

AMERICAN LEGION

JERRY WICKAM POST IL-1148

2022-2023 Post Commander Mickey Badertscher

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POST NEWS FALL 2022

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY



LEAF RIVER, ILLINOIS

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Jerry Wayne Wickam
1942–1968
Posthumously Awarded the
Congressional Medal of Honor

Service: U.S. Army

Rank: Corporal

Division: Troop F, 2d Squadron, 11th

Armored Cavalry Regiment

Conflict: Vietnam War

Year of honor: 1968

Born: Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois



Commander's Column

As our Post gets smaller, everyone must do more to keep our Post afloat. If you are not satisfied with any aspect of the Post's operations, please let us know; so that we can take corrective action. We are always open to constructive criticism; do not hesitate to contact any Post officers.

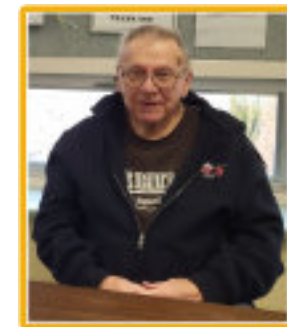
This year I plan to do a lot more fishing. As I get older, it takes me a lot more time to get something done than when I was younger. Please cut us some slack. Bill Motter, one of our Charter Members, is celebrating his 75th Anniversary of service to Post 1148 this year.
—Mick Badertscher



Chaplain's Corner

As I contemplate the greatness of this Nation and the wisdom of our forefathers, who brought it to fruition, I am thankful for the privilege to enjoy this privilege. Memorial Day is coming soon. Let us always remember those who answered the call to duty and gave their full measure for our freedom.

Let us always keep them in mind. Let us pray for our servicemen and women, as they guard our Nation. And let us always be aware of God's blessings and provision for our Nation.—Ron Bocker



Photos on this page submitted by Mick Badertscher



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The national commander sends out weekly e-mail messages. The topics focus on important American Legion initiatives and programs, and items of general interest to the veterans community. Additionally, the newsletter contains links to stories, videos and other content of interest.

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From the Adjutant

Comrades, this is the first issue of the Post 1148 newsletter in our 75th Anniversary Year. We are struggling to stay afloat.

Besides some of us getting “Long in the tooth,” there are now extenuating circumstances, that seriously challenge us. We need to double our efforts to draw in new members. To legally conduct business, five officers must be present for quorum. Officers should make every effort to attend meetings. Members are more than welcome to come; bring your suggestions and new ideas.

For those who are no longer able to march in parades, opportunities often present themselves, that allow us to participate: Hitch a ride on a fire truck or another organization’s float. Keep in mind: other posts, such as those in Oregon, Byron, and Forreston, appreciate our help with their parades and other events. “There is strength in numbers.”

The “Sentry” belongs to the entire Post, not only to the editor. Please submit your own stories and photographs.

Best regards always,—Paul Detmer



Paul Detmer at Oregon’s Autumn On Parade, 2021
Photo submitted by a friend, Greg Balestriare



JERRY WICKAM POST IL-1148 CONTACTS

Commander Mickey Badertscher 815.738.2564
Adjutant Paul Detmer 815.738.2827
pcdlibrary@lrcomm.com

To subscribe to an email (PDF) version of the *SENTRY*,
please send a request to the editor.

Meetings

Meetings are at 3:00 pm

On the first Thursday of every month
(except July & December) at

Bertolet Memorial Library

705 Main St.
Leaf River, IL 61047
815.738.2742

The Sentry is available free online at

villageofleafriver.com

Click the button on the left side of your screen.

If you wish, you can save the file and print it.

It is also posted on Facebook.

Please address all **editorial correspondence** to

Paul Detmer, adjutant

Legion Post IL-1148

202 Main St.

PO Box 6

Leaf River, IL 61047

pcdlibrary@lrcomm.com

815.738.2827



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Sons of The American Legion e-newsletter
includes news stories, video links and other
information related to the program. It is sent out to
subscribers every two months.

Subscribe



TANGO ALPHA LIMA

The American Legion podcast is hosted by Jeff Daly and Ashley Gorbujia-Maldonado. Each week they interview interesting guests, and explore current events and quirky stories of interest to the military community.



