



# 10<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025



## DISTRICT 10 AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Spring Conference:** There is still time to register for the District Spring Conference in Prescott. The Conference will be held at the Prescott Area Food Pantry on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Check out the registration form attachment & Informational letter. Deadline April 11. **Deceased Auxiliary Members:** Please send a list of deceased members to Chaplain Jean Erlewine, even if you do not plan to attend the Conference. Try to have the list sent by April 21<sup>st</sup>. [jean.erlewine@gmail.com](mailto:jean.erlewine@gmail.com)

**Impact Reports:** Every hour volunteered; every dollar donated by the American Legion Auxiliary members is an investment in the missions to help veterans. These numbers are reported to The American Legion, which includes them in its annual report to Congress. If you have questions about how to report, please let me know. (715) 931-9236 Send Impact Report to Mary Townsend, 1887 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. Rice Lake WI 54868 by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Narrative Reports:** The Narrative Reports tell the stories of your unit activities. Please send these reports, and the cover sheet to Department of Wisconsin PO Box 140 Portage WI. 53901-0140 by April 15<sup>th</sup>. If possible, please forward me a copy of each Narrative. Thanks [getmet77@hotmail.com](mailto:getmet77@hotmail.com)

**PR Chats: If** you want to learn more about effective Public Relations, be a part of the monthly PR Chats. The Department of Wisconsin Public Relations Chairman Bob Schappell conducts a once a month zoom meeting format to share ideas and events. Send an email to Bob and get set up to be a part of the next PR Chat! [bobshap@aol.com](mailto:bobshap@aol.com)

**Legion Action Alerts:** The American Legion has a grassroots action center to keep members informed about legislative news. This is a great way to advocate for veterans and the military. To be a part of the Legion Action alerts, go to [www.legion.org/advocacy/legislative](http://www.legion.org/advocacy/legislative)

**Heart of The ALA Award:** Department President Becky is planning on awarding 10 units with a "Heart of the ALA Award". This award will be based on unit activities. Send her a 1000 word or less report and showcase your unit. The deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>. For more details visit the Department of Wisconsin website at [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) click on Annual Reports, ALA Award is at the top of the page.

**Hmong Lao Veterans Day:** On Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> is Hmong Lao Veterans Day ceremony at the Wisconsin Veterans Tribute in Cadott. The ceremony starts at 10:00 AM and the public is invited to attend.

**Camp American Legion News:** Camp American Legion is celebrating 100 years on Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be an Opening Ceremony at 11:00 AM. Also, self-guided tours, live entertainment with food and drinks provided. Camp American Legion is in Lake Tomahawk.

### **Highlight Our Hero's:**

**Charlie Ludlow Post #121 River Falls.** Charlie served in the U.S. Army Infantry for 1 year 8 months. He was stationed at Ft. Know and Ft. Polk; he carried a backpack with a radio to call in the enemy positions. On Mother's Day they drew names out of a hat to see who would have guard duty. He drew the early morning watch and was hit with shrapnel coming out of the bunker. Military awards included Purple Heart and Vietnam Veterans Good Conduct. We salute Charlie!

**Joe Hegenbarth Post #98 Cumberland.** Joe served in the Korean War, he thought about making it a career, but his feet wouldn't be having that. After the military he became a teacher and wrestling coach. Today Joe resides at a Dove HealthCare facility, he has an open-door policy. He loves to invite others into his room and share life lessons. Each night as he goes to bed and asks himself, who did I make happier today? He makes a difference in everyday life. He is an inspiration to all who know him! We salute Joe!

**Photos Needed:** I am looking for photos of unit activities from June 2024 to June 2025. They will be used for a 10<sup>th</sup> District photo board at State Convention. Please send them to me at (715) 931- 9236, by June 25<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!



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## BRUNCLIK-KNOOP HAUGEN DONATION TO BARRON COUNTY VSO

The American Legion Auxiliary Brunclik-Konop Haugen Unit 0540 donated \$6,000 to the Barron County Veterans Service Office at its Feb. 26 meeting at the Haugen Village Hall. The funds are to be distributed to veterans in need.

The auxiliary raised the amount through kolache sales and raffle basket sales during Haugen Fun Days last August.

