



WISCONSIN



MAY 23, 2019

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

www.amlegionauxwi.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CHAR KIESLING
Department
President

The WISCONSIN articles have been my "look back" at my experiences and thoughts while being your Department President. I share these articles, my diary so to speak, and hope you enjoy my experiences as much as I had making them...

We have monthly unit mailings, the WISCONSIN, the amazing AUXILIARY magazine, articles from national on every subject and program, so whatever I might reiterate here would be redundant, although you can't hear about the workings of our ALA enough! My

"WHY" and yours must be remembered to remind us why we belong.

Our membership numbers must get better and even after all the effort our Membership Team has done and achieved, they can only do so much! Again, members must remember WHY they joined – to remember the veterans they care about and the service personnel around the world who keep our world free from aggression here on our soil. We are here for their spouses and children who are more vulnerable during this time. My father's devotion to his organization, The American Legion, and the friends he called family, is what I wanted to be a part of and to share with him. My "WHY" is his why and the reason he served his fellow

veterans are why I believe in our mission. When you think back and find your "why," you will pick up that application and try harder to recruit or renew one more member.

These past few weeks have been one spring conference after another and I learned so much about our districts and members. I had five conferences scheduled on the same Saturday so my representatives gave my greetings and I thank them very much! Being a 6th District member and 6th PDP, I spent the day in Briggsville, with a few snowflakes thrown in for good measure. It was a very fruitful day with friends and sharing!

I was able to attend five spring conferences and then I was off to the VA facilities for the volunteer

appreciation luncheons with Sue Hembrook, Director of Hospital Volunteers. I thoroughly enjoyed these visits and I still have two more to go. I can't say enough about the devotion of these men and women. Without them our veterans' days would be long and without the needed attention they thrive on. Whatever VA I was visiting during my tours with Commander Frank, there were smiles and thankfulness for where they were and for their VA family! These VA volunteers are sometimes the ONLY family they have. Giving them their first smile of the day, these volunteers are a precious ALA commodity. I salute them for their many hours of service to those who served us!

We have a new addition to our

ALA family! A shiny slightly used charcoal, grey 2018 Ford Edge. It is great to drive, and I have doubled the beginning mileage in just three short weeks. The 2010 Chevy Malibu was a reliable car to many PDPs and will be remembered fondly. There will be many miles and memories to come with our new "drive."

One last memo regarding my TESTIMONIAL on June 1st at LaSure's in Oshkosh: There is still time to join me as my Unit 33 Neenah hosts this special evening with my two families!

Enjoy these much-welcomed spring days and continue to "Kindle the Flame" of service to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Weggen, Dept. Chairman
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With the Royals in the news, memories of Princess Diana's words and actions of kindness are remembered. Her message, "Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you." Sounds like the American Legion Auxiliary motto, "Service, not Self."

"Service, not Self" is the core of the American Legion Auxiliary's work. Dues-paying members of The American Legion Family afford themselves of opportunities to

reach out and serve others without any personal recognition. Legion and Auxiliary dues pay for programs that serve veterans, military, their families and communities.

American Legion Auxiliary units around the state should all be larger than their American Legion Posts. Why? Because for every Legionnaire, his/her grandmother, mother, sisters, wife, direct and adopted female descendants and step-relatives are eligible to join the Auxiliary.

It is not too late to add members. Poppy Day Countdown ends on May 24th, but gaining membership is not over. All units achieving 100% by June 12th will receive

a citation and two complimentary 100% ribbons with the opportunity to purchase more. No special entry form is required. Two units over 100% by June 12th will be drawn at random for \$100 each.

What can be done to increase membership? Take time to visit with members to acknowledge what they are doing and invite them to participate in upcoming events. Finalize Memorial Day programs/celebrations and prepare for Flag Day events on June 14th, ALA Badger Girls State and local summer festivities – all opportunities to invite others to join the American Legion Family. Make sure people

know what the ALA is doing for their veterans and community. Be proud and show it.

No matter the number of people selflessly served, those serving frequently are on the receiving end of kindness. Princes William and Harry and their wives Kate and Meghan are continuing the legacy of mother Diana's reaching out and working on behalf of charitable causes. The

Royals' message to all probably is, "Be Kind and Carry on!"

So, be kind and carry on by building membership to Kindle the Flame of service for veterans, military and their families.

2019 MEMBERSHIP TEAM

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

100% MEMBERSHIPS

CONGRATULATIONS! To the 78 units at or above 100%, the 25 units within 1 member of reaching 100%, and the 100 units within 3 members of reaching 100%. Let's ignite those flames and make 100% happen!

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

Mary Petrie
Department Chairman
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"Somewhere today a soldier died for me. I pray I am worthy of their sacrifice."

