

The 245er
SERVING: the NATION - the VETERAN -
the CROSS PLAINS & MIDDLETON COMMUNITIES

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

April 2024

Lest-We-Forget

Let us pause and remember those Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of American Legion that have gone on to their reward and may our thoughts and prayers rekindle their souls with our heavenly Father.

Post 245 Sick Call

Chaplain Tim Engling

Paul Dull – Nursing Home

Ralph Schulenberg – Home

Albert Oleson – Nursing Home

Pete Cerniglia – Home

Dennis Powell – Hospital / Home

Please keep all these members in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to recover from their conditions.

Upcoming Events:

April

04 Lions Club

11 100 Year Anniversary meeting

17 National Charity League

18 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting

30 Model T Club

May

02 Lions Club

09 100 Year Anniversary meeting

16 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting

28 Model T Club

Need to include something in the Newsletter? Email Carol Yttri at carolyttri@gmail.com or call 608-516-5970. Please get information to me before the 1st of the month.

HALL RENTAL: Notice to all members. There is a special rental rate for the use of the building to members. If you would like to inquire about renting the hall, please contact Christie Zanon at americanlegioncp@gmail.com.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT: If you are in need of medical equipment, the Legion has some on hand. Please contact Dennis Heiliger at 608-798-2301. Leave message if no answer and he'll get back to you.

Someone ill or in the hospital? Call Chaplain Tim Engling at 312-371-0034 or e-mail timengling@gmail.com

OFFICERS: POST COMMANDER

Steve Zanon

608-213-9530

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Deb Niebuhr

608-445-6590

S.A.L. COMMANDER

Kevin Boehnen

608-798-2113

Post, Auxiliary & S.A.L meetings Third Thursday of month: Social hour 6pm; Dinner 6:30pm; Meeting 7:30pm
Executive Board Meeting: Third Thursday of the Month 5:30pm.

Website: www.americanlegioncp.org

Commander's Message

Steve Zanon

Greetings American Legion post 245 members and families;

If you missed our March meeting and dinner, you missed a good one. We had delicious corned beef and cabbage cooked up by Doug and Judy Deaton and Debbie Niebuhr. Our guest speaker group was led by Charles Konsitzke of UW Biotechnology and they shared stories of their ongoing efforts to identify the remains of servicemembers missing in action around the world. They have researched battles in certain regions, matched DNA with family members, sifted through earth, and have been instrumental in returning the remains of over 1500 of the over 82,000 MIAs still unaccounted for. These volunteer undergrad students and Charles work tirelessly and it was inspiring to hear the stories, and see these young people find such meaning in their service.

The February Draw down and the March pancake breakfast were both very successful events thanks to many volunteers, and Dave Montag has been opening the downstairs bar on Thursday afternoons from 3:00 until 6:00pm, and this too has been quite a local hit.

We decided at the March Executive meeting that changing to an electronic version only of this newsletter won't occur until June as there are important mailings that have to take place before then. The 245er then will only be available by visiting our website americanlegioncp.org and clicking on the newsletter tab.

We decided to have another Draw Down event this coming November, and keep it annually in the fall as in the past. Bill Statz has graciously volunteered to head this again.

As you will read in Dennis's minutes, we voted to increase annual membership dues to 45 dollars per year in keeping with increases in department and national charges. The portion of your annual dues which trickles to our post is a modest one, and while we hate to see cost increases, we hope your annual dues are a value to sustain this organization and what it stands for.

On the subject of membership, our First Vice Emily Cash is away at a military school currently, and hasn't been able to solicit membership dues payment. As a district we are currently at 95.3%, first place in the state. Dane county has five posts which are at 100%+ already. Our post 245 is at 92.82% with 168 members paid up and only 13 members who need to renew so that we too can be at 100%. Please go on line or mail in your dues.

At the Dane county meeting last week in Marshall, Commander Scott Klassy Gaveled in and at one point introduced Department Vice Commander Jim Johnson who reminded us to continue to be visible in our community by proudly wearing our AL uniform items at public functions, look in on one another from time to time by calling members who may be alone and in need of a buddy check, and the importance of staying relevant in our communities.

