

Grassman-Sowle-Larsen-Senz Post 201
800 Wisconsin Avenue (physical address)
P.O. Box 561 (mailing address)
Tomah, WI 54660-0561
(608)372-6028

2024 Legion Officers

Commander: Todd Steffel
Adjutant: Darren Zimmerman
1st Vice: Dave Linenberg
2nd Vice: Lori Zimmerman
3rd Vice: Paul Braman
Finance Officer: Pete Peterson
Chaplain: Becky Fitzpatrick
Service Officer: Billy Williams
Sergeant-at-Arms: Jack Garber
Sergeant-at-Arms: Billy Williams
Historian: Vacant

2023-2024 Auxiliary Officers

President: Helene Stein
1st Vice: Michelle Cassens
2nd Vice: Vacant
Secretary: Bonnie Owen
Treasurer: Rita Steffel
Chaplain: Evelyn Noyes
Hospital&Sunshine: Ann Kiel
Sergeant-at-Arms: Linda Wildes
Historian: Bonnie Owen

www.tomahamericanlegion.org

Post 201 WIFI-PASSWORD: ALguest201

VOLUME 52 NO. 01

JANUARY 2024

- 5 FISH FRY (Legion Girls Softball)
- 11 LEGION/AUX MTG (7:00 p.m.)
- 12-13 GUN Show
- 14 PANCAKE BKFAST (8:00 a.m.)
- 17 40et8 Promenade (7:00 p.m.)
- 19 FISH FRY (40et8)
- 24-27 FISHING GEAR Show

MARCH 2024

- 1 FISH FRY (AL Baseball)
- 2 ROCK-n-ROLL COMEDY Show
- 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 14 LEGION/AUX MTG (7:00 p.m.)
- 15 FISH FRY (AL Baseball)
- 20 40et8 Promenade (7:00 p.m.)
- 29 FISH FRY (VA Employee Assn)

FEBRUARY 2024

- 2 FISH FRY (AAUW)
- 8 LEGION/AUX MTG (7:00 p.m.)
- 11 PANCAKE BKFAST (8:00 a.m.)
- 16 FISH FRY (4-H)
- 21 40et8 Promenade (7:00 p.m.)

APRIL 2024

- 5 FISH FRY (AAUW)
- 11 LEGION/AUX MTG (7:00 p.m.)
- 17 40et8 Promenade (7:00 p.m.)
- 19 FISH FRY (40et8)



INFORMER

Tomah American Legion Post 201

Legion and Auxiliary meet every 2nd Thursday of the month. Doors OPEN at 6:00, Meetings START at 7:00 in the Bar and Hall.

If you are mailing something to the Legion, please use P. O. Box 561, Tomah, WI 54660-0561.

Post Commander – Todd Steffel

Welcome to 2024, 2023 was a great year. We had numerous events that had good attendance. Our Memorial Weekend Car Show was a great turn-out again and getting bigger every year. As always, we are continually looking for new members to join and improve our ranks. 2023 saw a number of new younger members join which brings in enthusiasm and ideas to improve the post.

The Honor Guard is on the “Look-out” for volunteers for both the Honor Guard and Rifle Squad. If interested, please contact the Post and leave your information.

We are always looking for members to assist in American Legion projects. High School Scholarship selections, Boys & Girls State representation, Americanism Essay contests, Local Food Drives, Tomah VA support. Please don't hesitate to offer assistance in these projects.

Since the COVID restrictions have been lifted Tomah VA Voluntary Services has asked if the Legion would be able to offer some Volunteers again for “Gaming Days” for the resident Vets (i.e. Bingo, Board Games, help with Puzzles, ...). The Vets that are living there really appreciate these events. For info you can contact myself or Cyndi Rogge-Vol Services Bldg. 407, (608)372-1727.

2nd Vice Commander – Hall/Bar Manager – Lori Zimmerman

We had a great 2023 and looking forward to an even better 2024. With the help of the 3rd Vice & several of the Legion members we continue to update and improve the Hall and Bar areas. The Bar now has a new ATM Machine. We've added a new Flat Panel TV/Monitor into the Hall, repaired and updated the Restrooms, repaired exterior lighting. The Kitchen has had appliances upgraded with 3 new Deep Fryers being added. We are currently remodeling the 2 Hall Storage Rooms. The Hall, Bar and Foyer Floors were completely “Stripped, Cleaned and Wax Sealed”. Please Thank the following Legionnaires: Paul Braman-3rd Vice, Billy Williams-Service Officer/Sgt. at Arms, Jack Garber-Sgt. at Arms, Darren Zimmerman-Adjutant, Todd Steffel-Post Commander for all their help and work.

We are still looking for “Part-Time” Bartenders. If you wish to apply, please contact Lori Zimmerman-2nd Vice or leave a message on the Post Phone Voice Mail (608)372-6028.

3rd Vice Commander – Paul Braman

Updates on repairs: Replaced 2 Exterior Bldg. Parking Lot Lights, had Alliant Energy repair the South-East corner Parking Lot Light, Repaired Roof Flag Light, Replaced Hall East doors Door Handles & Deadbolts, Repaired/Remodeled Restrooms Toilet water connections – Replaced Tile Baseboards – Installed Water Cut-off valves – Painted Repaired areas, Stripped-Cleaned Seal Waxed Hall/Bar/Foyer floors, Currently Remodeling both Hall Storage areas.

