



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

MARCH 2023

Legion Contacts

VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

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On the first few pages of this newsletter is the District and Department events for the 2022—2023 year, CHECK IT OUT .

Check out the events on the first few pages of this newsletter as I keep them updated with any changes that may come about.

March 15th—The American Legion birthday.

March 18th—The First District American Legion Auxiliary Jr Conference at Stewartville Post 164 at 9 AM

March 18th - SAL Detachment Spring Conference at VFW Post 1215 in Rochester , MN

March 23rd—First District Learning Rally in Grand Meadow Community Center at 6:30 PM (Thursday night)

INDEX

LEGION	1 thru 11
AUXILIARY	12 thru 26
SAL	pages 27 thru 29
LEGION RIDERS	page 30
FLYERS	31 thru 36



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

Kasson Post 333 has a over supply of medical equipment which includes hospital beds with mattresses, wheel chairs (both regular and electric), motorized scooters and much more. If interested please call Richard Denny at 507—259—2081 for more information. ¹

!!!!!!!!!!!!!! IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

AT THE FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CHANGEOVER IN JUNE 2022 CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PRICES FOR REGISTRATION AND LUNCHES.

THESE CHANGES BELOW HAVE BEEN COPIED RIGHT OUT OF THE FIRST DISTRICT BY- LAWS REGULATION GUIDELINES FOR FIRST DISTRICT FUNCTIONS.

THESE CHANGES GO IN EFFECT STARTING WITH THE DISTRICT FALL RALLY.

FALL RALLY

Shall be at the home of the First District Commander. Noon luncheon price not to exceed \$10.00. Registration; Legion \$10.00, Auxiliary \$10.00, SAL \$10.00, ALR \$10.00.

MID-WINTER

Shall be at the home of the District President. Time and Place to be known at Fall Rally. Registration; Legion \$10.00, Auxiliary \$10.00, SAL \$10.00, ALR \$10.00. Noon luncheon price not to exceed \$10.00.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Registration of all, but no charge to Department Officers, National Officers or visiting District Officers. Distinguished Guest Chairman shall provide the registration table with an updated list. Registration shall be conducted at a convenient location and shall be fixed at \$15.00 for Legionnaires, \$15.00 for Auxiliary members, \$15.00 for SAL members and \$15.00 for ALR members. (Pre- registration is \$15.00, at the door registration is \$20.00.) This shall include Convention Badge, Booklet of full admission to all entertainments and a complete packet of information of convention activities. Only one (1) registration per legion family member is required

FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

May 20,2023 American Legion Post 333, Kasson, MN

212 West Main St, Kasson. MN

The First District American Legion Convention will be held at Post 333 in Kasson, MN. Please fill out this form and before **April 30,2023** and mail to:

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit 333
c/o Roberta Pogalz
61879 248th Ave
Mantorville, MN 55955**

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

_____ Pre-registration Fee \$15.00 registration, at the door it will be **\$20.00**

_____ Saturday lunch \$10.00

Total Amount _____

Make the checks out to "American Legion Auxiliary Unit 333" and send to the address above.

(Only pre-registered people will receive a convention book)

If anyone has any dietary needs/requests that we need to be aware of please check here _____
(Please fill out all the information below so if we need to contact you, we can)

NAME _____ PHONE _____/_____/_____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

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

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

If you are a dual or triple member, you only need to register for one organization.

Legion _____ Post # _____ Auxiliary _____ Unit # _____ SAL _____ Squadron _____

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

_____ cut off _____

Hotel information for the First District Convention in Kasson

The post has blocked 20 rooms for Friday night May 19, 2023, at the following:

**BAYMONT INN
301 8TH St SE Kasson. MN
507 – 634 - 3444**

After tax the price is \$81.59 per room. You will need to call the motel and make your reservation. They are blocked under 1 District Convention . The block is good to the day of.

MEMBERSHIP RALLIES AND EVENTS

2022-2023

- March 18, 2023, - First District Auxiliary Jr Conference**, Stewartville American Legion Post 164 located at 1100 2nd Ave NW . Registration and conference starting at 9:00 AM with the conference starting at approx. 10:00 AM
- March 18, 2023** - Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of MN Spring Conference. VFW Post 1215, Rochester, MN located at 2775 43rd St NW at 9:00 AM
- March 23, 2023** **First District Educational & Learning Rally – Grand Meadow Community Center, (Thursday Night)** starting at 6:00 PM. Located at 116 Grand Ave E, Grand Meadow, MN.
- April 15, 2023** Department Auxiliary Jr Conference, New Prauge American Legion Post, 330 Lexington Ave S, New Prague, MN.
- April 15, 2023, **Legion Family Appreciation Party**
New Prague American Legion Post
300 Lexington Ave S New Prague MN 56071
Meal cost \$15.00 (Deadline for Reservations April 7, 2023)
DEC/ Social : 4.00 PM Dinner : 5.00 PM (Hot Beef Sandwich, Beans, Coleslaw and Dessert)
Program: 6.00 PM **Point of Contact: Linda Dvorak - 952 – 457 - 2129**
- April 29, 2023** **Commander Mary and President Tonia’s Testimonial.**
See flyer on the following page for more information
- May 13, 2023** Dept Comanders Testimonial
Post 45, New Prague, MN
Time, menu and program TBA
- May 6, 2023** **First District SAL Convention – Kasson American Legion Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson , MN) time TBA**
- May 6, 2023** **First District ALR Convention – Kasson American Legion Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson, MN) time TBA**
- May 20, 2023** **First District Legion & Aux Convention – Kasson American Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson, MN). Time TBA**
- July 12—15, 2023** Department Convention - Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel, Redwood Falls, MN . More info on the MN legion website at mnlegion.org
- (Department events in red and District events in Black)



Owatonna Post #77

**Cordially invites you to join us at a Testimonial Dinner
to celebrate 1st District American Legion**

Commander Mary Hanson and Auxiliary President Tonia Bettermann

Saturday, April 29th, 2023

137 West Broadway Street, Owatonna, MN 55060

(This will be located downstairs of Legion and there is an elevator on the main floor to get to the room.)

**Menu: Salad, Marry Me Chicken Breast, Loaded Twice Baked Mashed Potato, Candied Carrots,
Waffle Cone Dessert-Oreo or Strawberry (If there are dietary needs, please contact Tonia Bettermann
or Mary Hanson and we will accommodate.) Deadline for Dinner reservations is April 21, 2023.**

\$20.00 per person

Social Hour 3 p.m.

Program 4 p.m.

Dinner to follow after program

Kindly reply by April 21st, 2023 with payment mailed to:

Tonia Bettermann (Check payable to Tonia Bettermann)

1625 Crestview Lane, Owatonna, MN 55060

Name(s) of Persons Attending _____

Phone _____

Amount Enclosed _____



Greetings 1st District Legion Family,



Greetings

On February 18th, 2023 the 1st District held a rally at Rochester Post 92. The guests included Senator Steve Drazkowski from District 20 and Senator Erin Murphy from District 64. Senator Murphy is also the chair of the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. Senator Nick Frenz from District 18 attended by Zoom. Each Senator was given their own time to speak and answer questions. All three showed support on various Veterans issues including e-tabs, gambling taxes, property tax exemption and an omnibus bill among other issues. Mike Parry, 1st District Vice Commander, and former legislator, did an excellent job moderating the Q&A.

Thanks to Chris from Department for coming down and filming the rally. Especially, since someone, who shall remain nameless, forgot the district equipment. (I remembered everything else!)

A big shout out to Rochester Post 92 for hosting the event. It was a lot of extra work and the food provided for lunch was very good. I had seconds.

Nick Prestby, 1st District Vice Commander, spoke about his experience with Be The One. His experience showed the suicide age at 37 and below. Wondered if this was a generational thing. A short discussion followed.

The 1st District presented Abigail Erpelding a certificate and check for being the district's oratorical winner. We will wish her well as she advances.

