



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



ALA 10TH DISTRICT CHAPLAIN JEAN ERLEWINE MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a Happy Easter and is looking forward to the warm weather we are having by this weekend. I want to remind every unit to send me your deceased members so I can include them in our memorial service at spring conference – Deceased from May 1 2023 to April 1 2024 include Unit Number. Thank you in advance for taking care of this.

Heavenly Father
We thank you for the sacrifice of your son Jesus,
by dying on the cross so we could be free from our sins,
help us to live as you would want us to,
so that we can spread your love and grace with those who are lost,
and those who don't know where their lives will lead them without you,
Thank you for loving us unconditionally.
Amen.

Email address: jean.erlewine@gmail.com

Mailing address: Jean Erle wine, 1080 3rd Ave Apt 110, Cumberland, WI 54829

DISTRICT 10 AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that spring has arrived, the Auxiliary is bursting with activities.

Units that didn't meet over the winter are back and planning events. Spring Conference is just around the corner, and soon Poppies will fill the air. Last week I sat in on the Basic Training for the Wisconsin Legion College, and facilitator Bob Shappell asked this question. As a leader, are you a "caretaker" or "risktaker"? A "caretaker" just maintains what is done year after year, but a "risktaker" will try new things! I encourage all units to try something new this year, even if it's something small. To find ideas, visit the Department of Wisconsin website at and look under Programs or look at the Narrative Reports at things that could be done.

Thank you for serving with your time, money, and talents!!

10th District President Mary

1887 21st Ave. **phone: 715-234-5155**
Rice Lake, WI. 54868 **email: getmet77@hotmail.com**

Spring Conference Reminders:

The deadline to register for Spring Conference is April 12th. Auxiliary will be at Plum City High School on Saturday April 27th. Conference starts at 9:00 AM. Memorial Service will follow the conference at the Post. Bring: VA facilities donations, items for auction, and cash for 60/40 raffle. Legion members will meet at the Plum City Legion Post. (ALA Registration Form Attached)

ALA DISTRICT DUES

If your unit has not paid the District dues, please remember to get them paid as soon as possible. \$15.00 make check payable to ALA-10th District. District dues must be paid prior to Spring Conference for your Unit to be eligible to vote.

Send to
Teresa Isensee
P. O. Box 145
Boyd, WI. 54726



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



ALA ANNUAL REPORTS Impact & Narrative Reports are due April 15th

WHAT WE DO MATTERS!

Why do the Impact Report? All the hours and dollars that Auxiliary members report is an Investment in helping veterans, the military, and your communities. It also shows the U.S. Congress how important the Legion Family is to our country. Please, send your annual **Impact Reports** to me by April 15th. Thank -you!

Mary Townsend
1887 21st Ave.
Rice Lake WI. 54868

Narrative Reports are also due by April 15th, These reports are to be sent to ALA Department and if your able – please send President Mary a copy or your narrative reports. Include the Narrative Summary Report Form and any completed Program Narratives that your Unit has worked on.

The Department of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 140
Portage, WI. 53901- 0140

NOTE – The Impact Report, Narrative Summary Report Form and Program Narratives – are available as a fillable form on the Department Website. Fill out save to your device and email or mail them to Department and the District President. Link: <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/annual-reports>

10TH DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTESTANT NEWS

Congratulations Zoa Winey, representing Post 17 Arcadia in Trempealeau County for placing 3rd at the Department Oratorical Contest held at Ripon College on Saturday March 23, 2024.





10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



HIGHLIGHT OUR HEROES

Scott Bradley Anderson, Sgt. US Army served in Vietnam. He was a member of Boyceville Post 314. Scott joined the Army with the encouragement of a classmate before he graduated High School in 1972. After basic training, he told his dad he wanted to be a paratrooper. His dad asked him if they make more money, Scott told him yes, they do. Then his dad said I guess you are a paratrooper. He married a local gal and took over the family farm. From pickles to watermelon, he always did things in a big way, like 150 watermelons that required taste testing. He was very organized and was the glue that held Post 314 together. Even when fighting cancer, he set up honor guards, organized Memorial Day ceremony as well as speaking at school events. Scott was very community minded. Him and his wife Connie acquired a military jeep, restored it and drove it in parades, and events to honor the military. His son drove the jeep to Scott's funeral. Scott loved his family, his country and being a farmer. **We salute Scott Anderson!**

