

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

October 2016

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.

Upcoming Events:

October	01 Bratton Wedding	November	01 4H Club
	04 4H Club		03 Lion's Club
	06 Lion's Club		05 Legion Drawdown
	08 Lion's October Fest		10 Boy Scouts
	15 Stapleton Wedding		12 Brian Schutz Birthday Party
	20 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary Mtg		17 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary Mtg
	22 Madison Motor Cross		26 Zeigler Family Thanksgiving
	25 Model T Club		29 Model T Club
	29 Tim Passini		
	30 Girl Scouts Halloween dance		

Need to include something in the Newsletter? Please email Carol Yttri at 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 Dan Cady at 608-798-2352 (home) or 608-438-2987 (cell) or email pat.cady@yahoo.com

Someone ill or in the hospital? Call Pat Andreoni at 798-3844 or e-mail jpandreo@aol.com

OFFICERS: POST COMMANDER	DAN CADY	438-2987
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT	JOAN RUNK	798-1416
S.A.L. COMMANDER	KEVIN BOEHNEN	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

Commander's Message

Dan Cady

Dear Comrades

One of our former leaders has passed - Robert (Bob) Schmelzer. He was very active in the Legion for years, Commander, Adjutant, Children & Youth Chair, Bob & Joe Maier had a flag route for many years. These are just the ones I know about. Bob was very active in Cross Plains for many years, as recording village secretary. Bob was the friend and "go-between", between Bill Walsh & Herb Statz - they were always giving each other a tough time and Bob would just Grin, chuckle .

Other items:

- Thank you to Ed Pelowsky, Dave Vidlock & Mike O'Brien for tending bar Sat. Sept 24.
- Needed bar tenders and Volunteers for Flag routes, please step forward, help us out.
- Thanks to Volunteers for our Metal Recycling, Color Guard, Maint.

Opportunities: Organize Flag Routes, Rent Hall, Set Up Tables and Chairs for events, Take down after events. Line up crews for recycling metal. Mow lawn, Trim, Take care of snow on sidewalks and parking lot, Volunteer to be an Officer. Maintain Shelter. Paint playground equipment, Touch up Trim on buildings when needed, Clean Eve Troughs, Wash windows and other jobs to many to mention.

Cross Plains Lions is sponsoring October Fest on October 8th please support them and the Legion. All Bar Proceeds stay with the Legion.

Nov 5th we will be having our annual drawdown, buy a ticket, come and have a good meal and great evening.

Yours in Comradeship,
Commander Dan Cady
608 438 2987

Viet Nam Era Vets Recognition:

Dear Comrades:

We are having our 2nd recognition of welcoming home Viet Nam Era Vets. The Daughters of the American Revolution, Reedsburg chapter, will be doing a presentation at our annual Draw Down on Nov 5th. Please call me or e-mail me your branch of service, years served, Rank, and full Name. We have recognized 18 at the first one. We want to recognize you. Please let me know ASAP that you will be available and your info as there will be a certificate plus a pin etc. take note it is for all Viet Nam Vet ERA vets. We have over 130 yet to recognize please be part of this.

Dan Cady
608 438 2987

October Meeting Notice:

Lisa from Dane County Service Office will be our guest and will speak to us at the October meeting. She will also be available to answer questions.

REGULAR MEETING September 15, 2016

Meeting called to order by Bill Statz at 7:26.

Meeting minutes read and motion to accept was made, seconded by Joe Hodgson.

The financial report was passed out with motion to approve by Joe and seconded by Howard.

Chaplin: NR

1st vice: We have 143 paid for current year and we need 224.

2nd vice: NR

SAL: We have \$ 5040.04 in checking, Oct is big month for activities and the SAL is
101 % membership for 2017.

Americanism: NR

Children and youth: NR

Athletic: NR

Community Service: Dave thanked everyone for helping including the business that donate the metal for us to pick up.

Post Service Officer: American Legion on line states House of Rep passed Legion backed modernization bill that would reduce the waiting times for vets and claims. Also there will be a CVSO visit Oct or Nov.

New Business: Joe suggested we offer a \$ 100.00 drawing in Dec to all paid up dues members as an incentive to pay dues early.

Bill stated the boy scouts are looking for donations again. A motion was offered to donate \$ 200.00 by John Hill and seconded by Joe Hodgson.

A discussion was brought up about the Worlds Fair future and the Legions response. It was decided to bring up at next meeting.

Good of the American Legion: We had the colour guard at the season opening Middleton football game.

