



# FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

## NOV 2015

### IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 3, 4, & 5, 2015 - Areas revitalization at Post 56, Albert Lea, MN

Nov 11, 2015— Veterans Day

Nov 14, 2015 - Area two rally— Hayfield post 330. Three pm social time, 4 pm rally

Nov 26, 2015—Thanksgiving Day



### VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

- Area One - Joe Brown  
3611 85th St NW Lot 180  
Oronoco, MN 55960  
507/990/1347  
Brown49tex@charter.net
- Area Two - Gene "Sarge" Luedtke  
166 22nd St NW Apt 205  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
507/451/5731  
gene.luedtke@hotmail.com
- Area Three - Carroll W. Hill  
28992 Hill Rd  
Winona, MN 55987  
507/438/6531  
hilltoprepair@yahoo.com
- Area Four - Arnie Troe  
PO Box 173  
Emmons, MN 56029  
507/402/2585  
actroe@wctatel.net

### Legion Contacts

#### Commander

Roland Hanson  
2002 10th St SW  
Austin, MN 55912  
507/438/6573  
rehan-son46@outlook.com

#### Adjutant

Wayne Hammon Jr  
115 East Cabot St  
LeRoy, MN 55951  
507/324/9301 or  
507/696/2707  
1stadjutant@gmail.com

#### Membership

Les Shaunce  
528 Alice Ave  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
507/373/0134 or  
507/402/4878

### From the Commander's pen

Hello Fellow Veterans. Fall is here and winter is right behind. The January dues increase will be here before you know it. Sign those members up NOW!

A training day was held in New Ulm on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. The attendance was good but sadly it was most of the same people. I encourage everyone to at least try attending a training day, conference, or a convention. You will meet new people and maybe learn something and you never know you might like it.

A revitalization of area four will take place on November 3rd, 4th, & 5th. A representative from the National Department will be on hand. I encourage other Districts to come and obtain information. If you would like to be a part of this please let me know. Command center will be the Albert Lea Post 56. Our motto should be all for one, not one for all.

Please send your memberships in weekly so Misty has the information to figure a correct percentage and advance the First District to first place.

Always remember to thank a veteran, especially on Veterans Day (November 11). Freedom is not free! Support those who defended your right to live free.

Roland Hanson—First District Commander

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## **Attention First District Commanders, Adjutants, and Membership**

**At the 2015 American Legion National Convention, a national per capita dues increase of \$5 was approved, raising the National dues from \$13.50 to \$18.50 effective January 16, 2016. This meaning the Post will need to send in \$31.75 for each member after that date. If your post dues will not cover the increase, you can increase your dues by filling out a Post Special Data Report, mailing to Department three weeks before the next renewal notice goes out, and it will show your increase. I will have forms and answer questions at our Fall Rally in Austin on October 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Another note, I will be bringing forth a resolution to increase our First District Dues by \$1 at the District Executive Board meeting for concurrent action, to go into effect with the 2017 membership year. The District needs positive cash flow to operate, since 2008 when our membership was at 12,544 to present 2015 total of 9569 our income for projects, stipends programs has declined by \$7500. The budget over the years has been maintained at bare essential, no room for any more cuts, a increase in District dues is needed.**

**William B. Goede  
District Finance Officer**

### **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:**

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

**Austin Post 91 at [austinp91.com](http://austinp91.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 ADJUANT WHO'S INFOR-**

### Greetings from Area One

I visited the Stewartville American Legion for their monthly meeting, and saw many good things going on. Present at the meeting were 2 new legion members, both female veterans from the Iraq/Afghanistan war. They are also taking positive steps to be more inclusive for all members of the American Legion Family which includes the Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders. Creating a stronger bond and inclusiveness is one of Commander Jim Kellogg's priorities, The American Legion Family. Elsewhere, the Rochester American Legion Post 92 will be having a Bake Sale and Bake off contest on Tuesday November 24 with proceeds going to Beyond the Yellow Ribbon.

Remember the National per capita dues for 2015-2016 will be increasing by \$5. Currently the national per capita dues is \$13.50 and will go up to \$18.50 on January 20. Do not wait till January 20 to send in your renewals it will cost your post \$5. "Dues paid at the old rate of \$13.50 shall be accepted if remitted by the Departments to the National Organization by close of business January 20, 2016."

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

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 America.

Joe P. Brown—Area One Vice Commander

Greetings from Area Three,

It looks we got a little taste of what is to come in the form of a few snowflakes.

