

WISCONSIN

OCTOBER 2020

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



JOANIE DICKERSON
Department
President

The holiday season is fast approaching. Where did 2020 go? I feel like the entire year has been focused on the pandemic and the world's response or lack thereof. As we now turn our attention to the impending holidays, I would like to share the achievements of a unit recognized for their efforts to publicize the service of local veterans.

James P. and Michael Sullivan Unit 383 of Lone Rock found a way to recognize the sacrifices of local veterans and educate the community at the same time. A new unit member shared her desire to publicly

display a photo and information about an uncle killed in action during World War II. She had never known this uncle, but through shared remembrances of family, she grew to love and respect him for his sacrifices for our freedoms. Her idea was welcomed by other members of the unit, and the project took off!

A small committee was formed, photos were gathered, and banners were designed. In addition to the service member's photo and ALA emblem, each banner featured the service member's name, period and branch of service, and sponsor names against a patriotic background. The banners were hung by the village public works employees on poles throughout town and remained on display

from Memorial Day through Veterans Day. The first banners were purchased by individual ALA unit members to honor veterans in their family. Subsequent banners were purchased by members of the community not affiliated with the ALA.

The unit's social media pages included graphics similar to the banners and were accompanied by personal stories about each veteran. Local newspapers also reported on this project. What a great way to recognize and honor our veterans, living or deceased! As I read other annual unit reports, I saw another unit was developing a similar project. Way to go!

This reminds me of a poem our students sometimes read at our annual Veterans Day program, "I

am a Veteran", by Andrea Christensen Brett. In her poem, Ms. Brett points out that veterans can be found in all walks of life. They might be our next-door neighbor, the one that delivers our mail, our plumber, our barber, etc. Each veteran has a story, each as unique and important as the individuals themselves. As we prepare to celebrate the var-

ious upcoming holidays, please take time to reach out to the veterans in your community and thank them for the sacrifices they made for our freedoms. We may not know them all, but we owe them all. As we continue our centennial voyage, think about how you can honor the veterans in your life through your dedication to Service, not self.

THANK YOU, VETERANS!

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces.

Thank you for serving this great country. Thank you for protecting us. Thank you for the security we have here at home. We know you sacrificed much for your country and all of us. And though you

may no longer wear the uniform, we know you're always on call to serve and protect the freedom and security of the United States of America.

We invite everyone to pause, not only on Veterans Day but every day, to remember those who have fought for our freedoms. Thank you to all who have so bravely protected us.

MEMBERSHIP

Linda Coppock
Dept. Chairman
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For as quickly as summer came, autumn got here even faster! In the blink of an eye, everything can change, and it does without our consent. Change, at times, can be a good thing. As for membership, very seldom does anything change. We have eligibility guidelines we must follow, which are there for good reason.

Membership as I knew it over the 60 years I have been a member, has made some changes. Membership eligibilities have changed, allowing granddaughters and spouses to join now. Processing applications have changed a bit, and technology has seemingly taken over. Members can renew on-line or make a phone call to National to renew dues. As much as I like the swiftness of technology and the ability to "save"

invaluable information without killing a forest, we have lost our members' attention by the lack of personal communication.

When was the last time you made a phone call to a unit member just to check in? How often do we think to send a note to remind members we are thinking of them? When was the last time you just dropped by to visit someone? Remember hanging May Baskets? Granted, we are in the midst of a pandemic and social distancing is strongly encouraged, I get that. But shouldn't that be even more of a reason to contact some of our shut-in members who are not able to get out on their own? Can you offer any assistance?

We are ending the first year of our second century as an organization based on helping our veterans, active military, their families and our communities. How do you think that all happened back when the

American Legion Auxiliary started? Not much technology was used there! Most communication was done by personal contact.

During this next century of the ALA, I firmly believe we need to create a movement to get back to personal contact and let our members know we care about them as much as we do our mission to help others. Again, physically, we need to distance, but looking in that box from the 1919's, I am pretty sure ALA members were very hands on and personal contact was key to building this organization. We need to unpack that box and rethink how, at this time, is the best way to stay strong enough to continue our part in carrying out the mission of the ALA.

Goal incentive dates are October 13, 2020 and November 11, 2020. Is your ship on course?

Stay Strong, Sail On...

POPPY SHOP

ORDER DEADLINE – DECEMBER 15, 2020

Since many units/posts did not distribute poppies this year, we anticipate orders will be down significantly for 2021.

Therefore, we may reduce or suspend production after January 1st.

