



# THE VETERANS VOICE

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

Meuli • Kelean • Kramer • Dannenberg  
12 East Spring Street, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

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### Commander's Corner



Hello, my name is William "Willie" Klemke. I'm your American Legion Post 77 Commander for 2010-2011. I am an US Army veteran who served during the Korean War. I'm married and have two grown children. My wife Mary Ann and I have lived in Chippewa Falls for many years.

Over the past few years I have been able to become more active in local veteran service organizations. I am a paid up for life member of the American Legion and also a life member of VFW Post 1038 where I am the Post Chaplain. In addition, I am a member of the Chippewa Falls Patriotic Council and the Military Funeral Honor Guard.

Please attend a Legion meeting soon and enjoy some of our special events.

Sincerely,

Willie Klemke, Commander  
American Legion Post 77

### Flag Day - June 14, 2010

Despite rainy conditions on June 14th, American Legion Post 77 and Elks Lodge 1326 held their annual Flag Day Celebration for Post and Lodge members and the general public. More than 70 persons attended the indoor event where they could stay dry and enjoy the program.

Post Adjutant Leroy Jansky and Elks member Dr. James A. Ottevaere were the masters of ceremonies as the Elks presented the history of the US Flag program that was both educational and interesting.

The Post served brats and hot dogs and offered other refreshments as everyone enjoyed the friendly camaraderie. Patriotic music was provided again this year by a brass quintet. The highlight being when they played a medley of the service songs.



The Stadtpfeiffer Brass Quintet played various patriotic tunes before and after the Elks Flag presentation.



### Badger Boys State

Investing in Our Youth for a Stronger Wisconsin

This year's Wisconsin American Legion Badger Boys State took place on June 12th-19th in Ripon, Wisconsin. Post 77 sponsored eight boys (seven from Chi-Hi and one from McDonell) who attended this educational program. Sometimes the baseball season interferes with the Badger Boys State and that's why there was only one student from McDonell this year.

Larry Werner, our Badger Boys State Chairman, has suggested that prior year Badger Boys State attendees meet with next year's candidates to fill them in on the things they learned and what to expect for the week.

This year, the Post and its sponsors paid for the eight registrations and offered reimbursement for travel expenses of \$100.00.

Boys from Chi-Hi who attended include Brandon Demars, Cal Melberg, Brett Varva, Kyle Yonk, Lyle Paukner, Teegan Warrick and Logan Weyandt, and from McDonell High School, David Plendl.

### WWI Items Donated



While attending a recent Legion meeting, member Richard Hartman stated that moving into a new home made him downsize so he would like to donate several items of his father Louis's to the Post for display. He was able to donate a WWI uniform, gas mask and overseas cover (cap) as well as several books. Historian Cal Kraemer and House Chairman Bob Boettcher will display the items at the Post.

### Membership Dues Notices

Membership chairman Bernard Willi reported that over half our members have sent in their 2011 dues but we have a long way to go to reach 100% membership retention. Last year, through death or non-renewal, we lost over 40 members. So dust off your membership card and if it's not for 2011, you can send your \$25.00 dues to American Legion Post 77, PO Box 241, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729. By sending your dues in now, you'll save chairman Willi many hours of time by not having to follow up with additional renewal notices.

Easily renew your membership online at [www.wilegion.org](http://www.wilegion.org) by clicking on the "Renew Online Today" button on the left side of the home page.

### Funeral Flag Display Boxes

Larry Johnson informed Post 77 that he is willing to make flag display boxes for deceased veterans at cost. Various wood types are available. Contact him at 723-1635.

**Last Laugh....** Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement. -- Mark Twain