visited, sent cards, pictures and packages. These men need our support, please continue to support them.

The Auxiliary is asking for donations for a project for Americanism that will be given to 'eighth graders' in April at the Metcalf Elementary School, on 35th Street and North Ave. in Milwaukee. Please give your donations to me or anyone on the Auxiliary Executive Board by the end of March, 2013. The following is needed for 40 students: #2 Pencils, Mechanical Pencils, Lead (for the mechanical pencils), Pens (any color ink), Erasers, Loose leaf Paper, Spiral Bound Notebooks, Folders, Notepads and Markers/Hi-liters.

I sincerely want to thank everyone who gave donations to put into baskets for the many projects we have all worked on. Without ALL of YOU none of this would be possible.

Thank You!!

Chaplain Sandy's Message

By: Sandy Dearing sandydearing@yahoo.com



When the month of February comes around and Valentine's Day approaches, love is in the air. Thoughts of those dear to us and messages of love abound. We look for lavish ways to show those we care for just how deep our love is. That is what our heavenly Father does for us all the time.

HOW GREAT IS THE LOVE OUR FATHER HAS LAVISHED UPON US THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD! 1 JOHN 3:1

When I think of the word "Lavish" it brings to mind extravagance and abundance. His love for us is so extravagant that he wants each of us to be adopted into His family - His family of LOVE! Because God is LOVE! When we belong to his family, he expects us to pour this love into the lives of others, just as He has done to us.

As a member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary, opportunities abound to do just that. There are many people who need to feel the love of the Father and we can be the hand that reaches out to extend that love. Because love is putting other's needs before our own, I see this over and over again in the work done at Post 449. Sharing our time, talents and resources that God has given us to bring a smile to someone's face is love in action.

I am so excited to be a part of all that is going on in the Women's Auxiliary and share with others the love that our Father has so lovingly lavished into my life.

Please continue to pray for Gabriela Vesche and may God Bless you!

Greetings From JoAnn Ross at the Membership Desk...



The new year is starting off great! 373 paid members and 9 new members in one week! For those who have not paid, headquarters is sending out their 2nd 'renewal notice'. Please get them in ASAP.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS . . .

NEW MEMBER

Leanne M. Cowles
Susan B. Harrison
Michelle J. Lee
Sonia D. Rienecker
Karen Esser
Emily Esser (Jr.)
Carol Lamanaco
Susan Fitzgerald
Kay F. Parmelee
Melinda G. Gladney
Deborah P. Leinss
Dana M. Lufpig
Linda Cofta
Peggy O; Neil

RECRUITED BY

Cory Corrigan
Mike Desrosiers
Kat Kalyvas
Lilli Schwantes
Linda Norderhaug
Linda Norderhaug
Garry Kennedy
Jackie Meier
Kay Cucinello
Chris Ertl
Kat Kalyvas
Mike Desrosiers
Michelle Lee
Transfer from Unit 242, Orlando, FL

CORRECTION TO JANUARY 449ER

*We apologize to the Brossmann Family. Majorie E. Brossmann-age 86-was an **80** year member, not an 8 year member as printed.*

UNIT 449 PAST AUX. PRESIDENTS CARD PARTY

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 Cocktails 11 AM - Luncheon-Noon
Cards, Games of your choice, or just socialize
To reserve a table, call Dolores Kroening (262-253-0994)
Send \$16.00 check payable to ALA Unit 449 to:
Dolores Kroening
W178N9739 Riversbend Cir W
Germantown, WI 53022



+ **IN MEMORIUM**
Shirley McKee (Nee Syverud), age 87, was a 40 year member. Shirley died December 30, 2012.
Our condolences to her family.
May she rest in Peace!

Blessings on our Military wherever they may be serving, and keep them out of harms way. Bring them home safe!

