



# WISCONSIN



American Legion Auxiliary  
P.O. Box 140  
Portage, WI 53901

alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

The official publication of the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary

www.amlegionauxwi.org

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**CHAR KIESLING**  
Department  
President

It was a great National Convention and 100th American Legion Anniversary Celebration in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As one of four personal pages to National President Diane Duscheck, it was quite the experience and one I will never forget. It was a delight and honor to serve our own Wisconsin-born National President with Department Executive Secretary-Treasurer Bonnie Dorniak and ALA PDPs Pat Smith and Virginia "Virgie" Kodl. It was a lot of work trying to keep up with President Diane with her non-stop schedule. It took a bit of cooperation and LOTS of comic relief! It was such

an honor to be asked with such special gals! Of course, President Diane drew a crowd wherever she went, and it was our job to keep her moving and to get her places on time, make sure she stayed hydrated and fed, and had her running shoes handy. It wasn't always easy for us or her! She was always cheerful and smiling, encouraging, and giving hugs to her admiring members. She made Wisconsin proud and was the true example of SERVANT LEADERSHIP...her theme throughout the year. The National organization will miss her calm and kind spirit and mostly her devotion to the mission to serve our veterans, military, and their families in all of our communities and around the world.

As part of convention, ALA members attended pre-convention meetings on all our programs,

caucuses, a constitution and bylaws session including a discussion on our strategic plan, break-out informational sessions, and renewed and made new friends from past national conventions. I reconnected with my special friends from Girls Nation from earlier this summer. We didn't realize how much we bonded until we all saw each other again. Then there was the parade of states on Sunday, always an exciting event. Because of weather warnings, the parade was held inside the Convention Center! This was an enormous facility that really made it possible for more American Legion Family members to march – away from the heat and humidity and a shorter parade route. It was so exciting leading the almost 200 Legion Family members from the Department of Wisconsin, alongside Legion Commander

Frank Kostka, SAL Detachment Commander Chris Sherman and GI Josh! It was another once in a lifetime experience and I was WISCONSIN PROUD!

Following the flawless ALA national convention led by President Diane, installation was held for National President Kathy Dungun from Mississippi, all new national officers, and new Department Presidents – including me! So, another memorable national convention expertly planned by the national organization. Start planning NOW to attend national convention next year in Indianapolis as we move closer to celebrating the Auxiliary's

100th Anniversary.

PLEASE send me suggestions for my monthly mailings and WISCONSIN articles that would interest you. This would be very helpful for you and me. I hope you signed up for a fall "ALA in the Know" conference. There is new material to be shared and the presenters want you to come with questions and suggestions, so we can continue to strive and improve our department and organization. You don't want to be "left out in the cold!" (Sorry... bad comparison.) Continue to serve unselfishly as we "Kindle the Flame" of service for our veterans, military, and their families.

## MEMBERSHIP

**Diane Weggen, Dept. Chairman**  
Email: [dsweggen@gmail.com](mailto:dsweggen@gmail.com)  
Ph: 715-644-2668

National Secretary Mary "Dubbie" Buckler focused on the most important aspect for building a strong American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), "Members will renew only if they enjoy the experience of belonging, or because they are so proud of what they see the ALA doing, that they want to financially support it."

The message is clear that treating others with kindness and respect while delivering the ALA mission is paramount for increasing membership. Rather than focusing on how MANY members belong, the focus will be more on WHY members belong.

The American Legion Auxiliary is about Who We Are (largest patriotic women's service organization in the world), What We Do (mission delivery) and Why We Matter (honor those who served or are serving and their families and communities for the sacrifices they've made to ensure America's democracy).

"Kindle the Flame of Service for

our Veterans, Military and their Families" with emphasis on Faith, Leadership, Attitude, Mentor, and Encourage (F.L.A.M.E.).

- **Faith** in each other and in God guides the work to deliver the ALA Mission.

- **Leadership** is welcoming, kind and respectful to members of all ages and backgrounds.

- **Attitude** of gratitude recognizes all that is done for others and leads the way.

- **Mentor** in everyday tasks and to-dos to carry out the ALA mission to assist veterans, military, their families and communities.

