



AMERICAN LEGION POST 86

Quarterly Newsletter—October, November, December 2017

Editor, Linda Olson, Email-post86newsletter@yahoo.com



As 2017 draws to a close, the Post will be busy serving veterans and our community. Please let the Commander know should you know of any veteran that may need assistance—we are here to help! Services are available to any veteran, they do not need to be a member of Post 86. The Post may help directly or help make connections to meet their need. Let's keep in mind that the focus of the American Legion is help our veterans.

Did you know—that Post 86 supports the DAV (Disabled Veterans) by donating clothing items? The large bin behind the Legion is where you may deposit your donations. Please be aware of the condition of your items, if they are worn out or stained dispose of them elsewhere. Items are then taken to Duluth and sold to a vendor. Monies received go directly to the DAV. We ask that you put your items in a bag of some sort—makes it much easier to load.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Membership Dinner Sat. Oct 7. Of course, your 2018 dues must be paid by then, or else you have to pay! Same goes for the Auxiliary and SAL!

Sorry, there is no report from the Color Guard.

As many members will be heading to warmer temps in a few weeks, we wish them safe travels and warm sunny days!

Commander Report for Oct, Nov, Dec 2017:

Summer is just about over already and fall is upon us. The leaves are turning colors and docks, lifts and boats are coming out of the water every day. Snow birds are getting ready to head to various parts of the south to stay warm. The rest of us will be getting our snow blowers and other winter toys ready for a fun filled winter.

We had the Department Convention July 13-15 in Mahomet, MN with no major changes at the Post level, which means no dues increase for the year. We did elect a new Department Commander Mike Schaffer. The 6th District Convention was June 2-3 in Park Rapids, MN where we elected Ken Johnstone the new Commander and his theme for this year is Working For Veterans (WFV). The National Convention was August 18-24 in Reno, NV and Denise Rohan was elected as the first female Commander.

Upcoming major events for the Post include **Veterans/membership dinner** on October 7th, with happy hour starting at 5:00 pm. Each paid up member for 2018 will receive dinner and two beverage tickets, to be used that night only. Guests will be charged \$8.00 for dinner and will not receive any beverage tickets. **Veterans Day program** will be held on November 11th at 11:00a.m. at the Post, a light meal will be served after the program. The Veterans Day program at the high school will be on Wednesday the 8th and the program for the grade school will be on Monday the 13th. We will be **visiting the Veterans** in the nursing homes on the 8th after the high school program. On December 8th we will be having **the Children's Christmas program** at 5 pm.

Auxiliary Report Auxiliary Unit 86 President, Sandi DeLoach:

I cannot believe how fast this summer has gone! The leaves are already starting to turn reminding us that the cold months will follow. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer. Our thoughts and prayers are with our members with families suffering from the Hurricanes Harvey and Irma and now Maria is right on their heels. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is available to all of our members who have 3 years or more of continuous membership. Contact our Department or National office for more information. We also have some applications available at our Unit.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time and talents to our many projects. We couldn't do what we do without all of your help! August the Post hosted the Riverboat Days which included the Auxiliary and their walking tacos and bake sale. Our quilters have put together another beautiful quilt that is being raffled off and the drawing will be after the Fish House parade Nov. 24th, 2017. The tickets are \$1.00 each or a book for \$10.00. Please let Chairman, Barb Jones know if you would like some books to sell. It would be wonderful if our members each bought a book. The proceeds go to fund the quilt - fund to buy supplies. All quilts are donated to Veterans. September has been busy with class reunions, our first "Meet and Greet Coffee" on the 14th. On the 20th Ward Wallin representing the Silver Bay Veterans Home at Silver Bay MN gave a presentation. Unit 86 donated \$500.00 to the recreation fund and also 2 lovely quilts to the Veterans Home.

I was happy with our "Meet and Greet" and enjoyed meeting some of our members that I had not met before. We had a short survey and I am going to share a couple of questions here:

- If we were to change our meeting time, would you be more willing to attend a meeting in the morning or afternoon? We are developing a calling committee for our members living locally, would you be willing to be one of the callers?
- If called upon, would you be willing to help with our bake sales, funeral lunches or other activities that might need help?
- Other than the email newsletter would you want a printed newsletter from the Unit only or both Unit & Post?
- If a mailed copy, would you be willing to send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for this purpose?

Please send me your responses by email at: bsdeloach03@gmail.com I look forward to hearing from you.

As we look into the fall and winter we still have many events at the Post and I encourage all of you to check out the Tuesday Night burger and Bingo, and the Friday afternoon meat raffles. Fun is had by all!

We hope you will have an opportunity to come in and support our American Legion Post home. We have many opportunities to volunteer your time. Please join us.....many hands working together make light the work! Don't forget about our monthly meetings held at the Post on the second Thursday of each month. We would love to have you join us.

LOOKING AHEAD: Please check the calendar for more information.

- Oct. 7th, 2017 the Veterans Membership Dinner is free to those who have paid their 2018 dues. The National has sent out the dues notices. If you have paid your 2018 dues, please disregard the notice from National. I am trying to mail out the cards as quickly as possible, but if you are planning on attending the dinner and have not received your card, I will have them at the Post. Please come early to avoid the lines. I will be there around 4:30.

Oct. 26, 27 & 28 is the annual Department Fall Conference that will be held in Willmar MN. We are looking forward to hearing about the programs from our Department President Donna Ahrens and her Chairmen.

- November 4, 2017 the Auxiliary is hosting a **Craft and Vendor Fair and Bake sale** at the Legion. This is a joint project with the VFW Auxiliary. We have 22 + vendors and no duplicates! We need baked goods for the sale! Please bring them in with you on Friday when you come in for the 1st Friday dinner!

November 11, is **Veterans Day** and the Legion is hosting this year's event at 11:00 am with soup and sandwich lunch. The Legion also has a music jam that afternoon so come and enjoy the day with us!

Thank You to all of our Veterans.

- November is also American Education Week and we will look forward to honoring those who work with our children during the school year. Again, help is needed to put together the goodie trays to be delivered to the schools and the bus garage. **Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!**

Friday, December 8th, is the **Children's Christmas Party** at the Post from 5-8 p.m. . The Auxiliary will be baking the cookies on Thursday, Dec. 7th starting at 9 a.m. The wrapping of the gifts will follow around 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to help us! **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

To all of our "Snowbirds" have a safe and wonderful winter and come home safe to us in the spring!

We are keeping the information for the National Website in our newsletter, there is a lot of current information available to you as members. Check out the National website: www.alaforveterans , and Minnesota's at www.mnala.org My email address is: bsdeloach03@gmail.com. The web site for the Aitkin Lee Post 86 is: aitkinlegion86.org. Please share this information.

Membership: Sandi DeLoach

Please check your dues card. Have you moved? Please make sure that we have your current address and email address if it applies to you. Do you have a parent or relative that is a member of our Auxiliary Unit? Please check their cards to see if they are up to date. If their living circumstances have changed and they are now in a nursing home, or other address change, please let me know.

Taps: Angeline Bodeker, and Margaret "Muggs" Nelson