50/50: \$ 7.00 went to Norm Bradford

Kitty: was Bob Seamon

Brandy: went to Dick Hammons

Meeting Adjourned at 8:13.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Pelowsky, adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter**President Joan Runk**

Fall is here! We sure have had our share of strange weather. Lots of rain, hail, nice warm weather & yes, cool weather. We had a nice day for the Car Show at Baer Park. We sold all of our pies and ice cream. We also had some chees cake, cupcakes and brownies. Man thanks to all who baked and of course our workers – Shelia Luhman, Mary Jones, Katie Runk, Carol Yttri and myself. We had just 16 pies this year. A bit low. Lori

Ballweg & her granddaughter made some cute large cupcakes & some ones. The brownies went well with some ice cream too made by Sue Hutton.

We have 2 – possibly 3 of us going to the Fall Meeting in Richland Center Oct 15th. Will share info at our Nov. meeting.

Don't forget the Town Hall Meeting to be held in Black Earth on October 16th. It's from 6 – 8:15pm at the Village Hall (1210 Mills St). It's about drug and alcohol abuse. Speaker, Richard L Brown, MD, MPH and special gues Dan Co Deputy Sherriff Brook Gagner.

Shelia Luhman, I have our Poppy Order form already. Order is due by Dec 16th. I have info for 2 of our officers to get access to our monthly news packet from Headquarters. But – the fee is \$20 per officer each year! No bargain. I am pretty good about sharing info at our meeting and in the newsletter. Many Units & Posts do not have a newsletter. We are very fortunate to have our 245er Newsletter.

Want to have dinner with the National President Mary Davis? She will be at the Oak Creek Community Center on Sat. Oct 29th. Social Hour 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm. Cost is \$25 per person. Reservations due Oct 8th. This information came late!

Our new Dept of Wisconsin President is Laurel Du Bois. She will be noted for “Soaring for our Veterans”.

Consider sending a card to Past Dept Commander Leo Endres. His is Joyce Endres husband. He is diagnosed with non-Hodgkin, B-cell lymphoma. He has begun aggressive treatment and will continue for 5 months. Prayers are requested. Send cards to Leo Endres, 1147 Fleetwood Ave, Madison, WI 53716-1417. Joyce is past Dept of Wisconsin President and is now Dane Co President. Doe remember these very special people.

October Lunch Committee: Lorie Ballweg, Susan Nelson, Karen Barman and Juliane Hillebrand

2017 Membership Dues:

Membership Dues are \$ 22.00 for Seniors (18+) and for Juniors it's \$ 3.00 (0-17). Please get your dues in by October 20th (our next meeting) so you can be in the drawing for a free 2018 membership. Make checks payable to UNIT 245. You can mail them to Debby Niebuhr PO BOX 3 Cross Plains, WI 53528-0003.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support. ☺

Notifications: If you have a friend / relative that has passed and was an active member of the Auxiliary, please let us know. You can contact Joan Runk (798-1416), Pat Cady (798-2352), Sheila Luhman (798-2451) or Debby Niebuhr (798-4178). We like to know so that we honor them at one of our meetings. We will also be involved at the funeral services if the family would like.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly Meeting

Our monthly meeting will be held on October 20th.

Motor Cross Event

We will be cooking and serving the food. We will need 5 guys to help prep the meal and cook it, along with another 5 guys to serve and cleanup. This event will be held on Saturday October 22nd. Please talk with Whitey or email Kevin Boehnen kabohnen@chorus.net or call 798 2113 if you can help out.

SAL 2017 Membership

We have 115 members with 103 paid and 12 not paid. I would like to welcome Tom Aeschbach as one of our new members. If you know of anyone who interested in joining let me know and I can get you a application for membership

For those of you whose 2017 dues need to be paid, I sent out a letter and your 2017 card. Reminders will be going out on October 15th. I would appreciate it if you can get your dues to me as soon as possible at:

Kevin Boehnen
Attn SAL 2016 Dues
3123 Melody Pkwy
Cross Plains WI 53528

World's Fair

I have been informed that the World's Fair will no longer be held and there is some upcoming meetings to finalizing the end of the group. In these meetings there will be discussions as to how much should be donated to project(s) in the village and how much should be returned to the seven organizations. I would like to thank everyone who has held leadership roles in the World's Fair as well as those who have worked it or sold raffle tickets over the last years.

Sharing a poem with all of you:

JUST A COMMON SOLDIER
(A Soldier Died Today)
By A. Lawrence Vaincourt

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past,
Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.

And tho' sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke,
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer for old Bill has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary and quite uneventful life.
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way,
And the world won't note his passing, though a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell their whole life stories, from the time that they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who, in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his Country and offers up his life?

A politician's stipend and the style in which he lives
Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives.
While the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal and, perhaps, a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them for it was so long ago
That the old Bills of our Country went to battle, but we know
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom that our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his ever-shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier, who has sworn to defend
His home, his kin and Country and would fight until the end?

He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say,

“OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, FOR A SOLDIER DIED TODAY”