



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN



APRIL 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

Because of the COVID 19 pandemic all events are either put on hold or postponed to a later date.

Some posts might be opening up, depending on the Governor's mandate with COVID 19 rules in place, or curb side service only.

Please contact your post to see what the times and rules are.

Please keep making buddy check calls to make sure all of our fellow veterans are handling the lockdown.

Check out Commander Dale's article for a list of Upcoming events

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.

Legion Contacts

Commander

Dale Wellik
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507-374-2766 or 507-421-5674
treeson34@gmail.com

Adjutant

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Membership

Myron Ehrich
220 Irvin St
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507-527-2578 or 507-259-5261

Chaplain

Larry Otto
14758SW 52nd Ave
Ellendale, MN 56026
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VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

Area One - Mark Maloney
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Area Two - Mike Parry
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Area Three - James Westby
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westby@mabeltel.coop

Area Four - Mary Hanson
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You can go to the Minnesota American Legion web site (mnlegion.org) and click on the COVID 19 link for a lot of information about the state mandates, contact information and links to important PDF information files.

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Greetings to the 1st District American Legion Family!

I'm reminded of a song by Carmen recorded in the 1990's titled "America Again." The lyrics of that song ring true today as they did back then. These are some of the words from that song:

"George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, 1st Chief Justice John Jay, Founding Fathers of the U.S.A. These men and many more like them shook off the chains of Great Britain. By divine call, they cited 27 Biblical violations; from that they wrote our Declaration of Independence with liberty and justice. But something has happened since Jefferson called the Bible the Cornerstone for American liberty, then put it in our schools as a light. Or since 'Give me liberty or give me death', Patrick Henry said, 'Our country was founded on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If we eliminate God from American life, we eliminate the reason this nation was born.' Of the 55 men who signed the Constitution, 52 were active members of their church. James Madison said, 'We've staked our future on our ability to follow the Ten Commandments.'"

In his farewell address, President Washington said, "You can't have national morality apart from religious principle." President Lincoln said, "The philosophy of the school room, in one generation, will be the philosophy of the government in the next."

I believe we've lost sight of these principles. It's time for God's people to stand up and say, "Enough is enough." We need to put God in American again. We say it each time the Pledge of Allegiance is recited; but do we really mean it? I hope and pray that we do. I believe that only by putting God first, will this nation continue to stand as the Founding Fathers intended. Only by God's hand of mercy and grace will we be called "United States of America".

Thomas Jefferson stated "It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes, which if acted upon, would save ½ of the wars of the world". He further stated that "I predict future happiness for America if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of others". And a final quote from an anonymous author, which is, in my opinion, worth repeating, "Democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give it to those who would not".

You don't have to take my word for it—these quotes from Founding Fathers—check it out for yourself. Look up some of our Founding Fathers' sayings and see if you also believe what they professed.

As we go into the month of April, I pray you have a blessed and happy Easter with family and friends. It's hard to believe it's over a year since the pandemic started. We have missed so much during this lock down—Christmas, Easter, and even the 4th of July celebrations have come and gone; but this year we get to celebrate Easter, one of the most important days in the Christian calendar. May it be a time to reflect on what God has done through Jesus. Through His death and resurrection, we who believe are saved from our sins, and we will spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

Field work will soon begin so watch out for our farmers as they are on the road. Do a Buddy Check on a fellow veteran, give someone a helping hand and be kind to your neighbor.

Until Next Month, Peace and Grace to You and Yours,

Larry H. Otto, 1st District Chaplain



FROM YOUR COMMANDER'S DESK

Greetings from the First District American Legion Family.

Thank you for your service and for your support.

March 29th is (was) National Vietnam War Veterans Day!

We are coming to the District Convention time frame and testimonial Dinners, programs.

My projects are PTSD (brain science) and Legionville all funds received will be divided 50/50 or you can donate directly to these funds thru the Department.

For the district convention May 22,2021 memorial service we are looking for Gold Star families in the district so these families can be honored.

If you know any of these families please get in contact with the District Chaplain, Larry Otto so he can get the information needed.

Membership renewals are still needed to be worked on.

Communicate, Buddy checks, phone calls about any conversation can turn into a new member conversation, be prepared, have an application with you, help them fill it out. Renewals are still needed to be worked on. We are at 91.04% which is about 700 members behind last year.

The Gold Star Memorial that is to be built at the Dodge County government center in Manorville is still planned for dedication on September 26,2021.

Get you vaccination, wear a mask, sanitize, wash your hands, social distance and this coronavirus can be controlled.

Pray for our deployed troops and their families.

Pray for peace. HAPPY EASTER ! En-joy time with family!

For God and Country.

Dale Wellik – First District Commander



1st District Commander's Testimonial

Dale Wellik - First District Commander

WHERE Dodge Center. American Legion
401 Hwy Street West
Dodge Center, MN.55927

WHEN Saturday, April 17, 2021
5:00 PM - Social
6:00 PM - Dinner, Program to follow.

MENU:
Salad
Vegetables
Mashed potatoes & gravy
Beef or Pork
Bun and butter
Dessert
Coffee, Milk or Water.

R.S.V.P. By April 10, 2021

COST \$17.00 per plate,

Checks should be made payable to Dale Wellik.

