



APRIL 2025

THE INFORMER

March 25 - DEC Mineral Point Legion Post. Meeting at 7pm
April 22 - Veterans Day at the Capital
April 26 – Spring Conference / Hosted by Green County Posts and Units being held in Monroe
May 27 - DEC Barneveld Legion Post. Meeting at 7pm

June 14 - 100th Anniversary for Camp American Legion
June 24 - DEC Richland Center Legion Post. Meeting at 7pm
July - State Convention to be held in Green Bay
 Fall Conference will be in Gays Mills

Please take note there are two different Registration forms for Spring Conference enclosed. One for the Legionnaires and One for the Auxiliary. Please send to appropriate persons. **DEADLINE APRIL 12TH**



Dan O'Brien – 3rd District Commander

It is March Madness time and if you follow the Badger men’s basketball team, it is an exciting time. Go Badgers.

It is also an exciting and busy time for The American Legion. Post should be getting their “Of The Year Award” applications sent in. If your Post is submitting applications, they need to be into Adj. Denise by April 1st.

Every Post should have received a “Post Data Report” from headquarters. This report must be at Headquarters by April 9th. The information on this report is used by State Headquarters as well National. Make sure the information on this form is correct, especially your Post dues amount.

Be getting your Consolidated Post Reports ready to be sent in. They are due at Headquarters by June 1st. It is mandatory for every Post to send in the CPR report. Every Post does something throughout the year and it needs to be recorded and put on the CPR report. This information is used when our National Commander gives their report to Congress. If you have questions on the CPR report, give me a call and I will work with you on getting it ready to send in. Accountability.

State Adj. Julie just sent out information on the A & G Testing. We do not have a list of winners yet, but we do have the number of schools that participated. Our 3rd District had 22 schools participate in the program with 179 students taking the test. The schools with the most students participating were DeForest, Mineral Point and Potosi. Out of the 12 Districts, the 3rd District had the second highest number of students taking the test. There is an opportunity for more than 22 schools participating in the A & G Testing. We need to make sure the schools and students are aware of the Scholarship Funds that are available.

We held our Oratorical Scholarship contest at the Marshall Legion Post on February 22nd. We had four outstanding students participate in the contest. Wyatt Erhardt-Dane County, Abigail Biank-Green County, Grant Kuberski-Lafayette County and Josie Lauper-Grant County. Wyatt was the District winner, and he will move onto the State Contest in Ripon on March 29th. Thank you to Marshall Post 279 for hosting the contest.

Good news from Grant County. We had two Posts that have been struggling, and they are working on their Membership and holding Post meetings. Beetown Post 551 has gone from 8 members to 13 members and they have plans to bring in more members. At this time, they are holding zoom meetings with 90% attendance. Hazel Green Post 526 had their first meeting in some time and there is excitement to get up and running again. They have temporary officers installed and they are looking forward to getting active as a Post and active in the Hazel Green community. The Membership numbers for the week just came out and the Hazel Green Post is now a 100% Membership Post. CONGRATULATIONS!! Looking for good things happening with these Posts. Thank you to Grant County Commander Alan McCormick and District Vice Commander JR Wilkinson for their work with these Posts.

The 3rd District has an opportunity to finish strong with our Membership, but it will take work. A letter from Past National Commander Denise Rohan and Past National Commander Dan Seehafer will be going out to every Legion Member in our 3rd District who has not renewed this year. This letter gives the Legion members the reasons why they should renew and stay as a vital part of the American Legion Family. Along with this letter, Posts should be making every

effort to get these members renewed. We have lost Legion Members to “Post Everlasting”, but we cannot afford to lose those that have not renewed and let them just slip away. We need to be talking to them and signing them up.

Efforts will be made to work on the Headquarter 2930 members to get them into local Posts. The Legion Members on the Headquarter 2930 list can be signed up by any Post no matter where they live, just to talk to the member and have them agree to transfer to your Post. If you do the work, you will be rewarded.

UP COMING EVENTS

- ✓ Tuesday March 25th we have a DEC at the Mineral Point Legion Post. The meeting starts at 7pm.
- ✓ Legion College Classes being held online in March (They are Free). Go to www.wilegion.org to get information.
- ✓ Veterans Day at the Capital is set for Tuesday April 22nd. Information can be found at www.wilegion.org This is a good day for Legion Members to be at the Capital.
- ✓ Saturday April 26th will be our Spring Conference at the Monroe Legion Post. Please get your reservations for lunch sent in. Registration is from 8am to 9am with the Conference starting at 9am.
- ✓ June 14th is the 100th Anniversary for Camp American Legion. Great day to travel North and see the Camp and all the work that has been done over the last several years.
- ✓ The Fal Conference will be in Gays Mills this year at their new Legion Post. The date for the Conference is Saturday October 18th.

