



# DAUGHERTY-HAMILTON POST 234

PO Box 234, Omro, WI 54963-0234

[www.omropost234.org](http://www.omropost234.org)



Post meetings held the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month and Auxiliary meetings held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at Tanner's Tap & Grill 207 W. Main St., Omro.

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## OHS Band to Represent the United States in France

The Omro High School Band has accepted an invitation to represent the United States at the *Remember WWI Commemoration Ceremony* in France in November of 2020.

In the past some of the Legion members have inquired about joining our trip to Washington DC or Pearl Harbor. Band Director Wendy Fisher is extending an invitation to the Legion members who may want to join them on this trip. The estimated cost is \$4000 which includes airfare, transportation to the airport, admission to any events while in France & Belgium, hotel, a tour guide, and most meals. Additional money would be needed for meals while traveling, some lunches not included while overseas, and souvenirs. Right now, they have room for about 10 more people on this trip.

They have started making the required payments on this trip but it would be no problem to add people to the group. If you are interested and would like more information about the trip (itinerary, payment plan, etc.) please contact Wendy Fisher ([wfish@omro.k12.wi.us](mailto:wfish@omro.k12.wi.us) or (920) 303-2300 ext.106).

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

April 2019. It's nice to be back in Wisconsin, flowers along with the song birds are returning. I've had several more renewals since last month, but still have about 20 more that expired in Dec. If you not sure you renewed your membership, call and I will let you know. I have contacted most. As in the past, if you're having any kind of trouble paying your dues, email me at [jvonderloh@gmail.com](mailto:jvonderloh@gmail.com) or call me at 920-252-1893. This will be kept confidential. *John Vonderloh, Membership Chair*

## CHAPLAINS CORNER

Father God, You know that it can be difficult for a person who has returned from battle or stressful military service to reintegrate into 'normal' everyday life. You know that veterans can feel isolated and alone even in the midst of their friends and families because there are few around who understand their experience. So, I ask You to place in the path of our veterans those who do understand (or strive to), that they may feel less alone. Remind them often that while their fellow human beings may never fully comprehend, You see, You know and You identify with them in everything. *John Vonderloh, Chaplain*



**July 20<sup>th</sup> – Legacy Stone Ceremony Placement.** The family of Don Tritt will be placing a Legacy Stone in his honor. This is always a great trip and I need to know how many people would be interested in going, including the Honor Guard. Hopefully, there will be enough going so we can charter a bus (coach) for the trip. Bus capacity is about 54. Six people have signed up already. Don was always willing to do what had to be done for the Post. Let's fill

the bus for him. Please let Dean Larsen know as soon as possible. Call Dean at (920) 420-0024 or email [dlarsen513@gmail.com](mailto:dlarsen513@gmail.com). Thanks.

## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Impact Reports? What, When and Why? I've been mentioning this term for a couple months now and the numbers are in. What the numbers are is a compilation of the money and time you have spent representing the Auxiliary. The hours are based off of April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. This calculated time is turned in to me. I add up all those hours and pass it on to the District President (who in turn adds all Units up and passes it on to Department and then to National). When I say hours, I truly mean minutes which add up to LOTS of hours!

Why do we do it? I'm not going to say it's easy trying to remember dates and times you did something for an entire year, but I will say it is worth it. With a little structure & organization, the time you spent is easy to calculate. From the things you do at home such as recycling and household donations to the Thrift Store or Food Pantry to shopping for a care package or walking in a parade, all those minutes add up. Did you attend a meeting or an assembly at one of the schools? It counts. Clip coupons for us to send overseas? Those minutes count. And by compiling these numbers we are telling the world the impact that the American Legion Auxiliary has for our country.

Thank you to those who turned your numbers in to me. We had only 7 members turn in tracking sheets but we had around 1,100 hours of volunteer time! Imagine the hours we could report if more people kept track!

If you have questions at any time, let me know. If I don't know the answer right away, I'll find it out for you. Keep up the excellent work and let's all try to keep track of our time spent this coming year. Little things make big impacts!

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm at Tanner's. See you then!

Jodi Kallas, ALA President  
(920) 685-1008  
[jkallas5@yahoo.com](mailto:jkallas5@yahoo.com)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

- 04/18 Legion Auxiliary Meeting 6:30 PM @ Tanner's
- 04/20 ALA 6<sup>th</sup> District Junior Conference
- 04/21 EASTER
- 04/24 Post Executive Committee 6:00 PM @Tanner's
- 04/24 Post 234 Regular Meeting 7:00 PM @ Tanner's
- 04/27 ALA 6<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conf. – Briggsville
- 04/28 Legion 6<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conf. – Two Rivers
- 04/29 S.A.L. Special Session 6:30 PM @ Tanner's

## **14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Our annual golf tournament will be held Saturday, May 18, 2019 at Lake Breeze Golf Course in Winneconne. This is a 4-person; 18-hole scramble with a shotgun start at 8:00 am. Entry fee is \$50 per person\* and includes 18 holes with cart, prizes and food after golf. Check-in begins and driving range opens at 7:00 am. Event is limited to 36 teams. Sign up by May 10<sup>th</sup>. Entry form available at [omropost234.org](http://omropost234.org). For more information contact Dave Steinert; 920-379-7052 or email: [djdmsteinert@gmail.com](mailto:djdmsteinert@gmail.com)

**RAFFLE PRIZES** - Please bring a bottle of booze, 6-pack of beer or soda, other mixers, etc. to our next meeting. Gift certificates or other raffle basket items would also be appreciated. Our Auxiliary is organizing the raffle for this year's event. If you have items to donate and unable to attend the meeting, please contact Diane Steinert at 920-573-1846 to arrange pick up.

