



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Diane Weggen
Department
President

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as Department of Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary President. I've been privileged to crisscross the state a number of times to witness many ways American Legion Family members "Salute, Serve, and Celebrate" veterans, military, their families and communities.

I traveled the state from Abrams to Prairie du Chien, Orfordville to Superior, River Falls to Union Grove, Mequon to Colfax, Holmen to Oshkosh, Minocqua to Wauzeka, and Webster to Sheboygan for meetings, historic military displays, deployments, conferences and celebrations.

Throughout the state, the Auxiliary mission was better accomplished when the American Legion Family, **both** for God **and** for country, worked together to build relationships, engaged members, and cared for those who care for others. Thanks to ALA leaders, Legion and SAL commanders, Riders Presidents and MEMBERS.

Attending the Union Grove Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was a reminder of the time and work Hospital Representatives and Deputies volunteer on behalf of the ALA. Thank you!

Even though the 2022 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in April was not open to the public, Wisconsin was recognized as a Gold Medal Sponsor at the event in Florida.

Chairman/Tournament Manager Jenni Syftestad is deserving of commendation for her outstanding work with the Bowling



Committee. Not only were the top team and individual bowlers recognized, but those earning the bottom scores also received recognition.

Three ALA Foundation grants were awarded in Wisconsin. ALABGS purchased an array of ALA branded items for use during ALA Badger Girls State week with an ALA Foundation Mission in Action Grant Award. Cross Plains Unit 245 received monies to support their "Purple Up! Day" activity backpacks

program from Thrivent Choice and Port Washington Unit 82 received money from The Community Foundation of Louisville on behalf of the D.D. Williamson Fund to support their Project Bravo Service Dog program. Both of these were made possible through ALA Foundation Sub Grant Awards.

Belonging to and participating in the American Legion Family can make a positive impact. Together, all veterans will be better served and the Legion Family will be stronger.

From me to you: Open your minds with good intent and proceed with grateful hearts remembering the power of one.

"The Power of One"

As we live our lives under God,
May we always remember that
The power of one
Truly is a God-given power.
One word, one smile, one handshake
Can make all the difference
Making others feel welcome.
Pray that we always remember
The importance of the God-given
Power of One.

As we **both salute and serve** our veterans, military, their families and our communities, the foundation of the American Legion Auxiliary will be solidified to **celebrate** another 100 years of Service, not self!

MEMBERSHIP

Maggie Geiger,
Department Chairman
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262-377-0329

Have you ever borrowed an idea, added your own twist to it, and have fun sharing the idea with others?

Last year at National Convention, I received a little packet that had some things in it, and on the front of the packet it said, "How to Bring the Magic Back to the ALA." I put it in my bag and forgot about it.

While getting ready to present the membership portion at the ALA in the Know conferences, I remembered that little packet. After remembering which bag I had left it in, I opened it and found the "magic" that I knew would be fun for members.

How to bring the MAGIC back to the ALA:

1. Be sweet not sour (piece of candy)
2. Chew on everyone's ideas and opinions (stick of gum)
3. Use your wand to keep in touch (color glue stick)
4. Magic happens when you sprinkle a little encouragement (container of glitter)
5. Be the fuel for the fire...not the

water that extinguishes it! (Farmer or kitchen match)

Several units brought this back to their units, and have had fun assembling these bags, giving them to members, putting their own twist on a "borrowed idea"! Most importantly, they understand the meaning

behind the "magic."

If we sprinkle our words and actions with kindness and sincerity, just think what would happen at our unit meetings – our friendships and our membership would grow by itself! No lip service here, just kindness, fun and getting the job

done for our veterans, military and their families, children and youth and our local communities!

Your recruiting efforts for the 2022 ALA membership year has helped us gain over 550 new members – how exciting is that! The 2022 membership year runs until

December 31, 2022, so if you haven't renewed your membership, please consider sending in your dues today.

On behalf of my Membership Team – Mary, Margaret and Larry – THANK YOU, for a successful year. **Keep the Magic Going!**

ALA President's Special Project (Great use of Poppy Funds)

Because I am a certified volunteer with a number of years on the Chippewa Veterans Home campus, I've experienced the lack of outdoor space available to caregivers and all who reside there. The building of a courtyard will enhance the quality of life for most of the people living there now and in the future.

Making an accessible outdoor space is an expensive project. For this reason, the Courtyard is my ALA President's Special Project. The Chippewa Veterans Home Recreation Committee, Inc. is spearheading this project.

Contact me (dsweggen@gmail.com or 715-644-2668) with any questions or concerns. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Checks payable to: **ALA-Wisconsin**
Memo Line: **President's Courtyard Project**
Mail to: **ALA-Wisconsin**
P.O. Box 140
Portage, WI 53901-0140

Thank you,
Diane Weggen, Department President

2022 MEMBERSHIP RANKINGS

District 12 (97.52%)
District 2 (95.25%)
District 3 (94.74%)
District 1 (93.87%)
District 6 (93.50%)
District 10 (93.04%)
District 5 (92.57%)
District 4 (92.07%)
District 7 (91.98%)
District 8 (91.79%)
District 9 (89.65%)
District 11 (88.30%)



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Donna Jensen
 Department Chaplain
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 414-303-6186

"Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude."

Luke 9:16

When all in the crowd had eaten their fill, they collected the remains and filled 12 baskets. What is the symbol of our Lord feeding the crowd with the loaves and fishes? Why was there so much left after all had eaten? Our Lord used parables when teaching and it is often difficult for us to understand.

