



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

FEB 2018

Legion Contacts

Commander

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IMPORTANT DATES

February 3, 2018 - The Department Sweetheart Rally at North St Paul Post 39 at 1 PM.

February 4, 2018 - Four Chaplains Sunday. The District is not having a service this year, the story of the Four Chaplains is inside this newsletter. Please take time to remember.

February 6—8, 2018—National Commanders Tour. More details inside this newsletter.

February 24, 2018 - The First District Area Four Veteran Affairs and Rehab rally in Alden Post 404. Fun and social time at 2PM with the rally at 4 PM.

March 10, 2018 - The Department Appreciation Rally at Buffalo Post 270.

March 17, 2018 - The First District Jr Conference at LeRoy Post 161. The call to conference is inside this newsletter.

March 24, 2018 - The First District Area Two Rally at Kason Post 333. Fun time at 2 PM and the rally at 4 PM.

INDEX

LEGION 1 thru 18
AUXILIARY 19 thru 27
SAL 28 and 29
LEGION RIDERS page 30
FLYERS 31 thru 35

NATIONAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

If your post is located on one of Minnesota's highways and byways and you want your post information put on the Minnesota American Legion website send your information to the Department of Minnesota in care of Shawn Davis. He will be making up a map of the highways and posts to put on the website.

This will be handy for people traveling through our state in route to Minneapolis for the National Convention in August. They may want to stop and visit some of the Minnesota nice American Legion Posts.

COMMEMORTIVE COINS FOR MINNESOTA

HERE ARE THE FRONT AND BACK PICTURES OF THE 100TH ANIVERSERY COIN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA.

THEY ARE TEN (10) DOLLARS EACH AND IF YOU WANT ONE OR MORE PLEASE EITHER LET BILL GOEDE OR WAYNE HAMMON JR KNOW AND SHOULD HAVE THEM AT THE FIRST DISTRICT MID-WINTER ON JANUARY 6, 2018.



!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Important !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If any post has a resolution to come before the District Convention in May it **MUST** be in the hands of the resolution chairman (Rich Gosse) no later than thirty (30) days prior to the call to order of the District Convention which is May 18, 2018.

If you want it looked over by Rich to make sure it is correct get it to him by April 1, 2018 so there will be time to communicate back and forth.

Rich Gosse - First District Resolution Chairman.

Law Officer and/or Firefighter of the year award

Any post that has a candidate for Law Officer or Firefighter of the year needs to contact The District Chairman (Richard Skillestad) as soon as possible as the applications **HAVE TO BE IN** Department no later than April 1, 2018.

If you need an application please contact Richard and he will explain what needs to be done.

Richard Skillestad - First District Law and Order Chairman

Phone - 507 — 250 — 5329

Greetings First District:

We continue to be in second place in Department. Our Vice-Commanders are doing a great job. Thanks to everyone for continuing to mail in those memberships on a regular basis.

Our Midwinter Conference was well attended even with the miserably cold weather. every part of the Legion Family had a good representation. The Exec Boards met first, then we met as a joint session until lunch. We split in the afternoon to do our separate business. After lunch we had our District Oratorical Contest. Rick Erpelding from Kasson was our lone entrant. Rick was home schooled and a repeat from last year. What an articulate young man. Good luck to him at Department. At the end of the day we reconvened to do our membership reports and finish District business. We were honored with visits from Dept. Commander Mike Schaffer, Dept. Membership Director Larry Ryan, 1st and 3rd Vice-Commander Rose Niesen, Dept. Auxiliary President Donna Ahrens, Auxiliary Membership Director Mary Kaperneus, SAL Commander Shawn Davis, SAL Membership Director Dave Vulcan and Dept. Commandeer Candidate Darrell Redapenny

January 20th was the 1st and 3rd District Fishing Contest. It was held at Montgomery Post# 79. There wasn't a very big turnout but we had lots of fun and lots of prizes were won. Thanks for a great time and some good food.

February 3rd, will be the Department Sweetheart Rally at North St. Paul Post# 39. Please plan to attend and bring lots of membership. Post# 39 is always a great host.

February 3rd is also Four Chaplains Day. I hope everyone will remember their sacrifice with some type of memorial program. Remember to fly the flag at half-mast.

National Commander Denise Rohan's tour will be in Minnesota February 6th thru the 8th. Please plan to attend one of the scheduled stops. The closest stop will probably be in Waseca at Post# 228 at 8:00a.m. February 8th for breakfast. All of you at goal plan to attend and have your picture taken with the Commander.

Our area 4 Veterans Affairs and Rehab Rally will be held February 24th at Alden Post# 404. Come and enjoy the Bean Bag contest and meeting. Bring lots of memberships.

My Testimonial will be held in Albert Lea Post# 56, April 7,2018. I hope everyone can come and enjoy a wonderful evening and harass your Commander. Please no animals allowed.

Please consider my project to help obtain a 6 passenger golf cart for the new Veterans Cemetery in Preston. It will be used to transport families to the grave sites of their loved ones and tours of the grounds.

For God and Country!
District Commander

District 1 Membership

It's Feb. already and we still have a long ways to go, but we shouldn't have too. So many of the Posts are only between 1 to 3 to go and some more are just one good week of picking up members away. As of right now we only have 9 Posts at goal. Have you checked Post 1982 for any members that are in your area, see if they would like to join your Post, have them pay their dues for 2018, that way they will be in the Legion when we turn 100... The only way you can get a new member or get a person to renew is ASK THEM. How many of you have even asked someone with in your Post have they paid their dues for this year, might surprise you.

WE are hanging on to 2nd place in the district, but just barely (88.26%) 48 memberships was turned in last week to State, only one Dist. tuned in more. and that was the one ahead of us. (6th) there are two right behind us and are on our heals. Yes, I would love to see us finish in first place, but mostly I want us to have the most Posts at Goal, and then 1st Place might come with it.

So all else I have to say is get out there and get those members before it's too late, because someone else asked before you did..

FROM AREA ONE

I attended the First District Mid Winter at Albert Lea Post 56, got a lot of good information to pass along. I also attended the 1st and 3rd Ice fishing contest at Montgomery Post 79 and had loads of fun. In January I attended meetings in my area at Eyota Post 551, Wabasha Post 50 and Stewartville Post 164.

Area One Vice Commander - Scott Ihrke

FROM AREA TWO

Comrades,;

I have attended the following in January, On January 6th I attended the First District Mid– Winter and the First District Oratorical contest at Albert Lea post 56. A big congratulation to the winner, he did a wonderful job.

On January 20 I attended the Annual First and Third District Fishing Contest which was held at Montgomery post 79. We all had a good time at an indoor fishing contest.

I hope to see you at Waseca for the breakfast at the National Commander's Tour of Minnesota.

Myron Ehrich—Area Two Vice Commander.

