

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

September 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.

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:

September 02 Lions Club

October 07 Lions Club

04 Karonga – wedding

21 Legion, SAL, Aux Mtg

16 Legion, SAL, Aux Mtg

26 Model T Club

28 Model T Club

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 5:15pm.

Website: www.americanlegioncp.org

Commander's Message

Gary Itten

Can't believe it's September already and I hope everyone is enjoying the last few weeks of summer.

I want to thank Doug and Judy Deaton, and Deb Niebuhr for the great meal we had at the August meeting. Also, to Mike O'brien and Dan Cady for painting the playground equipment, and Dan Cady for taking charge of replacing the bark underneath the playground equipment. I want to thank all the other people that helped with digging out the old bark and dirt, especially Whitey and Patty Hillenbrand.

Sept. 11th, 2021 will mark the 20th anniversary of 9/11 which changed the world we lived in as Americans. Almost 3,000 people lost their lives that day among them military personnel and 412 first responders.

Celebration of Freedom is going to be held September 24th and 25th, 2021 at the Wisconsin Legion Headquarters in Portage. This year it is featuring the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Museum. This event is about bringing together Wisconsin residents to honor veterans, first responders & active military and to remember those lost 20 years ago on 9/11. It will also have live entertainment, kids activities, blood drive, museum tours, vehicle displays and a food & beer garden. This is also open to the public.

Remember to get your dues into Emily Cash, 7780 Martinsville Rd., Cross Plains, WI 53528. Bill Statz, had a helpful hint at the meeting to use the envelope you get from the National Headquarters to send in your dues to Emily.

Remember, the meeting date is Sept. 16th, 2021, with exec. board mtg. at 5:30 pm, dinner 6:30 pm and regular mtg. at 7:30 pm.

Please stay safe and please get vaccinated.

Gary Itten, Commander, Post 245

Message from Dan Cady:

Dear Comrades,

I want to thank all that helped on the replacing of bark on the playground equipment. This group I can always count on when needed Legion, SAL and A Black Earth Auxiliary lady.

Needed Flag crew people for a route of 2 people and someone that may be able to fill in when needed if someone is on vacation.

Please think about getting somewhat involved a few hours a year just for helping when available. Everyone is busy.

We need new ideas and younger body's.

Please think about becoming an officer or helper. We know your family and Job come first.

Just look around on your travels, legions are hurting have had to sell club houses and can't fill officer openings. What you have here is pretty impressive, owning a nice club house and park. We need to continue to serve Vets and their families.

Several of our members were in their 30's when we started slowly getting involved now we are in our 70's and at that time we were raising families and had jobs.

Please consider

Thanks,

Dan

Post Service Officer message (Joe Hodgson):

The VA will start processing disability claims for certain conditions related to what they are calling "Particular Matter." This matter is associated with asthma, rhinitis ad sinusitis. This affects veterans during military service in Southwest Asia which includes Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Syria and other countries in the neutral zones. There was enough evidence provided to establish presumptions for service connected illness for these three respiratory conditions. VA will conduct outreach to impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them of their eligibility.

Auxiliary Taste of Freedom fundraiser on Sept 11th:

The Auxiliary fundraiser on Sept 11 is going to be a great event and will be a lot of fun. It starts at 3pm and ends at 6pm and will be at nineteen09 in Cross Plains. This is a wine & beer tasting event including a silent auction, quilt raffle, 50/50 raffle and a gift card auction. Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door. Your ticket includes wine & beer tasting, a commemorative stainless steel tumbler and appetizers. You can purchase your ticket online at <https://www.nineteen09.com/events/taste-of-freedom-fundraiser>. The event is also on nineteen09s Facebook page. Anyone is welcome to attend this event.

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 August 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Commander Itten at 7:24pm.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as reported in the 245er by Ted, second was Dick. Motion was passed by member vote.

A motion was them made to accept the minutes for the Executive meeting (with corrections) by Dan, second was Ed and the motion passed member vote.

We had one guest tonight, he is Andrew Shuck from the VFW post in Middleton. We are happy to have him come to our meeting.

FINANCE: Lee passed out the financial report and then went over income and expense. A motion to accept the report pending audit was made by Bill, second was Dave and the motion passed member vote.

1st VICE: Bill sitting in for Emily stated we need 204 members this year to reach our 100%.

2nd VICE: Pat reported the rental calendar is packed thru September. He needs bartenders for several rentals so if you can help give him a call.

