



For April /May Meeting 2025



This mailing includes:

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- **2025 District Spring Conferences schedule**
- **Greetings from Department Headquarters**
- **2025-2026 Unit Officer form**
- **Membership article**
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- **Public Relations article**
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- **Past Presidents Parley article**
- **VA&R article**
- **Service to Veterans article**
- **Redbook Corrections & Dates and Deadlines**
- **State Convention information: Official Call to Convention, Constitution Article VII & Standing Rules, Registration form, Program Schedule, Nominations of Officers & National Convention Delegates, Voting Procedure, Rules & Order of Business, Honored PDP bio & Basket Raffle (Fundraising) flyer.**



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



Greetings from President Becky Mueller

Spring is here – at least that’s what the robins and geese say. I’m not so sure, as I’m looking at the snow in the driveway.

Reporting season has arrived – of which, I am sure! I want to encourage everyone to report what you did this year serving our veterans, our military, our families, our communities, and each other from the depths of your hearts. Each unit needs to complete their Impact report form and submit it to their District President asap. Watch your deadlines. Be sure to complete your narratives, telling your stories of your successes and accomplishments. We need to share – others are always looking for the latest ideas and ways to contribute to our mission. Take this opportunity to tell us how, when, and why your projects/events were important. Use the summary sheet to make your reporting tasks easier. Fill out the summary sheet ONCE – and then attach only those narratives you are sharing. For the other programs just answer the comments on the cover sheet and you are done. Let’s save ourselves time and trees. Share your narratives for the programs that your unit ‘worked;’ no unit can ‘work’ all the programs. If possible, send via email. It would also be nice to cc your District President with your entries.

Don’t forget to enter for the awards available on the Department and National levels. I am excited to have already received some nominations for my Heart of the ALA awards. Continue to send them in. What great reading! I want to award a minimum of 10 to the individuals, units, counties, or districts that demonstrate the depths of their heart for our organization and the mission of service we have. Watch the deadlines and criteria for each of the awards. Check on the National website for each program. They may have slightly different criteria. Be sure to fill out the National Award cover sheet as well. When you send your entries into National be sure to cc your District President, Department Program Chairperson, and ME! Thanks.

I had the privilege of presenting two new charters this term. Congratulations to Mt. Horeb Unit 113 and Montello Unit 351. Welcome to the family. Reach out to the units in your area for additional support – as well as to your district and department leaders.

I am excited to welcome our Pulsation Pass winners from Washington Island Unit 402 to convention. All 100% units (by June 18th) will be recognized at the convention. There is still time for your unit, county, and district to qualify. It will be wonderful to see you all and to congratulate you. We have exciting plans for the celebration at our convention in Green Bay.

Looking forward to hearing from each District Conference and what exciting things are happening in your neighborhood! I plan to attend as many as I can; those I can’t attend in person will have one of my department officers bringing greetings on my behalf. Thank you for your many invitations. I love visiting and celebrating with you.

Continue your magnificent work Serving from the depths of your hearts. Be The One that makes a difference to someone. *“To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.”* Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss).

God Bless each of you, *Becky Mueller*

2025 DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCES

District	Date	Location	Registration Time & Fee	Lunch Fee	Make check payable to	Send check to	Contact Person	Deadline
1	4/26/2025	Delavan Post 95 111 S 2nd Street Delavan WI 53115	Reg Time: 8:00-8:45 am Fee: \$15.00	Included in Reg Fee	ALA Unit 130	Denise Gibbons PO Box 464 Sharon WI 53585	Crystal Shaw crystalspres@gmail.com	4/14/2025
2	4/26/2025	American Legion Post 69 134 S Main Street Mayville WI 53050	Reg Time: 8:00-8:55 am Fee: \$19.00	Included in Reg Fee	ALA District 2	Mary Montag 726 Jean Court Allenton WI 53002	Eunice Seering euniceseering@gmail.com	4/12/2025
3	4/26/2025	United Methodist Church 2227 Fourth Street Monroe WI 53566	Reg Time: 8:00-8:45 am Fee: \$5 - pay at door	\$12.00	ALA 3rd District	Shannon Churchill 149 Paoli Street Verona WI 53595	Noreen Schmidt nabdrs459@gmail.com	4/12/2025
4 & 5	5/10/2025	American Legion Post 434 9327 S Shepard Avenue Oak Creek WI 53154	Reg Time: 9:30 - 10:00 am Fee: \$3.00	\$23.00	ALA District 4	Sue Hembrook 24215 60th Street Salem WI 53168	Sue Hembrook genesuehem@wi.rr.com	5/1/2025
6	4/26/2025	American Legion Post 70 1332 Spruce Street Oshkosh WI 54901	Reg Time: 8:00 - 8:45 am Fee: \$20.00	Included in Reg Fee	ALA Unit 234	Diane Steinert 2850 Homestead Drive Oshkosh WI 54904	Diane Steinert djdsteinert@gmail.com	4/12/2025
7	4/19/2025	American Legion Post 201 800 Wisconsin Avenue Tomah WI 54660	Reg Time: 8:00 - 9:00 am Fee: \$5.00	\$15.00	ALA Unit 201	Rita & Todd Steffel 1532 LaGrange Avenue Tomah WI 54660	Jesse Elmhurst jesseelmhorstwi@gmail.com	4/12/2025
8	4/26/2025	World War II Building 440 W Main Street Wautoma WI 54982	Reg Time: 8:00-9:00 am Fee: \$3.00	\$17.00	ALA Unit 317	Katherine Miller W5087 Blackhawk Road Wild Rose WI 54984	Linda Tryczak tryczak.l@gmail.com	4/12/2025
9	5/3/2025	Colonial House Supper Club N4330 County Road E Freedom WI 54130	Reg Time: 8:00-8:45 am Fee: \$2.00	\$18.00	ALA Outagamie County Council	Lisa Wolfinger 407 Whitney Street Kaukauna WI 54130	Sue Keyzers suekeyzers.ala@hotmail.com	4/21/2025
10	4/26/2025	Prescott Area Food Pantry 911 Pearl Street Prescott WI	Reg Time: 8:00 am Fee: \$5.00	\$15.00	ALA Prescott Unit 61	Sue Simonet W10829 State Road 29 River Falls WI 54022	Mary Townsend getmet77@hotmail.com	4/11/2025
11	4/26/2025	Fifield Fire Station N13936 Flambeau Avenue Fifield WI 54524	Reg Time: 8:30-9:30 Fee: \$3.00 Pay at door	\$10.00 Pay at door			RSVP Lunch attendance to Dick Lapp rlapp2282@gmail.com	4/12/2025
12	5/3/2025	Sheldon Community Center W5594 Main Street Sheldon WI 54766	Fee: \$3.00	\$15.00	AL Post 316	AL Post 316 PO Box 151 Sheldon WI 54766	Betty Stone bjstone626@hotmail.com	4/20/2025



