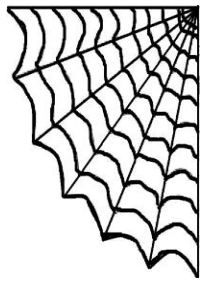




# Bi-Monthly Unit Mailing October/November 2024



## This mailing includes:

- Greetings from Department President Becky Mueller
- Past Department President - Q&A
- 2023-2024 National Awards list
- Veterans Day Card
- 2025 (The American Legion) Midwinter registration
- Redbook Corrections/Dates to Remember
- Bi-Monthly Unit Mailing (paper removal form)
- AEF article
- ALA Badger Girls State article
- Greetings from Department Headquarters
- Badger Legionnaire & Wisconsin Publication policies
- Membership article
- 2025 Unit Officer ALA MIS access registration form
- Education article
- Make Halloween a fun & safe night flyer
- Poppy program article
- Public Relations article
- VA&R article
- VA&R: Service to Veterans article
- VA&R: Homeless Women Veterans grant program article
- VA&R: Christmas Gift Shop article
- PPP Scholarship & Dues Donation form
- VA&R: Director of Hospital Volunteers article
- 2025-2026 Department Program Interest form
- Hospital Needs Lists: Chippewa Falls/Dayton Care/King/Iron Mtn/  
Madison Memorial/Minneapolis/Tomah/Union Grove/Zablocki
- Zablocki 'Baby Shower' donation form



### **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](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)



## *Greetings from Department President Becky Mueller*

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU! to Mosinee Unit 107 for being the first to reach 100% in membership and Sheboygan Unit #83 for winning the first Check your Pulse award. I am sure many more of you will be in the running by the time you read this! Keep up the magnificent work.

I have enjoyed my visits to your units, conferences, and other events. It is so nice meeting you and hearing your great ideas and accomplishments. You are amazing and you make a difference every day. Continue to check on each other and Be the One.

EXCITING NEWS – Midwinter is fast approaching, and the Auxiliary will have a strong presence on Saturday, January 18, 2025, in Appleton. A full day is being planned for your learning and service opportunities. We plan to begin at 9:00 a.m. that morning with workshops/breakouts for Leadership and Reporting. Bring your questions, concerns, and ideas with you. The Juniors have been asked to present the Patch program to us – we will see if we can “earn” those patches along with them. Followed by a round table discussion with the Executive Director and Chairperson of the ALA Badger Girls State Program to answer your questions and concerns. Hopefully, we will have some past Badger Girls there to speak about their experiences. Should be informative and exciting. A busy and full morning.

After lunch we will work on service projects – still looking for suggestions – but plan to make valentine cards for our Veterans at our VA facilities. If you have materials, we can share, please bring them along. The Veterans love that homemade touch. It has been suggested that we do tie blankets again, make tray favors, and other craft ideas. Please let me know what you think we can easily facilitate to make this a fun experience for all.

A collection will be made of full-size shampoo, conditioners, alcohol-free mouthwash, body lotions, toothpaste, and body wash. Plan to bring them with you and we will sort and distribute them to our Veteran’s homes – King, Chippewa Falls, Dayton and Union Grove.

Another fun activity will be an Auxiliary and Patriotic pin and jewelry exchange! Many of us have duplicate items or no longer needed items that we can bring to swap with others. If you find something you would like to take home – either leave an item in exchange or donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. I am sure there will be a lot of conversation and memories shared.

The best part is that in the afternoon we will have a joint family session lead by speaker(s) from the University of Wisconsin – Madison MIA/POW Recovery and Identification Project as our guests. It will be a highly informative and inspiring time together. Plan on attending.

Enjoy our fall weather and the fun events that are happening. Looking forward to meeting with as many of you as possible. See you on the road!

God’s Blessing to all of you. Reach out to each other and share those blessings.

*Becky Mueller*

## Dear Past Department President – HELP!

Have you a question about the ALA traditions, protocol, or how the Auxiliary does things? Are there some problems you would like to discuss anonymously? Well we have the solution – Ask our Past Department Presidents and get the benefit of their experience and resources. Each unit mailing we will ask them to address your concerns and provide further guidance to each of you personally. Their contact information is in the Red Book – available on-line or for purchase. Send your questions and/or concerns to [clarencandbecky@aol.com](mailto:clarencandbecky@aol.com) for inclusion. Thank you.

1) Dear PDPs,

My unit has a problem with our Post. The Commander insists on knowing everything we are doing and how much money we earn and spend. The Commander thinks we need approval from the Post before sending any checks or starting a project. The Post vetoes anything that doesn't directly benefit them. How do we explain our relationship between the Post and the Auxiliary?

Wanting a Divorce

*The relationship between an Auxiliary Unit and a Legion Post is like the relationship between neighbors. We all try to be helpful to one another and cooperative. Like neighbors, we may invite one another to a holiday celebration or a nice dinner. But like neighbors, some things aren't shared... like our checkbook balances, our expenditures, or approval of our activities.*

*For more info/discussion please contact PDP Diane Duscheck.*

*Let's just take a moment to consider how messy and final a divorce is. In your case, a separation is the best (and only) option. Another important thing is to have the right information to defend your position to be independent. That, of course, would be a direct quote from our National Standing Rules, especially Section XI, #9 that states A Legion Post has no authority to regulate a Unit and vice versa, or the*

***Department Operations Guide that offers the statement which describes that sacred relationship of Legion to Auxiliary... "as a separate 501(c)(19) corporation, the ALA governs itself independently from The American Legion". So, my "Wanting a Divorce" friends bottom line is, have a conversation with the Commander, stand your ground, and move on. Sometimes you have to agree to disagree. If your Legion counterparts don't understand, separate from them for awhile by meeting in a different location. You are given the rights to govern your own activities and finances by the National governing documents.***

***For more information contact:  
PDP Diana Sirovina***

2) Dear PDPs,

Our Unit is discouraged. We only have 20 members and 4 of them are in the nursing home. We can't work on all the programs. It takes a lot to do Poppy distribution and make tray favors for the VA in our area. We prepare a Veterans Day meal for our town. We still send a Badger Girl and provide one scholarship each year. We are getting older and can't do anymore. We want to remain viable unit but can't take on any other projects. What do you suggest? Tired



*The Auxiliary is fortunate to have many avenues for helping veterans, military, their families, and our community. No one and no unit can do all the programs and do them well, so pick and choose. Decide which two or three or four programs your members are most excited about and want to participate in and concentrate on those. You will be a very active and productive unit.*

*For more info/discussion please contact PDP Diane Duscheck.*

*Your Unit should be commended for the work you are doing especially with your small membership. Keep in mind, Units are not expected to promote every program of the Auxiliary. Promoting the VA&R program by distributing our Poppy, making Tray Favors for your local VA, preparing a meal for your community on Veterans Day, and then if that isn't enough, you promote Americanism by sponsoring Badger Girls State plus giving a scholarship. That is amazing and should be boasted about. Hopefully you are getting publicity in your community so prospective members will want to join you.*

*For more information contact:  
PDP Jeannine Conradt*

*My goodness, with all that activity and less than 20 members, you have the right to be tired! Congrats on a great job! Have you asked your Post or SAL to help work on some of your projects, get The Family involved? Maybe it's time to recruit some new members that can help work on some of your projects. Have you thought of partnering with some other local groups like the VFW, DAV or Lions Club who align with our mission to help with your Veterans Day meal? Adopt the "you help us, we'll help you" mentality. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Remember that with all the great*

*programs we have, it's more important to work on a few and enjoy what you are doing than to take on too many and get overtired! Keep up the good work you have been doing and think about getting a little rest now and then!*

*For more information contact:  
PDP Diana Sirovina*

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3) Dear PDPs,

Our Unit has a member that constantly causes Trouble with a capital T! This member is disruptive, rude and refuses to listen to anyone else's opinion. Everything must be their way or else! They are running off others that might be interested in joining us. Working projects is a nightmare. We can't suspend this member because a vote to do that isn't allowed; just because they are the President. What do we do?

