



## FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

## FEB 2016

### Legion Contacts

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Greetings Comrades:

I hope you have your tickets for the breakfast, lunch, and supper for the National Commander's Tour because he will be arriving in the First District February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. He has four stops in the First District: Adams, Stewartville, Preston, and Winona.

Join us for the Sweetheart Rally and Ice Fishing Derby on Saturday February 6, 2016 at Legionville. There will also be a District Chili Cook-off from 2 to 3 PM.

On February 7, 2016 the Four Chaplains program will be held in Stewartville at 10:00 Am. The First and Third District Fishing Contest will be held the same day in Elysian on Lake Francis sponsored by Post 311. February is going to be a busy month. Please come and join in on the fun.

I'm sorry I couldn't be with you all at the District Mid-Winter as I had a bout of congestive heart failure. I am much better now and would like to thank you all for your caring thoughtfulness. Remember to thank a veteran for their service.

First District Commander

Roland Hanson

### IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 1—4—National Commander's Tour Of MN. More info in flyer section of this newsletter.

Feb 6, 2016 - Department Sweetheart Rally—Legionville

Feb 7, 2016 - The Four Chaplains service - Stewartville Post 164 at 10 am.

Feb 7, 2016 - First & Third Ice Fishing Contest. More information in the Flyer section of this newsletter.

Feb 27, 2016 - Area Three Rally - Spring Grove Post 249. 3pm social 4pm rally. Topic will be The Third Pillar of the American Legion. Bring membership to turn in!

### VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

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2. Ralph Schneekloth - Mabel - For Chaplain
3. Bill Goede - Plainview - For Finance Officer

**NATIONAL CONVENTION REQUESTS**

1. Sy Fix
2. Wayne Hammon Jr
3. Bill Goede

**FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

The First District newsletter can be found on these post web sites. Please go to them and have a look. It not only will give you access to the newsletter but also to the events happening at each of these posts. They are as follows:

**First District Website at [mnmightyfirst.org](http://mnmightyfirst.org)**

**Albert Lea Post 56 at [americanlegionpost56.com](http://americanlegionpost56.com)**

**Austin Post 91 at [austinpost91.com](http://austinpost91.com)**

**Rochester Post 92 at [post92.org](http://post92.org)**

**Winona Post 9 at [americalegionwinona.org](http://americalegionwinona.org) (click on windjammer tab)**

**THE NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE MAILED OUT ANYMORE. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO WANTS IT E-MAILED TO THEM PLEASE HAVE THEM SEND THEIR NAME AND E-MAIL ADDRESS TO THE DISTRICT ADJUNANT WHO'S INFORMATION IS ON THE FRONT PAGE. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE MEMBER PER POST THAT HAS AN E-MAIL ACCOUNT TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER AND PRINT ONE COPY OFF FOR THE POST, IF POSSIBLE. WE WANT TO GET DISTRICT INFORMATION OUT TO AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE.**

### **Greetings from Area One:**

Veteran Services is offering a support group for Veterans that have been diagnosed with PTSD, or those who have signs and symptoms of PTSD, and their family members. The group will be facilitated by Jennifer Shumaker, a Veteran and Olmsted County Veterans Service Officer, and will meet at the American Legion Post 92 in Rochester, 315 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N W, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:30PM. For more information you may contact Jennifer at (507) 990-1347 or [jen-nifer@co.olmsted.mn.us](mailto:jen-nifer@co.olmsted.mn.us). The next meeting is February 25.

Veterans Day on the Hill will be Wednesday, March 16th, 2016 at 10AM at the Cedar Street Armory 600 Cedar Street in Saint Paul. Mark your calendars for this event.

Remember, it is the responsibility of all Legion Members to recruit new members. Just imagine if each member signed up just one new member. Have you signed up a new member yet?

I look forward to visiting your Post, and feel free to contact me. Remember our troops and their loved ones in your prayers. May God Bless You and May God Bless America.

**Area One Vice Commander**

**Joe P Brown, Sr**

### **Greetings from Area Two**

I attended the First District Mid-Winter in Adams on January 9, 2016 and thought that it was a good meeting which was well presented. I really liked the use of the projector to have all the reports up on the screen to follow along with as they were presented .

I hope everyone in my area makes an effort to go to one of the stops of the National Commander as he tours southern Minnesota. Get what membership you can get and take it one of the stops.

Please keep our troops in your thoughts and prayers.

Gene (Sarge) Luedtke - Area Two Vice Commander

### **Greetings from Area Three,**

The National Commander will be visiting the Posts in the First District the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of February. I encourage all who can, to attend the events that will be hosted in his honor. At the same time, all Posts that are at goal will have the opportunity to have their pictures taken with the National Commander. Reservations need to be made if anyone plans to attend any of the functions by calling the respective Posts. Refer to the Legionnaire for scheduling information.

Membership is going well. At this time, it takes personal contact with unpaid members to get to goal. There are a lot of Posts that are within one to five unpaid members. With a little work, we can achieve our goal. With a little extra effort, we could finish in first place in the Department.

Make sure you keep our men and women in uniform in your thoughts and prayers each day.

Carroll Hill, Vice Commander Area Three

### **Greetings from Area Four**

We held the Mid-Winter Meeting at Adams on January 10, with a pretty good attendance based on the cold weather and icy roads. Thank you all for being there.

This month, will start off with the National Commander visiting the First District with five planned stops. He will certainly be busy and get the opportunity to see our communities! I will be attending the supper at Adams on February 3. On Saturday, February 6, the Department Sweetheart Rally will be held at Legionville near Brainerd, with Membership turn-in and the business meeting. We will also have Ice Fishing, Bean Bags and a Chili Cook-off to entertain all of us and take our minds off the cold weather. We will have a chili supper after. On Sunday, February 7, we will join Post 164 in Stewartville for First District Four Chaplains Program. This starts at 10 am. Hope to see many of you there.