IF YOU NEED POPPIES FOR 2021, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ORDERS ASAP!



SETTING A COURSE FOR THE FUTURE

District 4	District 2	District 3	District 9	District 6	District 12	WISCONSIN 2020	District 1	District 7	District 10	District 8	District 5	District 11
43.04%	41.76%	39.71%	36.28%	36.24%	33.95%	SEPTEMBER	32.48%	32.34%	29.64%	28.69%	26.38%	21.05%

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Becky Mueller
Department Chaplain
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"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:23

Fall is upon us – ready or not. It is time for the harvest and the gathering of crops before winter comes. Is our fruit ripe for harvest? Do we have an abundance of love, joy, peace, patience, concern for others, moral behavior, loyalty, trustworthiness, and meekness, humbleness, and self-control to gather and store for the next season?

This has been a trying growing season in many ways. Not only have there been physical challenges, but mental and emotional challenges like most of us have never faced. We are breathing smoke from distant fires. We are experiencing rain patterns influenced by distant storms. We are being forced to isolate ourselves for self-protection from a new and different virus. We have postponements and cancellations. We are living with frustrations and disappointments. What we knew and expected has been turned upside down. We are experiencing what has become the "new normal." Add to that the protests, rioting, and an ugly political environment. How are we to bear fruit – especially good fruit?

First and foremost we must live and act in the Spirit given to us by God. It is only by the Spirit's guidance that we can find love and joy in today's world. As I meet with my Legion Family, I find amazing stories of simple acts of kindness that are making a huge difference in the lives they touch. They are bearing fruit and planting seeds for future growth. They are demonstrating their faith in something larger than themselves. They are exhibiting the attributes that make us proud to be a Legion family member. For God and Country, we are continuing to work our programs and projects to serve others – especially our veterans, service members, their (our) families and communities

My prayer for you is that God will give you the insight and wisdom to know how to serve, that God will instill in you a heart of love and acceptance, that God will protect and guide you through this pandemic, and that each of us emerges strengthened and empowered to remain an example of God's love to all that we meet. May each of you experience the fruit of the Spirit in your own life and have a bountiful harvest that will last long into the next season of our lives. Amen

Take My Life and Let it Be by Frances R. Havergal/Louis J.F. Herold; arr. by George Kingsley *Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move, at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.*

GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

Bonnie Dorniak
Executive Secretary/Treasurer
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Website: www.amlegionauxwi.org

Although the 2020 National Convention was cancelled, Wisconsin was still recognized with several national awards. Please see the awards list on page A5 for details.

National Headquarters mailed the 2021 membership renewal notices in September. You may have received a renewal notice if you recently paid your dues. National pulled the mailing list in early August so things may have "crossed in the mail." If you believe you received a notice in error, please contact your unit membership chairman to confirm your dues were forwarded to department headquarters for processing.

Members may pay their dues through their unit, online at www.ALAforVeterans.org, or over the phone. Online dues can only be processed for the 2021 membership year. You can pay for multiple family members at one time or pay for lapsed membership years if you pay by phone. Please call national headquarters at 317-569-4570, Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (Central Time) to pay by phone.

The 2021 Daily Sweepstakes mailing was sent in early September. If you want additional entry forms, please call department headquarters. Only original entry forms

will be accepted for the drawing. Daily prizes are \$15, Sunday prizes are \$25, and there is a chance to win \$500 each month. Remember, you could win 365 times because winning entries are returned to the barrel after each drawing. The last day to enter is December 31, 2020. THANK YOU to everyone who already responded. Please remember that although a donation is not required to enter the sweepstakes, the money raised allows the American Legion Auxiliary to sponsor programs that benefit our veterans, the military, their families and our communities – so donations are greatly appreciated. Official sweepstakes rules are posted on the department website.

With elections coming up in November, members are reminded that the American Legion Family is non-political and should not disseminate partisan principles or promote the candidacy of any person seeking public office. While individuals have a right to their own political opinions, they should refrain from sharing them at any event associated with the American Legion Family or while wearing Legion Family attire to avoid the misconception that their personal beliefs represent the organization.

The American Legion Auxiliary is holding an 'ALA in the Know' workshop at The American Legion's Midwinter Conference on Saturday, January 16, 2020 at Ho-Chunk Casino and Conference Center in Baraboo.

This will be a full-day session. Anyone registering for the Midwinter Conference is encouraged to attend the workshop.

