



Department of Minnesota October 2025 Unit Mailing Endorsements for NEC & Alternate NEC



Mary Kuperus endorsed for 2026-2028 Department of Minnesota National Executive Committee

American Legion Auxiliary New London Unit 537, 7th District Executive Committee, and the 7th District Past Presidents Parley proudly endorse Mary Kuperus for the Department of Minnesota National Executive Committee Member for the years 2026-2028.

Kuperus is a 41-year PUFL member of Unit 537 New London. She is eligible through her late Father Earl, a WWII Veteran and her husband Bill, a Desert Storm Veteran.

She has been Unit 537 President two times and has held many chairmanships. She is currently the Membership Chairman. On the District level, she is currently the District President for the second time. She has held many chairmanships also in the District.

On the Department level, Kuperus has been the 1st and 2nd Vice President. She served as the Department of Minnesota President in 2022-2023. She has been the Department Chairman for the Americanism, National Security, Children & Youth, Community Service, Junior Activities, Poppy, Membership, ALA Minnesota Girls State, Leadership, and VA&R programs. Kuperus is currently as the Leadership Chairman.

In the Northwestern Division, Kuperus has been chairman for Junior Activities, Poppy, and is currently serving as the National Northwestern Division Education Chairman. She has attended 7 National Conventions and 7 National Mission Training workshops.

Kuperus is a board member of the New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run, serving as the Registration Director. She enjoys camping and spending time with her grandchildren.

Mary and her husband, Bill, have been married for 51 years. They have three adult children, one son-in-law, and seven grandchildren. Most are members of the American Legion Family. Kuperus retired after 29 years as a Tile I Paraprofessional at the elementary school in New London.



Patti Coleman endorsed for 2026-2028 Department of Minnesota Alternate National Executive Committee

Lino Lakes American Legion Auxiliary Unit #566, and the 10th District Past Presidents Parley proudly endorse Patti Coleman for the office of Alternate National Executive Committee member representing MN for 2026-2028.

Patti is a 58-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary and was gifted an Honorary Life Membership in 2001. She is eligible for membership through the service of her late father, Gerald J. Coleman, a US Navy veteran 1951-1953. Patti is married to Larry Woods Sr., who served 11 years in the US Air

Force 1973-1984.

Patti has served our Unit in most capacities. She was an active Junior Auxiliary member and graduated to senior membership in 1983. She has held most chairmanships and held all the offices in our Unit, many times. Her first term as Unit President was 1991-1992. Patti is currently serving as Membership Chairman and is on the Executive Committee. Patti is a valued mentor of Unit #566 helping to recruit, welcome, and teach our new members about the American Legion Auxiliary and our programs.

In the 10th District, Patti has been the chairman of Public Relations, National Security, Girls State, Children & Youth, Membership, Finance, Past Presidents Parley, Leadership-4 terms, Standing Rules, Junior Activities and History. Patti carried on the legacy of her parents, by organizing the 10th District Snowmobile Rally for over 25 years.

Patti was elected to serve as the 10th District President in 2000-2001. She also served as 10th District 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and on the 10th District Executive Committee. She has served as the District Historian, District Parliamentarian three times and the Advisor to the District President four times.

For the Department of Minnesota, Patti volunteered as a staff member at ALA MN Girls State for 29 sessions, starting in 1986. She has been a Dept. Color Bearer, ALA MN Girls State Director five times, the Convention Resolutions Chairman twice, the Convention Sgt. At Arms, Gift Shop Committee member, Audit Committee member, ALA MN Girls State Education Director twice, and ALA MN Girls State Committee Member. Patti served on the 100th Anniversary Committee for the Minnesota American Legion Auxiliary. She is currently serving on the Department Finance Committee.

Patti has been the Dept. Community Service Chairman, Junior Activities Chairman, ALA MN Girls State Chairman, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman, Legislative Chairman and Historian. She served as Dept. Second Vice President for 2018-2019, the Dept. First Vice President in the extended year 2019-2021, and Department President in 2021-2022.

Patti started attending Department Fall Conferences and Department Conventions as a child and has continued her attendance throughout her years of membership. She has attended 14 National Conventions, 3 Region Six Conferences, 4 ALA Girls State Conferences and 5 Northwest Division Mission Training Meetings. Patti is a certified Leadership Instructor for the American Legion Auxiliary.

For the National organization, Patti has served as the Northwestern Division Chairman of Junior Activities, Children & Youth and is now on the ALA Girls Nation Committee.

Patti and Larry have one daughter, Kiana, who is a Past Dept. of MN Honorary Junior President and Past Honorary National Northwestern Division Vice President. Her deceased mother, Pat Coleman, was 10th District President in 1983-1984.

Patti is employed by Antea USA, Inc. as an Accounting Specialist. She belongs to Cabane 390 of the 40 et 8 and VFW Auxiliary #425 in Hopkins, MN.

The members of Lino Lakes Unit #566 are very confident in Patti's knowledge of the ALA and her leadership abilities. We are proud to endorse her for Alternate National Executive Committee member representing MN for 2026-2028.