FROM AREA THREE

Greetings from Area Three:

I hope everyone's winter is going well. We hope the ground hog did not see his shadow so spring will soon be here. As winter will eventually turn into summer, our thoughts must be on our upcoming 100th anniversary. I want to remind all Commanders to take special time and effort to work with the Legion and their community to make this event an occasion that nobody will forget. It is time to remind communities what the American Legion has accomplished in the last one hundred years and with the help of the Posts this can be accomplished.

I hope the Commanders and the Membership Directors will put extra time in so we can have 100% membership as we celebrate our anniversary. I know it will take extra work but I know we can fulfill this obligation.

Always remember our men and women in uniform.

Area Three Vice Commander

Carroll Hill

FROM AREA FOUR

Hello Comrades,

A very busy month is coming up for District 1. February 3rd is the Sweetheart Rally at 2678 7th Ave E, North St. Paul. Please bring your favorite Sweetheart and lots of membership.

Then on the 8th of February is the visit by the National Commander at Waseca Post 228 at 8 AM for breakfast. We need a good turnout to show our support for our Top Leader.

February 24th is Area 4 membership Rally at Alden Post 404. Family fun is planned so I hope to see you there!

Be sure to drive carefully to all events and remember to thank a veteran

Rollie Hanson Area 4 Vice Commander

TESIMONIAL DINNER FOR FIRST DISTRICT COMMANDER



LES SHAUNCE

DATE-----April 7, 2018

TIME-----SOCIAL – 5:00 TO 6:00 PM
DINNER – 6:00 PM
PROGRAM – 7:00 pm

PLACE-----LEO CAREY POST 56
142 NORTH BROADWAY
ALBERT LEA, MN

MENU-----IOWA CHOP, MASHED POTATO, SALAD,
DINNER ROLL, DESSERT, COFFEE, MILK
AND WATER

COST-----FIFTEEN (15) DOLLARS PER PLATE

-----CUT OFF AND SEND WITH PAYMENT-----

NAME _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO “LEO CAREY POST 56” AND MAIL TO;

LES SHAUNCE
528 ALICE AVE
ALBERT LEA, MN 56007

PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 26, 2018

First District Membership Report for 1/25/2018

POST	LOCATION	GOAL	PREV	TURN	TO-	PER-	LEFT	Date
				IN	TAL	CENT		
9	WINONA	597	515	3	518	86.77%	79	1/18/2018
90	LEWISTON	78	44	12	56	71.79%	22	11/16/2017
190	ST CHARLES	144	139	6	145	100.69%	-1	1/25/2018
WINONA COUNTY TOTALS		819	698	21	719	87.79%	100	1/25/2018
50	WABASHA	242	214	4	218	90.08%	24	1/25/2018
110	LAKE CITY	141	126	3	129	91.49%	12	1/25/2018
179	PLAINVIEW	194	161	9	170	87.63%	24	1/8/2018
546	KELLOGG	73	63	3	66	90.41%	7	1/11/2018
573	ELGIN	37	27	4	31	83.78%	6	1/8/2018
579	MILLVILLE	140	178	1	179	127.86%	-39	1/11/2018
588	MAZEPPA	78	63	3	66	84.62%	12	1/8/2018
WABASHA COUNTY TOTALS		905	832	27	859	94.92%	46	1/25/2018
92	ROCHESTER	988	860	1	861	87.15%	127	1/25/2018
119	BYRON	148	134	2	136	91.89%	12	1/18/2018
164	STEWARTVILLE	305	279	3	282	92.46%	23	1/18/2018
446	ROCHESTER	17	14	1	15	88.24%	2	1/8/2018
551	EYOTA	183	172	2	174	95.08%	9	1/25/2018
OLMSTEAD COUNTY TOTALS		1641	1459	9	1468	89.46%	173	1/25/2018
AREA ONE TOTALS		3365	2989	57	3046	90.52%	319	1/25/2018
295	WEST CON- CORD	57	47	4	51	89.47%	6	1/11/2018
330	HAYFIELD	242	193	5	198	81.82%	44	1/11/2018
333	KASSON	269	249	1	250	92.94%	19	1/11/2018
384	DODGE CENTER	87	72	-1	71	81.61%	16	1/11/2018
422	CLAREMONT	36	28	2	30	83.33%	6	1/8/2018
DODGE COUNTY TOTALS		691	589	11	600	86.83%	91	1/25/2018
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	111	101	1	102	91.89%	9	1/8/2018
77	OWATONNA	556	474	2	476	85.61%	80	1/18/2018
296	ELLENDALE	33	29	4	33	100.00%	0	1/8/2018
STEELE COUNTY TOTALS		700	604	7	611	87.29%	89	1/25/2018
75	NEW RICHLAND	58	47	5	52	89.66%	6	1/8/2018
228	WASECA	342	292	16	308	90.06%	34	1/11/2018
281	JANESVILLE	102	93	2	95	93.14%	7	1/25/2018
587	WALDORF	22	25	-1	24	109.09%	-2	1/11/2018
WASECA COUNTY TOTALS		524	457	22	479	91.41%	45	1/25/2018
AREA TWO TOTALS		1915	1650	40	1690	88.25%	225	1/25/2018

40	LANESBORO	106	100	1	101	95.28%	5	1/18/2018
68	SPRING VALLEY	85	76	4	80	94.12%	5	11/9/2017
81	HARMONY	34	24	8	32	94.12%	2	1/25/2018
94	RUSHFORD	134	111	7	118	88.06%	16	1/18/2018
166	PRESTON	76	63	2	65	85.53%	11	1/18/2018
197	CHATFIELD	50	49	1	50	100.00%	0	1/8/2018
299	MABEL	179	148	1	149	83.24%	30	1/18/2018
369	WYKOFF	19	1	17	18	94.74%	1	11/23/2017
400	CANTON	13	6	6	12	92.31%	1	12/14/2017
492	FOUNTAIN	15	8	7	15	100.00%	0	1/8/2018
526	PETERSON	37	33	2	35	94.59%	2	1/18/2018
544	OSTRANDER	29	25	1	26	89.66%	3	1/11/2018
637	WHALEN	15	12	1	13	86.67%	2	12/7/2017
FILLMORE COUNTY TOTALS		792	656	58	714	90.15%	78	1/25/2018
191	CALEDONIA	170	151	5	156	91.76%	14	1/18/2018
249	SPRING GROVE	162	131	3	134	82.72%	28	1/18/2018
423	HOUSTON	113	93	10	103	91.15%	10	1/8/2018
498	HOKAH	20	16	1	17	85.00%	3	1/18/2018
595	LA CRESCENT	324	281	3	284	87.65%	40	1/18/2018
HOUSTON COUNTY TOTALS		789	672	22	694	87.96%	95	1/25/2018
AREA THREE TOTALS		1581	1328	80	1408	89.06%	173	1/25/2018
56	ALBERT LEA	678	570	8	578	85.25%	100	1/25/2018
264	GLENVILLE	87	73	3	76	87.36%	11	1/25/2018
266	HARTLAND	15	1	14	15	100.00%	0	9/14/2017
317	EMMONS	72	60	2	62	86.11%	10	12/7/2017
404	ALDEN	109	92	8	100	91.74%	9	1/25/2018
552	FREEBORN	38	36	2	38	100.00%	0	11/9/2017
FREEBORN COUNTY TOTALS		999	832	37	869	86.99%	130	1/25/2018
91	AUSTIN	610	493	21	514	84.26%	96	1/11/2018
105	LYLE	92	78	4	82	89.13%	10	1/18/2018
140	GRAND MEADOW	50	43	1	44	88.00%	6	1/25/2018
146	ADAMS	219	182	5	187	85.39%	32	1/11/2018
161	LEROY	66	54	2	56	84.85%	10	1/25/2018
570	AUSTIN SPAM	5	5	1	6	120.00%	-1	8/23/2017
MOWER COUNTY TOTALS		1042	855	34	889	85.32%	153	1/25/2018
AREA FOUR TOTALS		2041	1687	71	1758	86.13%	283	1/25/2018
1111	DAKOTA	51	0	0	0	0.00%	0	1/25/2018
DISTRICT ONE TOTALS		8953	7654	248	7902	88.26%	###	1/25/2018

