



# BADGER



# LEGIONNAIRE

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The Mission of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin is to provide service to veterans, their families and their communities.

## 103RD DEPARTMENT CONVENTION SET FOR JULY 13-17

The 103rd Department Convention will be held July 13-17, 2022 in beautiful Green Bay, WI. The week will begin with move-in and set-up on Wednesday, and business meetings beginning at 5 PM Wednesday with the Membership Committee.

Thursday will host the rest of the Department Committee Meetings and the Department Executive Committee Meeting. Friday will begin with District Caucuses, then the General Session with speakers, awards and nominations for Department Officers and will conclude with Convention Committees to decide on resolutions brought before the convention.



Daddy Ds Productions will be on tap Saturday Evening when the 2022/2023 new Legion Family Leadership team will be announced.



Saturday morning you will cast your ballot for the 2022/2023 Leadership, then attend the General Session with guest speakers, awards, resolution results and wrap up with the election results. Saturday Evening join the Department and the Past Commander's Club for a fun-filled

evening of entertainment by Daddy Ds Productions and meet the new Legion Family Leadership. Sunday will wrap up the weekend of fun, beginning with a Memorial Service, followed by Installation of the Department Officers and the Post-Convention DEC Meeting.

This year's speaker list is growing with a full array of speakers for all to enjoy.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will present Leadership Lessons from the Battle of the Bulge: The Ardennes Offensive (Battle of the Bulge) in December 1944 was the largest battle ever fought by the US Army. Using case

studies from the battle and the museum's exhibits, this talk explores important lessons for leaders of any organization.

We will have WDMA Secretary Kolar join us to share updates on Wisconsin's veterans' homes. Brig. Gen. Paul Knapp, Adjutant General of the Wisconsin National Guard will join us with updates on the current state of the National Guard.

Department and National Leadership from the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion, along with leadership from other VSOs will be bringing up-

dates to us on their organizations. We will be visited by a member of the National Convention Team to update everyone on all of the excitement surrounding the 103rd National Convention in Milwaukee.

There will be Program Spotlights for WALLECA, American Legion Baseball and Camp American Legion. Come learn about these exciting programs and see videos and slide shows from this year's events.

Watch <https://bit.ly/2022CONV> for registration, housing, updated events and speakers and more.



Daddy D Productions presents an amazing mix of songs from the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s. A musical time machine and we always include a patriotic salute, good clean comedy and a touch of country. For inspiration, we looked to the great variety shows of years past, added a big helping of Daddy D energy and came up with a winning combination!

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The American Legion,  
Department of Wisconsin  
2930 American Legion Drive  
P.O. Box 388 • Portage, WI 53901  
Phone: 608-745-1090  
Email: badger@wilegion.org

Executive Editor  
**Jen Swenson**

2021-22 Department Officers  
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**Change of Address & Other Information:**  
Subscribers: To report any upcoming changes of address, please ask your Post Adjutant to fill out a Membership Data Form and forward it to Wisconsin American Legion Headquarters. The change of address form that will be completed by the Post Adjutant should not be confused with the change of address card filled out at the Post Office. Department financial statements are available to Legionnaires in good standing upon written request through their District Commanders.

“Wisconsin”

American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Wisconsin  
2930 American Legion Drive  
P.O. Box 140 • Portage, WI 53901

**Bonnie Dorniak, Editor**  
**Diane Weggen, Department President**  
**Bonnie Dorniak, Exec. Secretary/Treasurer**

To change your address: Notify Unit Secretary  
Unit Secretary: Notify Department  
Headquarters on a Member Data Form

The “Wisconsin” deadline for copy is  
4 weeks before publication date.



**Greg Eirich**  
Department  
Commander

season a successful one! We’re also looking forward to WALLECA 2022, a wonderful program to influence youth interested in law enforcement. Thanks to Jim Johnson for his dedication to this program. Thanks to Chairman Bob Batty, the Board of Directors and the Alumni Association, who have done an outstanding job moving Badger Boys State from Ripon to UW-Eau Claire for 2022! Camp Director Jim Clement will have updates as we move forward with an exciting, now 4-season camp season. Following the Department Oratorical Regional and State contest, I want to thank the 6 represented Districts for



**Nathan Gear**  
Department  
Adjutant

you have any questions, please reach out to our Team Coordinators. This month’s article focuses on our abilities to be **resilient**. Understanding your resiliency will also benefit you when engaging in **Buddy Checks**. Many of us veterans and family members may recall a similar wellness program you attended during your military service. **What is your Resilience?**

**Resilience** is a big part of your personal readiness as a Legion Family Member. Every day we



**Randy Timms**  
State Secretary  
American Legion  
Riders Association

A great step forward – The American Legion Riders have been contributing in ways many never hear about. It’s important for every Legionnaire to better understand the role we play and how our efforts might assist the Post, Unit, or Squadron. Whether our efforts focus on the local community, the District we represent, or the Department itself, our efforts should be clear and coordinated.

To that end, we welcome Jen Swenson as the newly appointed Program Coordinator for the Legion Riders. Jen has served at the Department for two years and has a proven track record of system improvement. She is also the Legion Baseball Coordinator and has streamlined and modernized several areas of the baseball processes; saving office and volunteer hours. Her role as program coordinator is to assist in the administrative work within the program, while leaving all decisions within the Association Board, making the program more successful as a whole.

Representing 12 Districts can be challenging since each operates under a broad set of rules, but

★★★★ DEPARTMENT COMMANDER ★★★★★

Greetings Legion Family members! Going into spring, our department TEAM is hard at work with upcoming Department Programs. Special thanks to Commissioner Roger Mathison for his untiring efforts to make the upcoming Legion Baseball

going out and getting students interested. I’m sure that all 12 Districts will be involved 2023. March Membership Madness is wrapping up, and I hope you were part of this successful event and continue to pick up your late renewals and new members before the membership year ends. Jim Waltich, Membership Coordinator Chet Faith, and myself have worked hard this year to drive up membership.

This is a reminder that ALL posts are required to turn in a Consolidated Post Report. You will be hearing more of this from your District and County Commanders. Don’t forget your Children and Youth, and VA&R reports as well. If you need help, just ask.

Recently I participated in many Zoom meetings with Congressmen and Senators regarding Legislative Agenda. The Department representatives were well received and even though we could not visit in person, the Zoom meeting was positive and courteous. Thank you to all members involved in meeting with our legislators.

★★★★ DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT ★★★★★

Hello Friends, Families, and Legionnaires,

**Thank you** for your continued service within your communities. Your HQ’s Team is full speed ahead with Legion Programs, Spring Meetings, and preparing for Department Convention. If

face new challenges or endure hardships that could lead us down a harmful emotional or physical path. Resilience is based on five dimensions called pillars: Physical, Emotional, Social, Spiritual, and Family.

**Physical** readiness can provide self-confidence and abilities to lead yourself and others through tough times in life. People who get plenty of rest, eat nutritional meals, and exercise daily will enhance their quality of life.

**Emotional** readiness is our ability to notice when our emotions get in the way or help us succeed. Emotions like anxiety, anger, or sadness can be very important to your ability to prepare, get motivated, and reach back out to others.

**Social** readiness deals with our connection to other people which is a critical component of remaining resilient over the course of life. Even with one close companion in your network, you can sig-

nificantly increase your ability to overcome challenges or hardships versus facing them alone.

**Spiritual** readiness is the ability to sustain oneself through all aspects of life, especially through times of stress, hardship, and tragedy. This involves improving one’s spiritual posture through a self-directed process and guided by your religious, philosophical, or personal values: forming your core values identifying your purpose, motivation, character, and integrity.

**Family** readiness is focused on building and maintaining healthy relationships. Strengthening your problem-solving skills can help your family effectively navigate the challenges of daily living experiences. Our American Legion has resources to improve your quality of life, support financial emergencies, and build stronger family relationships.

One Team, One Fight!

★★★★ LEGION RIDERS ★★★★★

each has the autonomy to create procedures and practices that might be unique to that District. I’m confident we’d all agree some tasks should be standardized to make reporting and general communications more effective. There are many things we do “because we’ve always done it that way” yet our brothers & sisters in other districts may have made improvements we know nothing about.

Having a centralized voice that can review and communicate, while leaving authority at the District, will help us all. And, while the resources within a District may be limited, we’ll get the benefit of having greater opportunities by drawing on the expertise and general abilities at the Department level. Together we have made a strong start with a brochure redesign and the addition of a riders@wilegion.org email address to save printing costs on brochures. When leadership changes, these emails can simply be redirected to the new individual, requiring no reprints and keeping all previously circulated publication information current.

This is a new opportunity for the Riders but not a new effort at Department, so I expect the adage of “hit the ground running” will apply to Jen’s role. In addition to making the behind-the-

scenes function more efficiently, telling our story has become an important part of the role of Program Coordinator. Sharing our “Why”, our stories, and the good of the Legion Family is crucial. Through the many different media avenues, Jen can help share successes, grow membership, and further benefit not just the Veterans of Wisconsin, but also their families and communities. It won’t take long for clarity of purpose and questions being answered to become commonplace. Obviously, Jen will need some time to understand her role and the goals and requirements of the Riders, but the endgame is to make us even stronger than we are today. I welcome the opportunity to work with Jen and all of the Department Headquarters team as we look to make improvements.

Please submit any photos from previous rides that you’d like to share to Jen at riders@wilegion.org This will be a great way to build a photo library for future publications and media stories. If you have any questions about the Legion Riders, feel free to reach out to Randy Timms, District 1 President and State Secretary at alradistrict1president@gmail.com or State Riders President Ray Pasbrig rpassbrig3@w2.rr.com.



★★ LEGISLATIVE ★★  
**CHAIR**

**Paul Fisk**  
*Legislative Chair*

The legislature has completed its scheduled work for this biennium. They have returned home to run for re-election as happens every two years. The 99 members of the assembly and the odd numbered districts in the state senate, along with the eight members of the House of Representatives are also up for election. This year we will also be selecting a governor for the next

four years. There will be partisan primaries in August with the general election held on November 8.

Our charter from Congress puts limits on what we as an organization can do in any election cycle. We **SHALL NOT** promote the candidacy of anyone seeking office. This is also very clearly stated in our National and Department Constitutions. Does this prevent me from supporting the candidate of my choice or appearing at a campaign event? NO, just leave the legion gear at home. You are supporting the candidate not The American Legion.

Let's look at what we can do and what we cannot do with those seeking office.

- The American Legion is not permitted to endorse any candidate.
- The American Legion is not permitted to provide financial support to any candidate.
- The American Legion is not permitted to invite a candidate to address the post with out providing the same opportunity to the opposing candidate with the same notice.
- Never wear Legion gear including the cap to an event. The fact that it is visible implies endorsement by the Legion.
- If your post hosts a political event ensure the legion emblem is not visible, again that implies endorsement.

Remember these apply to the organization and not the individual. However, that said, as an individual do not cause someone to think you are providing the legion's endorsement. We advocate before legislative bodies all the time. We need to remain independent.



★★ WDVA SECRETARY ★★

**Mary M. Kolar**  
*WDVA Secretary*

Greetings Legionnaires! At WDVA, our mission this past year has been far from ordinary, yet I am so proud of all we have been able to accomplish. Support from the American Legion is key to continually making progress in our communities. We depend on solid partnerships with other state and federal agencies, legislators, community organizations and resources, veterans service organizations, and their passionate volunteers.

As you know, the pandemic has had a disproportionate effect on veterans. Most recently in February, we were thrilled that Governor Evers signed an Executive Order to address these challenges calling for a 'Blue-Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity' during his visit to our Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls. It will examine the issues facing Wisconsin veterans today and develop new, innovative initiatives to best meet their needs. That also means ensuring the financial capability to provide those services. The commission will make recommendations by the end of this year to ensure the ongoing solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund to provide more housing security, more mental health support, and more substance use treatment.

Recently, I was excited to be at our Veterans Home at Union Grove during the signing of two bills made law by Governor Evers on March 8. I'm particularly pleased with the bill that will make it easier for veterans to use the medical skills they've obtained during their service and transfer them to a civilian career. We need health care workers now, and that's why I'm thrilled to see smart, bipartisan ideas taking a step in the right direction. Not only is it filling a very real need for our facilities and our healthcare workforce, but it's also tapping into one of our state's greatest resources—our veterans.

I am continually grateful that WDVA and our veteran service organizations can always find ways to work together to develop new and innovative initiatives to meet the needs of all veterans who live in our great state. My sincere appreciation to all Legionnaires who voice their support of legislative efforts benefiting our vibrant and strong veteran community in Wisconsin.

WDVA is also holding regional suicide prevention forums around our state this spring to address the needs of our at-risk veterans. We hope you can join the one nearest to you. Information on the events can be found at WisVets.com.

Please also save the date for our Women Veterans Retreat set for June 4 at Trinity Equestrian Center in Eau Claire. All details and registration can be found at WisVetsWomen.com. I hope my fellow women veterans can join us!

Now that spring is here and thankfully with the threat of COVID-19 diminishing, the world is already looking brighter, and we can be cautiously optimistic.



★ SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER ★

**David Fuller**  
*SAL Detachment Commander*

Hello once again to all the Sons out there. Spring is finally upon us and with that comes a new beginning, a new outlook, and new commitments. I hope that one of your new commitments is to renew your Sons membership. If you have not renewed, you are no longer a member in good standing. We want you back, we need you back, and our veterans need you back. These are exciting times for the Sons because we are being asked to do more and be more of a force in the Legion Family. I know that our membership will be able to answer the call, but we need your membership soon. As long as you are renewing yours why not sign up a friend and make helping more fun?

For those who were unable to attend Midwinter, you missed out on some very good training and information on what's new as well as what is coming in the near future. You also would have missed out on updates on the National Convention, coming up in August in Milwaukee. If you have not experienced National Convention yet, you should really make it a point to do so with it being so close to home.

Another important convention is also coming up in July,

our own State Convention. If you are a delegate, you are able to cast a vote to decide who will lead us through the upcoming year. Make it a point to be there and be part of the decision making, **YOUR VOTE DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

There is a topic that I have not mentioned before but I am very excited about, and enjoy doing, **FUNDRAISING.** This is a very important part of what we do as the Legion Family. This is what allows us to support numerous groups and programs of the Legion. This is the first year of an ongoing fundraiser that a friend and I started at our Post and it was very successful. We are looking forward to doing it again next year and would like to offer help to any Squadron that has an idea that they would like to explore. If you need help give me a call at 608-449-7188 and we will work on it together.

At this point I would like to share with you the results of a fundraiser that Hartland does each year. This is the third year that Hartland has done their fundraiser for homeless vets. This is a Legion Family event led by the Sons. Mark and Terry do a tremendous job and this year managed to raise more than \$55,000. Congratulations to Hartland on a job well done.

Thank you to all of the Sons and a big thank you to our **VETERANS.**



★★★ FINANCE DIRECTOR ★★★

**Lee Roundy**  
*Finance Director*

**CALL TO ACTION: DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICE EXPANDING TO POSTS AND SQUADRONS**

Call to Action: Department Finance Office Expanding Services to Posts and Squadrons

New and improved! The Department Financial Services Office (DFSO) is very excited to announce that it will increase its support services to Wisconsin Legion Posts and Squadrons beginning July 2022. The current DFSO call volume is averaged 13 new requests per day, 64 new e-mailed requests, seven days a week. Said Finance Director, Lee J. Roundy, "I am deeply gratified that Legion Post [and Squadron] Finance Officers, donors, sponsors, and volunteers are connecting with the financial aspect of Legion programs, Posts [and Squadrons] in a variety of ways and we can do even more to support them."