We realize the COVID-19 pandemic caused many units to cancel their poppy distributions for 2020, but don't forget that you can distribute poppies all year long – not just during the Memorial Day Holiday. Veterans Day would be a great time to do a distribution. Units and posts interested in purchasing poppies for 2021 should submit their order by December 15, 2020. Don't delay – order today! Due to the reduced need for poppies this year, the Poppy Shop will close and stop production as soon as we know we have enough poppies in inventory to fill the orders received by the deadline. Orders received after the new year may not be able to be processed.

If your unit does something unique to support the Auxiliary's mission, please send pictures of the "mission in action" along with a brief description (100-150 words) so we can highlight it in the Wisconsin. Submissions should be sent to deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org within 60 days of the event, including a contact person's name, daytime phone and email address in case we need to clarify any information. Your ideas may be of interest to others who would like to do something similar in their own community.

LEADERSHIP

Kathy Baranzzyk
Dept. Chairman
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I hope all is well with everyone. This past year activities have been put at a stand still because of the coronavirus. Unfortunately, my plans to conduct a Leadership Class at The American Legion Midwinter Conference fell through.

I am hoping this coronavirus slows down so my team and I can schedule some classes around the state. If you are interested, there's a list of topics below to choose from. Please contact me if your Unit or District is interested in attending. I will then follow-up with you to set a tentative date and if we are able to start-up classes again, I will contact you to finalize everything. You can reach me by phone or email. Stay safe and hope to hear from you soon.

I'M A MEMBER, WHAT NEXT:

You will become familiar with the his-

tory of the ALA – its purpose, growth, development, mission and vision. New members will learn all about the ALA jargon, the structure of our organization and how to get involved. Seasoned members will have the opportunity to learn how to mentor and work with new members using positive communication to foster individual and group performance, learning how to get the most out of their membership.

REPORTING-MAKING YOUR NUMBERS COUNT:

You will learn how to make reporting fun. Participants will learn the reporting structure, what forms to use and how, when to use them and where to send them. Attendees will see how they fit into the big picture of our organization. New members have knowledge and understanding of the process and experience so members can achieve a greater effectiveness. Participants will learn how to utilize the Program Action Plans and apply for awards.

HOW TO RUN A MEETING & USES OF TECHNOLOGY:

Attendees will learn how to develop and improve protocol in running a meeting. Participants will learn how to be knowledgeable, informed leaders and about our organization's websites – increasing knowledge and providing greater insight into our programs and available resources.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND COMMUNICATION:

We are all aware of conflict. No one likes to deal with it but at times it does make its way into our units. Participants in this program learn how to foster a culture of goodwill within our organization, learn positive ways for dealing with stressful situations with difficult people, and how to solve the situation effectively with communication and leadership skills.

Department Leadership Team: Kathy Baranzzyk, Bonnie Jakubczyk, Donna Jensen

HISTORY PROGRAM

Dany Thompson
Dept. Historian
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2020 has been a long, strange year for most of us. We had to adjust a lot of the things we normally do – major events and long-time traditions had to be cancelled or adjusted. But the members of the American Legion Auxiliary have always risen to every challenge that is thrown at us, and this year and this pandemic are no different.

I have seen how units adjusted to meet

the needs of their community and veterans in new and exciting ways. Some of you have gone virtual, and others have learned to do things while social distancing. However your unit has changed to continue the ALA mission, make sure you continue to write things down, not only for the Unit History, but for those in the future who will want to look back and see how we rose to the challenge.

Just as we now look back at 1918 to see how life was lived and how people adjusted

during the Spanish Flu pandemic, in another 100 years members of your unit may want to see how you struggled, yet thrived in the time of COVID-19. It's important to look to the past to see where we go in the future, but that doesn't mean we forget to live in the here and now.

The Unit Histories may look a little different this coming spring, but that's okay. All it does is affirm that we are about "Service, not self" and however that looks, we will always work for the betterment of our veterans.

POPPY PROGRAM

Diane Steinert
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The tradition of the memorial poppy can be traced to a single individual beginning in November 1918, Ms. Moina Michael, who bought a bouquet of poppies and handed them to businessmen where she worked. She asked them to wear the poppy as a tribute to the fallen of WWI. She later lobbied The American Legion to have veterans assemble poppies for distribution as a way of meeting their need for financial and occupational assistance. The poppy was made the official memorial flower of The American Legion in 1920 and The American Legion Auxiliary in 1921. The

poppy program was made one of the Auxiliary's national programs in 1924.

We continue to follow that tradition, working the Poppy Program to honor veterans for their service and sacrifice by promoting circulation of the poppy, educating all people of the poppy's history, and the significant financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of its distribution.

