



DISTRICT 7 DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Lord,
Bless all our American Legion Family especially on these upcoming dates:

- December 7th Pearl Harbor Day
- December 21st the first day of winter
- December 25th Christmas Day
- December 31st New Year's Eve

As we approach Christmas Day let us remember the many Veterans that have served our country and are still serving, and those Veterans that can't be home for Christmas with their families.

We pray,

May the spirit of charity, goodwill and kindness be filled with gratitude and hearts filled with joy.

A very Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year. ~Amen.

~Chaplin Joanne

Conference on January 14, 2023 at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 2040 Airport Drive, in Green Bay. (Note: This is NOT the same hotel the 2022 Department Convention was held!) Anyone interested in attending must register through The American Legion. The registration form and housing information are available on the Legion's website (www.wilegion.org > Get Connected > Conventions & Events). Registration is \$20 until January 2, 2023 and \$25 after that.

CONSIDER ATTENDING AND TAKING YOUR JUNIORS! NATIONAL PRESIDENT VICKIE KOUTZ IS PLANNING TO BE THERE AND THERE WILL BE A JOINT JUNIORS AND SAL YOUTH EVENT. REGISTRATION FEE INCREASES AFTER 01/02/2023!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our goal for this year is 2073 members. As of 11/22/2022, District 7 is currently at 1378 members which is 66.47% of our goal. That puts us into 7th place out of twelve districts, needing 695 to reach 100%. This is our breakdown by county:

- ADAMS – 100% CONGRATULATIONS!
- CLARK – 61.67%
- JACKSON – 60.90%
- JUNEAU – 68.89%
- LACROSSE – 69.19%
- MONROE – 69.51%
- SAUK – 71.26%
- VERNON – 59.01%

MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

TAL MIDWINTER CONFERENCE – ALA SESSION: The American Legion Auxiliary is holding a training session at The American Legion's Midwinter

WALASBA 2024 AND BEYOND

The committee is in dire need of a hosting unit/ bowling lanes for 2024 bowling tournament – the dates are April 6 & 7 and April 13 & 14. Clark County has reached out to the committee as a possible host, waiting on confirmation from either the bowling alley in Medford or Eau Claire. Stay tuned for more information. Thank you to the units of Clark County for agreeing to host this event!

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE TOOL

Please consider filling out the attached form and let me know what your unit is doing for recruitment and retaining members. Thank you in advance for your time.

G.N.O.M.E -- GETTING NEW & OLD MEMBERS EXCITED!

“Believe” in the American Legion Auxiliary! Wisconsin gets excited! Long Sleeved T-Shirts available for order. Proceeds from the t-shirt sales will help support our programs. ***Place your orders by December 31st!

Use this link to make your purchase
<https://customink.com/fundraising/wisconsin-gets-new-old-members-excited>

AMERICANISM

• *Star Spangled Kids* is an excellent way to share our Americanism ideals with local children. Classes range all age groups and there is even a program for children with special needs. We must reach out to everyone and not leave anyone out. There are books available for children on the Emblem Sales website or feel free to search your local libraries.

• *Americanism Essay contest* is an excellent way to reach out to our children and give them an opportunity to show their patriotism. This year’s topic is: **WHAT DOES PATRIOTISM MEAN TO YOU?** It is a topic that can be embraced by all age groups. The essay contest is arranged by age groups, special needs and we cannot forget to include our home-schooled children. The submission form is included in this mailing.

• *The Oratorical Contest* is an excellent opportunity for our high school students to demonstrate their patriotism and interest in the Constitution. If you have never had the opportunity to attend one of these events, please do so. They are held on the district levels with Department finalists competing on February 11, 2023.

REQUIREMENTS FOR HOSTING ALA IN THE KNOW

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin, will be conducting three or four (3 or 4) ALA In the Know programs in the fall of 2023. Locations will be considered throughout the state

to host these training sessions. Units interested in hosting should complete the enclosed form and return it to ALAITK Chairman Patti Westpfahl, W2065 Northwest Road, Green Lake, WI 54941 or email pjw1975@ymail.com no later than February 28, 2023. Locations selected for 2023 will be contacted by April 1, 2023 (Questions call/text 920-299-0943 or Department Headquarters at 608-745-0124).

