

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

February 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:

February 03 Valley Archers

March 07 Lions Club

08 100 Year Anniversary meeting

14 100 Year Anniversary meeting

10 Draw Down

17 Pancake Breakfast

15 Legion, SAL meeting

21 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting

27 Model T Club

26 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 Legionnaires and families.

There were many issues discussed during our January meeting, please read Dennis's minutes for details.

Among topics discussed in the Executive committee meeting was the growing expense of the printed form of this newsletter. Many are returned to our address and Lee Mayrack explains that we pay for postage in both directions, as well as printing expense which is significant. It was proposed that we change this to either an Email form or have people just find it on our website. It was decided to change to an electronic form of the 245er beginning in May. Of course accepting such a proposal doesn't end the discussion, and your feedback is welcome. We will discuss this further in the March general meeting.

Dave Montag, our Second Vice and Bar manager, has proposed and will begin opening the downstairs bar to Legion family and the public every Thursday from 3:00-6:00pm beginning the first Thursday in March 2024. This will afford more opportunity to get together and make more use of our great facilities. Thank you, Dave.

Gary Itten reminds us that this is a Post election season (every two years). We will accept nominations for officer positions in March, vote candidates in April, and swear them in May. This is an excellent opportunity to change the faces of leadership and share the opportunities of leadership in our post. Ours is a vibrant, high functioning post with a high profile in the community, an engaged membership, and commitment to serving veterans, families, youth, and country. This high functioning comes on the backs of a handful of very dedicated Legion members, Auxiliary, and SAL. Please consider putting your name in for consideration to step up and take a turn serving in one of the many elected positions: Commander, Adjutant, Finance officer, Chaplain, really all offices are fair game, and it speaks only positively of your volunteerism if you ask to be considered even if there is an incumbent.

Bill Statz shares that our sole oratorical contestant for the post has dropped out so it looks like the February Post level contest will not occur.

Two local American Legion Baseball teams are queued- up and ready to play this spring season thanks to Bill's work.

There is to be a presentation in March by a Legionnaire actively involved in the MIA recovery program.

That's all I have for now; remember there isn't a February Meeting, but there is the Draw down dinner Feb 10th.

Thank you,
Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Election for officers

Post 245 will have elections of officers on April 18th. There will be nominations of officers at our March 21st meeting. The installation of the new officers will be held at our May 16th meeting.

The following elective positions are open for nominations: Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, 3rd Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, Service Officer, Historian, Judge Advocate, and 2 Sergeant of Arms. These positions are for 2 years.

If you are interested in any of these positions please attend the March 21st meeting. If you cannot make this meeting and would like to be nominated for any of the positions listed above let me know or any committee members listed below. We would like to see some new faces step up and be an officer.

Chairman: Gary Itten, 608-225-4722, gijacondo@gmail.com
Member: Ed Pelowsky, 608-798-4253, edcarol@tds.net
Member: Bill Diebold, 608-225-4917, vbdiebold@charter.net

Gary Itten, Chairman

Information from Bill Statz

1. Reminder to ticket holders, Draw Down Raffle is Sat, February 10th, Cocktails 5:30, Dinner 6:30, Drawing after Dinner. Hope to see you there. Still need more volunteers to help set up, start at 4pm, and/or take down after event, about 9:30pm. Also, to be recorders, marking off ticket numbers on wall charts, as tickets are drawn. To volunteer, call Bill Statz cell: (608) 577-4002 Good Luck!
2. Oratorical Contest. Our only contestant has withdrawn, so Post 245 will not be represented this year.
3. Mark your calendars for the March 21st monthly Post 245 meeting. We will have a presentation at 7pm by Charles Konsitzke, Team Lead, UW MIA Recovery and Identification Project. The team's primary focus is on our Wisconsin missing, totaling a little over 1500 at the moment. They work in the field to find and identify MIA's, and support the families of the missing. We start our Legion meetings with the MIA/POW Empty Chair ceremony, so it is very fitting that we learn about the mission of this MIA Recovery and Identification Project. Hope to see you all there!
4. American Legion Dane County Youth Government Day is planned for April 18th. This year the Dane County Legion co-chairs are Shirley Kubiak, Post 360 Waunakee, and Bill Statz, Post 245 Cross Plains-Middleton. All 3 of our Post 245 area middle schools have confirmed they will be participating this year. They are Glacier Creek MS, St Francis Xavier School, and Kromrey MS. Calling for volunteers, please. Need Legion chaperone(s) for each school. Also, possible assistance during the day, helping out presenters, passing out box lunches, and picking up, etc. Bus transportation and lunch provided. Questions or to volunteer, call Bill Statz cell: (608) 577-4002 or email: billstatz@tds.net

