



## Contacts

Veterans' Service Officer:  
Karen Knock, Asst. Joann  
Scribbins, 647-6101  
American Legion 13,  
Richland Center, Dallas  
Johnson, 647-4525  
American Legion 383,  
Lone Rock, Alan Eggers,  
574-3625  
American Legion 447,  
Viola, Tom Simonson,  
627-2233  
American Legion 491,  
Cazenovia, Wayne Morse,  
983-2856  
Blind Veterans of Amer-  
ica, Tom Peralta, 649-  
8407  
DAR, Karen Koch, 604-  
7759  
DAV 32, Jim Goodweller,  
574-0999  
Military Order of the Pur-  
ple Heart, Art Temby, 608-  
341-9046  
Richland Co Legion Com-  
mander, Cecil Groves,  
647-2196  
VFW Richland Center,  
Post 2267, Marge Free-  
man, 647-4884  
VFW District J, Karen  
Knock, 647-6101  
Vietnam Vets 7, Richland  
Center, Bob McCarthy,  
537-2720  
Voiture Locale 40&8  
#1268, Larry Winger, 604-  
5140  
Editor, JoAnne Potter,  
647-2199

# First Formation

## Events for Spring/Summer 2017: Memorial Day to July 4



**Memorial Day, May 29:**  
Cazenovia Legion 491:  
Parade with Weston High  
School Band, 9:30 AM,  
followed by program at  
Legion hall with flag retire-  
ment ceremony. There will  
be a speaker and songs,  
recognition of legion-  
naires, salute, and taps at  
cemetery. Luncheon fol-  
lows.

Richland Center VFW  
2267: Parade lineup at  
9:30 in front of the Post  
Office. Parade starts at 10,  
followed by ceremony at  
the cemetery. Any veterans  
not able to march can ride  
in the Chapter VII troop  
carrier. After the service,  
the Women's Relief Corp  
will hold a water service  
near North Park bridge in  
memory of those lost at  
sea.

Daughters of American  
Revolution: Karen Koch  
and Loretta McCarthy will

participate in RC parade  
and program.

VFW Post 2267, Richland  
Center: Parade step off  
9AM at RC library, pro-  
gressing to cemetery service  
by 10. Ladies' service at  
North Park following.

American Legion 383,  
Lone Rock: Services at Bat-  
tery Park for Lone Rock  
and Clyde 10AM, followed  
by services at St. Malachi  
Cemetery at 11.

American Legion 447, Vi-  
ola: Rifle Squad and Bugler  
at Readstown, 9AM. Rifle  
Squad and bugler at Viola,  
11AM

June 6: Richland Co. VFW  
meeting, Viola Legion Hall,  
7:30PM

June 8: RC VFW meeting,

7PM, Legion hall. Meal pre-  
ceding at 6.

June 9: Women's Relief Corp  
meeting, Brewer library,  
11AM, for more information,  
call 647-6658.

June 10: DAR will be repre-  
sented in Dairy Days parade.

June 12: Lone Rock Veterans  
Memorial meeting, village  
office, 6:30 PM.

June 13: RC VFW #2267,  
meeting at Legion hall 6:30,  
beginning with a meal.

June 20: Cazenovia #491,  
meeting 7PM at Legion hall.

June 20: Lone Rock post 383  
meeting 7PM at library.

June 24: DAR meeting at RC  
library to finalize September 18  
Constitution Day plans.

June 29: DAV meeting at RC  
Legion hall. Begins with meal  
at 5:30.

Events Ctd. Page 4



## From HQ

From Karen Knock, VSO

We have approximately 10 active Veterans organizations in our Richland County. To be a member in any of these groups sets you apart from the rest of the population. You served your country when others couldn't. It means you picked up a weapon and stood a post to defend your country. Each organization has certain criteria to be a member and I would like to give a brief description of those.

### Veterans of Foreign Wars post 2267, Richland Center

Those eligible for membership in the VFW are those that have received a campaign medal for overseas service; have served 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days in Korea; or have ever received hostile fire or imminent danger pay.

### American Legion post 491, Cazenovia

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces during any of the war eras, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving - you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

### American Legion post 447, Viola

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces during any of the war eras, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving -

- you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

### Disabled American Veterans Chapter 32, Richland Center

Any man or woman: \*who served in the armed forces during a period of war or under conditions simulating war, and was wounded, disabled to any degree, or left with long-term illness as a result of military service, and was discharged or retired from military service under honorable conditions.

### American Legion post 13, Richland Center

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces during any of the war eras, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving -- you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

### Vietnam Veterans Chapter 7, Richland Center

Anyone who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the U.S. armed forces between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975 in the Republic of Vietnam ("in-country"), or specific other duty locations between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

### Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 0770-WI-2 Memorial Brigade, Richland Center

All live persons of good moral character who are awarded the Purple Heart Medal by the Government of the United States AND are

Active Duty or have **Honorable** or **General** discharge are eligible.