The Auxiliary would like to honor and show our appreciation to the following ladies for their continuous membership and dedication for 40 years or more in descending order:
★ Gerry Race * (1946 charter member) Gertrude Pizzino
★ Gloria Smith * Darlene Bartsch
★ Emily Ganiere Evelyn Binder
★ Mary Olson Dolores Kroening *
★ Larae Svehle Geraldine Fischer
★ Marian O'Neil Lois Schwabke *
★ Bernadette Zych Genevieve Wollinka *
★ Arlene Zipter * Betty Franz
★ Jo Pasbrig *
★ Patricia Pire

WANTED

Stickers of all kinds to be used when making Bingo cards for VA hospital. Bring to next auxiliary meeting. Thank you.
Dolores Kroening

NOTICE

If contemplating moving, and have change of address, please notify Editor in advance. Return postage is very costly.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DIRECTORY FOR 2012-2013 OFFICERS

Commander	MIKE POOK	414-698-4000
1st Vice Cmdr.	LEIGH RAINER	262-549-1939
2nd Vice Cmdr.	BRANDON WING	414-461-1104
3rd Vice Cmdr.	JIM SCHWANTES	262-785-5520
Finance Officer	MIKE EVE	262-781-2637
Chaplain	TIM SHERMAN	262-827-8443
Sgt.-at-Arms	BOB KELLY	414-258-7586
Adjutant	JERRY DURIAN	414-699-6912
S.A.L. Advisor	HARKY BARTSCH	414-258-0789
Judge Advocate	TOM KNOX	414-916-5736
Honorary Den Mother	MARILYN BROWN	262-796-9994

SAL e-mail: www.sal.legion.org

WE are Sons of Veterans...

By Mike Pook, Squadron 449 Commander
mp3wpok@yahoo.com [Facebook](#) -
Mike Pook



Jigsaw puzzles are challenging and fun. As piece by piece is fitted with others, a picture emerges. In an organizational sense, we can see the membership as a meaningful picture slowly coming together, or we may see our members as a hopeless jumble of puzzle pieces with colors and shapes that have no discernible pattern. The way we see our membership depends in part on our understanding of people and how the leadership can motivate the members to work towards our common goals. The larger picture is that we are members because of the Veterans in our lives! How do you fit in?

Squadron membership is 100% Plus 15. Please keep on sending in your renewals of \$10. We are always looking for a few more guys to help with our Squadron activities, Color Guard, SAL Programs and Future Leadership. Member Brad Catura has stepped up to help out with a Squadron e-mail blast, so please keep sending Adjutant Jerry your e-mail addresses so you can stay informed!

May 18, 2013 is Armed Forces Day Car, Bike and Truck Show held outside with food and a tool show raffle. More details to follow in future newsletters.

Finally, Leigh Rainer and I would like to invite you out for another meet and greet on Saturday Night Music on March 16. For all us Baby Boomers and music fans, the rare treat of the British Invasion songs will fill the evening of music and dance at Post 449!

The First Squadron Commander

In 1976, it was the vision and driving force of Post 449 Legionnaire Bill Golberg to create our now SAL Squadron he, along with Jamie Rohr, started the wheels rolling.

Jamie Rohr, the first Squadron Commander, you might say came from some pretty good Legion stock. His father Jim who served in the Army from 1942-1945 in the Pacific Theater and was awarded the Bronze Star along with the Purple Heart was a charter member of the Post. Jim was a past Post Commander 1953 and very active at the post serving on many committees along with being bar manager. Jamie's mother, Jane (nee Smith) was also a charter member of the Woman's Auxiliary. Her brother, and Jamie's uncle Arthur Smith, bear the Posts namesake.

While growing up, Jamie was never far from Legion activity. As a teenager, he used to cut the grass, played softball on the Legion team and even coached the hardball team. Jamie was one of the first SAL members to bowl in the State Legion Tournament once allowed. Jamie created the Oscar O. Brucks Memorial trophy for that tournament. Jamie was also a member of the drill team and marched in many parades and participated in several graveside services, he remembers standing outside one January shivering at one of the services thinking how it was all worth it to honor our servicemen. Some of you may even remember Jamie bartending on Thursday nights.