AREA VICE COMMANDERS								
AREA ONE		3365	2869	57	3046	90.52%	319	1/25/2018
AREA TWO		1915	1650	40	1690	88.25%	225	1/25/2018
AREA THREE		1581	1328	80	1408	89.06%	173	1/25/2018
AREA FOUR		2041	1687	71	1758	86.13%	283	1/25/2018

FIRST DISTRICT 2018 CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION
MAY 19, 2018 WINONA MN

The First District Convention will be held at American Legion Post 9 in Winona, MN.
Please fill out this form by May 5, 2018 and return to:

Leon J. Wetzel, Post #9
302 East Sarnia St
Winona MN. 55987
ATTENTION : CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Please mark the items you want, mark an "X" and total up the amount.

_____	Pre-Registration	\$10.00	
	Registration at door	\$12.00	
_____	Saturday noon lunch	\$8.00	TBD
	TOTAL	\$ _____	

Please make checks out to Leon J. Wetzel Post #9 and send to address above.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

CIRCLE ONE- DELEGATE ALTERNATE GUEST

Please place an X by your organization and put in the number of your Post
LEGION ___ POST # ___ AUXILIARY ___ UNIT # _____ SAL ___ SQUADRON # _____

You must register as either a delegate, alternate or as a guest to attend the convention. (If Legion Riders that are not registered and plan on attending the Rider meetings, they must register under one of the organizations above.)

One person per registration form please. Make copies if needed. More than one registration and lunch fee may be put on one check.

IMPORTANT—being that it is a one day convention it is important that we have pre-registration so we can get a better number of those attending for the Post. So PLEASE PRE-REGISTER.

CONVENTION HOUSING INFORMATION

Rooms have been blocked for the convention: Holiday inn Express & Suites, 1128 Homer Rd, Winona MN. 55987 Rooms will be blocked at the price of \$129.00 per room for the night of May 18, 2018 until April 18, 2018 . Blocking contract code # is (ALM). If any questions call me.

Holiday Inn Phone – 507/474/1700 Fax – 507/474/7800

Jeff Brokaw - 507/458/7501



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

ROOM 300A • 20 WEST 12TH STREET • ST. PAUL, MN 55155-2000

PHONE: (651) 291-1900
TOLL FREE: (866) 259-9163
FAX: (651) 291-1057
E-MAIL: department@mla.org
www.mnlegion.org

December 18, 2017

Dear District Commander:

Enclosed please find the schedule for the National Commander's Tour of Minnesota, February 6-8, 2018. We want to make this a memorable tour for National Commander Denise Rohan.

Officers at each Post we are going to visit received a letter (in addition to a phone call) asking them to make contact with their Post, Unit and SAL members to ensure we are not coming to an empty house. I am also asking you to take responsibility in ensuring there are members from other Posts and there are District officers present. **Please be sure to encourage all Auxiliary and SAL members to attend.**

Also, once you review the schedule, please make sure that your goal or All Time High Posts have their picture taken with the National Commander.

Let's make this the best-attended tour ever.

Sincerely,

MIKE SCHAFFER
Department Commander

MS/jmk

pc: Larry Ryan, Department Membership Director
Department Vice Commanders
Dan Ludwig, Past National Commander
Marland Ronning, NECman
Bill Barbknecht, Alternate NECman
Donna Arends, President, American Legion Auxiliary
Sandie Deutsch, Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary
Shawn Davis, SAL Detachment Commander

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S TOUR
February 6 – 8, 2018

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

<u>Location</u>	<u>Meal Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Bayport Post 491	8:00 am	Breakfast	651-439-5463, Judy Johnson
Spicer Post 545	12:00 noon	Lunch	320-894-9402, Tammy
Fulda Post 318	5pm, 6pm	Social, Dinner	507-329-0500, Jim Troje

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

<u>Location</u>	<u>Meal Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Windom Post 206	8:00 am	Breakfast	507-830-1440, Fred Meyer <i>-breakfast will be held at Jack Slades Steakhouse, 2390 Highway 60 East, Windom</i>
Litchfield Post 104	12:00 noon	Lunch	320-693-2350, Deb
Lake Crystal Post 294	5pm, 6pm	Social, Dinner	507-726-6050, Carla <i>-call between 7am-1pm, M-F</i>

Thursday, February 8, 2018

<u>Location</u>	<u>Meal Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Waseca Post 228	8:00 am	Breakfast	commanderpost228@gmail.com
Wayzata Post 118	12:00 noon	Lunch	763-479-6405, Carol <i>-call by January 25 for reservations</i>
Osseo Post 172	5pm, 6pm	Social, Dinner	763-425-4858, Michelle

**FIRST DISTRICT COMMANDER
LES SHAUNCE'S
PROJECT FOR THE YEAR**



**A SIX PASSENGER GOLF CART FOR THE STATE VETER-
ANS CEMETERY IN PRESTON, MN.**

**TO BE USED TO TRANSPORT FAMILY MEMBERS TO THE
GRAVE SITES OF THEIR LOVED ONES.**

**IF THE FUNDS COME FROM GAMBLING THE CHECK
NEEDS TO BE MADE OUT TO THE PRESTON CEMETERY.
OTHERWISE MAKE THEM OUT TO THE FIRST DISTRICT.
COMMANDERS PROJECT IN MEMO**

DELEGATE INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

I have received a couple of questions from posts in our district on how the delegates are selected so here is a short explanation.

We have a limited number of delegate and alternates than can go to the National Convention set by our membership numbers. Some of the delegates are automatic selections but everyone planning on going must send a request letter to the district adjutant and a committee appointed at the district convention will pick the delegates and alternates.

But anyone can go as a quest, there is no limit on how many quests that can go. As a quest you still have to pay the registration fee but you do not have to stay in the convention hotel which the delegates and alternates have to. As a quest you still need to send a letter to the district adjutant so your name can be forwarded to Department. The quests will be issued a name badge which allows you the get into the exhibition hall and convention hall.