Dates and special events in 2022

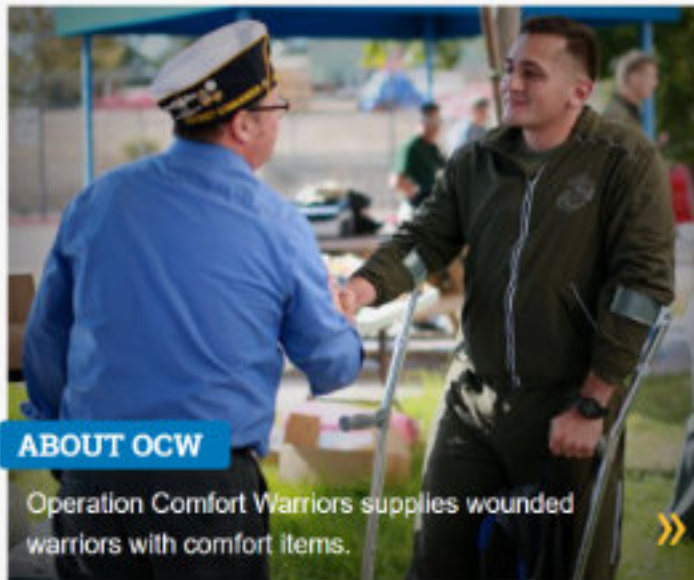
Wed., March 16	American Legion's 103 rd Birthday
Fri., March 25	Congressional Medal of Honor Day
Tues., March 29	Vietnam War Veterans Day
Mon., April 4	Put up flags at the park
Tues., May 24	Put grave flags out. <i>(Meet at the Bertolet Building 6:00 PM)</i>
Mon., May 30	Memorial Day. Put up flags on Route 72. <i>(Meet at the Cliff Hartje Pavilion 7:00 AM)</i>
Thurs., June 2	Election of officers
Tues., June 14	Flag Day. Put up flags on Route 72. <i>(Meet at the Cliff Hartje Pavilion 7:00 AM)</i>
Mon., July 4	Independence Day. Put up flags on Route 72. <i>(Meet at the Cliff Hartje Pavilion 7:00 AM)</i>
Mon., July 4	Pick up flags at the cemeteries. <i>(Meet at the Bertolet Building 7:00 AM)</i>
Wed., July 27	Korean War ended
Thurs., Sept. 1	Cookout & installation of officers for 2021-2022. Nut sales fundraiser starts.
Mon., Sept. 5	Labor Day. Put up flags on Route 72. <i>(Meet at the Cliff Hartje Pavilion 7:00 AM)</i>
Sun., Sept. 11	Patriot Day. National Day of Service and Remembrance
Sat., Sept. 17	Constitution and Citizenship Day. National POW/MIA Recognition Day
Fri., Nov. 11	Veterans Day. Signing of World War 1 Armistice (1918)
Sat., Nov. 26	Service flags, only, down at the Memorial Park
Thurs., Dec. 1	Christmas Party
Wed., Dec. 7	Pearl Harbor Day

Note: Events are subject to change.



LEGION RIDERS

The American Legion Riders Update E-newsletter provides information on the American Legion Legacy Run, including how to register, the route and anything else participants will need to know. The e-newsletter will share information on ALR program updates or changes, as well as links to external media stories about what Legion Rider chapters are doing across the country.



Veterans Flags Memorial, Leaf River, Illinois.

On Monday, April 4, 2022, Jerry Wickam American Legion Post IL-1148 Officers put the flags back up that were down for the winter.



Visit us on Facebook

Join The American Legion

Welcome veterans. Become a member of The American Legion and join *Jerry Wickam Post IL-1148*, in Leaf River, Illinois. If you are eligible, you may live anywhere in the world and be a member of our post. Please fill out the attached membership form and mail it, along with your \$40 membership fee, to:

Mick Badertscher, commander

Jerry Wickam Post IL-1148
2805 W. Ranch RD
Leaf River, IL 61047

Online Resources

The American Legion offers many online resources for members, including training programs. I encourage you to avail yourself of these on your personal computer or at the library. Here is an opportunity for you to expand your knowledge and be a more active and valuable member of your post.

As an example, the basic training certificate can be earned in five or six hours of online work. There is no cost involved. You can study at your leisure: start/stop anytime (your work is always saved). Whenever you are awarded a certificate, let me know so we can acknowledge your achievements.

The VSO that serves Ogle County veterans, at the Oregon VFW Post #8739 at 1310 W. Washington St. The VSO serves as a liaison for the veteran for all veteran VA benefits and will assist with sign up, inquiries, appeals, etc. Appointments are on a first come first-serve basis; or you can schedule them. The VSO that is at the VAC office is not an employee of the IDVA; the VSO is employed by the VAC of Ogle County and paid from VAC funds.

VACOC Superintendent/VSO Luz Maria Gilkey 815.255.9181.

Fax: 815.655.2684.

luz.gilkey@vacoc.org.

Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 AM–4:00 PM.

Transportation: 815.677.6515. Leave a message with date, time, and location of appointment.

