
Harry N. Cutting Post 59 American Legion Family

Waterbury, Vermont

May, June, July 2016

COMMANDER

Adjutant Chris noted that “Spring” is here! Yea. Our Legion Post elections will be held at the May Post meeting, May 11, 2016. Members interested in running for a Post officer position, please contact the Post Adjutant Chris through our Post e-mail address, alpost59@comcast.net, or give me a call at 802-522-7770. Attend the April meeting to get on the ballot as well, 2nd Wednesday of each month (April, 13, 2016), 7:00 PM.

Our Post installation will be held at our June Post meeting. The Legion Auxiliary, Squadron 59 and new Post officers will be installed right after a “Pot Luck” dinner, hosted by our Unit 59 Legion Auxiliary. Always plenty of FOOD! Please join us...

The 1st order of business for the new Post officers will be a ceremony held at Rusty Park on Flag Day, June 14, 2016, 5:00 PM. Our Boy Scout Troop and Cub Pack generally assist in the ceremony. Anyone with flags, of any size, please drop them by the Post and they will be added to the flags that need to be officially retired.

Memorial Day Ceremonies will



be held on Monday, May 30, 2016 at: Holy Cross, Duxbury at 9:00, Hope Cemetery at 10:00, and Maple Street in Waterbury Center at 11:00 with the “Ghost Walk” following immediately after. There will be lunch at the Post afterwards.

Post 59 is looking for Post members to attend the annual Department Convention on Saturday, June 25, 2016. The convention will be at Killington this year. Delegates that attend the conference will have their legion dues (\$40.00) paid for 2017, and the registration fee will be paid by the Post as well. Send an e-mail to the Post or again call me at 522-7770. Would love to have some new/different legionnaire’s attend the conference.

There will be a Legion Rider’s Ride to the convention again this year from Rutland “Home Depot” to the convention center. I believe the fee is \$5. Not going to the conference? Plan on doing the ride anyway! ☺ Adjutant Chris is Post 59’s Rider’s Director, call him, (802) 793-4904 for ride information and time.

Waterbury’s Not Quite July Fourth Celebration will be Saturday, June 25th, with a parade at 11:00 AM. You may note that the celebration is a conflict with our Department Convention. That can’t be helped. Not going to the convention, please plan to attend the July 4th Celebration. Stop by the Post to say “Hello”.

Something “NEW” for Post 59, Legionnaire’s Graduating Seniors!! (Class of 2016.) As a past Department Commander for the Department of Vermont, American Legion, my wife Lorraine (Rani) and I wish to start a new scholarship for Waterbury Post members graduating seniors.

We have Post members around the nation, and overseas, and we want this to be a specific scholarship for Post member’s that have graduating seniors that don’t have access to the many scholarships offered in Vermont. I’ll consider a Pilot Program for three (3) years to see if we can connect with our legion family members around the world. We can add money and make adjustments as we proceed with the scholarship program.

The application is being fine tuned and available through our Post Adjutant Chris chriswood0869@gmail.com. Information will also be posted on our website: <http://www.alpost59vt.us>.

We want you to request the application on line, complete the requirements, and forward to Post 59. Rani & I are pleased to have this opportunity to start up a Waterbury Post (Specific) scholarship. Waterbury Legionnaire’s Graduating Senior’s may apply. Deadline for this scholarship application is September 15, 2016.

So, one last note from this departing Post Commander. Rani and I’ve had a distinguished Legion/Auxiliary career. This will be the end of

FLAG DAY

**Tuesday, June 14th
5:00 p.m.**

Rusty Parker Park

Check your flag(s) and drop any that need to be retired at the Post.

an exciting journey. We will be relocating to Post Orange, FL in the near future. WE have participated at the Post, Department and National level, and it’s time to say so long.

Rani’s Auxiliary career lead her to the distinguished positions of Unit President, Department President, National Vice President, and National Historian just last year. Rani has been connected with the national organization, being on MANY nation committees.

I’ve been through the ranks with Post Commands with Northfield Post 63 (short position), Hartford Post 26 Post Commander. I relocated to Waterbury Center, Vt. in 1999. Post Commander four (4) times, a number of Department and National appointments, and finished my career joining our distinguished Post member, PDC Rodney “Stub” Sherman as a Department Commander for the Department of Vermont, American Legion.

I had the 1st opportunity to be the 1st Department Commander to be elected and complete a 2nd year as Department Commander! You may see why I need a rest! ☺

We do need our young legionnaires to step up to ensure that Waterbury Post 59, American Legion remains visible to the State of Vermont, and be an asset to our Veteran’s, Children, and Community.