Mailed to: 17941 County Hwy 34
Dodge Center, MN 55927

CDC and covid regulations will apply, limit of 75 people

COVID VACCINATION INFO Community Clinic Weekend Vaccinations

- Albert Lea VA Clinic: April 3; call 612-467-1301 to schedule
- Northwest Metro VA Clinic: April 10 & 11, call 612-467-1301 to schedule
- Albert Lea VA Clinic: April 10, call 507-377-6051 to schedule
- Twin Ports VA Clinic: April 17 & 18, call 612-467-1301 to schedule
- Mankato VA Clinic: April 17 & 18, call 507-387-2939 to schedule
- Rice Lake VA Clinic: April 24, call 612-467-1301 to schedule
- Rochester VA Clinic: May 15, call 612-467-1301 to schedule
- Chippewa Valley VA Clinic: May 22, call 715-720-3780 to schedule

You can also visit <https://www.minneapolis.va.gov/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp> for more information

FROM AREA ONE

Well another month gone by and year here we are already April time for elections and starting up for the summer. Let's remember there going to motorcycles out there so pay attention and look out for them remember they might be from your legion and they have family too to go home to. The 1st district has done a lot to make sure members get the information out we also have added zoom to a lot of meetings as well as in person. Legion college is also for SAL, on the basis of room if they have spaces available they will take SAL members as well .If you want classes go on national's web site they all the classes videotaped for your viewing .This year we are going do a lot training and getting everyone knowing what each group does in the legion so that there will be no misunderstanding

Also let's remember the legion is not a bar and grill and that is not our main mission in this yes many use the bar gambling and grill part to raise funds but remember the family first .Many time I hear that post are telling groups they can't have an event on a certain night because they have paying customers waiting it that night .Remember our mission comes first in all the legions decisions. Veterans and veteran's family first and community awareness. Thank you

Area 1 Vice Commander
Mark Maloney

FROM AREA FOUR

Happy Easter Legion Family. HE has risen, let us rejoice. It is a time for renewal, thankfulness, new life and family. And most of all a time for reflection. What it all means and how we can practice it in our everyday lives. Be kind to one another.

On April 1 the new mylegion.org went live. Hopefully, most of the posts are using this great tool. It can be used to process membership, create membership reports, review revitalization information and print membership cards to name a few. More information can be found on legion.org or contact your district leadership for direction.

We had a great district rally on March 25th. A big thank you to the Blooming Prairie Post for hosting. We had good speakers and a Four Chaplains Memorial. Please consider coming to the rallies. They are not just membership turn ins. There is always information presented that you can use and a good way to renew friendships and start new ones.

Our district convention will be held on May 22nd at the Austin Post. It will be a one day convention. We need everyone to participate. This is for everybody. See the sign up information in this newsletter.

I hope to see you there.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that membership is not just for post officers, it concerns everyone. Members are our life blood, the only way we can go forward. All you have to do is ask.

Mary Hanson

FROM AREA TWO

An Idea...A labor of Love.

For years, Roger & Ivagene Kobylinski of Waseca decorated their lawn for the holidays. Roger built an Army Jeep to which they added a scarecrow dressed in Army fatigues and a sign "We Support Our Troops". At that point Roger came up with the idea that he would like to do a Military Uniform Display. After pondering the idea for 20 years and acquiring several uniforms the pivotal moment was when a local retailer went out of business resulting in a number of mannequins becoming available. After purchasing the mannequins Roger contacted Waseca American Legion Post 228 to approve a Military Uniform Display. A motion was made and approved immediately. The 100th Anniversary of the American Legion Post 228 was approaching which gave the two another incentive to make it happen along with a scheduled visit of the National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford. With approval by the Post, Roger & Ivagene used their talents to design and put together the Military Uniform Display. How did you make it all happen I asked? "We used boxes and stools and made a prototyped of the staircase in our living room," Ivagene said, "we juggled the uniform positions and groupings as best we could to provide the best desirable effect with the space we had to work with." They worked hard to achieve the optimum height and spacing to provide the best view of each uniform. Were there any challenges to overcome? "One challenge was getting the uniforms to fit the mannequins," Ivagene said, "we had to switch out the donated uniforms several times due to the fact that the mannequin was either too small or too large. Some uniforms were very small requiring a child mannequin." Everything for the display was donated. Waseca Post 228 invites all to come and take a look at the Military Uniform Display anytime. What have you done with space at your Post? Let me know via email at mpar-ry57@gmail.com.

Mike Parry, Area Two

Vice Commander



2021 First District Call To Convention

To: All Posts of the First District

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and By-Laws of the American Legion, Department of Minnesota, I, First District Commander, Dale Wellik, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Austin, Minnesota, Saturday May 22, 2021.

The business sessions of the convention will be held at Austin American Legion Post 91, located at 809 12th St SW, Austin, MN commencing at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 22th and will continue until adjournment.

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

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

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

All Members are encouraged to attend
First District Commander
Dale Wellik

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Austin, Minnesota, May 16, 2021, please send to the District Adjutant as soon as possible.

POST _____ MN

DELEGATES ALTERNATES

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____

SIGNED _____

ADJUTANT, POST # _____

6 **Pictures of the Thursday night First District rally in Blooming Prairie Post 52**



Commander Wellik addressing the members present at the Rally in Blooming Prairie on March 25, 2021



President Prescher addressing the members present at the Rally in Blooming Prairie on March 25, 2021



Preston Selleck speaking about the Veterans Court System at the District Rally in Blooming Prairie.



Jerimiah Miller from Combat Veterans of Recent Wars speaking at the rally in Blooming Prairie on younger veterans joining the American Legion.

Officer endorsements

- Commander—Mark Maloney**
- Finance Officer—Bill Goede**
- Chaplain— Larry Otto**
- Area Two Vice Commander—Mike Parry**

Delegate requests

- Mary Hanson**
- Myron Ehrich**
- Dale Wellik**
- Bill Goede**
- Larry Otto**
- Chuck Stone**
- Chuck Kruger**
- Sy Fix**
- Gary Weaver**

To whom it may concern

THE GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MONUMENT

The CPL Curtis M Swenson Memorial Fund is excited to announce a project we are working on in conjunction with the Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation. The MN Gold Star Families Memorial Monument demonstrates that a community cares for the families and appreciates their sacrifice. Today, there are 64 dedicated monuments and 76 in progress throughout the United States. Our efforts in bringing this to our area would be the first in Minnesota.

Our committee has secured the new Dodge County Courthouse grounds, 721 Main Street North, Mantorville to place this beautiful monument. Three benches have already been promised. Fundraising efforts are ongoing to build and maintain the monument.

The CPL Curtis M Swenson Memorial Fund has started this effort with a \$5000 donation in hopes of matching funds. We know this may be a hardship for smaller groups but, be assured, all donations will be greatly appreciated. The 501c3 non-profit # is 46-2047833 for your tax information.

