

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

**CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION**

**Kerl-Endres-Brannan**

**Post 245**

**July 2025**

**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 Tim Engling**

Paul Dull – Nursing Home

Ralph Schulenberg – Home

Albert Oleson – Nursing Home

Dennis Jones – Home

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

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**Upcoming Events**

**July**

03 Lions Club

14 Iron Horse Cornet Band (7pm)

17 Legion, SAL meeting

20 Open House b-day party for

Dan Cady, Bill Seaman, Mike Schutz

29 Model T Club

**August**

01 Optimist Euchre Night

07 Lions Club

11 Lions Stuff the Bus

21 Legion, Auxiliary, SAL meeting

26 Model T Club

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Need to include something in the Newsletter? Email Carol Yttri at [carolyttri@gmail.com](mailto:carolyttri@gmail.com) or call 608-516-5970. Please get information to me before the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Debby Niebuhr at [americanlegioncp@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegioncp@gmail.com) or 608-445-6590.

**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](mailto:timengling@gmail.com)

**OFFICERS:** POST COMMANDER  
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT  
S.A.L. COMMANDER

Steve Zanon 608-213-9530  
Flo Bayer 608-444-8199  
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](http://www.americanlegioncp.org)**

## **Commander's Message**

**Steve Zanon**

Greetings Post 245 members and family.

We had a great dinner and meeting in June. If you weren't there you missed Doug Deaton's fallin-off-the-bone ribs along with salads and some fine homemade bakery desserts by our Auxiliary. Phil Villejos and Ed Pelowski were in the kitchen as well. Thank you all.

We had a guest speaker, Mr Bernie Raynor spoke to us about installing solar energy panels on private households. If you would like to contact Bernie, 608 622-0290 or email [bernie.raynor@blueravensolar.com](mailto:bernie.raynor@blueravensolar.com).

It was nice to see there were two new faces with us in June; Tammy Rutlege attended, as did Richard Weigel who transferred into our post.

During the Legion meeting itself, committees reported including Dave Vidlock's report that we have hauled and recycled approximately 22,500 lbs of metal so far this year.

Bill Statz reported on Americanism committee, and we are reminded that Bill is stepping away from the many programs he has headed. We will soon be in desperate need of persons to coordinate our sponsorships of Badger Boy's state, American Legion Baseball, as well as County Government Day, and our annual Draw down event. All of these very important programs offer great opportunities for local youth, while also providing Legion visibility to the community. This problem is not unique to our post; at county meetings persons report that the lion's share of Legion work is carried out by a few motivated members like Bill, who after a time must devote more of their time to their wellness and families, and a little less to volunteerism.

It is refreshing to see members show up for meetings and visit. When some of these members are younger and involved, it inspires the idea that the important work we do will carry on after the Vietnam era veterans are no longer able to carry such load. Please if you are a member, and have a little time, show up for the meetings on the third Thursday of the month, have a drink and some food, visit, and attend the meeting. If you are still inclined to serve other veterans, consider raising your hand when asked to volunteer.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> I attended the Dane county meeting, and among other committee reports, Chris Ogden reported that in May, there was a working party to paint and freshen up Cabin 5 at Camp American legion in northern Wisconsin, and the camp celebrated 100 years of service to veterans in June. This is a terrific benefit for veterans and families, and staying there is free, and is available for the asking. Please go to [wilegion.org](http://wilegion.org).

July will be a busy month. The Iron Horse Coronet Band will be performing in our shelter on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00-8:30 pm. Our meeting will be on the 17<sup>th</sup>, but I understand the Auxiliary will not be meeting. I won't be attending either as I will be otherwise occupied, Gary Itten has graciously agreed to head the July meeting which will feature PJ's Pizza. Department convention will take place in Green Bay on the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup> and we have some delegates attending.

Thanks for reading,

See you soon,

Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

## **Chaplain's message:**

**Tim Engling**

On June 5, 2025, the Post provided an honor guard to support the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Post member Steve Dodge, who passed away on May 31, 2025 at Waunakee Valley Senior Living. Steve served in the Air Force Guard for many years.

## **Thank you note from Doug Deaton:**

Thanks to Judi Deaton, Deb Niebuhr, Ed Pelowsky and Phil Villejos for helping with set up and food prep for the June meeting meal.

**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 June 19, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Commander Zanon.

A motion was made by Dan Cady and seconded by Mike Schutz to accept the minutes of the May 15th meeting as printed in the 245er, motion carried.

A motion by Dennis Heiliger and seconded by Joe Hodgson to accept the minutes of the May 15 Executive board meeting as read by the Adjutant; motion carried.

Richard Weigel was introduced, he was transferred into our post from 2930, and Tammy Rutlin was introduced as a guest.

Finance: Finance report was handed out, Joe H. made a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Emily Cash to accept the finance report subject to audit, motion carried.

Chaplain: Tim reported we have done 3 funerals and that Joanne Dodge and Romie Ripp are in nursing homes.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Emily reported she signed up Shane Knickmeier as a new member and that we are at 91% for the year 2025. She will start collecting dues for 2026 July 1<sup>st</sup>, you can send your dues to Emily Cash, 7780 Martinsville Rd., Cross Plains, WI 53528.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: No report

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice: Dave reported we have recycled 22,500 lbs of metal so far this year and it is down from the last few years.