GREETINGS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Bonnie Dorniak

www.amlegionauxwi.org ~ deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org ~ 608-745-0124

2025 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 by HQ. Questions? Please contact Andrea Stoltz.

POPPY DISTRIBUTION/PROFITS:

Although National Poppy Day is Friday, May 23, 2025, **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 608-745-0124 or bookkeeping@amlegionauxwi.org.

2026 MEMBERSHIP CARDS/ROSTERS

Although we are still actively collecting dues for 2025, National has already pulled the information for the 2026 membership cards and rosters that will be distributed in July. Any changes processed after Monday, March 31st – including name or address changes, dropped or deceased members – will be listed incorrectly.

2025 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The 2025 Department Convention is July 17-20, 2025, at the Hyatt Regency/KI Center in Green Bay. Convention information is included in this mailing and is posted on the department website. We hope to see you there!

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS:

- ◆ Wednesday, July 16th – Joint Legion Family Testimonial
- ◆ Thursday, July 17th
 - Past Presidents Parley business meeting
 - Meeting of Instruction for District Presidents & District Pages re: election process
- ◆ Friday, July 18th – General Session (Opening Procession at 9:15 am)
- ◆ Saturday, July 19th – General Session with elections and installation
- ◆ Sunday, July 20th
 - Joint Memorial Service
 - Post-Convention Department Executive Committee Meeting

Visit the website for complete schedule and details.

2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION

National convention is in Tampa Bay, Florida. General sessions are August 25-27, 2025. Anyone interested in attending should ask to be nominated as an Alternate by their District President. Members who prefer to attend as a guest only, should notify Bonnie Dorniak (deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org) to request a convention packet when available.



ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE

All Girls State delegate and alternate registrations were due by April 1st. Units should contact their sponsored girls to ensure they are registered and committed to the 2025 session. Full refunds of the reservation fee will be issued if requested in writing prior to April 15th. Refund requests emailed or postmarked after April 15th will be assessed a \$50 processing fee for each reservation cancellation. NO REFUNDS will be issued after May 1st. Questions? Contact Carrie Thrasher at alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org or 608-745-0345.



2025-2026 UNIT OFFICERS FORM

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140
Ofc: 608-745-0124 ♦ Fax: 608-745-1947
Email: alawi@amlegionauxwi.org

Unit City Location _____ Unit # _____

County _____ Dist # _____

Meeting Location/Date & Time _____

- Units must have this form submitted to Department to be eligible for Unit Membership Awards.
- Please designate **ONE OFFICER** from this form to receive important Unit information.

Name & Title: _____

President's Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Primary Ph # _____ Cell Home Secondary Ph # _____ Cell Home

Email _____

Secretary's Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Primary Ph # _____ Cell Home Secondary Ph # _____ Cell Home

Email _____

Treasurer's Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Primary Ph # _____ Cell Home Secondary Ph # _____ Cell Home

Email _____

Membership Dues collection person: who will receive all membership material & be printed on each Renewal Notice

Name: _____ Member ID # _____

Primary Ph # _____ Cell Home Secondary Ph # _____ Cell Home

Email _____

Personal Address or Unit/Post Address

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

ALABGS Chairman's Name _____ Member ID # _____

(**Note:** The person in the **UNIT** who will receive ALABGS information)

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Primary Ph # _____ Cell Home Secondary Ph # _____ Cell Home

Email _____

Signed _____

(Name/Title)

Date _____



Serving our Veterans, Military, and Each Other From the Depths of Our Hearts

MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Department Chair:

Amy Luft
amyjluf@gmail.com
414-651-7300

Committee Members:

Teresa Steinke
teresa.steinke_cmx@yahoo.com
715-828-7462

Diane Zwiers

dzwiers7280@gmail.com
920-378-1786

Program Coordinator:

Andrea Stoltz
alawi@amlegionauxwi.org
608-745-0124

WELCOME BACK!

