



Shelly Drager, President

Hello, Fighting 3rd Members.

Lots of news and changes came from the National Convention. The best way to get this updated information is to go directly to the National or Department web sites. Changes were made to the eligibility requirements, Mission and Vision Statement. In short, a very productive National Convention.

Wisconsin made the big screen at the National Convention again! With one of the Units earning Unit of the year. Congrats to all the winners, Great accomplishment.

Membership eligibility has gone gender neutral. Simply put our eligibility opens up to the grandfather, fathers and brothers. The membership eligibility change is a benefit to all not only does it open up our membership, But it finally gives grandfathers, fathers, and brother a place to show their support for their veteran or military member serving. Still no greets, that was not restored. Let the recruiting begin!

With these additions and changes to the mission statement and vision statement, National, Department, District and Unit constitution and by-laws need to be updated to reflect these changes. The National and Department web pages have already been updated with the changes. Use those pages as a reference, while updating your governing documents. Please join the National and Department Facebook pages too; many updates and valuable information are on there as another reference. Ask your unit members to please join our Facebook pages. The 3rd District also has a page; you can share your events, see what's going on in the district units.

Unit Presidents: Please get familiar with our programs. Each program chair has worked hard to put together great information to help you promote and work on these programs. Please do not feel like you have to work on every program, open up each program, and see what will resonate with your unit. Larger units have more opportunities to work on more programs; our small units need to see what fits your goals and interest. Consider what your community can join in with, your schools too.

Public Relations and National Security have shared great information to get us started. I've recently included in the email I sent.

Another update from our own Department Convention was the increase in dues for next year. This increase will ensure that we have operational funds to run our department. This is not a national increase; this is our state Department increase.

With the increase in dues, our Auxiliary team has designed a raffle to win a paid up for life membership. This raffle is \$20, and all members of the legion family can purchase these raffle tickets, however if a legion member, sons or riders win, they need to gift their winnings to an auxiliary member. All district presidents have raffle tickets reach out to us if you'd like to enter.

Fall picnic will be Oct 4th at the Centennial park in Dodgeville, we feel this location is centrally located for most that have a way to travel. I will be providing the meats for this picnic. If every unit brings a picnic item or side that would be perfect, there is no charge for this picnic. Bring a raffle basket or a baked good if your unit wishes and we will run a raffle and of course 50/50. We will meet at Noon, eat at 12:30 with our meeting immediately following lunch. Let me or Nicole know what you might be bringing so we don't double up any picnic wares. I will have raffle tickets, see me at the picnic.

Hope to see you all at the picnic.

The poster is for an American Legion Auxiliary Fall Picnic. It features a circular logo with a star and the words 'AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY'. The main title 'Auxiliary FALL PICNIC' is in a large, stylized font. To the right, a quote reads 'Friendship Service Together We Make a Difference' with a heart symbol. Below the title, it says 'GOOD FOOD • GOOD COMPANY • STRONGER TOGETHER'. The date 'Sunday, October 4' is prominently displayed in a dark banner. The location 'Centennial Park, 501 S Dacotah St, Dodgeville, WI' is listed below. A schedule box shows '11:30 Arrive & socialize' and '12:00 Lunch' with a note 'Auxiliary meeting immediately following lunch'. A large leaf graphic says 'MEAT PROVIDED!'. A 'Please Bring:' section lists: 'A dish to pass (side, salad or dessert)', 'Your own plates, utensils, napkins and drinks'. A 'Raffles!' section lists: '50/50 Drawing', 'Auction - units can bring a basket or baked goods to donate', and 'PUFL raffle tickets available'. At the bottom, a banner asks 'Questions? Contact Shelly at 607-459-1029'. The background shows a picnic table with pumpkins and autumn leaves.

American Legion
Auxiliary
FALL PICNIC

Friendship
Service
Together
We Make a
Difference

GOOD FOOD • GOOD COMPANY • STRONGER TOGETHER

Sunday, October 4
Centennial Park
501 S Dacotah St, Dodgeville, WI

11:30 | Arrive & socialize
12:00 | Lunch
Auxiliary meeting
immediately following lunch

MEAT PROVIDED!

