



WISCONSIN

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American Legion Auxiliary
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The official publication of the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary

www.amlegionauxwi.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CHAR KIESLING
Department
President

Another busy weekend for your Department President making new memories and friendships and visiting with members of my American Legion Family! This past weekend started early with the Leadership Orientation at headquarters in Portage for our incoming officers and committee chairmen for the next ALA year, successfully conducted by PDP Joyce Endres and PNP Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan. We are so fortunate to be led in this department by such knowledgeable and devoted leaders.

This year will be especially busy and exciting with preparations for our 100th Anniversary! I would

suggest units read about our beginnings and leaders of the past. We owe them our deepest gratitude for forming this unique service organization, now the largest patriotic women's organization in the world! Post-WWI years were very exciting times. Service members were returning with so many dire needs and the Auxiliary was there fulfilling their MISSION. Historians will be especially busy finding their history and sharing it with membership. I have found it amazing!

The following day I headed for the Appleton Flag Day Parade in downtown Appleton, the oldest flag day parade in the country! What a crowd and a beautiful day for a parade! Commander Frank was also impressed with young and old celebrating our flag and the service organization units and

floats, bands and flags waving everywhere in the very, warm summer wind. From start to finish it lasted exactly two hours. They really know how to celebrate "Old Glory." Later I was escorted to the Appleton Unit and Post 38 for a "cold one" after 2+ hours in the 80-degree sunshine and was able to listen to the Marine Corp Band perform an awesome concert. Appleton Unit, Rose and Diane, and Post Legionnaires, thank you for your welcoming hospitality and a wonderful day full of good old-fashioned patriotism!

Sunday, I traveled with my ALA Unit 33 companion, Janice, to Lake Tomahawk and Camp American Legion for another memorable event...the ground breaking of the new all-weather cabin for Gold Star families. This was an enormous effort by our Com-

mander with the support of the whole American Legion Family. Incidentally, the cabin is almost entirely funded but your continued support with your donations will complete the project. We each received a ceremonial gold shovel and got to keep ours...now what do I do with a gold autographed shovel...put it with my other treasures from this year! I was given a tour of the main lodge and was impressed with the renovations of the ladies' upstairs quarters, which was funded by the Auxiliary, and the amazing remodeling job throughout the lodge. The metal roof is also being put up and looks great. "Thank the ladies again for their very amazing support" was voiced by the camp personnel and Legionnaires. Your continued and invaluable contributions to support Camp Ameri-

can Legion for their rest and rehabilitation doesn't go unnoticed!

Your year-end reports were read entirely - a stack 3 feet high! I learned a lot about many unique and ambitious projects carried out on behalf of our veterans. Thank you to all the members who worked so hard for our common cause!

Membership was not a disappointment as there were many bright spots along the way where my candle was lit brighter. "Kindling the Flame" of service for our veterans, military, and their families, and the appreciation I have for the members of the American Legion Auxiliary will always burn brightly. In the next one hundred years it will continue to shine as our MISSION will always be in SERVICE NOT SELF!

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Weggen, Dept. Chairman
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Thanks to all members who paid their 2019 American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) dues and helped their units build membership. Without all who pay dues, the ALA would not have the programs and personnel to serve veterans.

Eligibility questions continue to arise. Membership in the ALA is currently limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion or deceased veterans who served during eligible war periods. Under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, equivalent step-relatives are also eligible.

After an extremely slow start, membership continues to grow. At this time 90.26% of goal has been met. Five counties and 94 units have reached 100% or more and 122 units are within three members of goal, but there is still time to become a 100% unit.