Beginning July, the DFSO:

1. will launch its "Finance" page on the Department website to provide accurate and timely financial information
2. post monthly FAQs and 60-second clips "How To" topics such as:
  - a. Form 990 Preparation and Pitfalls
  - b. Budgeting 101
  - c. Voluntold Finance Officer, Now What?
  - d. Writing a Grant – Where Do I Start?
  - e. Fundraising – When Do I Need a Raffle License?
3. will develop and implement a system to aid Posts in its annual Form 990-N filing with the IRS – *coming in March 2023.*



★ AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION ★

**Paul Fisk**  
*Foundation President*

**"FREEZIN' FOR A REASON" EXCEEDS ITS MISSION TO HELP WISCONSIN HOMELESS VETERANS**

*Bravo Zulu Orfordville Squadron 209!*

A culmination of six-months' planning and the tireless passion and energy of dedicated volunteers executed an entire weekend of camaraderie, purpose, and of hope. Wells-Davis-Young-Neal Squadron 209 Orfordville and Wisconsin Detachment Commander David Fuller, Squadron Members Jim Rackow and Bill Fitters hosted the first annual "Freezin' for a Reason" March 18-20, 2022 at Legion Post 209 Bar and Banquet Hall, as advocate warriors raising awareness and funds for Wisconsin's homeless Veterans (and their families). The volunteers, Amanda, Colleen, Penny, Sue, Karen, Mike, Charlie (goes by Dan), Squadron and Post members from Orfordville, Monroe, the Two Jerrys from Argyle, and so many more exceptional folks filled the event with warmth and hilarity through every activity, meal, and story shared. Although prohibited from disclosing the exact amount of dollars raised to support homeless Veterans – no money will be used to cover overhead costs,

such as wages. All funds will be used in a variety of ways, to offer a helping hand to Veterans with deep gratitude for their service. While it is unconscionable that homelessness exists for Veteran families, who have sacrificed so much for our freedoms, the funds raised could not have happened without the generous donations of time, talents, and treasures of so many. Donated pies, freezers filled with choice meats, baskets to raffle, silent auction items, and the live auction items from Blonhaven Hunt Club LLC, Peirce Home Furnishings, Gary Walters, and (Billy) Burshard Welding LLC have given the best repayment to Veterans – hope in the knowledge they have not been forgotten, but standing witness to the extraordinary power of those who show up and stand for what is right.

**The Wisconsin American Legion Foundation supports and recognizes all Veterans for their outstanding service to these United States of America.**





*“Surround yourself with good people and they will lift you up!”*

**OUR MISSION**

*Helping to Heal - those who served, continue to serve, and their families, through Wisconsin's Northwoods Experience*

**OUR VISION**

*Giving Wisconsin Veterans the pathway to quality of life*

**OUR VALUES**

*Honor and Stewardship*

# CAMP AMERICAN LEGION . . .



**Jim Klement**  
Camp American Legion Director

## CAMP AMERICAN LEGION: THE SEASON APPROACHES

Greetings from Camp American Legion. The Camp season is quickly approaching and we are excited to see the cabins full and camp once again a busy place.

The operations of Camp American Legion rely on numerous things to happen to ensure we are successful in accomplishing our mission. Everything from donations, volunteers, campers and activities need to be coordinated and organized. This is why Camp American Legion needs the support of our Legion Family.

Camp American Legion has been fortunate that we have some great organizations, posts and individuals that consistently donate. There are three types of donations that Camp can receive. We are ever so thankful for any donations that we receive.

The first, is monetary, which helps with the operating costs. Items like the utility bills are paid for with unrestricted funds. All monies received for specific areas at Camp are restricted funds and get put into the budget just for that area or item.

The second is donations of items. Camp will always need cleaning supplies, paper products and food. The biggest cost to Camp is food items with meat products being one of the highest costs.

Lastly, a donation of time. This is one of the most valuable things that someone can donate to Camp. Everyone will run out of time. We have been very blessed to have some of the best volunteers but as Camp evolves we will need more. If you would like to volunteer, please contact us.

The main part of Camp American Legion is the campers. These are the veterans and their families that come to Camp to heal and reconnect. It is amazing how many veterans in the state have no idea of Camp American Legion. This needs to change. We need to spread the word about Camp

American Legion so there is not a single veteran in the state that does not know about this wonderful resource.

At Camp, campers enjoy a wide variety of activities that they can participate in. The main activity that campers enjoy here is fishing. Between Big Carr Lake and Lake Tomahawk, Camp offers some of the best fishing in the state. Just being in the outdoors is an activity in itself and enjoying the sunshine and nature. We have a lot of activities but we are always looking to improve. If you have a special talent or skill that you think would be great to introduce to Camp, please let us know.

Camp American Legion is such a wonderful place but this is only because of the support we get from the WI American Legion family. Anyone that would like to see firsthand what your support does, take a day and come to Camp. I encourage all Legion Posts to schedule a tour during the summer. Looking forward to hearing from you!

*To learn more about the mission of Camp American Legion or to get involved with answering the call, visit [wilegion.org](http://wilegion.org) or find us on Facebook.*



**Chet Faith**  
Membership Coordinator

### ★★★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★★★★

Membership Saves Lives.

Hello everyone and I hope you're starting to enjoy the nice spring weather that is starting to creep across our lovely state. While the school year is starting to wind down for all of the high schoolers and many of the seniors will be starting their next adventure at colleges across the country, rest assured that your membership dues went towards helping many students start their new lives.

There are numerous programs and scholarship opportunities throughout the American Legion at all levels. Many posts, counties, and districts have scholarships for local high school students. These can range from \$100 to a couple of thousand dollars. Through programs like Oratorical competitions, participants can receive scholarships up to \$18,000 if they win at National while they still win scholarships at different levels along the way. Other programs such as WALLECA, Legion Baseball, Jr. Shooting Sports, and Badger Boys State also provide opportunities for participants to receive scholarships

and different opportunities for the future. None of Department of Wisconsin's youth programs would be possible without the support of our members.

When Legionnaires pay their yearly dues, obviously it funds these amazing programs, but how does membership truly support these programs? It is the support and volunteered hours that Legionnaires across the state provide to give these students the ability to explore new possibilities for the future. Each minute Legionnaires help support youth programs it multiplies 100-fold in how it affects those lives. Legionnaires have always stood strong as role models. When we volunteer, we are those strong role models. Our presence provides a positive impact on our communities.

Just remember, as you look at the smiling faces in the local newspaper, see status updates and new pics populating your social media page, and even get invitations in the mail; your continued support has given and continues to give brighter futures to many students across the entire state of Wisconsin. That hour of volunteering may have just saved a life of a teenager that you don't even know.



**John Gessner**  
Department Chaplain

### ★★★★ CHAPLAIN ★★★★★

What a great day to be an American and to celebrate our hard won freedoms. Not every country is as fortunate as ours as seen in the recent Russian-Ukrainian War. May we continue to keep the Ukrainian civilians and defenders in our prayers and may we continue to

pray for cooler heads to prevail in Russia for a peaceful outcome and the return to normalcy in the region.

Closer to home, it is my pleasure to announce that after 3 years of hiatus and coronavirus lockdowns, we are planning for a Chaplains retreat at Camp American Legion on May 21-22, 2022. The event is open to Wisconsin American Legion Districts, Posts and other persons serving in Chaplain positions. Our goal is to provide some time for training, reflection, sharing of our experiences in an effort to

expand our tool boxes as we minister to our fellow American Legionnaires. We are still assembling our agenda and suggestions from the field are welcome. We will meet for a full day on Saturday and half day on Sunday. Meals and lodging will be provided with a free will offering to allow Camp American Legion to continue to offer facilities and services to Legionnaires and their families.

We have a limit of 24 attendees (approximately 2 from each district) on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to attend, please e-mail me at [jap-gessner801@gmail.com](mailto:jap-gessner801@gmail.com) and I will provide additional event information. Please keep this event in prayer that it would be an uplifting time for our chaplains.

And now, may the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious unto you; and the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace. Amen.

## BADGER BOYS STATE

### VOLUNTEERS ARE GOLDEN

**By Thomas Skrenes**  
First Assistant Director  
Badger Boys State

You hear it almost everywhere! "Where are the young people? Who will replace us when we are gone? How can we find new leaders who will lead our organization?" Just about every non-profit organization, service group, religious organization and veterans group has the same struggle. Finding new and energetic leaders needs to be "Job One" for groups who want to exist and prosper in the years ahead.

Badger Boys State, a program of the Wisconsin American Legion has relied almost entirely on volunteers since its beginning in 1939. There are today over 120 volunteers who come and serve a week at Boys State 2022, at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire from June 12-18. They will come from across Wisconsin and also from a dozen states to give of their time, even providing their own transportation expenses so they can be a part of the Boys State experience. Some are college students, some are professionals in business, government, the law and many other career paths. Some of the volunteers are retired. It is a unique group of committed individuals who serve at Boys State.

What have we learned at Badger Boys State about volunteers that may help you in your Legion Post or community service group?

**1. Keep asking!** Make the recruitment of new members and leaders a regular agenda item. Don't give up when a leader prospect says no. Be persistent



and offer various opportunities to lead and serve. Have a clear "job description" of the leadership opportunity.

**2. Mentor new leaders.** Give helpful positive "feedback." Ask your new officers or group leaders to give you honest suggestions on how to accomplish the mission of the organization. Take their new ideas seriously.

**3. Affirm your leadership team.** Recognize the work of the volunteers publicly. Send thank you notes and emails. Reward years of service with public recognition. At Boys State 2022 we will have service awards for volunteers from 5 years to 50 years of service. Never underestimate recognition. It is important to be appreciated!

Let's believe in our mission! The American Legion does wonderful work for our country and our communities. So do local service groups and religious communities. We have a lot to contribute and a lot of work to accomplish. Just remember that "Volunteers are precious and golden."

**2022, A SPECIAL SEASON FOR  
AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL**

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225 Teams  
3500 Players  
35 Regional Tournaments  
5 State Tournaments  
50th All-Star Game  
&  
Reunion of past All-Stars

Join in and be a part of a  
landmark season!

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE!  
WILEGION.ORG/LEGION-BASEBALL**

Show your support for 2023 ★ 2024

**Daniel J. Seehafer**  
for  
National Commander



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



It's Personal!

Veterans • Defense • Americanism • Youth



## THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

First and foremost, I want to thank the Legion Family for the thoughts and prayers with the recent passing of my wife's dad. This act of love and kindness was truly comforting. Thank you! However, since death is untimely my Iowa visit had to be postponed—family first! And yet, this journey towards your National Commander in (September) 2023-2024 continues and is definitely starting to ramp up.

By the time you read this article, my trip to Oregon will be completed. I'm really looking forward to this visit, not only to reconnect with friendships but to see what they have planned for me while I'm there—for their visits always have a purpose. I've been there before as the National Membership Chairman and conducted a daylong training session within the area of membership. It was a great opportunity for me to speak in front of a Department's leadership team, even though I do this throughout my profession. Overall, these Department visits are essential, and you really get to know a candidate's character, interests within and outside the Legion as well as their heart—just ask our NECs, past and present!

This leads me to a pressing question that came across my campaign trail. Basically, if I get elected as National Commander, what benefit does Wisconsin receive? It's the same question that our older members come across when they ask the younger veteran to join our organization: "What's in it for me?"

Naturally, I could ask the same thing! However, I could also add, "Is it worth it?" Is this journey worth the time I'm away from not only my work, but more importantly, my family—my wife, my kids, and even my friends? I've missed annual events that my late dad and I started when I was a child. I rearranged my schedule to accommodate Legion family events. When I was your Department Commander, I would attend numerous events throughout our state. However, most of the time, I couldn't stay, because I had Sunday responsibilities at my church, St. Stephen—Horicon.

Then, one day, I received a phone call from one of my members who also was a County Deputy Sherriff. He had a veteran friend who was thinking of ending his life. Since he knew that I was deeply involved in the American Legion, he called me to see if I could help. I received his phone number, made one call to our Department, and within a short time, I was told that he was on his way to the VA. I'm not saying I alone saved his life, but it has forever answered the question: "Is it worth it?" And the answer is a definite YES!!!!

Therefore, I will continue the journey of sacrifice and service so that ALL veterans will also continue to receive what they have earned through their service. After all, it's worth it and the benefits; well, they're priceless.

Again, thank you for your continued financial support and, most of all, your friendship!

It's Personal,  
Daniel J. Seehafer  
Candidate for National Commander/Legislative Chairman  
Department Commander 2016-2017  
National Chaplain 2010-2011

### Daniel J. Seehafer — Candidate for National Commander

Dan, I support your "It's Personal" campaign for National Commander of The American Legion. Therefore, to help prepare the way for this vital endeavor, I have enclosed my special gift of:

\$10    \$25    \$50    \$100    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable and mail to:  
Daniel J. Seehafer for National Commander  
W7550 Shady Lane  
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Please charge my gift to:    Check    Visa    MasterCard    American Express

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Unit/Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support!



## IROC'S BADGER RUN

**JUNE 23**  
Registration and Safety presentation, Sheboygan

**JUNE 24**  
Sheboygan Post 555  
Wrightstown Post 436  
Fond du Lac Post 75  
Germantown Post 1  
Hartland Post 294  
Mukwanago Post 375

**JUNE 25**  
Delavan Post 95  
Monroe Post 84  
Verona Post 385  
Dodgeville Post 97  
Richland Center Post 13

**JUNE 26**  
Sparta Post 100  
Onalaska Post 336  
The Highground Veterans Memorial Park, Neillsville

**EVENT IS NAMED IN HONOR OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER EIRICH**

Iroc's Badger Run is raising funds for the Highground Rising project. The Highgrounds has numerous programs to support vets: whether dealing with homelessness, PTSD or a physical disability. The funds raised will help build a more adequate building to display artifacts, conduct ceremonies indoors when necessary and enlarge their museum and store.

**[bit.ly/irocbadgerrun](http://bit.ly/irocbadgerrun)**

**ALL MOTORCYCLISTS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE**

Contact: Corey Doehrmann  
wialrad2.president@gmail.com  
Randy Timms  
alradistrict1president@gmail.com







**103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Department Convention**  
**Hyatt Regency Green Bay**  
**333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301**  
**July 13-17, 2022**

This is your registration form only; this is **NOT YOUR DELEGATE FORM**. Delegate Forms are mailed to the Post **30 Days prior to Convention, June 15, 2022** per the Department Constitution and Bylaws. It is advised however, to **register prior to this date**.

Remember **all Legionnaires are encouraged to attend** the Department Convention, not just Delegates and Alternates. You can also register online at [wilegion.org](http://wilegion.org).