Please Bring:

- A dish to pass (side, salad or dessert)
- Your own plates, utensils, napkins and drinks

Raffles!

- 50/50 Drawing
- Auction – units can bring a basket or baked goods to donate
- PUFL raffle tickets available

Questions?
Contact Shelly at 607-459-1029



Scott Klassy, Commander

Greetings Legionnaires,

As we enjoy the last few weeks of summer, the time has come to really start to focus on this membership year. I know many posts have wrapped up their summer events and fundraising. We all have a busy fall ahead, with sports event color guards, getting back into our meeting schedules and doing our last fundraising events before winter hits. Please send me any upcoming events your posts or counties are doing so I can add them to the newsletters.

As I said in my introductory email I would like to continue to build upon Past commander O'Brien's initiatives, communication, involvement, visibility, and accountability.

We all need to work on our communication skills. We must find ways to inform our members who don't attend regular meetings or don't use emails. Buddy checks are a good way to achieve this; this should be a team effort at your post. It's a great way to find out how your members are doing and maybe the person making the call learns something from a member they didn't know.

Involvement, this involves a few different aspects. I know most posts are doing great things in your communities. Get new members involved in post activities as soon as possible, we all need help with putting on our events and you might get some future officers. Finally, we need help with different positions at the county and district levels.

Visibility, when we're out in the community or doing an event make sure we have our Legion gear on. Get articles out in your local newspapers if possible. Continuing to send articles to the Badger Legionnaire, we always have a good showing from the 3rd District. If you don't know how to submit articles send me an email and I will help you get this done.

Accountability, as a commander or officer, there is a level of accountability to make sure we are getting our CPR's and other Department reports turned in on time. I know in smaller posts this can be a challenge at times whereas commander you might be doing most of this by yourself. We have a lot of great leaders in this district. We can help with this, but you have to ask.

The last thing that is important to me is mentorship. We can't put people in leadership positions and hand them a book and wish them luck. This is a disservice to them and your post. Once again, we have a lot of great resources in the district to include Past National Commander, Department Commanders and Vice Commanders. I want everyone one to succeed. If this happens we all succeed and make the Legion a stronger organization. Finally, I love to visit posts and attend your activities. My hope is to visit all the posts in the district before my term is up. I believe having a personal connection with the

post goes a long way and is important for your members to meet their leaders. Your members are not just a name on a roster; they all have great stories that need to be heard, and we need to do this before it's too late.

We have started the new membership in a very positive way, thanks for all your efforts to start the membership year. Please start working on those members that drag their feet to renew.

Congratulations to post 251 Argyle for becoming the first district post to reach 100 % in membership.

I attended 2 events in August, the Grant County Fair had their Veteran recognition program with very good attendance, and I attended the Argyle post 251 annual picnic. It was great to get out and meet your members.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Dan O'Brien for his two years as commander. Dan did a great job, and I learned what it takes to be a District commander and will continue to build on the initiatives that have been put in place.

September 17th Madison VA Hospital 75th Anniversary open house 4-6 pm. Address 2500 Overlook Terrace Madison.

September 18th U.S. Air Force birthday.

September 18th National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

September 22nd District Executive Committee meeting 7 pm. Mineral Point Post 170 open to everyone.

October 3rd Post 501 Madison brats/burgers

October 17th 3rd District Fall Conference Barneveld Post 433

October 17th Stand Down Madison

November 10th Dane County Sheriff's Department Veteran shooting event, in Waunakee.

Respectfully

Scott Klassy, Cmdr.

District Commander Scott Klassy has our District's Banners. If your Post is holding an event or program, please try and use these banners. They tell the story of what we are doing as Legion Members. They look great and can be conversation starters.



3rd District Fall Conference

Everyone is Invited

When: Saturday October 17, 2026

Where: Post 433 – Barneveld - 101 Wood Street

Please Join Us

Registration at 0800

Meeting starts at 0900

Meeting at 9am Pay registration fee day of Conference.