On February 27, the Area 3 Rally will be hosted by Post 249 in Spring Grove MN. The social hour begins at 3 pm with the Rally starting at 4 pm.

We are off to a good start with membership and activities to bring us together. I hope for continued good things for the 1<sup>st</sup> District this upcoming year. God bless our Troops and God Bless the USA.

Arnold C. Troe

Area 4 Vice Commander

## First District Membership Report For 1/28/2016

POST	CITY	Goal	Previous	Turn In	Total	PERCENT	LEFT	Turn In Date
9	Winona	668	590	20	610	91.32%	58	1/21/2016
90	Lewiston	79	67	3	70	88.61%	9	1/21/2016
190	St Charles	150	129	5	134	89.33%	16	1/21/2016
<b>Winona County Totals</b>		897	786	28	814	90.75%	83	1/28/2016
50	Wabasha	322	247	12	259	80.43%	63	1/21/2016
110	Lake City	160	149	2	151	94.38%	9	1/21/2016
179	Plainview	202	188	14	202	100.00%	0	1/21/2016
546	Kellogg	71	71	-1	70	98.59%	1	1/15/2016
573	Elgin	45	36	2	38	84.44%	7	12/16/2015
579	Millville	135	152	8	160	118.52%	-25	1/7/2016
588	Mazeppa	85	74	2	76	89.41%	9	1/7/2016
<b>Wabasha County Totals</b>		1020	917	39	956	93.73%	64	1/28/2016
92	Rochester	1043	880	17	897	86.00%	146	1/21/2016
119	Byron	154	143	5	148	96.10%	6	1/21/2016
164	Stewartville	330	297	4	301	91.21%	29	1/28/2016
446	Rochester	11	13	1	14	127.27%	-3	12/16/2015
551	Eyota	179	173	10	183	102.23%	-4	1/7/2016
<b>Olmstead County Totals</b>		1717	1506	37	1543	89.87%	174	1/28/2016
<b>Area One Totals</b>		3634	3209	104	3313	91.17%	321	1/28/2016
295	West Concord	69	67	-1	66	95.65%	3	1/7/2016
330	Hayfield	240	226	14	240	100.00%	0	1/21/2016
333	Kasson	275	269	-1	268	97.45%	7	1/15/2016
384	Dodge Center	94	81	2	83	88.30%	11	1/7/2016
422	Claremont	37	33	5	38	102.70%	-1	11/25/2015
<b>Dodge County Totals</b>		715	676	19	695	97.20%	20	1/28/2016
52	Blooming Prairie	120	93	10	103	85.83%	17	1/15/2016
77	Owatonna	605	507	34	541	89.42%	64	1/21/2016
296	Ellendale	28	31	2	33	117.86%	-5	1/7/2016
<b>Steele County Totals</b>		753	631	46	677	89.91%	76	1/28/2016
75	New Richland	70	60	3	63	90.00%	7	1/21/2016
228	Waseca	347	346	1	347	100.00%	0	1/21/2016
281	Janesville	110	102	2	104	94.55%	6	12/10/2015
587	Waldorf	28	18	9	27	96.43%	1	1/7/2016
<b>Waseca County Totals</b>		555	526	15	541	97.48%	14	1/28/2016
<b>Area Two Totals</b>		2023	1833	80	1913	94.56%	110	1/28/2016

40	Lanesboro	103	105	5	110	106.80%	-7	1/7/2016
68	Spring Valley	84	76	2	78	92.86%	6	1/15/2016
81	Harmony	36	27	2	29	80.56%	7	11/13/2015
94	Rushford	142	125	2	127	89.44%	15	1/15/2016
166	Preston	81	63	5	68	83.95%	13	1/7/2016
197	Chatfield	54	48	2	50	92.59%	4	1/21/2016
299	Mabel	192	185	4	189	98.44%	3	1/21/2016
369	Wykoff	21	18	2	20	95.24%	1	9/17/2015
400	Canton	18	13	3	16	88.89%	2	1/15/2016
492	Fountain	19	13	4	17	89.47%	2	12/10/2015
526	Peterson	35	36	-1	35	100.00%	0	1/7/2016
544	Ostrander	25	26	1	27	108.00%	-2	12/16/2015
637	Whalen	15	14	1	15	100.00%	0	10/2/2015
<b>Fillmore County Totals</b>		825	749	32	781	94.67%	44	1/28/2016
191	Caledonia	179	167	1	168	93.85%	11	1/15/2016
249	Spring Grove	171	142	7	149	87.13%	22	1/7/2016
423	Houston	114	105	1	106	92.98%	8	1/21/2016
498	Hokah	21	17	3	20	95.24%	1	10/30/2015
595	LaCrescent	365	306	20	326	89.32%	39	1/21/2016
<b>Houston County Totals</b>		850	737	32	769	90.47%	81	1/28/2016
<b>Area Three Totals</b>		1675	1486	64	1550	92.54%	125	1/28/2016
56	Albert Lea	739	685	15	700	94.72%	39	1/21/2016
264	Glenville	90	82	1	83	92.22%	7	1/21/2016
266	Hartland	20	17	1	18	90.00%	2	9/17/2015
317	Emmons	76	73	1	74	97.37%	2	1/28/2016
404	Alden	106	112	1	113	106.60%	-7	1/21/2016
552	Freeborn	40	37	2	39	97.50%	1	12/10/2015
<b>Freeborn County Totals</b>		1071	1006	21	1027	95.89%	44	1/28/2016
91	Austin	700	620	9	629	89.86%	71	1/21/2016
105	Lyle	97	90	1	91	93.81%	6	1/7/2016
140	Grand Meadow	50	46	1	47	94.00%	3	1/21/2016
146	Adams	216	194	6	200	92.59%	16	1/21/2016
161	LeRoy	73	56	11	67	91.78%	6	1/21/2016
570	Austin Spam	6	1	4	5	83.33%	1	7/29/2015
<b>Mower County Totals</b>		1142	1007	32	1039	90.98%	103	1/28/2016
<b>Area Four Totals</b>		2213	2013	53	2066	93.36%	147	1/28/2016
1111	Dakota	82	0	4	4	4.88%	78	1/28/2016
<b>District One Totals</b>		9627	8541	305	8846	91.89%	781	1/28/2016