Frustrated

*I'd be frustrated, too! Leading is not synonymous with bossing. Have you tried talking with the president about leadership behavior? Other things to try: (1) Request that your parliamentarian do the job of keeping the president in line, mediating the meetings but not giving opinions. (2) Check the unit's governing documents to see if a set number of executive board members can call a special executive session. If that is allowed, get together with the president and gently but truthfully lay out the dissatisfaction with the current lack of leadership. This is not easy to do. (3) Ask the Department Leadership Team to attend a unit meeting to provide training before you lose too many members. (4) The next time elections come around, someone new needs to step up and run for president. Have a ballot vote for officers so members won't feel too intimidated by the president.*

*For more info/discussion please contact PDP Diane Duscheck.*



## 2023-2024 NATIONAL AWARDS

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin received the following awards or acknowledgements for the 2023-2024 administrative year during the 2024 National Convention:

### AMERICANISM

Dorothy Pearl Award - Most Outstanding Unit  
Americanism Program in Central Division

**Van Ells-Schanen Unit 82**  
Port Washington ~ District 2  
Diane Burkhalter, Unit President

### EDUCATION

Best Department Education Program  
in Central Division

**Department of Wisconsin**  
Diane Weggen, Department Chairman

### HISTORIAN

Best Department History  
in Central Division

**Department of Wisconsin**  
Mary Petrie, Department Chairman

Toomey Award - Overall Best Department History

**Department of Wisconsin**  
Mary Petrie, Department Chairman

### LEADERSHIP

Department Unit Member of the Year

**Terry Giles**  
Brask-Fossum-Janke Unit 185, Grantsburg ~ District 12

### MEMBERSHIP

Units that reached 100% of their 2024 membership goal by 1/31/2024

Birchwood Unit 379	Fifield Unit 532	St. Nazianz Unit 477
Black River Falls Unit 129	Hartland Unit 294	Spooner Unit 12
Coleman Unit 280	Hayward Unit 218	Stoughton Unit 59
Cottage Grove Unit 248	Kenosha Unit 21	Tigerton Unit 239
Dane Unit 503	Land O' Lakes Unit 464	Two Rivers Unit 165
DeForest Unit 348	Milwaukee Unit 448	White Lake Unit 534
Delavan Unit 95	Mt. Hope Unit 229	Wild Rose Unit 370
Edgerton Unit 30	Pewaukee Unit 71	Winter Unit 303
Eleva Unit 459	Rio Unit 208	Wisconsin Rapids Unit 442
Elkhorn Unit 45	Rome Unit 65	

### POPPY

Best Department Poppy Program  
in Central Division

**Department of Wisconsin**  
Kay Grosskopf, Department Chairman

Poppy Poster Contest, Class II (Grades 4 & 5)  
Best Poppy Poster in Central Division

**Easton Knorr**  
Sponsored by Shiocton Unit 512 ~ District 9

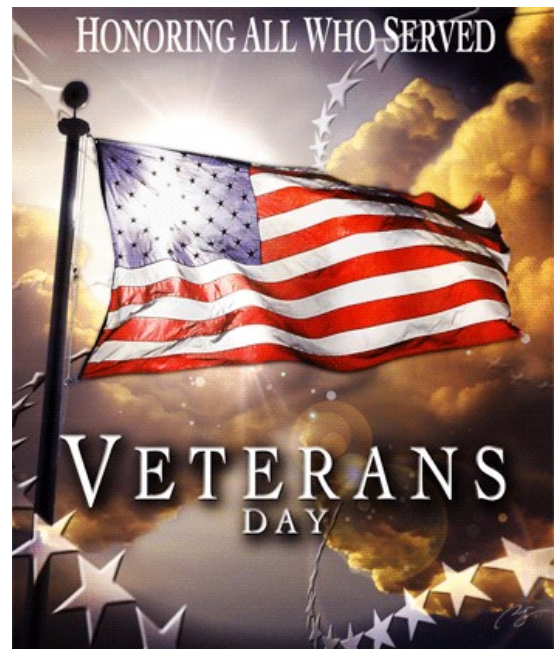
### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Most Outstanding Department Public Relations  
Program in Central Division

**Department of Wisconsin**  
Bob Shappell, Department Chairman

Thank you for  
serving our  
country and  
protecting our  
freedoms!

Especially made for you from



**A time to Honor,  
A time to Remember**

# 2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

JANUARY 16-19, 2025

HILTON PAPER VALLEY

333 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE ~ APPLETON, WI 54911

## REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-register for The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin 2025 Midwinter Conference by returning this registration form and \$25.00 per person (1 person per registration form) to Department Headquarters by January 2, 2025, and **save \$5.00!** Registrations received after January 2, 2025, will be \$30.00 per person. Or register online at [wilegion.org](http://wilegion.org).

*(Please type or print clearly in order for your badge to be printed correctly- List your name how you wish it to be printed on your badge)*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER ID # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_ POST \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	NO	PRICE	TOTAL
Registration Fee (only one per form)		\$25.00	
Reg. Fee After 1/2/25 (only one per form)		\$30.00	
Celebrate Your Heritage Banquet		\$40.00 <i>(RSVP By January 2, 2025)</i>	
Check Here if you are attending the Auxiliary Session on Saturday, January 18, 2025. (Must pay the Registration fee to enter)			
Total Enclosed			

**Make check payable to The American Legion, or Enter Credit Card Information Below**

Cash                       Check # \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. Code \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:  
The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin  
Attn: Midwinter  
P.O. Box 388  
Portage, WI 53901  
or email to [angie@wilegion.org](mailto:angie@wilegion.org)

## Red Book Corrections

- \*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](mailto:mardi@comantenna.com) / 608-547-3266
- Pg. 17 Donna Jensen – street # should be 6936 – Address is 6936 N. 86<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:victorial@wi.rr.com)

\*updated 9/18/2024

## DATES & DEADLINES

Last updated 9/23/2024

*(subject to change)*

2024		
Oct 5, 2024	ALA in the Know Conference	American Legion Post #288, Cedarburg, WI
Oct 5, 2024	1 <sup>st</sup> District Fall Conference	American Legion Post #196, Delafield, WI
Oct 12, 2024	Junior Fall Conference (10 am – 3 pm)	Wisconsin Veterans Home at King
Oct 19, 2024	3 <sup>rd</sup> District Fall Conference	American Legion Post #385, Verona, WI
Oct 19, 2024	6 <sup>th</sup> District Fall Conference (tentative)	Omro Community Center, Omro, WI
Oct 26, 2024	4 <sup>th</sup> District Fall Conference	War Memorial Center, Milwaukee, WI
Oct 26, 2024	11 <sup>th</sup> District Fall Conference	St. Paul's Catholic Church, Catawba, WI
FUTURE EVENTS		
Apr 11 & 12, 2025	WALASBA Tournament	Fitchburg, WI – hosted by Unit 385
Apr 26, 2025	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Spring Conference	TBD (Dodge County)
June 14, 2025	Camp's 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	Camp American Legion, Lake Tomahawk, WI
June 15–20, 2025	ALA Badger Girls State	UW–Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI
July 2025	Legion Family Department Convention	Green Bay, WI
Aug 2025	Legion Family National Convention	Tampa Bay, FL
July 2026	Legion Family Department Convention	Appleton, WI
Aug 2026	Legion Family National Convention	Louisville, KY





## DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 140, Portage WI 53901

Telephone: 608-745-0345 ❖ Email: [alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org)

Department Website: [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Bi-Monthly Unit Mailing is available for download from the Department website.

If you would like to stop receiving a paper copy of the Department of Wisconsin Auxiliary Unit Mailing and access it electronically, either email (at the address listed above) or complete the form and return it to Department Headquarters.

ALA – Dept. of Wisconsin  
Attn: Carrie Thrasher  
P.O. Box 140  
Portage WI 53901

### **Bi-Monthly Unit Mailing – Paper copy removal form:**

District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## Auxiliary Emergency Fund

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a fund that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible American Legion Auxiliary members who have endured a significant financial setback as a result of an act of nature or another personal crisis. President Becky Mueller has selected the AEF as one of her special projects and challenges every unit to donate \$1 per member.

Applicants must be American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) members and maintained ALA membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years). Auxiliary Emergency Fund grants of up to \$3,000 provide immediate emergency assistance to ALA members in areas devastated by a natural disaster, such as tornado, flood, fire, hurricane, earthquake, or other severe weather. The applicant must have received damage to their primary residence and/or been displaced or evacuated from the residence and had out-of-pocket expenses for food, clothing, and shelter. Applications must be submitted electronically through the national website within 6 months of disaster and awards are limited to one grant per grantee in a 12-month period.

Funds requested through AEF related to the payment of medical-related expenses, taxes, general loans, insurances, credit cards, cellular/TV services, animal care, car purchase/payments, and/or home/vehicle maintenance/repairs are not applicable for review or funding consideration.

There are many, many organizations asking for donations and it is important to support the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF). This is **direct** help from members to members in time of an emergency, for a Disaster Assistance grant or a Temporary Assistance grant. Some suggestions for raising funds are:

- Put raising funds for AEF on your agenda for the upcoming year.
- Challenge members to find fun new fundraising ideas.
- Pass the hat at one or more meetings with funds dedicated to the AEF.
- Have an AEF Chairman in your Unit.

