



PAUL HERRICK POST 21

NEWSLETTER

Kenosha Wisconsin

For God and Country

Volume 2020 / Issue 3



Second Vice Commander Philip Morris, and Al Vittori with their 2020 Kenosha County Veterans Council awards.

POST 21 MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM KENOSHA COUNTY VETERANS COUNCIL

On Tuesday, September 19, 2020 a ceremony was held by the Kenosha County Veterans Council at the Moose Lodge / Hero's Cafe to announce their yearly awards.

Among the award recipients were Post 21 Second Vice Commander / Service Officer Phillip Morris who won the Veteran of the Year Award, and 25 Year Post 21 Member Al Vittori, who was honored with the Lifetime Achievement of the Year. Other award winners were, Civilian Organization of the Year, Festival Foods on 80th St, Veteran Service Organization of the Year, Kenosha VFW Post 1865, and Auxillary of the Year, Sonja McClure.

The awards were presented by County Board Supervisor, District 10, Andy Berg. The KCVC Annual Banquet Ceremony scheduled for this past March had been cancelled due to the pandemic.

CALENDAR

Patriot Day - September 11

POW/MIA Recognition Day

Third Friday in September
(September 18)

Post 21 Birthday (Charter Date)

October 15, 1920

Veterans Day - November 11

Pearl Harbor Day - December 7

Chili Cook-Off (Tentative)

February 27, 2021

American Legion Birthday –

March 15

Medal of Honor Day - March 25

Vietnam Veterans Day - March 29th

Prisoner of War Remembrance Day -
April 9

Armed Forces Day

Third Saturday in May (May 15)

Memorial Day - Last Monday in May
(May 31)

Paul Herrick's Birthday

June 3, 1922

Independence Day - July 4

NOTE: The next planned meeting is January 19, 2021, but keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for updates.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings.

It has been a long and frustrating summer, but we are surviving, and we have managed to sign up some new members from the American Legions 2930 roster. Also, this year Two of our members were recognized by the Kenosha County Veterans Council, Phillip Morris was recognized as Veteran of the Year and Al Vittori was presented the lifetime achievement award for his work with Veterans and Child and Youth actives. The program was to be held in March but was postponed to September and on a smaller scale. Congratulations to both men they are very deserving of these Awards.

We are still planning to return to a regular monthly meeting starting in January 2021 following the recommendations that will be in place. I hope everyone is able to enjoy the Holiday either in person or virtual with family and friends.

Commander Tom

HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Past Commander Jon Sutter left a big hole in all of us when he passed, but he also left the House Committee Chairman position open. This is a most important position that needs someone to give it the attention it deserves. Responsibilities would be chairing the house committee, maintain maintenance logs, keep an inventory of / reorder essential products, and organize working parties. If you are interested contact one of the Post officers.

Executive Board Chairman's Message

A racially sensitive slur was posted on a bulletin board at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) prep school. Lt. General Jay Silveira, USAFA Commandant had the following comments that he addressed to the entire corps of cadets, faculty and staff.

"The racial slurs written on a bulletin board at the prep school have no place at USAFA or the United States Air Force. You should be outraged as airmen and as human beings. The Commandant had a better idea:

The American Legion

Paul Herrick Post 21

504 58th Street, Kenosha, WI

(262) 262-657-7464

2021 Staff

Commander

Tom Visintainer

commander@alpost21.com

1st Vice Commander / Membership

Crystal Carter

vicecom1@alpost21.com

2nd Vice Cmdr / Service Officer

Phil Morris

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Finance Officer / Judge Advocate

Steve Tindall

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judgeadvocate@alpost21.com

Chaplin

Dave DeBerge

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Historian

Gerry Jones

historian@alpost21.com

Sgt-At-Arms

Ben Sturdevant

sgtatarms@alpost21.com

Adjutant

Paul Ciarelli

adjutant@alpost21.com or

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262-455-6529

Auxiliary President

Donna Lewens

alapresident@alpost21.com

SAL Commander

Elijah Bogar

salcommander@alpost21.com

Social Media Sites

Web: <https://alpost21.com>

[facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/KenoshaPost21)

KenoshaPost21

ALAuxiliaryKenosha21

salwisquadron21

Meeting Information

Member Meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. The meetings would be better if YOU were there!