## AREA VICE COMMANDER STANDINGS

<b>AREA ONE</b>	3634	3209	104	3313	91.17%	321	1/28/2016
<b>AREA TWO</b>	2023	1833	80	1913	94.56%	110	1/28/2016
<b>AREA THREE</b>	1675	1486	64	1550	92.54%	125	1/28/2016
<b>AREA FOUR</b>	2213	2013	53	2066	93.36%	147	1/28/2016

Greetings First District:

What a Winter! We'll take this type of weather every winter.

Our Midwinter rally was respectfully attended. We can definitely use more members. Shawn Schloesser gave us an update on veteran related legislation in this year's congress. Thanks to Adams Post #146 for hosting the rally. Good job.

The District Oratorical contest was held at LA Crescent Post #595 on January 17th. Unfortunately we had only one contestant. We need to get more schools involved in this great program.

Our National Commander will be at several posts in the 1st District February 3rd and 4th. Please plan to attend one of the stops to show our District Pride and show support for our Department Commander Jim. Bring plenty of memberships and get your picture taken with National Commander Barnett.

**February 6th** we will be having the Sweetheart Rally up at Legionville. Bring your sweetheart, fishing gear, and lots of membership. There will be a giant fishing contest, so all you rugged outdoor fisherman plan to attend. There will also be a Chili Cook Off for anyone who feels up to the challenge. Prizes will be awarded to awarded to the winners of each contest. Plan for a fun filled day.

**February 7th** we will be having our first Four Chaplains program at Stewartville Post#164. This is your chance to learn all about the heroic story of the Four Chaplains. I'm sure Ralph has done a wonderful job putting this thing together. Please plan to attend and make this a program a success and show Ralph a big Thank You.

To end the month on **February 27th** we will be having our Area Three Rally at Spring Grove Post #249. Let's show these Norskies a big turnout and thank you for hosting this event.

We are doing a good job on membership. As of this letter we are in third place in Department. Things are slowing up and we need to start knocking on doors and getting those remaining members signed up. We need to be in First Place at the end of the year to show that Commander Jim's 1st District is number "1".

1st District Membership Director - Les Shaunce

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings First District Legion family, we are already to February, time flies when you are having fun. February we have Americanism month; First Sunday is Four Chaplains Sunday; Religious emphasis week; President's Day; Valentine Day.

We begin on the first with Four Chaplains Sunday, which memorializes the actions of Four chaplains aboard the USAT Dorchester, which was torpedoed and sank at 12:55 am Feb 03, 1943. The ship sank in less than 27 minutes. Those chaplains were Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed.

Valor is a gift," Carl Sandburg once said. "Those having it never know for sure whether they have it until the test comes." That night Reverend Fox, Rabbi Goode, Reverend Poling and Father Washington passed life's ultimate test. In doing so, they became an enduring example of extraordinary faith, courage and selflessness. The Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously December 19, 1944, to the next of kin by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, in a ceremony at the post chapel at Fort Myer, VA. A posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, never before given and never to be given again, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President January 18, 1961. In February 1951, the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, an interfaith memorial chapel, was dedicated in Philadelphia, Rev. Daniel Poling, Chaplain Clark Poling's father, presided over the ceremony, which was attend by President Harry S. Truman. Source: Chapel of the Four Chaplains.

Religious emphasis week, during this time posts are encouraged to hold events highlighting the special role faith and religious ideas have played in the history and development of the United States.

I would now like to offer a prayer for the American Legion; Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm does bind the wind and wave, we remember the ancient words, "Blessed be the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He has chosen for an inheritance." We are grateful for the heritage that is ours ini this nation whereby we enjoy more freedom than any other people on earth. Help us never to neglect any part of this freedom lest we lose the opportunity for ourselves and children.

We humbly dedicate these moments to You and pray that as the American Legion calls the heart and mind of America back to God, we may enjoy the fruits of righteousness, justice and peace. Keep us ever mindful of the sacrifice made by veterans, named and nameless, who laid down their lives that we and those whom we love might love. For Your name's sake. Amen


So, my Legion family, I hope and pray that all are well and in good spirits, and if not, may you soon enjoy the blessing of good health. We need to keep our troops and their families in our thoughts and prayers, that all might come home safe. We look out for our brothers and sisters that we can be a strong family. For our homeless, may they find shelter, for those suffering PTSD and depression, anxiety and other afflictions, may you find peace and hope. For those of us with suicidal urges-- **please do not act on them!** Call the Veterans Crisis line at 1-800-273-8255 Press 1. Confidential Chat at [veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net) or text to 838255. One of our brothers or sisters committing suicide is too many, the 22 a day is a crying shame and a tragedy.

