



For God and Country
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Veterans Strengthening America



www.post151.org

Post 151
 Westside Memorial

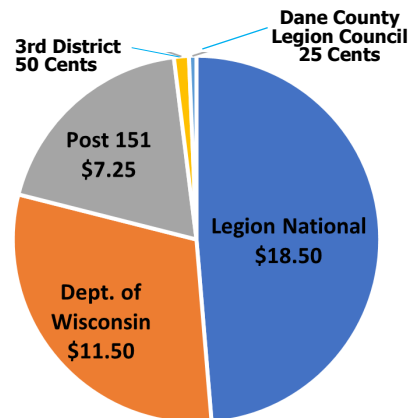
Jan 2024

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Jan 16, **6:30 pm to 7:15 pm**

Benvenuto's, 2949 Triverton Pike Dr., Fitchburg; Please arrive by 6:15 pm.

Dues Increase For 2025 Member Year

The cost of everything has gone up as inflation has spread since 2021. Costs to conduct the American Legion mission at all levels are no different. In late 2023 National announced it is raising its share of per-capita dues \$5 from \$18.50 to \$23.50, beginning with the 2025 member year. At our current post dues rate of \$38 (pie chart) we get only \$7.25 of each member's dues. That doesn't even cover our newsletter costs. To keep pace with inflation, Post 151 members voted in Nov to increase dues to \$45. This takes effect in the 2025 member year, which begins July 2024. But, you have options to save money on membership through the PUFL program and the new "Multiyear" plan explained below.



Where Our \$38 Dues Go

Membership Savings Options: New "Multiyear" Plan & PUFL

In July we start collecting \$45 dues for the 2025 member year. But, two other options are available to save you money: Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL), and the new "Multiyear" payment plan.

Multiyear Membership The National Executive Committee approved a multiyear membership option. Post 151 members will be able to renew for three more years at the current rate of \$38. Payment is upfront. According to National, here is what else you need to know:

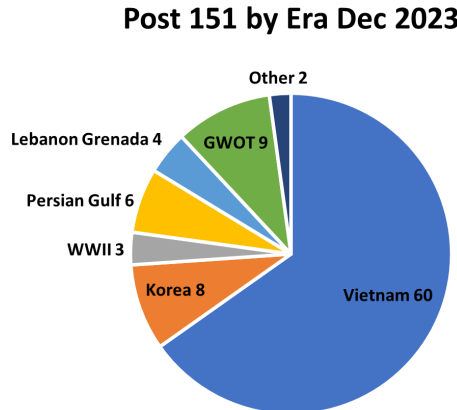
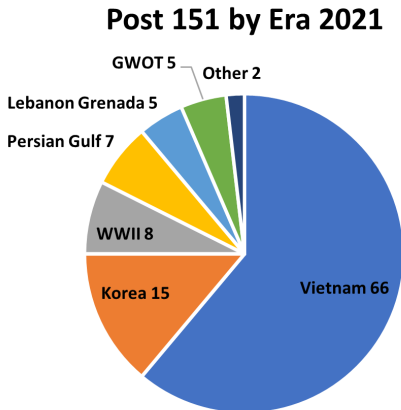
- Multiyear sign-up is only available on the national American Legion website.
- Members not yet renewed for 2024 may renew with a 3-year membership at legion.org/renew. New members may join now with a 3-year membership at legion.org/join.
- Members renewed for 2024 can choose the multiyear plan starting with the 2025 membership year.

Paid-Up-For-Life Most members may find that enrolling in the Paid-Up-For-Life program will save them money over the long run, versus paying annual dues. The cost of PUFL membership is formula driven for each member based on age, post dues, and perhaps other factors. You have the option to pay in full, or by 12 monthly installments. Legionnaires, young and older, committed to a lifetime of membership will likely find PUFL saves money and hassle over the long run. If you are considering a PUFL, doing so before the dues increase, going into effect 1 July 2024, will likely save money, rather than enrolling after July 1st. To see what you would pay, go into your account on mylegion.org and select the PUFL renew option. This will show you the cost before committing to payment. Or, contact customer service at (800) 433-3318.

JOIN THE MISSION TO STRENGTHEN AMERICA

Changing Demographics of Post 151

Vietnam Era vets remain the largest block of Post 151 members. But like the WW II and Korean era member groups, our Vietnam era cohort is shrinking. Pie charts below show how our post is changing. All groups but the *GWOT* era group are shrinking. We must continue to support, honor and recruit vets of all eras. But this makes clear we must deliberately recruit the younger generation of veterans for Post 151 to continue the mission into the future.



Adjutant Notes - Chris Ogden

Welcome to our new Legion post member, Spencer George, US Army GWOT vet and son of Commander Mike George.

We salute our longtime post member and Korean War vet Robert Castleberg for his service; he passed away 9 Dec 2023.

We still have 10 members yet to pay 2024 dues. We are 15th of 19 Dane County posts in membership renewals for 2024.

POST 151 OFFICERS:

Commander: Mike George	(608) 577-5662,	mjgeorge@reagan.com
Adjutant: Chris Ogden	(608) 256-5125,	ckogden898@gmail.com
1st Vice: Delbert Kolman	(608) 238-9428,	Delbert.kolman@att.net
2nd Vice: Parkis Waterbury	(920) 394-3865,	parkisw@gmail.com
3rd Vice: Joe Yogerst		jyogerst@gmail.com
Finance Officer: John Schmelzer		magieschmelzer@gmail.com
Chaplain: Jim Sawchuk		james.r.sawchuk@gmail.com

VETERAN SUPPORT

Veterans Crisis Hotline: Dial 988 then press 1 or text 838255
 Peer Support and Resources: www.activeheroes.org
 Dane County Veterans Service Office: (608) 266-4158
 American Legion Wisconsin website: www.wilegion.org
 Online Membership Renewal: www.legion.org (click 'Renew'-upper right)

Upcoming Events

- Jan 16: Post 151 Mtg.
- Feb 3: Four Chaplains Day
- Feb 19: Coast Guard Reserve Birthday
- Feb 20: Post 151 Mtg.
- Mar 3: Navy Reserve Birthday
- Mar 9: Vietnam Veterans Day
- Mar 19: Post 151 Mtg.
- Mar 25: Medal of Honor Day
- Apr 16: Post 151 Mtg.

Membership

Post 151 has 83 paid members for 2024. We have 10 members not yet renewed, and need about 10 new members to get us over 100. Renew at www.legion.org.