Frank E. Malone Unit 113 (Mount Horeb, District 3) and Weiske-Farrell Unit 351 (Montello, District 6) both disbanded several years ago. However, it was quickly realized that their American Legion was missing an important link without their Auxiliary! With the support of their posts, both units received approved charters from National Headquarters. Congratulations and welcome back to the American Legion Family!

Hats Off to Our District Leaders!

1st Place - 4th District 96.17%
2nd Place - 6th District 91.83%
3rd Place - 3rd District 90.28%

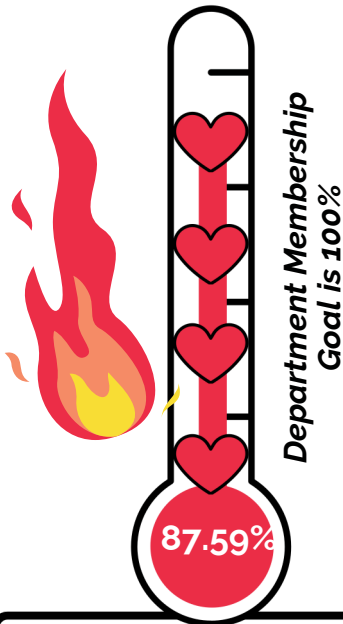
Welcome to our 482 new members!



Create a positive new member experience. We spend a great deal of time and effort to bring new members in, but what do we do after that? Mentoring new members makes them feel like they matter. It can make a difference in converting a new member to a lifetime one.

- Provide a New Member Packet that includes a welcome letter from the President
- Communicate via phone, emails, text on upcoming events and opportunities
- Offer an ALA member pin or magnetic emblem to wear
- Showcase your new members in your newsletter or on Facebook

Create a meaningful mentoring program for our new members that will encourage them to be our future leaders.



Wisconsin was one of the first 12 Departments that met the national goal of 85%

Pulsation Pass Award Winner



Congratulations to Washington Island Unit #402 in 9th District! They reached 135.29% in membership and were placed in a random drawing for the Department Convention Package including:

- 2 night stay at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Green Bay
- 2 paid registrations to the Department Convention
- 2 passes to the Commander's Party on Saturday night

Congratulations to all 65 Units who reached 100% or better! We look forward to seeing you at the Department Convention in July!



Welcome to our newest members!

#188 East Troy
#248 Cottage Grove
#534 McFarland
#13 Richland Center
#351 Montello
#234 Omro

#65 Rome
#543 Plover
#353 Cornell
#87 Rice Lake
#303 Winter

Have you joined the Wisconsin ALA Membership Group on Facebook? Learn what questions other members have and share your ideas.



NATIONAL SECURITY

Karen Runk, Department Chairman
kmrunk4@gmail.com

As we close in on the start of Unit reporting season, we get a year-end review of all the volunteer hours and contributions to Serving our Veterans, Military and each other from the depths of our Hearts. But don't let the end of the reporting year stop you from moving forward in the next year and continue the wonderful commitment to God and Country!

The 2024-25 National Security program has focused on 600 plus Wisconsin National Guards and Reservists deployed to the middle east and the southern border communities. Units have sent packages, coupons, mail call and provided family support during this time. Wisconsin Guards and Reservists are still deployed and will likely continue to be on the move with the flurry of unrest across the globe. Full-time active-duty military and their families are experiencing multiple deployments, relocations that translate to new schools and new friends for our military children.

Units are gearing up for April 15th Purple Up! Day, as April is the month of the military child. Please don't hesitate to contact me and click on the Wisconsin National Security Program page if your unit is looking to participate in Purple Up! and need more information.

Wisconsin began the 2024-25 Auxiliary calendar with 25 Vietnam POW/MIA troops. The recovery and identification work done by universities and the department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) is successfully recovering troops from all past wars. The technology and human efforts in locating and recovering their remains is an invaluable effort to bring our military home. The UW-Madison team is passionate about bringing Wisconsin's sons home to their families.

In addition to the month of the Military Child, April brings recognition days such as Gold Star Spouses Day on April 5th; National Former POW/MIA Day on April 9th; and Air Force & Army Reserves Birthdays. Celebrating or recognizing these service men and women on their day brings us all closer together.

May is the month of the Military Caregiver and National Military Appreciation. May is filled with opportunities to serve, recognize and appreciate our military communities. So many, that you will need to search your internet engine for a military calendar to understand why I mention just a few special days and weeks dedicated to the military family and their caregivers. National Nurses Week is May 6-12; followed by Armed Forces Week May 12-17; VE (Victory in Europe) Day on May 8 brought WWII to a close and our troops home; Military Spouses/Mother's Day is May 11 and of course Memorial Day on May 26.

Don't forget to nominate your active-duty Guard, Reservist or full-time Military troops with the Salute to Soldiers nomination form on the National Security Page! If you need assistance with the nomination or the Narrative Reporting forms, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.



Department of Wisconsin

Poppy Program

Deanna Farley, Department Chairman
farleyofsc@gmail.com

Spring is upon us here in Wisconsin! In a few short weeks, the spring flowers will be starting to bloom, including any of those Poppies you may have planted. I will be checking my flower beds for signs of new growth as I do every year. I would love to see your pictures of a beautiful Poppy flower bed!

In May, the ALA will be amid one of its busiest months. Many units across Wisconsin will be distributing Poppies as we prepare for the Annual Poppy Day on May 23rd. The Poppy is prominent at many Memorial Day Services as well and many times is an actual part of the service. If your unit uses Poppies as part of their Memorial Day Service, I would love to hear about what you do, and pictures are always great!