I hope this short explanation helps with some of the questions that are out there and if you want to contact me that is fine also. My contact information is on the front page of this newsletter.

First District Adjutant - Wayne Hammon Jr.

SAMMY MUELLER'S POLAR PLUNGE 2018

Again this year Glenn Mueller's daughter Samantha will be doing the polar plunge for Special Olympics. Her goal is to raise seven hundred fifty (750) dollars. The plunge is in February of 2018.

But if she can raise two thousand dollars Jill Mueller (her mom) will jump with her.

A copy of the Special Olympics 501-C3 paperwork is on the following page for you.

Form W-9 (Rev. December 2011) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification	Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return) SPECIAL OLYMPICS MINNESOTA	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt payee <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____ 501(C)(3)	
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) 100 WASHINGTON AVE SO, SUITE 550	Requester's name and address (optional)
City, state, and ZIP code MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401		
List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number									

Employer identification number									
4	1	-	1	2	2	8	1	5	7

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below).

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.

Sign Here Signature of U.S. person ▶ 

Date ▶ **9-12-2013**

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Purpose of Form

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

- Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued).
- Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
- Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

Note. If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.

ATTENTION WOMEN VETERANS, SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE ALL WOMEN AMERICAN LEGION SPAM POST 570 IN AUSTIN, MN

American Legion SPAM® Post 570 is looking for new members, and we want you, women veterans!

The all-women SPAM® Post 570 was originally founded in 1946 by Jay C. Hormel, with 20 local women veterans. Eight of these women worked at the Hormel plant. As the post grew, it included veterans from all branches of the military. Jay had also initiated a program prior to the close of World War II as an effort to help find jobs for returning soldiers, augmenting his company's sales staff with women veterans. These women became known as the "Hormel Girls". Those Hormel Girls with both military background and musical talents were required to join SPAM® Post 570, with the intention of having the post form a marching band to compete in the August 1947 National American Legion Convention in New York City. Jay handed this near-impossible task to Dale Schamber, SPAM® Luncheon Meat product manager, who managed to find 74 eligible candidates willing to embark on an arduous five-week training session of marching and practicing for the event. The team was the first all-women American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps to enter this prestigious competition, and was a big hit at the convention even though it did not win. Photos of Austin's "All GI Girls SPAM Post 570" showed how welcome they were to the crowds and other parade participants.

Not all SPAM® Post 570 members were chosen to join the Hormel Girls and promote Hormel products across the country. The SPAM® Post members in Austin focused on American Legion's mission, and were "devoted to mutual helpfulness . . . committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans". Post activities included participation in Veteran's Day events, work in child welfare, baskets for the needy, and visits to local hospitals. They held meetings where girls could speak with recruiting officers, and provided educational programs for expecting mothers. Members also volunteered as part of "Operation Skywatch", manning a ground observation post to monitor aircraft and weather.

Although the Hormel Girls sales teams and SPAM® Post 570 shared some of their history for several years, the Hormel Girls eventually disbanded in 1953. On the other hand, SPAM® Post 570 remains an "active" post on the American Legion books, and now, in 2017, a new generation of women veterans would like to re-energize this historic post, and invites any interested parties to join up – musical ability is no longer required! Female members of other American Legion posts are also welcome to transfer their memberships to SPAM® Post 570.

The SPAM® Museum is proud to be a sponsor of SPAM® Post 570.

For more information or to join our post, contact Eileen Chao, Adjutant, SPAM® Post 570, at 507-437-4583 or echao8@charter.net.



LET US NEVER FORGET THE SAGA OF THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

It was the evening of Feb. 2, 1943, and the U.S.A.T. Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers.

Once a luxury coastal liner, the 5,649-ton vessel had been converted into an Army transport ship. The Dorchester, one of three ships in the SG-19 convoy, was moving steadily across the icy waters from Newfoundland toward an American base in Greenland. SG-19 was escorted by Coast Guard Cutters Tampa, Escanaba and Comanche.

Hans J. Danielsen, the ship's captain, was concerned and cautious. Earlier the Tampa had detected a submarine with its sonar. Danielsen knew he was in dangerous waters even before he got the alarming information. German U-boats were constantly prowling these vital sea lanes, and several ships had already been blasted and sunk.

USAT Dorchester leaving St. John's Harbor on the way to Greenland in the fall of 1942.

The Dorchester was now only 150 miles from its destination, but the captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing and keep life jackets on. Many soldiers sleeping deep in the ship's hold disregarded the order because of the engine's heat. Others ignored it because the life jackets were uncomfortable.

On Feb. 3, at 12:55 a.m., a periscope broke the chilly Atlantic waters. Through the cross hairs, an officer aboard the German submarine U-223 spotted the Dorchester.

The U-223 approached the convoy on the surface, and after identifying and targeting the ship, he gave orders to fire the torpedoes, a fan of three were fired. The one that hit was decisive—and deadly—striking the starboard side, amid ship, far below the water line. Captain Danielsen, alerted that the Dorchester was taking water rapidly and sinking, gave the order to abandon ship. In less than 20 minutes, the Dorchester would slip beneath the Atlantic's icy waters.

Tragically, the hit had knocked out power and radio contact with the three escort ships. The CGC Comanche, however, saw the flash of the explosion. It responded and then rescued 97 survivors. The CGC Escanaba circled the Dorchester, rescuing an additional 132 survivors. The third cutter, CGC Tampa, continued on, escorting the remaining two ships.

Aboard the Dorchester, panic and chaos had set in. The blast had killed scores of men, and many more were seriously wounded. Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the darkness. Those sleeping without

clothing rushed topside where they were confronted first by a blast of icy Arctic air and then by the knowledge that death awaited. Men jumped from the ship into lifeboats, over-crowding them to the point of capsizing, according to eyewitnesses. Other rafts, tossed into the Atlantic, drifted away before soldiers could get in them.

Through the pandemonium, according to those present, four Army chaplains brought hope in despair and light in darkness. 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. Quickly and quietly, the four chaplains spread out among the soldiers. There they tried to calm the frightened, tend the wounded and guide the disoriented toward safety. "Witnesses of that terrible night remember hearing the four men offer prayers for the dying and encouragement for those who would live," says Wyatt R. Fox, son of Reverend Fox.

One witness, Private William B.

Bednar, found himself floating in oil-smeared water surrounded by dead bodies and debris. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying," Bednar recalls. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another sailor, Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, tried to reenter his cabin but Rabbi Goode stopped him. Mahoney, concerned about the cold Arctic air, explained he had forgotten his gloves. "Never mind," Goode responded. "I have two pairs." The rabbi then gave the petty officer his own gloves. In retrospect, Mahoney realized that Rabbi Goode was not conveniently carrying two pairs of gloves, and that the rabbi had decided not to leave the Dorchester.

By this time, most of the men were topside, and the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight.

