

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

April 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.

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.

Upcoming Events:

April	03 Lions Club	May	01 Lions Club
	17 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting		15 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting
	27 Spaghetti Dinner		22 Legion, Aux Dane Cty meeting
	29 Model T Club		27 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 245rs! And welcome to April.

We had a great meeting in March and enjoyed Corned beef and cabbage courtesy of Doug and Judy Deaton. It was delicious and we thank them. The weekend prior to our meeting the Deatons and many volunteers put on the annual Pancake breakfast and it was very successful.

We were issued 50 Raffle tickets from State headquarters, and I have them to sell. They are \$20.00, and have five prizes from a thousand dollars, down to two hundred. Some were sold that evening, but I have plenty left. The drawing will be on 19 July at 8:00pm but you need not be there to win. So if you would like a ticket, please send a 20.00 check made out to American Legion to my address 3205 Cedar Trail, Middleton, WI 53562, and I will send you a raffle ticket. I need name, address and phone number to fill out the stub. If I run out of tickets I will mail your check back.

Bill Diebold wasn't at our March meeting as he was undergoing a hospital procedure. I understand he is feeling better but please send up a good thought for him.

Julie Whitehurst of Quilts of Valor contacted me, and her organization offers to craft quilts for veterans again this year. If you are interested in receiving a quilt for your service and have not previously received one, please email Julie at Julesmkw62@gmail.com. Please also copy me szanon2019@gmail.com so we can set up a little presentation at one of our future meetings. The quilts are beautiful, and the presentation with veteran's family present is very meaningful. Veterans who have been honorably discharged are all eligible for this, please consider.

We lost a member Richard Dahmen recently, he died March 10th at 97 years old. Joe Hodgson forwarded his name for the Last Bugle.

Our facility will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner on April 27th with proceeds to benefit the Murphy family, which experienced a tragic motor vehicle accident recently. My understanding is that there is need for help setting up and taking down for this event and Kevin Boehnen is our point of contact for this. We also voted and approve a modest donation to the family during our meeting from our operating funds.

April 16th is Dane county Government Day, and Bill Statz has been instrumental in organizing and improving this event. Middle schoolers from ours and surrounding areas get on busses and go downtown Madison to learn about the many functions of county government. It's been going on for many years now and the kids love it. Legionnaires attend as chaperones, and enjoy the community involvement as well as show off our sporty hats.

Memorial Day fast approaches, and of course we offer multiple scholarships to high schoolers. If you know hard charging Seniors who could use up to a thousand dollars for college, please have them submit a letter of interest and mail it to our post, we will contact them with formal application.

Okay I'm being a bit long winded here, sorry. See you all in April meeting, we are hoping to have a guest speaker from the Fisher house organization.

Cheers!

Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Chaplain's message:

Tim Engling

I missed the March meeting because I was traveling to the Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile, NM. Richard (Dick) Charles Dahmen passed away on Monday, March 10, 2025 at the age of 97. Shortly after his high school graduation in 1945, he joined the U.S. Navy. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Bernard's Church in Middleton on March 19, 2025.

I hope to see you all on April 17!

Thank you note from Doug Deaton:

Thank you to the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members that helped with the St. Patrick's Day Breakfast. We had a good crowd, and the breakfast was a success because of our great volunteers. Thanks again!

Note from the Adjutant – Gary Itten:

I would like to thank Dennis Heiliger for taking care of the adjutant duties while I was snowbirding. I received a call from the company that is installing our new playground equipment. It sounds like they want to get going on our project soon, since we have had nice weather. We probably will need volunteers to help prep the area and spread the base (wood chips) when the new equipment is installed.

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 or call 608-225-4722, or Flo Bayer at thebayers1@gmail.com or call 608-798-4671, or Dan Cady at 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. Department Oratorical Contest was held Saturday, March 29th at Ripon College. Our Post 245 winner, Wyatt Ehrhardt, went on to win at County and then won at 3rd District, to go on to represent our 3rd District at the Department Contest. At the Department Oratorical Contest, a Regional Contest is held first, with the District winners from each of the 12 Districts competing. The districts are divided into 3 regions, with 4 districts each. Wyatt was the winner of our Region! (See photo for Region, left to right: Legionnaire from Marshall, PNC Denise Rohan, 3rd District Commander Dan O'Brian, winner Wyatt Ehrhardt, Bill Statz Post 245, PDC Ken Rynes, Legionnaires from Richland Center and Marshall.)

