

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

September 2024

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 Tim Engling

Paul Dull – Nursing Home Ralph Schulenberg – Home Albert Oleson – Nursing Home
Dennis Jones – Nursing Home

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

Upcoming Events:

September	05 Lions Club	October	03 Lions Club
	12 100 Year Anniversary meeting		17 Legion, SAL, Aux meeting
	19 Legion, SAL, Aux meeting		27 Halloween Spooky House
	21 100 th Anniversary celebration		29 Model T Club
	22 100 th Anniversary celebration		
	24 Model T Club		

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.

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 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

OFFICERS: POST COMMANDER	Steve Zanon	608-213-9530
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT	Flo Bayer	608-444-8199
S.A.L. COMMANDER	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

Hello American Legion Family!

Hard to believe it is Labor Day weekend already. We had a busy month of August with a fine grilled Chicken dinner by Doug and Judy Deaton and Debby Niebuhr and Auxiliary. Thank you. We were also treated to guest speakers whom we sent to Boys and Girls State this summer. These nice kids were articulate in describing their experience and thankful for Post 245's support. Lisa Laschinger of the local Lion's club too was on hand to fund raise and describe that group's efforts to construct a public park shelter in town.

We have been Changing over the Legion Finance officer responsibilities. Lee Mayrack who has been doing a wonderful job for approximately 15 years isn't feeling well lately and Bill Diebold was kind enough to step up to relieve him of this position, which is a huge amount of work. Thanks to both of you.

We paid funeral honors to our own Dennis Powell who died recently after a long battle with cancer. His family had a celebration of life at our Hall after services and many of our own volunteered to make this a nice send off.

We marched honor guard in the Middleton Good Neighbor parade. Bill and Kathy Statz brought in the parade wagon, and with the help of the Deatons, nicely decorated it in red, white and blue, and we joined the Middleton VFW on the parade route.

As of this writing we are scheduled to but have not yet presented the colors at military appreciation night at Middleton High School's football game thanks to coordination by Bill Statz.

Looking forward, this September 21, 22 marks the 100th anniversary celebration of American Legion presence in Cross Plains. If you haven't already sent in your RSVP for the Saturday night dinner, please do, Dan Cady and committee would like them in before the 10th so that we know how to plan food, etc. Sunday looks to be a fun family festival on our grounds. Be sure to wear your hat, this event is sure to highlight the uniquely friendly relationship 245 enjoys with the local community.

October meeting will have guest speaker Brian Pitts of Cross Plains EMS to give us a brief overview training on the use of our new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) now in the building next to the bathrooms.

Thanks for reading, see you at the party!
Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Chaplain's message:

Tim Engling

Dennis A. Powell, age 77, of Middleton, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Thursday, August 15, 2024, after a battle with cancer. After his burial with military honors on Thursday, August 22, 2024, Dennis's celebration of life followed at the American Legion Post. Interment is at St. Martin's Catholic Cemetery in Martinsville, Wisconsin.

On Monday, August 12, 2024, our Legion Honor Guard honored Warren Knaub's ashes as they were interred at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery. A celebration of life was held on Saturday, August 10, 2024, at the American Legion Post. Warren died unexpectedly on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Tim Engling
312-371-0034

Thank you note from Dennis Powell Family:

Hi all,

On behalf of our family, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of Post 245 Legionnaires, Sons of Legionnaires, and the Auxiliary for their generosity and kindness to honor Dennis Powell. The military honors that

were provided were very meaningful and so moving. He was so proud to have been a veteran and he would have felt so honored to have you all part of his final goodbye. We are very appreciative of the meal that was put together. We received so many compliments on how great the food was. What an amazing unit we have! It was such a beautiful celebration, and we are forever grateful for all that you did to make that happen. Thank you to each and every one of you for all that you do.

The Powell Family

Thank you from Mike Greaney family:

We received a HEARTFELT THANKS from Mike Greaney's family for our help with the August Meal Train. It is much appreciated.

Note from Dan Cady:

Dear Comrades

We are fast approaching our celebration of 100 years as Post 245 Of the American Legion – Saturday, September 21, 2024 @ 5:00 pm. We would like to invite you to help us celebrate. There will be cocktails @ 5:00pm Then a supper served by our SAL and a message from a State Officer. After message there will be entertainment. We need RSVP from you as a member of Legion, Aux. And SAL for Saturday @ \$25.00/including 1 drink. Help us celebrate your organization serving Community, State and Nation for 100 years in Cross Plains and the surrounding area. See end of newsletter for RSVP form.

Starting at 11:00 AM on Sunday September 22, 2024, we are planning entertainment for the day from 11-7. There will be several groups performing under the shelter (weather permitting). Included entertainment for children, young adults and adults. There will be food sold by Lions Club, A Bar set up by Legion.