All Poppy Funds are used to support Veterans, active military and their families. As you distribute your Poppies, it may help to have that signage displayed, if possible, to support that information. People are likely to be more generous if they know exactly what is being done with any funds received from your Poppy distribution. Display sizes can be dictated by how much space you have available. Good luck to everyone!

Does your unit do a Poppy Day Proclamation? A sample Poppy Proclamation is available on the Dept website under "Programs"/Poppy tab. (www.amlegionauxwi.org)

Thank you to all who participated in the Annual Poppy Poster Contest! We received entries from fourteen units. I am sure the judging will be difficult as all our young students are very talented. The winners will be sent on to be judged with their peers in other states in the Central Division. Good luck to all!

I am very excited to announce that we have a candidate for Poppy Princess! Loyal Unit 175 Member Kindyn Fitzl is in the running to be our next Poppy Princess!! Welcome aboard Kindyn and best wishes to you and your ALA Family!!

Thank you to everyone for participating in the Poppy Program for the Department of Wisconsin!





DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bob Shappell, Department Chairman
bobshap@aol.com

Visibility, Involvement, and Engagement

Whether it's fundraising, program support, or membership, building stronger connections within the community is critical to our continued success, and perhaps our very survival as a local veteran service and support organization. Strong relationships are built largely on three primary aspects of public relations efforts: visibility, involvement, and engagement.

1. **Visibility: Be Seen and Heard.** *Participate in Local Events:* Attend public meetings and other community activities. Wear the Auxiliary brand. Being present where people gather is an excellent way to increase your visibility. *Leverage Social Media:* Share posts about local events, volunteer opportunities, or interesting stories of your members. *Collaborate with Local Organizations:* Partner with schools, non-profits, and civic groups on projects and events. Make us more visible and approachable.
2. **Involvement: Take an Active Role.** *Volunteer:* Consider tutoring, cleaning up projects, or food drives - volunteering helps us make a direct impact while meeting like-minded individuals. Use social media and word of mouth to communicate how your members volunteer throughout the community. *Join Clubs or Committees:* Our members who participate in other groups or clubs make great advocates for presenting and explaining our ALA purposes and programs. *Support Local Businesses:* Know and support local shops and restaurants - show support for the neighborhood. If you do not have your own facility for events, partner with local businesses that can provide a proper venue.
3. **Engagement: Build Meaningful Connections.** *Listen and Communicate:* Strong engagement starts with understanding others. Ask local leaders (business, government, school) for advice on how to better serve the community. Invite them to your events, learn their stories while sharing our mission and our values. *Advocate for Causes:* Being an advocate for our own programs, community improvement efforts, or improving local education, builds trust and lasting relationships. *Be a Solid Community Partner:* Be ready to assist and support community and school groups. Let them see how much we care about where we live and the people who live there.

Building community trust requires consistent actions on our part. Start with small steps—attend one event, meet one community leader, volunteer for one project. Over time, your visibility, involvement, and engagement will grow, building strong community support and a positive reputation.



**AMERICAN
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AUXILIARY**
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

CHAPLAIN

Donna Jensen, Department Chaplain

I am making a prayer book for Auxiliary President Becky Mueller, and I need help from every member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Please send me prayers, poems or inspirational pieces to include in the prayer book. They can be original or from another source. Some examples are your favorite prayer or poem or whatever inspires you. Include the name of the author, as well as the name, Unit number and District number of the person submitting it.

I also want to remind all Units that if you are making a Unit Prayer book and would like to submit it for judging, it must be received by July 10, 2025. I will bring it to the Department Convention in Green Bay for display and judging and it will be returned to you at convention. There will be a small gift for the winning prayer book.

Please send your submissions to me by email (djensen20@gmail.com) or mail:
Donna Jensen, 6936 N. 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53224

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY MENTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is to be given to a past president that has gone beyond the unit level and is continuing to be a leader and mentor to members of our organization. We want to recognize those members who excel at encouraging and mentoring other members of the organization on a regular and on-going basis.

To nominate someone for this award, a letter of nomination not to exceed 1000 words must be sent in by May 15th to Past Presidents Parley Chairman, Joanie Dickerson, PO Box 224, Bagley WI 53801-0224 or email at jomaried@gmail.com.

Criteria to consider when recommending a nominee:

1. Must be a member in good standing
2. A history of being involved in multiple levels of the organization
3. Prior leadership roles on the unit, county, district and/or department levels
4. Leads by example
5. Demonstrates passion in working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary
6. Willing to work in the background, not seeking recognition for their actions
7. Takes a personal interest in the future leaders of the organization
8. Attends District and Department events when possible
9. Is open to change in our organization
10. A Legion Family supporter



**AMERICAN
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DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN



VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Bonnie Jakubczyk, Department Chairman

bon6862@yahoo.com

April is Volunteer Appreciation month, of course, we are thankful every day for our volunteers.

As the saying goes, sharing is caring. With spring comes the time to share your individual and unit activities. Make sure to share those pictures because we all know the quote "A picture says a thousand words."

Please fill out the **VA & R Unit Annual Narrative Report** for 2024-2025 (April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025) and send it to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2025. Be sure to include pictures (in a JPEG format), newspaper clippings, flyers, activity reports, or anything that shares your story. The narrative reports are simple to do, just state your message.

Is your Unit looking for ways to spend your extra money?



