



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023



DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

I believe that we have enough snow and ice. By the time you get this newsletter a couple of things will have taken place.

- 1). Oratorical contest was held at Boyd on January 8th
- 2) Department Mid-winter conference was held on January 12-15th.

Also, I have declared my candidacy for Department Vice Commander. I will have a hospitality room at both mid-winter and Department Convention which will be held on July 20th -23rd 2023 in Wausau. I will need the support of all the 10th District Delegates.

Some things to keep in mind as the year progresses: Consolidated Post Reports and membership. The CPR is what The American Legion uses to tell Congress what we have done in support of our Four Pillars. This is a required report designated by Congress. If you need help with the CPR, please contact me or any of the Vice Commanders.

We are holding our own on membership. Meaning we are in 3rd place in the Department. We have several Posts that are only a few from being 100%. Lets be at our best and close out membership strong.

Until next time, I wish each of you a Happy New Year.

Larry Larson
10th District Commander

DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST

The 10th District Oratorical Contest was held on Sunday January 8th at the Boyd Legion Hall. Thank you to all Volunteers from the 10th District American Legion Family for assisting as Escorts, Timekeepers, a Judges, and Tabulators. Thank you Walter-Nelson Post 326 for hosting the Oratorical Contest.

Results of Contest:

- 1st Place Zoe Stephanie Sponsored by Cumberland Post 98
- 2nd Place Abigail Boone Sponsored by Augusta Post 291



President Margaret Larson, Chairman Steve Isensee, Abigail Boone, Zoe Stephanie, and Commander Larry Larson



Commander Larry Larson, Zoe Stephanie, Mark Mauer escort from Post 98 Cumberland, And Jerry Townsend member of Post 98 Cumberland

Steve Isensee
10th District Oratorical Chairman
sisensee1954@gmail.com
715-563-3179

DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT MESSAGE



10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023



Happy Healthy New Year,

Let me start out by thanking you all for another amazing year and hoping 2023 will be just as good if not better. It was such a relief to finally get out there and continue to work on our programs. We still are not out of the clear, so please stay aware. A lot of RSV, pneumonia, flu and just junk circulating out there yet.

10th DISTRICT SPRING CONFERENCE will be on April 29, 2023(1 day only) at Fletcher-Pechacek, Post 121, River Falls. Legion members will meet at the legion, Auxiliary members will be meeting at St. Bridget's just 2 blocks away. Registration will start at 8:00am, meeting time at 9:00am.(handicap accessible).

This is a 1-day conference and we will all be meeting together for lunch at the Post, sometime around noon. Our Department President, Linda Coppock, will be addressing all of us at this time. The Memorial will be held at the Post after the close of our meetings. Registration form is attached.

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT forms were mailed to all Unit Presidents in October. Now is the time to start collecting all your members volunteer hours, pictures, newspaper clippings, etc. Reminder, reports are due to your District President by April 15, 2023.

POPPY PROGRAM does your Unit participate in the Poppy Poster, if so, you can find the requirements on the Department website: www.amlegionauxwi.org under the tab, DEPT. CHRM/ACTION PLANS.

CHAPLAIN our Dept. Chaplain, Linda Kostka, is asking all Units, or individuals to send in prayers or inspirational pieces to add to President Linda Coppock's Prayer Book. This will be presented to her at Dept. Convention in July. Please send by email to: lkostka@ymail.com, or mail to: 63940 Sanford Road, Ashland, WI 54806. They may be original or from another source but remember to give the source and name, Unit # and District #.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Margaret Larson

District 10 President

2023 ALA 10th DISTRICT DUES

The Following Units have PAID their 2023 Dues:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Unit 194 Cameron | Unit 080 New Richmond |
| Unit 181 Durand | Unit 511 Ridgeland |
| Unit 207 Elmwood | Unit 111 Somerset |
| Unit 168 Glenwood City | Unit 227 Spring Valley |
| Unit 540 Haugen | |

If your Unit hasn't paid their district dues yet, please send \$15 to our Secretary/Treasurer, Teresa Isensee at P.O. Box 145, Boyd, WI 54726. Reminder that District Dues must be paid 30 days prior to our Spring Conference (March 31, 2023) to be eligible to Vote at the District Conference.

If your Unit cannot afford, or some other reason for not paying, please let me know. Some Units may want to help out.

See attached District Dues Notice included with this newsletter.

Teresa Isensee

10th District Secretary/Treasurer

Tisensee2173@gmail.com



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10TH DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION DEC MEETING NOTICE

The 10th District American Legion will hold a DEC Meeting on Saturday February 18, 2023 in Osseo at 1:00pm to 3:30pm. More information will be sent via email.