Those few words pack a powerful punch. While some ascribe them to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, others credit someone else, who then gifted them to her. Whichever is true, they are part of a prayer she spoke daily and carried in her wallet.

Dear, Lord,

Lest I continue my complacent way, help me to remember that somewhere, somehow out there, a man or woman died for me today.

As long as there be war, I then must ask and answer, am I worth dying for? I will try every day to earn the sacrifice that men and women are making on my behalf. I hope when the war is done that the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Airmen will think that we were all worth dying for.

How often do we stop to think

about what we have been gifted or the ultimate expense of lives lost? How do the families of these heroes carry on? It is so very easy to take for granted the freedoms we have, forgetting the heavy price paid.

In preparation for Memorial Day, American Legion Family members will visit cemeteries to place the U.S. flag on veterans' graves – the very flag they fought under and held dear to their hearts.

On this Memorial Day, as in

those past, The American Legion Family, often in partnership with other veterans' groups, will host hometown ceremonies to honor the brave men and women who died while serving their beloved country. That might include throwing a wreath in the water, an old tradition commemorating the lives lost by sailors, soldiers and members of the Merchant Marine in service to their country. Often ornamented by an insignia of a broken anchor, the wreath is thought to carry with it the

thoughts and prayers of those surviving the lost mariners. Honor guards will lead parades, strains of patriotic music will fill the air, ceremonial wreaths will be placed, the time-honored 21-gun salute will pierce the silence, and words from dignitaries will be shared. For those brief moments, we will remember...

Freedom isn't free. On Memorial Day we gather to remember those who gave their all for us, but shouldn't every day be a day of remembrance?

KINDLE THE FLAME

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



93.48%



91.65%



91.61%



90.69%



90.66%



90.59%



WISCONSIN

May 2019



90.33%



90.02%



89.15%



87.79%



87.18%



85.28%

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Becky Mueller
Department Chaplain
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I Kings 19:12 "...but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a still, soft voice."

Ticker tape parades! Bands playing! Crowds shouting! Key to the City presented! Wonderful welcome home speeches! Ah, if only we could all have a 'Hero's Welcome'. But life isn't like that. Most of our warriors come home unnoticed except by a few. Many come home to broken lives, pain and suffering, lost and confused.

Many will never be the same – wounded physically, mentally, emotionally; their return marred by disease and injury. Many never made it home – except in a casket.

Every service member deserves to be welcomed home and loved. They have earned the right to dignity and respect. They have been willing to give their all for the benefit of others.

This Memorial Day we remember those who have given it all – either at home or abroad. Stand with our service members and veterans as they honor their fallen comrades. Experience the pride of being part of a family of the bravest men and women the world has to offer. Honor and respect their willingness to sacrifice for each of us. Acknowledge that each has made a difference in the fight to bestow freedom and peace on everyone.

Can you offer a smile, a word of encouragement, a heartfelt thank you, a shared meal, a helping hand with no strings attached? Can you be a beacon of hope in a time of darkness?

Ladies, we are uniquely placed to be all that and more. By our own experience or as a family member we can begin to understand the situation. We know about separation from loved ones. We know the resolve it takes to be willing to lay down your life at any moment. We know that our personal lives will forever be changed by that commitment to serving and going to battle. We know it was the right decision and we know that there will be consequences. We understand that help is needed but hard to ask for. We know how it feels to give so much and realize it may never be acknowledged. We know that we are to be the instrument of God - to be that still, soft voice that can quiet the demons and make the world a kinder, gentler place, especially for our veterans, service members and their families.

This Memorial Day – remember and resolve to do your part to carry on the mission of our fallen heroes. It only takes a moment, but all those moments combined make a huge difference.

God Bless each and every one of you.

Music:
The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young,
Pastlethwaite/Irvine 1872

The care the eagle gives her young, safe in her lofty nest, is like the tender love of God for us made manifest. As when the time to venture comes, she stirs them out to flight, so we are pressed to boldly try, to strive for daring height. And if we flutter helplessly, as fledgling eagles fall, beneath us lift God's mighty wings to bear us, one and all.



GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

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As we honor our veterans on Memorial Day, I wanted to share a personal story. I was recently refueling my car when a gentleman came out of the gas station. He was wearing a ball cap, but with the sun shining brightly behind him, I could only see his silhouette. As he got closer, I noticed 'Vietnam Veteran' was stitched across his hat. I approached him and casually thanked him for his service. He stopped abruptly and said sadly, "Thank you, not many people care about that anymore." I then realized that the words I often say thoughtlessly, can be very meaningful. Please take time to remember our veterans – especially those who sacrificed everything on our behalf.