I want to thank everyone for the turnout that we had at New Ulm. It was nice to see so many people show up for the necessary training. I hope that more people will show up at the next training program we have because it is beneficial to everyone. It is good to see that we are staying current on membership and don't forget to contact the snowbirds before they head south. That time is fast approaching.

Always remember our military men and women for being on duty 24/7 in order to safe guard our freedom. If you see a person in uniform, please take time to go and shake their hand and thank them for their service. It is getting more stressful all the time. Remember to observe Veteran's Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Carroll Hill, Vice Commander  
Area Three

### AREA TWO VICE COMMANDER

Just a quick hi from your Area Two vice Commander. Keep up the great work on membership and remember to get the snow bird before they head south.

My new address is : 166 22nd St NW Apt 205

Owatonna, MN 55060

Keep our troops in your prayers and God Bless America

Gene (The Sarge) Luedtke

Area Two Vice Commander

## November 15 Adult Sports

Still looking for a post to host the District bowling tournament thus year. If interested, send memo to District Adjutant, Wayne Hammon Jr. Thank you.

Ralph Schneekloth,

## First District Membership Report For 10/30/2015

	CITY	Goal	Previous	Turn In	Total	PERCENT	LEFT	Turn In Date
9	Winona	668	483	34	517	77.40%	151	10/30/2015
90	Lewiston	79	44	6	50	63.29%	29	10/30/2015
190	St Charles	150	114	4	118	78.67%	32	10/30/2005
<b>Winona County Totals</b>		897	641	44	685	76.37%	212	10/30/2015
50	Wabasha	322	202	2	204	63.35%	118	10/30/2015
110	Lake City	160	134	7	141	88.13%	19	10/30/2015
179	Plainview	202	145	9	154	76.24%	48	10/30/2015
546	Kellogg	71	43	9	52	73.24%	19	10/30/2015
573	Elgin	45	24	9	33	73.33%	12	9/17/2015
579	Millville	135	117	24	141	104.44%	-6	10/30/2015
588	Mazeppa	85	43	12	55	64.71%	30	9/17/2015
<b>Wabasha County Totals</b>		1020	708	72	780	76.47%	240	10/30/2015
92	Rochester	1043	678	55	733	70.28%	310	10/30/2015
119	Byron	154	113	5	118	76.62%	36	10/30/2015
164	Stewartville	330	230	18	248	75.15%	82	10/30/2015
446	Rochester	11	8	5	13	118.18%	-2	9/17/2015
551	Eyota	179	124	12	136	75.98%	43	10/30/2015
<b>Olmstead County Totals</b>		1717	1153	95	1248	72.68%	469	10/30/2015
<b>Area One Totals</b>		3634	2502	211	2713	74.66%	921	10/30/2015
295	West Concord	69	46	10	56	81.16%	13	10/30/2015
330	Hayfield	240	176	10	186	77.50%	54	10/30/2015
333	Kasson	275	208	23	231	84.00%	44	10/30/2015
384	Dodge Center	94	69	2	71	75.53%	23	10/30/2015
422	Claremont	37	29	4	33	89.19%	4	10/2/2015
<b>Dodge County Totals</b>		715	528	49	577	80.70%	138	10/30/2015
52	Blooming Prairie	120	73	14	87	72.50%	33	10/2/2015
77	Owatonna	605	398	26	424	70.08%	181	10/30/2015
296	Ellendale	28	14	9	23	82.14%	5	9/24/2015
<b>Steele County Totals</b>		753	485	49	534	70.92%	219	10/30/2015
75	New Richland	70	47	6	53	75.71%	17	10/30/2015
228	Waseca	347	271	12	283	81.56%	64	10/30/2015
281	Janesville	110	78	13	91	82.73%	19	10/30/2015
587	Waldorf	28	15	2	17	60.71%	11	8/20/2015
<b>Waseca County Totals</b>		555	411	33	444	80.00%	111	10/30/2015
<b>Area Two Totals</b>		2023	1424	131	1555	76.87%	468	10/30/2015

