



Wagner-Eberle-Sukowaty American Legion Post 477
PO Box 162

St Nazianz, Wisconsin 54232

Facebook: [American Legion Post 477 - St Nazianz](#)

Website: <https://americanlegionpost477-stnazianz.org>

Tee It Up Fore Troops website: [TUFT Golf Outing](#)

COMMANDER'S CORNER:

Hello fellow Legionnaires! We are a quarter of the way through 2026 and spring is in sight. As you read this newsletter or follow our Facebook page, you know it's been a very busy start to the year, but a very fruitful one. We ramped up our Buddy Check program and conducted a dozen or so in-home visits. I really enjoyed meeting each of those Legionnaires and learning your story. I know, to some, it seems to be a little overboard to receive a monthly phone call, but each and every one of you are important and this is a reminder of that! This reach out is also an avenue to keep in your mind that the Legion and fellow Veterans are here to assist you, whether you need a ride to the doctor or the grocery store, or to answer a question on benefits. You served, and we are here to serve you!

Post 477 has several Military members currently serving around the world. We appreciate each one of you and please know that we think of you, and your families, often.

Have a great spring, take care and I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

FINAL SALUTE:



Our good friend, USAF Veteran and fellow Legionnaire, Richard Young passed in early February. Rich was a master ship modeler, and skilled woodcarver, whose work is on display at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum. He always had a great smile and he was a huge hit on his Old Glory Honor Flight last year as he wore his hand-carved OGHF ballcap.

Nicholas "Nick" Birkle, Army Vietnam Veteran, and 40 year Legionnaire, transferred to Post Everlasting in late February. Affectionally known as Nick the Barber to nearly everyone in St Nazianz, he was the Village barber for 45 years. We're so happy that Commander Nett was able to conduct an in-person Buddy Check visit with Nick in January.



WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING LEGIONNAIRES TO POST 477:

Tom Klein – Vietnam Era USAF Veteran
Todd Meyer – Army Veteran

Matthew Krier – Army GWOT Veteran
Mike Miller – Vietnam Army Veteran

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO:

1) Post 477 members supported the SAL's dart tournament in January. Despite the snow and cold, we had 40 teams participate and we helped raise enough funds to support two Veterans going on their Old Glory honor flight.



2) Several Legion 477 family members attended the Department Mid-Winter conference in January, most for the very first time. We took in much of the great training, spent time enjoying the camaraderie of fellow Legion Family members in the hospitality suites, and explored the hotel suite we 'won' as part of a random draw for all 100% Posts in the Department.

3) In January, we had the opportunity to create a professional level video courtesy of Nicole Wooten of Bold Blazer Group and Videographer Cameron Hoerth. It took two hours to come up with a 2-minute video, but the results are pretty amazing. Nicole and her husband are donating \$\$\$ to the post for every 'share' we received on Facebook. The Commander took the opportunity to 'coin' both Nicole and Cam for their continued support to the Post and the St Nazianz community.



4) As part of Read Across America, Legion Family 477 members read to the students at the Cleveland Elementary School. The books we chose focused on the 250th Birthday of America, we gave each student an America 250 flag, and donated many of the books to the school library. As part of their America 250 series, WFRV Local 5 interviewed Commander Nett who took the opportunity to mention the importance of interacting with the students (our future) and the Legion's 250 Challenge.

UPCOMING/ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS:



1. The Post is offering a \$500 scholarship to High School Seniors and those continuing their secondary education. The scholarship is open to all area students, although preference is given to the children & grandchildren of Veterans or Military members and Veterans who are continuing their education. The scholarship application is attached to this newsletter, and it's also available for download on the Post website (Post 477 Info/Newsletter & Minutes).

2. Our Armed Forces Tee It Up Fore Troops golf outing is 13 & 14 May at Autumn Ridge. See the attached flyer or follow the QR code for additional information. You can sign up to golf, sponsor, donate or volunteer on the website or by calling Nancy at (920) 905-6273 or Dan (920) 973-7870. Please note that we are looking for an additional 20 volunteers who'll each receive a polo, a boxed breakfast and a buffet lunch. As we write this, we have space for 44 golfers on Wednesday, but Thursday is full. Please note that Veterans and Military members golf at no cost, but we ask that you register on the website.