Groundwork for the monument will begin Spring 2021 with the hopes of dedicating this meaningful gift Fall of 2021.

Please send your donations to: CPL Curtis M Swenson Memorial Fund
 Attention; MN Gold Star Monument Committee
 4520 58th LN NW
 Rochester, MN 55901

Direct questions to: Scott Eggert 507-993-2414 or
 Dave Swenson 507-206-8479

Thank you for your continued support of our Military, Veterans and Their Families





Commander Wellik presenting a 2020 AMERICANISM certificate to Gary Weaver of LaCrescent Post 595.



Commander Wellik presenting a "At GOAL" at the time of the National Commander Tour of MN certificate to Hokah Post 498 Commander.



Commander Wellik presenting a 2020 Blood Donor certificate to Gary Weaver of LaCrescent Post 595.



The participants along with District Chaplain Larry Otto presenting the Four Chaplains Program



Area One Vice Commander May Hanson lighting the remembrance candle during the Four Chaplains program



The Commander of Blooming Prairie Post 52 lighting a remembrance candle during the Four Chaplains Program.

The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District 2021 Membership Report as of Mar 25, 2021

Dist	Post	Location	New 2021	PUFL 2021	Online 2021	Trad 2021	Paid 2021	HQ Trans 2021	Total Membr 2021	Goal 2021	% of Goal	HQ Trans 2020	Last yr at this dae
1	9	Winona	4	31	60	394	489	2	491	536	91.60%	2	525
1	90	Lewiston	3	8	4	55	70	0	70	69	101.45%	0	67
1	190	St Charles	5	19	13	93	130	3	133	133	100.00%	2	125
1		Winona County					689	5	694	738	94.04%		717
1	50	Wabasha	0	48	21	137	206	0	206	221	93.21%	0	212
1	110	Lake City	4	17	15	99	135	1	136	157	86.62%	1	137
1	179	Plainview	0	28	22	96	146	0	146	159	91.82%	0	154
1	546	Kellogg	0	9	0	51	60	0	60	63	95.24%	0	62
1	573	Elgin	0	2	3	22	27	0	27	29	93.10%	0	28
1	579	Millville	0	22	25	103	150	0	150	148	101.35%	0	176
1	588	Mazeppa	1	9	1	56	67	1	68	72	94.44%	1	71
1		Wabsha County					791	2	793	849	93.40%		840
1	92	Rochester	7	92	132	556	787	8	795	905	87.85%	12	874
1	119	Byron	2	17	18	87	124	0	124	133	93.23%	1	125
1	164	Stewartville	3	26	33	215	277	0	277	303	91.42%	2	296
1	446	Rochester	1	2	4	8	15	0	15	20	75.00%	1	17
1	551	Eyota	2	22	25	123	172	1	173	186	93.01%	1	181
1		Olmsted County					1375	21	1396	1547	90.24%		1493
1		Area One					2855	28	2883	3134	91.99%		3050
1	295	West Concord	0	8	2	35	45	0	45	65	69.23%	0	61
1	330	Hayfield	0	18	21	138	177	0	177	199	88.94%	1	189
1	333	Kasson	5	34	37	178	254	0	254	264	96.21%	2	257
1	384	Dodge Center	1	8	7	61	77	1	78	78	100.00%	0	76
1	422	Claremont	1	2	3	23	29	0	29	27	107.41%	0	27
1		Dodge County					582	1	583	633	92.10%		610
1	52	Blooming Prairie	1	16	5	65	87	0	87	94	92.55%	0	93
1	77	Owatonna	4	53	45	309	411	0	411	460	89.35%	13	459
1	296	Ellendale	1	3	3	28	35	0	35	39	89.74%	2	38
1		Steel County					533	0	533	593	89.88%		590
1	75	New Richland	0	8	1	40	49	0	49	48	102.08%	0	46
1	228	Waseca	4	21	25	234	284	1	285	310	91.94%	3	304
1	281	Janesville	1	9	9	68	87	0	87	88	98.86%	0	86
1	587	Waldorf	1	0	1	19	21	0	21	22	95.45%	0	21
1		Waseca County					441	1	442	468	94.44%	0	457
		Area Two					1556	3	1559	1694	92.03%	0	1657

1	40	Lanesboro	1	13	14	80	108	0	108	107	100.93%	0	114
1	68	Spring Valley	0	8	1	63	72	0	72	76	94.74%	0	75
1	81	Harmony	1	2	0	27	30	0	30	32	93.75%	0	30
1	94	Rushford	0	14	13	67	94	0	94	116	81.03%	0	92
1	166	Preston	0	18	3	29	50	0	50	61	81.97%	1	61
1	197	Chatfield	0	2	1	36	39	0	39	45	86.67%	0	45
1	299	Mabel	5	31	15	108	159	0	159	165	96.36%	0	164
1	369	Wykoff	0	0	0	16	16	1	17	16	106.25%	1	17
1	400	Canton	2	0	1	17	20	0	20	18	111.11%	0	18
1	492	Fountain	0	0	0	13	13	0	13	14	92.86%	0	14
1	526	Peterson	0	4	0	29	33	0	33	39	84.62%	0	36
1	544	Ostrander	0	2	1	19	22	0	22	24	91.67%	0	23
1	637	Whalan	0	0	0	10	10	0	10	7	142.86%	0	7
1		Fillmore County					666	1	667	720	92.64%	0	696
1	191	Caledonia	1	17	16	101	135	0	135	150	90.00%	0	145
1	249	Spring Grove	0	15	14	115	144	0	144	151	95.36%	0	142
1	423	Houston	0	8	12	75	95	0	95	101	94.06%	0	100
1	498	Hokah	1	1	2	14	18	1	19	22	86.36%	0	21
1	595	LaCrescent	0	47	41	158	246	1	247	273	90.48%	0	267
1		Houston County					638	2	640	697	91.82%	0	675
1		Area Three					1304	3	1307	1417	92.24%	0	1371
1	56	Albert Lea	2	41	57	401	501	3	504	543	92.82%	7	535
1	264	Glenville	0	9	2	57	68	0	68	70	97.14%	0	69
1	266	Hartland	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	13	100.00%	0	13
1	317	Emmons	0	3	3	40	46	0	46	53	86.79%	0	53
1	404	Alden	0	4	15	77	96	0	96	106	90.57%	0	103
1	552	Freeborn	0	5	2	24	31	0	31	33	93.94%	0	32
1		Freeborn County					755	3	758	818	92.67%	0	805
1	91	Austin	2	56	44	348	450	9	459	502	91.43%	4	490
1	105	Lyle	0	8	7	68	83	0	83	84	98.81%	0	84
1	140	Grand Meadow	0	2	5	34	41	0	41	41	100.00%	0	41
1	146	Adams	1	20	17	110	148	0	148	187	79.14%	2	186
1	161	LeRoy	0	4	7	40	51	0	51	52	98.08%	0	49
1	570	Austin Spam	0	0	3	12	15	0	15	15	100.00%	2	15
1		Mower County					788	7	797	881	90.47%	0	865
1		Area Four					1540	7	1547	1699	91.05%	0	1670
1	1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	0.00%	0	0
1		District Totals	68	867	831	5492	7258	33	7291	8009	91.04%	61	7750

