

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

**CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION**

**Kerl-Endres-Brannan**

**Post 245**

**January 2021**

**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.

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**Post 245 Sick Call**

**Chaplain Pat Andreoni**

Paul Dull – Nursing Home

Herbert Niebuhr - Home

Sam Dalio – Waunakee Nursing Home

Tom Foseid – Home

Albert Oleson – Nursing Home

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

I hope everyone will keep Eugene (Geno) Schmitz, John W. Dahlk and their families in your prayers as we lost two good members since the last newsletter.

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**Upcoming Events:**

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Need to include something in the Newsletter? Please email Carol Yttri at [cyttri@amfam.com](mailto:cyttri@amfam.com) or call 798-4950.

HALL RENTAL: Notice to all members. There is a special rental rate for the use of the building to members. Contact Pat Andreoni at 798-3844 or email at [jpandreo@aol.com](mailto:jpandreo@aol.com)

Someone ill or in the hospital? Call Pat Andreoni at 798-3844 or e-mail [jpandreo@aol.com](mailto:jpandreo@aol.com)

OFFICERS: POST COMMANDER

Gary Itten

608-225-4722

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Karen Runk

608-415-2001

S.A.L. COMMANDER

Kevin Boehnen

608-798-2113

Post, Auxiliary and S.A.L meetings: Dinner 6:30pm; Meetings 7:30pm; Third Thursday of Month

Executive Board Meeting: Third Thursday of the Month 5:15pm.

**Website: [www.americanlegioncp.org](http://www.americanlegioncp.org)**

### **Commander's Message**

**Gary Itten**

I hope everyone had a Happy Holidays and celebrated with their families in a safe manner. Now that 2020 is behind us, I hope we can start to get back to normal soon.

I am still looking for someone to be in charge of the hospital rehab equipment. Also, looking for someone to clear the sidewalks of snow at the legion hall. We just purchased a new snowblower and it works great. There are a couple of members that would be willing to help this person with this. Just give me a call and as Dan Cady would say "don't be bashful".

Remember members to get your 2021 dues in (\$40.00). Also, there are still some members that haven't paid for 2020. Please send your dues to Bill Statz, 7780 Martinsville Rd., Cross Plains, WI 53528. Let's keep Post 245 and the American Legion strong.

There will be no regular or Executive Board meeting this month.

Stay Safe and Healthy

Gary Itten, Commander, Post 245

### **Note from Dan Cady:**

Dear Legionnaires:

Happy 2021 - please stay healthy. We need more volunteers to put their name on the list for The honor guard for funerals, we understand you may not be able to make all but the ones you can would be appreciated, most of us are 70 and over. This past year we have lost some from passing and others from not physically being able. Please contact Dick Zwettler if you are willing 798 2338.

Also needed is someone to chair hospital equipment, to keep room organized, you don't have to always be available to hand out equipment as there are quite a few of us that can meet people to accept and hand out equipment. Rodney (Peanuts) Esser will still be your assistant. Please get in touch with Gary Itten or myself and we can show you the ins and outs.

Thank you,  
Dan

### **Community Caring Tree:**

2020 has been a year most of us won't forget! In the midst of it all you supported the Cross Plains Caring Tree and community Chest.

This year 16 names were submitted for a total of 44 people in our village who were in need of assistance.

Since no Christmas Party could be held a different form of begging for monetary donations was done through the newsletter. It worked!! Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause. The recipients are so very thankful.

Barb Schutz, Coordinator of Caring Tree

### **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 December 17, 2020

The meeting started at 6:30 with an introduction of Emory Engling who was there to deliver his speech that will be presented at the county meeting in Jan. Emory is the post 245 contestant in the American Legion oratorical competition.

Joe made a motion to send \$100.00 to help the county replenish their funds after donating \$500.00 to the pilot who crashed and died in the F16 incident. Ed was the second to that motion and it passed by vote.

Pat then made a motion for the Legion to send \$100.00 directly to the family to help them out, second was Dan and the motion passed by vote.

A motion was made to send Carol Yttri a gift card for \$100.00 for all the work she has been putting in doing the 245er newsletter all these years. Second was from Dave and the motion passed by vote. Joe then suggested we do the same for Tom Foseid with Dave the second and the motion passed by vote.

Dan made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to Badger camp with Dave as the second and the motion passed by vote.

Dan then made a motion that the Legion pay annual dues for members 90 years old or more. Second was Ed and the motion passed. Along with this motion it was decided that any member 85-90 years old who may be having difficulty paying his dues will be reviewed by membership for the possibility of the legion paying his dues for that year. These will be reviewed on an individual basis. The legion will be paying these around Veterans day.

