



**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**



DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER - FALL 2025

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Unit leaders – please share at your next Unit meeting

Hello District 12 Members,

SEPTEMBER: ALA In The Know Conference training had three sessions in September and one session in October. Now, we can slow down a bit. Thank you to all the members of the 12th District attending the Cumberland sessions



District 12 members - Cumberland



District 12 members - Gordon

FALL CONFERENCE was held in Gordon, WI – small District attendance. Thanks very much to Terry Gile of Grantsburg for introducing a Bingo game involving membership theme of National Parks. District 12 is called the Great Smokey Mountains. May be a good reason for a family trip to see it. I have been a couple of times, what I saw was very good.



NEWS FLASH From PRESIDENT SUE HEMBROOK:

It is so very exciting that it be announced that annual reporting is now fully online. The Unit Annual Program Reports are due to the respective Department Chairmen by April 15, 2026. In an effort to simplify the reporting process, all Unit Annual Program Reports can be submitted electronically – directly to the respective department chairmen from the department website, including digital pictures! Go to www.amlegionauxwi.org, under the Annual Reports tab, for details. This software was configured by Carry at ALA Department so it would accommodate the Department of WI requirements. Please go to our website and check it out. There will be a presentation on this at Mid-Winter and also there are plans to possible have a webinar training. We are always looking for new avenues to make annual reporting easier for our members !! Any questions should be directed to Bonnie Dorniak, deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org. The October Unit Mailing has information on the annual reporting if you prefer not to use a computer but note that the forms will not automatically be sent out this year.

MEMBERSHIP: District 12 is currently in 9th place, with Wisconsin leading the Central Division and 4th in the nation. Please continue to send in dues payments weekly, please do not hold them. By sending in the dues payments promptly, it will keep pace with the reports that Department Membership Chair Andrea sends out. If anyone needs help completing the form, text or email me and I will ensure that you get help.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS from BECKY MUELLER, CHAIR:

The Legislative program is one of the most effective ways for our Auxiliary to advocate for our veterans and military; and thus, their families and our communities. We can make sure our voice is heard on so many levels, local, county, state and national by sending letters and/or emails calling their offices, or visiting in person at their local offices.

Each member has the privilege and the right to contact their elected officials and ask questions, express concerns and hold them accountable. Some easy ways are to subscribe to their email newsletters, answer their surveys and attend town hall meetings. If visiting the Capital – stop in! Your presence is sure to make an impression

Start by requesting a Blue Book from your local representative – either via phone call or email. Published biennially, the *Wisconsin Blue Book* is a valuable source for information about the State of Wisconsin. First published in 1853 as a manual for legislators, the *Blue Book* has evolved into a useful tool for the state's residents, as well as a historical record of Wisconsin state government. The *Blue Book's* mission is to furnish the legislature and the public with information on state officers and governmental organization, along with statistical information and articles of general interest.

The newest edition is almost ready for distribution. They are FREE for the asking. Get an extra copy for your unit's use. This reference has vital information to make us more effective advocates, keeps us informed of past and current legislation and processes and has all the updated contact information for both officials and government agencies. Our tax dollars pays for this publication, and it is up to us to make use of it. An excellent resource. Don't forget to sign up for the American Legion Action Center at wilegion.org which has a link toward the bottom of the page called Legislative Call-to-Action. This site makes it easy to send emails to all your federal legislators concerning the top priorities of American Legion Committees. Make your voice heard – just remember that while we are politically active, we, as an organization remain non-partisan.

COMMUNITY SERVICE from LINDA TRYCZAK, CHAIR;

When you are doing Community Service, please take a lot of pictures along with a description of the event to my at: tryczak.l@gmail.com. All pictures have to be in digital form. Some ideas of Community Service: volunteer at local libraries, food pantries, domestic violence shelter, senior citizen center and nursing homes. Represent Auxiliary as a member of local boards and committees. Units can purchase shirts or other Auxiliary apparel for members to wear when they volunteer and as representatives of the American Legion Family at special events.

YEAR-END REPORTS:

Remember to use a tracking form for each unit member for final year end reports. Suggestions to make your own or print an example from National. Keep it simple and convenient for the unit president or member who files the Unit reports. Add digital pictures to our event/Narrative reports. Hopefully with the reports being in a fillable form on the computer everyone will be able to tell more detailed stores of the Units.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 OFFICERS FORMS

No changes to your officers or you had changes to your officers?? **EITHER WAY YOU NEED to send in the 2025-2026 Officers Form.** We have 10 units that have not sent this form in so please double check to make sure your unit has sent it in. If you do not have the form, please give me a call and I can get you a form.

CALENDAR:

Veterans Day, November 11; Check your Post, County and District for event schedules

National Mission Training: November 15: Minneapolis, MN

Mid-Winter: January 15-18 Green Bay, Oneida Casino. Family Training

SNOWBIRDS:

If you have a new address for the winter, have your membership chair and make a member change for you with your new address and dates you will be gone. This way you will continue to receive any mailing National sends to individuals.



HAPPY FORMING TO NEW UNIT 221, OSCEOLA, WI

Everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy winter whenever it comes.

Barb McDaniel, 12th District President