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American Legion Auxiliary Mission Statement:

In the spirit of Service, Not Self the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to 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.

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



Department President Linda Coppock's message...

Happy Spring! I am looking forward to seeing many of you at upcoming Spring District Conferences and if you are bowling at all, I will see you at the WALASBA Tournament on April 15 & 16 at Schwoegler's Park Towne Lanes in Madison, WI!

As you complete your Annual Reports, please note that copies will be forwarded to program chairmen and not to me. So, if your narrative reflects items that may qualify for the Department President's Award of Excellence, you need to forward a copy to me along with a copy of the President's nomination form (included in this mailing). It is not the responsibility of Department office staff to notify me of an award nomination, that should come from the person(s) creating it!

On that note, if you feel there is an event or anything noteworthy that may not fall in the parameters of the DPAoE nomination form, please send it to me anyway. It may be that one thing that inspires me to "Believe" in you!

April is Children and Youth month, and it is also the time to "Purple Up" and support the military child. Units are always busy finding creative ways to promote C&Y within their communities. Please remember to share these ideas at your Spring District Conferences and with your District Presidents so they can share your activities in their monthly newsletters!

May is Poppy Month! Are you ready to promote the Poppy? Do you sponsor a Unit Poppy Princess of have Junior members and Legionnaires that can help with your Poppy distribution? They just might better money makers than most of us ALA members! National Poppy Day is May 26th, the Friday before Memorial Day. Remember to honor the sacrifice of those who have served and have gone before us.

Reminder: At the 2022 ALA National Convention in Milwaukee a \$6.00 dues increase was proposed and after a second vote, it passed. This is not a reflection of your local or Wisconsin Department dues, those stayed the same. The total base rate is \$34.00 for the 2024 membership year.

There have been many negative comments about the dues increase. What we need to realize is all ALA operations are budgeted based off of membership dues paid. If the overall membership declines, the cost of dues will naturally increase. To stop the decline, we need to increase our unit membership. I was Department Membership chairman for two years and heard many complaints and excuses on the difficulty of obtaining and maintaining new members. And yes, I know, I am preaching to the choir!

Support the increase, it is less than 2 cents a day or 15 cents a week. We have done the math it is truly minimal; and it is profound when a veteran needs to explain it. *It's not about the price of membership, it's about the price they paid for you to become eligible. Past National Commander Jim Koutz*

Enjoy the warm weather coming our way. "Believe" in what you do and <u>**G**</u>et those <u>**N**</u>ew & <u>**O**</u>ld <u>**M**</u>embers <u>**E**</u>xcited!!!



American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Department President's Award of Excellence Nomination Form



Deadline: May 15, 2023

Unit Name: _					
Unit #	District # _	City I	Location		
Person Comp	leting Nomina	ation:			
Email:				Phone #:	
	□ Group	🗆 Unit	□ County	□ District	

Department President Linda Coppock will be presenting *Awards of Excellence* at the 2023 Department Convention. Awards will be selected based on the information provided in this narrative report. Awards will be determined on the merit of working the ALA Mission, Getting Back to the Basics, showing support of National President Vicki Koutz's request to Honor Veterans Every Day, supporting President Linda's Special Project and "Believing".

These awards can be for an individual Unit member or Unit/County/District as a whole or multiple people working as a group on a project or event. Please attach additional narrative pages to this document along with any photos. Photos included as part of the report can be printed or sent electronically to lindamae4ala@gmail.com. Electronically submitted photos will be featured during the video slideshow at Department Convention.

Identify the person(s) being nominated, what it is they did, where, when it happened, how, and why.

1. Working the ALA Mission, supporting our veterans and/or active military and their families.

a) Give a detailed description of how you accomplished working the ALA Mission.

2. Back to the Basics

- a) Was there any Leadership training/mentoring offered to members?
- b) Were members educated on the programs of the ALA and why they are important?
- c) Were members mentored on the value of being a member of the ALA?
- d) Was there any type of display presented to support ALA activities and/or programs?

3. Honoring our Veterans and/or Active Military and /or their families

- a) What type of activity was presented?
- b) What was the outcome/end result?

4. Giving Back to the ALA organization

- a) Was there a fundraising activity to support the President's Project of supporting the Department of WI ALA programs and giving back to the organization?
- b) If so, what type of activity and was it successful?

5. "Believe" You Have Value, "Believe" All Members Matter

- a) Describe how someone has made a difference for you or in your Unit/County/District.
- b) How did you acknowledge a mentor that inspired or impacted your ALA activities as a member/Unit/County/District?

(All nominations will be determined by the Department President and may vary from the above descriptions at her discretion)

Questions? Contact President Linda Coppock at lindamae4ala@gmail.com Nomination forms must be <u>postmarked by Friday</u>, May 12th, 2023

Mail to: Linda Coppock, N3894 Loss Road, Weyauwega WI 54983



The American Legion Family Testimonial

Department of Wisconsin Celebrates:

Departme	TAL Commander Julie Muhle
	ALA President Linda Coppock SAL Commander David Fuller
When:	Saturday, May 20, 2023
Where:	Romy's Nightingale W5670 County Rd A Black Creek, WI 54106
Schedule:	Social Hour: 5:30 - 6:30 Cash Bar Opening Ceremony: 6:30 Family Style Dinner (Broasted Chicken, Beef Tips, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Vegetable and Dessert, with Milk, Coffee and Water)
Cost:	\$30.00 per person
Housing:	Hotel accommodations on your own available in New London (20 minutes) AmericInn or Quality Inn, Appleton (20 minutes) Multiple selections, Oneida (25 minutes) Radisson, or Green Bay (40 minutes)
RSVP:	Register online at https://bit.ly/FAMTEST
OR mak	e checks payable to Shiocton Unit 512 and return as follows:
Name(s):	