I would like to ask the post commanders to review the membership report inside this newsletter. There are some posts that only need a few more renewals to make 100%. If you don't make goal every year, you are losing members. We can't afford to do that. You need to know where you are to know where you are going.

Mary Hanson

First District Commander

ATTENTION

PAST DISTRICT COMMANDERS, ADJUTANTS, DISTRICT PRESIDENTS, SECRETARYS, DISTRICT SAL COMMDERS , ADJUTANTS AND HONONARY JR AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS.

If you want to get a room in LaCresent for the Saturday night of the Past Commaners Supper the phone number is 507-895-1001 and the rooms are booked under the "American Legion."

FROM YOUR CHALAINS DESK

Good morning everyone, hopefully the month of March will be a great month for you. Yes, we are in lent and many of us give something up for those 45 days. There are many important dates that took place in March. I don't have all of them but here are some. We can't forget how important these days are. I think everyone should say a prayer or ask you God for a blessing on these days. If nothing else, ask yourself why these important dates are. March 3rd Navy reserve birthday, March 4th hug a Gi day, the 5th of March is the Seabee birthday, the K9 veteran day is 13th March. The 15th is of course is the American Legion birthday hopefully every legion post and family members have a great day and thankful for everything you do for your community. The 17th many of us who are Irish celebration of St Patrick's day with allot of green, don't think the lawns will be all that green yet. How can we forget Rosie the riveter getting the women involved in making parts for our service men and women over the years on the 21st. The biggest day for many is the 25th which is the medal of Honor Day for those well deserving men and women. Now the day that changed many people minds on war a day that we need to pray for those who are still suffering from physical and mental changeling times. The Vietnam Veterans' day is the 29th of March. Remember that no wars are fun, and nobody wins but with God's help we all can get better together no matter your faith.

Glenn Mueller
First District Chaplain

FROM AREA THREE

Greetings

This month is about in the history books .it has been a busy winter already . I attended our district rally at the Rochester post #92 it was hosted by Robert Schmidt .I had made a speech about the issues on ptsd and my close encounter with one of my fellow members .it is a very real problem that all of us vets have to keep ourselves aware of and not ignore .So if you know someone with that issue please don't ignore it and talk to that vet and see if there is anything that you can do for them . Monday night, I went and attended the spring grove post meeting and introduced myself .they have a very nice post and thank you Gary for having me . and the meal was very good .That is all that I have to say for this month .

God Bless you all

Nick Prestby

FROM AREA TWO

Greetings Comrades,

I'm looking forward to heading down to Waldorf, Mn on March 16th for Post 587's Post meeting. It will be great to see Commander Phil and the crew. Hopefully I'll be sporting a tan from my upcoming vacation. I'd like to invite you to educate yourselves on the Veterans Bills that are running through the Legislature.

We have an opportunity to let our voices once again be heard. I've included information on Veterans Day on the Hill. Please take time to read through it. If possible, see if your Post would sponsor a bus to take any of our Legion Family members up to the Capital in full dress mode. Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders. Together we can make a difference.

That's it for now,
God Bless America and our Veterans and the Legion Family!!

Mike Parry, Area Two Vice Commander

FROM AREA FOUR

Greetings Area 4,

Let's continue to get those memberships turned in.

Be The One: What does that mean to you? For me it's to be there not only for fellow veterans but for the very people we took the oath to protect. I recently had a classmate who succumbed to the demons of mental health, and it made me start thinking what more could have been done and why didn't I notice the signs. We all get some form of training while in the service, or by reading about it in the legion magazine, paper or even the internet. Let's be sure to continue doing buddy checks not only for fellow veterans but for friends and family as well and maybe we can start winning this fight against suicide.

Cole Wilcox
Area 4 Vice Commander

First District American Legion Family,

Another year is upon us with new leadership throughout the 1st District. I write this short note to let you know that if you at your post has items of interest that you'd like on the 1st District Facebook page or the 1st District website please forward that information to me. I will make sure it is place in the appropriate location for all to view. As a member of the Department's Media and Communications team, it is our hope to be able to help all Districts develop a social media presence. I will do what I can to help the 1st District do just that. Events, pictures and information you can send to mparry57@gmail.com anytime.

I want also to let you know that the MN American Legion Patriots Podcast will begin broadcasting the first Thursday in September and then every Thursday thereafter at 2pm. You'll find that the podcast will be both video and audio and will be 25 minutes or less covering issues affected Veterans. Watch your e-mail and newsletter for where you'll be able to click and watch. God Bless America, the Legion Family and all our Veterans.

Mike Parry
Public Relations Committee
First District

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

I am on the global war on terrorism design committee in Rochester, MN. We are asking for anyone in a 75 mile radius of Rochester to write us about any stories and or remembrance you have had. If you were one of the ones who were activated or were a fire man, policeman or first responder even if we're one of many dog handlers. What we thinking for a design is a time line even type of theme this will be an extension to the war memorial at Solders Field, so if you have any memories of that send them to markmaloney1962@gmail.com.

Thanks The Olmsted Committee
Commander
Mark A Maloney III



Past Commander Dale Wellik talking to Abigail Erpelding's father at the Department Oratorical Contest.



Abigail Erpelding and her parents at the Department Oratorical Contest.



9The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District 2023 Membership Report for February 22, 2023

Dist	Post	Location	New 2022	PUFL 2022	Online 2022	Trad 2022	Paid 2022	HQ Trans 2022	Total Membr 2022	Goal 2022	% of Goal	HQ Trans 2022	Last yr at this dae
1	9	Winona	10	36	0	386	432	3	435	477	91.19%	0	0
1	90	Lewiston	3	10	0	56	69	2	71	80	88.75%	0	0
1	190	St Charles	1	16	0	86	103	0	103	140	73.57%	0	0
1		Winona County	14	62	0	528	604	5	609	697	87.37%	0	0
1	50	Wabasha	6	46	0	144	196	0	196	207	94.69%	0	0
1	110	Lake City	13	16	0	140	169	1	170	201	84.58%	0	0
1	179	Plainview	3	26	0	111	140	0	140	147	95.24%	0	0
1	546	Kellogg	0	8	0	48	56	0	56	60	93.33%	0	0
1	573	Elgin	0	3	0	22	25	0	25	27	92.59%	0	0
1	579	Millville	0	20	0	82	102	0	102	109	93.58%	0	0
1	588	Mazeppa	5	8	0	50	63	0	63	64	98.44%	0	0
1		Wabsha County	27	127	0	597	751	1	752	815	92.27%	0	0
1	92	Rochester	11	93	0	541	645	7	652	784	83.16%	0	0
1	119	Byron	2	18	0	77	97	0	97	127	76.38%	0	0
1	164	Stewartville	15	25	0	222	262	0	262	285	91.93%	0	0
1	446	Rochester	0	2	0	9	11	0	11	12	91.67%	0	0
1	551	Eyota	8	23	0	132	163	0	163	185	88.11%	0	0
1		Olmsted County	36	161	0	981	1178	7	1185	1393	85.07%	0	0
1		Area One	77	350	0	2106	2533	13	2546	2905	87.64%	0	0
1	295	West Concord	0	7	0	30	37	0	37	43	86.05%	0	0
1	330	Hayfield	4	18	0	138	160	1	161	162	99.38%	0	0
1	333	Kasson	10	31	0	187	228	2	230	242	95.04%	0	0
1	384	Dodge Center	1	9	0	57	67	0	67	76	88.16%	0	0
1	422	Claremont	1	3	0	25	29	0	29	30	96.67%	0	0
1		Dodge County	16	68	0	437	521	3	524	553	94.76%	0	0
1	52	Blooming Prairie	1	17	0	61	79	0	79	85	92.94%	0	0
1	77	Owatonna	5	57	0	288	350	0	350	407	86.00%	0	0
1	296	Ellendale	0	3	0	26	29	0	29	34	85.29%	0	0
1		Steel County	6	77	0	375	458	0	458	526	87.07%	0	0
1	75	New Richland	0	8	0	31	39	0	39	44	88.64%	0	0
1	228	Waseca	4	23	0	234	261	2	263	275	95.64%	0	0
1	281	Janesville	4	5	0	74	83	0	83	86	96.51%	0	0
1	587	Waldorf	0	0	0	16	16	0	16	22	72.73%	0	0
1		Waseca County	8	36	0	355	399	2	401	427	93.91%	0	0
		Area Two	30	181	0	1167	1378	5	1383	1506	91.83%	0	0

