

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

CROSS PLAINS-MIDDLETON AMERICAN LEGION

Kerl-Endres-Brannan

Post 245

March 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:

March

- 06 Lions Club
- 11 Viet Nam Vets meeting
- 16 Pancake Breakfast
- 20 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting
- 25 Model T Club
- 27 Red Cross Blood Drive

April

- 10 Lions Club
- 17 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting
- 29 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

Greetings American Legion post245 Family.

March is here and looks to be a good month.

Thank you, Dennis Semrau and the Optimist club, for hosting the February 16th Euchre tournament. Proceeds were designated for the playground equipment install which should begin to take form in the fast-approaching spring thaw.

The St Patrick's day Pancake breakfast will be March 16th and volunteers are still needed. Please contact Doug Deaton.

Congratulations to our oratorical contestant Wyatt Ehrhardt, who won our post, the county, and most recently the 3rd district contests and will continue on to the regional gathering at Ripon College, Ripon WI on March 29th. Way to go Wyatt!

Earlier this week I sent out a group email with a link to Cross plains schools for an event honoring our own Rodney Esser (Peanuts). If you didn't get this it is because I don't have an updated email address for you. Please email me if this is the case and I can add you to the list. Rodney wants you to know that admission to this concert event is a donation basis, and those who are unable to pay the full admission are still welcome to attend.

That link again is: mcpasd.k12.wi.us

In part, the post reads: "...Giving back will be the focus of an April 26 concert headlined by musician Mollie B – a close friend of Mr. Peanuts – at Middleton High School's Performing Arts Center. The concert is being held in his honor, and it's a fundraiser for the [MCPASD Education Foundation](#).

"I'm delighted to say I've known and have worked with Mollie B, Ted Lange and the entire Busta family on and off the stage," Mr. Peanuts said. "I want only the best for my 60-year celebration at the Performing Arts Center in Middleton High School."

If memory serves, the March meeting will also feature Corned beef and Cabbage courtesy of the Deatons and Debbie Niebuhr because shouldering the responsibilities of a community event like the Pancake breakfast the same week just isn't enough work for these guys. We thank them and really appreciate them. The Deatons have some travel plans for April, and could very much use a break. If there is someone who could set up and provide dinner for around 50 people in the April 17th meeting, please step up to someone in the Executive committee.

Thanks, and hope to see you soon;
Steve Zanon, Commander, Post 245

Notes 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 thebayes1@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.

Volunteers needed for St Patrick’s Day Pancake Breakfast March 16th – Doug Deaton

There will be a Pancake Breakfast at the Cross Plains Legion on Sunday, March 16th from 8am to noon. We will need volunteers for various duties. Please call Doug Deaton at 608-630-4633 if you’re able to help Thank you in advance.

Meal for March meeting – Doug Deaton

The March Meeting meal will be the traditional corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings including carrots, red potatoes and soda bread.

Looking for volunteer to cook meal for April meeting

Carol Yttri has cooked the April meal for the Legion meeting in past years. She will be in Florida. Therefore, we are looking for a volunteer to cook the meal for the Legion, SAL, Auxiliary meeting for April. The meeting is will be held on April 17th. If you’re able, please contact Doug Deaton at 608-630-4633 or Debby Niebuhr at 608-445-6590.

VA Hospital – Joe Hodgson, Legion Rep

There are opportunities for volunteers at the Madison VA Hospital for those looking for something to do and would be a great way to fill some hours in your day and benefit our veterans at the same time. The VA is in need of Escort help and Red Coat (Vest) Ambassador assistance. You need not be a legion, SAL or Auxiliary member to be a volunteer, although we have members of each helping out at the hospital. Escorts assist inpatients to their clinic appointments and Ambassadors assist outpatients that come in for their clinic appointments, both helping wheelchair bound veterans. Minimum hours are 4 hours per week and you can pick your times. There is a need for afternoon volunteers presently but not if it doesn’t fit your schedule. If interested contact Jim or Matt at 608-280-7030 or myself at 608-669-5204. Your volunteer hours are recorded and count for your local post. It’s a great way to pay back to the community, the veteran, and strengthen your self- esteem by doing good and serving your country.

Notes from Bill Statz:

1. **Wyatt wins 3rd District Oratorical!!** Congratulations to our Post 245 Oratorical Contestant winner, Wyatt Ehrhardt. Wyatt went on to win the Dane County contest on January 25th, and won the 3rd District contest on February 22nd. He did great presentations, gets better at each level. Wyatt now continues on to represent the 3rd District at the Regional and Department contests to be held at Ripon College, Ripon WI on March 29th. I am not able to attend Department on the 29th, looking for Post 245 volunteers go to Ripon and support Wyatt. Call or email me for details: billstatz@tds.net (608) 577-4002.

See pics below:

1st pic; from left to right, 3rd District Cdr. Dan O'Brien, 4 contestants Abigail, Wyatt Ehrhardt (placed first), Grant, Josie, DVC Jerry Hook and Peter Herman 3rd Dist Oratorical Chair.

2nd pic; Bill Statz Post 245 Americanism/Oratorical Chair, Wyatt Ehrhardt with his mother, Dane County Commander Scott Klassy.