Jamie moved to Texas in 1980 where he resides in Denton with his wife Lisa and dog Nikki. Jamie is an architect and is currently working at the DFW (Dallas Fort Worth) airport as the Project Manager for Terminal A Enhanced Parking Structure. In his off time he enjoys playing golf and riding his 110th Anniversary Harley.

Jamie Rohr would love to hear from you!

jrohr4744@sbcglobal.net

Squadron Membership Recognition

The Squadron would like to give a special shout out the following Members for their 25 plus years of membership.

Jamie Rohr ^*	Dale Lutzen
Jeff Bartsch ^	Dennis Luten
Mike Bartsch ^*	William Nuoffer
Gary Bresser *	Glenn Pentler
Steve Hauser	Lawrence Rice *
Tom Knox *	Phil Unti VI
Rich Kuehn *	

 ^ Charter Members, 38 years

* Squadron Commander

SAL Membership...By Jerry Durian, Squadron 449 Adjutant

Squadron 449 Membership is at 127. I encourage our members who have not yet renewed for 2013 to do so as soon as possible. Our Membership Dues is only \$ 10.00. We are still running our membership special for New Members Only, which is 2 years of membership, for only \$18.00.

The SAL Color Guard presented our nation's colors at a Milwaukee Wave Soccer game on Saturday Feb. 2, 2013.

Saturday Night Music continues at the Post and remember, when the weather warms up, we will be hosting our annual Car Show in May.

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 449

strives to promote a sense of individual obligation to our community, state and nation. SAL's mission is to strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion: 1)Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, 2)National Security, 3)Americanism, 4)Children & Youth. SAL places an emphasis on preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and the fundamentals of good citizenship.

(Continued on Page 8)

(continued from page 7)

Squadron 449 makes contributions to veterans and veterans causes, and supports the Post in many ways.

The next time you meet a SAL member, say "Thank You for your service and work efforts".

Post 449 is proud of their success.

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Battle of Chipyong-ni
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The Battle of Chipyong-ni, also known as the **Battle of Dipingli**, was a decisive battle of the Korean War, and it took place from 13-15 February 1951 between members of the US 23rd Infantry Regiment and various units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army (PVA). It took place in the village of Chipyong-ni, present-day Jipyeong-ri. The result was a United Nations Command victory. The battle, along with the Third Battle of Wonju, has been called "the Gettysburg of the Korean War," and represents the "high-water mark" of the Chinese incursion into Korea. Due to the ferocity of the Chinese attack and the heroism of the defenders, the battle has also been called, "one of the greatest regimental defense actions in military history."

Tet: Turning War point in the Vietnam War
By Joe Allen
In the early morning hours of January 30, 1968, the first day of Tet, the Vietnamese celebration of the lunar New Year, soldiers of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front (NLF) breached the wall surrounding the American embassy in Saigon. They then raced across the compound where they tried but failed to enter the main building. The NLF soldiers (derisively known as the "Viet Cong" to the Americans and their Saigon allies) sprayed the embassy with rockets and fought a six-hour battle with American military police. All nineteen NLF soldiers were killed or badly wounded along with five Americans and one South Vietnamese employee of the embassy. One reporter at the scene of the battle described it as "a butcher shop in Eden." This attack on the very citadel of American power in South Vietnam was brazen in and of itself, but it soon became clear that this was the opening battle of a nationwide military offensive by the NLF and the North Vietnamese that shook the foundations of the American military and political establishment.

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Remembering Iwo Jima

After more than six decades, afterward, a WWII Marine documents his experiences of the attack and of his life. February 18, 2012
By Lauren Williams]



Although his memories of Iwo Jima are more than six decades old, Bruce Bender remembered the volcanic ash, the pungent smell of sulfur and oppressive heat with vivid clarity as he sat in his Costa Mesa home.

Bender was one of the first Marines to set foot on that desolate island in the Pacific in 1945. For those men, things started out calmly enough. But not for long.

