



# 4TH DISTRICT NEWS

Department of Wisconsin | American Legion Auxiliary

## Mark Your Calendars!

Please consider attending these American Legion Auxiliary and Legion Family Events!

April 15, 2025  
Purple Up! for Military Kids Day

May 10, 2025  
4th & 5th District Spring Conference

June 15-20, 2025:  
Badger Girls State

June 27-29, 2025:  
Cruise for a Cause (ALRA)

July 16-20, 2025:  
Department of Wisconsin Convention - Green Bay, WI

August 22-28, 2025  
National Convention - Tampa Bay, FL



## March News

### SPRING CONFERENCE

The 4th and 5th ALA districts will combine for the Spring Conference this year. We're excited to join forces to share information and meet more new people! The conference will be held at the Oelschlaeger-Dallmann Post #434 in Oak Creek on May 10th. We hope you can join us. The conference form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

### NOMINATIONS

This is the time of year that we start thinking about elections for the next two year term. As we look forward to continuing our service to veterans we encourage you to consider running for a position as a 4th District Officer.

### YEAR-END REPORTS

With April right around the corner, please remember that our Year-End reports will be due by April 15th. These reports are important tools to gauge our success. Thank you for all you do to get them completed.



## Americanism

*Submitted by Donna Jensen*

The biggest “project” of the Americanism program is the Americanism Essay Contest. By the time you read this, the deadline of March 15 will most likely have come and gone. However, the American program has much more to offer.

We are approaching a season of patriotic holidays including Memorial Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This is a great time for us to look for ways to celebrate our freedom and liberty and to thank the military and veterans who made great sacrifices for us to enjoy these privileges.

National Poppy Day is the Friday before Memorial Day which is Friday, May 23 this year. If you plan to distribute poppies, it is recommended you invite several veterans to join you and ask them to wear their American Legion hats. Please wear your Auxiliary pin and clothing depicting the Auxiliary so we can help people understand what we do. It is important that people know who we are and why we do what we do. Also advise people as you distribute (not sell) poppies, that all profits are used to help veterans and support the programs of the American Legion Family. Making a “story board” with pictures of some of the activities your Unit has done this year is a way to show people how we help veterans.

Remember to fly a flag on Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> and any other day you can. It lets your neighbors know you are supporting military, veterans and your community from the depths of your heart.

Donna Jensen  
American Chairman – 4<sup>th</sup> District  
djensen20@gmail.com

## International Women’s Day



## National Convention Alternates

Are you planning on attending the National Convention on August 25-27 in Tampa, Florida this year? If so, I would like to encourage you to run as an Alternate. At this time Wisconsin is entitled to 19 Alternates. Alternates are elected at department based on plurality count. Alternates attend national convention at their own expense unless they are elevated to Delegate status. Please consider this important duty.

## Children & Youth

*Submitted by Patty Griswold*

Winter is moving along, for it's March, time to start looking forward to spring! Along with being close to spring, this time of the year will soon bring summer vacation from school for most of our children and youth. Parents and family may be spending more time with their school/college age youth.

The key to the C&Y program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting our children and youth. Most parents, extended family and friends will agree with the excellent ALA's program purposes. There are so many ways we can make a difference for our youth. To name a few:

- Donations to the TALA Family Assistance Program
- Assisting at food donation centers
- Distributing educational materials to adults regarding child abuse, drugs and teenage suicide
- Honor our C&Y with those qualifying for Youth Hero Award and Good Deed Awards.

This time of the year could find our older youth looking forward to continuing or beginning college and will be applying for scholarships. TALA has numerous scholarships available. For more information go to the department website. [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org). There's also a specific time for these forms to be sent to the address required on the application form.

We can keep our eyes and ears open for the C&Y that could use assistance either in health and welfare areas or scholarships.

We can all remember hearing "our children grow up too fast!"

We can assist them in their journey of growing up, for they are the future of our country!

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## PR for Local Legion Family Course

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On Thursday, March 20 this new PR course will be held from 6-9 pm. The course focuses on showing how cooperation at the local level (especially between posts and units) can greatly improve visibility and understanding of our missions in the community.

Sign up for the course at:  
[www.wilegion.org/legion-college](http://www.wilegion.org/legion-college)

## Education

*Submitted by Laura Calteux*

April is the Month of the Military Child with April 15<sup>th</sup> being Purple Up for Military Kids Day. Try contacting your local schools to find out how many military kids there are and put together bags for the school to hand out. You could also get purple items that can be handed out to all students and you could also go to school and do the Military Child Table ceremony.

May 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> is Teacher Appreciation week. Send a basket of bagels, or doughnuts for the teachers. You could also do a fruit basket, or just an apple for the teacher! Let's make sure our teachers know we are here to support them.

Don't forget Give 10 to Education for our schools, you could set up a fund raiser to get a head start for the next school year. If you have a bar, as some of our post homes do, set a box out starting in July and ask for donations.