No. Attending: _____(@ \$30/person) Total Enclosed: _____

Linda Coppock N3894 Loss Rd Weyauwega, WI 54983

RSVP NO LATER THAN MAY 10, 2023

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

WHEREAS; American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State teaches the principles of democracy in a representative government and prepares high school students across Wisconsin for citizenship, civic engagement, and active participation in democracy; and

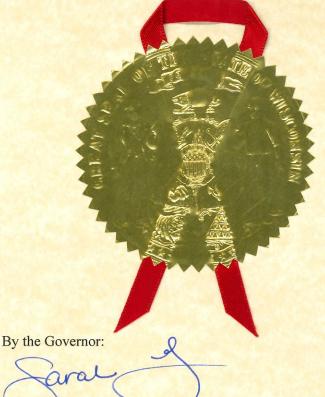
WHEREAS; American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State provides an opportunity for collaboration and working toward a greater collective good while sharing experiences that demonstrate the duties, privileges, and responsibilities of good citizenship; and

WHEREAS; American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State works to instill lifelong skills and appreciation for community and civic participation while inspiring a new generation of leaders;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 18 – 23, 2023, as

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY BADGER GIRLS STATE WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.



SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 21st day of March 2023.

ONY EVERS

GOVERNOR



GREETINGS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Executive Secretary/Treasurer – Bonnie Dorniak

Website: www.amlegionauxwi.org ~ Email: deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org ~ Phone: 608-745-0124

LINK LETTERS: Units that are interested in fundraising with local businesses or individuals who require proof of non-profit status should contact Department Secretary Bonnie Dorniak to request a "link letter" from the national organization.

POPPY UPDATE: ALA-Wisconsin sold out of poppies in early to mid-February. (*THANK YOU* to everyone who placed their orders by the December 15th deadline!) Poppies will be available again in the Fall.

POPPY DISTRIBUTION/PROFITS: Although National Poppy Day is Friday, May 26, 2023, *units are reminded that poppy distributions can be done all year long*. If you are unable to do a poppy drive during the traditional May timeframe, consider doing one for Flag Day (June), Independence Day (July), community events (all summer long), Veterans Day (November), etc. Poppy Profit Reports are due to Department Headquarters as soon as poppy distributions are completed. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Cason at Department Headquarters or via email at bookkeeping@amlegionauxwi.org.

2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Units are reminded to compare the biweekly membership report with their records to ensure the numbers are correct. If you believe more members have paid than the number reflected on the report, verify that all the checks submitted with transmittals have cleared the bank. If they have not been cashed, the transmittal and check were not received at headquarters. Questions? Please contact Andrea Stoltz at <u>alawi@amlegionauxwi.org</u>.

2023 ALABGS UPDATE: All delegates and alternates should have completed the online registration process by April 1st. Units are reminded to contact the girls they are sponsoring to ensure they have registered and are committed to attending the 2023 session of ALA Badger Girls State. A full refund of the delegate fee will be issued to sponsors who notify department headquarters of the cancellation and request a refund prior to April 15th. Cancellations and refund requests postmarked or emailed after April 15th will be assessed a \$50 processing fee for each reservation cancellation, resulting in a partial refund. NO REFUNDS will be issued after May 1st.

2023 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION: The 2023 Department Convention is scheduled for July 20-23, 2023 at the Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Rothschild. Convention information is included in this mailing and is posted on the department website. We hope to see you there!

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS!

- Thursday, July 20th, 3:00 pm The Legion Family is **tentatively** conducting a joint kick-off ceremony. Watch for more details closer to convention.
- Thursday, July 20th, 4:00 pm Past Presidents Parley Business Meeting
- Friday, July 21st, 9:15 am Convention opening ceremonies
- Friday, July 21st, 3:00 pm Recognition program for Honored PDP Sue Vorwald and presentation of District Membership Awards
- Friday, July 21st and Saturday, July 22nd General sessions will include reports from Department Chairmen; nominations and election of department officers; and a presentation of proposed changes to the department's governing documents.
- Saturday, July 22nd Installation of 2023-2024 Department Officers and District Presidents will be conducted at the end of the convention session on Saturday afternoon.
- Sunday, July 23rd Post-Convention Department Executive Board Meeting with 2023-2024 Department Officers and District Presidents.

2024 MEMBERSHIP CARDS/ROSTERS: Although we are still actively collecting dues for 2023, National has already pulled the information for the 2024 membership cards and rosters that will be distributed in July. Any changes submitted after March 31^{st} – including name or address changes, dropped or deceased members – will be listed incorrectly. Please keep in mind that National dues increased by \$6 for the 2024 membership year.

2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION: National Convention is in Charlotte, NC from August 25-31, 2023. Wisconsin PDC Dan Seehafer is the Leading Candidate for National Commander. Anyone interested in attending National Convention should notify Bonnie Dorniak (<u>deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org</u>) to receive a convention packet when they are available. Details will also be posted on the department website.

2023 ALA IN THE KNOW CONFERENCES: ALA in the Know Conferences are scheduled for September. The registration form is included in this mailing and posted on the Department website.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN ALA IN THE KNOW (*Important Info for Every Member*) 2023 REGISTRATION FORM



DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 2023

(Please submit one form per person)

Members are encouraged to register early---space is limited! Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations received after capacity is reached, will be returned. No reservations will be accepted on site. <u>Reservation deadline for all sessions is AUGUST 1st</u>.

Session is \$25/person and includes morning refreshments, a light lunch, and program materials. Sessions will include information on a variety of topics and Auxiliary programs. New topics will be covered, so come out and join the fun!