- **Encourage** efforts to attract, engage and retain a diverse, active membership to ensure the future of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Junior members born any day in 2001 will pay junior dues for 2019.

The online renewal portal is available and renewing by telephone takes only a few minutes. Both make it possible to renew quickly and easily. Members can only renew their own membership

online. If preferring to renew by phone or renewing the membership of other friends or family members, call 317-569-4500 (Monday-Friday, 7:00 am – 3:30 pm). Provide your unit number in Wisconsin and the helpful national staff will assist with the renewal process.

With increasing costs of services and increasing numbers of veterans requiring care, more and more memberships are essential to meet the needs for assistance. Make membership meaningful to others. Share personal stories demonstrating why you belong and why the ALA matters. Then walk the talk. Actions speak louder than words.

"I have **faith** in the **leadership** and **attitude** of members who **mentor** and work to **encourage** others as they **Kindle the Flame** to **Serve our Heroes.**" Membership Chairman D. Weggen.

### 2019 MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Chairman Diane Weggen  
Virginia Kodl, Linda Kostka  
Kallee LeCloux, Junior Member  
Andrea Stoltz, Headquarters Staff  
[alawi@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alawi@amlegionauxwi.org)

## 2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Almost 200 members of the American Legion Family showed their WISCONSIN PRIDE as they prepared for the 2018 National Convention Parade in Minneapolis. The Wisconsin delegation was led by Department Commander Frank Kostka, Department President Char Kiesling, Detachment Commander Chris Sherman and GI Josh.



National President Diane Duscheck of Markesan Unit 282 exemplified "servant leadership" and National Commander Denise Rohan of Verona Post/Unit 385 was the first American Legion National Commander to also be a member the American Legion Auxiliary. The 2018 National Convention was the culmination of a successful year for each of them. Thanks for making WISCONSIN PROUD!

## KINDLE THE FLAME



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**Becky Mueller**  
Department Chaplain  
Email: [clarencandbecky@aol.com](mailto:clarencandbecky@aol.com)  
Ph: 920-833-6048

### 2 Chronicles 7:14

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

Prayer is not passive. Prayer is action. Please join me in prayer:

Dear God: We praise you for allowing us the privilege of living in this great country founded on your principles. We praise you for the generations of men and women who have answered the call to service, sacrificing their youth, opportunities and sometimes their very lives for the sake of freedom. We praise you for the right to worship, or not worship, in our own faith tradition. We praise you for the right to speak what is in our minds and hearts. We praise you for the right to freely travel the length and breadth of this country and world. We praise you for the opportunity to follow our passions wherever they lead. We praise you for all we are and all we hope to be.

We pray from the depths of our hearts expecting an answer; yes, no or not yet. We pray for peace and work at reconciliation with our neighbors, bringing peace to our corner of the world. We pray for healing – taking up our mat and walking – at least spiritually and continuing to pray for the physical. We pray for wisdom and continue to study and learn. We pray for ways to assist our service members, veterans, their families and communities and then we act – believing we can make a difference.

We pray for our elected officials and for those seeking office. Guide us as we exercise our right to choose who will lead our country on all levels. Grant us discernment and wisdom. Help us to see past the angry words and the hurt feelings to the real heart of the candidates. Guide us as we move forward to bring this country back to its roots of freedom and justice for all.

Open our hearts to the needs of others and lead us to be in service to you and others. Let our hearts overflow with love and thankfulness. Protect those men and women who are on the front line and in the trenches working to give all people everywhere dignity and respect. Continue to bless this great land of ours and our organization as we seek to follow your will as we work for God and Country.

Amen

*This land is your land, this land is my land.  
From California to the New York island.  
From the Redwood Forest, to the gulf stream waters.*

*This land was made for you and me.  
~ Woody Guthrie*

## GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS

**Bonnie Dorniak**  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
Ph: 608-745-0124  
Email: [deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org)  
Website: [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)

With national convention behind us, we congratulate Diane Duscheck on her successful year as National President and welcome her back to Wisconsin.

Kathy Dungan of Mississippi was elected National President for the 2018-2019 administrative year. Her theme for the year is "Serving Our Heroes" and she reminds the American Legion Auxiliary to especially remember female veterans who may need our service.