1	100	Lanesboro	5	14	0	85	104	0	104	107	97.20%	0	0
1	68	Spring Valley	0	8	0	53	61	0	61	67	91.04%	0	0
1	81	Harmony	0	1	0	21	22	0	22	27	81.48%	0	0
1	94	Rushford	2	9	0	71	82	0	82	94	87.23%	0	0
1	166	Preston	3	15	0	31	49	0	49	51	96.08%	0	0
1	197	Chatfield	1	1	0	34	36	0	36	38	94.74%	0	0
1	299	Mabel	4	30	0	103	137	1	138	147	93.88%	0	0
1	369	Wykoff	1	0	0	15	16	0	16	17	94.12%	0	0
1	400	Canton	0	0	0	20	20	0	20	22	90.91%	0	0
1	492	Fountain	0	0	0	10	10	0	10	12	83.33%	0	0
1	526	Peterson	0	4	0	29	33	0	33	39	84.62%	0	0
1	544	Ostrander	0	2	0	14	16	0	16	22	72.73%	0	0
1	637	Whalan	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	8	112.50%	0	0
1		Fillmore County	16	84	0	495	595	1	596	651	91.55%	0	0
1	191	Caledonia	2	15	0	108	125	0	125	132	94.70%	0	0
1	249	Spring Grove	2	12	0	104	118	0	118	138	85.51%	0	0
1	423	Houston	1	7	0	79	87	1	88	100	88.00%	0	0
1	498	Hokah	1	1	0	19	21	0	21	22	95.45%	0	0
1	595	LaCrescent	3	45	0	183	231	3	234	247	94.74%	0	0
1		Houston County	9	80	0	493	582	4	586	639	91.71%	0	0
1		Area Three	25	164	0	988	1177	5	1182	1290	91.63%	0	0
1	56	Albert Lea	8	38	0	384	430	1	431	487	88.50%	0	0
1	264	Glenville	0	8	0	47	55	0	55	67	82.09%	0	0
1	266	Hartland	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	14	92.86%	0	0
1	317	Emmons	1	3	0	41	45	0	45	52	86.54%	0	0
1	404	Alden	1	4	0	60	65	0	65	77	84.42%	0	0
1	552	Freeborn	3	5	0	20	28	0	28	31	90.32%	0	0
1		Freeborn Coun-	13	59	0	564	636	1	637	728	87.50%	0	0
1	91	Austin	10	49	0	320	379	0	379	456	83.11%	0	0
1	105	Lyle	2	8	0	68	78	0	78	85	91.76%	0	0
1	140	Grand Meadow	2	3	0	30	35	0	35	37	94.59%	0	0
1	146	Adams	5	20	0	113	138	0	138	175	78.86%	0	0
1	161	LeRoy	2	4	0	41	47	0	47	47	100.00%	0	0
1	570	Austin Spam	1	0	0	7	8	0	8	12	66.67%	0	0
1		Mower County	22	84	0	579	685	0	685	812	84.36%	0	0
1		Area Four	35	143	0	1143	1321	1	1322	1540	85.84%	0	0
1	1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
1		District Totals	167	838	0	5404	6409	24	6433	7241	88.84%	0	0

DISTRICT VICE COMMANDER STANDINGS

Vice Commanders												
	Area One	77	350	0	2106	2533	13	2546	2905	87.64%	0	0
	Area Two	30	181	0	1167	1378	5	1383	1506	91.83%	0	0
	Area Three	25	164	0	988	1177	5	1182	1290	91.63%	0	0
	Area Four	35	143	0	1143	1321	1	1322	1540	88.84%	0	0

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA 2021 DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 1/25/23

Dist	Rank											
1	2nd	Mary Hanson	167	838	0	5404	6409	24	6433	7241	88.84%	
2	1st	Pam Krill	96	609	0	4315	5020	18	5038	5651	89.15%	
3	7th	Gary Richardson	229	1571	0	6991	8,791	76	8,867	10,185	87.06%	
4	5th	Dave Dahl	39	274	0	1272	1585	23	1608	1,840	87.39%	
5	10th	Lynne Nottage	12	299	0	1022	1333	4	1337	1704	78.46%	
6	3rd	Karen O'Bar	219	1097	0	7348	8664	85	8,749	9,870	88.64%	
7	6th	Karen Welander	81	671	0	3920	4672	16	4688	5,376	87.20%	
8	4th	Larry Pocrnich	112	321	0	2423	2856	24	2880	3285	87.67%	
9	9th	Terry Buaas	66	540	0	4135	4741	33	4774	5534	86.27%	
10	8th	William Gordon	189	954	0	5709	6852	77	6929	8024	86.35%	
99			14	217	0	1444	1675	0	1675	3121	53.67%	
To-	tals		1224	7391	0	43,983	52,598	380	52,978	61,831	85.68%	

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Thank you for your service to our country and to the American Legion Family and our communities.

Membership is coming along. We did meet our goal of 85% and now the next goal is 90% by March 15th. We have 2 posts at 100% or over. Congratulations to Whalen and LeRoy. We the District are at 88.84%.

We have 2/3 of our posts over the 90% already and some posts only 1 or 2 Memberships away from the 100%. First District wide we are in 2nd place statewide. Let's keep the momentum going.

We need the memberships to keep our numbers for delegate representation and voting strength at the conventions. Thank you!

We are planning for the District Convention this May 20th at the Kasson American Legion. Pay your dues, carry your current signed membership card.

Pray for peace in the world.

Pray for our troops and their families at home or deployed they all need it.

Dale Wellik
Membership Director



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Auxiliary Contacts

President

Tonia Betterman
1625 Crestview Lane
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bettm88@outlook.com

Secretary

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(507) 383-3776
dsfredrick@gmail.com

Membership / First Vice

Wanda Prescher
3321 Vista View Ct SW
Rochester, MN 55902
507/254/0304
w.prescher1951@gmail.com

Treasurer

Audrey Farnsworth
302 1st St E, Stewartville, MN 55976
507-319-0257
harlee@charter.net



From the President's Desk

Greetings,

February has run by quickly with the nice weather along with the snow storm that happened at the end. I love Minnesota but it comes a time for spring to be here.

February 4, 2023 was the Department Sweetheart Rally in Osseo. They had a wonderful turn out and it was great to see everyone.

We are continuing to have planning meetings for the district convention. This convention will be in Kasson on May 20th, 2023. Please plan on coming. If you are interested in an officer or chairman position, please let me know. We need these positions filled and are looking for new people to participate.

I have information on trophies in the this newsletter based off the 1st District standing rules. Please review this and make sure you get information in appropriately if your unit is deserving of these trophies and certificates.

I also have in this newsletter the flyer for the testimonial dinner that will be held on April 29th, 2023 in Owatonna Post #77. This testimonial is for Commander Mary Hanson and myself. Please view the flyer and if interested in attending please RSVP by April 21st, 2023.

March 18th the district will be having the Junior Conference in the Stewartville Unit.

My project this year is a large plaque on the New Preston Veterans Home. I am having a raffle to earn more money for this plaque. Please contact me if you are interested in getting one. They are \$5.00 each.

Please let me know if you would like me to attend any meetings within your unit. I would be happy to say a few words and learn more about your unit.

Have a great St. Patrick's Day hope everyone finds their pot of gold or at least some good luck for the year.