3rd VICE: Dan reported we need 100 yards of special bark for the playground areas at a price of \$27.00 per yard. We will also need people to help spread the bark once it arrives so call Dan if you can help. He also purchased a new computer for the legion but needs help in getting it to work with our printer. If you can help with this, please call him. The scrubber needed some maintenance, so he got the parts and got it repaired. He also has 5 new pavers they are working on so we can get them installed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Pat mentioned there will be 36-40 injured vets riding bikes thru town under project HERO on Thursday the 26th. We will try to get a grill and do some brats, dogs, burgers and drinks for them while they are here.

NEW BUSINESS: Lee brought up a problem we are having concerning paying for our evening meals on meeting nights. We are continually seeing a shortage of money based on the number of people who ate meals. We are reminding all members that meal price is \$5.00 per person.

Dick needs 4 volunteers to march in Middleton's first football game. If you can do this, please call Dick.

Gary wants every member to know that elections are coming in April, and we ask everyone to please consider holding an officer position. We all need to do our part in making and keeping our legion as successful as can be.

KITTY: No winner

50/50: Wayne won \$ 9.00

BRANDY: Pat, he donated it to the golf outing.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Heiliger, Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Karen Runk

Well here we are... September, a busy month for everyone with back to school and a new ALA fiscal year!! Which means strap in for a new season of serving military veterans and their families. I'm wrapping up my presidential term in Dane County with a big list of suggested non-contact projects for units to consider before April 2022. **Come to our 245 meeting in September to make your motion for the 2021-22 project you would like to work at 245!!** Your motion can include your new idea or a repeat of one of last years' projects, such as Purple Up Day!, pantry drive, Camp American Legion, etc. Take a look at the new list of projects (and websites) below:

- **WISCONSIN VA HOMES:** Access all Wisconsin VA facilities wish lists, sponsored events, and fundraisers by going to <https://dva.wi.gov/Pages/veteransHomes/VeteransHomeCF.aspx> for the latest information. Your Unit can make a difference in a veterans' life.
- **USO WISCONSIN:** The USO of Wisconsin is working with Ft McCoy to support Afghan refugees AND has opportunities for Units to support those currently serving. They have centers throughout the state and provide support to military Family Readiness. Find out what is needed at www.usowisconsin.org or call 414-763-2214
- **SEPTEMBER 22nd GOLD STAR MOTHERS:** Gold Star Mothers have sacrificed in many ways, and are recognized for their family's loss of a soldier, airman, sailor or Marine. Your unit can assist Gold Star mothers by visiting <https://www.goldstarmoms.com/> to learn how your Unit can support their mission. There may be a chapter near you!
- **FT MCCOY/OPEN DOORS:** Interpreters and refugees are arriving at Ft McCoy this month. Interpreters have assisted our US military in many ways over the last 20 years. With our help, Afghans will receive food, clothing and household items to begin a new life. Open Doors is a non-profit organization in Dane County that is working with Ft McCoy. Contact Open Doors on the web or Facebook to review the latest information and how your unit can participate.
- **CAMP AMERICAN LEGION WISH LIST:** Camp American Legion has posted their wish list for the 2021 season on their website. Check it out! Items can be purchased on Amazon Smile and shipped to Camp free.
- **HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS GRANT:** This program was created by a past Dept President and is a Wisconsin program coordinated through ALA Wisconsin Dept. Currently, there is a need for housing funds for rent, household supplies, etc.
- **Dane County Auxiliary Membership Workshop:** DCC Auxiliary will hold a membership workshop on September 23rd at 6:30pm at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mt Horeb. The format will allow breakout sessions, round table discussions, shared best practices, and more!! Dept of Wisconsin President Diane Weggen will attend as well as the Dept Membership Chairman with Committee.
- **September 23rd Dane County Diaper Party for Middleton VA Hospital:** Bring your donations to the 245 Unit meeting on the 16th or better yet, come to the Dane County diaper drive during the September 23rd meeting! Dane county units (or Posts) are encouraged to bring donations, packages of diapers or baby items from the wish list below:

Needed items include: diapers size 1 newborn; baby wipes; Onesies, pants & shirts in neutral colors (yellow, green, purple, tan, etc.) in sizes 0-3; 3-6; 6-9 months. Cash donations for NEW car seats, pack-n-play and strollers are encouraged. With cash donations, these larger ticket items can be shared expensed and easier to meet safety requirements. No blankets are needed at this time.