# Membership

Submitted by Bonnie Jakubczyk



## 4th District Bowling Tournament

Thank you to all of our Auxiliary members who joined in the fun at Classic Lanes last week. What a great way to socialize with members of our entire Legion family! I hope you all had a good time.



### Way to go Fourth District!

As of the March 4<sup>th</sup> Membership report we are in First place and only need 30 more for 100%. The last time we were 100% was in 2009. We have 53 members on our unpaid list, so now is the time to contact your unpaid members and check up on them. I know we can do this with everyone's help.

Wisconsin is currently 1 of 22 departments that have reached national's goal of 85% paid by 3/15/25. We continue to drop; now in 14th place with the national average at 86.52%. Central Division has dropped to 4th place with Wisconsin still holding 3rd within the division.

### News from Department

**The 2026 Dues Billing Information form is due at HQ no later than April 4, 2025**

**The 2026 Unit Dues Collection Person Form is due at HQ no later than May 30, 2025**

Even if there is no change from last year EVERY unit needs to turn in BOTH of these forms to Dept. HQ. They can sent to the email address listed on the form, they were in the February Unit Mailing and are available on the Dept. website membership page.

As of January 31st all member's dues should be paid. If you are not paid you are not a member until your 2025 dues are processed through Dept. or National. Unpaid members are now delinquent and no longer members; as such, they lose all rights and privileges of membership including holding any officer or chairmanship position at any level, voting, funeral rites, member benefits etc.

Unpaid members are encouraged to pay their dues via credit/debit to the national call line 317-569-4570 Mon. - Fri. 7:00 am - 3:30 pm, through the national website, send their dues directly to Dept. HQ or pay their unit to get membership reinstated.

As always, your Membership team is here to help!





## Craft Store Closings

By now we all know that Jo-Ann Fabrics will be closing its doors by the end of May. Most of us who've purchased so many supplies to make our red, white and blue things for our veterans' events will be terribly sad to see them go. As we say good-bye to this great friend who offered us military discounts, it might be in our best interests to watch for final closing deals for the last chance to stock up on our patriotic crafting supplies.

## ALA Badger State Girls

*Submitted by Laura Calteux*

American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State is right around the corner! Make sure you contact your delegates as soon as you know who they are. You need to make sure they understand the great opportunity they have been given and what they can expect during their week at UW Oshkosh, June 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.

Do you have some time and would like to be a volunteer at ALA BGS? It's a great week and a great way to work the Mission of the American Legion Auxiliary, mentoring our youth.

If you aren't able to volunteer for the week, there is another way to support the program. You and/or your unit could be benefactors of the program. See the attached form and consider becoming a benefactor. For as little as \$10 to buy pens for the delegates; to \$100 to buy shirts for the delegates or counselors, you can support this great program.





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
BADGER GIRLS STATE  
BENEFACTORS  
Deadline: April 1, 2025



Thank you so much for becoming an ALA Badger Girls State Benefactor! Our program is successful because of our amazing sponsors and benefactors.

Please select the item(s) you wish to support with your benefactor donation. Many donations are required to meet all of these needs. If more money is received than is necessary to purchase the selected item, ALABGS reserves the right to designate your donation to another item where financial support is needed. Donations are needed no later than April 1, 2025 to purchase the items in time for our Girls State session.

- ALABGS Ink Pens (\$10)
- Delegate Campaign Materials (\$20)
- Badge Holders (\$20)
- Lanyards (\$25)
- City Supplies (\$25)
- County Supplies (\$25)
- Medical Supplies (\$25)
- Counselor Costs (\$50)
- Delegate Shirts (\$100)
- Staff Shirts (\$100)
- General Support (\$\_\_\_\_\_)
- TOTAL DONATION: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Mail the benefactor form by 4/1/2025 with check payable to "ALABGS" to:

ALA Badger Girls State  
PO Box 140  
Portage, WI 53901-0140

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ALABGS Benefactors will be recognized on the ALABGS website and Citizens Manual.

**NOTE: Delegate sponsorships (\$500)  
must be submitted using a sponsor reservation form.**

# Public Relations

*Submitted by Laura Calteux*

Public Relations sounds scary and something that the average unit isn't able to do, but that's further from the truth. Public Relations is something that all units do in some way or another. Wearing Auxiliary branded clothing, posting about unit activities on your Facebook page, setting up a Unit Facebook page, maybe with the help of one or two of your Junior member are some ways we work Public Relations.

The Department Public Relations Chairman, Bob Shappell, is hosting monthly PR Chats via Zoom, so that your members can learn about the program, and ask questions on how to use Public Relations effectively. The notes for the first few chats are available on the Department website, so go and see if any of the information can help out your unit.

# Juniors

*Submitted by Laura Calteux*

Our Juniors, Our Future!