3. Memorial Day activities are 25 May 2026. Our two teams will cover 16 area cemeteries. The St Nazianz area team will meet at the Family Pantry gas station at 6:45 and the Cleveland area team meets at Shadows at 7:30. The St Nazianz team will stop at Shadows for a 'grab and go' breakfast and to capture a 'big group' shot marking our 80th year of providing Memorial Day honors. Uniform is black slacks, white shirt with black tie, grey (Legion) or blue (SAL) vest, black shoes and legion headgear, but members are also encouraged to wear your military uniform (if it hasn't shrunk too much).
4. Our first 2026 Factory & Farm brat fry is Wednesday 17 June. If you work for or own a business or a big farm, please let everyone know that we will individually wrap, bag, and deliver brats to your location, within a 20-mile radius of St Nazianz. Cost is \$4 for a single and \$6 for a double. We would like orders by the 3rd of June. Our contact is Dean at (920) 693-3575, if he's not available, please leave a message.
5. We're selling Celebration of Freedom raffle tickets benefiting the installation of a secondary 60 foot flag pole, to include a new lighting system, on the Meeme Liberty Pole site. Tickets are \$20 each, 1000 max tickets sold. \$7500 in cash prizes. Drawing is at noon on the 4th of July at Shadows, you do not have to be present to win. We'll have tickets available during the St Nazianz Rummage Sales 23-25 April outside the Family Pantry gas station. If you're willing to help sell the raffle tickets, please reach out to Commander Nett.
6. On the 4th of July, America's 250th Birthday, we are hosting a Celebration of Freedom beginning at the Meeme Liberty Pole at 10, followed by a social at Shadows. Do you know someone (or a small group) willing to sing the National Anthem as part of our celebration? Please let us know. Additional info to follow as we solidify plans.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

MEMBERSHIP: Both the Post and the SAL have reached 100% and 'all-time highs' in membership in 2026 and we have three more months in our membership year! The post has 160 members, an increase of 13 members from the end of the 2025 membership year. The Sons Squadron has 33

members, very impressive for an organization which is just two years old!

Related to membership, Manitowoc County was the first County in the state to reach 100% resulting in earning a \$\$\$ incentive which will cover the cost of Youth Government Day!

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

1. Manitowoc County Youth Government Day is 21 April. We ask Legion Family members to arrive at the Eagles Club no later than 7:30, students arrive at 7:45, we'll walk to the courthouse at 8, group photo at 8:15, and be seated in the Branch 1 Courtroom by 8:35. We expect student to be released no later than 1:15-1:30. We are honored to have USAF Major General (Retired) Tim Zadalis as our guest speaker. General Zadalis serves on the Board of Advisors of the UW MIA Recovery & Identification Project (RIP) and he has participated in a successful recovery effort of a WWII Aviator at a crash site near Bastogne, Belgium. Please reach out to Nancy if you'd like to participate in YGD, uniform is business or business casual with the Legion hat.

2. As part of America's 250th birthday celebration, you'll notice that we've added the America250 flag in our flag displays and flag lines. The American Legion is an official national partner for America250 and encourages posts to participate in celebrating the nation's 250th birthday in 2026 with the America250 flag and of course, flying the US Flag. The America250 flag is considered a specialty flag and as such is on the far right of the flag line (as you're looking at the line).

3. The Legion 477 family is very actively participating in the American Legion Family USA 250 Challenge which tracks activities of fitness, wellness and/or community service in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary. Our team is 8th in the entire nation (of 345 teams) in fundraising. We encourage you to join our team by visiting [Join 250 Challenge](#). During registration add the team name "Legion 477 Family – St Nazianz." Donations to our team's fundraising efforts are made to: [Legion 477 Family Challenge 250](#). Proceeds benefit the Legion's Veterans & Children Foundation.

4. The American Legion Riders (ALR) Association consists of Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members whose focus is supporting the American Legion through fundraising and riding in local parades. To join the ALR, you must be a registered owner of a motorcycle of at least 500cc and hold a motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license. The next ALR meeting is on 28 March 11 a.m. at Post 75 in Fond Du Lac.