Roman "Butch" A. Sabota Sgt. US Army Air Force, from Independence Post 186. Butch Sabota was inducted in the service in 1943, following basic training he went to Aerial Gunnery School in El Paso Texas. During this time, he spent a month as an athletic instructor, because of his knowledge of team sports. In December 1944, two months after Butch arrived in England and less than one month prior to his 21st birthday, the 392nd Bomb Group's mission #216 began. 29 aircraft began launching for the railroad yards in Kaiserslautern Germany. Over the target, 500-pound bombs were released. After two minutes of releasing bombs Stg. Sabota's aircraft was struck by German fighter aircraft, number two engine caught on fire, and soon the bomber exploded. Prior to the explosion, six parachutes were observed to have opened, one of them carrying Butch Sabota. After bailing from his stricken aircraft, Butch was captured near Muenchweiler Germany. He was relieved to be captured by the German soldiers, for fear the local with pitch forks would kill him. He spent five months until the end of the war in a Germany prisoner of war camp located on the Baltic coast. On May 1st, 1945, he was liberated by the advancing Russian Army. His mother received a western union telegraph stating that he was missing in action, followed by another telegraph stating that Butch was a prisoner of war. In 1945 he boarded a ship and headed back to the United States and he was Honorable Discharged. He was awarded the following: American Theater Ribbon, European – African Middle East Ribbon, one Battle Star, WW11 Victory Medal a special POW medal authorized by an Act of Congress. After the war Butch's dog tags were found in Germany and sent to the Smithsonian for display. **We salute Roman "Butch" Sabota!**

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DISTRICT 10 CHILI COOKOFF/FEED

District 10 Legion Riders chili cookoff/feed turned out to be a great success. Held on Saturday March 23, 2024 at the Eau Claire Legion Post on Water Street. All funds that were raised will be going to support local veteran causes.

I would like to thank Andrea Mack treasurer, Alex Denman assistant Director, and Brad Venaas post 53 Legion Rider, for all their help in organizing this years fundraiser.

Thank you to our judges, Rita Rindahl, Jim Jansma, and Gary Lubich. Thank you to District 7 for making their way up to the District 10 chili contest. Thank you to District 10 and District 7 Legion Riders and to all Legion and Auxiliary members for all their help during the event. Most of all I would like to thank the community for coming out and supporting our fundraiser. Thank you for the generous contributions and We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Tony Mack
WI ALRA D 10
Director

From District President Mary Townsend - On Saturday March 23rd I had the privilege of attending my first 10th District American Legion Riders chili cook-off. The Eau Claire Post 53 hosted the event. After taste testing several chili entries. I made my decision for the "People's Choice" award. Food, fundraisers and Legion Family, a great way to spend the afternoon. The funds raised will help veterans and the "Welcome Home" campaign for Post 53 to keep the Stand For The Flag statue at their Post.



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DISTRICT 10 CHILI COOKOFF/FEED PICTURES



10th District President Mary and 10th District Commander Rita



First Place Tony Mack from Cave-Dahl Post #240 Baldwin, WI. Receiving award is his wife Andrea Mack flanked by judges Gary Lubick and Jim Jansma.



Second Place was Henry Lange from District 7 ALR with ALR Finance Officer Andrea Mack



Third place was Brad Venaas from Johnson-Nicoles-Kulman-Olson Post #53 Eau Claire, WI with ALR Finance Officer Andrea Mack



The People's Choice award is Chrys Porter (center) from Johnson-Nicoles-Kulman-Olson Post #53 with ALR Finance Officer Andrea Mack and Past ALR Vice President Jim Jansma



**10TH DISTRICT
AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2024**



**CHILDREN & YOUTH MESSAGE FROM
ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN MARGARET LARSON**

Last October I sent out a letter to all Units for a \$1 Challenge for the CWF (Child Welfare Foundation) asking each member to donate \$1 for this great cause. As of today, Unit 121, River Falls was the only Unit to donate. We received our 100% Per Capita Banner and a picture in attached. If your Unit sent in a donation to the CWF and received the banner, please send me a copy. In 2024, the Foundation made four grants in excess of \$684,050 to four youth-serving non-profit organizations. These grants helped support programs and activities that teach life skills, coping mechanisms, and physical fitness and awareness just to name a few. Unit 121, River Falls, sent in a Good Deed Award to National and we are just waiting to present it to her, Riley Unruh. You can read the article in the Badger Legionnaire for April.