Be sure to check out the VA & R Wish lists on the Department website under programs, click the VA & R link and look for the Needs/Wish lists. It is good to check them for updates. You can also check with the Hospital Representatives for the updated needs. Another event/program to donate to is the Veterans Creative Arts

SERVICE TO VETERANS

Mary Petrie, Department Chairman

mmrtpetrie@charter.net

In the *Spirit of Service, Not Self*, we, the members of this great organization, have vowed to enhance the lives of our veterans, military, and their families.

If you've referenced the Red Book's description on the V&R's Service to Veterans Program, you know it is brief and simplistic, noting service to veterans, service members and their families *outside* a VA medical center.

But did you know that by volunteering, you are not only benefitting those you help, but yourself as well? Most likely you've heard this phrase, "you have to take care of yourself in order to help someone else." Studies have proven that volunteering not only benefits others but reduces stress and anxiety, boosting physical and mental health for the volunteer. That's quite a gift - a Win-Win for all!

The year has gone quickly, and with it comes the fast-approaching report deadline. I'm looking forward to reading about the tremendous impact you've had, and the difference made in lending a helping hand of service. No act of kindness is too small, and if the thought of not doing enough surfaces, remember this...

*"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean.
But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."* – Mother Teresa

National Volunteer Week will be celebrated from April 20th through the 26th, with the theme of *Shining a Light on the People and Causes that Inspire Us to Serve*. Our veterans, military, and families have given so much more than we can ever repay, but they inspire us to continue *Serving from the Heart* to address and meet the ever-changing needs of those heroes.

Volunteer Week rolls around once a year, but Veterans Day is **EVERY** day!

You are the heartbeat of service. Thank you!





2025 Annual ALA Department Convention

Hyatt Regency/KI Center

333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301

July 17-20, 2025

OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 2025 ALA DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Department Convention

The 2025 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention will be called into session at the Hyatt Regency/KI Center, 333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301 at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 18, 2025.

Purpose

The purpose of the department convention is to elect officers for the 2025-2026 administrative year; elect delegates and alternates to the national convention; amend the department's governing documents as needed; receive reports of the department officers and chairmen; recognize outstanding unit achievements; and transact business as may be brought before the convention body.

Representation

Representation in the department convention shall be by unit per the department constitution. Units with less than ten paid members or whose district dues have not been paid shall have no representation. Delegates to department convention shall be unit members duly elected for that purpose.

Prior to department convention each unit will receive information showing the total number of paid members as of June 18, 2025 and advising them of the number of delegates and alternates the unit is allowed. It is the responsibility of each delegate and alternate to attend convention sessions so the district has a full delegation at all times. An alternate shall have all privileges of the delegate when the delegate is not present.

Delegates-at-large include all Department Officers, National Executive Committeeperson (NEC), Alternate NEC, Past Department Presidents, and current District Presidents*, who shall each be entitled to one vote at the department convention. Delegates-at-large shall be listed separately and not included among the unit's total allowable delegate/alternate count. Units must return a list of their delegates-at-large and approved delegates/alternates to department headquarters for voting certification.

* *Incoming Presidents of Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 are not delegates-at-large for this convention. They assume their positions after installation of officers at convention and serve from 2025-2027.*

All attendees to Department Convention must pay a registration fee to The American Legion, pick up their name badges and voting credentials by 8:00 am on Saturday, July 19th, and be seated within their District for voting at 9:00 am. Business will resume as soon as voting is completed.

General Information

Deceased Members: Names of deceased members that are sent to Department Headquarters by April 25, 2025 on a Member Data Form will appear in the Joint Memorial Service Program.

Fundraiser: Fundraising Chairman Laura Calteux will be conducting a raffle to raise funds for President Becky's special project, the national Auxiliary Emergency Fund. She invites units, districts and members to donate a raffle basket enclosed in cellophane with a list of the contents. She will raffle different baskets each day, so if you are participating, please email her to let her know which day you will be bringing your basket to convention. Questions? Contact Laura Calteux at 414-379-2973 or lauracalteux@yahoo.com.

Housing: Housing blocks has been arranged at several area hotels with discounted room rates until the deadlines or the room blocks are filled, whichever comes first. Reservation links, pricing, and deadlines are available on The American Legion's website (www.wilegion.org > More > Department Convention).



2025 Annual ALA Department Convention

Hyatt Regency/KI Center
333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54301
July 17-20, 2025

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Constitution, Article VII: Department Convention

Section 1. The Legislative body of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be the Department Convention to be held annually for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports, and transacting such other business as shall properly come before it.

Section 2. The annual Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates from each Unit. Each Unit shall be entitled to two delegates and two alternates for the Unit itself, and an additional delegate and alternate for each fifty members or major fraction thereof which it shall have in excess of fifty members, whose District dues have been paid, and whose State and National dues have been received by the Department Executive Secretary-Treasurer at least thirty days prior to the date of the Convention. No Unit shall be entitled to be represented unless it has at least ten members whose District, Department and National dues for the current year have been paid.

Section 3. Delegates shall cast their own votes; the votes to be collected (in case of ballot), counted and announced without reference to district, as set forth in the latest edition of ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

- 1. An alternate shall have all privileges of the delegate when delegate is not present.
2. A quorum shall exist at a Department Convention when there are present seven or more districts, wholly or partially represented.
3. All Past Department Presidents shall be made delegates-at-large to the annual convention and entitled to vote.
4. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms shall be delegates-at-large to the Department Convention and entitled to vote.
5. Members of the Department Executive Board, as defined by the Constitution, Article V, Section 2, shall be seated as delegates-at-large with vote in the Convention.
6. The Convention Credentials Committee shall be the final judge of qualification of delegates.
7. Proxies shall not be permitted.