MISSION TRAINING

I recently attended mission training in Minneapolis on Saturday November 5th, and I cannot begin to tell you what a fun learning day it was! Please peek at the picture of the Juniors that attended the National Juniors Meeting at the same time. Emeri Wold, a junior from Unit 118, had a blast and she has been featured on several photos in emails and on Facebook for National!

Want to join other ALA members for a fun, interactive day of learning and socializing?

Register for an ALA Mission Training 101 in the new year!

During these one-day events, you’ll be inspired while learning more about working the ALA’s core programs in an interactive and fun environment. Many of the American Legion Auxiliary mission outreach programs will be covered during this conference — including Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, and National Security — plus a segment on public relations, branding, and social media.

How to tell if Mission Training 101 right for you:

- You’ve never attended a Mission Training event and you’re interested in meeting ALA members and national leaders outside of your local area who

share your passion for helping veterans.

- You want to share great ideas with other members across the country and renew your enthusiasm for our mission.
- You find yourself growing more involved and don't know where to turn for the information you need, or you've been doing the same activities for years and you want a fresh approach.

2023 ALA Mission Training 101 events

- Jan. 21 – Indianapolis
- Jan. 28 – Nashville
- Feb. 4 – Las Vegas



Get your ALA Juniors involved too!

ALA national Junior meetings are a great opportunity for our Junior members to spend a day together learning about the importance of our mission, developing leadership skills, and doing fun activities that will create a bond. These meetings are held at the same time and in the same city as Mission Training. Junior members who have celebrated their 8th birthday or older may attend the national Junior meetings.

These events aren't like school or even unit meetings. Kids who attend these one-day

events learn leadership skills and why we do things the way we do in the ALA. They also participate in crafty service projects as an added element of entertainment.

ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE:

2023 ALABGS reservations are due January 31, 2023; the unit reservation fee is \$400 per delegate. Sponsoring units should contact their schools now to start the delegate selection process.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S PARADE OF CHECKS:

National President Vickie Koutz will be conducting her official visit to Wisconsin during the Midwinter Conference (January 13th and 14th). A Parade of Checks will be held in her honor on Saturday, 1/14/2023, with the proceeds benefitting her special project – supporting the chaperones of veterans attending the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Units/members are encouraged to participate by bringing a check to Midwinter, payable to "ALA-WI" and earmarked for the NP Parade of Checks. Anyone who wishes to participate but cannot attend, may mail their check to department headquarters by January 9, 2023.

PRESIDENT'S PRAYER BOOK

Just a reminder to send in prayers or inspirational pieces to add to President Linda Coppock's Prayer Book. This will be presented to her at the Department Convention in July 2023, and it is an important memento to allow her to reflect on her busy year as our President. You can send to Linda Kostka by email (lkostka@ymail.com) or mail to: 63940 Sanford Road, Ashland WI 54806. They may be original or from another source but remember to give the source and your name, Unit number and District number.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DISTRICT DUES IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY. ATTACHED IS AN UPDATED LIST AS OF 11/21/2022. ** PAT'S ADDRESS HAS BEEN CORRECTED ON THE FORM. **

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- 12/054/2022 Past Department Commander Bud Mautz passed away on December 2, 2022. Condolences may be sent to:

Gunderson East Funeral & Cremation Care
c/o Family of Bud Mautz
5203 Monona Drive
Monona, WI 53716

- 11/22/2022 Robert Sirovina, Sr., father of Past Detachment Commander Bob Sirovina and father-in-law of PDP Diana Sirovina, passed away November 19, 2022 at the age of 95. Robert Sirovina, Sr. was a WWII Navy Veteran and member of American Legion Post 434 in Oak Creek. Visitation will be Saturday, December 3, 2022 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Schaff Funeral Home, 5920 W Lincoln Avenue, West Allis, WI 53219. A Legion service will be held at 11:30 am. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the SAL Operation A.L.F. program. Condolences may be sent to Bob & Diana Sirovina, 9428 W. Eden Place, Milwaukee, WI 53228.