As your Unit makes plans for the upcoming year, include fundraisers and donations to the AEF in your schedule. For more information see the Department ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) and National ([www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)) websites for additional ideas and information.

The logo for the American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State. It features the words "AMERICAN LEGION" in blue, with a stylized American flag graphic to the left. Below this, "AUXILIARY" is written in red, and "Badger Girls State" is written in blue below a horizontal line.

AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY  
Badger  
Girls State

Greetings!

If you don't know me, I am Dany Thompson and I serve as the chairman of the American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State (ALABGS) Committee. In a few weeks we will be sending out information packets for the 2025 session, reflecting a price increase for the reservation fee to \$500, and I wanted to explain why.

First, the overall cost of the program has gone up, especially for renting the facility and providing housing and meals. Secondly, since the COVID pandemic, we have lost approximately 200 delegates. Pre-2020, our session hosted 700 delegates. Since 2022 that number has dropped to about 500 and we do not foresee increased participation without some help. With fewer participants, the cost per person has increased.

The total cost for each delegate who attends this week-long life-changing conference will be \$635 for the 2025 session. UW-Oshkosh's services are \$485 per delegate: \$230 for housing (\$46/night x 5 nights), \$113 for meals (14 meals), and \$142 for facility usage. Facility expenses include the cost of UW-Oshkosh administrative, janitorial and security personnel; usage fees for offices, meeting rooms, conference areas, athletic field, and auditorium; use of technology equipment/personnel, etc. Additionally, ALABGS needs to pay general operating expenses which include liability insurance, ALA HQ staff wages, audit fees, and program expenses such as citizens manuals, t-shirts, totes, pens, rental of copiers and golf carts, and volunteers' housing and meals.

The ALABGS Committee has worked hard to reduce our budget without affecting the delegates' learning experiences and are looking for alternate sources of funding to offset the difference between the reservation fee and the actual cost for a delegate. The ALABGS Committee is also requesting proposals from other colleges and universities in an effort to find the most affordable venue to host this program in 2026 and beyond, but we hope you understand the need to increase the reservation fee.

Please continue to sponsor a delegate (or more) to the session as we believe the mission of ALABGS is an important one for developing today's youth into future leaders. We encourage you to seek outside support from local businesses and civic organizations (Rotary, Lions Club, Elks Club, etc.) to make this opportunity available to students in your area.

# 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 ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE

ALABGS information packets will be mailed in late October for the 2025 ALABGS session. Units planning to sponsor girls should submit their reservation fees by January 31, 2025 and start working with their schools to select delegate(s). *Submitting the reservation fee by January 31<sup>st</sup> enables us to plan more effectively for the upcoming session.* After Department receives the reservation fees, the schools will be notified how many delegates they may select so their students can register by April 1<sup>st</sup>. If a delegate is not selected, the unit may request a full refund by emailing Carrie Thrasher ([alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org)) no later than April 15, 2025. After April 15<sup>th</sup>, a \$50 processing fee will be charged. No refunds will be issued after May 1, 2025.

## 2025 RENEWAL NOTICES

2025 membership cards and rosters were mailed to every unit in July. National Headquarters sent 2025 Membership Dues Renewal Notices the week of September 15<sup>th</sup>. Units are reminded to forward dues to Department promptly. Membership questions? Please contact Andrea Stoltz ([alawi@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alawi@amlegionauxwi.org)) at department headquarters.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Information will be sent to schools reminding them of the many ALA scholarship opportunities available to high school students. Department and national scholarship applications will be posted on the department website. Units are encouraged to contact their local school(s) to promote the scholarships which are due in March and to provide unit contact information, so students know how to complete the required 'certification of unit sponsorship' section. Please encourage

## 2025 POPPY ORDERS

The deadline for placing Poppy Orders is December 15<sup>th</sup>. To help us better manage poppy production, orders received after December 15<sup>th</sup> will be charged an additional processing fee. Units and posts are reminded they must submit a 20% poppy profit report from their last order before their new order will be processed. Poppy orders will be filled and shipped as soon as possible after they are received. Please verify the accuracy of your shipment ***upon receipt***. If you need poppies by a specific date, please note that on your poppy order.

If you know any veterans who may be interested in making poppies, please contact Poppy Shop Supervisor Sue Hembrook at 262-945-9791 for details.

## 2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

The American Legion Auxiliary is planning a session for The American Legion's Midwinter Conference on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at the Hilton Paper Valley, Appleton. Midwinter registration is \$25 prior to January 2, 2025 and \$30 after that. A registration form is included in this mailing.

## 2024-2025 RED BOOKS

A complimentary copy of the 2024-2025 Department Red Book was mailed to Unit and County Presidents with a current 24-25 Unit officer form on file and Department Chairmen. The Red Book is also posted on the Department website as a *free* resource for any member. Additional books may be ordered for \$6.00 while supplies last using a Unit Supplies Order Form.

**2025 DAILY SWEEPSTAKES:** Entry forms for the 2025 Daily Sweepstakes must be mailed to Department Headquarters by December 31, 2024. This is ALA-Wisconsin's only fundraiser! Although no donation is required, ***contributions are appreciated*** since proceeds ensure we can continue to support programs benefitting our veterans, military, and their families. Official rules are posted on the department website. Thank you to those who already sent their entry forms with a donation! If you want additional entry forms, please call Linda Cason at Department Headquarters.





## ***BADGER LEGIONNAIRE & WISCONSIN PUBLICATION POLICIES***

For publication in the *Badger Legionnaire* please e-mail text and pictures in digital format to the editor, at [badger@wilegion.org](mailto:badger@wilegion.org).

For publication in the *Wisconsin* please e-mail text and pictures in digital format to the editor, Bonnie Dorniak at [deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org)

**Items received in digital format are much more likely to be printed than items mailed to the office.**

Please do not send pictures and/or articles from your local paper for publication unless you have obtained written permission from the newspaper. Include that written permission with your submission. We cannot and will not reproduce copyrighted material without permission.

When submitting photos, please make sure they are of the highest quality and resolution possible. Pictures with members wearing their Legion caps or displaying a Legion or Auxiliary emblem will have a higher likelihood of being published. **Poor quality photos and reprints mailed to the office will not be used.** All photos should be accompanied by a listing of the individuals in the photo in the order in which they appear.

There will be six issues a year. If you miss the deadline your item will most likely not be held over until the next issue due to the volume of submissions, we receive.

There is limited space available in the *Badger Legionnaire* and the *Wisconsin*; therefore, we do not have the space to publish meeting notices, local Unit events, 50+ members, etc. These items are best left to your local newspaper and District or Unit newsletters.

We also reserve the right to edit or refuse any submission based on interest to “all” members or objectionable content.

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

**If you have a question about whether your item is newsworthy, please contact the editor in advance.**

# MEMBERSHIP



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



## Department membership goal is 100%

Congratulations! Membership is off to a great start with Wisconsin in first place in the Central Division! Our Department is at 27.19% with Fourth District leading the way! Thank you to everyone who renewed their memberships early. Why is it important to renew early?

- Benefits remain intact & available for your use
- Save money for our organization
- Unit has a better opportunity to earn awards & incentives
- Continual support for our veterans & military
- Focus fully on other ALA programs

All units are asked to ensure that their unit officers are paid, and that their 2024-2025 Unit Officer form has been submitted to Department Headquarters. These winners below did just that!

**Checking Our Pulse Award Winner**  
75% Membership by October 15



**Sheboygan Unit #83**

THE  
**100%**  
CLUB

**Mosinee Unit #107**  
**Odanah Unit #25**  
**Land O Lakes Unit #464**

Information about future awards and incentives along with many valuable resources can be found on the membership page of the Department website: [www.amlegionauxwi.org/membership](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org/membership).

Want to stay on top of membership, gain ideas and learn secrets to success? Make sure to join the Department Membership Facebook page at: [Wisconsin ALA Membership Group](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinALAMembershipGroup). Want to dive even deeper into membership? Join the National Membership Facebook page at: [American Legion Auxiliary National Membership Group](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionAuxiliaryNationalMembershipGroup).

Your membership team is available to assist. Have a question? Have a success story? Please let us know!

Don't forget to send us pictures and information about your upcoming events. The more we share, the more successful we will be in turning our heart thermometer red for our veterans, military, their families and our community!