FIRST DISTRICT VICE COMANNDER STANDINGS AS OF 2—25 -2021

		Vice Commanders											
		Area One					2855	28	2883	3134	91.99%	0	3050
		Area Two					1556	3	1559	1694	92.03%	0	1657
		Area Three					1304	3	1307	1417	92.24%	0	1371
		Area Four					1540	7	1547	1699	91.05%	0	1670

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA 2021 DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 2-25--21

Dist	Rank												
1	7th	Dale Wellik	68	867	831	5492	7258	33	7291	8009	91.04%	61	7750
2	8th	Bradley Pagel	52	656	513	4379	5600	15	5615	6189	90.73%	6	5979
3	1st	Linda Dvorak	144	1574	1778	6801	10,297	119	10,416	10,938	95.23%	137	10,608
4	10th	Joseph Jansen	30	289	309	1232	1860	21	1881	2,091	89.96%	26	2017
5	9th	Wade A. Larson	16	309	393	1076	1794	1	1795	2164	82.95%	7	2043
6	4th	Paul D. Edwards	139	1112	1188	7225	9664	94	9758	10,598	92.07%	33	10303
7	2nd	Dean Knutson	40	707	441	4069	5257	59	5316	5,646	94.16%	65	5422
8	6th	D Marvin Hill	29	320	406	2503	3258	15	3273	3591	91.14%	13	3479
9	3rd	Steven Sundstrom	61	555	634	4237	5487	75	5562	5953	93.43%	29	5716
10	5th	Thomas H. Allen	118	916	1459	5505	7998	53	8051	8780	91.70%	40	8508
99			11	182	495	1415	2103	0	2103	2997	70.17%	0	1858
Totals			708	7487	8447	43,934	60,576	485	61,061	66,956	91.20%	417	63,683


FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Please keep working both the 1982 and 1982 AD lists found in the My Legion Post site if your post is signed up. If your post is not signed up please try and get signed up. There is a lot of great help for membership recruitment to be found there. Also do not forget about the expired member lists which are there too.. If you need help , contact the District Adjutant, he knows how to get your post signed up and use the site.

Myron Ehrich - First District Membership Director

Memorial Day is coming so if you visit a cemetery don't remove the coins as they have meaning.


THE MEANING OF COINS ON A HEADSTONE




A penny, you stopped and paid your respects.



A nickle, you attended bootcamp with them



A dime, you served in the armed forces with them



A quarter, you were with the soldier when they were killed

IF YOU WONDERED WHY WE DO NOT WALK BETWEEN OR "BREAK" THE COLORS AT LEGION EVENTS, THIS IS THE REASON WHY.



This Is Hallowed Ground

Why You Don't Walk Between The Colors

Between the flags that proudly fly
Let no one dare to stand
For here our fallen comrades lie,
We call it Hallowed Ground.
A symbol, yes, but mark it well;
Here let us ever humbly pause
In Memory of the ones who fell
In fighting for our sacred cause.

On sea or land these buddies died.
Some lie beneath a foreign sod
In graves caressed by winds and tide,
In spots unknown to all but God.
And so this place is Hallowed Ground.
And it shall be forever blessed,
As though it were a grassy mound
Beneath which gallant heroes rest

Be ever watchful, Legionnaire.
Of those two flags which signify
That we should guard this spot with care
Where our departed comrades lie.
And, if a man should dare to tread
This spot where lie our gallant brave,
He desecrates those noble dead
As tho he walked upon their grave.

FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



Auxiliary Contacts

President

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Membership / First Vice

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Treasurer

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

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

April Newsletter

Happy Spring! Good news with many now getting their Covid-19 vaccines, we can hopefully start to visit with family and friends again! How wonderful with Easter a few days away, couldn't be a better time for families to get together again. The same with our meetings, hopefully we are meeting again and doing so safely with masks and social distancing. We will slowly get back to working our programs and doing what we can to help our veterans and communities.

1st District hosted the Department Appreciation Rally on March 6th. It was well attended by our District! Thank you to Sy Fix for all his hard work in making this happen. Thank you to President Michelle and Unit 595 ladies for the wonderful job they did!

Junior Conference was held this past Saturday, March 27th in Leroy. 2021-2022 Election of Officers—Honorary Jr President -Taylor McElroy

1st Vice - Kennedy Linkenmeyer

2nd Vice - Victoria Wilcox

Secretary/Treasurer - Mally Linkenmeyer

Chaplain - Raelee Felper

SGT at Arms - Regan McElroy

Congratulations to these young ladies!

Our first 1st District Rally since last March was held at Blooming Prairie on March 25th. Probably one of the best informational rallies we have had. I want to thank Dodge Center, Glenville, Leroy, Rochester and Stewartville members for attending.

Reminder Annual Reports are due to Department no later than April 15th.

