Walter Reusch, PUFL member of Post 26 Baraboo, turned 100 years old on November 29, 2020. He is a Purple Heart, CIB and Bronze Star recipient. He enlisted with the 88th Division, 350th Infantry Regiment and wounded on October 8 at the Arno River in Italy. His life was spared by a German spoon in his pocket and he spent a year and half in the hospital recovering from his injuries. Once he was finally on his way home from Fisa, the ship had to be stopped on his birthday to remove his appendix.

Thank you to Dale Plamann for sharing this member story with us.
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Hello Everyone, and Happy Holidays. Did everyone get enough Turkey? Where has this year gone? The days, weeks, and months seem to have vanished, just like my hair. To be honest, I’m glad that the year moved along quickly. With everything that everyone has faced, this year will be remembered for a number of things. While there will always be negative news, we need to look past the difficulties and see all of the positives that surround us. Family, friends, and fellow members, now that is a great place to start. We are blessed to have those people in our lives.

Let’s talk positively for a while.

There was some traveling to do, even with the Covid pandemic. Time doesn’t stop, even in these times. Adjutant Nate and I were fortunate enough to travel to Madison and have a visit with the Army Reserve Unit Leadership. They gave us a short briefing about the jobs that are being performed by the deployed personnel that are providing Covid testing around the State. We were able to present to them several gift cards that will be used to purchase items that will help lift their spirits and morale. These purchases were made possible with the donations that were made to the Engage-22 program.

Veterans Day: how did your go? I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy themselves no matter how you celebrated. At your post or home, it was up to you to decide. On the other hand, it was decided that I had the perfect face for radio. Radio station WKLH 96.5 in Milwaukee invited myself and VSOs James and Mitchell to talk about Legion Wisconsin and its programs. Thank you to everyone that helped make this a truly memorable occasion.

Well, now it’s time for some Headquarters updates. The Adjutant along with myself and the Oratorical Chairman, Robert Stone, and his wife Betty toured the Osksosh Post facilities to host the Department Oratorical competition. This site will be utilized this year for that purpose. More information will be coming forward as it becomes available.

Mid-Winter preparations are continuing and we have a full slate of activities planned. Don’t forget to register if you plan on attending. Those members running for Department offices will also be hosting their hospitality events, but the look will be different due to some restrictions.

Yes, your Headquarters Team is working from home. I don’t believe any explanation is necessary, just that everyone is fine and we are moving forward.

Okay here it is: Have you paid your dues? If not, Why?

Membership Chairman Larry and his Committee are doing a fine job but they need your help. Currently, the Department is at 75.76 percent, not bad but we have a long way to go. They say ladies first, and in this case second also, that is why Jean Balz, Eighth District, and Julie Mulhe, Second District continue to lead the Department. Great Job Ladies. Keep it Up.

With the holidays approaching why not buy yourself a Christmas present by paying your dues!! Don’t forget about the other Legion Family members in your household too.

Well, that’s it for now, don’t forget to do your Buddy Checks!

One last thing, from Anita and myself, Merry Christmas to All, and may we all have a Happy, Healthy New Year!

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

Hello Friends, Families, and Legionnaires, T H A N K YOU to our Veterans and Families for your continued service and sacrifices. 2020 was an extremely challenging year with COVID-19 limiting our normal events, military ceremonies, traditions, and camaraderie. Instead of meeting up traditionally with battle buddies, we have adjusted fire, making more phone calls and meeting virtually. We continue to conduct buddy checks on those that have further withdrawn themselves from society during this pandemic. I challenge you to continue your buddy checks, especially during the upcoming holiday seasons when suicides increase for veterans. Every veteran deserves someone watching their 6.

TAL 2021 Membership: You can hear the BATTLE DRUMS getting closer for membership in every District. Will District 8 hold onto the lead much longer? Which District is about to dump their membership ballots for a pass in the race? Keep up the great work.

Leaders! Department of Wisconsin is ranked 5th Nationally. HOOAH!

Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) 100% participation goal for 2021. Leaders, please record your monthly post activities. By reaching our goal we can truly report to the U.S. Congress the full impact we have on the lives of our veterans, their families and communities across the Department. There is no reason we should not have 100% of posts submitting CPRs by end of FY 2021.

The Holidays are upon us! Department has added some special Jolly Old Saint Wischer bundled presents that are available to order from our website for the holidays. Get your orders in before the Grinch finds our limited supply.

The Department Headquarters Team wishes you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

WDVA SECRETARY

Women veterans have played a critical role in our military history and often continue to lead after their military service. They bring a unique and important perspective to their communities. That is why, each year since 2009, the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs have recognized an outstanding woman veteran. In 2020, we honor a woman who has not only proudly worn the uniform, dedicating 20 years to the US Navy, but who has also been tremendously devoted to improving the lives of others.

WDVA is pleased to announce that the 2020 Woman Veteran of the Year is Navy veteran Joanie Dickerson! From transporting veterans to medical appointments to participating in “Veterans in the Classroom,” a program that teaches young people about the sacrifices of those who have served, through tireless acts, she exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding community member and veteran in these times.

When she transitioned to civilian life, Joanie used the skills she developed in the military to effectively serve various organizations for the betterment of our veterans, youth and community members. She held positions at American Legion Post 482 in Bagley as post commander, service officer, and finance officer. She has served as adjutant on the American Legion Grant County Council and, as a dual member of the American Legion family, she has also served as an officer and active member of American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit 482.

Joanie served as a liaison to the county veterans service officer when the American Legion Auxiliary established the statewide Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund, which helps women veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and currently serves on its review committee. At the state level, Joanie has served as chairman of several American Legion ALA committees, including Americanism, Poppy Education, and ALA Badger Girls State programs, and has advanced through the ALA state officer positions, currently serving as the department president.

In addition to these Legion roles, she is also an active advocate for veterans and contacts elected officials regarding issues impacting veterans, the military, and their families to ensure these voices remain in the forefront of the minds of our elected officials.

Please join WDVA in thanking Joanie for her dedication to raising awareness on how veterans continue to serve for the betterment of all.

On a separate note, I’d like to wish all of you a happy and healthy holiday season. I recognize that the holidays this year will be difficult for many of us, but I hope you will remain vigilant in your efforts to protect yourself and others from the COVID-19 virus. Thank you for your continued caution.
FINANCE DIRECTOR

WILL, I WILL, WILL YOU?

The year 2020 is nearly over, finally! As we all know, it has been a year we will remember for many reasons. For the Wisconsin Sons of The American Legion, it was a memorable year. Through the hard work and dedication of our members all across the state, we were privileged to earn the coveted Triple Nicker Award from the National Organization for the 2019-20 membership year. This means that we achieved 105%+ in membership, 85%+ renewals, and chartered five new squadrons. This is the second year in a row we achieved this honor and the third time overall.

As we saw from the Consolidated Squadron Reports for 2019-20, not being able to meet and hold our usual fundraisers has made a huge impact on our volunteer hours and in-kind donations. But our members are resourceful, and many squadrons are trying to find new and creative ways to work on programs to support our veterans, active-duty military, and their families. Feel free to share any ideas that worked for your group. We can all learn from one another in these unusual and trying times.