When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, another survivor who saw the chaplains' selfless act. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did the Reverends Fox and Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line.

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. When the news reached American shores, the nation was stunned by the magnitude of the tragedy and heroic conduct of the four chaplains.

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 one-time only posthumous Special Medal for Heroism was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President Eisenhower on January 18, 1961. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements that required heroism performed under fire. The special medal was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor



George Lansing Fox



Alexander David Goode



John Patrick Washington



Clark V. Poling

PICTURES OF THE DISTRICT MID-WINTER



Members present during the joint session



Legion members during the separate sessions



Members listening to the Oratorical contest contestant



More members at the oratorical contest



Department Membership Director Larry Ryan addressing the mid winter,



Department Commander Mike Schafer addressing



First and Third District Commanders at the non fishing, ice fishing contest.



Prior to the First District Legion Executive Board meeting.

OFFICER ENDORSEMENTS

- 1. Gary Miller for District Commander
- 2. Bill Goede for District Finance Officer
- 3. Andru Peters for Area One Vice Commander



The commanders fishing at post 79 during the ice fishing contest.

DELEGATE REQUESTS RECEIVED

- 1. Chuck Stone
- 2. Chuck Kruger
- 3. Bill Goede
- 4. James Kellogg (Alt)
- 5. Sy Fix
- 6. Wayne Hammon Jr
- 7. Les Shaunce
- 8.

ANY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THAT WANTS TO KEEP THEIR COMMITTEE FOR THE UP COMMNJG YEAR OR IS INTERESTED IN HOLDING A CHAIRMANS POSITION IN THE DISTRICT CONTACT EITHER GARY MILLER OR WAYNE HAMMON JR. THEIR CONTACT INFO IS ON THE FRONT PAGE.



Oratorical chairman Sy Fix with the First District Oratorical contest winner Rick Erpling

FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Hoping your trek into the New Year has been great thus far! I begin this month's newsletter with some sad news I'd like to share with everyone. Please keep in your prayers Cindy Nelson, past District President. Cindy has recently been diagnosed with masses on her right colon and one on the left side of the colon. After surgery on Feb. 1st, her hospital stay is expected to be 5-7 days. Please pray for a successful surgery, comfort and a quick healing for her. Please consider sending her cards, either personally or from your Unit. Her address is 91 14th St N, Northwood, IA 50459

As you saw in the newsletter from January, I didn't have much to say, except Happy New Year (I ran out of days to write up the newsletter). But, I do want to share with you that I did visit the Glenville Unit at the beginning of January. I am so thankful for my 'ride along' partner, Audrey Farnsworth. It was great to have someone ride with me to and fro, and we had some delightful conversation along the way. Another great Unit meeting in Glenville. Thank you for your hospitality to Audrey and myself, and the meal after was so delicious. It is wonderful to see our District Units working so hard for veterans. Below is a photo of the Unit along with Audrey. These ladies work so well together, there's a lot of mentoring happening in this Unit, as leadership is being raised up!! Please let me know if you would like me to visit your Unit, I am more than happy to make the time to bring District, Department, and National Auxiliary news to you and your Unit members.



FROM THE FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY SECRETARY

First District Chairman: Annual report forms have been sent to units and will be coming to you in the mail from the Department of Minnesota. Please get your reports done by due dates and send me a copy so I can compile into the book of annual reports. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me or any member of our team. Past Presidents are very good resources. thank you...Jill Mueller [5072696316](tel:5072696316) (Cell) [5079324301](tel:5079324301) (Home) and jilly1026@gmail.com. or Mail to—548 East 10th street. St. Charles, MN 55972

I am halfway to my goal of fundraising for my two projects – Project New Hope and Hastings Veterans Home Greenhouse. Thank you to all individuals and Units who have been donating for these two very essential programs which focus on veterans with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). With that said, I'd like to share the photo below where the Plainview Lions Club donated towards my projects as well. Dan Schmitz, Plainview Lions Club President is pictured with me as he presented the check. The Lions Club recently celebrated their 50th anniversary in Plainview, and the money raised from a silent auction was donated to my projects.



FUNDRAISER FOR 1st DISTRICT PRESIDENT CHERYL'S PROJECTS:

Please see the attached flyer in the newsletter regarding a pancake breakfast which will be a fundraiser for my projects. Rosie Peterson from Unit #179 is heading up this fundraising project to be held at the Plainview American Legion on **Sunday, March 4th from 7am-Noon**. Please come and enjoy breakfast with us as we raise funds for Project New Hope and Hastings Veteran's Home Greenhouse.

Mid Winter was held in Albert Lea the first weekend of January. We were very blessed to have Department President Donna in attendance, along with Dept. Membership Chair Mary Kuperus, President's Donna travel companion. Thank you to all who were able to attend. Some good information and discussion was available. Clarification was given on National and Department Dues. National dues will increase by \$3.00 in 2019, and a possible Department Dues increase will be voted on at this Summer's Department Convention at Rochester, MN on July 19 - 21, 2018.

The silent auction proceeds of \$153 will benefit the American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund. I was very pleased with the district committee reports which were turned in. Below are a recap of those reports.

JR. ACTIVITIES: Rang bells for Salvation Army, Donation of winter clothing to Rochester Women's Shelter, and Donation were made to the silent auction held today. – *By Myrna Welter, Jr. Activities Chair*

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Monitoring community wide service and activities along with new service activities or assisting with existing will benefit the general welfare and well being of your community' citizens. Suggested 'Adopting a Highway,' where older juniors and the Sons of the American Legion Family may be able to help. Anyone interested in ordering the magnet patch may order it from the Dept. office. – *By Arlene Hajek, Community Service Chair*

VETERAN'S AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION: Veteran's Day celebrations included school programs, veteran's dinner, veteran's program at Nursing Homes with refreshments. Adopted a veteran and family for Thanksgiving and provided dinner. Working with the Legion family to provide Thanksgiving Dinner for Veterans and spouses at their clubs. Worked with County Service Officer to help a family in need during Christmas. Having Sue Register from Hastings Veterans Home come and give a presentation to their unit, and how they could help. Adopted Hasting Veterans Home as their Veteran's Project for the year collecting needed items and donations for the home and its veterans. Found a veteran who needed a little help at home (house cleaning, yard work, grocery shopping). At Christmas time, making cards, gift baskets, and caroling at the Nursing Homes. Cutting coupons and sending Care Packages. *By Wanda Prescher, 2nd VP / VA&R Chair*