SAL: Kevin reported he completed his CPR and they donated \$ 2,600.00 and 964 Community Service Volunteer hours. They presented the Ray Faust Scholarship Memorial Day and was at the Honor Flight welcome home ceremony May 10<sup>th</sup>. Some of their members are helping with the recycling program and doing a flag route.

Americanism: Bill Statz reported that Badger Boys State wrapped up June 13<sup>th</sup>. National Night Out in Middleton is Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>. Good Neighbor Festival is coming up and Legion Baseball is starting, need a legion member to coordinator with them next year. They will be playing games at Baer Park and Middleton High School. Looking for a chairman for the Draw Down, Bill has all the information to run this great fundraiser.

Children and Youth: No report

Athletic: No Report

Community Service: Dave gave his report during 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice report.

Post Service Officer: Joe reported he received letters from Badger Boys State representatives which he will take to 3<sup>rd</sup> District and then to the VA Hospital. Fall Badger Honer Flights are Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, and Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>. Joe will be playing taps for the DAR June 28<sup>th</sup> at Forrest Hills Cemetery.

Public Relations: No report

Old Business: No old business

New Business and Correspondence: Commander Zanon made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Cross Plains Stingray swim team. Dan Cady 2<sup>nd</sup>, after discussion, motion carried. Middleton Chamber of Commerce 15-year membership certificate was presented to Dan Cady. Delegates for State Convention will be Joe Hodgson, Emily Cash and Bill Herriges. Commander Zanon read thank you notes from Park School, Scholarship winners, and from families of deceased veterans the firing squad did Military Honors at their funerals.

Dan Cady is looking into getting some more flag poles for flag routes, went up in cost to \$103.00 a piece. Joe mentioned the Iron Horse band will be playing in the legion park July 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM. Dan C. will be ordering clothing tomorrow.

Emily made a motion and Phil 2<sup>nd</sup> to buy a pop-up tent for \$380.00, motion carried.

Kitty: No winner

50/50: Phil V. \$8.00

Brandy: Dave V., donated it back

Commander Zanon adjourned the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Itten, Adjutant

### **Auxiliary Newsletter**

Hello 245'ers,

### **President Flo Bayer**

Summer is in full swing with all sorts of crazy hot and wet weather. The 4th of July, also known as [Independence Day](#), commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This document declared the 13 American colonies free from British rule, marking the birth of the United States as an independent nation. The 4th of July celebrates the founding of the United States and its ideals of freedom, democracy, and self-governance. It's a day for us to reflect on our nation's history, celebrate its values, and enjoy festivities like parades, fireworks, barbecues and of course family.

**Iron Horse Cornet Band** – Join us at our Legion Park July 14<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30pm to hear awesome patriotic live music! Auxiliary member Carol Yttri is in the band. Bring your own chair.

Check out the Auxiliary Department newsletter. <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/unit-mailings> It has this year's essay, many scholarship winners and much more.

A few housekeeping items. 1) Debby tells me that we have dishes in the kitchen that need to be picked up. Even a crockpot lid for the person who ended up with a black lid by mistake (we think). 2) We are taking orders for our shirts with our Auxiliary Unit 245 branding. Refer to my email to all members. Please let me know if you need it sent to you again or if you have any questions. 3) We don't meet in July but will still stay active supporting others the best way you know how.

### **Membership – Debby Niebuhr**

We are collecting the 2026 Auxiliary dues, Senior (18+) \$35. and Juniors (0-17) \$6.00. You can make checks payable to " WI Unit 245 " and mail it to me: Debby Niebuhr PO BOX 3 Cross Plains, WI 53528. We would like to have everyone's dues in by the end of July. If you prefer to pay with your credit card, I will be emailing everyone to let them know when they will be opening up the phone lines/website so we can use our credit cards. It should be mid-July. Thanking you in advance for your help with getting our Unit's dues in by the end of July.

Attention POST members, If you wish to pay your dues (\$ 45. payable to WI POST 245) you can send them to Emily Cash at her address: 7780 Martinsville Rd. Cross Plains, WI 53528

**Lunch Committee August 21st** – ALL desserts for August meeting. Arlene Dahmen, Julie Dahmen, Mary Dahmen, Monia Gulesserian, Cookie (Lois) Conroy. If you can't make it call or email Jane 608-7123133. [gijacondo@gmail.com](mailto:gijacondo@gmail.com) Please feel free to leave a message.

Join me in praying for peace for our world and especially for our troops and families.

*The cry for peace “demands responsibility and reason and must not be drowned out by the roar of weapons or by rhetorical words that incite conflict.” “War does not solve problems, On the contrary, it amplifies them and causes deep wounds in the history of peoples—wounds that take generations to heal. No military victory can ever compensate for a mother's pain, a child's fear, or a stolen future.” -Pope Leo XIV*

**Sons of The American Legion**

No Report this month.

**Kevin Boehnen**

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## **Celebrating 80<sup>th</sup> Birthdays**



*Dan Cady, Bill Saeman, Mike Schutz*

### **Open House**

**Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 1 PM – 5 PM**

**Cross Plains American Legion Hall**

**2217 American Legion Dr.**

*We would love to have you join us.*

***NO Gifts Please.***

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