God bless America, God bless the American Legion, and pray for our nation, she needs it. Thank you for allowing me to serve the First District.

Ralph Schneekloth,  
MN First District Chaplain

PS: Check out the poem from the US Cavalry on the following page.

# "FIDDLERS' GREEN"



Halfway down the trail to Hell,  
In a shady meadow green,  
Are the Souls of all dead troopers  
camped  
Near a good old-time canteen,  
And this eternal resting place  
Is known as Fiddlers' Green.

Marching past, straight through to Hell,  
The Infantry are seen,  
Accompanied by the Engineers,  
Artillery and Marine,  
For none but the shades of  
Cavalrymen  
Dismount at Fiddlers' Green.

Though some go curving down the trail  
To seek a warmer scene,  
No trooper ever gets to Hell  
Ere he's emptied his canteen,  
And so rides back to drink again  
With friends at Fiddlers' Green.

And so when man and horse go down  
Beneath a saber keen,  
Or in a roaring charge of fierce mêlée  
You stop a bullet clean,  
And the hostiles come to get your  
scalp,  
Just empty your canteen,  
And put your pistol to your head  
And go to Fiddlers' Green.

## **PR Notes Feb 2016**

FEBRUARY – Americanism Month Plan school awards with local educators. Sponsor religious emphasis activities. Start planning the upcoming American Legion Baseball season. Local veterans employment representatives make great speakers at post and district meetings. Consider hosting observances of Abraham Lincoln's and George Washington's birthdays. Plan a big American Legion birthday program for March.

## **JANUARY ADULT SPORTS**

Department bowling tournament is in Albert Lea and District bowling tournament is in Rushford and information can be found below. Thank you.

Ralph Schneekloth,  
Adult Sports Chair

## **FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

(OPEN TO ALL AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS)

**HELD AT THE RUSHFORD BOWLING ALLEY, RUSHFORD, MN**

**January 30 and 31, 2016    plus    February 13 and 14, 2016**

**Singles and Doubles will be held on both Saturdays 1/30/16 and 2/13/16 at 3 pm**


**Team events will be held on both Sundays 1/31/16 and 2/14/16 at 12:00 noon**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT— Jim Kitchen at Nordic Lanes in Rushford at 507—864—7799**

## SOME USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOU TO LOOK AT


Below is an application for the National American Legion Press Association membership application. We are going to get a Department level one going so please look the it over and think about joining. If you have any questions please Call me at 507—438—6319.

Ralph Schneckloth - First District Public Relations Chairman and a member of the Department Public Relations Committee.



# The National American Legion Press Association

# NALPA



For the Mutual improvement of the Legion Press — By Mutual Endeavor

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) is an organization of newsletter editors, writers, historians, public relations officers and communications volunteers of The American Legion Family and subsidiary organizations.

NALPA encourages the exchange of ideas; promotes the development of local newsletters and public relations activities; strives to communicate the corporate goals of The American Legion Family organizations and recognizes achievement through an annual newsletter and newspaper awards program. NALPA has been working to facilitate this communication at all levels of The American Legion Family for more than 75 years.

Today, the fastest growing posts, units, and squadrons within The American Legion Family all have a successful newsletter or other media to communicate with their members. Leaders within The American Legion Family today recognize and accept the fact that the majority of the members never make it to the Post Home. A newsletter (whether digital or print) is the best, most cost-effective tool to keep non-active members informed. By keeping them informed you never know when an activity will spark their interest and you will suddenly have a more active member.

Members of NALPA also receive a quarterly newsletter as a member benefit.

Join today and become an active member of The American Legion Family communications team. The National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) strives to assist you in shaping a "Positive Image" of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion.

**FULL NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST MI LAST

**HOME ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY STATE ZIP

**YOUR EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGION/AUXILIARY/SON MEMBERSHIP #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT/POST/DETACHMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I AM A MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING:**

*the American Legion Auxiliary*
 *The American Legion*
 *SONS of The American Legion*

**THIS IS FOR**    New Membership:\$15    Renew Membership: \$15    NALPA Pin\$ 6

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable To: NALPA      **MAIL TO:**      NALPA  
 The American Legion  
 C/O Debra Murrell, National Media & Communications  
 PO Box 1055  
 Indianapolis, IN 46206

**PLEASE ENTER Membership Year: 20** \_\_\_\_\_

The NALPA membership year is from September 1 through August 31.

# FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



## Auxiliary Contacts

### President

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### Secretary

Gloria Njos  
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Walham, MN 55982  
507/477/3259

Mid-Winter in Adams had a good representation from all members of the American Legion Family. The live auction produced a great amount of money (over \$900.00) for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Thanks to auctioneer Lee with help from Chuck Stone and for those who bid on the items and Sherilyn Miller the Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairman. Thanks to all those who braved the cold, snowy and blowing weather.

Thanks to the Adams Legion family who helped with registration, lunch and set-up.

Membership is looking good we still have 2 units under 50% and 7 units under 60%.

Upcoming events:

Department Sweetheart Rally at Legionville (chili cook-off) Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup>.

On January 27<sup>th</sup> I will be celebrating 64 years of being married to the same man. He spends most of his days running the handle of the recliner and asking for cookies.

I attended the First District Leadership training in Plainview on January 23rd. I was pleased with the attendance of the members from Eyota, Wabasha, Adams, Spring Valley, Stewartville and Plainview. Thanks to those who came to learn about Leadership.