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ District Number: \_\_\_\_\_

AL Post #: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ SAL Squadron #: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	NUMBER	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Registration Fee		\$25.00	
Registration Fee after July 11, 2022		\$30.00	
Saturday Evening PCC Event <i>Entertainment by Daddy D Productions</i>		\$15.00 each	
		<b>Total Enclosed:</b>	

Make checks payable to The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR** enter credit card information below

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Return with payment to:

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin  
 Attn: Convention  
 P.O. Box 388, Portage, WI 53901  
 Or email to: [angela@wilegion.org](mailto:angela@wilegion.org)

## DUAL MEMBERSHIP CLUB LOOKING FOR MEMBERS

29 years ago I was at the Legion Department Convention in Oshkosh when a Legionnaire from my post ask me if my father was in the military. I replied that he served in the Navy during WWII, and he got me into his post. This Legionnaire informed me that if I was eligible to join the Sons of the American Legion, I could be a member of the Dual Membership Club.

When I first became a member in the club, George Brown and Larry Rice were running the club. We met at Midwinter Conference and we had lunch on the club. When George and Larry passed away, the club went downhill until we no longer had meetings.

At this last Midwinter, I asked to have a room to

see if anyone was interested in revisiting the club. Eight people including myself attended with great enthusiasm.

To be eligible you have to be a Legion member and the son or grandson of a Legion member. You are also eligible if you are the son or grandson of a deceased veteran. If you are interested in joining us, I will be getting a room at this year's Convention in Green Bay. We have a lot of Ts to cross and a lot Is to dot. We hope to get this train out of the station and running again.

If you have questions, my name is Dan Jakubczyk, phone number 414-764-6753, email [djakubczyk@mail.com](mailto:djakubczyk@mail.com) Hope to see you in Green Bay.

## 103RD ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

### JULY 13-17, 2022

### HYATT & KI CENTER ~ GREEN BAY, WI

2022 CONVENTION SCHEDULE  
 (Visit [bit.ly/2022CONV](http://bit.ly/2022CONV) for a full schedule.)

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Move in/Set up Day  
 5 PM Wisconsin American Legion Foundation  
 Membership Committee Meeting

#### THURSDAY, JULY 14

7 AM Americanism Committee Meeting  
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation  
 Credentials Committee Meeting  
 Fundraising Committee Meeting  
 Religious Emphasis Committee Meeting  
 9 AM National/Homeland Security Committee Meeting  
 Policy Committee Meeting  
 Children & Youth Committee Meeting  
 Marketing & Communications Committee Meeting  
 Construction Oversight Committee  
 11 AM Finance Committee Meeting  
 Convention & Activities Commission Meeting  
 Legislative Committee Meeting  
 Hospital Committee Meeting  
 1 PM Legion/Auxiliary/SAL DEC Luncheon  
 2 PM WALCAA Meeting  
 4 PM Department Executive Committee Meeting  
 District Commanders Convention Briefing following DEC

#### FRIDAY, JULY 15

7:30 AM District Caucuses  
 8 AM Sergeant-At-Arms Meeting  
 9 AM Blood Drive  
 Convention Session  
 12 PM Dual Membership Club Meeting  
 1 PM WALPA (Press Association)  
 2 PM Americanism Convention Committee  
 Children & Youth Convention Committee  
 Finance Convention Committee  
 Constitutional Amendments Conv. Comm.  
 Membership Convention Committee  
 Legislative Convention Committee  
 National/Homeland Security Conv. Comm.  
 Resolutions Convention Committee  
 VA&R Convention Committee  
 3 PM Credentials Committee  
 4 PM Legion Ballot Clerk Meeting  
 4:30 PM GNUTS Social

#### SATURDAY, JULY 16

7:30 AM District Caucuses  
 8:30 AM Legion Elections  
 9:30 AM Convention Session  
 1 PM Chaplains Luncheon  
 Past Department Commanders Luncheon  
 Past Department Commanders Spouses Luncheon  
 5 PM Church Services  
 7 PM PCC Party

#### SUNDAY, JULY 17

8 AM Memorial Service  
 9:30 AM Convention/Installation Session  
 Close of Convention  
 Post DEC Meeting

# WISCONSIN HERO OUTDOORS MAKES FIRST WINTER CAMP AT CAMP AMERICAN LEGION

Saturday the 26 of February the Wisconsin Hero Outdoors (WHO) was at Camp American Legion, the first time the Camp was open for winter campers. They were there to ice fish the lakes around Camp American Legion. Big Carr Lake and Little Lake Tomahawk, which are the lakes that surround camp. They tried the first morning and discovered 8-10 inches of heavy slush on both lakes. Wisconsin Hero Outdoors then went into Lake Tomahawk and fished the town bay. The first day was slow but managed enough fish to show some of the Veterans how to fillet a fish. Eric Falkner, (WHO Executive Director) then deep fried the fish for them to eat that night. Fishing then picked up on the second day with that night being the best. The Veterans were happy to be a part of this historic event for Camp American Legion and to just enjoy a couple of days on the ice.

This is a little about the Wisconsin Hero Outdoors taken directly from their website, Connecting veterans, first responders, and their families to outdoor activities in Wisconsin. - Wisconsin Hero Outdoors (wiherooutdoors.org)

Here at Wisconsin Hero Outdoors, we serve our Veteran and First Responder community in 3 primary ways:

We work hand in hand with the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical System, including the In-Patient Residential Mental Health Program, Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Departments, and Recreational Therapy Departments to provide outdoor excursions for our Veterans under the care of the VA. Currently, we work with the Milwaukee, Madison, Tomah, and North Chicago VA.

Coordination with Veteran Service Organizations and Non-Government

Organizations to provide an outdoor activity element to their organizations. Examples include our collaboration with Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin, AMVETS, American Legion, United Special Sportsman's Alliance, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Vets on the Fly, and a variety of local police and fire departments.

Lastly and possibly most important, we conduct group outings with individual and small groups of Veterans and/or First Responders from hunting and fishing excursions to golf, SCUBA diving, and equestrian programs.

**Pictured are Eric Falkner, Brett Davenport, John Zimmerman, Evan Underberg, Eckhard Hoffer, Sam Rogers, Mickael Brickson, Front row Tim McLean and Kelly McClanahan. Not pictured is the Camp American Legion Guide for the day, Dave Nance.**



## Harold E. Rihn Jr. Candidate for Department Vice Commander



Harold E Rihn Jr., Past 3rd District Commander and 17 year PUFL member of Homer and Lee Parkinson Post 170 in Mineral Point. Harold will be retiring on July 29, 2022, after 42 years of federal service, (12+ in the USAF and 30 with the Dpt of the Interior). He served in the USAF as a Security Policeman from 1980-1992. After security police academy graduation he was stationed at Warner Robins Air Force Base Georgia. In October 1981 he deployed to Bitburg Air Base, Germany. Harold achieved the rank of E5 Staff Sergeant in 1985 while at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan. From 1986 to 1990 was stationed at Ramstein Air Base with the 567 Security Police Squadron and 377 Security Police Group. Following the 1988 Fultag Air Show disaster, he worked midnight shifts protecting the crash site. In 1990 moved to Fairchild Air Force Base Washington working with the 410th Security Police Squadron. Ronald married his wife, Connie, in 1985. They have three daughters Amanda, Sarah and Emily, who are all Post 170 Auxiliary members.

In 2005 Rihn joined the American Legion and transferred into Post 170.

His titles held include:

- 2006-3rd Vice Commander Post 170
- 2007-1st Vice Commander Post 170
- 2008-Iowa County Commander
- 2009-Became 3rd District Oratorical and Children and Youth Chairman
- 2010-Rereelected Iowa County Commander
  - 3rd District Vice Commander for Iowa and Green Counties. In 2010 and 2011 Iowa County had the highest percentage membership in WI and increased program participation in schools.
- Dept Americanism Committee Vice Chair
- 2011-Communications Committee Vice Chair
- 2012-County Commander of the Year & Achieved 100% Membership
  - Department Communications Committee Chair
- 2012-2016-Iowa County Adjutant
- 2013-2016-Department Communications Committee Member
- 2016-Elected 3rd District Commander
- 2016-2017-DEC Liaison to Department Communications
- 2017-2018-DEC Liaison to Department Fundraising
- 2019 to Present-Youth County Government Chairman on the Department Americanism Committee
  - Present-Adjutant Homer and Lee Parkinson Post 170
  - 3rd District Americanism Chairman and Sergeant at Arms.

### TESTIMONIAL DINNER for SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT COMMANDER **DAVID C. FULLER**

Saturday, June 4, 2022

Hosted by Wells - Davis - Young - Neal Squadron 209  
3913 S State Rd 213, Orfordville, Wisconsin

Reception 5:00 p.m., Cash Bar    Dinner 6:30 p.m.    Cost \$25.00 per person

#### Motel Information:

**Janesville (I-39/90 Exit 171A)**  
AmericInn by Wyndham  
3900 Milton Ave.  
608-371-9981

Microtel Inn  
3121 Wellington Pl.  
608-752-3121

**(I-39/90 Exit 175)**  
Baymont by Wyndham  
616 Midland Rd.  
608-758-4545

#### Beloit (I-43 Exit 2 STH 81)

Rodeway Inn  
2956 Milwaukee Rd.  
608-364-4000

Hampton Inn  
2700 Cranston Rd.  
608-365-2666

Quality Inn  
2786 Milwaukee Rd.  
608-362-2666

**Evansville**  
Boarders Inn and Suites  
715 Brown School Rd.  
608-882-0936

**Brodhead**  
Pearl Island B&B  
905 10<sup>th</sup> St.  
608-897-9401

#### DINNER RESERVATIONS

Reservations and payment are required and must be received by May 28, 2022

Make checks payable to Wells - Davis - Young - Neal Squadron 209

Mail to:

**Karl Stuvengen, 414 East Spring St., Orfordville, WI 53576**

Or make reservations online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/detachment-commanders-testimonial-dinner-tickets-262359723997>, or scan the QR code below on your smart phone.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SQD/POST/UNIT # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$25.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.





## WALLECA SHOWS SUCCESS IN GRANT COUNTY

Since 2012, when I took over as Sheriff in Grant County, I became an active member of the Badger State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA). Over the past year and a half, I've had the honor of serving as President of the BSSA. The BSSA is honored to support the Wisconsin American Legion Enforcement Career Academy (WALLECA). It wasn't until several months ago that the program directly impacted my office.

Like most law enforcement agencies in the nation, we've had our hiring woes, but jail staffing has proven to be a challenging task as of late. In early January of 2022, we interviewed a young lady interested in a jail position. Throughout the interview with the Chief Deputy and me, we could see the excitement in her eyes for the opportunity. One of the questions we ask is, "Why corrections?" She immediately referenced the WALLECA experience and how that helped shape her desire to get into corrections. We hired her, and recently I sat down with her to get a little more insight into her experience.

Rebecca Hoyer, from Belmont, WI, attended WALLECA in July of 2019 between her Junior and Senior year of high school. This was after she told her mom to find her something to do over the summer. She wanted to go as a way to explore law enforcement as a possible career, as she had previously done a ride-along with some local law en-



forcement. As we spoke about the experience, I could see its impact on her career decisions. She commented, "it was great, it was awesome!" Becca also talked about going there knowing nobody and coming out a week later as best friends. She keeps in contact with several of them who are now in law enforcement.

Becca stated how much she liked how they covered so many different areas of law enforcement and which way you could go with it. She said they gave you a good mixture of the areas of law enforcement, including corrections. Although the physical training was difficult, the teamwork atmosphere made it worthwhile. The program's impact solidified her desire to get into corrections and made an impact at home. She mentioned that her mother noted a difference in her when she returned. Becca appeared to have more respect overall in her interactions with her parents.

After the interview, she mentioned she was roommates with another Grant County Jailer, Jenna Hill, from Richland Center. I wasn't

aware of this, as Jenna had not mentioned she attended the WALLECA, so I thought it would be important to get her perspective.

Jenna echoed what Becca told me about WALLECA and stated, "it was a great opportunity." She talked about being shown the various duties of the State Patrol, DCI giving a presentation on child investigations, and a drug unit presentation. Jenna commented how she liked the structure of the academy, how they would check your beds for neatness, make you walk to class a certain way, and the morning physical fitness training. She too, keeps in touch with several of her classmates from her time at WALLECA.

From talking with Becca and Jenna, it was very apparent that their experience at WALLECA directly impacted their decision to get into the criminal justice career field. Currently, they are excited about working as correctional deputies in the Grant County Jail; however, their experiences at WALLECA could lead them to make a future move into the law enforcement field. The experience at least gave them an insight into other opportunities. Regardless, the WALLECA experience was positive, educational, life-changing and helped develop them into quality correctional deputies.

Sheriff Nate Dreckman  
Grant County  
Badger State Sheriffs' Association  
President

## 2022 ORATORICAL CONTEST HELD AT RIPON COLLEGE



From left: Oratorical Chair Robert Stone, Contest winner Divyasree Chintamani, Department Vice Commander Julie Muhle, Auxiliary Vice President Linda Coppock.

The 2022 Department Oratorical Contest was held on February 12, 2022, at Ripon College. Oratorical Chair Robert Stone served as the moderator for the finals contest. This contest could not happen without the great volunteers that make our contest successful. The Department thanks all of those who volunteered for this year's contest and all the contests in the past. You are very important to the program! The finals contest consisted of some very talented contestants who spoke on the US Constitution. Divyasree Chintamani, sponsored by Post 38 in the 9th District, was the winner and will be representing the Department of Wisconsin at the National Oratorical Contest scheduled on April 23 - 24, 2022 at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana. Divyasree will compete against 48 other contestants for scholarship awards. The overall winner of the National Oratorical Contest will be awarded a \$25,000 scholarship. Divyasree is currently a senior at Appleton North High School. Good luck to Divyasree!

## TESTIMONIAL DINNER COMMANDER GREG EIRICH

May 14, 2022  
Sheboygan Yacht Club  
214 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Cash Bar: 5:00 to 6:30  
Dinner: 6:30  
Program: 7:30 with  
entertainment to follow.

Cost: \$40 per person or \$80 per couple  
Music: Boogie Time Duke (well-known DJ in the Sheboygan area)  
Attire: Casual or Business Attire

### Plated Menu

**Oven and Honey Roasted Turkey**  
Chipotle sweet potato puree, grilled broccolini, bourbon gastrique

**Butter Poached Cod**  
Basmati rice, roasted broccoli, lemon basil pesto cream sauce

Dinner menu includes Mixed Greens Salad, English cucumber, scallions, tomato, heirloom carrot, white balsamic vinaigrette, and Warm Dinner rolls. Dessert: Cake, Coffee, Tea, Decaf

RSVP With Menu Selection by May 4, 2022

Mail your check to:  
Greg Eirich, 1026 North Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53083

Dietary Restrictions: email  
Commander Eirich (Deptcdgregeirich@outlook.com)  
Or call 920-226-0951

### Staying overnight after the Testimonial? A few hotels in the area that might interest you.

**Grandstay Residential Suites**  
708 Niagara Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-208-8000

**Sleep Inn and Suites**  
3912 Motel Road  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-694-0099

**Holiday Inn Express**  
3823 Germain Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-451-8700

**Blue Harbor Resort**  
725 Blue Harbor Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-452-2900

**Quality Inn**  
4332 N. 40th Street  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
920-457-7724

Please check out these hotels online before making reservation

**"My husband stepped out for some fresh air, then I heard a loud thud ...**



**We were rushed to the hospital where he was diagnosed with broken bones and two spinal obstructions."**

Fortunately, we had purchased the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+) plan for our travels! We were in London, and after 2 hospitals and 39 days in a rehab facility, Michael was released to travel and EA+ coordinated our

return. They provided a nurse escort to monitor Michael on the trip home, an ambulance to the airport, then to the rehabilitation facility so Michael could continue his recovery.