Our annual report has a final question to be answered each year: If Waterbury Post 59 closed their doors, would they be missed? I surely believe they would. So long,

For God and Country,
Rick Gray
Commander, Post 59
(802) 522-7770
topvet10@gmail.com

ADJUTANT’S NOTES

Come on spring! We are off into the second quarter of the year and it is time for elections, Memorial Day, and the final membership drive for 2016. Interested in moving up to the next level in the Legion Organization? Come on out and run for office and help make a difference at Waterbury Post 59. There is sure to be a position that will interest you, and many allow you to decide your level of commitment. If you have comments or suggestions for what you would like to see going on at your legion, then you can always join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 pm for Post meetings, or e-mail your suggestion to alpost59@comcast.net.

We are in the final stretch of membership drive for 2016, and a huge thank you to all those

that have already paid your 2016 dues. We have had 23 members renew online so far this year, which is phenomenal! There are currently 220 paid members showing up on the roster at national, which puts us at 83% towards our goal of 265 for the year. Thank you for keeping our Post going strong. Almost there! Don't forget to tell your veteran friends about our Post so that we can see this number grow for 2016.

Time for an update on the legion programs that I highlighted in the last newsletter. The enrollment period for the Law Order Program has come and gone, and we had two applicants from the local area. These two high school juniors will be attending an intensive law enforcement camp in June funded by Post 59. We, unfortunately, did not receive any Boys State applicants, which is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for U.S. high school students. Students can still register for a Post 59 spot at Green Mountain Conservation Camp, which provides wildlife education and outdoor skills. These programs require that you, Legion Members, nominate your children/grand-children to participate in the programs while the Post foots the bill.

There was a lot deliberation, and the decision was a hard one. Post 59 has raised the dues for 2017. Starting in July, the yearly dues will be \$40 with \$35 going towards Department and National programs and \$5 staying at the Post. This was

driven mostly by increases outside the Post, which resulted in Post 59's portion shrinking to \$0. If you haven't done so, then please sign up for our electronic version of this newsletter by sending an email to legionpost59vt@googlegroups.com or chriswood0869@gmail.com. Things can change fast, and we don't want you to miss anything going on at your Post! See you there.

Chris Wood, Adjutant
chriswood0869@gmail.com

SERVICE OFFICER

April is "Parkinson Month" and this is not an uncommon disease for veterans, especially veterans over 70.

Veterans who develop Parkinson's disease and were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service, do not have to prove a connection between their disease and service to be eligible to receive VA health care and disability compensation.

The major areas involved include Viet Nam, the Korean de-militarized zone, Fort Drum, Kuwait and other areas.

Parkinson's disease is a degenerative brain disorder that leads to shaking, stiffness, and difficulty with walking, balance, and coordination.

Symptoms are: tremor, or trembling in hands, arms, legs, jaw, and face; rigidity or

stiffness of the limbs and trunk; slowness of movement; and impaired balance and coordination.

VA Benefits For Parkinson's Disease

Veterans with Parkinson's disease who were exposed to herbicides or pit burns may be eligible for disability compensation and specialized health care.

Surviving spouses, dependent children and dependent parents of Veterans who were exposed to herbicides during military service and died as the result of Parkinson's disease may be eligible for survivors' benefits.

Reference:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/location/s/index.asp>

AMERICAN LEGION BENEFITS

- (1) \$1,000 accidental death life insurance included as part of your annual dues. but must be renewed periodically;
- (2) Smart phone and other cell phones at discount pricing;
- (3) Travel discounts including lodging and car rentals;
- (4) Help completing and submitting various VA forms.
- (5) USAA banking and financial assistance including loans and an American Legion credit card, Insurance plans etc.;
- (6) Life and dental insurance, vision care, discount prescriptions;
- (7) Computer and satellite TV discounts;

- (8) Home benefits including full service moving help, a network of real estate agents, home finance counseling;
- (9) Truck rental discounts.

Be sure to review details and current offers at www.AmericanLegion.com

Sam Miller, Service Officer
Telephone: (802) 244-1484
LSamMiller1@gmail.com

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Since 1 June 2015 your Post has hosted seven blood drives, two of which were at Thatcher Brook school. Total collected from Waterbury area residents was 258 pints. Phyllis Grout and Leta Perry provided and or collected food and served 238 blood donors. A big shout out for a job well done to both of you. Shirley and David Dow took my place at the check in desk for the March 18th drive and I thank you both very much.