NATIONAL SECURITY: This involves supporting active military service members and their families and provide assistance in national disasters. Blue Star Banners can be purchased and presented to families to display as they honor those on active duty. Fridays are designated as wear Red days which is reference to : **Remember Everyone Deployed**. Designate a chair and conduct a POW/MIA ceremony, support USO endeavors, and Armed Forces Service Center at the Minneapolis St. Paul Airport. This area at the airport is staffed by volunteers and provides a free space for active military members and their dependents to rest and relax before, after or while between flights. They also provide send off and welcome home support for groups of troops leaving for or arriving from deployment. Practical ways to support families in your community with a deployed family member included assisting with child care, homework supervision, lawn work, rides to appointments, household maintenance and just by providing a listening ear. Continue to support the families as the service member transitions to civilian life. Units can also provide pocket flags, collect and send coupons to overseas commissaries, and send care packages for deployed service members. If a reserve unit is in the area, assist with Yellow Ribbon Reintegration program, Operation Homefront, Operation Comfort Warriors, Heroes to Hometown, ROTC programs, USO Affiliates, etc. If your community has an Emergency Response Team, take part in it. National ALA and Legion websites have additional information about programs and links to some resources to help you participate. We ALL can lift up our prayers for the protection and safety of our service members and their families, for our country. - *Louise Kleiboer, National Security Chair*

LEGISLATIVE: Canvassing of the Units, in the District, there has been minimal activity in the legislative area. WE CAN DO BETTER!! Contact your representatives to give your support to the Legions Legislative priorities. Here are some websites Go to www.capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup/ this will allow you to sign up for Action Alerts. Sign up for 'e-Newsletters' at www.legion.org/newsletters. Sign up for Digital Dispatch at www.legion.org/dispatch A current priority is advocating for medical cannabis research. Veterans Day on the Hill 2018 is slated for March 12th. - *By Lola Hanson, Legislation Chair*

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND: The silent Auction has been set up by the Aux. Emergency Fund chair Marie N. Marie purchased several items to go on the silent auction block. Her report encouraged all to bid on all silent auction items which were brought in. (Please note: A new cookbook was brought in by a donation from an anonymous donor of the Riders). Please get info out to your members about what the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is (provides temporary financial assistance to eligible members during financial crises, weather related emergencies, and disasters) and that they can apply for these funds if their membership is current and has been a member for the past two consecutive years. A 'water bottle coin collection' can be used as fundraisers for the AEF. *By Marie Nymann, AEF Chair*

MEMBERSHIP: Get those membership renewals turned in. No need to wait until rally's to turn them in! Janesville and Emmons are in the process of turning in charters. Spring Valley is also looking into turning theirs in. Membership Chair Michelle, Jill M. and President-Cheryl will work on a letter to send Spring Valley. 1st Dist. Membership Turn is ranked 6th (as of Jan. 6th). - *Michelle Weaver, 1t VP / Membership Chair*

TREASURER: Nothing unusual to report. There are 4 Units who have not turned in their Per Capita as of January 6th. Those Units included Emmons, Lyle, Rushford, and Waseca. - *by Audrey Farnsworth, Treasurer*

GIRLS STATE: Applications and information on this years' Girls State were handed out. Now is the time to get into the schools and find those juniors who may be interested in going. - *By Rosie Peterson, Girls State Chair*

Also at the Mid-Winter, we had the privilege of taking part in the Oratorical Contest. The young man present who participated in it certainly has a gift and knowledge of our government and history. I wish him the best as he moves on to the next level of competition. He was an amazing speaker!!

Thank you to the Albert Lea American Legion Family for hosting the Mid-Winter this year!!

FEBRUARY is Americanism Month. Have you contacted your school yet for participating in the Americanism Essay Contest? Here is this years' question, "WHAT CAN I DO TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM IN MY SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY". I've attached the Americanism Essay Contest items to this newsletter. Please get it out to your school districts. What else can you do for Americanism....Have a Flag Etiquette or Flag folding demonstration, do a presentation of the POW/MIA table, host a free dinner or supper to a Veteran or invite the R.O.T.C to do a presentation? Use your imagination, the possibilities are ends if we think out of the box. Get together with your local schools, nursing homes, senior citizens or other organizations to make this a special event honoring our Veterans and show your patriotism.

LOOKING AHEAD:

FEB. 3: Department Sweetheart Rally at North St. Paul Post 30 w/ membership turn in 1-2, program at 2:30

MARCH 17th: 1st District Auxiliary Jr. Conference at LeRoy

Blessings & Peace to all!

Cheryl Nymann, 1st District ALA President

A Prayer for our Soldiers (plus, you can always insert Veterans in with Soldiers)

O Lord, be with our soldiers as they leave their homes and their families to serve our nation. Guide them as they plant the seeds of PEACE for these are the seeds that will forever keep America the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. Bless them O Lord, and bless their families for they are all the heroes of American Freedom. Their sacrifice for us will not be forgotten.



Greetings First District,

My name is Johanna (JoJo) Welter. I am the First District Honorary Junior Auxiliary President. My project is making patriotic fleece tie blankets for soldiers overseas. I am doing this project through Soldiers Wings South East Minnesota. I have already made & shipped 24 blankets. I received a wonderful Thank You from the troops in Poland.

I am adding a twist to my blanket project. If you know a veteran within the First District that you would like to nominate to receive a patriotic tie blanket, please send your nomination to me at, welterbunch@yahoo.com (in the subject line put) Tie Blanket Or you can call me at [507-533-9434](tel:507-533-9434). (Approximate size is 60" x 72") Include your name, who and why you are nominating them, branch of service they served and your contact information.

May God continue to bless the USA!

Flutter on over and help us celebrate President Cheryl's year!



Saturday April 14th 2018
At Plainview American Legion
in Plainview Minnesota
Social Hour at 5pm
Dinner at 6pm
Toasting to start at 7pm



Dinner will be Roast Beef, mash potatoes, gravy, squash, corn and desert.
Please respond by April 10th 2018



Name _____

Post/Unit/Squad/ALR _____

Number of Tickets needed _____

Cost per ticket= 15.00 x _____ = Total enclosed _____

Tickets will be at check in when you arrive.



Unit	Location	Goal	Previous Turn In	Total	Precent	Left	
	9 Winona	181	106	1	107	59.12%	74
	90 Lewiston	42	30	0	30	71.43%	12
	190 St Charles	81	59	0	59	72.84%	22
	50 Wabasha	142	96	3	99	69.72%	43
	110 Lake City	88	67	2	69	78.41%	19
	179 Plainview	185	117	12	129	69.73%	56
	546 Kellogg	141	111	3	114	80.85%	27
	573 Elgin	24	14	2	16	66.67%	8
	579 Millville	50	35	16	51	102.00%	-1
	588 Mazeppa	54	41	0	41	75.93%	13
	92 Rochester	183	114	5	119	65.03%	64
	119 Byron	95	67	7	74	77.89%	21
	164 Stewartville	188	166	5	171	90.96%	17
	551 Eyota	109	81	0	81	74.31%	28
Pod One Total		1563	1104	56	1160	74.22%	403
	295 West Concord	37	31	0	31	83.78%	6
	330 Hayfield	198	150	1	151	76.26%	47
	333 Kasson	151	124	2	126	83.44%	25
	384 Dodge Center	81	49	1	50	61.73%	31
	422 Claremont	22	21	0	21	95.45%	1
	52 Blooming Prairie	118	99	7	106	89.83%	12
	77 Owatonna	138	85	13	98	71.01%	40
	75 New Richland	66	50	4	54	81.82%	12
	228 Waseca	237	188	30	218	91.98%	19
	281 Janesville	61	35	0	35	57.38%	26
	587 Waldorf	30	23	0	23	76.67%	7
Pod Two Totals		1139	855	58	913	80.16%	226