I am very much looking forward to the Dane County Government Youth Day to take place at Post 360 in Waunakee on April 18th. This event headed by Shirley Kubiak is a terrific way to show local middle schoolers the role of, and opportunities in County government. Chaperones are Legionnaires, Sons, and Auxiliary who have volunteered. Bill Statz is our point of contact again this year if you are interested in volunteering.

Many of our members and family who winter in southern climates will be returning in April, and it will be nice to reunite at our meeting on April 18th. There will be much to discuss, hope to see you there.

Thanks,
Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Chaplain's message:

Tim Engling

On March 15, 2024, our team combined with the Black Earth post for a combined honor guard at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

Lee Mayrack, our finance officer, is struggling with lung cancer.

Joe Hodgson was in the hospital as a patient instead of a volunteer, and we are thankful for his recovery.

Election of Officers – Gary Itten

Post 245 will hold elections of officers at the April 18th meeting. We will be taking nominations before the election. I understand we are looking for nominations for Commander and Adjutant. Post 245 has always been known to have a full slate of officers, so let's keep that going. If you would like to be nominated for any position contact anyone of the committee members listed below.

Gary Itten, 608-225-4722, gjacondo@gmail.com
Ed Pelowsky, 608-333-4725, edcarol@tds.net
Bill Diebold, 608-225-4917, Vbdiebold@charter.net

Note from Bill Statz:

County Youth Government Day is April 18th. Need Legion chaperones for Glacier Creek and St Francis School. Would meet up with the teacher and students at the school at 8am, ride the bus to and from the event, return at 3pm. Lunch provided. Call Bill Statz: 608-577-4002.

From Joe Hodgson, Post Service Officer:

April meeting, special presentation. John Howell from the Madison Vet Center will be presenting at 7pm. John is the Community Outreach coordinator. He will be advising on all the services available at the Vet Center for veterans and their families, and other veteran agencies they are networked with.

Note from Dan Cady:

Dear Comrades,

Please think about volunteering for one or more of these jobs at the Legion or Volunteer to help and learn what's involved.

- Flag Routes organizer, ordering new poles replacing poles, collecting monies etc.
- Memorial maintenance and updating.
- Helping when available to help load metal, only about 1 hr. at a time.
- Firing Squad for funerals (contact Dick Zwettler 608 798 2338)

- Please bring new Ideas to a meeting.
- Golf Outing workers needed. Also persons to take over golf outing.
- Hall person needed to keep hall repairs done inside and out.

This is your legion let's not let it go by the wayside. Call : Steve Zanon 608 213 9530 . Dan Cady 608 438 2987
Dave Vidlock 608 843 6968.

Please Step up.
Thanks,
Dan Cady

Information for Golf Outing:

Dear Golfers

It's time to sign up for our Annual Golf Outing:

- Get yourself or a group signed up
- Date is June 3rd, 2024. Shotgun Start at 11:00 AM
- Deer Valley Golf Course, Barneveld, WI
- Dinner and Drink Included at American Legion Clubhouse, Cross Plains
- \$ 90.00/Golfer
- Hole Sponsor \$100.00
- Team of 4 and Hole Sponsor \$ 425.00

Send list and money;

Dan Cady

2210 Hickory St. Cross Plains, WI 53528

email: dcady2030@gmail.com

Checks Payable to Cross Plains American Legion

Metal drop off:

If you have metal to recycle, you can drop off at the legion or give Dan Cady a call and we will pick up. 608 438 2987 or 608 798 2352. You can also call Dave Vidlock 608 798 3087 or 608 843 6968.

REGULAR MEETING March 21, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Commander Zanon at 8:00pm.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the executive meeting by Tony, second was Phil and the motion carried,

A motion was made to approve the minutes as printed in the 245er by Dick, second was Warren and the motion carried.

We had two special guests with us tonight, Jerry Hook and Scott Klassy and we thank them for coming.

