



BADGER



LEGIIONNAIRE

& WISCONSIN VOL 99 #3 | JUNE 2022

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

2022 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION TO BE HELD JULY 13-17

There is an exciting lineup for the 2022 Department Convention being held at the KI Center in Green Bay July 13-17, 2022. Here are some of the highlights.

Friday, July 15, 2022

You will hear from the family of **Captain Scott Robinson Alwin**. Scott's skills and decorations stand as a testament to his valor. He survived five tours of active duty in Vietnam only to be killed by a suicidal drunk

driver while on his way from his home in Wisconsin to the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania.

Come meet several National Leaders including **National Detachment Commander Michael Fox** and **National President Kathy Daudistel**.

Bridget Robinson, Director of National Convention & Meetings will be joining us to fill you in on all the exciting happenings in Milwaukee for the National Convention being held August 25- September 1, 2022.

Saturday, July 16, 2022

Christopher Kolakowski from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum will be talking about leadership using the lessons learned from the 1944 Battle of the Bulge, including perils of groupthink, sifting information, vision and planning and more.

Brad Hanson, Evening Anchor at WAOW TV in Wausau is a U.S. Marine veteran who traveled the globe for four years as a military



The family of Captain Scott Robinson Alwin (above) will be at the 2022 Department Convention being held at the KI Center in Green Bay July 13-17, 2022. National Leaders appearing during Friday's General Session include National Detachment Commander Michael Fox (below left) and National President Kathy Daudistel (below right).

★ 2nd prize \$5,000	★ 3rd prize \$2,500	★ 4th prize \$1,000	★ Grand Prize \$10,000 CASH!	★ 5th prize \$500	★ 6th prize \$500	★ 7th-8th prize \$250
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broadcaster. He will join us not only to receive a Public Relations award in the television category, but also will share his experiences as a military broadcaster.

WDVA Secretary Mary Kolar

will be joining us to share the latest news on Wisconsin Veterans.

This is just a taste of what you will enjoy when attending this year's convention. For more information go to <https://wilegion.org/>.



Bridget Robinson



Christopher Kolakowski



Brad Hanson

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- 8th - **Adam Klapperich**
- 9th - **Jeffery Zwiers**
- 10th - **Larry Larson**
- 11th - **John Polzin**
- 12th - **Scott Markle**

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
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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

Your Department Committee Chairpersons, Vice Commanders, Officers, and District Commanders just finished the Department Spring meetings. Committee meetings were held on Friday and the DEC reviewed and approved their reports on Saturday. National Vice Commander Jerry Wilson along with his wife, Dept of Ohio Commander, Jean, arrived Thursday night following National Spring meetings. NVC Wilson and Department Commander Jean were escorted by NECman Robert Shappell and ALTNECman Frank Kostka. NVC Wilson attended committee meetings and spoke about National American Legion issues. NVC spoke to the DEC on Saturday and was given a gift bag for the return home to Ohio. His 4th Wisconsin trip is coming up in August with the National Convention.

I want to thank 8th District Commander Adam Klapperich for stepping up and being sworn in as 8th District Commander. He has the full support of his



Nathan Gear
Department
Adjutant

Hello Friends, Families, and Legionnaires,
 The HQ's Team has been ramping up for this summer's Legion Programs. The Programs had a successful start with the generosity of your support. We thank our Badger Boys State volunteers for having a successful transition this past year over to UW-Eau Claire and are anxious to be part of the 79th Session to commence on June 12-18. We are proud to share the excitement of the 50th Anniversary of the Wisconsin American Legion All-Star Game. This year's All-Star Banquet will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2022, with a reception/dinner and program to follow. On Sunday evening after the Brewers game, our All-Star Players will take the field at the American Family Field. All-Star Tickets are



Randy Timms
State Secretary
American Legion
Riders Association

Free for those able to show their support and attend Sunday's game, call HQs for details. The Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy (WALLECA), the 2022 session will begin on July 24-29 at the Fort McCoy State Patrol Academy. If you are not familiar yet with WALLECA, this program helps different agencies across the state and even around the country in need of quality applicants entering the law enforcement field.

Department is working jointly with **The American Legion Family**. Shout out to our awesome **Legion Auxiliary** for their continued support of our Veterans and community. I am excited to work more with our **Legion Riders** as they support many community events through their generous fundraising efforts. Our **Sons of The American Legion** had an incredible “Freezing for a Reason” event to support homeless veterans.

What is an IMPACT REPORT? An Impact Report tells our Legion WI story of WHY someone should join or donate to our organization. Impact Reports were created directly from your Consolidated Post Reports (CPRs). The HQ's Team has been busy consolidating that data off your CPRs into a more graphical appealing handout to reflect what your posts supported over this past year. You can find our impact reports throughout the District Leadership and on our website at wilegion.org. Leaders, please continue to record your monthly Post activities to help us achieve our 100% goal for FY 2022.

Thank you, Legion Family, for your continued dedication on the front lines. We are only successful and relevant because of your support.

Continue to March Forward Leaders, without each of you we would not be able to advocate for so many Veterans' programs and resources.

★★★★ DEPARTMENT COMMANDER ★★★★★

★★★★ DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT ★★★★★

★★★★ LEGION RIDERS ★★★★★

District, and they will do what is needed to make sure that Commander Klapperich is successful to help him succeed during his term. Department Convention is in Green Bay this year. The Legion Family is ready to engage in fun, educational, and informative issues at Convention. Make a POSITIVE IMPACT by attending! Congratulate new Department Officers and enjoy great entertainment on Saturday night.

National Convention is in Milwaukee this year! If you have never attended a National Convention, please do so. Oktoberfest celebration is on Sunday, August 28, Wisconsin War Memorial with brats, refreshments, music, Legionnaires from all over the U.S. See what happens on the National stage! This summer is going to be filled with exciting Legion activities that will give you a lifetime of memories!

Legion Family, also sign up for the National 100 miles for Hope which benefits our National Veterans and Child Welfare Foundation. Register, get a purple shirt, and become part of a nationwide effort to support this program. Help TEAM WISCONSIN, by going to <https://igfn.us/vf/100MFH/team/Wisconsin>

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help we'd never make this work. Gary Hess and Brad Heller have taken the responsibilities of coordinating the Road Guards. The four of us have traveled the routes numerous times already making sure roads, corners and intersections are safe. We are in communication with numerous County Sheriff Departments and getting a great level of support. Dan Workenaour is in charge of our Advance Team while Carl Lange is coordinating the Medical Team. Corey and I could never do this alone and the team is what makes things happen! Others who have committed to helping this Run include Samantha Martin, Mike Pook, Vicki & Kenneth McCauley, Donna & George Sutton, Joyce Jansen, Mike, Chris & Connie Pytlík, Steve and Mary Kohnke, Karen Workenaour, Tim Flury, Scott Roffers, Jack Smith, Kurt Stuvengen and Ray “Godfather” Pasbrig, our Rider State President. And the list of volunteers is growing! And of course, Iroc's Badger Run is named in honor of our current Department Commander, Greg Eirich!

I must add the recent addition of Jen Swenson as the **Legion Riders Program Coordinator** at Department has been a blessing to say the least! Jen, Corey and I are in frequent contact making sure all the issues are getting the attention they require. Having Jen at the “turnstyle” has been a huge help and

after the Ride, donations can be sent to “Wisconsin American Legion Foundation, 2930 American Legion Drive, Portage, WI 53901-0827” right up to July 26. Whether your Post can contribute or not, it would be a huge blessing to see Post members lining the streets as the motorcycles pull in!

Whether you Ride in Iroc's, make a donation or simply say a prayer that all goes well, we appreciate your support and look forward to a wonderful ride and helping us have an Impact on the Highground Rising.



Our summer programs will have started and your headquarters TEAM have been remarkably busy with their programs and events making sure all goes off without a hitch!

Commanders, please continue to turn in your administrative reports to reflect the good work your post has accomplished this year. If you need assistance, please contact your County or District Commander, or Vice Commander or Dept Adjutant if needed. You have a great support team at your service, please use it.

I want to thank the Legion Family that attended my Testimonial at the Sheboygan Yacht Club on May 14. The gifts and the cards that were presented were very much appreciated. I still have some time left, so be assured I will continue to be the very best Dept Commander for the WI Legion Family! There is much work to be done!

Legion family, we have an exciting and fun summer ahead of us. Enjoy it, and be part of the activities that you can attend. Lead, mentor, educate, and be a Positive Impact in all that you do, every day, at all times!

Report tells our Legion WI story of WHY someone should join or donate to our organization. Impact Reports were created directly from your Consolidated Post Reports (CPRs). The HQ's Team has been busy consolidating that data off your CPRs into a more graphical appealing handout to reflect what your posts supported over this past year. You can find our impact reports throughout the District Leadership and on our website at wilegion.org. Leaders, please continue to record your monthly Post activities to help us achieve our 100% goal for FY 2022.

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One Team, One Fight!

we are very thankful to her. Angie, Lee and Nathan have clearly been supportive at every turn and we're grateful they're doing all they can to ensure this is a success.

I understand some posts will be donating by setting aside their share of the weekly 50/50 drawings. What a great idea and a pretty painless way to collect for a worthy cause. If your Post isn't doing this, perhaps it's an idea that catches on. Even if the collection takes place

after the Ride, donations can be sent to “Wisconsin American Legion Foundation, 2930 American Legion Drive, Portage, WI 53901-0827” right up to July 26. Whether your Post can contribute or not, it would be a huge blessing to see Post members lining the streets as the motorcycles pull in!

Whether you Ride in Iroc's, make a donation or simply say a prayer that all goes well, we appreciate your support and look forward to a wonderful ride and helping us have an Impact on the Highground Rising.

For more information about the Legion Riders, or to get more details about becoming a Rider, contact either: Ray “Godfather” Pasbrig, President, at rpasbrig3@wi.rr.com or at 262-853-4929, or, Randy “Music Man” Timms, Secretary, at rtimms@twc.com or at 262-441-1692



★★★★ **WDVA SECRETARY** ★★★★★

Mary M. Kolar
WDVA
Secretary

Greetings Legionnaires,
You may recall that in my last column, I shared that Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed an Executive Order to address the challenges our veterans face with the creation of a Blue Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday, May 3, via digital video on Zoom as our 22-member commission lives in different parts of our state. The commission represents the best of Wisconsin's veteran support community, and I am thrilled to get the ball rolling. Our first meeting presented in-depth initial discussions regarding the solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund, which is key to providing more housing security, more mental health support, and more substance abuse treatment for our most vulnerable veterans. The goal of this commission is to examine the issues facing Wisconsin veterans today and develop new ways to best meet the needs for generations to come. The commission will also make recommendations to the governor's office for potential inclusion in the next state budget.

During the last several months our WDVA staff, in cooperation with local and regional support organizations, have successfully planned and hosted five of six planned suicide prevention forums, called Combating Veteran Suicide, in Appleton, Madison, Milwaukee, La Crosse and Wausau. These have

been extremely well attended and received by all who participated. I am continually grateful for our organizational partnerships, support from various veteran support groups and subject matter experts who presented, led breakout sessions, and gave key remarks regarding helpful tools to address mental health issues and suicide prevention. Our last forum will be held in cooperation with Wisconsin's 11 tribal nations later this year at a time and location to be determined. These forums are not a final effort, but a firm commitment to our veterans and their families who seek mental health and suicide prevention support both now and in the future.

I would also like to take a moment to thank those of you who joined WDVA, as well as veterans and families across our state and our nation, on Memorial Day to recognize the men and women of our military who served our country and died in defense of our nation. We were so thankful to host in-person celebrations safely once again at our three veteran memorial cemeteries in King, Spooner, and Union Grove over Memorial Day weekend. Thank you to all who attended these or participated in the ceremonies. We must always remember and honor the memory of every Wisconsinite who died protecting our freedom and our nation.

To all of our state's veterans, and veterans around the nation, I am grateful for your service and sacrifice for our country. Thank you!



★ **DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER** ★

LET'S TALK BENEFITS

James Fialkowski
Department Veteran
Service Officer

Hello from your Service Office! Let me jump right in. Too often have I run into someone surprised to hear information about the following benefits or nuances to these benefits.

- VA CH 35 Dependency Education Assistance (DEA). The DEA benefit program provides payments up to \$1,298 monthly toward education and training to eligible dependents of certain veterans. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeships, and on-the-job training. Not many know (DEA) may also be used if an eligible dependent becomes 18 while in high school. Up to an extra five months of the \$1,298 benefits can be received in High School without being charged against the basic 45 months of full-time eligibility. If more than five months are received in High School, then each month above five is removed from the 45 months available after High School.

- Presumptive service connection for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's disease. ALS is presumed to be related to military service if it manifests in service or at any time after release from at least 90 consecutive days of active U.S. military service. It does not matter when or where that service was accomplished.

- Catastrophically disabled veterans and the Veteran Hospital Administration. Based on a VA clinical decision, Veterans are considered to be Catastrophically Disabled when they have a severely disabling injury, disorder, or disease that permanently compromises their ability to carry out the activities of daily living. The disability must be of such a degree that the Veteran requires personal or mechanical assistance to leave home or bed or require constant supervision to avoid physical harm to themselves or others.

Veterans determined by VA to be Catastrophically Disabled receive an exemption from inpatient, outpatient, and prescription copays.

- Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC) possible earlier effective date. Under 38 CFR § 3.153 (Authority 38 U.S.C. 5105), VA considers an application for survivors' benefits filed as a result of the death of a Veteran with the Social Security Administration (SSA) on or after January 1, 1957, as a claim for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) even if an application for DIC has not been received by VA. The effective date of DIC will be the date the survivors' benefits were filed with SSA. This means, that when applying for or if DIC is granted for a surviving spouse receiving their spouse's SSA benefit there is a chance for an earlier effective date.