### Membership Team

Department Chairman:  
Amy Luft  
[amyluft@gmail.com](mailto:amyluft@gmail.com)  
414-651-7300

Committee Members:  
Teresa Steinke  
[teresa.steinke\\_cmx@yahoo.com](mailto:teresa.steinke_cmx@yahoo.com)  
715-828-7462

Program Coordinator:  
Andrea Stoltz  
[alawi@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alawi@amlegionauxwi.org)  
608-745-0124

Diane Zwiers  
[dzwiers7280@gmail.com](mailto:dzwiers7280@gmail.com)  
920-378-1786





**DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

P.O. Box 140, Portage WI 53901

Telephone: 608-745-0124 • Email: [alawi@amlegionauxwi.org](mailto:alawi@amlegionauxwi.org)

**2025 UNIT OFFICER ALA MIS ACCESS REGISTRATION**

American Legion Auxiliary Membership Information System

Access to the National Membership database ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Membership Information System) is available to TWO current unit officers/chairmen per unit. Subscription is for **read only** access to the individual's unit. Two officers/chairmen per unit may register for access but they must have their own individual e-mail address.

The database runs in real time so that you can get the most up to date information. Look up new member ID#'s, view and print current rosters whenever you need to, double check to see who has paid or not paid, and more.

Those more computer savvy will be able to manipulate the information to print mailing labels or send out mass emails. Microsoft Excel is the recommended program to utilize the more advanced capabilities of the system.

**Note- This is for read only access;** you will not be able to change names, phone numbers, email addresses, drop, decease, or transfer members etc., all these changes will still need to be submitted to Department Headquarters on a Member Change Form.

**The subscription fee is \$10.00 per person per calendar year (January 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2025) for read only access and each person must be submitted on a separate form.**

\*Any forms received as of Oct.1 will get the remaining months of 2024 for free\*

**DO NOT ALTER THIS FORM IN ANY WAY**

Unit City Location \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Dist # \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID# (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: ALA Dept. of WI**

\$ 10.00 Check Total (#4560) # \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number

*A 25.00 charge will be issued for any bank returned checks.*

*Please allow up to two weeks for processing*



# Education Program Components

Diane Weggen, Department Chairman  
[dsweggen@gmail.com](mailto:dsweggen@gmail.com) ♦ 715-644-2668

## **Give 10 to Education/Veterans in Community Schools/Scholarships/M. Louise Wilson Educational Loans/Legislation/AEF, ALA Foundation Veteran's Project Fund, BE the ONE Education**

The purpose of the ALA Education Program is to promote quality education for children — especially for military children — and adults. As a membership organization, American Legion Auxiliary members make a difference every day for our veterans, military, their families and communities. Units can make a positive difference through the ALA Education Program.

### **Give 10 to Education**

The American Legion Auxiliary's Give 10 to Education program collects donations of school supplies in multiples of 10 — think 10 pencils, 10 notebooks, 10 glue sticks, 10 rulers, etc. School supply needs differ according to school and grade. Check with local schools/teachers to see what they can use. Visit school websites for supply lists. Access the Give 10 to Education *Suggested Donation Items and Tracking Sheet*, available for download from the Department website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Programs tab / Education button.

### **Veterans in Community Schools**

Make connections with teachers who would be interested in a "Veterans in Community Schools" presentation. Identify veterans for speaking roles. They can help students learn from and appreciate the sacrifices individuals and their families have made. Schedule early for time to prepare. Download [How to Organize a Veterans in Community Schools Activity](#) from the National ALA Education Committee page in the My Auxiliary member portal.

### **Scholarships**

Now is the time to meet with school personnel to make sure they are aware of the National, Department and Unit Auxiliary and Legion scholarships and have access to scholarship applications to share with students/parents.

### **M. Louise Wilson Educational Loans**

**Interest-free** loans of \$800.00 paid annually and can be renewed for up to five years for a total loan limit of \$4,000.00 to female ALA members enrolled full-time in college. No interest charged unless the loan is in default.

### **Legislation**

Support The American Legion's efforts to pass legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities. Sign up for legislative alerts at [www.votervoicenet.com/AmericanLegion/home](http://www.votervoicenet.com/AmericanLegion/home).

## **Educating about Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF), ALA Foundation Veteran's Project Fund and BE THE ONE**

For members to be involved in ALA programs and the organization's focus, they need to know what the programs are and why those programs are important for veterans, military, their families and their communities. It is incumbent for units to share information about National ALA's 2024 - 2025 focus (Auxiliary Emergency Fund, ALA Foundation Veteran's Project Fund and BE THE ONE) to increase member engagement.

OVER



# 2024 -2025 ALA Education Program

The following questions give directions for meeting the mission of the ALA Education Program.

1. Keeping in mind Department President Becky Mueller's theme of "Serving Our Veterans, Military and each other from the depths of our hearts", describe how the Unit makes a difference in heartfelt ways to enhance the lives of our veterans, active and reserve duty military and their families.
2. How did your unit participate in the Give 10 to Education Program?
3. What did your unit do for American Education Week and Teachers Appreciation Week?
4. How did your unit participate in Month of the Military Child?
5. Did you arrange for a Veteran in the Classroom? What was the veteran's era of service?
6. What actions were taken to encourage students/members to apply for scholarships and M. Louise Wilson Educational Fund loans?
7. How many unit members contacted legislators to promote education and veterans' issues?
8. What actions were taken to let unit, county and/or district members learn about Be the One, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund and the ALA Foundation Veterans Project Fund?
9. How did your unit work with Legionnaires, Sons and Riders to promote the Education Program?
10. In what ways did your unit achieve ALA's mission through the Education Program?

**Whenever and whatever your unit does and participates in for the Education Program, please send pictures (with the who, what, when, where & why) to [dsweggen@gmail.com](mailto:dsweggen@gmail.com) or 16266 361<sup>st</sup> St., Stanley, WI 54768. The sooner you share, the better!**

## Prepare the Veteran(s) and Students

In addition to sharing their experiences, veterans may also discuss a wide range of topics including how to help a family who has a deployed military service member, how to show support for the troops, proper respect for the flag, or why The American Legion Family was formed and what it stands for. Also, veterans' sharing of their military experience with an appreciative audience can help them heal psychological wounds from combat, deployment or family separation. Veterans who have spoken to students generally describe the experience as a rewarding and personally satisfying experience.

- Ask each veteran if there are topics they wish to discuss or not discuss. Work with the teachers to develop guidelines for students to respect the veterans' wishes.
- It is common for young people to want to ask a military service member if they have killed anyone. Teachers should discuss this in advance, requesting that students refrain from asking this question out of respect for the servicemember.
- Below is a list of potential questions and talking points to review with your veteran(s) in advance. It may even be helpful to assign questions to students at the event.
  - When and where did you serve?
  - Why did you join the service? What branch?
  - Why did you pick the branch that you were in?
  - What did it feel like to be in the service?
  - Would you demonstrate a proper salute?
  - What was boot camp like?
  - What were your job assignments?
  - What are some of your memorable experiences?
  - What did you do for entertainment?
  - Where did you travel during service?
  - Any humorous or unusual events?
    - What did you do in the days and weeks after you returned?
    - Did you form any close friendships, and do you still stay in touch?
    - Are you a part of any veterans' organizations?
    - Did your military experience influence your views on today's military and war?
    - How did the service affect your life?
    - What values and/or skills did you learn from your experience?

# Make HALLOWEEN a fun and safe night



Every October, children look forward to Halloween night – the time when they get to dress up as their favorite characters, knock on neighbors’ doors and ask the age-old question: “Trick or Treat?”

Kids usually get what they want – a bag or bucket full of sweets! This joy can quickly sour, however, if parents and their children have not made the necessary preparations for everyone to have a safe night.

These tips are designed to help you, and your child, keep trick-or-treat safety in mind during Halloween. Please take the time to read the Halloween story, which incorporates safety tips, with your child. Together, we can make Halloween a fun and safe night for everyone.



Once upon a frightful Halloween night something wonderful happened - in all the towns and cities across the country, children had a fun and safe night of trick-or-treating.

This happened because mothers and fathers walked with their young daughters and sons as they collected their treats. Older children walked in small groups. Nobody went out alone. Everyone carried a flashlight or glow stick.

Each child knew their telephone number and home address just in case they got separated from the group. They knew how to dial 911 in case of an emergency. They knew never to go anywhere with anybody they didn’t know or without permission from their parents or guardians.

Children stayed in their own neighborhoods and stopped only at well-lit homes. They knew better than to go inside any house, no matter what the person at the door said.

Everyone stayed on sidewalks or walked facing traffic and used crosswalks when available. They only crossed streets at corners, never between parked cars. All children obeyed traffic signals; they knew to stop, look both ways and listen for traffic before crossing.

Children wore light-colored costumes and added reflective tape to them, as well as their trick-or-treat bag, so they could easily be seen.

Children knew to accept only treats that were tightly wrapped or sealed and to wait to eat them until they got home so adults could inspect every piece of candy.

Children found that Halloween was much more fun when it was celebrated safely. And that night, children across the nation drifted

OVER



off to sleep dreaming of all their goodies, all the moms and dads slept soundly too.

