



# FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

## MAY 2025

### Legion Contacts

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### VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

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**Area Three** -  
Open

**Area Four** - Cole Wilcox  
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### IMPORTANT DATES

May 3, 2025 - The SAL and Legion Riders Conventions. See the calls to convention in this newsletter.

May 17, 2025 - the legion & auxiliary conventions. See call to conventions in this newsletter

May 26, 2025— Memorial Day - Please take time to remember by attending one of the programs happening though out the district.

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### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILIABLE

Kasson Post 333 has a over supply of medical equipment which includes hospital beds with mattresses, wheel chairs (both regular and electric), motorized scooters and much more. If inter-ested please call Richard Denny at 507—259—2081 for more information.



## 2025 First District Call to Convention

To: All Posts of the First District

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and By-Laws of the American Legion, Department of Minnesota, I, First District Commander, Mark Maloney, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Lake City, Minnesota on Saturday May 17, 2025.

The business sessions of the convention will be held in Wild Wings Plaza located at Hwy 61 South, Lake City, MN, commencing at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17, 2025, and will continue until adjournment.

The purpose of this convention is to elect a District Commander, four (4) District Vice- Commanders, District Chaplain, District Finance Officer, Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention and to do other business of the First District that may properly come before the Convention.

**The voting strength of each Post will be, as provided in the Department Constitution and By-Laws, Article 5, Section 3 based upon the membership certification sent to the District Commander by the District Adjutant.**

Please send certification of your Post Delegates and Alternates to Wayne Hammon, PO Box 135, LeRoy, MN 55951 before May 5<sup>th</sup>.

All Members are encouraged to attend.

First District Commander  
Mark Maloney

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Lake City, Minnesota, May 17, 2025, please send it to the District Adjutant as soon as possible.

POST _____	_____ MN
DELEGATES	ALTERNATES
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____
7. _____	7. _____
8. _____	8. _____

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

ADJUTANT, POST # \_\_\_\_\_

# FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

**May 17, 2025**

**American Legion Post 110, Lake City, MN**

The First District American Legion Convention will be held in Wild Wings Plaza, 2101 South Hwy 61, Lake City, MN Please fill out this form and before **April 30, 2025**, mail to:

**American Legion Post 110  
Convention Registration  
PO Box 23  
Lake City, MN 55041**

Please make the items with an "X" and total up the amount.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-registration Fee \$15.00 registration, at the door it will be \$20.00.

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday lunch \$10:00 (Lunch consists of : (Soup and Sandwich)

Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Make the checks out to **"American Legion Post 110"** and send to the address above.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one **Delegate** **Alternate** **Guest**

Put an "X" by your organization and fill out Your organization number.

**If you are a dual or triple member, you only need to register for one organization. This form will get you registered for the SAL or Riders Convention on Saturday, May 3, 2025**

**PLEASE BRING A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD – They will be checked at the registration table.**

**(ONLY PREREGISTERED MEMBERS WILL GET A CONVENTION BOOK)**

**(If you are a single, dual or triple member, please check the appropriate boxes below)**

**Legion** \_\_\_\_\_ **Post #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Auxiliary** \_\_\_\_\_ **Unit #** \_\_\_\_\_ **SAL** \_\_\_\_\_ **ALR Chapter** \_\_\_\_\_

You must register as a delegate, alternate, or guest if you are attending the convention. One person per registration form please. You can make copies if needed. More than one registration and lunch fee may be put on one check.

\_\_\_\_\_ cut off \_\_\_\_\_

## **Hotel information for the First District Convention in Lake City, MN**

The post has blocked twelve (12) rooms for Friday night May 16, 2025, at the following:

**AmericINN  
1615 N Lakeshore Drive  
Lake City, MN 55041  
651-345-5611**

**Rooms are \$109.90 plus tax per night**

You will need to call the motel and make your reservation. They are blocked under the American Legion.

## ENDORSEMNTS FOR OFFICERS

Brian Medinnus ———Commander

Andru Peters ————Vice Commander

Gary Weaver ————Finance Officer

## REQUESTS FOR NATIONAL DELEGATE

1. Chuck Kruger
2. Mary Hanson
3. Sy Fix
4. Myron Ehrich



## From the Hopeful Next 1st District Legion Commander.....

Roughly 20 days until the District Convention...and I am still looking for Personnel to fill the following positions:

Sgt at Arms

Area 2

Area 3

Area 4 ...Vice Commanders

Committee openings:

Softball

Please contact Wayne or Myself if you are interested.

Brian Medinnus

Post #161

Leroy



To the founders, the volunteers, the pilots and bus drivers, the guardians, the Rochester airport and staff to all the wonderful people who welcomed us at Regan Airport, the Memorials and finally those who welcomed us back home in Rochester. Thank you North Star Honor Flight for the wonderful, once in a lifetime trip, a thank you hardly seems like enough.



## FROM YOUR COMMANDER'S DESK

As I reflect on my two-year tenure as District Commander of the American Legion, I am filled with a sense of accomplishment, gratitude, and pride. These years have been a transformative journey, shaping my leadership skills and deepening my commitment to serving the veterans, their families, and the community at large.

When I took on the role of District Commander, I knew the challenges and responsibilities ahead would be significant. The American Legion, with its rich history and unwavering dedication to veterans, presented an opportunity to make a lasting impact. I focused on fostering a culture of transparency, collaboration, and innovation. By listening to the concerns and aspirations of Legion members, I was able to tailor our initiatives and programs to address their unique needs.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my tenure was strengthening the bonds within the community. The American Legion's mission to serve veterans and their families is deeply intertwined with the well-being of the local community. Through various outreach programs, we established partnerships with local businesses, schools, and other organizations, creating a supportive network for our veterans.

Our annual community events, such as Veterans Day celebrations and Memorial Day ceremonies, became cornerstone moments that united people from all walks of life. The participation and enthusiasm of the community were truly heartening, and these events served as a poignant reminder of the collective gratitude we owe to our servicemen and women.

