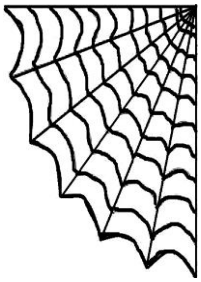
Bi-Monthly Mailing
October/November 2026



This mailing includes:



- Greetings from Department President Amy Luft
- ALA In The Know 2026 Registration form
- Greetings from Department Headquarters
- ALA 2027 Midwinter flyer
- 2027 (The American Legion) Midwinter registration form
- Constitution & Bylaws article
- Standing Rules article
- ALA Mission & Vision statements (updated)
- ALA Membership Eligibility changes flyer
- Membership: 2027 Unit Officer ALA MIS access registration form
- Membership: 2027 MIS Mid-Year Transfer form
- ALA Paid Up For Life (PUFL) Raffle flyer
- Badger Legionnaire & Wisconsin publication policies
- Finance article
- Past Presidents Parley article
- Poppy program article
- VA&R article
- Veterans Day Card
- VA&R: Christmas Gift Shop article
- Hospital Needs Lists: Chippewa Falls, Dayton Care & Zablocki
- VA&R: Service to Veterans Award order form
- 2025-2026 National Awards list





American Legion Auxiliary Mission Statement:
The American Legion Auxiliary honors the sacrifice of those who serve by uniting members to make a meaningful impact for veterans, military and their families, and communities.

American Legion Auxiliary Vision Statement:
To be connected, compassionate force – a community where veterans, servicemembers, and their families belong and thrive through service that supports veterans, military and their families, and the generation.

The Bi-Monthly mailing is posted on the Wisconsin Department website under the Unit Mailing link.
www.amlegionauxwi.org

FROM THE FLIGHT DECK...

of Department President Amy Luft

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Our wheels are up! As we begin a new membership year, we are already climbing to new heights.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

The National Membership slogan for this year is **BPOTS Be Part of the Solution**. Each of us can be part of the solution by renewing our membership and reaching out to prospective members. Our **PUFL Raffle** is going strong and is a fun way to be part of the solution. Already a PUFL member? You can still purchase a raffle ticket and gift it to another member or prospective member. Contact your District President to purchase tickets now through July 23, 2027.

SUPPORTING THE MISSION

Across our great state, members and units are hard at work carrying out our programs and living our mission—serving our veterans, their families, and our communities and helping our heroes take flight! Donations are starting to roll in for the Wisconsin Honor Flights. Thank you to everyone who is supporting this important mission. **Donations will be accepted any time all year long. Mail your check payable to ALA -WI and note "Honor Flight" in the memo line.** All monies collected will be divided equally amongst all Wisconsin Honor Flight Hubs.

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

National Convention brought us some exciting new changes with our eligibility and Mission & Vision Statements. Make sure to read the new changes included in this unit mailing. **With these changes comes our responsibility to update our Constitution & Bylaws to ensure that we stay in compliance.**

Our flight path includes many opportunities for our members. **Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Middleton January 21-24.** Registration information can be found on the Legion website: www.wilegion.org. There is a fun ALA session being planned for Saturday....you don't want to miss it!

THE JOURNEY HAS BEGUN, WISCONSIN...LET'S FLY!
~AMY

"Wings of Honor; Helping Our Heroes Take Flight"

Mission Training registration is now open on the National ALA website www.legion-aux.org: Choose from five exciting locations:

- NOV. 14 - OMAHA, NE
- JAN. 30 - ALBANY, NY
- JAN. 30 - SPRINGFIELD, IL
- FEB. 6 - ATLANTA, GA
- FEB. 6 - LAS VEGAS, NV

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin

2026 REGISTRATION FORM

ALA IN THE KNOW

CONTINUING EDUCATION

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30th

(Please submit one form per person)

An ALA In The Know session will be held Saturday, November 7th at Department Headquarters 2930 American Legion Drive Portage WI 53901

8:00 am – 9:00 am - Registration/Morning Refreshments

9:00 am – 3:00 pm - Informative presentation, lunch break, interactive program session, Q&A

Session is $25/person and includes morning refreshments, a light lunch, and program materials. **Please note the session will be cancelled if less than 25 people register by October 30th.** No reservations will be accepted on site.

Attendees will learn:

- ☑ How to effectively run a meeting
- ☑ Simplify your reporting efforts
- ☑ How to deal with unit conflict
- ☑ Updating your guidelines

Plus much more!

Sessions will include information on a variety of topics and Auxiliary programs. New topics will be covered, so come out and join the fun!

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please print clearly.

District #: _____ **Unit #:** _____ **Unit City:** _____

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Are you a first-time attendee? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Are you a newly elected (less than 2 years) officer? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Mail check payable to ALA-Wisconsin:

ALA Wisconsin
P. O. Box 140
Portage, WI 53901-0140

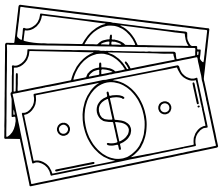
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED ($25/PERSON): _____

A $25.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks.

GREETINGS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Bonnie Dorniak
www.amlegionauxwi.org ~ deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org ~ 608-745-0124

2027 DAILY SWEEPSTAKES: Entry forms for the 2027 Daily Sweepstakes were mailed in late August. Although no donation is required, ***contributions are greatly appreciated*** since proceeds support programs that benefit our veterans, military and their families. Thank you to those who already sent their entry forms with a donation! Additional entry forms are available by calling Linda Cason at 608-745-0124. Entries must be returned to Department Headquarters by December 31, 2026. Thank you for your support!



IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP CHANGES!

- At the 2027 National Convention, The American Legion expanded membership eligibility for the ALA. to allow grandfathers, fathers, brothers, sons and grandsons to join the American Legion Auxiliary.
- ALA Unit Officers may now verify membership eligibility and sign new member applications.

2027 DUES RENEWAL NOTICES:

- National Headquarters mailed 2027 membership dues renewal notices the week of ***September 15th*** to members whose dues were not processed by department by August 1st.
- Units should forward dues to department promptly.
- Membership questions? Contact Andrea Stoltz at department headquarters.

POPPY ORDERS: DUE 12/15/2026!

Poppy prices have increased to $0.30/poppy.

Orders received after ***December 15th*** will be charged an additional processing fee. Units and Posts must submit a poppy profit report from their last order before their new order will be processed. Poppy orders will be shipped as soon as possible and should be verified upon receipt.

2027 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

Members are encouraged to attend Midwinter Conference on Saturday, ***January 23, 2027*** at Madison Marriott West in Middleton. See enclosed flyer for details.

POPPY MAKERS WANTED

A Poppy Maker training session will be held at the Midwinter Conference on Saturday, ***January 23, 2027*** for veterans interested in making poppies for ALA Wisconsin. Please contact Poppy Shop Supervisor Sue Hembrook at 262-945-9791 or genesuehem@wi.rr.com for more information.

ALA IN THE KNOW - COMING TO DEPARTMENT HQ!

Another ALA In The Know Conference has been scheduled for ***November 7, 2026*** at Department Headquarters. A minimum of 25 attendees are required or the session will be cancelled. See flyer in this unit mailing for more information and reserve your spot today! Registration deadline is ***October 30, 2026***.

ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE (ALABGS)

ALABGS information packets will be mailed in late October for the 2027 ALABGS session. Units planning to sponsor girls should submit their reservation fees ($500 per delegate) by ***January 31, 2027*** and start working with their schools to select delegate(s).

After Department receives the reservation fees, schools will be notified how many delegates they may select and students must register by ***April 1st***. If a delegate is not selected, the unit may request a full refund by emailing Carrie Thrasher no later than April 15, 2027. After April 15th, a $50 processing fee will be charged. No refunds will be issued after May 1, 2027.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Information will be sent to schools reminding them of the many ALA scholarship opportunities available to high school students. Department and national scholarship applications will be posted on the department website.

Units should contact their local schools to promote the scholarships which are due ***March 15th*** and to provide contact information so students know how to complete the required 'certification of unit sponsorship' section. Please encourage all eligible students to apply!

NEW MISSION STATEMENT

The National Executive Committee approved a new Mission Statement for the ALA on September 3, 2026:

The American Legion Auxiliary honors the sacrifice of those who serve by uniting members to make a meaningful impact for veterans, military and their families, and communities.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2027 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
AT MADISON MARRIOTT WEST, MIDDLETON
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2027

10:00 am – 11:00 am

WINGS OF HONOR: THE HONOR FLIGHT STORY

Take a journey through the inspiring story of Honor Flight - from its humble beginnings and the vision that started it all, to over 20 years of giving our nation's heroes the opportunity to visit the memorials built in their honor. Discover the impact Honor Flight has had on veterans, their families, and communities, and learn how the program continues to evolve. We will celebrate where Honor Flight has been, where it is today, and look toward the exciting possibilities for its future and what you can do to continue Helping Our Heroes Take Flight!

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

INTERMISSION
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm



Join us for a fun-filled, laugh-out-loud talk show featuring ALA programs, personalities, and plenty of surprises. Come ready to laugh, cheer, and celebrate all the amazing things our members do! You may recognize some familiar faces, program personalities, and maybe even a few surprises! Get ready for a little laughter, a lot of fun, and a whole lot of ALA spirit! You won't want to miss this episode!!

Attendees must register for the Midwinter Conference at wilegion.org ($35.00 before January 1, 2027 and $40.00 after January 1, 2027) or use the enclosed registration form.

WISCONSIN AMERICAN LEGION

A Night at the Copacabana - Midwinter 2027

REGISTRATION FORM

JANUARY 21-24, 2027 | MADISON MARRIOTT WEST

$35 RECEIVED BY JANUARY 1, 2027 | $40 AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027
Registration fee is per person

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Name

Member ID #

Email

Phone #

Enter the number or numbers that apply to your membership.

Post #

Unit #

Squadron #

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ $35 - Received by January 1

☐ $40 - Received after January 1

☐ A Night at the Copacabana Banquet - $50 per person

Guests:

Banquet RSVP required by January 1, 2027.

☐ Poppy Making Class - Saturday 8am-10am - Veterans ONLY. No charge.

Amount Enclosed

☐ Check

☐ Credit card

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration MM YY

CVV

Billing ZIP

Date

Cardholder Authorization Signature

For your security, do not email a completed form containing credit card information.

REGISTER ONLINE
zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/midwinter-conference

MAIL REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT TO
Wisconsin American Legion, PO Box 388, Portage, WI 53901
Checks payable to Wisconsin American Legion. Keep a copy for your records.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
Diana Sirovina, Department Chair
dsirovina@icloud.com

URGENT!

ATTENTION: ALL UNITS, COUNTIES, DISTRICTS!
YOUR CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS NEED UPDATING!