The Junior Spring Conference is going to held at Camp American Legion April 4<sup>th</sup> – 5pm to April 6<sup>th</sup> till Noon. Registration is \$10 for the weekend. All attending will be staying at Camp, where the Juniors will elect the next Honorary Officers, have installation of officers, assisting with service projects and working on the Patch Program. Registration needs to be received by March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Continue to work on the Patch Program with your Juniors. The program sheets are available on the Department website under Programs, Juniors. Don't forget there is a new level for Preschool (age 3) through Kindergarten, the Purple Level. If you have any questions on the program, give me a call.

Don't forget to involve your Juniors in all aspects of your unit, from helping at your events and assisting during your meetings. Bring them to our 4<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conference on May 10<sup>th</sup>.





**DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN  
 SPRING JUNIOR CONFERENCE**  
 Camp American Legion  
 8529 County D  
 Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539



**Friday, April 4, 5:00 pm – Sunday, April 6, 2024, 12:00 noon**

Your Junior Spring Conference main event will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2024, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Camp American Legion. This will include the business meeting, election and installation of Honorary Department Junior Officers, lunch, and a Camp American Legion service activity. In the spirit of *Serving Veterans, the Military, and Each Other from the Depths of our Heart*, we also have the opportunity to stay overnight at Camp for the weekend, to participate in additional veteran service projects, Patch projects, games, campfires, and so much more!

Registration fee for the Conference is \$5. All meals, from the evening meal on Friday through breakfast on Sunday, are \$5 per person. Additional information will be sent by email to registrants and will be available on the ALA Wisconsin website at [www.amlegionauxwi.org/junioractivities](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org/junioractivities).

If you have any questions, please call or text Christine Johnsen at 715-203-2015, or email at [cmj102@aol.com](mailto:cmj102@aol.com).

**2025 JUNIOR AUXILIARY SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

Registration must be received by **March 10, 2025**

*Form submitted by (please print clearly):*

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME / UNIT #	Grade	First time attendee? (Yes/No)	Junior member	Senior member	Overnight Friday (Yes/No)	Attending Saturday Meeting (Yes/No)	Overnight Saturday (Yes/No)	Registration & Meals \$10.00
<b>Totals</b>								\$

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send registration form with check payable to American Legion Auxiliary to:  
 Christine Johnsen 15991 Granite Rd., Wausau, WI 54403**

## VA & Rehab

*Submitted by Pat Ehleiter*

With the cuts being made at Zablocki VA Medical Center, they are understaffed and are desperately in need of volunteers. There are many ways you can help serve our Veterans at the Center.

Time has passed and the California fires are no longer in the headlines. However we cannot forget about our Auxiliary members and Veterans in California. They are in need of urgent assistance. Please donate what you can as every dollar goes to help Auxiliary members and Veterans who are impacted by the fires.

Donations should be earmarked "CA Fires" and sent to:

ALA Department of California Treasurer  
10400 Twin Cities Rd. Ste. 20, #107  
Galt, Ca. 95632

Honor Flights are coming up on April 26, May17, June14, September 6, October 4 and November 1. It's not only an Honor Flight for the men and women who courageously served our country, but it's an honor for our members to be a part of this amazing trip our Veterans go on.

Airports have Honor Flight ground crews that assist the hubs as they make their way from the gates to the busses and again when they return to the airport, from the busses to the gates. Members can become one of the ground crew members. You can also serve as a chaperon to escort a Veteran on this amazing trip.

Another way you can honor our Veterans is to be at the airport when they depart or return from the trip and greet them with applause and handshakes that many did not receive when they returned home from the war.

Don't forget to turn in your Service for Veterans hours.

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conference will be held on SATURDAY MAY 10, 2025  
at OELSCHLAEGER-DALLMANN UNIT 434, 9327 S SHEPARD AVE, OAK CREEK, WI**

**Schedule is as follows:**

**Registration: 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM**

**Coffee and Donuts will be available**

**Call to Order: 10 AM**

**Lunch: Noon**

**Cost is \$23.00 per person, plus \$3.00 Registration**

**Send your reservations to: District Treasurer, Sue Hembrook**

**24215 60<sup>th</sup> St., Salem, WI 53168**

**Make checks payable to: ALA 4<sup>th</sup> District**

**For information contact: Sue Hembrook**

**262-843-4791 H 262-945-9791 C genesuehem@wi.rr.com**

**Deadline for reservations is May 1, 2025**

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**UNIT NAME & NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_**

**NAMES OF DELEGATES, MEMBERS OR GUESTS ATTENDING:**

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**UNIT CONTACT & PHONE \_\_\_\_\_**

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED: # OF RESERVATIONS \_\_\_\_\_ X \$26.00 = \_\_\_\_\_**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALA 4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

**SEND TO: Sue Hembrook, 24215 60<sup>th</sup> St., Salem, WI 53168**

**Reservation deadline: May 1, 2025**