I am thankful for the nice turnout for our National President Diane Duscheck’s official visit. The Parade of Checks took in over $2,000 for her special project (and Wisconsin’s) – the ALA Foundation Endowment fund. A big thank you for making Wisconsin proud!

The weather did not dampen the Juniors’ Camp Smile. Fun was had on the scavenger hunt. The juniors did a great job on the craft project, showing some senior members up. All I can say is that it was knot easy for me, and I now have one of a kind bracelet. To finish our day at camp, we made smores.

Wisconsin had a nice turnout for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Buffalo, New York. Wisconsin received a nice cutting board in the shape of a buffalo for being a gold sponsor of the program, and we should use it cut out things to eat. The Veterans’ artwork was amazing, and the talent show was fantastic. Next year’s event will be in Iowa and I truly recommend this event to everyone who is able to attend.

As the holidays approach and things become hectic, remember to keep track of your donations – both monetarily and of your time. That way when it comes to report time, you will have all the information needed for your unit reports. Yes, your totals do make a difference.

EPILEPSY FACTS:
• People with epilepsy can handle jobs with responsibility and stress. They may work in business, government, the arts, and all sorts of professions. If stress makes their seizures worse, they may need to learn ways to manage stress at work – but every one needs to learn how to cope with stress! There are some jobs that people with epilepsy can’t do because of possible safety problems, like driving a school bus. Otherwise, having epilepsy shouldn’t limit the types of job that a person can do.
• Epilepsy can’t be cured. It is a chronic medical problem. For many people, medicines work to treat their epilepsy, but treatment doesn’t work for everyone. More than 1 million people in the United States have uncontrolled epilepsy. There is still an urgent need for more research to find better treatments and a cure.
• Epilepsy isn’t rare. Epilepsy is more than twice as common in the U.S. as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, and cystic fibrosis combined. Epilepsy can happen by itself, or with other conditions that affect the brain, like cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorders, Alzheimer’s, and traumatic brain injury.

“Be helpful. When you see a person without a smile, give them yours.” — Zig Ziglar

Mission in Action: Christmas Gift Shop

Josh Dog supervised many Legion family members and friends as they wrapped gifts for the 2017 Christmas Gift Shop. Watch the next issue of the Wisconsin for more pictures and results of this awesome Auxiliary program. Anyone interested in supporting the Christmas Gift Shop may send checks payable to “ALA-Wisconsin” to Auxiliary headquarters, clearly indicating “Christmas Gift Shop” in the memo field.
November is here and it will fly by quickly. It brings with it so many dates and times and events to remember, celebrate and be thankful for. We remember to set our clocks back when daylight savings time ends. We remember to honor our Veterans on Veterans Day and to truly thank them for their service. We remember our friends and families and are thankful for all we have been blessed with when Thanksgiving arrives. We may make a special donation to our favorite causes on “giving Tuesday”. And after all that, we look forward to the December holidays and time spent with friends and family.

Time flies, and it is precious. Time with family and friends is special. Working for our veterans and our military gives us the opportunity to show our love, concern and thankfulness for all they have done and continue to do to secure and maintain our freedoms each and every day. So what one simple thing can we do this month? We can pray. We can wake up each morning and thank the Lord for granting us another day. We can pray. We can wake up each morning and thank the Lord for granting us another day. We can make a special donation to our favorite causes on “giving Tuesday”. And after all that, we look forward to the December holidays and time spent with friends and family.

Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you for the world so sweet.
Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you God for everything.

MUSIC:
For the beauty of the Earth.
For the glory of the skies.
For the Love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.
Lord of all, To Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

Bonnie Dorniak
Executive Secretary/Treasurer
Ph: 608-745-0124
Email: deptscc@amlegionauxwi.org
Website: www.amlegionauxwi.org

National President Diane Duscheck conducted her official visit in Wisconsin on October 7th. She participated in the AEA in the Know Conference at Green Lake and a reception was held in honor of her, including a Parade of Cheeks to benefit her special project, the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Endowment Fund which raised more than $2,000! Thank you to everyone who attended.

You asked, we listened… Many units and members have asked that Contest and Awards information be provided earlier in the year, so it was included in the Program Action Plans that were mailed to unit presidents in October. The information is also posted on the website for any member to review. Separate Contest & Awards packets will not be mailed in December as was done in previous years.

