



DAUGHERTY-HAMILTON POST 234

PO Box 234, Omro, WI 54963-0234

www.omropost234.org



Post meetings held the 4th Wednesday of the month, S.A.L. sessions held the 3rd Monday of the month and Auxiliary meetings held the 3rd Thursday of the month at Tanner's Tap & Grill, 207 W. Main St., Omro.

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Comrades and Friends,

Happy New Year, hope you all had a happy and safe celebration ringing in 2020 and hopes of making it even better than last year. There is much to get done this year and everyone will be needed so please don't be strangers. Our Post Oratorical Contest is being held Saturday the 11th at 12 noon in the Omro High School Library, we can always use volunteers. The County contest will be held on January 19th at Post 70 in Oshkosh and the District contest is on January 26th, location TBA. We will be attending the Midwinter Conference on Saturday, January 18th. Contact me if you need a ride. Would also like to thank everyone involved in the Christmas Party in December, it was a very good time. Hope to see everyone at our next meeting on January 22nd at Tanner's, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Commander Gary Allen

920-231-6749

roadkng55@sbcglobal.net

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Greetings to all and I want to wish everyone a Happy 2020. It seems like the New Year comes faster and faster. I know we all have things we want to change in 2020 and as always, we probably will not accomplish the feat. But if we turn everything over to Our Lord, He can make it happen. I know we all want our health to be the best and also our family's health to be good too so it can happen with our faith. We need to pray for our leaders to have unity in our Country. It is a presidential election year so keep up with the candidates. Please let me know if anyone needs a call or card of encouragement. That's about all till next month. Keep the faith and God Bless.

Your Chaplain,

Tom Artz

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thomasartz11@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We still have a few members that have not paid their dues. Right now, we are at 79%. When you receive your renewal card, you can pay at the meeting, pay by check through the mail or go to <http://omropost234.org/> and pay on line. The dues are the same, \$35.00.

Dave Steinert, Membership Chair

djdmsteinert@gmail.com

920-379-7052

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Happy 2020 Legion Family!

Next meeting 6:30 pm Jan.20 (Always 3rd Monday of the month @Tanners)

SAL Commander John Hoeft II

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello! I hope this greeting finds you healthy and excited to start off the New Year! As we all look for new ways to get healthier, make ourselves happier and other new beginnings, don't forget to think of new ways to touch other people's lives. What can the American Legion Auxiliary do to make a difference in someone's life this year?

Here is a challenge to all of you. Bring forward a suggestion, an idea, a concern, a project for youth or community, anything that we can do together that will benefit someone else. It doesn't have to be a huge project or idea. We all know that the best things come in small packages.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting, Thursday, January 16th in Tanner's dining room at 6:30pm. Bring a friend and let's see what 2020 is going to look like for us. The possibilities are truly endless.

Take care and Be Kind –

Jodi Kallas, ALA President

jkallas5@yahoo.com

920-685-1008

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Let us begin this year with new vision of how we can honor the sacrifices of our veterans, support those currently serving and support those families of our communities who are in need. There is no one season for Kindness; it's an everyday thing.

We'd like to offer prayers for continuing strength for Patricia Allen, Diana Artz and Sue Koon as they each continue recovering their health.

Remember to contact me with any needs or celebrations of our Legion Family.

"There is a past which is gone forever, but there is a future which is still our own." - F. W. Robertson

Happy 2020!

Kathy Boettner, Chaplain

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(262) 719-5264

A new American Legion Auxiliary tagline for our new century of service!

ALA National Headquarters has developed a new tagline to more accurately reflect our brand, who we are, and what we do. You will now see the phrase ***A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families*** throughout national ALA media. This is a positive change to reflect membership eligibility changes made in 2019.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 01/11 Post Oratorical Contest – Omro High School**
- 01/16 Legion Auxiliary Unit Meeting 6:30 PM @ Tanner's**
- 01/18 Midwinter Conference, Ho-Chunk, Baraboo**
- 01/19 County Oratorical Contest – Oshkosh Post 70**
- 01/20 SAL Meeting 6:30 PM @ Tanner's**
- 01/22 Post Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 PM @ Tanner's**
- 01/22 Post 234 Regular Meeting 7:00 PM @ Tanner's**
- 01/26 District Oratorical Contest**
- 02/08 Department Oratorical Contest – Ripon College**
- 02/08 6th District Americanism Banquet – La Sure's, Oshkosh**



AMERICANISM BANQUET - The 57th Annual Sixth District Americanism Recognition Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at La Sure's Hall in Oshkosh. The event is held to honor Legion and Auxiliary members recognized for their selfless dedication to "Americanism". Come and support our candidates for Legionnaire of the Year, Duane Foote and Auxiliary Americanism Person of the Year, Kathy Boettner. Cost is \$22 per person. Banquet seating is by advance reservation only. Reservation deadline is January 29th. Reservation forms will be available at our next meetings.



Post 234 members Dave Lemieux, Jack Haynes and Dean Larsen offering flag education at Roosevelt School in Oshkosh.

Post 234 Color Guard presenting colors during the opening ceremonies of the Wisconsin Herd Basketball Game, Menominee Nation Arena, Oshkosh.





OMRO VETERANS MEMORIAL

OUR VETERANS MEMORIAL

The horrors of war were never more apparent than you will hear in the story I am going to share with you this month.

ALVIN P. PALECEK

Alvin was a member of the Army Air Corps, attaining the rank of Corporal. Alvin was a radioman on a cargo plane.

Alvin liked to surprise his family with unannounced visits when he could come home. One time he had a friend who was a crop duster fly him home and land in a field next to his parent's home by Waukau. His family came out to see him walking across the field with his duffel bag.

Alvin was engaged to Naomi Weiss and Naomi came to his parent's home every Sunday for dinner during the war and for several years after. Alvin wouldn't get married during the war, but always told his mom "don't worry about me mom, I'm coming home."

Alvin was stationed in India and flew supplies over China to Burma. Normally the Air Corps rotated crews home for leave after 50 missions. But because of shortages of crews Alvin was on his 83rd mission with leave papers in his pocket.

The Army Air Corps flew in all weather. But in severe weather the plane's engines weren't powerful enough to clear the mountain tops. This area became known as the "aluminum trail", because of over 500 plane crashes. Alvin's plane went down in bad weather along with several others that day. The Air Corps changed their policy of flying in poor weather after that storm.

There were 13 crew and passengers that died that day on Alvin's plane. Local missionaries saw the plane go down and tried to get to it. But the local indigenous people wouldn't let them near the plane. The locals were cannibals and they stripped the plane of all equipment and bodies.

Alvin was listed as missing in action because a body was never found. For years after the war, every time a crop duster came over, his mother would come outside hoping Alvin was coming home.

When I was researching this Veteran the Palecek family came to me and gave me the actual letters sent by his commanding officer on the incident. In the letter, the officer wrote the following. The native people didn't have enough salt in their diet so to get them over to our side we supplied them with fifty-pound bags of salt. When the plane crashed the natives were very angry and wouldn't let the American missionaries anywhere near the plane until they had everything they wanted from it. In the letter, the commanding officer told the family it was believed the bodies were consumed by the native population. What a horrible way to lose a family member to the ravages of war.

Yours in comradeship
Rick Deiss
Past Commander Post 234