With the distribution of poppy's not too far off, I hope we are all working on how to distribute this year. Many of Minnesota's disabled veterans did not get paid this year with poppy orders being naturally down. A few Units last year sent out their poppy letters with a poppy enclosed to all American Legion Family Members, even with Covid they were able to get donations from their members.

This is something that we have tried to get units to do, in addition to the poppy can donations.

We need to think outside the box on everything we do now, there is no more of "this is how we have always done it!"

Unit elections are coming up in May, we need new officers if we can, many of our Unit Presidents are wanting to step down, but no one wants to step up. Please consider taking the office or any office! Not all chairs have to be filled, combine Children and Youth with Education, Combine Poppy's with Veterans Affairs and Services.... that is where your poppy money is going or should be. You don't need to do all programs, do 2 or 3, but whatever you decide to do, do it well.

Ladies, I can't stress enough that this is your Auxiliary, we will not survive if we don't get more involvement from our members. We are here to help our veterans, if we don't who will! Congratulations, 1st District for continuing to be in 1st Place in Department Membership!

Thank you to our membership chairs and members for getting turned in on a timely basis. District as of March 31st is at 91.31%. Congratulations to Plainview, Kasson, Claremont, Harmony, Mabel, Glenville and Lyle for having 100% or better! So many are so close to ¹³

Congratulations to Plainview, Kasson, Claremont, Harmony, Mabel, Glenville and Lyle for having 100% or better! So many are so close to hitting their goals! Great Job Ladies!

A reminder that I need raffle tickets back before April 30th! Quilt Raffle drawing is May 1st, a special thank you to the Units that have returned their tickets for the drawing! It will go towards good use for our veterans at the VA Hospital.

If you are getting Girls State Applications after the March 31st deadline, please notify Marsha Bible at Department, they will be accepted for another couple of weeks.

Have a Blessed Easter
President Wanda

1st District Presidents Testimonial

Ivan-Stringer Post 164 - 1100 2nd Ave NW
Stewartville, MN 55976

Saturday, May 1, 2021 - 4:30pm-Social
5:30pm-Dinner Menu - Steak and Shrimp Dinner
Baked Potato
Salad
Roll
Dessert and Coffee

RSVP April 19, 2021

Cost \$20.00 per plate. Checks should be made payable to ALA Unit 164

Mailed to Audrey Farnsworth at 302 1st St E – Stewartville 55976 or call 507-319-0257

CDC and Covid regulations will apply.



A view of the head table at the 2021 Jr Conference in LeRoy, MN



President Wanda lighting the remembrance candle at the Four Chaplain's program



The New 2021—2022 First District Jr Officers.



A view of the head table at the First District Jr Conference in LeRoy, MN



Commander Wellik greeting the members present at the First District Jr Conference.



President Wanda greeting the members present at the First District Jr Conference at LeRoy.

Picture of the Quilt President Wanda is raffling off



From your Auxiliary Poppy Chairman

POPPY DAYS ARE COMING!

Poppies are the American Legion Auxiliaries largest funding in supporting our Veterans and their programs. The American Legion Poppy Day is May 28th. The red Poppy is the symbol of sacrifice made by U.S. Military killed in the line of duty. The Poppy is proudly worn to show tribute to Veterans and our fallen Service Men and Women.

The Poppy was made the official Memorial Flower of the American Legion in 1920 and the American Legion Auxiliary in 1921. Our Poppies are handmade by Veterans---All donations go to Veterans and Veteran Programs, not to administration. District 1 units have started creative methods of distribution. Along with using the Poppy cans put in businesses, there are letters sent out to businesses (Need help with composing/call 507-567-2373). Decorating a business window downtown or the Wall of Crosses in honor or in memory (it looks great in your unit's clubhouse). It has been a rough year (2020) and now we need to get moving with our programs. Thanks for all your hard work for District.

Any entries for the Department Poppy Poster Contest must be sent to Barb Oakland by April 15, 2021, Her address is: Barb Oakland
PO Box 33
Brownsdale, MN 55918

Barb Oakland, District 1 Poppy Chairman



A Field of poppies



First District Jr Auxiliary members working on memorial wreaths at the 2021 Jr Conference



Another view of the First District Jr's working on memorial wreaths which were donated to the new LeRoy Veterans Memorial.

Call to Convention

The annual First District of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota is hereby called. It is to be held in Austin, Minnesota on Saturday May 22, 2021. Auxiliary session will be held at the Mower County Historical building located at, 1303 6th Ave SW, Austin, Minnesota.

Opening session will be called on May 22, 2021 at 930 am.

The purpose of the convention is to:

Elect District Officers for the 2021 – 2022 year.

Receive reports of Unit Presidents.

Receive reports of District Chairman's.

Elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention.

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

District Chairmen

All District Chairmen must file/type a report for the District Book of Annual Reports, which will be distributed at the Convention. Reports should include information from the Unit annual reports forwarded to each respective Chairman by the Department office shortly after April 15 and any pertinent information regarding District projects or activities in your program area. Reports should be forwarded to the First District President **No later than April 15, 2021**. If possible, reports should be typewritten and ready to print.

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

Unit Color Bearers

Units are encouraged to bring their flags to the Convention to be presented as part of the opening ceremonies, posted during the Auxiliary sessions and retired at the close of the convention. Auxiliary members who are carrying in their flags at the District Convention are asked to meet at the session meeting room at 8:00 am on Saturday, May 22, 2021 to rehearse.

Pages and Color Bearers

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

Unit Presidents

All Unit Presidents are asked to take part in the **Opening Ceremonies** at the District Convention regardless of whether or not their Unit Colors will be present. Please be at the session meeting room at 8:00 am to rehearse.

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

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

County Council Presidents

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

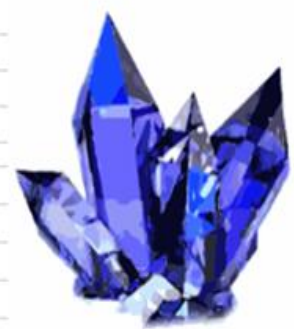
First District Auxiliary Membership Report for MARCH 31, 2021

Membership Chairman

The First District is in 1st Place at 91.31% which is about a percent ahead of Fourth District at 90.19%. There are quite a few units that are over 100% in membership. These units are Lake City at 103.13%, Plainview at 101.67%, Kasson at 101.48%, and Mabel at 102.59%. This is a great accomplishment and thank you for all your hard work. I know all the units work hard and this hard work is appreciated. If there are any concerns or questions, please let me know.