Thank you, EA+! You gave me the freedom to focus on Michael and the relief of not having to make all the arrangements myself.

- Julie & Michael  
North Carolina



Don't travel another mile without learning more about how EA+ can help you. Call 1-888-293-4008 today!

From Your  
American  
Legion  
Department



## POSTS MARK VETERAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

A surprise 100th birthday visit was celebrated on Wednesday, January 12, at Roger Metz Manor in Winona for LeRoy Woychik, a World War II veteran. Three members of the Arcadia American Legion Post 17, Tickfer Erickson Commander Carl Bisek, Todd Fetsch, and Albert Woychik Jr., LeRoy's brother, all attended to congratulate their fellow veteran and salute him.

Also, 15 of the Winona American Legion Post 9 veterans came to celebrate and salute LeRoy, along with Commander David Graves. They awarded him with the Minnesota Honorary Legion Member Post 9, the United States flag, properly folded,

and a wall plaque with the words "Proud Veteran" on it, a certificate of appreciation and a birthday cake.

LeRoy was overwhelmed with appreciation and gratitude. He stood up and saluted and thanked all the veterans. It was definitely one of the greatest of his experiences. Many war stories were shared. LeRoy was in the 11th Armored Division of the Army, serving under General Patton, which he is extremely proud of. His division was involved in liberating Mauthausen and Gusen concentration camps. From LeRoy's family, thank you all for making his 100th birthday the best ever!



Local Legion members celebrate with LeRoy Woychik (center, in tan) on his 100th birthday.

## GOVERNOR EVERS SIGNS ACTS INTO LAW



Governor Evers signing Act 158 Practice of certain skilled health services by military medical personnel and granting rule making authority and Act 159 Resident tuition at the University of Wisconsin institutions and technical colleges as applied to relocated service members and their children and spouses.

## 78th ANNIVERSARY of D-DAY

*13-day WWII tour departs June 2, 2022 from Minneapolis or Chicago.*

**FRANCE:** Paris tour, all sights on Normandy, festivities on June 6, SHAF headquarters in Reims.

**BELGIUM:** Battle of the Bulge sites.

**GERMANY:** Remagen Bridge, Rhine cruise, Nurnberg rally grounds & courtroom, Dachau and Hitler's Eagles Nest. Great hotels, many meals, professional guides, & Vi Ranney, escort

**Deadline for airline seats is March 18 - CALL TODAY!**

To sign up, call Vi Ranney: 605-665-3596  
or email: [viranney@vyn.midco.net](mailto:viranney@vyn.midco.net)

**Our other upcoming tours:**

**Exclusive Norway - July 23, 2022**

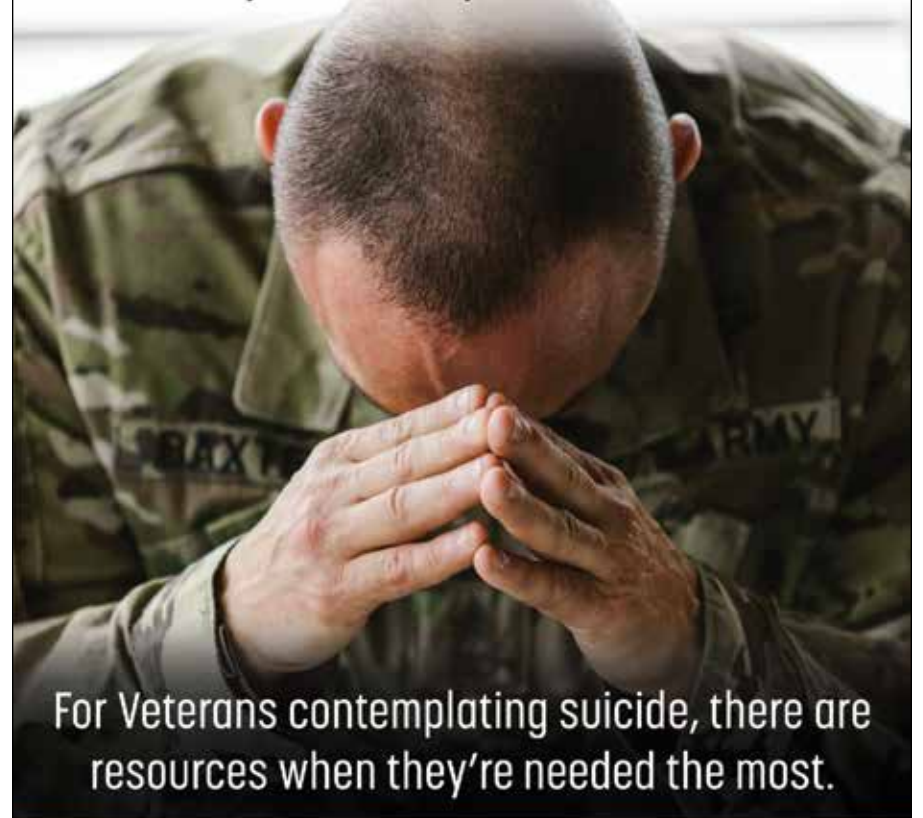
**England, Scotland, Wales, & Ireland - Aug. 20, 2022**

**Two-part Europe - September 22, 2022**

**(Part one: Oktoberfest, Passion Play, Switzerland, France, Monaco. Part two: Spain and Portugal.)**

*Tours sponsored by GRHS. Everyone Welcome!!*

You accepted the **DUTY** to protect your country  
That **DUTY** still exists as a Veteran...  
For yourself and your loved ones.



For Veterans contemplating suicide, there are resources when they're needed the most.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY**

A resource for Veterans  
and those who love them

**ReachOutWis.org**

In Collaboration With







## DONATIONS TO WALLECA



ABOVE: Mike Burt, Post 139, presented a check to Department Commander Eirich in the amount of \$1,500 to help support Legion WI's WALLECA program. BELOW AND BOTTOM: Jim Johnson receives donations to WALLECA from Wisconsin Badger State Sheriffs' Association and Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association.



## TOMAH VA ARCHERY CLINIC BAGS 3D TARGETS



Thank You to the Wisconsin American Legion for your donation of 3D targets that will be utilized during Tomah VA's Archery Clinic. The Archery Clinic is scheduled 1st and 3rd Fridays through May. To participate, please call to speak to one of the clinic staff or request your medical clearance at: 1-800-872-8662. Pictured (L-R) are: Britney Leege, Physical Therapy Assistant; Jennifer Conzemius, Voluntary Services Officer; Ken Schoolcraft, Tomah VA American Legion rep; Dawn Parker-Korinek, Occupational Therapist; Ernie Renkert, Archery Clinic Volunteer; Haley Sidie, Recreation Therapist.

## PHILLIPS POST 122 PRESENTS BLUE STAR BANNER



Legion Post 122 Phillips, Wisconsin Commander presented a Blue Star banner to Roxy and Dusty Kubly, whose son is currently serving in the US Army. From left: Dillion Kubly, Commander Douglas Rasmussen, Roxy and Dusty Kubly. The Blue Star banner is presented to the family who has a family member serving in the military.



## POST 122 DONATES CLOTHING TO VA

Legion Post 122 Phillips, Wisconsin Commander Douglas Rasmussen delivered clothing to Klein Hall, Veterans homeless center in Chipewa Falls, WI. The goal of the Veterans Housing and Recovery Program is to assist military veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in obtaining temporary or permanent housing, in addition into providing other services that will enable them to reintegrate back to the community.



## COURTNEY-CARR-MILNER POST 19 DOLES OUT AWARDS



Courtney-Carr-Milner Post 19 presented 2022's Edward J. Ormsby Law & Order Award (above left) to Cole Parker of the Hartford Police Department and (above right) Jeffrey E. Millikin Legionnaire of the Year. Commander Allen Schoessow presented the Awards. Photo by John M. Bryant. On Monday, March 14 at Hartford Fire & Rescue, Legion Post 19 honored (at right) EMT Aaron A. Moratz and Firefighter Jacob D. Clark with the 2022 Awards. Presenting Post Commander Allen Schoessow.



## POST 487 NURSING SCHOLARSHIP



Commander James Kinzie and Sgt.-at-Arms Gary Frierhood of Stokes-Liebman Post 487 in Cable, Wisconsin presented Avery Rasmussen a scholarship check on Feb. 25, 2022. Avery is the first recipient of a scholarship from Post 487 and is studying Nursing at The College of St. Scholastica. We wish her the very best in her continued studies. Submitted by Julie Horn-Frierhood.

## MCC DONATES ARTWORK TO POST 38



MCC, Inc. of Appleton generously donated to the Appleton American Legion a unique, handcrafted art piece depicting the silhouette of a veteran kneeling and honoring a fallen comrade. The piece was the inspiration of MCC, Inc. employees Bill Inman and Kyle Lewis to be used on the company's unit in the 2021 Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade. The parade's theme was "Superhero Christmas". The art piece was presented by MCC, Inc. to the Appleton American Legion Post 38 during the Post's monthly meeting on Monday, February 07, 2022. Department of Wisconsin Commander Greg Eirich was in attendance and spoke as well. The piece will be on display in a prominent location at the Appleton American Legion Post 38 for all in the community to see and appreciate.



Pictured are (from left) USCG Veteran & Legion member Andy Burkart, Kimberly Doran, Al Tee Doran, Brigadier General Joseph Orr USA, USCG Veteran & Legion member Lucia Rogers-Burkart.

## POST 433 HOSTS REPLICA CIVIL WAR QUILT CONTEST

Post 433 is pleased to announce the winner of the beautiful replica Civil War quilt honoring Linda Burkart was drawn on February 6, 2022. In a wonderful twist of fate, the winning ticket drawn had a request the quilt be given to a victim of the horrible tornados that devastated Western Kentucky on December 10, 2021. Barneveld itself was devastated by a tornado on June 8, 1984.

The recipients Army Veteran Al Tee and Kimberly Doran's home and possessions were completely destroyed in 10 seconds! They and two children survived unhurt.

The quilt is a wonderful symbol of comfort and concern for others representing our community. This quilt is a fitting reminder of the mission of service that is a hallmark of The American Legion.





## "SLEEP OUT" NETS \$50,000 FOR HOMELESS VETS



On nights of 2/11 and 2/12, the Sons of American Legion Squadron 294 and Boy Scout Troop 24 of Hartland conducted the 3rd annual "Sleep Out" on a parking lot in order to call attention to the plight of homeless veterans during the winter months. This event raised over \$50,000 in support of the MVHI (Milwaukee Veterans Homeless Initiative) and "Tiny Houses" (Veterans Outreach of WI). Five box truck loads of clothing and food were also collected. The SAL squadron is led by Commander Mark Pape. Submitted by John Kraft, Adj. Post 294 of American Legion.

## COON VALLEY POST 116 MAKES A POSITIVE IMPACT

**TOP RIGHT:** On March 17, Alison Emmart of the Coon Valley Elementary School was awarded the Vernon County American Legion 'Teacher of the Year Award'. Alison was nominated for the award by the Coon Valley American Legion Post 116. Her nomination will now be forwarded to the 7th District of The American Legion to be considered for the Wisconsin American Legion Teacher of the Year. Pictured is Coon Valley Post Commander Wes Guy, Alison Emmart, her husband US Army Maj. Jared Emmart, and Vernon County Commander Roger Mathison. Major Emmart is currently stationed at Ft. McCoy and will be the main speaker for the Memorial Day Program in Coon Valley this year.



**BOTTOM RIGHT:** On March 17, The Coon Valley American Legion Post 116 presented a check for \$500 to Village President Karl Henrichsen. The check represents proceeds from the Pancake Breakfast held on February 6 and is to be used for the Main Street Flags in Coon Valley. Pictured is Coon Valley Post Commander Wes Guy and Village President Karl Henrichsen accepting.



## POST 157 CELEBRATION



Horicon Post 157 helped celebrate the birthday of Mr. Don Denman. Mr. Denman, a 26-year member of the post, turned 100 on March 15. Pictured (left to right) are Post 157 Commander Brett Culver, Mr. Denman, Candidate for National Commander Dan Seehafer and Department Membership Chairman Jim Waltich.



## TRIPLE NICKEL POST 555 CADET PROGRAM DONATIONS



Triple Nickel Post 555, Sheboygan, WI: The Triple Nickel invited the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department Public Service Cadet Program to their January membership meeting. On behalf of Post 555 Commander Craig Stewart presented them with a donation to show support for their efforts.



Triple Nickel Post 555, Sheboygan, WI: Commander Craig Stewart presents the Vollrath Division Sea Cadet program with a donation at Post 555's January membership meeting. Triple Nickel Membership recognizes the importance of supporting local youth programs and looks forward to doing so more in the future.



## POST 79 DONATES TO HONOR FLIGHT

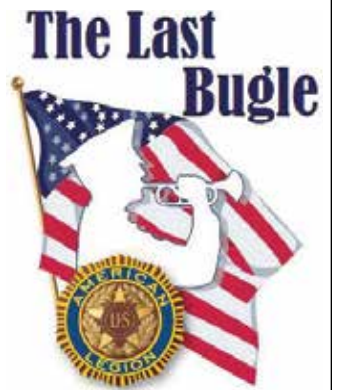


Gaylord Johnson of Ross Wilcox American Legion Post #79 in Burlington presented a check for \$10,000 to Dr. Ted O'Reilly. Dr. O'Reilly is a board member of the Honor Flight, which flies veterans to Washington D.C. for a day to see veterans monuments and other monuments at no cost to veterans. The donation is in memory of Bob Kluesendorf who passed away in 2020. Bob had been an officer for the post for many years. Submitted by Gaylord Johnson, Financial Officer.