Standing Rules: Department and National Conventions, Executive Board Meetings and National Meetings

- 13. The delegates and alternates to department convention shall be chosen by a plurality vote of the members of the unit who are present at a meeting called for that purpose. If at any time of the department convention, a duly elected delegate and alternate shall be unable to attend, the Unit President shall have the power to appoint a substitute delegate and alternate.
14. A list of the elected delegates and alternates from each unit must be filed with the Department Executive Secretary-Treasurer at least fourteen days before the opening of the department convention except in case of appointment by Unit President as provided in Section 13, and of Units organized within fourteen days preceding the convention. Otherwise no representation shall be allowed.

Table with 2 columns: Member Count Range and Delegates/Alternates. Rows include: 10 thru 75 (2 delegates and 2 alternates), 76 thru 125 (3 delegates and 3 alternates), 126 thru 175 (4 delegates and 4 alternates), 176 thru 225 (5 delegates and 5 alternates), 226 thru 275 (6 delegates and 6 alternates), 276 thru 325 (7 delegates and 7 alternates), 326 thru 375 (8 delegates and 8 alternates), 376 thru 425 (9 delegates and 9 alternates), 426 thru 475 (10 delegates and 10 alternates).



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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 18, 2025)** 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. Only one registration per form; if you wish to register multiple people at once, you can do that by registering online at www.wilegion.org (preferred).

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

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

Member ID #: _____ **District Number:** _____

AL Post #: _____ **Auxiliary Unit #:** _____ **SAL Squadron #:** _____

ITEM	NUMBER	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Registration Fee		\$30.00	
Registration Fee after July 7, 2025		\$35.00	
Saturday Evening PCC/Legion Family Event: Buffet- 7 PM, Half-Barrell of Beer, Soda, cash bar and Live Entertainment by Daddy Ds!! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. <i>(Deadline to purchase tickets: June 30, 2025)</i>		\$30.00/person	
Total Enclosed:			

Make checks payable to **THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

Check #: _____

OR enter credit card information below

Card Type: _____ **Card #:** _____

Expiration date: ____/____ **Security Code:** _____

Return with payment to:
The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin
 Attn: Convention
 P.O. Box 388, Portage, WI 53901
 Or email to: angie@wilegion.org



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2025 OFFICIAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Thursday, July 17, 2025

10:00 am	Set up Headquarters Office
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 DEC Luncheon <i>(by invitation only)</i>
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Headquarters Office – Open
3:00 pm	Past Presidents Parley Business Meeting
4:30 pm	Election Instructions Meeting <i>(for/Judges of Elections, Credentials Chair, Department Tellers, District Presidents and District Pages)</i>
6:00 pm	Past Department Presidents Dinner <i>(by invitation only)</i>

Friday, July 18, 2025

7:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am – 5:00 pm	Headquarters Office
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 – 5:00 pm	ALA Convention General Session
	<i>Tentatively:</i>
	1:00 pm – Membership Report and Awards Presentations
	2:00 pm – Nominations for Department & National Offices
	3:30 pm – Tribute to Honored PDP Joan Chwala

Saturday, July 19, 2025

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Registration
7:00 am – 11:00 am	Headquarters Office
8:00 am – 11:00 am	Fundraiser Raffle
8:00 am – 2:30 pm	ALA Convention General Session
	○ 9:00 am-VOTING <i>(Convention doors will be closed during voting)</i>
	○ Convention reconvenes immediately following voting
	○ Judges of Election/Credentials Chair/Dept Tellers–count ballots
	Flag Recessional
Approx. 2:45 pm	Installation of 2025-2026 Department Officers/District Presidents
	○ Adjournment of 2025 Convention
	○ Reception Line for 2025-2026 Department Officers & District Presidents
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Church Services
6:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service Practice
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Past Commanders Club Party w/Entertainment – <i>Everyone invited to attend!</i>
	<i>(Advance ticket purchase required – see registration form for details)</i>

Sunday, July 20, 2025

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



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NOMINATIONS OF DEPARTMENT & NATIONAL OFFICERS

Friday, July 18, 2025

Department Bylaws, Article I, Section 1: The following officers shall be elected annually at the Department Convention by a majority of the ballots cast. When there is but one candidate for an office, the nominee can be elected by voice vote or acclamation: Department President and Senior Vice President.

The following officers shall be elected annually at the Department Convention by plurality vote of the ballots cast. When there is but one candidate, the nominee can be elected by voice vote or acclamation: First Vice President, Second Vice President, Historian and Chaplain.

Department Standing Rules, Elections and Campaigns, #2: In line with The American Legion Counsel General’s opinion, any member may run for any office as a right of membership. While each experience as an officer or chairman helps to prepare the member for higher office, members have the right to pursue any office that is personally fulfilling without obligation to seek other offices.

NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION ALTERNATES

Due to Department Headquarters by June 1, 2025

National Constitution, Article VI, Section 2: Representation in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to delegates based upon the number of members whose dues are paid up-to-date as provided in the Standing Rules.

National Standing Rules, Section II, Subsection 2: Each Department shall be entitled to seven (7) delegates; and one (1) additional delegate for each one thousand two hundred (1,200) members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received by the National Treasurer thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of said National Convention, and to one (1) alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be selected not less than two (2) weeks before the National Convention at Department Conventions or in any manner specified by any Department Constitution.

