

The American Legion
Yearbook of
3rd District, Wisconsin



For 1 May 2025 to 30 April 2026
Prepared by
Morris Sadicario

Information was graciously provided by members of District 3, Department of Wisconsin members and their posts. Morris Sadicario, 3rd District Historian. 608.332.8215, [email address: morris.sadicario@gmail.com](mailto:morris.sadicario@gmail.com)

Introduction

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veteran's organization. Focusing on service to veterans, servicemembers and communities, the Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million, and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at nearly 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines. (Legion, 2021)

Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans and produced many important programs for children and youth.

District 3 includes 63 counties.

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Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion



Figure 1 Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion

Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion Auxiliary



PREAMBLE (To its Constitution)

For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Figure 2 Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion Auxiliary

Roster of 3rd District Officers

Legion Officers

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Commander | Dan O'Brien |
| Vice Commander | Mike Rohan |
| Vice Commander (Crawford/Richland) | Marlin Clark |
| Vice Commander (Dane) | Scott Klassy |
| Vice-Commander (Grant/Lafayette) | John Wilkinson, Jr. |
| Vice-Commander (Iowa/Green) | |
| Finance Officer | Denise Rohan |
| Chaplain | Virgil Smith |
| Asst. Chaplain | |
| Adjutant | Denise Rohan |
| Historian | Morris Sadicario |
| Judge Advocate | David Gough |
| Service Officer | Sam Fuller |
| Sgt. At Arms | Keith Lovell |

Legion Program Chairmen

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Commander | Dan O'Brien |
| Vice Commander | Mike Rohan |
| Vice Commander (Crawford/Richland) | Marlin Clark |
| Vice Commander (Dane) | Scott Klassy |
| Vice-Commander (Grant/Lafayette) | John Wilkinson, Jr. |
| Vice-Commander (Iowa/Green) | |
| Finance Officer | Denise Rohan |
| Chaplain | Virgil Smith |
| Asst. Chaplain | |
| Adjutant | Denise Rohan |

District 3 Auxiliary Officers

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| President | Noreen Schmidt |
| 1 st Vice | Shelley Drager |
| 2 nd Vice | Nicole Welsh |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Shannon Churchill |
| Historian | Jenni Syftestad |
| Chaplain | Jeanette Cline |
| Gold Star Mother | Jeanette Cline |
| Parliamentarian | Joanie Dickerson |
| Sergeant at Arms | Deb Rottman |
| Sergeant at Arms | Olivia Rottman |

District 3 Program Chairmen

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Americanism | Carol & Bill Ridgely |
| Badger Girl State | Delores Woolf |
| Bowling | Shannon Churchill |
| Children & Youth | Joyce Endres |
| Community Service | Nicole Welsh |
| Constitution and By-Laws | Jenni Syftestad |
| Standing Rules | |
| Credentials | Shannon Churchill |
| Distinguished Guest Chair | Deb & Olivia Rottman |
| Education | Florence Wasley |
| Gold Star Mothers | Jeanette Cline |
| M. Louis Wilson Lund Fund | Lisa Olson |
| Membership | Shelley Drager |
| Past President Parley | Lisa Olson |
| Poppy | Connie Skelton |
| VA & R | Noreen Schmidt |
| Public Relations | Jenni Syftestad |
| Informer Editor | |

District 3 SAL Officers

Commander: Seán Patchin

Finance: Denise Rohan

Chaplain: Virgil Smith

District 3 Riders

Cruise for a Cause

Jun 27-29, 2025. These photos were taken at the Waunakee Post 360 stop.





JUNE 27-29, 2025

Supporting programs for at risk veterans.
To raise awareness, provide training/equipment
and send veterans to Camp American Legion

ROUTE

June 27th

- Port Washington Post 82
- TBD
- Waunakee Post 360
- New Glarus Post 141
- Darlington Post 214

June 28th

- Platteville Post 42
- Fennimore Post 184
- Gays Mills Post 308
- Coon Valley Post 116
- Tomah Post 201

June 29th

- Sparta Post 100
- Whitehall Post 191
- Eau Claire Post 53
- Lublin Post 547
- Marshfield Post 54