Schedule for all conferences:

7:45 am – 8:15 am	Registration/Morning Refreshments
8:15 am – 2:30 pm	Informative presentation, lunch break, interactive program session, Q&A

Reservation deadline for ALL sessions: <u>August 1, 2023</u>

Please print clear	ly:			
District #:	_ Unit #:	Unit C	ity:	
First Name:			Last Name:	
Email:			Phone: 🗌 home 🗌 cell: 🔡 ()	
Select One:				
		Saturday, 09/9/2023	LOCATION American Legion Post #360 417 East Main Street, Waunakee, WI 53597 Tigerton Community Center	
		Saturday, 09/16/2022	221 Birch St, Tigerton, WI 54486 Parking in Back / Use Back Door	
			Fletcher Pechacek American Legion #121 701 N Main St, River Falls, WI 54022	

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$25/person): \$_____

Mail check, payable to ALA-Wisconsin, **by August 1st to:** ALA Wisconsin, P. O. Box 140, Portage, WI 53901-0140.

A \$25.00 fee will be charged for any check returned by the bank.

Please share one (1) question you would like addressed during the session:



CHAPLAIN – PRAYER BOOK

Please continue to send me prayers, poems and inspiration items to add to President Linda Coppock's Prayer Book. Thank you to those who have already sent them to me but there are still more pages to fill.

PRAYER BOOK CONTEST

Unit Chaplains are encouraged to create a book or prayers, inspirational poems and reflections, drawings and pictures to share with members in their Unit. Prayers are an important part of our daily life. Each Unit Member, including Juniors, should be encouraged to share prayers, poems, reflections, drawings and pictures for the prayer book and/or send for the Department Prayer Book contest.



Guidelines:

- 1. **Book:** A plain three (3) ring loose-leaf binder.
- 2. Cover: Must have an Auxiliary emblem or seal on the cover.

3. Contents:

- a. Use white $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ -inch paper.
- b. May be typed, handwritten or printed.
- c. Include dedication on the first page.
- d. Pages may be illustrated with pictures, drawings or graphics.
- e. Please DO NOT cut prayers from the Auxiliary magazine or the Wisconsin Chaplain's Corner to use in this prayer book.
- f. Pages may be protected with cellophane or clear plastic.

4. Categories:

- a. Original prayers signed by the member submitting (Senior and Junior)
- b. Interfaith prayers favorite prayers not composed by Unit members. Provide the name of the author and source and include the name of the member submitting the prayer.
- c. Devotional thoughts and personal quotations. These could include thoughts promoting a culture of goodwill. Provide the name of the author and source and include the name of the member submitting the prayer.
- d. Scripture passages give a book of the Bible, chapter and verse or other religious scripture source.

5. Last page:

- a. Unit number, name, city and District member.
- b. Number of Senior members and Junior members in the Unit.
- c. Name and signature of Unit Chaplain (signed above typed name).

Submit: Mail Unit Prayer Book by May 15, 2023 to

Linda Kostka, Department Chaplain 63940 Sanford Road, Ashland WI 54806 Ph: 715-685-1111 (h) • 715-209-8135 (c) Email: lkostka@ymail.com

2023 DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCES

Dist	Date	Location	Registration	Lunch Fee	Make check	Send check to:	Contact Person	Dead-
			Time/Fee		Payable to:			line
#1	5/6/23	Union Grove AL Post 171 1027 New Street Union Grove WI 53182	8:00 – 8:55 am \$15.00	Included in Reg. Fee	ALA Unit 171	Sandy Mannix 3031 Sheard Road Burlington WI 53105	Zondra Morris 608-751-3924 morriszondra1964@gmail.com	4/28/23
#2	4/29/23	Germantown AL Post 321 N120W15932 Friestadt Road Germantown WI 53022	8:00 – 8:55 am \$17.00	Included in Reg. Fee	ALA 2 nd District	Mary Montag 726 Jean Court Allenton WI 53002	Amy Luft 414-651-7300 amyjluft@gmail.com	4/22/23
#3	4/22/23	American Legion Post 360 417 E Main Street Waunakee WI 53597	8:00 – 8:45 am \$5.00	\$10.00	ALA Unit 360	Carol Endres 424 Nightingale Lane Cottage Grove WI 53527	Joyce Endres 608-772-1763 ljendres@charter.net	4/14/23
#4	5/13/23	American Legion Post 416 6351 W Grange Avenue Greendale WI 53129	9:30 -9: 55 am \$26.00	Included in Reg. Fee	ALA 4 th District	Sue Hembrook 24215 60 th Street Salem WI 53168	Sue Hembrook 262-945-9791 genesuehem@wi.rr.com	5/5/23
#5				No	Information	า		
#6	4/29/23	American Legion Post 306 518 Water Street Green Lake WI 54941	8:30 – 8:45 am \$15.00	Included in Reg. Fee	ALA Unit 306	Diane Steinert 2850 Homestead Drive Oshkosh WI 54904	Diane Steinert 920-573-1846 djdmsteinert@gmail.com	4/15/23
#7	4/1/23	Mentor Community Hall N3049 King Street Humbird WI 54746	8:00 – 8:45 am \$4.00	\$10.00	ALA Unit 320	Janet Elfering N3404 Stuve Road Humbird WI 54746	Janet Elfering – avail after 3/4 715-262-5949 djelfe@gmail.com	3/25/23
#8	4/22/23	Vesper Community Center 5032 Benson Avenue Vesper WI 54489	8:30 – 9:15 am \$20.00	Included in Reg. Fee	ALA Unit 520	Sue Worlund 4893 1 st Street Vesper WI 54489	Paula Jensen 715-569-3746 jensenpaula075@gmail.com	4/14/23
#9	4/1/23	American Legion Post 38 3320 W College Avenue Appleton WI 54914	8:00 – 8:45 am \$1.00	\$16.00	Marinette County Council	Joan Erickson N19170 Erickson Drive Dunbar WI 54119	Deanna Farley 920-810-2664 farleyofsc@gmail.com	3/22/23
#10	4/29/23	Joint Opening at AL Post 121 ALA Mtg: St. Bridget's Catholic Church 211 E Division Street River Falls WI 54022	8:00 - 9:00 am \$2.00 Sr .50¢ Jr	\$15.00	ALA Unit 121	ALA Attn: Spring Conference PO Box 121 River Falls WI 54022	Margaret Larson 715-410-7936 maggiedoit@hotmail.com	4/15/23
#11	4/22/23	Camp American Legion 8529 County Road D Lake Tomahawk WI 54539	9:00 – 10:00 am \$3.00	\$5.00	F	Registration & Lunch fees will be	collected day of meeting	·
#12			I	NFORM/	ATION PEI	NDING		