At National Convention in August, The American Legion adopted new Auxiliary eligibility requirements. The National Executive Committee also approved several changes to the National Constitution & Bylaws. In addition, at our Department Convention in July, the delegates approved a lengthy list of changes to the Department Documents.

If you are thinking all of that is a lot, you are correct! There are several significant changes, and some that are more house-keeping related. That's why it's particularly important that your unit review all these changes and updates. Since we are at the beginning of our Auxiliary year, it would be a great time to begin reviewing your governing documents.

You can begin by reading the National and Department Constitution & Bylaws to be sure you are aware of the latest updates. Check the Unit Mailings and memos that come from Department for a list of the recent updates.

Next, get out your governing documents. Read them through once, then go back and read them again. This time, have a highlighter or pencil and paper handy. Note any questions you may have, any items where you are not certain of the meaning or intent, and any areas that you just aren't sure why they are there. Discuss the observations with your committee and then begin re-writing those sections that need updating.

If you need help, there is a template available for you to follow that will provide the proper format and structure for the most important documents your unit will ever have. Please feel free to email this chairman for a copy and any further information you might need to get those documents in good order.

Once your review is complete, discuss any proposed changes with your members. After all changes are added and the document is approved by your members, remember to email the revised document to this Department Chair. Your document will be reviewed for compliance with the National and Department documents and a copy added to your unit's file at department headquarters.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

Standing Rules

Joanie Dickerson, Department Chair
jomaried@gmail.com • 920-312-7792

What Are Standing Rules?

Standing rules are **simple guidelines for how a unit operates**.

They cover everyday things, such as:

- What time the meetings start
- How guests are handled
- How routine business is taken care of

Standing rules are different from bylaws. **Bylaws are the main rules of the unit. Standing rules deal with day-to-day details.**

It isn't necessary to create all of a unit's standing rules when it is first organized. Rules can be created later as a need arises.

A standing rule can usually be approved by a **majority vote**, without advance notice, as long as it does not conflict with the unit's bylaws or another existing rule.

Once a standing rule is approved, it stays in place **until a vote is taken to change or remove it**.

In simple terms: **Standing rules help us agree on how we will handle the routine details of running our organization.**

The department webpage contains a guide for writing standing rules as well as an example. These can be used for ideas of routine business items that need to be addressed on a regular basis. Having these rules written and distributed to all members will eliminate the question of who is responsible for each activity.

Once your unit has written your standing rules, a copy should be forwarded to the department standing rules chair for review. A second set of eyes is always a good thing to ensure what is written makes sense. After review, a copy will be filed at department.

Each unit should review their standing rules annually to confirm they are still applicable. Changes to standing rules do not require advance notice and only a majority vote is required to approve.

Well written governing documents (bylaws and standing rules) help a unit conduct its business seamlessly!

UPDATED: ALA Mission & Vision Statements

MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS APPROVED BY NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 9/3/2026

ALA Mission

(What we do every day.)

Approved:

The American Legion Auxiliary honors the sacrifice of those who serve by uniting members to make a meaningful impact for veterans, military and their families, and communities.

Previous:

In the spirit of Service, not self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

ALA Vision

(The legacy we'll leave.)

Approved:

To be a connected, compassionate force – a community where veterans, servicemembers, and their families belong and thrive through service that supports veterans, military and their families, and the next generation.

Previous:

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.

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ALA MEMBERSHIP
Eligibility Changes

More Families Can Belong!

SAME MISSION. MORE FAMILIES. A STRONGER TOMORROW.

WHAT'S NEW?

These family relationships are now gender-neutral and may be male or female.

Grandmother	→	Grandparent
Mother	→	Parent
Sister	→	Sibling
Daughter	→	Child
Granddaughter	→	Grandchild

Adopted relationships are eligible.

STILL NOT ELIGIBLE

Male veterans
under their own service.

Nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Sister or brother-in-laws are not eligible.

APPLICATION VERIFICATION

6/3/26
The **American Legion Auxiliary Unit Secretary or other unit officer may verify the eligibility of a potential member and sign the application.**

WHAT STAYS THE SAME?

LIVING VETERANS
The veteran must still be a member of The American Legion.

DECEASED VETERANS
The veteran must have served during an applicable War Era and been honorably discharged or died in service.

FEMALE VETERANS
May join under their own service without being a member of The American Legion, unless someone is joining under their service (the Living Veteran requirement applies).

SPOUSES
Male or female spouses of veterans remain eligible (since 2019).

TWO DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY MEANS:

Great-grandparents, great-grandchildren or any further generations are not included. This is ***per IRS requirement.***

GET THE UPDATED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Visit the ALA Department of Wisconsin website
www.amlegionauxwi.org
→ **Programs → Membership → New Member: Application**

SERVICE ★ ADVOCACY ★ COMMUNITY ★ TOGETHER FOR VETERANS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
P.O. Box 140, Portage WI 53901
Phone: 608-745-0124 • Email: alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

2027 UNIT OFFICER ALA MIS ACCESS REGISTRATION

American **L**egion **A**uxiliary **M**embership **I**nformation **S**ystem

Access to the National Membership database ALAMIS (**A**merican **L**egion **A**uxiliary **M**embership **I**nformation **S**ystem) is available to 2 current unit officers/chairmen per unit. Each person must use their own individual email address. Access is **read-only** and is limited to the individual's unit. ALAMIS is a useful tool for users of all experience levels, from beginners to advanced computer users.