FINANCE: No report

1st VICE: Currently we have 168 pd and nineteen not paid. Bill made a motion to increase annual dues to \$ 45.00, second was Peanuts and the motion carried. A new post data report must be sent in to comply with the increase and Dennis will take care of that.

2nd VICE: Dave has been staffing the downstairs bar which is open for Happy Hour on Thursdays from 4-6. This has worked out very well and is showing good profits for the bar.

SAL: Kevin went over the finances which are good. He then mentioned the sons were involved with the pancake breakfast, draw down and will be doing the May steak fry. The sons are also involved in supporting the upcoming honor flights. He also mentioned they provide a \$ 500.00 scholarship so if you know of a senior mention to them this is available.

AMERICANISM: Bill reviewed the drawdown which was highly successful. We sold all 250 tickets so the legion, SONS, and the Aux all profited from this event. This year we will have two baseball teams and they need shirts. A motion to give \$ 702.00 for shirts was made by Bill S, seconded by Bill D with the motion carrying. Black Earth has a girls' softball team that plays at Heights and need more players. We discussed helping them out by getting some more players. Yourh government day will be 4/19/2024 this year. A motion to once again support this was made by Bill, seconded by Phil and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve mentioned the legion should have an AED in the hall. We will do some research into costs and what grants are available to help offset the cost of this. A motion to do this was made by Steve seconded by Kelley and the motion passed unanimously. Peanuts mentioned the Molly B concert will be 4/27/2024 and all vets will pay \$5.00 less to get a ticket. FYI this will be the 100th anniversary for Camp American Legion this year. We have been asked to send pics we may have of cabin #5. Dan said the golf outing will be 6/3/2024 this year and he would like more volunteers to help support the outing. Steve mentioned the nominations for officers will

continue until our April meeting. At that time, the nominations will be voted on and the installation of new officer will take place during the May meeting,

GOOD OF THE LEGION: The Molly B concert will be 4/27/2024 and will include our color guard and the flag folding procedure.

KITTY: Winner was Tony Bayer and he donated it to the golf outing
50/50: Winner was Dick Zwettler and he also donated it to the golf outing
BRANDY Winner was Warren Knaub

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.
Respectfully submitted.
Dennis Heiliger, Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Debby Niebuhr

Hello Everyone! The Corned Beef and Cabbage Meal was AWESOME. If you missed it you might want to come next year. Everything was cooked to perfection. Thanks Doug & Judi.

We wish to **THANK EVERYONE** who helped make the Pancake Breakfast such a big success. It was a family affair, with the Post, SAL and Aux working together. And a BIG THANK YOU to all who filled their bellies with the good food. Also want to THANK Chris Shanahan of The Florettes who has generously donated shamrock plants for our March meetings and the Pancake Breakfasts for many year.

The Purple Up bags will be delivered or mailed to our Military children so they receive them by the middle of April (the 15th)

We are still looking for a Vice President and a Secretary. Please consider joining our Officer Team. It really isn't that hard. Supportive, but we all help out and make the jobs easy. I realize those with full-time jobs and families are stretched but those who have recently retired or are close to it, should consider it. The VP position is more observing what the President is doing. Like a trainee.

We still need SALADS donated for the April's Meeting Meal that the Auxiliary is providing. We also need SALADS to be donated for May 23rd's Dane County Mtg that we host yearly.

Our Badger Girls have their 4 delegates for this June's session. We are still collecting pennies for their War game. The last month to donate will be May.

As for the dollar challenge for the Legion's Children Welfare Fund and the quarters for the HOMELESS Wm Vets, those donations will end at our April meeting. I wish to THANK all those who have donated or will be donating. It is much appreciated.

The May Newsletter will be mailed out so you will receive your poppy letter and the donations will start. We will have cannisters in various businesses throughout the community. On Sat., MAY 18th we will have members manning a table at our very own Piggly Wiggly in CP from 9-3. We still have a few slots for Volunteers to sign up, 9-12 & 12-3. We will also have them available at our Memorial Day Celebration.

Our Unit's Scholarship deadline is May 1st. Please contact Sandra Faust.

