

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

September 2026

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 Bill Herriges

Paul Dull – Nursing Home

Ralph Schulenberg – Home

Albert Oleson – Nursing Home

Dennis Jones – Home

Joanne Dodge – Nursing Home

Russell Bradford – VA

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

Upcoming Events

September 03 Lions Club

17 Legion, SAL, Aux meeting

23 Red Cross Blood Drive (11 to 7)

29 Model T Club

October 01 Lions Club

03 Octoberfest

15 Legion, SAL, Aux meeting

24 Motorcross

27 Model T Club

31 Halloween Spooky House

Need to include something in the Newsletter? Email Carol Yttri at carolyttri@gmail.com or call 608-516-5970.

Please get information to me before the 1st of the month.

ADDRESS CHANGE OR REMOVAL for newsletter: If you are moving or would like to be removed from the mailing list for the newsletter contact Gary Itten at gijacondo@gmail.com, or 608-225-4722, or Flo Bayer at thebayes1@gmail.com or 608-798-4671.

HALL RENTAL: There is a special rental rate for members to use the building. If you would like to inquire about renting the hall, please contact Debby Niebuhr at 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 Bill Herriges at 608-576-5186 or e-mail bill.herriges@icloud.com.

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

Steve Zanon 608-213-9530
Katrina McKee 608-217-2023
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

Commander's Message

Steve Zanon

Hi everyone, and welcome to September;

I was out of town during our August meeting, and I owe a huge thank you to Gary Itten who stood in as Commander and Adjutant in my absence.

This fall appears to be a really busy season around here. During our meeting on September 17th Bill Statz has invited our local American Legion baseball team and coaches to our dinner to celebrate their successful season.

Also, in September we are kicking off our November Draw-down raffle ticket sales. During dinner I will be sitting at the small table again near the door (like a kid in a time-out) and issuing envelopes of ten in hopes that members, Auxiliary, and Sons will sell them for this fun event. Prices are unchanged from the past. \$50.00 gets a meal and drink, ten more dollars gets your date a meal and drink if you don't want to spring for another fifty-dollar ticket. This year we will issue 260 tickets (up from 250 previous years) and award 20 one-hundred-dollar prizes instead of nineteen. Grand prize will again be 1,500 and all others are the same. We sold out last year, and many previous years because we enjoy terrific community support in Cross Plains and Middleton. We also enjoy a large number of volunteers who make this event fun and successful. We will be asking your help again.

BTW Remember to have buyers write legibly on the stubs to make it easy for us to contact winners. They don't have to attend.

In October, Rachel Adams will again head the Oktoberfest celebration on our grounds Saturday October 3rd. We did this for the first time last year, and it was great fun. Big name bands played all day long, there was an art fair, food trucks, and petting zoo, and other things for the kids.

The legion sold beer, and this year we will again, and Hot dogs and brats as well. Rachel initiated this festival in order to enrich culture in the community, and we are thrilled to provide the site for it. Last year it wrapped up around 6:00 pm and everyone behaved as they should at a family centered event. This year should be even better!

Also during our October meeting and dinner, we expect to have a special guest speaker: Mr Jed Henry has been leading an effort to recover the remains of AOM3 Frances Krantz of Cross Plains, whose plane was shot down in 1944 over the Philippines. Jed Henry has been working with government agencies and with the help of Frances' Nephew Damien Krantz is facilitating disinterment and return of remains. This is not the first MIA veteran Jed Henry has assisted, and we look forward to hearing from him and about the book he has written on this subject.

Thanks, and see you soon,
Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Notes from the Adjutant: - Gary Itten

Oct. 3 Post 245 will be doing a brat stand at the Oktoberfest at the Legion park. Bill Diebold and myself are co-chairing the brat stand for Post 245. We are going to have the Lion's lunch trailer and we are in need of volunteer workers. We are going to have 3 shifts and at every shift we will need 1 cashier, 3 servers, and 2 grillers. The first shift will be from 9 A.M - 12:45 P.M., 2nd shift is 11:45 A.M. - 3 P.M. and the 3rd shift is 2:45 P.M. until 6 P.M. I will have a sign up sheet at the Sept.17th meeting, if you can't make the meeting, give me a call at 608-225-4722 or email me at gijacondo@gmail.com.

Some members cards were sent to the wrong address, and if you got one please return them to Post 245, P.O. Box 188, Cross Plains, WI 53528. Please send in your dues (\$45.00) for 2027 to the same address or renew online at mylegion.org.

1st Vice Commander – Emily Cash:

We had a SNAFU with mailing of membership cards, the mail merge for the labels offset names so Members have been getting the wrong cards. A clerical error on my part, please return incorrect cards to the Legion PO Box 188, and we'll get them sent to the correct address.

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. You can also call Dave Vidlock 608 798 3087 or 608 843 6968.

REGULAR MEETING August 20, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 PM by Past Commander Itten. A motion was made by Phil V. and seconded by Joe H. to approve the minutes of the July 16th meeting as printed in the 245 newsletter, motion carried. Joe H. made a motion to accept the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of July 16th, and Tom Brunner seconded it and motion carried.

No Guests or new members.

Finance: Phil V. made a motion to accept the finance report subject to audit, Ted K. 2nd it and motion carried.

Chaplain: Ken Zander broke his hip and is recovery at home. Dave Vidlock is also feeling better.

1st Vice: No Report

2nd Vice: No report

3rd Vice: No report

SAL: Kevin reported that they have cooked meals for 2 events at the legion hall. We do not have to do an Honor Guard for the Badger Honor flight this year. Contact Rodney Faust for Flags. They are cooking for a couple of events in August.

Americanism: Joe H. reported about Badger Boys State and in November he will notify the High School to get applicants for next year.

Children & Youth: No Report, need a chairman

Athletic: No Report

Community Service: No Report

Post Service Officer: Bill D. made a motion to donate 10 gift cards at \$20.00 a card for Veteran's going to High Ground in Neillsville. Phil V. 2nd it and motion carried

Public Relations: No Report

Old Business: None

New Business and Correspondence: Gary read a couple of Thank You notes.

Good of the American Legion: The amendment to the by-laws that was proposed at the last meeting was tabled to the Sept. Meeting.

Kitty: Jim Hinrichs 50/50: Tom Brunner Brandy: Don Sprang

Past Commander Itten adjourned the meeting at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Itten, Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Katrina McKee

September 19th will be the Hill and Valley Car Show and Pie Sales, please make sure to come prepared at our meeting to sign up for working the pie stand and/or bringing pie.

Lunch Committee – Jane Itten

ALA dessert for September meeting: Kathy Bertin, Barb Schutz, Jean Bolchen, Joanna Richard, Cam Hill. Call or email Jane at gijacondo@gmail.com. 608-7123133 if you can't make it thanks Jane.

Membership – Debby Niebuhr

To date we have 138 paid members. I have a few that haven't paid but will and I believe we have some that are considering not to renew this year. We understand that our lives travel different paths. While we appreciate everyone's support, we also encourage you to be honest with yourself and us. I know it can be a hard decision. GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES AND OF COURSE OUR ORGANIZATION AND COUNTRY. If you have any questions about what to pay or how to, or just need your Member ID#, please reach out to me by return email, snail mail or just text or call me. Thanks, Debby 608-445-6590

Sons of The American Legion

No report this month.

Kevin Boehnen