

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

**CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION**

**Kerl-Endres-Brannan**

**Post 245**

**May 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  
Dennis Jones – Home

Ralph Schulenberg – Home  
Steve Dodge – Home

Albert Oleson – Nursing 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**

**May**

01 Lions Club  
15 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting  
22 Legion, Aux Dane Cty meeting  
27 Model T Club

**June**

06 Lions Club  
19 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting  
24 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**

Hi everyone and welcome to May!

Lots going on recently so let's get to it. If you have been by the post recently, you have probably noticed the new and striking red, white and blue playground equipment. This past week volunteers filled the slide landing zone in with around a foot of mulch, and topped off the areas around the swings and the merry go round. The place really looks nice thanks in large part to Gary Itten and the playground committee, and Kevin Boehnen, and Whitey (who can drive most anything) Hillebrand.

We had a guest speaker at our April meeting. Steven Rose of the Fisher house did a nice presentation on the proposed Fisher house to be erected in Middleton. This house serves the needs of veteran's family members while the veteran is in the VA hospital.

Bill Statz gave report on the recent Dane County Government Day which was a huge success. This was the 56<sup>th</sup> annual and showed 107 local students the workings of county government. Bill worked tirelessly coordinating transportation and tours for these kids, and we in the American Legion owe him a huge thanks for keeping us visible and relevant in the community.

Our AL County meeting was this week in Waunakee, and some interesting topics were brought up. There is American Legion Dane County website: [WI-dcc.org](http://WI-dcc.org) which has some helpful links to help us stay current on local events.

It was pointed out that our post membership at 86.1% is far behind where we should be this month. Many posts are at 100%, a distinction our post has held for the past two years, and one we are proud of. Six of our members have died in the past year, and it is difficult to recruit new members, but the list of active members who have not yet paid is around 25 members. Emily Cash, our First Vice, actively works this list to remind members to pay their 45.00 for the year, but Emily also is a Mom, an Army Reservist, and a full-time employee. Please cut Emily a break: Mail her a check or renew online.

Our next meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> is fast approaching. The Sons of the American legion will be doing steaks on the grill! This always means a good turnout and a fun summer kick off.

Post 245 will host the County meeting on May 22, and our Auxiliary has graciously volunteered to make dinner for the group. All members are invited of course, and can be a good opportunity to visit with other members from local posts around the county.

Memorial Day fast approaches, and starts off early Monday May 26 with what might be a light breakfast of Doughnuts and coffee at the hall, our tour of local cemeteries for rifle salutes, parade march, prayers and speeches in our park, and sandwiches and beverages in the shelter. Should be fun and memorable. Hope to see you soon.

Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

## **Chaplain's message:**

**Tim Engling**

On April 26, 2025, the Post provided an honor guard to support the Service of Thanksgiving, at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Cross Plains, for the life of Bill Wenger, who passed away on December 14, 2024. Bill served in the Air Force.

## **Notes from the Adjutant – Gary Itten:**

I want to thank Paul Lochner and his assistant Little Bert Couey for prepping the playground area for the new equipment. Both are SAL members. Also, I want to thank Steve Zanon, Dan Cady, Ed Pelowsky, Dennis Heiliger, Bill Diebold, Kevin Boehnen, and Whitey Hillenbrand with his bobcat, and also the village crew for helping on getting the bark spread out under the new playground equipment.

### Changes to the Flag Program

Dan Cady has retired from running the flag program and I want to thank him for taking care of this program for the last years. Dave Vidlock and myself have taken over the program with some changes. The changes as follows come from the brain storming of Rodney Faust and Kevin Boehen.

We will put out the flags on Memorial Day, May 26th. We will not pick them up until the evening of Veterans Day, Nov. 11th. This means that the people will be responsible for putting the flags out and taking them in on the days that are listed in the letter that we will be mailing out explaining our new program. Also, accompanying this letter will be a page on flag etiquette. Also, these people can fly the flag anytime they may want as long as it is according to the flag etiquette. If a business doesn't have someone to do this when they are closed on a holiday or someone has a medical condition and wants us to still put out and take the flag in they can request this. We will be putting out 366 flags this year and are in the need of extra legionnaires or SAL members to help. I will be contacting the flag route people with some new additions to their route.

This is a great program and the money we get from this program helps the legion pay the 4.5 scholarships we give out every year to seniors. If you want to volunteer or have questions, contact me at [gcitten48@gmail.com](mailto:gcitten48@gmail.com), or call me at 608-225-4722.