Throughout the state, members shared, and the Department of Wisconsin Membership Team promoted the following culture of goodwill

actions and membership ideas with the goal of enhancing membership:

- Be more welcoming
- Exemplify kindness
- Accept others' ideas
- Take time to get to know each other
- Recognize accomplishments of each other
- Invite prospective members to unit events
- Engage members in unit activities
- Know that the ALA organization comes before personalities
- Send appreciation letters to members and community
- Share information from county, district and department meetings and events

IDEAS FOR BUILDING MEMBERSHIP

- Build unit culture of goodwill
- Present the magnetic ALA emblem to all new members
- Plan for purely social and fun activities with fellow members
- Keep members up-to-date with unit activities
- Inform TAL Family of meetings, conferences, workshops and events
- Wear the ALA brand when

volunteering/working in the community

- Set up a board displaying unit activities at all events
- Recruit at all Auxiliary and TAL Family events/functions
- Be prepared to speak about the Auxiliary when asked questions
- Carry member benefits handouts and membership applications to distribute
- Team with the school district on projects/events affecting children and youth
- Speak about unit activities and events with other groups
- Make known what the unit does in and for the community (i.e., food pantry, blood drives, nursing homes, homeless shelters, outreach programs, etc.)

A prevailing theme to build membership among units that are 100% or more is being visible in the community, whether teaming with the community or clearly displaying the ALA brand at Auxiliary and TAL Family functions/events. When community members see what the ALA does, they are supportive and want to join this patriotic service organization.

All ALA units are individual en-

tities under Wisconsin state laws, therefore, a procedure to disband must be followed. The procedure can be found in the Department Red Book.

A special thanks to American Legion Membership Chairman Julie Muhle for inviting the ALA Membership Team to participate in TAL Membership events. And,

thanks to Virginia Kodl, Linda Kostka, Kallee LeCloux and Andrea Stoltz for time and energy expended to build membership.

2019 MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Chairman Diane Weggen
Virginia Kodl, Linda Kostka
Kallee LeCloux, Junior Member;
Andrea Stoltz, Headquarters Staff

GROWING MEMBERSHIP

A person can never be too young to support our veterans, the military and our country.

Nor can she be too young to recruit other Legion Family members!

Amelia Jean Neuhaus loves veterans. After finding a flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in her local hardware store, she asked her dad how she could get more involved sup-



porting veterans. Her father, Maxfield Neuhaus, contacted the American Legion Auxiliary to find out if she was eligible for membership. We are proud to report Amelia is one of the newest junior members of River Falls ALA Unit #121! As a result, Max also joined the Sons of the American Legion. Welcome, Amelia and Max!

KINDLE THE FLAME

DISTRICT 5 DISTRICT 12 DISTRICT 3 DISTRICT 9 DISTRICT 6 DISTRICT 11 DISTRICT 2 DISTRICT 7 DISTRICT 8 DISTRICT 10 DISTRICT 1 DISTRICT 4



94.57% 92.49% 92.24% 92.15% 92.08% 91.46% June 2019 91.39% 90.87% 89.45% 88.79% 88.30% 86.13%

GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

Bonnie Dorniak
Executive Secretary/Treasurer
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The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, is undergoing a restructuring of their current business and financial practices with the goal of improving financial operations. As a result, effective August 2019, the Badger Legionnaire/Wisconsin publication will be printed every two months, providing six issues per year. The format of the paper will be slightly different, but the intent is to continue providing valuable information in as timely a manner as possible.

In September, The American Legion is hosting "Celebration of Freedom" at the Columbia County Fairgrounds in Portage. EVERYONE is invited to attend! The American Legion Riders will escort the American Vietnam Traveling Tribute Wall to the fairgrounds on September 4th. The Wall will be

open for public viewing from mid-day on Thursday, September 5th through mid-day on Sunday, September 8th. Chris Kroeze, who placed 2nd on NBC's 'The Voice', will perform on Friday. Saturday will be filled with family-friendly events including a vendor fair, Mobile Vet Center, combat-to-construction equipment display, special programming by the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Legion Family, and cornhole and kick-ball tournaments. Visit www.wilegion.org for more information or to register a team today! Sponsorship opportunities are also available for anyone who would like to contribute \$100 or more to help make this event a success. Contact Angie at Legion Headquarters for details (608-745-1090).

Thank you to all the ALA members who volunteer in service to our veterans. Headquarters received a plethora of Service to Veterans award forms. Due to limited staff resources, the awards will be processed after department convention and mailed

to Unit Presidents for distribution to their members at that time. Please be patient as we work through the process. If you have any questions contact Andrea Stoltz at 608-745-0124.