Please continue to send in your donations to our special homeless veterans project, Operation A.F.L., and the Child Welfare Foundation whenever you can.

My travels have been very limited for the past eight months. I was able to attend a few meetings, and conferences and even a few Zoom meetings. I look forward to getting back to visiting our squadrons and districts in the new year, so please contact me with details of your events.

Mid-Winter Conference is right around the corner, January 15-16, 2021, at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center in Baraboo. Go to www.wilegion.org and look for the 2021 Mid-Winter Conference for complete information, registration and hotel information. Don’t miss this opportunity to learn more about all the Legion programs we support. The schedule for our meetings has not been set but information will be available on our website www.wisal.org soon.

From your SAL Detachment, we wish you all the joys and blessings of the upcoming Holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the entire Legion Family.

FINANCE ATTACHMENT

Feel free to check with legal counsel or your tax person for any questions or opinions on your specific situation — they love this stuff.

Wisconsin Basic Will, Statute 853.55, Print and Complete Pages 7-9: bit.ly/will853

SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER

The campaigning is over, the votes are counted in Wisconsin, nothing has changed. We still have a divided government, which forces compromise to accomplish anything. It is a good way to protect the people’s liberties and prevents tyranny by any one party. The GOP retained control of the Assembly although they lost two seats. They do not have sufficient members to override the Governor’s veto. The Republicans increased their majority in the State Senate by two. Senator Hansen of Green Bay retired and was replaced by Senator-elect Wimberger of Green Bay and Senator Schachtner was defeated by Representative Rob Stafsholt of New Richmond. This is the largest majority they have had in a half a century.

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

As the first and second parts of personal finance strategy (The Four A’s: Assess, Address, Adjust, Achieve), every adult should complete a Wisconsin Basic Will and Wisconsin Power of Attorney for Finances and Property, at the very least. Making your financial plan to manage your money, today, is vital to achieve all of your financial goals, tomorrow, including your final wishes. Simply put, get off the dime and make your end-game plan.

Even I only own a car, clothes, and a culcico cat, you deserve to have your wishes known — where your kitty goes for when you can no longer care for it. At the very least, taking an hour to fill out the Wisconsin Basic Will and Wisconsin Power of Attorney for Finances and Property will ensure that you have helped your family and friends understand your wishes for when you no longer can tell them, directly. There are hundreds of benefits to jotting down your thoughts and end-game financial plan, luckily for you, here are free templates that you can print, fill out, and keep with your other easy-to-find documents to communicate your plan. Still scared, sure; take a breath, grab a cup of coffee, and call your friends over to complete these together — make it a party!

As we saw from the Consolidated Squadron Reports for 2019-20, not being able to meet and hold our usual fundraisers has made a huge impact on our volunteer hours and in-kind donations. But our members are resourceful, and many squadrons are trying to find new and creative ways to work on programs to support our veterans, active-duty military, and their families. Feel free to share any ideas that worked for your group. We can all learn from one another in these unusual and trying times.

Please continue to send in your donations to our special homeless veterans project, Operation A.F.L., and the Child Welfare Foundation whenever you can.

Legionnaire E4+ steps in to help you with more than 20 emergency and medical services ... to help you focus on your recovery and NOT on the costs (or even details like lining up second opinions or flying loved ones home). *

Plus, acting right away also helps lock in your Legionnaire members-only price.

For more information log on to www.TheLiT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus or call toll-free 1-888-292-4000 today to speak with a representative.

*This is only an outline of the plans services. Please review your Member Guide carefully. E4+ is not insurance.

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THIS WAS YOU?

Learn How the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus (E4+) Helps You Handle Travel Emergencies.

Legionnaire E4+ steps in to help you with more than 20 emergency and medical services ... to help you focus on your recovery and NOT on the costs (or even details like lining up second opinions or flying loved ones home). *

Plus, acting right away also helps lock in your Legionnaire members-only price.

Secure your E4+ protection right away, you’re guaranteed the same low price for a FULL year.
SPONSORING A VETERAN

Sponsor a Veteran...
Since 1925, Camp American Legion has been a safe place for Wisconsin Veterans, Military and their families to come together with shared life experiences. When our campers first arrive, they find an abundance of opportunities to unwind, relax, rejuvenate and most importantly, to heal. As many of you already know, there is something about the Northwoods experience that helps us to find value in the little things in life. It helps families to reconnect, and brings opportunity for healing on our journey to finding quality of life.

Camp American Legion operates under The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin. Camp’s funding comes from the generous donations of individuals and organizations across the state of Wisconsin. Our “Sponsor a Veteran” program allows our supporters to provide the resources for a Veteran and their immediate family members to spend a week at Camp American Legion. A donation of $500 covers the cost for one qualifying individual for one week at Camp. Their stay includes three meals per day, served in our newly renovated dining hall, lodging in one of our 21 lakeside cabins, daily fishing and pontoon trips on the Minocqua Chain of Lakes, evening camp fires, a new Veteran resource center, access to miles of private nature trails and much more.

Your support is needed now to continue the healing legacy that is Camp American Legion!
I want to thank Mike Handrick for working with me in drafting what we believe to be a long term sustainable fundraising program that provides opportunity for citizens across Wisconsin to get involved in supporting the healing process for Wisconsin Veterans and their families.

Our thoughts are looking forward to the 2021 Camp season. Our beliefs, our resiliency and hope guide our way. Our planning along with your support will ensure the future of Camp American Legion is strong for generations to come.

Visit wilegion.org/camp-american-legion or call 1-608-745-1090 to sponsor a vet for a week at camp.

NEW SITE FOR THE 2021 ORATORICAL REGIONAL & FINAL CONTEST

Recruitment of high school students to participate in an oratorical contest at local posts should be wrapping up and local oratorical contests should be scheduled. The winner at the post level will be certified and will then participate in the county contest. The County contest winner will be certified and then move on to the District contest. The winner of the District Contest will be certified and will participate in the Regional Contest that is scheduled for February 13, 2021. Unlike past years, the 2021 contest will be held at American Legion Post 70 in Oshkosh. We are very thankful that Post 70 will host the Regional and Final contests this year. Due to COVID 19 concerns, Ripon College is unable to host the contests in 2021. The Regional contest begins at 10:00 am. The winner of each of the 3 Regional contests will compete in the Finals contest at 12:45 pm the same day at Post 70. The 2021 Assigned Topics and Rules are located on our website at https://wilegion.org/oratorical-scholarships/. Questions regarding the Oratorical program can be forwarded to Program Coordinator Sheri Hicks at Legion Headquarters. Her email is Sheri@wilegion.org, she can also be contacted at (608) 745-1090.

$20M Endowment – Camp American Legion and the Veteran Service Office
The Foundation established an endowment fund with a target of $20 million dollars. Once we reach our goal, the income this endowment fund will generate will be used to annually support Camp American Legion and the Veteran Service Office programs.

AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION

THE WISCONSIN AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION: YOUR PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER

Paul Flisk
Foundation Board Director

Your Wisconsin American Legion Foundation 501c(3) was created with you in mind; to provide financial support to the many American Legion, Department of Wisconsin programs and to act as a pass-thru for funds designated to Wisconsin’s 500 American Legion Posts. The Foundation is the best partner to accomplish your 2020 giving and planned giving goals and there are many ways in which we can use the Foundation to make a difference in the lives of veterans, their families, and communities!

AmazonSmile
One easy way is to use AmazonSmile while shopping on Amazon and designate Wisconsin American Legion Foundation Inc. as the charity of choice.

Qualified Retirement Plan Designation
Naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of your 401(k), or other retirement assets, may reduce income and/or federal estate taxes.

IRA Charitable Rollover
If you are at least 70 1/2 years old, you can donate to the Foundation from your IRA without incurring income tax or an early withdrawal penalty.

Life Insurance
When you designate the Foundation as the owner and beneficiary of your life insurance policy, you may receive the charitable deduction on your income taxes simply by assigning ownership of the policy to the Foundation.

Retained Life Estate
Through a Retained Life Estate Agreement, you can transfer an asset or property to the Foundation and continue to use it and receive any income it generates while you and your designated survivor live. After your survivor has completed the life use, the Foundation will receive your estate gift.

Don't know what to get that special Veteran in your life?

HOW ABOUT A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION OR CURRENT MEMBER'S YEARLY DUES RENEWAL?

CONTACT CHRIS AT
DEPARTMENT HQ
608-745-1090
CHRIS@WILEGION.ORG
YOUR LOCAL POST

LEAGUE
MEMBERSHIP
JAM THE SCAMMER, JINX THE FRAUDSTER!

Equally important to growing your nest egg is preserving your entire nest (and tail feathers). In the last 25 years, it has become increasingly easier for scammers to defraud you through phone calls, text messages, e-mail and other online websites — like those generally used for shopping, dating, and hobbies. Identity thieves use your personal data to obtain high limits of approved credit (credit cards, loans) that are taken out in your name, while impostor scammers, posing as someone you would normally trust (a loved one, a governmental agent, a professional advisor, fellow club member, possible online date, hobby enthusiast) to obtain cash directly from you — both have one thing in common.

All fraudsters live in desperation, whether for money or for sport, but do not be naive — they could not possibly care less about you, your family, or the dire situation that their actions place you. Scammers will spend a lot of time with you, posing as the government, tech support for your devices (cell, laptop, computer, iPad), family/friend in an emergency situation (hospital, jail), or a new romance needing you to send them cash/gift card right away and they will pay you back on Friday. Fraudsters use emotional appeals (love, fear, sadness) that seem all too real; that resonate with intelligent, educated, street-savvy, hard-as-nails, and empathetic people, alike. How can we protect ourselves from such manipulation?

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," Benjamin Franklin advised his fellow 18th Century Philadelphians. Of course, Ben was speaking about fire prevention, but the adage is true to preventing our credit and dignity from devastation losing.

Keep It Simple, Steward (KISS) and jam the scammer in your life:

1. Be Discerning — Trust nobody; your wife of 43 years has exactly where she wants you. Learn to say “no” until you figure out what is going on, and do not share personal information (social security number, date of birth, driver’s license information, banking info) until you know that it is safe to do so.

2. Slow Your Social Role — Does everyone really need to know that you are going on vacation for two weeks in Iowa? You are renting an apartment in Madison to cut your commute? Your father buried his inheritance in his Middleton backyard? The details of our lives can easily and cleverly be used against us, “Check Your Facebook Before You Wreck How Your Base Looks” is a good motto nowadays.

3. Check Personal Accounts Often — Be like Scrooge McDuck and check your bank/investment accounts, utility and credit card transactions frequently to ensure that they match what you have spent. Do not be afraid to call and ask about anything you find suspicious, immediately.

4. Protect Your Devices — Be the Fort Knox of security and use virus protection software on each device to prevent viruses, ransomware, and spyware. Use passphrases instead of simple passwords (grandpa1935). You may want to consider identity theft software that is provided by a trusted source/institution.

5. Use the Burn Bag — Shred or burn unneeded personal documents; mail, old tax returns, e-mails, or anything with your personal information. Help your pet or garden out, use the shredding for bedding or composting.

6. Report Suspicious Activity — Call and report all suspicious activity, immediately, to your local law enforcement to document the situation for your bank or insurance claim. Call and prevent additional scam attempts, and inform your circle of influence (friends, family, colleagues, club members, team mates) of the possible scam hitting their area for their awareness.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **January 1, 2021**: Registration for Wisconsin American Legion Baseball opens
- **February 1, 2021**: Deadline for Junior Shooting Sports target orders
- **February 13, 2021**: Oratorical Regional & Final contests
- **March 1, 2021**: Deadline for Junior Shooting Sports targets – End of Postal match
- **June 12-19, 2021**: Badger Boys State – Ripon College
- **July 23-27, 2021**: Wisconsin American Legion Baseball State Tournaments – Juniors
- **July 27-31, 2021**: Wisconsin American Legion Baseball AAA State Tournament
- **July 30-Aug 3**: Wisconsin American Legion Baseball A/AA State Tournament
A ROCKIN’ 2020 VETERANS DAY

Commander Wischer and Veteran Service Representatives James Flakowski and Mitchell Woytchy were invited by radio station WKLH 96.5 in Milwaukee to share information about The American Legion and its programs on Veterans Day. Mitchell is the chairman of the Suicide Awareness program as well and they were available to provide information on how they and The American Legion assist Veterans and their families.

Commander Wischer shared about the event, “Jim Waltich, Vice Chairman of the membership committee was also on hand providing information. He was able to sign up two members into the S.A.L. and a new member into the Legion. Our Legion Wisconsin Vet Java coffee was served during the day and was enjoyed by all. Oconomowoc Post #91 started the day with reveille being played as they raised Our Nation’s Flag. This event was hosted by the Ewald Automotive Group, whose founder is a 70 year Legion member. I believe that we will be able to build a lasting relationship, that will benefit everyone.”

Scholarships

Annually, 33 students throughout the State of Wisconsin are awarded scholarships selected by the Americanism Committee of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin. The following scholarships are awarded:

- 11 students in Grade 10 receive a $250 scholarship
- 11 students in Grade 11 receive a $300 scholarship
- 11 students in Grade 12 receive a $750 scholarship

The test is available on-line in March 8 through March 19, 2021. Students Register on-line when taking the test. The test link is found at: https://wilegion.org/scholarship-opportunities-are-here/

The link is only active during the test window.

Support veterans and their families by purchasing

VET JAVA
10 oz. Ground Coffee
15% of proceeds directly support Legion Wisconsin and when you use PROMO CODE: LEGIONWI
15% is a saving back to you!

PURCHASE TODAY
800-233-5443
www.BerresBrothers.com

VETERAN SUPPORT IN EVERY CUP

AMAZON SMILE
You shop. Amazon gives.