The barrage began when the third wave of Marines arrived on shore. After that, it didn't end for two days. "They were shooting at us — we were digging holes," Bender said.

Of the 29 men who Bender came with, he was one of three to survive the battle's bloodshed and the only one to leave unscathed.

February marks the 67th anniversary of the storming of Iwo Jima. Bender, now 88, is one of an exponentially shrinking number of World War II veterans still alive to share their memories.

Bender can remember with great clarity the tasks set before the Marines in the days before the attack. Three groups were to ascend Mt. Suribachi, eventually making the island safe for U.S. pilots to land and use as a stop before heading to the Japanese mainland.

As it were, the planned five-day mission turned into a bloody commitment lasting over one month, where more than 6,000 Americans lost their lives and about 18,000, or 90%, of the Japanese defenders were killed, according to the military's estimates.

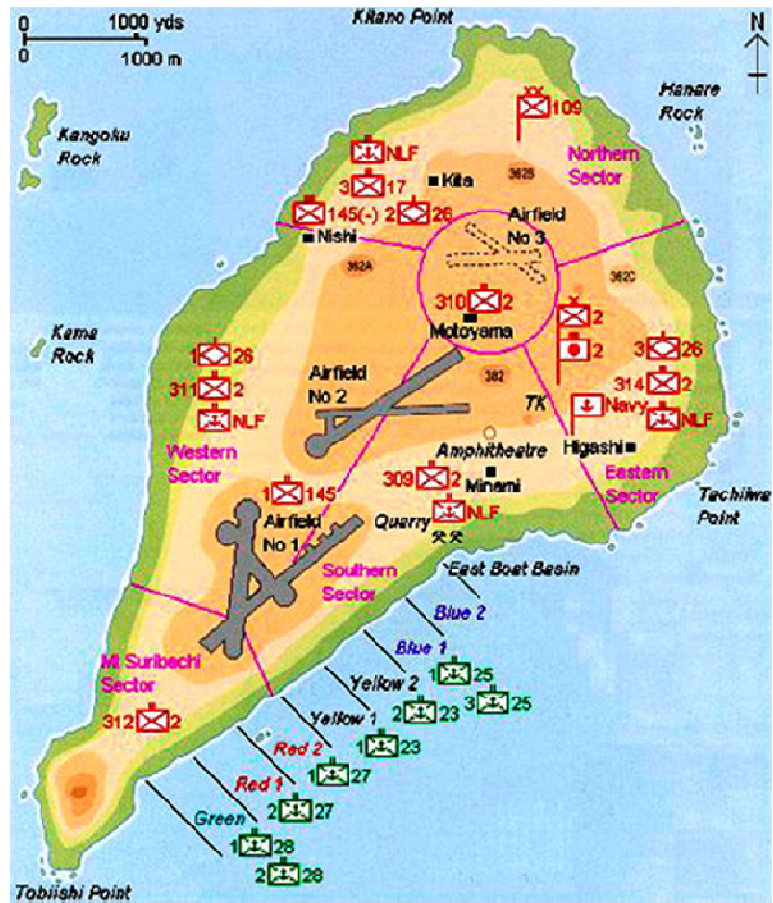
Despite the tremendous loss of life, Bender said that without the capture of Iwo Jima, more aviators would have been killed. "Iwo Jima was a necessary battle because it was needed as a safety valve for B-29 bombers," Bender said as he sat at the kitchen table. As he spoke of his time in the Pacific Theater, Bender reflected that prior to the storming of Iwo Jima was a three-day bombardment by the U.S. Navy. It left the land bleak, with no vegetation and no reprieve from the intense sun.

Suribachi was pockmarked with caves and other well-concealed hiding places where the Japanese would shoot at the Marines, the origin of the shots nearly impossible to determine, Bender said.

With the constant sulfurous gas and heat, Bender said he was amazed that there were Japanese defenders capable of living on the island. He said the Japanese wore gas masks as protection from the fumes.

TIME Magazine, March 5th, 1945, wrote, "no battle of World War II -- not even Normandy -- was watched with as much interest as the battle of Iwo Jima."