I believe one of the lessons in this story is asking us to share and be generous and we will be rewarded by God. We may not understand at the time but He assures us that acts of generosity and kindness to others are a benefit to us. I fully believe that in giving and sharing, we receive more than we give.

Serving others and sharing of ourselves and our gifts is what American Legion Auxiliary and Legion Family members have been doing for many years. This is more important now than ever as we see our membership aging and needing more help while there are fewer active members to serve them. "Service Not Self" is not just an empty saying, but the heart and soul of the Legion Family. Every one of us has been given different gifts from God and has something to share with others. Part of the challenge is figuring out how we can best use the gifts we have been given. Not everyone is destined to be the leader of an organization but that does not make them any less important. What are your gifts? How can you best use them? What interests and abilities do you have to share and serve others?

I want to personally thank everyone who has given so much of themselves to serve others over the years. I also want to thank all those who have supported me during my year as Chaplain for the American Legion Auxiliary. Your kind words and encouragement have meant more to me than you will ever know and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this office.

Thank you to everyone who has sent me prayers, poems and inspirational pieces for President Diane Weggen's Prayer Book. There is still time to send submissions to me and I will accept anything received up until the Department Convention in July. Please include the author, Unit and District number and email to me at: djensen20@gmail.com or mail to: 6936 N 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53224.

"Wind Beneath My Wings"

Music by Jeff Silbar; Lyrics by Larry Henley

Did you ever know that you're my hero,
 And everything I would like to be?
 I can fly higher than an eagle,
 For you are the wind beneath my wings.

GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

Bonnie Dorniak
 Executive Secretary/Treasurer
 Ph: 608-745-0124
 Email: deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org
 Website: www.amlegionauxwi.org

May 27 was officially National Poppy Day. Units and posts that completed poppy distributions are reminded to submit their 20% poppy profit report to department headquarters as soon as possible. The poppy profit report form can be obtained from the department website or by contacting Linda Cason at Auxiliary Headquarters. The remaining proceeds can be used for the welfare of veterans, active-duty military, and their families where a medical or financial need is evident. As a reminder, poppies can be distributed all year long!

The 2022 Department Convention is scheduled for July 14-17, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency/KI Convention Center in Green Bay. There are several important changes from "traditional" conventions held in the past:

Thursday, July 14, 2022

- There will NOT be a Department Executive Board meeting.
- A recognition program will be held from 3:00 – 6:00 pm to include a tribute for Honored PDP Diane Kranig, presentation of district membership awards, and a Parade of Checks for National President Kathy Daudistel. Anyone interested in participating should bring checks payable to "ALA-Wisconsin" for presentation to Kathy Daudistel. Donations will go to the ALA Foundation in her honor.

• The 2022-2023 Department Executive Board will meet at 9:30 a.m. All members are welcome to attend.

Friday, July 15, 2022

- The Auxiliary will NOT have District Caucuses.
- Opening Processional is at 9:15 am with all Past National Officers, Past Department Presidents, 2021-2022 Department Officers, and 2021-2022 District Presidents. General Session will open immediately following the procession at about 9:30 am.
- Past Presidents Parley will conduct a Business Meeting at 4:00 pm. All past presidents at any level (unit, county, district) are eligible to join the Past Presidents Parley and vote on business matters. Contact Laura Calteux at 414-379-2943 or lauracalteux@yahoo.com for information.

Saturday, July 16, 2022

- Elections of 2022-2023 Department Officers and nominees for Alternates for the 2022 National Convention will be held at 9:00 a.m.
- Installation of 2022-2023 Department Officers and District Presidents will be Saturday afternoon after close of convention.
- All Legion Family members are invited to a fun event with live entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Admission ticket (\$15) can be pre-purchased with convention registration.

Sunday, July 17, 2022

- Joint Memorial Service is at 8:00 a.m.

Department Convention is a great opportunity to learn more about the Auxiliary, visit with old friends, and meet new ones. Registration is \$25, payable to The American Legion; registrations received after July 11 are \$30. The registration form is posted on the department website.

Mark your calendars! The 4th Annual Celebration of Freedom will be held September 9-10, 2022 at Columbia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Road, Portage, WI. This is a STATE-WIDE LEGION FAMILY community event featuring a WWII Traveling Memorial, live entertainment, food and drink, adult softball tournament, chili cook-off and more. The Softball Tournament will conclude on September 11. Visit www.wilegion.org for details.

The ALA National Convention is August 27 to August 31, 2022 in MILWAUKEE! Please take advantage of this opportunity to attend a national convention in your own home state! The National Organization plans to provide convention details in mid-June. Members interested in attending should contact Department Secretary Bonnie Dorniak at deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org to request a registration packet.

Four ALA in the Know conferences have been scheduled for September and October 2022. The reservation deadline for ALL sessions is September 1. Please see reservation form for details.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Janet Erickson
 Department Chairman
 roancows@gmail.com

The Community Service program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's visibility in local communities. ALA units across the state have been busy serving those who serve others by being involved in community projects. Many 911 commemorative events and Veterans Day celebrations brought people together to remember that our country stands strong against those who would destroy the freedoms we enjoy.

Thousands of hours were donated in the past year to help veterans, service members and their families in our communities. Visiting those in nursing homes began again with unit members caroling at Christmas and donating items such as warm clothing, blankets and basic toiletry items. The veterans appreciate the items and particularly enjoy the chance to talk about their time in the military.

