



**Department of Wisconsin  
Ninth District  
Sue Keyzers, President**

1025 N Main Street, Seymour, WI 54165  
920 246 9044 [suekeyzers.ala@gmail.com](mailto:suekeyzers.ala@gmail.com)



*Honor our Country, Support our Veterans  
Sue Hembrook*

Happy Valentines Day!

January was a bitter cold month and I imagine most of our members did not venture out if they did not need to. Although I hope many of you made it to the Mid-Winter conference in Green Bay. I was signed up to go, but had a family funeral to attend that day, so was unable to go. I am hoping that some of you will tell me what they learned at the conference to catch me up.

### **SPRING CONFERENCE**

I will be sending along an invitation and registration form for the Spring conference with this email. This is an election year, and we will be looking for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. If you would like to help the district by running for this position, please let me know as soon as possible. There is a 4-year learning curve to this spot before you would become President. With just 4 regular meetings and 2 exec meeting this is not a real taxing position. If you are really lucky there will be an ALAITK in the district which would decrease the meetings. A rewarding part of the job is getting to meet members from all over our district. Sometimes I think the hardest part of the job is writing newsletters. I am the 53<sup>rd</sup> president of the 9th District. There have been presidents from 23 units in the district. That means that there is a lot of help and mentoring available to anyone who would like to try this position.

### **ALABGS**

Hopefully you all have your ALABGS reservation form into Department. Make sure that you contact your school about selecting a delegate. Delegates do not need to register until April 1<sup>st</sup>, so you still have time. If you were unable to send a delegate, would you consider making a donation to the Program. It is costing us over \$600.00 per delegate and we are charging \$500.00. Any amount will help to continue this worthwhile program.

### **LEGISLATIVE**

Election season is ramping up. Be prepared for political ads and mailings. Watch for who is paying for the ads as one check for bias and a private agenda. Be alert and aware.

The Non-partisan Primary is Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. This ballot will include the contested races that are not based on party lines. For example, if you have 3 candidates running for a single school board position that race will be on the primary ballot. If only 2 candidates for a position – no primary. The Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice race has only two candidates so that will be decided in the General Election on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Please send pictures (via email NOT Facebook) of your unit members working on the polls, meeting with elected officials and candidates for inclusion in my reports to National. I am proud of what our Auxiliary members do to advocate for our veterans and military.

This Spring Election is the local and school board elections and the Judgeship elections across the state. Judges are to be non-partisan in their ruling, so it is especially important we know their stance on issues. They are the ones that interpret the laws and how they affect us and our communities.

Continue reporting your contacts locally, statewide, and via Grassroots. Wisconsin is routinely in the top 5 for action alerts. Keep up the excellent work in making your voice heard. The Washington DC Conference is Feb. 28 – March 4, 2026, and your impact will be felt.

EXCITING NEWS – For our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of our 250 challenge I received reports of over 760 contacts made on all levels. It was a close battle, but the **WINNER is 6<sup>th</sup> District!** Keep up the great work. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter winner will be announced in April.

Check out both our Department and National websites for additional resources or contact me directly. Becky Mueller [clarencandbecky@aol.com](mailto:clarencandbecky@aol.com) call/text 920-464-0320

Great Job everyone – stay warm.

*Becky Mueller*  
*Dept. of WI Legislative Chair*

## **POPPY VIDEO**

With this link you can watch the video about the poppy that was made in Wisconsin by ALA members and veterans. Copy and paste it into your web browser to watch.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6LN5JsQVQ4>. Department is still looking for veterans to make poppies

## **There are a lot of deadlines that are coming up.**

By March 20<sup>th</sup> - The entry forms for the 9 Pin bowling tournament are due. There is information about the tournament in the December Unit Mailing.

March 15<sup>th</sup> – The ALA Essay contest winning entries should be submitted to Deanna Farley, W41870 Kimball Lane, Silver Cliff, WI 54104.

March 15<sup>th</sup> - The Unit Member of the Year Award nominations need to mail to Betty Stone. Check out the attached PDF.

By March 20<sup>th</sup> – The Membership Dues Billing form is due to Department HQ. This form lets the Dept Office know what you will be charging for Dues in 2026.

By March 28<sup>th</sup> – Registration for the 9<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conference mailed to Lisa Wolfinger per directions on form.

By April 15<sup>th</sup> – Unit Year End Impact Reports are due to me. Please get them to me as soon as possible as I have a daughter getting married on April 25 in North Carolina from April 18 to the 28<sup>th</sup> and they are due to department on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

By April 15<sup>th</sup> – Digital Reports are due to Department HQ. Paper reports can be mailed to department headquarters if you are unable to do it digitally.

April 15<sup>th</sup> – The Registration for the Junior Spring Conference at Camp American. Camp to be held May 15 to the 17<sup>th</sup>. Registration form in attached unit mailing By

By May 1<sup>st</sup> – The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in each category of the Poppy Poster should be mailed to Kathy Grom, Poppy Chairperson at 8151 S Waring Drive, Oak Creek, WI 53154. See attached contest rules.

May 22<sup>th</sup> – 2026 Unit Member Collection Person form need to be into Department HQ no later than this date. Form in attached Unit Mailing.

If I have missed any that you know of, please let me know so I can add them for the next newsletter.

## **NOTICE**

Please see the attached memo from The American Legion's Judge Advocate, Mark Seavey, regarding DD214's. Posts or units should review a veteran's DD214 to verify membership eligibility, but should NEVER retain a copy of the DD214. Please share this information with any American Legion Auxiliary members within your reach of distribution, especially those responsible for membership verification.