One of the most overlooked benefits of Auxiliary membership is the national Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF). Grants are awarded to help members with emergency shelter, food or utilities, but cannot be used for medical expenses or debt such as that on credit cards. One Wisconsin member whose home was significantly damaged during a house fire, recently received more than \$2,100 to help defray

expenses not covered by insurance. Women who have been ALA members for three consecutive years and whose homes have been damaged by natural disasters may also receive assistance of up to \$2,400 through the AEF. Visit the department website for an application and complete details. If you wish to contribute to this program, please send checks to Department Headquarters, noting "#4801-AEF" in the memo field.

Visit the department website (Membership page > Member Benefits) to download a listing of other available benefits including: life insurance, pet insurance, prescription savings, and discounts on dental, vision, hotels, movies, car rentals, new vehicle purchases, amusement parks and so much more!

Although the 2019 membership year runs through December 31, membership cards for 2020 will be mailed to units after Department Convention. Units may start submitting dues for the 2020 calendar year as soon as they receive their cards. 2020 NEW member applications cannot be processed until September 1st. But remember! Units that hold new member applications for the next three months are delaying a member's eligibility for AEF benefits for one full year. New member applications received prior to September will count as members for the 2019 membership year so please do not

hold onto them.

After July 1st members are encouraged to renew their 2020 dues online through the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org, "Members Only" tab.) If you need assistance with creating a log-in ID, please contact the national organization's helpline at alahq@alaforveterans.org. Members may also call national headquarters at 317-569-4500 during normal business hours and pay their dues over the phone with a credit or debit card. This is especially convenient for women who pay for several family members. Upon receipt of payment, national headquarters will mail the membership card(s) to those who pay online or over the phone.

The 99th Annual ALA Convention is July 18-21, 2019 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton. Pre-registration fee is \$25; registration after July 15 is \$30. The full schedule of activities and convention information is posted on the department website.

This year's Department Convention will include a 'Parade of Checks' with National President Kathy Dungan and proceeds will be directed to Wisconsin's Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund. Anyone wishing to participate should bring a check payable to ALA-Wisconsin, noting "HWV Fund" in the memo field.



NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMAN

Laura Calteux
National Executive Committeewoman
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The Mid-Year NEC meeting was held at the new American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters in Indianapolis in February. The purchase of the building was a smart financial move for the Auxiliary, as they will be saving millions of dollars on renting a space over the next 100 years! There are some improvements that are being completed to make our national headquarters one to last for many generations to come.

The audit of the national organization's books was once again stellar. The outside audit firm was very happy to say that there were no areas of concern and that we should be proud of our finance department, headed by Sara Riegel. They are keeping us on the right track and making sure that we do not have any reason to worry about our future for

many years to come.

Speaking of 100 years, our Auxiliary Centennial will kick in at the National Convention in Indianapolis in August. The coming year will give all our units the reason and opportunity to look back and remember how they were chartered and what great things they have done through the years. Wouldn't it be great to write an article for your local paper, so that your community knows how you started, the programs you've worked and why they should join us for the next 100 years?

The national organization is still looking for a National Secretary. They have interviewed some interested people, but they weren't quite the right fit. An outside hiring firm was hired to cast a wider net for potential applicants. This will take about six months to complete and begin training a new person, but they want to get it right the first time and this person has some big shoes to fill.

Big announcement! The Unit Handbook is ready to download now. The hardcopy should be available for purchase from Emblem Sales by the end of the month.

The National President's focus this year is on homeless women veterans. As we know, Wisconsin has been in the forefront of this issue for almost 10 years. Our Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund has helped over 18 women veterans this past year with financial assistance totaling over \$19,000. Please continue to make donations to this fund as the need is only going to rise in the coming years. We will have a parade of checks at Department Convention when National President Kathy Dungan is here for her official visit, with the money going to Wisconsin's grant fund.

I am so glad to be part of this organization and what it does for our veterans. Thank you to the great Department of Wisconsin for being one to emulate in this organization.



POPPY PROGRAM

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Over 100 years ago, Miss Moina Michael sparked a way to honor our fallen heroes and to support our military, veterans, and their families by using the beautiful red poppy of Flanders Field as a symbol of remembrance. Today, American Legion Auxiliary ladies and American Legion family volunteers continue to "Kindle the Flame" of her idea by distributing these small crepe paper poppies to the public for donations. These poppies are handmade by rehabilitating veterans and all donation monies are earmarked to help veterans and their families.

As surely as the spring rains bring brightly colored flowers, the month

of May poppy distributions brings out smiling volunteers with their fluffed poppies and donation containers. The public responds generously because they understand the price our heroes have paid for our daily freedoms. As I read annual unit reports recently, I was warmed to hear that most of our volunteers wear their ALA branded clothing and Legionnaires wear their uniforms or American Legion caps during distribution times to let the public know about our great organization. The poppy story, friendships, and smiles of gratitude are shared.