### NO-COST ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE

Members of the Legion Family are eligible for up to \$5,000 in no-cost coverage. Enrollment is required for activation. Your beneficiary will receive a check for \$5,000 if you suffer a fatal covered accident while you are traveling to or from or participating in any covered event conducted for Legion business, or \$1,000.00 for all other fatal covered accidents. You pay nothing for this coverage. Your Department of The American Legion endorses this coverage with up to \$1,000.00 cash benefits paid straight to your beneficiary, if you suffer a fatal covered accident at home, on the job, in your car, on vacation, while traveling, wherever you are.

Go to <https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare/to> enroll. Or call: 1-800-235-6943.

### Note from the Adjutant – Gary Itten:

The newsletter committee has been working hard to get addresses up to date. It not only cost us to mail out the newsletter, but it cost the post to get the newsletter returned because of a wrong address. If you are moving please inform me at [gijacondo@mail.com](mailto:gijacondo@mail.com) or call 608-225-4722, or Flo Bayer at [thebayers1@gmail.com](mailto:thebayers1@gmail.com) or call 608-798-4671, or Dan Cady at [dcady2030@gmail.com](mailto:dcady2030@gmail.com) or 608-438-2987 of your new mailing address.

This also pertains to people who snowbird. Your newsletter is not forwarded, so please inform one of the people above of your dates that you will be gone for. So that we will not mail out a newsletter, and you will have to read it online.

### Notes from Bill Statz:

1. All three Post 245 nominees won their Best of Awards at 3rd District! 1) EMT of the Year is Katrina Mckee RN, BSN, AEMT, CADS. 2) National Guard Soldier of the Year is SFC E-7 Emily L. Cash, and 3) Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is Dane County Deputy Jodi Hager.  
See 1<sup>st</sup> photo below – Katrina and Emily Post 245 Awards at April meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> photo below of Jodi receiving her District Award at County Government Day, Bill-Jodi-Scott Klassy 3rd District.
2. American Legion Dane County Youth Government Day was held April 17th. This is a full day field trip to visit the County offices at the City County Building and Public Safety Building/Jail/Courthouse. This year Post 245 again sponsored our 3 middle schools, Glacier Creek, St Francis and Kromrey. Each school sends 16 students, and teacher(s). We also have one Legionnaire chaperone for each school. Special thanks to Gary Itten for early set up and take down downtown, and chaperone Glacier Creek, and Bill Herriges for chaperone St Francis. This year there were 7 schools participating, our 3, and Wisconsin Heights, Waunakee, Verona and Stoughton, for a total of 107 students.  
See 3<sup>rd</sup> photo below of Room 201, Executive Melissa Agard speaking, students in County Supervisors' seats.

3. Invitation for MHS Legion Appreciation Night. MHS/Legion Baseball would like to honor the Legion on Tuesday May 27th. The game starts at 5pm, so if you Legionnaires could arrive by 4:30 that should be enough time to get you in place for the National Anthem and the ceremonial first pitch.  
Thank You, Derrick Look, Middleton Cardinal Dugout Club (608) 829-1330

NOTE: Remember, Post 245 is again sponsoring MHS/Legion Baseball, 3 teams this year, one in each age category. The MHS/Legion Baseball program is building on the successes of the last 2 years. The game on May 27th will be a regular Middleton HS baseball home game vs Memorial HS. Legion Baseball starts early June, schedule will be posted on the Post 245 website. This is "Honor the Legion" on May 27th. Pass the word, bring guests. Hope some more Legionnaires can join us. Wear Legion caps.



#### **Sharing Letter from Bill Statz to Executive Committee:**

To: Post 245 Executive Committee April 26, 2025

From: Bill Statz

Subject: Announcement of Retirement

Due to health and personal reasons, I am stepping down from all American Legion offices and committees, Post and County, effective May 15, 2025.

I will assist in actively recruiting other Legionnaires to pick up the tasks that I have been doing. I will also be available to train and hand off all the details and materials for each task. Listed below are the items that I have been doing in recent years, along with a short write up of what is entailed. Some of them were not being done at Post 245, or hadn't been done for some time, and some may not continue if we don't have volunteers step up. Perhaps recruiting someone to step up and take over individual items will be less daunting to new volunteers than taking over everything.

May I suggest that we publish this list and information in the May newsletter, and beyond until all positions are filled, or discontinued.