AMERICAN LEGIO	4 UNIT OF N AUXILIARY • DEP PO Box 140, Portage WI 5 • Fax: 608-745-1947 • Ema	ARTMENT OF WI 3901-0140	SCONSIN	
Unit City Location			Unit	#
County			Dist	#
Meeting Location/Date &	z Time			
Please designate ONE	n submitted to Department to b OFFICER to receive Unit m	nailings and other impo	-	
President's Name		Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
Mailing Address		City	Zip	
Primary Ph #	Cell Home	Secondary Ph #	Cell	□ Home
Email				
1 st VP's Name		Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
Mailing Address		City	Zip	
Primary Ph #	Cell Home	Secondary Ph #	Cell	□ Home
Email				
2 nd VP's Name		Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
Mailing Address		City	Zip	
Primary Ph #	Cell Home	Secondary Ph #	Cell	□ Home
Email				
Secretary's Name		Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
Mailing Address		City	Zip	
Primary Ph #	Cell Home	Secondary Ph #	Cell	☐ Home
Email				
Treasurer's Name		Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
	Cell Home			
-		-		

	Chaplain's Name	Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
	Mailing Address	City	Zip	
	Primary Ph # Cell	e Secondary Ph #	□ Cel	☐ Home
	Email			
•	(Dues Remit To Person – name & address will be printed	on the members' payment	dues reminders sent from	n National)
5	Renewal Notice Name	Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
	Mailing Address	City	Zip	
	Primary Ph # Cell Home	e Secondary Ph #	Cel	☐ Home
	Email			
Ç	Dues Mailing Address/City/State/Zip	t from mailing address a		
\$	(<u>The person in the UNIT</u> who will receive ALABGS info	rmation)		
\$		rmation)		
\$	(<u>The person in the UNIT</u> who will receive ALABGS info	rmation) Yrs in this position	Member ID #	
\$	(<u>The person in the UNIT</u> who will receive ALABGS info ALABGS Chrm's Name	rmation) Yrs in this position City	Member ID #Zip	
\$	(<u>The person in the UNIT</u> who will receive ALABGS info ALABGS Chrm's Name Mailing Address	rmation) Yrs in this position City e Secondary Ph #	Member ID #ZipZip	



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN Official call to the 2023 ALA Department Convention

Thursday-Sunday, July 20-23, 2023 Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center, 10101 Market St, Rothschild, WI 54474

Opening Ceremonies/Call to Order: Opening processional will start on Friday, July 21st at <u>9:15 am</u>. President Linda Coppock will call convention to order upon arriving on the stage at approximately 9:30 am.

Convention Center: The 2023 Department Convention will be held at the Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Rothschild, WI (Wausau area).

Housing Blocks: Housing has been arranged at the Best Western Plus and Bantr hotels. Please see hotel sheet for more information. Discounted room rates will be available until June 20, 2023 or when the room blocks are filled, whichever comes first. Additional hotels may be available after April 26, 2023.

Registration: All attendees to the 2023 Department Convention must preregister by returning a registration form and \$30.00 per person to The American Legion by July 15, 2023. Registrations after that date will be \$35.00 at the convention.

Delegate Forms: Each unit is entitled to representation at Department Convention as defined in the Department Constitution. Delegate Forms will be mailed to all units who have paid their district dues by June 20, 2023. The form must be completed and returned to Department two weeks prior to convention.

Deceased Members: Names of deceased members that are sent to Department Headquarters by April 28, 2023 on a Member Data Form will appear in the Joint Memorial Service Program.

Alternates for National Convention: Each of the 12 districts may nominate alternates to National Convention at the district level, with the selection process possibly done at their spring conference. Names of nominees shall be sent to Department Headquarters as soon as selected, but no later than July 1st.

Flag Processional Rehearsal: Friday, July 21st at 8:00 am – Units or Counties participating in the Flag Processional during opening ceremonies must bring their own flag stands. Color Bearers should bring flags to rehearsal in the convention hall. Department is not responsible for any flags left in the convention hall prior to rehearsal. Color Bearers will retire the flags on Saturday afternoon, July 22nd.

Color Bearers should wear a white blouse (not sleeveless), navy-blue knee-length skirt or navy-blue ankle-length slacks, light nylons, and comfortable dark colored shoes. Auxiliary pin, watch, rings, and small earrings may be worn. Do not wear convention name badges, nametags, or any other type of pin.

Seating: District delegations will be seated in the convention hall according to district membership standings 30 days prior to convention (June 20, 2023). Only <u>registered</u> members and guests will be allowed on the convention floor. Alternates and guests have no voice/no vote during the convention proceedings. Guests only attending installation on Saturday do not need to register for convention.

Voting: On Saturday, July 22nd, all delegates must be registered and seated with their District by 9:00 am for voting. Business will resume as soon as voting is completed.

Installation: Installation of 2023-2024 Department Officers and District Presidents will be on Saturday, July 22nd upon conclusion of convention business.

> More detailed information can be found on the Department website: <u>www.amlegionauxwi.org</u>.