Pat Miner  
1<sup>st</sup> District President

## Membership / First Vice

Cindy Nelson  
91 14th St N  
Northwood, IA 50459  
507/383/0082  
tindylou@hotmail.com



### Treasurer

Audrey Farnsworth  
302 1st St E  
Stewartville, MN 55976  
507/533/4454  
harlee@charter.net

## Poppy Program

Have all Units ordered their Poppies? If not you are still able too. All Units should have received the Poppy Program Plaques and Awards sheet. After your Poppy Poster Contest, I will need you to send me your winning Posters by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

One winner in each category from 1<sup>st</sup>. District will be sent on to State for competition.

Good Luck to each Unit!

I would really like to know what your Unit would have done last year to promote the Poppy Program.

You can send your winning posters and poppy recap to the following address.

Wanda Prescher- Poppy Chair  
3321 Vista View Ct. SW  
Rochester, MN. 55902

## CALL TO FIRST DISTRICT JUNIOR CONFERENCE

The annual Junior Conference of the First District American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called to be held on **Saturday, March 19, 2016** at the Stewartville American Legion 1100 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NW Stewartville, Minnesota for the purpose of:

- Presentation and judging of awards
- Reports from the Unit Junior Presidents
- Election of District Junior Officers
- Election of Delegates to the Department Junior Conference
- Other business for the good of the Junior Auxiliary group

Registration will be at **9:00 A.M.** Snacks and juice will be served. **The registration fee is \$5.00 per junior or senior member, up to \$10.00 per family.** Displays may be set up at this time. There will be an Executive Board meeting for Junior officers with Senior officers at **9:30 A.M.** Honorary Junior President Amelia Welter will call the conference to order at **10:00 A.M.** **Lunch will be served at a cost of \$5.00 per lunch.**

In order to complete for District Junior trophies or awards, a copy of the Unit Junior Activities Annual Report and a written narrative of their activities must be in the hands of the District Junior Activities Chairman Carrie Lowe by the time of the District Junior Conference. You may bring them with you that day.

“Memory Book, prayer books, placemats, tray favors, and any other categories” recommended by the Department may be brought in the day of the conference. A prize of ten (10) dollars for the first place and prize of five (5) dollars for second place shall be presented to the winners of the memory book and prayer book category. A prize of five (5) dollars for first place and three (3) for second place will be awarded in the other categories, including talent. Refer to the First District Junior Standing Rules and the Department Junior Trophy and Awards.

If your unit received trophies last year, please bring them to the Conference so they can be awarded to the winners.

District colors will be posted. If your Unit would like to bring their individual colors, they will be posted.

We would like to extend a special invitation to all junior members even if they do not belong to an organized Unit. Any senior member may bring one or more junior members to the conference and is welcome to stay for the meeting. Come for a day of learning and fun! You are the future of the American Legion Auxiliary.

We hope you can join us to meet new friends and enjoy being with those you have already met. We hope this will be a great day for you.

Carrie Lowe  
First District Junior Activities Chairman

## Department Numeric Objective (DNO) = Goal

**1ST DISTRICT**

	#	Unit Name	2015 Final Count	2016 DNO incl 21%	Period Gain Juniors	Period Gain Seniors	Period Gain Totals	Juniors To Date	Seniors To Date	To Date Totals	Percent
1	146	Adams	147	178	2	8	10	18	109	127	71.35%
1	56	Albert Lea	368	444			0	7	300	307	69.14%
1	404	Alden	53	64			0		37	37	57.81%
1	91	Austin	180	218			0	1	152	153	70.18%
1	52	Blooming Prairie	124	150			0	3	108	111	74.00%
1	119	Byron	96	116			0	15	75	90	77.59%
1	191	Caledonia	82	99			0	5	69	74	74.75%
1	197	Chatfield	36	44			0		37	37	84.09%
1	422	Claremont	26	32			0	4	16	20	62.50%
1	384	Dodge Center	91	110	1	4	5	2	59	61	55.45%
1	573	Elgin	26	32			0		15	15	46.88%
1	317	Emmons	30	36			0		30	30	83.33%
1	551	Eyota	123	149		6	6	2	86	88	59.06%
1	492	Fountain	21	25			0		1	1	4.00%
1	552	Freeborn	64	78			0	9	54	63	80.77%
1	264	Glenville	107	129	1	6	7	11	78	89	68.99%
1	140	Grand Meadow	77	93			0	10	62	72	77.42%
1	81	Harmony	44	53			0	13	24	37	69.81%
1	330	Hayfield	222	268		5	5	15	154	169	63.06%
1	498	Hokah	20	24			0		19	19	79.17%
1	423	Houston	136	165	2	11	13	17	110	127	76.97%
1	281	Janesville	61	74			0	1	56	57	77.03%
1	333	Kasson	153	186			0	5	131	136	73.12%
1	546	Kellogg	145	176			0	14	107	121	68.75%

Ladies - Thank You for the membership turn ins. We still have some work to do. We need to be at seventy two (72) percent by February. I know that we can do it!!!!