The database runs in real time, providing the most up-to-date information. Look up new member ID#s, view and print current rosters whenever needed, check who has paid or not paid, view members' continuous years for award distribution, and more. Information can be manipulated to suit your needs, including creating mailing labels and compiling email addresses for mass email blasts.

Information can be viewed on your screen or download reports using Word, Excel, PDF, CSV, or XML

IMPORTANT – READ-ONLY ACCESS

ALAMIS users **cannot make changes** to member records, including names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, drops, deceased members, or transfers. All membership changes must still be submitted to **Department Headquarters on a Member Change Form**.

The subscription fee is $10.00 per person per calendar year (January 1, 2027 through December 15, 2027) for read only access. Each person must be submitted on a separate form.
Any forms received after Oct.1 will get the remaining year for free

DO NOT ALTER THIS FORM IN ANY WAY

Unit City Location _____ Unit # _____ Dist. # _____

Officer Position: _____ Member ID# **(required)** _____

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Make check payable to: ALA Dept. of WI

$ 10.00 Check Total (4560) Check Number _____

A $25.00 charge will be issued for any bank returned checks.
Checks cannot be accepted 90 days beyond date of check.

Please allow up to two weeks for processing

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
P.O. Box 140, Portage WI 53901
Telephone: 608-745-0124 • Email: alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

2027 ALA MIS MID YEAR TRANSFER

There is no fee to transfer a current user to a new user for the remainder of the calendar year

Unit City Location _____ Unit # _____ Dist. # _____

The Unit wishes to transfer current ALA MIS access from:

Officer Position: _____ Member ID# **(required)** _____

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

TO:

Officer Position: _____ Member ID# **(required)** _____

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Access will begin within two weeks of receipt and run through December 15, 2027.

Person submitting form: _____ Date: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

PAID UP FOR LIFE Raffle

ONE TICKET. A LIFETIME OF MEMBERSHIP.

You could be the lucky winner of a

★★★ **PAID UP FOR LIFE (PUFL) MEMBERSHIP** ★★★

in the American Legion Auxiliary!

$20 PER TICKET

★ AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ★

PAID UP FOR LIFE

RAFFLE

WIN A PAID UP FOR LIFE (PUFL) MEMBERSHIP

TICKET COST: $20.00

WINNER DRAWN JULY 2027

THE BENEFITS OF A PUFL MEMBERSHIP:

- Never pay annual dues again
- Locked in - never increases in price
- No worrying about dues reminders
- Continued support of our mission
- Peace of mind for you & your family

RAFFLE RUNS:

Kick-off at 2026 State Convention and runs through July 2027 Convention

WHO CAN ENTER:

Open to the entire American Legion Family - Legion, Sons of the American Legion (SAL), and Legion Riders.

WINNER'S CHOICE:

The winner may use the PUFL membership on themselves or gift it to another person!

HOW TO GET YOUR TICKET:

Each district president has been provided a bundle of tickets to sell to units within their district! To purchase a ticket, contact your *District President* or contact Amy Luft directly!

★★★ **SUPPORT OUR MISSION. WIN A LIFETIME.** ★★★

"For God & Country"
BADGER LEGIONNAIRE
& American Legion Auxiliary "WISCONSIN"
info@wilegion.org Official Publication of the American Legion Department of Wisconsin and the American Legion Auxiliary Wisconsin www.wilegion.org

BADGER LEGIONNAIRE & WISCONSIN
PUBLICATION POLICIES

For publication of American Legion articles in the *Badger Legionnaire,* please e-mail text and pictures in digital format to the editor at badger@wilegion.org.

For publication of American Legion Auxiliary articles in the *Wisconsin,* please e-mail text and pictures in digital format to the editor at deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org

There are six issues per year (February, April, June, August, October, December). Submissions must be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. If you miss the deadline, your item will most likely not be held over until the next issue due to the volume of submissions we receive and limited space available in the *Badger Legionnaire* and the *Wisconsin*.

When submitting photos, please make sure they are of the highest quality and resolution possible and sent in JPG format. Poor quality photos cannot be used. All photos should be accompanied by a listing of the individuals in the photo in the order in which they appear.

Pictures of members promoting Wisconsin American Legion Family programs and members wearing ALA branding have a higher likelihood of being published.

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any submission based on objectionable content or lack of interest to all members.

Submissions will not be returned whether or not they are used in the publication.

Items mailed to the office will not be published.

Pictures/articles from your local paper will not be republished unless you obtain written permission from the newspaper. Include that written permission with your submission.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

Unit Finances

Diane Duscheck, Department Chair
ddianeddiane@gmail.com

Start the ALA year right with FINANCE tips:

The Unit has approved a budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year for income and expenditures.

- Yes, budget income as well as expenditures.

Unit bank accounts are in the legal name of the Unit (the name used for the 990 filing).
There are at least two signatories on the bank mandate.

- Signatories may not sign a check made out to themselves.

Do not sign blank checks.
Perform a review/audit of financial records at the end of each fiscal year.

- Verify that the check book, bank statements, receipts, and invoices/vouchers all support financial income and expenditures.
- The audit may be completed by unit members, but not the president or the secretary.
- Report audit findings at a member meeting.

Budgeted purchases may be reimbursed when a receipt is turned in.

- Reimbursements are made by check.
- All payments must have supporting documentation.