Teresa Isensee of Walter Nelson Unit 326 in Boyd, Wisconsin was elected 2018-2019 Central Division National Vice President. We wish her safe travels and great experiences as she serves as a national officer during the year ahead.

National Headquarters recently mailed the 2019 membership renewal notices. Don't be surprised if you received a renewal notice even though you recently paid your dues. National pulled the mailing list in early August before most memberships had been processed so things may have "crossed in the mail." If you have questions or think you received a notice in error, please contact your unit membership chairman to verify she forwarded your dues to department

headquarters for processing.

Members now have several options for paying their dues: 1) through their unit, 2) online, or 3) over the phone! Members who wish to pay their dues online can simply go to [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org), click on the "Members Only" tab, and create a log-in ID if you don't already have one. The pay dues option will be in the upper right portion of the screen. If you need assistance paying dues online, contact the national organization's helpline at [alahq@alaforveterans.org](mailto:alahq@alaforveterans.org). Online dues can only be accepted for the 2019 membership year.

Members may also pay dues over the phone! Call national headquarters at 317-569-4500, Monday through Friday from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm. This is an especially quick and easy way to pay for multiple family members with one simple phone call or to pay for a lapsed year of dues.

The 2018 Daily Sweepstakes was mailed in August. If you want additional entry forms, please call department headquarters. Only original entry forms will be accepted for the drawing. Daily prizes are \$15, Sunday prizes are \$25, and there is a chance to win \$500 each month. Remember, you could win more than once because winning entries are returned to the barrel after each drawing! The last day to enter is December 31, 2018. THANK YOU to everyone who already responded. Please remember that

although a donation is not required to enter the sweepstakes, the money raised supports Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary programs so **donations are greatly appreciated**. Official sweepstakes rules are posted on the department website.

Members are encouraged to check out the department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) for a plethora of valuable information. The 2018 ALA in the Know Registration form and 2018-2019 Red Book are posted on the home page; 2018-2019 action plans for each program are on the Programs page; current membership reports and forms are on the Membership page; updated donation forms can be found under Online Forms; and the unit mailings that are sent to unit presidents each month are posted for every member to access and review at their convenience.

If your unit does something unique to support the Auxiliary's mission, please send me pictures of the "mission in action" along with a brief article (no more than 300 words) so I can highlight it in the Wisconsin. Submissions should be sent to [deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org) within 60 days of the event, including a contact person's name, daytime phone and email address in case I need to clarify any information. Your ideas may be of interest to others who would like to duplicate your work in their own community.

## HISTORIAN

**Maggie Geiger**  
Department Historian  
Email: [geigermaggie2@gmail.com](mailto:geigermaggie2@gmail.com)

This past May, my mother-in-law Fran passed away at the age of 98 years. Going through her belongings I ran across her Christmas letters, dating back to the 1970's. I've had the pleasure reading some of the letters. She was very detailed. I had no idea that she put some of the smallest items in her letters; she really did listen to what was going on in our lives and the milestones our children accomplished. Of course, there were items that seemed so insignificant at the time, but now reading it years later, I'm so glad she wrote it down. I can't wait to continue reading and hope I will run across earlier letters. When I receive a Christmas letter from friends, I always enjoy catching up with what they did the past year. Yes, you can follow friends and family on Facebook, but when you hold a letter in your hand, it seems more personal.

At the National Convention in Minneapolis, we celebrated The American Legion's Centennial. There was a display that showcased the Legion's 100-year history by decades. It was so interesting reading the history and looking at the pictures. We can all be proud to be part of the Legion Family!

As the Auxiliary is nearing our 100th Anniversary, every member and unit is encouraged to share the story with our communities – "our" story – of Service Not Self, Who We Are, What We Do and Why We Matter. All units, and districts are being asked to look through records and share with local communities.

Some of the information you might want to share could be the date your unit received its charter, names of the original officers, what type of activities your

unit participated in, a listing of items donated by your unit, events held at your post, and where monetary contributions went. Display your charter, pictures and history at local libraries, unit events or write a letter to the local newspaper. Be proud of being an ALA member, let the community know all about your unit, and the mission of the ALA. Encourage community members to join in future events.