Cindy Nelson

First District Membership Chairman

1	595	LaCrescent	224	270			0	12	165	177	65.56%
1	110	Lake City	89	108			0	10	66	76	70.37%
1	40	Lanesboro	93	113			0		82	82	72.57%
1	161	Leroy	72	87	2	1	3	10	32	42	48.28%
1	90	Lewiston	40	49			0	2	30	32	65.31%
1	105	Lyle	56	68			0	5	39	44	64.71%
1	299	Mabel	141	171			0	14	110	124	72.51%
1	588	Mazeppa	53	64			0	2	46	48	75.00%
1	579	Millville	49	59			0	2	37	39	66.10%
1	75	New Richland	69	84			0		64	64	76.19%
1	544	Ostrander	16	19			0		16	16	84.21%
1	77	Owatonna	128	155			0		109	109	70.32%
1	526	Peterson	33	40			0	1	29	30	75.00%
1	179	Plainview	184	223	2	4	6	10	136	146	65.47%
1	92	Rochester	182	221			0	9	153	162	73.30%
1	94	Rushford	70	85			0	2	74	76	89.41%
1	249	Spring Grove	135	164			0	12	99	111	67.68%
1	68	Spring Valley	47	57			0		44	44	77.19%
1	190	St Charles	96	116		5	5	3	64	67	57.76%
1	164	Stewartville	181	220		9	9	8	151	159	72.27%
1	50	Wabasha	146	177		3	3	5	110	115	64.97%
1	587	Waldorf	29	35			0		28	28	80.00%
1	228	Waseca	241	290			0	7	200	207	71.38%
1	295	West Concord	39	47			0		35	35	74.47%
1	637	Whalan	23	28			0		18	18	64.29%
1	9	Winona	194	234			0	8	131	139	59.40%
1	369	Wykoff	16	19			0		15	15	78.95%
51		1st District Totals	5,078	6,146	10	62	72	274	3,972	4,246	69.09%

## MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA AUXILIARY

1/20/2016							
Membership			Percent of			Membership	
DISTRICT	# of Units	Goal	Period Gain	To Date	Goal	Last Year	
One	51	6,146	72	4,246	69.09%	4,276	
Two	76	5,979	25	4,267	71.37%	4,337	
Three	46	5,323	25	3,701	69.53%	3,795	
Four	7	920	8	549	59.67%	607	
Five	10	1,047	1	689	65.81%	712	
Six	64	7,318	49	5,195	70.99%	5,312	
Seven	62	4,859	11	3,331	68.55%	3,490	
Eight	26	2,005	39	1,269	63.29%	1,374	
Nine	53	5,232	28	3,761	71.88%	3,851	
Ten	47	6,382	18	4,080	63.93%	4,431	
1982 Dept at Large	1	198	1	127	64.14%	106	
<b>District Totals:</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>45,409</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>31,215</b>	<b>68.74%</b>	<b>32,291</b>	
<b>Group 1 (Even)</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>22,604</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>15,360</b>	<b>67.95%</b>	<b>16,061</b>	
<i>Carol Kottom</i>							
<b>Group 2 (Odd)</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>22,607</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>15,728</b>	<b>69.57%</b>	<b>16,124</b>	
<i>Donna Arends</i>							

10th	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	1st
59.67%	63.29%	63.93%	65.81%	68.55%	69.09%	69.53%	70.99%	71.37%	71.88%
District 4	District 8	District 10	District 5	District 7	District 1	District 3	District 6	District 2	District 9



## GIRLS STATE

The 70<sup>th</sup> session of Minnesota Girls State will be held June 12-18, 2016 at Bethel University in St. Paul. The Girls State citizens will arrive on Sunday and leave on Saturday morning before noon. Bids have been sent out to have a bus this year. However, I will be doing a survey to see how many units would use this service and if it would be beneficial to have a bus. Last year the first district had 38 girls attending and only 15 road the bus – this is not financial wise for the District to keep absorbing the extra cost for the bus. The cost of the bus will depend on how many girls ride. Last year the cost was \$55.00 and it is my hope the cost will be somewhere in that ball park this year.

The school mailing was sent to high school principals just after Christmas. They are aware that units will be contacting them to set up an appointment to meet with potential candidates from the Junior class to attend the 2016 Girls State session. There are several other changes besides the location and duration this year – please read all of the information that was provided to you in the Unit Mailing from department, so that you are aware of the eligibility and qualifications required. **New this year is the requirement that applicants must be citizen of the United States or have legal residency. Proof of legal residency is required. (This is a National Mandate for both Girls State and Boys State.)**  
**This information was included in the January Unit Mailing for the Department office.**

There is no limit to the number of citizens any Unit may send to Girls State. The reservation remains at \$300 per citizen. If there are no high schools in your community, please consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring a girl(s) from the Junior class in a neighboring community.

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If you are a Unit who sends a girl(s) to Girls State please complete the survey that will included in the February District Newsletter and return it to me **NO LATER** than **FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>**.

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Girls State Chairman or Unit President: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell)

Number of Girls you plan to send to girls state? \_\_\_\_\_

If a bus is provided for your Girls State girl(s) to ride would you:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** would ride the bus \_\_\_\_\_ Number riding

\_\_\_\_\_ **NO** would not ride the bus

Tara Goede, 1<sup>st</sup> District Girls State Chairman  
 630 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW  
 Plainview MN 55964  
 507-534-2931  
 tara.goede@gmail.com

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



### COMMANDER

**Glenn Mueller**

548 East 10th St  
St Charles, MN 55972  
507/932/4301 or 507/316/3977  
glm01311962@gmail.com

### ADJUTANT

**Gary Weaver**

29 North Elm Street  
507/895/2818 or 507/450/9580  
gweaver@acegroup.cc

### EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

**Cody Paulson**

26043 St Hwy 43  
Rushford, MN 55971  
507 / 450 / 9221

### WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

**Paul Spyhalski**

111 Sixth St NW Austin, MN 55912  
507/437/6748 or 507/279/0340  
prspyhal@yahoo.com

### MEMBERSHIP

**Tim Weaver**

183 N Third St  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
507/551/2149 or 608/498/5803  
timweaver595@gmail.com

Greetings Everyone

Happy ground hog day, little early but better early than not at all.

Time for business, we need some desperate help. We are in 9th place, what's going on? I am hoping that we get some serious membership numbers really soon. If you are at goal thanks but keep them coming as we have several squad's that probably won't make their goal. So step up and make your squad number one in the district. Please help us make our detachment goals.