Many units offered food booths during community festivals. This is a great way to bring people together to commemorate veterans and service people as well as being a great fundraiser.

Some units, along with posts, invited veterans and service members to the American Legion Post for fellowship and complimentary food after events. Units assisted community blood centers by volunteering and donating. Members joined other organizations in their communities to work on service projects.

We can promote the American Legion Auxiliary in the community by wearing our pins proudly and letting the community know what we do and why we do it. Let's continue to show our communities how we *salute, serve and celebrate* our veterans, service members, families and country.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
ALA IN THE KNOW (Important Info for Every Member)
 2022 REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
 (Please submit one form per person)

Members are encouraged to register early---space is limited! Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations received after capacity is reached, will be returned. **No reservations will be accepted on site. Reservation deadline for all sessions is SEPTEMBER 1st.**

Session is \$25/person and includes morning refreshments, a light lunch, and program materials. Sessions will include information on a variety of topics and Auxiliary programs. New topics will be covered, so come out and join the fun!

Schedule for all conferences:

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration/Morning Refreshments
9:00 am – 3:30 pm	Informative presentation, lunch break, interactive program session, Q&A

Reservation deadline for ALL sessions: September 1, 2022

Please print clearly:

District #: _____ Unit #: _____ Unit City: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: home cell: _____

Select One:

	DATE	LOCATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday, 09/17/2022	American Legion Post #175 302 N. Union, Loyal, WI 54446
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday, 09/24/2022	Hortonville Community Center 531 N. Nash Street, Hortonville, WI 54944
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday, 10/08/2022	Portage County Public Library-Pinery Room 1001 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday, 10/22/2022	American Legion Post #355 1540 13 th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$25/person): \$ _____

Mail check, payable to ALA-Wisconsin, by **SEPTEMBER 1st** 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.

Please share one (1) question you would like addressed during the session: _____

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bonnie Jakubczyk
 NEC
 bon6862@yahoo.com

National President Kathy Daudistel gave greetings and informed us that members of the National Executive Committee no longer have the interests of their department as their primary focus. National Executive Committee members serve as national representatives of the National Organization and must make decisions and cast votes according to what is in the best interest of the National Organization. We accept a consent agenda, which groups routine business and reports into one agenda item. Any item can be removed before the vote for separate action. A consent agenda saves time by voting once on routine matters.

The Inclusion and Diversity Committee was created to do the following:

- 1) Establish goals and strategies for inclusion and diversity for the ALA
 - 2) Provide opportunities for our members to participate in discussions on inclusion and diversity topics
 - 3) Address policies or practices affecting inclusion and diversity
 - 4) Establish mechanisms for measuring our success.
 - 5) Identify areas of concern and to improve inclusion and diversity efforts.
- “Equity” needs to be stated because it’s fair treatment, access, opportunity, and ad-

vancement for all people. While identifying and eliminating potential barriers that may prevent participation, the name was changed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). Surveys and learning tools will be used for this committee.

Next was the Code of Ethical Conduct Committee, which was specifically tasked to evaluate, review, and revise the Code of Ethical Conduct, as outlined in the standing rules of the American Legion Auxiliary’s national governing documents. It was discovered that the ALA’s Articles of Incorporation have not been revised since 1934, so a review of the articles for possible amendment is warranted. The committee will proceed with formal recommendations to the NEC. The proposal will include a comprehensive outline of required items to formalize the new Code of Ethical Conduct.

A special virtual meeting was held in February for a question-and-answer session regarding a possible dues increase for 2024. This will be brought up at the 2022 National Convention.

The midyear NEC meeting was held virtually and included charter cancellations; reports on consolidated audited financials, quarterly budget, ALA Foundation, risk and compliance; and reports from the National Secretary and National Treasurer. Materials were distributed ahead of time, allowing the meeting to run smoothly.

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

Diane Steinert
 Department Chair
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 920-573-1846

Disasters can happen at any time. Whether it’s a severe storm, house fire, loss of a job, unexpected medical emergencies or so many other possibilities. That is why the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is so important to our Auxiliary members.

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) who have endured a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or another personal crisis.

Established in 1969, the AEF was created with a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. Five decades later, the AEF is still helping fellow Auxiliary members get back on their feet, funded solely through generous donations from other members.

We received reports from over 60 units that had donated to the program. Fundraisers included bake sales, brat frys, basket raffles and a variety of other events. One unit simply collected \$1 from each member attending their meetings. Great job everyone!

Emergency assistance grants may be awarded by the National AEF Grant Committee on a case-by-case basis up to a max-

imum of \$2,400. Grant funds for disaster assistance applications may be used for repairs to the applicant’s primary residence and for emergency expenses (lodging, food, fuel, supplies, etc.). Grant funds for temporary assistance applications may be used for overdue mortgage or rent expenses and/or utilities. AEF money may not be used for medical expenses or debt such as that on credit cards.

Members of the ALA whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years are eligible to apply for a disaster assistance or temporary assistance grant. Members can submit or download an application for assistance from www.ALForVeterans.org/AEF or they can submit their application via email to AEF@ALForVeterans.org. Applications may also be mailed to ALA National Headquarters at 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Forms are also available on the Department website at www.amlegionauxwi.org, under Program Info.

The national AEF Grant Committee reviews each application and awards AEF assistance according to case findings. AEF applications, supporting documents, and case files are not disclosed or released to anyone outside of the AEF Grant Committee.

Thank you for continuing to support this very program!

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS!