Tonia Bettermann, Membership Chairman

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY							
Bulletin #21							
3/31/2021							
2021 Membership							
RENEW - RECRUIT - REJOIN							
Mining for Members...Each One is a Gem							
DISTRICT	# of Units	Goal	Period Gain	Membership To Date	Percent of Goal	4/1/2020 Membership Last Year	Difference from Last Year
One	48	3,994	51	3,647	91.31%	3,846	199
Two	73	4,015	25	3,576	89.07%	3,841	265
Three	47	3,870	49	3,439	88.86%	3,714	275
Four	7	581	8	524	90.19%	562	38
Five	7	572	1	478	83.57%	541	63
Six	63	5,170	29	4,607	89.11%	4,971	364
Seven	60	3,197	5	2,776	86.83%	3,047	271
Eight	25	1,302	5	1,152	88.48%	1,250	98
Nine	49	3,445	32	3,081	89.43%	3,290	209
Ten	44	3,978	19	3,561	89.52%	3,867	306
1982 Dept	1	193	0	202	104.66%	192	-10
District Totals:	424	30,317	224	27,043	89.20%	29,121	2,078
Group 1 (Even)	212	15,046	86	13,420	89.19%	14,491	1,071
<i>Patti Coleman</i>							
Group 2 (Odd)	211	15,078	138	13,421	89.01%	14,438	1,017
<i>Mary Kuperus</i>							



RANKING\$

10th	9th	8th	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd	1st
83.57%	86.83%	88.48%	88.86%	89.07%	89.11%	89.43%	89.52%	90.19%	91.31%
District 5	District 7	District 8	District 3	District 2	District 6	District 9	District 10	District 4	District 1

1st District American Legion Auxiliary Membership As of March 31, 2021

Unit	Location	Goal	Previous	Turn In	Total	Percent	Left
9	Winona	141	116		116	82.27%	25
90	Lewiston	36	35		35	97.22%	1
190	St Charles	51	44		44	86.27%	7
50	Wabasha	110	97		97	88.18%	13
110	Lake City	64	66		66	103.13%	-2
179	Plainview	120	122		122	101.67%	-2
546	Kellogg	110	97		97	88.18%	13
573	Elgin	13	13		13	100.00%	0
579	Millville	51	43		43	84.31%	8
588	Mazeppa	37	35		35	94.59%	2
92	Rochester	136	121		121	88.97%	15
119	Byron	41	22		22	53.66%	19
164	Stewartville	175	162		162	92.57%	13
551	Eyota	97	94		94	96.91%	3
Pod One Total		1182	1067		1067	90.27%	115
295	West Concord	32	28		28	87.50%	4
330	Hayfield	173	166		166	95.95%	7
333	Kasson	135	137		137	101.48%	-2
384	Dodge Center	64	56		56	87.50%	8
422	Claremont	20	20		20	100.00%	0
52	Blooming Prairie	91	83		83	91.21%	8
77	Owatonna	111	98		98	88.29%	13
75	New Richland	45	40		40	88.89%	5
228	Waseca	240	211		211	87.92%	29
587	Waldorf	21	18		18	85.71%	3
Pod Two Totals		932	857		857	91.95%	75
40	Lanesboro	97	82		82	84.54%	15
68	Spring Valley	39	37		37	94.87%	2
81	Harmony	52	52		52	100.00%	0
94	Rushford	45	38		38	84.44%	7
197	Chatfield	30	25		25	83.33%	5
299	Mabel	116	119		119	102.59%	-3

1st District American Legion Auxiliary Membership Continued

369	Wykoff	17	16	16	94.12%	1
526	Peterson	46	44	44	95.65%	2
544	Ostrander	14	12	12	85.71%	2
637	Whalan	21	17	17	80.95%	4
191	Caledonia	75	70	70	93.33%	5
249	Spring Grove	109	91	91	83.49%	18
423	Houston	126	112	112	88.89%	14
498	Hokah	18	17	17	94.44%	1
595	La Crescent	171	153	153	89.47%	18
Pod Three Totals		976	885	885	90.68%	91
56	Albert Lea	285	254	254	89.12%	31
264	Glenville	90	94	94	104.44%	-4
404	Alden	43	38	38	88.37%	5
552	Freeborn	62	57	57	91.94%	5
91	Austin	134	114	114	85.07%	20
105	Lyle	52	52	52	100.00%	0
140	Grand Meadow	65	61	61	93.85%	4
146	Adams	127	125	125	98.43%	2
161	Leroy	46	43	43	93.48%	3
Pod Four Totals		904	838	838	92.70%	66
Total		3994	3647	3647	91.31%	347



FROM YOUR HONORARY JR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and thank those who attended the First District Jr Conference in LeRoy on March 25th . We had a lot of fun making the memorial poppy wreaths after lunch.

I would like to get our junior members out in to the community. For an example we are building a new Veterans Memorial in LeRoy and that would be a great opportunity to help out with the upkeep.

I plan on continuing Kassy's project, Believet Service Dogs This project is a way to raise money to help pay for the service dogs that go out to veterans in need.

Remember if you want to donate to my project, the checks need to be made out to: The First District ALA with The District Honorary Jr President's project in the memo line and sent to Audrey Farnsworth at: 302 1st St E, Stewartville, MN 55976

Taylor McElroy—First District 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.