Sounds easy, right? Don't worry, it won't be so bad! Look back in your files for your unit meeting minutes. Meeting minutes are your history. Ask your senior members if they can remember some events that your unit did or a favorite memory. Don't forget to ask your past junior members what activities they participated in. Many post halls are used for wedding receptions; how many of your unit members celebrated their weddings or life milestones at your home post? Where are your former ALABGS delegates, what are they doing, what do they remember about being a delegate? These are just a few ideas to help your unit get started.

We all need to help our Unit Historians keep record of our unit histories; ask for volunteers that would enjoy helping to gather information. Encourage committee chairmen when turning in reports, not to just list dollars, hours, monies earned and number of volunteers, but to explain what happened at the events to be a little more detailed.

We are so blessed in this day and age to have information that is just a click away. We need to make sure that our unit histories are recorded so that members behind us will understand how our units started, what worked, and what didn't – that our units weren't afraid to try new ideas rather than being a "that's how we

always do it" unit.

There is an old saying that "history repeats itself." Let's record our success so future leaders and members can build upon that success and together we can ensure that we all will "Kindle the Flame" of service for our veterans, military and their families.

National Programs Action Plans 2017-2022 are available at <https://www.alaforveterans.org>, under the members only section, and on the Department of Wisconsin website at [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Programs tab.

### 2019 DAILY SWEEPSTAKES



The 2019 American Legion Auxiliary Daily Sweepstakes has been mailed out and must be returned by December 31, 2018 to be eligible for participation. Contact Headquarters at 608-745-0124 for additional entry forms; only original entry forms will be accepted.

**365 winners!**  
**\$11,775 in cash prizes!**  
**One \$500 winner every month!**

No donation is required to participate. However, proceeds benefit our veterans, the military and their families, so your generous contributions are greatly appreciated. Visit the website for complete sweepstakes rules.

[www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)

**EDUCATION**

**Diane Steinert**  
 Department Chairman  
 Email: [djdmsteinert@gmail.com](mailto:djdmsteinert@gmail.com)

*"Education is the movement from darkness to light."*

— Allan Bloom

The purpose of the Education Program is to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children. Let's follow President Char's theme "Kindle the Flame" and shine a light on our Education Program.

A significant part of the Education program is the many unit, department, and national scholarships that are available. Offer to send information to or meet with your local high school guidance office to discuss the scholarships. ALA scholarship applications can be found on the national and department websites. The most important thing to remember when reviewing scholarship applications is they need to be complete and all requested items need to be included. Too many deserving applicants are disqualified for incomplete applications. Please work with the scholarship applicants in your area and review applications for completeness at the unit level prior to submitting them.

Contact schools in your community and offer to organize a Veterans in Community Schools event.

Work with your post or check with your dual members to find a veteran willing to share his/her experience with school children. What a great opportunity to educate our children about the military and bring a history lesson to life!

Units are also encouraged to participate in the Give 10 to Education Program, collecting classroom items in increments of 10, and distribute to schools in your communities. A good time to donate may be American Education Week (November 12-16, 2018). Include a card or note of appreciation for all school staff thanking them for the work they do.

There is so much we can do to promote the American Legion Auxiliary's role in providing quality education for children and adults. The 2017-2022 Education Program Action Plan, scholarship information, member resources and support tools may be found on the national website ([www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)). Information is also available on the Department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) or you can contact me to obtain any of the documents you may need to make your district, county or unit Education Program a success.

Finally, don't forget to "shine a light" on YOU! Record all the good you are doing while promoting the ALA Education Program. Add pictures and newspaper clippings to your narrative mid-year and year-end reports. I look forward to hearing from all of you!

**M. LOUISE WILSON**  
**EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND**

**Joan Chwala**  
 Department Chairman  
 Ph: 715-668-5661  
 Email: [ctr68552@centurytel.net](mailto:ctr68552@centurytel.net)

Wisconsin's Mission Met in Unique Loan Fund Program: More than ninety years ago, a lady named M. Louise Wilson had a vision. She wanted to assist women who required financial support in order to further their education. Because the American Legion Auxiliary made this vision a reality, the lives of unit members have been enhanced as we use these loans to further educate our own members.