In your unit reports, I also learned that many communities have Poppy Proclamations signed by their mayors and use signs, newspapers, and social media to spread the word about May poppy days. Poppy coloring sheets

and poppy stickers are given to young children to help educate them about the meaning of the poppy symbol. Poppy posters created by youth are displayed throughout communities, too. Young poppy princesses and poppy ambassadors serve to help with the poppy efforts. Several units create unique poppy centerpieces, corsages, and ornaments. The new poppy placemat is being used effectively, too.

Yes, May is the ALA's busiest month for Poppy promotion activities, but most units continue with poppy program efforts throughout the calendar year. Indeed, every day is Poppy Day! The flame of freedom must always be "kindled." We need to remember that some gave all of their tomorrows so that we can enjoy freedom today.



2019-2020 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN CANDIDATES

Candidate for Department President: Joanie Dickerson



In the spirit of service, not self, Joanie Dickerson offers herself as a candidate for Department President. She is a 60-year Paid-Up-For-Life member of the American Legion Auxiliary and is eligible for membership as the result of her own service, that of her late husband, her grandfather, father, and brothers.

She is an active member of Liscum Brothers Unit and Post 482 of Bagley, serving as Unit Treasurer and Post Finance Officer. Joanie has held numerous chairmanships for the district and department, currently serving as the department Service to Veterans chairman. She is a member

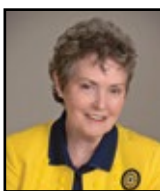
of the ALA Badger Girls State committee, served as the assistant executive director for six years and a member of the staff for 25 years.

An active member of St. Mary Parish, she assists where needed and has been employed as a teacher at their school for the past 17 years. Joanie continues to serve on the local level as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary where she coordinates public education activities for members of the boating public and verifies navigational aids on the Mississippi River. A long-time supporter of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, she is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, the Boy Scout Honor Society, is a religious award counselor and committee member for Troop 88.

Joanie recently remarried and her husband Dee, sons, daughter, son-in-law, grandsons, and granddaughter are all members of the Legion Family. She has the support of her family, her unit, county, and district.

She has been blessed to serve as department senior vice president this year. Joanie will strive to work with members to accomplish our mission and encourage all members to share their knowledge, skills, talents, and dedication with each other and the people we serve as we begin our next hundred years of service for those who sacrifice for our freedoms. It is with a humble heart filled with gratitude for this opportunity and prayers for your support that she offers herself as a candidate for Department President 2019-2020.

Candidate for Senior Vice President: Diane Weggen



Diane Weggen announces her candidacy for the office of Department Senior Vice President. If elected, her goal will be to increase American Legion Family membership to better deliver the Auxiliary mission to serve veterans, military, their families and communities.

A Gold Star sister and 36-year Paid-Up-For-Life American Legion Auxiliary member, Diane joined through the service of her brother Jerry, a Navy pilot who lost his life on a training mission during the Vietnam War. Coming from a family of veterans – late husband Donald served in the National

Guard; brothers Bob, Army, and Tom, Air Force; son James and daughter-in-law Jennifer, Navy; and granddaughter Amanda, National Guard – Diane has a vested interest in serving veterans.

Two married children, a daughter in California and a son in Virginia, and five grandchildren comprise Diane's family supporting her Auxiliary work. Cecil Tormey ALA Unit 118, Clark County and District 7 endorse Diane for the office of Department Senior Vice President.

In addition to unit, county, and district president, Diane has held other American Legion Auxiliary offices, chairmanships and was a committee member for the 2010 National ALA Convention held in Milwaukee. Currently, she is Department First Vice

President and Department Membership Chairman.

Taking leadership roles in several civic activities, Diane serves as a certified volunteer at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls, member of Chippewa Veterans Home Recreation Committee, treasurer of Otter Lake Booster Club, active member of All Saints Parish, group leader of Holy Family PCCW, committee member for the Thorp Junior Achievement program and Partners with Our Lady of Victory Ascension Hospital in Stanley.

A firm believer in "Service, not self", Diane is passionate about The American Legion Family and volunteering. If elected, Diane Weggen will diligently work to serve the American Legion Auxiliary as Senior Vice President.

Candidate for Department Chaplain: Rebecca Mueller



Rebecca (Becky) Mueller is excited and humbled to announce her candidacy for the office of ALA Department of Wisconsin Chaplain for a second term. She appreciated the opportunity to serve this past year as Department Chaplain, appreciates those who took the time and energy to give her positive feedback, and feels she has more to offer in this capacity.