Ride Info



Donate



WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

- Register to Ride
- Donate
- Sponsor







Rotation of Spring Conferences

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 2025 | Green County |
| 2026 | Iowa County |
| 2027 | Lafayette County |
| 2028 | Richland County |
| 2029 | Crawford County |
| 2030 | Dane County |
| 2031 | Grant County |

History 1 May 2025 to 30 April 2026

1 May 2025. Legion Appreciation Night. (advance notice)

At 5pm May 27th (rescheduled) at the Middleton High School Baseball game they are going to be Honoring American Legion Members and Legion Member Bill Statz will be throwing the first pitch. If the game is not cancelled due to the rain, you can be there at 4:30 to get together and the American Legion will be honored at 5pm. The address for the Middleton High School is 2100 Bristol St., Middleton.

Hi All,

See invitation email below. This would be a regular Middleton HS baseball game. Legion Baseball starts end of May. This is Honor the Legion night.

I will be attending and throwing out the ceremonial first pitch. Pass the word, bring guests. Hope some more Legionnaires can join us. Wear Legion caps.

Remember, Post 245 is again sponsoring MHS/Legion Baseball, 3 teams this year, one in each age category. The program is building on the successes of the last 2 years.

Please RSVP so Derrick knows who to expect. Location is Middleton High School baseball complex. 2100 Bristol Street, Middleton

Bill Statz

Legion Post 245

608-577-4002

27 May 2025. American Legion Appreciation Night

The Middleton High School Baseball Team honored American Legion Members at the Middleton HS Baseball Game on Tuesday, May 27th. Legionnaire Bill Statz (245 Cross Plains), the main driver for this occasion, threw the first pitch. The game took place at the Borden Stadium of the Middleton High School athletic complex.



Figure 3 Legion Family attend Middleton Game 27 MAY 25.

The Legionnaire family that attended.



Our star pitcher, Bill, and his catcher. Figure 4 Bill Statz, pitcher 27 MAY 25



Figure 5 Bill Statz' windup

Bill in action! Compare the form and stance!

"Let 'Em Have It - Buy Extra Bonds," Bernard Perlin, 1943 from the [Emil A. Blackmore Museum](#) collection. Learn more about the [Emil A. Blackmore Museum](#), Indianapolis.

Thank you, Middleton High School athletes, for your support of the American Legion!



Resources

1. Suggestions for improving membership Levels.
2. Sample Letter to be sent over two past national commanders.

Suggestions to Improve Membership including Sample Letter

Mike Rohan prepared a plan to increase membership and provided a sample letter that is over the signatures of two Past National Commanders, Denise Rohan and Daniel Seehafer. 26APR25.

THIRD DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION

Membership goals for 2025 –

Third District – 4875 of 5263 – 92.63% - (Need 372 new or renew to reach 100%)

Plan to reach your goal –

- **Strategies for Recruitment:** There are 119 veterans at HQ Post 2930 who have already paid for 2025 and are waiting for a home. They are ready to transfer to your post, and doing so counts as a new member for your post. This is an opportunity to bring them in and welcome them with open arms—let's be that place where they feel valued and supported.
- **Retention Strategies:** There are many veterans who have yet renewed their membership for 2025. Many renewed last year, but some date back to 2023. It's essential to reach out personally—pick up the phone and call them. Approach this not as a sales call, but as a genuine conversation about why their membership matters. Share your passion about the impact your post is making in the community and tell them how their dues are helping to drive these efforts. Think of it as making them part of something bigger. Tell them how your post is making an impact? This is about showing them the heart of what they are supporting.
- **Community Outreach:** Engaging with our community is crucial. It's about attracting new members—it's about building a strong, lasting relationship with the community so they understand why we matter. As you continue to show up and contribute, others will take notice, and the impact will ripple out. Share your work, show your dedication, and let them see what we are doing for veterans and their families.
- **Collaboration Opportunities:** Collaboration between posts within Third District can be a powerful way to boost membership and strengthen our collective presence. Let's share success stories and learn from each other. Joint initiatives not only amplify our efforts, but they foster a spirit of unity and teamwork that will carry us through to our goals.
- **Importance of Goals:** This is not just about numbers—it's about our collective voice. Our mission to advocate for veterans, support their families, and promote patriotism and national security hinges on having a strong, active membership. A larger, more engaged post allows us to amplify our impact through more volunteers, stronger fundraising, and a wider range of programs that benefit our veterans and their families. Every member is a voice, and together, our voices can and do make a significant difference.