Units are still encouraged to distribute poppies multiple times through the year. Invite all members of The American Legion Family to assist with distribution. Past methods of distribution may not work during a time of social distancing. Consider a drive-by poppy distribution at your Post. If local directives make poppy dis-

tributions too difficult, consider hosting an event after restrictions are lifted.

Poppy distribution is only the beginning. Units can sponsor a Poppy Poster Contest. Work with the art teachers at your local schools now and encourage them to enter the contest. Department contest winners were showcased in the last "Wisconsin" edition. Two of those talented artists, Courtney Peterson and Anna James, were later awarded First Place in their respective classes in the 2020 American Legion Auxiliary National Poppy Poster Contest. Unit 66 of Athelstane-Silver Cliff was the sponsor for these students. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the contest.

Make sure you order plenty of poppies

from Department prior to the December 15, 2020 deadline for displays at all your events, for poppy usage creations, and for distribution.

The 2020-2021 Poppy Program Action Plan and poppy information and worksheets are available on the Department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) or you can contact me for any information you may need to make your district, county or unit Poppy Program a success. Record all the good you are doing while promoting the ALA Poppy Program. I was excited to see all the pictures and newspaper clippings attached to your narrative mid-year and year-end reports and look forward to hearing from all of you again this year!

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bethany Fredericks
Department Chairman
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If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught me anything, it's how to be creative and flexible. Everything from how I teach my classes to how I coach my athletes has changed and there have been positive changes in each of those areas. That's what we as an organization need to focus on; not what the pandemic has taken away, but how we can still persevere and promote

our message in ways that may stretch what we once thought was impossible.

Harnessing the power of technology may prove to be helpful during this time. Units can use platforms like Zoom and Google Meets to conduct their business meetings. These platforms are easy to use, are free or inexpensive, and allow members to participate conveniently and safely. You can join meetings via computer or phone so there really is something for everyone!

Now might also be a great time to consider creating a unit Facebook or Insta-

gram page to promote the projects you are working on. They are easy to make and your audience can reach a large population of people. Check out the Public Relations Action Plan to see how!

Face coverings also allow you as a member to get the ALA brand out there without having to change anything in your routine! I purchased a set of three ALA Badger Girls State face coverings and wear them all the time! The first day I wore one to practice, I had no less than three athletes ask me about that program and it required

no effort on my part other than giving my 'elevator speech' on the program and who to contact at school. Safety AND program promotion!! I can't think of a better combination! You, too, can purchase ALABGS face coverings at www.shopw-girlsstate.com/.

As we continue to set our course into the future, don't forget our W.H.Y.! **Who** we are. **How** we help our veterans and community. **Your** involvement and its importance to society! Please contact me if there is anything I can do to help your units.

SERVICE TO VETERANS

Diane Weggen
Dept. Chairman
Ph: 715-644-2668
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Ahoy Maties, all hands on deck! With the beginning of the 2020-2021 Auxiliary year, jump on board, anchors away and let's set a course to serve!

ARRRRR...Deck Logs are due November 16, 2020.

Sometimes it's the little or routine activities that make lasting impacts on veterans, military, their families and communities. The following Service to Veterans activities from the twelve districts could spark ideas for units and members in 2020-2021. (Mid-Year Unit Reports of Service to Veterans activities for the period of April 1 – Oct.31, 2020 are due to Diane Weggen by November 16, 2020.)

- DISTRICT 1 – **Menomonee Falls Unit 382** takes two "Road Trips" each year to another Post/Unit for an event, while **Mukwonago Unit 375** and Post host Zablocki veterans five times a year for "Supper and Bingo."
- DISTRICT 2 – **Cambria Unit 401** members made a point of visiting and assisting a military family while Dad was overseas. **Fredonia Unit 410** members created Christmas gift bags and worked with the local school to host a donation drive. Students helped fill and deliver the bags to Zablocki veterans.