During these two years, we introduced several innovative programs aimed at enhancing the lives of our veterans. One notable initiative was the launch of the Veterans P.T.S.D. Support Program, which provides P.T.S.D. awareness, directing to the correct mental health services, and coping skills development workshops. Recognizing the challenges veterans face when transitioning to civilian life, this program successfully aided many in finding meaningful support and securing their futures.

Another significant accomplishment was the expansion of mental health services. Understanding the critical importance of mental health in overall well-being, we collaborated with healthcare providers to offer comprehensive mental health support, including coun-

the main challenges was ensuring effective communication across all levels of the Legion. To address this, we implemented regular meetings, newsletters, and an updated digital platform, allowing for seamless communication and engagement.

Despite the hurdles, the triumphs were plentiful. Witnessing the positive impact of our programs on veterans' lives, seeing the community come together in support, and experiencing the growth and resilience of our Legion family were incredibly rewarding. These triumphs underscored the significance of our collective efforts and reinforced my belief in the power of community and service.

As my tenure as District Commander comes to an end, I am optimistic about the future of the American Legion. The foundation we have built over the past two years is strong, and the momentum we have gained will propel us forward. I am confident that the incoming leadership will continue to advance our mission, innovate, and expand our reach.

In conclusion, these two years have been a profound journey of service, leadership, and community. I am eternally grateful for the trust and support of my fellow Legion members, the unwavering dedication of our volunteers, and the warm embrace of the community. Together, we have made significant strides in improving the lives of veterans and strengthening the bonds that unite us.

As I step down from my role, I carry with me the lessons learned, the memories cherished, and the hope for a brighter future for all those who have served. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your District Commander—it has been the honor of a lifetime.

In closing these things, I feel that helped with the growth of our district also showing the members we care and help and support the members which they are the future of the American legion .Showing someone you have their six and not just signing them and forgetting them is like growing the crops in the field and not checking on the growth of your crops .

God bless our troops

1<sup>st</sup> district commander

Mark A. Maloney



## FROM YOUR CHAPLAIN

### A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Memorial Month is not only a time of remembrance but also a period of renewal. It is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to supporting our veterans and ensuring their well-being. The chaplain's message of hope is a reminder that, even in the face of loss, there is a path to healing and growth. By coming together as a community, we can provide the necessary support and resources to help our veterans thrive.

## LEGIONVILLE NEWS

Legionville is taking applications for this summer season please go on line and sign up. We could use 10 students from each district per session to help us keep running. Or if nothing else and your post has gambling we could use a donation to help also this donation could come from the son's of. Legion the auxiliary or riders. This camp is all of ours so let's see what we can do to support it. If you are looking for a camp for a week for your 9 to 13 year old check it out and send them and watch them grow.

Glenn Mueller

## The Role of the Chaplain

During Memorial Month, the chaplain plays a pivotal role in providing comfort and solace to the families and friends of fallen soldiers. The chaplain's presence is a source of spiritual support, guiding individuals through their grief and helping them find peace. Through prayers, memorial services, and personal interactions, the chaplain helps honor the memory of the departed while offering hope and healing to the living.

## MEMORIAL MONTH ACTIVITIES

. One such event is the Ruck March, sponsored by the American Legion Post 1918 in Moose Lake. This march, taking place on May 27, aims to raise funds for veterans, helping them find purpose, hope, and happiness beyond their service. The proceeds from this event support the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) program, a nonprofit organization

### A request from Glenn Mueller

Veterans 23 find purpose hope and happiness beyond the uniform. Is nonprofit 501c3 is having ruck march on May 31 and I am planning on going to it and marching it and would like to raise 100 or more for their program if you can help me it's appreciated. Please check them out



### North Star Honor Flight

#### Mission #1

Our first mission on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 was a wonderful event. We were able to take 88 veterans and 82 guardians on this day trip. 13 of the 14 counties from our service are represented.

We could not do it without all the support we have had from our American Legion Family. You stepped up with funding and volunteering and it was greatly appreciated. We will be planning Mission #2 and with a wait list of over 90 veterans, it is evident there is an interest.

We welcome any donations you can provide and encourage you to host events. We have a 50/50 cash raffle running now and I plan to have the tickets at district convention. The tickets are \$10.00 each.

Please visit <https://northstarhonorflight.org> for veteran & guardian applications. You may also want to e-mail our volunteer coordinator to help with events and the next flight.



## FROM AREA ONE

Greetings from Area One,

It is with great joy and excitement that I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and contributions have been truly remarkable, it is a privilege to be part the American Legion

Family.

May our collective efforts continue to inspire and elevate us to new heights of success and camaraderie. Here's to many more years of growth, achievement, and shared accomplishments.

With the best of wishes and regards,

Robert Schmidt

Area One Vice Commander

## From Your Children & Youth and Blood Chairman

I would like to thank the Legion Posts who took the time to fill out and return the reports this year.

Myron Ehrich

## IMPORTANT INFO

**The district needs your help. We need younger members to step up and accept an officer position before all the experience to help mentor them is gone.. Call Jim Kellogg for more information at 507-438-1123**

## FROM AREA FOUR

Greetings Area 4,

Let's continue to get those memberships in. With that being said, I'd like to congratulate Glenville Post 264 for a 103.17% percent membership report this past month.

The 1st district is still looking for a new Area 4 Vice Commander for next year's officers.

If you would like to know what this position entails feel free to contact me anytime and I will answer your questions to the best of my ability.

Cole Wilcox  
Area 4 Vice Commander

## FROM YOUR ADJUTANTS PEN

Just a reminder that according to the job descriptions for the District Committee Chairman, they are required to give a report on their committee activities for the year at the District Convention in May and give a copy to the District Adjutant .

If you are not attending the convention, send a copy to the District Adjutant and it will be read during session.