MENTOR A VETERAN IN TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE: The state of Wisconsin has formed a task force to assist military personnel transitioning to civilian life. The VetsNet organization is teaming with the Wisconsin task force to pair transitioning military service members with trained volunteer sponsors/mentors who will take the journey with the veteran. The purpose is to ensure that the veteran is supported through this critical life transition. If you are interested in being a sponsor/mentor or want to learn more, go to etssponsorship.com. Assisting veterans in transition is a critical need, and possibly a lifesaving campaign. Please contact me if you need further assistance to this website.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS & REMINDERS

SEPT 11TH – 3PM TASTE of FREEDOM at Nineteen09 Cross Plains

SEPT 16TH – 6:30PM 245 UNIT MEETING; Aux Dinner/Lunch Committee

SEPT 17TH – NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

SEPT 18TH – HILL & VALLEY ANTIQUE CAR SHOW BAKE SALE 11AM-1:30PM; DROP OFF BAKED GOODS AT 10:30AM Baer Park Concession Stand

SEPT 22ND – GOLD STAR MOTHER/FAMILY DAY

SEPT 23RD – 6:30 ALA DANE COUNTY MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP at the Evangelical Lutheran Church. 315 E Main Street in Mt Horeb

REMINDER1: Please send your August hours, dollars and miles to kmrunk4@gmail.com

Membership Chair message: Debby Niebuhr

WE ARE ALMOST DONE COLLECTING THE 2022 DUES; At this time I have only 3 people to collect from ~ ~ I wish to THANK ALL OF YOU for your wonderful support ~ WE CAN START THE PROCESS OF ADDING NEW MEMBERS NOW, so your help in this matter is much APPRECIATED. We hope to reach 100% very soon. WITH YOUR HELP I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL..As almost everyone has paid, WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE SEPTEMBER NOTICE TO PAY YOUR DUES, PLEASE DISREGARD THE NOTICE. If I didn't have your dues by the end of JULY; NATIONAL will send out the notice mid September as their cut off was AUGUST 2ND.

FOR THE 3 WHO HAVEN'T PAID THEY CAN SEND THEIR DUES TO : Debby Niebuhr PO BOX 3 Cross Plains, WI 53528 or call National 1-317-569-4570 (M-F 7am-3Pm) and use your credit card.

Chaplain message (Pat Cady):

There are two significant events in September that I want to recognize – POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept. 17; and Gold Star Mother/Family Remembrance Sept. 22.

Prayer for POW/MIA: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we lift up to You those that have been taken captive. Give them the courage to persevere and also the knowledge that they have not been forgotten. When their freedom is restored may they walk with pride and dignity because of the suffering they have endured, as our grateful nation owes them a debt of honor. In Your name we pray. Amen

GOLD STAR FAMILY: An Honor No One Wants – to them every day is Memorial Day.....we took the flight to the enemy. We fought the righteous fight, and some of us remain forever young. God Bless our Gold Star Families

September Lunch Committee

FOR SEPTEMBER'S GENERAL MEETING, SEPT. 16TH, THE AUXILIARY IS IN CHARGE OF PROVIDING THE MEAL AND THE DESSERTS. The desserts will be provided by the September Lunch Committee: Barb Schutz, Kathy Bertin, and Jean Bolchen. The rest of us that signed up will provide salads. Carol Yttri has generously offered to provide the meat and potatoes. If you wish to bring something to enhance the meal, please feel free to do so. THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly Meeting: Monthly meeting will be held on September 16th.

Flags: If you need a flag you can give Rod Faust a call at 608 576 4803.

Recycling Efforts: Tim Hillebrand, Mike Diebold and Whitey have been representing the SAL. If anyone else is interested in helping talk to Whitey and he can share what they do and how often.

Condolences to David A McDermott Family

David McDermott died on Sunday August 15, 2021. David lived in Platteville and was a member for 28 years of our post. David was 95 when he passed away. David is survived by his three daughters Elizabeth (Michael) Guyer, Laura (Jim) Chaffee, and Bernadette (Charles) Soltis along with many relatives and friends.

Condolences to Michael "Klink" Statz Family

Michael "Klink" Statz died on Sunday August 22, 2021. Michal lived in Cross Plains and was a member for 23 years of our post. Michael was 72 when he passed away. Michael is survived by his wife LouAnn and their children Richard (Amy Statz), Shawn (Deb Barsness) Statz and Traci (Todd) Daane. We offer our condolences to his entire family and especially Larry Statz his brother who also is a member of our SAL.

2022 Membership Dues

In August everyone should have received their Membership Cards and a notice to pay your dues \$15.00 for one year or \$60.00 for five years.

In 2021 we had 119 members in the SAL but we enter into 2022 with a possible total of 117 as we had two members pass away in August. If you know someone is interested in being a member I have applications to join.

As of September 1st we have 99 members paid with 18 members to still collect from.

We currently have 84.6% of our members paid for 2022. If we get the last 18 paid and get two new members we will be able to have 100% membership for 2022.