Unit Presidents should watch for the Unit Annual Year-End Report forms, which will hopefully be mailed by the end of December. Department President Bonnie Jakubczyk will review the Unit Year-End Reports and select units for recognition. Program chairmen also use the information that Units report to prepare their annual reports for the national organization. Every unit is encouraged to submit a report so they can be acknowledged for their work accomplished throughout the year.

National Headquarters will mail the second dues renewal notices on January 15th. The mail list is pulled in early December so if you think you mistakenly receive a renewal notice, please verify with your Unit Membership Chairman that she forwarded your dues to Department. Dues are not considered “paid” until they have been processed by Department Headquarters. Renewal notices will instruct members to send their dues directly to Department to ensure that they are processed in a timely fashion so members do not lose their benefits. Members may also pay dues to their unit, online (www. ALAforVeterans.org) using a debit or credit card, or by phone at 317-569-4500, Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

December 29, 2017 is the last day for processing 2017 Paid Up For Life (PUFL) membership applications. Members who apply after December 31st will need to pay their 2018 dues before the PUFL application can be accepted. What a great holiday gift idea!

American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State (ALAGBS) session will be held at UW-Oshkosh from June 17-22, 2018. The tuition fee of $300/del- egate is due by January 29, 2018. Units are reminded to send their reservations in as soon as possible so registration information can be sent to their high school. If your Unit has decided it can no longer participate in the Girls State program, please notify Carrie at Department Headquarters and your school — before the school starts its selection process.

The American Legion Auxiliary headquarters office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25-26 for Christmas and Monday, January 1 for the New Year’s holiday.

Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you for the world so sweet.
Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you God for everything.

Sue Keyzers
Department Chairman
Ph: 920-833-2731
Email: suekeyzers.ala@gmail.com

Season’s Greetings. As the holiday and winter seasons approach, it is a good time to continue the projects you started in the fall and seek out new ways to serve our community. I have had questions about what types of projects could be done. In her latest newsletter, ALA Central Division Chairman Martha Setlock gave some examples that I had not thought of before. Some of them are: volunteer to help people repair or paint their homes, clean up trash around your neighbors, help out at a Special Olympics event, read books or newspapers to those who are visually impaired, adopt a Great-friend, teach a senior how to use a computer, or check on elderly people who live alone. Please visit the national and state websites for more suggestions.

If you are involved in a unique project, please let me know so I can pass it on to others. As you get ready to go to your volunteer projects, please consider wearing a Legion Family shirt or the Auxiliary magnetic emblem. This is a good opportunity to tell the people in the community about the American Legion Auxiliary, what we do and stand for.

Amy Luft, Department Chairman
Ph: 414-651-7300
Email: amyluft@gmail.com

The American Legion Auxiliary has good news to share! We know what our members do makes a difference in the lives of veterans, military and their families, so we want to make sure that the public knows about it. Whether it is welcoming troops home from the battlefield or visiting wounded warriors at VA Medical Centers, we hope that our example will inspire others to do the same. Thank you for your efforts!

Our brand is what people think about when they hear our name. It impacts our public image, our engagement, and our fundraising efforts. Brand management is the work you do to influence and shape the way our organization is perceived. Everyone has a role in creating and maintaining the Auxiliary’s brand. You are branding our organization every time you wear your Auxiliary apparel, log and pins. You are branding us when you hand out membership information. You are even branding when you tell someone “your why” — why you belong to this great organization! Here are a few easy steps to jump start your Public Relations program:

• Appoint a Public Relations Chair
• Create a website and/or Facebook page for your unit.
• Instructions can be found on the Public Relations Program Action Plan at alaforveterans.org.
• Wear your ALA apparel, logos and pins wherever you go.
• Tell a story to everyone you meet about what your Auxiliary unit is doing right now to help veterans, the military, their families and our community.
• Write Press Releases to your local newspaper about your events.
• Invite your local newspaper to your events to take pictures.
• Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/ALADEPTOFWV (even if we’re your one and only friend!)
• Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/ alaforveterans.

A slide show of our Public Relations efforts will be shown at the Department Convention in July. Please forward me your digital pictures and documents of your branding efforts. Selected items will be used to highlight the work of our Public Relations program.