10TH DISTRICT KLEIN HALL HELPING HANDS DONATIONS FOR GIFT CARDS

The 10th District rallied together and collected enough for the Helping Hands Fund to present to each of the 40 Veterans at Klein Hall a \$75 gift card to Farm and Fleet. 10th District Commander Larry Larson, 10th District Adjutant Steve Isensee, 10th District President Margaret Larson and 10th District Secretary Teresa Isensee attended their Holiday Party on December 20, 2022 to distribute the Gift Cards. **Thank you to the following that sent in Donations:**

Post 80 New Richmond
Post 212 Barron
VFW Post 6005 Cadott
ALA Unit 121 River Falls
Post 353 Cornell
Post 121 River Falls
Dan North

Post 77 Chippewa Falls
Post 159 Cadott
Steve & Teresa Isensee
TAL Chippewa County Council
ALA Unit 98 Cumberland
ALA Unit 324 Osseo

Post 324 Osseo
Post 330 Wilson
ALA Unit 330 Wilson
ALA Unit 291 Augusta
Post 326 Boyd
Post 32 Menomonie



MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE FROM ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN MARY TOWNSEND

Have you received the Membership Gnome pin? How?? By recruiting a new Auxiliary member (Senior or Junior) for 2023. May 26, is the deadline to receive a pin. Download the “2023 Gnome One Award” page from the Department of Wisconsin website to apply for a pin.

Recruiting new members is a vital way to keep the units alive and functioning. Follow these 3 – B’s!

1. Be informed on who is eligible for Auxiliary and Legion family membership.
2. Be prepared with an application on hand.
3. Be excited to show people how being a member of the Legion family can enhance their life.

Mary Townsend – 10th District Membership Chairman
getmet77@hotmail.com or 715-234-5155

Per National Governing documents. “A MEMBER FAILING TO PAY ANNUAL DUES BY JANUARY 31ST SHALL BE CLASSED AS DELINQUENT AND SUSPENDED from all membership privileges which include voting on Unit business, holding office, participation in Unit activities, receipt of member benefits and all other privileges of membership”

That being said, A member may pay their dues at any time to reinstate active membership.



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YEAR END REPORT FROM KLEIN HALL PROGRAM SUPERVISOR MIKE HENKE

This report is being published to share information about the homeless veteran's program (not shelter) at Klein Hall in Chippewa Falls. The program is supported financially from a grant from the USDVA, the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs is the grant recipient. Facility operations are performed by Lutheran Social Services as the contractor for the State of Wisconsin.

Klein Hall is a 48 bed facility located near the campus of the Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls. The physical address of Klein Hall is 2820 East Park Avenue, Chippewa Falls. The program is eligible to federally recognized veterans eligible for federal benefits. For those veterans that are not eligible for the program, we advocate for them into available State VA programs and/or community-based programs that they are eligible for.

Having a 48 bed program in Western Wisconsin is beneficial to our region in the state. There is only one larger program in Wisconsin which is a 76 bed facility in downtown Milwaukee. And the nearest facility to Klein Hall in Wisconsin is Green Bay.

Klein Hall chartered in December of 2008, since that time, we have serviced hundreds of veterans with VA benefits, job training, and permanently housed back into their communities. We have conducted 46 new intakes as of December 7th during 2022. Overall, in 2022 we have provided services for 76 homeless veterans. During my administration since May of 2017, I am proud to have conducted intakes on 260 homeless veterans offering them safe and sober living while we identify whole health solutions which may have led to their homelessness.

Our staff includes a team of 18 with a mixture of commitment. Eight associates are paid employees of Lutheran Social Services, three LSS registered volunteers, two senior citizens assigned here through the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) as a grant from workforce development, and five contracted security personnel from Permar Security. Our team is made up of 39% veterans. Of those veteran staff members, six were retired and felt a need to serve again on this mission of ending veteran homelessness. **We are veterans healing veterans.**

We truly appreciate the support of your organization, without it, it is unlikely that we would be able to continue this mission. I would like to thank you for all that you do for us, which ensures we can continue on the forefront of ending veteran homelessness. Direct support of our program can be directed with donation of Kwik Trip fuel only gift cards, Walmart gift cards, Farm & Fleet gift cards, monetary donations (checks) made out to Feed My People Food for supporting meals, or checks drafted to Lutheran Social Services restricted to services at Klein Hall.

Welcome home and thank you for your service! And thank you for supporting this needed program providing services, warm meals, and a bed for our vulnerable veterans.

