

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

January 2022

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 Pat Andreoni

Paul Dull – Nursing Home John Hill – Home Sam Daleo – Waunakee Nursing Home
Ralph Schulenberg – Home Albert Oleson – Nursing Home

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

Upcoming Events:

January	06 Lions Club	February	03 Lions Club
	09 Eicher Family		05 Valley Archers
	15 Thorton Family		17 Legion, SAL Mtg
	20 Legion, SAL Mtg		22 Model T Club
	25 Model T Club		
	29 Private Event		

Need to include something in the Newsletter? Email Carol Yttri at carolyttri@gmail.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

Someone ill or in the hospital? Call Pat Andreoni at 798-3844 or e-mail 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 5:30pm.

Website: www.americanlegioncp.org

Commander's Message

Gary Itten

I hope everyone had a great holiday and are staying warm, safe and healthy.

I would like to congratulate Terry Fearn on his retirement after 8 years of volunteering at the Wm S. Middleton Veterans Hospital in Madison. Terry accumulated over 2200 hours over the years assisting inpatients as an escort. He was one of four members of Post 245 to volunteer at the VA Hospital.

I want to thank Barb Schutz and Sheila Schultz for coordinating fruit baskets and poinsettia deliveries. Also, I want to thank Whitey Hillenbrand and his crew for the great breakfast at the legion hall and to all the people that braved the weather to deliver the fruit baskets and poinsettias.

Please pay your dues (\$40.00) to Emily Cash, 7780 Martinsville Rd. Cross Plains WI 53528. I want to thank the members that have paid their dues for 2022, but Post 245 is at 79% and we are one of the lowest in Dane County, with a lot of post's closing in at 100%. So, please pay your dues ASAP. Also, if you have paid your dues after Oct. 14th, you will likely receive a renewal notice from the national headquarters, please ignore the notice.

Sunday, Feb 2nd, will mark the 77th anniversary of the sinking of the United States Army Transport Dorchester and the selfless acts of four Army chaplains aboard the Dorchester tragically sunk on Feb. 3rd, 1943, while crossing the North Atlantic, transporting troops to an American base in Greenland. A German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck the Dorchester, killing 672 of the 902, officers and enlisted men, merchant seamen and civilian workers aboard. Many of those survivors owe their lives to the courage and leadership exhibited by four chaplains of different faiths, who, in sacrificing their lives, created a unique legacy of brotherhood.

As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, Reverend George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Reverend Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic) comforted the wounded and directed others to safety. One survivor watched the chaplains distribute life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men.

As the Dorchester sank, the Chaplains were seen linked arm in arm, praying.

There will be a meeting Jan. 20th, 2022. The Executive board will meet at 5:30 pm, pizza at 6:30 and regular meeting at 7:30

Please stay safe and healthy and get vaccinated.
Gary Itten, Commander, Post 245

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.

Community Caring Tree and Fruit Basket Delivery:

Thank you for supporting the CP Caring Tree. A total of \$420 was donated at the November Meeting and the December Christmas Party. Also a big Thank You to those who mailed a donation.

Monetary funds were given to the 28 Names submitted for a total of 61 people in our Village who were in need of assistance. All of them are so thankful and appreciative.

On December 11th, 59 Fruit Baskets and 15 Poinsettia Plants (to 9 Facilities) were delivered. Thank you so much for supporting this Worthwhile Cause.

Barb Schutz Co-ordinator of Caring Tree &
Sheila Schultz Tech Guru & Delivery Organizer

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Karen Runk

Happy New Year!! Woo hoo, a brand new year! 2022 brings Unit 245 to our 95th year of service to veterans and their families!! Our charter members started the business of Unit 245 in the fall of 1927, and was chartered by March of 1928. Imagine what the charter members would see what our Unit members doing in 2022? My how we have changed and yet remained the same in purpose and mission! Mixing tradition with evolution is challenging as your President, but worth the effort when you see what we have accomplished and the impact on veterans and their family. Speaking of impact, here are the updates from our recent efforts and team work.

Valor on Washington - IMPACT

On December 1st we assembled 14 laundry baskets of home essentials for veteran families moving into Valor on Washington. DryHootch was present to transport the baskets to Valor, and have distributed the baskets to Valor veterans. Great big thanks to those who shopped, donated, or assembled these baskets!! We have a great team, your generosity overwhelms me!! So proud of our Unit AND our 245 Commander!! Thank you Gary for your continued encouragement and active participation.