2. Dane County Youth Government Day is April 16th. Post 245 is again sponsoring our 3 Middle Schools; Glacier Creek, St Francis and Kromrey. Asking for volunteers to chaperone each of the 3 schools, and assist downtown at the event. Call or email me for details: billstatz@tds.net (608) 577-4002
3. Best of Awards Applications submitted. Reference the October Legion meeting when we nominated 3 Post 245 candidates for the Legion Department of Wisconsin "Best of Awards". The arduous 18 page Applications have been submitted to the County for judging at the Feb 27th County meeting, and moving winners on to 3rd District. A big thank you to our Applicants for their efforts to compile all the information requested. Recall our nominees are: 1) Outstanding Enlisted National Guard Soldier of the Year, SFC Emily L Cash. 2) Edward J. Ormsby Law and Order Award, Dane County Deputy Jodi Hager. 3) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Award, Katrina McKee. Hope to see them as winners at the Department Convention in July!
Wish them well and thank them for their service!

Bill Statz
Americanism Chair

1. **Post 245 Color Guard wants YOU!**Need to back fill the ranks of our Color Guard. We have lost a number of our Guard members (deceased or disabled) over the last 5 years. Post 245 is a Certified Funeral Honors provider. As such, we are called on to do military funeral rites for the greater Dane County/Madison area for any eligible veteran, Legionnaire or not. With our current roster of Color Guard members, we are not able to fill the ranks for a funeral. A full funeral detail includes: (1) Commander, (1) Chaplain, (2) Flag bearers, (2) Flag guards-rifles, (2) Flag folding, (1) Sgt at Arms, (7) Rifles for salute, (1) Bugler for taps. Total of 17 Legionnaires. Fortunately, the military now does the Flag folding - but not always. Other short staff measures we use are one person does Commander/Chaplain, no rifle guards on the flags, have less than 7 for rifle salute. We are also short for the Memorial Day program at the Legion, since several of the Guard members are also the Officers on stage who are doing the rest of the program.
No Experience necessary, will train! Call or email me for details: billstatz@tds.net (608) 577-4002, or Sgt at Arms Dick Zwettler (608) 798-2338

Bill Statz
Sgt at Arms

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.

Auxiliary Newsletter

Hello 245'ers,

President Flo Bayer

I know we are getting close with the transition of winter into spring, when for the past week I have heard the beautiful bugle calls from a pair of Sandhill Cranes claiming their territory and seeing a pair of Canadian geese preparing a nest.

At the Mid-Winter conference, I learned that the Fisher House is coming to the west side of Madison. I believe currently the only one in Wisconsin is in the Milwaukee area. The Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military & veteran families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. I'm hoping to learn more about The Fisher House and how we can support the families that stay there. <https://www.fisherhouse.org/>

Many thanks to Sheila Luhman, Karla Krajewski, Louise Powell, Jacky Graves, Karen Runk, Mary Jones & Doug Deaton who helped with the annual deep clean of our kitchen in February. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our March meeting!

Membership – Debby Niebuhr

Heads up that we will discuss and then vote on whether to increase our dues at the March meeting.

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 me know.

Service Opportunities\Projects – Debby Niebuhr

• Pancake Breakfast Aux. Bake\No Bake Sale – March 16th

To help raise funds for our Post's new playground, the Auxiliary will hold a bake/no bake sale. Drop off your favorite pie, cookies or bars ready for sale on Sat. 4-6pm or before 9am Sunday. Still need serving help from 10-12:30pm. Contact me - dniebuhr@chorus.net or Doug Deaton - casliti@gmail.com if available.

3rd District Conference – April 26th at Monroe Zilmer-Riley Post

March Lunch Committee – Jane Itten

Marilyn Sagmoen, Bernie Harrington, Judy Eisner, Louise Powell (covering for Jane thanks). If you can't make dessert & clean up e-mail Jane at gijacondo@gmail.com. Or call 608-712-3133.

Son's of The American Legion

Kevin Boehnen

Monthly meeting

Monthly meeting will be held on March 20th.

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.

St Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast

Will be held on March 16th. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

There are two shifts for working this event:

7:30 AM 10:00 AM Need two people to make French Toast in the kitchen. Need two people to wash dishes. Also need two people to take cash and tickets. Auxiliary is covering serving the food, cleaning tables, serving coffee and running food to the serving line.

10:00 AM to 12:30 PM Need four people to make Pancakes and French Toast in the kitchen. Need two people to wash dishes. Also need two people to take cash and tickets. Auxiliary is covering serving the food, cleaning tables, serving coffee and running food to the serving line.

In the past the SAL has played a big role in helping in the kitchen. If you can help contact Judi or Doug at 608 370 2269 or by email at casliti@gmail.com.

SAL Dues

We are still at 116 members as of the end of February. We are always looking for new members if you know anyone who is interested let me know and I can send them an application.

Dues are \$15.00 a year or you can pay \$60.00 for 5 years. If you know of anyone who is interested call me at 608 798 2113 or email me at kabohnen@chorus.net.

Color Guard for Honor Flight - May 10th

On the May 10th in the evening on the return Badger Honor Flight we will 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 Gary Itten, Flo Bayer or Kevin Boehnen know that you are interested. You can email me at kabohnen@chorus.net.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

8:00 A.M.—NOON

AT

CROSS PLAINS AMERICAN LEGION POST 245

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES! IN ADDITION WE WILL BE SERVING FRENCH TOAST, LINK SAUSAGE & HAM, WITH MILK, JUICE OR COFFEE

\$ 10.00 PER ADULT, \$5.00 PER CHILD (6 TO 12)

UNDER 6 FREE

