



THE VETERANS VOICE

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

Meuli • Kelean • Kramer • Dannenberg

12 East Spring Street, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

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Meetings 7:30 p.m. 1st & 3rd Thursday's

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www.amlegionpost77.org

Last Call on Membership

Renew
Online
TODAY



We are getting very close to meeting our goal of retaining or increasing our current membership level. Annual dues have increased to

\$28.00 because of increases in what we pay to both the national and state organizations. Even with the increase, we will only keep \$3.00 per member.

Membership chairman Bernard Willi requests that members who have not yet paid their 2011 dues to please send your \$28.00 dues to American Legion Post 77, P.O. Box 241, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729. You can also easily renew your membership online at www.wilegion.org by clicking on the "Renew Online Today" button on the left side of the Wisconsin Legion home page.

Presentations Rescheduled

Don't miss our second meeting dates in February and April. We will have a guest speaker on an interesting topic and a luncheon will be served immediately after the presentation. The presentations were originally scheduled prior to the meetings but were changed to follow the meetings.

February 17, 2011, 8:15 p.m.

*Wisconsin's Three Veterans Cemeteries
Matt Burks, WDVA, Spooner*

April 21, 2011, 8:15 p.m.

*Chippewa County's new planned veterans nursing home
and other veteran services.
Mike Haley, Chippewa County Veterans Service Officer*

Annual Poppy Distribution

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 28th, 29th and 30th, Post 77 and its Auxiliary will distribute Poppies at local retail businesses including both Gordy's County Store locations, Mega Foods, K-Mart and Wal-Mart.



The proceeds from the annual Poppy drive are the main source of revenue for the Post and the Auxiliary veterans relief funds. The relief fund is a restricted account and funds may only be used to benefit needy veterans, widows and families of veterans. Funds may also be used for certain memorials, donations to VA Medical Centers, homeless veterans centers and similar support causes.

We could really use some help during our Poppy drive and we will have a sign-up sheet available at all meetings. A Post or Auxiliary member can also contact Adjutant Leroy Jansky at (715) 723-0408 to get their name on the sign-up sheet. We usually work in two hours shifts. You'll feel good about the volunteer work and may get to see persons you haven't seen for awhile in the process. The weather should be better in April so please help out.

Post 77 - Fifty Plus Year Members

Each year, at our annual Birthday Party, Post 77 honors all members of the Post who have maintained their annual memberships for 50 or more years. This year, we'll give special recognition to those who have attained 60 years of membership.

We will also present the Veteran of the Year plaque to a deserving member who has consistently supported Post projects throughout the previous year.

A list of 50-plus year members is provided here but you'll need to attend the Birthday Party on Sunday, **March 20, 2011** at the Eagles Club to find out who receives the Veteran of the Year award. **See the enclosed flyer for raffle and Birthday Party details.**

Sydejko	Joseph	66 yrs
Rineck	Eugene	66 yrs
Berg	Eugene	66 yrs
Weigand	John	65 yrs
Sanvick	Norman	65 yrs
Rooney	John	64 yrs
Beranek	Irvine	64 yrs
Loiselle	Robert	63 yrs
Joas	Gerald	63 yrs
Zenner	Alan	62 yrs
Pederson	Clyde	62 yrs
Durch	Donald	60 yrs
Dumars	Charles	60 yrs
Gunderson	William	59 yrs
Post	Howard	56 yrs
Dressel	Warren	56 yrs
Pfiffner	Robert	55 yrs
Ramsdell	H. J.	51 yrs

Membership Drive

Time marches on and in the last several years our membership numbers have been slowly sliding downhill. Our decline has been largely due to the passing of many of our WWII and Korean War Veterans who had been the mainstay of Post 77 membership for 40, 50 and more than 60 years. This downward trend in membership has been seen in nearly all veteran service organizations and our Post is no different.

However, many of our members likely know friends and relatives, maybe even a son or daughter, or grandson or granddaughter, who is qualified to join American Legion Post 77 in Chippewa Falls. It would be a memorable gesture for a father or mother who served to buy a membership for one of their children who served, or who is serving. What a great gift idea for a birthday, Christmas or retirement. It is likely to be the one gift that a veteran will not forget.

Along with other information included with this newsletter, please find enclosed a membership application form that you can use to sign up a new member. Our annual dues are now \$28.00 and you should be able to explain a few of the benefits of membership like our superb national magazine and state newspaper.

Return all completed applications to American Legion Post 77, P.O. Box 241, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729, with a check payable to Post 77 for \$28.00. We appreciate your recruiting help and your service to our country.