The final Contest for Department Winner was then held with the 3 Regional winners competing. Wyatt was 1st Runner up! As 1st Runner Up, Wyatt is the alternate to represent Wisconsin at the National Oratorical Contest if the Winner is not able to go. (See 2 photos for Department, 1st photo from left to right: Auxiliary Department President Becky Mueller, Wyatt, Department Commander Jim Johnson presenting medal. 2nd photo: SAL Department Officer, Auxiliary Department President Becky Mueller, 1st Runner Up Wyatt, 1st Place Winner, 3rd Place Winner, Department Commander Jim Johnson, Department Oratorical Director Robert Stone)



2. American Legion Dane County Youth Government Day will be 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 is again sponsoring our 3 middle schools, Glacier Creek, St Francis and Kromrey. Each school sends 16 students, and teacher(s). Watch for a report and photos in the May Newsletter.
3. We will have a guest speaker at the April 17th monthly meeting. Steven Rose, Executive Director of Fisher House Wisconsin, will give a presentation at 7PM. A Fisher House is where family members of a Veteran can

stay while the Veteran is hospitalized. There is a Fisher House in Milwaukee, serving the VA Medical Center. There are now plans to build one in Madison to serve our VA Hospital. Come to the meeting to learn all about it!

4. Post 245 will again provide the Color Guard for the Honor Flight on May 10th, return flight at 8PM at the Madison airport. Looking for volunteers. We can have more than just the 5 Legionnaires on the colors, can have as many marchers as want to come and participate. Call Bill Statz to volunteer. 608-577-4002
5. The Dane County Legion monthly meeting for May will be held at our Post 245 on May 22nd, dinner at 6pm, meetings for Legion and Auxiliary at 7pm. As the hosting Post, we will need the regular meal served, and the bar open. All Legion and Auxiliary members welcome. We need to have a number of us representing Post 245 as the hosting Post, please consider coming to the County meeting, support the County Legionnaires.

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 March 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Commander Zanon at 7:22pm.

A motion was made by Pete B and seconded by Ed P to accept the minutes as printed in the 245er, motion carried.

A motion was made by Joe and seconded by Frank B to accept the Executive Board meeting as read by the Adjutant. Motion carried.

We had "Crowbait" and Ryan Goth from the Madison motorcycle club come to our meeting for the purpose of donating \$2000.00. They appreciate using our hall and facilities. This amount is for last year and this year.

FINANCE: No report.

1st VICE: Emily stated we have 159 members paid toward our goal of 187. Please make sure your dues are current. She has received several continuous membership certificates of 50 and 75 years. Steve made a motion, seconded by Ted K, to have a ceremony at our May 15th meeting. The motion carried. She will be sending out letters to those members. Kevin and the SAL will be making a steak dinner for this meeting.

2nd VICE: No report.

3rd VICE: No report.

SAL: Kevin mentioned the AUX made meals for the Mike Greaney family for a month and they donated \$500.00 to the AUX. SAL had ten members work the pancake breakfast. On 4/27/2025 there will be a Murphy family fund raiser spaghetti dinner with cooperating efforts of the Optimist, Lions, St Francis, and the SAL and all proceeds going to the Murphys. It will be \$15.00 per plate and run from 11 – 7 that day.

AMERICANISM: Bill S reminded us we sponsored three boys to go to Badger boys state and those three boys will be at our August meeting to share their experiences. The veteran gun shoot will be held at the county training center again this year on 11/12/2025. The County government day will be 4/16/2025 and we will share the bus expense like last year.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve made the motion to donate \$1000.00 to the Murphy family, seconded by Phil. This motion carried. Dan C will be getting a quote for our sidewalk extension to move the chairs on carts for our Memorial day celebration. Julie Whitehurst contacted Steve about any vet who has not yet received a Quilt of Valor. If you wish to receive one, contact Steve. If you know a high school senior who is continuing their

education the Legion has \$1000.00 scholarship funds for which they can apply. Contact Steve for forms and they must be in by May 1st.

KITTY: Fred Urban
50/50: Rod Faust
BRANDY: Pete Bindl

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30
Respectfully submitted.,
Dennis Heiliger, Acting Adjutant

Auxiliary Newsletter

Hello 245'ers,

President Flo Bayer

April is the month of the Military Child, which is an annual event that acknowledges the unique challenges and contributions of military children, who often experience frequent moves, separations from family, and adapting to new environments. The 2025 theme is "Celebrating Military Children and Youth: Building Stronger Character and Relationships". I'd like to thank those of you who have donated items for our 23 Purple Up kids that we will be honoring this month. Karen Runk and Lorie Ballweg will be leading the packing of bags on April 7th @6pm at the Legion if anyone would like to join us. We received two donated books of: "Brownie the War Dog:" written by Kelly Nelson. It is about a dog from King, WI who served in World War 2, came home with an injury and went on to help veterans back home (not unlike many of our Veterans). We will donate the books to the Cross Plains and Middleton Libraries. An organization I'd like to mention that helps children of our military families is All4HopeInc.org. They're working to raise funds for 200 Brownie kits (book & #988 dog tag, \$20ea). The kits will be donated to elementary youth at Badger Youth Camp, to Gold Star and Families of the Fallen attending Camp Serenity at Camp American Legion and military dependents of Camp Corral in Wautoma.