New to VA:

- VA published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2022, establishing presumptive service connection for the following list of rare respiratory cancers for certain Veterans who served any amount of time in the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to the present, or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001, to the present: Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx, Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea, Adenocarcinoma of the trachea, Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea, Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung, large cell carcinoma of the lung, Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung, and Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung.

- The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recommendations to the Asset and Infrastructure Review (AIR) Commission to modernize and realign the VA health care system has been released. A brief review shows many bold recommendations, including medical center closures, renovations, and new facilities. If you are interested in seeing these recommendations, this website has the links to the reports Volume I, II, and Appendices: <https://www.va.gov/aircommissionreport/>.

That is it for now.

Feel free to contact our office at 414-902-5722, if you have questions concerning any of these items.



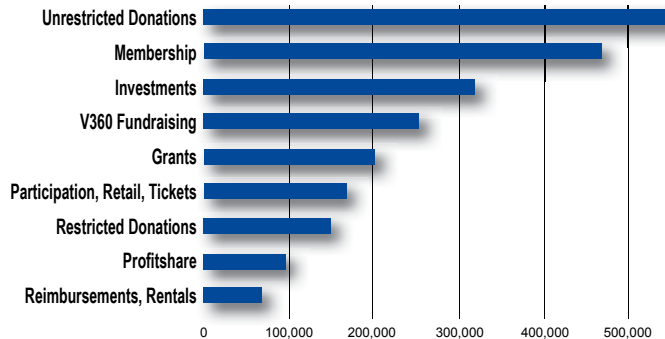
★★★★ **FINANCE DIRECTOR** ★★★★★

Lee Rounady
Finance
Director

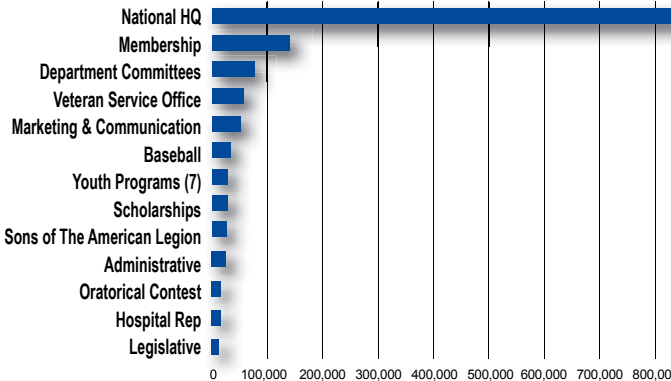
**HAPPY NEW YEAR
— FISCALLY SPEAKING!**

July 2022 begins another impactful 'fiscal' year with the Department of Wisconsin. With youth, family, Active Duty, and Veteran programs in full swing, this is truly an exciting time in the Legion. Some typical questions received are, "How is the Department Funded?", "Where Do My Membership Dues Go?" and "How Much Do the Programs Cost?" Take a look at the budget graphs, below:

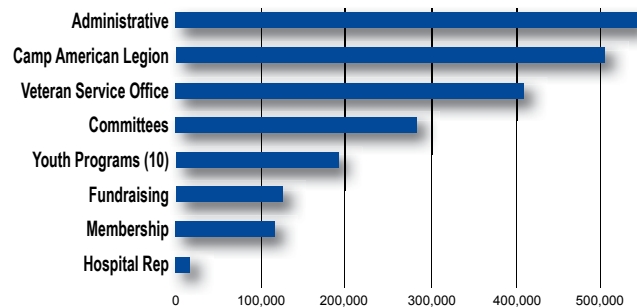
2022-2023 LEGION PROGRAMS — Show Me the Money!



2022-2023 LEGION PROGRAMS — Where Do My Membership Dues Go?



2022-2023 LEGION PROGRAMS — What's the Cost?



DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFICE EXPANDS SERVICES IN JULY!

Beginning July, the DFSSO will provide specific financial information and 'DIY' for Posts and Squadrons on a variety of topics, which may include:

- 1) Is My Post in Good Standing?
- 2) Form 990 Preparation and Pitfalls
- 3) Budgeting 101 – Start with SMART Goals
- 4) New Volunteered Finance Officer, Now What?
- 5) Getting Your Financial House in Order
- 6) Writing a Grant – Where Do I Start?
- 7) Fundraising – When Do I Need a Raffle License?

Check out the website at wilegion.org



“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 . . .

VOLUNTEERS MAKE CAMP AMERICAN LEGION A SUCCESS



Jim Klement
Camp American Legion Director

As I sit down and write this article, we have over 30 volunteers that are working on getting Camp ready. Some of these volunteers have been coming up here every year for a long time. We have one Legionnaire that is 89 years

old and has been coming up to every spring to turn on the water and then again in fall to turn the water off. It is because of these volunteers that Camp American Legion is successful.

Camp American Legion will be operating this year at full capacity. We have about half our weeks that are completely booked and other slots are filling up fast. It will be another great year for Camp.

Some exciting things have happened at Camp since our last article and will continue to happen throughout the rest of the year. This year Camp American Legion tapped some of the maple trees on our property and at the end of the season ended up with over 10 gallons of Maple Syrup.

We also had our first official winter activity. Wisconsin Hero Outdoors came up with eight veterans and went ice fishing. They dealt with cold temps and a lot of slush on the lakes but managed to bring home some fish for dinner. For some of the veterans it was their first time ice fishing and would of never went if it wasn't for Camp American Legion and Wisconsin Hero Outdoors.

By the end of this year, we should have a

brand-new cabin with a walk out basement. Marshfield Post 54 is self-funding this project with the help of other organizations in the area to help Camp American Legion grow. This will also add a much-needed storm shelter on that end of camp.

We also have an open house at Camp on June 17. I encourage anyone to take a trip and come to Camp American Legion. If you have never been at camp, the time is now. If for some reason the 17th does not fit in your schedule, please give me a call and schedule a visit. Camp American Legion is something that every veteran should visit.

As always, I am available at any time to answer questions. So, if you hear something about Camp and it doesn't sound right, give me a call.

To learn more about the mission of Camp American Legion or to get involved with answering the call, visit wilegion.org or find us on Facebook.



Chet Faith
Membership Coordinator

★★★★ MEMBERSHIP ★★★★★

MEMBERSHIP SAVES LIVES!

Mother Nature has graciously allowed summer weather to finally make its way to Wisconsin. With amazing summer weather comes the opportunity for veterans to go to Legion baseball games, stay at Camp American Legion, enjoy the festivities

at the Department Convention, and explore the great opportunities to connect with fellow veterans at local American Legion posts.

Summer also brings the start of the upcoming membership year. Beginning on July 1, The American Legion will begin renewing Legionnaire for 2023. I know it can be confusing to collect dues for 2023 in

July, even though your membership is from January 1, to December 31. We start collecting dues early so you won't be expired on January 1 and this allows Legionnaires and posts time to get those renewals processed in plenty of time.

If you would like to renew online this year, you can do that at www.myLegion.org. Please

visit <https://wilegion.org/membership/> to see the How to Register guide located in the tool box on the right side of the screen. This will save you a lot of time and unneeded headaches. You must have an email address in the system before you go to renew. If you don't, please contact your local post so they can get your email address added.

BADGER BOYS STATE

BADGER BOYS STATE BEGINS

By Jerry Lauby

A new location, an outstanding staff, and a warm invitation is awaiting you! As a military veteran, you are invited to visit one of the most outstanding youth programs in the nation this summer. Come to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and be a part of Badger Boys State, the week of June 12 through June 18. More than 700 high school juniors and seniors from all around Wisconsin will have their lives positively changed because of this American Legion government and leadership program. The more than 100 member staff is preparing for the experience and are ready to help these young men learn about our government as we build Americanism within our future leaders.

Thursday night June 16 is Parents Night, it is special because of the Inaugural Ceremony. And yes, we will have a BBS Governor, constitutional statewide offices and BBS Supreme Court Justices sworn into their new positions of responsibility. Wisconsin District III Court of Appeals Judge Lisa Stark will administer the oath of office to these elected leaders.

Friday night June 17 is "Veterans Night" at Zorn Arena on the UW-Eau Claire campus at Boys State. Legionnaires, Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Legion, the Riders, and any-

one from the American Legion Family are all warmly welcome to the Salute to Veterans assembly. It is a moving and humbling ceremony as over 1,000 people remember the sacrifices of those who have served our nation.



I can say with confidence that the 2022 class of BBS citizens will have lasting memories and leave with lifetime friendships. This is not just any summer camp. This is a week that will change a lifetime! Join us if you can for either the Thursday or Friday evening events. If you would like to visit our program in person during the day, please contact Program Coordinator Sheri Hicks at Legion Headquarters 608-745-1090 or Jerry Lauby 920-602-0577 for details or to schedule an appointment. So, come and support our future leaders! We are proud to be a part of Badger Boys State.

★★★★ RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS ★★★★★ COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

I recently had the great privilege to attend a specialized Security Training in Milwaukee. A long video segment of that training focused on the 9/11 attack on the Trade Center.

There were so many news clips that candidly captured the remarks of people as they were viewing the airliners impact the buildings, and as they watched the buildings collapse. I was shocked in watching the videos, to hear how nearly every random person on the street loudly and frightfully declared, "OH MY GOD!!!" In their life's moment of greatest horrific terror - every one of those people on the streets was shaken to their innermost core beyond words, into recognizing the importance of having a focus on RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS.

As Chairman of the Religious Emphasis Committee in the Badger Department, I plead for our members to each take a moment and ask themselves an important question. "What would ever cause me to have a deeper appreciation for a Religious Emphasis in my life?" I respectfully ponder for you... Would it take Stage-4 Cancer? Would it take a high-impact vehicle accident? Would it take a tragedy with death in your family? Now - What would it take for our very own Department to seriously recognize the importance of having a strong 'GOD honoring' Religious Emphasis across our State and in our State's Posts? It should not be considered an important thing to do after Wisconsin Veterans are forced to speak Chinese or Russian, or falling victim to radioac-

tive fallout and destruction from 'modernized' Nuclear Suitcases (Noting it has been over 60 years since the last ones were created.)

America was, in fact, founded upon Christian principles, and America has tragically drifted from a relationship with GOD. Today - Communism and Marxism is boldly talked of by many U.S. political and University leaders with absolutely No shame. We see the brutal destruction of our time honored and revered morals and values as a banner supported by school boards across this land. It is amazing to read of the importance of GOD by our 'Founding Presidents'. It is profound to read President Washington's Daily Prayers found in his Journal: "Let my heart, gracious God, be so affected with Your glory and majesty that I may ... discharge those weighty duties which Thou requirest of me.... I have called on Thee for pardon and forgiveness of sins ... for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ offered upon the cross for me.... thou gav'st thy Son to die for me; and hast given me assurance of salvation. Most gracious God and heavenly father, we cannot cease, but must cry unto thee for mercy... How shall I address myself unto thee, I must with the publican stand and admire at thy great goodness, tender mercy, and long suffering towards me, in that thou hast kept me the past day from being consumed and brought to nought." (George Washington, The Christian: William J. Johnson, The Abingdon Press)

Our America Needs a Religious Emphasis Again!



★ **AMERICAN LEGION** ★
FOUNDATION

VETERANS BETTERING TOMORROW

*Foundation Inaugural Golf Scramble
Fore WI Veterans Families*

The Wisconsin American Legion Foundation is raising awareness and funds for the Legion Wisconsin Troop & Family Support Program by hosting its inaugural golf outing in August. The T&FS Program offers financial assistance to Active Duty, Veterans, and their families experiencing situations such as home evictions, emergency repairs, and cut utilities.

Never golfed a day in your life, or are you a scratch golfer – Lodi Golf Club is the ideal 9-Hole Course to come support Wisconsin families and win some prizes!

**Foundation Inaugural Golf Scramble
Fore WI Veterans Families**

EVENT: 4-Person Team, Best Ball Scramble Fundraiser
DATE: Wednesday, August 10
TIME: 11 AM Registration, 1 PM Shot Gun
PLACE: Lodi Golf Club, 300 Prospect Ave, Lodi 53555
COST: \$50* Includes Greens Fees, Cart, Boxed Lunch, and a Tee-rific Time!

Bring a non-perishable food item to be entered into a drawing.

Prizes, Sponsorship Opportunities, Drawings

To Register, Become a Sponsor and More Info: wilegionfoundation.org

Donate Directly to Troop & Family Support Families:

<https://donate.chip-in.us/?nonprofitid=114384>

*If Lodi Golf Club member: no Greens fees, and reduced cart fee (if needed).

Join us for an
OPEN HOUSE
CAMP AMERICAN LEGION

JUNE 17TH, 2022 12PM TO 4PM
8529 County Road D, Lake Tomahawk WI

Please join us for appetizers, tours, and to view the Vietnam Veteran Mobile Museum.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 715-277-2510
EMAIL: CALOFFICE@WILEGION.ORG**

Show your support for 2023 ★ 2024

Daniel J. Seehafer
for
National Commander

THE AMERICAN LEGION **FAMILY** **It's Personal!**

Veterans • Defense • Americanism • Youth

TRAVEL INTENSIFIES!

With the anticipation of the summer months and what it brings, I'll be turning in my vacations, campfires and cook-outs for travel. Doesn't sound too attractive, I know. However, as I mentioned in our last issue, it's so, so worth it!

Coming off a successful Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, I'm now prepping for some intense travel. I'll kickoff June with a "make-up" visit to Iowa, as I will address their future leaders at the District and Department levels. Next, I'll head to South Dakota and at the end of June I'll end up in Massachusetts. At the same time, the Mighty 2nd District American Legion Auxiliary will hold a Car Show fundraiser for me on Saturday, June 25 at Post 157-Horicon. Thank you!