First District Adjutant - Wayne Hammon

## The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District Membership Report for April 30, 2025

Dist	Post	Location	New 2025	PUFL 2025	Online 2025	Trad 2025	Paid 2025	HQ Trans 2025	Total Membr 2025	Goal 2025	% of Goal
1	9	Winona	6	31	0	388	425	28	453	451	100.44%
1	90	Lewiston	3	10	0	65	78	2	80	81	98.77%
1	190	St Charles	0	13	0	70	83	0	83	99	83.84%
1		<b>Winona County</b>	9	54	0	523	586	30	616	631	97.62%
1	50	Wabasha	1	40	0	136	177	4	181	202	89.60%
1	110	Lake City	27	15	0	124	166	2	168	158	106.33%
1	179	Plainview	9	24	0	99	132	1	133	142	93.66%
1	546	Kellogg	0	6	0	43	49	0	49	55	89.09%
1	573	Elgin	0	3	0	21	24	1	25	27	92.59%
1	579	Millville	1	18	0	83	102	0	102	108	94.44%
1	588	Mazeppa	3	9	0	50	62	0	62	64	96.88%
1		<b>Wabsha County</b>	41	115	0	556	712	8	720	756	95.24%
1	92	Rochester	15	86	0	506	607	60	667	651	102.46%
1	119	Byron	11	17	0	93	121	3	124	106	116.98%
1	164	Stewartville	5	20	0	229	254	1	255	277	92.06%
1	446	Rochester	0	2	0	3	5	0	5	15	33.33%
1	551	Eyota	2	24	0	144	170	0	170	179	94.97%
1		<b>Olmsted County</b>	33	149	0	975	1157	64	1221	1228	99.43%
1		<b>Area One</b>	83	318	0	2054	2455	102	2557	2615	97.78%
1	295	West Concord	0	6	0	28	34	0	34	39	87.18%
1	330	Hayfield	3	16	0	159	178	0	178	180	98.89%
1	333	Kasson	10	29	0	183	222	5	227	230	98.70%
1	384	Dodge Center	1	7	0	52	60	2	62	68	91.18%
1	422	Claremont	0	3	0	24	27	0	27	29	93.10%
1		<b>Dodge County</b>	14	61	0	446	521	7	528	546	96.70%
1	52	Blooming Prairie	0	16	0	57	73	1	74	77	96.10%
1	77	Owatonna	5	49	0	258	312	21	333	343	97.08%
1	296	Ellendale	7	5	0	30	42	2	44	36	122.22%
1		<b>Steel County</b>	12	70	0	345	427	24	451	456	98.90%
1	75	New Richland	0	8	0	30	38	1	39	46	84.78%
1	228	Waseca	5	20	0	214	239	3	242	261	92.72%
1	281	Janesville	0	3	0	59	62	2	64	76	84.21%
1	587	Waldorf	1	0	0	16	17	0	17	20	85.00%
1		<b>Waseca County</b>	6	31	0	319	356	6	362	403	89.83%
		<b>Area Two</b>	32	162	0	1110	1304	37	1341	1405	95.44%

11	1	40	Lanesboro	2	12	0	81	95	0	95	105	90.48%
1	68	Spring Valley	0	7	0	47	54	3	57	61	93.44%	
1	81	Harmony	0	0	0	19	19	0	19	23	82.61%	
1	94	Rushford	4	9	0	83	96	1	97	97	100.00%	
1	166	Preston	0	13	0	32	45	1	46	50	92.00%	
1	197	Chatfield	2	1	0	28	31	2	33	36	91.67%	
1	299	Mabel	4	27	0	98	129	1	130	134	97.01%	
1	369	Wykoff	0	0	0	15	15	0	15	18	83.33%	
1	400	Canton	0	0	0	19	19	0	19	24	79.17%	
1	492	Fountain	0	0	0	8	8	0	8	10	80.00%	
1	526	Peterson	0	4	0	26	30	0	30	30	100.00%	
1	544	Ostrander	0	2	0	13	15	2	17	20	85.00%	
1	637	Whalan	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	11	81.82%	
1		<b>Fillmore County</b>	12	75	0	478	565	10	575	619	92.89%	
1	191	Caledonia	1	11	0	96	108	1	109	123	88.62%	
1	249	Spring Grove	0	11	0	112	123	1	124	131	94.66%	
1	423	Houston	0	9	0	83	92	1	93	97	95.88%	
1	498	Hokah	0	1	0	18	19	0	19	20	95.00%	
1	595	LaCrescent	3	40	0	152	195	3	198	219	90.41%	
1		<b>Houston County</b>	4	72	0	461	537	6	543	590	92.03%	
1		<b>Area Three</b>	16	147	0	939	1102	16	1118	1209	92.47%	
1	56	Albert Lea	6	36	0	357	399	11	410	441	92.97%	
1	264	Glenville	2	8	0	54	64	1	65	63	103.17%	
1	266	Hartland	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	14	92.86%	
1	317	Emmons	2	3	0	33	38	0	38	45	84.44%	
1	404	Alden	0	3	0	66	69	0	69	75	92.00%	
1	552	Freeborn	0	5	0	20	25	1	26	30	86.67%	
1		<b>Freeborn County</b>	10	56	0	542	608	13	621	668	92.96%	
1	91	Austin	9	46	0	288	343	5	348	381	91.34%	
1	105	Lyle	1	8	0	61	70	0	70	73	95.89%	
1	140	Grand Meadow	0	4	0	26	30	0	30	34	88.24%	
1	146	Adams	0	21	0	113	134	0	134	161	83.23%	
1	161	LeRoy	0	4	0	35	39	0	39	47	82.98%	
1	570	Austin Spam	1	0	0	10	11	0	11	12	91.67%	
1		<b>Mower County</b>	11	83	0	533	627	5	632	708	89.27%	
1		<b>Area Four</b>	21	139	0	1075	1235	18	1253	1376	91.06%	
1	1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
1		<b>District Totals</b>	152	766	0	5178	6096	173	6269	6605	94.91%	

## DISTRICT VICE COMMANDER STANDINGS

		Vice Commanders									
		<b>Area One</b>	83	318	0	2054	2455	102	2557	2615	97.78%
		<b>Area Two</b>	32	162	0	1110	1304	37	1341	1405	95.44%
		<b>Area Three</b>	16	147	0	939	1102	16	1118	1209	92.47%
		<b>Area Four</b>	21	139	0	1075	1235	18	1253	1376	91.06%