- DISTRICT 3 – **Lone Rock Unit 383** worked with local schools to make Valentines for local veterans and write letters to veterans on the Badger Honor Flight and Vets Roll. **Blanchardville Unit 142** assisted the Post Commander with their Legion Post history.
- DISTRICT 4 – **Milwaukee Unit 537** facilitated their Little Miss Poppy's greeting of Honor Flight veterans and presented them with a poppy.
- DISTRICT 5 – **Milwaukee Unit 1** volunteered more than 2,500 hours.
- DISTRICT 6 – **Mt. Calvary Unit 454** and **Saint Cloud Unit 478** worked together to make quilts for veterans at King. **Oshkosh Unit 70** sent items each month to a different VA Center from the center's wish list.
- DISTRICT 7 – **Neillsville Unit 73** honors two or three veterans at a potluck dinner and program each month before their monthly meeting. **Baraboo Unit 26** worked with a local restaurant (Pizza Ranch) to hold a successful fundraiser.
- DISTRICT 8 – **Pittsville Unit 153** coordinated with local churches to honor veterans in their congregations for Veterans Day. **Vesper Unit 520** sent notes of encouragement to a young man having difficulty in Basic Training.
- DISTRICT 9 – **Seymour Unit 106** donated interactive robotic compan-

ion pets to King Veterans Home and visits Camp American Legion during Women's Week bearing gifts for the veterans they meet. **Abrams Unit 523** set up a large poster for Golf Scramble Fundraiser attendees to write a personal thank-you to active-duty soldiers (see picture).

- DISTRICT 10 – **Chetek Unit 179** works closely with the Legion Post, VFW and AmVets throughout the year for veterans. **Prescott Unit 61** sponsored a military family at Christmas.
- DISTRICT 11 – **Fifield Unit 532** adopted four veterans remembering them on their birthdays, holidays and times in between with cards, a poppy or money for a cup of coffee. **Mercer Unit 424** members worked with 9th grade AP history students to plant over 200 geraniums at the Mercer Cemetery.
- DISTRICT 12 – **Webster Unit 96** sponsored a "Remember and Honor Tree" where tributes were made "in honor" or "in remembrance" of a veteran from Memorial

Day to Veterans Day. **Milltown Unit 254** checked on the families of soldiers serving overseas to make sure they knew the Auxiliary could be called upon for help.

Bonnie Jakubczyk of Oak Creek Unit 434 earned the 15,000-hour bar for the highest accumulated volunteer hours this year. Linda Stoltz of New Glarus Unit 141 and Barbara Bowen of Oak Creek Unit 434 earned 10,000-hour bars. "Very Well!" to District 2 with 70% of units reporting. There was a total of 98,624.9 hours reported for 2019-2020; 128 pins (first 50 hours) and 234 various hour bars were sent to units for 304 members.



VA&R – HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS GRANT FUND

Kathy Wollmer
Dept. Chairman
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The American Legion Auxiliary believes this outreach to women veterans is a “win-win” for all involved: creating an awareness for our members and communities of the military service of women veterans and an awareness by women veterans that they are appreciated and supported by the America Legion Auxiliary.

The Homeless Women Veterans (HWV) Grant Fund was established in 2010 under the leadership of Past Department President Florence Wasley by designating her “special project” to provide monetary assistance for women veterans who were homeless or at risk of being homeless.

In the last 10 years the HWV Grant Program has received more than \$310,000 in donations from our members and friends. The Grant Fund has assisted 281 Wisconsin Women Veterans, preventing them from falling through the cracks of the VA System and having to sleep on the streets they fought to protect.

The following guidelines for receiving a grant from the fund are:

- A Veterans Benefit Representative must complete the application and submit it to Auxiliary Department Headquarters along with a copy of the veteran’s DD214, a financial worksheet, and a narrative.
- Grant can only be used for direct assistance of a homeless or at-risk of being

homeless woman veteran and her immediate family, who has been a resident of Wisconsin for at least 30 days.

- Veteran must be an honorably discharged woman veteran.
 - Veteran must be participating in the VA homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)
 - Grant is for one-time only assistance.
 - Grants are paid directly to a vendor, supplier or landlord, not to the veteran.
- A committee comprised of the Department President, VA&R Chairman and Finance Chairman reviews all applications. The guidelines and application are available on the Department website: www.amlegionauxwi.org

THANK YOU to all who have donated

and supported Wisconsin’s women veterans. As we move into the winter months, I anticipate an increase of requests for assistance and encourage your continued support of the Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund. Please send your donations directly to Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary, P.O. Box 140, Portage, WI 53901 designated to “HWV Fund.”



HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS

Sue Hembrook
Dept. Chairman
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Our organization is very blessed to have so many members actively involved one-on-one with our veterans who reside or receive services at the VA hospitals and veterans’ homes. These volunteers are truly the front-line representatives of our organization and their compassion and dedication must be applauded.