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*Honor our Country, Support our Veterans  
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Greetings,

The Annual Spring Conference for the 9<sup>th</sup> District of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held on Saturday, April 11th at the Woods Golf Club, 530 Erie Road, Green Bay, WI. This will be a joint conference with the Legion. You are all invited and encouraged to come as this is one of only 2 times a year when we get together to share our story. Please fill in the attached reservation form and return by due date.

Each Unit is asked to bring a picture story board with a short report (3 min) to tell us what your unit has done in the last year. Make it a fun adventure. Have your unit members help put it together. And remember to put all of your newspaper articles on the board.

Each unit is asked to bring a Raffle Basket to the meeting. The funds from this and the cash raffle go a long way in supporting the district donations.

This year we will have about \$500.00 to donate throughout the district. Please let me know where you would like that money to go. I cannot guarantee anything, but will try to spread the money around. We will not take any donations from the floor at the meeting.

Even if you will not be able to attend the Conference, please fill in the Memorial sheet and return it to ??? as soon as possible.

**Please respond to this email with your Unit # and a "got it", or "I need it mailed to me".** If I do not hear from you by Friday, February 18th, I will assure that you did not get the email and mail a copy to you snail mail. Please help the District postage.

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Conference on April 11th.

Sincerely

Sue Keyzers

9<sup>th</sup> District President

See attached form

**Ninth District Joint Legion and Auxiliary Spring Conference**

The Units of Brown County of The American Legion Auxiliary  
invites you to the 104th Spring Conference.

Saturday, April 11, 2026  
The Woods Golf Club  
530 Erie Road  
Green Bay, WI 54311

Registration: 8 – 8:45 \$2.00 per person  
Coffee and rolls will be available  
Lunch: \$18.00 per person

Lunch Menu: Broasted Chicken Dinner  
Meal will be served Family Style

Please detach and mail with remittance no later than March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Lisa Wolfinger  
407 Whitney Street, Kaukauna, WI 5413  
Phone # 920-766-7911(landline)  
Please make check payable to: 9<sup>th</sup> District ALA

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Please detach and send with check payable to ALA Outagamie County Council

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Registration \$2.00 each (total) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Lunches \_\_\_\_\_ Price per Lunch \$18.00 each (total) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit City \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Names

Names of members attending for name tags:

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## Reminder: ALA Wisconsin Poppy Program – Deadlines & Rules

Dear Unit Presidents and Unit Poppy Chairs,

This is a friendly reminder about the ALA Wisconsin Poppy Poster Contest, an annual opportunity for students to honor veterans through creativity and patriotism. I've also listed our other program deadlines as well. Please contact your local schools and organizations to promote our children's participation. Without your support, we could not have such great response from our talented youth.



### Important Wisconsin Deadlines

- April 1: *Units submit the Poppy Award Cover Sheet with narrative for "Most Outstanding Unit Poppy Program."*
- May 1: *Units select one winning Poppy Poster from each class and forward them to the Department Chairman (with completed Poppy Poster Cover Form).*
- May 1: *Units also submit their Little Miss Poppy nomination.*



### Contest Eligibility & Classes

Students may participate through local schools or youth groups sponsored by an ALA Unit. Contest classes are:

- Class I: Grades 2–3
- Class II: Grades 4–5
- Class III: Grades 6–7
- Class IV: Grades 8–9
- Class V: Grades 10–11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs



### Official Poster Rules

- Posters must be created on 11" x 14" poster board.
- Each poster must include a fitting slogan of no more than 10 words.
  - Articles such as *a, an, and, the* do not count toward the word limit.
  - The words "buddy" and "buy" may not be used.
- Posters must feature the red Flanders Field poppy as the central theme.
- Work must be the student's own, completed under the supervision of the sponsoring ALA Unit or school.
- Only one winning poster per class may be forwarded by each Unit.



### Purpose of the Program

The Poppy Program helps educate youth and the public about the significance of the poppy and its role in supporting veterans, military members, and their families. If you have any questions or need additional materials, please reach out.

Thank you for supporting this meaningful program and encouraging students to honor our veterans through art.

Warm regards,

Kathy Grom

American Legion Auxiliary – Wisconsin

Poppy Chairman



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Unit Member of the Year recognizes those serving at the unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their units. The Nomination form can be downloaded from the Department of Wisconsin website at [amlegionauxwi.org/leadership](http://amlegionauxwi.org/leadership) and are due to the Leadership Chairman by **March 15, 2026**.

### Requirements:

- Open to senior members in good standing who are not currently, nor have ever been, in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than Unit President.
- Accomplishments and activities must be achieved during the 2025-2026 ALA year. You may add other relevant information, as needed.
- Units must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.

**A Unit Member of the Year from each department will be recognized annually at the American Legion Auxiliary Department and National Conventions.**

## SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS AWARD

Established in 2003, this award honors one enlisted servicemember (pay grade E1-E9) from each branch of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force) as well as the National Guard/Reserve.

### Requirements:

- The nominating person submits a narrative discussing the reason for the nomination.
  - <https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form>
- A picture of the servicemember (preferably official Department of Defense photograph),
- Endorsement from a member of their command group must be included.
- The nominating form, along with all supporting documentation, must be completed and submitted by **June 1, 2026, 5:00 PM EDT**.

The servicemember will be invited to speak to the general assembly of the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention as a guest of the American Legion Auxiliary. If operational requirements prevent the servicemember's attendance at National Convention then other arrangements for their presentation to the general assembly will be made.

### LEADERSHIP

Betty Stone, Dept Chrm  
[bjstone626@hotmail.com](mailto:bjstone626@hotmail.com)

715-452-5329

Unit Member of the Year Award

### NATIONAL SECURITY

Bob Shappell, Dept Chrm  
[bobshap@aol.com](mailto:bobshap@aol.com)

414-899-4067

Salute to Servicemembers Award