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Choose Wisconsin American Legion Foundation Inc or Badger Boys State Inc as your charity and Amazon will send 0.5% of your purchases to us. Simply go to smile.amazon.com and select your charity. Prices are the same. Just be sure to log into AmazonSmile each time you shop!

Shop on Amazon?

James Flakowski sharing the purpose and goals of The American Legion Service Office

Commander Wischer joined by the WKLH team on Veterans Day
As the Finance Director of The American Legion Department of Wisconsin, The Wisconsin American Legion Foundation, Wisconsin American Legion Museum and Learning Center, and Badger Boys State since May 2019, I have had the distinct pleasure and honor working with you. We have laughed together, 'duked-it out' and broke bread together, worked through some complex issues facing the Legion, and I can think of no better way to honor our partnership than to shake your hand and thank you for your military service and the lifetime opportunity you gave me to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you these last eighteen months. Without a doubt, I will miss your 400 e-mails and 200 calls a month, but mostly, I will miss your gift of presence; your humor and stories—those are what I take with me as I head to grad school in January.

I tell you that your financial house is in great order, and will be well tended by Scott Bleifuss, Finance Manager, and impending part-time bookkeeper. I look forward to the outstanding events and programs that your dedication is building within the Legion— together, we can accomplish so much. Also, before my time runs out on December 31st, let me remind you, again, to be sure to keep all your receipts for your taxes! May God continue to bless you, and keep you, now and in all the days to come.

For God and Country,
Lee J. Roundy

INTRODUCING
SCOTT BLEIFUSS

FINANCE MANAGER
AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Scott Bleifuss is the new Finance Manager for The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin. He has spent the last decade working in the accounting, auditing, and financial fields; including four plus years of experience auditing energy and utility companies, municipalities, counties, and non-profit organizations, as well as two years in auditing and financial analyst of insurance companies with the OCI of Wisconsin. Most recently was a Finance Manager for a non-profit in Madison, performing all aspects of accounting, month-end, and fiscal-end procedures. He strives to make companies sound and efficient in the accounting and financial aspect of their business. Scott graduated from Edgewood College with BS in Business with emphasis in Accounting.
Frank J. Kostka
Candidate for Department Alternate National Executive Committeeman

Frank Kostka, a proud PUFL member of The American Legion, respectfully requests your support of his candidacy for Department Alternate NEC.

Kostka was born and raised in Northern Wisconsin and invested 20 years active duty in the US Air Force from 1974 to 1994. He has always been supported by his wife, Linda, and family in his work with The American Legion. His campaign has been endorsed by the Kelly-Johnson Post 90 in Ashland and the Eleventh District.

Kostka’s experience in The American Legion includes having served as Post 90 Commander from 2004 to 2017. The post had achieved 100% in membership for 7 years. He served as 11th District, 2nd and 1st Vice Commander and culminated his 4 years as 11th District Commander by leading it to 100% for 2016. His experience at Department level includes member on the Camp American Legion committee for 2 years and member on the Communications Committee for 1 year. Frank served as a National member of the Media and Communications Council and Legislative Council and currently on National Security/Unconventional Forces & Intelligence Committee. He was liaison to Wisconsin’s 7th District US Congressman Sean Duffy and now currently to Tom Tiffany. During his service as 11th District Commander, he served as the Department Executive Committee liaison to the Americanism, Camp American Legion, Legislative, Communications and VA&R Committees. He’s also been a proud member of American Legion Riders for 11 years. Frank proudly served as Department Vice Commander in 2018/17 and Department Commander in 2018/19. Legionnaire Kostka is passionate about The American Legion and walks the talk with membership. As exemplified by his recruiting efforts, earning the prestigious National Silver Brigade Award in 2014 and Gold Brigade Award in 2015, 16,17,18,19 and 20. Over the last 8 years he’s recruited over 400 new members. He’s always promoting how the American Legion supports our Veterans at large and how Local Posts support their communities. He recognizes the value of our organization with the Posts and members. He wants to assist our NEC to be an effective voice for our Department at National meetings and support National Officers when they visit our State. Frank will work hard for our Department and Legionnaires and therefore is asking for your support to elect him Alternate NEC.

Greg Eirich
Candidate for Department Commander

Greg is a graduate of the National American Legion College, The Wisconsin American Legion College, The American Legion Extension Institute Course, and the Basic Training Course (On-Line). He is an Alumnus of the North High School Class of 1971, Sheboygan and Lakeshore Technical College, Cleveland, WI. He is a member of Vorten Na 1080 of the 40 ETS. Greg is a firm believer in the Wisconsin American Legion College and how it educates, informs, motivates and inspires Legionnaires about The American Legion programs. I work well with people and will work exceptionally well with our Department Executive Committee and Department Stuff. I will work hard at good communication with our Department Committees to continue to move in a positive direction with our Department Programs. Also, working with and coordinating with the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary Family, The Sons of the American Legion, and the Legion Riders.

GREG was able to attend several District Conferences this fall with many of them canceled. With new members and newly elected District Commanders, it was important to visit what conferences he could. So, introductions were made, presentations were given and a big thank you to the District Commanders for the opportunity to attend during this pandemic we are in on.

Greg serves on the National VA&R committee. He also serves on the Legislative Committee as a DEC Liaison. He served previously on the Finance Committee and Communications Committee as DEC Liaison. Greg was Chairperson on the Americanism Committee for 2nd District and is currently the Public Safety Chairperson for 2nd District

Greg is married to his wife Jil for 33 years. They have 3 grown adult children, Ben, Brittany, and Ryan, and 1 new member of the family, a Cockapoo puppy named Bella (8 weeks old).

Greg is a member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Sheboygan. He is an Elder. He currently serves as an Usher and Communion Assistant.

Our American Legion Family does an amazing job in supporting our Veterans and I want to continue that support as your next leader of this great organization! I ask for your support, and endorsement, as I continue to seek the high office of Department Commander, The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin. Greg has been endorsed by 2nd District Past Commanders Club, The Mighty Second District, Sheboygan County Council and Greg’s own post, Triple Nickel Post 555, Sheboygan.

It has been a challenging 2020 with the COVID19 Pandemic. Many meetings, conferences, a convention have been canceled. Life has slowed down for our American Legion Family. With the vaccine coming in 2021 we have a brighter future ahead of us. We all look forward to that.

Getting back to normalcy and regular routines, I’m excited and hope you are too! In the meantime, Be Well and Be Safe!
First District Commander David P. Latimer respectfully requests your support for his candidacy for the high office of Department Vice Commander. David received full endorsement from his Post, Waukesha County and First District.