The more positive an image our organization can cultivate, the more opportunities we will have to achieve our mission and goals of serving veterans and their families. There is only one thing worse than being talked about, and that’s not being talked about. Help spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary!
Unit 66: Promoting the Poppy Poster Contest!

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors a Poppy Poster Contest every year. Entries from Wausaukee students Courtney Peterson, Matthew Schleis, Brielle Stapleford and Alam Zamora won 1st Place in their respective classes in the 2017 Department of Wisconsin contest. Two of the posters went on to win 1st Place in the national competition. Congratulations to Courtney Peterson and Alam Zamora!

As part of the 2018 Poppy Poster Contest kickoff, a group of area veterans visited the Wausaukee School Art and History classes to talk about their military service experiences.

The red crepe paper poppy, replica of the Flanders Poppy was officially adopted in 1921 as the Memorial Flower of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Through the years, it has raised community awareness of the American Legion Auxiliary’s continued commitment to veterans, active duty military and their families.

Last year over 5.5 million dollars were raised to support our American heroes and their families. The red crepe paper poppy is hand-made by veterans who earn a small stipend to help supplement their income. The physical activity provides therapeutic benefits for the veteran.

Distribution of poppies can be done at any time, not just on Memorial Day or at Veterans Day Celebrations – keep the poppy visible year-round!

Units throughout the state use poppies for corsages, centerpieces, wreaths and crowns for their Poppy Princess. Veterans returning from Honor Flights are presented a poppy and a “Thank you for your service” from Poppy Princess. Place an article in your local newspaper or letter to the editor, to spread the poppy story to help educate the community about the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program. Contact your local businesses to thank them for partnering with your unit for poppy distribution this year and ask if they would like to partner again in 2018.

Wear a poppy – directions on how to make a felt poppy can be found by googling “how to make a felt poppy” in your search engine; hundreds of images will appear with directions.

On the Department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org) under the Poppy Program you will find poppy information such as “Where does your Poppy Money Go” and worksheets for youth. This is a great time to contact and invite your schools, Boy Scouts and Girl Scout troops to participate in the Poppy Poster Contest. Rules for the Poppy Poster Contest and Miss Poppy Contest can be found on the Department website under the Poppy Programs Action Plan. All of you have made a difference in the lives of our veterans, active duty military and their families.

You have taken up the torch, and by carrying on the mission of “Service not Self” you help make their lives better, one poppy at a time.

Wishing our veterans, active duty military, their families and each of you a very Blessed Christmas!

2018-2019 NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Kathy Dungan is seeking applications from motivated members interested in being appointed to national committee positions during the 2018-2019 administrative year. ALA members with strong professional backgrounds that relate to our many programs are needed. Applications must be completed online by February 1, 2018, at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY CONFERENCE OF UNITS Invites all Legion Family Members and Guests

The 92nd Annual George Washington Luncheon

President’s Day Monday, February 19, 2018

Klemmer’s Banquet Center 10401 W Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI

Social Hour 11:00 am
Opening Ceremonies 11:45 am
Lunch 12:00 noon

Cost - $20.00 per person

For information contact Diana Sirovina 414-321-1479

Reservation deadline: FEBRUARY 8, 2018 NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Detach here and return side portion

ALUMNI UNIT 66: Name & Number:
ALUMNI UNIT 66: Unit Contact & Phone:

NAME OF EACH PERSON ATTENDING:
AUXILIARY, LEGION, SAL, GUEST

Please Note: Tables will be assigned, 8 people per table—no exceptions. If you are registering more than 8 people, please list who will be sitting together.

Amount Enclosed: _______

Number of Reservations ______ X $20.00

Make checks payable to: MCCU
Send to: Diana Sirovina
9428 W Eden Pl, Milwaukee, WI 53228-1410
**Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary State Bowling Association**

16th Nine Pin Tap Tournament (43rd Annual Tournament)

**April 7-8 and April 14-15**

**ENTRY CLOSING DATE - POSTMARKED BY:**

March 1, 2018

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**TEAM NAME**

**UNIT #**

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**WITHOUT BOWLING**

**1.** All senior members of the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary, holding 2018 membership card are eligible to enter the tournament under the below rules.

