



**Department of Wisconsin
American Legion Auxiliary
6th District Newsletter**



May 2026

Spring Conference

The Spring Conference was held on April 18, 2026, at Montello Legion Post 351. A sincere thank you goes to Montello Unit 351 for being such wonderful hosts. The hall was beautifully decorated with fresh red, white, and blue floral arrangements, creating a perfect atmosphere for the event. Additionally, the breakfast treats, lunch, and desserts—all homemade by Unit members—were delicious. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the day a success!

Twelve Units were represented, including several first-time attendees. We were pleased to welcome Department Historian Christine Johnsen, who shared greetings and provided an important update regarding annual program reports. Additionally, National Executive Committeewoman Maggie Geiger and 6th District Commander Ken Flock both offered their insights and remarks. WI Legion Riders State Director Corey Doehrmann provided information for their upcoming "Cruise for a Cause, Family First – 26" event.

Reports were presented by our Committee Chairs, County Presidents, and Unit representatives, highlighting the work being done across the board. It was wonderful to see everyone and share such valuable information. Thanks to your participation, the meeting was both fun and highly productive! We look forward to seeing an even larger turnout at the Department Convention. In the meantime, meeting minutes will be distributed as soon as they are finalized.

Membership

The Mrs. Elsa Trombla Membership Bells are presented to Units that achieve 100% membership and by completing and returning their Unit Officers Information Sheet to the Department. Congratulations to this year's winning Units for their dedication and hard work: 1st Place for Units with 50 members or less is **Berlin Unit 340**, and 1st Place for Units with 51 members or more is **Fond du Lac Unit 75**. Well done!!

We are closing in on the National membership goal of 95% by June 12, 2026—Female Veterans Day. Currently, our District stands at 91.97% and holding steady in 4th place within the Department. We are so close, but we need a final push to reach that goal.

Is your Unit finding it difficult to maintain or grow its numbers? Many of us have established the wonderful tradition of paying dues for our children and grandchildren. While this ensures they remain part of our organization, the "why" is just as important. Don't just tell them they are members; tell them whose service earned them that right. Tell them about the importance of continuing their membership when you are no longer able to do it for them.

The District and Department Membership Teams are ready to help. If you need fresh ideas or want us to attend your meeting to discuss strategy, please reach out.

Impact Report Numbers

The Units worked hard all year long and District Impact Report numbers were impressive. Our service to Veterans & Military totaled 12,856 volunteer hours and \$25,758 spent. 22,680 poppies were distributed with \$42,937 raised. We volunteered 2,194 hours and spent \$12,056 to support Military Families. Hours of service representing ALA in our communities 18,232 and a total of \$14,300 presented in scholarships. Awesome job everyone!!

District Chairman Vacancies

I am looking for District Program Chairs for the following open positions: **Education, Junior Activities, Public Relations and VA&R**. The responsibilities of being a District Chairman are that you would be the liaison between the Department Program Chairs and the district, have knowledge of the specific program, and provide a program report at the District Conference.

As a program chairman you are also part of the District Executive Board. The Board meets twice each year, once in fall and once prior to the District Spring Conference. Program Chairs are also expected to attend all District Conferences and Executive Board meetings.

Please contact me if you have questions or are interested in any of these chairmanships.

National Poppy Day[®], May 22, 2026

Each year, especially during the month of May, members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs. **Good luck with your Poppy Distribution!!**

Department Convention

Hilton Paper Valley, 333 W. College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911
July 16-19, 2026

Convention information was included in the last bi-monthly unit mailing. It can also be found on the web site at <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/department-convention>. Or you can register online at www.wilegion.org. Get your registration in as soon as possible. I hope to see many of you there.

ALA In The Know 2026

Four ALA in the Know Conferences are scheduled for this fall. A registration form is included with this newsletter. I encourage everyone to attend one of these workshops. This program is designed for all members, not just officers, and well worth attending.

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American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin

2026 REGISTRATION FORM



CONTINUING EDUCATION

DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH
(Please submit one form per person)

Don't miss out on this year's exciting program! Register early to reserve your spot, as space is limited!

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!

Attendees will learn:

- How to effectively run a meeting
- Updating your guidelines
- Simplify your reporting efforts
- How to deal with unit conflict

Plus much more!

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please print clearly.

District #: Unit #: Unit City:

First Name: Last Name:

Email: Phone:

Are you a first-time attendee? Yes No

Are you a newly elected (less than 2 years) officer? Yes No

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

SELECT ONE:

DATE:

LOCATION:

- Saturday, September 12→ New Life United Methodist Church Unit 106
721 Pleasant Way, Seymour
- Saturday, September 19→ Eau American Legion Post Unit 53
634 Water St, Eau Claire
- Saturday, September 26→ Mason-Lindsay Legion Post Unit 385
207 Legion St, Verona
- Saturday, October 3→ Dirrigl-Sawales Legion Post Unit 182
274 N 3rd Ave, Park Falls

Mail check payable to ALA-Wisconsin:
ALA Wisconsin
P. O. Box 140
Portage, WI 53901-0140

Registrations received after capacity is reached, will be returned. No reservations will be accepted on site. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks.

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