Now switch gears time to start thinking about sending your Boy's State and your Legionville School Safety Patrol representative's names to Department.

Now is the time to get your endorsements sent in for next year District Officers. We need Vice Commanders, Chaplain, Commander, Sargent at Arms and Historian.

Please do your best to show up this week when the National Commander is at one of the four posts in the First District, Adams, Stewartville, Preston, and Winona. Show the National Commander who the First is.

First District SAL Commander - Glenn Mueller

Omelet Breakfast—  
LaCrescent Squadron  
595, 8am to 12pm on  
the fourth Sunday of  
every other month  
starting with August

### !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ATTENTION SQUADS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We still have a number of Squadrons who need to get their officer lists updated with Detachment. They are Wabasha, Owatonna, Austin, Lyle, Byron, Grand Meadow, Preston, Caledonia, Spring Grove, Glenville, Janesville, Mabel, Hayfield, Dodge Center and Eyota. Remember you need to send in an officer list every year even if there are no changes. You **CANNOT** same as last year on the form and send in.

## FIRST DISTRICT SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 1/28/2016

SQUAD	LOCATION	GQAL	PREVIOUS	TURN IN	TOTAL	PERCENT	LEFT	DATE
9	WINONA	66	0	75	75	113.64%	-9	1/6/2016
40	LANESBORO	56	55	1	56	100.00%	0	1/28/2016
50	WABASHA	21	0	7	7	33.33%	14	1/6/2016
90	LEWISTON	46	1	45	46	100.00%	0	1/28/2016
92	ROCHESTER	112	0	105	105	93.75%	7	1/6/2016
94	RUSHFORD	41	0	35	35	85.37%	6	1/6/2016
119	BYRON	47	34	5	39	82.98%	8	1/28/2016
164	STEWARTVILLE	150	6	58	64	42.67%	86	1/28/2016
166	PRESTON	48	0	41	41	85.42%	7	1/6/2016
179	PLAINVIEW	23	0	16	16	69.57%	7	1/6/2016
190	ST CHARLES	15	0	15	15	100.00%	0	1/6/2016
191	CALEDONIA	44	0	0	0	0.00%	44	1/6/2016
249	SPRING GROVE	3	0	7	7	233.33%	-4	1/6/2016
299	MABEL	42	0	16	16	38.10%	26	1/6/2016
423	HOUSTON	53	0	19	19	35.85%	34	1/6/2016
546	KELLOGG	25	24	2	26	104.00%	-1	1/28/2016
551	EYOTA	37	27	4	31	83.78%	6	1/28/2016
573	ELGIN	2	0	1	1	50.00%	1	1/6/2016
579	MILLVILLE	38	0	4	4	10.53%	34	1/6/2016
595	LA CRESCENT	94	0	40	40	42.55%	54	1/6/2016
	Total for East Side	963	147	496	643	66.77%	320	1/28/2016
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	29	0	71	71	244.83%	-42	1/6/2016
56	ALBERT LEA	129	38	10	48	37.21%	81	1/28/2016
75	NEW RICHLAND	4	0	0	0	0.00%	4	1/6/2016
77	OWATONNA	131	0	58	58	44.27%	73	1/6/2016
91	AUSTIN	63	0	30	30	47.62%	33	1/6/2016
105	LYLE	18	0	1	1	5.56%	17	1/6/2016
140	GRAND MEADOW	15	0	0	0	0.00%	15	1/6/2016
146	ADAMS	130	0	74	74	56.92%	56	1/6/2016
161	LEROY	57	0	47	47	82.46%	10	1/6/2016
228	WASECA	115	82	17	99	86.09%	16	1/28/2016
264	GLENVILLE	35	35	3	38	108.57%	-3	1/28/2016
266	HARTLAND	12	0	12	12	100.00%	0	1/6/2016
281	JANESVILLE	15	0	10	10	66.67%	5	1/28/2016
317	EMMONS	34	0	19	19	55.88%	15	1/6/2016
330	HAYFIELD	33	25	2	27	81.82%	6	1/28/2016
333	KASSON	51	0	38	38	74.51%	13	1/6/2016
384	DODGE CENTER	16	4	2	6	37.50%	10	1/28/2016
404	ALDEN	55	0	8	8	14.55%	47	1/6/2016
552	FREEBORN	34	0	35	35	102.94%	-1	1/6/2016
	Total for West Side	928	184	437	621	66.92%	307	1/28/2016
1111	DAKOTA	98	63	13	76	77.55%	22	1/28/2016
TOTAL FOR DISTRICT		2009	394	946	1340	66.70%	669	1/28/2016

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



## RIDERS CONTACT INFORMATION

### PRESIDENT

Dennis Lewison  
Adams, MN  
507/440/6067

### VICE—PRESIDENT

Tony Loecher  
Rochester, MN  
507/358/6389

### SECRETARY

Nancy Lewison  
Adams, MN  
507/440/2090

### SGT AT ARMS

Spanky Carroll  
Rushford, MN  
507/450/0741

### HISTORIAN

Karla Miller  
Rushford, MN  
507/459/5962

### CHAPLAIN

Roe Naylor  
Austin, MN  
507/438/5804

### ROAD CAPTAIN

Lee Dority  
Austin, MN  
641/210/9035

Greetings,

Our next meeting will be held early March. Date and location to be determined.

Several ALR chapters participated in the Eagles Cancer Telethon. We hope you saw them make their presentations!