## POST, UNIT 499 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



2022 Post and Unit 499 Membership Drive event in Gordon.



**KEY**

V - Vietnam	K - Korea
I - World War I	
II - World War II	
G/L - Grenada/Lebanon	
P - Panama	
PG - Persian Gulf	

<b>1 Germantown</b>		
William Coffey Jr.	K	11/23/20
Ralph Doran	WWII	11/25/19
Lee E. Murry	K	1/17/22
Ervin Prohaska	V	11/3/21
<b>7 Rhinelander</b>		
Reuben Finstad	K	4/10/21
<b>9 Wisconsin Rapids</b>		
Robert W. Almquist	WWII	1/21/22
Joseph Guse	K	2/10/22
<b>10 Wausau</b>		
Jack Burckle	K	2/8/22
Otto C. Fitzsimmons	K	2/6/22
Lyle Harties	V	1/25/22
Carl Hertting	WWII	2/13/22
Donald Kleinschmidt	V	1/24/22
Robert James Koskey	PG	8/27/20
John Sukup	V	12/21/21
<b>11 Green Bay</b>		
Richard J. Flint	K	2/23/22
William S. Kussow	V	2/21/22
Bernard R. McCall	K	2/17/22
Vincent Nicklas	K	2/4/22
<b>13 Richland Center</b>		
Gilbert A. Moe	K	2/22/22
Darrel R. Tennant	K	3/14/22
Lavonn Zierfuss	K	12/9/21
<b>19 Harford</b>		
Robert Obenberger	WWII	3/1/22
<b>21 Kenosha</b>		
David Chianelli	V	3/9/21
Clifford B. Johnson	V	11/29/21
Louis Kramer	WWII	11/2/21
<b>27 South Milwaukee</b>		
Philip D. Currier	K	1/30/22
<b>29 Kewaunee</b>		
Dr. Lloyd E. Allan	WWII	2/2/22
Cordell C. Herbert	K	1/23/22
Daniel Pelishek	V	3/13/22
<b>33 Neenah</b>		
Joe J. Krukowski	WWII	3/22/22
<b>36 West Bend</b>		
Ray E. Moser	WWII	9/18/15
Bruce E. Witt	V	3/11/22
<b>41 Kaukauna</b>		
Royal Peterson	K	1/27/22
Raymond Vandynhoven	WWII	2/7/22
<b>44 Wabeno</b>		
Roland Chrouser	K	3/12/22
Paul E. Glasl	K	1/14/22
Herman F. Koch	WWII	1/25/22
Kenneth M. Rouse	K	2/22/22
<b>47 Portage</b>		
Richard F. Branshaw	K	3/1/22
<b>48 Beloit</b>		
Frederick Klett	K	9/13/18
Rudy Mahan	WWII	2/10/22
John Tharp	K & V	2/7/22

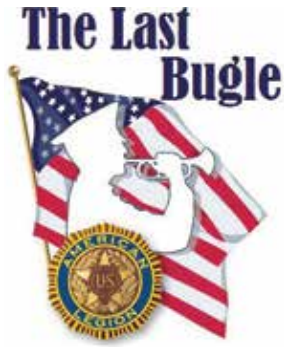
CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## JACKSON COUNTY HOLDS 57TH YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY



Jackson County's 57th Youth Government day was held on November 4, 2021. 45 students from Alma Center, Merrilan, Humbird, Black River Falls, Melrose-Mindoro, and Blair Taylor schools attended. Students were able to see examples and learn more about various professions within the county. They then went to Lake Wazee County Park where there were four learning stations outside. Jackson County had a second Youth Government Day on March 21.





**KEY**  
 V - Vietnam K - Korea  
 I - World War I  
 II - World War II  
 G/L - Grenada/Lebanon  
 P - Panama  
 PG - Persian Gulf

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

**52 La Crosse**  
 R. Thomas Adams K 1/30/22  
 Dorothy Golomski WWII 12/5/21  
 Richard G. Miller WWII 12/13/21  
 Robert D. Pruse K 1/21/22

**53 Eau Claire**  
 Gerald Riegert K 2/4/22  
 Harold Robarge V 2/7/22  
 Bryce A. Spoerri WWII 11/22/08

**54 Marshfield**  
 Everett Bartsch K 1/1/22  
 Fritz Berger K 2/21/22  
 Suzanne Burt V 1/12/22  
 William Lauer WWII 11/19/21  
 Gene Schoenher V 11/21/21  
 Donald Zager V 1/21/22

**56 Fountain City**  
 Carrol Haueser WWII 1/24/22

**58 Hurley**  
 Robert North K 12/7/21

**59 Stoughton**  
 Thomas Lunde V 2/5/22

**62 Columbus**  
 John Van Roo V 1/14/22

**63 Clintonville**  
 Donald Hartleben K 1/16/22

**64 Ladysmith**  
 Anthony Groothousen K 7/17/21  
 Kenneth Verdegan V 1/22/22

**68 Prairie du Chien**  
 Roger J. Forst V 1/4/22  
 Robert W. Obmascher WWII 2/13/22  
 Joseph B. Prew V 2/21/22

**73 Neillsville**  
 Fred Grap Jr. K 2/7/22

**77 Chippewa Falls**  
 Delano Bourget K 3/27/22  
 Fred Kuss V 3/17/22  
 Bruce Lloyd WWII 2/25/22  
 Marvin Roshell K 3/9/22  
 Gary Shorrel V 3/27/22

**80 New Richmond**  
 Lavern R. Olson K 1/12/22

**81 Mauston**  
 Carl Helgerson V 12/29/21  
 Ernie Schmocker K 2/18/22

**83 Sheboygan**  
 Jerome Fox V 8/1/19  
 Joseph Franzzone K 11/19/19  
 Richard Hahn K 1/27/21  
 Allen Hanson WWII 7/11/21  
 Henry Kaiser V 12/24/20  
 Mervin Kitzrow V 2/7/22  
 Alfred Meier, Jr. K 2/9/20  
 Gerhard Pauly V 11/25/19  
 Chester Robinson K 5/14/20  
 Vern Rudlaff V 11/26/20  
 Fredrick M. Stanisch Sr. V  
 Ronald Thimmig V 8/23/19

**84 Monroe**  
 Gary N. Hessel K 5/4/21

**89 Minocqua**  
 Victor Fahl V 2/20/22  
 Richard L. Pierce V 2/11/22

**91 Oconomowoc**  
 Larry Braatz V 3/27/22  
 Ron Hoffmann V 2/25/22  
 Leonard Loffredo V 1/7/22

**93 Tomahawk**  
 Bruce Bishop WWII 11/6/20  
 Alfred Goehle WWII 9/2/20  
 Gerald Graebert V 3/7/22  
 Donald Halverson K 1/4/21  
 Fritz Heller K 10/6/19  
 George Kahn V 11/20/20  
 James Keskinen V 1/26/22  
 Roman Lane V 11/9/21  
 Maurice Noman WWII 2/6/22  
 Daniel Osero V 2/19/22  
 Ardell Reiff V 4/16/21  
 Paul Renn V 12/3/20  
 Roman Swan K 10/17/21  
 Joseph Woldt V 10/7/21

**94 Crandon**  
 Lowell Wagoner V 8/24/21

**95 Delavan**  
 Tom Dorsey V 2/14/22

**98 Cumberland**  
 Sydney Nevin WWII 1/11/22

**106 Seymour**  
 Louis J. Griedl K 2/9/22  
 Virgil Marohl V 3/11/22

**108 Clear Lake**  
 Gary Bell V 2/21/22

**110 New Lisbon**  
 Charles Bickford V 2/9/22

**114 Eagle River**  
 George Hockers V 7/20/21  
 Harold Petersen K 9/26/21

**117 Shawano**  
 Gary Burr V 1/19/22  
 Lawrence Sperberg V 11/6/21

**118 Thorp**  
 Edward Lee V 12/9/21  
 Lawrence Walteraitis K 3/14/22

**121 River Falls**  
 David Reese V 1/24/22  
 Daniel M. Simon V 2/26/22

**122 Phillips**  
 Richard Cole WWII 12/24/20  
 John Gallus V 8/6/20  
 Jack D. Hiatt K 12/30/21  
 John Pilch K 1/15/22

**124 New Holstein**  
 Roger Fromm V 3/4/22  
 Ronald Zarling K 1/5/22

**133 Camp Douglas**  
 Everett Miller K 1/8/22

**134 Boscobel**  
 Gregory A. Lund V 1/17/22  
 Vernon D. Ward V 3/5/22

**142 Blanchardville**  
 Richard A. Gifford K 1/16/22  
 Phillip R. Johnson V 3/19/22

**143 St. Croix Falls**  
 Kenrad Anderson V 1/17/22

**145 Random Lake**  
 Glenn Zimmerman V 11/13/22

**146 Beaver Dam**  
 Inez K. McMillan WWII 12/14/21

**148 Bloomington**  
 Charles Jeidy V 2/19/22

**151 Madison**  
 Lowell Millisor WWII 2/28/22  
 Dale A. Nordeen WWII 7/8/19  
 Dennis M. Tuohy V 9/15/19  
 Clarence J. Wasley V 12/18/20

**152 Menasha**  
 Wayne Hoelzel V 1/19/22  
 Tormod Knutsen V 5/11/20

**153 Pittsville**  
 Walter Fredette WWII 3/16/22  
 Donald W. Hahn WWII 3/17/22

**160 Brooklyn**  
 Francis McKune WWII 12/29/21  
 Fredrick Sage K 12/31/21

**161 King**  
 Harry Hohnberger V 2/4/22  
 Layner Moen K 2/12/22  
 Albert Replogle K 1/24/22

**162 Alma Center**  
 Verland Casper V 3/10/22

**166 Fort Atkinson**  
 Robert C. Martin K 2/12/22  
 Harold Thom V 1/17/22

**167 Sauk City**  
 Verne Kindschi K 2/1/22

**172 North Freedom**  
 Robert Grossenbacher K 1/21/22

**173 Whitewater**  
 John J. Holford K 3/5/22  
 John Newhouse K 2/2/22

**174 Hawkins**  
 Leo Cherek K 2/25/22

**175 Loyal**  
 Harold Collinson WWII 2/2/22  
 August M. Dierickx WWII 6/28/20  
 Edward Domine K 11/19/16  
 Donald J. Radue V 3/10/22

**176 Weyauwega**  
 Lee Roy Blank K 6/8/22

**179 Chetek**  
 Arie Olson V 2/27/22

**180 Milwaukee**  
 Bernard Brumm WWII 12/12/21  
 Charles Cortie V 3/10/22  
 Ray Schaetz WWII 2/21/22

**181 Durand**  
 Gerald M. Bauer V 8/9/21  
 Harry R. Kincaid K 2/27/22

**185 Grantsburg**  
 Glenn C. Retzer V 1/8/22

**186 Independence**  
 Clarence Smieja WWII 1/31/22

**188 East Troy**  
 Kenneth Kyburz K 3/19/22

**189 Watertown**  
 Wayne A. Engel K 2/9/22  
 Donald R. Hanson WWII 3/21/22  
 Patrick Theder V 2/1/22

**193 Batavia, Beechwood, Boltonville**  
 Wesley Krahn K 1/15/22

**200 Black River Falls**  
 Lloyd E. German WWII 12/20/21

**204 Ellsworth**  
 Lyle Baez Other Conflict 1/2/22

**205 Janesville**  
 Terry Thostenson V 7/15/21

**207 Elmwood**  
 Douglas Hinzman V 8/25/21  
 Orval Knegendorf V 9/2/21  
 Richard Roatch V 9/15/21

**208 Rio**  
 Gerald Sandberg V 3/14/22

**209 Orfordville**  
 Elmer G. Chance K 10/5/18

**210 Waupun**  
 Cleburn Talley K 3/22/22

**212 Barron**  
 Leonard Splett WWII 2/14/22

**215 Pardeeville**  
 Donald R. Silver K 2/14/22

**216 Lodi**  
 Dale Maddy V 1/31/22  
 Robert Nelson WWII 1/14/22

**219 Milwaukee**  
 James R. Butalla V 2/1/22

**224 Alma**  
 Hugh V. Eddy Jr. K 1/15/22  
 Joe J. Rybarczyk K 2/16/22

**230 De Pere**  
 Robert Phillips K 1/4/22

**233 Waterloo**  
 Keith Doering V 8/20/21  
 Lawrence Kilian V 12/14/21

**236 Algoma**  
 Brock Kleindl V 2/20/20

**237 Footville**  
 Herman Buehler Jr. K 1/21/22  
 Robert Lythjohan WWII 2/3/22  
 Bernard Siebert K 12/17/21

**243 Plymouth**  
 Edmund Schmitt K 3/12/22  
 Donald Steiner K 2/13/22

**244 Westfield**  
 Lester H. Neubauer WWII 8/7/20

**258 Little Chute**  
 Robert Coenen WWII 3/3/22  
 Kenneth E. Diedrick V 3/23/22  
 Gordon Hammen K 3/17/22  
 John L. Rietveld K 2/12/22  
 James C. Van Mun K 1/10/22  
 Clayton Welhouse WWII 2/10/22  
 Stanley Welhouse K 3/21/22

**261 Greenbush**  
 Robert Dezwarte V 1/20/22  
 Roger J. Schneider V 9/11/21  
 Ken Wilterdink K 9/16/21

**264 Gilmanon**  
 Dennis A. Weiss V 1/29/22

**272 Butternut**  
 Thomas Meindl V 1/27/22

**274 Rib Lake**  
 Richard G. Gordon K 3/6/22  
 Allen Scheithauer V 11/11/21  
 Larry Ulczycki V 1/24/22

**277 Necedah**  
 Raymond E. Weiss K 12/17/21

**280 Coleman**  
 Lyle Boville WWII 1/26/22  
 Stan C. Holtger V 3/5/22  
 Richard Wondrash K 2/3/22

**283 Suring**  
 Gerald Kneuppel K 1/14/22

**284 Holmen**  
 Michael Paremski V 2/11/22

**286 Oostburg**  
 Keith Brill K 2/2/22  
 Edward G. Saunders V 11/17/21

**293 Silver Lake**  
 Ira Helton G/L 2/4/22

**294 Hartland**  
 John M. Engel Jr. WWII 2/10/22  
 David Kuechler V 12/22/21  
 Don Rambadt V 3/7/22

**298 Spencer**  
 Roland Schafer V 12/31/21  
 Maynard Tremelling V 12/16/21

**299 Hales Corners**  
 Robert C. Ahonen V 4/30/19

**301 Woodville**  
 James Saugestad V 11/11/19

**303 Winter**  
 Donald R. Mussehl K 3/7/22

**304 Palmyra**  
 Robert Boeadoin V 2/6/22  
 Lee Gaura V 12/22/21  
 George Mathaus K 2/17/22

**305 Johnson Creek**  
 John Hartwig WWII 2/22/22

**308 Gays Mills**  
 Ronald R. Hayden V 2/1/22

**312 Peshtigo**  
 James R. Lund WWII 2/11/22

**313 Black Earth**  
 Paul Vernon Savage V-PG 12/28/21

**318 Lake Tomahawk**  
 Richard Gadzinski V 3/5/22

**319 Casco**  
 Harvey Lefevre WWII 11/6/20  
 Ronald Prodell V 4/20/21

**329 Briggsville**  
 Robert D. Miller K 9/20/21  
 Carol G. Patefield WWII 11/7/21  
 Randy Pieper V 10/8/20  
 Tom Roll V 11/28/21

**330 Wilson**  
 Roger J. Madland V 12/25/21

**333 Sun Prairie**  
 Gerald R. Ward K 12/31/21

**336 Onalaska**  
 Raymond Beaser K 1/23/22  
 Vincent T. Cullen V 10/3/21  
 Larry D. Elsen V 3/1/22  
 Thomas J. Taylor V 7/18/21

**339 Almond**  
 Donald Hilppire K 3/5/22  
 Fred Jagielo K 3/25/22

**342 Lena**  
 Joseph Wagner Jr. V 1/27/22

**347 Lomira**  
 Robert R. Baier WWII 1/9/22  
 James M. Rinas V 1/31/22

**351 Montello**  
 James Bassett K 8/24/21  
 Ronald D. Hunter V 3/6/21  
 Arden Klimke WWII 2/7/22  
 Francis Lloyd K 7/14/21  
 Leo McLaughlin K 3/20/22  
 Arden Menge WWII 12/19/20  
 Duane Moseley V 11/6/21  
 Donald Schoechert K 2/13/22  
 Roger Schultz WWII 9/29/19  
 Paul Schwochert K  
 Donald G. Smith WWII 8/19/21  
 Donald D. Smith V