40	Lanesboro	103	85	3	88	85.44%	15	10/30/2015
68	Spring Valley	84	66	1	67	79.76%	17	10/30/2015
81	Harmony	36	20	7	27	75.00%	9	9/24/2015
94	Rushford	142	98	6	104	73.24%	38	10/30/2015
166	Preston	81	57	5	62	76.54%	19	10/30/2015
197	Chatfield	54	40	4	44	81.48%	10	9/17/2015
299	Mabel	192	138	1	139	72.40%	53	10/30/2015
369	Wykoff	21	18	2	20	95.24%	1	9/17/2015
400	Canton	18	5	1	6	33.33%	12	9/17/2015
492	Fountain	19	1	12	13	68.42%	6	10/15/2015
526	Peterson	35	23	1	24	68.57%	11	10/2/2015
544	Ostrander	25	18	1	19	76.00%	6	10/9/2015
637	Whalen	15	14	1	15	100.00%	0	10/2/2015
<b>Fillmore County Totals</b>		825	583	45	628	76.12%	197	10/30/2015
191	Caledonia	179	151	6	157	87.71%	22	10/30/2015
249	Spring Grove	171	92	-1	91	53.22%	80	10/15/2015
423	Houston	114	80	2	82	71.93%	32	10/30/2015
498	Hokah	21	17	3	20	95.24%	1	10/30/2015
595	LaCrescent	365	243	24	267	73.15%	98	10/30/2015
<b>Houston County Totals</b>		850	583	34	617	72.59%	233	10/30/2015
<b>Area Three Totals</b>		1675	1166	79	1245	74.33%	430	10/30/2015
56	Albert Lea	739	525	49	574	77.67%	165	10/30/2015
264	Glenville	90	55	5	60	66.67%	30	10/30/2015
266	Hartland	20	17	1	18	90.00%	2	9/17/2015
317	Emmons	76	54	7	61	80.26%	15	10/30/2015
404	Alden	106	73	9	82	77.36%	24	10/30/2015
552	Freeborn	40	34	2	36	90.00%	4	10/30/2015
<b>Freeborn County Totals</b>		1071	758	73	831	77.59%	240	10/30/2015
91	Austin	700	456	35	491	70.14%	209	10/30/2015
105	Lyle	97	57	1	58	59.79%	39	10/30/2015
140	Grand Meadow	50	29	11	40	80.00%	10	9/17/2015
146	Adams	216	156	5	161	74.54%	55	10/30/2015
161	LeRoy	73	36	2	38	52.05%	35	10/30/2015
570	Austin Spam	6	1	4	5	83.33%	1	7/29/2015
<b>Mower County Totals</b>		1142	735	58	793	69.44%	349	10/30/2015
<b>Area Four Totals</b>		2213	1493	131	1624	73.38%	589	10/30/2015
1111	Dakota	82			0	0.00%	82	10/30/2015
<b>District One Totals</b>		9627	6585	552	7137	74.14%	2490	10/30/2015

<b>Vice Commander's</b>								
<b>AREA ONE</b>	3634	2502	211	2713	74.66%	921	10/30/2015	
<b>AREA TWO</b>	2023	1424	131	1555	76.87%	468	10/30/2015	
<b>AREA THREE</b>	1675	1166	79	1245	74.33%	430	10/30/2015	
<b>AREA FOUR</b>	2213	1493	131	1624	73.38%	589	10/30/2015	

Greetings First District:

We just saw our first white stuff of the season. Sign of things to come.

We had a very good turnout at our Department Training Session held in New Ulm. Consensus was that it was a very knowledgeable meeting.

District Fall Rally in Austin was rather well attended, but we could definitely handle more bodies at these rally's. I always hear, I didn't know that. If each post would send at least one member to each meeting, we would all be more informed.

Thanks to Austin Post# 91 for hosting the Fall Rally. Good job!

Department Fall Conference at Breezy Point Resort drew a nice crowd. It was the first time that the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL all met together. It was an interesting concept compared to the traditional way of doing things.

Thanks to Pequot Lakes Post# 49 for a job well done.

November 14th takes us to Hayfield Post# 330 for the Area 2 Rally. It's been a while since we have been in Hayfield. Let's pack the place and show our appreciation.

District President Sandy's Testimonial will be held November 21st at the Glenville Post# 264. Let's everyone and show our pride for Sandy's great honor.

May everyone have a very enjoyable Thanksgiving and make sure you give thanks for what you have and to thank your fellow Veteran for what they have done and are continuing to do!!!!!!

District Membership Director

Revitalization

Revitalization

Revitalization

Area Four is going to have a revitalization of membership **November 3rd, 4th, and 5th**. A National American Legion Membership representative will be in Albert Lea at Post #56 to help us recruit past and Post at Large members. Prospective members who live in either Freeborn or Mower County will be notified by letter telling them that they will be contacted by us on those days. We need members from each post in Area Four (4) to be in Albert Lea for the purpose of making phone calls and contact with these personal. Please contact Commander Rollie, Adjutant Junior, or myself, Les Shaunce (Membership Director) to help in this very important project.