Department Bylaws, Article III, Section 1, Subsections 5-6: *Each of the twelve districts may nominate alternates to the national convention at the district level. The nominee selection process shall be determined at the discretion of the district, possibly at their spring or fall conferences, or by executive action. Names of nominees shall be sent to department headquarters as soon as selected and no later than June 1st. There shall be no nominations from the floor and election of alternates shall be held at a designated time during department convention and named in order of plurality count. No alternates elected at department convention shall be named to fill vacant positions until all delegates have been selected according to the [priorities stated in subsections 1-4].*

- Nomination forms for Alternates to National Convention were sent to all District Presidents and must be returned no later than June 1, 2025.
- Elections will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the convention hall.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

1	Delegation Chairman (2024-2025 Department President Becky Mueller)
7	2025-2026 Dept Officers (President, Sr. VP, 2-VPs, Historian, Chaplain, Exec Secretary-Treasurer)
12	2025-2026 District Presidents (based on term of office and membership ranking)
<u>0</u>	<u>Additional Delegates to be elected from supplemental list (based on current membership totals)</u>
20	Total (<i>subject to change, determined by membership totals 30 days prior to National Convention</i>)

Wisconsin has five (5) delegates-at-large: Past National Presidents Barbara Kranig, Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan and Diane Duscheck; National Executive Committeewoman Bonnie Jakubczyk; and National Poppy Chairman Diana Sirovina.



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VOTING PROCEDURE

- 1) Convention delegate registration will close at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 19, 2025.
- 2) Delegates and delegates-at-large will be verified by the Convention Credentials Committee. The Convention Credentials Committee shall be the final judge of qualification of a delegate.
- 3) Voting packets will be prepared for each district containing ballots equal to the total number of delegates and delegates-at-large registered and certified by 8:00 am on July 19, 2025.
- 4) An alternate shall have all privileges of the delegate when the delegate is not present. Alternates will be seated in a designated section for the convenience of a District President to locate and expedite a replacement delegate. Alternates may only replace delegates from within their own unit.
- 5) Voting will be at 9:00 am on Saturday, July 19, 2025 in the convention hall. Promptly at 9:00 am, the American Legion Auxiliary's convention hall entrance doors will be closed, with no one being allowed to enter or exit until the voting process is completed. Only delegates and delegates-at-large shall be seated in their respective district's delegation during voting.
- 6) Districts will be called in numerical order to pick up their voting packet from the Election Judges.
- 7) Districts will commence the voting process after all packets have been distributed. Delegates must present their signed voting credentials to receive a ballot.
- 8) Immediately after voting has been declared ended, the Credentials Chairman, election judges and the tellers appointed by the Department President will move to a designated counting room to tabulate votes and convention business will resume.
- 9) The Judge of Elections will take results, compare numbers with the Credentials Chairman, and provide a written report to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.
- 10) The Credentials Committee Chairman will give an oral report of total number of delegates, alternates and delegates-at-large by district that had registered to vote as of 8:00 am on July 19, 2025.
- 11) The Judge of Elections will give an oral report of the numerical results of the election and give the written report to the Department President.
- 12) The Department President will declare the winners of the election during the convention session on Saturday.



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PROPOSED RULES & ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1) All cell phones will be turned off while the convention is in session.
- 2) Convention sessions shall be start promptly at the stated times.
- 3) A quorum shall exist when there are present seven or more districts, wholly or partially represented. All delegates must be seated within their districts.
- 4) Attendees may leave the convention hall only at the end of a speaker's report. Upon returning, attendees will remain at the back of the convention hall until the current speaker has ended.
- 5) District Pages shall be responsible for distributing all convention materials to the District's delegates.
- 6) Guests shall be honored at the convention by applause only.
- 7) Before the election, time shall be granted in the regular order of business to nominate candidates for Department and National Offices.
- 8) Nominations will not be called by roll call of each district. The nominators and the candidates will be called to the stage as a group. Districts with announced candidates for office will be called in numerical order. Other nominations will be asked for from the floor. There shall be no seconds to nominations.
- 9) ~~Nominations shall be called for Department President~~
a. One (1) candidate for office - three (3) minute limit
b. Two (2) or more candidates for Department President - four (4) minute limit
c. One (1) candidate for office - two (2) minute limit
d. Two (2) or more candidates for office - three (3) minute limit
- 10) Immediately following the nomination, each nominee shall be presented from the stage and granted one (1) minute to respond.
- 11) There shall be no nomination speeches for delegates to the National Convention.
- 12) When giving reports, chairmen shall address the presiding officer as "Madam President" and reports will be accepted by general consent of the convention delegates. If there is an objection, a vote will be taken.
- 13) All resolutions shall be referred to the proper committee for study and recommendation and shall be reported back to the convention for adoption or rejection. The resolutions committee shall present all resolutions.
- 14) Delegates desiring recognition shall go to the nearest microphone, address the presiding officer as "Madam President," and upon receiving recognition from the presiding officer, state their name, unit number and district number. A speaker shall be permitted to speak no more than twice on any one question but cannot speak again so long as any member who has not spoken on that question desires the floor. Debate on any question shall be limited to two minutes for each delegate.



