



8th District Newsletter



President's Message

Hello Everyone!

Congratulations to Mosinee, Wild Rose and Vesper for being a 100% Unit for 2025! Keep up the good work everyone! Officers make sure you get your memberships in.

I am still looking for District Program Chairs for the openings listed in the box below. The position would only last until July 2025. The responsibilities of being a District Chairman are that you would be the liaison between Units and District, present a report at District Conferences and submit articles to the District newsletter. It's vital that we fill these roles as soon as possible. Please let me know if you are interested in one of them. My contact information is at the top of the newsletter.

There have been questions about membership eligibility for step-relatives. According to the Department Constitution, Article III (Eligibility), Section 2 - under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, equivalent step-relatives comply with the provisions of Section 1. This information can be found in the Red Book (an electronic copy of the Red Book is available on the Department website: amlegionauxwi.org).

I am looking for members for a nomination committee to put together a suggested slate of officers for the election that will be taking place at the Spring Conference. I have one committee member from the Wausau Unit, but need at least two more committee members from other parts of the District. If you are interested or would like more information on what's expected, please reach out to me.

I attended ALA in the Know at the end of September. It was a very informative program. The essay theme for the Americanism essay is "What does America the Beautiful mean to me". We had two break-out sessions. One highlighted the American Legion programs for the youth and the scholarships available. The second one was on leadership.

8th District Officers

President: Linda Tryczak
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1st Vice President: Fran Bender

2nd Vice President: Lorrie Barber

Secretary: Amanda Szalewski

Treasurer: Sarah Stiff

Chaplain: Ruth Henkelman

Historian: Penny Peeters

Parliamentarian: Diane Kranig

Mark your Calendars!!

**Midwinter Conference
January 16-19th**

**Hilton Paper Valley
Appleton WI**

A reminder to all Units, if any Unit has any upcoming events that they would like included in this newsletter, please let me know!

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me either by phone or email. Thank you for all you do!

Linda Tryczak

5 Ways to Keep your Members

1. Bring a list of inactive members to a unit meeting and have members contact them. It's an important sign to members when a volunteer leader takes the time to contact a member simply to say that the unit misses them and to also relay to the member that the unit is there to assist if there's anything the member needs.
2. Get spouses active – it assures renewal. When you have multiple family members simultaneously belonging to the Legion, the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion, your chances of having them review is much greater than the renewal rates of individual members.
3. Bring in National speakers to describe how National adds benefits to state/local membership. Units should try to get representatives from the Department and National organization to speak at a Unit or District function to emphasize the member benefits available through affiliation with the National organization.
4. Hold leadership-training programs – give you members the tools to be successful volunteers. It is important for members who do get involved to have a good experience during their involvement. Leadership training is becoming one of the best services that organizations can give their members. The skills developed through leadership training are transferred back to the members' workplaces. At renewal time, members will remember where these skills are developed.
5. Create a new member welcoming committee. When a new member joins, ask someone who is already a member to call the new member. Tell the new member what a good investment membership has been for them and congratulate the new member on making a great decision to join. In as little as ten seconds the welcoming member has validated the new member's decision to join by making that person feel more welcome in the Auxiliary unit.

Program Chairman

Legislative: Kay Grosskopf

Juniors: OPEN

VA&R: OPEN

Americanism: Betty Blume

Membership: Fran Bender

Children & Youth: OPEN

Please let me know if interested in any of these open positions.

Upcoming Events / Dates

Midwinter Conference – January 16-19, 2025

Attachments

Unit Updates – Fremont Unit 391

Fremont Unit 391 invites members to the Veterans Day Celebration that is sponsored by American Legion Wolf River Post 391. It is taking place on Saturday, November 9th, 2024 at the Legion Clubhouse in Fremont. From 4:00-6:00pm is cocktail, hors d'oeuvres and music from Still Cruisin'. At 6:00pm is a family style dinner.

Unit Updates – Wittenberg Unit 502

Wittenberg Unit 502 is having two Veterans Day celebrations on November 11th. There will be an 8:00am celebration at the elementary school. Then there will be a 10:20am celebration at the high school.