Dave brought us up to date on the metal recycling program. So far, we have taken in over 131,000 lbs. for recycling. Pricing has been up and down all year. He also sends out a thank you to all members who help load the metal and all who drop off the metal for us to take in.

Gary purchased a new snow blower for the legion since our old was bad and we recycled it. We now need some members who can come over to the legion and use the blower when it snows. Please contact Gary if you can help.

Pat mentioned he has spoken to 13 people who are interested in hall rentals for next year. We will have to wait to confirm them and see how the COVID situation plays out.

Bill brought us up to date on membership, at this time we have 175 members paid.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dan, second was Ed and the motion passed at 7:56p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Dennis Heiliger, Adjutant

### Auxiliary Newsletter

**President Karen Runk**

Welcome to the NEW year!! 2021 is going to be filled with new opportunities, there's so many new and different needs in the veteran communities. Active duty military is operating under new and different circumstances. Many active duty families are trying to make ends meet as they are impacted by civilian unemployment. It takes two incomes to meet their needs, especially the younger enlisted military. Aging Veterans are facing isolation during this COVID19 season. 2021 will be a year of recovery and renewal.

It is time to start thinking about scholarships and Badger Girls State. Very important that we get the word out for unit, department and national scholarships. We have members who went from Junior to Senior membership that are eligible for that National scholarship and there are so many more to claim. Please go to the ALA

websites (department & national) to learn more. Badger Girls State candidates and alternates are out there, encourage them to apply!

#### *COVID Mask Project Complete*

Over \$600 was raised during the mask project!! Mary Jones and Cindy Hansen put their sewing skills to work and many of us donated materials for this project. We collectively worked this project for the benefit of one farming family in the Cross Plains area. We distributed the check on December 21<sup>st</sup>, just in time for Christmas. The family selected by the Wisconsin Heights FFA director was very surprised and pleased to accept this gift. To all those involved... well done. Mary is still sewing masks made to order, so if you're still looking for masks, contact Mary Jones.

#### *Unit 245 assists Family of 115<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Captain*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> district American Legion Family is collecting donations for the family of Captain Durwood "Hawk" Jones, who was lost when his aircraft crashed in early December 2020. Captain Jones was a pilot & leader with the 115<sup>th</sup> FW, the same FW that we have supported during their 2019 deployment to Afghanistan with care packages and welcomed home in November of 2019. Our Unit donated the 3<sup>rd</sup> district suggested \$100 this past December. If you are interested in making a personal donation, please contact me for further information.

#### *Tomah VA cries STOP*

Y'all have done a terrific job in writing to our veterans at the Tomah VA. I'm so very proud to tell y'all that the Tomah VA center has been overwhelmed with cards and letters!! They are actually raising their flags and saying no more! Nicely done y'all!

#### *Still Clipp'n those Coupons*

The same coupon collection basket is now at Ann Eicher's house (2004 Julius Street)!! Please separate product coupons into food and non-food, and seal them in a plastic bag to keep them dry. Coupons can be expired up to 6 months. No store coupons can be sent. My plan is to mail them in March 2021.

*Unit 245 WON...Our Unit has won a \$100 membership award!! Yes! We have finally won a drawing!! We were eligible for the National \$100 by having 100% paid 2021 membership by November 10<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations for winning and participating in early payment of dues!! There are more Department drawings, so maybe we will get another \$100. Thanks to all of you for your commitment to each other!! Well done.*

#### JANUARY EVENTS & REMINDERS

##### **NO ALA UNIT 245 or DANE COUNTY MEETINGS**

##### **MID WINTER @ HO-CHUNK: Postponed until May 2021**

**REMINDER1:** Submit your 2020 volunteer hours, dollars and miles to Kate Walsh-Bratton!

#### Auxiliary scholarship:

We are proud to offer a scholarship for 2021 that is newly named the Ginny Faust Scholarship for the Auxiliary Unit 245 in Cross Plains. To request a scholarship application, please contact Sandra Faust at [wbushma@gmail.com](mailto:wbushma@gmail.com) or you can call or text 608-219-7644. All scholarship applications need to be received by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. You can also send information to Sandra Faust, 1613 Main St, Cross Plains, WI 53528.

#### Eligibility requirements are:

The recipient must be a son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, grandchild or step-grandchild, niece or nephew of a member of the Kerl-Endres-Brannan Unit 245 American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin. The applicant must be a senior in high school or homeschooled with a 3.0 (or higher) grade point average (G.P.A.) on a 4.0 G.P.A. base.

#### **Son's of The American Legion**

No Report this month.

**Kevin Boehnen**