AMERICANISM

Becky Mueller
 Department Chair
 clarenceandbecky@aol.com
 920-833-6048

STAND UP AND SALUTE! The Flag is passing by. June 14 is Flag Day. A day set aside to honor our Flag, the symbol of our country. This date commemorates the adoption of the American flag on June 14, 1777, by the Second Continental Congress. As a side note – the United States Army also celebrates its birthday on this day. Happy Birthday to both!

It is so important that we properly display and dispose of our American Flag. The flag represents what is the best of our great country. Brave men and women have fought and died under the Stars and Stripes. It is proudly displayed on battlefields, military installations, government buildings and our homes. It stands for freedom, justice, and democracy. Never has it been so important for us to stand proud and united. Our country continues to face challenges to our way of life but as long as the flag flies high we have hope of a better tomorrow.

Proper disposal of our used and tattered flags is necessary. Thank you to the many Posts, Squadrons, and Units that collect these flags for the community and then hold flag disposal ceremonies. It is great to see scouting members take an active part and learn valuable lessons from the Legion Family. If we do not teach them proper flag etiquette, who will?

If possible, plan to attend the largest Flag Day parade in the nation in Appleton, WI on Saturday, June 11. It is an impressive parade with many military and veterans service organizations participating. Nothing says summer like a parade and no parade is complete without an impressive display of American flags flying in the breeze of freedom.

It has been my pleasure to read the Americanism essays this year. The winners are announced in this issue also. I was impressed with the thoughts and ideas of our young people as they explored the topic of caring for those who care for our veterans. They expressed real insight into this topic with many relating firsthand experiences as they showed their love and concern for these caregivers. So many remarked on the value of a simple “thank you” and the impact a card or letter can have to brighten a day. We should remind caregivers that they are also cared for by our veteran community. Thank a Veteran every chance you get and then

2022 Americanism Essay Winners

Essay Title: “How can we support families who provide care to their Veterans?”

Class I – Grades 3 & 4

Emma Hendrickson	Cambria #401
John Guzman-Gerena	Port Washington #82
Blake Manion	River Falls #121
Christina Zheng	Menomonee Falls #382
Abigail Sutton	Siren #132

Class II – Grades 5 & 6

Matthew Tolle	Bagley #482
Eliana Weaver	Twin Lakes #544
Braden Postlet	Siren #132
Lindsay Geiger	Chilton #125
Carter Prost	Menomonee Falls #382

Class III – Grades 7 & 8

Camryn Schwarz	Sparta #100
Ava Hoepfer	Bagley #482
Isabelle Rosenthal	Fond du Lac #75
Attreya Attili	Menomonee Falls #382
Sarah Josko	Twin Lakes #544

Class IV – Grades 9 & 10

Audrey Gash	Jackson #486
Weston Huempfer	Fond du Lac #75
Samantha Andrea	Siren #132
Olivia Pullen	Plum City #365

Class V – Grades 11 & 12

Chloe Gransee	Plum City #365
Jasmine Sixel	Appleton #38
Josie Hagert	Siren #132
Kallee LeCloux	Thorp #118
Clara Wiegert	Jackson #486

Class VI

Fiona Wendt	Shiocton #512
Malcolm Scribbins	Richland Center #13
Annabelle Simons	Twin Lakes #544

thank those that care for their physical, emotional, and financial needs daily.

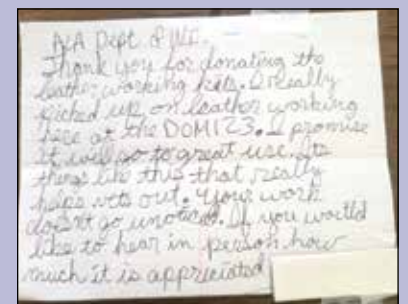
Nothing is more patriotic than recognizing the value of those who fought for this country and the sacrifices made by them and their families. We salute you!

THANK YOU FROM ZABLOCKI VAMC

Thanks to donations received from units and members across the state, Hospital Representative **Bonnie Jakubczyk** purchased over \$7,000 of items on the Zablocki VAMC wish list, including assorted craft kits, comfort care and personal hygiene items, games, and gift cards for their veterans.

The HUD VASH representative wrote, “Thank you and the American Legion Auxiliary for the donation of 40 Pick ‘N Save Gift cards to support the HUD VASH program. These Veterans are all in low-income housing and have limited funds to spend on their everyday needs, so these gift cards truly help the Veterans with their food expenses which has dramatically increased over the past year. Thank you so much!”

Thank you, everyone, for your generosity!



YEAR-IN-REVIEW

1ST DISTRICT

This is my final address to you as your First District President. It has truly been my honor to be your First District President! It has been an experience I will never forget, and I want to thank every member from the bottom of my heart, to all 35 units, for all your confidence, support, friendships and help! It has been a wild ride and each of you played a vital role in making the First District American Legion Auxiliary what it is today – one of the most powerful Veteran Service Organizations in the world!



Lyllette Smith
District President

I am truly proud of all 35 units. Twelve units (and Walworth County!) reached or exceeded their goal of 100%. Five units only need one more member to be 100% and four units only need two or three members to be 100%. Each unit is truly amazing!!

Congratulations to Unit 310 for reaching their membership goal. This is a good example of a unit that struggled for some time, set a goal, and moved to that goal. Don't stop, keep moving forward!

Congratulations to Unit 71 for going above and beyond their goal. Unit 71 met their goal and excelled by more than 16 members!! Congratulations!