The “Second Annual Tour of the First District” is being planned for July 9-10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We have started planning the ride and will be contacting posts to be considered as stops. The event last year was a huge success and we would really appreciate any assistance your post can offer.


Winona Harley is having a chili cook off on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds for this event will be given to the Winona ALR chapter.

Rushford ALR has a smelt feed and gun raffle on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be the Department ALR meeting. This will be at 1pm at Legionville in conjunction with the Department Legion Family Sweetheart rally.

**CHAPTERS,** If you have anyone interested in holding a district office. We will need their endorsement for the March meeting. We need all chapters to get involved to make the First District ALR a success.

Please e-mail any endorsement to the director or secretary at [lewisonnancy@gmail.com](mailto:lewisonnancy@gmail.com).



Waseca American Legion Post 228

## Valentine

### Dinner and Dance

February 13, 2016

- ◆ Tickets are \$20 per person, advance sale only
- ◆ No tickets at the door, No dance-only tickets
- ◆ Purchase at the club by January 25, 2016
- ◆ Call 507-833-9935

Dinner seating: 5:30-7:00 PM

Dance: 7:00 **"The Beginnings Band"**

*Music influenced by the horn bands of the 1960's, and a hint of the "Blues."*

# Legionville Ice Fishing Derby

Saturday, February 6th

On Legionville Bay, North Long Lake  
Brainerd, MN

Only 125 Holes  
Will Be Drilled

Entry Fee - \$20-/hole

Noon Start until 2 p.m.



**Department Sweetheart Rally  
& District Chili Cookoff**  
2 to 3 p.m.

**Membership Turn In:**  
Noon to 3 p.m.

Chili & Fishing Awards - 3 to 4 p.m.  
Membership Results - 4 to 5 p.m.



# Legionville Ice Fishing Derby



## Ice Fishing Contest Rules . . .

1. The contest is scheduled for Noon to 2 p.m. February 6th on Legionville Bay
2. Should the contest not be held for any reason on February 6th, it will be rescheduled at a later date. No refunds or exchanges will be allowed.
3. Entry fee for the contest is \$20 per hole.
4. There will be random drawings throughout the contest.
5. Each contestant will be allowed to fish one pole per hole, per ticket, two holes maximum.
6. Contestants and holes must be in plain view at all times. No shelters will be allowed. Anything on the ice is subject to search and removal of items may be required.
7. Contestants are required to park in the areas provided and no on-ice parking is allowed.
8. All laws of the State of Minnesota prevail.

## Registration Form . . .

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\$20 per hole (two hole maximum) check one box.

One Hole       Two Holes

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail to:*

Legionville  
9544 Legionville Road  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401



***NATIONAL COMMANDER DALE BARNETT'S MINNESOTA VISIT***

- Feb 1 – **Forest Lake Post 225** - Breakfast at 8:00 am    Post Phone – 320-968-7902  
 RSVP to the Post Banquet Line at 651-214-7745  
**Princeton Post 216** - Lunch at 12:00 pm        Post Phone – 763-389-7814  
 RSVP to 763- 389-7814  
**Little Falls Post 46** –5 pm social & 6 pm Dinner    Post Phone – 320-632-5944  
 RSVP to 320-632-5944
- Feb 2 - **Morris Post 29** – Breakfast at 8:00 am                    Post Phone – 320-589-2040  
 RSVP to 320-589-3495  
**Litchfield Post 104** – Lunch at 12:00 pm                    Post Phone – 320-693-2350  
 RSVP to 320-693-2350  
**Delano Post 377** – 5 pm social & 6 pm Dinner    Post Phone – 763-972-2969  
 RSVP to 763-972-2969
- Feb 3 - **Hutchinson Post 96** at VFW – Breakfast at 8:00 am    Post Phone – 320-587-2665  
 RSVP to 320-587-5856  
**Wells Post 210** – Lunch at 12:00 pm                    Post Phone – 507-553-3012  
 RSVP to 507-381-3559  
**Adams Post 146** – 5 pm social & 6 pm Dinner        Post Home – 507-582-3266  
 RSVP to 507-582-7723
- Feb 4 - **Stewartville Post 164** – Breakfast at 8:00 am            Post Phone - 507-533-9281  
 RSVP to 507-254-1573  
**Preston Post 166** – Lunch at 12:00 pm                    Post Phone – 507-765-2205  
 RSVP to 507-272-5966  
**Winona Post 9** – 5pm social & 6pm Dinner            Post Phone – 507-454-4281  
 RSVP to 507-452-2827 or 507-458-2519



Style Forward.  
Classic Training.  
Perfect Hair.



## **NO CUTS, NO GLORY!!**

When: February 28, 2016

Where: V.F.W. Austin, MN

Time: 3pm-7pm

The Edge Salon will be hosting a Cut-A-Thon with all donations going to The Eagles Healing Nest right here in Minnesota. Check them out at [www.theeagleshealingnest.com](http://www.theeagleshealingnest.com)

Help us get the word out...

**\*Will be selling \$5 Raffle Tickets**

Prizes are: 1-\$750, 1-\$500, 1-\$200, 3-\$100

**\*Haircuts for Donations**

*.... And much more!*

# **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> District**

## **ANNUAL ICE FISHING CONTEST**

**1:00 PM, SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2016**

**ELYSIAN, MN ON LAKE FRANCIS**

American Legion Post 311 will be hosting the contest

A one dollar (\$1) donation is required to participate in the fishing contest and to be eligible for many prize drawings.

Come and enjoy a hot cup of hunters stew prepared on the lake.

**AUXILIARY, SAL AND LEGIONAIRES ARE ALL WELCOME.**

**SEE YOU ON THE LAKE**