COMMUNICATION-INVOLVEMENT-VISIBILITY-ACCOUNTABILITY-Be the Post that is making these happen at your Post. Have a VISION for your Post moving forward.

God Bless All Veterans, especially the American Legion Members who continue to serve.



We are getting Hazel Green Post 526 up and running again. On Thursday 3/13/25 the Hazel Green Post members had their first meeting in several years. In the first picture Grant County Commander Alan McCormick is pictured heading up the first meeting for the Hazel Green Post and laying the groundwork for their first official meeting in April. In the second picture from the left are Grant/Lafayette County Vice Commander JR Wilkerson, Grant County Commander Alan McCormick and 3rd District Commander Dan O'Brien. Support from The American Legion Family will be there for the Hazel Green Post as they get active as a Legion Post and active in the Community again.

On Thursday 3/13/25 Grant County Commander Alan McCormick, Grant/Lafayette County Vice Commander JR Wilkerson and 3rd District Commander Dan O'Brien met with Beetown Post 551 Commander Dee Moore and Beetown Membership Chairman Jezzy Moore and discussed the growth of the Post. They have gone from just 8 members to 13 members in a short period of time. Both Commander Dee and Membership Chairman Jezzy said they are excited about the growth of the Post as they move forward. Jezzy said at this time they are doing zoom meetings with a 90% attendance rate. They will be making plans to hold events in the Community to make their presence known. The 3rd District Leadership stated that we will be there to help them as they keep growing.

Dan O'Brien / Third District Commander

From Grant County Commander, Allan McCormick:

Grant County is going strong. All 13 Posts are active again and we are in the process of creating a Sons of The American Legion for the first time in our county. Our membership is growing and our commitment to veterans and their families is our #1 priority.

Platteville Post continues their steak feed every month, Bagley and Muscoda Posts are soon to restart their Burgers in the Park events, Fennimore Post is gearing up to restart their Coffee with the Vets, and so much more to look forward to; there's always something going on.

Don't forget the FREE courses offered from the Wisconsin American Legion College that are being conducted via Zoom; they have especially helped me personally with gaining greater knowledge and understanding of The American Legion history and operations and greatly increased the networking and lines of communication for everyone who participates.



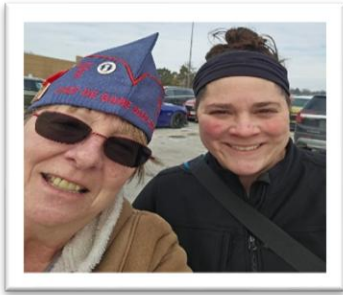
Here in the Third District we are certainly moving forward as our state motto declares. It's been just short of a year now since we started reviving the district level of the SAL and already we have made huge progress. Throughout our district, we have been working to educate and inform about what the SAL is, helping to create new squadrons, and assisting the posts and communities wherever we can; and we are here to help you too if we can.

Membership is always an important topic, not because of reaching a goal or meeting a quota, but because of you. Membership to me is about reaching the people and making a difference in the lives of those around us; it's about making sure no one is left out or forgotten about; membership is about being there for one another and strengthening ourselves, our families, and our communities. To congress, it's the numbers that matter; to us, it's you that matters. So yes, we want to increase our membership and we need your help to do so, we greatly desire to help create new squadrons here in the Third District, because that is how we organize and distribute help and knowledge and resources to our veterans, their families, and their communities.... Your communities.

Our Spring Conference will be April 6 in Monroe, WI and you are all welcome to attend whether you are a member or not. Mineral Point has submitted their SAL Charter application and Hazel Green is now working on one too. Please understand, for some, being in the SAL is the only way they can serve their country.

Respectfully,

Reverend Alan McCormick



On February 21, 2025, the family of Mr. John and Dr. (DVM) Christine Ripley, known as Dr. Christine, experienced a house fire in rural Richland County where they and their two children, Ava, age 6 and Tyler, age 4, were residing.

The weather at the time of the alarm was approximately minus 13 degrees. Due to the distance and response time to the site and considering the bitter cold, Cazenovia Fire Chief, Darrell Slama, immediately summoned additional assistance from Richland Center Fire department and the Hillpoint Fire Department.

Upon learning of the Ripley family fire loss and impact to the family, Child Welfare Chairman Jim Hying and Chef de Gare Passe Sandra Kramer gathered information on the event by speaking directly with Dr. Christine.