Education:
- High School Graduate: Canton, OH
- Naval Dental Tech/Medical Corpsman School: San Diego, CA
- Eastern Airlines Management School: Miami, Fl
- Metals Training Institute, Heat Treating Statistical Process Control: Detroit, MI
- Wisconsin American Legion Extension College Graduate

American Legion Involvements:
- Proud Member and PUFIL: 15 years
- Post 449 Commander: 3 years
- Post 495 Commander: 3 years – revitalized this dormant Post of 15 members to all time high of 103 members and met and exceeded all membership goals
- First District Commander
- Americanism programs established at four (4) Grade Schools (6th through 8th Gr.)
- Supported the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts at Post 449
- Supported the Cub Scouts and 4H Club at Post 495
- Mentoring Pits for 2 Eagle Scouts
- Mentoring of 2 District finalists in the Oratorical Competitions
- Presenting the benefits of Membership in the American Legion at the National Guard unit in Sussex and the 452nd Medical Group in Milwaukee.
- Explaining the benefits and programs offered to Veterans to various businesses employing Veterans, such as Wells Fargo Bank, Heiser Automotive Group

Committees (Past & Present):
- Legislative Member
- Wisconsin Homeland Security Member
- National Security Council Member
- Appointed by Denise Rohan – 2017 to 2018
- Appointed by Britt Riesed – 2018 to 2019
- Appointed by William Oxford – 2020 to 2021
- Membership: D.E.C.
- VA&R: D.E.C.
- Legislature: D.E.C.

Why:
I enlisted in the U.S. Navy upon my graduation. I am a Vietnam Era Veteran having served on the U.S.S. Anietam CVS36 (aircraft carrier). I believe promoting the values of Membership in this fine organization and teaching Respect of Veterans is of foremost importance. The reason I became a Legionnaire was to support all Veterans currently serving and those having served this Nation. I believe teaching respect for our Nation's Flag and telling the story of our National Anthem to the younger generation which helps them learn the value of becoming a better Citizen.

Third District Commander Keith Lovell, is announcing his candidacy for the High Office of Department Vice Commander for 2020-2021 and respectfully requests your support.

Keith served in the U.S. Army, 1972-1975, as an Air Defense Radar Repairman and was stationed at Ft. Monmouth, NJ and Ft. Bragg, NC. In 1975, he joined Legion Post 501 in Madison where he has been a continuous member for 45 years. He is now retired after a 40 year career in the telecommunications industry.

Keith is a member of the Sons of American Legion, through his father’s military service. His wife Sandy and daughters Christina and Rebecca are all long term members of the American Legion Auxiliary with over 135 membership years between them. “I have my family’s full support for the time and effort which will be needed should I be elected to the demanding position of Department Vice Commander.” He also has the endorsement of his Post, County and District.

- Member of the National Security Council and Membership Committee, DEC Liaison
- 3rd District Commander, Vice and Finance officer for 10 years in total
- Post 501 Commander-15 years
- S.A.L. Squadron 501 Commander & member for 21 years
- Past Commanders Club member
- Graduate American Legion Extension Institute (ALEI) and W.A.L. College Basic Course
- Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) membership

I look forward to continuing my service to the American Legion, our Country’s Veterans and their families in any capacity I can,” Keith said. “As Department Vice Commander I will focus on the number one issue facing The American Legion in the near term – retention/overall Department membership. I believe that communication is the key to retention and gaining new members, especially with the recent passage of the LEGION Act. All methods of communication are important – phone calls, letters, newsletters, email, websites, Facebook and especially face to face contacts. We must reach out through social media to capture the attention of the younger veterans and those still serving, who share our community. I will work alongside my partners - the District, County and Post Commanders, to review and update where possible these means of getting our message of service out. We need to tell our story every day. I respectfully request your support – for it’s truly a team effort.”

Department Sergeant at Arms Jeremy Nordie is a member of Post 354 in Eltrick of the 10th District. Jeremy’s eligibility in the American Legion is a result of his service in the United States Marine Corps during the Persian Gulf conflicts.

Jeremy has been married to his wife Launa for 30 years. Launa is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, as is his grown daughter Kathleen, and two granddaughters Evangelia and Maleena. Jeremy also has a son Michael, who is a member of the Sons of the American Legion.

Jeremy and his family are active members of Living Hope Lutheran Church. Jeremy works for the US Postal Service as a rural mail carrier. One can say that Jeremy lives by the principles and values of a “good American citizen.”

Jeremy is an active member of his post and has been the Trempealeau County Adjutant for nine years. He has been the 10th District Sergeant at Arms for the past nine years, and the Department Sergeant at Arms for the past six years. Jeremy is also a charter member of the 10th District American Legion Riders; his son and daughter are also members.

Jeremy is a regular face at the Department Conventions and Midwinter Conferences. He is proud to have served on the Department Communications committee for two years, and as an Assistant National Sergeant at Arms at the Centennial Convention in Minneapolis.

Having received endorsements by unanimous vote at his Post, Trempealeau County, and the 10th District, this Legionnaire, Jeremy Nordie, seeks your support in being re-elected to the high office of Department Sergeant at Arms.

I am Mark R. Melton and would like to announce that I am running for the High Office of Assistant Chaplain for the American Legion Department of Wisconsin for this coming 2021 year.

I am a Disabled Navy Veteran and a member of the American Legion for 8 years. I am an Ordained Christian Minister and a Graduate of the Wisconsin American Legion College. At this time, I am on the Wisconsin Departments Religious Emphasis Committee as Vice Chairman.

I am serving as Commander for the Waupaca County Council for the past 2 years and an active member of Post 161 in King and a member of their Honor Guard.

I am the past Chaplain and Vice Commander for American Legion Department of Wisconsin District 8, past Chaplain for the Fleet Reserve Association Southwest District for 2 years, and past Chaplain for the Disabled American Vet-
Oh, the north wind doth blow and we shall have snow... Well, the wind does blow these days and snow will not be far behind, but for now, it is time to recognize winter will soon be upon us. One way we can help those in need is through our Community Service program. In last year's annual reports, two units reported their efforts to ensure those less fortunate would stay warm.

Fifield Unit 352 has sponsored an “Outerwear for Everyone” project for the past 28 years! The members of this unit publicize their event with posters in four communities, radio spots, and photos in the local newspaper. They collect winter outerwear over a five-week period and distribute all that is collected to anyone in need. This past year, they gave out over 300 outerwear items! Anything not given directly to an individual is donated to a local high school or local thrift store. What a wonderful way to assist people in the local community while publicizing the great work done by the caring members of the American Legion Auxiliary!

The Henzi-Schneider Unit 382 of Menominee Falls also collects and distributes much needed winter items through their project called “Operation Scarf.” They collect scarves, hats, gloves, and mittens for the homeless. They sort the items into “sets” and place them in large zipper bags along with a note indicating they are free for the taking. The bags are tied to trees and park benches in five Milwaukee area parks known to be frequented by a large number of homeless people, many of whom are veterans. This unit also hosted a motorcycle rally in which 153 riders participated and $13,000 was raised for the Milwaukee Homeless Vets Initiative. Way to support our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program. Whatever you do to help others, please be sure to record, publicize, and report it. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by the recipients and should be recognized by the community at large and our organization.

One note of personal privilege. Thank you to all who reached out to congratulate me on my selection as Wisconsin’s Woman Veteran of the Year. I am honored to represent the countless women veterans in Wisconsin making a difference in their communities.

Editor’s note: Details regarding the Woman Veteran of the Year Award are included on page A4.