Then, there's July! This means visits to Connecticut, Missouri, and back to Indy with a candidate orientation and the membership workshop as I close out the month. Of course, I'm looking forward to another golf outing fundraiser at Horicon Hills Golf Course on July 23. The goal is to have a shotgun start, but also be one of my largest fundraisers of the year. Even if you don't golf, participation as a sponsor can definitely make a positive impact to my campaign—right Commander Eirich?!? For more information on this, please contact Julie Muhle, my Campaign Manager, or myself (dansehafer@gmail.com).

Finally, I again want to thank everyone from our Wis-



Al Richards presented Dan, on behalf of Post 355 Grafton and their successful Art and Wine fundraiser, with \$2,500. The 2nd and 3rd Districts also donated \$500 each to Dan's campaign as well as a \$250 contribution from the 11th at their Spring Meeting in Minocqua.

consin American Legion Family who contributed to this incredible journey I'm on towards your National Commander in 2023-2024. Without a doubt, you are an important and special part of Team Wisconsin!

It's Personal,

Daniel J. Seehafer
Candidate for National Commander/Legislative Chairman
Department Commander 2016-2017
National Chaplain 2010-2011



LEFT: Seehafer received a time-piece tradition: the passing of the torch, as Dan accepts the "leading candidate" position.



FAR LEFT: Jerry Lauby presented Dan, on behalf of the 6th District, with \$1,000 to support his campaign.

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 charge my gift to: Check Visa MasterCard American Express

Name on Card: _____ Post/Unit/Squadron: _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVV #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

It's Personal!
Veterans • Defense • Americanism • Youth

Thank you for your support!

**PRE-CONVENTION
REQUIREMENTS**

**Department
Convention**

**July 13-17, 2022
Green Bay, WI**



LEGION
WISCONSIN

Resolutions:

All Constitutional Amendments and General Resolutions are to be submitted to the Department Headquarters by **May 31, 2022**. Resolutions are to be signed by responsible Officers in accordance with Constitution and Bylaws Article V, Section 7(b).

POST REQUIREMENTS

Finances:

All bills owed to Department Headquarters must be paid before Post delegates can be seated at the Convention.

Consolidated Post Report Form:

Must be completed and returned to Department Headquarters by **June 1, 2022** for Post delegates to be seated.

Deceased Members:

Names of deceased members will appear in the Memorial Service Program. These names are taken from the Last Bugle forms submitted to Department Headquarters throughout the year. If a Post has not submitted the names of their deceased for 2021-2022, use the Last Bugle form and submit by **June 1, 2022**.

POST DELEGATES

Delegation Certification:

The number of delegates each Post will be authorized at the 2022 Convention will be determined after the **June 15, 2022 membership cutoff date, 30 days prior to Convention, per the Department Constitution and Bylaws.**

Each Post is required to immediately complete the Delegate Form that they received from the Department, with the names of Post delegates and alternates and return to Department Headquarters. **THE DELEGATE FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY JULY 1, 2022.**

Delegate Credential stamps will be distributed directly to the Post delegates and alternates at the Registration desk at the Convention Center.

Number of Delegates:

The number of Post delegates depends on the Post membership. Each Post with a membership of fifteen (15) or more members shall be entitled to two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates and one (1) additional delegate and alternate for each additional one hundred (100) members. Posts with a membership less than fifteen (15) members shall be entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate.

Automatic Delegates Include:

Department Commander, Department Vice Commanders, Department Chaplain, NECman, Past Department Commanders, District Commanders and County Commanders.

NOTE:

Newly elected officers do not assume their positions until the close of the Department Convention.

Convention Housing:

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and SAL members hotel information and registration forms can be found in the Badger Legionnaire, online at wilegion.org and sent in the weekly e-updates. Attendees will be responsible for their own reservations. (Except for members of the Official Family who were called in by the Department)

All delegates **must register** in advance by remitting the registration form along with the \$25 per person fee by **July 11, 2022**. Registration after **July 12, 2022** or at Convention will be \$30 per person.

ONLY Registration fees should be sent to Department Headquarters, Attn: Convention, P.O. Box 388, Portage, WI 53901. Hotel Reservations sent to Headquarters will be returned, unfilled. (Except members of the Official Family who were called in by the Department)

**DURING CONVENTION
REQUIREMENTS**

District Caucuses:

Each delegate and alternate must attend his or her District Caucus. The time of the District Caucus will be Friday, **July 15, 2022 at 7:30 AM**. All future District Caucuses will be announced by District Commanders.

Convention Sessions:

It is the responsibility of each delegate to attend all the sessions. In the event a delegate cannot attend, notify the alternate so the Post and District will have a full delegation at all times.

Convention Elections:

It is the responsibility of each delegate or their alternate to cast a vote at all elections during the Convention. Each delegate and alternate should acquaint themselves with all election times and places. Keep in touch with your District Commander.

**AFTER CONVENTION
REQUIREMENTS**

Post Officer Cards:

The new Post Commander or Adjutant should check with the previous years officers to make certain the 2022-2023 Post Officers card has been sent to Department Headquarters. **This card is the official mailing information that the Department Headquarters uses for Post correspondence.**

Post Programs:

The Post Officers should commence planning immediately for their Posts' year. For information or assistance, consult your County or District Commander, Department Headquarters and your manuals provided to you, in your Post packet, at your District Caucus.

Convention Housing

Hyatt Regency Green Bay

920-432-1234
Cut Off June 22, 2022
Group: AM Legion

Hampton Inn

770-299-2095
Cut Off June 14, 2022
Group: WI American Legion

Tundra Lodge (Waterpark Hotel)

877-886-3725
Cut Off June 17, 2022
Group: American Legion

HARRY D JERRED SQUADRON 215



Newly chartered Harry D Jerred Squadron 215 met for the first time on March 22 and elected the following officers: Sergeant at Arms Nate Brenneman, Sergeant at Arms Aaron Smith, Chaplain Tom Borgkvist, Commander Sean Patchin, Vice Commander Jason Doro and Adjutant/Finance Officer Brandon Smith.

PRESIDENT WEGGEN VISITS SUPERIOR POST 435

Diane Weggen, Wisconsin Auxiliary Department President visited with American Legion Post 435 in Superior, Wis. March 10, 2022. Diane spoke to both the Legion and Auxiliary members about current projects in the region. She shared with them her passion for the local posts to continue their efforts to Salute, Serve and Celebrate veterans in their community. She also shared her delight about Legion Posts and Auxiliaries that work well together and side-by-side in the community. Pictured: Diane Weggen and Eaul Moore, Past Commander.



VIETNAM VETERAN RECEIVES QUILT OF HONOR



Bill Gustafson, center, is shown receiving a Quilt of Honor from post members. Left to right, Butch Liebaert, Dennis Bee, Bill Gustafson, Richard Smith, and Ron Cain. Bill Served in the United States Navy from 1964-1970 off the coast of Vietnam.



DuWayne Wieck
Department
Historian

★★★★ **DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN** ★★★★★

In January, Commander Eirich attended a post meeting in Little Chute. Mid-month we attended Midwinter in Wisconsin Dells making appearances at many of the training classes, as well as the sweepstakes drawings and the evening entertainment.

February brought 4 Chaplains remembrance ceremonies were held Post 385 in Verona and Post 470 in Saukville. Commander Eirich also took part in the Lincoln Pilgrimage in Springfield, IL, along with National Commander Paul Dillard, WI Auxiliary President Diane Weggen, and Dept Adjutant Nathan Gear. Following that trip he attended the 6th District Americanism Banquet in Oshkosh. Mid-month Commander Eirich and Adjutant Gear met with members of Dept of Ohio in Milwaukee and he later attended the Arts & Rhythm Fundraiser in Grafton.

District 11 Executive Council held a meeting at Post 182 in Park Falls in March which Commander attended as well as an awards night at Post 494 in Caledonia. Commander joined SAL Squadron 209 who held "Freezin' For A Reason" in Orfordville to raise money for Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative.

April was a busy month as we went to Kaukauna for the 9th District Spring Conference and that afternoon trav-

eled to Minocqua for the 11th District. Commander Eirich sent me photos from his day trip to Neillsville for their 7th District Spring Conference. Commander Eirich also went to the Vans Ells-Schanen Post 82 in Port Washington for an event called Team Celebration. Money was raised for Dogs2Dogs Tags, an organization that trains comfort dogs, and 2 Veterans were there that received comfort dogs from D2DTags. Commander Eirich and I went to the 68th Post Commanders Dinner in Plymouth, Post 243 where he handed out awards for continuous years in the Legion and recognized the Past Commanders.

We also headed to Twin Lakes for their Kenosha County Council meeting. Commander Eirich recognized Kenosha County for reaching 100% membership. Boscobel hosted Wauzeka's 3rd Distinct Spring Conference the next morning where Commander encouraged them to attend both the upcoming state and National Conventions. From there we headed to his own 2nd District Spring Conference in Lake Mills where he presented awards and reminded the membership to keep working for 100% and to attend the Celebration of Freedom in Portage and the upcoming Conventions.

May brought Department Spring meetings and a post Post 36 West Bend meeting where the Commander received a Certificate of Appreciation and handed out 2 thumbs up awards.



103rd 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.

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	
Total Enclosed:			

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



**American
Legion
Baseball**
1972 All-Stars

North Team

Name	Team
Warren Hacker	Kaukauna
Steve Motkowski	Peshigo
Harlan Rothmeyer	Merrill
Steve Rodrian	Sturgeon Bay
Don Solin	Antigo
Bradley Breyer	New London
Jim Rupno	Waupaca
Tim Fenn	Oshkosh
James Schuelke	Rhineland
Edward Ehlert	Clintonville
John Wirch	W. Green Bay
Lee Bauman	Appleton
Gerry Omstead	Seymour
Gary Zopfi	Marshfield
Tom Anderson	Southport - GB
John Nelson	Shawano
Scott Ohrmundt	Wausau
Phil Klismith	Stevens Point
Randy Mulroy	Hortonville
Scott Peterson	Superior
Dene Storch	Neenah
Bradley Walters	Marinette
Tom Bohmke	Menasha

South Team

Name	Team
Steven Lehmann	Juneau
Dale Phillips	Delavan
Dane Ondell	La Crosse
Tom Blaziewske	Kenosha
Mark Schroeder	Dodgeville
John Zimmerman	Middleton
Tom Popouils	Beloit
Jeff Martin	Stoughton
Stephen Bennett	Madison
Paul Daniels	Burlington
Jude Tindall	Twin Lakes
Paul Holzhueter	Waterloo
Guy Fish	Milton Junction
Mark Buchholtz	Whitnall
Brady Yost	Lake Mills
Robert Lee	Edgerton
Michael Mayer	Palmyra
Steve Fabina	West Allis
Terry Ryan	Janesville
Tom Moeschberger	Milwaukee
Keith Bobholz	Beaver Dam
Kirk Gram	Fond du Lac
Mike Coady	La Crosse

50TH ANNIVERSARY

1972-2022

**WISCONSIN AMERICAN
LEGION BASEBALL
ALL-STAR WEEKEND**

*48 Players and Coaches representing
The Wisconsin American Legion
Baseball Program*

ALL-STAR BANQUET

**AUGUST 6
7 PM
BROOKFIELD SHERATON**

ALL-STAR GAME

**AUGUST 7
FOLLOWING BREWERS GAME
AMERICAN FAMILY FIELD**

Everyone is invited to attend!
Former All-Star Players and Coaches are encouraged to join in the celebration and be recognized. Please help by contacting former players and coaches!
Contact Jen Swenson early for tickets!!

WILEGION.ORG/ALL-STAR

60 YEARS OF LEGION MEMBERSHIP



Past NEC/PDC Bud Mautz gets his 60 years of Legion Membership Certificate alongside PNC/PDC Denise Rohan with State Vice Commander Keith Lovell looking on from Post 501 Madison.

Frank J. Kostka Candidate for Alternate National Executive Committeeman

Frank Kostka respectfully requests your support for Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Frank invested 20 years active duty in the U.S. Air Force. He has the support of his wife Linda and family and is endorsed by the Kelly-Johnson Post 90 and the 11th District.

Frank has served as Post Com-

mander with 100% membership, 11th District Vice Commander and 100% Commander. He has been a member of Dept Camp and Communications Committees; National Media and Communications Council and Legislative Council; and National Security/Unconventional Forces & Intelligence Committee; DEC Liaison to the Americanism, Camp, Legislative, Commu-



Thomas Visintainer Sr. and wife Amy.



Steven Tindall and wife Janice.



Thomas and Steve.

KENOSHA AMERICAN LEGION POST HAS TWO HOMETOWN HEROES

The City of Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission created the Hometown Heroes program to identify and recognize worthy men and women who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces who were born in, currently reside in, or have previously resided for ten (10) years or more at any time, in the City of Kenosha, for their outstanding personal achievements and the positive contributions they make to the Kenosha community.

On December 20, 2021, Paul Herrick American Legion Post 21 Kenosha Commander Thomas Visintainer Sr. was selected by the Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission as the 4th Quarter 2021 Hometown Hero. Tom's list of accomplishments is both long and varied, and worthy of this honor. He was presented his award surrounded by family, friends, and fellow Legionnaires.

On February 7, 2022, Tom was selected from the 4 quarterly award winners as the 2021 Kenosha Hometown Hero of the Year. He was awarded his certificate on that night by the City Council and will be riding as an honored guest in the 2022 Kenosha Civic Veterans Parade. His awards were based on his 33 years of service with the Army/U.S. Army Reserves, as well as his efforts with many volunteer organizations.

On March 21, 2022, Paul Herrick American Legion Post 21 Kenosha Finance Officer and Judge Advocate Steven Tindall was selected by the Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission as the 1st Quarter 2022 Hometown Hero. Steve's award was based on his 9 years of service with the U.S. Navy, as well as his efforts with many volunteer organizations. He was presented his award surrounded by family, friends, and fellow Legionnaires.

well as his efforts with many volunteer organizations.