40 Lanesboro	104	5	78	83	79.81%	21
68 Spring Valley	47	39	0	39	82.98%	8
81 Harmony	53	39	0	39	73.58%	14
94 Rushford	78	59	0	59	75.64%	19
197 Chatfield	40	37	0	37	92.50%	3
299 Mabel	139	98	0	98	70.50%	41
369 Wykoff	17	17	1	18	105.88%	-1
526 Peterson	38	37	0	37	97.37%	1
544 Ostrander	18	10	0	10	55.56%	8
637 Whalen	25	14	2	16	64.00%	9
191 Caledonia	79	72	1	73	92.41%	6
249 Spring Grove	144	105	3	108	75.00%	36
423 Houston	144	129	0	129	89.58%	15
498 Hokah	21	19	0	19	90.48%	2
595 LaCrescent	233	158	21	179	76.82%	54
Pod Three Totals	898	232	28	260	28.95%	638
56 Albert Lea	342	240	34	274	80.12%	68
264 Glenville	111	75	13	88	79.28%	23
317 Emmons	32	1	23	24	75.00%	8
404 Alden	49	32	8	40	81.63%	9
552 Freeborn	65	60	0	60	92.31%	5
91 Austin	169	97	27	124	73.37%	45
105 Lyle	55	1	47	48	87.27%	7
140 Grand Meadow	79	55	4	59	74.68%	20
146 Adams	148	90	13	103	69.59%	45
161 Leroy	68	26	7	33	48.53%	35
Pod Four Totals	1266	306	176	482	38.07%	784
Total	5000	3598	271	3869	77.38%	1131

Hello 1st District;

We are doing great we are in the 5th spot for the state. Reach out to your members who have not yet renewed it may have been an oversight with the busy holiday times.

I want to shout out to Wykoff Unit 369 for 105.88% and Millville Unit 579 102.00%. I have attached the report as of 1/24/2018 there are many units close to 100%. Let's all make that push to get the 1st District in the 1st place spot.

We do have a couple of units that have not yet sent in their per capita if you have any questions you can reach out to Treasurer Audrey Farnsworth or me.

Thank you for all you do for the Veterans.

Michelle Weaver

1st District Membership Chairman

As we, the Auxiliary are competing to see who finishes the race on membership for the 1st District I ask each of you, every member (this includes the Legion Family members), to please pass this on! Hang it in your posts, send it out in your newsletters, talk about it when you visit with others!

Please know as of Jan 31, 2018 you become a delinquent member and lose your continuous years of membership. If you would need to apply for any of our wonderful programs you would not be eligible.

Let's do our job and get membership done! Our organization has too many other programs to work on-- (besides membership). This is who we are, what we do, and why we do it! Our Veterans, families and communities need us!

On behalf of the Department of MN, and the national organization, the American Legion Auxiliary, we find we have not received your renewal to the organization.

We miss you, and would invite you to rejoin the largest patriotic organization in the nation.

Most importantly is having you be a representative of "your Veteran"---the one who stood and gave so much for us. Your veteran, who helped keep America, strong & free!

As our membership team works for trying to turn the negative down slide of membership we ask you to reconsider renewing your dues.

Our mission is to take care of our Veterans, their families, and our communities. It is your membership that is the lifeblood of our organization. Please join us and mail your dues today or go online and pay by credit card.

Please let me know you received our message and please let me hear "I renewed!"

Thanks so much---

First District membership Team



Above left, Patti Coleman, currently Dept. Girls State Chair visited us at our District Mid-Winter Rally. Patti Coleman (standing) also visited us at Mid-Winter while on her campaign trail! Above right, Department President Donna and 1st District President Cheryl.



First District Auxiliary Officers at Mid— Winter



Left, 1st Dist. Membership Chair Michelle Weaver sporting her special membership Hard hat and Dept. Membership Chair Mary Kaperus.



Right, Sandra F. and Michelle in deep conversation, I'm sure.



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 17, 2018 at the LeRoy American Legion, 306 West Main Street, LeRoy, MN 55951 for the purpose of:

1. Presentations and judging of awards
2. Reports from the Unit Junior Presidents
3. Election of District Officers
4. Election of Delegates to the Department Junior Conference
5. Other business for the good of the Junior Auxiliary group

Registration will be at 8:30 AM. The registration fee is \$5.00 per junior or senior member, maximum of \$10.00 per family. Lunch will be served at the cost of \$5.00 per lunch. There will be an Executive Board meeting for Junior Officers with Senior Officers at 9:00 AM. Honorary Junior President, Johanna Welter will call the conference to order at 10:00 AM.

To compete 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 Chairwoman, Myrna Welter by the time of the 1st District Junior Conference. You may bring them with you that day.

2018 Department Poppy Contest entries may be brought the day of the Conference. Categories include: Poppy Corsage/Boutonniere; Poppy Centerpiece; Poppy Jewelry/Accessories; Poppy Memorial Day Wreath; Poppy Junior Membership Recruitment Board. Also, including Junior Scrapbook. A prize of \$5.00 for first place and \$3.00 for second place will be awarded in each category, 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.

I would like to extend a special invitation to all Junior Members, even if they don't belong to an organized Unit. Come for a day of fun and learning! Juniors are the future of the American Legion Auxiliary!

Myrna Welter

First District Junior Activities Chair

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



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Stewartville, MN 55976
507—251—6940
jeremiah@oeltjen.us

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Ron Wolff
1213 Clear Lake Dr
Waseca, MN 55903
507-456-3817
ronwolff@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Tim Weaver
1303 Kane St
LaCrosse, WI 54603
608-304-6532
timweaver595@gmail.com

Greetings!

We had a wonderful midwinter in Albert Lea. We had our Detachment Commander Shaun and Detachment Membership Director Dave in attendance. We got a lot of business done, and some plans in place. We are working on our first annual dart tourney and voted on donating \$500 to Commander Shaunce's project and many other items were discussed. We are not done with this year, and are working on our membership goal. But, we are already putting in place our future in the district and Detachment. No matter what we do, we can not forget our home squadrons. As always if any Squadron needs assistance, feel free to contact one of our district officers. As the Sons of the American Legion, we help our family organization. That being so, at our last detachment conference, we decided to start helping on the cost of the Legionnaire. If you are a dual member, you should already be getting this publication. But now the Sons can get this in an email form by signing up, or pay a subscription fee to get a hard copy. These are just some of the exciting things that are leading up to the national convention in Minneapolis. We are once again having our district convention separate from the family so that we can get more of our dual members involved. It will be the first Saturday in May held at the Winona post. We are accepting nominations for officers for next year. So feel free to get them turned in at an upcoming rally. Until next month...