May 24th was officially National Poppy Day. Posts and Units that completed poppy distributions are reminded to submit their 20% Poppy Profit reports to ALA headquarters. The form may be obtained from the department website or by contacting Linda Cason. Poppy Orders for 2020 will not be processed until the Poppy Profit report is received. If anyone has questions regarding the appropriate use of poppy funds, please review the one-page fact sheet that is posted on the department website or contact the Department Poppy Chairman.

National Convention is August 24-28th in Indianapolis. Any members interested in attending should contact headquarters for a registration packet. The registration deadline is July 22nd, but housing requests

should be submitted as soon as possible and will be processed in the order received until the room block is sold out.

Per department bylaws, districts will nominate members to create a supplemental list to the national convention during their district caucuses at department convention on Friday, July 19th, with elections taking place on July 20th. Members planning to attend national convention are encouraged to submit their name for nomination. Department pays no expenses for individuals on the supplemental list who attend national convention unless they are elevated to delegate status due to delegate vacancy.

Six ALA in the Know conferences are scheduled for September and October. All members are encouraged to attend a conference at their convenience to learn more about the Auxiliary. The registration form is on page A4. There are new presenters and information this year, so everyone should find it beneficial.

DISTRICT YEAR END REPORTS



1st District Report Sam Catura

Wow, this has been a very "roller coaster" year. We had an enthusiastic start with many newer members stepping up, rolling up their sleeves and tackling new positions. Thankfully we had many of our more experienced members working with us to teach and guide us.

Unfortunately, as we deal with more and more health issues, we suffer the loss of many dear friends and fellow members. We lost another Past President this year and our District Sergeant-at-Arms. We will keep them in our hearts and memories for many years to come, as they were such wonderful mentors to yours truly and many others.

Through the ups and downs, units have continued to do awesome work in support of our veterans. They concentrated their efforts on Wreaths Across America, distributed thousands of poppies, wrapped Christmas gifts for the veterans and their families, baked cookies and other desserts, served meals, held meat raffles, marched proudly in parades, made it possible for veterans from the VA Hospitals to attend social events such as afternoon dances, ran horse races with the Veterans, raised funds for both Vets Roll and Honor Flights, and sponsored young ladies for ALA Badger Girls State. There is always something happening at some post or unit within First District.

A major goal for the coming year is to revitalize, rejuvenate and renew several of the units that are currently struggling to maintain membership. This will obviously take time and a lot of work. I am counting on my wonderful First District ladies to continue working with me so we can build a stronger American Legion Family, starting with the ALA in First District.



2nd District Report Danie Wilson

Our goal was to strengthen and increase communication at all levels of the 2nd District. Goodwill, team work, mentoring and training

are some of the methods used to accomplish our goal. We held in-person executive board meetings and several conference calls to keep the lines of communication open.

The two parts of program delivery are finance and working programs. Members demonstrated this by volunteering in their communities, working the ALA programs, supporting The American Legion programs, and holding fundraising events.

The F.L.A.M.E. in President Char's theme, 'Kindle the Flame' of Service for our Veterans - Faith, Leadership, Attitude, Mentor, Encourage - was exhibited in the district chairmen's projects. Char's special project, 'Wreaths Across America,' was exciting and heartwarming.

My knowledge of the American Legion Family and **Faith** in its future has grown through participation in American Legion Auxiliary events and courses, attending Legion events and graduating the Legion College.

An outstanding **Leadership** program was developed, educating and developing new leaders.

Attitude of goodwill is very important. Goodwill tells a great deal about who we are and why we matter. Tremendous goodwill was shown to the mental health unit at Zablocki.

Mentoring and **Encouraging** brought new members to a faltering unit that is now at 145% membership!

Sharing ideas on what is Community Service resulted in increased reporting. Examples were given to educate our youth on patriotism and how we can be shining examples of Americanism in our communities.

These are a few ways the Mighty Second District has 'Kindled the Flame' for our veterans.

Let us pray daily for the American Legion Family and our nation. God Bless each of you.



3rd District Report Jenni Syftestad

As my first-year term comes to a close, it has been a busy year Kindling the Flame for our Veterans - spending many hours getting mem-

berships renewed and helping units that are struggling. At the time I wrote this article we had thirteen of our fifty units in Third District at 100% and there are so many units just one or two members away from 100%.