Adjutant – Darren Zimmerman

Membership is going well. We currently “sit” at 70% paid-up for 2024 dues. 2024 dues are \$35. If you want to get paid-up, come to the next Legion meeting – Jan. 11. This will also afford you the chance to see all your fellow Legionnaires and catch-up on what is going on at the Legion.

Finance Officer – Pete Peterson

Finances are holding on “Plus” side. The 2nd Vice is reporting that Hall reservations are coming in. We have some substantial \$ outputs with the Hall/Bar Remodels and upgrades. The E-Board has kept the spending under control. The Friday Fish Fries have been helping out, but not like the “Old Days”. Need your presence at these upcoming events for the Hall support.

Service Officer/Sgt. at Arms – Billy Williams

I/we have helped several local Veterans with repairs and upgrades to their houses and vehicles. These Vets are on a controlled income and appreciated the help we were able to give them. The Legion always tries to help as much as we can, but monetary restraints dictate how far we can go. Coming to our Fundraising events aids in these endeavors. We have an on-going Tomah Food Pantry – Food Drive. All items are donated locally. We also just completed a “Hat-Scarf-Glove Drive”. These items were taken to “Cup of Joe/G.I. Need That” facility in Tomah to be distributed to local Vets and families. At this time of the year Vets and their families who are in need will go to this facility. If you have new or almost new items, please take them there. For the Food Drive we accept “Non-Perishables” at the Legion. The Food Pantry really appreciates “Boxed Meals” (i.e. Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper, Mac-n-Cheese, ...).

Sgt. at Arms – Jack Garber

Currently I have been placed as a local contact for the “OBON Society”. This organization works to return Japanese WWII items back to the former Japanese soldier’s families. By doing this it gives the Japanese families “closure” on their soldier’s fate. During WWII many Marines & G.I.s removed items from dead or captured enemy soldiers, seamen and airmen. Many of these items had writings and signatures on them. The “OBON Society” does their best to locate the families or in the case of no location the items are sent to a Japanese National Museum. So, if your family inherited any of these items and wish to return them please contact me at a Legion meeting.

Auxiliary President/Acting Membership Chairman – Helene Stein

Hello everyone! Wishing everyone a Happy Holidays. We had a wonderful Craft Show and Bake Sale. A huge THANK YOU to all who helped the before, during, and after this event. We will be brainstorming on other fund raisers. If you have something that you think we could raise some funds at PLEASE bring those ideas to the next meeting!

Scholarships - if anyone has Seniors this year and they could use some financial assistance please let me know. There are thousands of dollars waiting to be claimed. The student DOES NOT have to be attending a Wisconsin school to be eligible. Member dues must be current 2 years for these.

Updates to my President's letter: Our Unit is again a member of the Chamber of Commerce so that makes you a member also, please check out happenings on the Tomah Chamber website. Poppy and Essay Contests are available - do you have a student that qualifies to do these. Home schooled children can also participate in these contests - there are awards for each level that they attain. Badger Girls applications are due by mid-January in the school counselor’s office - this is open to any female that is a Junior in High School. We will be doing a community distribution of Poppies in May - will need help doing this. Do you have a location that would allow us to do a

Poppy Distribution? We are now meeting every month so for those that are busy in the winter or don't drive in the dark you have options to attend meetings.

MEMBERSHIP - Please send in your membership as soon as you can. We are at 79 of the 107 members that have paid. If you have someone that could be a member please reach out and let them know about our wonderful organization and all of the good work we do.

Still looking for a 2nd Vice President/Membership Chairman or someone to set up to being the President next season. Officer elections will be held in May of 2024. You can contact me at (608)343-3008 or at stitchkeeper@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Scheduled Meetings

The 40 et 8 meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 in the Bar, Doors OPEN at 6:00.

Every Monday night starting at 6:00 is Euchre. Doors **OPEN** at 5:00. Everyone is welcome to play. Just remember that this is a “Friendly Game” with seasoned players and rookies, so be kind to everyone playing.

The Bar is now **OPEN** every Friday night at 6:00. Saturdays at 4:00 and Sundays at 11:00 for Packer Games. On **Friday Fish Fry** nights doors **OPEN** at 4:00. Dinner is served at 5:00 till Gone.

Sunday Morning All-u-can-Eat Pancake Breakfast. Doors OPEN at 8:00 till Gone. Jan. 14 and Feb. 11. Proceeds support Hall Kitchen. Adults - \$7, Vets, 1st Responders & Kids under 10 - \$5

January 12-13 we will be hosting a **Gun Show**.

January 24-27 there will be a **Fishing Gear Show**.

* Please check on the Legion website: www.tomhamericanlegion.org or the Tomah American Legion Facebook page for times and additional info for these 2 events.

On March 2 there will be a “**Rock-n-Roll**” **Comedy Show**. We have hosted this before and had a **SUPER** turnout. Watch for info on the Legion website and Facebook Page for Ticket Sales to start. Price for the show will be \$25/person. Doors **OPEN @ 6:00**, Show **STARTS @ 7:30**.

Memorial Weekend Car Show at Winnebago Park “The Point”, Saturday May 25. Sign-in starts at 8:00, awards at 2:00ish, \$5/vehicle. Food and Drink will be available, plus there will be an assortment of Vendors for your pleasure. Don't miss this one, **Best** place in the area for getting pictures of your ride. 2023 we had 70 vehicles signed up.

As always please check the Legion website and Facebook Page for any new events and info on upcoming events.