Message from Doug Deaton:

The Legion is hosting the Draw Down on February 10, 2024. We will need assistance preparing the meal and the clean-up afterwards. For meal prep we are looking for three people to help in the kitchen beginning at 2 pm. For

clean-up we will need 3-5 people beginning at around 7 pm. If you can help please contact Judi or Doug Deaton at 608-370-2269 or e-mail at casliti@gmail.com

We are bringing back the St. Patrick's Day breakfast on March 17, 2024. We need volunteers to cook pancakes, french toast and generally assist in the kitchen. The first shift crew for food prep should arrive by 7:30 am to prep batter and begin cooking pancakes. We will begin serving at 8 am and continue until 12:30 pm. The second shift crew will assist with food prep and clean-up should arrive at 10:00 am and plan to stay until clean-up is finished. If you are willing to help with the pancake breakfast please contact Judi or Doug Deaton at 608-370-2269 or e-mail at casliti@gmail.com. Please indicate what shift you would like to work.

Note from Dan Cady:

Dear Comrades:

Positions Available:

- Flag Crews organizer
- Memorial Maintenance person
- Hall Maintenance individual
- Helpers for Metal recycling
- Honor Guard for Funerals

Call me or any officer if interested; your help is really needed. Email: dcady@c21affiliated.com or phone: (608) 438-2987

Please Nominate Officers for the next year or let us know you would be interested in serving as an officer.
Dan Cady

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 January 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Commander Zanon.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed in the 245r newsletter by Ed, second was Dan and the motion carried.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the executive meeting as read by the Adjutant by Tony, seconded by Joe and the motion carried.

First up was Tyson Hall who volunteered to put together a fund raiser like the COVID survival party. His suggestions would be to have local providers come to the park with a bouncy house, petting zoo, games for kids, food, and drinks. He also mentioned from experience this needs to be planned well in advance of the chosen date as these types of vendors are booked way in advance. He feels sponsors can be found to help support this and would help to acquire them. A motion to do more research on this was made by Gary, second was Dan and the motion carried forward by member vote.

FINANCE: Lee passed out his report and went over the expenses and income for the period. A motion to accept his report pending audit was made by Joe, second was Gary with the motion carrying.

CHAPLIN: Tim mentioned there will be a funeral at the legion tomorrow for Jim Lund.

2nd VICE: Dave Montag will be opening the downstairs bar on Thursdays from 3-6 pm. There will be a sign outside the building by the side door as this will be the access to the bar.

3rd VICE: Dan mentioned he is looking into buying an engraver for the legion to do our own engraving and perhaps for other posts also.

AMERICANISM: Bill has scheduled our oratorical contestant to come to our post and give us an example of what they will do. It will be either Jan 27th or Feb 3rd. We would like to have some members present to observe. The contestant will receive \$ 100.00 from the post, \$200.00 from the county and then more if they progress to the state and national level. He also said we will be having two baseball teams this year but no girls' softball team yet. Baseball starts in June. Also do not forget the drawdown will be 2/10/2024.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH: A reminder that the youth government day will be in April and Bill will organize things for it again this year. It was a great event last year.

NEW BUSINESS: Pat mentioned there will be a funeral with firing squad tomorrow for Jim Lund. Steve went through all the thank you cards from the fruit basket and poinsettias delivered at Christmas.

GOOD OF THE LEGION: Gary mentioned this is an election year again. Nominations are due in for the March meeting, voting will be held during the April meeting and officer installation will be at the May meeting. We

encourage nominations for all positions, and they are for a 2-year term. Dan made a motion to donate \$100.00 to the Gerry Hook campaign fund, seconded by Joe and the motion passed unanimously.

KITTY: NO WINNER
50/50: Bill Statz for \$ 6.00
BRANDY: Rodney Faust

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm
Respectfully submitted.
Dennis Heiliger, Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Debby Niebuhr

Hello everyone. Hope you are staying warm with all this crazy weather.