American Legion Auxiliary-Department of Wisconsin 2023 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center 10101 Market St, Rothschild, WI 54474



2023 OFFICIAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Thursday, July 20, 2023

8:00 am	Set up Headquarters Office/Exhibits
8:00 am	Set up Headquarters Office/Exhibits
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Registration Setup
11:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Fundraiser Raffle
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Legion Family Joint Executive Committees Luncheon
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Headquarters Office/Exhibits - Open
2:30 pm	Tellers, Credential Chairman & Judges of Election meeting
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Possible Joint Legion Family Kick-Off Ceremony (colors, prayer, pledge, greetings)
4:00 pm	PPP Business Meeting
5:30/6:00 pm	Past Department Presidents Dinner (by invitation only, after details are finalized)

Friday, July 21, 2023

7:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am – 5:00 pm	Headquarters Office/Exhibits
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Fundraiser Raffle
8:00 am – 8:45 am	Flag Rehearsal
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Processional Line-Up
9:15 am	Processional
9:30 am – 3:00 pm	Convention Session
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Recognition Program
- •	 Honored PDP Sue Vorwald

Saturday, July 22, 2023

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Registration
7:00 am – 11:00 am	Headquarters Office/Exhibits
8:00 am – 11:00 am	Fundraiser Raffle
8:00 am – 2:30 pm	Convention Session
-	

District Membership Awards

• 9:00 am-VOTING

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- o Convention reconvenes immediately following voting
- \circ Judges of Elections, Credential Chair, Dept Tellers vote counting
- Flag Recessional

3:00 pm

Installation	of 2023-2	2024 Departr	nent Officers	and District	t Presidents

• Adjournment of 2023 Convention

	o rajournment of 2020 Convention
	 Reception Line for 2023-2024 Department Officers & District Presidents
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Church Services
6:30 pm	Joint Legion Family Memorial Service Rehearsal
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Saturday Evening Entertainment

(Legion Family invited to attend; ticket purchase required w/Registration)

Sunday, July 23, 2024

8:00 am	Joint Legion and Auxiliary Memorial Service
9:30 am	ALA Department Executive Board Meeting



2023 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center 10101 Market Street Rothschild, WI 54474 July 20-23, 2023



REGISTRATION FORM

This is your registration form only; this is **NOT YOUR DELEGATE FORM.** Delegate Forms are mailed to the Unit **30 Days prior to Convention (June 21, 2023)** per the Department Constitution and Bylaws. It is advised however, to register prior to this date.

Remember all members are encouraged to attend the Department Convention, not just Delegates and Alternates. You can also register online at wilegion.org.

First Name:	Last	Name:								
Stree <mark>t Addres</mark> s:			0,							
City:		State:	Zip:							
Ph <mark>one Nu</mark> mber:		Email:								
Me <mark>mber</mark> ID #:		District Nu	mber:							
AL Post #: 4	Auxiliary Unit #:		SAL Squadro	on #:						
ITEM		NUMBER	AMOUNT	TOTAL						
Registration Fee			\$30.0 <mark>0</mark>							
Registration Fee after July	15, 2 <mark>0</mark> 23		\$35 <mark>.0</mark> 0							
Saturday Evening PCC/Leg Taco Bar, ¹ ⁄ ₂ Barrell of Been and Live Entertainment	•		\$25.00 each							
			Total Enclose	d:						
Make checks payable to '	TH <mark>E AMERICA</mark> N LEO	GION, DEPAR	TMENT OF WI	SCONSIN						
	Check #:									
	<u>OR</u> enter credit card in	formation belo	ow							
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Expiration	n date:/	Security Co	de:							
The	Return with pay American Legion, Depa Attn: Conve P.O. Box 388, Porta	artment of Wis ention	sconsin							

Or email to: angela@wilegion.org



Honored Past Department President Susan "Sue" Vorwald (2008-2009)



Past Department President Susan "Sue" Vorwald will be the honored guest at the 2023 Department Convention at the Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Rothschild, Wisconsin. Sue is a 32-year PUFL member of Unit 121, River Falls, and served as Department President from 2008-2009. Her eligibility for membership is through the WWII Army service of her late father Raymond and late brother Stephen, a Vietnam Army Veteran. Sue worked at Anderson Window Corporation in Bayport, Minnesota for 28 years.

Sue's experience and leadership was gained through the many chairmanships and offices she held at the unit, district and department levels. At the unit level she has served as Chaplain, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President and President. Susan was 2nd Vice President and President for 10th District. She held many unit and district chairmanships including Poppy, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Historian, Junior Activities, Leadership, Americanism, Children and Youth, along with many more. Much of her leadership experience came from an early start in the following programs: leadership program for Neighborhood Youth Program, Future Business Leaders of America, 4-H, and Home Education and Children.

Serving at the highest office for the Department of Wisconsin fulfilled a dream of her late mother Gloria. Gloria started Sue as a charter junior in the Auxiliary, where she was able to kindle her interest as a member in her very active unit. Sue continues to be the unit's Fundraising Chairman and helps at Bingo. She volunteers as a driver for Center for Independent Living of Western Wisconsin and New Freedom Transportation.

Sue's theme was "Oceans of Love to our Veterans" and her special project was "Support Military Families." Her commitment as a volunteer and her love of country motivates her desire to serve our military families. Wisconsin won the National President's Award for Excellence during her term as Department President. Sue will be honored along with the district membership team, during the recognition program on Friday, July 21^{st} from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.





American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin 2023 Department Convention July 20-23, 2023

Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center 10101 Market St, Rothschild, WI 54474

HOTELS



<u>Best Western Plus</u>

803 W Industrial Park Avenue Rothschild, WI 54474 715-355-8900

\$105 plus tax for Standard King or Two Queen Rooms\$120 plus tax for Large Suite with 1 King & Pull out Sofa Sleeper (only 3 available)Group Block: American LegionCut Off: June 20, 2023

<u>Bantr</u>

805 Creske Avenue Rothschild, WI 54474 715-241-6300

Studio: Thurs. \$109 plus tax, Friday-Saturday \$139 plus tax Suite: Thurs. \$119 plus tax, Friday-Saturday \$149 plus tax Lofts: Thurs. \$129 plus tax, Friday-Saturday \$159 plus tax All room have 2 Queens and price is based on 4 people per room Group Block: American Legion RB 2023 Cut Off: June 20, 2023

There may be other hotel options available after April 26, 2023.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Convention Fundraiser - Basket Raffle

July 20-23, 2023

Funds will help with President Linda Coppock's project *Giving Back To The ALA*

(Supporting those programs that are not self-sustaining and could use monetary assistance)

I am asking that every unit please donate a basket with a minimum value of \$30.00.