Becky gained her eligibility through her husband Clarence's service in the Army during the Vietnam era. She is also eligible from the service of her deceased first husband, Richard Young, who was a Marine in Vietnam. Her father was an Army veteran who served during non-eligible

membership years.

She joined the Krause-Kraft-Mueller Unit 106 in Seymour in 2007. Since that time, she served as Unit Secretary and President (4-year term), on many committees, and assisted in many projects. Becky was the Noble Ninth President for two years and still serves on committees and wherever needed on the unit, county, district and department levels.

Becky feels she learned much as Department Chaplain this past year. Experiencing the care and compassion that members exhibit to the Legion family and beyond has been such a blessing and she can't thank you enough for allowing her to be a part of your family through times of celebration and of sorrow.

For the past few years Becky has

been a presenter at the ALA in the Know conferences. This upcoming year she has been asked to Chair the committee and looks forward to sharing a new group of programs and projects.

The United Methodist Church certified Becky as a Lay Speaker. She occasionally leads the services at her home church, New Life UMC in Seymour. She serves as the Lay Leader for the city-site and on multiple committees. She is especially drawn to missions and serving others.

"For God and Country" defines her calling and passion and she would appreciate the opportunity to serve the ALA and each of you personally in this position for another term. Becky has been endorsed by her unit, Outagamie County Council and the Ninth District.

Candidate for 1st Vice President: Linda Coppock



An active member of Shiocton Unit 512 for 59 years, Linda has been endorsed by her Unit 512, Outagamie County Council and the Noble 9th District, along with the support of her family, as a candidate for Department 1st Vice President with the responsibility of being your Membership Chairman.

Linda's eligibility comes from many of her family members. Her grandfather (a charter member of Post 512), her father, brother and husband are/were all members of The American Legion and she has been an active American Legion Auxiliary member since she joined at the age of 6. She is also a Paid Up for Life member. Linda has served the ALA in many capacities over the years. She has been an officer and/or a chair-

man for her unit, county, district and now the Department of Wisconsin. Her passion is to still carry the flags!

Linda and husband of 29 years, Gary, a Vietnam Era Navy veteran, have raised three daughters, Jennifer (a dual member), Michelle and Suzanne, who are all ALA members and past Department of Wisconsin Miss Poppy's. Their son, Major Stephen B. Olk, currently serving in the Army Reserve, is an American Legion member. Their two oldest grandsons, both Eagle Scouts, LCpl Chasen M. Gardner and LCpl Trevor A Gardner are both currently serving in the USMC. They have three other grandsons, five granddaughters, and one great granddaughter, all Legion Family members.

Linda has enjoyed serving you as your Americanism Chairman and 2nd Vice President and would like to continue to serve you as an advocate of this great organization.

Candidate for 2nd Vice President: Maggie Geiger



Maggie Geiger, is announcing her candidacy for the office of 2nd Vice President for ALA Wisconsin. Maggie has been endorsed by her Cedarburg Unit 288, Ozaukee County Council and 2nd District.

She has proudly served in different offices and chairmanships in her unit, county, and district. Some of her recent accomplishments include facilitating a WWII veteran to receive his Honoree Doctorate, holding a Reporting Clinic with two members of Rose Harms Unit, and serving as a co-founder of Sweat4Vets, a post to post walk established in 2016 which has raised over \$40,000 to support Veterans. She has also been active on the Department level having served on the Membership Team, ALA Strategic Plan Goal #5 'Increasing Brand Awareness', as Poppy Chairman, receiving Outstanding Poppy Program in Central Division award, and will again attend ALA

Badger Girls State as a counselor.

Maggie is eligible for membership through her father, a WWII veteran. A 14-year Paid Up for Life member, she has attended leadership trainings, including ALA in the Know, ALA Mission Training and the American Legion College.

Compassion for our nation's heroes, promoting ALA programs and its mission, serving God and Country with ALA members from Wisconsin, is her passion.

Maggie and her husband of 43 years, SAL member Brian, are members of Hillpoint Church in Fox Point, and lifetime members of Ozaukee County Historical Society. Son Patrick (Jackie), daughter Katie (Michael), two grandsons, one granddaughter, and newest grandchild to arrive in August, are members of American Legion Family.

Maggie has been blessed to serve as Department Historian and asks for your continued prayers and support as she offers herself as candidate for Department 2nd Vice President.

Candidate for National Executive Committeewoman: Laura Calteux



For 38 years Laura Calteux has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and an active member on the unit, county, district, department and national levels. Laura's membership is in Greendale Unit 416 and she is eligible through the naval service of her father, Pete, brother, Dennis and the Air Force service of her step-son Jacob.