Thank you,

Tonia Bettermann
1st District Auxiliary President



1st District American Legion Auxiliary President's Project



Proposed Plaque for New Veterans Home in Preston Minnesota



Raffle Ticket Prizes:

1. 6' Uncle Sam
2. Full Color Metal US Flag
3. POW/MIA Shadow Box
4. Wildlife Fire Ring

\$5.00 Per Ticket

Date of Drawing is May 20th, 2023, at Kasson American Legion

Contact: Tonia Bettermann or Chuck Stone



A NEW LOOK FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Article from National Legion web site

Purpose of the Brand Mark: the American Legion Auxiliary brand mark was created to address the need to modernize the American Legion Auxiliary brand to appeal to the next generation. Moreover, the new brand mark takes into consideration a host of applications that the original emblem could never have anticipated. Those include digital and social media, special event and sports marketing, lifestyle apparel and more.

Brand Mark versus Emblem Going forward, ***the brand mark is to be used in all marketing communications applications, while the emblem should be reserved for official documents and communications.***

In application the following guidelines offer direction in terms of when to use the emblem or one of the brand marks. While most applications will be clearly defined, inevitably some instances may straddle the line between two areas. In those cases, use discretion based on the intended audience. When choosing a brand mark option, default to what is most visually pleasing in that application. For example, the word mark should almost always be used in embroidery.

Brand Mark Options

- advertising
- apparel (use word mark for embroidery)
- business cards, letterhead, email signatures
- credentials, event badges
- press releases
- digital (apps, web, social, PowerPoint presentations)
- promotional communications (flyers, handouts, etc.)
- events (signs, backdrops, tents, tablecloths, swag/giveaways)

Emblem

- uniform caps
- financial documents
- history books

- flags
- legal affairs
- internal manuals & guides
- reports & resolutions
- awards (option emblem or brand)
- building signage (option emblem or brand)
- formal government communications (option emblem or brand)

A New Look for Minnesota Coming Soon



Please save this for future references. The important piece to this is our emblem will always remain the same! Go to the national website and find all the information you need. This site is a tool for everyone to use as needed. You can start using the new logo now!

District Secretary Sandy Fredrickson

a



Commander Hanson presenting First District Oratorical winner Abigail Erpelding with her check and certificate at Rochester Post 92.



Left—Mrs. Erpelding Center—Abigail Erpelding
Right—Commander Hanson at Rochester Post 92

***ATTENTION!!! ALL MEMBERS OF
THE FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY!
WE NEED YOU!***

As we work to finish the 2022-2023 Auxiliary year, the nominating committee is working to seek new officers for the First District for 2023-2024. If you believe in the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary and have a desire to be involved “YOU CAN DO IT! If you have held an office in your unit (President, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, etc.) you can lead the District also. You truly do not have to have been an officer but feel you would have an understanding of what the duties would entail. First District has 48 Units. We know the great things many of your Units do. We know we have great members who do wonderful things for the Veterans, their families, and their communities!!

Every office of the First District is open.

Whoever is the next President would choose the secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian, historian, and chaplain. This is in our standing rules of the First District. She/He (spouse of a female Veteran) would also work to fill the chairmanships of our ALA programs.

We have many great mentors in the District whom would help you through the year if you ask for it!

Auxiliary members---this is very important to us as an organization. Without members to step up, our district cannot function!

Again, We know there are many capable people to lead us, those who believe in our organization, and would be very successful! We would love to see an endorsement come from your Unit in regards to any open office: President, First & Second Vice- President, First & Second Executive Committee members. If you would have a desire for any other position please let us know and your name would be given to whomever runs for President!

Again, we need you! Every unit member is a leader, you matter!

Please send your endorsement to one of us on the nominating committee: Sandra Fredrickson, Wanda Prescher or Audrey Farnsworth

Unit	Location	Goal	Previous	Turn In	Total	Percent	Left
	9 Winona	124			103	70.16%	21
	90 Lewiston	35			30	85.71%	5
	190 St Charles	10			10	100.00%	0
	50 Wabasha	103			90	87.38%	13
	110 Lake City	70			41	58.57%	29
	179 Plainview	127			94	74.02%	48
	546 Kellogg	101			79	78.22%	22
	573 Elgin	14			7	50.00%	7
	579 Millville	45			41	91.11%	4
	588 Mazeppa	37			35	94.59%	2
	92 Rochester	130			100	76.92%	44
	119 Byron	22			16	72.73%	6
	164 Stewartville	164			147	89.63%	47
	551 Eyota	102			90	88.24%	12
Pod One Total		1084	0	0	883	81.46%	201
	295 West Concord	34			28	82.35%	6
	330 Hayfield	175			141	80.57%	52
	333 Kasson	142			130	91.55%	12
	384 Dodge Center	57			53	92.98%	4
	422 Claremont	21			19	90.48%	2
	52 Blooming Prairie	92			81	88.04%	11
	77 Owatonna	103			85	82.52%	18
	75 New Richland	41			34	82.93%	7
	228 Waseca	225			205	91.11%	20
	587 Waldorf	19			15	78.95%	4
Pod Two Totals		909	0	20	791	87.02%	118
	40 Lanesboro	92			87	94.57%	5
	68 Spring Valley	46			42	91.30%	4
	81 Harmony	53			42	79.25%	11
	94 Rushford	44			41	93.18%	3
	197 Chatfield	26			18	69.23%	8
	299 Mabel	120			95	79.17%	17 25

18369 Wykoff	19			17	89.47%	2
526 Peterson	49			42	85.71%	7
544 Ostrander	12			8	66.67%	4
637 Whalen	18			14	77.78%	4
191 Caledonia	71			62	87.32%	9
249 Spring Grove	94			73	77.66%	21
423 Houston	116			99	85.34%	17
498 Hokah	17			17	100.00%	0
595 LaCrescent	160			143	89.38%	17
Pod Three Totals	937	0	0	800	85.38%	137
56 Albert Lea	265			201	75.85%	64
264 Glenville	96			78	81.25%	18
404 Alden	42			31	73.81%	11
552 Freeborn	58			56	96.55%	2
91 Austin	122			85	69.67%	37
105 Lyle	52			42	80.77%	10
140 Grand Meadow	66			60	90.91%	6
146 Adams	130			122	93.85%	8
161 Leroy	49			26	53.06%	23
Pod Four Totals	880	0	0	701	79.66%	179
Total	3810	0	68	3175	83.33%	635



FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Mighty Minnesota Membership

A reminder to all units, the 2024 Dues Form needs to be into Department no later than March 15th! National dues will increase \$6.00 for the 2023-/2024 year. If you have already sent in great, if not please do as soon as possible! Membership to date 2/28/23 is at 3175 members 83.33%. 1st District is currently in 5th place.

Our goal is 3810! 635 members to go! Now we are in the hard part of getting those dues renewed, I know everyone is working on doing just that, let's not get discouraged, we can do this! I can't thank our Membership leaders enough for the hard work they have done all year!

New Goal Deadline is March 13th – 85%! 22 units to date have achieved this goal already! Congratulations to those units.

Our last \$25 contest drawing was for Sweetheart Rally on Dec 4th at 80% or better! Congratulations to the members of Caledonia Unit 191, with 87.32! membership!

Most of our units are really close to achieving their goals, call those members as a buddy check and remind them that they have maybe forgotten to renew their dues! Everyone has worked hard on membership this year and should be proud of all the work done to date! Thank You ALA members!

Membership Chair: Wanda Prescher

FROM YOUR HONORARY AUXILIARY JR PRESIDENT

My name is Bailey Anderson. I am the 1st District Junior Auxiliary president. I wanted to introduce myself and tell you a little about my project. I am 14 years old, and I am a freshman at Lourdes High School in Rochester, MN. I enjoy spending time with my friends, dance, and softball. I have been an active member of the Stewartville American Legion for 11 years. My favorite thing that we do in the junior auxiliary group is when we go to the nursing home and visit the veterans there. I also enjoy being a role model and mentor to the younger kids that are in juniors. For my project, I plan to raise money and support the organization called "Believet". "Believet" is a non-profit program that's goal is to provide disabled veterans with fully trained service dogs, free of charge. If you would like to learn more about this program, please visit believet.org. If you are interested in donating, please feel free to email me at bailey.anderson@rcsedu.org

Please plan on attending the District Jr Conference on March 18, 2023. You do not have to have an active Jr Unit to attend.