Because parents took time to teach their children about Halloween safety and made sure the rules were followed, the children had a fun and safe night. And they lived happily - and safely - ever after.



### Additional safety tips:

- Pin a piece of paper to the child's costume that features the parents' contact info in case of an emergency.
- Don't assume the right of way with traffic and always watch for vehicles backing out of driveways.
- Adhere to trick-or-treating hours in your community
- Have fun and be safe

When donating candy: Don't throw away excess Halloween candy! Ask your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit or American Legion Post if they would like it. Many Units/Posts will put it in goody bags that they either send to the military women and men serving overseas or provide to homeless or hospitalized veterans.



## The American Legion Family

*The American Legion family has always been concerned for the welfare of our nation's youth. Therefore, as long as Halloween activities are sponsored and promoted in our communities, Legionnaires believe that children and parents should know how to observe the holiday as safely as possible. Such concern should not be interpreted as an endorsement or approval of Halloween as an annual event.*



## POPPY PROGRAM

Deanna Farley, Department Chairman  
920-810-2664 ♦ [farleyofsc@gmail.com](mailto:farleyofsc@gmail.com)

The Poppy Program has had a support role in the American Legion Auxiliary since 1921. On Memorial Day and Veterans Day, millions of red crepe paper poppies are distributed across the country in exchange for donations that go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans. Most of us recognize the Poppy as a symbol of strength, honor, sacrifice and as a special remembrance of all Veterans who served their country.

As units begin to explore what programs they will be working on in 2024-2025, the Poppy distribution is many times one of the top selected programs. That distribution can be done in many ways. Think outside of the perpetual box! I would love to hear how you did your distribution! What worked and what didn't! Remember to always ask for permission to distribute Poppies at any business location.

If you have not yet ordered your poppies, do so as soon as possible. The deadline to order is **December 15, 2024**.

Sponsor a Poppy Poster Contest in your local school. Contact your local art teacher and encourage them to put the Poppy Story in their curriculum. Provide the poster paper for their classrooms! Budgets are tight so some financial support may help.

Ask your local Post Members if they are willing to come to school to present a panel discussion on their military experiences. This can prove to be very effective to give the students some ideas for their poster! Contact me for a sample agenda for your panel discussion.

Send me all of your unit's 1st place winning Poppy Poster Contest entries by **March 15th, 2025**. They will be judged on the Department level and one winner in each classification will be sent on to Central Division for further competition.

There are many other areas of the Poppy Program. It would be wonderful to have a Poppy Princess at our convention this year!

The 2024-2025 Poppy Program Engagement Plan, poppy information and worksheets are posted on the department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) under the Programs tab/Poppy button. You can also contact me for any information you may need to make your unit Poppy Program a success.

Remember reporting is essential to achieve our mission of quality support for our Veterans.

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

Thank you,

*Deanna Farley*

Poppy Program Department Chairman



## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Bob Shappell, Department Chairman  
[bobshap@aol.com](mailto:bobshap@aol.com)

Why is Public Relations so important that it is an actual ALA program and not just a management function? Consider these reasons:

1. **Building Awareness and Understanding.** We are unique in many ways, and often a mystery to our communities. PR tools help educate the public about our purposes and our values, while fostering a deep appreciation of what we contribute to veterans, their families, and our communities.
2. **Fundraising and Resources.** All Units rely heavily on financial support and volunteers. Public Relations plays a huge role in attracting donors, sponsors, and volunteers by communicating the impact of donations, expressing our gratitude, and keeping donors informed of our successes.
3. **Corporate Partnerships.** Truly successful Local Legion Families have solid partnerships with other community groups, resulting in financial support and access to a wider audience through joint events. Effective PR can help secure and nurture these crucial relationships.
4. **Crisis Communication.** We are not immune to crises. When challenges arise, whether they are related to financial mismanagement, controversies, or unforeseen disasters, timely PR efforts can manage the situation and protect our reputation. Additionally, PR tools must be used to rebuild public and member trust. This might involve issuing apologies, demonstrating a commitment to change, and showcasing the organization's positive impact.
5. **Impact Reporting.** We must clearly and regularly tell our communities how we are impacting lives through our programs, our volunteer hours, and our donations. We report to our National ALA organization, but often fail to pass the same success stories on to our local businesses, schools, governments, and families.
6. **Membership.** A successful and focused PR program can improve our membership efforts, both in recruitment and retention. Build a solid reputation, publicize our missions and our successes, and people will be more apt to want to become part of what we do.

PR is not merely marketing, nor is it just writing articles for the local paper. Effective PR is vital for our success. A well-developed PR program can raise awareness about our important missions, secure necessary resources, and build lasting relationships.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

Bonnie Jakubczyk, Department Chairman

Email: [bon6862@yahoo.com](mailto:bon6862@yahoo.com)



'Serving from the Heart' is President Becky Mueller's theme. A great way to serve from your heart is to show veterans your support this veteran's day. Attend or plan an event for them, make tray favors or thank you cards. Personal items have a huge effect on someone who receives them. Spending time with them can mean a lot to a veteran who just needs to talk to someone.

You can use Poppy funds to help sponsor veterans for local Honor Flights. You can also look to volunteer, make cards for mail call, or attend a local homecoming.

### GET INVOLVED

1. Support Wisconsin's Christmas Gift Shop, Homeless Women Veterans Grant Fund, and Camp American Legion.
2. Support the therapeutic rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts, and hobbies.
  - Donate to and promote awareness of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (VCAF).
  - Support Creative Arts Festivals at local VA hospitals with time, supplies, and money.
3. Support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors.
4. Volunteer at local VA hospitals and veterans' homes.
5. Check VA hospital wish lists and help where you can. Call the Hospital Representative for more ideas if needed. Monetary donations will also help to purchase needed items.
6. Promote Service to Veterans (outside of VA facilities).
  - Offer to sit with a veteran while the caregiver runs errands or run errands for the caregiver.
  - Transport veterans to appointments.
  - Contact a Veterans Service Officer to offer to be on the list of people to call when a veteran's family needs help.
  - Buy school supplies, host a baby shower, or send care packages to veterans' children who are headed to college.
  - Report Service to Veterans hours on the unit year-end report to the Department Chairman.
  - Submit Service to Veterans hours award form to Department Headquarters to receive pins and hour bars.
  - Promote volunteer opportunities in community settings.
  - Collaborate with organizations that support veterans and their families.

## DEADLINES - IMPORTANT DATES

- Note: Submitting Mid-Year reports is optional but encouraged. Mid-Year (Optional) November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- REPORTING VA&R reports offer an overview of work carried out for our veterans. Reporting is mandatory for every Unit. If possible, include photos of special projects. If your Unit is not involved in this program, say so. That will serve as your report.
- March 15<sup>th</sup>: Submit Service to Veterans Hours Award form to recognize eligible members with Service to Veterans pins and hour bars.
- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Submit Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Award Cover Sheet with narrative for judging as Most Outstanding Unit Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Program to the Department Chairman.
- To be considered for a national award, the unit must submit their entry with a National Award Cover sheet to the Department Chairman. The National Award Cover sheet will be posted on the department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) under the Programs Info tab.

## RESOURCES

Check out Department website for more information: [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) or the ALA National website-VA & R Program page: [www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org) . You will need a member account to see the information. There you will also find a Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation guide that you can download and print at no charge.

ALA Committee Facebook Groups are spaces on the social media network for ALA members to discuss or share about broad or narrow topics related to each committee. This group is a place to share service activities and events, ask questions, obtain information, and network for those interested in working the American Legion Auxiliary's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation program.

[www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR/)

## BE THE ONE

You can help make a difference as the American Legion Family continues to work the Be the One Mission to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.

**I'm a spouse, partner, family member, caregiver, friend of a veteran, or interested civilian. What can I do to support this initiative?**

The stigma associated with mental health issues is a barrier to veterans seeking assistance. They fear loss of their job, think they can handle their situation themselves, or don't believe others can understand their situation. Family members may be the first to recognize the signs that their loved one needs help, but they may lack the knowledge of how to approach the situation. If you have a family member, friend, business associate or have another connection with someone who is a veteran, The American Legion encourages you to Be the One to:

- Ask veterans in your life how they are doing.
- Listen when a veteran needs to talk.
- Reach out when a veteran is struggling.

*"Never was so much owed by so many to so few."*  
- Winston Churchill -



## Wanted!

*Listening ears, caring hearts, & helping hands...*

They took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. Leaving their homes, travelling unknown paths, serving without question, and completing their missions with honor and dignity. They are our veterans and active-duty military. They are our heroes!