She has worked many programs and held the offices of President, 1st and 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Poppy Treasurer in her unit. On the district and county levels, she has been President and Chaplain, is the Secretary/Treasurer for the Milwaukee County Conference of Units, and has been elected the Historian for 4th District. On the department level, she has held all offices and the following chairmanships: Membership, Poppy, Americanism, Community Service, Music, Legislative, ALA Badger Girls State (ALABGS) Committee, Parliamentarian and Distinguished Guests Chairman. As

the Americanism Chairman, she earned the Clara B. Smith Award. She volunteers at ALABGS, where she has been the Assembly Counselor and Senate Counselor. ALA Girls Nation Committee was a wonderful addition to her resume in 2018. Laura was also the Mailroom Chairman for the National Convention and the Chairman for Decoration and Publicity for the 8 & 40 conventions, both held in Milwaukee in 2010.

Laura has been endorsed by her unit, district and county. She is married, with three children and three grandchildren; all members of the American Legion Family.

The position of National Executive Committeewoman is one of great importance to both the Department and our members. Being the liaison between our members and the national organization, along with making sure our organization stays viable for many years to come, are the main responsibilities of the NEC. This is one responsibility that she does not and will not take lightly and she hopes that you will consider her for your next National Executive Committeewoman.

Candidate for Department Historian: Danyelle Thompson



Danyelle (Dany) Thompson is a 16-year active member of the American Legion Auxiliary and is announcing her candidacy for Department Historian. Dany gained her eligibility through both of her late grandfathers – Robert Earl Thompson Sr. and Byron Taylor, both of whom served in the Navy during World War II. Dany is endorsed by Unit #352, Grant County, and District 3.

Dany began her journey with the ALA when she attended ALA Badger Girls State (ALABGS) in 1997. She

then joined as a counselor the very next year and will serve her 22nd year as a counselor in 2019. She has also served on the ALABGS Committee since 2013 and is the current Chairman.

In 2013 Dany was one of the charter members of Wisconsin's first Electronic Unit (E-Unit) out of Cassville, which consisted entirely of former delegates to ALABGS. She served as Unit President for two years and now serves as the membership chairman.

Dany is employed at the University of Wisconsin Whitewater, where she currently works in the Dean of Students Office, helping those students who have nowhere else to turn. She has spent her

life in public service working at public universities, and even when she lived and worked in Missouri and Michigan, she kept her membership with the Department of Wisconsin and came home every June to volunteer at ALABGS. Dany also volunteers her time working with student veterans, helping them adjust to life on a college campus.

Dany's philosophy on being a good Department Historian is that to move forward in the future, one must know what has happened before. She will strive to leave a history of the 100th year that will be looked on in the future as a way to move forward, by honoring the past.



AMERICANISM

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I hope everyone continues to "Kindle the Flame for All to See!" Fly your flags and wear a poppy proudly, go out and vote, carry your colors in a parade. Promote your patriotism!!

Faith: Believe your every act of patriotism is an act of faith as a promotion of Americanism. If you truly believe your actions are patriotic, by setting an example you are making others aware of what Americanism will look like.

Future: Americanism can be a controlling factor of how we can recruit and retain members in our organization. We are practicing Americanism when we promote the flag, our right to vote, and our right

to assembly (as in a parade). Be aware you are being watched and judged. Always be a great example of Americanism!

Leadership: Not every member believes they represent a leadership role, but that does not mean the lady in the kitchen in charge of the meal menu is not a leader! Many of us are leaders and we do not even realize it. Your Unit Poppy Chairman may spend countless hours preparing canisters, bunches of poppies, sign-up sheets, tracking hours, counting monetary donations, and is the quietest person in your Unit, BUT, she, by example, is a leader! Recognize your unnoticed leaders. A simple sign of gratitude can go a very long way...

Loyalty: Be loyal to your Post and Unit, always remain positive pub-

licly, even if there is turmoil among your group internally; this is not for all the public to know or see.

Attitude: This one word contains much power. Everything you do and say about the ALA can be helpful to this organization or extremely harmful. Always be thoughtful of those around you. Be an advocate...

Advocate: As ALA members, it is our responsibility to advocate for our veterans, the military, their families and our communities. At all costs, we are to show respect to those who have served, those who are currently serving and to respect the pride of their family members. Please don't be the person to offend the member sitting next to you who may be extremely proud of their family member(s) who have served and/or are still serving.

Mentoring: Believe it or not, most of us are mentoring other members in some capacity without us even realizing it. Anytime you are asked a question about the organization, by answering it, you are mentoring in some way. When you seek information from another, they can be mentoring you.

Motivate: Encourage members to ask questions, this is how they learn about what we are and may need to be doing. If you do not have an answer, search for the information and get back to them.