We also would like to invite area Legion, Aux, and SAL to join us for the meal on Saturday RSVP by 9/9/2024 and Sunday from 11-7. Let's enjoy each others company. The Committee has been putting in a lot of time to make this a special event for all the American Legion family and the Communities of Cross Plains/Middleton and surrounding area.

Notes from Bill Statz:

1. Good Neighbor Festival Parade. Post 245 shared Color Guard duty and our wagon with Middleton VFW Post 8216 to lead the GNF Parade on Aug 25th. (See photos at end of newsletter). A big thank you to the float decorating team, designed and led by Kathy Statz, with help from Deb Niebur and Doug and Judi Deaton. And after the parade, the un-decorating team was led by Kathy, with help from Steve Zanon and Bill Statz, and a host of VFW members.
2. Post 245 provided the Color Guard for the opening MHS football game on Thursday, Aug 29th. This was also Veterans Night. All veterans were free admission and were recognized during the game. Our Color Guard members were Steve Zanon, Gary Itten, Emily Cash, Bill Diebold, Phil Vallejos and Bill Statz.
3. Members of our Legion Baseball teams will be guests at the September Legion meeting. Post 245 sponsored 2 teams this year, a junior and a senior MHS/Legion Baseball team. They both had great winning seasons! Come and hear from players, parents and coaches.
4. Save the Date! Our Drawn Down Super Raffle will be November 9th. Tickets will be available at the September meeting for pick up to sell. Please help with this major fundraising event for Post 245.
5. Save the Date! Children and Youth event. Halloween Spooky Night will be held on Sunday, Oct 29th. Emily Cash will again be heading up this event. Please volunteer to help.

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 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Commander Zanon.

A motion was made by Dennis S. and seconded by Dave Vidlock to accept the minutes for July 18th as printed in the 245er, motion carried.

A motion by Dave and seconded by Pat to accept the minutes of Executive board minute's as read by the Adjutant, motion carried.

Finance: No Report, Commander Zanon reported that Lee has resigned due to health issues and that Bill Diebold has stepped up and has been appointed the new Treasurer.

Chaplain Tim reported we did Military rites for Warren Knaub, and Dan Cady announced that Dennis Powell passed away today

1st Vice Emily reported we have 108 members paid up for 2025 and our goal is 187.

2nd Vice: No report

3rd Vice: Dave reported metal prices doing good and he would like to thank everyone who helps loading metal when he calls.

SAL: Kevin reported they have 112 out of 114 members paid. They have been cooking for events at the legion hall and will be cooking for some more upcoming events. He also reported that the legion, Auxiliary, and SAL Honor guards will welcome the Badger Honor flight back Oct. 12th and possibly Sept. 7th.

Americanism: Bill reported the Legion baseball season is over and they had a good season and some of players will be at our Sept. Meeting. National Night went well in both communities. He hopes to have the Draw Down tickets at the Sept. Meeting. Dane County Government Day will be April 16th. Good Neighbor Festival parade is Aug. 25th and meet at the VFW hall in Middleton at 11:15 A. M. Bill will need an Honor Guard for the first football game at Middleton High School. This year's Veterans shoot will be held Nov. 8th from 8 AM till Noon.

Children and Youth: No report

Athletic: No Report

Post Service Officer: No report

Public Relations: No report

Old Business: Gary reported the playground committee is meeting with a couple of playground companies and that he received permission from the Executive Board to move ahead with starting fund raising for this project.

New Business: Commander Steve read a letter from Fisher House of WI asking for donations to build a home for Veteran families to stay in while the veteran is a patient at the VA hospital in Milwaukee. This was tabled to next month. The Lion's legacy project donation was tabled to next month.

Steve asked for nominations for Legionnaire of the year. A couple of names were nominated and we will vote next month.

Emily will need help for the Halloween haunted house which will be held Oct. 27th.

Good of the American Legion: Dan reported we received new shirts, contact him. The Elevator has been down for three weeks looking to get it fixed. Walkin cooler if fixed. 100th Anniversary itinerary was mailed out and RSVP for the meal.

Dan made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Cross Plains Optimist for Santa's visit in December. Emily seconded motion carried

Ted K. asked about using the legion basement for the Marine Corps Four Lakes Detachment 351 meetings. He was told to use our legion website to set it up.

Kitty: no winner

50/50: Commander Zanon donated back

Brandy: Rodney Faust

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Itten, Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

President Flo Bayer

Hello 245'ers,

I am sorry to have missed our August meeting. I must give a BIG shout out to Debby for covering for me again! I heard Deaton's provided a scrumptious chicken dinner and that our Badger Girls and Boys gave inspiring reports. Badger Girls State is such an important program teaching our future leaders about Americanism and Democracy.