Congratulations to our newly elected First District Executive Officers who were elected at our Spring Conference for 2022-2024. Newly elected officers are Zondra Morris (President), Crystal Shaw (1st Vice President), Mary Kohler (2nd Vice President), Victoria Luebke (Historian) and Mary Ellen Crandall (Chaplain).

Thank you to everyone for all you do. Each of you are the true strength of our organization. We exist to support veterans, their families, and our community!

3RD DISTRICT

What a crazy couple of years it has been. When I was elected via an email vote because we had to cancel our 3rd District Spring Conference due to the pandemic, I did not think we would still be dealing with COVID-19 two years later.



Deb Rottman
District President

This changed the way we as an Auxiliary operated over the past two years. It did not stop our members from working the programs, it simply made them think outside the box on how to achieve their goals. I have enjoyed listening to unit and county reports at our Spring Conference to hear how creative they have become.

For me the hardest part of the past two years was my inability to meet more members from the Third District and from all across the Department of Wisconsin. I have been able to meet some members over the past two years and look forward to continuing this trend.

I was able to get out into the District a bit more this year. It was great to be able to have the District Picnic in August. I was honored to be able to attend the National Convention in Phoenix – what an amazing experience. I recommend if you ever have the opportunity to attend a National Convention, to act on it. * The ALA in the Know I attended in September was very informative. I am very happy that these are back on the calendar. Our Holiday Party in February was well attended. I appreciated the invite to the Richland County Council meeting in April because I love hearing what other units do!

I would like to thank the entire Third District for all of your hard work and your support over the past two years of serving our veterans, active military and their families.

* Editor's Note: The 2022 National Convention is in Milwaukee. Here's your opportunity!

2ND DISTRICT

A mighty *salute* goes out to the members of 2nd District for all their hard work this year. We started out strong by meeting the deadline of no "goose-eggs" set by Department. As units renewed and recruited new members, we proudly locked into 2nd place in membership. Thirteen units joined the *100% Club* which included: Rio, Pardeeville, Poynette, Cambria, Theresa, Mayville, Lomira, Saukville, Sheboygan, Adell, West Bend, Kewaskum, and Hubertus. We continue to grow as a District with 2,471 members and counting. Recruitment is one of the strengths of 2nd District with 52 new members added. Revitalization took place with two units and a county council. There were several members who stepped up to learn the ropes as a leader. Others who continued in their positions, mentored and encouraged their teammates creating a culture of goodwill.



Amy Luft
District President

Members in 2nd District went above and beyond to *serve* our veterans, military, their families, and our community. All 44 units completed

a Year-End Impact Report, indicating members volunteered 39,417 hours towards our veterans/military and 28,251 hours of community service. Units also worked on their unit Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules keeping them up to date in order to operate efficiently.

We *celebrate* our success with a monthly District newsletter which highlights different ALA programs as well as unit events. *The Scoop*, a mid-month communication, provided up-to-date information keeping members informed on the latest news and highlights. Zoom meetings were utilized for both business and educational purposes. Units and members posted on our 2nd District Facebook page allowing others to see their events and accomplishments. We all came together for a very successful 100th District Spring Conference where 24 new attendees participated along with a couple of Johnsonville Racing Sausages! We celebrated two very successful District special projects – over 30 Buddy Baskets for Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative for the VA&R program and a donation totaling \$4,570 for Camp Hometown Heroes for the Children & Youth program.

Members of 2nd District go above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to *service to others, not self*. Congratulations 2nd District on a job well done! You are the Dream Team!

4TH DISTRICT

The 4th District took President Diane's theme to heart. *Salute, Serve and Celebrate Our Veterans, Military, their Families and Communities* is at the core of our organization.



Laura Calteux
District President

We *salute* our veterans all year long as evidenced by our units sending cards to Zablocki VA, Dayton Care Center, and Union Grove for Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Members also attend the homecomings for the Honor Flights at Milwaukee International Airport and thank those coming home again. Thank you's are made by Unit 434 to give to the veterans coming home for their day in Washington DC.

The *serve* part of the theme is obviously the easiest. Donations are made through Department for Camp American Legion, the Zablocki VA baby shower, the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative, sending delegates to ALA Badger Girls State, Zablocki VA, and Dayton Care Center. Unit 18 puts together bags to give to schools in their area for the teachers to give to students that are homeless.

Celebrating is always something that we look forward to! This year Unit 537 and their Legion Family held their first ever Awards Night. It was a big

success, and they hope to make this a yearly event. I think other units in the district are going to put this event on their calendars. We had juniors from Unit 416 go to the Junior Fall Conference where they finally were able to celebrate the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday! Our year culminated in our district celebrating all the things that we do for our veterans, military, their families and communities at our Spring Conference.

Whatever the next year brings, we will be doing it as a Legion Family and working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary by *Saluting, Serving and Celebrating* our Veterans, Military, their Families and our Communities.

6TH DISTRICT

When I accepted the position of President for the 6th District, social distancing and masking were still the norm. Some units continued to cancel meetings, and a few are still having a difficult time getting together, but most units have returned to business as usual.



Diane Steinert
District President

I attended the state convention in Middleton, and was officially installed July 17, 2021. Joanie Dickerson completed her historic two-year term and Diane Weggen was installed as our Department President. Then it was off to National Convention.

The 100th National Convention took place in Phoenix, AZ. The city was just opening up from the pandemic. Outgoing National President Nicole Clapp and her team ensured it truly was a *Celebration of a Century of Service*. Meeting American Legion Family members from across the nation is one of the things I enjoyed most.