## The American Legion Department of Minnesota 2025 District Membership Report

Dist	Rank										
1	1st	Mark Maloney	152	766	0	5178	6096	173	6269	6605	94.91%
2	3rd	James Olson	120	548	0	4264	4932	18	4950	5293	93.52%
3	2nd	Joe Tappainer	256	1529	0	7140	8,925	89	9,014	9,636	93.55%
4	8th	Jon Haworth	38	248	0	1209	1495	35	1530	1,690	90.53%
5	10th	Lynn Nottage	22	248	0	988	1258	9	1267	1481	85.55%
6	4th	Frank Grittner	236	1049	0	7317	8602	194	8,796	9,409	93.48%
7	6th	Carl Wilson	84	600	0	3809	4493	15	4508	4,937	91.31%
8	9th	Philip Bodle	62	293	0	2365	2720	22	2742	3063	89.52%
9	5th	Steve NaSalle	98	511	0	4027	4636	39	4675	5114	91.42%
10	7th	Kristy Janigo	171	882	0	5514	6567	80	6647	7327	90.72%
99			16	206	0	1480	1702	0	1702	2752	61.85%
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1255</b>	<b>6880</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43,291</b>	<b>51,426</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>52,100</b>	<b>57,307</b>	<b>90.91%</b>

### FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

The 1st District is still in 1st place in the membership challenge with the 2nd and 3rd coming for us. We are currently at 94.91% and we need renewals processed as soon as possible. The next target is 5-14 -2025 at 100%. We need to get 5.09% processed in the next couple of weeks. Please get out your rosters and call.

It is getting to be that time of year again You have a new member and don't know if you should wait for the new packets and 2026 to open up or put them in 2025. You need to remember that 2025 is not over until December 31st 2025. If you wait until 2026 to process the membership, that person can attend meetings but is not able to vote or hold office until next year. If you want to save them money, maybe the post can offer to pay part of the 2025 dues. The goal is to get them in and keep them.

I can't stress enough, the 2025 year is not over until December 31st. When you get your packets in June, do not give up on getting to 100% in your post. We have seen a significant number of posts at 100% drop in the past few years. So far we have 6 posts at goal or over. Don't know what your goal is? Look at the report in this newsletter. We can't keep losing members like we do every year.

Also, anytime you have a change in your commander, adjutant or membership director, make sure you submit a new officer reporting form to Department with a copy to the District. This is the only way we can get a hold of you. Make sure you put the correct legion year at the top of the page. This is especially important with post elections coming up. This will be a requirement to get your post packet for 2026.

Thank you for all you do for the American Legion

.Mary Hanson

1st District Membership Director

[mfhanson52@charter.net](mailto:mfhanson52@charter.net)

507-440-3606



## Auxiliary Contacts

### President

Michelle Weaver  
1305 Willow St Apt 39  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
608-304-8773  
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

### Secretary

Sharon Hammon  
115 East Cabot St  
LeRoy, MN 55951  
507-923-7205  
1stadjutant@gmail.com

### Membership

Rosalie Trom  
107 1st Ave NW—Kasson 55940  
507-951-8442  
rosalie7g@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Tonia Betterman  
1625 Crestview Lane  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
507-456-2315  
bettm88@outlook.com

### **Hello Members of the 1st District,**

Time is flying by, and May is already upon us! I look forward to seeing many of you at our District Convention on May 17th in Lake City. If you plan to attend, please remember to bring your current membership card, as these will be checked. We are excited to announce that door prizes will be available this year—registration for the convention and your presence are the only requirements to win.

I truly enjoyed reading the reports I received, showcasing the wonderful things you all do for our veterans and communities. It has been a privilege to represent the 1st District and share your outstanding accomplishments. Awards and certificates of recognition will be presented at the convention.

Looking ahead, we are seeking officers and chairpersons for the 2025-2026 year. If you have an interest in serving in a leadership role, please reach out for additional information. We are fortunate to have many exceptional members who would make great additions to the 1st District leadership team.

As of April 25th, we are proud to hold third place in membership with 91.08%. A special thank you to our Membership Chairwoman, Rosalie Trom, for her dedication and hard work throughout the past year.

Let us always remember that our obligation to our country can only be fulfilled through the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Service to the community, state, and nation should remain our key objective as members of the American Legion Auxiliary. May we remain vigilant in upholding the values of justice, freedom, loyalty, and democracy, both within our organization and in our daily lives.

Warm regards, Michelle Weaver 1st District Auxiliary President  
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com **Cell:** 507-850-2407 **Home:** 507-551-2023



## Auxiliary Call to Convention 2025

The annual First District of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota is hereby called. It is to be held in Lake City, Minnesota on Saturday May 17, 2025. The Auxiliary session will be held at the Wild Wings Plaza located at Hwy 61 South, Lake City, Minnesota.

The opening session will be called on, May 17, 2025, at 9:30 am.

The purpose of the convention is to:

Elect District Officers for the 2025 – 2026 year

Receive reports of Unit Presidents

Receive reports of District Chairman's

Elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention

Conduct such other business as may be brought before the Convention in conformity with the provisions of the Department and National Constitutions.

### District Chairmen

**All District Chairmen must file/type a report for the District Book of Annual Reports**, which will be distributed at the Convention. Reports should include information from the Unit annual reports forwarded to each respective Chairman by the Department office shortly after April 15 and any pertinent information regarding District projects or activities in your program area. Reports should be forwarded to the First District President **No later than April 15, 2025**. If possible, reports should be typewritten and ready to print.

**District Chairmen are also responsible to judge the Annual Reports in their respective program area for trophies, awards and certificates of merit according to the District Standing Rules.** They should notify the District President of winners of Certificates of merit prior to the opening of the Convention so that the certificates can be properly prepared, signed and awarded at the Convention.

### Unit Color Bearers

Units are encouraged to bring their flags to the Convention to be presented as part of the opening ceremonies, posted during the Auxiliary sessions, and retired at the close of the convention. Auxiliary members who are carrying in their flags at the District Convention are asked to meet at the session meeting room at 8:00 am on Saturday, May 17, 2025, to rehearse.

### Pages and Color Bearers

Pages and color bearers are expected to wear **white blouses, navy blue skirts or slacks, and comfortable shoes**. No jewelry except rings, watches and small earrings should be worn while acting as a page or color bearer.