Auxiliary Unit 21 meets the 4th Tuesday of every month 7:00 PM at Post 21

Sons of the American Legion

meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

IF YOU CAN'T TREAT SOMEBODY
WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT-GET
OUT

IF YOU CAN'T TREAT SOMEONE OF
A DIFFERENT GENDER WITH
DIGNITY AND RESPECT-GET OUT

IF YOU DEMEAN SOMEONE IN
ANY WAY-GET OUT

IF YOU CAN'T TREAT SOMEONE
FROM ANOTHER RACE OR A
DIFFERENT SKIN COLOR WITH
DIGNITY AND RESPECT-GET OUT"

End of selected comments from the
commandant, for the full speech go to
YOUTUBE and search for USAFA
Commandant Silviera.

Members of the military, both officer
and enlisted, from all branches of the
service are held to these standards of
conduct. This code of conduct should be
the norm, and NOT JUST for the
military.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,
LARRY LEWENS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you already paid your dues THANK
YOU. Our current count for "2021 paid"
members is 185 out of 310, so we could
be doing better. If you have not paid your
dues, please consider doing so in the next
couple of weeks.

You can also help out by finding new
members or choosing PUFL (Paid Up for
Life), log into myLegion.org to find out
how. If you are having trouble doing that,
contact our Adjutant Paul Ciarelli, he will
help you get logged in.

Crystal Carter

1st Vice Commander / Membership

FINANCE REPORT

Since assuming the position of Finance
Officer for American Legion Post 21
Kenosha I have focused on organizing the
four accounts and implementing more
automatic payments to alleviate the
infrequent late fees we have been paying.

The first change the Commander and I
have made is to rename two of the

accounts. This may not seem very
important, but it provides a very clear
distinction between Post expenses and
those of the bar. This will make it easier
for Tom to manage the bar and easier for
me to track Post expenses more
accurately.

I have set up WE Energies (both gas and
electric) for the Post for auto payment on
the budget plan, which will provide us
with consistent amounts to pay each
month and help protect us from the spikes
in costs related to changes in seasons. I
have also set up the Kenosha Water bill
and Spectrum accounts for autopay.

Our Post insurance bills are being
evaluated to bring them more in line with
our actual needs which should result in a
cost saving. I have also set up the ability
to pay these online which will reduce
expenses and make it easier to pay them
on time.

Early in October after bringing all the
monthly reports up to date I transferred a
catch-up payment from the Post account
to the Family account. At this time all
monthly reports are current.

I am looking into the possibility of
changing bank institutions due to some
issues I've experienced with the current
provider. This is a low priority item, but
I am consulting with the Commander and
1st Vice Commander to ensure we have
all the capabilities we currently enjoy.

I hope this information gives you a
comfort level with how the Post finances
are being managed. If you have any
questions about what we are doing or
where we are please send a note to
treasurer@alpost21.com.

Steve Tindall,

Finance Officer Post 21

ADJUTANT'S MESSAGE

This quarter, we are sending out the
Newsletter both electronically and by
Postal mail. We would prefer to just send
it out electronically as that is much
cheaper, but if you truly are not internet
active, we are going to send you a paper
copy.

If you or a legion buddy you know are having problems that's preventing you from hearing from us, contact me, and I will get you on the right track. My contact information is on page 2.

The American Legion uses our **Consolidated Post Report** to tell congress what we do for veterans and our community. As a member of this post most of your volunteer work should be on our report. It's very helpful to the American Legion to help show congress how vital this organization is to our country. It lets congress know how big our voice is. Please contact us to get your hours on this report

Paul Ciarelli

NEWS AND NOTES:

APOLITICAL

When we wore the uniforms of our country, and for those that still do, we did not wear our uniforms to political events. We did not endorse a candidate or party with our name, rank and branch of service. The United States military was and is, apolitical.

The American Legion adopted this policy when it was founded. The Legion cannot be effective if we appear as a political organization, we must be apolitical. If you use social media to share your political views, please remove any Legion related apparel, etc., from your profile picture.

We served to protect the right to vote. Volunteer for your candidate, consider becoming a poll worker, use social media express your views, be involved in the political process. When this election is over, remember we are all Americans. One Nation Indivisible.

VOTE, and encourage others to do the same.

For God and Country,
Larry Lewens

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

From: Mary-Ellen Crandall

Subject: Wreaths Across America for Union Grove

Deadline to order is approaching ----

If there are any American Legion Posts, ALA Units or other donors wishing to purchase wreaths for placement at the Southern Wisconsin Veteran's Memorial Cemetery at Union Grove, checks can be made out to Wreaths Across American and mailed to my address.

Wreaths are \$15 each. For every two wreaths purchased, WAA will donate one. Contact me if you have any questions at (262) 894-5420 or dabs1951@yahoo.com

Thank you everyone.