This note was received from Sydney DeLong, Development Coordinator for the national organization. Thank you to all the members and units that donated to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund from June through September 2020. Thanks to your generosity, Wisconsin contributed $2,340 to support Auxiliary members facing a financial crisis due to natural disaster or another emergency. What a great way to help others in need!
**GREETINGS FROM HEADQUARTERS**

Bonnie Dornak  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
Ph: 608-745-0124  
Email: deptsec@alamlegionauwx.org  
Website: wwwalamlegionauwx.org

President Joanie Dickerson was selected as the 2020 Woman Veteran of the Year by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. A video from Governor Tony Evers acknowledging President Joanie’s many accomplishments is linked to the department’s home page (www.alamlegionauwx.org). Congratulations to President Joanie on this well-deserved honor.

Members are encouraged to become more familiar with the information posted on the department website, including the 2020-2021 Red Book and bi-monthly unit mailings on the ‘More’ tab, 2020-2021 action plans for each program on the ‘Dept Chmn/Action Plans’ page, current membership reports and forms on the ‘Membership’ page, and updated donation forms found under ‘Forms.’

Looking for a last-minute holiday gift? Give the gift of ALA membership!!! PUFUL applications can be found on the ‘Membership’ tab of the department website and should be mailed directly to national headquarters. Please contact Linda Cason at department headquarters for details.

The American Legion Auxiliary is scheduled to conduct an ALA in the Know session at TAL Midwinter Conference on Saturday, January 16, 2021 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, with a break for lunch on your own. This session will provide an overview of American Legion Auxiliary roles for members and responsibilities of unit officers, discuss the value of county organizations, review each Auxiliary program, surf the department and national websites, provide a preview of special activities planned for the 2021 Department Convention, and close with a Q&A session. Anyone interested in attending must register for the Midwinter Conference ($20 for reservations made before January 4, 2021 or $25 after January 4th). Please mark that you will be attending the ALA in the Know session in the space just above the payment information on the registration form so we can make sure we have enough training materials for everyone in attendance. Space is limited, so please register early!!!

Registration and housing forms are on the Legion website at www.wileigion.org.

National headquarters will mail the final 2021 dues renewal notices around January 15th. They already pulled the mail list so if you receive a renewal notice but believe your dues were paid, please contact your Unit Membership Chairman to ensure they were forwarded to department. Dues are not considered paid until they are processed by department headquarters. The January renewal notices will instruct members to send their dues directly to department to ensure they are processed in a timely manner, so members who do not lose any benefits. Members may also pay dues to their unit or use a debit or credit card to pay online (www.ALAforVeterans.org) or by phone at 317-569-4570, Monday through Friday from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm.

American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State (ALAGBS) is scheduled from June 20-25, 2021. The reservation fee of $350/ delegate is due by January 29, 2021. If your unit has decided not to sponsor students for ALAGBS this year, please notify Carrie Thrasher at department headquarters and your school before the school starts its selection process.

Unit Year-End Report forms were mailed to all unit presidents in November. Members are reminded to track their volunteer hours and money spent to support Auxiliary programs to ensure they are included in the unit’s totals. Every unit should submit a report by April 15, 2021 and acknowledge their members for all the hard work accomplished throughout the year. Department program chairs use the information to prepare their annual reports for the national organization and President Joanie will select units for recognition at department convention.

During this holiday season, please pray for the safe return of all military service members who are separated from their loved ones. Also, don’t forget to check on friends and family who may be affected by COVID-19 that they may stay healthy or recover quickly.

As the pandemic continues to impact the state of Wisconsin, we are minimizing visitor access to department headquarters. For your safety, we request you visit only if necessary. The ALA office will be closed from Wednesday afternoon (December 23rd) through Friday, December 25th for the Christmas holiday and Friday, January 1, 2021 for the New Year’s holiday. We wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season and hope for a better year ahead!

**PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY**

Teresa Isensee  
Dept. Chairman  
Ph: 715-577-5259  
Email: tisensee2173@gmail.com

Have you sent in your Unit/County/District/Department past and current presidents for membership in the Past President’s Parley? Any member who has held the office of President at any level is eligible to be a member.

The purpose of this committee is for Past Presidents to be a resource of information for our members. These members have knowledge and experience that should be shared. How can we help to engage our members, grow leadership at every level, and be a resource to help our declining membership? Have you read the “How to” Worksheets that were included with the Past Presidents Parley Program Action Plan? It’s a great resource on how to mentor a new member to your Unit. Here are some suggestions:

- Offer to escort a new member to your meeting.
- Maintain a positive attitude and assist in avoiding controversy during the meeting.
- Support new and current members through your ongoing leadership!

Do you know a person who is always ready to lend a hand and helps to ensure the future of your Unit? Then submit a unit nomination for “Unit Member of the Year Award.” Nominations are due by May 15, 2021.

Check the Program Action Plan for the requirements; units may nominate only one member for this award.

Do you know a woman veteran to nominate for the “Salute to Servicewomen Award?” This national award was established in 2003 to honor women who are currently serving our country in each branch of service. Submit nominations to me by May 15, 2021, including the nominee’s name, address, unit name and number (if applicable) and the contact information for the active duty servicewoman. Check the Program Action Plan for specific requirements.

Past Presidents Parley also sponsors three $1,000 scholarships for students going into nursing or other health career. Donations are down significantly this year and we need your support to continue offering these scholarships. Please consider making a donation to help deserving students pursue their education in these essential careers. Checks should be payable to “Past Presidents Parley” and mailed to ALA-Wisconsin, PO Box 140, Portage, WI 53901-0140, noting the donation is for PPF Scholarships.

I look forward to reading the Unit Mid-Year Reports of the accomplishments of our Past Presidents.

**NATIONAL SECURITY**

Karen Degner  
Dept. Chairman  
Ph: 920-918-9772  
Email: kdegner88@gmail.com

During these trying times and staying as safe as we can all can, what can we do to support the National Security program?

There is always a need for blood donations; please consider donating if you can. The USO of Wisconsin appreciates those that sew to make Camo Bears for military children with a deployed parent. To learn more or request a kit to make three bears, contact the USO at: WisconsinSupport@uso.org. Monetary donations are also welcomed. You can make a donation and/or find out more at: www.wis.uso.org or call 414-763-2214.

Are you ready for the upcoming Wisconsin winter? To find ways to stay safe, go to: https://ready.wisconsin.gov for ideas, tips, suggestions for kits, resources and more.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind: April is the Month of the Military Child, May is the month of Military Family Appreciation, Military Spouse Appreciation Day is the Friday before Mother’s Day and Armed Forces Day is the Saturday before Memorial Day.
MISSION IN ACTION: POYNETTE UNIT 271

Since many veterans use the local food pantry, Poynette Auxiliary Vice President Lyn Bryant had an idea to help both the veterans and the food pantry during the pandemic. The Auxiliary sold baked goods at the Farmer’s Market every other Saturday during its run in 2020. ALA member Marcy Woodward also made masks to sell. All the proceeds from the baked goods and face masks were donated to the Poynette Area Community Food Pantry. Bryant and Auxiliary members Terri Fiore, Nancy Ripp, Marcy Woodward, Gloria Rortvedt and Sue Paukner presented food pantry organizer Ruth Anne Waugh with a check for $3,128.50. When Waugh asked Woodward how many masks she made, she said she had no idea of the exact number but estimated it to be more than 3,500!