The Leadership Chairman within our district organized round table discussions with new members and had past department, district and unit presidents speak to enlighten new members as to how they became knowledgeable and gained the desire to become an officer of the ALA.

Our units are busy doing projects for the veterans such as making Christmas stockings and filling them with donated items. Some unit members are members of the Quilts of Valor group and are making and presenting them in a group ceremony. There are units making quilts for their Legionnaires and surprising them at their Legion meetings. Christmas cards were made and sent to Operation Christmas Cards for the Troops.

Our Middleton VA is using robotic furry cats and dogs for their dementia and Alzheimer patients. The animals have moving parts on them: barking, meowing, purring and laying down. They are wonderful for those patients. Many units have baby showers for the female veterans. Units are busy planning their 100th anniversary celebrations with their Legion posts.

As we begin our 100th year, let us remember "WHY." Why did you join the American Legion Auxiliary?

I would like to thank the Third District for allowing me to lead you this past year and I look forward to my final year as your District President.



4th District Report Kathy Baranzky

I had another great year working with all my 4th District units. Unit 537 hosted a Pancake/Omelet Breakfast and Bake Sale and proceeds went

to Camp American Legion, along with monthly donations of necessities and a cash donation. They sponsored three girls for ALABGS, had two spaghetti luncheons with Bingo at Zablocki, and a Post Family Christmas dinner.

Unit 192 has five members that are VAVS

volunteers. Members participate in a variety of activities including bingo at the domiciliaries, Valentine and Halloween dances, Christmas Gift Shop, craft club and much more.

Unit 299 has two members that volunteer at the Zablocki VA. They had two luncheons at the Hales Corners Library for our veterans and played bingo. They went to Hales Corners Memorial and explained how it started. Unit 299 enjoys being in the parade on the 4th of July and Veterans Day.

Unit 415 members are involved in activities supporting the Legion Family. They volunteered for Trees from Home, making Christmas trees for active duty military overseas. They donated greeting cards and other items for the goody bags sent with the trees.

Unit 416 has been very active in getting the Greendale Veterans Memorial off the ground. Their fundraising this year, including two successful Spaghetti Dinners, was dedicated to supporting the veterans in the community.

Unit 434 had their 32nd annual Bike Blessing. They served two meals at the Zablocki VA Medical Center and supplied the veterans with gift bags, lap afghans and much more. They made thank you cards for veterans on the Honor Flight. They had a Birthday Bash event celebrating 100 years for TAL and 60 years for the Oak Creek Lions. They were 100% in membership.

Unit 18 Juniors made cards for veterans at Zablocki VA and placed flags at the VA Cemetery. They deliver pizza at the VA once a month, visit the veterans and play games with them. They donated flags to schools.

I want to thank all my units for their support and all they do for our veterans.



5th District Report Linda Bartell

It's been a pretty good year for the Fifth District. We went from 12th place last year to 1st place this year. It took a lot of hard work by all our units but

they dug deep for new members and kept on collecting 2019 renewals. Kudos to all members for their help.

Unit #1 took first place in this year's Bowling Tournament. Despite being a 9-Pin Tap, their strikes were "real." They made tray favors for the Zablocki VA, lap robes, afghans and baby items for the women veterans.

Unit #331 has struggled in the past for new members but hit the jackpot this year, keeping them a viable unit. They work the programs they can and do it very well. They have good plans to work more programs this year.

Unit #406 conducts two bingo sessions at the Zablocki VA. They provide food for the Four Chaplains ceremony which was the 76th year that Fifth District sponsored this event. They hold about eight events a year and are heavily involved with their Post members.

Unit #455 increased their membership this year. They held events that interacted with elderly veterans and helped struggling women veterans. They also wore the ALA "brand" in the community.

Unit #479, our newest auxiliary, has good attendance at their meetings. They hold many events throughout the year for the veterans, including Chili Fest, Salad Fest, a country style breakfast, and more.

I attend unit meetings several times per year and enjoy working alongside the membership. I am very proud of all Fifth District units and their endeavors.



6th District Report Nancy Helms

Well it's time to say good bye. This will be my last letter for the Wisconsin.