Sincerely,

Michael Hanke, USA, SFC (R), IN
Combat Infantry Badge Recipient
Iraq Veteran, 2004-2005 & 2009-2010
Klein Hall Program Supervisor

ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE MESSAGE FROM ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN SHERRY BRADSA

Remember that registration for BGS is \$400 for 2023, the deadline to submit the reservation form and fee is January 31, 2023. If a Unit has trouble paying this they can ask for support from the Legion or other organizations in their town.

Also please remember that the Trempealeau County Council of the American Legion Auxiliary **will no longer** sponsor bus rides to Oshkosh for Badger Girls State.

Sherry Brasda
10th District ALA Badger Girls State Chairman



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AMERICANISM MESSAGE FROM ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN TERESA STEINKE

What is Americanism? Americanism is an unflinching love of country, loyalty to its institutions and ideas; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to all citizens of our amazing country. I believe all members of the ALA have that deep and abiding love of our country. However, we need to promote this sense of patriotism to future generations. This is why Americanism is one of our important programs sponsored by the American Legion Family!

There are many ways for each of our units to promote the Americanism program – and this time of year, in particular, is a perfect time to get into the schools and encourage this sense of allegiance to the youth of our communities. The American Legion Auxiliary Essay Contest is a wonderful way to begin that dialog with the children in our schools about the love that we have for our country – and why we love our country, our flag and our way of life.

The essay contest is open to all school age children of public, private and home-based schools alike (that's right-don't forget your home-schooled children!). The rules and expectations vary, based upon the child's grade level, beginning with 2nd grade, going through 12th grade. It is up to each unit how to implement the contest-as long as the rules set forth by the National organization are followed. This is a wonderful method to get into the school and begin to teach and encourage our young citizens about the meaning of Americanism and how to live it out in our daily lives. I encourage every unit to promote the Americanism Essay Contest to at least one grade level. Speak to the teachers and enlist them to incorporate this, as a writing assignment in their class. Don't forget the deadline to get your contest winner(s) sent to Department!

If you have any questions, please contact me, I am here to help!

For God and Country,
Teresa Steinke
10th District Americanism Chairman
Email: teresa.steinke_cmx@yahoo.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS MESSAGE FROM ALA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN TERESA STEINKE

Hello and happy New Years to all of you!

Did your American Legion Auxiliary unit participate in any holiday activities in your community over the past couple of months? Perhaps you helped with Toys for Tots or some other local toy or food drive to help members of your community during Thanksgiving or Christmas. Maybe you assisted with a visit from Santa, or a Christmas Parade. Did you help with the annual Wreaths Across America? Maybe you prepared Christmas gift bags for veterans, elderly, or shut-ins in your community or in your local hospital or nursing home. Perhaps you took the time to visit someone who is lonely during this time of year, thereby bringing a ray of sunshine into their sad and dreary day, or maybe your unit brought the Christmas cheer to life by going Christmas caroling at a nursing home or assisted living home. I hope you remembered to wear your American Legion Family branded attire, and that you took pictures, wrote articles, and sent those pictures and articles to your local newspapers.

These types of activities present us with a golden opportunity to promote our American Legion Family for all that we do for our veterans, our youth, our communities, state and nation! I encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity to spread the word of all that we do; and just how valuable the American Legion Family is in your community. Record your events and shout it out, so everyone knows how vital our organization truly is! In addition to bringing awareness of all of the things that we do within our community, this could also be a valuable tool in recruiting new members, who are looking for a way to give back to the community, as well as a means for them to honor the military service of their own loved one!

As always, if you have any questions or need any type of assistance, feel free to contact me – I am here to help!

For God and Country,
Teresa Steinke
10th District Public Relations Chairman
Email: teresa.steinke_cmx@yahoo.com



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NEWS FROM ALA CORNELL UNIT 353

Unit 353 took off flying this year! We decided that we wanted to be more seen. We had our annual charcoal chicken and sold out quickly! We tried to do a member drive at our local grocery store. We had 1 member join us. 1 is more than none so it was a success in our book! It also allowed the community to get to know who we are and what we are about. We made raffle baskets for the breast cancer awareness fundraiser at both of our local schools. Together, the schools raised almost \$3,500! We worked with the cub scouts and Girl Scouts and welcomed 128 cyclists that were traveling to the Higher Ground. We were recreated at Veterans Night during a local football game. This was one of the neatest experiences ever! We handed out over 150 thank you cards with a little gift to our local teachers for teacher's appreciation week. We donated to help rebuild our local baseball field. It was a \$52,000 project! It's beautiful! This year, we jumped on the social media wagon! We finally have a Facebook! We have a Junior member running the page with an Auxiliary member monitoring it. We were visibly in every parade or public gathering that we could attend. This year was a busy year for us! We are already planning and looking forward to next year! –

Ashley Carothers
10th District American Legion Auxiliary Historian and Public Relations