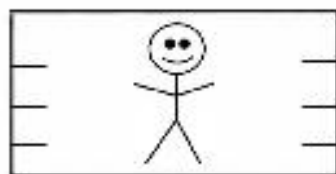
For more information check out their website at: believet.org

How to make a *Face Mask*

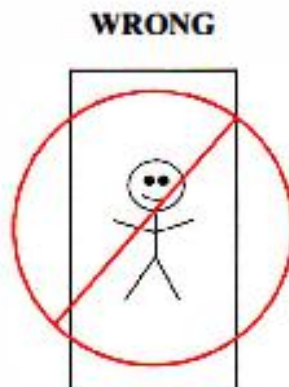
You will need a cotton fabric, any print for adult: 100% cotton, tightly woven fabric is preferred. Cotton flannel for the backing is preferred, though a different print of standard cotton is accepted.
 1/8" flat braided elastic
 Cut the elastic 7" long

Adult face mask (9"x6")

1. Put right sides of cotton and flannel fabric together.
2. Starting at the center of bottom edge sew to the first corner, stop. Sew end of elastic to corner. A few stitches forward and back will hold this.
3. Sew to the next corner, stop, and bring the other end of that same elastic to the corner and sew a few stitches forward and back.
4. Now sew across that top of the mask to the next corner. And repeat #2 to the corner.
5. Sew to next corner and sew in the other end of the same elastic.
6. Sew across the bottom leaving about 1.5" to 2" open. Stop, cut the thread. Turn inside out
7. Pin 3 tucks on each side of the mask to create pleats. Make sure the tucks are the same direction.
8. Sew around the edge of the mask twice.



RIGHT



adapted from pattern by

THE TURBAN PROJECT 501 c3



Full Tutorial on their Facebook and Website

CHANGES TO THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ELIGIBILITY

The American Legion Constitution and Bylaws has been updated to replace the word “wife” with “spouse,” related to the membership criteria for the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA).

Here are some common questions and answers to what this means going forward:

Question: Why change ALA membership eligibility?

Answer: In 1920, veterans were almost 100 percent male so the ALA was formed as the organization for the spouses of the veteran — those spouses just happened to be women.

Today, an estimated 16 percent of enlisted people and 18 percent of officers are women, who may be married to a non-veteran. To keep the ALA as the organization that supports spouses of the veteran, we need to change the ALA’s definition from wives to spouses, thereby updating the organization to represent the changing makeup of the military.

Q: How can this change help ALA membership?

A: Think about female spouses who are alone as their husband is deployed. They have the ALA to lean on. Who can the male spouse rely on? With this eligibility change, now male spouses who are ALA members can receive the same support while their wives are deployed.

Q: Would this change need to be approved by Congress?

A: No, because the American Legion Auxiliary is not chartered by Congress. The American Legion, which was chartered by Congress, created the ALA. The Legion approved the ALA to operate as a separate corporation; however, The American Legion has always set the eligibility requirements of the ALA in their bylaws.

Q: What about the previous communications issued by former ALA leadership claiming this change could not happen? Why is that information inaccurate?

A: Previously released messaging could have been interpreted by members to mean ALA needs congressional approval for this change to happen. That information is inaccurate. The American Legion Auxiliary is not chartered by Congress.

Q: ALA refers to itself as the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization. How can we allow men to join?

A: Now that the resolution has been adopted by The American Legion, the Auxiliary will no longer call itself the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization.

Q: How would this change affect the American Legion Auxiliary membership application or signing up new members?

A: We anticipate taking applications on Sept. 1.

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

THIS IS THE NEW APPLICATION FORM FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Name (First)	(M.I.)	(Last)
Address		
City	State	ZIP
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address
/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> Birth - 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18 and over	
Date of Birth (Required)	Unit #	Location
Have you been a member previously? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If yes, fill in below.)		
Previous Unit City/State	ALA ID# (if known)	
	/ /	
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)		Date

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	
Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name)	
If Living:	American Legion Member ID # Post # City State
<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records. For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records	
Veteran Served:	
<input type="checkbox"/> WWI (4/8/1917-11/11/1918)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> Panama
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> WWII
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts
Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Male Spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Female Spouse
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Grandmother
<input type="checkbox"/> Sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Self
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Female Descendant (daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, etc.)	
To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer	
I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.	
Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification	Date

HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!	
I am interested in learning more about:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering for Veterans, Military, and Their Families	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities, Including ALA Girls State, Junior Member Programs, and Scholarships	
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Discounts and Services	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Please contact the following individual about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:	
Name	Phone
Name	Phone
Name	Phone
Recruiter's Name	Unit/Post #
City	State

Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. *Membership pending approval of application.*



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

COMMANDER

Greg Lemmer
140 Jederman Drive
Winona, MN 55987
507-312-2222
gslemmer@hbc.com

ADJUTANT

Dave Bilderback
44092 2nd Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-250-1057
dbilderback@aol.com

EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Brian Tomasheck
560 East fifth St
Winona, MN 55987
507-454-5998
btoma0210@gmail.com

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Chuck Stone
1625 Crestview Ln
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-213-7517
castoney@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

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

FINANCE OFFICER

William Goede
630 3rd Ave NW
Plainview, MN 55964
507-534-2931 or 507-259-7595
wgoede62@embarqmail.com

Hello fellow SAL members.

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families doing well. I hope you were able to weather the bitter cold our area experienced recently. I like to kid people that it's weather like this which separates the locals from the tourists!

Just a reminder that the Detachment Spring Conference is coming up March 13 at North St. Paul Post 39.

Our district convention is quickly approaching, the date of that is May 1st at the Austin Legion Post. We will be voting on a revised set of Bylaws and Constitution so the participation of all the squadrons in the district is needed.

If you ever thought of becoming an officer at the district level we would love to hear from you, the convention is where it happens. If you have any questions about the duties or how to become a district level SAL officer please contact me or one of the other officers listed on this page.

I am thrilled to announce that SAL Squadron 191 in Caledonia is active again with 5 paid members so far. All it takes is sending a letter or an email to an expired member asking them to consider renewing their membership with the SAL. There was a reason why they became a member in the first place. I understand if a member cannot be very active with their squadron. But first things first, at least renew or join the SAL.

Vaccines are starting to be administered and businesses opening up again. I urge you to go and support them along with our Posts. Be safe and patient as they negotiate the hurdles this pandemic has caused. If you can volunteer some time with a Post/SAL event or at least come for their food night offering it is greatly appreciated. Every bit helps.