Districts and Individuals are encouraged to participate also.

To make it really special include a cute little GNOME in your basket. (G.N.O.M.E - Getting New & Old Members Excited)

> Wrap Basket in Cellophane Attach a card with contents listed and Unit and District

> > Please text or email with any questions

Thank you all so very much!

Lorrie Barber, Department Fundraising Chairman lorrie.barber@gmail.com or 715-498-5757



LEGISLATIVE Diane Weggan, Department Chairman <u>dsweggen@gmail.com</u>

The easiest way to **be informed** and to **help pass legislation** supporting veterans, service men and women and their families is to sign up for **Action Alerts** and Legislative Updates at the TAL website (<u>www.legion.org/legislative</u>).

Once you are signed up for Action Alerts, you will be notified of pending legislation with a link directly to your legislators and given a template "letter" you can send as is or alter to make it more personal with your views on the subject.

Legislative updates arrive Friday afternoons. Not only will you receive updates on current legislation affecting veterans, military, and their families, but also, a listing of upcoming congressional hearings for the week. In the listing, there are links to view any American Legion testifying scheduled for the week.

If you have signed up for Action Alerts and/or Legislative Updates, please let your unit president and Department Chairman know you are participating. Also, share all your phone calls, emails and letter contacts you have with legislators. Throughout the years, the American Legion Auxiliary has been instrumental in getting legislation that has helped veterans, military and their families passed into law. The very latest example was the passing of the PACT Act, signed into law in August 2022.

The American Legion's 2023 legislative priorities include Mental Health & Suicide Prevention, VA Healthcare Modernization, PACT Act: Implementation & Oversight, Protect Veterans from Predatory Actors, Concurrent Receipt, Guard & Reserve GI Bill Parity, GI Bill for Honorable Service, Support our Afghan Allies, Military Quality of Life, Pay the Coast Guard and Protect the American Flag. There is a brief explanation of these issues included in the Legislative Plan of Action located on the Department website (<u>www.amlegionauxwi.org</u>) under the Dept Chrm/Action Plans tab.

Did you know **thousands of military families** experience "low food security" because of the way Defense Department and Agriculture Department programs are constructed, causing service members to be ineligible for either program. Contact your legislators to correct this. Soldiers and their families should not have to go hungry. You have a say.

Legislative Reporting: Each unit Legislative chairman or president is encouraged to submit a narrative report by April 15, 2023 to department headquarters, who will then forward it to the Department Legislative chairman. As part of your narrative report which can be emailed to <u>dsweggen@gmail.com</u>, please include answers to the following questions:

- How many unit members signed up for TAL action alert and /or the National weekly Legislative report.
- How did you educate members in the Legislative issues promoted by The American Legion and how did your members employ those methods?
- What Legislative activities (town hall meetings, Legislative receptions) did members attend? What suggestions did members have to improve those activities? Please describe.
- How did members develop relationships with their elected officials? Please describe.
- Please describe how members were able to connect with their local and state officials and what their successes were.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

What has your Unit/County/District done to promote the American Legion Auxiliary brand? Branding is more than wearing a t-shirt to a unit or community function. The ALA brand is how others see us. Attitude on how you perceive other members also tells a story of our organization. Be kind and respectful during all functions regardless of feelings you may have.



I am sure by now you have seen our new brandmark, this was created for marketing purposes to make it easier for those who aren't familiar with the ALA to notice and read. Our "Emblem" is not going away! For more information visit the ALA Branding Guide at <u>www.Legion.org/brand</u>. This will provide you with the guidelines and suggested uses. Remember the Emblem is

trademarked, and you must get approval to have it printed. Approval forms can be found at: <u>https://www.legion-aux.org/Member/emblem-request-form</u>.

Here are a few tips we should all follow:

- Social media pages should clearly identify your ALA entity. Use your unit # and include both City/State.
- Also send thank you notes to let your contacts know how much you appreciate their support. Some businesses will hang up a certificate that you can provide them as a "thank you" with your unit information/ALA branding.
- Contact your local newspaper to see if they will announce your upcoming event in the paper.
- On Facebook, try to always have a photo, graphics, or video. The more pictures or graphics you use, the more interesting it becomes to the public.
- Use action photos when and if possible, do not use pictures with alcoholic beverages.
- Never post political pictures or political comments.
- Ensure your post is about the ALA and its mission.

Thank you to the Units and Districts that continue to provide me with fliers for their events/newsletters/facebook page, etc.

Sincerely,

Sandy Mack Department of Wisconsin-Public Relations Chairman 262-388-9816 • smack0555@gmail.com

"TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE"



MEMBERSHIP

Happy Spring – Almost – we are seeing signs of Spring's arrival, but it is still a struggle to have the warm sunshine on a consistent basis. The geese and swans are returning but it is a cool welcome from Mother Nature. The flowers are waiting in anticipation. Maybe tomorrow it will be time.

We seem to be in a waiting mode as well. Waiting to send in those few memberships to reach our goal. Waiting to sign up that new member – maybe next month will be better – maybe next year. Waiting to get all our ducks in a row before we ask someone new to join us in a project. Waiting for someone else to take the lead.

I know the feeling – I can procrastinate with the best of you! But now is the time to finish up those loose ends. Who do we need to contact to get those dues in – they are NOT members in good standing if they are not paid. We can ignore it and hope it doesn't become a problem – But – what if it does and we didn't do anything about it. Non-current members are not entitled to the discounts available; the benefits of membership including the right to a memorial service as a member of this organization. Do you want to be the one to break that news to the grieving family? Do you want to be embarrassed having your membership questioned or a benefit or discount denied? I know – it's not been a problem – but why wait? Reach out and contact ALL your members – this is everyone of us' responsibility.