*"On the battlefield, the military pledges to leave no soldier behind. As a nation, let it be our pledge that when they return home, we leave no veteran behind."*  
- Dan Lipinski, former U.S. Representative

For over a century, the American Legion Auxiliary Mission has pledged to honor the sacrifice of those who serve and enhance the lives of our veterans. We can never repay those brave men and women, but our mission never falters. A hero will never be left behind!

*"There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer."* - General Jimmy Doolittle - WWII



President Becky's theme, *Serving From the Heart*, is what the *Service to Veterans* program is all about. Realizing their needs and finding a way to meet them is our mission. That is the best reward a volunteer can achieve!

Assisting with light yardwork, home repairs, or housekeeping, sewing, cooking, crafting, running errands, rides to appointments, relieving caregivers, adopting a veteran or service member and family, organizing a Stand Down, Job Fair, Benefits Briefing, or Welcome Home event, assembling Care Packages, gifting Buddy Baskets, babysitting, visiting veterans, and recruiting more members with listening ears, caring hearts, and helping hands will be appreciated, make a difference, and serve the mission.

The ALA also awards volunteers when hour milestones are reached. At 50 hours, a pin and hour bar are provided. Hour bars are then awarded at 100, 300, 500, 1,000, and each thousand thereafter up to 20,000. The next bars are 25,000 and 30,000. On reaching 35,000, a Lifetime Service to Veterans pin is awarded.

Thank you for your service and remember to record and report!

Mary Petrie  
Service to Veterans Chairman  
mmrtpetrie@charter.net





## **VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION**

### **HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS**

Chrys Porter, Department Chairman

[momchrys@gmail.com](mailto:momchrys@gmail.com) ♦ 715-797-1289

The Homeless Women Veterans program is designed to reach out to women veterans and help them learn about VA benefits, local resources and where to find them, while continuing to educate our members and our communities of the sacrifices women veterans make when serving our country and the hardships they face after returning home.

Economic times are a real struggle for everyone. But just imagine if you were about to lose the place you call home, or your utilities are about to be shut off. Where would you turn? Where would you go? Who can help? These are all things some of our veterans face on a regular basis.

Our veterans are a proud group of individuals, that makes it hard to ask for help as many don't want to deal with all the red tape that they think is involved. But rest assured, there is help available, when you find good sponsors either at a VA facility, local County Veteran Service Officer or a local veteran's organization.

How can you help with this? Educate our community; let them know about our many programs, and that this particular program is available to assist female veterans. If you are looking for other ways to help within your own community, start your own Homeless Women Veterans program and get the word out, let local organizations know what you can help with or host an event for the female veterans in your post celebrating their service to our country. With whatever your unit does remember to take pride and credit in all that you do to help our veterans.

Through generous donations we can continue to assist our female veterans who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Try and think of things that your unit could do to generate or set aside part of the earnings from a fund raiser that you hosted. If your unit would like to donate, mail a check, using the Poppy Fund donation form found on the Department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) under the forms tab, to Department Headquarters, noting on the check memo line "Homeless Women Veterans".



*Christmas*

*Gift*

*Shop*

*2024*

Plans are underway for this year's Christmas Gift Shop! Veterans in long-term care facilities will have the opportunity to select gifts for their loved ones because of your generosity. Visiting the veterans and seeing the smiles on their faces is an amazing experience.

Gifts for all ages are available for these veterans to select at no cost to them for the gifts or shipping them to their loved ones. You can share in bringing a smile to these veteran's faces by sending your donations to Department Headquarters, earmarked for Christmas Gift Shop whenever you have funds available! Thank you for thinking of our veterans!

Diana Sirovina  
414-881-9581  
[dsirovina@icloud.com](mailto:dsirovina@icloud.com)

Linda Bartel  
414-427-0238  
[bartell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bartell@sbcglobal.net)



Unit CITY location \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**NURSING/HEALTHCARE SCHOLARSHIPS DONATION**

**Harriet Hubbard Registered Nurse Scholarships** – Applicant must be in nursing school or have positive acceptance to an accredited hospital or university Registered Nurse program.

**Health Career Scholarships** – course of study need not be a 4-year program. Hospital, university, or technical school program is acceptable.

These scholarships are funded by the Past Presidents Parley through a legacy from Harriet Hubbard and unit donations. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the amount of donations received.

**Units do not need to have a Parley group to support these scholarships.**

Yes, our Unit would like to donate to the scholarship fund in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ ①

Yes, the following members would like to pay their 2025 PPP Dues (\$7/person):

**NOTE: PFP membership coincides with ALA membership.  
PPP members whose dues are not paid by 2/1/2025 will be dropped.**

**PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY MEMBERSHIP**

*(please print legibly)*

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

List additional names on separate sheet if necessary

Number of names listed \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ ②

Make check payable to – **ALA-PPP**  
Mail to ALA-Wisconsin  
PO Box 140  
Portage WI 53901-0140.

Total amount ① + ② = \_\_\_\_\_ ③

Department will implement a \$25.00 administrative fee for checks returned by the bank.  
Checks cannot be accepted 90 days beyond date of check.

Send PFP Membership cards to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



## **VA&R DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS**

**Sue Hembrook**

**262-945-9791 ♦ [genesuehem@wi.rr.com](mailto:genesuehem@wi.rr.com)**

Hospital Need lists are included in this mailing. Please refer to them when putting together projects or donations. Be sure to contact facility Reps before dropping anything off at any of our homes, facilities or posts. Many of our places have very limited storage space, advance notice is much appreciated.

Our Representatives and Deputies represent our organization in the very best ways possible. Their dedication is truly amazing. Our veterans are so very appreciative of their presence in their respective facilities. They are a ray of sunshine in what may otherwise be some ordinary days and weeks.

However, they need our help in supplying items. Your donations and hand-made items bring cheer to our veterans. Monetary donations or gift cards also help in other ways such as providing transportation to outpatient veterans going to appointments or last-minute items for an event or special need. You, our members play an integral role in helping them support our veterans.

Monetary donations should be sent to Department and earmarked for the facility or event you would like your funds to be used for via the Poppy Fund donation form (located on the Department website, [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org), under the forms tab). This is to ensure that your unit, district or county and even you as an individual get proper credit for your donation. Your donations need to be recognized and applauded. So, remember to include these donations in your year-end report. Remember that your assistance is of vital importance to the veterans we are assisting. As the old adage goes "It takes a Village".

If you wish to volunteer on a regular basis, you must register and be vetted. It is an easy process, and it is such a rewarding experience. Each facility has its own regulations so please call your Reps or Deps for information.

Keep up the good work of supporting our facilities, we need you and appreciate all that you do. You are all a true blessing to our Veterans.



2025-2026
DEPARTMENT PROGRAM INTEREST FORM

Senior Vice President Sue Hembrook is considering appointments for the 2025-2026 administrative year (July 2025 to July 2026). If you are interested in a department position, please complete the information below and email it to Sue Hembrook (genesuehem@wi.rr.com) by December 15, 2024.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: [ ] Cell [ ] Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Program/Position (please rank up to five choices, #1 to #5):

- ALA in the Know (Vice Chairman)
Americanism (Chairman)
WALA State Bowling Assn (Committee, 3-yr term)
Children & Youth/Liaison to Child Welfare Fdn (Chrm)
Community Service (Chairman)
Constitution & Bylaws (Chairman - must be PDP)
Education (Chairman)
Finance (Committee, 3-yr term; resume required)
Fundraising (Chairman)
Junior Activities (Chairman)
Junior Activities (Vice Chairman)
Leadership (Chairman)
Leadership (Committee)
Membership (Committee)
National security (Chairman)
Office Policy (Committee, must be PDP)
Poppy Program (Chairman)
Public Relations (Chairman)
Public Relations (Committee)
Standing Rules (Chairman, must be PDP)
VA&R (Chairman)
VA&R-Christmas Gift Shop (Chairman)
VA&R-Christmas Gift Shop (Assistant)
VA&R-Homeless Women Veterans (Chairman)
VA&R-Service to Veterans (Chairman)

Describe why you are interested or qualified for this/these position(s).

\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

List previously held positions at the unit, county, district or department level.

\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

List current positions you hold.

\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHIPPEWA FALLS VETERANS HOME**  
**2024-2025 Needs List**

**FOOD ITEMS**

- Candy bars full size
- 6 to 10 count small packages candy bars
- Jars of peanuts all favors and cans
- lots of different kinds of **SUGAR** free candy
- large bags of candy
- Popcorn boxes and single pkg
- Sugar free and regular bottle pop 6 packs

**CLOTHING** - We do ask for medium to 4X sizes

- Packages of socks
- White tee shirts
- Briefs and regular men's underwear
- Athletic pants
- Sweats pants and shirts
- Winter cloths and Vest
- Men's belts

**PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

- Chapstick
- Toothpaste (**NO** toothbrushes)
- Combs
- Bath wash (all kinds 2 in 1 or singles)
- Shampoo
- Mouth wash (Wal Mart brand that is around \$ 4.00 and all other kinds)

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

- Men & Women Watches (with large numbers)
- Cordless razors
- Blankets (Red White and Blue)
- Puzzles and all books
- Batteries
- K cups of Apple cider and Latte as some things are done in households when necessary

We are open to EVERYTHING to give comfort to our VETERAN. The Veteran can use their Bingo Bucks for all of the above and they THANK YOU for all the support, as most cannot get to stores to shop.