On March 21, 2022, Paul Herrick American Legion Post 21 Kenosha Finance Officer and Judge Advocate Steven Tindall was selected by the Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission as the 1st Quarter 2022 Hometown Hero. Steve's award was based on his 9 years of service with the U.S. Navy, as well as his efforts with many volunteer organizations. He was presented his award surrounded by family, friends, and fellow Legionnaires.

Please join us in honoring these two men for the example they have set for all Legionnaires to follow.

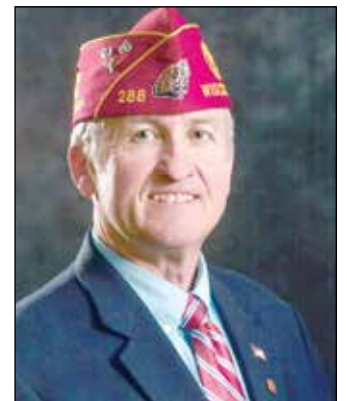


Frank J. Kostka
Past 11th District Commander

nications and VA&R Committees; and as Liaison to U.S. Congressmen Duffy and Tiffany (current). He is a PUFL member and 11-year Legion Rider. Frank served as Dept Vice Commander and Commander, and was appointed Alternate NECman for 2021-22.

Legionnaire Kostka earned the National Silver (2014) and Gold Brigade Award (2015-2020), recruiting over 400 new members in 8 years. Frank will work hard for our WI Legionnaires to assist our Department at National meetings and support National Officers when they visit our State.

Bob Shappell Candidate for National Executive Committeeman



Bob Shappell
Past Department Commander

Bob Shappell announces his candidacy for the high office of National Executive Committeeman. Bob is a PUFL member of Cedarburg Post 288. His Legion eligibility was earned through 26 years active-duty service in the USAF. He has served as Alternate National Executive Committeeman, Post (100%), County, District and Department Commander.

Bob served on the Department Membership, Children and Youth Committee, National Guard and Reserve Forces Committee. He has served as NEC Liaison to the National Security Commission, and Liaison to the National Convention Commission. He is a SAL member in honor of his father, Auxiliary member, life member of the VFW; Military Officers Association of America, and Air Force Association.

As Dean of Education for the Wisconsin American Legion College, Bob is dedicated to making it the finest Department educational program in the nation.

Bob's in-depth knowledge of current Wisconsin American Legion programs, issues, and people makes him the ideal choice to serve as Wisconsin's National Executive Committeeman, and to represent and advocate for Wisconsin at the National level.

WHAT IF ... THIS WERE YOU?

Learn How the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) Helps You Handle Travel Emergencies.

Legionnaire EA+ steps in to help you with more than 20 emergency and medical services ... to help you focus on your recovery and NOT on the costs (or even details like lining up second opinions or flying loved ones home).*

Plus, acting right away also helps lock in your Legionnaire members-only price.

Secure your EA+ protection right away, you're guaranteed the same low price for a FULL year.

For more information log on to www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus or call toll-free 1-888-293-4008 today to speak with a representative.

*This is only an outline of the plans services. Please review your Member Guide carefully. EA+ is not insurance. © 2018 Worldwide Rescue & Security 43262

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

John Polzin Candidate for Department Vice Commander

District Commander John Polzin announces his candidacy for Department Vice Commander.

I have been the Commander of Post 519 in Stetsonville for 6 years. I began serving as 11th District 1st Vice Commander when the District Commander stepped down due to health issues in 2019 and was elected District Commander following that. I have completed the Wisconsin American Legion College as well as several other National Legion courses. Educating yourself

about Legion programs is an asset to you and your local post.

I joined the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1970 and went on Reserve duty until 1971 and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in April 1979.

I am supported in this campaign by my Post, the 11th District and my better half of 37 years, who is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. I would also appreciate your support at Department Convention in July.



John Polzin
11th District Commander

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 announces his candidacy and humbly requests your support for Department Vice Commander.

Following over 12 years with the U.S. Air Force, his American Legion titles held include: Post Vice Commander, County Commander, District Vice Commander, 3rd District Oratorical and Children and Youth Chairman, Dept Americanism Committee Vice Chair, Communications Committee Vice Chair, County Com-

mander of the Year & Achieved 100% Membership, Department Communications Committee Chair, Iowa County Adjutant, Department Communications Committee Member, 3rd District Commander, DEC Liaison to Department Communications, DEC Liaison to Department Fundraising, Youth County Government Chairman on the Department Americanism Committee, Adjutant Homer and Lee Parkinson Post 170, 3rd District Americanism Chairman and Sergeant at Arms.

Harold has the support of his wife Connie, and their three daughters who are all Auxiliary members.



Harold E. Rihn Jr.
Past 3rd District Commander

Karl Stuvengen Candidate for Department Vice Commander

1st District Commander Karl Stuvengen humbly asks for your support in his candidacy for Department Vice Commander. Karl is a Navy veteran and a 31-year PUFL member of Wells Davis Young Neal Post 209 in Orfordville and a 44-year member of the SAL.

Karl has served The American Legion at all levels: Post, County and District Commander, Rock County Council Adjutant, Post Judge Advocate, Chair of Dept Americanism, Legislative, Fundraising and SAL

Committees, and member of others at the Dept and National level.

"Recruit the next you." Karl believes mentorship is the key to the future of The American Legion and we must pass our knowledge on to those ready to carry on with the 4 pillars.

Karl is endorsed by his Post, Rock County Council and the 1st District. He has the support of his wife, Debi and their 7 children and 4 grandchildren, all members of The American Legion Family.



Karl Stuvengen
1st District Commander

Jeffrey Zwiers Candidate for Department Vice Commander

Ninth District Commander Jeffrey Zwiers humbly requests your support for his candidacy for Department Vice Commander. He is endorsed by his Post, County, and District. Jeff earned his eligibility through 21 years of Army service. Jeff is a current member of Kimberly Post 60 and 13-year member of the SAL. After joining Jeff quickly moved up the chairs simultaneously at Post and County levels. During his 17 years as a Legion member he has held positions including: Post, County and

District Commander, Post Sergeant-at-Arms, District Vice Commander, as well as many roles on various Department Committees.

Jeff has the support of his family and wife of 30 years, Diane. Together they raised a blended family of six children, five daughters and one son. They are currently enjoying their retirement-built home and spending time with their 18 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Diane is presently serving as President of Unit 60 in Kimberly.



Jeffery Zwiers
9th District Commander

Julie Muhle Candidate for Department Commander

Vice Commander Julie Muhle, 14-year member of the Legion and PUFL member, announces her candidacy for Department Commander. She is an Army veteran and has held many leadership roles: WI Legion College Chancellor; NALCA & WALCA Alumni Life Member; National Committee member; Department Membership Chair, Campaign Chair for National Commander Candidate Daniel Seehafer; Post, County, and District Commander; District and Department Vice Commander; Post and County Adjutant; as well as Unit, District, and Department Auxiliary roles.

Julie's focus will be the Keys to Success: Knowledge + Education = Your Success! These "Keys" include the four pillars, programs, Wisconsin Legion College, Foundation, Buddy Checks



Julie Muhle
Department Vice Commander

and many other programs. These keys enable posts to run more efficiently, programs to be successful, and mentorship; leading to member satisfaction, increased retention and recruitment.

Julie is supported by her daughter Liz and son Jason, both Legion family members, and endorsed by her post, the Dodge County Council and the 2nd District.

John Berg Candidate for Department Sergeant at Arms

Ninth District Sergeant at Arms John Berg humbly requests your support for his candidacy for Department Sergeant at Arms. He is endorsed by Post 106 Seymour, Outagamie County, and the 9th District.

His eligibility was earned through 3 years of active duty in the U.S. Navy. After his active duty commitment he completed his contract in the Naval Reserves. Serving with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Twenty Five (SEABEE'S) 1982 until Retirement in 2002.

He's been an active member of Legion Post 106 Seymour for over 10 years. He's helped in the kitchen, served as Post 1st and 2nd Vice, Commander and Post Adjutant. He is also the Post and Squadron Historian. John served the 9th District as Sergeant at Arms for 4 years and was asked to continue by the incoming 9th District Commander. He's been the Outagamie County Sergeant at Arms for 3 years and still holds that position. John has volunteered to help at Cabin 19 which is jointly maintained by Post 106 Seymour and Post 38 Appleton.

After completing the Wisconsin American Legion College



John Berg
9th District Sergeant at Arms

Courses, John encourages every legion member to take the courses, to help them learn more about the American Legion and what we stand for.

He's been married to his wife Diane for 37 years. They have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Diane is retired and John is semi-retired. He is looking forward to be able to do a little more traveling with Diane, fishing, and have more time to help out at Camp.

John would like to thank you for your vote to this High Office and for all you do as Legion Members. He will be sharing a hospitality room with Jeff Zwiers, Department Vice Commander Candidate and we would like to invite you to join us during the Department Convention in Green Bay July, 2022.



Share "In the Spotlight" stories with the Legion Family by sending them to badger@wilegion.org. Please provide high-Res JPG photos and email text or a word file. If you'd like to submit hardcopy, you may mail them to PO Box 388, Portage, WI 53901 Attn: Jen

"A TRULY FAMILY AFFAIR" FOR 50-YEAR MEMBER



"A Truly Family Affair" For over 50 years now Jerry Willems has been an active and valued member of Post 11 in Green Bay. His wife and daughter and granddaughters are Auxiliary members. He has a son, Kevin (Army) who is a post member, and sons and grandsons who are members of the SAL. The whole family takes part in activities at the Legion and the family always tries to attend the monthly breakfast at the post. Thank you Jerry for your continued service.

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" – John F. Kennedy

**DEDICATION OF THE
WISCONSIN
VIETNAM MEMORIAL**
Veterans Freedom Park, La Crosse, Wisconsin
June 23, 2022 | 12:00 PM

WWII VETERANS RECOGNIZED



The Ontario American Legion Post 467 hosted the meeting of the Vernon County Council of The American Legion on April 25 at their new meeting rooms. At the meeting, 2 WWII veterans, and members of Post 467, were honored for their service and continued membership in The American Legion. Kenneth Budde, age 97, was recognized for 77 years of continuous membership. Clarence Stout Sr., age 102, was recognized for 39 years of continuous membership. L-R; Richard Williams, Post 467 Commander; Kenneth Budde; Robert Wruck, Post 467 Adjutant; Clarence Stout Sr.; Roger Mathison, Vernon County Commander.

ONALASKA MILITARY WALL OF HONOR



Onalaska Legion Post 336 presents a check for \$500 to the Onalaska High School Alumni Association for support of the Military Wall of Honor at the high school. L to R Legionnaire Wayne Henthorn, Alumni President Erik Sjolander, Principal Jared Schaffner and Legionnaire Rich Cota.

HARTFORD LEGION BASEBALL



On April 7, Hartford's American Legion Post 19 presented Legion Baseball Coach Austin Brewer with a check for \$500. Presenting is Commander Allen Schoessow.

Photo by John Bryant.



ABOVE: Kids lining up getting ready to search for plastic eggs and candy. BELOW: Members of Legion, Auxiliary and SAL that assisted in getting everything ready for the kids' big day.



PEWAUKEE POST 71 HOSTS EASTER EGG HUNT

American Legion Pewaukee Post 71 Easter Egg Hunt is held annually at Village Park in Pewaukee. The egg hunt starts sharply at 10 am. It was con-

cluded at 10:02 am. (No casualties were reported) Ronnie the Rabbit also was in attendance to hand out candy and have pictures taken.



Commander John Wallenfang and Auxiliary President Mary-Ellen Crandall help steer parents and children in the right direction for the event.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION INSTALLATION



On Wednesday April 20, 2022 the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #454 held installation of Officers for the upcoming year. Past District Vice Commander of the WI American Legion Jerry Lauby, far right, installed the following Officers: left to right, Chaplin Brian Vermillion, Treasurer Joe Bord, Commander Mike Schmitz, Adjutant Jeff Compton, Sgt at Arms Michael Mand. Sgt at Arms Quinn Kaiser was unable to attend. The squadron was formed in 2020 to support veterans as part of Post 454 Mt. Calvary, Post 478 St. Cloud and the Marytown Veterans Club. The Sons of the American Legion squadron is an organization open to, sons, sons-in-law and grandsons of any veterans that served in the military. If you meet the qualifications and are interested in becoming a member contact any SAL member or email pmaj@charter.net.



SQUADRON 215 EASTER EGG HUNT



Harry D Jerred SAL Squadron 215 held an Easter Egg hunt for children of the Pardeeville/Wyocena area on April 16. Over 60 people with 21 children braved the wind and cold for the children's delight.

Submitted by Owen Landsverk, Squadron Historian.



COLUMBIA COUNTY CABIN 11



American Legion Post 47 Auxiliary President Barb Ostrowski presents a \$3,000 check to Post 47 Commander Dean Simonson. The funds are to be used for the construction of Columbia County Cabin 11 at Camp American Legion. Thank you Auxiliary.



VIROQUA POST 138 DONATIONS



Just one of the donations made by Viroqua Legion Post 138. Donations include \$1,000 each to Viroqua Humane Society and Viroqua Hockey Association; \$500 each to Tunnel to Towers, VFW VA program, Food Pantry, Bethel Botik, Freedom Honor Flight, Toys for Tots, Camp American Legion, Vernon County K-9 unit, and \$600 Viroqua High School Band.

POST 308 RECOGNIZES TWO 50-YEAR MEMBERS



Four American Legion members gathered in Gays Mills, Wisconsin on Friday, March 25 to honor two men who have been members of the McCormick-Rose American Legion Post #308 for more than 50 years. Shown here, from left, are Post #308 Commander Paul Turk, Gays Mills; 50-year member Chris Lightfoot, Ferryville; 50-year member Jesse Heisz, Bell Center; and Legion member Lewis Knutson, Ferryville. Lightfoot served in Vietnam and Heisz served in Italy during World War II.