If you live near a veterans’ facility and wish to find out what is involved in becoming a volunteer, please contact the appointed representative or me. Volunteers serve in many capacities. To volunteer, you must attend an orientation at the facility and will most likely need to go through a background check. In partnership with the VA, the American Legion Auxiliary strives to keep our veterans as safe as possible and these checks are necessary to preserve the integrity of both our organizations and the volunteer personally. Facilities differ from place to place and therefore the needs differ. Surely you will find a niche that fits your personality.

It is our practice to include “wish lists” for each of our facilities in the October Unit Mailing. However, many of the facilities are not accepting donations at this time or have very specific requirements which change frequently. Some wish lists are posted on the department website (Programs Info tab > under Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation), but if you wish to donate items, please contact the local facility’s Auxiliary Representative/Deputy or the Director of Hospital Volunteers to verify the information is still current. A contact list is available in the October Unit Mailing and in the Red Book directory posted on the department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org).

Volunteering is truly a very self-rewarding commitment and any of us who volunteer would be more than willing to share our experiences and the inner cheer it brings. Our veterans are an awesome bunch and are so very grateful for all that we do. Our presence alone is a comfort to many of them and they look forward to seeing us. It is just as hard for them as it is for our volunteers to be separated right now.

LEGISLATIVE

Char Kiesling
Dept. Legislative Chairman
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MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we have a duty to support The American Legion in writing to our Legislators, persuading them to pass needed legislation for the good of our Veterans and their families. This is where we need to MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD!

I would like to share with you some recent legislation to be aware of. You can find in depth info on these issues and bills by going on-line at: <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>. * Tap on LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER for further clarification and many additional issues. You can also find your Legislators here.

- Help Our Legislative Team Resist TRICARE Select Enrollment Fees and Co-Pays
- Support H.R. 5610, the “Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act”
- Share How the United States Postal Service Impacts You
- ShareHowTRICARESelectEnrollment

- Fees Would Impact You
- Support H.R. 4370, the TBI and PTSD Treatment Act
- Share Your Toxic Exposure Story Now!
- Support Relief for TRICARE Beneficiaries
- Tell us your COVID-19 Story
- Support S.514, the “Deborah Sampson Act”
- Help Secure a Sufficient Pay Raise

*Sign up for Alerts at this site.

PLEASE follow up and become informed! PLEASE go to my monthly Legislative blog on the department website.



CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

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Christmas is coming far sooner than we thought! Perhaps this year of changes has altered our perception of time. It doesn’t seem like it was that long ago when we delivered the last Christmas Gift Shop orders to our veterans so they had them in time to give their families for Christmas.

While there have been many changes to

our lives these past months, one thing that will never change is our care and concern for our veterans. Like everything else, we have learned to adapt, be resourceful, and continue to work the mission of our great organization, even though how we accomplish it may look somewhat different. Christmas Gift Shop is no exception.

These past months have been very difficult for our veterans in long-term care facilities. Without being able to have families visit, many of the veterans feel isolated and lonely. Staff at the various facilities have

gone above and beyond to help our veterans through these unprecedented times. With Christmas Gift Shop, we can give these great veterans something else to focus on, even if for a brief time.

Like everything else, Christmas Gift Shop is going to look different this year. We will still offer the veterans a good choice of gifts to select for their families, but we will be doing it virtually this year. Details still need to be refined a bit, but we will continue our long-standing tradition of bringing holiday smiles to the faces of veterans’ families.

Since the veterans are unable to have family visits, it will be up to us to ship the gifts to them. This year, your donations will help with this project more than ever! The cost of gifts, wrapping and shipping are all fully funded by your donations. Please mail checks payable to ‘ALA-Wisconsin,’ noting Christmas Gift Shop in the memo field, to ALA Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901. This program would not be possible without your generous funding. Thank you for supporting this program!



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN 2019-2020 NATIONAL AWARDS

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin received the following awards or acknowledgement for the 2019-2020 administrative year:

AMERICANISM

Americanism Essay Contest
Class V, Best Essay in Central Division

Alexis Faul

Sponsored by Fond du Lac Unit 75 ~ District 6

Americanism Essay Contest
Class VI, Best Essay in Central Division

Ben Nowak

Sponsored by Twin Lakes Unit 544 ~ District 1

POPPY

Poppy Poster Contest, Class VI
Best Poppy Poster in Central Division

Courtney Peterson

*Sponsored by Athelstane/Silver Cliff
Unit 66 ~ District 9*

Poppy Poster Contest, Class VII
Best Poppy Poster in Central Division

Anna James

*Sponsored by Athelstane/Silver Cliff
Unit 66 ~ District 9*

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Volunteer Recruitment & Service Award
Largest Increase in Active Regularly Scheduled
Volunteers & Volunteer Hours