### Unit Presidents

All Unit Presidents are asked to take part in the **Opening Ceremonies** at the District Convention regardless of whether their Unit Colors will be present. Please be at the session meeting room at 8:00 am to rehearse.

**All Unit Presidents are expected to prepare a two-minute report about unit activities throughout this past year.**

Reports may include summaries of Unit activities or specific activities unique to the Unit that may provide ideas for other Units. **Presidents will present their report** during the convention sessions and submit a **written copy of that report** to the District Secretary upon completion of their presentation. Unit Presidents who are unable to attend the convention may prepare a report to be read by another unit member or may forward a written report to the District Secretary prior to the Convention.

### County Council Presidents

County Council Presidents are expected to be prepared to report on their county's activities, what their county does to keep their council active, and ideas that may help other counties start a council.

## Preston Veterans Home: update

We want to thank Glen Mueller and the Preston dietary staff for the excellent Pheasant Dinner. That was put on for the residents. President Judy was very impressed with the meal and her first time to the home. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the home, please contact me at [w.prescher1951@gmail.com](mailto:w.prescher1951@gmail.com) I will send you what you need to do for the application. Gabby is planning on a first training session in March.

They would like patriotic pillowcases and the table squares! They will appreciate whatever they receive!

Wanda Prescher  
First District Representative.

## Submission of Annual Reports and Unit Information

**Dear Unit Chairman,**

In the beginning of February, I sent out the annual report forms along with the list of District Chairman. If there is no chairman listed for a particular program, please send the report to me.

The Annual Reports should encompass all activities conducted by your Unit from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025. These reports should be submitted to your District Chairman on or before April 15, 2025. Additionally, Impact Reports should cover the period from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, and should be submitted to the Unit President for calculation and subsequent submission to the District President.

There are a few reports we aim to achieve 100% participation from all Units, particularly in Americanism and Community Service. I know you are all active in your communities and consistently pledge allegiance to the flag at your meetings. The Risk and Compliance reports are also essential, as they are crucial for the proper functioning of the Unit.

The District Chairman will present their reports at our Convention on May 17, 2025, in Lake City. If you or a member of your Unit will attend the Convention, please prepare a short 2-minute report to be presented at the District Convention. These reports can also be emailed to me by May 1, 2025.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out. Your reports can be mailed or emailed, whichever works best for you.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

*Michelle Weaver*  
1st District Auxiliary President  
[weaver.michelle595@gmail.com](mailto:weaver.michelle595@gmail.com)  
507-850-2407

## Girls State

Girls State deadline has been extended to April 15<sup>th</sup>! To help with recruiting. If your unit is looking to sponsor a girl and have not been able to recruit one, we have girls looking for sponsorship who really want to attend. Thank you to units who helped to sponsor some of these girls looking for sponsorship and do not have an American Legion in their community.

For those who have registered their student, you will receive a code late April to give to your student for everything that needs to be done. **THIS REPLACES THE MAILED PACKET as in the past!**

You and the student will receive everything she and her parents need to fill out and sign via electronically. Just want everyone to be aware of this major change. More info will go out along with the code. This is new to all of us, and we need to be patient in how this rolls out for the first time! I thank everyone that works for our Girls State Program here in the 1<sup>st</sup> District, we always have a great turnout. You still have some time to hopefully recruit a young lady!

Thank you for all you do for our Girls State Program!  
Wanda Prescher MN ALA Girls State Chairman

Dear Members of the 1st District American Legion Auxiliary,

I hope this message finds you well. As my term as President nears its conclusion, I would like to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your support, collaboration, and dedication over the past two years. It has been an honor to serve in this role and work alongside such committed and passionate members.

In accordance with our bylaws, no member may serve as President for more than two consecutive years. As such, we are preparing to elect a new President at our convention on May 17th. Currently, we do not have a member in line to take on this vital leadership position. To ensure the continued success of our Auxiliary, it is crucial that we identify and elect a new President who will lead us forward with vision and commitment.

I encourage each of you to consider stepping into this role or nominating someone you believe would be an excellent leader for our organization. Serving as President is a meaningful opportunity to shape our activities, strengthen our community, and uphold the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

If you are interested or would like to learn more about the responsibilities of the role, please feel free to contact me directly at. Alternatively, if you wish to nominate someone, kindly submit their name prior to May 15th or introduce them at the convention.

There are also openings for chairmanships for the programs please reach out if you have questions.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to the values and mission we hold dear. With your support, I am confident we will find a leader who will continue to advance our goals and serve our members and community with distinction.

With sincere gratitude, *Michelle Weaver 1st District Auxiliary President*

[weaver.michelle595@gmail.com](mailto:weaver.michelle595@gmail.com)

507-850-2407-Cell

507-551-2023-Home

**Get Excited! Door Prize Drawings at the Conventions in May!**  
The only requirements? Be registered for the convention and be present to win.

Don't miss your chance to snag some amazing prizes!



*Michelle Weaver*  
*1st District Auxiliary President*  
*Unit 595 President*  
[weaver.michelle595@gmail.com](mailto:weaver.michelle595@gmail.com)  
507-850-2407-Cell  
507-551-2023-Home

## ALA MN Girls State All Stars

Thank you for becoming an ALA MN Girls State All Star.  
Our program is successful because of people like you who know the  
impact this program makes in the lives of young women.

If you wish to become a donor to the 2025 session of ALA MN Girls State,  
please complete the form below and mail with a check made out to  
ALA Dept of Minnesota.

Name/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_

White Star Donor \$1-\$49 \_\_\_\_\_

Red Star Donor \$50 - \$99. \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Star Donor \$100 - \$249 \_\_\_\_\_

Gold Star Donor \$250+ \_\_\_\_\_

All ALA MN Girls State All Stars will be recognized on the ALA MN Girls State Facebook page  
and in our citizen handbook.

Please consider making a personal donation, a unit donation, a post, squadron or chapter  
donation or a corporate donation to the American Legion Auxilliary Minnesota Girls State  
Program. Your donation is appreciated and will be used to aid in the mission of our program to  
educate young women.