It has been a great four years. I have made so many new friends that I will always cherish and be grateful for. I have learned so much from each and every one of them.

Everyone I have met works so hard to help out our veterans and to work on our great programs. Without all your hard work there wouldn't be an American Legion Auxiliary.

I want to wish the next 6th District President, Patti Westpfahl, and all the new incoming District Presidents good luck.

Enjoy your time, learn a lot, and you will also make new friends, but most of all ... HAVE FUN! You are in for a great ride.



7th District Report Becca Gleason

The Spring Conference hosted by Unit 51 of West Salem led you all right back to me as your District President. I journeyed all over 7th District as a guest speaker, taking greetings to American Legion Conference, attending meetings that benefit you as members and our veterans.

I am thankful that District 2nd VP Helene Stein was able to take on my duties at the 2018 Department Convention as there were many heart aches in my family. I also thank Tamra Lee and Darlene Dayton, who spent a day with me to ready the raffle baskets for the 7th District Fall Workshop hosted by Unit 52 in La Crosse. It was a very enjoyable experience during this learning work shop.

I went to the "Wall Breaking" Ceremony for Post/Unit 51 in West Salem. Yes, this was good news – a post/unit that is growing. Congratulations, Unit 51!

I distributed monthly newsletters containing what is needed from units and expected from us as members of the largest

women's patriotic organization. I asked for unit suggestions, activities, events, and happenings – hoping that sharing the information with each other would ignite the flames between all units within the district. LaReta Dischler of Reedsburg Unit 350 sent me information on a consistent basis. Thank you LaReta and Unit 350 for all you do!

I am not an elected officer but currently a stand in position holder. Any of you may step up and lead today. I welcome you to take this presidency and will offer any and all tools that have brought me this far. I would also like to thank my husband Steve and my children for continuing to support me as I support the 7th District. Thank you.



8th District Report Sarah Stiff

What a great year! Thank you, District 8 ALA members, for working together to work the mission. I enjoyed meeting so many of you over

my time as your District President. I had a goal to encourage more members to attend our district, department, and national meetings to experience the Auxiliary at all levels. It was awesome to see new faces and see the sparks grow into 'flames' of enthusiasm. Thank you for your increased participation.

I urge you to continue to put focus on the younger members of the Auxiliary. Be positive examples of decent Americans for the girls. They are the future and will be a voice for you as they get older. Look for the announcement from the newly elected Honorary Junior Department President for her service project and get your junior members involved.

As I move on from District President, I will continue to be available to answer questions about the ALA and its programs, and I will continue to support members and units as I can. Our little trivia contest at Spring Conference probably showed you that there is always more to learn about the Auxiliary. Please take time to explore the individual programs. Find ones that resonate with you and work them at the unit level. Do you prefer to work with older veterans? Do you want to share our mission with young children and teach them the ideals of Americanism and good citizenship? Do you want to work with military families? Or maybe you want to support fellow Auxiliary members. There are many avenues of involvement in the Auxiliary. You could simply pay your annual dues, or you could hold a national office. It's up to you to make a difference in your own way. It's up to all of us to support each other in the mission.



9th District Report Deanna Farley

I am enjoying my term as the Ninth District President. I have seen a lot of familiar faces at American Legion Family gatherings and have made

many new friends as well. I can't count how many friends I have made throughout the state! The next generation is upon us and we will be good mentors just as those before us.

Marinette County Council hosted a Leadership Workshop at Crivitz Post 413 in February. Despite the weather, President Char Kiesling was able to join us. Amy

Luft and Donna Jensen did a great job with the presentation and there were many good comments from first time attendees about being very pleased with the learning experience.

The 2019 Ninth District ALA Spring Conference was held in conjunction with The American Legion Spring Conference. This was a successful 'first' for our district. All units presented their Show & Tell Event Boards in the afternoon for both the Legion and Auxiliary. Thank you to Outagamie County for your help with the conference.

Ninth District Membership started out great! Our position within the Department is down somewhat but Abrams Unit 523 is at an outstanding 130%. We have ten units at or above 100%. Thank you to the Ninth District Membership Teams!