**355 Grafton**  
 Roy Deetjen K 2/11/21  
 James Grant V 2022  
 Jim Hilgart K 2/14/22  
 Noel Kund V 11/6/20  
 Thomas Peterson V 3/17/22  
 David Schmalz V 2/19/22  
 Daniel Sieracki K 10/17/21

**358 Unity**  
 Jerry Loughead V 8/22/21

**366 Princeton**  
 Ervin Walther K 1/11/22

**368 Taylor-Hixton**  
 Danny Cowley V 12/22/21  
 Curtis R. Stevens K 10/24/21

**371 Saxon**  
 Paul M. Henning G/L 3/24/22

**375 Mukwonago**  
 Gary W. St. Francis G/L 1/6/22

**376 Fall Creek**  
 Earl Drehmel WWII 1/30/22

**379 Birchwood**  
 Gerold Koel V 11/3/20  
 Ronald M. Marcon V 5/12/21  
 Omar O'Connell V 9/2/21

**383 Line Rock**  
 Thomas P. Kane V 3/9/22

**384 Kewaunee**  
 Fred Boehlke V 11/16/21  
 John Creed V 9/8/21  
 Wallace Daggett K 11/30/21  
 Bernard Strobel WWII 12/20/21

**385 Verona**  
 Eugene Splinder V 2/3/22  
 Richard Vlk WWII 1/14/19

**398 Plain**  
 Ralph A. Frank K 1/15/22  
 Kenneth Volk V 12/4/21

**399 Okauchee**  
 Jack B. Bennett V 10/13/21  
 James Doherty V 3/1/21  
 Carl Patrinos WWII 11/12/21

**401 Cambria**  
 Lee Vaughan V 9/19/07

**412 Belgium**  
 Henry M. Prom K 2/4/22

**415 Milwaukee**  
 Robert L. Blair WWII 2/14/22  
 Richard Kowalczyk WWII 1/21/22

**416 Greendale**  
 David Pollack V 12/15/21  
 Bill Richards K 3/5/22

**420 Hustisford**  
 Kenneth O. Thom V 11/10/21  
 Herbert E. Westphal K 10/10/21

**425 Exeland**  
 Ronald Beise K 11/16/21

**428 Amberg**  
 Kenneth Wallace K 2/2/22

**431 Three Lakes**  
 Fred Bonack Jr. WWII 1/7/22  
 Lloyd R. Fisher K 12/25/21  
 James R. Kortess K 1/19/22  
 Daniel Teresinski WWII 2/18/22  
 Ward J. Wheeler Other Conflict 1/9/22

**435 Superior**  
 Timothy Bergstrom V 2/6/22  
 Carl L. Johnson K 1/23/22  
 Robert J. McDermott V 1/17/22

**439 Melrose**  
 Arthur Baird K 11/11/21

**442 Wisconsin Rapids**  
 Rachel Johnson V 2/5/22

**449 Brookfield**  
 Robert Carrara K 2/16/22  
 Ronald Devillers K 1/19/22

Thomas Gardner WWII 11/8/21  
 Harland C. Gehl K 1/8/22  
 Frank Kruck K 2/4/22  
 Ewald Sawall V 1/28/22  
 Gerald S. Walsh K 3/9/22

**451 Boulder Junction**  
 James Vanrossum V 1/11/22

**453 Belmont**  
 Cecil Clayton K 2/28/22  
 Gary Weigel V 2/19/22

**455 Milwaukee**  
 Lester L. Carter Jr. K 1/31/22  
 Kappfers Ward WWII 1/20/22

**459 Eleva**  
 David A. Girtman V  
 Orvin Knudtson K 10/3/22

**462 Adell**  
 Mark Makowski V 1/5/22

**469 Marathon**  
 Florian Ahles K 1/30/22  
 Herbert Meyer K 1/1/22  
 Francis L. Raddatz V 2/28/22

**470 Saukville**  
 William A. Parnitzke K 4/29/21  
 Raymond E. Roberts V 9/28/21  
 Lawrence W. Wilde WWII 8/8/21

**474 Milwaukee**  
 Randall Eyers V 1/24/22

**476 Loomis**  
 Jerome Camps V 11/24/20  
 Leo Kaufman K 11/22/20  
 Michael P. Lund V 12/12/20  
 Myron Williquette K 2/14/21

**478 St. Cloud**  
 Dale Bink V 2/14/22

**481 Madison**  
 Aaron Clifton V 11/23/21  
 Gerald Mulso V 1/21/22

**483 Allenton**  
 Mary Heidt G/L 9/25/21

**485 Rudolph**  
 Anthony T. Sazama V 9/24/21

**488 New Berlin**  
 Duane Wells K 2/18/22

**492 Rothschild**  
 Peter Wynhoff V 6/12/21

**494 Caledonia**  
 Conrad Basterash K 2/1/22  
 Gene Linley K 3/1/22

**499 Gordon**  
 Robert E. Nelson WWII 2/16/22

**508 Wilton**  
 George Dougherty V 3/24/22

**512 Shiocton**  
 John P. Oberstadt K 1/4/22

**517 Dorchester**  
 Ronald J. Banks V 1/25/22

**519 Stetsonville**  
 Ted Polzin V 11/23/21  
 Galen Schlais WWII 1/11/22

**521 Fox Lake**  
 Darrell D. Schultz K 2/18/22

**527 Sister Bay**  
 Michael Walker V 10/17/21

**531 Herbster and Port Wing**  
 Jack Findlay K 2/6/20

**538 Carlton**  
 Dana Gruetzmacher K 1/12/22  
 Tristram Gulbrand PG 9/22/21  
 Joseph Konop V 1/9/22

**539 Green Bay**  
 Lyla Alberts K 3/11/22

**547 Lublin**  
 Allan Selvig V 2/5/22

**550 Brackett**  
 Roger L. Lauterbach V 12/11/21  
 John T. Tollefson V 2/7/22

**552 Somers**  
 John Hollingshead K 2/10/22

**555 Sheboygan**  
 Michael L. Gort V 1/23/22  
 Donald Lawrence V 12/2/19

**2930 Portage**  
 Gennaro Barbato V 1/6/22  
 Orvin Henderson K 8/20/21  
 Raymond Kahles K  
 Jack Spack K 3/7/22  
 George E. White V 1/22/22





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Diane Weggen**  
Department  
President

With what's happening in the world as I write this, I'm wondering if Americans would be strong enough – brave enough – virtuous enough – or concerned enough with fellow Americans to stand up to an invading force such as the Ukrainians are doing. How veterans are treated can make a difference in how everyday Americans feel and respond to threats against America's democratic way

of life. Taking time to salute, serve, and celebrate veterans, their families and our communities demonstrates the importance of our country's heroes to the freedoms enjoyed by Americans.

Travels around the state this year have impressed upon me the many ways veterans, families and their communities are honored by American Legion Family members. Service, not self, and mission delivery by American Legion Auxiliary members and units throughout the state have positively influenced **both** patriotism **and** loyalty to Country.

There are many upcoming days designated to recognize those currently serving in the military and to honor the contributions and sacrifices made by their families.

- April is the Month of the Military Child
- May is the month of Military Family Appreciation
- May 6, 2022 is Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 21, 2022 is Armed Forces Day

For any of you who turn in hours for "Service to Veterans"



awards, this message is for you. **Caregivers** can now be awarded "Service to Veterans" hours for time spent providing care and assistance to Veterans **within their families** – **IF** they do not receive PROFESSIONAL compensation for doing so. Check out Senior Vice President Linda Coppock's Service to Veterans article for details.

I was privileged to attend the Lincoln Pilgrimage in Springfield, IL February 11-12. We were greeted by national leaders Commander Dillard, President Daudistel and SAL Commander Fox at a reception Friday evening. In addition to the wreath at Lincoln's tomb, I, with Commander Eirich, touched President Lincoln's nose for luck as I continue my term serving as Department President.

The following weekend was another road trip. I joined twelve other Wisconsin ALA members, including two junior members, making us the largest group other than Indiana attending Mission Training in Indianapolis. The focus of the training was on engaging members and connecting with community to increase the number of volunteers working mission programs in support of veterans. The Auxiliary mission will be accomplished when we, The American Legion Family, **both** for God **and** for country, work together, build relationships, care for those who care for others and engage members.

With the pandemic curtailing VA visits, Commander Eirich and I were pleased for our in-person meeting with staff at Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital. Their programs of care for veterans are amazing.

With spring fast approaching, I encourage you to fly your flags and I'd like to leave with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's words: "*Kind hearts are the gardens, Kind thoughts are the roots, Kind words are the flowers, Kind deeds are the fruits. Take care of your garden and keep out the weeds...*"

Fill your hearts with **both** kind words **and** kind deeds.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Margaret Larson Department Membership Committee

Why am I a member of the world's largest patriotic service organization, The American Legion Auxiliary? Let me tell you how I became a member. My husband and I and our four children moved back to River Falls, WI after 17+ years in the Army. One night we decided to check out the local American Legion chicken fry. While waiting in line to buy our tickets, my husband was asked if he was a member, and guess what happened? That was in 1995.

Fast forward about 7 years ago. While enjoying a cocktail in the Legion bar, I was approached by a friend (member) and asked if I had ever considered running for President. My first thought was "of the United States!?" She proceeded to explain that I would basically run the unit meetings, everything else would be done by other members! I told her the only meetings I had ever run were Girl Scouts and religious education, and they were young children. Never had I ever spoken in front of adults except in school for the occasional book report and then I would sweat profusely, stutter and start to hyperventilate. Who was I kidding? No

way could I be a president and run a meeting. She let me know when the next meeting was and suggested I come check it out for myself. I did indeed go to the next meeting, and this is how it went (many of you will relate to this):

The meeting will now come to order and so on. Next will be elections of officers, nominations for President. My friend stood up and

said my name. All In favor? (everyone) Opposed? (no one). And so it went... I stood there with the "deer in the headlights" look until I realized what had happened. Seven years later I am still the Unit President; a year later I became the County President; this year became 10th District President; and I am on the Membership Committee for the Department.

Do I regret it? Not at all! I have met so many great people, shared what it means to be a member, and the fun of working the programs. I have learned how to speak comfortably in front of large groups, how to present ideas to units and organize events. Being Unit President, and now a District President, has taught me a new sense of listening skills, patience, compassion, integ-

rity, family values and teamwork. Being in the military, I was part of the military family and thought I had lost that. But being a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, I have found a new family which is the American Legion Family. The ALA spirit of Service Not Self is not something you can just turn on and off. It is a lifestyle I will continue for the rest of my life.

### PRESIDENT DIANE WEGGEN'S TESTIMONIAL SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022

Hosted by ALA Cecil Tormey Unit 118  
at Holy Family Hall  
136 East 3rd Avenue  
Stanley, WI 54768

5:30 pm – Cocktails  
6:30 pm – Dinner, program to follow

Reservation Deadline: May 20, 2022  
Cost: \$30.00 – includes two drink tickets plus meal served buffet style  
Send check payable to: Virginia Kodl,  
N15109 Fisher Avenue, Thorp, WI 54771

Housing at AmeriVu Inn & Suites, -Stanley: 715-644-3332  
(Note: Phone number listed was incorrect in the February issue)  
Room block under "Diane Weggen"

### 2022 MEMBERSHIP RANKINGS

District 12 (93.40%)

District 2 (92.72%)

District 5 (92.57%)

District 3 (92.31%)

District 6 (91.37%)

District 1 (90.49%)

District 4 (90.27%)

District 10 (89.56%)

District 8 (89.55%)

District 7 (89.19%)

District 9 (88.45%)

District 11 (83.81%)





## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**Donna Jensen**  
 Department Chaplain  
 djensen20@gmail.com  
 414-303-6186

*Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants. ~ Deuteronomy 32:2*

Happy Spring! Most people are glad when the winter season ends and Spring arrives with warmer weather, longer hours of daylight and regrowth of the flowers, grass and trees. This is a way God reminds us to be hopeful and anticipate new beginnings.

Have you been feeling low during the cold, dark days of winter? Are you waiting for the warm sun and promises of Spring? God promises us that he will send the sun and rain to wake the earth and plants in Spring. We need to keep the faith that Spring will come to the earth and to our lives and our hearts. "Hope springs eternal" is a popular saying, shortened from "hope springs eternal in the human breast," a quote from *An Essay on Man* (1734) by Alexander Pope.

Spring is a season for hope and growth. When we plant a seed in the garden, we have hope that a plant will grow from that tiny seed. We also have hope that sunshine and rain will nourish and grow that seed into a plant for us to enjoy and harvest. God has hope that we will grow and flourish and enjoy all the blessings he has sent to us. In turn, it is our responsibility to share the gifts we have been given with others. Many of us do this by volunteering through the American Legion Family, our church and other organizations. Remember to spread joy and hope to others every day, with a positive attitude and by living as the plants, flowers and trees – grow and share your gifts from God.

I am happy to let everyone know that many of you have sent me prayers and inspirational items for President Diane Weggen's Prayer Book. There is still room for many, many more in the book and I am asking again for more people to contribute to this important memorial of her busy year as our Auxiliary President. You can send by email to (djensen20@gmail.com) or mail to me at: 6936 N 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53224.

Please join me in thanking God for sending Spring and may "hope spring eternal" in your heart as we continue to salute, serve, and celebrate active-duty military, veterans and their families.

### "You Are My Sunshine"

Words and music by: Jimmy Davis  
 and Charles Mitchell

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine.  
 You make me happy when skies are gray.  
 You'll never know dear how much I love you.  
 Please don't take my sunshine away.

## GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

**Bonnie Dorniak**  
 Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
 608-745-0124  
 deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org  
 www.amlegionauxwi.org

May 27, 2022 is National Poppy Day... but poppies can be distributed all year long! This is a great time to remind the public about the significance of the memorial poppy and the sacrifices made by so many veterans for the freedoms we enjoy today. If poppies cannot be distributed during Memorial Day, consider Flag Day in June, Independence Day in July, summertime community celebrations, or Veterans Day in November! Some units have been very successful by mailing poppies to their members and local community leaders and simply asking for a donation in return.

Units and posts must submit 20% of their poppy profits to ALA Headquarters as soon as possible after poppy distributions. The profits support the VA hospitals in Milwaukee, Madison, Tomah, Minneapolis and Iron Mountain; the Veterans

Homes in Chippewa Falls, King, and Union Grove; Dayton Care Center in Kenosha; and Camp American Legion. Poppy profits also fund scholarships, grants to homeless women veterans, the Veterans Creative Arts Festival, and emergency assistance to veterans and active-duty military personnel. Units and posts may use the balance of poppy profits for the direct benefit of a veteran or service member where a medical or financial need is evident. Thank you to everyone who supports the Auxiliary's Poppy Program!

The 2022 ALA Department Convention is scheduled for July 14-17, 2022 at the KI Convention Center/Hyatt Regency in Green Bay. A recognition program will be held on Thursday, July 14 at 3:00 pm including a Tribute to Honored PDP Diane Kranig, 2021-2022 district membership awards, and a Parade of Checks for National President Kathy Daudistel. Checks should be made payable to "ALA-Wisconsin." Donations will be forwarded to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. Since District Caucuses at convention

have been discontinued, **convention will be called to order on Friday, July 15 at 9:30 a.m.** Please note this important time change and we hope to see you there! See the department website for complete convention details.

The 2022 National Convention will be held in Milwaukee from August 26-31, 2022. What a great opportunity to experience a national convention in our own backyard! More information will be provided in the next issue of this newspaper or visit the department website as information becomes available.