Accepting the generous donation were Barron County Veterans Service Officer Scott Bachowski and assistant VSO Shellie Shaw. While accepting the funds, Bachowski said, "Shellie and I truly appreciate the dedicated fundraising efforts the Haugen American Legion Auxiliary does every year. Every year since 2012, they have donated funds toward the Barron County Veteran Aid Fund. "These funds are available to veterans that are in a temporary financial crisis. With these funds, we have been able to provide financial aid to hundreds of veterans. The financial aid provided to veterans gets delivered in many ways such as gas and grocery cards, rent and security deposits, vehicle repairs, motel stays, clothing, school supplies and job tools. Without these donated funds, we would not be able to help as much as we have been fortunate to supply since 2012, "Bachowski said "Shellie and I are simply the conduits to disperse these funds – the true heroes are the members of the auxiliary. We thank them with all of our hearts. We notice the pride and happiness that beams from their faces when they present us with the check. We can see their joy knowing they can turn a bad situation into relief for our veterans.



Participating in the check presentation: Front row from left are President Bonita Knoop, VSO Scott Bachowski, Assistant VSO Shellie Shaw, Esther Knoop and Judy Juza. Back row from left are District 10 President Mary Townsend, Crystal Marshall, Rita Cutsforth, Maria Knoop and Yvonne Hill.

### MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT HISTORIAN

History request - please if anyone has pictures of President Mary attending an event at your post please send me a copy of that picture so I can work on a history book for President Mary any questions please email me and I will email you back here is me email address. [jean.erlewine@gmail.com](mailto:jean.erlewine@gmail.com)

Thank you Jean

### PRAYER FROM DISTRICT CHAPLAIN JEAN

Lord let me walk that lonely road with you  
under the weight of the wood of the cross  
Amen

As we prepare to celebrate holy week and the Easter season may we reflect as to Jesus has done for us to be free of all our sinful ways wishing everyone a Happy Easter



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## REMINDERS FROM DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

National has now pulled the information as reflected in the database for the 2026 Membership cards and rosters. All changes, payments, new membership transfers, deceased, and name changes will continue to be processed and will not be reflected when you receive your 2026 cards and rosters.

Wisconsin is in 19th place with the national average at 90.47%. Central Division remains in 4th place with Wisconsin dropping to 5th within the division. Ytd we are behind 447 paid members. We have 2 members; Amy Luft #355 and Cynthia Saylor #87 (Rice Lake, District 10) earn the National Recruit/Rejoin 10 award! The last time we had any R10 (recruit/rejoin) winners was in 2022. CONGRATULATIONS!

Please click on the link for the complete Membership Report:

[https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/\\_files/ugd/8bea47\\_a54b1c0906204d84aa04c8633d0414ee.pdf](https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/_files/ugd/8bea47_a54b1c0906204d84aa04c8633d0414ee.pdf)

## 10<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHILI COOK-OFF

The heat was on at the 10th District American Legion Chili Cook-off held on March 29, 2025, at the Baldwin American Legion Post #240. Eight competitors brought their best chili recipes to the table, each hoping to take home the top prize. With approximately 30 attendees tasting and judging, the event was a flavorful success.

Judges were Gary Lubick, Harry Bauer, and Mary Townsend

And now, for the results:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Place - Chris Porter
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Brad Venaas
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - James Jansma
- People's Choice - Tim Haglund





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### In Memory of Irvin Kressin

On April 3rd, 2025, Glenice Kressin was presented with an Honored Veteran Pin and Certificate in memory of her late husband, Irvin Kressin. Irvin was enlisted in the National Guard of Wisconsin. He proudly served his country for 8 years. He was honorably discharged on December 29th, 1960, as a SPC the 1st battalion 128th infantry. Glenice Kressin is 93 years old and was married to Irvin for 22 years. Her wish was to acknowledge and honor her late husband for his years of service in the military. This recognition occurred on April 3rd with her son David Schiedler, also an Army veteran and member of American Legion Post 326 in Boyd, WI. through the We Honor Veterans Program and Heartland Hospice.



(picture of Glenice Kressin, her son David Schiedler and picture in background is Irvin Kressin)

### UP COMING EVENTS

April 15, 2025	Impact Reports due to District 10 President Mary Townsend
April 15, 2025	Narrative Annual Reports along with Narrative Summary Sheet - due to Department also please send a copy to District 10 President Mary Townsend.
April 18, 2025	Boyd American Legion Fish Fry – 135 N. Clark Street, Boyd WI
April 26, 2025	10 <sup>th</sup> District Legion Family Spring Conference in Prescott – ALA Registration forms attached to newsletter.
June 15-20, 2025	Badger Girls State
July 17-20, 2025	Department Convention

**Next Newsletter will be April 2025 – Deadline for articles and pictures will be March 30, 2025**

**To submit articles and events for the 10<sup>th</sup> District Family Newsletter send to: Teresa Isensee [tisensee2173@gmail.com](mailto:tisensee2173@gmail.com)**