Newsletter

Daugherty-Hamilton Post #234-Omro, WI
October 17, 2011
Volume 8, Issue 10
Website: www.omropost234.org

FROM THE COMMANDER

Hello Comrades and Friends,
There are still tickets left to attend our Veteran's Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 22nd. If you haven't purchased your ticket yet, please contact Ed Goss at 685-5931. Our mail raffle fundraiser is coming to a close with the winner to be drawn at the Veteran's Dinner. If you have tickets yet, get them in to Dave Lemieux as soon as possible, along with any unsold tickets. We will need help setting up for the Veteran's Dinner at the Firehouse. If you are available on Saturday morning, stop down and give us a hand with the tables and chairs. Plans are underway for Veteran's Day, beginning with breakfast at the Omro Care Center, continuing with visits to the Omro schools. It's a day that you don't want to miss! Hope to see you all at the Veteran's Dinner on Saturday and at our regular meeting on Oct. 26th.

Yours in Comradeship
Dave Steinert

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

10/19/11	**Post Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 PM @ Tanner's Tap**
10/23/11	Battle for Leyte Gulf (1944)
10/24/11	United Nations Day
10/26/11	**Post 234 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Tanner's Tap & Grill, Omro, WI.**
10/27/11	Navy Day
10/28/11	Dedication of the Statue of Liberty (1886)
10/30/11	**American Legion 6th District Fall Conference New Holstein, WI**
10/31/11	Halloween
11/01/11	Winnebago County Government Day 9AM Winnebago County Court House
11/05/11	Fallen Veterans Tribute presented by Winnebago CVSO at 10:00 AM Coughlin Building
11/11/11	**Veterans Day**
11/11/11	Veterans Breakfast @ Omro Care Center at 7:00 AM (Volunteers show up @ 7:00 AM)
11/11/11	Veterans Day Service at HB Patch @ 8:30 AM
11/11/11	Veterans Day Service at Elementary School @ 9:30 AM
11/11/11	Veterans Day Service at Omro High School @ 10:30 AM
11/11/11	Military Appreciation Day @ all Applebee's free diner for Veteran all day
11/11/11	Veterans Dinner @ The Oshkosh Elks 5:30 PM Social, 6:30 PM Dinner, 7:30 PM Program Tickets $15.00 available by mail before November 6th Mail to 1393 Washington Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54901 and pick up at door.
11/13/11	POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony @ 5:00 PM Horans On Main (Contact Horans for reservations - cost 5.50 per person)
11/14/11	Military Appreciation Day @ all Golden Corrals free diner and beverage for Veteran 5-9 PM
11/17/11	Winnebago County Council 7:30 PM at Neenah Library
11/19/11	Gettysburg Address (1863)
11/23/11	**Post Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 PM @ Tanner's Tap**
11/23/11	**Post 234 Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Tanner's Tap & Grill, Omro, WI**.

The Mission Of Daugherty-Hamilton Post 234 Is To Provide Services To Veterans, Their Families And Our Communities .

Daugherty-Hamilton Post #234
Membership 82%

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Bob Wipf
Service Officer
Pete Hennes
Sergeant-At-Arms
Jack Haynes
Dave Schmude
Chaplain
Steve Goller
Historian
Darryl Schmidt
Parliamentarian
Jim Romnek
Members At Large
Dean Larsen (3 yr)
John Vonderloh (2 yr)
Ken Jungwirth (1 yr)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Hello there. Here it is October and we now have 115 paid out of 140. We're doing fine, but need to be at 140 by December. Just a reminder that national will be sending out dues reminders. Each yr I received checks for dues when you have already paid. If you don't know weather or not if you have paid, call me at 920-252-1893 or e-mail me at jonvon@charter.net. A reminder of our annual diner at the Omro Fire Dept this Saturday, October 22. If you don't have a ticket, you can call any of our Officers for reservations. Have a great month and remember Veterans day is around the corner. That means a free meal at Applebee's and at the Golden Corel. Have a great day. PS. Howard Posorske called me and stated that he was on the Honor Flight out of Appleton August 25th and had a wonderful time. His children put together his time in the service and Wayne Schmick brought a copy of it to our last meeting. A copy will be on file at the Omro Library. Vondy

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Some of the greatest and most meaningful conversations happen after bedtime. Perhaps it's because we've had a chance to relax, wind down and reflect. Perhaps we're just weary and unguarded. Nine o'clock isn't exactly late, but it is well past the bedtime of my 4 year old daughter. It was a few minutes after eight when I noticed that the light was still on in her room. When I went in to remind her that it was bedtime she said: "Mommy, I've asked God for a long, long, long, long, long time to come down for real and give me a hug. Do you think He ever will?" After I wiped the tears from my eyes from hearing such a pure, innocent and precious request, I honestly said, "I don't know if He will, but I know He can." Her reply spoke volumes to me, "I know Mommy….God can give me a hug through you!" I wrapped my arms around my most precious treasure and said, "Yes, baby, He most certainly can."**As this story illustrates God can use you in the simplest of ways. Be vigilant and willing to act as the hands and feet of your Creator. Be prepared to share the love and compassion that has been shown to you each and every day.**