**Q. What makes this loan so unique?**

A. It is so simple to apply for the loan. Applicants must contact the program chairman to indicate their interest in a loan. The chairman then sends all necessary information to the applicant. There is no interest on this loan unless the student fails to pay it back. Six months after graduation or leaving school, payments of \$50 per month will be due.

**Q. What are the requirements?**

A. The applicant must be a resident of Wisconsin and a current member of the American Legion

Auxiliary, submit a copy of the DD214 document for the veteran that made her eligible to belong, send a transcript of her high school grades, and include three letters of recommendation. A responsible adult must co-sign the promissory note and application must be approved by the program chairman. Most correspondence can be done through email.

**Q. What is the amount of the loan?**

A. If approved, the applicant can borrow up to \$800 per year for five years. One year from the date of the first loan, the applicant can request an additional \$800 by sending a copy of college grades and being a current member of the American Legion Auxiliary. If approved, she may continue to borrow until the amount reaches \$4,000 or she graduates from college.

**Q. Why do you ask for donations?**

A. By donating, you and your unit ensure that future generations will be able to take advantage of this program.

All unit presidents have a copy of the donation sheet, which is also posted on the department website. "Kindle the Flame" to spread the word about the loan and the need for additional funding.

**AMERICANISM**

**Linda Coppock**  
 Department Chairman  
 Ph: 920-982-5811  
 C: 920-851-5811  
 Email: [beatrice2554@gmail.com](mailto:beatrice2554@gmail.com)

Congratulations Diane Weggen for winning the Best Overall Americanism Report in Central Division at national convention!

What is Americanism you may ask? It is traditionally associated with anything Americans do, however, we, as Americans consider it to be acts of patriotism. As American Legion Auxiliary members, it is our duty to promote patriotism/Americanism.

As a member of the Strategic Plan Goal 5 Team, I encourage Building Brand Loyalty with The American Legion. This year we want to continue to work as a family, promote Americanism programs for all of the Legion Family members and continue to create a culture of good will.

This year's Americanism Essay is titled, "How can we address and prevent veteran homelessness in

our communities?" Beyond the contest for school students, there is also the opportunity for adult members to enter the contest using the same guidelines.

Promoting Americanism to our youth should be a priority. Teach them about the flag and flag etiquette, about proper disposal, how to fold a flag and what each fold means. This is an election year, encourage our young adults to vote. Sponsor a "Kids Vote" or ask your schools to make it a class project. Check classrooms for flags, they may need to be replaced, or do they even have one?

This year I am expanding the "I Spy" Challenge to the "I Spy, You Fly" Challenge after inspiration from attending national convention. As units, posts, squadrons and Legion Riders, walk your local neighborhood to see who is flying the flag at their home. Create a door hanger to "thank" them for flying the flag and include information about the Legion family. On the back side

of the hanger, you could have a membership form or invite them to your next social activity, be it a brat fry, a chili or spaghetti dinner. Spread the word about all activities you do.

Another great activity is to fold "pocket flags." Host a folding, gathering with your Juniors or Legion family, and give the pocket flags to departing soldiers or to those sending care packages so they can be included with the other items they may send.

As a community project, get your Juniors, scouts or school children to paint the flag on small rocks or stones and place them around the community. Be sure to identify a way to track the rock if you want to know where they are found! Give a Facebook or Twitter address so finders can reply. Remember to use social media connections to promote your Americanism activities.

How will you promote Americanism? Please keep me informed!

**NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Karen Degner**  
 Department Chairman  
 Ph: 920-918-9772  
 Email: [kdegner88@gmail.com](mailto:kdegner88@gmail.com)

Supporting our troops and families and Emergency Preparedness are important and part of the ALA National Security program and plan of action.

Do you know National Military Family Appreciation Month is November, Month of the Military Child is April, Military Spouse Appreciation Day and Armed Forces Day are in May? These days/months provide the opportunity to recognize and thank those who serve – both in uniform and at home.

