



8th District Newsletter



President's Message

Hello Everyone!

Congratulations to Mosinee, Wild Rose and Vesper for being a 100% Unit for 2025! Tigerton only needs 1 more renewal and Wisconsin Rapids only needs 2 renewals for 100%. Keep up the good work everyone! Officers make sure you get your memberships in.

I am still looking for District Program Chairs for the openings listed in the box below. The position would only last until July 2025. The responsibilities of being a District Chairman are that you would be the liaison between Units and District, present a report at District Conferences and submit articles to the District newsletter. It's vital that we fill these roles as soon as possible. Please let me know if you are interested in one of them. My contact information is at the top of the newsletter.

I am looking for members for a nomination committee to put together a suggested slate of officers for the election that will be taking place at the Spring Conference. I have one committee member from the Wausau Unit, but need at least two more committee members from other parts of the District. If you are interested or would like more information on what's expected, please reach out to me.

A reminder to all Units, if any Unit has any upcoming events that they would like included in this newsletter, please let me know!

I hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving and that Everyone has a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me either by phone or email. Thank you for all you do!

Linda Tryczak

8th District Officers

President: Linda Tryczak
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1st Vice President: Fran Bender

2nd Vice President: Lorrie Barber

Secretary: Amanda Szalewski

Treasurer: Sarah Stiff

Chaplain: Ruth Henkelman

Historian: Penny Peeters

Parliamentarian: Diane Kranig

Mark your Calendars!!

**Midwinter Conference
January 16-19th**

**Hilton Paper Valley
Appleton WI**

5 Ways to Keep your Members

1. Send a "New Member Newsletter" to first year members during their first year. New members are special because they are the least likely to know everything that is going on in your unit, the least likely to be involved in a leadership position, and therefore the most likely to drop out. Several groups have developed new member newsletters that new members get throughout their first year of membership. These newsletters are a basically a summary of the most important information that has been sent to them via other formats, such as newsletters and magazines, with further explanation and background. These publications usually go out three or four times during the year. New members stop receiving it as soon as they renew for the first time.
2. Send new members a letter or card saying, "Here's where your \$25.00 dues went: \$3.00 for VA & R Programs; \$3.00 for Americanism Programs etc.
This technique can be used effectively to show members that their dues investment is working for them. Even if the members are inactive, they can feel good that their dues are helping to support some very important programs sponsored by the unit. Their dues are helping to make their community a better place to live.
3. Offer plenty of member only programs and benefits. Your unit needs to constantly remind members of the exclusive benefits they get as regular, dues-paying members. Depending on the legal requirements of your unit, there will be many services and programs that can be reserved for **members. These programs and services need to be highlighted whenever possible.**
4. Send a mini survey to members about six months after they join to see how they rate your unit's services. One educational organization called this their "six month report card." It was sent to members half way through their first year and asked the members to grade the organization in several service areas. Any members that rated a program below an A or B was given a phone call to get more information. Then the organization used that information to try to correct the program. The organization was also able to spot potential dropped by noting which new members didn't even bother to return the card. These members also got a phone call.
5. Get new and inactive members to attend Department Conventions or Conferences. They are more likely to renew when they witness the importance of the business conducted at these functions. Even if they don't attend every year, the stature of the event and the impression they get by attending will help remind them of the benefits of membership.

Program Chairman

Legislative: Kay Grosskopf

Juniors: OPEN

VA&R: OPEN

Americanism: Betty Blume

Membership: Fran Bender

Children & Youth: OPEN

Please let me know if interested in any of these open positions.