Your Post will continue holding blood drives throughout 2016 with the hopes of generating more interest and donors for this very important Post mission.

The following dates we have scheduled for the Post 59 Blood Drives: from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday May 27th and Friday August 12th. I will file a yearend report to the Post Commander for your annual June consolidated report to Department.

If you (Legion, Auxiliary and Sal members) donated at another drive outside the Post let me know how much. (sweetserg@aol.com) It will be added to the Post membership totals. National wants you to be included.

Someone you know has or will need blood in a life-threatening situation.

Thanks for all the support,

Gene Sweetser, Post 59
Red Cross Blood Coordinator

of a new on the 1st of July. I'm proud to look back on the work the SON's have done on behalf of the Post and State Detachment, and look forward to what together we all can do.

Some key areas of charitable giving from our fundraising efforts:

- First, supporting the Son's Detachment Commander's Project led by our Detachment Commander Henry Cleveland. This year's project selection is called **Vermont Wounded Veterans Wish**. We are raising money to give a "wish" to two of our Vermont wounded veterans, which can be a trip to Disney World, a NASCAR race, visiting the Grand Canyon, or maybe provide a pool in their back yard. It's their wish.

Our goals as a Detachment and that of our Squadron is to support and raise \$10,000 and 100% of the donations will go to the Commander's Project.

- One wish to an applicant from district 1,2, & 3; and one from district 4 &5. *Post #59 is in district 3.* ☺
- Each recipient will receive \$5,000 for their wish
- Each recipient must have served in a Branch of Service with Vermont
- No out of country wishes due to potential travel problems

Applications attn: Henry Cleveland, 1212 Coburn Hill Road, Craftsbury VT 05826;

MEMORIAL DAY

- 9:00 Holy Cross Cemetery, Duxbury
- 10:00 Hope Cemetery, Waterbury
- 11:00 Maple Street Cemetery, Waterbury Center

The Historical Society will hold a Ghost Walk at Maple Street Cemetery immediately after the ceremony, and lunch will follow at the Post.

Monday, May 30th

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hello Squadron and Post 59 Family. Spring is in the Air!

We're heading into the end of our current year session. The American Legion year started on July 1st 2015 and ends on June 30th 2016. With that brings the end of a session in a couple of months and the start

make checks payable to Detachment of Vermont and in the note "Commanders Project."

Applications can be gotten from the Detachment web site <http://salvermont.com/> Detachment phone number is (802) 586-7536

Let's make a Veterans Wish come true – send in your Vet Wishes Application!!

and . . .

- The Dodge House – Homeless Vets
- Cub Scout pack 711
- Youth Conservation camp
- Girls State
- Children's Miracle Network
- Child Welfare Foundation
- Trish Memorial Library
- Kidsfest – the old Sourdiff Child Safety Foundation
- VT National Guard
- Walt Coolbeth and Post 59 Family Scholarships (5) of them!

All supported with \$ and volunteer hours, AND More . . .

The MORE comes with linking with other community organizations, friends, and families. Bringing life to our community, children and veterans. Placing flags on our veterans graves each year, collecting and disposing of our flags with our youth and community on flag day, celebrating and honoring through events with our Color Guard and Honor Guard, hosting events in our post halls from community fundraisers for our schools, youth, and community betterment, weddings, funerals, family

reunions, and the fun stuff like the Stowe Street Arts, Open Halloween house, Redneck Horseshoe winter league, Steak & Lobster Feed, Feeds in general, rotating "home" to the Vermont Fiddlers Association, local snow mobile and softball clubs, and certainly our veterans. There's much to create, support and do, and much more I have not listed but LIVES through our Post, American Legion Post 59 Waterbury, Vermont.

With that thought, 2 KEY things . . .

1. It's election time at the Post for Legion, Auxiliary, and Son's. We are always looking for new officers, new energy, & new ideas. SAL election is on May 3rd, please consider throwing your hat in the ring, you'll be supported and have fun, I promise!!!
2. Involvement, energy, new ideas, mentorship, . . . our youth, our Junior Members (16 years old and younger Squadron 59 members.)

Junior SAL members: Is there something you'd like to initiate and do for veterans and or something for your community, . . . for your country????



WE WANT YOU!

I "CHALLENGE YOU" to bring your ideas to the Sons of

the American Legion, Squadron 59 – Waterbury Post.