Registration fee \$5 / Lunch cost \$12.00 / Lunch reservation deadline: **October 10th**

Lunch Menu: Brats, burgers, cowboy potatoes, salad, fruit, dessert, beverage

RSVP to:

Lee Pollock

PO Box 36

Barneveld WI

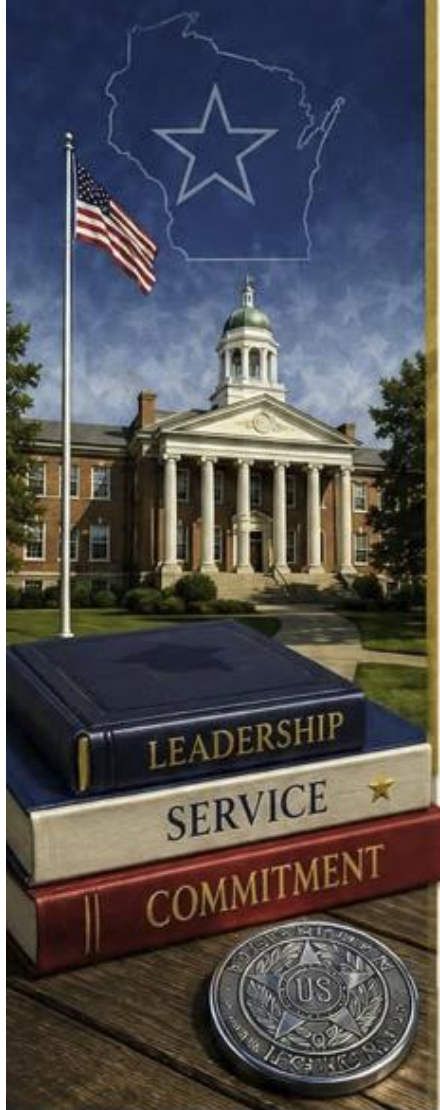
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Lunch reservations are due by **October 10, 2026**. Make check payable to: A L Post 433

Post # _____ Name: _____ Number of Lunches reserved: _____



TRAINING TODAY
FOR A STRONGER
TOMORROW



— ★ **WISCONSIN** ★ —
AMERICAN LEGION
COLLEGE
— LEAD ★ SERVE ★ GROW —

2026 COURSE LINE-UP

	BASIC COURSE	SEP 19-20	9AM to NOON BOTH DAYS
	BASIC COURSE	SEP 23-24	6-9PM EACH NIGHT
	INTERMEDIATE COURSE	OCT 14-15	6-9PM EACH NIGHT
	INTERMEDIATE COURSE	OCT 31-NOV 1	9AM to NOON BOTH DAYS
	ADVANCED COURSE	NOV 7-8	9AM to NOON (SECOND DAY SLIGHTLY LONGER)
	ADVANCED COURSE	DEC 9-10	6-9PM (SECOND NIGHT SLIGHTLY LONGER)

★ **COST TO ATTEND: \$15** ★



Any District Commander whose district has at least one Legionnaire, one SAL member, and one Auxiliary member enroll in the Basic Course will be allowed to select one member from each Family group (TAL, AAL, ALA) to

attend ALL COURSES
in the Springtime for

FREE

INCLUDING THE SHORTER
SUPPLEMENTAL COURSES.



SIGN UP ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE AT

WILEGION.ORG/LEGION-COLLEGE



THIRD DISTRICT GOLF OUTING



The 3rd District held its annual Golf Outing on Sunday July 26th. Attached are a few pictures from the outing. In the first photo we gathered for the picture and the Pledge of Allegiance before we headed out to our assigned starting positions. The second photo was when we gathered at the Barneveld Post for lunch and door prizes after 18 holes of Golf. This was our largest turnout of golfers so far. A big thank you to Dennis Woods for putting the outing together and another big thank you to Barneveld Post Commander Lee Pollock and the members for use of the Post and a great meal. We also need to thank the Deer Valley Golf Course for supporting The American Legion.



Darlington American Legion Post 214. Pictured from the left are; Sgt-At-Arms Bill Weinbrenner, Chaplain Tim Stover, 2nd Vice Kurt Jasinski, 1st Vice Mike Bach, past Historian Don Davis, Post Commander Dave Gough and Adjutant Dan O'Brien. Absent for the photo is our Service Officer Sam Fuller.