

Newsletter

Daugherty-Hamilton Post #234-Omro, WI.

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Website: www.omropost234.org



FROM THE COMMANDER

Hello Comrades and friends,

This is my final commander's message after three years as your commander so I'm going to pack a lot into it. Did you know this 4th of July was our Nations 234th birthday? This year Post 234 shared that number with our Nation. I promised last month that I'd talk more about our Post and the impact we've had on a state level and the differences we were able to make in the lives of Veterans, their families, our youth and our community. Whenever I've gone to a state or district event I've had high-ranking Veterans from the State Department Commanders on down stop and tell me how impressed they are with what is happening in Omro and how they'd like to bottle what we have to use to start other Posts. In the past both John Hoeft and Bob Wipf have echoed the same message from the American Legion community and it's true. When the state department wanted to teach other Posts how to do a news release to promote the American Legion and their activities they used our news releases as the examples on how to successfully do this. The help we are able to extend to our Veterans is very important and our poppy drive pays for most of this. I'd like to thank Ed Goss and all those who helped hand out poppies. It's this effort that makes it possible to help out our Veterans and their families. Some of the things we were able to do include a donation to the Theron Coats family after losing their home. We donated to the troop and family fund to help returning Veterans and their families back home. The King wheelchair fund, Camp American Legion, Arts for the Humanities, the DAV Transportation Van, phone cards and packages for our troops and the list goes on and on. It's great to see the reception our troops are getting now. For us Vietnam era Veterans it's especially heartwarming to see the support our troops are getting not only on returning home but while serving. It's our responsibility as Veterans to make sure our troops always have the support of the public. We must never let our Nation return to the attitude it had towards our troops during Vietnam. Honor, pride, commitment, these are the words that describe our Honor Guard. The solemn duty they perform at funerals is a vital part of our Post and what we are about. Their military bearing and the pride they take in their responsibilities is evident in the way they conduct themselves. They do far more than lead parades and we're lucky to have Dean Larsen as the commander of our Honor Guard. He along with the members of the Honor Guard spends many hours performing their duties. Let's not forget our Veterans Memorial and what it's meant to our community. To us it's our national cemetery; it's where we go to honor those who gave their lives for our freedom. It's our sacred responsibility to be the caretakers of it. Our youth have always been important to us and we didn't forget them. We have the Oratorical contest and Americanism testing, County Government Day, Badger Boys and Girls, Veterans Day in our schools and American Legion Baseball. We work to educate our youth to become better citizens. At this month's meeting we will be voting on our new bylaws we have made one change and I'll explain it now. During this commander's message I've been explaining the pride our Post has and the recognition we garner. It didn't happen because a dozen new Legion Members got together to form our Post. It happened because new and old were able to come together and form the best damn Post in the state. We blended together and worked as one to make Post 234 the best it could be. National made a mistake that we can capitalize on by waiting 6 years to finish our charter and the charter reads that it was granted on March 30th 2010. So as my last act as commander I've decided anyone who is was a Post member before March 30 is a charter member of our Post. This includes new members, PUFL's and transfers. Our new bylaws echo this; all of our members of the Post will have an opportunity to sign our charter. Come to a meeting in the next three months to sign it. Once it's framed and on the wall it won't come back down. Being commander wasn't always fun and games. Having to deal with the city from time to time isn't exactly fun. Trouble with the Memorial tree and the knife incident top the list. Some of the decisions you have to make as commander aren't always the easiest or most popular but I always tried to do what was right for the Post. I couldn't have had a better bunch of Post officers to work with. Each and every one of them is dedicated to making our Post better and better. John Vonderloh is an awesome membership chair. Bob Wipf and Toni Viegut continue to work thru personal health problems but they were able to push them aside and do fantastic work for the Post. One of the smartest things I did as commander is put a camera in Darryl Schmidt's hands, he's a great historian. Our religious leader, Chaplain Steve Goller is now writing articles in our newsletter and sends out cards and visits Veterans in need. Ken Jungwirth does so much for so many I don't know where to start. If something needs to be done you don't need to look too far to find Ken. Pete Hennes continues to work at the Post, county and district levels. Ken Flock has been my First Vice for three years and will become our new commander. I want to thank Ken and those who stepped forward to accept leadership positions in our Post. It's because of your commitment that we'll stay strong. Finally to those of you, who came to meeting, helped out on projects and support the needs of Veterans. Thank you for all of your hard work. You've made the lives of our Veterans better. Our youth and our community have benefited by your hard work and dedication. I have a lot of pride in our Post and our membership, God bless all of you and thank you for the opportunity to be your Commander.