Some ideas on how to find these deserving youths:

1. Watch or read the news.
2. Go online and google youth heroes in your area.
3. Send inquiry letters to churches, schools, fire departments, police stations or newspapers.
4. Make up a letter or flyer and give it to your Juniors to give to the teachers or leaders of other programs they might be involved in.
5. When distributing poppies, have a poster visible for the public to see that you are looking for youth heroes and you might be surprised about what they might tell you.

If your Unit sent in a Hero Award or Good Deed Award, please forward me that information.

Margaret Larson

Children & Youth Chairman email: maggiedoit@hotmail.com



**EDUCATION MESSAGE FROM
ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN CHRYS PORTER**

Hello All - Well it is that time of year again when we need to do our reporting. What I am looking for in Education is:

- Do you “give 10” or have a school supply drive?
- Do you give out any scholarships?
- Did you do anything during Teacher Appreciation Week or National Education Week?

It’s not too late to take part in National Education Week, May 6-10, 2024. Let us know what you are doing to help us find new things that we can take back to our units. I am always trying to think of something new to get our unit involved in our community to be able to give back. Look forward to hearing from you. If you have pictures, please send them also.

Chrys Porter



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE FROM ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN TERESA STEINKE

Spring is in the air—I have been watching the robins fluttering around our yard for nearly a month now—and yes, they have now had snow fall on their tails three times, so we should see spring weather soon (an old tale by the “old folks”, who used to say that the robins had to have snow on their tail feathers thrice before spring would arrive ;) With Spring in the air, it is now time to come out of hibernation and begin work on our programs again—especially to engage with our members who have allowed their membership to lapse—and to reach out to potential new members! Balto is lagging way behind the pack, in 11th place.

I am amazed with the progress that some of the Units in our District are doing: According to the last Membership Report, the following Units have reached their goals: Eleva, in Trempealeau County, is really reaching for the stars with a whopping 117,86%. Congratulations to President Robin Rasmussen and her entire team, which includes every single member in the Unit! You are doing a fantastic job—well done indeed! Second and third place units are also from Trempealeau County are Independence, with 104.76% and Osseo, with 101.41%. Kudos to President Debbie Kampa from Independence and President Sherry Brasda from Osseo, along with their entire units on their outstanding accomplishments. Rounding out the units who have already reached their Membership Goal is Brackett, in Eau Claire County. President Brenda McMahon and the members in this unit have achieved 100% of their goal.

We do have several units throughout the District who have renewed every member from the previous year, and I am so very proud of each of you as well. I understand your frustration that, even though you have renewed all of last year's members, you have not met your Membership Goal, which was set by National. Sadly, we know that many of our units have lost members, simply because they have passed away. Other members from a previous year may have moved away or have chosen to not renew for various reasons. Those members were part of the equation when National set those Membership Goals. Why, you ask? Because we still need members, and if those members are no longer in this vital organization, then we need to find new members so that we are able to carry on the work that we do for our veterans, our children, our communities and our nation! To each of you, who fall into this category. I would like to suggest a couple of action plans:

First, reach out to all of your previous members, by doing a Poppy up call. Ask them how they are doing, let them know that you have been thinking of them and that you have missed them in your organization. Ask them if there is a reason that they dropped their membership, listen to their concerns, give them validation, and then try to encourage them to rejoin. In the case of a deceased member, perhaps there are other members of the family who would qualify for membership. Give them an overview of the ALA and invite them to join!

Second, as you are going about your daily life, listen for opportunities to share with others the extremely important work that we do within our organization, and invite those who qualify to join us! I always try to have several American Legion Family application tri-fold pamphlets with me, so that I am able to hand one to someone who may be eligible to join.

Third, do you have a community event coming up in your town or county? Ask if you would be allowed to set up a membership table—and recruit for the entire American Legion Family! More and more—especially younger— families have limited time, so they would prefer to do things together, as a family. Portray the American Legion Family as just that! If we want to attract those younger members, we need to meet them where they are at—and this is our opportunity to do so!

Now, we also have some units who are struggling with renewing last year's members. I would encourage each of you to also look at the suggestions that I provided above. I calculated that if each of the units who have not renewed last year's members would just do that, we would catapult from 11th place in the Department of Wisconsin into a very strong 1st place! If you need help, please reach out to me—I will help you as much as I can!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Conference, where I will be distributing several awards and discussing how to overcome the challenges of membership.