Please mail donations to: American Legion Auxilliary  
Department of Minnesota  
20 W 12th St Room 314  
St Paul, MN 55155

01	0009	Winona	114	3/3/25	108	114	116	3	102	105	92.11%	
01	0040	01	101	86	96	101	103	0	85	85	84.16%	
01	0050	Wabasha	111	1/14/25	3/3/25	111	113	2	107	109	98.20%	
01	0052	Blooming Prairie	89	76	85	89	91	1	74	75	84.27%	
01	0056	Albert Lea	205	174	195	205	209	0	175	175	85.37%	
01	0068	Spring Valley	48	10/26/24	46	48	49	4	37	41	85.42%	
01	0075	New Richland	32	10/26/24	30	32	33	0	30	30	93.75%	
01	0077	Owatonna	98	1/28/25	93	98	100	1	90	91	92.86%	
01	0081	Harmony	44	3/3/25	42	44	45	12	27	39	88.64%	
01	0090	Lewiston	29	2/21/25	28	29	30	4	26	30	103.45%	3/3/25
01	0091	Austin	88	75	84	88	90	0	74	74	84.09%	
01	0092	Rochester	115	12/9/24	109	115	117	8	101	109	94.78%	
01	0094	Rushford	50	12/17/24	48	50	51	1	46	47	94.00%	
01	0105	Lyle	45	10/26/24	43	45	46	10	30	40	88.89%	
01	0110	Lake City	37	1/14/25	35	37	38	4	33	37	100.00%	
01	0119	Byron	14	10/8/24	13	14	14	0	15	15	107.14%	10/15/24
01	0140	Grand Meadow	63	1/28/25	1/28/25	63	64	6	54	60	95.24%	
01	0146	Adams	120	3/3/25	114	120	122	9	96	105	87.50%	
01	0161	Le Roy	42	12/17/24	40	42	43	14	26	40	95.24%	
01	0164	Stewartville	164	1/14/25	156	164	167	8	149	157	95.73%	
01	0179	Plainview	113	96	107	113	115	6	83	89	78.76%	
01	0190	Saint Charles	6	5	6	6	6	0	7	7	116.67%	12/17/24
01	0191	Caledonia	64	12/9/24	61	64	65	2	56	58	90.63%	
01	0197	Chatfield	18	9/17/24	17	18	18	0	17	17	94.44%	
01	0228	Waseca	229	195	218	229	234	11	188	199	86.90%	
01	0249	Spring Grove	73	62	69	73	74	2	60	62	84.93%	
01	0264	Glenville	86	12/9/24	1/14/25	86	88	14	77	91	105.81%	2/11/25
01	0295	West Concord	26	22	25	26	27	0	22	22	84.62%	
01	0299	Mabel	106	12/31/24	101	106	108	8	90	98	92.45%	
01	0330	Hayfield	175	3/3/25	166	175	179	11	141	152	86.86%	
01	0333	Kasson	125	106	119	125	128	3	104	107	85.60%	
01	0369	Wykoff	18	10/15/24	17	18	18	0	20	20	111.11%	11/5/24
01	0384	Dodge Center	56	12/9/24	53	56	57	6	44	50	89.29%	
	0404	Alden	36	31	34	36	37	2	30	32	88.89%	
01	0422	Claremont	20	12/25/24	12/25/24	20	20	3	17	20	100.00%	

01	0423	Houston	109	1/14/25	104	109	111	2	95	97	88.99%	
01	0498	Hokah	18	11/12/24	17	18	18	0	17	17	94.44%	
01	0526	Peterson	44	37	42	44	45	1	36	37	84.09%	
01	0544	Ostrander	9	8	9	9	9	0	7	7	77.78%	
01	0551	Eyota	88	2/21/25	84	88	90	2	77	79	89.77%	
01	0552	Freeborn	55	9/17/24	9/17/24	11/26/24	56	11	46	57	103.64%	11/26/24
01	0573	Elgin	8	12/25/24	8	8	8	0	7	7	87.50%	
01	0579	Millville	39	11/26/24	37	39	40	0	40	40	102.56%	12/17/24
01	0587	Waldorf	15	11/26/24	14	15	15	1	13	14	93.33%	
01	0588	Mazeppa	34	12/17/24	32	34	35	0	29	29	85.29%	
01	0595	La Crescent	148	12/31/24	141	148	151	8	130	138	93.24%	
01	0637	Whalan	14	9/24/24	13	14	14	0	12	12	85.71%	

## Get Excited! Door Prize Drawings at the Conventions in May!

The only requirements? Be registered for the convention and be present to win.

Don't miss your chance to snag some amazing prizes!



*Michelle Weaver*  
*1st District Auxiliary President*  
*Unit 595 President*  
[weaver.michelle595@gmail.com](mailto:weaver.michelle595@gmail.com)  
 507-850-2407-Cell  
 507-551-2023-Home



### Greetings Legion Family Members

Hello everyone, I'm Regan McElroy and I am thirteen years old. I will be doing another year as Honorary Auxiliary Jr President for the First District.

I will be having the same project that did last year which is the recreation fund for the Preston Veterans Home.

I will be attending the First District Convention at Wild Wings Plaza in Lake City which is located at 2101 Hwy 61 South in Lake City. I hope to see a few Jr Auxiliary members there also.

Regan McElroy

First District Auxiliary Honorary Jr President

### FROM YOUR HONORAY AUXILIARY



Hi, I am Regan McElroy, I am the new Honorary Junior President of the First District American Legion Auxiliary. I would like to give an introduction to the District. I am 12 years old. I live in Riceville, Iowa with my mom (Missy) my Dad (Joe), my sister (Taylor), and I also have an older sister (Melanie). I play basketball, softball and volleyball. In my spare time, I enjoy hanging out with my friends and going shopping.

My project this year is the Outdoor Recreation Activities Fund for the Preston Veterans Home. The project is to help take the veterans hunting, fishing and ect. I would like to thank everyone who has donated so far. Remember that the check needs to be made out to the First District American Legion Auxiliary and in the memo line put – Honorary Jr Presidents project.