Rose Wenger

Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital, Madison, WI

VAVS Meetings Perfect Attendance Card:

Rose Wenger, Hospital Representative

Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital, Madison, WI

Bonnie Jakubczyk, Hospital Representative
Zablocki VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI

Pat Flanders, Hospital Representative
Tomah VA Medical Center, Tomah, WI

Laura Hubert, Hospital Deputy
Tomah VA Medical Center, Tomah, WI

Jeanne Williams, Associate Deputy
Minneapolis VA Health Care System, Minneapolis, MN

Joyce Sporrer, Associate Representative
Oscar G. Johnson USVAMC, Iron Mountain, MI

Janet Mullard, Associate Deputy
Oscar G. Johnson USVAMC, Iron Mountain, MI

EDITOR'S CORRECTION



It was brought to our attention that the photo of Leah Reynolds (page A3 of the August issue of the Badger Legionnaire/Wisconsin) was mistakenly listed as Leah Thompson. We sincerely apologize for the error.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life has been scheduled in memory of Andrea Page for November 14, 2020 at West Salem Post 51 (148 Leonard St S, West Salem WI 54669). The time is tentatively scheduled from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Questions? Please contact Patricia Smith at 608-786-4441.



MISSION IN ACTION: UNIT 486



American Legion Auxiliary S/ Sgt Henry F. Gumm Unit 486 in Jackson made hats and prayer squares for Support the Troops WI, a non-profit organization that sends care packages to military service men and women stationed overseas. The unit project, coordinated by Pat Herbst and Mary Rogge, produced 69 hats and 76 prayer squares.



SEPTEMBER 2020 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

1	15.00	Jackie Mueller	Milwaukee
2	15.00	Rosemary Stalsberg	La Crosse
3	15.00	Ronda Fortun	Viola
4	15.00	Kevin Wegner	Grafton
5	15.00	Dorothy Peterson	Alma
6	25.00	James Knutson	Blanchardville
7	15.00	Keith Pozorski	Marathon
8	15.00	Tom Kahelski	Jackson
9	15.00	Darlene Heller	Almena
10	15.00	Jane Endres	Sparta
11	15.00	Lucia Radloff	Hustisford
12	15.00	Sue Hargraves	Madison
13	25.00	Lisa Lobermeier	Ashland
14	15.00	Mary Ann Lindner	Greenwood
15	15.00	Margaret Yonke	Howards Grove
16	15.00	Dustin Goetsch	Rothchild
17	15.00	Darlene Serene	River Falls
18	500.00	Pam Fromm	Marathon
19	15.00	Finley Larson	Muskego
20	25.00	Pat Anderson	Sun Prairie
21	15.00	Helen Traynor	River Falls
22	15.00	Terry Hayward	Camp Douglas
23	15.00	Sally Ollinger	West Bend
24	15.00	ALA Unit #454	Malone
25	15.00	Margie Taylor	Holmen
26	15.00	Lorraine Fleming	Menomonee Falls
27	25.00	Anita Patnode	Arkansaw
28	15.00	Stella Sedlar	Neshkoro
29	15.00	James Allen	Killeen TX
30	15.00	Nancy Winters	Reedsburg

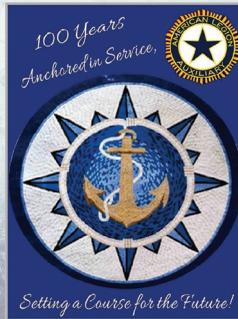
Save The Date!

PRESIDENT JOANIE DICKERSON'S TESTIMONIAL

June 5, 2021

Huckleberry's Restaurant and Banquet Facility
Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin

Watch for more information in future issues of the Wisconsin.



"VIRTUAL BINGO"

C	O	V	I	D
I Paid My 2021 ALA Dues (Unit # _____)	I Voted !!!	I Display the American Flag	I Called or Visited an ALA Member <i>(Name of Member)</i>	I Have Been a Proud Member of the ALA for <i>(Length of time)</i>
I Completed an ALA Academy Course <i>(Name of Course)</i>	I attended an ALA Meeting (in person or virtual): <i>(Date of meeting)</i>	I Donated to the ALA Foundation	I Distributed Poppies!	I Ordered Merchandise from Emblem Sales
I Mentored: <i>(Name of Member)</i>	I Placed a Flag (or wreath) on a Veteran's Grave	FREEDOM ISN'T FREE SPACE	I Supported the Annual ALA Department Sweepstakes	I Wear ALA Apparel
I Visit the ALA Department Website Regularly	I Completed a Member Year-End Report	I Attended an ALA in the Know Session at: <i>(Location)</i>	I Recruited One New ALA Member: <i>(Name of new member)</i>	I follow the ALA Department Facebook Page
I Thanked a Veteran!	I Volunteered at: _____ _____	I Served as a Unit Officer or Chairman	I Prayed for Our Country	I joined the ALA to honor the service of my: <i>(Relationship to Vet)</i>

ALA "Virtual Bingo" Rules:

CIRCLE THE ITEMS YOU HAVE DONE.