A Valor veteran wrote a thank you card to us for the “Welcome Home Basket” received. It is a wonderful note that I will share with you when we meet in person. DryHootch has thanked us many times on email and called to express gratitude again, expressing how Valor veterans are very thankful. Well done ya’ll, well done!

Our impact went beyond essentials. You see, our project called attention to the fact that Valor property management wasn’t fulfilling the commitment of 90% veteran occupancy!! So now, DryHootch is addressing this issue with the property owner to rectify this gross oversight! Y’all... if we weren’t working our project, Valor management would have continued to turn veterans away from housing meant for veterans!!

www.dryhootch.org

Cookies for 115th Fighter Wing

Once again, Unit 245 has gone above and beyond!! I had originally estimated 20 dozen cookies from Unit 245. Silly me... ya’ll baked & contributed 39 dozen cookies for the Fighter Wing family Holiday Party. 11 of 14 Dane County Units combined efforts that produced over 120 dozen cookies!! There were so many cookies that we called in the Wisconsin Army Guards to split the sugar goodness between the Army and Air Guards of WI. Just think, all the WI Guard’s children enjoyed home baked cookies and milk before visiting with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Ya’ll brought a little happiness to children who will miss a parent over the most magical time of the year!

Auxiliary Preps to Fulfill Wisconsin VA Wish List - Update

Okay, we have a pattern from Iron Mountain for a bag that will most likely work for most walkers/wheelchairs. There is a specific material that works best, so we will work to purchase materials before the end of January. If you are interested in sewing some bags, please contact me or Mary Jones for more info. Remember, we are working this project during our break between meetings. So look for updates in your emails or contact me on the phone if you’re interested in doing this project. We may decide to make bags for local veterans too.

Auxiliary March Madness

When we meet in March, we will have to finalize the plan for our Purple Up Day! Project; complete our Impact Report; prep for Scholarships & Badger Girls State and hold officer elections!! Yes, we will have new blood in the Unit President and Vice President offices. This is a good thing, new leadership will bring new perspectives and energy to our team!! The Unit Impact Report is essential in gaining more strength and leverage in Washington DC, resulting in more benefits for our veterans. PLEASE, submit your hours, donations and miles to me at kmrunk4@gmail.com. **IMPACT, it’s what we do together to change the lives of veterans and their families.**

JANUARY – FEBRUARY EVENTS & REMINDERS

JANUARY 15TH – MID-WINTER @ HO-CHUNK 8AM REGISTRATION

JANUARY 20TH – NO UNIT 245 MEETING

JANUARY 27TH – NO DANE COUNTY AUX MEETING

FEBRUARY 3RD – FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

FEBRUARY 5TH – DANE COUNTY HOLIDAY PARTY 11AM @VERONA POST 285

Membership Chair message: Debby Niebuhr

No meeting for the Auxiliary in January and February. Next Lunch Committee: March 17, 2021. Jane Itten will be the new Lunch Committee Chair so please help her out when she calls.

Thanks,
Debby Niebuhr

Auxiliary Scholarship

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 245 is offering the Ginny Faust Scholarship to be presented on Memorial Day. Applicants can find info about how to apply by contacting Sandra Faust at wbuschma@gmail or calling 608-219-7644. These scholarships are due by May 1st, 2022.

Other scholarship opportunities are available through the state by looking at this website <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/scholarships>. These scholarships are due April 1st, 2022. I am happy to answer any questions, Sandra.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly Meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on January 20th

Holiday Wishes

We hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We thank everyone for their work in serving our Veteran's, our Post and our community. We look forward to 2022 and making it a very prosperous year.

Flags

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

Thank you to those who helped deliver Fruit Baskets

This event was successful because of the volunteers distributing baskets. Thank you to Tom Hellickson, Noel Sarbacker and Rock Sarbacker who helped with the delivery. Special thank you to Mike Diebold, Paul Lochner, Tim Hillebrand, Ed Zander and Steve Hillebrand who prepared and served breakfast before the event.

SAL Dues

Officially we are at 115 members as of the end of December. We still have 3 members who decided not to renew their dues. We are always looking for new members if you know anyone who is interested. If you have not paid your dues please double check your records and get them to me.

Send your dues to:

Kevin Boehnen
Attn SAL Dues
3123 Melody Pkwy Cross Plains WI 53528