Non-budgeted purchases must be voted on at a member meeting prior to reimbursement and should be approved prior to the purchase being made.
Reimbursements should be made via check, not cash.
The Unit 990 has been filed for the 2025-2026 year.
If the Unit is planning a raffle or sweepstakes, the license has been renewed or applied for.
Maintain separate records for each fund-raising event (this is not a separate bank account).
Cash income should be counted and verified by at least two people.
Income must be deposited in a regular and timely manner, preferably weekly.
Reconcile bank statements on a regular basis.
Do not keep petty cash. Monies should be deposited on a regular basis.
The treasurer will present a finance report at every meeting.

Unit Finances and supporting documentation are not secret, but they are confidential. The treasurer should be reporting the status of the unit's finances and balances at every meeting. It is not required, however, that copies of the actual bank statements are shared. Compare this to your private bank accounts. How much information would you share with family members? Your bank statements are confidential, also.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

Linda Coppock, Department Chair
lindacoppock@sbcglobal.net • 920-851-5811

JOIN NOW!!!

Did you know you can be a member of the PPP after one term of being an ALA President?

Yes, per ALAWI Constitution & By Laws and Standing Rules, a president fulfilling one year of their term is eligible to join the Parley. If they must leave the position prior to completing their term due to illness or resignation, they are still eligible to join the Parley.

If a Vice President assumes the role of the President for most of the term, for the same reasons, they are also eligible to join the Parley.

Why join, you ask? PPP collects $7.00 in membership dues annually and uses the money to offer three (3) $1,000.00 scholarships to qualified applicants who need financial assistance to complete their education in the nursing or healthcare fields. These scholarships are dependent on dues of our members and donations raised each year.

Donations? Yes, Members, Units, County or District entities can make donations to this program. The more funds raised will directly impact either the number of scholarships offered or the dollar amount offered each year. Wouldn't you like to be sure your child/grandchild could benefit from this program? If so, please consider donating to this program when you make your decisions to donate to the various ALA Programs!

Mentor of the Year Award: Now is the time to start considering who you think has been a great mentor, either to you personally, to the unit/county/district or ALA overall. The Mentor of the Year (award) criteria is on the ALAWI website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the PPP tab.

PPP membership cards will be mailed to the person who has filled out the dues form, which is also available on the ALAWI website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) under forms and the PPP tab!

Have a great year and please consider becoming a PPP member or donate to a very worthy scholarship!

Linda Coppock, PPP Chair
N3894 Loss Road
Weyauwega WI 54983

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

POPPY PROGRAM

Patti Westpfahl, Department Chair
Email: pjw1975@ymail.com • Ph: 920-263-8003



The Poppy, that small fragile red crepe paper flower which is the symbol of strength, honor, sacrifice, and remembrance. Wear a poppy to promote conversation and awareness.

This program honors veterans for their service and sacrifice by promoting and educating all people of the poppy's history and the financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of its distribution. This program includes the circulation of the poppy and promotion of its history and the significance of its distribution.

As Units begin looking at which programs that they will be working for 2026 - 2027, remember Poppies can be distributed year-round so start working on new ideas. Decide if what worked last year is still a valid idea, or do you need to start to think outside the box. Invite all members of the American Legion Family to assist with distribution. Poppy distributions are likely to be different in most communities. Remember to always ask for permission to distribute in front a business location, do not presume that it is okay. If local businesses allow, leave a poppy canister at their locations.

If you have not yet ordered your Poppies, do so as soon as possible, deadline to order is December 15, 2026. Orders will be filled as received so don't wait to order! As in past years, if you did not submit your 2026 Poppy Profit report you will not be sent any poppies.

Sponsor a Poppy Poster Contest. Contact the art teachers at your local schools now and encourage them to enter the contest. Posters submitted for Department citations are due May 1, 2027, and one winner in each classification will be sent on to Central Division for further competition. Each Unit Chair should allow ample time to have posters judged at your District level as applicable.

The 2026-2027 Poppy Program Engagement Plan and Poppy Information and Worksheets are available on the Department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) or you can contact me for any information you may need to make your district, county, or unit Poppy Program a success.

Remember reporting is essential to achieve our mission of quality support for our veterans. Watch for the due dates for mid-year narratives and annual reports.

Let me know all the creative ways your unit is promoting the Poppy Program. Photos and newspaper articles are greatly appreciated. I look forward to hearing from all of you!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

VETERAN AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION (VA&R)

PJ Stephens, Department Chair
pj_deptauxwi@yahoo.com

WHAT IS VA&R? This is a question I ask myself all the time.

Per last year's reporting, units aided in fundraising and donations to Camp American Legion, Christmas Gift Shop, Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund, Fisher House, VA medical facilities and Wisconsin Veterans Homes. They also donated to Quilts of Valor. The amount of donations reported exceeded $154,330 from across the department. Service to Veterans reported across all districts was in excess of 51,252 hours.

Then there are the veteran grants that the department distributes based on the eligibility criteria outlined on the applications. Everyday some veteran gets into a financial bind. They turn to family, friends, loans and, as a last resort, they turn to the County Veteran Service Office who contacts department headquarters.

ALA-Wisconsin offers one-time grants that are paid directly to the veteran's creditor, never to the veteran. During the last fiscal year, five veterans received $6,296 in grants through the Veterans & Family Emergency Grant and nine veterans were awarded grants totaling $12,575.70 through the Homeless Women Veterans Grant.

One of the grants became a bit complicated since the Veteran's home was in an unincorporated area that relied on electricity only. While they were on the electric company's payment plan during the wintertime, a substantially much needed car repair was paid, and they had to take custody of two grandchildren.