### Voiture Locale #1268 40&8, Richland Center

Honoring World War I, Membership is by invitation and open to all Honorably Discharged Veterans and all Military Personnel currently serving the United States Armed Forces

### American Legion Post 383, Lone Rock

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces during any of the war eras, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving -- you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

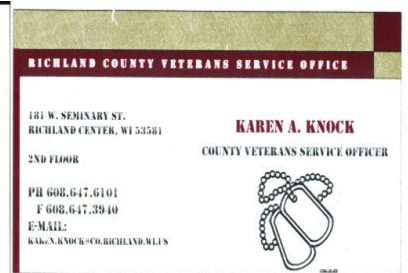
### Vietnam Veterans Legacy Vets MC, Richland Center

Initial requirements to be considered for membership are,

\*IF active/your military ID/DD214 and a thorough vetting of each candidate by club members.

~~~~~

If you are interested in joining any of these organizations please refer to the list of local commanders of each group found here in the summer edition of First Formation. Or contact your local Richland County Veterans Service Office ☺



## RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

County Commander Cecil Groves

Adjutant Jim Deitelhoff

Post 13 Richland Center, Post 383 Lone Rock, Post 447 Viola, Post 491 Cazenovia

The Richland County Council will next convene on Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup> at Post 447 in Viola. The business meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and all American Legion Members from any Richland County Post are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, Richland County American Legion Posts, hosted the annual County Government Day Program at the Richland County Courthouse in Richland Center. There were 63 students that participated from Richland Center, Ithaca and Weston High Schools. There were also four (4) foreign exchange students that participated in the program and learned first hand the fundamental roots and principals of democracy and a self governing society.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, members from three of the Richland County Posts assembled at the Third District Spring Conference, which was held in Fennimore. At that conference the names of fourteen (14) Deceased Richland County American Legion Members were recognized. Let that be a reminder to all American Legion members that we must continue to recruit new members to stem the tide of decreasing numbers as our membership ages. Let's not forget, it's the membership numbers that our elected government officials recognize and respond to. If we want to continue the veteran benefits and programs, we must continue to be active and at the very least lend our support to that effort, simply by being a member.

The 348 Flags in the Richland Center American Legion Flag Park were raised on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately thirty (30) volunteers that assisted in this most worthy and patriotic endeavor. Out of town and local volunteers showed up and assisted with the annual ceremony, which signals that Memorial Day is fast approaching.

The American Legion Auxiliary sponsored brat sales in the parking lot at the American Legion Clubhouse. The proceeds from this event are earmarked for "The Rev's Run", which is an American Legion Riders Legacy Fund Program. All the monies from the Legacy Fund are awarded to further the education of the children that have

## VET BIZ



Owner, Ken Rynes, Army

lost a parent on active duty since 9/11.

Earlier in the day, ALA Unit 13 presented a \$ 500.00 check to the Legion Riders, as they began their motorcycle pilgrimage around the third district of Southwester Wisconsin, collecting donations for this most worthy program.

Don't forget, if you are a veteran and you would like to be a part of the Memorial Day Program, come on down to the Post Office in R.C. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. There will be transportation available for anyone that wants to ride, or march if you're able and would like to do so.

Cecil Groves Richland County Commander.



## Events (Ctd. From page 1)

July 1: Lone Rock post 383 will dedicate First monument and flagpole at Garrison Park. Time TBA.



[Viola Post 383 Legion post and auxiliary will march in LaFarge parade, 10:30 AM DAR.](#) Karen Koch will represent DAR in LaFarge parade.

[Lone Rock post 383 will work the concession at the Lone Rock parade to benefit their Veterans memorial project.](#)

July 10: Lone Rock Veterans memorial meeting 6:30PM, village office.

July 18: Lone Rock post 383 monthly meeting 7PM.

July: Cazenovia #491 will participate in Cazenovia celebration.

## Congratulations!

Viola American Legion Post 447, Viola, and Commander Tom Simonson, received 100% participation commendations from the national commander on May 2, meaning that every veteran in their area has joined the post.



It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died.  
Rather, we should thank God such men lived.

—George S. Patton

## I Am A Veteran by Andrea Brett

You may not know me the first time we meet,  
I'm just another you see on the street;  
But I am the reason you walk and breath free,  
I'm the reason for your liberty.  
I AM A VETERAN

I work in the local factory all day,  
I own the restaurant just down the way;  
I sell your insurance...  
I start your IV.  
I got the best looking grand-kid's you'll ever see,  
I'm your grocer, your banker, your child's schoolteacher,  
I'm your plumber, your barber, your family's preacher.