- 10/25/2022 Current Department Riders President and Past Vice Department Vice Commander Ray (Godfather) Pasbrig, is recovering from hip replacement surgery at the Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee.

Cards can be sent to his home at 3306 Elderberry Rd, Racine WI 53402

- 10/10/2022 Craig A. Eirich age 67, brother of Past Department Commander Greg Eirich, passed away on October 1, 2022 following a recent cancer diagnosis. Condolences can be sent to: Greg Eirich 1026 North Avenue Sheboygan, WI 53083

- 9/30/2022 11th District President Claudia Osero's sister, Sandra Hall of Tennessee, passed away. Claudia went to Tennessee to make funeral arrangements. Condolences may be sent to: Claudia Osero, 127 S. 2nd Street #343, Tomahawk, WI 54487.

- 9/27/2022 Kathy Feirer, beloved wife of Past Department Commander Mike Feirer, passed away peacefully with her family at her side on Sunday, September 25, 2022 at Marshfield Medical Center.

Condolences can be sent to:
Mike Feirer
406 W. Cleveland St.
Marshfield, WI 54449

American Legion Department Commander Julie Muhle is offering some membership incentives that any member of the American Legion Family can apply for.

LEGION FAMILY MEMBER INCENTIVE: Every Legion Family member that signs up one new member will be put in a drawing for **\$250** – one to be drawn at Midwinter (January 14th) and one during Department Convention (July 22nd). Note: It is the responsibility of the Family Member to fill out the entry form and send it in. (Return this [ENTRY FORM](#) if you recruited a new member for the Legion Family – TAL, ALA, SAL or ALR!)

DUAL, TRI OR QUAD MEMBERS: Every Dual, Tri or Quad member will be put in a drawing for a **weekend for four at the Kalahari**. Dual members get two entries, Tri members get three entries and Quad members get four entries. This will be drawn at Department Convention (July 22nd). Note: It is the responsibility of the Family Member to fill out the entry form and send it in. (Return this [ENTRY FORM](#) if you qualify.)

DISTRICT 7 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION:

PRESIDENT – Christina Petranovich

W9020 Hixwood Road
Thorp WI 54771
715-512-0628 christina.petranovich@yahoo.com

1st VP – Helene Stein

30752 Exodus Avenue
Warrens WI 54666
608-343-3008 stitchkeeper@hotmail.com

2nd VP – Jesse Elmhorst

W4462 Sand Road
Neillsville, WI 54456
715-937-8246 Elmhorst2016@gmail.com

SECRETARY – Kristina LeCloux

PO Box 78
Thorp WI 54771
920-265-7187 klecloux@msn.com

TREASURER / PARLIAMENTARIAN – Pat Smith

800 West Ave N #112
West Salem WI 54669
608-786-4441 pms112ws@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN – Joanne Biesek

S2533 Gold Rush Court
Reedsburg WI 53959
608-678-6543 joannebiesek@gmail.com

HISTORIAN – Vickie Dux

1707 E Upham Street
Marshfield, WI 54449
715-384-9023 / 715-660-1506
bcvranch@frontier.com

SERGEANT AT ARMS – Virginia Kodl

N15109 Fisher Avenue
Thorp WI 54771
715-669-5432 kodlvirg@yahoo.com

ASS'T SERGEANT AT ARMS – Nichole Schmidt

315 Edgewood Avenue
Tomah WI 54660
608-343-9720 nicholemason17@gmail.com

CHAIRMEN:

MEMBERSHIP – Helene Stein

(Contact information above)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH – Jesse Elmhorst

(Contact information above)

LEGISLATIVE – Allysha Osburn

207 W Franklin Street
Thorp, WI 54771
715-512-0618 allysha.petranovich@gmail.com

VA & R – Virginia Kodl

(Contact information above)