The veteran decided to make a partial payment instead of the full payment on the electric bill plan that was due without letting the power company know ahead of time. This process was playing out during the end of spring and the start of the summer heat. The 100% disabled veteran was terrified when a shut-off notice and a bill that exceeded $3,000 more than usual was received.

The short story is that it took several months of negotiation with the electric company and a grant from ALA-Wisconsin. This veteran stayed in their home, received federally funded perks from the electric company, and now has a more manageable electric bill.

The gratitude from that veteran was priceless. I could picture a happy dance. This is how you help veterans – by contributing to these grants.

Thank you for
serving our
country and
protecting our
freedoms!

Especially made for you from

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

A time to Honor,

A time to Remember

Christmas Gift Shop 2026

What do you know about Christmas Gift Shop? Other than Christmas being the most wonderful time of the year, it is an opportunity for The American Legion Auxiliary to honor our veterans in long-term VA facilities by giving them the opportunity to send gifts to their loved ones at Christmas.

Since 1928, American Legion Auxiliary members have worked with various VA facilities and state veteran homes where veterans in long-term care facilities reside to give them an opportunity to give Christmas gifts to their loved ones. ALA volunteers work with the facilities to assist the veterans in making their selections, purchase the gifts, and wrap and ship them to the families.

Over the years, our Christmas Gift Shop has seen many changes. Many years ago, members used to donate items for veterans to select their gifts. Due to lack of storge for unshipped items, a change in the program became necessary. Today, orders are placed on Amazon.com, beautifully wrapped and shipped directly to the veteran's families.

We always need to remember that those wonderful veterans in the Wisconsin Veteran's Home and the VA care facilities need our caring and support. These veterans served our country and now reside in long-term care facilities. We can honor their service and continue to support them through programs such as Christmas Gift Shop.

For your unit, this is a great opportunity to participate in this great program. As we know, Christmas only comes once a year. But your unit can participate whenever you have funds available. Christmas Gift Shop cannot continue to exist without your continuing support. Thank you for your continuing support of this great program!

Diana Sirovina
414-881-9581
dsirovina@icloud.com

Beverly Rohde-Hillman
262-527-1457
bar62155@yahoo.com



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

New items ONLY
Can not accept used items.

CHIPPEWA FALLS VETERANS HOME
2026-2027 Needs List

CLOTHING -

- Draw string shorts (all sizes)
- Men's socks (size 12+, all colors)
- Men's Sweatpants & shirts (L – 4X sizes)
  - Shirts can be hooded
- PJ pants only, No tops – (L – 4X sizes)
- Sportswear (Badger, Brewers, Bucks, & Packers)
- T-shirts (all sizes)
- Underwear, No boxer or long legged (all sizes)
- Women night gowns (L – 4X sizes)

GIFT CARDS – No higher than $10.00

- Culvers
- Festival Foods
- Kwik Trip
- Subway
- Wal-Mart

FOOD ITEMS -

- Hot Chocolate (regular and sugar-free)
- Soft & Hard Candy for Diabetics (Sugar-free)

Note: Please remember any food items must be dated 3 months out or more.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS -

- Women's body wash, shampoo & deodorant
- Dove bar soap
- Brushes & Combs
- Dental tablets (large boxes)
- Toothpaste & Dental Floss
- New Cordless razors (Only)
- Cheater Glasses (1.75, 2.50 & 3.00 strengths)
- Craft items to paint or paint by numbers
  - Smaller items for the store's free table
- Full size blankets (Red, White & Blue)
  - No Afghans or Lap
- Large print paperback books for Men & Women
  - No Puzzle books
- Men & Women Watch stretch bands
- Neck pillows

Please contact the representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.
Monetary donations for the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2026-2027 Poppy Fund Donation sheet **#4416** (found on the Dept website www.amlegionauxwi.org under the Forms tab).

Monetary donations go to items requested like pie and ice cream. They love to have things that aren't on the regular menu. These Veterans are our family, and they enjoy eating out; I am proud to have the funds to support their outings. Thank you for thinking of the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home.

All other donations should be sent to:

Chippewa Falls Veterans Home
c/o Nancy Randen, Hospital Representative
2175 E Park Avenue, Chippewa Falls WI 54729
Email: naranden@hotmail.com

Teresa Steinke, Hospital Deputy



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

KENOSHA OUTREACH
DAYTON CARE CENTER
2026-2027 Needs List

The following are some items that we could use at the Dayton Care Facility. We appreciate everything that is done for us. Any clothing or underwear donated must be new, thank you for understanding.

Below are some of the general items we need:

All in One Shampoo/Body Soap – liquid (3 in 1)
Bar soap
Baseball caps
Batteries – all sizes
Caps, scarves & mittens or gloves
Chapstick
Clocks
Colored Pencils
Construction paper
Denture Cleanser and Adhesive
Deodorant (Spray)
Diabetic socks
Disposable Razors
Electric razors
Eye Glass Cleaner/Wipes
Foot Powder
Greeting Cards
Hair products (gel, mousse)
Hand Sanitizer
Hair Ties
Handkerchiefs
Ink Pens
Lanyards
Large Print Puzzle Books
Liquid Soap
Markers
Mouth Wash – alcohol free
Notebooks
Pre-Shave and After Shave lotion – alcohol free
Q-tips
Quarter Length Socks
Shoelaces
Sketch books/ adult coloring books
Stamps
Sunscreen
Sweatpants/shirts (M-4X for Men & Women)
Tennis Balls
Tissues
Undergarments (all sizes for Men & Women)

Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed. Monetary donations for the Dayton Care Center should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2026-2027 Poppy Fund Donation sheet **#4412** (found on the Dept website www.amlegionauxwi.org under the Forms tab).

