



THE VETERANS VOICE

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

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12 East Spring Street, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Published Quarterly

Volume 12, Number 1, February 2008

Legion Birthday Party

The annual Legion Birthday Party will be celebrated on Sunday, March 16, 2008, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Chippewa Falls. The formal notice and your raffle tickets are included in this newsletter mailing.

Please try to attend this function. Besides being a lot of fun, a great deal of our budget depends on the annual raffle and dinner.

Chippewa Falls Patriotic Council Celebrates Golden Anniversary

On January 29th, the Chippewa Falls Patriotic Council celebrated its 50th anniversary at the American Legion Hall in Chippewa Falls.

According to records held by current secretary-treasurer Clarence Fagner, the council was organized in 1958 and has participated in many parades and dedications throughout the city and county. Notably, the council participated in dedicating the Veteran's Memorial Bridge and the Veteran's Memorial located at the Chippewa County Courthouse.

Most of the council's activities are centered on providing gravesite Military Funeral Honors for all veterans of which they conduct 40 or more per year. In addition, the council promotes the Memorial Day Parade and various memorial services on that day, sets gravesite flags prior to Memorial Day, arranges Veterans Day activities at area schools, and serves as a color guard at many local activities and parades.

The current council commander is William McGann, representing VFW Post 1038. Council commanders normally serve for two years and the position rotates through the five different veterans service organizations headquartered in Chippewa Falls.

The council membership includes American Legion Post 77, VFW Post 1038, VVA Chapter 92, DAV Chapter 21, AMVETS Post 32 and their Auxiliaries. Previous council members included the Catholic War Veterans and the WW1 Barracks which are no longer units.

The Patriotic Council has an excellent working relationship with both funeral chapels in town. The directors of both were in attendance at the anniversary dinner. Mike Horan and Horan Funeral Home made a monetary donation to the council and William Volker presented the council with a framed photograph he took of the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach in France. He had collected several pebbles from the beach and had them cut to fit at the bottom of the photo. The artwork is dedicated to the Patriotic Council and to Arnold Pederson, who recently passed away.

Post 77 Auxiliary Update

Auxiliary President Dona Peterson reports that the ladies will be helping with the Legion Baseball Candy Sale this week to show their support. In April, the Auxiliary will be distributing Poppies at local stores. She reminds everyone that Poppy money is used for veterans

programs and toward scholarships for students who are family members of a veteran.

Dona reminds all American Legion Auxiliary members that "Our mission is to support the American Legion and its programs for veterans, young people and the community."



William Volker of Pederson-Volker Funeral Chapel presents a photo of the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, France to William McGann, Council Commander.

Outpatient Clinic to Reopen

From American Legion Dept. Headquarters: The Minneapolis VA Medical Center (VAMC) announced on February 20, 2008 the reopening of an outpatient clinic for veterans in Hayward, WI on March 4, 2008. Additional information is provided in a section of the WDVA website called "Hot Topics."

After accessing the WDVA website www.WisVets.com, click on the orange colored "Hot Topics" icon or go directly to www.WisVets.com/hottopics, VA Clinics in Hayward and Rice Lake.



Sick Call:

If you are aware of a post member who is ill, please let us know so we can send a get well card. Contact Louie Rineck at 723-9756 or Leroy Jansky at 723-0408.

THE FINAL BUGLE

Deceased Members Since November 2007



- ⊗ Chuck Bejin ⊗ Dale Stubbe ⊗
- ⊗ Marvin Henke ⊗ Dayton Hedrington ⊗