NEENAH POST 33 HOSTS FIRST BRAT FRY OF 2022



Post 33's 1st Brat Fry of 2022 4-8-2022 at Festival Foods Neenah, Wisconsin. Images by Post 33 photographer Larry Peterson.



LEGION
— WISCONSIN —

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All products are donated; availability will vary.

Wisconsin American Legion Posts are encouraged to email Department Headquarters to submit any requests.



Email: info@wilegion.org

POST 82, UNIT 82 HOST TEAM CELEBRATION

Van Ells - Schanen American Legion Post 82 and Auxiliary Unit 82, Port Washington, held their "Team Celebration" awarding two local veterans with service dogs donated by the Post and Auxiliary. Pictured are: Veteran Jessie Lovell and his dog, Oliver, Pam Wittkopp from Dog-2DogTags, Department Commander Greg Eirich, Veteran Justin Wedward and his dog, Bailey, Auxiliary Unit 82, President Diane Burkhalter, Department Auxiliary President Diane Weggen, and Post 82 Commander John Jacque.



Pictured from left to right: Firefighters Kaeden Thom, Adam McCulloch, Dept. Judge Advocate & Post 32 Commander Nicholas Lange, Post 32 Adjutant John Miller, Firefighter Brent Monfort.

STRAKELJAHN RECOGNIZED FOR 76 YEARS

Robert Strakeljahn of Lake Mills was recognized for his 76 years of membership with Lake Mills American Legion Post 67 at an event on November 10. The World War II veteran was given a plaque by the Legion, along with several gifts. According to a story printing in the 2015 edition of *We Shall Not Forget*, an annual publication produced by Adams Publishing Group, he fought with the 70th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, in the 274th regiment and the second battalion during one of the most significant conflicts of the European Theater, the Battle of the Bulge.

Just before the 70th Division set up defensive positions of the Rhine River, the Germans mounted the major offensive known as the Battle of the Bulge. Elements of the 70th Infantry Division, also known as the "Trailblazers," took part in the fight to stop the German offensive and launched attacks of their own on the opposition at Phillipsbourg and Wingen.

The local veteran took part in the battle of Wingen in early-January 1945. The battalion received the Presidential Unit of Citation for their efforts at Wingen. In early March, the 70th Infantry had made its way to the



outskirts of the city of Saarbrücken, Germany. While there an artillery shell caused massive damage to the right side of the veteran's body.

For the wounds that he suffered in the line of duty, Strakeljahn was awarded the Purple Heart. He also received the Bronze Star for his service as an infantryman in the war.

POST 32 MARKS INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS APPRECIATION DAY

On Tuesday, May 4 ("May the 4th be with you"), besides the Star Wars humor, it is also International Firefighters Appreciation Day.

Hosford-Chase Post 32 of The American Legion in Menomonie, home of UW-Stout, decided to show its appreciation to those who are willing to rush into burning buildings

to save us, and sometimes our furry friends. So, Post 32 presented each of the two fire halls in Menomonie with one dozen Glazer donuts. The firefighters were very appreciative of our gifts and our thanks. We are grateful for their protection and sacrifices, that they are sometimes asked make for the safety of our community.



Pictured from left to right: Post 32 Adjutant John Miller, Battalion Chief Larry Zias, Dept. Judge Advocate & Post 32 Commander Nicholas Lange. Fire Engineer Chad Brock was behind the camera.

PHILLIPS POST 122 MARKS VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

Legion Post 122 Phillips, WI helped to promote March 29 Vietnam Veterans Day. Thanking and Honoring Vietnam veterans and families for their service and sacrifice. Pictured Post Commander Douglas Rasmussen



IOWA COUNTY FOR CANDIDATE SEEHAFFER



Iowa County Commander Joe Salava presented Candidate Seehafer with \$1,750 for his campaign. Iowa County had a very successful euchre tournament.

The Last Bugle



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

83 Sheboygan Terry House V
85 Muscoda Wayne Dieter K
88 Manitowoc Milton Soukup K
90 Ashland Anthony Basley V
 Carl Seeger K
 Larry Carter G/L
91 Oconomowoc Jack McClung V
 Richard Rauch V
93 Tomahawk Jackie Leggett V
 Melvin Wurm K
 Robert Volkers V
98 Cumberland James King K
102 Walworth Lawrence Hausner K
 Richard Kahl K
105 Shullsburg Raymond Hanwick V
106 Seymour Donald Melotte K
 James Hopkins K
111 Somerset Richard Jorgenson V
113 Mount Horeb Thomas Orshall V
117 Shawano Michael Kast V
120 West Allis John Anderson PG
121 River Falls Donald Matzek WWII
 Dwayne Carlson K
 Nick Huttner V
124 New Holstein Duwayne Wibben K
129 Black River Falls Amos Kingsley V
 Colin Carrison V
 Lionel Pettibone V
 Roy Greengrass V
131 Colfax Charles Scott V
 Steve Close K
133 Camp Douglas Reuben Finstad K
 Karl Luchterhand V
134 Boscobel James Sijacque V
 James Terrell V
 William Walker K
 Woodrow Roberts V
136 Niagara Warden Lindstrom V
137 Turtle Lake Donald Freer V
145 Random Lake Nic Steinmetz K
146 Beaver Dam Garfield Benson V
 Ronald Bussewitz K
147 Medford John Reichert V
 Richard Higgins K
148 Bloomington Jerome Usgaard V
149 Sheboygan Falls Allen Humphrey V
150 Wausaukee Paul Massio WWII
151 Madison Loyal Mohr K
153 Pittsville Charles Regner K
 David Hahn K
155 Westby Ronald Brudos V
159 Cadott Michael Patchak K
 Norman Schofield WWII
165 Two Rivers Pamm Disjardin V
166 Fort Atkinson Debra Findlay K
167 Sauk City Richard Uttech V
169 Amery Charles Pahr WWII
 Dale Richardson V
 George Sparages WWII
 Jerome Mattakat PG

283 Suring Gerald Heins V
284 Holmen Allen Ross PG
 Gerald Humm V
 Robert Smith K
288 Cedarburg Dave Duecker K
 Harry Suleski K
 Leroy Emisse V
 Richard Charnoli K
291 Augusta Gerhardt Gerike WWII
 Kenneth E. Lestrud V
294 Hartland Bruce Weinkauf V
294 Fenimore Clyde Shipman K
301 Woodville Scott Iverson V
306 Green Lake Edward Wells V
 John Pierce K
310 Racine John Fair K
 William McCormick V
313 Black Earth Lawrence Michaelis WWII
324 Osseo Robert Lien V
330 Wilson Larry Flick V
336 Onalaska David Holthaus V
 Gerald Sjolander V
341 Birnamwood Melvin Opper K
347 Lodi Buel Cooke K
218 Hayward Charles Isensee V
 David Seymour K
 Fred Jonas K
 Greg Achtor V
 James Farley V
 James Kruger V
 James Meier PG
 Raymond Schultz V
 Robert Bergum WWII
 Robert Ruid K
 Vernon Inhoff WWII
 William Grammer G/L
220 Soldier's Grove Edward Edge V
226 Manawa Floyd Roloff K
229 Mount Hope Louis Wachter K
234 Omro James Bartels V
 Merle Carpenter WWII
 Nathan Potratz V
 William Benedict K
240 Baldwin Wesley Bol V
244 Westfield Lyle Barton K
245 Cross Plains John Gerl V
 Ronald Mainguth V
 Thomas Eckstein K
246 Genoa Bernard Domke K
 Jerry Hastings K
250 Adams Bob Kintzel WWII
 James Jochims K
 John Pavelec K
251 Argyle Leonard Kallembach K
 Richard Vinger V
258 Little Chute Marcellus Van Gompel V
262 Luxemburg David Foster V
263 New London Arthur Hansen K
269 Cushing Scott Hunter G/L
270 Theresa William Musack K
272 Butternut Marvin Steben V
280 Coleman Wesley Hallada K

446 Steuben Robert Wallin WWII
449 Brookfield Bernard Bialk V
 Clarence Laube K
 James Mantych V
 John Pfannerstill WWII
 Robert Ziarkowski K
 Ronald Hurst K
452 Spirit Danny Darocsi WWII
 Edwin Blomberg WWII
453 Belmont Edward Heiring K
454 Mt. Calvary James Fahrback V
 Neal Seibel V
459 Eleva Lester Tracy V
 Weston Nelson WWII
464 Land O'Lakes Richard Peterson V
467 Ontario Wayne Nightingale V
469 Marathon Jerry Brickner V
470 Saukville David Ashley V
 Thomas Paul K
479 Milwaukee Terry Nelson K
480 Presque Isle John Newell V
 Wayne Harrington K
481 Madison John Ellis K
485 Rudolph Raymond Haas K
 Roger Schaaf V
486 Jackson John Russell V
492 Rothschild Ronald Cywinski K
493 Linden David Leslie V
 Thomas Oflaherty V
494 Caledonia Ralph Groothuis K
 Rick Shidell V
495 Sussex James Nitzsche V
499 Gordon Duane Swanberg K
500 West Allis Terry Nelson K
 Joseph Pellegrin K
 Walter Carlson WWII
501 Madison Robert Sergejan K
 Sherry Schaefer V
509 Roshot Henry Zywicki WWII
 Stanley Hintz K
518 Green Bay Harold Buss V
521 Fox Lake William Mullin V
533 Bancroft Jim Stutesman V
534 McFarland Floyd Richmond V
 Harley Spilde V
 Kenneth Vodak V
 Duane Swanberg K
 Virgil Houff WWII
537 Milwaukee Dennis Voelkner V
 Frederick Hoepfner K
 George Koller K
 Harold Garvey K
 Harvey Laurich V
 Thomas Fitzpatrick V
538 Carlton Terry Nelson V
 Kenneth Krofta WWII
541 Northfield Darold Lee V
550 Brackett Rex Holbrook WWII
2930 Portage Andrew Meikle V
 Charles Defflorin V
 Craig Raatz V
 Donald Chamley V
 Gerald Schad V
 James Ford WWII
 John Willis K
 Leon Prince V
 Mark Scafe V
 Michael Lafleur V
 Richard Sattler V
 Robert George K
 Robert Giese V
 Roger Pearson K
 Ronald Ziebell V
 Steven Balderas V

3 Antigo Edward Sikora K
 Eugene Dieck K
 James Whitt WWII
8 Waukesha John Dauffenbach WWII
9 Wisconsin Rapids Fredric Jesse V
10 Wausau Eugene Lafin K
 Frank Venske K
 James Garski V
 Scott Hafner PG
 Stanley Zyduck V
11 Green Bay Dennis Ouradnik V
 William Drabes V
13 Richland Center Don Roseberry V
 Richard Wilson WWII
 William Vandermolen K
20 Waterford Frank Kloss V
21 Kenosha Arlin Anderson K
 Earl McDermid V
26 Baraboo Dean Dubois WWII
33 Hawley-Dieckhoff Roger Weyenberg K
36 West Bend Kenneth Nyberg V
 Raymond Piechowski K
 Thomas Walloch V
37 Elk Mound James Emery V
38 Appleton Donald Hopp V
 Donald Slavik K
 Frank Warmbrunn V
 James Green WWII
 Kenneth Stumpf V
 Peter Vandenberg K
 Thomas McHugh K
40 Bangor Eugene Brownell V
 James Bahr V
42 Platteville Pete Esser K
44 Wabeno Don Seifert K
 Douglas Vaness V
45 Elkorn Laverne Snyder V
46 Merrill Allen Montgomery V
 Herbert Simon K
48 Beloit Iris Spencer WWII
 John Giddings V
52 La Crosse David Rach V
 James Young K
 Philip Larson V

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.

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 and those who love them

ReachOutWis.org

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WISCONSIN



June 2022

American Legion Auxiliary
P.O. Box 140
Portage, WI 53901

alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

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www.amlegionauxwi.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Diane Weggen
Department
President

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as Department of Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary President. I've been privileged to crisscross the state a number of times to witness many ways American Legion Family members "Salute, Serve, and Celebrate" veterans, military, their families and communities.

I traveled the state from Abrams to Prairie du Chien, Orfordville to Superior, River Falls to Union Grove, Mequon to Colfax, Holmen to Oshkosh, Minocqua to Wauzeka, and Webster to Sheboygan for meetings, historic military displays, deployments, conferences and celebrations.

Throughout the state, the Auxiliary mission was better accomplished when the American Legion Family, **both** for God **and** for country, worked together to build relationships, engaged members, and cared for those who care for others. Thanks to ALA leaders, Legion and SAL commanders, Riders Presidents and MEMBERS.

Attending the Union Grove Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was a reminder of the time and work Hospital Representatives and Deputies volunteer on behalf of the ALA. Thank you!

Even though the 2022 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in April was not open to the public, Wisconsin was recognized as a Gold Medal Sponsor at the event in Florida.

Chairman/Tournament Manager Jenni Syftestad is deserving of commendation for her outstanding work with the Bowling



Committee. Not only were the top team and individual bowlers recognized, but those earning the bottom scores also received recognition.

Three ALA Foundation grants were awarded in Wisconsin. ALABGS purchased an array of ALA branded items for use during ALA Badger Girls State week with an ALA Foundation Mission in Action Grant Award. Cross Plains Unit 245 received monies to support their "Purple Up! Day" activity backpacks

program from Thrivent Choice and Port Washington Unit 82 received money from The Community Foundation of Louisville on behalf of the D.D. Williamson Fund to support their Project Bravo Service Dog program. Both of these were made possible through ALA Foundation Sub Grant Awards.