MISSION Act Emergency Room Visits

If you need emergency or urgent care, and are-enrolled through the Madison VA hospital, call the VA triage line at 888-598-7793. Follow their recommendations for treatment. If they recommend that you go to an ER, go to the ER. If you are prescribed medication, go to a pharmacy and get them filled. You will have to pay for this out of pocket. Then contact Community Care in Madison at 888-478-8321, x 14431. Tell them about your ER visit and prescriptions. Fax a copy of your receipt to the Attention of Tom C. at 608-830-6653. It will take a while, but if approved, you will be reimbursed for your prescriptions.

Roger Cramer

Freedom isn't free. We remember and honor our fallen service men and women through many generations, who sacrificed their life to ensure we have the ultimate freedom in America. God willing, may our freedom prevail through future generations And remembering our loved ones who we miss so very much on Memorial Day 2022.



Ad spaces are available

Businesses and organizations: Advertise in one of the upcoming "Sentry" newsletters. A donation of \$25 is suggested.

Unless we already have your ad that was used in a previous issue, or it was changed since then, send me your business card or a digital file of your artwork, as an email attachment. Any donation you wish to make will be greatly appreciated.

We are a 501 (c) (19) organization. Your donations, for Federal Income Tax purposes, are deductible.

We print the SENTRY newsletter, send it out as email (PDF) attachments, post it on the Village of Leaf River Website and on Facebook.

Thanks for Your Support

Please send GENERAL POSTAL MAIL to:

Mick Badertscher, commander

Jerry Wickam Post IL-1148

2805 W. Ranch RD

Leaf River, IL 61047-9602



May 27, 2022

Ron Bocker, Cliff Craven, Bill Feary, and Paul Detmer placed flags on the graves of Veterans, at Egan, North Grove Christian, North Grove Evangelical, and Lightsville cemeteries.

The young fellows are Ron Bocker's grandsons; we appreciate their help. They did a great job.

Legion Membership Dues

Reminder: Dues for 2023, start on July 1, 2022; if not paid by December 31, 2022 you are no longer a member of the Legion and you will not get the benefits you deserve.

EGAN CEMETERY





SMITH, BIRKHOLZ & MORROW, P.C.
David A. Smith
Jennifer L. Birkholz
Eric D. Morrow

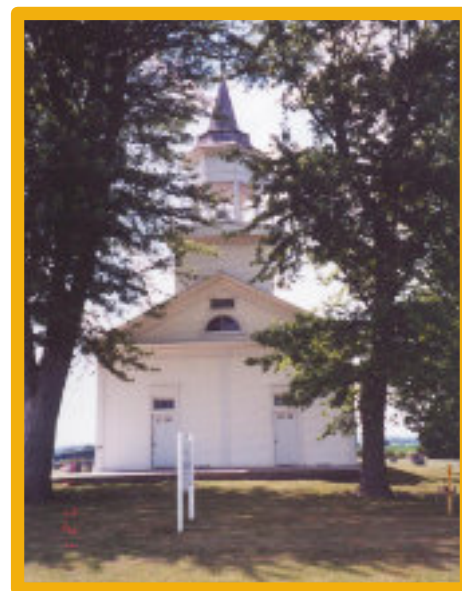
Estate Planning & Trust, Elder Law, Real Estate, Agribusiness,
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129 S. 4th Street, Oregon, IL 61061
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ONLINE UPDATE AND MONDAY BRIEFING

American Legion Online Update subscribers receive two weekly emails packed with timely stories, video links, and advance notices related to Legion programs, initiatives and activities. Online Update, which includes the weekly Big Q, is sent out every Thursday. Monday Briefing is distributed each Monday.

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MEMBER DISCOUNTS

**These emails are reserved for American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members only.

**

We would like to keep you informed of discounts that you are entitled to receive as a member of The American Legion or Sons of The American Legion. To help us get to know you better, please click the button below to specify which types of services/discounts you are interested in, and we will only send you emails with discounts from your preferred categories.

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TRAINING IN THE AMERICAN LEGION

The focus of this periodic, Legionnaire-driven circular is to highlight best practices, ideas and creative thinking of Legionnaires throughout The American Legion. It is hoped this newsletter will lead the way to much broader training for Legionnaires wanting to know more, but really wanting to do more. What we know is important but what we do with what we know is crucial.

Subscribe

Aug 17, 2022 (Date saved)



DIGITAL DISPATCH

The Digital Dispatch is e-mailed to subscribers monthly and at other times when news warrants. The publication is aimed at department and post leadership. Stories focus on important topics to veterans and military members such as health care, jobs, Capitol Hill action and more. The newsletter also includes links to membership incentive programs and community forums on making posts successful.

Subscribe



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