In addition to the plans and activities your unit has, here are some ways to support those who serve:

- Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military and veterans' families can stay free of

charge while a loved one is in the hospital. Do you have hotel points or frequent flyer miles to donate? The Fisher House also uses these donations to assist service members and their families. Fisher House Foundation operates the Hero Miles program, using donated frequent flyer miles to bring family members to the bedside of injured service members as well as the Hotels for Heroes program using donated hotel points to allow family members to stay at hotels near medical centers without charge. You can go to: <https://www.fisherhouse.org/ways-to-give/> to learn more and to donate your points.

- The USO lifts the spirits of troops and families when they visit a USO center. Do you have an idea to donate something specific or want to go with a theme or have something special in mind? Contact the USO and they will be able to provide you with guidance

and answer the questions you may have. The USO staff asks that you email them if you are interested in making an in-kind donation. The link for this is found at <http://www.usowisconsin.org>, under the Support tab, then click on Gifts in Kind to send them an email message. It is important to contact them to make arrangements for you to deliver the items to the location you choose. I do suggest you confirm the items listed are currently needed, ask for clarification of items listed if not sure and be sure to follow through. At this time the list includes: bottled water, creamer, tea, sugar, hot chocolate, snacks (bagged single serving), cookies, soda (12 oz. cans), flavored tea, bottled water, hot/cold beverage cups, gallon size Ziploc bags, quart size Ziploc bags, AA batteries and diapers. The USO administrative office phone is: 414-763-2214.

**6TH DISTRICT FALL FUN DAY**



The 6th District Fall Fun Day was held September 8, 2018 at American Legion Post 70 in Oshkosh. Participants enjoyed hearing from the Department Membership Team, Diane Duscheck shared highlights from her year as National President, and fun was had by all as they painted signs and socialized. Welcome back to Wisconsin, Diane!


**LEGISLATIVE**

**Bonnie Jakubczyk**  
**Department Chairman**  
**Ph: 414-764-6752**  
**C: 414-831-7890**  
**Email: bon6862@yahoo.com**

We are advocates for The American Legion's Legislative agenda. While doing so, we raise awareness for our mission and increase brand loyalty. Check the Legion's website, [www.legion.org/legislative](http://www.legion.org/legislative), to keep current on all

priorities. You can download the Legion's legislative priority sheets and point papers. These sheets outline the Legion's priorities and can be "dropped" at your elected official's office. The point papers provide more information on the issues. Some of the current issues include: *institute gender-specific health care for women veterans, support VA's suicide prevention efforts, continue funding programs*

*to end veterans' homelessness, and repeal unfair offsets that penalize disabled veterans and widows.*

Subscribe to the Legion's "Legislative Action Alerts" to receive notifications when American Legion Family members are called to take immediate action on a topic. Go to [www.capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup](http://www.capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup) to subscribe. Subscribe to the Dispatch. These are all good resources to see how you can be-

come involved and help make an impact.

Keep track of your correspondence and replies; that will help with your mid-year and year end reports.

We can make a difference as we "Kindle the Flame" for our veterans by letting our elected officials know where we stand on issues that affect our veterans. Contact me if you have any questions.



**AUGUST  
2018  
SWEEPSTAKES**

August winners  
are listed on the  
department website!

[www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)


**POPPY PROGRAM**

**Theresa Schindler**  
**Department Chairman**  
**Ph: 715-229-2202**  
**Email: tschindl@ceas.coop**

ALA Department President Char Kiesling's theme is "Kindle the Flame" for our Veterans, Military, and Families. That flame burns in our hearts as we honor and support our heroes who have given us so much for our precious American freedoms and way of life. One hundred years ago, Moina Michael felt that flame flicker in her heart as she was inspired by John McCrae's famous poem and began the campaign to adopt the poppy as

the symbol of remembrance for our Veterans. Moina was particularly struck by the last stanza of McCrae's poem:

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
 To you from failing  
 hands we throw  
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
 If ye break faith with us who die  
 We shall not sleep,  
 though poppies grow  
 In Flanders Fields.*

Moina pledged to keep the faith, and always to wear a red poppy of Flanders Fields as a sign of remembrance. The final verse of

her own response poem captures this idea:

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red  
 We wear in honor of our dead.  
 Fear not that ye have  
 died for naught;  
 We'll teach the lesson  
 that ye wrought  
 In Flanders Fields.*

Ever since the "Poppy Lady" came up with her idea, The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary have kept the flame kindled. We should use the poppy symbol year-round, not just in May or on Poppy Day.