Bring your Jr's for an informative and fun day. For more info check out the Call to Jr Convention on the following page.



FROM YOUR HONORARY JR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

SOME INFORMATION ON BELIEVET SERVICE DOGS

OUR PROGRAM

The Need

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs conducted a broad survey of recent veterans to gain better insight on their overall health. In raw numbers, it is estimated that a sobering 500,000 troops from the Gulf Wars alone have been diagnosed with PTSD, according to Miriam Reisman (“PTSD Treatment for Veterans: What’s Working, What’s New, and What’s Next,” U.S. National Library of Medicine, 2016).

PTSD can be described as a mental health condition that may result from experiencing or witnessing trauma. Symptoms include flashbacks, nightmares, severe anxiety, depression, and confusion. This condition—often accompanied by major depression and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI)—can make it difficult, if not impossible, to meet the normal demands of daily life. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 20 deployed veterans die by suicide every day in the United States (Office of Suicide Prevention, “Suicide Among Veterans and Other Americans, 2001–2014,” 2016).

Our Response

Trained service dogs can provide an essential source of security, affection, and connection for our veterans. Believet™ dogs are custom-trained for mobility and psychiatric tasks. They can wake a veteran from a nightmare, ease their anxiety in a crowded public place, and provide comfort through companionship and physical contact. Our dogs also help keep veterans on a schedule because the dogs need care and attention on a regular basis.

There is a growing body of research and clinical evidence supporting the value of service dogs. Despite this, neither the Veterans Health Administration nor most private insurers pay for or provide reimbursement for psychiatric service dogs for people diagnosed with PTSD.

Believet™ provides highly trained service dogs, free of charge, to disabled veterans, helping them to lead more productive, independent lives. A service dog provides a sense of security, greater independence, non-judgmental acceptance, affection, physical assistance, and peace of mind.

Our Dogs

Believet™ service dogs transform the lives of veterans and their families. The dogs come from shelters, rescue groups, and generous individuals. The training process for the service dogs is as follows:

1. Over the course of 18 months, Believet™ cares for and trains our service dogs to become ADA-approved and certified. During this time the dogs live with a foster family.
2. Believet™ matches a veteran with a service dog and provides additional training tailored to the veteran’s individual needs. Together, the veteran and service dog participate in 120 hours of training, including public access training and testing. Believet™ provides all equipment free of charge.
3. Graduation! Once training is complete, the dog and veteran graduate. The Believet™ service dog goes to live with the veteran.

Our Facility

Believet™’s training facility is located on 12 acres just 3 miles outside of Northfield, Minnesota, (45 minutes south of Minneapolis). Our facility is heated and air-conditioned, and includes indoor and outdoor training spaces, and fenced outdoor airing yards. We can accommodate a maximum of 25 dogs at capacity.

For more information check out their website at: believet.org



CALL TO THE FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY JUNIOR CONFERENCE

The annual Junior Conference of the First District American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called to be held on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at Stewartville American Legion Post 164 located at 1100 2nd Ave NW for the purpose of:

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

Registration will start at 9:00 AM. The registration fee is five (5) dollars per Junior or Senior member with a maximum of ten (10) dollars per family. Lunch will be served at the cost of five (5) dollars per lunch. There will be an Executive Board meeting for Junior and Senior officers at 9 AM. Honorary District Junior President Bailey Anderson will call the conference to order immediately following the Executive Board meeting.

To compete for the District Junior trophies or awards, a copy of the Unit Activities Annual Report and a written narrative of their activities must be in the hands of the District Junior Activities Chairman, Sharon Hammon by the time of the First District Junior Conference. You may bring them with you that day.

CLASSES

Class I ----- Ages 6 years and under

Class II ----- Ages 7 – 12 years

Class III ----- Ages 13 – 18 years

AWARDS

1ST Place ----- \$5.00 cash award for each class

2nd Place-----\$3.00 cash award for each class

(Refer to the First District Junior Standing Rules)

2023 Department Poppy Contest entries may be brought the day of the conference.

1. POPPY CENTERPIECE CONTEST

To the Junior member in each class with the best Poppy Centerpiece using Honorary Department Junior President Sydney's theme "Juniors spreading kindness like confetti" using confetti.

All white tags must be removed from the poppies.

2. POPPY CORSAGE/BOUTONNIERE CONTEST

To the Junior member in each class with the best Poppy Corsage/boutonniere using Honorary Department Junior President Sydney's theme "Juniors spreading kindness like confetti" using confetti.

All white tags must be removed from the poppies.

3. POPPY MEMORIAL DAY WREATH

To the Junior member in each class with the best Poppy Memorial Day Wreath with the Poppy as the focus of the wreath

If you 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 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

Wanda Prescher – First District Activities Chair.

LEADERSHIP BASICS

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY---

BACK TO THE BASICS

THIS IS NOT JUST FOR OFFICERS---IT IS FOR EVERY MEMBER TO BE A PART OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY!!

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE AND GET INVOLVED AND BE SUCCESSFUL, WE HAVE A MISCONCEPTION OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

EACH OF YOU ARE VALUABLE, EACH OF YOU HAVE A SAY---make your membership count!!

Some basic information:

Our ALA mission:

In the spirit of Service, not self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support the American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

If we believe in this statement and work for the good of the organization we can accomplish anything we set out to do!

How many units have the Department Unit Guide? How many units have read and follow the protocol set before us by the National and Department guidelines? How many units have standing rules (the specifics to your unit)? How many units actually run their meetings by these guidelines (oh you may be relaxed abit)?

Plain and simple---If you don't follow what has been set forth by the American Legion Auxiliary your unit is not operating by the IRS rules and regulations for nonprofit organizations!!

Are you nonprofit? Are you current in filing the 990 status for your unit? If not, you legally cannot operate as a nonprofit UNIT!

Did you know?---Membership---are you following the guidelines of the changes done a year ago (set by the IRS standards)? Anyone that has previously been a member as a great granddaughter is grandfathered in, but---we can no longer sign up great granddaughters!

Did you know September is Junior Activities Month? Are you doing anything special to sign up junior members or involving the community to make people aware we have a Junior program?

October is Education and Constitution and Bylaws. Does your unit get involved with your American Legion for National Education Week in November? Do you do anything special to recognize educators---not just your schools but even your spiritual educators (Sunday School teachers/partner up)! Do you review your unit constitution (which is in the Department Unit guide) and your standing rules? These should be reviewed annually.

These are just a few items for this month. I don't want you to go on overload (mentally). You all have a say in your UNIT! You all are vitally important to the success of your UNIT! Your unit is only as good as those whom want to get involved/participate in what happens within your UNIT! **Again, the ALA is all of you---not just the officers!!**

Many of you do not attend Department Fall Conference. I ask why?? as this is the time for learning what our programs are all about!! Even if it is to enhance one or two programs you do well with.

Look for upcoming details for our annual District Fall Rally in October (see the calendar). For those of you whom have questions on any of our programs---please come. Come see what prize you could actually win for either you or your unit!!! If we don't know the answers---we will get the answer from someone who knows!

District Leadership Chairman,

Sandy Fredrickson

FROM YOUR POPPY CHAIRMAN

First, be sure you have ordered your poppies!

Second, contact your local school(s).

Ask if you can present the poppy poster program to your art teachers. Be sure they have the Auxiliary rules so the posters are correct before submitting.

Suggest they work it into their art program.

Make sure your unit gives local prizes to winning posters.

Third, enter the District Convention in May.