Commander Dave

SQUADRON 92, ROCHESTER, MN MONTHLY EVENT

SAL Fish and Chicken Dinner.

The Third Friday of each month - September thru May.

At the Legion Post 92 Club in Rochester.

\$11.00 for all you can eat.



2017 - 2018 Individual Recruitment Award

The National Membership Committee offers a recruitment pin award for those members recruiting five (5) new members into the Sons of The American Legion within a membership year. This pin is suitable to wear upon your cover or lapel. You must meet the requirements and directions listed below:

- Recruit five (5) new members to S.A.L. **Must be new members only**, no renewals.
- All information must be legible. Un-readable forms will not be accepted.
- The new members membership record must be available on the national database.
- This form must be sent prior to midnight of August 31, 2018.
- Only one (1) award pin per member regardless of the total new members recruited.
- American Legion Family members are also eligible for this award.
- Information must be spelled out and complete. **No Abbreviations.**

Recruiter Information

Name _____ Member ID# _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Full Squadron Name/Number _____ Detachment _____
 Email _____ Phone _____

Unless specified different, the pin will be sent to the above address

New Member Information

#1 Name _____ 6 Digit Sequential Card or ID # _____
 #2 Name _____ 6 Digit Sequential Card or ID # _____
 #3 Name _____ 6 Digit Sequential Card or ID # _____
 #4 Name _____ 6 Digit Sequential Card or ID # _____
 #5 Name _____ 6 Digit Sequential Card or ID # _____

VERIFYING SIGNATURES

(Underline) SQUAD / POST COMMANDER _____ DATE _____
 (Underline) SQUAD / POST ADJUTANT _____ DATE _____
 (Required) SQUADRON ADVISOR _____ DATE _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO: (Regional Membership Chairman)

East- Mark Nave (PA)	coolcameo@aol.com	10 N 50th St, Philadelphia, PA 19139
South- Raymond Rollins (GA)	raymondrollins@yahoo.com	9685 Reinhardt College Pkwy, Waleska, GA 30183
Central- Brian Kessler (IA)	kesslerb@mchsi.com	PO Box 624, Lake Park, IA 51347
Midwest-Charles Keith (WY)	crkeith@hotmail.com	PO Box 433, Lander, WY 82520
West- Joseph Roberts (AZ)	azmembership@yahoo.com	6501 E Calle La Paz, Unit A, Tucson, AZ 85715

PINS WILL MAILED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

RIDERS CONTACT INFORMATION



DIRECTOR

Dennis Lewison
68127 150th St
Adams, MN 55909
507/440/6067

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Dale Nicholson
Glenville, MN

SECRETARY

Tonia Bettermann
1625 Crest View Lane
Owatonna, MN
507/456/2315

SGT AT ARMS

Jim Rinehart
28006 US Hwy 218
Austin, MN
612/991/4699

HISTORIAN

Kassy Bettermann
1625 Crestview Lane
Owatonna, MN

CHAPLAIN

Dan Klingfus
Austin, MN 55912
507/573/2329

ROAD CAPTAIN

Joe Smillie
1001 7th St NW
Austin, MN 55912
641/590/3522



Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 4, 2018

7:00 a.m. – Noon

@ Plainview American Legion

Breakfast includes Pancakes,
Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
Milk, Coffee

***Proceeds will benefit 1st District American
Legion Auxiliary President Projects:
Hastings Veterans Home Greenhouse
& Project New Hope***

Free Will Offering --- Suggested Donation \$7



**American Legion Riders Post 551
Eyota, MN**



Saturday, February 10th!

SPAGHETTI DINNER

4:30 PM until 7:30 PM

**Includes a hearty meat sauce and garlic toast,
and salad!!**

\$7.00 Non Member

\$6.00 Legion Member

It's a 50th Anniversary Party

Let's Celebrate!

The children of Tom and Audrey Erwin—Jeanette, Stacy, Kevin, and Casey—invite you to celebrate 50 years of marriage on February 3, 2018, at the Dodge Center American Legion. Festivities begin at 4:00 p.m.

We will have food and a full cash bar.

Please RSVP to jenniferlerwin@gmail.com or call Jeanette at 612-730-9478, by January 29.

The American Legion is located at 401 Hwy Street West in Dodge Center.



VETERANS DAY ON THE HILL 2018

WHEN: MARCH 12TH

Free Pre-Rally Breakfast and Info 8-10am

(15th Floor Veterans Services Bldg)

Rally in the Rotunda 10-11am

Regional Rooms for Lawmakers 12-2pm

WHERE

Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda

Pre-Rally at MN Veterans Service Building

20 West 12th Street, St. Paul, MN

NEW THIS YEAR— FREE PRE-RALLY BREAKFAST, REGIONAL ROOMS FOR LAWMAKERS TO COME TO YOU AFTER THE RALLY, METRO AREA PARK AND RIDE AND MUCH MORE. DETAILS @ DAVMN.ORG

ALL VETERANS AND SUPPORTERS ARE INVITED TO RALLY IN SUPPORT OF VETERANS LEGISLATION

INCLUDING:
KEEPING SURVIVING SPOUSES THEIR HOMES!
ENDING ILLEGAL PREDATORY LENDING AGAINST VETERANS BENEFITS!
INCREASING ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS FOR OUR DISABLED VETERANS!
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

NEW METRO-AREA PARK AND RIDE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE DAY OF THE EVENT

For details on location and time check out WWW.DAVMN.ORG

BUSSES WILL BE OFFERING FREE RIDES FROM ACROSS GREAT LAKES MN.

To see if a bus will be coming from your area checkout WWW.DAVMN.ORG

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT TRENT DILKS AT TRENT@DAVMN.ORG





Paralyzed Veterans
of America



HUNTING/FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS

There ARE several opportunities for Disabled Veterans to hunt and fish this year all sponsored by MN Veterans Outdoor Programs and the organizations indicated here.

Keep in mind that there are deadlines for registering for these events, the deadline dates are noted in parenthesis behind each event. Registration forms and more information are available by contacting Dennis Erie, coordinator, at 320.380.4569 or via e-mail to mn.service.orgs@gmail.com.

You can also find more information by going on Facebook and searching "Camp Ripley Veterans Outdoor Programs" and by logging onto one of the following websites: www.davmn.org; www.mnlegion.org; www.mnpva.org; or www.mnvfw.org.

- 1-3May - Physically Disabled Veteran's Wild Turkey Hunt, Camp Ripley, MN (*Deadline 23Mar*)
- 21-24May - Ely Fishing Trip, (*Deadline 6Apr*)
- 31May-1Jun - Trolling for the Troops, 2 locations! (*Deadline 13Apr*)
- 9-11Oct - Physically Disabled Veteran's Deer Hunt, Camp Ripley, MN (*Deadline 17Aug*)



Minnesota
Department of Veterans Affairs