America's Battle . . .



Iwo Jima Battle Map





**National Alliance of Families for the return of
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A Note From Earl Wood

*National Alliance of POW/MIA Families Newsletter
 Bits N Pieces, December 15, 2012*

U.S. Fails on Russia POW Search – The following is excerpted from the December 11, 2012 Washington Times *Inside the Ring* column by Bill Gertz:

[Begin Excerpt]

A joint U.S.-Russia presidential commission set up on 1992, to resolve cases of missing U.S. troops, is largely defunct . . . another casualty of the administrations questionable reset policy with Moscow, according to prisoner of war activist and author Mark Sauter.

Mr. Sauter says there is evidence that U.S. Air Force pilots were taken to Russia during the Korean War and never returned. “The U.S.-Russia Joint commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC), a presidential commission supported by the Pentagon, produced important information in the 1990’s, but is now essentially defunct due to Russian foot-dragging and an absence of U.S. resolve,” he wrote in a blog post Tuesday.

According to a Pentagon fact sheet, Russia disbanded its participation in the commission in

2006 and blocked access by U.S. analysts to Russian archives. Then, in January 2010, the Russians restored U.S. access to the archives. Six months later, then-Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, issued a decree setting up the Russian side of the commission again.

“I’d like to ask President Obama one question: Ex-Soviet officials admitted they took our Air Force pilots to Russia, and experts on the president’s own POW/MA commission agreed it happened. So why – more than a decade later – don’t we have those men or their remains home?” Mr. Sauter told *Inside the Ring*.
[End Excerpt]

We should all be asking that question. We urge everyone to call the White House at [202-456-1111](tel:202-456-1111), or e-mail the President from the White House comment page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments>. (Remember to ‘click’ the box requesting a reply.)

**Let them know we want a strong and revitalized
 U.S. Russian Joint POW/MIA Commission, and we
 want our men back!**

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FOUR FORTY NINER



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FEBRUARY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Coming Events... Fri. Mar. 1 Scholarship deadline Tues. Mar. 5 SAL Mtg. 7 pm Wed. Mar. 6 Distribute 449er 11 am					1 Fish Fry 4:30-8:30 Live Music 5:00-10:30	2 Sign In/Post Opens 11:30 Live Music 8-11:30
3 Post Opens 11:30 SAL Super Bowl Chili Cook Off	4 Post Opens 11:30	5 SAL Mtg. 7:00	6 Men's Dart Ball 7:00	7 Cards Afternoon Italian Dinner & Live Music VFW 8320 Mtg. 7:00	8 Fish Fry 4:30-8:30 Live Music 5:00-10:30	9 Sign In/Post Opens 11:30 Live Music 8-11:30
10 Post Opens 11:30	11 Post Opens 11:30 Big Band Dance 1:30-3:30	12 Lincoln's Birthday Ideas Comm. Mtg. 6:00 Exec. Board Mtg./Cards 7:00	13 Men's Dart Ball 7:00	 Cards Afternoon Italian Dinner & Live Music	15 Fish Fry 4:30-8:30 Live Music 5:00-10:30	16 Sign In/Post Opens 11:30 Live Music 8-11:30
17 Post Opens 11:30	18 Washington's Birthday Post Opens 11:30 Aux. Luncheon at Klemmers Banquet Center 10:30	19 Aux. Day Mtg. Noon	20 Men's Dart Ball 7:00	21 Cards Afternoon Italian Dinner & Live Music	22 Fish Fry 4:30-8:30 Live Music 5:00-10:30	23 Flag Raised On Iwo Jima 1945 Sign In/Post Opens 11:30 Live Music 8pm
24 Post Opens 11:30	25 Post Opens 11:30	26 Gen. Membership Mtg. 7:00	27 Men's Dart Ball 7:00 Battle of Java Sea 1942	28 Article Submittal Deadline 7 p.m. Cards Afternoon Italian Dinner & Live Music		