Membership DUES are the same for 2025. They are \$35/SR (18+) and \$6/jr (0-17).

We have 5 members attending the Dist 3 Spring Conference at the Fennimore Post on April 20th.

The Wm S Middleton VA Hospital in Madison has a new FOOD PANTRY that they'd like US to DONATE to. Suggested items: 42oz quick oats, BOXED Mac n Cheese, Boxed Tuna Helper, Canned soup, beans, fruits and vegetables, Canned Tuna or Chicken, 16oz Peanut Butter, and of course a can opener.

Please join us in making cards for future Badger Honor Flights. The first session will be Wednesday, April 17th at the Legion, (Upstairs) from 5-7pm

OUR VERY OWN "**Peanuts**" aka Rodney Esser will be on the Honor Flight Saturday, **APRIL 6TH**. **Please be at the DANE COUNTY AIRPORT BY 8pm to welcome & honor him.**

We hope to see you at our April 18th General Meeting. The Auxiliary is providing the meal.

Lunch committee: Jane Itten

Deb Wipperfurth, Deb Maier, Susan Hutton, Virginia Diebold. Call Jane if you can't make it. Jane 608 7123133.

Auxiliary Scholarship – Sandra Faust

Scholarships are available on the state level until March 1st. They can be accessed through the state website. If you need help accessing it, let me know. You can apply for the Virginia Faust Scholarship through me at

wbuschma@gmail.com or call 1-6082197644 and ask for me, Sandra Faust. Deadline for the Virginia Faust Scholarship is May 1st.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly Meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on April 18th

Flags

If you need a flag please contact Rod Faust at 608 576 4803.

Ray Faust Scholarship

The Son's Of the American Legion Post 245 annually gives out a scholarship in memory of Ray Faust. Everyone in the surrounding area is eligible to apply for this scholarship. As always we encourage sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters of Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members to apply. If you know any good candidates from the surrounding communities also encourage them to apply.

If you are interested in applying for the Ray Faust SAL Scholarship of \$500.00 please contact Ron Faust at 2129 Caesar St Cross Plains, WI 53528, 608 225 7281 or by e-mail ronaldfaust@reagan.com. We would like all applications turned in by May 1st.

St Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast

Was held on March 17th. Thanks to Steve (Whitey) Hillebrand, Rod Faust, Brad Niebuhr, Scott Niebuhr, Matthew Cash, Scott Lamontagne and Kevin Boehnen for working and making this event successful.

Our Condolences go out to Jim Eller Family

Jim was a member for 35 years in the Son's of The American Legion and passed away on March 5, 2024. His funeral was held on March 14th. He is survived by his wife Peggy and daughter Emily along with many other family members and friends.

Our Condolences go out to Michael O'Brien Family

Mike was a member for 14 years in the Son's of The American Legion and passed away on March 14, 2024. His funeral was held on March 27th. Mike helped out with the Oratorical & Scholarship programs, Flag route for the Legion and collecting metals and recyclables. He is survived by his wife Debra, son Matthew and daughter Lindsey along with many other family members and friends.

SAL Dues

We were at 120 members for the year. We are now at 114 with some of our members passing away. We are always looking for new members if you know anyone who is interested let me know and I can send them an application.

Dues are \$15.00 a year or you can pay \$60.00 for 5 years. If you know of anyone who is interested call me at 608 798 2113 or email me at kabohnen@chorus.net.

Remembering SAL members who have passed away in the last 3 years

As Memorial Day is approaching we remember the following members who has passed way during the last three years:

David McDermott	8 15 2021	Michael Statz	8 22 2021
James Billmeyer	9 7 2021	Gene Stormer	11 6 2021
Bill Walsh	1 2 2022	James Tetzlaff	5 25 2023
Roger Hillebrand	10 8 2023	Robert Dresen	10 9 2023
Jim Eller	3 5 2024	Michael O'Brien	3 14 2024

Newsletter will not be mailed out starting in June 2024

To access the newsletter you will need to go to www.americanlegioncp.org where all the newsletters will be available.