Les Shaunce – First District American Legion Membership Director

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings First District:

“Service to God and Country” – it’s an American Legion program, yes, but the saying describes just as well our members’ attitude and way of life. Nondenominational and nonsectarian, the Legion’s support for religion in the public square is basic Americanism. Rather than acting independently of religious groups, the Legion desires to cooperate with and join them in reminding the American people with one voice that God is the author and architect of our beloved “land of the free.” Without God, there is no Americanism.

Psalm 33: 12-22. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chosen for his inheritance. From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind; from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth---- he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. This is a general Psalm of thanksgiving, for His blessings, for helping his faithful people in all kinds of distress, and for not letting them perish.

Are we as a nation still thankful for all our blessings? I hope so, but so many look to the “state” as an entity to give them their needs, replacing and supplanting God in their lives. Therein lies a real danger, that as more give up on “God and Country”, just remember, a government that is big enough to give everything, is also big enough to take it all away. We as a nation need to return to our roots, find out again what made America exceptional in the world. We as an organization need to be proactive in training and teaching the youth who will follow us. They need to be taught what is America? What ideals do we stand for? We have to be much more than just having the ability to destroy the planet. The nation worshiped the Lord and we we're blessed, we have turned away at our peril.

Romans 3: 10 There is no one righteous, not even one. Ephesians 2: 8-10. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith----and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God---- not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Let us move forward and execute the programs of the American Legion with all the earnestness and zeal we can muster for if we don't teach, lead, and set the example, someone else will.

Thank you for allowing me to humbly serve,

Ralph Schneekloth

MN First District Chaplain

## ORATORICAL CONTEST INFORMATION

I am emailing to let you know that the materials your Posts and Auxiliary would have typically received by now, are a bit delayed. They were only received by the Department last week, and as a new Chairman and Vice – we are still in our planning phase regarding locations, etc.

I am attaching the Oratorical rules, brochure and the 2015-16 Assigned Topics that may be downloaded/ reproduced by you as needed. The Post/Auxiliary information will be mailed to them as soon as the Department contest locations are designated, of which you will be notified as well. We would like you to have completed your District Oratorical Contest by **January 31, 2016**.

Our National motto for the Oratorical Contest is “Recruit, Recruit, Recruit!” The funds are allocated for scholarships; it would be a shame to not send a candidate forward who will benefit tremendously by, first – participation in this program and the knowledge they will gain regarding the laws of our land, and second – the scholarship monies they may receive for participation at the District, Department and National Contests. Please encourage participation by all of your posts. The competition at the post level can be less formal, and the contestant is permitted to use their notes during their oration. The District level competitions will be run in accordance with the Department rules – no notes and the contestant will be prepared to do an oration on one of the 4 assigned topics; in the same basic format as the Department and National Contests.

We are asking you to ensure your respective posts reach out to the schools and school districts to get the word out about this great opportunity for scholarship funds! Don’t forget your home-schooled participants – we’ve had a number of those kids participate over the years. Any student, grades 9-12, are eligible! The teachers are our biggest assets with regard to judging your local and district contests, and to getting the word to students!

We look forward to working with you this year! Please don’t hesitate to contact us with questions!

Sincerely,

Sy Fix

First District Oratorical Chairman

Deb Norman

MN Department Oratorical Chairman

Linda Dvorak

MN Department Oratorical Vice Chair

## AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK REMINDER

Don’t forget that when you get the information about the American Education week, the post card that you are supposed to send into Department comes with a worksheet. You are to fill out that worksheet and send it to your District American Education Chairman so they have the information on what you did for the program. This will make it easier to make a report for Mid Winter or Convention. The dates for The American Education Week are November 16 thru the 20, 2015. Please remember this important program and fill out all the paperwork then send the postcards to Department and the worksheets to the proper chairman.

Legion Chairman— Richard Jensen 65798 310th St Dexter, MN 55962

Auxiliary chairman—Evelyn Lyke 207 14th Ave Rochester, MN 55906

## FREEBORN UNIT 552 UPCOMING EVENTS

January 23, 2016— Annual Soup and Pie supper at 4pm at the American Legion Post 552.