American Legion
Daugherty-Hamilton Post #234
PO Box 234
Omro, WI 54963-0439

VETERANS DAY

The Post will be conducting Veterans Day ceremonies at all three schools again this year. There will be more details presented at the October Post meeting. Also we will be doing "Breakfast With the Omro Care Center"

POST 234 VETERANS BANQUET-OCTOBER 22, 2011

Our annual banquet will be held Saturday October 22, 2011. Social hour will be at 5 and dinner at 6. We are having broasted chicken and tenderloin tips with all of the fixings. KC Johnson, State DAV Commander, will be our guest speaker and we will have several videos honoring Veterans and their service to our great Nation. We will be presenting Post 234's first Patriot Awards. We will also have a silent auction and raffle. If you have auction or raffle items to donate please contact Darlene Deiss (920-685-0290) or DonnaMarie Hasenfus (920-685-5122). In the past homemade craft items have been very popular. We are hoping to have a lot of good silent auction items to bid on. The cost of the dinner is only $20 contact Ed Goss at 685-5931 for tickets or they can be bought at either the Piggly Wiggly or Omro Pharmacy.

POST 234 RAFFLE

The Post raffle drawing is almost here. Each of you should have received 4 packets of six tickets (6 for $5) to sell. If you haven't already, please sell your tickets and bring the stubs and money to the dinner or mail the stubs and money to Dave Lemieux 702 Dove St. Oshkosh, WI, 54902. If you are unable to sell your tickets please return them to Dave as soon as possible so he can get them distributed to some one else. The raffle drawing will be held at 9:00 PM at the Veterans Banquet on October 22, 2011.

GIFTS FOR TROOPS

The Piggly Wiggly stores in both Omro and Winneconne have pre-packed bags for sale filled with supplies the troops can use. This is an ongoing support program arranged by Ken Jungwirth. As the bags are purchased they will be picked up and sent to the troops. Please support this program and tell your neighbors and friends.

"Post 234 Still Serving America"

VA Blue Water Claims Update: U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) have introduced legislation to ensure that more than 250,000 Navy veterans from the Vietnam War exposed to the powerful toxin Agent Orange will be eligible to receive the disability and health care benefits they have earned for diseases linked to Agent Orange exposure. During the Vietnam War, the U.S. military sprayed approximately 20 million gallons of Agent Orange in Vietnam to remove jungle foliage. This toxic chemical had devastating effects for millions serving in Vietnam. In 1991, Congress passed a law requiring the Veterans Administration (VA) to provide presumptive coverage to Vietnam veterans with illnesses that the Institute of Medicine has directly linked to Agent Orange exposure. However, in 2002 the VA determined that it would only cover Veterans who could prove that they had orders for ―boots on the ground‖ during the Vietnam War. This exclusion affects as many as 250,000 sailors who may have still received significant Agent Orange exposure from receiving VA benefits. ―Because of technicality in the law, hundreds of thousands of American veterans are being denied the benefits they need and deserve,‖ Senator Gillibrand said. ―Our government must fulfill its commitment to the service members who have fallen victim to Agent Orange-related disease and enact new legislation that will provide our vets with the disability compensation and healthcare benefits they have earned. Agent Orange is a very difficult chapter in our nation‘s history. It is time that we correct the errors of the past.‖ Senator Graham said, ―This is a legacy issue that needs to be dealt with. There are Vietnam vets who are suffering from Agent-Orange related illnesses and we need to ensure they are getting the care they need. It‘s now time to ensure the government takes care of their needs which were incurred during their defense of our nation.‖ Blue Water Navy Vets – veterans who were on duty in the waters around Vietnam, but did not have ―boots on the ground‖ – were often exposed to Agent Orange on a daily basis. Studies have shown that Agent Orange contaminated the water sources on ships, affecting veterans onboard ships or aircraft that transported barrels of Agent Orange, and ships and aircraft deployed in close proximity or even downwind from Agent Orange drop sites. A May 2011 report by the Institute of Medicine established several ―plausible routes‖ for Agent Orange exposure through the water distillation process aboard Navy ships and through the air. In 2010, a study by the Institute of Medicine cited exposure to Agent Orange resulted in an increased chance of developing serious heart problems and Parkinson‘s disease. A 1990 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed Vietnam veterans had a rate of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma 50 percent higher than the general population. Agent Orange is linked to a range of other diseases, including several blood and respiratory cancers, type II diabetes, prostate cancer and more. In 2005, the VA‘s former Director of Environmental Agents Service Dr. Mark Brown publicly acknowledged that there was no scientific basis for the exclusion of Blue Water Vietnam veterans, but the VA has continued to refuse these veterans the presumptive benefits Congress initially intended. In his article in the Journal of Law and Policy, Dr. Brown wrote, “Science does not back up the VA‘s policy on the Navy.” The Agent Orange Equity Act of 2011 (S.1629), would clarify the existing law so that Blue Water veterans would be fully covered by the VA if they served within the ―territorial seas, or approximately 12 miles offshore of Vietnam. The bill would make it easier for the VA to process Vietnam War veterans‘ claims for service-connected conditions and alleviate a portion of the VA‘s backlog by extending presumptive coverage of Agent Orange benefits to these veterans. If approved the law would be effective as of 25 SEP 1985.