Encouragement: Always encourage others to participate. We learn by teaching as well as by example. Convince others that what we as Auxiliary members have is something they may need for themselves. Do you promote all of your activi-

ties as best you can? Do you have access to a local newspaper that will publicize your activity? Can you advertise an upcoming event? Do you have a computer savvy member who can post your activities and accomplishments to a web page or to Facebook? Do you keep a history or publicity scrapbook available for new members to see?

Example: Always, always, always make members feel appreciated. A simple "Thank-You" for attending a meeting on a stormy winter evening or a warm, but cool summer afternoon away from family can speak volumes to a member who questions why they even attend. Those who can become a member of our organization should like what they see us do and want to be a part of us. Are you kindling the F.L.A.M.E.?



LEGISLATIVE

Bonnie Jakubczyk
Department Chairman
Ph: 414-764-6752
Email: bon6862@yahoo.com

Thank you to all who Kindled the Flame for our veterans by contacting their Senators and Representatives to support the Pay the Coast Guard Act during the government shutdown. It is great to see that many members keep in contact with their elected officials.

Whether it be by letters, emails, phone calls or attending meetings, your voice does matter. You can

connect with members of Congress locally during Congressional recess periods by arranging a time to meet with them while they are home.

Subscribe to the Legion's Legislative Action Alerts for topics that need immediate action, or to the Legion Dispatch. Use the American Legion's Legislative priority sheets and point papers to focus on specific issues. Keep track of your correspondence and replies. Remember that your voice counts, and you will kindle the flame for our veterans.

American Legion Auxiliary 2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

H. S. & ANGELINE LEWIS (1) - \$1,000.00 - GRADUATE STUDENT
No Applicant

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| H. S. & ANGELINE LEWIS (5) - \$1,000 | |
| Jenna Chaussee, Chilton | Chilton #125 6 |
| Rachel Hicks, Endeavor | Portage #47 2 |
| Anna Kent, Eau Claire | Eau Claire #53 10 |
| Kyle Perkins, Hager City | Ellsworth #204 10 |
| Maria Poehls, Wauwatosa | Brookfield #449 1 |

MERIT & MEMORIAL (8) - \$1,000

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Merit Scholarship | |
| Erinn Dempze, Vesper | Wisconsin Rapids #442 8 |
| Harriet Hass Scholarship | |
| Hailey Donahue, Fond du Lac | Fond du Lac #75 6 |
| Adalin Macauley Scholarship | |
| Alan Hager, Kewaunee | Kewaunee #29 9 |
| Eleanor Smith Scholarship | |
| Allyson Harbridge, Fond du Lac | Fond du Lac #75 6 |
| Pearl Behrend Scholarship | |
| Ashlyn Knieriem, McFarland | McFarland #534 3 |
| Barbara Kranig Scholarship | |
| Ellie Shaw, Port Edwards | Wisconsin Rapids #442 8 |
| Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan Scholarship | |
| Sarah Waldera, Taylor | Taylor-Hixton #368 7 |
| Diane Duscheck | |
| Jacob Winters, Waukesha | Waukesha #8 1 |

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS (3) - \$1,000

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bethany Dotson, Muskego | Portage #47 2 |
| Haley Piontek, Athelstane | Athelstane-Silver Cliff #66 9 |
| Ashley Trapp, Kewaskum | Kewaskum #384 2 |

DELLA VAN DEUREN MEMORIAL (2) - \$1,000

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Hannah Borree, Black Creek | Neenah #33 6 |
| Grace O'Connell, Madison | Mazomanie #437 3 |

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY (3) - \$1,000.00

Nursing:

No Applicant

Health Career:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Beth Sargent, Richland Center | Richland Center #13 3 |
| Abigail Schott, Greenleaf | Green Bay #11 9 |

CHILD WELFARE (1) - \$1,000.00

No Applicant

ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE SCHOLARSHIP (4) - \$500.00

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Ashton Osterhaus, Dalton | Pardeeville #215 2 |
| Cassidy Ewert, Watertown | Hustisford #420 2 |
| Cammi Ganshert, Monroe | Monroe #84 3 |
| Abigail Buxa, Oconomowoc | Lake Mills #67 2 |

EILEEN KNOX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (1) - \$500.00

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Melody Hampton, Cassville | Cassville #352 3 |
|---------------------------|------------------|

WINOMINEES FOR NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship

Department Award - \$1,000

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Joshua Dachel, Wisconsin Rapids | Rome #65 7 |
|---------------------------------|------------|

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship - Department Award - \$1,000

No Applicant

Spirit of Youth For Junior Members Scholarship

National Award - \$5,000

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Hailey Dykstra, Park Falls | Butternut #272 11 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|

2019 Bowling Tournament

Once again, we had a great two weekends of bowling. I hope every bowler had a great time and enjoyed the travels to Plover.