Yours in Comradeship
Rick Deiss



**Daugherty-Hamilton
Post #234**
 207 W. Main St.
 PO Box 234
 Omro, WI 54963-0234
www.omropost234.org
Commander
 Rick Deiss
 920-685-0290
1st Vice Commander
 Ken Flock
2nd Vice Commander
 Pete Hennes
Financial Officer
 Toni Viegut
Adjutant
 Bob Wipf
Service Officer
 Kenneth Ochalla
Sergeant-At-Arms
 Tom Weber
Chaplain
 Steve Goller
Historian
 Darryl Schmidt
Parliamentarian
 Ray Hoeft
Members At Large
 Ken Jungwirth (3 yr)
 Dean Larsen (2 yr)
 John Vonderloh (1 yr)

CHAPLAINS CORNER

O Heavenly Father, I know that the spirit of worldliness can creep into the Body of Christ very subtly, and before we know it, we can easily be led astray. I pray You send Your Holy Spirit upon us, so that a moral, Christian voice can be heard and heeded by our leaders and the media. Cause us, as Christians, to become the standard bearers to such a degree that we can profoundly affect the morality of this nation. Turn our people's hearts to You. Open our eyes that we may see the error of our ways. Gather all Christians, Catholic and Protestant, together so that we form a united front against the wickedness and snares of evil. Disarm the evildoers, leaving them powerless and not in control of our great nation. Inspire our media, television, radio, and newspapers, to promote a truly moral social justice and morally righteous entertainment and fashion. Be our strength when we are tempted to succumb to worldly things and ways. Help us to lead our lives all for the greater honor and glory of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Steve Goller-Post 234 Chaplain 920-420-4610

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Well here we are, starting a new year for membership (2011). Twenty members have already paid for 2011. That is the best start we have had. New members include Ryan Tanner and Jamil Roggow, welcome to the fastest growing post in Wisconsin. If for some reason you have a problem with paying your dues, please contact me at (920-252-1893) and I will keep it confidential. I have been advised that James Rodemeyer (WW11) is under the weather. Jim we're thinking of you. Also, just a reminder that the Winnebago Co Fair starts August 3-8th and again we have the concession bar by the animal barns. If interested in working there, please call me at above number. Have a great month and lets KEEP Post 234 the best! Till next month.
 Vondy. 920-252-1893.

POST 234 SUMMER PICNIC

The date is August 25th. Social hour is 5:30 and dinner is 6:30 the location is Miller Park lower shelter house. We will be having brats and burgers, Potato salad, pasta salad and chips. We will provide beer, soda pop and water. There is no cost for the picnic everything is free. This is a fun outing for our Post members and their families. Please sign up at the July meeting or you can call the event chairman, Ken Flock at 685-6858 and let him know you plan on coming and how many you're bringing along. I hope you all can attend our picnic, see you there!

POST CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS REVISION

The revised copy of the By-Laws are on the website at: www.omropost234.org/content.php?id=88 or see Bob Wipf (685-5323) for a paper copy. The post membership will be voting on acceptance or rejection of the Post By-Laws at the July 28 meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Additional information about upcoming events can be found on the post website: www.omropost234.org

- 7/28/10 Post 234 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Tanner's Tap & Grill, Omro, W**
- 7/28/10 World War 1 Began (1914)
- 8/02/10 Operation Desert Shield Began (1990)
- 8/04/10 Coast Guard Founded (1790)
- 8/07/10 Purple Heart Day
- 8/14/10 VJ Remembrance Day WWII Ends (1945)
- 8/12/10 Winnebago County Council Of Veterans Organizations 9:30 AM @ James Coughlin Building
- 8/15/10 Allied Invasion of Southern France (1944)
- 8/18/10 Post Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 PM @ Tanner's Tap**
- 8/06/10 38th Annual American Legion All-Star Game at Miller Park
- 8/27-9/2 American Legion National Convention @ Milwaukee, WI (see Bob Wipf for registration forms)
- 8/25/10 Post 234 Summer Picnic @ Lower Miller Park Pavilion Social 6PM, Picnic 7PM, NO POST MEETING**
- 9/16/10 Legion County Council Meeting at Winneconne @ 7PM**