Photo used with permission by Adam Lindemer, Associate Editor DeForest Times-Tribune, Lodi Enterprise and Poynette Press

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Mary Petrie
Dept. Chairman
Ph: 920-261-8161
Email: mmpetrie@charter.net

Thinking back, you might remember a popular TV show, touting its hero as faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound.

The definition of a hero is a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. That spells v-e-t-e-r-a-n.

What is a veteran? The simple answer is a former member of the armed forces, but that doesn’t even begin to describe a veteran’s heart.

Look around you...veterans come in all shapes and sizes, and from all walks of life. Many were still teenagers when they left their families and friends to take this oath...

I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.

They were willing to set aside their fears and the life they knew to journey an unknown path – without question. Births, baptisms, and other special celebrations went on without them. Some even served in more than one branch. Veterans are ordinary men and women with an extraordinary sense of duty, honor, and country, having served, as our Preamble states, For God and Country!

Many were thrown into harm’s way; all sacrificed, as did their families, to privilege us with the freedoms we enjoy and sadly often take for granted. The price paid to wear the uniform can be high, for freedom is not free.

We recently celebrated Veterans Day, a day of tribute to all who served, so important it is designated as a federal holiday; a day we gather to honor those whose duty it was to serve, and to remember the sacrifices made for us.

If you’ve been privileged to hear some of these heroes’ stories, you know they range from easily shared comical to tearful and heart-wrenching. They have given more than we can ever repay.

For those still carrying scars, we wish you peace. For those remembering, we wish you good memories; for all, we wish you a special day every day, overflowing with celebration and thanks.

Not all heroes wear capes, some wear dog tags. Happy Veterans Day!

Congratulations to Retired Chief Petty Officer, Department President and hero Joanie Dickerson, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs 2020 Woman Veteran of the Year. Anchors Aweigh!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Kitty Larkin
Dept. Chairman
Ph: 762-649-3399
Email: littysr8@wi.rr.com

Let us hear it for our kids. We often hear that kids have a mind of their own but that is usually said in a negative manner. When they have a mind of their own, it is about something they have given a lot of thought to, not particularly something they have been told about or been taught.

Often times they don’t think about the color of someone’s skin or culture, they think about their friends and what they like about them or what they do together. Putting their heads together, they determine what they can do to make a difference for other people or to help the world. But as adults, we are doubtful that they could make a difference. The youth of today are the adults of tomorrow who will rule the world tomorrow. They think differently than we do today, and it is often said, “Out of the mouths of babies…”

We must learn to listen to what they say and what they do. They are doing things today that we call “Good Deeds” for other people and community groups and we must acknowledge them for their original thoughts and actions with Good Deed Awards. Their thoughts and ideas are about uniting everyone for the good of the world and allowing everyone to be part of a group as friends. They can spend time making new friends while helping the elderly with things they can no longer accomplish alone.

The youth of our nation can help break down the barriers at all levels and help bring America together.

Good Deed Awards are offered through the National ALA for Veterans and the National American Legion Auxiliary Good Deed Awards for nomination forms.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Beth Puddy
Dept. Chairman
Email: Jbpuddy1987@gmail.com

This year has changed how we operate. With social distancing, units were not able to do some of the traditional, annual Community Service projects. That is ok! Auxiliary members are not easily deterred and came up with some new ways to continue Community Service.

Members sent cards and prayers to veterans and other residents in nursing homes to brighten their days. They provided rides to the elderly. They attended funeral services of veterans with the Honor Guard outside their Legion Post. Many units are making donations to local food banks. Units planted and cared for flowers at their Post or Veterans Park. Auxiliary members are donating blood and helping at blood drives. Units are continuing to honor our veterans by placing American flags on their graves. Units are making masks for children and adults. Warm winter clothing was collected for homeless veterans and fall yard clean-up was done for elderly residents.

Some community service projects/ideas: volunteering to help tutor students, providing meals for students not in school, offering to help pick up groceries for those quarantined, doing something nice for essential workers, getting carry outs from local restaurants or gift cards from local businesses.

Thank you for all you do to make our communities better!

ATTENTION JUNIORS!!!!!

P-A-R-T-Y! We are having a 100th Birthday Party to celebrate the American Legion Auxiliary and the accomplishments our awesome Juniors have made over the last two years.

Saturday, June 12, 2021
at
American Legion Post 33, 451 Green Bay Road, Neenah, WI 54956

We will work on a Poppy project, play games through the decades and have a cookout!
2020 WISCONSIN WOMAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR JOANIE DICKERSON

Joanie retired from the US Navy after 20 years of honorable service (1980-2000), where she achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer. Since transitioning to civilian life, Joanie has used the leadership and training skills she developed in the military to effectively serve various organizations for the betterment of our veterans, youth and community members. Joanie routinely does “little things” that she doesn’t consciously think about but does them because it’s the right thing to do. Her volunteerism has included working with Bagley Adult-Youth Group, Boy Scouts of America Pack 71, Boy Scouts of America Troop 88, Blackhawk Area Council Boy Scouts of America, membership of Walapeja Lodge 140 Order of the Arrow, program area leader on summer day camp staff, member of US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Prairie du Chien Flotilla, instructor for public boating safety, and active member of St. Mary Catholic Church. Additionally, Joanie earned a degree in Education and is a full-time educator.

Within the Legion Family, Joanie Dickerson has served as the American Legion Post Commander, Service Officer, and Finance Officer at Post 482 in Bagley and Adjutant on the Grant County Council. As a dual member, she has also served as an officer and active member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 482 and served as liaison to the County Veterans Service officer when the ALA established the state-wide Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund. At the department level, Joanie has served as chairman of Americanism, Poppy, and Education. She has been a counselor at ALA Badger Girls State for 26 years, serving on the committee for nine years. Joanie has advanced through the Department Officer positions as Chaplain, Historian, Second Vice President, First Vice President, and Senior Vice President. She is the first veteran to be elected to the high rank of ALA Department President in Wisconsin and the only person to hold that distinctive honor for two years!

Joanie Dickerson has made a significant impact on the community. Her active involvement with various organizations provides her the opportunity to serve veterans and to raise awareness throughout Wisconsin on how veterans continue to serve whenever needed for the betterment of all.

Congratulations, Department President Joanie Dickerson, on this great achievement!

MISSION IN ACTION: BARABOO UNIT 26

Members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 26 in Baraboo had a fun time distributing poppies at the city’s annual Fair on the Square in October. Hundreds of people stopped by and gave generously. Member Kim Shanks commented, “Folks were so friendly and we couldn’t be more surprised and happy with the results from the day. We took in over $1,200 in donations. We are so blessed to have community support during these times. Yes, we did wear masks...just not for the photos!” Unit President Linda Higbee generously paid the booth fee to make this event successful.