**2.** New bowlers enter the tournament with an average of 145.

**3.** Entrants allowed bowling only once per event.

**4.** Everyone MUST bowl when scheduled.

**5.** Entries must be accompanied by full amount of fees. $17.00 per bowler, per event. The entry fees cannot be refunded after the entry fees have been received. Hostess city entrants will be given dates and times requested, if possible, otherwise the tournament manager will assign dates and times. NO hostess city entries will be refunded.

**6.** No entries shall be accepted after the entry closing date. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made.

**7.** All events are optional and may be entered for a $2.00 fee. Paid all events are not transferable unless the substitute replaces original entrant in all three events.

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**WITH BOWLING**

**1.** If a team has only 3 bowlers, only 3 scores can be used. NO blind score will be used.

**2.** This tournament will be conducted on a handicap basis of 75% of the difference between each entrant's average and 200 pins.

**3.** If a substitution is made in the doubles event the substitute must take the place of the bowler who is replacing. NO rearranging of partners will be permitted in the doubles.

**4.** A sub shall be allowed, if one is available, in case of disability after a game has started, in team and doubles only. Only the actual score of the frames bowled shall count if a sub is not available.

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**TEAM OR DOUBLES/SINGLES**

WISCONSIN AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE BOWLING ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT RULES – READ CAREFULLY

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1. Teams will bowl all three games on their own team at some other time, which prevents scheduling of three events.

2. If a team has only 3 bowlers, only 3 scores can be used. NO blind score will be used.

3. This tournament will be conducted on a handicap basis of 75% of the difference between each entrant's average and 200 pins.

4. If a substitution is made in the doubles event the substitute must take the place of the bowler who was replaced. NO rearranging of partners will be permitted in the doubles.

5. A sub shall be allowed, if one is available, in case of disability after a game has started, in team and doubles only. Only the actual score of the frames bowled shall count if a sub is not available.

6. Bowlers entered in all three events will be scheduled to permit them to complete competition within two days, unless they are doubled with someone who is bowling on another four-woman team at some other time, which prevents scheduling of these participants on some convenient dates.

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14. All entries are required to be submitted by the entry closing date. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made.

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15. If a bowler is absent by the scheduled time and does not arrive by the end of the 4th frame of the 1st game, absent bowler shall forfeit the first game, but is eligible to bowl 2nd and 3rd game if arrival prior to the start of the 2nd game. This is for Singles and Doubles ONLY.

16. Team Champion will receive a plaque for the winning Unit.

17. Cash prizes will be determined upon completion of tournament, based on funds received.

18. NO SMOKING OR DRINKING WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE BOWLERS SEATING AREAS.

19. Make sure you are watching for your turn to bowl and keep the games going. There are other shifts for Auxiliary bowling and possible league bowling scheduled after our tournament.

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CAPTAINS

1. Captains must check in and verify lineups 45 minutes prior to starting time. Registration will close 30 minutes before squad time. This is all necessary due to last minute changes. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

2. When substitutes not registered on entry blank are used, captains shall report same to Tournament Manager before entering contest and present 2018 American Legion Auxiliary membership card of substitute.

3. There must be a TEAM CAPTAIN FOR EACH TEAM.

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CONDUCT OF ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

This tournament shall be conducted as a form of social enjoyment for all Senior members of the Wisconsin American Legion Auxiliary.

ENTRY FORMS MAY BE PHOTOCOPIED BUT NOT REPRODUCED IN ANY OTHER WAY.

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**ALL EVENTS TOTAL PAID**

**2018 DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **Feb 10** 6th District Americanism Banquet
- **Feb 19** George Washington Luncheon
- **Mar 24** 7th District Spring Conference
- **Apr 7-8 and Apr 14-15** ALA State Bowling Tournament
- **Apr 21** 6th District Spring Conference
- **Apr 28** 2nd District Spring Conference
- **May 5** 5th District Spring Conference
- **May 19** 12th District Spring Conference
- **May 19** Sweat 4 Vets Walk
- **May 19** Poppy Trot 2018
- **June 10** Department President’s Testimonial
- **June 17-22** ALA Badger Girls State
- **June 28 to July 1** Homecoming

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**Left to right: Danie Wilson, ALA Sheboygan County Council President; Elizabeth Wieland, Executive Director of Bookworm Gardens; and ALA members Kathy George, Kay Keys and Shannon Wynveen.**