September will be a fun month. We have the 100th Anniversary Legion evening dinner and Hill & Valley Pie Sale on Sat. 9/21. Everyone loves our homemade pies! If you haven't already, mail your RSVP with \$25 for each dinner & 1 drink to the Legion by 9/10. Randy Plunkett will be our evening entertainment. Sunday 9/22 everyone is invited to celebrate with us. We'll have 4 bands, bouncy houses, activities for the kids, and displays with Post 245 history. Food will be provided by the Lions wagon. Detailed schedule: <https://tinyurl.com/LegionPost245-100thAnniversary>. Watch for an upcoming special Post 245 100th Anniversary insert in the Star News publication (formerly Sickle Arrow). Our past president Joyce Clampitt wrote a very interesting article for the Auxiliary. Did you know we used to stay and play Bunco, then head over to Sheltons for Euchre after our Auxiliary meetings?

Remember to keep the family and friends of Dennis Powell in your thoughts and prayers. It's hard losing another member of our Legion Family. Denny helped my husband Tony clean the weapons used on Memorial Day and for Military Honors at funerals. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Membership – Debby Niebuhr

We are almost at the finish line collecting dues from our members. I believe we have only 5 outstanding. We have 2 new members joining us in September and hope to have more. To make 100% with Department and National, we

need an additional 12-14 new members signed up. We have 20 people who will be receiving a September notice for the payment of their dues, but most of them will have to disregard the notice as they paid after the end of July.

I WISH TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS PAID THEIR DUES, it's very impressive; in fact we got a mention in the Department of WI news that we are the largest UNIT and had 156 members paid before the end of July. Some Units have less than 50 members to collect from. So pat yourself on the back, WE ARE TRULY A VERY IMPRESSIVE UNIT. We have a wonderful Legion family in our Cross Plains/Middleton area to be thankful for. 😊

September Lunch Committee – Jane Itten

Kathy Bertin, Barb Schutz, Jean Bolchen, Joanna Richard, Cami Hill. Carol Yttri makes meat and potatoes. Let me or Deb Niebuhr if you could make a salad. Call Jan with any questions. Jane (608) 712-3133 or email gijacondo@gmail.com.

October Lunch Committee – Jane Itten

Lorie Ballweg, Susan Nelson, Mary Fitzsimons, Jacky Graves. If you can't make it call or text Jane (608) 712-3133. Email gijacondo@gmail.com.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly Meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on September 19th.

Flags

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

Warren Knaub's Celebration of Life - August 10th

Thank you to Dave Schultz, Whitey Hillebrand, Greg Roessler, Rod Faust, Brad Niebuhr, Noel Sarbacker, Kevin Boehnen, Tom Hellickson, Dave Maier, Deb Niebuhr, Judy Eisner and Bruce Schumann for helping prepare and serving the food for Warren Knaub's Celebration of Life on August 10th.

Cross Plains Baseball Golf Outing - August 14th

Thank you to Dave Schultz, Whitey Hillebrand, Rod Faust, Brad Niebuhr, Kevin Boehnen Tim Hillebrand, Mike Diebold and Mary Jo Diebold for helping prepare and serving the food for Cross Plains Baseball Golf Outing on August 14th.

American Legion Post 245 100th Anniversary Dinner September 21st

We will be looking for help preparing, serving and cleaning up the Kitchen on Saturday September 21st for the American Legion Post 245 as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary with a dinner at the Legion Hall. We are looking for 8 people to work between 4:00 and 8:00 preparing, serving and cleaning up. Contact Whitey or myself if you are interested in helping.

Recycling Efforts

Whitey, Tim Hillebrand and Rod Faust have been assisting with the Legion's recycling efforts. If you can help us out please contact Whitey for dates and times for helping out.

Future events for SAL to cook

They are as follows:

- September 21st American Legion 100th Anniversary Dinner
- October 26th Motor Cross Dinner
- November 21st Legion Meeting - Thanksgiving Dinner

2025 Membership Dues

In July everyone received their Membership Cards and a notice to pay your dues \$15.00 for one year or \$60.00 for five years. If you have prepaid your dues you received your card.

We currently have 107 out of our 115 members paid for 2025. That is 93% of our members are prepaid please consider the \$60.00 for five year options as it helps when trying to collect membership dues each year. If you know someone is interested I have applications to join or you would like to sign up your grandsons let me know. Our goal is to have 115 members signed up for 2025.

Photos from Middleton Good Neighbor Fest provided by Bill Statz



Legion members of the combined Color Guard are Steve Zanon carrying the Legion Post 245 flag, and Cody Bratton on rifle guard. VFW members had a rifle guard, US Flag, and VFW post 8216 Flag.



Riding the float are Auxiliary members Barb Schutz and Kathy Statz, with Legion members Phil Vallejos, Mike Schutz and Bill Statz. VFW members Tom Brunner, Wayne Dohse, Bill Faas, John Hill and Steve Peckham. Tow truck provided by VFW, Pete Bindl. The wagon for the float provided by the R-Bar, Martinsville.