There will be two poppy contests at convention. You can enter more than one in both categories.

Contest #1 – Something “wearable”.

Contest #2 - Use President Mary’s theme and symbol in the contest.

Fourth, try using poppies for a different holiday display.

Valentine’ Day – St Patrick’s Day – Easter – Mother’s Day – Father’s Day - Flag Day - Independence Day.

Remember, National Poppy Day is Saturday, May 27 th !

Get your mayor to proclaim May as Poppy month, have pictures taken and into your local newspaper.

Poppy Chair: Wanda Prescher

FROM YOUR GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN

We are continuing to plan for an exciting program at Bethel University, June 11th-17th.

Our department webpage is up to date with the most current information, so be sure some of the tools there in your recruiting efforts.

The Power Point on the webpage is a great introduction to what a week at Girl’s State is really like to show teachers and interested students. It can be a great tool for the parents of our potential citizens as well. If possible, try to find out your 11th grade high school government teachers and work with them directly if possible. At times, the info isn’t getting beyond the guidance counselor’s desk. This program is valuable to any student that has participated when applying for college admission.

If you have questions please let me know, more than happy to help!

w.prescher1951@gmail.com or 507-254-0304.

Girls State Chair: Wanda Prescher



THE POPPY PAGE
2022-2023



January 2023

Announcement from ALA National Headquarters





You may have seen the announcement from ALA National Headquarters about the new landmarks on social media or in *eNews*. So, here's the scoop. Just like the American Legion, the rest of the Legion Family also has new marks. These marks were created for external marketing purposes. Think of social media, events, apparel and more. It's easier for those who aren't familiar with the ALA to notice and read.

Don't worry, the **emblem is NOT going away**. It will still be available, because it is as much of a legacy as the Auxiliary itself. Eventually, the ALA Branding Guide will be updated with the new information, but you can go to www.Legion.org/brand in the meantime for guidelines and suggested uses.

Be on the lookout for the February issue of *Auxiliary* magazine. ALA National Headquarters will have much more on the new landmarks.

In the meantime, here is a quick summary of the new marks and the emblem-- and when to use them:

New Landmarks	Traditional Emblem
	
<p>Use landmarks for: advertising apparel (use word mark for embroidery) business cards, letterhead, email signatures credentials, event badges press releases digital (apps, web, social, PowerPoint presentations) promotional communications (flyers, handouts, etc.) events (signs, backdrops, tents, tablecloths, swag/giveaways)</p>	<p>Use the traditional emblem for: uniform caps financial documents history books flags legal affairs internal manuals & guides reports & resolutions awards (option emblem or brand) building signage (option emblem or brand) formal government communications (option emblem or brand)</p>

For more information on use, artwork and permission to use, check out: <https://www.legion.org/brand/aux> Western Division Chairman Marge Christianson

National Poppy Day

MAY 26, 2023

Start Planning

As the time comes nearer to use the Media and Public Service templates from the National website <https://www.legion-aux.org> under **Poppy Program** use **this message from Communication Specialist Jennifer Donovan.**

The templates on this page <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/poppy/poppy-days> are word documents, so they can be saved to a computer and edited.

If you are using a PDF, there is no need to re-type documents. They can be copied into a word document by copy and pasting.

To do this, the member will need to open a word document, go to the template, copy the template by highlighting with their mouse or hitting control a. Then select copy or control c. Go to the word document and select paste or control v.

Share Your Poppy Story

Join the Poppy Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALA Poppy> and share ways that the Poppy and our Poppy program are promoted, how members participate in sharing the Poppy story and other Poppy activities and how the Veterans and their families are supported by Poppy Funds. Send pictures and information of your Poppy activities to you Division Chair throughout the year.



THE POPPY PAGE

2022-2023



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Jan 2023

Use the National
Poppy website to promote the
Poppy
Program

[Poppy \(legion-aux.org\)](http://legion-aux.org)

Post picture, activities and
questions on the
Poppy Facebook page Ameri-
can

Legion Auxiliary

Poppy Program |

Facebook

National Poppy Day
May 26, 2023
Use

[National Poppy Day® | The American
Legion](http://NationalPoppyDay.org)



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



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FROM YOUR SAL ADVISOR

Good afternoon gentlemen.

The District SAL convention will soon be upon us.

As of today- we need the following positions filled: Commander, East and West Vice Commanders, Chaplin , Adjutant , and Historian.

I don't want a repeat of this year- a perspective District Commander Candidate should be given best information on what the SAL Commanders job is and what is expected.

Same goes with the Other District Officer positions. Explain the job fully ...encourage questions.

We need to look for Candidates. Waiting until the Day of Convention never seems to work. We end up electing people who are not ready....and well things go sideways.

This District needs new blood ...a new crop of Leaders to continue to move us forward. We can't keep reusing the same people year after year and expect things to change.

I give thanks to Ron, Dave, Clint, Brian T, Mark and Commander Roe for serving this past year.

Mark is running for 1st District Legion Commander and Chuck is running for Department 1st and 3rd Vice Commander.

I have asked to stay on as District SAL Advisor.

I will put a note in the Next 3 newsletters asking for people interested in being District SAL Officers to please let us know.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Brian Medinnus
First District SAL Advisor



2022 FIRST DISTRICT SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION CALL TO CONVENTION

To all Squadrons of the First District.

By the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Minnesota, I, Roe Naylor, First District SAL Commander, do here by call a Convention of the First District Sons of the American Legion to convene at the Kasson American Legion Post 333 located at 212 West Main Street, Kasson MN on Saturday May 6, 2023, at 9 AM.

The purpose of this Convention is to elect a District Commander, two (2) District Vice Commanders, a District Chaplain, a District Finance Officer and to conduct such business of the First District Sons of the American Legion that may properly come before the Convention.

The voting strength of each Squadron will be, as provided in the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws, based upon the Membership certified to the District Commander by the Detachment Adjutant.

Please send certification of your Squadron Delegates and Alternates to:

1st District SAL Adjutant
Dave Bilderback
4409 22nd Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

All District SAL Members are urged to attend.
Roe Naylor
1st District SAL Commander

SAL Delegate certification to the First District SAL Convention in Albert Lea, MN on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Squadron _____ MN

Delegates

Alternates

- | | |
|-------|----------|
| _____ | 1. _____ |
| _____ | 2. _____ |
| _____ | 3. _____ |
| _____ | 4. _____ |
| _____ | 5. _____ |
| _____ | 6. _____ |

Signed _____

Adjutant Squadron # _____

First District SAL Membership for 1/31/2023

Sqdrn.	Location	2022 Results (7/31/2022)	2023 Goal	Total at Dept	Rally Turn In	Grand Total	% of Goal	Date Goal Reached
9	Winona	148	154	114		114	74.03%	
40	Lanesboro	58	59	62		62	105.08%	
50	Wabasha	15	21	20		20	95.24%	
52	Blooming Prairie	35	41	0		0	0.00%	
56	Albert Lea	124	130	80		80	61.54%	
75	New Richland	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
77	Owatonna	98	99	59		59	59.60%	
90	Lewiston	47	48	46		46	95.83%	
91	Austin	59	60	44		44	73.33%	
92	Rochester	78	79	62		62	78.48%	
94	Rushford	33	39	13		13	33.33%	
105	Lyle	28	34	1		1	2.94%	
119	Byron	25	26	24		24	92.31%	
140	Grand Meadow	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
146	Adams	107	108	93		93	86.11%	
161	Leroy	33	34	33		33	97.06%	
164	Stewartville	115	121	87		87	71.90%	
166	Preston	39	40	42		42	105.00%	
179	Plainview	10	11	4		4	36.36%	
190	St Charles	9	10	2		2	20.00%	
191	Caledonia	7	13	0		0	0.00%	
228	Waseca	121	127	85		85	66.93%	
249	Spring Grove	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
264	Glenville	59	65	43		43	66.15%	
266	Hartland	11	12	11		11	91.67%	
281	Janesville	7	8	7		7	87.50%	
299	Mabel	13	19	16		16	84.21%	
317	Emmons	41	47	25		25	53.19%	
330	Hayfield	36	42	30		30	71.43%	
333	Kasson	47	53	41		41	77.36%	
384	Dodge Center	8	9	4		4	44.44%	
400	Canton	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
404	Alden	57	58	0		0	0.00%	
423	Houston	13	14	15		15	107.14%	
446	Rochester	36	42	26		26	61.90%	
546	Kellogg	12	13	12		12	92.31%	
551	Eyota	35	41	29		29	70.73%	
552	Freeborn	24	30	3		3	10.00%	
573	Elgin	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
579	Millville	24	30	23		23	76.67%	
595	La Crescent	64	70	58		58	82.86%	
637	Whalan	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
1111	Dakota	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
1st District Totals		1676	1807	1214		1214	67.18%	

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 BROWNSDALE, MN 55918
 Phone - 507-438-5804
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 Owatonna, MN 55060
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 EMAIL— betttm88@outlook.com

GREETINGS ALL

We held a meeting on Sunday, February 19 to discuss events for the upcoming year and nominations of officers.