Mary-Ellen Crandall
American Legion Auxiliary
Dept. of WI Rep at Union Grove



Give Crystal a call and ask about her new certifications

POST 21 HISTORY DIGITIZATION UNDERWAY

Our Historian, Gerry Jones, has been working on organizing and cataloging the items of history that have been passed down to him. This is no small task as the Post has been in business for over 100 years. There are a couple of ways you could be part of this effort:

1) Sharing Stories - Do you have a story to tell? You could write few lines, or perhaps we could interview you and get it recorded. People a hundred years from now would be fascinated. I know We've been fascinated looking at the newspaper clippings from the 40's and 50's

2) Send us Photos and Memorabilia that are cluttering up your home, or just send us scans or photograph them. Contact us and ask us how!

We have a test media website set up at <https://sewivets.org/alpost21media/>. Take a look and let us know what you think. Just keep in mind that we are not professional curators!

P. Ciarelli

HARBORSIDE ACADEMY VETERAN INTERVIEW PROGRAM

Over the last decade, students at Harborside Academy have been investigating the impact that war and conflict has made on our community. Students learn about the effect of conflict on individuals, families, and communities by interviewing men and women of our nation's armed forces.

Students will use the interviews to write a feature article honoring their service member's experience to our country.

If you would like to volunteer to be interviewed, you can contact me or you can contact the program director here:

Khari S. Bell, kbell@kUSD.edu
10th Grade World History
Harborside Academy
Social Science B.A.

I was interviewed myself recently by Students Jayden Berry and Britney Arriaga. They asked engaging questions, and it was a rewarding experience.

P. Ciarelli

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE LIBRARY

If you are a history buff and want to know more about the American Legion, nearly every Magazine they ever published has been scanned and is available at this website:

<https://archive.org/details/americanlegionhq/sort=-date>

There are over 1650 publications. The magazines from the war years are particularly interesting. There are a lot of articles that focus on Family and American values. Our country sure could use a dose of that!

P. Ciarelli

**Paul Herrick Post 21
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Social Media Information**

§ Veteran owned businesses can advertise free in our Red, White, and Blue pages. on alpost21.com.

§ We accept veteran focused articles on our website

§ We would like to hear your ideas about helping Veterans

§ Our Party/Banquet Hall can be rented for businesses team events as well as social events. Bring Your Own Catering!

Email to know more: socialmgr@alpost21.com

**Legionnaires make a positive difference
for veterans and their communities.
Visit legion.org to join the team.**



The American Legion
Paul Herrick Kenosha Post 21
504 58th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140

**1ST DISTRICT COMMANDER
CALLS FOR ACTION**

The Troop and Family Support fund has been hit hard during the pandemic. Please consider making a donation of any size to this important fund. Donations can be made on-line at the Dept. of WI website <https://wilegion.org> and clicking the yellow "Support Us" button at the top of the home page.

Karl E. Stuvengen
Commander, 1st District

**ORATORICAL CONTEST:
NOW'S THE TIME!**

It's not too late to get your high school aged family and friends involved in the American Legion Oratorical Contest. Public speaking is a required discipline of a leader. Not to mention there are some

nice cash prizes to help your future leader with college. This is an outstanding program. Here's some information: <https://www.legion.org/oratorical>

**NEW BUDDY CHECK
PROGRAM UNDERWAY**

If you have not received a buddy check call from one of us, we should be contacting you soon. While our campaign has already started, the Legion's Buddy Check program has gone through some changes recently, and we have just downloaded the new kits.

If you are in need of urgent help right now, call us or the Veterans Crisis Line at 800-273-8255 and press 1.

Or text 838255. For more information.

Visit the Veterans Crisis Line website <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net>.

FINAL THOUGHTS

As you saw from our finance report, we could be doing better, but we are hanging in there. We have not stopped planning events and fundraisers, even though we won't have them in the near future. A couple of things on the docket are:

- Hosting a comedy show at the post.
- Dances and get togethers for different age groups such as an over 70 sock hops. (No we won't card you)
- Get together for spouses and families of deployed troops and sailors.
- And maybe your recommendation!

In order to fund those things, we need to start fundraising, you can help by donating raffle items, time, and good old tax-deductible cash. We hope to see you soon, and we truly hope that you are healthy and will remain so.

Commander Tom

Don't forget to add your pictures to our Kenosha area Veterans Commemoration Page
<https://alpost21.com/kenosha-area-veterans-past-and-present/>