Whether wearing poppy clothing, decorating our homes with poppy art, teaching youth the poppy story and encouraging them to enter the poppy poster contest, or distributing poppies in our communities, we keep the idea of the poppy symbol "afire" every day. How many different ways will your unit use poppies this year?

Make sure that your unit orders plenty of poppies from Department prior to the December 14, 2018 order due date for all your 2018-2019 events, for poppy usage creations, and for distribution. I can't wait to see all the unique

ways that units use the crepe paper poppies made by our beloved Veteran poppy makers. I encourage your unit to submit poppy reports to me in a timely manner and to be aware of the awards that can be earned. Check out the Poppy Program Action Plan and use it as a guide throughout the year. The Poppy Program is one that every unit can and should be doing in order to "Kindle the Flame." Moina Michael must be smiling with pride from her eternal home as we continue to kindle her poppy idea "flame" that she brought to fruition one hundred years ago.

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2018 STATE CONVENTION CITATIONS

### President's Award for Excellence –

*Bonnie Jakubczyk, Department President*  
 7 – Awards to Saukville Unit 470, District 2; Stoughton Unit 59, District 3; Wautoma Unit 317, District 8; Abrams Unit 523, District 9; Haugen Unit 540, District 10; Sheboygan County, District 2; VA&R Program, Mary Petrie, Department Chairman.

1 – Certificate of Appreciation – Amy Luft, Public Relations Department Chairman.

### AEF –

*Sharon Zales, Department Chairman*

1 - Certificate of Recognition for highest donation by a Unit – Wolf River Unit 391, District 8

1 - Certificate of Recognition for second highest donation by a Unit – Saukville Unit 470, District 2

1 – Certificate for Most Creative Fundraiser – Platteville Unit 42, District 3

### Americanism –

*Diane Weggen, Department Chairman*

1 - Most Overall Outstanding Americanism Program – RuthAnn Dobbs & Katie Linden of Saukville Unit 470, District 2.

9 – Recognition for Promoting & Achieving Goals of 2018 Americanism Program – Ann Lotter of Abrams Unit 523, District 9; Mary-Ellen Crandall of Pewaukee Unit 71, District 1; Beverly Green of Mequon-Theisville Unit 457, District 2; Barb Hammond of Viola Unit 447, District 3; Donna Bellettiere of New London Unit 263, District 8; Betty Blume of Marathon Unit 469, District 8; Nancy Schultz of Butternut Unit 272, District 11; Diane Peachy of Waupun Unit 210, District 6; District 2, District Chairman Mary Petrie.

### History –

*Linda Coppock, Department Historian*

1 – Best Overall District History – District 9, Historian Rose Heinz.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

Plains Unit 245, District 3; Joyce Endres of Waunakee Unit 360, District 3; Shannon Churchill, Jenni Syftestad & Florence Wasley of Verona Unit 385, District 3;

Shelley Drager, Lu Hodgson, Sarah Smith & Tammy Smith of Mazomanie Unit 437, District 3; Nicole Vidal of West Salem Unit 51, District 7; Nancy Fields, Marsha Hannah-Rohlf & Janet Klotzbuecher of Clintonville Unit 63, District 8; Linda Coppock of Shiocton Unit 512, District 9.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

118, District 7; Barbara Arceneaux of Oak Creek Unit 434, District 4.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.

1 – Certificate of Participation – District 2, Historian Rebecca Hoffman.

1 – Best Overall Unit History – Chilton Unit 125, District 6, Historian Patricia Katalinick.

4 – Certificate of Participation – Brookfield Unit 449, District 1, Historian Lilli Schwantes; Watertown Unit 189, District 2, Historian Sandra Sullivan; Tomah Unit 201, District 7, Historian Bonnie Owen; Wausau Unit 10, District 8, Historian Jan Pflieger.