Tentative date for the 2023 Tour of the 1st District is Saturday, July 22. The hope is to have the 1st District American Legion Family participate as this is open to all street legal vehicles, not just Legion Riders.

Nominations of Officers were as follows:

Director – Karla Miller Maloney
 Vice Director – Chuck Stone
 Secretary – Tonia Betterman
 Finance Officer – Mark Maloney
 Chaplain – Dick Skillestad
 Historian – open

Sgt at Arms – is appointed by the Director

We will be taking further nominations and holding elections at the Spring Convention. Anyone who is interested in being nominated for an office or would like to be Sgt at Arms please reach out to Sunshine or Roe.

Please see the flyers in this newsletter for upcoming events hosted by the Riders

Next Meeting is the Spring Convention at the Kasson Legion on May 6, 2023.

2023 First District American Legion Rider Convention Call

To all American Legion Rider Chapters of the First District:

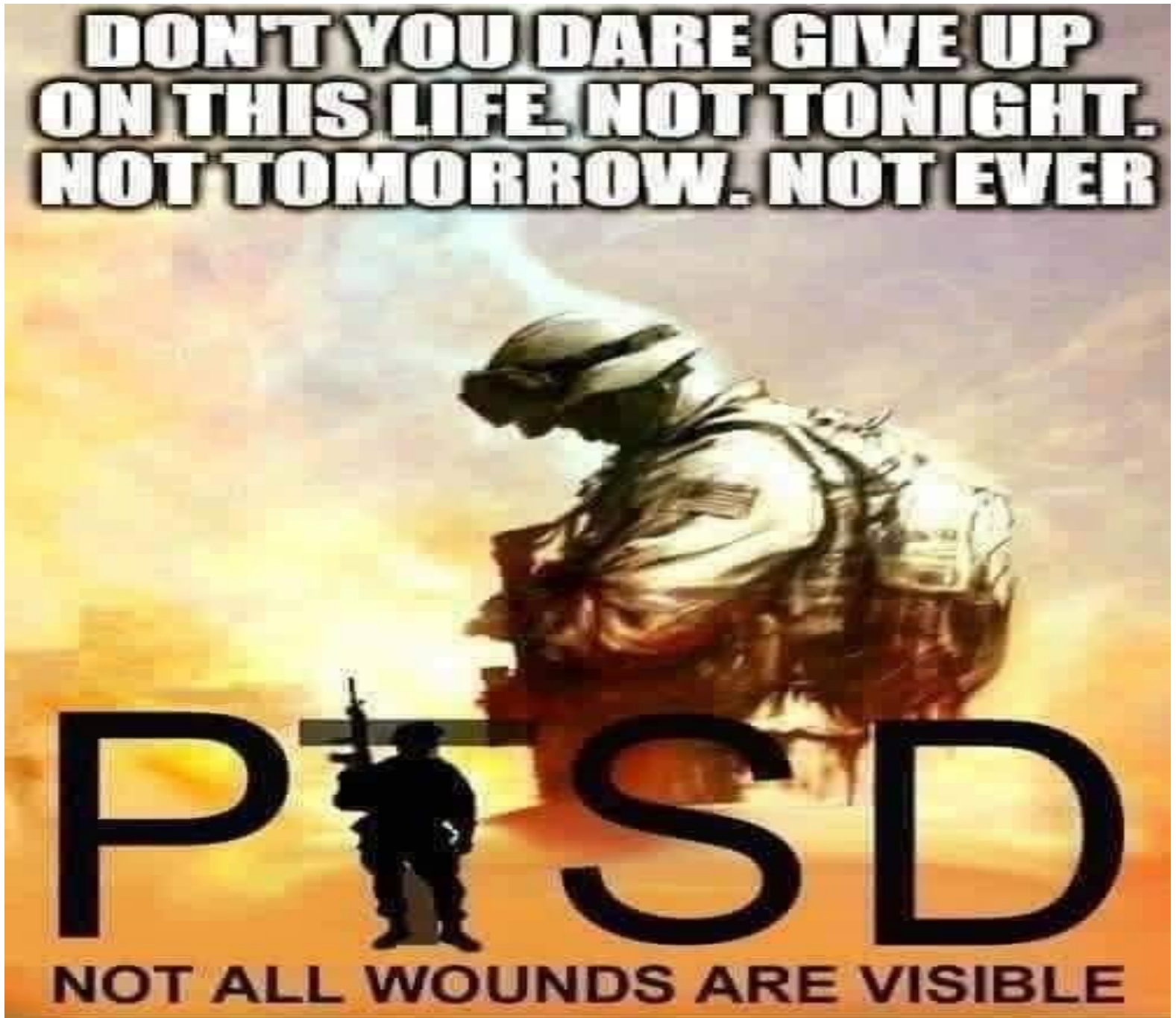
By virtue of the authority vested in me by the constitution and by-laws of the American Legion Riders, Department of Minnesota, I, Roe Naylor, First District ALR Director, do hereby call a convention meeting of the First District ALR to be held at the Kasson American Legion at 1 PM, on Saturday, May 6th, 2023.

The purpose of this convention meeting is to elect District Officers and to conduct such business of the First District ALR that may properly come before this meeting.

The voting strength of each ALR Chapter will be, as provided in the First District ALR by-laws.

All ALR members are encouraged to attend and register at the convention to support the American Legion Family.

First District ALR Director
 Roe Naylor



An app for on line mental health

<https://www.facebook.com/100019040483031/posts/1054342938543712/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROuL>

Veterans in crisis now eligible for free care nationwide

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

BE THE ONE - New resources are to use in support of the Be The One initiative to be available for American Legion Family Members to reduce the rate of Veteran Suicide at Legion.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to scan a QR code:

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

VETERANS DAY ON THE HILL 2023

**WHEN:
MARCH 30TH, 2023**

**DAV of MN Presents:
Free Veterans and Supporters Lunch
Doors Open @ 10:00AM FOR COFFEE
LUNCH @ 11:00AM**

(One Block from Capitol at 600 Cedar Street, St. Paul)

Veterans March to the Rally @ 12:40

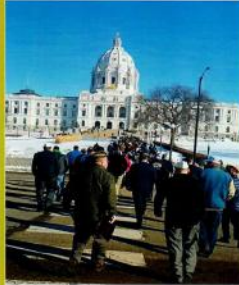
(Short Walk from Armory to State Veterans Service Building
20 West 12th St, St. Paul)

**CTF, UVLC, and MACVSO Present:
Rally in the Rotunda 1:00-2:00pm**



ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT-
TRENT@DAVMN.ORG:

**NO MEMBERSHIP IN
ANY ORGANIZATION
REQUIRED.
ALL SUPPORTERS ARE
WELCOME!**



Topics include:

PASSING A CLEAN
VETERANS OMNIBUS
BILL

ENSURING SURVIVING
SPOUSES HAVE ACCESS
TO PROPERTY TAX
RELIEF

FIXING THE POST 9/11
SERVICE BONUS TO
INCLUDE ALL CURRENT
RESIDENT VETERANS

INCREASE THE
AMOUNT FOR THE
PROPERTY TAX VALUE
EXCLUSION



Jim Kellogg



**Candidate For
National Vice Commander
Department Of Minnesota
2024-2025**

**Endorsed By District 1
& Adams American Legion Post 146**



**An Air Force Veteran of the Vietnam War from
1969-1973, James "Jim" Kellogg has been a member of his Post
for over 46 years. His service to
The American Legion includes:**

Adams Legion Post 146

- Commander
- Chaplain
- Gambling Manager
- Exec. Board
- Sgt.-at-arms Marching Unit

District 1

- Commander
- Adjutant
- Vice-Commander
- Parade Chairman
- S.F.L. Advisor
- Historian
- NS/FR representative
- Membership Director
- County Commander

Department

- Sgt.-at-arms
- Historian
- Department Vice
- Department Chairman NS/FR
- Past Chair Brain Science
- Parade Participant
- Executive Committee
- 100 Yr. Celebration Committee
- NTTBNTI
Commander

National

- National Foreign Relations
Committee
- National Security Council
- Parade Committee MN
- Life Member:
 - American Legion
 - VFW
 - DAV
 - Member of 40 E & B
 - ANNIVIGS
 - National Past Dept.
Historian Club
 - National Past Dept.
Commander Club

Community/Personal

- Northern Country Coop Board
- Soil & Water Board - Mower Co.
- Member MN Corn & Soybean
Growers Assn.
- Member Sacred Heart Church
& Knights of Columbus
- Married to Brenda - 53 Years
- 4 Children
- 12 Grand Children
- All Legion Family Members
- Proud American Farmer

Post-9/11 Veteran Service Bonus Now Available

The 2022 Legislature passed and Governor Walz signed the first-ever Veterans Omnibus Bill that included funding for a service bonus payable to eligible Veterans who served from 9/11/01 to 8/30/21. The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is honored to facilitate this program for eligible Veterans, currently serving service members or Veterans' beneficiaries.

WHEN: The application period began on July 7, 2022. The last day to apply is June 30, 2024, unless the funds have been exhausted before then.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE: Veterans, currently serving service members, Veterans' beneficiaries, or Veterans' guardians, conservators or legally appointed personal representatives. Veterans in Minnesota are defined under Minnesota statute 197.447. Visit the website for more details.

AMOUNT: There are three tiers of the Post-9/11 Veteran Service Bonus: \$600, \$1,200 and \$2,000. Visit the website for more details.

HOW TO APPLY: The online application is located at VetServiceBonus.mdva.mn.gov.

For more information or to apply, visit:
MinnesotaVeteran.org/ServiceBonus

For additional questions contact your local County Veterans Service Officer at MACVSO.org or call LinkVet at 1-888-LinkVet.



Veteran's Coffee Talk

Do you need someone who will listen?

BE THE ONE

TO **ASK** VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING. **Veteran to Veteran!**

TO **LISTEN** WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.

TO **REACH** OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.



Connect!

Free!

We Listen!

We are here to support
veterans and their families!

Engage!

We meet every Tuesday at 9:00 am
Veteran's Resource and Empowerment Center (aka ETS)
5402 43rd Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55417

Do you need to talk now? Dial 988 – Press 1 for the Veteran's Crisis Line



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

JOIN US FOR OUR

6TH Annual
Spaghetti Dinner

Includes:
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Garlic Breadstick
and a side Caesar salad.

\$15.00 IN ADVANCE
\$17.00 AT THE DOOR
ALL SALES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH 2023
TIME: 5 - 7:30 PM
LOCATION: OWATONNA AMERICAN LEGION

Eat-In
Take-Out

ALL AGES WELCOME!

Emmons Son's of the American Legion

Annual Chili Cook-off, Soup Supper, and Silent Auction



At the Emmons American Legion Post 317

Saturday March 4, 2023

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Free Will Donation for Soup Supper

We are proud to support:

Dave Kvam Memorial Emmons SAL Scholarship Fund

Multiple Food Banks

Cory Goodnature Memorial Scholarship Fund

~ Silent Auction will end at 7:00 PM ~

Accepting Silent Auction donations until March 4th. Thank you.

~ Annual Chili Cook-Off ~

Everyone Can Sample Them All for Free and Vote for The Winner.

COOKS - Bring a Crock Pot of YOUR Best Chili by 5:00pm.

Only \$5.00 Entry Fee – Prize for First Place

Contact Justin Overland (641.590.6837) or Mark Heggstad (507.402.8743) for info.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO THE 16TH ANNUAL MILITARY BALL
HOSTED BY THE MILITARY FAMILY**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**PLACE: SPRING GROVE FEST BUILDING
110 NORTH DIVISION**

DATE: APRIL 22, 2023

**TIME: COCKTAILS & PHOTOS 4:30 P.M.
(ONE PHOTO INCLUDED)**

DINNER: 5:45 P.M.

PLATE INCLUDES PORK AND CHICKEN

DANCING: 8:00 PM-10:30 P.M.

\$30 / PER PERSON

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 11, 2023



FEEL FREE TO COPY AND SHARE THIS INVITATION
DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:
GARY OR JAN LEE BUXENGARD AT 507-498-3461
OR JANLEEBUXENGARD@GMAIL.COM

Cut along dotted line

16TH ANNUAL MILITARY BALL ATTENDEES

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

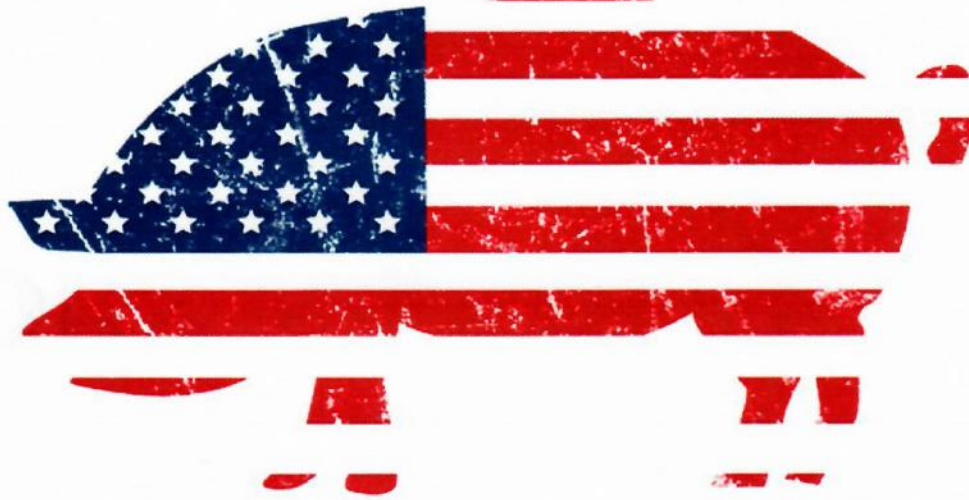
PLEASE LIST NAME OF OTHER GUESTS ON BACK OF THIS PORTION.

IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS PLEASE EXPLAIN ON BACK

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: MILITARY BALL

MAIL TO:
MILITARY BALL
21465 SOUTH VIEW ROAD
SPRING GROVE, MN 55974

Eyota American Legion Riders
PORK CHOP DINNER



**Thickcut pork chop, mashed potatoes & gravy
green beans & side salad**

Saturday – APRIL 15

4:30pm – 6:30pm or until gone

**\$12.50 – Adult \$7.50 – Children 6-10 years old
Free - Children 5 & younger**

Eyota American Legion Post 551



Proceeds will go to BELIEVET - A MN based nonprofit organization providing trained service dogs to Veterans