The WI ALR's primary fundraiser this year is "Cruise for a Cause; Family First" on 26-28 June 2026. This ride, open to the public, will benefit the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF), Operation A.L.F., and Badger Girls State. Register for the ride at: [Cruise for a Cause](#).



Recently Legionnaire Heather and SAL members Al and Kevin received their patches in the 6th District ALR. Please reach out to Heather if you'd like additional information (414) 704-4191.

5. Post members Dave (Sarge) and Darwin Matthies and Tommy Klein are flying with Old Glory Honor Flight Mission 79 on 7 April. SAL Member Dan and Legionnaire Nancy are joining the flight as Guardians. Please consider joining the welcome home celebration. Parking at ATW is free, gates open at 7, we expect the plane to arrive around 9:15 p.m. Bring your 'welcome home' signs and wear your favorite patriotic gear.



6. Have you been on your Honor Flight? If not, please note that you are eligible if you served in any component (Active Duty, National Guard, Reserves), at any location, at any time, prior to 7 May 1975. Veterans fly at no cost! The wait list is 15-18 months long, so sign up soon! Please reach out to Nancy at text (920) 905-6273 for assistance in completing the application.

POST MEETINGS:

Membership Meetings

General membership meetings are at the St Nazianz Village Hall. The SAL meeting begins at 5:30, the Legion follows at 6:30.

Upcoming meeting dates: 26 March, 23 April, and 28 May.

The Post Executive Committee (PEC) meets monthly to ensure that Post business/planning is completed. If you have anything you'd like to discuss, please reach out to Kevin, he'll add the topic to the agenda, and you'll be invited to address the PEC.

IMPORTANT POST, MANITOWOC COUNTY & 6TH DISTRICT DATES:

- 26 March – Post & SAL Meetings – St Nazianz Village Hall
- 28 March - Americanism Banquet - LaSure's in Oshkosh
- 6 April – Manitowoc County American Legion Council Meeting – St Nazianz Village Hall
- 21 April – Manitowoc County Youth Government Day
- 23 April – Post & SAL Meetings – St Nazianz Village Hall
- 26 April - 6th District Spring Conference – Neighborhood Bar & Grill
- 4 May – Manitowoc County American Legion Council Meeting - Reedsville
- 13 & 14 May – Tee It Up Fore Troops Golf Outing – Autumn Ridge
- 28 May – Post & SAL Meetings – St Nazianz Village Hall
- 25 May – Memorial Day Activities
- 17 June – Factory & Farm Feed
- 19-20 June – Tractor Days
- 4 July – Celebration of Freedom Raffle Drawing - Shadows
- 4 July – Celebration of Freedom – Meeme Liberty Pole
- 17-18 July – Department Convention - Appleton
- 19 July – Christmas in July
- 2 August – Cleveland Dairyland Festival Parade
- 26-30 August – County Fair
- 27 August – 3 September – National Convention - Louisville
- 12 September – Meat's Fest Parade

POST LEADERSHIP:

- Commander: Kevin Nett (920) 286-3009
- 1st Vice Commander & Membership: Jeff Bronson (920) 901-6801
- 2nd Vice Commander & Fundraising: Gary Bonnett (920) 652-6811
- Adjutant & Public Relations: Nancy Rivera (920) 905-6273
- Finance Officer: Chris Bestul (920) 629-9107
- Service Officer: Rebecca Pribyl (920) 645-8102
- Service Officer: Heather Bruckschen (414) 704-4191



CONTACT US:

Mailing address: PO Box 162 St Nazianz, WI 54232

Post Email: americanlegionpost477@gmail.com

Commander's Email: commanderpost477@outlook.com



Commander Kevin conducted Buddy Check visits with David (Sarge) and Terrance. Gary handed off 'winnings' to one of our Sweetheart Raffle winners. SAL member Al and Post members Bernie and Rebecca read to students at Cleveland Elementary School as part of Read Across America. Mike, Bernie, Kevin and Gary staffed the coat room during the GB RV Show. Legionnaire Nancy, and Terry, from WOMT radio, interviewed Wayne as part of the Stories of Service