I love hearing from other Auxiliary members to just talk and touch base especially when I know they aren't calling for my dues or to twist my arm to work on a program or project. To be that - is one of the prime benefits - I have a whole group of people that care about me and my family.

Wisconsin is facing a huge challenge and opportunity to meet the next National goal. I know working together we can accomplish this and more! Wisconsin is a leader in the entire organization by our working together, mentoring future leaders, introducing new innovations, being who we are and serving others, especially our veterans, military, their (our) families and communities. Come on – we can do this!

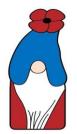
Your membership team is willing and available to work with you. This includes your District Presidents and District Membership Chairmen along with your Department Officers. We are as close as your phone or an email. Follow our multiple Facebook pages and other social media to connect with each other. We have ways we never thought possible to stay in touch with each other. Check out the red book for our contact information. It can be found on the Department of Wisconsin website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the More tab.

We are nearing the end of our reporting year and gearing up for conferences and conventions. It is a busy time for all of us. Let's get some more hands to help us. Remember you can still earn your GNOME pin when you sign up a new member – to any of the family – Auxiliary, Legion, Sons and/or Riders! Let's go get the whole family together. Don't forget Commander Julie's contest – let's win it for the Auxiliary.

As the year is winding down, I encourage all of you to be thankful for a wonderful year. There were, and continue to be, challenges. But that is life. I want to thank all of you for your efforts in making this membership year a memorable one for me. Let's continue to make this a year to truly remember. Send those last membership renewals in. Try and get just one more member to join our organization. Enjoy your time together with your Legion family and continue in our motto of Service, Not Self.

God Bless, Becky Mueller





2023 GNOME ONE AWARD New Member Award Entry Form

Sign up a **NEW 2023 Senior or Junior Auxiliary** member and receive a GNOME pin. *Only one entry per recruiter*.

Entry forms must be received at Department PRIOR to May 26, 2023.

TAL and SAL members that recruit a NEW 2023 AUXILIARY member are also eligible.

Recruiter:	Unit #	District #

Recruiter's Address

City / State / Zip _____

NAME OF NEW 2023 MEMBER - Senior or Junior Auxiliary member

Transferring and rejoining members **DO NOT** count.

Entry forms must be received at Department PRIOR to May 26, 2023.

Submit this completed form to:	American Legion Auxiliary
-	PO Box 140
	Portage, WI 53901
	Fax: 608-745-1947 / Email: alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

Service To Veterans

☆

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Maggie Geiger – Department Chairman 262-377-0329 ♦ maggieg4ala@gmail.com





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

What can I report under Service to Veterans? How do I report my hours? What is Service to Veterans? Is it a separate program? I don't understand please help!

These are just a few wonderful questions as Service to Veterans Chair that I have received. You might think, wonderful questions? Yes, members want to report, and want to make sure they are reporting correctly!

Service to Veterans is a component of VA&R (Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation). The purpose of VA&R in a nut shell is to: Participate in programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families.*

Under the VA&R umbrella:

- Christmas Gift Shop; provides gifts to family members of hospitalized veterans at no cost to the veteran.
- * Homeless Women Veterans Program: Reach out to women veterans, help them learn about VA benefits, local resources and where to find them. A grant fund has been established to provide assistance to homeless or at-risk of being homeless women veterans.
- * VA&R Hospital Volunteer Program: To supplement the care given by hospital staff to hospitalized veterans.
- * VA&R-Service to Veterans Program: Provides service to veterans, service members and their families outside a VA medical center.

*American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Red Book 2022-2023, pages 44-46.

Here are a few examples of countable volunteer Service to Veterans Hours:

Help elderly veterans at home	Pocket flags to active-duty military
Provide transportation for a veteran	Donate to the USO
Distribute poppies	Care packages
Cook or bake for veterans/military families	Assist with yard work and or housework

For more ideas check out the Plan of Action for Service to Veterans on the ALA department website; www.amlegionauxwi.org, click on the Dept CHRM/Action Plan. There are additional examples listed on the Service to Veterans Volunteer Award sheet, found on the department website under forms.

Since 2021-2022 members who are caregivers have been able to claim hours the following hours.

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

An easy way to keep track of your hours is the Service to Veterans Tally Sheet, either record your hours, dollars, by the day or month, which ever works the best for you. Turn your sheet in along with your Member Impact report to your unit. Whomever does the reporting for your unit will send your Service Volunteer Hours to Department Headquarters where your hours will be recorded each year and continue to accrue, when you reach the qualifying hours, you will receive an attachable hour bar.

There are some members that say, I don't report my hours because I'm not in it for the award, I am working the ALA Mission, because I love it! Please report your hours, all unit member hours are important, it enables us as an organization to see what impact we have for our veteran's military and their families. But also, to the world, as the largest patriotic organization! Your 50 hours or so might seem insignificant, multiply that by the Department of WI 17,000 plus members, that equates to approximately 850,000 hours for Service to Veterans hours alone!

Thank you to all of you who are so giving of your time, talents and financial support to our organization, without you, our veterans, military and their families would not have the "extra" love and support that they receive from you. BELIEVE that with your help, every day is a little warmer and brighter for our hero's and their families!



Service to Veterans Tally Sheet for Volunteers

Name		 JRNon-Aff	iliated
DATE	SERVICE	HOURS	\$ VALUE

TOTALS



																						Date over 50 HR.
																						(x) - has pin
																						UNIT MEMBERS NAME
																						PREVIOUS TOTAL
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VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Mike Rohan, Department Chairman mdnrohan@gmail.com



It is time to share your work.