As I compiled the District Impact Reports, I saw many shining stars! Our units volunteered 46,000 hours of their time to help others. They spent \$135,000 of their hard-earned money to support our military, our children and our ALA programs. Outstanding ladies!

I send a monthly newsletter with the help of my District Committee Chairmen. Throughout the year different chairmen submit a report for the newsletter to keep our members informed about our programs and new things happening. We also have a Facebook page, "American Legion Auxiliary Ninth District of Wisconsin."

Thank you for everything you do!!!



10th District Report Aimee Korger

The Mighty 10th District has had another SPLENDID year. At our Spring Conference held in Osseo, everyone who attended had the

pleasure of hearing all about the amazing things happening in our district such as programs, drives, cook-outs/cook-offs, dinners, socials, Bingo, raffles, meetings, parades, ceremonies, and celebrations (with CAKE, of course!). This year was so special to help TAL celebrate their 100th Birthday and I can't wait to see what this next year has in store as the ALA turns 100. With the way we celebrate, I am hoping for more CAKE and my husband is looking forward to all the pies!!!

With one of the Wisconsin Veterans Homes in our district, we do get some visitors... In November, the Department Commander and Department President visited for an "official" tour. Another hot spot for visitors in our district is the Wisconsin Veterans Housing and Recovery Program at Klein Hall. They hosted an open house that brought in many state and local government representatives and Legion members.

A collaborative effort was made between the Barron Unit and Barron County Presidents to apply for a Youth Hero Award for Jayme Closs. In May, along with these two ladies, I had the privilege of presenting Jayme and her family with the award to honor her heroic efforts at her Welcome Home Event.

We are also honored this year to recognize from the 10th District the Central Division National Vice President – Teresa Isensee.

The 10th District is looking forward to this next year and wishes the ALA a Happy 100th Birthday!!!

For God and Country, be safe and stay proud!!!



11th District Report Barb Bell

District 11 started the year with a bang. Several units were represented at the state and national conventions.

Although only a handful of units turned in year-end reports, it was an excellent representation of all that is done by the 23 units in District 11. They reported 5,280 hours of service; \$10,578 spent on programs; \$8,130 poppies; 350 children/youth served; and supported local and department scholarships.

The fall conference was held at Tomahawk. There was a get-together the night before at the Post, with a great buffet and a cake in the form of a military shirt, decorated with ribbons and insignias. It sold for \$30 to the S.A.L. and then resold to the District President for \$30, with the money donated to the new Veterans Cemetery at Harshaw near Camp American Legion. The cake was then resold at the Veterans Day event put on by the Bad River Post/Unit 25 and earned another \$30. That cake put on a "lot of miles" and helped the Legion Family cause. Several units held Christmas parties and collected presents for veterans' facilities, families, homeless shelters, etc. Donations were made to President Char's Wreath Across America project.

District 11's spring conference was held at Bad River with about 50 post and unit members in attendance. The district raffle and auction raised money for district programs/projects. Units gave reports of the year's activities and members volunteered their services to fill two vacancies on the board. Units made plans for the Auxiliary's 100th anniversary, members were encouraged to attend the state convention in July at Middleton and to attend ALA in the Know this fall.

District 11 currently has eight units at 100% or more and four at 90% or more, which represents half of our units! Although most of our members are heading or into their 80's and only a few show up for unit meetings, the members work the programs to support our military, veterans, families and communities in any capacity they are able to! One of our members turned 100 this spring, a testimony to her strong belief in the mission of the ALA.



12th District Report Barbara McDaniel

District 12 ALA units understand how to contribute service hours for our veterans, military, military families and the children and youth of our

communities. With the backing of 16 of 24 units and 237 ladies from the reporting units, 12th District volunteered over 36,825 hours and spent more than \$21,519 for the three listed categories of reporting.

ALA Badger Girls State, poppy programs, dinners and parties for communities, and school programs were favorite social areas. The education of our youth was not left out of our focus. Fourteen scholarships valued at more than \$4,860 to individual students to further their education through trade schools or universities, and additional contributions to Department Scholarships by various units, completes our listed endeavors.

Thank you and well done, ladies of the 12th District!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Becky Mueller
Department Chaplain
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Isaiah 59:19 "So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him."