As a reminder, 2023 membership cards and rosters will be mailed to units after department convention. Anyone who has not yet renewed their 2022 membership should do so now as your membership has lapsed and you are no longer considered a "member," nor do you have any rights or privileges of membership until the dues are paid.

Do you want to learn more about the Auxiliary? ALA in the Know Conferences are being planned for this Fall, so watch for more information as details are finalized.

## LEGISLATIVE

**Joanie Dickerson**  
 Department Chairman  
 608-996-2152  
 jomaried@gmail.com

The purpose of our ALA Legislative program is to support the legislative agenda of The American Legion (TAL). On March 8, National Commander Paul Dillard testified before a joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs where he outlined the issues in most need of their attention. You can view his testimony on TAL's website <https://www.legion.org/legislative>.

Toxic exposure in the Gulf, the need for Buddy Checks, citizenship for U.S. Veteran immigrants, VA medical care for female veterans, GI Bill benefits for reservists and national guard members, U.S. Coast Guard pay in times of government shutdowns, and VA access for all World War II veterans are issues Commander Dillard touched on in his testimony.

We, as members of the American Legion Auxiliary, have a duty

to support the efforts of the Legion in getting legislation passed that will address these concerns. Letter writing, phone calls, emails and personal visits are all ways in which we can reach out to our legislators and make our voices heard. The collective voice of the American Legion Family speaks loud and clear that our veterans have served for the safety and security of our nation and deserve to be cared for in the best way possible.

The Legion website makes it very easy to communicate via their Legislative Action Center. With a few clicks of your computer keys, you can send a message to members of Congress and let them know our veterans are important to you. Unsure how to access it? Check out a video that explains how on the ALA Department website by clicking on "Program Info" in the top banner and selecting "Legislative" in the drop-down menu. This will take you to a page with a video demonstrating how to access the Action Center. This page also has the latest information from TAL's National Legislative Division.

Now is the time for all of us to make the Legislative Program a priority because our Veterans should ALWAYS be a priority!

## POPPY PROGRAM

**Marla Knuettel**  
 Department Chairman  
 920-538-2186  
 mk54961@yahoo.com

*'The purpose of the Poppy Program is to honor veterans for their service and sacrifice by promoting circulation of the poppy, educating all people of the poppy's history, and the significant financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of its distribution.'*

If you don't know it by now, the poppy is a perennial – when you consider that it may be used, crafted, promoted, displayed, shared and distributed YEAR-ROUND! All members are probably involved in cultivating the poppy program just by wearing the poppy, knowing and sharing its history, making that corsage or producing a poster, participating in the Memorial Day distribu-

tion, buying the Poppy contest giveaways from Emblem Sales, and so much more. Hopefully every unit showcased these activities in their Poppy narratives.

Now it is time to think about National Poppy Day on Friday, May 27. For those units that do their distribution during Memorial Day weekend, the poppies have been purchased, the sites confirmed, and the public relations begun with a radio or TV spot planned. What about a social media heads-up for friends and family? How about a visit to your city government with the proclamation and a thank you for their support of veterans?

If you were able to check out the Auxiliary and Legion Poppy sites at both Department and National levels, you might have seen the challenge from National Poppy Chair, Sallie Rossman, on having a poppy in every veteran's window. Much like the Blue Star

routine in recognizing active military, the poppy recognizes the sacrifice of all veterans. A couple of mid-year reports mentioned plans for storefront displays with large poppies honoring all community veterans. Many more spoke of expanding last year's efforts to reach more people, bring in more revenue, and find new ways to help their veterans.

Good luck to all during this spring reawakening from COVID and to the germinating of the poppy at all levels. Thank you, Lt. Col. John McCrae, for writing the poem, 'In Flanders Fields' (1915), which paid tribute to the human sacrifices of World War I. Thank you, Moina Michael, for taking the symbolism of that poem and starting the poppy tradition in the United States. Finally, thank you American Legion Auxiliary members, for embracing the Poppy story and utilizing it in fulfilling our mission to honor and care for our nation's veterans!



## VA&amp;R — SERVICE TO VETERANS

**Linda Coppock**  
**Department Chairman**  
**920-851-5811**  
**beatrice2554@gmail.com**

Service to Veterans is a component of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation program which promotes the American Legion Auxiliary mission to support The American Legion programs and to enhance the lives of veterans, service members and their families. The focus is specifically on direct service to any veteran who is not related to the Auxiliary member who is providing the service. A 50-hour pin for service to veterans is given to members and additional hour bars can be added for future hours of service.

This year we also asked: How did the units and/or members provide support to caregivers and/or military families? National President

Kathy Daudistel is promoting the hours of care a caregiver performs to be included in the "Service To Veterans Volunteer Award" allowing the caregiver that lives with the veteran ten hours of service a week. If they do NOT live with the Veteran relative then they may be awarded five hours a week. It is the responsibility of the caregiver to report these hours to their units and departments. The "Service To Veterans Volunteer Award" form is due by April 15, 2022. All pins and bars will be awarded no later than the end of August 2022.

Memorial Day is the day we set aside to reflect on the sacrifices so many soldiers have made. They deserve the utmost respect possible, and may we never forget the freedoms they allow us to have.

**Salute** those who have passed, **Serve** those whom we still can, and **Celebrate** all of them for the time they gave...

**Mike Rohan**  
**Department Chairman**  
**608-836-0377**  
**mdnrohan@gmail.com**

As we celebrate spring's arrival, our attention turns to our veterans and their sacrifices for our freedom. American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel has reminded us that the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary includes honoring the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families. One way we can honor that sacrifice is to recognize these unsung heroes and help to make sure they have the resources and support they need to take care of their veterans. Many of you are already doing this important work without even thinking about it.

We have all been working hard for our veterans through this pandemic. Some of you put on your masks, filled your purse/pockets with wipes and hand sanitizer, and engaged with our veterans in their homes and nursing homes. **Thank you, you are awesome!** Don't forget to report what you are doing on your Impact Report and Unit Narrative Report. As we move closer to the end of this pandemic, it is time to put the mission of The American Legion Auxiliary back into your calendar because our veterans need us more now than ever before.

As the first long weekend of the summer, Me-

morial Day is traditionally filled with barbecues and outdoor activities – but it is first and foremost a very somber holiday intended to honor our nation's fallen heroes.

Growing up in a small town in Kentucky, one of seven sons and one daughter of a US Navy veteran who served during WWII and Korea, we honored those who served and gave their lives for our country every Memorial Day. My mother would decorate both the inside and outside of our house with red, white, and blue in honor of my dad's navy buddies who did not make it home from their service. She flew an American flag in honor of her brother, a US Marine who never made it home.

Memorial Day is a day filled with emotion as we remember family, friends, neighbors, and battle buddies who are no longer with us. Nevertheless, it is also a day of thanks – thankfulness for the freedoms we enjoy because of the sacrifices our soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen made that we can never repay.

My family, then and now, has their traditions for observing Memorial Day as do many of you and your families. This year consider taking a walk through your local veterans' cemetery. Brush up on your Memorial Day knowledge. Learn about Gold Star Families in honor of Memorial Day. Watch the National Memorial Day parade.

While we can never repay that loss, we can promise that we will never forget the ultimate sacrifice made for our freedom.

## CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH

**Mary Krutz**  
**Department Chairman**  
**920-680-7938**  
**wkrutz@new.rr.com**

It is Spring, and in the American Legion Family this means April and Children & Youth Month. Did you know that according to American Association of School Superintendents Association 2019 publication, approximately two million military children have experienced a parental deployment since 2001? Eighty percent of military children attend public schools. One third of these children show psychosocial behaviors such as being anxious, worrying often, and crying more frequently. This makes our job even more important.

A.L.F. dogs can bring comfort to scared and lonely children. "I'm a Hero 2" stickers are easy to make with a printer and Avery round labels #8293 1-1/2". Organize a Purple Up Day during a Legion Family event. Do not forget to take pic-

tures and post on your social media account. Let us show our military children that we are proud of their contributions to our nation and world!

Please continue to recognize our youth through the Good Deed and Youth Hero Awards. New this year is the Youth Caregiver Award. Unlike the Good Deed and Youth Hero awards, you do not have to send in nominations for this award. The ALA Youth Caregiver Certificate can be downloaded from the department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) > Program Info > Children & Youth), completed, and presented to any worthy young person under 18 years old who has demonstrated caregiving to another and did not get paid for their work. The recipients of these youth awards do not have to be children of military.

Thank you for working our mission making a difference in our world. I look forward to reading your narrative reports that are due to Department Headquarters by April 15. And as always, if you have any question, please contact me.

## UNIT 19: YOUTH HERO AWARD — ADALYNN CHMIELEWSKI



Washington County President **Mary Montag**, District 2 President **Amy Luft**, and Hartford Unit 019 President **Sally Wagner** (not pictured) presented **Adalynn Chmielewski** with the American Legion Auxiliary Youth Hero Award and Medal.

**Five-year-old Adalynn Chmielewski saved her mother's life in the Fall of 2021. Her mom had fallen, and Adalynn asked if she was ok. Her mom could not get up so Adalynn used her mom's cell phone to call dad at work. She called several times and left a message saying mom can't get up and to come home quickly. When her dad saw her messages, he called 911 and went home. Adalynn's mother, Chelsey, was taken to the hospital immediately. The doctor said she had had a stroke and could have died. Chelsey is alive today because of Adalynn's quick reaction.**

## HONORING PDP DIANE KRANIG (2006-2007)

Diane Kranig is a lifelong member of Berens Scribner Unit 6 of Stevens Point and served as Department President in 2006-2007. The theme of her year was "Circle of Service," a reminder that the American Legion Auxiliary needs to continue to fulfill the promises made to our veterans and their families.

Diane is eligible for membership through the Korean War service of her deceased father, Jerome Kranig. She was brought up in the American Legion and Auxiliary Family with her mother, Past National President Barbara, serving as role model and mentor by default. Always participating in Junior activities and conferences, Diane was Wisconsin Miss Poppy while a sophomore in high school. There was not a Father's Day that was not spent at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King for the annual Pilgrimage.

The special project she selected was Breast Cancer Awareness and raising funds for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, a cause she continues to support. BCRF currently funds researchers at medical institutions in the United States and in 15 countries worldwide. The Fall Informational Forum in 2006 was held in Stevens Point with a change of format, allowing each attendee to hear from more program chairmen. This may have been the inspiration for the current ALA in the Know!

Prior to becoming Department President, Diane served as Department Officer, including Senior Vice President and Vice President, and many Department Chairmanships. Follow-



**PDP Diane Kranig**

ing her year as Department President, she served as Wisconsin's National Executive Committeewoman. She has also served the Eighth District as President, as well as other offices and chairmanships on that level. At present, she is serving as District Parliamentarian and Bylaws Chairman.

In her home unit, Diane has served in every capacity and remains active as a chairman and officer. She can be found working Poppy Day, any unit fundraiser, or the Annual

Bowling for Veterans.

An area of special interest to Diane during her years of service was to the American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State program. She served as a staff member for 25 years and was Chairman of the Girls State Committee for several years. She also had the opportunity to serve on the National Girls State Committee and traveled to Washington, DC as a staff member for Girls Nation.

Diane retired in 2018 after a 34-year career at Sentry Insurance in Stevens Point, with her final job there as Senior Quality Assurance Specialist in the IT Department. She remains involved in community theater and serves as a poll worker for the city. She enjoys quilting and playing trivia. Currently, she can be found removing the wallpaper in her kitchen.

Diane has been supported throughout her Auxiliary service by her husband Ken Sankey; their two daughters – Genevieve, and her husband Ben Brandl, and Giselle, and husband Eric Zahn; and grandson Oliver Brandl.



## CANDIDATES

## LINDA COPPOCK FOR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

With the support of her family and friends, Linda Coppock has been endorsed by Shiocton Unit 512, Outagamie County Council and the Noble 9th District as a candidate for 2022-2023 Department President for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin.

Linda became a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Shiocton Unit 512 at the age of 6 through the Navy service of her stepfather, Earl Burton. Linda has been an active Auxiliary member ever since. Linda is also a Paid Up for Life member. Linda has served the ALA in many capacities over the years. She has been an officer and/or a chairman for her Unit, County, District and now the Department of Wisconsin.

Linda and her husband Gary, a Vietnam Navy veteran, have raised three daughters – Jennifer Gardner, an Air Force veteran and dual member; Michelle Bellile; and Suzanne Heuer; and one son, Lt. Col. Stephen B. Olk of the US Army Reserves. Of their ten grand-



Linda Coppock

children, the two oldest grandsons, Chasen and Trevor Gardner are Marines! They also have two great-granddaughters, who, with their ALA membership, make up the 6th generation of Unit Auxiliary members at Shiocton Unit 512!

Serving as a Department officer these past few years, Linda has enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk with many unit members. As a presenter for the ALA In the Know, her interaction made her realize working and communicating with unit members is key to maintaining the integrity of our organization for years to come. Linda has become aware of the struggles that units are having in retaining and/or gaining members to help accomplish their goals while continuing to support our veterans, active military, their families and the Auxiliary mission. Even though we had to observe social distancing, members continued to find creative ways to support the mission of the ALA. We need to continue to believe in what we do and once you believe, it will happen! It is her belief that all members are important and even the smallest attempt by any member to work the ALA mission is a worthy attempt in helping our veterans.

## REBECCA (BECKY) MUELLER FOR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

I am excited and humbled to announce my candidacy for the office of ALA Department of Wisconsin First Vice President. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve you for the past few years as a Department officer and chairperson.

I gain my eligibility from multiple sources: my husband Clarence's service in the Army during the Vietnam era, my deceased first husband Richard Young's service as a Marine in Vietnam, and my deceased father's service in the Army.

My membership is with Krause-Kraft-Mueller Unit 106, Seymour since 2007. I served as Unit Secretary and President and continue to serve on many committees and projects. I served as the Ninth District President. I still serve on committees and wherever needed on the Unit, County, District and Department levels.

The ALA in The Know events are very special to me. This has been a wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge about our organization and to learn from each of you. I



Rebecca (Becky) Mueller

learned so much as I traveled the state and met so many of you. Experiencing the care and compassion that you exhibit to your Legion family and beyond has been such a blessing. It is a joy to celebrate all that we have done and to look forward to all our future endeavors together.

The United Methodist Church has certified me as a Lay Speaker and I serve on many committees and occasionally lead the services at my home church, New Life UMC, Seymour.

For God and Country defines my calling and passion. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve this organization and, most importantly, you, as we navigate together through the changes and challenges that are before us. Our mission is before us and

I feel I can bring fresh insights and ideas to the table as we move into our second century of service to our veterans, our military, their families (us) and our communities.

Thank you for your consideration and support. God Bless You and the USA.

## MAGGIE GEIGER FOR DEPARTMENT SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

I am excited and honored to announce my candidacy for the office of Senior Vice President for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin.

I have proudly served in various capacities and chairmanships on the Unit, County, and District levels including Sergeant at Arms, Chaplain, 2nd and 1st Vice President and President. Some special projects are co-founding Sweat4Vets; working with the VSO on "To Whom Honor is Due" Dinner honoring veterans, in conjunction with Concordia University, and facilitating a WWII veteran secure his Honorary College Degree.