Belonging to and participating in the American Legion Family can make a positive impact. Together, all veterans will be better served and the Legion Family will be stronger.

From me to you: Open your minds with good intent and proceed with grateful hearts remembering the power of one.

"The Power of One"

As we live our lives under God,
May we always remember that
The power of one
Truly is a God-given power.
One word, one smile, one handshake
Can make all the difference
Making others feel welcome.
Pray that we always remember
The importance of the God-given
Power of One.

As we **both salute and serve** our veterans, military, their families and our communities, the foundation of the American Legion Auxiliary will be solidified to **celebrate** another 100 years of Service, not self!

MEMBERSHIP

Maggie Geiger,
Department Chairman
maggieg4ala@gmail.com
262-377-0329

Have you ever borrowed an idea, added your own twist to it, and have fun sharing the idea with others?

Last year at National Convention, I received a little packet that had some things in it, and on the front of the packet it said, "How to Bring the Magic Back to the ALA." I put it in my bag and forgot about it.

While getting ready to present the membership portion at the ALA in the Know conferences, I remembered that little packet. After remembering which bag I had left it in, I opened it and found the "magic" that I knew would be fun for members.

How to bring the MAGIC back to the ALA:

1. Be sweet not sour (piece of candy)
2. Chew on everyone's ideas and opinions (stick of gum)
3. Use your wand to keep in touch (color glue stick)
4. Magic happens when you sprinkle a little encouragement (container of glitter)
5. Be the fuel for the fire...not the

water that extinguishes it! (Farmer or kitchen match)

Several units brought this back to their units, and have had fun assembling these bags, giving them to members, putting their own twist on a "borrowed idea"! Most importantly, they understand the meaning

behind the "magic."

If we sprinkle our words and actions with kindness and sincerity, just think what would happen at our unit meetings – our friendships and our membership would grow by itself! No lip service here, just kindness, fun and getting the job

done for our veterans, military and their families, children and youth and our local communities!

Your recruiting efforts for the 2022 ALA membership year has helped us gain over 550 new members – how exciting is that! The 2022 membership year runs until

December 31, 2022, so if you haven't renewed your membership, please consider sending in your dues today.

On behalf of my Membership Team – Mary, Margaret and Larry – THANK YOU, for a successful year. **Keep the Magic Going!**

ALA President's Special Project (Great use of Poppy Funds)

Because I am a certified volunteer with a number of years on the Chippewa Veterans Home campus, I've experienced the lack of outdoor space available to caregivers and all who reside there. The building of a courtyard will enhance the quality of life for most of the people living there now and in the future.

Making an accessible outdoor space is an expensive project. For this reason, the Courtyard is my ALA President's Special Project. The Chippewa Veterans Home Recreation Committee, Inc. is spearheading this project.

Contact me (dsweggen@gmail.com or 715-644-2668) with any questions or concerns. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Checks payable to: **ALA-Wisconsin**
Memo Line: **President's Courtyard Project**
Mail to: **ALA-Wisconsin**
P.O. Box 140
Portage, WI 53901-0140

Thank you,
Diane Weggen, Department President

2022 MEMBERSHIP RANKINGS

District 12 (97.52%)
District 2 (95.25%)
District 3 (94.74%)
District 1 (93.87%)
District 6 (93.50%)
District 10 (93.04%)
District 5 (92.57%)
District 4 (92.07%)
District 7 (91.98%)
District 8 (91.79%)
District 9 (89.65%)
District 11 (88.30%)



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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

"Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude."

Luke 9:16

When all in the crowd had eaten their fill, they collected the remains and filled 12 baskets. What is the symbol of our Lord feeding the crowd with the loaves and fishes? Why was there so much left after all had eaten? Our Lord used parables when teaching and it is often difficult for us to understand.

I believe one of the lessons in this story is asking us to share and be generous and we will be rewarded by God. We may not understand at the time but He assures us that acts of generosity and kindness to others are a benefit to us. I fully believe that in giving and sharing, we receive more than we give.

Serving others and sharing of ourselves and our gifts is what American Legion Auxiliary and Legion Family members have been doing for many years. This is more important now than ever as we see our membership aging and needing more help while there are fewer active members to serve them. "Service Not Self" is not just an empty saying, but the heart and soul of the Legion Family. Every one of us has been given different gifts from God and has something to share with others. Part of the challenge is figuring out how we can best use the gifts we have been given. Not everyone is destined to be the leader of an organization but that does not make them any less important. What are your gifts? How can you best use them? What interests and abilities do you have to share and serve others?

I want to personally thank everyone who has given so much of themselves to serve others over the years. I also want to thank all those who have supported me during my year as Chaplain for the American Legion Auxiliary. Your kind words and encouragement have meant more to me than you will ever know and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this office.

Thank you to everyone who has sent me prayers, poems and inspirational pieces for President Diane Weggen's Prayer Book. There is still time to send submissions to me and I will accept anything received up until the Department Convention in July. Please include the author, Unit and District number and email to me at: djensen20@gmail.com or mail to: 6936 N 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53224.

"Wind Beneath My Wings"

Music by Jeff Silbar; Lyrics by Larry Henley

Did you ever know that you're my hero,
 And everything I would like to be?
 I can fly higher than an eagle,
 For you are the wind beneath my wings.

GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

Bonnie Dorniak
 Executive Secretary/Treasurer
 Ph: 608-745-0124
 Email: deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org
 Website: www.amlegionauxwi.org

May 27 was officially National Poppy Day. Units and posts that completed poppy distributions are reminded to submit their 20% poppy profit report to department headquarters as soon as possible. The poppy profit report form can be obtained from the department website or by contacting Linda Cason at Auxiliary Headquarters. The remaining proceeds can be used for the welfare of veterans, active-duty military, and their families where a medical or financial need is evident. As a reminder, poppies can be distributed all year long!

The 2022 Department Convention is scheduled for July 14-17, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency/KI Convention Center in Green Bay. There are several important changes from "traditional" conventions held in the past:

Thursday, July 14, 2022

- There will NOT be a Department Executive Board meeting.
- A recognition program will be held from 3:00 – 6:00 pm to include a tribute for Honored PDP Diane Kranig, presentation of district membership awards, and a Parade of Checks for National President Kathy Daudistel. Anyone interested in participating should bring checks payable to "ALA-Wisconsin" for presentation to Kathy Daudistel. Donations will go to the ALA Foundation in her honor.

Friday, July 15, 2022

- The Auxiliary will NOT have District Caucuses.
- Opening Processional is at 9:15 am with all Past National Officers, Past Department Presidents, 2021-2022 Department Officers, and 2021-2022 District Presidents. General Session will open immediately following the procession at about 9:30 am.
- Past Presidents Parley will conduct a Business Meeting at 4:00 pm. All past presidents at any level (unit, county, district) are eligible to join the Past Presidents Parley and vote on business matters. Contact Laura Calteux at 414-379-2943 or lauracalteux@yahoo.com for information.

Saturday, July 16, 2022

- Elections of 2022-2023 Department Officers and nominees for Alternates for the 2022 National Convention will be held at 9:00 a.m.
- Installation of 2022-2023 Department Officers and District Presidents will be Saturday afternoon after close of convention.
- All Legion Family members are invited to a fun event with live entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Admission ticket (\$15) can be pre-purchased with convention registration.

Sunday, July 17, 2022

- Joint Memorial Service is at 8:00 a.m.

• The 2022-2023 Department Executive Board will meet at 9:30 a.m. All members are welcome to attend.

Department Convention is a great opportunity to learn more about the Auxiliary, visit with old friends, and meet new ones. Registration is \$25, payable to The American Legion; registrations received after July 11 are \$30. The registration form is posted on the department website.

Mark your calendars! The 4th Annual Celebration of Freedom will be held September 9-10, 2022 at Columbia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Road, Portage, WI. This is a STATE-WIDE LEGION FAMILY community event featuring a WWII Traveling Memorial, live entertainment, food and drink, adult softball tournament, chili cook-off and more. The Softball Tournament will conclude on September 11. Visit www.wilegion.org for details.

The ALA National Convention is August 27 to August 31, 2022 in MILWAUKEE! Please take advantage of this opportunity to attend a national convention in your own home state! The National Organization plans to provide convention details in mid-June. Members interested in attending should contact Department Secretary Bonnie Dorniak at deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org to request a registration packet.

Four ALA in the Know conferences have been scheduled for September and October 2022. The reservation deadline for ALL sessions is September 1. Please see reservation form for details.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Janet Erickson
 Department Chairman
 roancows@gmail.com


The Community Service program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's visibility in local communities. ALA units across the state have been busy serving those who serve others by being involved in community projects. Many 911 commemorative events and Veterans Day celebrations brought people together to remember that our country stands strong against those who would destroy the freedoms we enjoy.

Thousands of hours were donated in the past year to help veterans, service members and their families in our communities. Visiting those in nursing homes began again with unit members caroling at Christmas and donating items such as warm clothing, blankets and basic toiletry items. The veterans appreciate the items and particularly enjoy the chance to talk about their time in the military.


Many units offered food booths during community festivals. This is a great way to bring people together to commemorate veterans and service people as well as being a great fundraiser.

Some units, along with posts, invited veterans and service members to the American Legion Post for fellowship and complimentary food after events. Units assisted community blood centers by volunteering and donating. Members joined other organizations in their communities to work on service projects.

We can promote the American Legion Auxiliary in the community by wearing our pins proudly and letting the community know what we do and why we do it. Let's continue to show our communities how we *salute, serve and celebrate* our veterans, service members, families and country.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
ALA IN THE KNOW (Important Info for Every Member)
 2022 REGISTRATION FORM



DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
 (Please submit one form per person)

Members are encouraged to register early---space is limited! Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations received after capacity is reached, will be returned. **No reservations will be accepted on site. Reservation deadline for all sessions is SEPTEMBER 1st.**

Session is \$25/person and includes morning refreshments, a light lunch, and program materials. Sessions will include information on a variety of topics and Auxiliary programs. New topics will be covered, so come out and join the fun!

Schedule for all conferences:

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration/Morning Refreshments
9:00 am – 3:30 pm	Informative presentation, lunch break, interactive program session, Q&A

Reservation deadline for ALL sessions: September 1, 2022

Please print clearly:

District #: _____ Unit #: _____ Unit City: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: home cell: _____ () _____

Select One:

DATE	LOCATION
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 09/17/2022	American Legion Post #175 302 N. Union, Loyal, WI 54446
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 09/24/2022	Hortonville Community Center 531 N. Nash Street, Hortonville, WI 54944
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 10/08/2022	Portage County Public Library-Pinery Room 1001 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 10/22/2022	American Legion Post #355 1540 13 th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$25/person): \$ _____

Mail check, payable to ALA-Wisconsin, by **SEPTEMBER 1st** to:
ALA Wisconsin, P. O. Box 140, Portage, WI 53901-0140.

A \$25.00 fee will be charged for any check returned by the bank.

Please share one (1) question you would like addressed during the session: _____

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bonnie Jakubczyk
 NEC
 bon6862@yahoo.com

National President Kathy Daudistel gave greetings and informed us that members of the National Executive Committee no longer have the interests of their department as their primary focus. National Executive Committee members serve as national representatives of the National Organization and must make decisions and cast votes according to what is in the best interest of the National Organization. We accept a consent agenda, which groups routine business and reports into one agenda item. Any item can be removed before the vote for separate action. A consent agenda saves time by voting once on routine matters.

The Inclusion and Diversity Committee was created to do the following:

- 1) Establish goals and strategies for inclusion and diversity for the ALA
 - 2) Provide opportunities for our members to participate in discussions on inclusion and diversity topics
 - 3) Address policies or practices affecting inclusion and diversity
 - 4) Establish mechanisms for measuring our success.
 - 5) Identify areas of concern and to improve inclusion and diversity efforts.
- “Equity” needs to be stated because it’s fair treatment, access, opportunity, and ad-

vancement for all people. While identifying and eliminating potential barriers that may prevent participation, the name was changed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). Surveys and learning tools will be used for this committee.

Next was the Code of Ethical Conduct Committee, which was specifically tasked to evaluate, review, and revise the Code of Ethical Conduct, as outlined in the standing rules of the American Legion Auxiliary’s national governing documents. It was discovered that the ALA’s Articles of Incorporation have not been revised since 1934, so a review of the articles for possible amendment is warranted. The committee will proceed with formal recommendations to the NEC. The proposal will include a comprehensive outline of required items to formalize the new Code of Ethical Conduct.

A special virtual meeting was held in February for a question-and-answer session regarding a possible dues increase for 2024. This will be brought up at the 2022 National Convention.

The midyear NEC meeting was held virtually and included charter cancellations; reports on consolidated audited financials, quarterly budget, ALA Foundation, risk and compliance; and reports from the National Secretary and National Treasurer. Materials were distributed ahead of time, allowing the meeting to run smoothly.

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

Diane Steinert
 Department Chair
 djdmsteinert@gmail.com
 920-573-1846

Disasters can happen at any time. Whether it’s a severe storm, house fire, loss of a job, unexpected medical emergencies or so many other possibilities. That is why the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is so important to our Auxiliary members.

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) who have endured a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or another personal crisis.

Established in 1969, the AEF was created with a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. Five decades later, the AEF is still helping fellow Auxiliary members get back on their feet, funded solely through generous donations from other members.

We received reports from over 60 units that had donated to the program. Fundraisers included bake sales, brat frys, basket raffles and a variety of other events. One unit simply collected \$1 from each member attending their meetings. Great job everyone!

Emergency assistance grants may be awarded by the National AEF Grant Committee on a case-by-case basis up to a max-

imum of \$2,400. Grant funds for disaster assistance applications may be used for repairs to the applicant’s primary residence and for emergency expenses (lodging, food, fuel, supplies, etc.). Grant funds for temporary assistance applications may be used for overdue mortgage or rent expenses and/or utilities. AEF money may not be used for medical expenses or debt such as that on credit cards.