It's time for those seeking Scholarships to check out this website for our National and State opportunities. www.amlegionauxwi.org/scholarships It looks like the deadlines are March 1st. Our Legion Family offers Scholarships as well. The Auxiliary contact is Sandra Faust. Her email address is wbuschma@gmail.com and I believe the deadline for this one is May 1st.

We have started working on our Purple Up Project. Lorie Ballweg is heading this up. If you wish to make monetary donations or pick up items, let us know. Our goal is to cover the schools in the Middleton Cross Plains Area, which includes SFX. We will be giving the Purple-Up bags to children 8th grade and younger. **We also have Legion members** children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and even some nieces and nephews on our list and will be mailing their goodies directly to them if they are not in our school district. So, if you have a child that has a parent(s) serving our country as an active military person, (this includes the National Guards), please give us their names, ages, and address. You can email me at dniebuhr@chorus.net or call/text me at (608)445-6590. We need this information by the end of February, so we can collect the items during the month of March and get them delivered by the first part of April as we want them to have their items before April 15th.

At our March meeting I would like to address our Standing Rules as I believe there are necessary changes to be made. We will also be looking for volunteers to provide salads for our April's meeting's meal. Just a heads up, we will be looking for donations of salads and desserts for the May Dane County meeting our Post hosts on the 4th Thursday of May. (May 23, 2024).

SAVE THESE DATES: February 10th for the DRAW DOWN. MARCH 17th for the Pancake Breakfast, which we will be needing volunteers to work this fundraiser and help make it a BIG SUCCESS. And if you wish to attend the District 3 Spring Conference at the Fennimore Post (April 20th), we need to get you registered.

We are collecting pennies for our Badger Girl State delegates for their Penny War in June. At the 3rd Dist. Spring Conference we will be turning in the quarters collected for the Homeless Women Vets as well as the dollars collected to help us with our challenge of collecting one dollar per member for the Legion's Children Welfare fund.

Valentines for Vets was a last minute project in January. Flo Bayer brought 200 valentines to the St. Francis Xavier school kids. They filled them out with a note and our Unit sent them to the Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs (WDVA). The WDVA will distribute them to veterans, spouses & Gold Star families living at the Wisconsin Veterans Homes in Chippewa Falls, King, and Union Grove. From a press release asking for the valentines "It's a fun way to bring joy to their day and let them know we appreciate their service to our country."

THERE IS NO MEETING IN FEB. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR MARCH MEETING. Corned Beef and Cabbage is on the Menu in honor of St. Patrick's Day. (Meeting date: March 21st)

Lunch committee: Jane Itten
No meeting in February.

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 February 15th

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.

24th Annual Draw Down Raffle

Will be held on February 10th Cocktails at 5:30 with Dinner at 6:30. If you need tickets they are \$50.00 you can contact Kim Statz, Rod Faust or Bill Statz.

The SAL will be running the envelope game at this event. Rodney Faust and myself will be handling the envelope game.

Bill Statz has informed me that he is looking for volunteers to work this event. How can you help he is looking for volunteers to mark off tickets as they are drawn (6 to 8 volunteers) and bartenders (2 volunteers). If you can help contact Bill Statz 608 577 4002 or by email at billstatz@tds.net.

Doug Deaton is looking for people to help prep food (3 volunteers) at 2:00 PM along with kitchen clean up (3 to 5 volunteers around 7:00 PM. If you can help contact Judi or Doug at 608 370 2269 or by email at casliti@gmail.com.

St Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast

Will be held on March 17th. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. There are two shifts for working this event:

- 7:30 AM 10:30 AM Need people to make Pancakes and French Toast in the kitchen. Along with people to serve the food, wash dishes, cleaning tables and serving coffee
- 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM Need people to make Pancakes and French Toast in the kitchen. Along with people to serve the food, wash dishes, cleaning tables, serving coffee and clean up

In the past the SAL has played a big role in helping in the kitchen. If you can help contact Judi or Doug at 608 370 2269 or by email at casliti@gmail.com.

SAL Dues

We are still at 120 members as of the end of January. 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.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024
8:00 A.M.–12:30



AT

CROSS PLAINS AMERICAN LEGION POST 245
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES! IN ADDITION WE WILL BE SERVING FRENCH
 TOAST, LINK SAUSAGE & HAM, WITH MILK, JUICE OR COFFEE

\$10.00 PER ADULT, \$5.00 PER CHILD (6 TO 12)

UNDER 6 FREE