Many thanks to all who supported our Pancake breakfast, either by eating, working or baking. We loved the beautiful shamrocks donated by Chris Shanahan's business "The Florettes". The proceeds from our bake sale will be donated to Post 245 for the new playground equipment. I'm looking forward to seeing it being built & kids playing.

Membership – Debby Niebuhr

We have another new member, Gail Brueggeman Curran. Please make her feel welcome along with all our other members. The big news is that the dues are the same for 2026 (\$35.) We will start collecting them mid-July in hopes of getting them to ALA Dept of WI by the end of July. So far, we have had 80-85 per cent of our membership paid by the end of July in the last 2 years. Let's aim for the 90's. I will be bugging you as I'm still the Membership Chair. I really enjoy this job, but don't mean to get carried away with bugging you, so I apologize if I've offended you. I really appreciate everyone's help. We are a very lucky UNIT. Be proud of yourselves.

Auxiliary Scholarship – Sandra Faust

The Virginia Faust Scholarship is available to families of Auxiliary members. Please contact Sandra Faust at 1-608-219-7644 or wbuschma@gmail.com. The scholarship application is due May 1, 2025. If you need any help accessing any of these, please let Sandra know.

Service Opportunities\Projects – Debby Niebuhr

- April 7th, 6pm @ American Legion – Pack Purple Up bags
- May 10th 8pm-10pm (min 4 mbrs) Badger Honor Flight Color Guard
- May 12th 4:45pm -8:15pm (min 4 mbrs) Culvers Share Night (Middleton)

Lunch Committee – Jane Itten

April – Deb Wipperfurth, deb Maier, Susan Huton, Virginia Diebold.

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

If you can't make dessert, help with set at 6pm or clean up after the meal please call me at 608-712-3133 or email me at gijacondo@gmail.com.

3rd District Conference – April 26th at Monroe Zilmer-Riley Post. Contact Flo or Deb by April 4th if you'd like to attend with us.

Sons of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on April 17th.

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. Everyone in the surrounding area is eligible to apply for this scholarship. As always we encourage sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters of Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members to apply. If you know any good candidates from the surrounding communities also encourage them to apply.

If you are interested in applying for the Ray Faust SAL Scholarship of \$500.00 please contact Ron Faust at 2129 Caesar St Cross Plains, WI 53528, 608 225 7281 or by e-mail ronaldfaust@reagan.com. We would like all applications turned in by May 1st.

Murphy Strong - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser April 27th

On April 27th from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM the Sons of the American Legion in conjunction with the Cross Plains Lions, Cross Plains Optimist and Saint Francis Xavier School will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for the Murphy Family.

Cost for the dinner is \$15.00 for Adults and \$10.00 for Children.

Just a little back ground information the Murphy Family (Quin, Jojo, Charlie and Georgia) were in car accident in Chicago and have many medical bills and the community has stepped up to make sure we can support them. Greg Roessler is a SAL member and this family consists of his daughter, son-law, and grand children.

We are also looking for 4 cooks in the kitchen, 1 making salads and 1 making bread per shift. We also are looking for bartenders needing 2 per shift.

The Shifts are from 10:30 to 1:00, 1:00 to 3:00, 3:00 to 5:00 and 5:00 to 7:00

Let Whitey or Kevin Boehnen know if you can help kabohnen@chorus.net.

Let us show our support for Quin, Jojo, Charlie, Georgia and their entire family.

Color Guard for Honor Flight - May 10th

On the May 10th in the evening on the return Badger Honor Flight our Post 245 will be the Color Guard that evening. We are looking for at least 4 Legion members, 4 Auxiliary members and 4 SAL members to make up this detail.

If you are interested in attending please let Bill Statz, Flo Bayer or Kevin Boehnen know that you are interested. You can email me at kabohnen@chorus.net.

SAL Cooking for the April 17th Meeting

The SAL will be cooking for the April 17th meeting and we will be having Scalloped Potatoes & Ham. Show up around 4:00 PM to set up, cook the meal and clean up. Let Whitey or Kevin Boehnen know if you can help.



JOIN US FOR A GREAT MEAL AND A GREAT CAUSE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

2217 AMERICAN LEGION DR, CROSS PLAINS, WI 53528

11-7 AM PM	\$15 ADULTS	TO-GO DINNERS AVAILABLE!
	\$10 KIDS	

MADE POSSIBLE WITH HELP FROM



100% OF PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT THE MURPHY FAMILY!

If you are unable to attend but still wish to support the Murphy family, checks can be made payable to Quin Murphy and mailed to:

JUDY KETELBOETER
Park Bank
2407 Brewery Rd
Cross Plains, WI 53528

**ANY QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CALL JUDY**
608.444.3462

Murphy
STRONG
QUIN • JOJO • CHARLIE • GEORGIA

Thank you for all of your support!