Members of the ALA whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years are eligible to apply for a disaster assistance or temporary assistance grant. Members can submit or download an application for assistance from www.ALForVeterans.org/AEF or they can submit their application via email to AEF@ALForVeterans.org. Applications may also be mailed to ALA National Headquarters at 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Forms are also available on the Department website at www.amlegionauxwi.org, under Program Info.

The national AEF Grant Committee reviews each application and awards AEF assistance according to case findings. AEF applications, supporting documents, and case files are not disclosed or released to anyone outside of the AEF Grant Committee.

Thank you for continuing to support this very program!

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS!

AMERICANISM

Becky Mueller
 Department Chair
 clarenceandbecky@aol.com
 920-833-6048

STAND UP AND SALUTE! The Flag is passing by. June 14 is Flag Day. A day set aside to honor our Flag, the symbol of our country. This date commemorates the adoption of the American flag on June 14, 1777, by the Second Continental Congress. As a side note – the United States Army also celebrates its birthday on this day. Happy Birthday to both!

It is so important that we properly display and dispose of our American Flag. The flag represents what is the best of our great country. Brave men and women have fought and died under the Stars and Stripes. It is proudly displayed on battlefields, military installations, government buildings and our homes. It stands for freedom, justice, and democracy. Never has it been so important for us to stand proud and united. Our country continues to face challenges to our way of life but as long as the flag flies high we have hope of a better tomorrow.

Proper disposal of our used and tattered flags is necessary. Thank you to the many Posts, Squadrons, and Units that collect these flags for the community and then hold flag disposal ceremonies. It is great to see scouting members take an active part and learn valuable lessons from the Legion Family. If we do not teach them proper flag etiquette, who will?

If possible, plan to attend the largest Flag Day parade in the nation in Appleton, WI on Saturday, June 11. It is an impressive parade with many military and veterans service organizations participating. Nothing says summer like a parade and no parade is complete without an impressive display of American flags flying in the breeze of freedom.

It has been my pleasure to read the Americanism essays this year. The winners are announced in this issue also. I was impressed with the thoughts and ideas of our young people as they explored the topic of caring for those who care for our veterans. They expressed real insight into this topic with many relating firsthand experiences as they showed their love and concern for these caregivers. So many remarked on the value of a simple ‘thank you’ and the impact a card or letter can have to brighten a day. We should remind caregivers that they are also cared for by our veteran community. Thank a Veteran every chance you get and then

2022 Americanism Essay Winners

Essay Title: “How can we support families who provide care to their Veterans?”

Class I – Grades 3 & 4

Emma Hendrickson	Cambria #401
John Guzman-Gerena	Port Washington #82
Blake Manion	River Falls #121
Christina Zheng	Menomonee Falls #382
Abigail Sutton	Siren #132

Class II – Grades 5 & 6

Matthew Tolle	Bagley #482
Eliana Weaver	Twin Lakes #544
Braden Postlet	Siren #132
Lindsay Geiger	Chilton #125
Carter Prost	Menomonee Falls #382

Class III – Grades 7 & 8

Camryn Schwarz	Sparta #100
Ava Hoepfer	Bagley #482
Isabelle Rosenthal	Fond du Lac #75
Attreya Attili	Menomonee Falls #382
Sarah Josko	Twin Lakes #544

Class IV – Grades 9 & 10

Audrey Gash	Jackson #486
Weston Huempfer	Fond du Lac #75
Samantha Andrea	Siren #132
Olivia Pullen	Plum City #365

Class V – Grades 11 & 12

Chloe Gransee	Plum City #365
Jasmine Sixel	Appleton #38
Josie Hagert	Siren #132
Kallee LeCloux	Thorp #118
Clara Wiegert	Jackson #486

Class VI

Fiona Wendt	Shiocton #512
Malcolm Scribbins	Richland Center #13
Annabelle Simons	Twin Lakes #544

thank those that care for their physical, emotional, and financial needs daily.

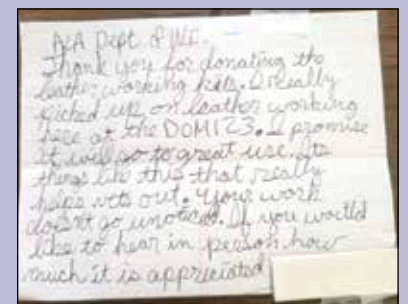
Nothing is more patriotic than recognizing the value of those who fought for this country and the sacrifices made by them and their families. We salute you!

THANK YOU FROM ZABLOCKI VAMC

Thanks to donations received from units and members across the state, Hospital Representative **Bonnie Jakubczyk** purchased over \$7,000 of items on the Zablocki VAMC wish list, including assorted craft kits, comfort care and personal hygiene items, games, and gift cards for their veterans.

The HUD VASH representative wrote, “Thank you and the American Legion Auxiliary for the donation of 40 Pick ‘N Save Gift cards to support the HUD VASH program. These Veterans are all in low-income housing and have limited funds to spend on their everyday needs, so these gift cards truly help the Veterans with their food expenses which has dramatically increased over the past year. Thank you so much!”

Thank you, everyone, for your generosity!



YEAR-IN-REVIEW

1ST DISTRICT

This is my final address to you as your First District President. It has truly been my honor to be your First District President! It has been an experience I will never forget, and I want to thank every member from the bottom of my heart, to all 35 units, for all your confidence, support, friendships and help! It has been a wild ride and each of you played a vital role in making the First District American Legion Auxiliary what it is today – one of the most powerful Veteran Service Organizations in the world!



Lyllette Smith
District President

I am truly proud of all 35 units. Twelve units (and Walworth County!) reached or exceeded their goal of 100%. Five units only need one more member to be 100% and four units only need two or three members to be 100%. Each unit is truly amazing!!

Congratulations to Unit 310 for reaching their membership goal. This is a good example of a unit that struggled for some time, set a goal, and moved to that goal. Don't stop, keep moving forward!

Congratulations to Unit 71 for going above and beyond their goal. Unit 71 met their goal and excelled by more than 16 members!! Congratulations!

Congratulations to our newly elected First District Executive Officers who were elected at our Spring Conference for 2022-2024. Newly elected officers are Zondra Morris (President), Crystal Shaw (1st Vice President), Mary Kohler (2nd Vice President), Victoria Luebke (Historian) and Mary Ellen Crandall (Chaplain).

Thank you to everyone for all you do. Each of you are the true strength of our organization. We exist to support veterans, their families, and our community!

3RD DISTRICT

What a crazy couple of years it has been. When I was elected via an email vote because we had to cancel our 3rd District Spring Conference due to the pandemic, I did not think we would still be dealing with COVID-19 two years later.



Deb Rottman
District President

This changed the way we as an Auxiliary operated over the past two years. It did not stop our members from working the programs, it simply made them think outside the box on how to achieve their goals. I have enjoyed listening to unit and county reports at our Spring Conference to hear how creative they have become.

For me the hardest part of the past two years was my inability to meet more members from the Third District and from all across the Department of Wisconsin. I have been able to meet some members over the past two years and look forward to continuing this trend.

I was able to get out into the District a bit more this year. It was great to be able to have the District Picnic in August. I was honored to be able to attend the National Convention in Phoenix – what an amazing experience. I recommend if you ever have the opportunity to attend a National Convention, to act on it. * The ALA in the Know I attended in September was very informative. I am very happy that these are back on the calendar. Our Holiday Party in February was well attended. I appreciated the invite to the Richland County Council meeting in April because I love hearing what other units do!

I would like to thank the entire Third District for all of your hard work and your support over the past two years of serving our veterans, active military and their families.

* Editor's Note: The 2022 National Convention is in Milwaukee. Here's your opportunity!

2ND DISTRICT

A mighty *salute* goes out to the members of 2nd District for all their hard work this year. We started out strong by meeting the deadline of no "goose-eggs" set by Department. As units renewed and recruited new members, we proudly locked into 2nd place in membership. Thirteen units joined the *100% Club* which included: Rio, Pardeeville, Poynette, Cambria, Theresa, Mayville, Lomira, Saukville, Sheboygan, Adell, West Bend, Kewaskum, and Hubertus. We continue to grow as a District with 2,471 members and counting. Recruitment is one of the strengths of 2nd District with 52 new members added. Revitalization took place with two units and a county council. There were several members who stepped up to learn the ropes as a leader. Others who continued in their positions, mentored and encouraged their teammates creating a culture of goodwill.



Amy Luft
District President

Members in 2nd District went above and beyond to *serve* our veterans, military, their families, and our community. All 44 units completed

a Year-End Impact Report, indicating members volunteered 39,417 hours towards our veterans/military and 28,251 hours of community service. Units also worked on their unit Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules keeping them up to date in order to operate efficiently.

We *celebrate* our success with a monthly District newsletter which highlights different ALA programs as well as unit events. *The Scoop*, a mid-month communication, provided up-to-date information keeping members informed on the latest news and highlights. Zoom meetings were utilized for both business and educational purposes. Units and members posted on our 2nd District Facebook page allowing others to see their events and accomplishments. We all came together for a very successful 100th District Spring Conference where 24 new attendees participated along with a couple of Johnsonville Racing Sausages! We celebrated two very successful District special projects – over 30 Buddy Baskets for Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative for the VA&R program and a donation totaling \$4,570 for Camp Hometown Heroes for the Children & Youth program.

Members of 2nd District go above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to *service to others, not self*. Congratulations 2nd District on a job well done! You are the Dream Team!

4TH DISTRICT

The 4th District took President Diane's theme to heart. *Salute, Serve and Celebrate Our Veterans, Military, their Families and Communities* is at the core of our organization.



Laura Calteux
District President

We *salute* our veterans all year long as evidenced by our units sending cards to Zablocki VA, Dayton Care Center, and Union Grove for Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Members also attend the homecomings for the Honor Flights at Milwaukee International Airport and thank those coming home again. Thank you's are made by Unit 434 to give to the veterans coming home for their day in Washington DC.

The *serve* part of the theme is obviously the easiest. Donations are made through Department for Camp American Legion, the Zablocki VA baby shower, the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative, sending delegates to ALA Badger Girls State, Zablocki VA, and Dayton Care Center. Unit 18 puts together bags to give to schools in their area for the teachers to give to students that are homeless.

Celebrating is always something that we look forward to! This year Unit 537 and their Legion Family held their first ever Awards Night. It was a big

success, and they hope to make this a yearly event. I think other units in the district are going to put this event on their calendars. We had juniors from Unit 416 go to the Junior Fall Conference where they finally were able to celebrate the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday! Our year culminated in our district celebrating all the things that we do for our veterans, military, their families and communities at our Spring Conference.

Whatever the next year brings, we will be doing it as a Legion Family and working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary by *Saluting, Serving and Celebrating* our Veterans, Military, their Families and our Communities.

6TH DISTRICT

When I accepted the position of President for the 6th District, social distancing and masking were still the norm. Some units continued to cancel meetings, and a few are still having a difficult time getting together, but most units have returned to business as usual.



Diane Steinert
District President

I attended the state convention in Middleton, and was officially installed July 17, 2021. Joanie Dickerson completed her historic two-year term and Diane Weggen was installed as our Department President. Then it was off to National Convention.

The 100th National Convention took place in Phoenix, AZ. The city was just opening up from the pandemic. Outgoing National President Nicole Clapp and her team ensured it truly was a *Celebration of a Century of Service*. Meeting American Legion Family members from across the nation is one of the things I enjoyed most.

Units of the 6th District have been working hard on retaining and finding new members. As of this writing, one county and five units have reached or exceeded 100% membership. A big shout-out to President Sandy Augustine of St. Nazianz Unit #477 and her

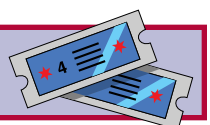
hive of worker-bees! Unit #477's current membership is 147.83% of their goal. Great job everyone! Keep up the good work!

Oshkosh Unit 70 hosted our District Fall Conference. It was great to see so many units represented. Sure, there was training and reports, but we ended the day by creating poppy ornaments and centerpieces. We also had a great turnout for our District Spring Conference, hosted by Unit #125 Chilton. Thanks to both of these units for putting everything together. Reports were given by District Chairmen, and county and unit representatives. It is always nice to hear what everyone has been doing during the year.

The units work hard all year long and District Impact Report numbers were impressive. Our service to Veterans & Military totaled 7,417 volunteer hours and \$16,907 spent. 20,600 poppies were distributed and \$35,395 raised. Hours of service representing ALA in our communities 7,543 and a total of \$7,550 presented in scholarships. Awesome job!!

This first year as your District President has been a learning experience. Thank you for the invitations to your unit/county meetings, special events and installation of officers. I look forward to working with you in the upcoming year. Thank you for all you do in service to our veterans, military, their families, and our communities.

Sweepstakes winners are posted at amlegionauxwi.org under the "More" tab.



YEAR-IN-REVIEW

7TH DISTRICT

District 7 was a little slow coming out of our COVID induced inactivity, but during this past year, the units found many ways to “*Salute, Serve and Celebrate*” our veterans, military, their families, and our communities.



Christina Petranovich
District President

Several units promoted our poppy by distributing them on Poppy Day throughout their communities. They also held fish fries, dinners, and celebrations; marched in parades and held ceremonies honoring our Veterans; promoted the flying of our flag; and held cleanup days for the elderly. Many cards were sent letting members and Veterans know they were not forgotten and were being thought of and prayed for.

Units stepped up to host our Fall and Spring Conferences after COVID shut some of our units down. We held a successful fall conference in November 2021 in Thorp and a successful spring conference in March 2022 in Tomah. Both were well attended, and many new faces were at each. The spring conference found many members willing to take leadership roles in the district that had been vacant for several years. I am excited for what this next year will bring for District 7!