“Why worry? If you’ve done the very best you can, worrying won’t make it any better.” -Walt Disney

HARRY P. BAUER - CANDIDATE FOR DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Past Department Vice Commander Harry P. Bauer, respectfully requests your support in announcement his candidacy for the high office of Department Commander 2023-2024. He has the support from his Post, Chippewa County Counsel and the Mighty Tenth District. He is a veteran of the US Air Force, 1976-2013. He served in Operations Coronet Cove, Deny Flight and Joint Forge. Retired as a Master Sargent. Awards and Decorations include Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. Harry was an Aircraft Armament Systems Technician and was responsible for the training and evaluations of Munitions Load Crews on A-7D and A-10A aircraft. Deployed twice as an A-10 Weapons Load Crew Chief to Alhorn AB, Germany during the Cold War and as a Weapons Loading Flight Chief to Aviano AB, Italy in Support Operation Deny Flight. Days after 9/11, deployed to Estres, France as a Ground Safety Manager to support a KC-135 Tanker unit during Operation Joint Forge. He was a Weapons Safety Manager at the flight, squadron and wing levels. Instructor for a MAJCOM Weapons Safety Program. Was an Occupational Safety and Health Program Manager for the 917 Wing and 307 th Bomb Wing. Also was a Risk Management Advisor and Facilitator. He was also an Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer for General Industry from Eastern Kentucky University. Earned Associate Degrees in Business Administration, Aircraft Armament Systems Technology and Safety. He also is a retired Federal Civil Service employee as an Occupational Safety and Health Safety Manager. Harry has the support of his wife, Patsy, son Robert, daughter Patricia and two grandkids Brendan and Jax.

An American Legion annual member for 10 Continuous years and a member of Mulli-Kelean-Kramer-Dannenberg Post 77. Bauer served as a Post 1 st Vice Commander 2019-2020, Post Commander 2014-2019, County Vice Commander and Membership Chairman 2015-2016, County Commander 2016-2017, District 1 st Vice Commander and Membership Chairman 2017-2019. As a District 1 st Vice Commander developed the 10 th District Strategic Membership Plan. Served as a District Commander 2019-2021. Currently serves as the Chippewa County Adjutant/Finance Officer. As a Past Department Vice Commander 2021 – 2022 for Districts 10, 11 and 12. Served on the Department Membership Committee and as DEC Liaison on the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee. Currently serves as the Vice Chairman on the Department Hospital Committee. Also he is currently involved with the Oratorical Contest at the Post, County and District levels. Harry believes that education is extremely important to the development of all legion family members. He is a graduate of the Wisconsin American Legion College (WALC), a Lifetime member WALC Alumni Association, Past WALCAA Vice President and current WALCAA President. He is one of the leading WALC Instructors and acts as a mentor to many individuals within the Legion Family. Harry is a member of the Chippewa Veterans Home Recreation Committee, Inc. serving as the Vice Chairman 2016-2017, Chairman 2018-2019 and 2022. He also served on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past Chairman for 2020-2021. He also serves as a volunteer at the the Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls with over 450 hours. Also continuing a successful relationship with the Veterans Housing and Recovery Program. Harry is an active member of the Chippewa Fall Patriotic Council for 10 years and currently serves as the CFPC Honor Guard Commander. Remember, “It’s not about me, it’s about we”, the American Legion Family



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SPRING CONFERENCE 2023 MEMORIAL SERVICE DECEASED MEMBERS

Deceased Members please send by April 20, 2023

10th District American Legion to:

Marilyn Galoff
225 N Public St
Elmwood, WI 54740

10th District American Legion Auxiliary to:

Karen Taylor
N8533 1197th St
River Falls, WI 54022

10TH DISTRICT AT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

The Mid-Winter Conference was an educational and fun event. Legion Committee Meetings on Friday, hospitality rooms on Friday Evening (enjoyed by all), Saturday held a Joint TAL/ALA/SAL informational session, and several Legion training sessions attended by several of our 10th District American Legion Family Members.

The National American Legion Auxiliary President Vickie Koutz from the Department of Indiana attended Mid-Winter and had a chance to visit with several our Legion Family members and attend some of the sessions. Saturday morning after the ALA informational session there was a Parade of Checks to support the National President’s project National Veterans Creative Arts Festival companions.

“Sometimes, companions can’t afford to pay for a meal plan,” she said “This broke my heart. The one person who is a constant in their life couldn’t stay with them during meals.”

Her project on companions is triple tiered — money for a meal plan, travel, and/or a separate hotel room if needed for non-family member companions.

The final event was the Luau Saturday evening where several of our 10th District members competed in the Talent Contest. They didn’t win but had fun.