After reviewing the Charles Ardery Child welfare guidelines with Dr. Christine, Voyageur Kramer personally accompanied Dr. Christine to the Kohl's Department Store on the west side of Madison, where Dr. Christine selected various articles of clothing to replace some of the fire losses her children experienced.

During our promenade on March 6th, Chef de Gare Passe, Sandra Kramer also asked the voyageurs in attendance if they would chip in and help buy a couple of toys for the children. She explained that to children that young of age clothes are ok, but toys are EVERYTHING! One toy each has been ordered and once here will be delivered to Dr. Christine. Thank you, voyageurs of Locale 1268!

Food & Activity around Third District

Send your information to syftes@chorus.net

Post 59 Stoughton	has a weekly meat raffle every Saturday starting at 2 pm
Post 84 Monroe	BINGO – April 27
Post 141 New Glarus	Weekly Euchre Card Tournament every Thursday Lunch at 11am \$4 followed by cards at 1pm.
Post 360 Waunakee	Fish Fry – 2 nd Friday April 12 th last one until the Fall
Post 59 Stoughton	April 6 th , Sunday Breakfast
Post 385 Verona	April 9 – Smoked Pork Chop Dinner 4:30pm – 6:30pm



American Legion Third District 2025 Spring Conference

Saturday, April 26, 2025

**Zilmer-Riley Post 84 – Monroe / 1627 – 12th Street /
Monroe WI 53566**

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Invitation and Lunch Registration

Registration Fee \$5.00 / Pay registration fee day of conference

Conference registration 8am – 8:45am / Call to Order at 9am

In the morning there will be coffee and mixture of breakfast desserts available

LUNCH MENU:

Pulled Pork or BBQ Beef sandwiches, baked beans, chips and dessert for lunch.

We will have coffee, milk and some sort of juice to drink.

Cost \$12.00 per person – Lunch reservation deadline: **SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025**

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: ZILMER-RILEY POST 84 AND
MAIL TO ADDRESS ABOVE – ATTN: ANDREW SUTHERS**

Post Number _____ CITY _____

Number of Lunch Reservations _____ @12.00 - \$ _____

(Do not include registration fee with lunch reservations)

Pick up your lunch tickets the day of the conference at the registration table

List American Legion Name (s):



Noreen Schmidt – 3rd District President

Spring Greetings,

Spring has sprung! I saw my first robin on March 11, 2025, which is later than last year, as I saw my first robin on March 1st. You know when spring has arrived with the sighting of the first robin, tulips peeking up through the ground, daylight savings time begins, and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Narrative Summary Sheet and Unit Narrative Report are due to the Department by April 15; and the Unit Year-End Impact Report is due to the Third District President by April 15.

Don't forget to send in your meal reservation for the 2025 Third District Conference being held on April 26 in Monroe at the Monroe United Methodist Church located at 2227 Fourth Street. A woman veteran from "Shield of Sisters" and Jodi Barnett a woman veteran herself, with the State Department of Veterans Affairs will be guest speakers.

March 29 is designated as National Vietnam War Veterans Day and is set aside to pay special tribute to the 2.7 million American soldiers who served in the Vietnam War (1964-1973), The last combat troops were withdrawn on March 29, 1973 from Vietnam. The names of the 58,000 soldiers who did not make it home are engraved on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

We can we show our deep appreciation to the Vietnam veteran by taking him/her to lunch or dinner, give a homeless veteran a new jacket, volunteer your time at a veteran's non-profit organization who cares for the veterans or make a monetary donation. On Tuesdays when I volunteer at the VA Hospital and I visit with the Vietnam veterans and listen to their stories, I often feel helpless. I believe in the power of prayer, and as I leave their room, I'll say a small prayer asking God to grant them peace.

Heavenly Father, Prince of Peace, we thank you for the privilege of living in this great country of the United States of America; but families of Vietnam veterans have heavy hearts as they watch their spouse, fathers, sons and daughters fight the ravishing painful illnesses related to their exposure to the deadly toxin, dioxin, also known as Agent Orange. We ask You to bless our Vietnam veterans' families, caregivers, and medical professionals who provide comfort and care; grant them strength and patience. We ask that You provide the veterans peace of mind, respite and may they feel Your loving embrace and the knowledge that You are with them always. Amen.



Membership Shelley and Nicole

Wowza! we are doing an awesome job getting those members signed up and renewed. Keep up the wonderful hard work you are all doing. We have so many units so close to 100%. We are currently at 89.96% as a district, just one or two more and into the 90 percentiles range we go!!!! Plenty of time to get those new members or renewals in the system. Pay online to make sure it gets there. Check and see just how close your unit is. I'm working closely with my membership chair to get those last few in and talking up our auxiliary to get new members interested. I think I may have recruited a newly retired lady whose father served, and she was looking for something to do. I let her know about the newly chartered unit in her area. She was excited and interested. That's all it takes, a friendly conversation and a possible new member. Good Luck make a few calls or let members know who still isn't paid maybe they see them and can give them a gentle reminder.