Please contact the representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.

Monetary donations for the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4416 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

I would like to request that Units send cards of any kind (Birthdays, Holidays or just because). Cards can be put in one envelope and sent to the address below. We have many who do not receive any mail.

All other donations should be sent to:

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



**KENOSHA OUTREACH  
DAYTON CARE CENTER  
2024-2025 Needs List**



The following are some items that we could use at the Dayton Care Facility. We appreciate everything that is done for us. Our craft club is up and running and the residents enjoy it immensely. Although we have quite a few craft kits, we are always in need of more. Any clothing or underwear donated must be new, thank you for understanding.

Below are some of the general items we need:

Pre-Shave and After Shave lotion – alcohol free  
Liquid Soap  
All in One Shampoo/Body Soap – liquid  
Caps, scarves & mittens or gloves  
Tennis Balls  
Denture Cleanser and Adhesive  
Deodorant (Spray)  
Disposable Razors  
Foot Powder  
Hand Lotion  
Mouth Wash – alcohol free  
Ink Pens  
Lanyards  
Electric razors  
Baseball caps  
Face Masks  
Diabetic socks  
Q-tips

Eye Glass Cleaner/Wipes  
Stamps  
Hair Ties  
Greeting Cards  
Chapstick  
Shoelaces  
Handkerchiefs  
Tissues  
Quarter Length Socks  
Undergarments (all sizes and sexes)  
Batteries – all sizes  
Hand Sanitizer  
Colored Pencils  
Clocks  
Sunscreen  
Sweatpants/shirts (M-4X for both sexes)  
Hair products (gel, mousse)  
Bar soap

We are also looking for any craft kits such as:

Paint by Number Kits  
Model Kits  
Any loose craft supplies  
Large print puzzle books

Markers  
Notebooks  
Sketch Books/adult coloring books  
Construction paper

Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed. Monetary donations for the Dayton Care Center should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4412 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

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

Sincerely,

*Sue Hembrook, Representative*

Email: [genesuehem@wi.rr.com](mailto:genesuehem@wi.rr.com) ♦ Ph: 262-843-4791

Crystal Shaw, Deputy

**KING WISCONSIN VETERANS HOME**  
**2024-2025 Needs List**



**CLOTHING**

- T-Shirts with or without pockets (white & color)
- Sports & Military themed apparel
- Blue Jeans (W30 & up: inseam 29 & longer)
- Sweatpants
- Sweatshirts (crew neck and zip-up)
- Women undershirts (small to 4XL)
- Shoes w/Velcro (X-wide)
- PJ pants – Men & Women
- Spring/Summer/Winter Jackets (S – 4XL)
- Shoes (slippers & lounge shoes)

**PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

- Alcohol free mouthwash
- Facial tissue (Kleenex or Puffs)
- Body wash (Men & Women)
- Body lotion
- Hand lotion (scented)
- Denture cleaner
- Handkerchiefs

**CASH DONATIONS\***

- \* Funds for Olson Hall activities
- \* Funds for Ainsworth Hall activities
- \* Funds for Special Care Unit activities
- \* Funds for MacArthur Hall activities
- \* Funds for Stordock Hall activities
- \* Funds for Holiday Cheer (all holidays)
- \* Funds for Home Exchange Activities

**ACTIVITIES**

- 100 piece or less puzzle
- Bags of individually wrapped chocolate candy
- Cans or bags of coffee (regular & decaf)
- Hot chocolate
- Prepackaged treats & healthy snacks
- Beverages – mixes or soda
- Book with large pictures (travel, animals, planes or a variety of subjects)
- Apple ipods, headphones, wireless headphones for TV viewing, Bluetooth portable speakers
- New unused greeting cards
- Large print playing cards
- Puzzle books (large print word search, sudoku, crossword)
- Sensory items (new & realistic looking interactive/soothing stuffed animals)
- Walker & Wheelchair bags
- Pocketalker personal amplifier
- Digital clock with day/date display for elderly

**ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED**

- Expired food
- Household items
- Incontinence products
- Linens
- Medical Supplies
- Used greeting cards
- Used stuffed animals

Please contact staff before donating items to ensure the item is still needed or if you have questions or setting up an appointment; contact Terry Heschke at 715-258-4247 or email [theresa.heschke@dva.wisconsin.gov](mailto:theresa.heschke@dva.wisconsin.gov).

**\*Cash Donations:**

Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated checks should be made payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4407 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

Alice Bentley, Hospital Representative  
[alicekbentley@att.net](mailto:alicekbentley@att.net) • 715-281-8109





Voluntary Service at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center partners with volunteers, donors and organizations to significantly enhance the Veteran experience. Your donations provide the supplemental resources necessary to support a large assortment of activities, programs and services for Veterans in our care. All contributions are used to support the needs of Veterans and are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

**Gift Cards:**

- \$25 Gift Cards for Gas, Food or Personal Items – BP, Shell, Krist, Walmart, Meijer, Super One, Econo
- \$15 Gift Cards for Food – Subway, Taco Bell, McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy’s, Dairy Queen, Little Caesars, Dominos.
- Marq-Tran (Marquette) or City Cab (Iron Mountain) transportation vouchers
- iTunes gift cards

**Hygiene:**

- Shampoo – travel size only
- Body Wash/Shower gel – travel size only
- Deodorant – full or travel size
- Lip Balm/Chap stick
- Dental Floss
- Electric shavers

**Clothing: (We can ONLY accept NEW clothing and footwear)**

- Jackets, sweatshirts & pants – Female sizes M-2XL & Male sizes S-5XL
- Undershirts, boxers, panties – all sizes for both Female & Male
- Hard sole slippers – 7-12 sizes for both Male & Female

**Baby Items:**

- Bibs
- Burp Rags
- Baby blankets (not knitted)
- Newborn clothes
- Diapers
- Diaper bags
- Baby Wipes
- Bottles
- Rattles
- Pacifiers
- Baby books (new)
- Toys
- Monitors
- Breast pumps



**Other Items:**

- Walker & Wheelchair bags – varying size bags (from 12” x 5”) with Velcro tabs for attachment
- Welcome kits for Oncology patients, Women’s Veterans program or new CLC patients –inquire with Voluntary Service
- Cell Phones and Pre-paid minute cards (Tracfone & SmartTalk)
- Lap desks (for laptop or books)
- Audio books (CD or cassettes)
- Neck pillows, blankets & afghans
- Reading glasses
- Books of Forever stamps

**Below is a general list of items we CANNOT accept.**

This list isn’t exclusive, and all donated items are subject to review prior to donation.

- Used Clothing (with the exception of like new, gently used winter coats or boots based on need and storage)
- Medical Equipment (canes, walking sticks, walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, electric scooters, hospital beds)
- Unused Medications
- Eyeglasses
- Home Baked Goods and General Food Donations
- Personal Hygiene Items containing alcohol (mouthwash, cologne)
- Hard Cover Books & Magazines older than 90 day
- Used Technology (cell phones, iPads, iPods, laptops)

Monetary donations for the Oscar G. Johnson USVAMC should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4411 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.

**ALA Department of Wisconsin**  
Ann Wender, Hospital Representative  
[annhummingbird@gmail.com](mailto:annhummingbird@gmail.com) ♦ 715-923-1353



**MADISON - WILLIAM S. MIDDLETON MEMORIAL VAMC  
2024-2025 Needs List**

**Patriot Food Pantry**

- Cooked pasta pouches. **No dry**
- Cooked rice pouches. **No dry**
- Mashed potato pouches. **No boxes**
- Canned chicken or chicken in pouches.
- Canned salmon or salmon in pouches.
- Canned vegetables that are **NOT** green and **NOT** corn
  - Carrots
  - Beets
  - Yams
  - Mixed Vegetables
- Canned fruits or other prepackaged fruits in **plastic** single serve containers like applesauce.
- Whole grain sugar free or low sugar cereals like Kashi or Cheerios.

**Hospice Comfort Cart – for families of hospice patients:**

- Cheez It crackers
- Rice Krispy treats
- Ritz Bits
- Granola bars
- Goldfish crackers
- Pop-tarts
- Animal Crackers
- Microwave popcorn



Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.