Greetings, First District. PR tips for the month of November. Plenty of events this month. **November is Membership Retention Month.** The first week will be **Membership Revitalization** in area four, Wednesday, the 11th is **Veteran's Day.** Saturday, the 14th is a **membership rally** at Hayfield Post 330, from 4-? Also the 15th-21st is **American Education Week.** Sunday, the 22nd- Saturday the 28th is **National Family week.** Also, I would be completely remiss if I failed to include **Thanksgiving** on Thursday, the 26th. Remember also, that the Oratorical Contest has been changed from the 29th of November to the 17th of January, 2016. The Department ALA President, Sandy Fredrickson, will have her testimonial on the 21st from 3-5:30 PM, at American Legion Post 264, Glenville, MN. Also, see the ad in the newsletter for additional info. We do so much as an organization, for our communities, our Posts, our State and Nation. Why does so little of what we do receive the press it deserves? If we do not stand up and publicize ourselves, who will? It is incumbent on us to be proactive in promoting the American Legion Family. If any would like suggestions, or ideas, contact me. So, as you can see there are lots of things going on to promote your Post and the American Legion.

Also, any Posts, Units, Sons, Riders if you have an event taking place, send one of the contact people the information and we will do our best to get it posted. Parades, picnics take pictures, meetings etc. there is so many things always going on, let us know. *We can't post it if we don't have it, and remember, "All days are good days".*

**Public relations** is primarily about image, and every Legionnaire plays a role in communicating it. The positive and negative things seen and heard at every level of the organization shape how people perceive the American Legion and what we stand for. **For most people, perception is reality.**

An organization's image is based on its character, integrity and total performance. It has many facets, including:

The organization's history in dealing with people

Internal attitude towards members

External attitude toward community responsibility and involvement

News releases, interviews and other dealings with the media

Internal and external publications

Institutional advertising

Public Relations ties directly into membership; without members we cease to be an organization. It is stated that approximately 200,000 members do not renew each year. That's how important it is. Not for the sake of the numbers but for our impact on our elected officials and the impact on our many programs at local, state and national level- "That's why it's important."

**"GET INVOLVED IN MEMBERSHIP  
RECRUIT---RETAIN---REINSTATE"**

Thank you for allowing me to humbly serve,

MN First District PR Committee chair,

Ralph Schneekloth

## **SOME USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOU TO LOOK AT**

On the following page 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 Schneekloth - 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

Pat Miner  
PO box 136  
Rose Creek, MN 55970  
507/433/1326 or 507/251/9219  
minerpa24@gmail.com

### Secretary

Gloria Njos  
PO Box 195  
Waltam, MN 55982  
507/477/3259

### 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

## VETERANS SUCH AS THESE

By Bill Kretz

The sun is shining brightly,  
And our Flag waves in the Breeze.  
We all enjoy our freedoms,  
Due to veterans such as these.  
They answered their Country's call,  
And did not question why.  
They came home whole or wounded,  
While others had to die.  
They came from all walks of life,  
And traveled the Seven Seas.  
We all share in the freedoms,  
Earned by veterans such as these.  
To real warriors they went,  
In the twinkling of an eye.  
To Preserve all of our rights  
Be it on land ,sea or sky.  
In the heat of summer,  
Or in winter's icy freeze.  
We are all safe and secure,  
Due to veterans such as these.  
"In God We Trust" is our motto,  
They believed it from day one;  
And stood Shoulder to shoulder,  
Until victory was won.  
So each day we ask our God,  
With bowed heads and knees,  
To bless us in the future  
With more veterans such as these.

My theme for the year is:  
Supporting Our Troops.

My project is: Soldiers Wings  
Southeast Minnesota ( I have busi-  
ness cards from this organization,  
if you would like one please con-  
tact me.)

My symbol is: An Angle named  
Faith (This is for my grand-  
daughter Faith Miller who is cur-  
rently in the Maries.)

I would like to raise funds in the  
amount of 1200 dollars or more  
for items that are needed or the  
postage to send packages.

Some upcoming date to remem-  
ber are November 14, 2015 there  
will be a rally in Hayfield Post 330  
at 3pm social and 4pm rally.

November 16 to 20 is American  
Education Week. Please support  
your schools.

Pat Miner— President

## Poppy Campaign 2016

Just a reminder to get your Poppy Orders in early!  
By doing so, you will get the better poppy.  
That I found out last year.....my reorders weren't as nice!  
Poppy Chairs, you should have received your info from State on the  
Poppy Program.  
Poppy order deadline is December 1, 2015.  
Get creative at your club in selling the poppy, send out to your local  
businesses.  
Have a contest, make it a club endeavor not just the Auxiliary!  
Wanda Prescher-Unit 164

## FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

The Department Membership chairman's (Jean Walker) theme for this year is "Soaring to the top with Membership while securing our future." My theme for the District is "Let's Spread our wings for Memberships."

"Let's be Kind" as all our members are important in our race to our goal. So let's begin to Renew – Recruit and Rejoin. Remember you are "One a Million."