Need volunteers to do:

1. Americanism, all inclusive, or do just one or two of the following:
  - a. Legion Baseball. Easy to do, just coordinate with the coach/team on schedule, Post funding, special events, volunteer opportunities, host them at a Post meeting.
  - b. Badger Boys State. Do sponsorship cards for Post 245 and send to Department. Department then sends sponsorship cards to Middleton High School. The High School takes care of recruiting and selecting our 3 boys. Our contact is the Counselor at the High School, she does a good job. Makes this job easy for the Legion. Follow up to have the boys attend our August meeting to report on their experience at BBS.
  - c. Legion Oratorical Scholarship Contest. Study the program to understand it, start to finish, etc. Then need to seek out and recruit candidates. The Counselors at the High School advise the entire Junior & Senior classes about this opportunity. We have 2

potential candidates already lined up for 2025/2026 competition. Be the advisor to candidates, sign up at Department, track preparation progress. Set up the Post level Contest. Attend competitions at County, District and Department, depending on far our candidate goes, etc.

- d. Dane County Youth Government Day. This is a County led event. At our Post level, contact the 3 schools we sponsor, they have all participated in the past, know the program. Compile information from the schools and submit to the County, along with Post 245 check for lunches. We share buses with Wisconsin Heights, need to arrange with Black Earth and Mazomanie Legion Posts. Accompany students on the day of as a chaperone for one of the schools, and/or recruit others, one Legionnaire per school.
- e. Best of Awards. The American Legion Department of Wisconsin has the annual Awards program. There are a combined total of 30 Awards for the Best of: Americanism, Employment, Public Safety, and Additional Awards. The goal is to identify outstanding people in our Post 245 Legion Family, and community, who are exceptional performers. Then, with their support, solicit and compile all documentation for the application.

This year, we focused on the Public Safety Awards, with candidates for EMT of the Year, National Guard Soldier of the Year, and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

2. Community Outreach, Recruiting Table. Set up the Post 245 table with Post table banner, and Legion brochures for all Legion programs. Can also request to use pull-up banners from our Department Vice Commander. Suggested events to attend, listed in order through the year, can include but not limited to: a) Memorial Day at the Post, b) National Night Out in Cross Plains, and c) in Middleton, d) Cross Plains Community event at Fire House, e) Good Neighbor Festival in Middleton, f) Halloween event at Legion, g) Dane County Sheriff's Department Veterans Shoot in Waunakee.
3. Draw Down Raffle fundraiser. This is a major event, and takes a lot of pre-planning, getting tickets printed, raffle license, and full-bore effort to get all 300 tickets distributed, tracked, sold by Legion Family members, collect stubs and money/deposit, and compile list of ticket holders, etc. Arrange for date and reserve hall and meal prep and worker list and recruit workers, coordinate with SAL and Auxiliary on details, etc.
4. Sergeant at Arms. This is an elected office at the Post, there are 2 Sgt at Arms. It is a 2 year term, elections in even number years. Are halfway through the current term, ending May 2026. Appoint candidate to finish this term. Currently other Sgt at Arms is Dick Zwettler.
  - a. Dick is currently arranging for the Honor Guard and rifle squad for funerals. But if Dick is not available, need to run the funeral service at churches and/or cemetery.
  - b. Arrange for color guards on request for: High School functions/football game, Honor flights, special events, etc.
  - c. Memorial Day. Assist Dick as needed, march the Guard at cemeteries, marching in the parade, and assist at Memorial service.
  - d. As one of the 11 elected officers for the Post, serve on the Executive Committee, and assist at the monthly meetings per Sgt at Arms protocol.

Sincerely,  
William A (Bill) Statz  
608-577-4002

**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 April 17, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 pm by Commander Zanon.

A motion was made by Dick Z. and seconded by Joe H. to accept the minutes of the Mar. 20th meeting as printed in the 245er, motion carried.

A motion by Dave V. and seconded by Dan C. to accept the minutes of Mar. 20th Executive board meeting as read by the Adjutant; motion carried.

Doug Christensen was introduced as a new member.

Finance: Bill D. handed out the financial report, Joe H. made a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis H. to accept the finance report subject to audit, motion carried. Dan Cady made a motion to not join the Middleton Chamber of Commerce next year. Dennis H. seconded it, after discussion, motion carried.