Department President Char Kiesling threw out the first ball and got the ball rolling. The competition between the President and Secretary's teams was won by Char's team. This competition has always been fun! Final results were 2452 vs 2117.

Margie Schoonover from Grafton Unit 355 rolled the single high game of 286. Carol Gehrke from Fremont Unit 391 rolled a high series of 691. If you are wondering, this is a 9-pin tap tournament!

Our 2020 tournament will be in Cedarburg March 28 & 29 and April 4 & 5. If your unit is interested in hosting a bowling tournament in your area, we request 16 bowling lanes and motels in the area. Please contact me for more information.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS



(top 3 places in each category):

Team:

1st Place: (2475) Kelly's Bleachers, Unit 1 - Milwaukee
2nd Place: (2452) The Flames, Units 33/166 - Fort Atkinson/Neenah
3rd Place: (2418) Betty's Foxy Bowlers, Unit 437 - Mazomanie

Doubles:

1st Place: (1352) R Tellock / C Gehrke, Unit 391 - Fremont
2nd Place: (1326) S Zier / S Churchill, Unit 385 - Verona
3rd Place: (1277) S Sutcliffe / T Zander, Unit 437 - Mazomanie

Singles:

1st Place: (730) T Welcing, Unit 217 - Bonduel
2nd Place: (706) R Tellock, Unit 391 - Fremont
3rd Place: (704) S Sutcliffe, Unit 437 - Mazomanie

All Events:

1st Place: (2117) R. Hotchkiss, Units 33/166 - Ft Atkinson/Neenah
2nd Place: (2014) T Zander, Unit 437 - Mazomanie
3rd Place: (2005) R Tellock, Unit 391 - Fremont

2019 AMERICANISM ESSAY

★ ★ ★ CONTEST WINNERS ★ ★ ★

Essay Topic: How can we address and prevent veteran homelessness in our community?

CLASS I (GRADES 3 & 4)

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Claire Meyer | Siren Unit 132 | District 11 |
| 2ND PLACE - Ella Griesbach | Shiocton Unit 512 | District 9 |
| 3RD PLACE - Nathan Kapp | Menomonee Falls 382 | District 1 |
| 4TH PLACE - Mary Peterson | Plum City Unit 365 | District 10 |
| 5TH PLACE - Libby Bates | Saukville Unit 470 | District 2 |

CLASS II (GRADES 5 & 6)

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Joelle Cartier Jefferson | Seymour Unit 106 | District 9 |
| 2ND PLACE - Lucy Foesch | Shiocton Unit 512 | District 9 |
| 3RD PLACE - Lauren Jardrey | Chilton Unit 125 | District 6 |
| 4TH PLACE - Cooper Lomas | Wauzeka Unit 458 | District 10 |
| 5TH PLACE - Gianna Holmstadt | Plum City Unit 365 | District 10 |

CLASS III (GRADES 7 & 8)

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Zachary Flannery | Shiocton Unit 512 | District 9 |
| 2ND PLACE - Logan Zahn | Seymour Unit 106 | District 9 |
| 3RD PLACE - Lilly Steele | Sparta Unit 100 | District 7 |
| 4TH PLACE - Payton Ackerman | Lublin Unit 547 | District 11 |
| 5TH PLACE - Grace Mangelsen | Siren Unit 132 | District 12 |

CLASS IV (GRADES 9 & 10)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Breanna Patz | Seymour Unit 106 | District 9 |
| 2ND PLACE - Brittany Stebbins | Baraboo Unit 26 | District 7 |
| 3RD PLACE - Kallee LaCloux | Thorp Unit 118 | District 7 |
| 4TH PLACE - Kyle Malles | Plum City Unit 365 | District 10 |
| 5TH PLACE - Emma Reismann | New London Unit 263 | District 8 |

CLASS V (GRADES 11 & 12)

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Ben Nowak | Thorp Unit 118 | District 7 |
| 2ND PLACE - Brady Mueller | Seymour Unit 106 | District 9 |
| 3RD PLACE - Isabella Cebery | Butternut Unit 272 | District 11 |
| 4TH PLACE - Mackenzie Wieser | Plum City Unit 365 | District 10 |
| 5TH PLACE - Jacob Osborne | Viola Unit 447 | District 3 |

CLASS VI (STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1ST PLACE - Alexander Phillips | Twin Lakes Unit 544 | District 1 |
| 2ST PLACE - Syrus Rondorf | Thorp Unit 118 | District 7 |
| 3RD PLACE - Daisy Gonzalez | Plum City Unit 365 | District 10 |