Lift our Standard (FLAG) high in the face of the enemy. From the beginning of our country we have called on the Lord to lead and guide us in our quest for freedom, justice, loyalty and liberty for all. The flag became the standard to be borne before us in our endeavors. It leads our parades. It waves from our buildings. It is saluted at every turn. It is the symbol of what being an American means. Our flag has survived battles, bombings, and demonstrations. It has survived attacks by foreign powers and terrorists.

June 14th is Flag Day – a date set aside to honor and commemorate the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777. The 2nd Continental Congress passed a resolution stating that the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white, and that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation. In 1916 President Wilson established June 14th as Flag Day.

Did you know: In 1885 Bernard Cigrand, a Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual Flag Day. Our current flag with 50 stars was designed by an Ohio high school student for a history project in the 1950s; President Eisenhower raised the 50-star flag for the first time on July 4, 1960. The Flag Protection Act of 1968 was enacted in response to protests during the Vietnam War; later the Supreme Court ruled this prohibited First Amendment rights. We are still working to enact Flag Protection legislation (write, call, email your legislators!). The Flag Code defines the proper display and disposal of our beloved flag.

Praise God for this easily identifiable symbol of freedom anywhere in the world and even on the moon. Pray that our flag continues to fly high in the face of terrorism and tyranny. Pray that our political leaders can finally join together to protect our beloved flag and all that it means. Pray for our nation. Pray for each other as we continue to serve our veterans, service members, their families, our community and nation. Amen

You're a Grand Old Flag
by George M. Cohan

*You're a grand old flag
 You're a high-flying flag
 And forever in peace may you wave.
 You're the emblem of
 The land I love,
 The home of the free and the brave.
 Ev'ry heart beats true
 Under red, white and blue
 Where there's never a boast or brag,
 But should old acquaintance be forgot,
 Keep your eye on the grand old flag.*

Anyone interested in attending the Auxiliary's National Convention should contact Department Secretary Bonnie Dorniak for an information packet as soon as possible. Additional information is posted on the department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) > More > National Convention).

CALL FOR THE 99TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY to meet in Indianapolis, Indiana August 23-29, 2019

In conformity with Article VI, Section 1 of the National Constitution, which provides that the annual National Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be held at the same time and place as The American Legion National Convention, the 99th Annual National Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called to meet in Indianapolis, Indiana, from August 23-29, 2019. The convention business sessions will be in the Indiana Convention Center.

PURPOSE

The annual National Convention is the legislative body of the American Legion Auxiliary. The convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the National Constitution & Bylaws, receiving reports of national officers and committees, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it. Officers for the ensuing year will be elected August 28, 2019.

REPRESENTATION

Representation in the convention shall be by department and in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution, Article VI, Section 2.

CREDENTIALS FEE

A registration fee of \$25 for each delegate, each alternate in attendance, and guest in attendance must be paid.

ADMISSION TO NATIONAL CONVENTION SESSIONS

Admission to National Convention sessions will be by delegate, alternate, or guest badge. All visitors who wish to attend convention sessions must register.

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



REGISTRATION FORM



(Please submit one form per person)

Members are encouraged to register early---space is limited! Registrations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations received after capacity is reached, will be returned. No reservations will be accepted on site. Cost is \$25.00 per person. Fee includes continental breakfast, light lunch, and program materials. Sessions will include information on a variety of topics and Auxiliary programs.

SCHEDULE FOR ALL CONFERENCES:

8:00 am – 9:00 am Registration/Continental Breakfast
 9:00 am – 3:30 pm Informative presentation, lunch break, interactive program session, questions & answers

Please print clearly:

District #: _____ Unit #: _____ Unit City: _____ Member ID #: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

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

Select One:

	DATE	LOCATION	RESERVATION DUE
<input type="checkbox"/>	9/28/19	American Legion Post #70 1332 Spruce, Oshkosh, WI 54901	Postmarked by 9/14/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	9/28/19	American Legion Post #121 121 N Main St, River Falls, WI 54022	Postmarked by 9/14/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/5/19	The Woods Dining & Spirits 10508 Kottke Rd, Crivitz, WI 54114	Postmarked by 9/21/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/5/19	American Legion Post #288 W57N481 Hilbert Ave, Cedarburg, WI 53012	Postmarked by 9/21/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/12/19	American Legion Post #209 3913 S State Rd 213, Orfordville, WI 53576	Postmarked by 9/28/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	10/12/19	Cambria Fire Department Hall 702 Elizabeth St, Cambria, WI 53923	Postmarked by 9/28/19

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Mail check, payable to ALA-Wisconsin, by the deadline listed above 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.