I am eligible for membership through my father, Herbert "Buck" Masters, a WWII veteran, and am a 17-year Paid Up for Life (PUFL) member. I have attended leadership trainings with the American Legion Auxiliary, ALA Mission Training and the American Legion College, served as co-chair and presented ALA in the Know conferences, served on the ALA Strategic Planning Team, Americanism Chair, ALABGS, Poppy Chairman, and Historian.

My passion is for our nation's heroes, promoting ALA programs and its mission, serving God and country with ALA members from Wisconsin is a privilege. Serving this last year as your Department Membership Chairman, I have gained more appreciation and recognize the love, compassion and struggles our ALA members/units have, how hard unit members work to retain and gain members, while working the programs and mission of the Auxiliary. Members are not just volunteers, but a family working



Maggie Geiger

together to make the lives of our American heroes better one day at a time. We need to continue showing each other kindness, working closely with our American Legion Family while mentoring, embracing new ideas from our members while reaching out to our youth and communities, so we can continue to meet the needs of our veterans, military and their families, together.

Maggie and her husband Brian of 46 years are members of Crossroads Church, Milwaukee Curling Club, and lifetime members of Ozaukee County Historical Society. Proud mother of son Patrick, daughter-in-law Jackie, daughter Katie, son-in-law Michael, grandsons Gabriel, Emre, Hoban, and granddaughter Theodora, are all members of the American Legion Family.

It has been an honor and blessing to serve as Department 1st Vice President and I ask for your continued prayers and support as I offer myself as candidate for Department Senior Vice President.

## SUE HEMBROOK FOR DEPARTMENT 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Sue Hembrook wishes to announce her candidacy for Department 2nd Vice President. Her journey in the American Legion Auxiliary began 19 years ago at the unit level. In addition to chairing many committees in her unit, she served as President of the Unit for four years. Sue also was the 4th District President and President of the Milwaukee County Conference of Units. On the department level, she has served as Education Chairman, Strategic Planning Group Co-Leader, Director of Hospital Volunteers, Representative at the Dayton Care Center, and Poppy Shop Supervisor. Sue

was also appointed to positions at the National level: 2015-2016 National Legislative Committee, 2016-2017 National Education Central Division Chairman, 2018-2019 National Poppy Committee, 2019-2021 National Central Division Children & Youth Chairman, and currently National Central Division VA&R Chairman.

She is eligible for membership through the service of her late father Norton Kaiser, a WWII Army veteran, and that of her husband Gene, a Vietnam era Air Force Veteran. She has four children and nine grandchildren all of whom are members of the

Legion Family. Her son Joe is currently a member of the Air Force and son-in-law Jeremy is actively serving in the Navy. Her grandson Jonathan is eagerly awaiting his place in military life. At the age of 16, he is currently a member of the Sea Cadets, a Navy Program and Air Force JROTC at the high school he attends. Every branch of the military, except for the Coast Guard, is covered by one family member or another.

Sue and her husband of 48 years are members of St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church in Franklin, Wisconsin. She has been involved in that faith

community with their school, parish council, and many fundraising events sponsored by the church and school.

Her dedication to this organization and our veterans has been steadfast. She supports the VA's wholeheartedly as they supported her family when her father contracted MS and was admitted to a study being done at the time by the Milwaukee VA. Sue knows that her dad had a much better and longer life due to the care given him and also the support given to the family. She will dedicate herself by doing her best to support this organization and our veterans.



Sue Hembrook



CANDIDATES

**KAREN RUNK FOR HISTORIAN**

A 14-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Karen Runk is eligible for membership through the service of her youngest brother who is currently on active duty, and that of her late father following the adoption of the Legion Act.



**Karen Runk**

Karen has served in Leadership positions since returning to Wisconsin in 2015. She is an active member of Kerl-Endres-Brannan Unit 245 of Cross Plains, currently serving as Unit President; Dane County President; a member of the Department Leadership Committee; and is the Military Families Chairman for District 3. She is past Unit 245

Vice President and District 3 Leadership Chairman.

Service to others has been a lifelong passion which she demonstrated through coaching, and as a longtime member of the Girl Scouts. She is one of Wisconsin's first to receive the highest achievement in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award. The Gold Award is the Girl Scout equivalent of the Boy Scouts' Eagle Scout.

Karen's mother, siblings, four nieces and great-niece are all members of the American Legion Family. She has been endorsed by her unit, county and district. Being a part of this organization has been a blessing and she hopes to continue to honor our veterans by serving as your next Department Historian.

**LINDA KOSTKA FOR CHAPLAIN**

My name is Linda Kostka, PUFL member of Kelly Johnson Unit 90 in Ashland, and Past District 11 President. Both my unit and district have endorsed me for the position of Department Chaplain. I served as Chaplain for District 11 and VFW District 10. I served on Department committees for Bowling, Membership, Public Relations and was Fundraising Chairman. I also served as Department and National Sergeant-at-Arms. My community involvement includes membership in Grace Bible Fellowship Church, Red Hat Society, VFW Auxiliary, and various other organizations with activities supporting the community. My husband and I have enjoyed attending many Department and National Conventions. With your support I would love to have this opportunity to continue serving God, country and our Auxiliary.



**Linda Kostka**

My eligibility is through my father, husband, and son. I joined Unit 90 in 2002. Thank you to everyone for mentoring me. With their willing hearts and great wisdom, I learned how our Auxiliary programs help our youth and veterans alike.

Traveling for all 20 years of Frank's Air Force career has brought me to another level of understanding as to why we spouses are important to our veterans. Living in another country was an exciting experience leaving us with a lifetime of memories. Being stationed overseas also gave us an appreciation of our United States citizenship with its freedom of speech, religion, property ownership, and a process to elect our leaders without fear of death. When Frank received his discharge papers, the Colonel gave me my own discharge papers, what a delightful surprise. We have four children, fifteen grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and two great-grandsons on the way.

I'm a proud American and Auxiliary member and if you elect me as your Department Chaplain, I will do my very best to represent our organization. Thank you for your consideration. May God bless you and our country.

**IN MEMORIAM: PDP VIRGINIA FAUST (1995-1996)**

Past Department President Virginia "Ginny" Faust (1995-1996) passed away on Sunday, January 30, 2022, at the age of 93.

She was a Paid Up For Life member of Kerl-Endres-Brannan Unit 245 in Cross Plains. Ginny is survived by her four children: Allen (Janet) Faust, Ronald (Gail) Faust, Sandra Faust (Wayne Buschmann), and Sons of the American Legion Past National Commander David Faust and his wife Cheri, along with eight grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, other family members, and friends. Her husband, Raymond Faust, whose service in the United States Marine Corps gave Ginny her eligibility to join the Auxiliary, preceded her in death in 1999.

ed her in death in 1999.

Ginny was a lifelong member of St. Francis Xavier Parish, an active Girl Scout leader, and a vital part of Cross Plains Unit 245 by mentoring younger members up until the time of her passing. She served as an ALA Badger Girls State Counselor for over 15 years, volunteered for the William S. Middleton VA Hospital for 17 years, and was the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin President in 1995-1996. Her theme was "Be a Shoe In - Step Forward Wisconsin."

Ginny Faust will be missed by many, but we will continue to step forward and carry on the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary in her memory.



**PDP Virginia Faust**

**2022 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION GENERAL INFORMATION**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN 2022 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION Thursday-Sunday, July 14-17, 2022 • KI Convention Center/Hyatt Regency, 333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301**

**Location:** The 2022 Department Convention will be held at the KI Convention Center/Hyatt Regency in Green Bay and called into session at 9:30 am on Friday, July 15, 2022.

**Housing:** Housing has been arranged at the following hotels until the deadlines listed or when the room blocks are filled, whichever comes first:

**Hyatt Regency**  
333 Main Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
920-432-1234  
Group: AM Legion  
Cut off June 22, 2022

**Hampton Inn**  
(attached to the Conv. Center)  
Reservations call 770-299-2095  
Thursday-Saturday (7/14-7/16)  
Group: WI American Legion  
Cut off June 14, 2022

**Tundra Lodge (Waterpark Hotel)**  
Reservations call 877-886-3725  
Thurs & Friday only (7/14-7/15)  
Group: American Legion  
Cut off June 17, 2022

**Registration:** \$25 per person by July 11, 2022 or \$30 at convention.

**National Convention Alternates:** Since ALA District Caucuses have been discontinued, districts may nominate alternates to National Convention, with the selection process determined at the discretion of the district. Names of nominees shall be sent to Department Headquarters as soon as selected, but no later than July 1. Elections will be held on Saturday, July 16 at 9 am.

**DEPARTMENT TO HOST BASKET RAFFLE CONVENTION FUNDRAISER**

As we **Salute** our Veterans, we will **Serve** together raising funds to further the efforts of our American Legion Auxiliary and President Diane Weggen's special project: **The Chippewa Veterans Home Courtyard.**

I am asking every Unit to please donate a Raffle Basket with a minimum value of \$30. Please display a card stating everything in the basket, as well as your Unit and District numbers. Make sure all baskets are wrapped in cellophane. If an individual would also like to donate, please follow the same instructions.

Different baskets will be raffled off every day of the convention (Thursday, July 14 through Saturday, July 16 at 10 am). Last year at the end of the convention, we auctioned off several baskets. It was really fun, and we earned even more money! This year we will **Celebrate** the close of convention with another auction!

Please do not hesitate to call or email with any questions.

Thank you ALL so very much!

Sue Turowski, Department Fundraising Chair  
sueturowski@hotmail.com or 262-389-4644

**SALUTE, SERVE, CELEBRATE!**



**SERVE – Saukville Unit 470 Mission in Action:** The Landt-Thiel Legion Family held its annual Joint Potluck and Awards Night. The Auxiliary presented donations to several community organizations and Camp American Legion. Pictured (l-r): Lee Roundy, TAL Finance Director, Past Commander Denise Jamrozy, Camp Director Jim Klement, and Mary Ellen Race, Unit 470 President.



**SALUTE, SERVE, CELEBRATE!**

**SERVE – Mondovi Unit 154 Mission in Action:** Mondovi Unit 154 has focused on making holidays brighter for families who have fallen on hard times at Christmas for more than six decades. Generations of ALA family members organize and distribute gifts, typically serving 85 to 135 children from 30 to 50 families each year. Local businesses, churches, other civic organizations, individuals, and Legion Family members donate money, time, and gift-wrapping talent to shop and fulfill children's wishes on the Wish Tree. Thank you, Unit 154, for your years of service!



**SALUTE – American Legion Post 139** contributed \$1,500 to the ALA Badger Girls State program. This generous donation will enable three young women the opportunity to attend the 2022 ALABGS session. Thank you for your support! Pictured (l-r): Department Secretary Bonnie Dorniak, Post 139 Commander Michael Burt, and Department Commander Greg Eirich.

**CELEBRATE – Beaver Dam Unit 146 Honored Two Centenarian Auxiliary Members.** This past year two members of ALA Unit 146 in Beaver Dam celebrated their 100th Birthdays. Because of COVID, the unit was not able to do a big celebration, but they visited and presented each of them with a plant, their membership cards, poppy facemask, and a certificate of their years of membership with Unit 146.



Pictured with Inez are Karen Maleck, Unit 146 Secretary, and Lois Levenhagen.

**CELEBRATE – INEZ MCMILLAN** was born on September 20, 1921. After graduating from UW-Madison Nursing School in 1944, she joined the US Army Nurse Corps and served in England, France, and Germany before being honorably discharged as a 1st Lieutenant in 1946. Inez was a dual member of American Legion Post and Auxiliary 146 and AMVETS. She was a charter member of the Women's Memorial in Washington, DC. Inez treasured her Badger Honor Flight experience and especially appreciated the WWII and women's memorials. Inez enjoyed distributing poppies every year. Inez passed away December 14, 2021.



**SALUTE – Molly Pitcher Award:** Department National Security Chairman Karen Degner of Unit 243 in Plymouth was awarded the Molly Pitcher Award by the United States Field Artillery Association in recognition of her significant volunteer contributions to the Field Artillery Community. The award is named after an Artillery wife, Mary Hays McCauly (nicknamed Molly Pitcher), who supported her husband's military unit during the Battle of Monmouth on June 28, 1778. Karen is pictured with her husband, SSG Mark Degner, Wisconsin Army National Guard.



Lois Levenhagen, Unit 146 Membership and Treasurer, is pictured with Pearl.

**CELEBRATE – PEARL LIMBERG** was born February 2, 1921. She moved to Beaver Dam in 3rd grade and still lives in her own home with the help of her daughter Kathy, who assists with meals and cleaning. Pearl met her husband, Robert Limberg, on a blind date in 1937 and they married two years later. Bob served in the National Guard out of Waupun for four years as a medic and was then drafted to serve during World War II. Bob was a member of John E. Miller American Legion Post 146, so Pearl joined the ALA in 1968. She distributed poppies and helped with many other little projects.

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Wisconsin  
2022 American Legion Auxiliary  
Department Convention  
KI Convention Center/Hyatt Regency  
333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301**

**2022 OFFICIAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

*(subject to change)*

**Thursday, July 14, 2022**

- 10 am – 11 am Registration Setup
- 11 am – 5 pm Registration
- 12 pm – 5 pm Fundraiser Raffle
- 2 pm – 4:30 pm Headquarters Office/Supplies/Exhibits
- 1 pm – 2:30 pm Legion Family Joint Executive Committees Luncheon
- 2 pm Tellers, Credential Chairman & Judges of Election meeting
- 2:30 pm Resolutions Committee Meeting, if necessary
- 3 pm – 5 pm Recognition Program
  - Honored PDP Diane Kranig
  - District Membership Awards
  - Introduction/Remarks – National President Kathy Daudistel
- 5 pm – 6 pm National President Kathy Daudistel Meet & Greet/Parade of Checks
- 6:30 pm Past Department Presidents Dinner *(by invitation only)*

**Friday, July 15, 2022**

- 7 am – 5 pm Registration
- 7:30 am – 5 pm Headquarters Office/Supplies/Exhibits
- 8 am – 5 pm Fundraiser Raffle
- 8 am – 8:45 am Flag Rehearsal
- 9 am – 9:15 am Processional Line-Up**
- 9:15 am Processional
- 9:30 am – 4 pm Convention Session
- 4 pm Past Presidents Parley Business Meeting

**Saturday, July 16, 2022**

- 7 am – 8 am Registration
- 7:30 am – 11 am Headquarters Office/Supplies/Exhibits
- 8 am – 12 pm Fundraiser Raffle
- 8 am – 4:30 pm Convention Session
  - 9 am – VOTING (Convention doors will be closed during voting)
  - Convention reconvenes immediately following voting
  - Judges of Elections, Credential Chair, Dept Tellers – vote counting
  - Flag Recessional
  - **Installation of 2022-2023 Department Officers and District Presidents**
  - Adjournment of 2022 Convention
  - Reception Line for 2022-2023 Department Officers and District Presidents
- 5 pm – 6 pm Church Services
- 6:30 pm Joint Memorial Service Practice
- 7 pm – 11:00 pm Saturday Evening Entertainment  
*(Legion Family invited to attend; ticket purchase required w/Registration)*

**Sunday, July 17, 2022**

- 8 am Joint Legion and Auxiliary Memorial Service
- 9:30 am Department Executive Board Meeting