Units of the 6th District have been working hard on retaining and finding new members. As of this writing, one county and five units have reached or exceeded 100% membership. A big shout-out to President Sandy Augustine of St. Nazianz Unit #477 and her

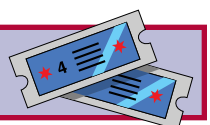
hive of worker-bees! Unit #477's current membership is 147.83% of their goal. Great job everyone! Keep up the good work!

Oshkosh Unit 70 hosted our District Fall Conference. It was great to see so many units represented. Sure, there was training and reports, but we ended the day by creating poppy ornaments and centerpieces. We also had a great turnout for our District Spring Conference, hosted by Unit #125 Chilton. Thanks to both of these units for putting everything together. Reports were given by District Chairmen, and county and unit representatives. It is always nice to hear what everyone has been doing during the year.

The units work hard all year long and District Impact Report numbers were impressive. Our service to Veterans & Military totaled 7,417 volunteer hours and \$16,907 spent. 20,600 poppies were distributed and \$35,395 raised. Hours of service representing ALA in our communities 7,543 and a total of \$7,550 presented in scholarships. Awesome job!!

This first year as your District President has been a learning experience. Thank you for the invitations to your unit/county meetings, special events and installation of officers. I look forward to working with you in the upcoming year. Thank you for all you do in service to our veterans, military, their families, and our communities.

Sweepstakes winners are posted at amlegionauxwi.org under the "More" tab.



YEAR-IN-REVIEW

7TH DISTRICT

District 7 was a little slow coming out of our COVID induced inactivity, but during this past year, the units found many ways to “*Salute, Serve and Celebrate*” our veterans, military, their families, and our communities.



Christina Petranovich
District President

Several units promoted our poppy by distributing them on Poppy Day throughout their communities. They also held fish fries, dinners, and celebrations; marched in parades and held ceremonies honoring our Veterans; promoted the flying of our flag; and held cleanup days for the elderly. Many cards were sent letting members and Veterans know they were not forgotten and were being thought of and prayed for.

Units stepped up to host our Fall and Spring Conferences after COVID shut some of our units down. We held a successful fall conference in November 2021 in Thorp and a successful spring conference in March 2022 in Tomah. Both were well attended, and many new faces were at each. The spring conference found many members willing to take leadership roles in the district that had been vacant for several years. I am excited for what this next year will bring for District 7!

Our district is especially proud and honored because 2021-2022 Department President Diane Weggen is from 7th District. District 7 started off President Diane’s special project with an initial donation of \$400 from several of our units and a \$500 donation from Thorp Unit 118, Diane’s home unit. We donated money and a raffle basket to help support Dan Seehafer’s campaign for National Commander and donated \$500 to “IROC’S Badger Run” to be held later this year.

Several juniors attended the Junior Fall Conference in Oshkosh in October. District 7 is proud to have a junior member from one of our units elected as the Honorary Jr 1st VP for the Department of Wisconsin – Miss Emeri Wold of Unit 118!

I attended National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona as one of the Department of Wisconsin Pages. It was a great way to network and see our many programs, donations, and members in action. I saw the poppy posters that competed at the national level which included one from our District.

Impact reporting has been completed and I am proud of the number of hours, money and resources used by the District 7 units to “*Salute, Serve and Celebrate*” our Veterans, the military, their families and our communities. Keep up the outstanding job each of you is doing and know that your dedication to the ALA and this nation’s Veterans are appreciated!

8TH DISTRICT

My first year as 8th District President has been a learning experience for me. I have been busy contacting the units and made several unit visits.

Throughout the year the units have been working hard on their memberships. As of this month, 8th District has two units and one county at 100% and several units are within one or two members to be 100%.

The units have been working hard on fulfilling the mission of the ALA. From the Year-End Impact Reports that I received, members have volunteered over 12,000 hours for veterans, over 800 hours for military families, and almost 9,000 hours in our communities.

We were able to hold both District Fall and Spring Conferences in person. The Fall Conference was hosted by New London Norris Spencer Unit 263. Officers were ratified and the budget was presented at the Executive Board meeting prior to the start of the conference. Thirteen units were represented with 33 people in attendance. President Diane Weggen and Department Commander Greg Eirich along with Mayor Mark Herter gave greetings. Pat Smith

gave a presentation about the program and needs of women veterans. Past Department President Joanie Dickerson presented a National President’s Award for Excellence to Mosinee Unit 107 for their Gold Star Mothers Memorial, which was accepted by Joan Campbell. Several other unit awards were handed out as well. SAL Detachment Commander David Fuller and Detachment Vice Commander Allen Watry brought greetings and introduced ALF (American Legion Family) dog, which is the replacement for the Josh dog.

The Spring Conference was hosted by Tigerton Schlender-Polley Unit 239. There were 16 units in attendance with 58 people attending. Each unit was asked to create a poppy centerpiece. First Place went to Pittsville Unit 153 and Second Place went to Wausau Unit 10. Congratulations to those units! Much thanks to all the units that participated; they were all very good. We had greetings from Village President Andrea Graham and the financial person from the Post. Marla Knuettel, Department Poppy Chairman, gave a poppy presentation and American Legion Riders Vice President Corey Doehrmann gave a presentation on their upcoming “Iroc’s Badger Run.” The poppy posters and history books that were submitted were judged and sent to department.

I look forward to working with all the 8th District units in the coming year.