For God and Country,
Teresa Steinke, Tenth District, Department of Wisconsin, Membership Chair



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



UP COMING EVENTS	
April 2024	April is dedicated as Military Child Appreciation Month, officially known as the Month of the Military Child (MOMC).
April 5, 2024	Gold Star Spouses Day!
April 15, 2024	Annual Impact Reports due to District President Mary
April 15, 2024	Annual Narrative Reports due to Department and a copy to President Mary
April 20, 2024 – 4:00pm to 7:00pm	Chicken Dinner Fundraiser at Saving Grace Lutheran Church – 3735 Jeffers Road – Eau Claire *** for the “Welcome Home Statue” to remain at the Legion Post at 634 Water Street Eau Claire.
April 27, 2024	10 th District Spring Conference at Plum City – more details to follow
June 9-15, 2024	Badger Boys State – UW Eau Claire
June 16-24, 2024	Badger Girls State – UW Oshkosh
July 10-14, 2024	Department Convention – Appleton, WI
Next Newsletter will be May 2024 – Will have program information and update on the Spring Conference	
To submit articles and events for the 10th District Family Newsletter send to: Teresa Isensee tisensee2173@gmail.com	





**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DISTRICT 10
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

**TO: 10th DISTRICT DEC MEMBERS, UNIT MEMBERS
AND AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY**

RE: 10TH DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCE

The 10th District 2024 Spring Conference will be held at the Plum City High School, 907 Main Street on Saturday April 27th, Registration is from 8:00am to 9:0am, with the Conference beginning at 9:15am. Conference Registration Form, Conference Booklet AD form, Chippewa Falls Wish List, Minneapolis VA Wish List, Klein Hall Wish List, and Standing Rules proposed changes, see attachments.

District Executive Members & County Presidents please wear the 10th District dress uniform, for the Conference and Joint Memorial Service.

The Joint Memorial Service will be held following the Conference at the Plum City Legion Post 365, 132 Pine Ave E. All Members/guests are invited to attend this special service.

Please bring any Unit Prayer Books and Unit History Books for judging, and please bring any donations for the VA facilities.

Poppy Posters need to be judged at the unit level and sent to the department chairmen, Kay Grosskopf, before March 15, 2024, they will not be judged at District this year. Send to: Kay Grosskopf, Department Chairmen, 5909 Grandview Road, Larsen, WI 54947

Bring cash - There will be a District 60/40 Raffle, a District Silent Auction and a Unit Basket Raffle.

Asking each Unit to bring an item or basket for the District Silent Auction.

Remember to send your deceased members since 2023 Spring Conference to Chaplain Jean Erlewine, 1080 3rd Ave Apt 110, Cumberland, WI 54829

Motel Information: Cobblestone Inn & Suites, 325 w Prospect Street, Durand, WI (715) 672-5055 (Motel is about 12 miles from Plum City).

For God & Country

Mary Townsend
10th District President/ Department of Wisconsin
(715) 234-5155 or getmet77@hotmail.com

REGISTRATION FORM

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
10TH DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY APRIL 27, 2024

Registration 8:00am – 9:00am CONFERENCE BEGINS AT 9:15am

The Auxiliary will meet at Plum City High School, 907 Main Street, Plum City WI. Luncheon will be held at Molly’s on Main (515 Main Street) at around noon, and then we will return to the Plum City High School for our Auxiliary afternoon session. Memorial Service will be held at the Legion Post, 132 Pine Ave E after the afternoon session.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BY APRIL 12, 2024

Unit # _____ City _____ County _____

Senior Delegate, Delegates at Large, Alternates & Guests	Delegate	Delegate at Large	Alternate	Guest	\$2.00 Registration	\$15.00 Lunch
Junior Delegate, Alternates & Guests		Delegate	Alternate	Guest	\$.50 Registration	\$15.00 Lunch

Senior Registration Fee @ \$2.00 each

Junior Registration Fee @ \$.50 each

Number of Luncheon Tickets @ \$15.00

Total Amount Enclosed

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Make Checks Payable: American Legion Post 365

**Send to: American Legion Post 365
PO Box 32
Plum City, WI 54761**