VA Simplifies Access to Health Care and Benefits for Veterans with PTSD

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced a critical step forward in providing an easier process for Veterans seeking health care and disability compensation for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), with the publication of a final regulation in the *Federal Register*. “This nation has a solemn obligation to the men and women who have honorably served this country and suffer from the often devastating emotional wounds of war,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “This final regulation goes a long way to ensure that Veterans receive the benefits and services they need.” By publishing a final regulation today in the *Federal Register* to simplify the process for a Veteran to claim service connection for PTSD, VA reduces the evidence needed if the trauma claimed by a Veteran is related to fear of hostile military or terrorist activity and is consistent with the places, types, and circumstances of the Veteran’s service. This science-based regulation relies on evidence that concluded that a Veteran’s deployment to a war zone is linked to an increased risk of PTSD. Under the new rule, VA would not require corroboration of a stressor related to fear of hostile military or terrorist activity if a VA doctor confirms that the stressful experience recalled by a Veteran adequately supports a diagnosis of PTSD and the Veteran's symptoms are related to the claimed stressor. Previously, claims adjudicators were required to corroborate that a non-combat Veteran actually experienced a stressor related to hostile military activity. This final rule simplifies the development that is required for these cases. VA expects this rulemaking to decrease the time it takes VA to decide access to care and claims falling under the revised criteria. More than 400,000 Veterans currently receiving compensation benefits are service connected for PTSD. Combined with VA’s shorter claims form, VA’s new streamlined, science-based regulation allows for faster and more accurate decisions that also expedite access to medical care and other benefits for Veterans. PTSD is a medically recognized anxiety disorder that can develop from seeing or experiencing an event that involves actual or threatened death or serious injury to which a person responds with intense fear, helplessness or horror, and is not uncommon among war Veterans. Disability compensation is a tax-free benefit paid to a Veteran for disabilities that are a result of -- or made worse by -- injuries or diseases associated with active service. For additional information, go to www.va.gov or call VA’s toll free benefits number at 1-800-827-1000.

Military Common Sense Rules

A lot of life's problems can be explained by the U.S. Military and its applications of common sense ...

1. "Sometimes I think war is God's way of teaching us geography."
(Paul Rodriguez)
2. "A slipping gear could let your M203 grenade launcher fire when you least expect it. That would make you quite unpopular in what's left of your unit."
(Army's magazine of preventive maintenance).
3. "Aim towards the Enemy."
(Instruction printed on US M79 Rocket Launcher)
4. When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend.
(U.S. Marine Corps)
5. Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs always hit the ground.
(U.S. Air Force)
6. If the enemy is in range, so are you.
(Infantry Journal)
7. It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed.
(US Air Force Manual)
8. Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.
(Gen. MacArthur)
9. Try to look unimportant; they may be low on ammo.
(Infantry Journal)
10. You, you, and you . . . Panic. The rest of you, come with me.
(Marine Gunnery Sergeant)
11. Tracers work both ways.
(US Army Ordnance)
12. Five second fuses only last three seconds.
(Infantry Journal)
13. Don't ever be the first, don't ever be the last, and don't ever volunteer to do anything.
(US Navy Seaman)
14. Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid.
(David Hackworth)
15. If your attack is going too well, you have walked into an ambush.
(Infantry Journal)
16. No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.
(Joe Gay)
17. Any ship can be a minesweeper... once.
(Admiral Hornblower)
18. Never tell the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.
(Unknown Marine Recruit)
19. Don't draw fire; it irritates the people around you.
(Your Buddies)
20. Mines are equal opportunity weapons.
(Army Platoon Sergeant)
21. If you find yourself in a fair fight, you didn't plan your mission properly.
(David Hackworth)
22. Your job is to kill the other person before they kill you so that your national leaders can negotiate a peace that will last as long as it takes the ink to dry.
(Drill Instructor)
23. In the Navy, the Chief is always right.
(Written on the door into the Chiefs quarters)