- **Call to Action:** So here is our call to action?
 - The first step in moving forward is simple but critical: Pick up the phone. Reach out to every member who hasn't renewed yet. Yes, every single one. It's not about being a salesman; it's about being a compassionate fellow veteran. Start the conversation by introducing yourself, ask them about their branch of service, ask them about their war era, and make a personal connection. Then, share what your post is doing and ask for their continued support through renewal.
 - Contact the veterans on the HQ Post 2930 roster listed in this report. Reach out through email, asking for their permission to transfer, and then follow up with a personal call. Have members in your post also look at the list to see if they know anyone and can help make that personal contact.
 - Expand your reach by reaching out to veterans from other posts who may have not renewed, or who might be dissatisfied with their current post. They may be looking for a new place to call home, and your post can provide that. Even if they're not active, their financial support is invaluable in helping us continue our work in the community.
 - Take ownership of your recruitment efforts and work together toward our shared goal. The more you invest in reaching out to and supporting others, the more your post will thrive and continue to be a beacon for veterans in need.
 - I am ready and available to help you in anyway I can. You can reach me by text or phone – 608-837-9763 or email at mdnrohan@gmail.com

Post and County Commander's, I want to personally thank you for your leadership in the Third District and thank you for your commitment to The American Legion.

 AMERICAN
LEGION



BE THE ONE

Subject: Your Continued Support Makes a Real Difference – Renew for 2025

Dear [Legionnaire's Name],

We hope this message finds you well and surrounded by those who matter most. As we look ahead, we wanted to personally reach out—because The American Legion is not just an organization. It's a family. And as servant leaders, we know our first calling is to care for that family by serving with character, commitment, and competence.

Your continued membership is far more than the payment of dues. ***It's a direct investment in people, - those who have worn the uniform, those who stand beside them today, and the families who support them.*** Together, we form a community built on purpose, service, and the belief that we are stronger when we lift each other up.

When you renew your membership, here's the real difference you make:

Supporting the Needs of Our Legion Family – Your renewal ensures The American Legion remains the leading advocate for veterans, service members, and their loved ones. Our work on Capitol Hill and in communities nationwide is grounded in character—the moral courage to fight for what is right—and the competence to get the job done. Because of you, we are helping secure the healthcare, benefits, and opportunities every veteran and their family deserve, today and for generations to come.

Standing Shoulder to Shoulder – The "Buddy Check" program and our *Be The One* mission are powerful examples of what happens when a family takes care of its own. With every phone call, visit, and check-in, we are living out our shared commitment to be present for one another—especially when times are tough. Through your membership, you make these life-saving efforts possible. It's proof that no one should ever feel alone when they are part of this Legion family. We understand your experience and are here to listen.

Strengthening Communities – Across the country, Legionnaires are making a meaningful difference through local scholarships, emergency assistance, youth programs, and outreach to those in need. This is where our collective competence comes alive—using our skills, experiences, and resources to serve our hometowns with pride and purpose. Your membership fuels this work, ensuring that together, we build communities that reflect the best of who we are.

Valuing Those Who Serve – Of course, your renewal also gives you access to exclusive benefits designed to support you and your family. But more importantly, it strengthens the very programs that serve veterans nationwide. It's a reminder that when we take care of each other, everyone wins.

Our United Voice – The American Legion's impact grows when we stand united. Every member adds strength to our voice, our mission, and our future. By renewing, you are helping us carry this torch forward—not just for us, but for the generations who will follow.

As Past National Commanders, and as lifelong members of this incredible Legion family, we know that none of this happens without people like you. You embody the best of servant leadership—putting others first, leading with integrity, and committing to something greater than yourself.

We invite you to continue this journey with us. Please renew today by returning this letter by mail with a check for \$ _____. Together, we will keep building, growing, and serving—because that's what families do.

With heartfelt gratitude and respect,

Denise H. Rohan
Past National Commander

Daniel J. Seehafer
Past National Commander

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