As we move into spring, it is time to clean out your calendar and your camera/phone and share stories of your individual and Unit activities. Share those pictures and let the world see what you did for our veterans in Wisconsin. *Here are some ways you can report your activities:*

- First and foremost, fill out the VA&R Unit Annual Narrative Report for 2022-2023. It is due to the Department Headquarters by April 15, 2023.
- Please include pictures, stories, newspaper clippings, flyers, news articles, activity reports, or anything that helps share success stories and shows activities that serve our mission. The narrative reports do not need to be complicated. It is your message!

In filling out your annual reports, *consider these points*:

- Did you try a new project or fundraiser benefiting the VA&R program?
- Does your Unit have a favorite tried-and-true project?
- Did you partner with another unit or organization on a project? Did it work well? Will it be repeated?
- Has a picture or two (please email in a JPEG format) been sent showing your activities?
- Do you have a special story about one of your veterans? (Ask their permission)
- What makes your Unit stand out from others?

Posted on the Department website (<u>www.amlegionauxwi.org</u>) under the Program Info tab/VA&R, you will find a National Bulletin from American Legion Auxiliary, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Chairman Trish Ward. She has provided us with information on today's military's changing faces. Here the bulletin gives us some essential tips on why we should care about these changes and how we might respond in our local units, counties, districts, and department. She also encourages units and members to post success stories to the national Facebook page to show the nation the importance of your work. Use the link in the bulletin to connect and see what other units worldwide are doing. You might find some great tips.

The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation exists to ensure that the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary thrives for years to come. To assist ALA units, districts/counties, and departments in their efforts to support local veterans, military, and their families, the ALA Foundation offers four different grants. <u>http://alafoundation.org/grants/</u>. Please consider the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation in your discussions.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES YOU CAN USE

- 1. Quilts of Valor: <u>https://www.qovf.org/</u>
- 2. VA Homeless Programs www.va.gov/homeless/
- 3. HUD Homeless Assistance Program https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/veteranhomelessness
- 4. Handbook for Homeless Veterans and Service Providers <u>www.Legion.org/publications/168493/homeless-veterans-handbook</u>
- 5. National Veterans Creative Arts Festival <u>www.creativeartsfestival.va.gov</u>
- 6. The American Legion Auxiliary Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) Facebook group, https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR/
- 7. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers download online at <u>https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/volunteer-guide</u>
- 8. Elizabeth Dole Foundation <u>www.elizabethdolefoundation.org</u>
- 9. U.S. Chamber of Commerce Hiring Our Heroes <u>https://www.uschamber.com/program/us-chamber-foundation/hiring-our-heroes</u>
- 10. VA Caregiver Support www.caregiver.va.gov
- 11. Department of Wisconsin Annual Reports https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/annual-reports
- 12. Department of Wisconsin Program Information https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/program-info
- 13. Department Chairman Action Plans https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/dept-chrm-action-plans



Red Book Corrections

- *Pg. 9 Replace Nellie DeBaker with Barbara Van Boxtel Oscar G. Johnson USVAMC Assoc. deputy
- Pg. 9 Add Noreen Schmidt as Madison Middileton Memorial VAMC deputy
- Pg. 9 Add Sue Hembrook as Milwaukee Zablocki Memorial VAMC deputy
- Pg. 10 Add Beth Puddy as Fond du Lac County President
- Pg. 10 Add Bonnie Schult as Marathon County President
- Pg. 10 Add Virginia McGregor as Waushara County President
- Pg. 17 Updated PNP Barbara Kranig's address 2908 Algoma St., Stevens Point WI 54481

*updated 3/2/2023

DATES & DEADLINES

Last updated 3/3/2023 (subject to change)

2023								
DATES	EVENT	LOCATION						
Apr 15-16, 2023	Wisconsin ALA Bowling Tournament	Schwoegler Park Towne Lanes, Madison, WI						
Apr 22, 2023	3 rd District Spring Conference	American Legion Post 360, Waunakee, WI						
Apr 22, 2023	8th District Spring Conference	Vesper Community Center, Vesper, WI						
Apr 22, 2023	11th District Spring Conference	Camp American Legion, Lake Tomahawk, WI						
Apr 29, 2023	2 nd District Spring Conference	American Legion Post 321, Germantown, WI						
Apr 29, 2023	6th District Spring Conference	American Legion Post 306, Green Lake, WI						
Apr 29, 2023	10th District Spring Conference	St. Bridget's Catholic Church, River Falls, WI						
May 6, 2023	1st District Spring Conference	American Legion Post 171, Union Grove, WI						
May 12-13, 2023	American Legion Dept Spring Meetings	Camp American Legion, Lake Tomahawk WI						
May 13, 2023	4th District Spring Conference	American Legion Post 416, Greendale, WI						
May 20, 2023	Joint Legion Family Testimonial	Romy's Nightingale, Black Creek, WI						
June 3, 2023	2023-2024 District President Orientation	Department Headquarters, Portage, WI						
June 11–17, 2023	Badger Boys State	UW-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI						
June 18-23, 2023	ALA Badger Girls State	UW-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI						
July 19–23, 2023	Legion Family Department Convention	Rothschild/Wausau WI						
July 24–28, 2023	WI American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy (WALLECA)	Fort McCoy, WI						
Aug 5, 2023	2023-2024 Department Chairmen Orientation	Department Headquarters, Portage, WI						
Aug 25-31, 2023	Legion Family National Convention	Charlotte, NC						
	FUTURE EVENTS (subject	to change)						
July 2024	Legion Family Department Convention	Appleton, WI						
Aug 2024	Legion Family National Convention	New Orleans, LA						
July 2025	Legion Family Department Convention	Green Bay, WI						
Aug 2025	Legion Family National Convention	Tampa Bay, FL						
July 2026	Legion Family Department Convention	Appleton, WI						
Aug 2026	Legion Family National Convention	Louisville, KY						