It's about the Units this year. Each Unit Membership Chairman that reaches the target dates will get twenty five (25) dollars and the Unit will get a certificate. Units that make goal will receive twenty five (25) dollars and a certificate. At the department Convention in Rochester all unit members of the Units that make goal by July 8<sup>th</sup> will be in a drawing for a Paid Up For Life Membership.

The First District to make goal will receive two hundred fifty (250) dollars plus one hundred (100) dollars from Department President Sandy and another one hundred (100) dollars from Secretary Sandy which adds up to four hundred and fifty (450) dollars.

We should be number one hope since both the Department Commander Jim Kellogg and the Department Auxiliary President Sandy Fredrickson are both from the First District.

I'm sorry to say that we have been in 8<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> so far this year. What seems to be the problem? So ladies we have our work to do. We still have units who are on the goose egg, why? why? why? Let's get our membership done early so we can focus on our programs and "Serving those who Served." One member at a time.

First District Auxiliary Membership Chairman

Cindy Nelson

### **A reminder to All Units of 1<sup>st</sup> District (President/Treasurer)**

As you know, the American Legion Auxiliary is a membership organization. Our budgets are set on membership. Per capita is what allows the District to meet their obligations.

Every year we lose members. Why?? This is not all due to death. We need to Renew-Recruit-Rejoin members. I'm sure that each of you know one person that is eligible for membership in our auxiliary. Do not hesitate to ask them to join.

Membership chairman Cindy is hoping to get the 1<sup>st</sup> District back on top. If we all work together, great things can be accomplished.

Enclosed in this mailing is a listing of your UNITS per capita for 2015-2016. Your per capita is based on your membership as of July 31, 2015. (Membership x \$1.25) On this same sheet, you will note every Unit has District Junior dues of \$10.00.

**Please mail your per capita and district junior dues to me, NOT the Department. Let's get this done early this year. Some units wait until April. It then becomes crunch time as the books get audited in early May so as to have a preliminary report for District Convention.**

**Your donation to the District Presidents project, Honorary Junior Presidents project, memorials, etc, should be mailed to me also.**

**Make your check out to the First District ALA (American Legion Auxiliary).**

I am your new treasurer this year and my name and address is:

Audrey Farnsworth	email: harlee@charter.net
302 First St. E.	Phone – 507-533-4454
Stewartville, MN 55976	

It is my hope that all Units from the 1<sup>st</sup> District have filed the Form 990-N with the IRS (for tax-exempt status). Your Unit President should be aware that this is filed annually. All Units in the Department of Minnesota have to file this form.

Let's get the checks in the mail and meet our obligations early. Let's make President Pat and the First District proud of our great organization!

Audrey Farnsworth, 1<sup>st</sup> District Treasurer

## To all Units in First District – this is an annual fee for each unit-

This is the per capita amount for 2015-2016. Every unit has an annual \$10.00 District Junior

Fee also. Please double check to make sure my math is correct. Please review the budget to see how it is broke down and how your district dollars are spent. ***This will only be printed this mailing – so, please keep for future reference and inform your unit treasurer.***

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Jr. Dues</u>	<u>Total Members</u>
Adams	\$183.75	\$10.00	147
Albert Lea	\$460.00	\$10.00	368
Alden	\$66.25	\$10.00	53
Austin	\$225.00	\$10.00	180
Blooming Prairie	\$155.00	\$10.00	124
Byron	\$120.00	\$10.00	96
Caledonia	\$102.50	\$10.00	82
Chatfield	\$45.00	\$10.00	36
Claremont	\$32.50	\$10.00	26
Dodge Center	\$113.75	\$10.00	91
Elgin	\$32.50	\$10.00	26
Emmons	\$37.50	\$10.00	30
Eyota	\$153.75	\$10.00	123
Freeborn	\$80.00	\$10.00	64
Glenville	\$133.75	\$10.00	107
Grand Meadow	\$96.25	\$10.00	77
Harmony	\$55.00	\$10.00	44
Hayfield	\$277.50	\$10.00	222
Hokah	\$25.00	\$10.00	20
Houston	\$170.00	\$10.00	136
Janesville	\$76.25	\$10.00	61
Kasson	\$191.25	\$10.00	153
Kellogg	\$181.25	\$10.00	145
LaCrescent	\$280.00	\$10.00	224
Lake City	\$111.25	\$10.00	89

