



**FIFTH DISTRICT NEWS  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY/DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

**Second/Third Quarter  
2021**

**District Officers:**

**President-Linda Bartell**  
[bartell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bartell@sbcglobal.net)  
414-899-7479

**Vice President-Vernadine  
Williams**

**Treasurer-Elaine Forster**

**Chaplain-Louise Brown**

**SSgt at Arms-Calena  
McKnight**



**Dates To Remember:**

**10/16/2021, ALA In The  
Know meeting at Post #449  
in Brookfield.**

**New Department President:**

**Due to the pandemic, it was necessary for all Department and District Officers to serve a double term. That is now over and our new Department President was elected at our July State Convention and her name is Diane Weggen.**

**Her Theme is: Salute, Serve, Celebrate veterans, military, their families and our communities.**

**Congratulations Diane. She is open to hearing from anyone who has any questions or needs help with their units.**

**Membership 2022:**

**The membership year runs from January through December. This means that all renewals should be paid by end of December of the previous year. Example 2021 dues were to be paid by 12/31/2020.**

**dues already in July (which is the normal time after Department Convention)**

**Please check with your membership chairman to see that they did receive their Renewal packages for 2022 which were mailed mid July. You/they don't need to wait for the official renewal notices that will be sent by National in September. Suggestion: Send out a post card type or letter (sample attached) to all your members now with their membership #, renewal cost and an explanation of why you are requesting now. We want to get these 2022 renewals done ASAP then we won't have to work on this for the balance of the year. Plus, there are monetary incentives if collected by certain dates which you can find in your August/September Meeting 2021 Unit Mailing.**

**The quickest and easiest way to pay dues is to call National, Monday-Friday, 7am-3:30pm EST, 317-569-4570 with a credit or debit card, and the persons membership ID. Families, Friends, etc. can call in as many people as they wish to pay for.**

**The other is USPS mail/AKA snail mail to Department in Portage.**

**Please encourage your members to call in their renewals asap.**

AUG 16 2021

**Also do not HOLD dues, submit them to Headquarters weekly.**

**Reminder, ALL unit officers are to pay their renewal duties immediately please. This is a rule that has been in effect forever.**

**Unit Presidents, please call your officers and ask them to renew now.**

**As always, to keep the ALA in good shape for the future, please work on getting new members, neighbors, friends, church members etc. Reminder we can recruit male members too. See eligibility requirements.**

**\*\*\*If any member tells you/membership chairman that they do NOT wish to renew for 2022, please send a DROP notice toward the end of December. They still have their benefits up to January 1<sup>st</sup>. We wish to always have a current roster. \*\*\***

**There are some units that have members NOT paid for 2021 yet. Please contact them and see if they are going to renew, otherwise send in a DROP notice now.**

**President Linda, contacted all members in December via a Christmas card with a special note about renewal for 2021 or a thank you for those already paid. I received some returned mail and will share that info with the appropriate units. Linda is always available for help. C: 414-899-7479**

**2021-2022 Unit Officers Form:**

**Please fill out and send this form to Department asap. They need this current information every renewal year. This blank form is attached.**

**ALA In The Know 2021:**

**The meeting for our area is on Saturday 10/16/2021 at American Legion Post #449 in Brookfield. Cost is \$25 and a fun and informational meeting. It is NOT just for Unit Officers but for any members of your Unit. Hope to see members of our Fifth District there.**

**That blank form is attached also.**

**Poppies:**

- 1) If your Unit has been able to distribute poppies, please send in to Headquarters the Poppy Profit Report. You can distribute poppies ANYTIME during the year.**
- 2) In the latest Unit mailing was the form for Suggested Donations from your poppy profits.**
- 3) If you need to order poppies for 2022, fill out the Poppy Order form and mail to Headquarters No later than 12/15/2021.**

**Miscellaneous:**

**Has any Unit been able to have a meeting yet? If so, please let me know.**

**There is a way to have a meeting by conference call. It is very simple and free.**

To set up an account for free conference calls, access this website:

<https://www.freeconferencecall.com/>

You will see an orange button to "create my free account" . Before you can click on the button, you will need to enter your email address and select a password you will use for the site.

After you have clicked on the orange button, you will be directed to a page that lists your account information.

You will also receive an email with all the information about your account. You will now be able to invite people to share a conference call with you. That's all there is to it!

**If any Units wish to share information on their events in these District Newsletters, please contact President**

**Linda**

Linda Bartell 5<sup>th</sup> District President



**MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY**

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to:

1. The grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, direct and adopted female descendants of members of
  - a. The American Legion
  - b. Those who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the allowable eligibility periods determined by congress, and who died in the line of duty during such service or after receiving an Honorable Discharge.
2. Women who are eligible for membership in The American Legion in their own right.
3. The spouses of an eligible veteran.

Direct descendants refers to: daughters and granddaughters. **Effective October 17, 2019 Great grand-daughters, and other direct descendants are no longer eligible to join the ALA.**

Under the laws in the state of Wisconsin step-relatives are eligible to become members through a qualifying veteran.

If a request for American Legion Auxiliary membership is based on a family member joining under a **living veteran, the veteran must be a current member of The American Legion.** They do not have to belong to the corresponding Post BUT **they must be a current member of The American Legion somewhere.**

If a request for Auxiliary membership is based on a **deceased veteran** who was not a member of The American Legion, the prospective member will be required to provide verifying documentation that proves eligibility. **(A deceased veteran does not ever have had to belong to The American Legion.)**

**A woman veteran may join the American Legion Auxiliary without being a member of The American Legion if her dates of service fall within at least one of the eligible service categories.** If, however, her family members wish to join the Auxiliary through her service, she must first become a member of The American Legion. The Legion will verify the woman veteran's eligibility.

Here is suggested card or letter to send to your members NOW. Fill out all info. You can use labels to fill in some info rather than handwrite it all.

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DUES STATEMENT**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Unit #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership ID** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Annual Dues \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **for membership year 2022**

**Please make check payable to American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail dues to** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Or call National, at 317-569-4570 (M-F 7am - 3:30pm EST) with your credit or debit card for a quicker renewal**