Write your idea, *legibly*, titled Challenge Accepted and **describe what it is you want to do or help initiate for our veterans and community.** We will select and support an idea(s) with staffing, logistics and funding with an engaging Junior SAL member. We'll help YOU lead us to create betterment through your idea(s). Send to us by June 19th, Father's Day:

- Title: Challenge Accepted, your name, your phone number, your SAL membership number, your idea you want to see come to fruition to benefit our Veterans and or our Community.
- Mail to: SAL Commander – "Challenge Accepted", American Legion Post 59, 16 Stowe St, Waterbury Vermont 05676

Looking forward to seeing you at our Post and at our Post events!

For God, Country, our Veterans, and Community! Bless Us All.
The Sons of Post 59 ~ Squadron Commander ~ Tom

AUXILIARY

Hello Ladies,

The Sock Hop in February was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who made it work. We all had a great time!!

POST 59 BLOOD DRIVES

Friday May 27th
Friday August 12th
From 10:00 to 3:00

Remember that May is Poppies time. If you would like to help, please contact me at iamsobber18@yahoo.com.

Memorial Day is May 30th. Please come to honor the men and women who have died in military service.

Our Auxiliary meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Please come and share your ideas. Also, elections are coming soon. Please consider running for an office. We'll install all our officers – ladies and gentlemen – in June.

And ... congratulations to the winners of our Membership Raffle:

1st Carmen Grace (\$423.50)
2nd Mariana Towne (\$121)
3rd Shirley Dow (\$60.50)
4th Carol Gyscek (2017 dues)
5th Kelly Richardson (2017

dues)
6th Candy Baker (2017 dues)
7th Donna Despault (2017 dues)

Thanks to everyone who responded and supported our Auxiliary.

NQID will be June 25th. Have a safe July 4th!

For God and Country,
Wanda Woodard, President
Unit 59

FROM THE BAR....

Happy Spring! As the Club has been very busy this past Fall and Winter, I wanted give a huge pat on the back to all who have volunteered, and helped make this place great. Another season of Redneck Horseshoes has wrapped up, and fun was had by all. We keep a set here if anyone still wants to come play!

As most of you know our good friend and colleague Wiggie has been under the weather, and I wanted to thank everyone again for their continued support.

As the warmer temps are fast approaching, consider us for your private functions and events. It's never too soon to book your date on the calendar.

Please join our Facebook page to get regular updates on happenings here at Post 59. (Just in case you lose your newsletter).

Thanks, and see you soon.
Tammy and Staff

A Special Note

I would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers. All your loving thoughts have meant so much during this difficult time in my life. I am so over come with joy by all the generosity that has come from my family, friends, and community. Thank you all SO much.

*Love and hugs to all,
Wiggie*

The American Legion: PREAMBLE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION CONSTITUTION

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
To maintain law and order;
To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

POST 59 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 SAL Meeting 6:00 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 4 | 5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 <i>Mother's Day</i> | 9 | 10 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 11 Legion Riders 6:00 Legion & Auxiliary 7:00 | 12 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 13 | 14 Softball Calcutta |
| 15 | 16 | 17 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 18 | 19 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 25 E-Board Meeting 6:30 | 26 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 27 Blood Drive 10:00-3:00 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Memorial Day 9 Holy Cross 10 Hope 11 Maple St | 31 | | | | |

JUNE 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---------------------------|--------|--|--|-----------------------------|--------|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 SAL Meeting 6:00 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 8 Legion Riders 6:00 Legion & Auxiliary 7:00 Installation of Officers | 9 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 <i>Flag Day</i> Flag Day Rusty Parker Park 5:00 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 15 | 16 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 <i>Father's Day</i> | 20 | 21 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 22 E-Board Meeting 6:30 | 23 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 24 | 25 <i>Post Closed</i> <i>NQID</i> |
| 26 | 27 | 28 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 29 | 30 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | | |

American Legion Post #59
P.O. Box 417
Waterbury, VT 05676

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| Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID WATERBURY, VT 05676 PERMIT NO. 4 |
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JULY 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 <i>Independence Day</i> | 5 SAL Meeting 6:00 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 6 | 7 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 13 Legion Riders 6:00 Legion & Auxiliary 7:00 | 14 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 20 | 21 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 Queen of Hearts Drawing 6:30 | 27 E-Board Meeting 6:30 | 28 Texas Hold'em 7:00 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

Check with the Post (244-8144) alpost59@comcast.net or the website (<http://www.alpost59vt.us>) for more information.