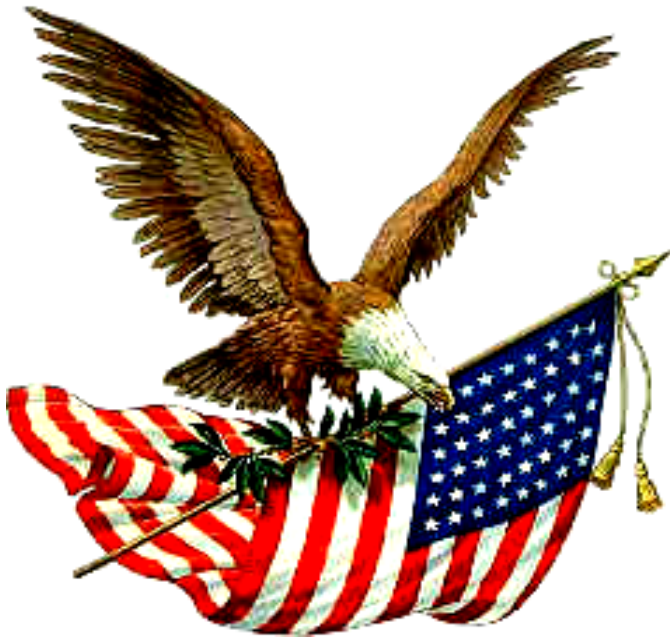


Rose Harms Legionnaire

Memorial Day, May 25, 2020



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers extended the state's "Safer at Home" order to May 26, in an effort to continue fighting the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

Due to the Governor's directive and Rose Harms Post 355 concern for the safety of its members and the community of Grafton, there will not be a parade or a program at Veterans Memorial Park.

The traditional luncheon at the Rose Harms Post club house has also been cancelled. Flags will be placed on Veterans graves in local cemeteries by our legionnaires. Flags at the park and club house will be lowered as customary and raised again at the proper time.

To all of you who have made the effort to attend this program each year, along with your children and grandchildren, I assure you the program will resume for Memorial Day 2021 just as it has in the past.

The Rose Harms Post 355 Club house will be closed until further notice

As we navigate through each day during our nation's struggle to contain the spread of COVID-19, let's not forget our Legion Family. Make a phone call. Have a friendly conversation and make a fellow member know that you have them in your thoughts and prayers.

As an example, Bill Reidl has organized a project for the SAL and Auxiliary to call WWII, Korean, and Vietnam veterans. They ask if any help is needed and let them know that our Legion Family is thinking of them. Bill has a list of about 75 names and phone numbers. Great job!! Thank you, Bill. Contact Bill Reidl for more information at 414-731-1351 or wreidl@att.net. I have developed stay busy routine for myself. Of course, it includes daily exercise of running, walking, and soon bicycling as warmer weather comes to Wisconsin.



Note Jazz Puzzle photo. I finally finished this 1,000-piece work of art and it occupied many hours of my "Social Distancing" time. With few restaurants open, I'm even learning to cook but only dishes that don't require a recipe. Maybe I'll even cook eggs and bacon for breakfast which would be a life-time first. Stay positive. We can get through these tough times.

For detailed COVID-19 info go to website. www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

- A. Badger Boys State 79th session in June 2020 has been canceled. GHS students have been notified.
 - B. Newsletter distribution. If your email address has changed or you now have email, or just help defray cost of USPS postage---send your email address to me kkasprzak1@icloud.com.
 - C. Living Well---To help reduce the spread of disease, individuals with questions about their symptoms can consider "Virtual Care". It is available through most hospital and physician offices.
- If needed, contact your provider for assistance. Stay safe.



The much needed repairs and the beautiful renovations at our Ozaukee County Veterans Memorial have been completed. Great job by the restoration team!



Sorry, but the Bingo session at the Rose Harms Post for May, has been cancelled.

This would have been the last Bingo for the season, so chairman Jim Arentz would like to thank everyone who worked to make this one of our most successful seasons.