Chaplain: Tim reported Dick Dahmen had passed away and he was 93 years old. Also, we have two Military funerals coming up. One April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the other April 26<sup>th</sup>.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Please send in 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 V. thanked all the people that helped out with the metal while he was gone.

SAL: Kevin still needs help with April 27<sup>th</sup> spaghetti dinner fund raiser for the Murphy family. Contact him for the web site to sign up to help. Also, the SAL will be cooking for the May meeting. You want a great steak, show up. The SAL will be at the Badger Honor Flight May 10<sup>th</sup>, to welcome the veteran's back.

Americanism: Bill Statz reported on the Dane County Government Day on April 16<sup>th</sup> in Madison at the Dane County building. There were 106 students there and Post 245 sponsored 3 schools. Anyone that wanted to participate with the Honor Guard May 10<sup>th</sup> be at the Dane County Airport for the return of the Badger Honor Flight by 8 P.M. We could use more legionnaires for Memorial Day to visit the cemetery's leaving the legion hall at 8 A. M. also, to march or ride in the parade and for the program after the parade.

Children and Youth: No report

Athletic: No Report

Community Service: Dave included it in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice report

Post Service Officer: Joe reported he will be attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> district mtg. April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Public Relations: No report

Old Business: Dan Cady heard that the SAL might be interested in taking over the golf outing and if they did all the proceeds would go to the SAL.

New Business and Correspondence: Commander Zanon reported that at the Executive Board meeting a motion was passed to purchase one yard of concrete from Lycon for \$345.00 for the new sidewalk. He also read several correspondences, one from Peanuts Esser about the Molly B. concert April 26<sup>th</sup>

Good of the American Legion: Gary Itten and Dave Vidlock volunteered to take over Flag route program. Kevin Boehnen and Rodney Faust came up with an idea on how to operate the program. The flags would be put out on Memorial Day by the legionnaires and SAL to the people who pay the \$25.00 and then they would be responsible for taking the flags in and putting them out until Veteran's Day evening, when the flags would be picked by the legionnaires and SAL. Dennis H. made a motion to go with Kevin's and Rodney's idea, Bill D. seconded it, after more discussion motion carried.

Kitty: Tom Brunner \$75.00  
50/50: Tom Brunner \$6.00  
Brandy: Doug Christensen, new member

Commander Zanon adjourned the meeting at 9:32 P.M.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Itten, Adjutant

### **Auxiliary Newsletter**

### **President Flo Bayer**

Hello 245'ers,

May 23<sup>rd</sup> is National Poppy Day. The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. The donations collected from our poppy drive are used to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families with medical and financial needs. Do not forget to wear your poppy May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Share what it stands for with others. I hope to see you on Memorial Day. We will carpool from the Legion at 8am to participate in memorial services at local cemeteries. If you would like to march with us in the parade, we are meeting at 10:45 at Park School. After the Memorial Day program at the Legion park, it will be time to relax with a chicken dinner, cold drink and have fun with our Cross Plains Area Community.

Congratulations to the Playground Committee for getting the bright red, white, and blue playground equipment installed at Legion Park. I'm sure it will be getting plenty of use.

Kudos to Sue Hutton for brightening our dinner tables with beautiful spring pansies at the April dinner and meeting. Many of our lucky Auxiliary members got to bring one home. Thank you to those of you who were able to help support the Murphy family fundraiser at the Legion. It was heartwarming to see our CP community work together for this family. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Don't forget to stop by for some delicious food at Culvers in Middleton May 12<sup>th</sup> for our Auxiliary Share Night. We are grateful to Culvers for this opportunity to partner with us. Proceeds will go towards our scholarship program that will be given out at next year's Memorial Day program.

### **Chaplains message – Pat Cady**

God our Father, we gather at this time of the year to remember the men and women who fought and gave the supreme sacrifice so that we may live in freedom. Let us also remember the Gold Star Mothers, who have given their children in service to our country and members of our Unit who have passed away since Memorial Day 2024. In your name we pray. Amen

Darlene Kahl - September 15, 2024 and Kate Walsh-Bratton - December 14, 2024

### **Membership – Debby Niebuhr**

The dues are \$35 for seniors and \$6 for juniors, payable to WI ALA Unit 245. You can bring it to the May or June meeting or wait til the middle of July and mail it to me at PO BOX 3, Cross Plains, WI 53528. Department of WI will let me know when we can pay with our credit cards in the Middle of July and I will pass the info on to you. Our goal is to have everyone's dues by the end of July so I can get them into Dept the first of August. This helps us not to be a goose egg and it saves money and time for the National Dept. (For me, I hope it helps us keep the dues down vs them raising the price) Thanks, Debby Niebuhr, membership chair.