Linda Tryczak
District President

9TH DISTRICT

I want to start by thanking all the units, members and department officers for their support and help over these past two years. We all learned a lot of new and unique ways of helping and serving each other.

The Ninth District is currently in 11th place for membership, but we have **7 units** at or above **100%**, and many more units just need one or two members to be 100%. There’s still time left to get there and we are working on renewals, rejoining, and recruiting new members.

Twenty-eight of the 40 units completed the Unit Year End Impact Reports, reporting over 51,000 hours volunteered, over \$111,000 donated for our veterans and our communities, driving over 48,000 miles, and helping over 5,000 veterans and community members. This is outstanding with all the restrictions on how and who we can help at this time. Great job, Noble Nine!

The units did these things by helping with Veterans Day, Memorial Day events in the community and the schools, adopting veterans by helping them go shopping, to lunch, movies, and other activities. Members put flags on the cemeteries, cleaned grave-stones, gave flowers to veterans for Valentine’s Day, did cards, crafts, blankets, cookies, sewing, made goody bags for the veterans at various holidays, made Halloween buckets for shut ins, and many more things for our veterans, the Veterans Home at King, Iron Mountain VA, and others. Units honored the students who participated in the Americanism Essay or Poppy Poster contests and donated patriotic books to the local school library. Honor Flights, Camp American Legion, Christmas Gift Shop, Wreaths Across America, I Spy You Fly, ALA Badger Girls State and Badger Boys State, and so many more were among those that our Noble Nine has generously served and supported this past year.

These past two years have been a challenging time, not only for me but for all the Auxiliary, to learn new things and new ways to get things done, not the same as before COVID-19. We all grew and learned how to get creative to reach our goals. We all did a **SUPER JOB!** Keep up the tremendous work you do for our veterans, service men and women, our communities, and each other!

The members of the Noble Nine are true leaders within our Legion Family. They work hard and are dedicated when it comes to service to others, not self. Thank you for all you do. Thank God for blessing us with your care and support of our organization.

10TH DISTRICT

After completing my District President’s impact report, I can clearly see that COVID is keeping some units from accomplishing their programs.

Unit 207 from Elmwood had a successful year. Their Sunshine Chair sent cards throughout the year to shut-ins and nursing home residents. They provided rides to an elderly member to meetings; cleaned up the Veterans Park and hired a high school student to mow the lawn; purchased a grave marker for their garden in honor of Gold Star mothers; held a Memorial Day program and placed small flags in six cemeteries; placed small flags in flower pots around town for Flag Day; had an official flag disposal ceremony open to the public; and held the Veterans Day program in the school and decorated the white fence with lights and red bows.

Colfax Unit 131 did an excellent job for being such a small unit. They placed an ALA seal on plain ceramic cups, filled them with red, white and blue silk flowers, and placed them on their recently deceased members’ graves. After three years of planning, they finally held a recognition event for the last Civil War Union soldier from Dunn County who died. The Sons of Civil War Union Veterans planned the ceremony to honor Veteran Eberhart Sorkness. Many of his relatives were invited to attend and were given copies of Mr. Sorkness’ life history. Legion members provided an honor guard and graveside services. The event was attended by about 75 people.

Unit 121-River Falls had their first breakfast with Santa who also brought Mrs. Claus. The River Falls Theater donated free movie tickets for Santa to hand out to the kiddos. Legion members helped with flipping pancakes, while the Auxiliary served up French toast sticks, sausage, and juice. Members also helped with the Legion’s 1st Oktoberfest serving brats, sauerkraut, spaetzle and homemade German potato salad and red cabbage! The Auxiliary started maintaining a second street garden plot with a sign painted by the President.

It has been a trip serving this past year as 10th District President. I hope this coming year is just as good, if not better. Thank you, FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.



Margaret Larson
District President

2022 ALA NATIONAL CONVENTION MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

August 27-31, 2022

Information from the National Organization was not available at the time this newspaper went to press.

If you are interested in attending National Convention, email your name, address, and unit # to Bonnie Dorniak at deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org.

A registration packet will be mailed to you when available.

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin 2022 Scholarship Winners

H.S. & Angeline Lewis – Graduate Student (1) \$1,000 award
No Applicant

H.S. & Angeline Lewis – (5) \$1,000 awards

Cash Stewart, Arlington	Markesan #282, District 6
Haley Schott, Greenleaf	Green Bay #11, District 9
Carly Hampton, Bloomington	Bagley #482, District 3
Ruby Nowinsky, Eland	Wittenberg #502, District 8
No other Applicant	

Merit & Memorial – (8) \$1,000 awards

Adalin Macauley Scholarship

Kaelyn McHugh, Omro Winneconne #364, District 6

Eleanor Smith Scholarship

Christian Grunert, Ripon Ripon #43, District 6

Pearl Behrend Scholarship

Paige Smiskey, Chippewa Falls Chippewa Falls #77, District 10

Barbara Kranig Scholarship

Cameron Cullen, Kewaunee Kewaunee #29, District 9

Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan Scholarship

Katherine Braskamp, Fox Lake Waupun #210, District 6

Diane Duscheck Scholarship

Benjamin Chewning, Kewaunee Kewaunee #29, District 9

Harriet Hass Scholarship

Brandon Goyette, Mauston Mauston #81, District 7

Merit Scholarship

Kaiya Zurfluh, Albany Albany #144, District 3

Department Presidents - (3) \$1,000 awards

Rachel Rademacher, Cottage Grove	DeForest #348, District 3
Sophia King, Mequon	Mequon-Thiensville #457, District 2
Abigail Brenic, Milwaukee	Greendale #416, District 4