Wisconsin Veterans Homes and Memorial Cemeteries

Fellow Post members, I recently shared a teleconference with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and was very pleased to hear what Wisconsin is doing to keep our Veterans safe ... Al

Secretary Mary Kolar's opening remarks on a teleconference April 24, 2020. Our Wisconsin Veterans Homes and Veterans Memorial Cemeteries continue to operate following new protocols from the Centers for Disease Control, the National Cemetery Administration, and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

I am grateful to be able to report that we continue to have **zero cases of COVID-19** at our Wisconsin Veterans Homes. This includes both staff and members. Over the past several weeks we have had some staff who have felt ill, who have not come to work, and have been tested. All were thankfully negative. We've also had some members who have gone to the hospital for unrelated illnesses who were tested as a precaution. Again, we are thankful none have been positive.

At the Homes, we continue to adhere to the guidance of the CDC, Department of Health Services, and others. This means we must continue to limit the number of people entering our facilities. Without a COVID-19 immunization or treatment, prevention is our primary tool to keep our members and our workforce safe. I understand this is hard on the members and their families, but we must do everything we can to keep everyone healthy.

At the Homes, we are also ensuring that we are prepared in the event we do get a case of COVID-19. There has been a lot of talk about Personal Protective Equipment in the news. At this time, we have an adequate supply of PPE for our staff, including masks and gloves. Current protocols require nursing staff to wear PPE. These protocols follow CDC requirements and take into account the lessons learned in other states with major outbreaks. We have the appropriate measures in place to request more PPE in the case of an outbreak. Further, we have taken steps to secure access to PPE to protect our supplies, but we have ample PPE available at this point.

Now, I'd like to briefly share with you what is happening at our veterans memorial cemeteries. We are following the lead of the National Cemetery Administration and observing their protocols. This means that we have temporarily discontinued committal services while continuing to allow families to witness their loved ones' interments. To ensure social distancing at the cemetery, we ask that there be no more than 10 family members at interments. Family and funeral directors are being asked to view the interment from their cars or the road very near their cars. They may approach the burial site once cemetery staff have left the area. We continue to work with families to schedule future memorial and/or celebration of life services.

When it comes to funeral honors, neither our state veterans cemeteries nor the national cemeteries are conducting full military funeral honors. That said, we can provide two uniformed service personnel to fold the flag and sound Taps with a digital bugle. However, if a family chooses, they can instead defer honors to a later date so that we can include the rifle detail. All veterans are entitled to honors and any family can request the service at a later date as part of a memorial service.



CANCELLATION OF THE STATE CONVENTION

MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JOANIE DICKERSON

Dear valued members of the American Legion Auxiliary Family, It is with deep regret that I announce the cancellation of the 2020 American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Convention.

As the news of the current health crisis continues to report the extension of social distancing far into the future, it became apparent that attempting to gather would jeopardize the health and safety of you, our treasured members.

At our Spring DEC meeting on Tuesday night, I asked and received affirmation of this decision. Our current department leadership, both officers and chairmen, will continue until the 2021 convention.

Thank you for submitting your annual reports in a timely manner. These will help us record and report your 2019-2020 activities. We will share more information as it becomes available.

I pray for your continued health, safety, and well-being during these difficult times and that we continue to support one another in the spirit of Service, not self.

God Bless,
Joanie



Due to all the uncertainties with the COVID 19, we are postponing the Poppy Distribution this year.

We are hoping for the weekend of Flag Day in June, with the possible dates of Friday the 12th and Saturday the 13th.

We will keep you updated and hope to call volunteers that helped us last year in the Month of May.

Thank you for your patience. Stay healthy and Safe,

Poppy Committee,

Carolyn Knoppa, Lora Linder, and Cathy Brunnquell





**American Legion Auxiliary
Rose-Harms Unit 355
Newsletter - May 2020**



We hope everyone is staying healthy and close to home during these days of confinement due to Covid-19. As much as we hate not being able to get out and enjoy our normal lives, we need to do everything we can to protect each other. We look forward to an end to this confinement.

Even though we haven't met since our March meeting, there's still news. According to the April 9th Membership Report from Department, our Unit stands at 170 renewed/new members. This puts us at **106%**, in 1st place among Ozaukee County Units. Ozaukee County is in 2nd place in the District, and 2nd District is in 1st place in the State. **Kudos to Lora Linder, Carolyn Knoppa and their Membership Team!**

"Casualties" of this confinement period are the State Bowling Tournament (**we'll now be hosting in 2021**), April Executive/Unit meetings, the Spring County & District meetings, **Sweat4Vets Walk (has been postponed, watch for updates)** and The National Legion Convention, Memorial Day and the State Legion/Auxiliary Convention.