### **Auxiliary Scholarship – Sandra Faust**

The Virginia Faust Scholarship and shared Auxiliary/American Legion Scholarship will be given at our Memorial Day Program.

**Service Opportunities\Projects** – Debby Niebuhr @[dniebuhr@chorus.net](mailto:dniebuhr@chorus.net)

- May 10<sup>th</sup> 8pm-10pm Welcome home Veterans on the Badger Honor Flight
- May 12<sup>th</sup> 4:45pm -8:15pm Auxiliary Culvers Share Night (Middleton)
- May 17<sup>th</sup> 9am -12pm & 12-3pm – Collect Poppy donations at The Piggly Wiggly
- May 26<sup>th</sup> 8am – Memorial Day Service at local cemeteries, 11am – March with Auxiliary at Memorial Day Parade in Cross Plains

**Lunch Committee** – Jane Itten

May – Ann Eicher, Connie Faust, Mary Jones, Mary Helleckson.

June – Sheila Luhman, Krystal Swanson, Jaye Capel, Janel Kruchten, Betty Mielke.

If you can't help with making a dessert or help set up or clean up, please call or email Jane at 608-712-3133; [gijacondo@gmail.com](mailto:gijacondo@gmail.com). Please feel free to leave a message.

**Sons of The American Legion**

**Kevin Boehnen**

Monthly meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on May 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. We will be presenting the Scholarship on Memorial Day.

Spaghetti Dinner - Murphy Strong

This event was held on April 27th. I want to thank these volunteers from the SAL for helping make this fundraiser for Quin, Jojo, Charlie and Georgia successful. Those who also helped were from the Optimist, Cross Plains Lions, St Francis Xavier School, American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion. SAL members and spouses included Eddie and Laura Fisk, Rod Faust, Brad and Deb Niebuhr, Brad Statz, Rich and Jane Roberts, Jack and Cindy Regan, Dan Layton, Steve "Whitey" & Patti Hillebrand, Mike and Janet Roessler, Greg and Kate Roessler, Paul and Nanci Lochner, Tim and Donna Hillebrand, Rick Hillebrand, Tom Helleckson and Kevin Boehnen.

May 10th Badger Honor Flight

The SAL with the Legion and Auxiliary will be the color guard for the welcoming home celebration at the Dane County Airport for the return of the Badger Honor Flight.

May 15th Meeting

The SAL will be providing a Steak Dinner for the May meeting. Will be looking for volunteers to help cook, serve the meal and doing dishes. If you are interested please let Whitey or myself know.

May 26th Memorial Day

We will then be going to the Cemeteries and marching in the parade and being involved in the Memorial Day Ceremony. Wear SAL shirt and hat with khaki pants.



It's the time of year for Poppy Donations (tax deductible!!).



Here are a few ways we support our Veterans thru Poppy Donations:

- Veterans & Family Assistance Fund (when veterans submit request for assistance)
- Homeless Female Veterans
- William S Middleton Memorial – Madison VA
- Scholarships
- Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- Fisher House in Milwaukee (home away from home for families of Veterans are being treated)
- Veterans Day & Christmas Cheer at Veterans Hospitals and Veterans Homes
- Camp American Legion in Lake Tomahawk, WI
- Zablocki Memorial VA in Milwaukee
- VA Great lakes Health Care System in Tomah
- Veterans Homes in Chippewa Falls, King and Union Grove, WI
- Dayton Care Center in Kenosha
- Oscar G Johnson VA in Iron Mountain, WI

As always, you can write a check made out to Unit 245 and mail to Sheila Luhman, 2318 Center St, Cross Plains, WI 53528.

We are also working with Squareup to take secure online Poppy donations for 2025 since many people don't carry cash or use checks anymore. There are two Squareup options that take payments from Apple Pay, Google Pay, Credit Card or Cash App Pay. It's very simple. Let me know if you need any help, and I'd be happy to work with you.

1. Copy & Paste in your browser or Click the link: <https://square.link/u/f8mfsR69>
2. Open your camera to focus on QR code and click on the link. You don't need to sign up with Square, you can check out as a guest.



#### **ALA Mission Statement**

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.