Thank you for your generosity in supplying our veterans with any of the items that you are able.

Sincerely,

Sue Hembrook, Representative
genesuehem@wi.rr.com • 262-843-4791

Crystal Shaw, Deputy

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Wisconsin

CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI V.A. MEDICAL CENTER
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
HOSPITAL NEEDS LIST

Item donations drop-off hours are Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Voluntary Service office located at:

Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center
5000 W. National Ave
Building 70, Room C-16
414-384-2000 ext. 41803

Call Voluntary Service first to see if your items are still needed.

Needed year round:

Men & Women Items:

- Back scratchers
- Backpacks
- Cell phone charger for IOS and Android
- Chapstick or lip balm
- Deodorant: men's and women's
- Fidget toys and fidget spinners
- Large print puzzle books: word find, crossword, sudoku
- Reading glasses any strength
- Regular size body wash, shampoo, body lotion, bar soap (Dove soap is appreciated), Toothpaste & 3 blade razors
- Small Notepads

Men's

- New T-shirts (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Sweatpants (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Sweatshirts (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Athletic shoes (size 8-13)

Women's:

- New Sweatpants/yoga pants (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Sweatshirts (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New T-shirts (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Athletic shoes (6-9)

Red Coat Ambassador Cart:

- Individually wrapped Granola bars
- Chips / Goldfish crackers / Cookies
- Non-perishable Individually packaged snacks
- Gum/Mints
- 8 oz Juice/Water bottles

Donations for HEART PILLOWS @ $20.

Monetary donations for the Zablocki Memorial VAMC should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2026-2027 Poppy Fund Donation sheet **#4404** (found on the Dept website www.amlegionauxwi.org under the Forms tab).

Bonnie Jakubczyk, Hospital Representative
Ph: 414-531-7890

Sue Hembrook, Hospital Deputy
Sandra Kaebisch, Hospital Deputy
Deb Porter, Hospital Deputy

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

2026-2027 SERVICE TO VETERANS AWARDS ENTRY FORM

ONLY LIST MEMBERS THAT WANT A PIN/BAR

This is not part of the annual reports; it is for awarding a pin and/or bar only.

Please mail this completed form by APRIL 15, 2027 to:

ALA-Wisconsin, Attn: Andrea Stoltz, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901
Fax: 608-745-1947 • Email: alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

**Awards will be mailed to the contact person/address listed below around October 31st **

Service to Veteran hours are awarded as such: upon reaching 50 hours you will receive a Service to Veterans pin. After that, attachable hour bars are awarded for 100, 300, 500, and 1,000 hours. After 1,000 hours, the award increments are increased by 1,000 (i.e., 2,000; 3,000; 4,000 up to 20,000 hours). After 20,000 hours, increments increase to 5,000 hours (i.e., 25,000; 30,000; 35,000). A Lifetime Service to Veterans pin is awarded after 35,000 hours. It is very important to report hours every year as hours accrue so the appropriate award can be distributed.

- If you are a caregiver of a veteran who lives with you, you may claim 10 hours per week.
- If you are a caregiver of a veteran who does not live with you (i.e., nursing home), you may claim 5 hours per week.

Unit City Location: _____ **Unit#** _____

Date: _____ **District#** _____

EXAMPLES OF COUNTABLE VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO VETERANS HOURS

Service to Veterans is volunteer service that directly benefits a veteran outside a VA facility. Some examples of qualifying service are listed below:

- Help elderly veterans at home (cleaning, yard work, etc.)
- Provide transportation for a veteran
- Offer to run errands for a caregiver or sit with a veteran while the caregiver runs errands
- Assist with veterans' job fairs by organizing or working at an informational table
- Volunteer at Camp American Legion
- Donate/Raise money for the Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- Volunteer for the Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- Make tray favors for veterans in nursing homes on patriotic holidays
- Give gifts and cards to veterans in nursing homes
- Make tie blankets or afghans for veterans
- Make Quilts of Valor
- Create and donate items from VA&R pattern book
- Shop for and prepare care packages for home-bound veterans
- Buy school supplies, host a baby shower, or send care packages to veterans' children who are headed to college

Only CURRENT members are eligible for this award. List members on the back of this form in **ALPHABETICAL order by last name (MEMBER ID# REQUIRED)**. Do not separate or otherwise distinguish juniors from seniors. Use additional sheets if needed. ***DO NOT LIST COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER HOURS, IN-KIND DONATIONS OR $ AMOUNTS****

Please list the contact person in case of questions and the person / address the awards should be mailed to. ***Awards are mailed to the address below for distribution to the members.***

Person completing this form: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

QUALIFYING MEMBER INFORMATION:

(MEMBER ID# REQUIRED)

****ONLY LIST MEMBERS THAT WANT A PIN/BAR****

****DO NOT LIST COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER HOURS, IN-KIND DONATIONS OR $ AMOUNTS****

List Member alphabetically by last name	REQUIRED Member ID #	# of Hours Volunteered for 2026-2027

2025-2026 NATIONAL AWARDS

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin received the following awards or acknowledgements for the 2025-2026 administrative year during the 2026 National Convention:

MERIT MEDALLION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE — **Department of Wisconsin**
Sue Hembrook, Department President