Lanesboro	\$116.25	\$10.00	93
Leroy	\$90.00	\$10.00	72
Lewiston	\$50.00	\$10.00	40
Lyle	\$70.00	\$10.00	56
Mabel	\$176.25	\$10.00	141
Mazeppa	\$66.25	\$10.00	53
Millville	\$61.25	\$10.00	49
New Richland	\$86.25	\$10.00	69
Ostrander	\$20.00	\$10.00	16
Owatonna	\$160.00	\$10.00	128
Peterson	\$41.25	\$10.00	33
Plainview	\$230.00	\$10.00	184
Rochester	\$227.50	\$10.00	182
Rushford	\$87.50	\$10.00	70
Spring Grove	\$168.75	\$10.00	135
Spring Valley	\$58.75	\$10.00	47
St. Charles	\$120.00	\$10.00	96
Stewartville	\$226.25	\$10.00	181
Wabasha	\$182.50	\$10.00	146
Waldorf	\$36.25	\$10.00	29
Waseca	\$301.25	\$10.00	241
West Concord	\$48.75	\$10.00	39
Whalen	\$28.75	\$10.00	23
Winona	\$242.50	\$10.00	194
Wykoff	<u>\$20.00</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>	<u>16</u>
TOTAL	\$6,321.25	\$500.00	5,057

<b>BUDGET ITEMS</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>
President's travel, postage and phone	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00	\$2,350.00	\$2,350.00
Newsletter	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	\$300.00
Membership Chairman	\$350.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$225.00	\$350.00
Executive Committee Mileage	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$659.20	\$585.37	\$659.10	\$816.80
Fall Rally Speakers and Lunch	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$56.00	\$40.00
Poppy Poster Awards	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Poppy Contests (Mid-Winter & Dist. Conv)	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
District Secretary to Dept. Fall Conf.	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
District Treasurer (to be paid in Oct. & May)	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Dist. Sgt-At-Arms to Dept. Fall Conf.	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Dist. Color Bearer to Dept. Fall Conf.	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Dist. Secretary to Dept. Convention	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Dist. Sgt-At-Arms to Dept. Convention	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Dist. Color Bearer to Dept. Convention	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Past District President's Pin	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
District President's Picture	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
District Gift to Department President	\$30.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Chaplain	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Finance Committee	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Miscellaneous	\$20.00	\$4.00	\$4.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,850.00</b>	<b>\$5,804.00</b>	<b>\$5,863.20</b>	<b>\$5,785.37</b>	<b>\$4,995.10</b>	<b>\$5,011.80</b>

### **AUXILIARY TREASURER'S**

Just a reminder that not very many Auxiliary's have paid their per capita as of this newsletter. Please pay these ASAP. This is the monies that the 1<sup>st</sup> District Auxiliary operates on, and your help is needed.

Please make out your checks to: 1<sup>st</sup> Dist. ALA and mail to:

Audrey Farnsworth

302 1<sup>st</sup> St. E.

Stewartville, MN 55976

Questions? Email me at [harlee@charter.net](mailto:harlee@charter.net)

Thanks in advance,

Audrey Farnsworth

## 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

### **From Your SAL Commander**

Greetings Sons of the American Legion, wow what a Fall Conference, it was a good chance to learn more what our parent organizations do. Well Veterans Day is fast approaching and so is the holiday season. This is our time as SAL members to show our appreciation for all veterans both those here and those serving. It is sad to say that we barely made our October national percentage. We still have squads on the goose egg and some with only one member turned in. What is going on, doesn't anyone do anything before Veterans Day Dinners. You know that all of our American legion family members help the veteran keep their benefits so why not pay your dues and show your pride.

Please if you sign up a former member, if you can put his ID number the card it would be greatly appreciated, that way we don't have the same person with two ID numbers. As we are only at 36 percentage points we need a lot of help to get this year done. I would like to see everyone off goose egg by thanksgiving and be at 70 percentage points by December 6<sup>th</sup> which is the Department Pearl Harbor Rally. If you need any renewal notices call me, I have a bunch of post cards for you. Please send us your email address, it's easier for us to contact you and Detachment is going that way. The Legion and Auxiliary are doing it already. God bless our veterans and keep those serving us out of harm. Glenn Mueller – First District SAL Commander