Our district is especially proud and honored because 2021-2022 Department President Diane Weggen is from 7th District. District 7 started off President Diane’s special project with an initial donation of \$400 from several of our units and a \$500 donation from Thorp Unit 118, Diane’s home unit. We donated money and a raffle basket to help support Dan Seehafer’s campaign for National Commander and donated \$500 to “IROC’S Badger Run” to be held later this year.

Several juniors attended the Junior Fall Conference in Oshkosh in October. District 7 is proud to have a junior member from one of our units elected as the Honorary Jr 1st VP for the Department of Wisconsin – Miss Emeri Wold of Unit 118!

I attended National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona as one of the Department of Wisconsin Pages. It was a great way to network and see our many programs, donations, and members in action. I saw the poppy posters that competed at the national level which included one from our District.

Impact reporting has been completed and I am proud of the number of hours, money and resources used by the District 7 units to “*Salute, Serve and Celebrate*” our Veterans, the military, their families and our communities. Keep up the outstanding job each of you is doing and know that your dedication to the ALA and this nation’s Veterans are appreciated!

8TH DISTRICT

My first year as 8th District President has been a learning experience for me. I have been busy contacting the units and made several unit visits.

Throughout the year the units have been working hard on their memberships. As of this month, 8th District has two units and one county at 100% and several units are within one or two members to be 100%.

The units have been working hard on fulfilling the mission of the ALA. From the Year-End Impact Reports that I received, members have volunteered over 12,000 hours for veterans, over 800 hours for military families, and almost 9,000 hours in our communities.

We were able to hold both District Fall and Spring Conferences in person. The Fall Conference was hosted by New London Norris Spencer Unit 263. Officers were ratified and the budget was presented at the Executive Board meeting prior to the start of the conference. Thirteen units were represented with 33 people in attendance. President Diane Weggen and Department Commander Greg Eirich along with Mayor Mark Herter gave greetings. Pat Smith



Linda Tryczak
District President

gave a presentation about the program and needs of women veterans. Past Department President Joanie Dickerson presented a National President’s Award for Excellence to Mosinee Unit 107 for their Gold Star Mothers Memorial, which was accepted by Joan Campbell. Several other unit awards were handed out as well. SAL Detachment Commander David Fuller and Detachment Vice Commander Allen Watry brought greetings and introduced ALF (American Legion Family) dog, which is the replacement for the Josh dog.

The Spring Conference was hosted by Tigerton Schlender-Polley Unit 239. There were 16 units in attendance with 58 people attending. Each unit was asked to create a poppy centerpiece. First Place went to Pittsville Unit 153 and Second Place went to Wausau Unit 10. Congratulations to those units! Much thanks to all the units that participated; they were all very good. We had greetings from Village President Andrea Graham and the financial person from the Post. Marla Knuettel, Department Poppy Chairman, gave a poppy presentation and American Legion Riders Vice President Corey Doehrmann gave a presentation on their upcoming “Iroc’s Badger Run.” The poppy posters and history books that were submitted were judged and sent to department.

I look forward to working with all the 8th District units in the coming year.

9TH DISTRICT

I want to start by thanking all the units, members and department officers for their support and help over these past two years. We all learned a lot of new and unique ways of helping and serving each other.

The Ninth District is currently in 11th place for membership, but we have **7 units** at or above **100%**, and many more units just need one or two members to be 100%. There’s still time left to get there and we are working on renewals, rejoining, and recruiting new members.

Twenty-eight of the 40 units completed the Unit Year End Impact Reports, reporting over 51,000 hours volunteered, over \$111,000 donated for our veterans and our communities, driving over 48,000 miles, and helping over 5,000 veterans and community members. This is outstanding with all the restrictions on how and who we can help at this time. Great job, Noble Nine!

The units did these things by helping with Veterans Day, Memorial Day events in the community and the schools, adopting veterans by helping them go shopping, to lunch, movies, and other activities. Members put flags on the cemeteries, cleaned grave-stones, gave flowers to veterans for Valentine’s Day, did cards, crafts, blankets, cookies, sewing, made goody bags for the veterans at various holidays, made Halloween buckets for shut ins, and many more things for our veterans, the Veterans Home at King, Iron Mountain VA, and others. Units honored the students who participated in the Americanism Essay or Poppy Poster contests and donated patriotic books to the local school library. Honor Flights, Camp American Legion, Christmas Gift Shop, Wreaths Across America, I Spy You Fly, ALA Badger Girls State and Badger Boys State, and so many more were among those that our Noble Nine has generously served and supported this past year.

These past two years have been a challenging time, not only for me but for all the Auxiliary, to learn new things and new ways to get things done, not the same as before COVID-19. We all grew and learned how to get creative to reach our goals. We all did a **SUPER JOB!** Keep up the tremendous work you do for our veterans, service men and women, our communities, and each other!

The members of the Noble Nine are true leaders within our Legion Family. They work hard and are dedicated when it comes to service to others, not self. Thank you for all you do. Thank God for blessing us with your care and support of our organization.



Marian Brown
District President

After completing my District President’s impact report, I can clearly see that COVID is keeping some units from accomplishing their programs.

Unit 207 from Elmwood had a successful year. Their Sunshine Chair sent cards throughout the year to shut-ins and nursing home residents. They provided rides to an elderly member to meetings; cleaned up the Veterans Park and hired a high school student to mow the lawn; purchased a grave marker for their garden in honor of Gold Star mothers; held a Memorial Day program and placed small flags in six cemeteries; placed small flags in flower pots around town for Flag Day; had an official flag disposal ceremony open to the public; and held the Veterans Day program in the school and decorated the white fence with lights and red bows.

Colfax Unit 131 did an excellent job for being such a small unit. They placed an ALA seal on plain ceramic cups, filled them with red, white and blue silk flowers, and placed them on their recently deceased members’ graves. After three years of planning, they finally held a recognition event for the last Civil War Union soldier from Dunn County who died. The Sons of Civil War Union Veterans planned the ceremony to honor Veteran Eberhart Sorkness. Many of his relatives were invited to attend and were given copies of Mr. Sorkness’ life history. Legion members provided an honor guard and graveside services. The event was attended by about 75 people.

Unit 121-River Falls had their first breakfast with Santa who also brought Mrs. Claus. The River Falls Theater donated free movie tickets for Santa to hand out to the kiddos. Legion members helped with flipping pancakes, while the Auxiliary served up French toast sticks, sausage, and juice. Members also helped with the Legion’s 1st Oktoberfest serving brats, sauerkraut, spaetzle and homemade German potato salad and red cabbage! The Auxiliary started maintaining a second street garden plot with a sign painted by the President.

It has been a trip serving this past year as 10th District President. I hope this coming year is just as good, if not better. Thank you, FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.

10TH DISTRICT



Margaret Larson
District President

2022 ALA NATIONAL CONVENTION MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

August 27-31, 2022

Information from the National Organization was not available at the time this newspaper went to press.

If you are interested in attending National Convention, email your name, address, and unit # to Bonnie Dorniak at deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org.

A registration packet will be mailed to you when available.

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin 2022 Scholarship Winners

H.S. & Angeline Lewis – Graduate Student (1) \$1,000 award
No Applicant

H.S. & Angeline Lewis – (5) \$1,000 awards

Cash Stewart, Arlington	Markesan #282, District 6
Haley Schott, Greenleaf	Green Bay #11, District 9
Carly Hampton, Bloomington	Bagley #482, District 3
Ruby Nowinsky, Eland	Wittenberg #502, District 8
No other Applicant	

Merit & Memorial – (8) \$1,000 awards

Adalin Macauley Scholarship

Kaelyn McHugh, Omro Winneconne #364, District 6

Eleanor Smith Scholarship

Christian Grunert, Ripon Ripon #43, District 6

Pearl Behrend Scholarship

Paige Smiskey, Chippewa Falls Chippewa Falls #77, District 10

Barbara Kranig Scholarship

Cameron Cullen, Kewaunee Kewaunee #29, District 9

Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan Scholarship

Katherine Braskamp, Fox Lake Waupun #210, District 6

Diane Duscheck Scholarship

Benjamin Chewning, Kewaunee Kewaunee #29, District 9

Harriet Hass Scholarship

Brandon Goyette, Mauston Mauston #81, District 7

Merit Scholarship

Kaiya Zurfluh, Albany Albany #144, District 3

Department Presidents - (3) \$1,000 awards

Rachel Rademacher, Cottage Grove	DeForest #348, District 3
Sophia King, Mequon	Mequon-Thiensville #457, District 2
Abigail Brenic, Milwaukee	Greendale #416, District 4

Van Deuren Memorial – (1) \$1,000 award

Justyne Frisle, Prairie Farm Prairie Farm #259, District 10

Past Presidents Parley – Maximum of (3) \$1,000 awards

Bailey Blader-Lucht, Wautoma (Nursing)	Wautoma #317, District 8
Joscelyn Brennan, Slinger (Health Career)	Brookfield #449, District 1
Tanner Pedretti, Ferryville (Health Career)	La Crosse #52, District 7

Child Welfare - (1) \$1,000 award

Thomas Friday, LaCrosse La Crosse #52, District 7

ALA Badger Girls State Scholarship

2021 Session was cancelled – no awards

(National) Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship – National Winner (\$5,000)

Amber Fietzer, Manawa Online Application-No Unit sponsor

(National) Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

No eligible applicants

(National) Spirit of Youth for Junior Members Scholarship – Wisconsin's Nominee (\$1,000)

Grace Owen, Cushing Milltown #254, District 12

(National) Junior Loyalty Scholarship – Wisconsin's Nominee (\$1,000)

Emily Zeller, Union Grove Union Grove #171, District 1

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

11TH DISTRICT

Members of the illustrious Eleventh District did both *salute* and *serve* our veterans, military, their families, and our communities to *celebrate* another year of Service, not self. Department President Diane Weggen, guest speaker at this District's Fall and Spring Conferences, encouraged members with the above bolded words of her theme. Units and members chose and worked programs and events that enhanced the lives of many.



**Theresa Schindler
District President**

Five of this district's 23 units attained 100% membership while 13 units reached over 80%. Year-end impact numbers showed that our district members truly **saluted, served and celebrated** as they worked membership and the ALA mission through their chosen projects. Ten units sent in year-end impact reports showing about 5,200 hours and \$14,000 being donated to Veterans/Military. Success stories were shared through oral reports at conferences.

Beautiful Park Falls was the site of the District Fall Conference. Chairmen's reports and unit highlight reports reflected member creativity and enthusiasm as

programs were worked. A generous district donation was made to Department President Diane's special project. A committee was formed to update the District Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules. Basket raffles and other fun filled the day.

The District Spring Conference was hosted by enthusiastic and gracious members in Minocqua. Elections were held resulting in new faces for district leadership roles. Reports were presented. The updated District Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules were approved. Games, songs, and fun were sprinkled throughout the day. Donations were made to the National President's parade of checks, to Camp American Legion, to the Legion Riders Highground project, and to Department President Diane's special project, the outdoor courtyard at the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home.

The long white winter in the Eleventh District north woods has finally given way to spring. Flowers are blooming and poppies are being distributed. Many units are collaborating with members of the American Legion Family to remind everyone about the symbolism of the poppies. As we **celebrate** May and Memorial Day let us continue to **salute** and **serve** those who fought for our freedoms.

It has been humbling to serve as District President. Let's see many of you at Department Convention in Green Bay.

12TH DISTRICT



**Betty Stone
District President**

Terrific Twelve! We are proud to announce the 12th District has rechartered a unit: Moe-Miller Unit 12 in Spooner! Welcome, American Legion Auxiliary members from Spooner.

We are back in full swing after being cautious for a couple of years. We have been working very hard on membership and are especially thankful for Unit 12 and their membership to help us stay in first place.

Many things happened in the 12th District to raise money for our Veterans and their families. We have meat raffles, Bingo, 50/50 drawings at high school basketball games, dinners for various events, and many more fun activities as we assist The American Legion in their programs. Poppy drives are now going on to assure our veterans continue to get what they need and a little extra TLC. We are here to serve others, not self.

BOWLING

**Jenni Syftestad
Chairman/Tournament Manager
syftes@chorus.net**

Do you bowl? Can you find other members in your unit to bowl? Our teams are made up of four members. Look around at other units and see if they have members to help you form a foursome.

It was once again a great two weekends for our 9-Pin bowling tournament. We hope every bowler had a great time and enjoyed their travels to New London.

The competition between the President and Secretary's teams was won by Bonnie's team. This competition has always been fun! Final results: Secretary's team had 2177 total pins and the President's team had 1983 total pins.

Our next tournament will be in Madison April 15 & 16, 2023 – one weekend only because the bowling alley has enough lanes to accommodate everyone. We hope to see you there!

To consider hosting a bowling tournament, we request 16 lanes and a list of motels in the area. Please contact Chairman Jenni Syftestad for details.

2022 Tournament Results

(top 3 places in each category)

TEAM

1st Place – (2811) Chilville – Units 125 & 209 Chilton and Orfordville
2nd Place – (2457) Grandma's Girls – Unit 339 Almond
3rd Place – (2434) Rose Harms – Unit 355 Grafton

DOUBLES

1st Place – (1404) Megan Ringhand / Tanya Keller – Unit 209 Orfordville
2nd Place – (1398) Johanna Tackett / Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton
3rd Place – (1385) Andrea Snortum / Nikki Volkman – Unit 512 Shiocton

SINGLES

1st Place – (756) Suzanne Heuer – Unit 512 Shiocton
2nd Place – (689) Jayne Braun – Unit 512 Shiocton
3rd Place – (681) Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton

ALL EVENTS

1st Place – (2222) Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton
2nd Place – (2182) Megan Ringhand – Unit 209 Orfordville
3rd Place – (2062) Nikki Volkman – Unit 512 Shiocton