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE — **Harvey K. Funk Unit 494, District 1**
Crystal Shaw, Unit President

ALA FOUNDATION

Veteran Grant Champion Award for Receiving the Most Veteran Project Grants (3) in a Department — **Department of Wisconsin**

AMERICANISM

Americanism Essay Contest, Class I (Grades 3 & 4)
Best Americanism Essay in the Central Division — **Lucas Mercer**
Sponsored by Port Washington Unit 82, District 2

Americanism Essay Contest, Class VI
Best Americanism Essay in the Central Division — **Traigh Bowlin**
Sponsored by Menomonee Falls Unit 382, District 1

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Best Department Children & Youth Program in the Central Division — **Department of Wisconsin**
Mary Petrie, Department Chairman

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Best Department Junior Activities Program in the Central Division — **Department of Wisconsin**
Christine Johnsen, Department Chairman

LEADERSHIP

Unit Member of the Year for Significant Contributions to the Unit — **Christine Van Ryzin**
Appleton Unit 38, District 9

MEMBERSHIP

Department Goal Award for Achieving 25% of the 2026 Goal by 9/15/2025 — **Department of Wisconsin**
Christina Petranovich, Department Chairman

Department Goal Award for Achieving 60% of the 2026 Goal by 11/10/2025 — **Department of Wisconsin**
Christina Petranovich, Department Chairman

Department Goal Award for Achieving 85% of the 2026 Goal by 3/15/2026 — **Department of Wisconsin**
Christina Petranovich, Department Chairman

New Unit Award for New or Re-chartered Units for 2026 Year by July 31, 2026

- Henry G Mallin Unit 221, Osceola, District 12
- Temperly-Duncan, Inc. Unit 526, Hazel Green, District 3

Recruit/Rejoin 10 Award for Recruiting/Rejoining 10 Members by 6/6/2026:

- Diane Burkhalter
- Christina Petranovich

Family 3 Award for Recruiting 3 New Legion + 3 New Auxiliary + 3 New SAL Members by 6/6/2026:

- Diane Burkhalter
- Christina Petranovich

100% Unit Award for Units that reached 100% of their 2026 membership goal by 1/31/2026:

Unit 0001 – Milwaukee
Unit 0017 – Arcadia
Unit 0025 – Odanah
Unit 0029 – Kewaunee
Unit 0030 – Edgerton
Unit 0040 – Bangor
Unit 0048 – Beloit
Unit 0049 – Bayfield
Unit 0055 – Hortonville
Unit 0059 – Stoughton
Unit 0065 – Rome
Unit 0079 – Burlington
Unit 0082 – Port Washington
Unit 0083 – Sheboygan
Unit 0094 – Crandon
Unit 0095 – Delavan
Unit 0102 – Walworth
Unit 0107 – Mosinee
Unit 0123 – Owen
Unit 0126 – Brillion
Unit 0128 – Stockbridge
Unit 0129 – Black River Falls
Unit 0137 – Turtle Lake
Unit 0143 – St. Croix Falls
Unit 0149 – Sheboygan Falls
Unit 0168 – Glenwood City
Unit 0181 – Durand
Unit 0182 – Park Falls
Unit 0188 – East Troy
Unit 0196 – Delafield
Unit 0206 – Wonewoc
Unit 0208 – Rio
Unit 0222 – Campbellsport
Unit 0229 – Mount Hope
Unit 0254 – Milltown
Unit 0257 – Ridgeway
Unit 0258 – Little Chute
Unit 0259 – Prairie Farm
Unit 0267 – New Auburn
Unit 0271 – Poynette
Unit 0274 – Rib Lake
Unit 0280 – Coleman
Unit 0308 – Gays Mills
Unit 0320 – Humbird
Unit 0340 – Berlin
Unit 0348 – DeForest
Unit 0351 – Mount Horeb
Unit 0362 – Kennan
Unit 0401 – Cambria
Unit 0402 – Washington Isl.
Unit 0403 – Danbury
Unit 0410 – Fredonia
Unit 0424 – Mercer
Unit 0437 – Mazomanie
Unit 0451 – Boulder Junction
Unit 0454 – Mount Calvary
Unit 0455 – Milwaukee
Unit 0462 – Adell
Unit 0464 – Land O Lakes
Unit 0478 – St. Cloud
Unit 0487 – Cable
Unit 0503 – Dane
Unit 0520 – Vesper
Unit 0522 – Hubertus
Unit 0526 – Hazel Green
Unit 0541 – Northfield
Unit 0547 – Lublin
Unit 0551 – Beetown

POPPY

Poppy Poster Contest, Class I (Grades 2 & 3) — **Hadley Richards**
Best Poppy Poster in Central Division — Sponsored by Mazomanie Unit 437 ~ District 3

Poppy Poster Contest, Class II (Grades 4 & 5) — **Lady First**
Best Poppy Poster in Central Division — Sponsored by Milwaukee Unit 537 ~ District 4

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Best Department Public Relations Program in the Central Division — **Department of Wisconsin**
Natalia Genovesi-King, Department Chairman

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION/VAVS

2025-2026 VAVS Meetings – Perfect Attendance Award — Department of Wisconsin

- Middleton Memorial VAMC — **Sheila Frye, Hospital Representative**
- Tomah VAMC — **Helene Stein, Hospital Representative**

Volunteer Recruitment & Service Award

- Oscar G. Johnson VAMC — **Ann Wender, Associate Hospital Representative**