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

1st District						
District	Squad	Location	2015 Total	2016 Goal	Total 2016	
1	9	WINONA	65	66	75	
1	40	LANESBORO	55	56	51	
1	50	WABASHA	27	28	0	
1	52	BLOOMING PF	31	32	42	
1	56	ALBERT LEA	130	131	13	
1	75	NEW RICHLAN	0	1	0	
1	77	OWATONNA	134	135	5	
1	90	LEWISTON	45	46	1	
1	91	AUSTIN	64	65	0	
1	92	ROCHESTER	111	112	89	
1	94	RUSHFORD	40	41	0	
1	105	LYLE	15	16	1	
1	119	BYRON	46	47	24	
1	140	GRAND MEAD	14	15	0	
1	146	ADAMS	129	130	22	
1	161	LE ROY	57	58	23	
1	164	STEWARTVILLI	149	150	6	
1	166	PRESTON	47	48	22	
1	179	PLAINVIEW	23	24	6	
1	190	ST. CHARLES	19	20	12	
1	191	CALEDONIA	43	44	0	
1	228	WASECA	114	115	64	
1	249	SPRING GROV	2	3	7	
1	264	GLENVILLE	34	35	22	
1	266	HARTLAND	11	12	0	
1	281	JANESVILLE	9	10	0	
1	299	MABEL	41	42	0	
1	317	EMMONS	35	36	19	
1	330	HAYFIELD	36	37	25	
1	333	KASSON	43	44	30	
1	384	DODGE CENTE	15	16	2	
1	400	CANTON	0	1	0	
1	404	ALDEN	58	59	8	
1	423	HOUSTON	2	3	19	
1	546	KELLOGG	24	25	20	
1	551	EYOTA	35	36	2	
1	552	FREEBORN	35	36	30	
1	573	ELGIN	1	2	1	
1	579	MILLVILLE	37	38	4	
1	595	LA CRESCENT	92	93	40	
1	1111	DAKOTA	100	101	41	
<b>1 Total</b>			1968	2009	726	36.14%

Total Number Goose Eggs 10

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



## RIDERS CONTACT INFORMATION

Greetings,

American Legion Riders recently met in Austin on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### PRESIDENT

Dennis Lewison  
Adams, MN  
507/440/6067

A "Rider of the Year" will be promoted with a committee and guidelines being set.

The "Second Annual Tour of the First District" is being planned for July 9-10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We are asking for a First District Legion Post to be our sponsor for the ride. We are also planning a raffle and will need a Post to sponsor that as well. The event last year was a huge success and we would really appreciate any assistance your post can offer.

### VICE—PRESIDENT

Tony Loecher  
Rochester, MN  
507/358/638

The Department ALR Romp was well attended by First District Riders! Many are already planning to attend next year!

### 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



The First District ALR Christmas party will be held at Austin Post #91 on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Social time 5pm. Roast Beef supper to be served at 6pm. The cost is \$10.00. This is a family friendly event with music to follow supper and short program.

An RSVP is requested to prepare for the meal. Please e-mail [lewisonnancy@gmail.com](mailto:lewisonnancy@gmail.com) or call #507-440-2090 no later than Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Chapters-PLEASE provide a report of your activities to Dennis Lewison by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 as he will give a report at the First District Midwinter Conference. We do some amazing things for our veterans and our communities. Let's share our successes.

Our next First District ALR meeting will be held on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 3:00pm at the Adams Legion. This meeting will coincide with the First District Legion Family Mid Winter conference. Watch the newsletter for more information on the day's events. AND, Yes, there is a chicken fry that evening!

# EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION

POST 551

*Fish fry*

14 November 5-8 pm all you can eat

\$10.00

Chicken strips and fries for any who want

\$10.00

For kids 12 and under \$5.00 either meal



Waseca American Legion 228

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>

**SPAM<sup>®</sup> BLAST**  
and **CHILI FEED**

**SPAMWICH & BOWL OF CHILI \$5.00**

**SPAMWICH \$3.50**

Your Choice: Fried or Sliced from the can,  
Ground Open Faced Broiled

**BOWL OF CHILI \$2.00**

No Spam, Just Beef

**Hawaiian SPAM Pizza**

**by the Slice \$3.00**

**SPAM, Pineapple, Onion & Cheese**

You can add the Mustard, Ketchup, Onion, Pickles,  
Cheese & Relish on your own

All proceeds will go towards a new parking lot at the American Legion, Waseca



**You are cordially invited to**

**Toast & Roast our Department President**

**Sandy Fredrickson**

**November 21, 2015**

**Come for an afternoon of fun, food, & prizes!**

**3PM to 5:30 at the American Legion, Post #264, Glenville, MN**

**Dinner @ 6PM**

**First Lutheran Church, Glenville**

**(across the road from post)**

**Swiss Steak Dinner \$22.00 per plate**

**Send RSVP to:**

**Arlene Hajek, 88915 145<sup>th</sup> St, Glenville, MN 56036**

**(Tickets will be at the door)**

**(There will be a block of rooms held @ the Country Inn & Suites in Albert Lea)**