But there's part of me you don't know very well,  
Just listen a moment, I've a story to tell.

I AM A VETERAN

I joined the service while still in my teens,  
I traded my prom dress for camouflage greens.  
I'm first in my family to do something like this.  
I followed my father like he followed his,  
Defying my fears and hiding my doubt,  
I married my sweetheart before shipping out.  
I missed Christmas then Easter.

— The birth of my son.

But I knew I was doing what had to be done.

I served on the battle front, I served on the base.

I bound up the wounded and begged for God's grace.

I gave orders to fire.

I followed commands,

I marched into conflict in far distant lands.

In the jungle, the desert, on the mountains and shores,

In bunkers, in tents, on dark earthen floors.

While I fought on the ground, in the air, on the sea,

My family and friends were

Ctd. On page 5...

## Richland Center VFW Post 2267

Commander Marge Freeman invites veterans who qualify to contact either her, Tim Perry (adjutant), or Dave Bee (quartermaster) to join a great organization. Call her at 647-4884

## Congratulation to New Officers

Newly appointed officers for area organizations:

Karen Knock, 3rd District VFW Commander

Alan Eggers, Lone Rock Legion 383

Wayne Morse, Cazenovia Legion 491

Jim Goodweller, DAV 32

Marge Freeman, RC VFW 2267

Bob McCarthy, RC Viet Vets 7

## THANKS

To Steve Cournia (AKA Grey Fox) and the Vietnam Veterans' Legacy Motorcycle Group for their donation of \$2000 to the veterans' transportation fund. Demonstrating support in action!

I Am A Veteran

Ctd. From Page 4

home praying for me.

For the home of the free and  
land of the brave,

I faced my demons in fox-  
holes and caves.

Then one dreaded day, with-  
out drummer, or fife,

I lost an arm, my buddy lost  
his life.

I came home and moved on,  
but forever was changed.

The perils of war in my mem-  
ory remain.

I don't really say much. I don't  
feel like I can,

But I left home a child,

And came home a man.

There are thousands like me,

Thousands more who are  
gone,

But their legacy lives as time  
marches on.

White crosses in a row,

And names carved in queue,

Remind us of what these  
brave souls had to do.

I'm part of a fellowship,

A strong mighty band,

Of each man and each  
woman,

Who served this great land,

And when old glory waves,

I stand proud,

I stand tall,

I helped keep her flying over  
you, over all,

I AM A VETERAN.

## **Camp American Legion 2017 Special Weeks**

### **Homeless & At-Risk Veterans Week, June 5-9, 2017**

For veterans and vet families who are presently totally homeless; in a transitional or temporary housing situation; an at-risk of losing their housing or for some reason a fra-  
zil housing situation, those vets living in another person's home area or are in an on-the-  
-move, searching for a place to stay situation.

### **Women Veterans Week, June 12-16, 2017**

### **Korea & Vietnam Veterans Week, June 19-23, 2017**

For those veterans who served "in-country" or directly off shore supporting in-country.

### **Post 9/11 Veterans Week, July 24-30, 2017**

For Post 9/11, Iraq, Afghanistan, GWOT veterans, single or/and with family

### **Caregiver Respite Retreat, August 7-11, 2017**

For caregivers of Post 9/11, Iraq, Afghanistan disabled veterans

### **Vision & Hearing Loss Veterans Week, August 21-27, 2017**

### **Veterans Recovery Week, August 28 – September 3, 2017**

For veterans living with substance use challenges

### **Diabetes Camp, September 8-10, 2017**

For veterans who have diabetes; who want to learn how to control it, manage it and  
live a healthier, better life with it.

### **Veterans Wellness Camp, September 11-14, 2017**

Teaching veteran's different healing elements and techniques to help them better man-  
age and live with their disability. Rehabilitative techniques through art, meditation,  
mindfulness, music, relaxation, creative writing, listening, yoga and more. Part of this  
program is also focused at and "offered" to medical professionals who are interested in  
learning and practicing these techniques and practices

IMPORTANT NOTE: A veteran can come to only week or program per year. So they must  
choose.

#### **GENERAL NOTES:**

☑ The "Homeless & At-Risk Veterans Week" and the "Caregiver Respite Retreat" are specific to just that  
week. That is the only week these individuals can come. All the other special weeks if for some reason a  
veteran cannot make it they can still come to CAL during one of our general attendance weeks. \*We en-  
courage them coming the special week because it is well – "special" and focused on their "life".

☑ How and with whom a veterans can come. \*If a veterans qualifies to come to Camp with a physician-  
documented illness, injury or disability but are able to function on their own and do it daily; then they  
come alone. They connect and enjoy the week with other single veterans. \*If a qualified veteran is unable  
to take care of their basic personal needs (walking, eating, hygiene, medication, communicating, etc.) and  
truly require a caregiver daily to do these care services for them; then they can bring another person as a  
"physician-approved caregiver. \*And finally if a qualified veterans has minor-age dependent children; we  
see them as a "family" and the whole family can come and we encourage it.

☑ To come a veteran must fill out an application.