Monetary donations for the Wm. S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4405 (found on the Department website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab). Any questions, call 608- 280-7178.

Sheila Frye, Hospital Representative  
[shebrat73@gmail.com](mailto:shebrat73@gmail.com) • 608-280-7178



**Material Donation Suggestions for Minneapolis Veterans**

Thank you for your interest in the needs of the Veteran patients treated at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System (MVAHCS). Please contact us 612-467-2050 or [vhaminvol@va.gov](mailto:vhaminvol@va.gov) with questions or to make a delivery appointment for donations.

**Hygiene:**

- Shampoo (travel size only)
- Body wash/Shower gel (Full or travel sizes)
- Deodorant (Full or travel sizes)
- Lip balm / Chap stick
- Fingernail Clippers
- Dental Floss

**Clothing:**

- Men's underwear: boxers or briefs (sizes: M, L, XL)
- Men's crew neck T-shirt undershirt (sizes: S, M, L, XL)
- Men's V-neck T-shirt undershirt (sizes: S, M, L, XL)
- Zip up Sweatshirts (sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL)
- Sweatpants (sizes: S, M, L, XL)
- Crocs: Close-toe footwear or similar brand slip on washable shoes (Men's sizes 8-14)

**Food:**

- Snacks or candy, prepackaged single serve
- Bottled juice, 6oz – 12oz bottles
- Hot Chocolate, single serve packets
- Bottled water, 6oz – 16oz bottles

**Other Items:**

- Twin size quilts in patriotic colors/patterns, red/white/blue fabric or branch of service logos
- Baseball hats w/logos of branch of service, Veteran, or sports team's logos
- Tracfone or other prepaid phone (New) and monthly plan cards for prepaid carriers
- Universal chargers for android devices, iPhone & iPad.
- Playing cards (jumbo sized – NEW only)
- Monetary donations and donations of gift cards are also accepted

We are not able to accept some items as donations and other items we are not accepting at this time due to storage capacity or infection prevention precautions. Please contact us if the items you wish to donate are not listed above.

**Items we do NOT accept as donations include, but not limited to:**

- Full size or partially used hygiene or personal care items
- Mouthwash with alcohol base
- Used clothing, shoes, blankets, furniture, appliances or other home goods
- Afghans or knitted/crotched lap robes, blankets or slippers
- Infant or Children's blankets, quilts clothing
- Used or pre-owned books/magazines
- Books/Magazines with improper content (violence, nudity, firearms)
- Used CD's/DVD's
- Used playing cards, including casino decks
- Homemade foods (cookies/bars)
- Over the counter medications or medical supplies
- Medical equipment (CPAP, catheter supplies, walkers, wheelchairs, hospital beds)
- Artwork or decor

Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.

Monetary donations for the Minneapolis VA Health Care System should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage, WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4410 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

## Tomah VA Medical Center 2024-2025 Needs List

### Items:

- Dementia—life-like Dolls (please contact us for specifics)
- Reading Glasses (all strengths)
- Decaf Coffee (large tubs for units)
- Sunglasses (regular and ones that fit over prescription glasses)
- Suspenders
- Women's 3XL sweatshirts, t-shirts, light weight elastic pants
- Men's sweatpants (S-L, 3XL, 4XL)
- Men's 9.5 tennis shoes
- Men's slippers (Medium - size 9-10)
- Women's shoes (10 - 10.5)
- Drawing pads, Markers



### Notes:

Any of these items can be donated in-kind and in any quantities. They will be distributed accordingly to the Veteran and/or program needs. Monetary donations are also welcome in any amount and we will be used to purchase needs.

Monetary donations for the Tomah VAMC should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4406 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

When making in-kind donations, only new or gently used items will be accepted.

Personal care items are no longer needed, as they are being supplied by the Medical Center (i.e. shampoo, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.).

All in-kind donations should be brought to or mailed to: Tomah VA Medical Center (135), 500 E. Veterans Street, Tomah, WI 54660. The office is located in building 407, room 1739. Office Hours are 6:00 am – 2:30 pm

All Donors should call Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement office prior to coordinating any donation drive or delivery to ensure we can accept the items as needs change – 608-372-1727

Please contact representative before donating items to ensure the item is still needed.

Helene Stein, Hospital Representative  
[stitchkeeper@hotmail.com](mailto:stitchkeeper@hotmail.com) ♦ 608-343-3008



**Wisconsin Veterans Home Union Grove**  
**2024-2025 Needs List**  
**(Subject to change)**

At this time, we **DO NOT NEED** any reading books, clothing, lap robes, puzzles, word puzzles, personal hygiene supplies, wheelchairs, electric scooters, walkers, crutches, table games, magazines, or VHS tapes

**Monetary Donations:**

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- 1E patio expansion with walking paths and seating areas.
- Music & Memory programs
- Supplies for activities or special events
- Member garden areas

**Memory Care Unit/1West**

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- 1 West garden remodel-\$40,000
- [CRDL](#): A care instrument designed to create impactful connections between people.
- [Eugeria](#): HUG (by laugh): HUG is a sensory product. Its weighted limbs and heartbeat bring comfort and calm.

**Campus Events**

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- Sweetheart lunch, family picnic, Christmas party, special meals, volunteer banquet
- New Year's Eve celebration, Halloween party, Packer parties, Brewer's tailgate parties, Veterans Day breakfast
- Entertainment, refreshments, decorations, Sponsored bingo or horse racing. Catered meals, Fresh Flowers for Mother's Day, Easter, Christmas

**Food Items:**

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**Please check expiration dates to assure freshest items**  
**Items may be dropped off directly to Boland Hall**

- Individual bags of chips, Ice cream, Sugar free ice cream options, Lactose free ice cream options
- Fun and full-size candy bars, (some with nuts some without), bags of individual wrapped candy-regular and sugar free, Little Debbie, Hostess, soft cookie, and granola bar snacks, Pub supplies-non-alcoholic beer, (O'Doul's), Diet and regular soda; root beer, orange, 7Up, Pepsi, Coke, Dr. Pepper, cheese balls, puff corn.
- Pudding snack pack cups in a variety of flavors-regular and sugar free

**Other General Supplies**

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- Young Living Essential Oils-Thieves, lemon, orange, peppermint, purification
- Subscription to 'Reminisce' magazine and National Geographic, Racine Journal Times subscription
- Small stuffed animals (NEW)

Monetary donations for the Union Grove WVH should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet #4415 (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

Thank you to the ALA Units and organizations that have been gracious and generous contributors on a regular basis for our veterans residing in Union Grove. Together we are making a difference

Any questions, please contact ALA, Dept of WI Rep for Union Grove - Mary-Ellen Crandall  
Email: [dabs1951@yahoo.com](mailto:dabs1951@yahoo.com) or phone at 262-894-5420

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

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

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



**Needed year round:**

**Men & Women Toiletries:**

- Deodorant: men's and women's
- Chapstick or lip balm
- Regular size body wash, shampoo, body lotion, bar soap (Dove soap is appreciated), 3 blade razors

**Men's**

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

**Women's:**

- New Underwear (size 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- New Sports bras
- New Sweatpants/yoga pants (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Athletic shorts (S, M, L, XL, 2XL)
- New Sweatshirts (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New T-shirts (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- New Athletic shoes (6-9)

**Additional Items:**

- Large print puzzle books: word find, crossword, sudoku
- Reading glasses any strength
- Electronic handheld games (Solitaire, Yahtzee)
- Fidget toys and fidget spinners
- Shelf stable creamer, sugar packets & sugar substitute
- K-cup coffee (Regular & Decaffeinated)
- Cell phone charger for IOS and Android
- Backpacks

**Red Coat Ambassador Cart:**

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

**Donations** for HEART PILLOWS @ \$20. We use a case of 10 a month and items for 2 baby showers. Monetary donations for wish list items.

Monetary donations for the Zablocki Memorial VAMC should be payable to ALA-Wisconsin and mailed to ALA Department Headquarters, PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140. Please use the 2024-2025 Poppy Fund Donation sheet **#4404** (found on the Dept website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Forms tab).

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



**DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901  
Ph: 608-745-0124 ♦ www.amlegionauxwi.org

**ZABLOCKI VA MEDICAL CENTER**

The Milwaukee VA will be hosting a baby shower for women veterans who are expecting or new moms. The items for this wonderful event are to honor our moms. Not only will they be given resources, but our hope is to also give them and their new baby(s) gifts. Zablocki’s goal is to have two baby showers per year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Donations will be used to purchase requested items for each shower.

Unit CITY location: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dist # \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (4404-Zablocki Baby Shower)



Mail your check payable to “ALA” and mail this portion of the form to:  
ALA Wisconsin  
PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140

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