Van Deuren Memorial – (1) \$1,000 award

Justyne Frisle, Prairie Farm Prairie Farm #259, District 10

Past Presidents Parley – Maximum of (3) \$1,000 awards

Bailey Blader-Lucht, Wautoma (Nursing)	Wautoma #317, District 8
Joscelyn Brennan, Slinger (Health Career)	Brookfield #449, District 1
Tanner Pedretti, Ferryville (Health Career)	La Crosse #52, District 7

Child Welfare - (1) \$1,000 award

Thomas Friday, LaCrosse La Crosse #52, District 7

ALA Badger Girls State Scholarship

2021 Session was cancelled – no awards

(National) Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship – National Winner (\$5,000)

Amber Fietzer, Manawa Online Application-No Unit sponsor

(National) Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

No eligible applicants

(National) Spirit of Youth for Junior Members Scholarship – Wisconsin's Nominee (\$1,000)

Grace Owen, Cushing Milltown #254, District 12

(National) Junior Loyalty Scholarship – Wisconsin's Nominee (\$1,000)

Emily Zeller, Union Grove Union Grove #171, District 1

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

11TH DISTRICT

Members of the illustrious Eleventh District did both *salute* and *serve* our veterans, military, their families, and our communities to *celebrate* another year of Service, not self. Department President Diane Weggen, guest speaker at this District's Fall and Spring Conferences, encouraged members with the above bolded words of her theme. Units and members chose and worked programs and events that enhanced the lives of many.



**Theresa Schindler
District President**

Five of this district's 23 units attained 100% membership while 13 units reached over 80%. Year-end impact numbers showed that our district members truly **saluted, served and celebrated** as they worked membership and the ALA mission through their chosen projects. Ten units sent in year-end impact reports showing about 5,200 hours and \$14,000 being donated to Veterans/Military. Success stories were shared through oral reports at conferences.

Beautiful Park Falls was the site of the District Fall Conference. Chairmen's reports and unit highlight reports reflected member creativity and enthusiasm as

programs were worked. A generous district donation was made to Department President Diane's special project. A committee was formed to update the District Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules. Basket raffles and other fun filled the day.

The District Spring Conference was hosted by enthusiastic and gracious members in Minocqua. Elections were held resulting in new faces for district leadership roles. Reports were presented. The updated District Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules were approved. Games, songs, and fun were sprinkled throughout the day. Donations were made to the National President's parade of checks, to Camp American Legion, to the Legion Riders Highground project, and to Department President Diane's special project, the outdoor courtyard at the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home.

The long white winter in the Eleventh District north woods has finally given way to spring. Flowers are blooming and poppies are being distributed. Many units are collaborating with members of the American Legion Family to remind everyone about the symbolism of the poppies. As we **celebrate** May and Memorial Day let us continue to **salute** and **serve** those who fought for our freedoms.

It has been humbling to serve as District President. Let's see many of you at Department Convention in Green Bay.

12TH DISTRICT



**Betty Stone
District President**

Terrific Twelve! We are proud to announce the 12th District has rechartered a unit: Moe-Miller Unit 12 in Spooner! Welcome, American Legion Auxiliary members from Spooner.

We are back in full swing after being cautious for a couple of years. We have been working very hard on membership and are especially thankful for Unit 12 and their membership to help us stay in first place.

Many things happened in the 12th District to raise money for our Veterans and their families. We have meat raffles, Bingo, 50/50 drawings at high school basketball games, dinners for various events, and many more fun activities as we assist The American Legion in their programs. Poppy drives are now going on to assure our veterans continue to get what they need and a little extra TLC. We are here to serve others, not self.

BOWLING

**Jenni Syftestad
Chairman/Tournament Manager
syftes@chorus.net**

Do you bowl? Can you find other members in your unit to bowl? Our teams are made up of four members. Look around at other units and see if they have members to help you form a foursome.

It was once again a great two weekends for our 9-Pin bowling tournament. We hope every bowler had a great time and enjoyed their travels to New London.

The competition between the President and Secretary's teams was won by Bonnie's team. This competition has always been fun! Final results: Secretary's team had 2177 total pins and the President's team had 1983 total pins.

Our next tournament will be in Madison April 15 & 16, 2023 – one weekend only because the bowling alley has enough lanes to accommodate everyone. We hope to see you there!

To consider hosting a bowling tournament, we request 16 lanes and a list of motels in the area. Please contact Chairman Jenni Syftestad for details.

2022 Tournament Results

(top 3 places in each category)

TEAM

1st Place – (2811) Chilville – Units 125 & 209 Chilton and Orfordville
2nd Place – (2457) Grandma's Girls – Unit 339 Almond
3rd Place – (2434) Rose Harms – Unit 355 Grafton

DOUBLES

1st Place – (1404) Megan Ringhand / Tanya Keller – Unit 209 Orfordville
2nd Place – (1398) Johanna Tackett / Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton
3rd Place – (1385) Andrea Snortum / Nikki Volkman – Unit 512 Shiocton

SINGLES

1st Place – (756) Suzanne Heuer – Unit 512 Shiocton
2nd Place – (689) Jayne Braun – Unit 512 Shiocton
3rd Place – (681) Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton

ALL EVENTS

1st Place – (2222) Heather Geiser – Unit 125 Chilton
2nd Place – (2182) Megan Ringhand – Unit 209 Orfordville
3rd Place – (2062) Nikki Volkman – Unit 512 Shiocton