Honoring PDP Joan Chwala (2011-2012)

Past Department President Joan Chwala will be the honored guest at the 2025 Department Convention at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Joan is a 44-year PUFL member of Unit 326 in Boyd, Chippewa County, District 10. She served as Department President from 2011-2012.

Joan's eligibility for membership is through the service of her father, Robert N. Morris, an Army medic who served in the Pacific Theater during WWII, of her husband, Earl T. Chwala, who also served in the Army during Vietnam, and her brother, Lorum "Lem" Morris also an Army veteran of the Vietnam Era.

Joan was an educator for 35 years, teaching children in grades K-8 in the Gilman School District. Following her retirement, she focused her energies on serving our veterans and their families through her volunteer activities. ALA Badger Girls State was blessed to have her serve as a county counselor for nine years and as the leader of the Americanism and Community Service interest groups. She shared her leadership skills by serving on various department and national ALA committees and in chairmanships. Joan was awarded the prestigious Toomey Award for her department history in 2008. While serving as department membership chairman in 2006-2007, she brought her "three ringed circus" to multiple membership round-ups around the state to encourage renewals and recruitment.



Joan's theme "Libraries of Love" stemmed from her love of reading and desire to ensure that veterans across the state would have access to reading materials that enriched their lives. The gifts she presented on behalf of the Department to each of the veteran's care facilities were quality reading materials including both books and periodicals.

Continuing her dedication to veterans, Joan served as a hospital deputy at the Chippewa Falls Veterans home for 7 years. The veterans living there recalled fondly their shopping trips with her.

Joan will be honored during the convention session on Friday, July 18th. Please plan to join in celebrating her years of service and share your memories of her year as Department President.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION RAFFLE BASKETS!



**Serving Our Veterans, Military and Each other
from the Depths of Our Hearts**

**We are asking units, districts and members to donate a raffle basket,
to include a list of the contents and enclosed in cellophane.**

**Raffle proceeds are going to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund,
President Becky's Special Project this year**

Members helping members through tough times

Any questions, email Laura Calteux at lauracalteux@yahoo.com



DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Red Book Corrections

- Pg. 8 Add Natalia Genovesi-King as PR Committee mbr– 414-839-0454 / kinggenovesi@gmail.com
Remove Zondra Morris
- Pg. 9 Add Donna Smith as Winnebago County President. Remove Sandy Hinkle
- Pg. 9 Add Cheryl Kruschke as Sheboygan County President
*4213 Moenning Rd., Sheboygan WI 53081. 303-621-4752 • crkruschke@aol.com
- Pg. 9 Add Karen Abler as Fond du Lac County President
Email: karen.abler50@gmail.com / 414-313-1435
- Pg. 9 Add Mary Mueller as Buffalo-Pepin County President. Teresa Isensee will remain as Chippewa County President. Remove Mary Townsend as Buffalo-Pepin & Chippewa County President
- Pg. 10 Add Denise Belongia as King WVH Deputy
- Pg. 10 Add Mary Fawcett as Tomah VAMC Deputy – 701 Kavanaugh Street, Elroy WI 53929.
Email: mardi@comantenna.com / 608-547-3266
- Pg. 17 Donna Jensen – street # should be 6936 – Address is 6936 N. 86th Street, Milwaukee WI 53224
- Pg. 18 Contact info for Victoria Laitsch Luebke (Waukesha County President)
508 S Rochester Street Unit F, Mukwonago WI 53149 / 262-363-5272 / victorial@wi.rr.com

*updated 12/17/2025

DATES & DEADLINES

Last updated 3/27/2025

(subject to change)

2025		
Apr 4–6, 2025	Junior Spring Conference	Camp American Legion, Lake Tomahawk, WI
Apr 11 & 12, 2025	WALASBA Tournament	Fitchburg, WI – hosted by Unit 385
Apr 19, 2025	7 th District Spring Conference	American Legion Post #201, Tomah, WI
Apr 26, 2024	1 st District Spring Conference	American Legion Post #95, Delavan, WI
Apr 26, 2025	2 nd District Spring Conference	American Legion Post #69, Mayville, WI
Apr 26, 2025	3 rd District Spring Conference	United Methodist Church, Monroe, WI
Apr 26, 2025	6 th District Spring Conference	American Legion Post #70, Oshkosh, WI
Apr 26, 2025	8 th District Spring Conference	World War II Building, Wautoma, WI
Apr 26, 2025	10 th District Spring Conference	Prescott Food Pantry, Prescott WI
Apr 26, 2025	11 th District Spring Conference	Fifield Fire Station, Fifield, WI
May 3, 2025	9 th District Spring Conference	Colonial House Supper Club, Kaukauna, WI
May 3, 2025	12 th District Spring Conference	Sheldon Community Center, Sheldon, WI
May 10, 2025	4 th & 5 th Joint District Spring Conference	American Legion Post #434, Oak Creek, WI
May 31, 2025	Orientation for 2025–2026 District Presidents & District Membership Chairmen	Department HQ, Portage, WI
June 14, 2025	Camp’s 100 th Anniversary Celebration	Camp American Legion, Lake Tomahawk, WI
June 15–20, 2025	ALA Badger Girls State	UW–Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI
July 17–20, 2025	Legion Family Department Convention	Green Bay, WI
Aug 9, 2025	Orientation for 2025–2026 Department Chairmen	Department HQ, Portage, WI
Aug 23–28, 2025	Legion Family National Convention	Tampa Bay, FL
Sep 27, 2025	Legion Family Celebration of Freedom	Golf Outing/Car Show, Portage, WI