

8th District
2025 Fall Conference
King Veterans Home
King Wisconsin
September 26, 2025

Commander Penny Peeters called the Conference to order at 9:05 AM with a salute to the colors, the Invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance. A joint opening was held with the 8th District Auxiliary.

Guests were introduced. Department Commander Nathan Bond spoke about his goals for the year and for the future of our organization. Past Department President Linda Copek brought greetings from President Sue Hembrook. SAL Detachment Vice Commander Dave Hodgson spoke on the importance of the SAL to our organization and strengthening our membership.

Roll Call was taken. VC John Zycowicz, Past District Commander Jean Balz, and Shawano/Menominee County Commander Paul Piontek were absent. Wood County Vice Commander Cathy Gorst represented Wood County for Commander Mike Feirer.

The minutes from the 2025 Spring Conference were read and approved, motion by Cathy Gorst. Motion carried.

The Financial Report was presented and approved, motion by Don Hildebrandt. Motion carried.

District Officer Reports, District Committee Chairman Reports, County Commander Reports, and District Program Director reports were presented. Motion to receive and file the reports by Jerry Krofta. Motion carried.

In old business, we discussed presenting the King Veterans' Home with a concrete bench. We had previously approved the purchase using our Shell Fund. Jim Young will talk to the AmVets who recently did the same and will have them get in contact with VC David Leder. VC Leder will follow up and see what we need to do to be able to make the donation.

In New Business, the 2026 Spring Conference will be held on April 18th at Post 10 in Wausau. The 2026 Fall Conference will be held on September 26th at Post 391 in Fremont. Waushara County Commander Nate Coward will be talking to Post 139 in Coloma to see about them hosting a Conference in 2027.

We discussed the need to establish a Fundraising Committee. District Fundraising Chair Jeff Zwiers was appointed to chair the committee. Other members will include Finance Officer Jerry Krofta, Judge Advocate Cathy Gorst, and Commander Penny Peeters. Krofta will prepare a proposed budget to establish what our fundraising needs will be. Ideas were discussed, including a 50/50 raffle, basket raffles, and a ticketed cash raffle. We will need to apply for a raffle license from the state before we begin these raffles.

The Conference was put in recess for lunch and a presentation from Kelly Nelson, the author of *Brownie the War Dog*.

The Conference was reconvened following lunch and the presentation.

We discussed the King Day Pilgrimage. Hospital Rep Jim Young said that the King Day Pilgrimage will not be coming back. Fundraising Chair Jeff Zweirs and VA&R Chair Dave Leder said that they will set up a meeting to discuss ideas of what we can do for the Home instead. Jim Young will take the ideas to the King Rec Committee to see what we can help sponsor.

Having no further business to come before the body, the Conference was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Klapperich

Adjutant

8th District

Department of Wisconsin

The American Legion