\*Reflects early bird rates. Prices will raise to \$60/individual after May 10<sup>th</sup>.



# ***OMRO VETERANS MEMORIAL***

## **Our Veterans Memorial**

Okay, I left off on the narrative with commander John Hoeft (Hammer) challenging the post to build a memorial to our fallen. I also talked about Brent Vroman and what his loss meant to the push to build the memorial.

The legion post put an article in the Omro paper looking for designs for the memorial. Because of my background I decided to turn in a design for their consideration. I was a millwright for forty years at Neenah Foundry. When I wasn't fixing machines, I was often designing and building solutions to fix problems, mostly out of steel. I got home from work one morning and drew up a design I thought of while at work and sent it in. I didn't hear anything for about two months and figured they must have gone a different route and forgot about it.

Suddenly one day out of the blue I heard they had picked my design. I was told they had gotten books on memorial designs from the library and looked through them but kept going back to the design I had drawn up. They finally picked mine over all the other designs in the books. Once I heard that I asked Hammer if I could be put on the memorial committee. I wanted to know what was going on with the project and Hammer put me on the committee.

I went to my first memorial committee meeting. It was held at Wedgewood in the dining room. I don't remember any more if we had it there because they were redoing the bar at Tanner's but that was probably it.

I couldn't remember any more all of the members of the committee so I contacted Wayne Schmick. I remembered he had bought one of the prints of the memorial and had everyone who was on the committee sign it so I knew he had a complete list of the committee members.

The committee members were: John Hoeft commander, Bob Wipf, John Vonderloh, Ken Jungwirth, Dean Larsen, Ed Goss, Pete Hennes, Wayne Schmick, Dennis Loper and myself. Each committee member had their own strengths that they used to contribute to the memorial effort. We had other post members who were important to the effort and will be named in other articles.

When I designed the memorial, I didn't know how deep our pockets were going to be, how much money they wanted to spend. So, when I designed it, I had the walls only three and a half feet or 42" tall. The first thing we discussed was the wall height and raised them to five feet. Next, we spun the memorial around 180 degrees. The original design had panel three facing the road and that was the Navy panel. I saw no reason why all who entered the memorial shouldn't gain entry by passing the Navy panel first. (can you guess my branch of service?) The footprint for the memorial stayed the same as designed. The walls remained the same length and the same distance apart. The sidewalk into the memorial was designed to be eight feet wide. Dean asked that it be widened to eleven feet so that on important days like Memorial Day and the Fourth of July we had room to display our parade flags along the walkway.

The design had the service emblems on the outside of the walls like they are now but the material they were to be built with was left unnamed. The memorial was supposed to be a memorial for our fallen. So, each branch of service had their fallen on their own panel with a sentiment for their fallen on each wall. It was next decided that all of our fallen would be placed on one single panel allowing us to place the names of all veterans who served from our community on the memorial upon their death. That was a very important decision. It took it from being a memorial only honoring our fallen to one that honored our fallen and all who served. It became our Arlington National Cemetery. A place we could go, to see the names of old friends and to reflect on memories past. It was then decided because our last two losses were both Marines, Brent Vroman and Merlin Allen that the Marine panel would be the one to hold the names of our fallen. So that made the Marine panel, panel three.

I suggested that most of our members were either Army or Navy that the two panels in front closest to the road where everyone walked thru should be Army and Navy, Panels one and five. Panel four became the Air Force panel because the emblem could still be seen when traveling down main street. Panel two, the panel blocked from view by the building became the Coast Guard panel because we had no members of the Coast Guard in our post.

We now had the design ironed out, one the community and its veterans could be proud of. Ken Jungwirth built a thermometer for in front of the memorial site so the community would be kept informed on how the fundraising efforts were going.

We now needed to get contractors on board and get their thoughts and input on the design details. We needed to start the search for names and to start the fundraising efforts. We had just begun and much still needed to be done to make our veterans memorial a reality.

#### **NEXT MONTH, THE SEARCH FOR NAMES GETS UNDERWAY.**

Rick Deiss,  
Past Commander Post 234

## **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

American Legion Daugherty-Hamilton Post 234 is having a special session for the chartering of a Sons of the American Legion Squadron on Monday, April 29, 2019 at 6:30 pm. The session will take place at Tanners Tap and Grill in Omro.

**Who can apply for Sons of The American Legion (S.A.L.) Membership?** All male descendants, adopted sons, stepsons, grandsons, great-grandsons of members of The American Legion and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during WW I, WW II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf War, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion. There is no age limit for a S.A.L. member.

Members have the opportunity of service. They also assist The American Legion with their Programs and Activities. Learn proper Flag Etiquette, Parliamentary Procedure, Leadership, Patriotism, Citizenship, Comradeship, Legionism, etc.

For more information, contact Dave Steinert at 920-379-7052, or email at [djdmsteinert@gmail.com](mailto:djdmsteinert@gmail.com).