At this point: The Zablocki Vets Picnic and Legion Family 100th Anniversary Celebration are still scheduled. Stay tuned for further developments.

Ozaukee County President Cathy Brunnquell has informed us the Port Washington Unit will be hosting the Fall County Meeting at their Post on Wednesday October 21st.

As of this writing, our next Unit meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 26th, at 6:00 pm at the Post (the day after Memorial Day). Sue is going to provide a "Celebration of Life" meal for us at this month's meeting as a welcome back to all members. Unit election of officers will take place at this meeting. If we can't meet, election will then take place the next time we do meet. PLEASE contact either Toni Moegenburg at 262-377-1963 or Pam Klenner at 262-375-0085 if you're interested in having your name on the ballot for any officer position (1st Vice, 2nd Vice (membership), Chaplain, Treasurer, or Historian). As Linda Brown and Patty Wollner have each decided not to run for re-election as Chaplain and Historian respectively, we particularly need someone for those offices. Keep in mind that anyone can run for any office.

Thanks to all of you who took the time to report on Unit projects and to those who submitted their personal impact reports. **SPECIAL THANKS to Mary Molaski, Mel Nowak** for their hard work finalizing the year-end reports, which were actually submitted **5 days before the deadline!** This is a daunting, but necessary, task. Ours is a Unit involved in a lot of different things and if we don't report on them no one will know, and those hours won't get reported to Congress, who ultimately determines our tax-free status.

Now that your Spring House Cleaning is done, take a break from watching that movie you've seen 100 times. Why not make a call to one of your Legion or Auxiliary friends, especially those living alone, to check on them. Or send a card. How nice it would be to let them know you're thinking of them. And it'll be good for you, too! Thanks to those who have already been doing this.

Bill Riedl of the SAL's has offered another idea. To quote Bill's email: "The project is to call Korean and Vietnam Veteran Post members to touch base, see how they are doing, and see if we could run errands, or help them out in any way during this difficult time. Social distancing observed." Bill's email further stated that if the caller couldn't run errands, they could send the request to Bill and he would try to find someone to help the Vet. Bill has received 75 names/numbers from the Post. If you're interested in taking part in this project, please contact Bill at wriedl@att.net (414-731-1351).

Moral Support for one of our Auxiliary members: The following email was received by Amy Luft, from Curtiss Peck, father of one of our members, asking for our help.

"My daughter, Stacey Peck, is a registered nurse and a member of the Grafton American Legion Auxiliary Unit. She heard the appeal for more nurses in New York and New Jersey. She did not hesitate and is now working in a hospital in

Hackensack, NJ that has been converted entirely to an ICU for COVID-19 patients. She's in her fourth week there. She is obviously stressed and fatigued like all the other healthcare workers in the epicenter of this pandemic. I have a requests:

Please send a card or letters of encouragement to Stacey from Auxiliary members this might help her, knowing that people care and are praying for her and her colleagues. Cards and letters can be sent to: Stacey Peck, Guest , Hilton Woodcliff Lake 200 Tice Blvd., Wood Cliff, NJ 07677-8410

I am grateful for the support that the American Legion Auxiliary members continue to provide for our veterans and their families, and now the additional support they provide for our first responders and health care workers on the front lines of this war against this invisible enemy."

With sincere gratitude,

Curtiss S. Peck, Commander

American Legion Harley-Davidson Post 400

Mobile 414-241-2400 or curtiss.peck@yahoo.com

Americanism Chairman Maggie Geiger asks that while you're out taking a walk or driving around, that you stop and take pictures posted in windows of homes, businesses, etc., that have rainbows of hearts, pictures drawn by children, stuffed animals displayed, or messages of encouragement. Forward the picture to Bonnie (deptsec@amlegionauxwi.org), which she'll post on the Department website (www.amlegionauxwi.org).

We send our deepest sympathies to members Anita Franzen, whose son Scott Franzen passed away March 14th at the age of 58, and to Mary Leist, whose father Bernard Mueller passed away on April 8th at the age of 84. Know that you and your families are in our thoughts and prayers. We end this newsletter on a happy note: Ellie Laydon's 96th birthday was on April 6th. As a special surprise, a group of Auxiliary, Legionnaires, and SALS "social-distanced" themselves on her lawn that day at 4 pm, bringing balloons, signs and to sing Happy Birthday to a special lady. It was quite a surprise for her and ***she wishes to thank everyone!***