NOTE: 2019-2020 Red Books will be available for purchase at the conferences for \$6.00 by check only. CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

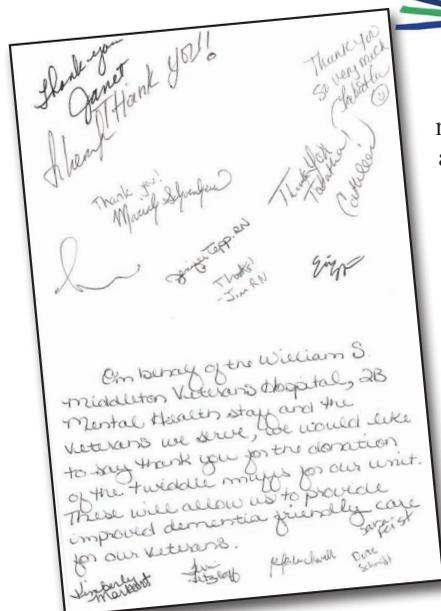
PLEASE SHARE ONE (1) FUNDRAISING IDEA THAT WAS SUCCESSFUL FOR YOUR UNIT

PLEASE SHARE ONE (1) SUCCESS STORY ABOUT AN AUXILIARY MISSION OUTREACH PROGRAM

Mission in Action:

William S. Middleton Veterans Hospital

Thanks to donations from American Legion Auxiliary units and members, ALA-Wisconsin was able to purchase Twiddle Muffs for patients receiving dementia care at William S. Middleton Veterans Hospital. "Twiddles" help patients with dementia or sensory-



related conditions. They provide an affordable, drug-free therapeutic alternative while keeping fidgety hands and minds active and engaged. Each muff has a soft ball to squeeze inside and the outside provides various forms of tactile stimulation. Marble-sized beads are safely contained inside a sealed pouch while trims like buttons, ribbons and beads offer additional engagement. Twiddle muffs also help keep patients' hands warm, making it perfect during colder months or for outdoor activities.

WINNERS

MAY 2019 CALENDAR FUNDRAISER

1	15.00	Pamela Meyer	Hatley
2	15.00	Joyce Sherman	Appleton
3	15.00	Freda Green	Marshfield
4	15.00	Sharon Jurjens	Eau Claire
5	25.00	Michael Kasten	Horicon
6	15.00	Evaleen Hutchens	Itasca IL
7	15.00	Corinne Scheele	Grantsburg
8	15.00	Deniece Carver	Spring Green
9	15.00	Tammy Dehart	Biramwood
10	15.00	Elva Spetz	Woodruff
11	15.00	Karen Neuman	Colby
12	25.00	Louise Minisan	Mercer
13	15.00	Arlene Orethun	Ontario
14	15.00	Rita Greuel	New Holstein
15	15.00	Delores Bruch	Hancock
16	15.00	Laura Calteux	Greenfield
17	15.00	Bernadine Halbach	Kiel
18	500.00	Ashley & Carl Burmeister	Fort Pierre SD
19	25.00	Jeffrey Dillenber	Harshaw
20	15.00	Sara Kensmoe	Strum
21	15.00	Gloria Daelke	Black Creek
22	15.00	Debbie & Kim Paul	Beaver Dam
23	15.00	Kayla Herbers	Woodman
24	15.00	Rochelle Mayr	Fond du Lac
25	15.00	Mary Roy	Minong
26	25.00	Terry Madden	Elroy
27	15.00	Linda Shird	Muscoda
28	15.00	Peter Kahl	Walworth
29	15.00	Glenda Horn	Cross SC
30	15.00	Joan Bertz	Loyal
31	15.00	Jane Spears	Bruce