POPPY – YOUR NAME HERE

JUNIORS – Katarina Petranovich

W9020 Hixwood Road
Thorp WI 54771
715-512-0887 kpetranovich@yahoo.com

EDUCATION – Nichole Schmidt

(Contact information above)

AMERICANISM – Diane Weggen

16266 361st Street
Stanley WI 54768
715-644-2668 dsweggen@gmail.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE – Valerie Mason

427 Michigan Avenue Upper
S. Milwaukee, WI 53172
715-305-1520 valzzz3@yahoo.com

LEADERSHIP – Jesse Elmhorst

(Contact information above)

NATIONAL SECURITY – YOUR NAME HERE

PUBLIC RELATIONS – YOUR NAME HERE

DISTRICT 7 DUES 2022-2023

- 040 Bangor --- \$19.25
- ~~026 Baraboo --- \$12.25 PAID~~
- 129 Black River Falls --- \$3.85
- 200 Black River Falls --- \$5.60
- 133 Camp Douglas --- \$9.10
- 202 Chaseburg --- \$20.30
- 116 Coon Valley --- \$17.15
- 115 Elroy --- \$11.20
- 238 Greenwood --- \$13.30
- 284 Holmen --- \$45.15
- ~~320 Humbird --- \$5.60 PAID~~
- 309 Kendall --- \$8.05
- 052 La Crosse --- \$38.50
- 417 French Island --- \$8.40
- 242 LaValle --- \$4.10
- ~~175 Loyal --- \$31.50 PAID~~
- ~~081 Mauston --- \$23.45 PAID~~
- 439 Melrose --- \$1.90
- 507 Mindoro --- \$7.35
- 073 Neillsville --- \$30.80
- 110 New Lisbon --- \$9.80
- 172 North Freedom --- \$8.40
- 541 Northfield --- \$14.35
- 336 Onalaska --- \$53.50
- ~~467 Ontario --- \$18.90 PAID~~
- ~~123 Owen --- \$4.55 PAID~~
- 398 Plain --- \$9.10
- 350 Reedsburg --- \$12.25
- ~~065 Rome --- \$5.25 PAID~~
- ~~100 Sparta --- \$24.15 PAID~~
- 253 Spring Green --- \$2.80
- 315 Stoddard --- \$5.95
- 368 Taylor-Hixton --- \$7.35
- ~~118 Thorp --- \$57.75 PAID~~
- ~~201 Tomah --- \$38.85 PAID~~
- ~~051 West Salem --- \$64.75 PAID~~
- 155 Westby --- \$12.25
- 508 Wilton --- \$14.70
- 206 Wonewoc --- \$7.35

UNIT: _____

AMOUNT: _____

Dues are based on 2021-2022 membership / \$0.35 per member

Please send this coupon with check to:

Pat Smith, District 7 Treasurer

American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of WI

800 West Avenue N #112

West Salem, WI 54669

2023 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

JANUARY 12-15, 2023

RADISSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
2040 AIRPORT DRIVE ~ GREEN BAY, WI 54313

REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-register for The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin 2023 Midwinter Conference by returning this registration form and \$20.00 per person (1 person per registration form) to Department Headquarters by January 2, 2023 and **save \$5.00!** Registrations received after January 2, 2023 will be \$25.00 per person. Or register online at wilegion.org.

(Please type or print clearly in order for your badge to be printed correctly)

NAME _____ MEMBER ID # _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ DISTRICT _____ POST _____ UNIT _____ SQUADRON _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Make check payable to The American Legion, or Enter Credit Card Information Below

Cash

Check # _____

OR

Name on Card

2022 - 2023

WISCONSIN

GETS NEW & OLD MEMBERS EXCITED!

Material:
100 %
preshrunk
cotton



'Believe' in the American Legion Auxiliary!
Proceeds from T-shirt sales will help
support our programs.

Use this link to make your purchase

<https://customink.com/fundraising/wisconsin-gets-new-old-members-excited>

Available sizes:

Small - X-Large \$25.00

XXL - \$27.50

XXXL - \$28.50

Plus shipping

Place your
order by
December
31st!!!!

Questions - contact Laura Calteux at lauracalteux@yahoo.com