Regan McElroy - First District Auxiliary Honorary Jr President

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



## COMMANDER

Josh Erickson  
PO Box 376 - Winona, MN 55987  
507-313-5861  
josheric@hbc.com

## ADJUTANT

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dbilderback@aol.com

## EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

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btoma0210@gmail.com

## WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Open

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## FINANCE OFFICER

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## PARLIMENTERIAN

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## CHAPLAIN

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## Sgt at ARMS

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325 HoffmanDr, Apt 305—Owatonna, MN 55060  
507-451-5731  
Gene.luedtke@hotmail.com

## FROM YOUR COMMANDER

“The SAL District leadership has been preparing for the District Convention and is looking forward to seeing everyone in Lake City on Saturday. We will send out a convention wrap-up and membership report after the convention.”



**TO:** All squadrons of the First District

**RE:** Call to Convention

By the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sons of the American Legion, First District, Detachment of Minnesota, I do hereby call for a Convention of the First District Sons of the American Legion to convene on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM in Lake City, Minnesota.

**DATE:** May 3, 2025  
**HOST:** American Legion Post 110, Lake City  
**LOCATION:** Wild Wings Plaza  
 2101 S Hwy 61  
 Lake City, MN 55041  
**TIME:** Executive Committee meets at 9:00 AM  
 Convention convenes at 10:00 AM

The purpose of this Convention shall be the election of district officers, including a Commander, West Vice-Commander, East Vice-Commander, Chaplain and Finance Officer; and to conduct any business as may properly come before the Convention.

In Convention, representation shall be by Squadron, as prescribed in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sons of the American, First District, Detachment of Minnesota. Each Squadron shall be entitled to one (1) delegate, and one (1) additional delegate for every twenty-five (25) members, or major fraction thereof, whose dues for the current year have been received by the Detachment at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of Convention.

Each Squadron shall certify a list of delegates and alternates to the District SAL Adjutant at least ten (10) days prior to the start of Convention. The delegate certification must be signed by a Squadron officer and submitted to the District SAL Adjutant:

**DAVE BILDERBACK**  
**4409 22ND AVE NW**  
**ROCHESTER, MN 55901**  
**dbilderbackb@aol.com**

All members of the First District Sons of the American Legion are encouraged to attend.



Josh Erickson

I hereby certify the delegates and alternates listed below have been duly selected to represent the

**2025 SAL CONVENTION DELEGATE CERTIFICATION**

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron of \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

in District Convention convening on May 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM, in Lake City, Minnesota.

<u>DELEGATES</u>		<u>ALTERNATES</u>

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTOR****SUNSHINE MILLER MALONEY**

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**VICE DIRECTOR - CHUCK STONE**

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**CHAPLAIN - JILL REED****HISTORIAN - Karen "Sassy" Nay - Winona**

This is my last article as District Director and I have been reminiscing about my past 2 years. This position has had its challenges as well as rewards. I have made true friendships and memories to last a lifetime. Thanks to all who supported the Tour of the First District rides. Both years were filled with a lot of fun, laughs and we raised money for Veterans. Participating in Memorial Day ceremonies, local parades and Veteran's Day dinners were a great way to spread the word about the great things that AL Riders are doing.

I have also experienced disappointments in people. Having conflict within an organization is so difficult for everyone involved. I did my best to be fair and educate Riders on the Constitution & By-Laws. To me, being a leader means to hear both sides, offer suggestions and remind everyone involved what the American Legion purpose is.

I have enjoyed visiting Chapters, riding alongside you all and representing the First District American Legion Riders. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be the 2023-2025 MN First District Legion Rider Director. My advice – accept an officer position... support other Chapters events... get involved.

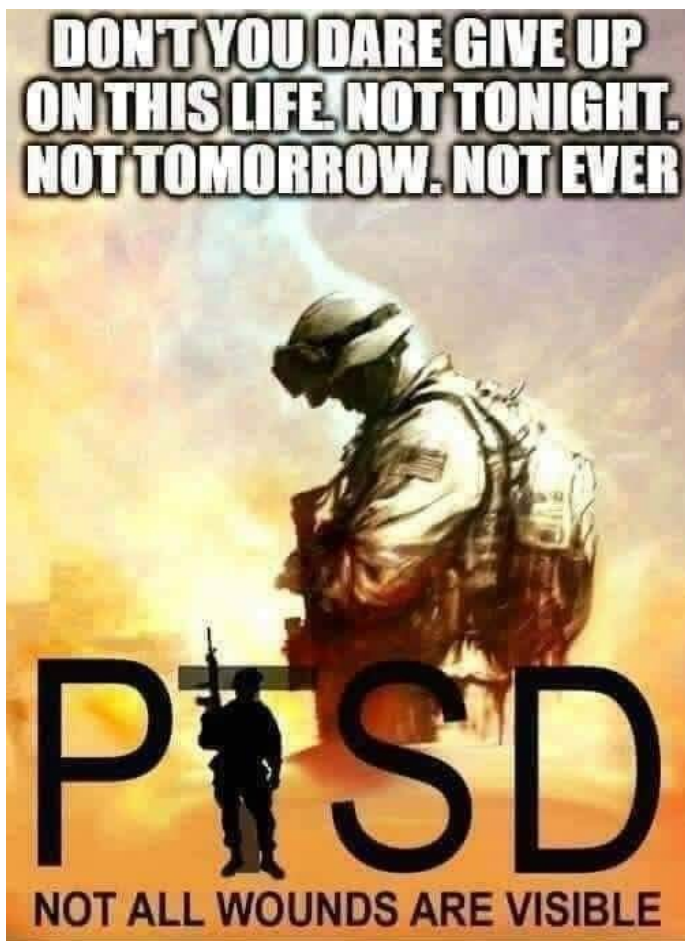
See you on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm in Lake City for First District ALR Spring Convention.

Respectfully,

Sunshine Miller-Maloney

First District Riders Director





## An app for on line mental health

<https://>

[www.facebook.com/100019040483031/  
posts/1054342938543712/?](https://www.facebook.com/100019040483031/posts/1054342938543712/?)

[sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-nationwide/%3foutputType=amp) **Veter-  
ans in crisis now eligible for free  
care nationwide** <https://>

[www.google.com/amp/s/  
www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-  
crisis-now-eligible-free-care-  
nationwide/%3foutputType=amp](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-nationwide/%3foutputType=amp)

New resources are available for American Legion Family members to use in support of the **[“Be the One” initiative](#)** to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.

The web page ([betheone.org](http://betheone.org)) has been updated with a variety of resources. Among them:

**A set of brochures available for download.** One brochure is a PDF that can be used to educate agencies with mental health services, community partners, local government leaders and others about Be the One. The other brochure is a Word document that can be downloaded and customized for posts to use at suicide awareness events. The entire back page of the trifold is intentionally left blank (other than directions, which can be deleted) so that posts can fill it with local resources.

**Branding materials:** A variety of approved American Legion Be the One promotional materials that posts can use to promote the initiative.

**Content, including the special two-part magazine series on Be the One.** The series includes stories and snippets about how American Legion members and posts are actively participating in events geared toward reducing the stigma associated with mental health counseling.

**Video links:** Vimeo playlist includes videos that can be downloaded and played while offline. They can be shared on social media, posted to the web and played at post events.

Additionally, headquarters staff has created [a QR Code](#) for the Be the One page. This can be used to direct others to find information and resources related to the campaign.

How to scan a QR code:

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Make sure you are using the rear facing camera.
3. Hold your device so the QR code appears in the viewfinder in the Camera app.
4. Once steady, your device will recognize the QR code and show a notification.
5. Tap the notification to open the link.

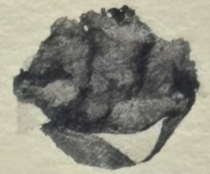
# ADAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 146

## Chicken, Fish, & Steak Fry Schedule



**Serving Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.\***

*(\*Unless Noted)* (507) 582-3266



### 2024 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	September 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Auxiliary .....	October 5
Chicken & Steak Fry, Southland Trap Shoot.....	October 19
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	November 2
Steak Fry, Knights of Columbus .....	November 9
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	November 23
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	December 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Cancer, Snowmobile Club .....	December 21
Windsor Chops, New Years Eve, Legion .....	December 31

### 2025 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	January 4
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion .....	January 18
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	February 1
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	February 15
Fish Fry, Auxiliary .....	March 7
Steak Fry, Sportsmen.....	March 15
Fish Fry, SAL .....	March 21
Fish Fry, Legion.....	April 4
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion Baseball.....	April 26
Chicken & Steak Fry Legion .....	May 3
Chicken & Steak Fry, Trap Shoot .....	May 17
Steak Fry, Legion, Dairy Days .....	June 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Dairy Days .....	June 8

**~ E-Tabs & Bingo Now Available ~**

**\*\*\* MUSEUM OPEN 6-8 P.M. EVERY FRY \*\*\***

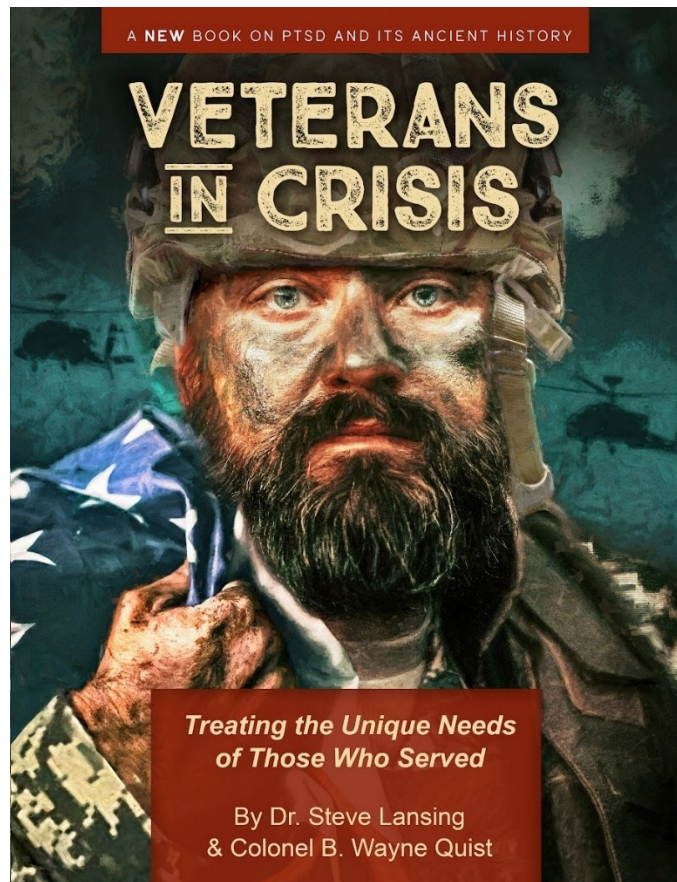
www.adamslegionpost146.com • Facebook - visit: Adams Post 146



## VETERANS EMPOWERED INC.

SERVING AND SAVING VETERAN LIVES

*We provide free books and free PTSD therapy for disabled veterans in our Rochester clinical office.*



**PLEASE HELP WITH A CONTRIBUTION TO RAISE \$50,000 TO PRINT 10,000 ADDITIONAL COPIES OF OUR BOOK**

## LEGION RIDERS

### ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH 9AM—12 PM

\$12.00 AT THE DOOR

BREAKFAST INCLUDES: EGGS, SAUSAGE, BISQUITS & GRAVY,  
COFFEE, MILK OR ORANGE JUICE AND  
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES

### PROCEEDS GO TO THE VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT

AUSTIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 91

809 12TH ST SW, AUSTIN MN

## AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 91

### Winona American Legion

### SAL Squadron 9

### 2025 Chicken Q Dates

January 4	SAL Chicken Q
February 22	UAW Veterans Group. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.
March 15	Event Sponsor is Pickwick Mill Inc. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.
April 5	SAL Chicken Q
September 6	SAL Chicken Q
October 4	Event Sponsor is Winona Cotter HS Speech Team. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.

**All events offer dine in or carry out. We would hope you dine in, and experience the great family environment at the Winona American Legion.**