Speaking of reminders, 3rd District Spring Conference is in Monroe, April 26th, send in your lunch reservations now. Noreen has some interesting speakers lined up this year. Noreen's special project is to celebrate women of service and our women veteran programs. She is asking for each unit to donate a basket for a raffle to promote her cause. Hope to see you all there.

Lots of awards this year. Let us honor your units hard work.

Trifold highlighting one or two of your units' events, fundraisers, veterans' quilts of valor. Whatever you have done and would like to share.

Dane County Auxiliary News

March 20th Mt Horeb Unit 113 was Re-chartered! Welcome Unit 113. I do believe they re-chartered with twenty-three members. Great job Mt Horeb

Present at the ceremony was from left to right: Amy Luft, Department Membership Chairman, Noreen Schmidt, 3rd District President, Kim Tremer, Sec/Tres of Unit 113, Jenni Syftestad, Dane County President, Connie York, Unit 113 President and Department President Becky Mueller.





AUXILIARY Third District 2025 Spring Conference

Saturday, April 26, 2025

United Methodist Church / 2227 4th Street – Monroe WI

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Invitation and Lunch Registration

Registration Fee \$5.00 / Pay registration fee day of conference

Conference registration 8am – 8:45am / Call to Order at 9am

FREE WILL OFFERING BASKET FOR LIGHT BREAKFAST ITEMS

LUNCH MENU:

Pulled Pork or BBQ Beef sandwiches, baked beans, chips and dessert for lunch.

We will have coffee, milk and some sort of juice to drink.

Cost \$12.00 per person – Lunch reservation deadline: **SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: THIRD DISTRICT ALA

MAIL TO: SHANNON CHURCHILL – 149 PAOLI ST – VERONA WI 53593

UNIT Number _____ CITY _____

Number of Lunch Reservations _____ @12.00 - \$ _____

(Do not include registration fee with lunch reservations)

Pick up your lunch tickets the day of the conference at the registration table

List American Legion Auxiliary Name (s):

A block of hotel rooms have been reserved for the evening of April 25th at the Super 8 located at 500 6th Street and Hwy 69 located in Monroe for a rate of \$113.40 plus tax; the block expires on March 25th. 608.325.1500



MEMORIAL DAY

Remember and Honor

MAY 26TH

American Legion Post & Auxiliary Unit 437

Westland Promenade Shelters - Mazomanie

(Rain Location: Mazo Community Building)



12PM: FREE PIG ROAST

Catered by Jeremi Jennings

1PM: FREE CONCERT

JANNA and the junkyard dawgs

Please bring your own chairs.



50/50 RAFFLES ★ BASKET RAFFLE

drawing @ 3PM

KIDS ACTIVITES

10AM: MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM
Location TBD
Cemetary Service Following



Third District American Legion Auxiliary Leaders,

Please apply for the ***Third District ALA Leadership Award*** by **April 5, 2025**.

The Endres-Pulvermacher-Ryan Leadership Award will be presented at the 2025 Third District Conference, scheduled on April 26, 2025 in Monroe. Please consider applying today!

To apply, please complete this application and return as listed below.

**American Legion Auxiliary ~ Third District
2024-2025 Endres-Pulvermacher-Ryan Leadership Award**

First/Last Name: _____ **Unit#** _____

1. How long have you been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary? _____
2. Who or What is a leader? Define effective Leadership. (Describe in 200 words or less), *please attach your essay to this page.*
3. Describe your leadership style:
4. What qualities or attributes do you consider necessary for a leader to possess, to assure others will join in the effort and move a project forward to a successful conclusion?
5. What makes you successful in gaining support and engagement from others to help work through a project to a successful completion?
6. Choose three of the following words that you feel exemplify the character of a good to great leader and meet your own requirements:
communication, motivation, delegation, positivity, trustworthiness, creativity, feedback, responsibility, commitment, flexibility, vision, conviction, confidence, accountability, ownership, passion, inspiring others, networking, listening, valuing others
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
7. List Leadership Training you have attend: Department Leadership and ALA In the Know, National Mission Training and on-line ALA On-Line Academy courses and other ALA or American Legion Family related leadership training sessions you have completed?

Return this page and attach your Question 2 Essay by **April 5, 2025** to:

Joyce Endres, 1147 Fleetwood Ave., Madison WI 53716-1417 or e-mail to: ljendres@charter.net