(L TO R) Sandy Deich, Unit President Linda Higbee, Mary Spink
(L TO R) Linda Higbee, Mary Spink and Kim Shanks
Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary State Bowling Association
18th Nine Pin Tap Tournament (45th Annual Tournament)
April 10-11 and April 17-18, 2021

100% Prize Fee Returned
75% Handicap - 200 Scratch
6211 State Road 68
Cedarburg, WI 53012

The bowlers listed below enter the specified tournament at the annual WALABA Tournament and hereby agree to comply in all respects with the rules of said tournament. The individual members are bona fide 2021 members of the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary.

WALABA is NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE!

TEAM NAME: ___________________________________________ UNIT #__________

INDICATE WHAT EVENTS BOWLER IS ENTERING:

TEAM NAME: ___________________________________________

UNIT CITY LOCATION: ___________________________________________

Y N

1. DOUBLES AND SINGLES

2. SINGLES

3. ALL EVENTS (If you want to enter ALL EVENTS)

4. $30.00

Doubles $30.00

Singles $15.00

TOTAL $45.00

Y N

SUNDAY: APRIL 11
TEAM OR DOUBLES/SINGLES 9AM

SUNDAY: APRIL 18
TEAM OR DOUBLES/SINGLES 9AM

Mail entries to: Jenni Szyftesd @ 205 Thompson Street, Verona WI 53593.

Mail entry closing date: Postmarked by March 15, 2021.

*DO NOT SEND MONEY AT THIS TIME. JUST YOUR ENTRY FORM.*

*Due to COVID-19 and not knowing the situation in April 2021, entry fees need to be received by March 15, 2022 but entry fees will be requested at a later date.

Please print complete address & phone number where mail will receive immediate attention.

When two or more teams are inter-bowling for doubles partners, please be sure to send your entries together.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

TEAM DBLS SINGLES ALL EVENTS TOTAL PAID

Monday: April 10

11AM OR 2PM TEAM OR DOUBLES/SINGLES

Saturday: April 17

11AM OR 2PM TEAM OR DOUBLES/SINGLES

Monday: April 11

9AM TEAM OR DOUBLE/SINGLES

Wednesday: April 13

9AM TEAM OR DOUBLE/SINGLES

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 320 and Feed My People Food Bank from Eau Claire co-sponsored a pop-up food pantry in the Humbird community the second Tuesday of each month from September to December. Flies were printed and distributed to area businesses and schools. The goal was to provide 30 families with fresh produce, meat, dairy and non-perishable food products. In October, they served 124 families in one hour! Based on the need, the program may be continued. In partnership with Feed My People Food Bank, ALA Unit 320 made a huge impact through this Community Service project. Thank you!!!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY BOWLING HOTELS • GRAFTON AREA
HOSTED BY GRAFTON UNIT 355
April 10 & 11, 2021 and April 17 & 18, 2021

When booking either hotel, please indicate American Legion Auxiliary Bowling.

Reservations must be made by March 9, 2021

Comfort Inn & Suites
1415 Port Washington Road • Grafton, WI 53024 • 262-387-1180
2 Queen $74.00

Reservations must be made by March 19, 2021

Hampton Inn & Suites
1385 Gateway Drive • Grafton, WI 53024 • 262-474-1000
Standard 2 Queen for $99.00
King studio Suite w/Sleeper Sofa for $109.00
NATIONAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Have you ever wanted to serve on an ALA national committee? Now is the time! Log in to the Members Only portal at www.ALAforVetsLink.org to apply by Dec. 31 and help make a tremendous impact on the future of our organization.

INCLUSION & DIVERSITY SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Want to create a fun and welcoming environment for all? You’ll help:
• Figure out where we are
• Identify where we want to be
• Involve members in discussions on inclusion and diversity
• Develop inclusion and diversity goals and strategies
• Expand leadership opportunities for all

• Identify what success looks like
• Get our members on board!

NATIONAL CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT REVIEW COMMITTEE

This new committee will:
• Review the existing Code of Ethical Conduct
• Develop procedures for addressing violations
• Recommend changes to ALA Constitution & Bylaws
• Meet weekly via videoconference
• Not be addressing unit/department-level conduct

These new committees may meet as often as weekly via videoconferencing, so technology skills and reliable internet are musts.

AUXILIARY WORD SEARCH CONTEST

P Z A X P I H S R A L O H C S
P B E T A E C I V R E S W R J
O G D H M P F N A E M B N I U
H N Y L E P H O S I T A L N
S I P A R A C I S T A N R V I
T L P I N T G I M E M E O O
F W O N C A E S U P R T L P
I O P N A H P L T S O V E U T
G B A E N O X I A I F I V N R
B R T I R V N N C E S N T U
Y E L N S E L U C R F U J E N
L B E E M D J M E L B M E E I
A M Y C S S F W A P P O P R T
W E M B L E R G Y R O T S I H
S M Y R A I L I X U A I L P A

Find the following words. Words may be forward, backward, or diagonal.

AEF BOWLING GIFT SHOP MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP
AMERICANISM BYLAWS HISTORY MUSIC SERVICE
ANCHORED CENTENNIAL HOSPITAL PARLEY UNIT
ASSISTANCE EMBLEM JUNIOR PATCH VETERAN
AUXILIARY FLAG LEGION POPPY VOLUNTEER

RULES:
Highlight (preferred) or circle the 25 hidden words from the list. Mail the completed Word Search puzzle with the identified words to: ALA Wisconsin, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Entries must be received by January 15, 2021. Illegible sheets will be disqualified.

Three completed entry forms will be selected at random to win $10 each.

OCTOBER 2020 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Mary Jo Card</td>
<td>Foxboro</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Tootie Pulvermacher</td>
<td>Lone Rock</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Robert Nachreiner</td>
<td>Sauk City</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>25:00</td>
<td>Mary Jo Kramer</td>
<td>Platteville</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Brenda Adler</td>
<td>Loretta</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Kathy Gakninski</td>
<td>East Troy</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Bob Mathies</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Donald Southworth</td>
<td>Wausau</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Lianne &amp; Paul Becht</td>
<td>West Bend</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Diane Winkenwerder</td>
<td>Hortonville</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>25:00</td>
<td>Michelle Schaefer</td>
<td>Waterford</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Marilyn Guentenberger</td>
<td>Iron Ridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>Sandy Deacon</td>
<td>Whitehall</td>
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VIRTUAL BINGO WINNERS!

Thank you to everyone who submitted a Virtual Bingo Card from the October issue of this publication. Drum roll please...the winners of 2020 Virtual Bingo are:

• $10 - Four Corners: JOAN HERBST of Unit 270 in Theresa, District 2. Joan has been a proud member of the ALA for 17 years and joined to honor the service of her husband.
• $25 - Two Straight Lines: CAROL CRISP of Unit 224 in Alma, District 10. Carol has been a proud member for 28 years and joined in honor of her brothers who served during World War II.
• $50 - Full Bingo Card: AMY LUFT of Unit 355 in Grafton, District 2. Amy joined the ALA to honor her father and is a PUFL member of 14 years.

Congratulations and thanks for playing!