If you have Bingo (four corners, two straight lines, or full card), mail your completed card to:
ALA-Wisconsin, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140

Entries must be received no later than November 16, 2020 to be eligible to win.

(PRINT CLEARLY)

Name: _____ Unit #: _____

Addr: _____

CityStZip: _____

One qualified entry from each category will be randomly selected and published in the next issue of the Wisconsin:

Four Corners: \$10.00
Two Straight Lines (up, down or diagonal): \$25.00
Full Card (blackout bingo): \$50.00

JULY 2020 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

1	15.00	Diane Curwen	Green Lake
2	15.00	Julie Milz	Loyal
3	15.00	Joan Beck	Waterford
4	500.00	Mavis Stafslien	La Crosse
5	25.00	Nancy Hartwick	Beaver Dam
6	15.00	Scot Sullivan	Loveland CO
7	15.00	Carol Seefeldt	Milwaukee
8	15.00	Shirley Byrd	Cable
9	15.00	Ellie LeMacher	Fort Atkinson
10	15.00	Donna Willfahrt	Sheboygan Falls
11	15.00	Elaine Krause	Fredonia
12	25.00	Patricia Lampert	Beaver Dam
13	15.00	Vicki Schultz	Alma
14	15.00	Mary King	Plover
15	15.00	Karen Maier	Wausau
16	15.00	Mary Seibel	Oregon
17	15.00	Renee Semon	Oconomowoc
18	15.00	Pamela Rothwell	Greenfield
19	25.00	Christy Clark	Biramwood
20	15.00	Amber Hubing	Random Lake
21	15.00	Judy Wilken	Seymour
22	15.00	Toni Oium	Cashton
23	15.00	Cheryl Martin	Green Bay
24	15.00	Kim Wenzel	Menomonee Falls
25	15.00	Matt Larson	Muskego
26	25.00	Connie Rihn	Mineral Point
27	15.00	Mae Briehmaier	Wauwatosa
28	15.00	Kristine Raasch Polly	Waukesha
29	15.00	Debra Disher	Stevens Point
30	15.00	Dawn Stone	Grand Marsh
31	15.00	Jeanette Giedl	Monroe

AUGUST 2020 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

1	15.00	Lorraine Gee	Eau Claire
2	25.00	Marilyn Anderson	Wisconsin Dells
3	15.00	Brenda Weggen	Osseo
4	500.00	Shelly Hopfensperger	Kaukauna
5	15.00	Patricia Premo	Cedar Grove
6	15.00	Donald Kasten	Oconomowoc
7	15.00	Mary Kaas	Osseo
8	15.00	Dennis Bingen	Kewaskum
9	25.00	Shirley Tuttle	West Bend
10	15.00	Maureen George	Burlington
11	15.00	Lori Allendorf	Darlington
12	15.00	Juelaine Miller	Seymour
13	15.00	Bernadine Strong	Plymouth
14	15.00	Jeanne Kramp	Waukesha
15	15.00	Bethany Fredericks	Watertown
16	25.00	ALA Unit #214, c/o Cynthia Corley	Darlington
17	15.00	Ann Vandenlangenberg	Denmark
18	15.00	Connie Dombrowski	Caledonia
19	15.00	Barbara Hansen	Cashton
20	15.00	Marilyn Running	Dakota MN
21	15.00	Isabell Moudry	Radisson
22	15.00	Evelyn Friedl	Elroy
23	25.00	Janet Michaels	Fountain City
24	15.00	Amber Laggis	Rhineland
25	15.00	William Larose	Eau Claire
26	15.00	Elaine Piontek	Green Bay
27	15.00	Jacquie Fuller	Eau Claire
28	15.00	Emma Gassman	Platteville
29	15.00	Richard Lieven	Kewaskum
30	25.00	Sandra Bogenschneider	Slinger
31	15.00	Dorothy Frank	Ripon