Thank you again to our veterans, for we ARE the United States of America!

Brian Tomashek - Eastside Vice Commander

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Josh Erickson
278 1/2 East Third St
Winona, MN 55987
507-313-5861
joshheric@hbc.com

HISTORIAN

James Myers
676 Grand Street
Winona, MN 55987
507-458-5396
meyers5396@gmail.com

SGT AT ARMS

Clint Betterman
1625 Crestview Ln
Owatonna, MN 55060

FIRST DISTRICT SAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR MARCH 30, 2021

1st District

Sqdrn.	Location	2020 Results 6/27/20	2021 Goal	105%	Total at Dept	Rally Turn In	Grand Total	% of Goal	Date Goal Reached
9	Winona	85	89	94	141		141	158.43%	11/3/2020
40	Lanesboro	62	65	69	58		58	89.23%	
50	Wabasha	10	11	12	8		8	72.73%	
52	Blooming Prairie	41	43	46	34		34	79.07%	
56	Albert Lea	122	126	133	110		110	87.30%	
75	New Richland	0	5	6	0		0	0.00%	
77	Owatonna	122	126	133	92		92	73.02%	
90	Lewiston	47	49	52	44		44	89.80%	
91	Austin	64	67	71	44		44	65.67%	
92	Rochester	122	126	133	69		69	54.76%	
94	Rushford	24	25	27	8		8	32.00%	
105	Lyle	26	28	30	24		24	85.71%	
119	Byron	39	41	44	30		30	73.17%	
146	Adams	93	97	102	88		88	90.72%	
161	Le Roy	40	43	46	34		34	79.07%	
164	Stewartville	107	111	117	101		101	90.99%	
166	Preston	44	46	49	41		41	89.13%	
179	Plainview	13	14	15	13		13	92.86%	
190	St. Charles	12	13	14	11		11	84.62%	
191	Caledonia	0	5	6	5		5	100.00%	1/26/2021
228	Waseca	105	109	115	87		87	79.82%	
249	Spring Grove	0	5	6	0		0	0.00%	
264	Glenville	46	48	51	48		48	100.00%	
266	Hartland	10	11	12	12		12	109.09%	8/18/2020
281	Janesville	7	8	9	7		7	87.50%	
299	Mabel	15	16	17	12		12	75.00%	
317	Emmons	41	43	46	31		31	72.09%	
330	Hayfield	34	36	38	26		26	72.22%	
333	Kasson	37	39	41	38		38	97.44%	
384	Dodge Center	10	11	12	8	1	9	81.82%	
404	Alden	57	60	63	55		55	91.67%	
423	Houston	15	16	17	16		16	100.00%	10/27/2020
446	Rochester	10	16	17	36		36	225.00%	10/21/2020
546	Kellogg	17	18	19	15		15	83.33%	
551	Eyota	35	37	39	30		30	81.08%	
552	Freeborn	27	29	31	27		27	93.10%	
573	Elgin	3	5	6	0		0	0.00%	
579	Millville	28	30	32	19		19	63.33%	
595	La Crescent	74	76	80	59		59	77.63%	
1111	Dakota	59	75	79	0		0	0.00%	
Totals		1703	1818	1929	1481	1	1482	81.52%	

INFORMATION FROM YOUR SAL ADVISOR

Just a quick update for everyone....

1. Chuck Stone will be running for 1st District SAL Commander for 2021-2022.
2. Brian Tomasheck is running for East Side Vice Commander 2021-2022.
3. Bill Goede is running for Finance Officer 2021-2022.
4. Tim Weaver is running for Detachment Commander 2021-2022.
5. Gary Weaver is running for Department 1st and 3rd Vice Commander 2021-2022.
6. I have asked to be reappointed District SAL Advisor-2021-2022.
7. Gene Ludtke is running for District SAL Finance Officer 2021—2022

One thing we need to explain to Squadrons is if they don't meet on a regular basis or don't elect officers, we need one contact person for the Squadron. That way if District, Detachment, or National have questions, there is someone they can contact. It also gives us someone we can send Detachment and District mailings to.

Right now, we are still looking for the following Elected Offices: Westside Vice Commander and Chaplain. As far as I know, no one to my knowledge has stepped up for the Appointed positions- (Chuck -correct me if I am wrong.) Adjutant, Historian, Judge Advocate, SGT at Arms, and Membership Director.

If anyone is interested in staying on or is interested in being considered, please let Chuck know. Any member who is in Good Standing can run for an Elected Office or be appointed to a position.

Thank you for all the hard work everyone is doing in these trying times.

If I can be of assistance, please let me know.

Brian
1st District SAL Advisor
2019-2021

2021 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, Greg Lemmer, First District SAL Commander, do here by call a Convention of the First District Sons of the American Legion to convene at Austin American Legion Post 91 located at 809 12th St SW in Austin, MN on Saturday May 1, 2021 at 9:00 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.

Greg Lemmer
1st District SAL Commander

SAL Delegate certification to the First District SAL Convention in Austin, MN on Saturday, May 1, 2021.

Squadron _____	_____ MN
Delegates	Alternates
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____

Signed _____

Adjutant Squadron # _____



Welcome to Spring!

The First District ALR met on Saturday, March 27th, 2021.

Nominations for officers at this meeting:

Nominations for Director: Roe Naylor and Karla Miller

Nominations for Vice Director: Chuck Stone and Zach Naylor

Nominations for Chaplain: Jeff "Scuffy" Paulson

Nominations for Historian: Tonia Bettermann

There are more positions to fill!

Our convention meeting will be held on Saturday, May 1st at 1:00 pm at the Austin American Legion Post. This meeting is open to ALL 1st District ALR members. Please be prepared to show your current Legion, Auxiliary or SAL membership card. Please try to attend.

Secretary

Nancy Lewison



2021 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 Austin American Legion at 1 PM, on Saturday, May 1ST 2021.

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

Join us at Kasson American Legion Post 333

212 W. Main Street, Kasson MN 507-634-4353



BURGER NIGHT

Support local organizations. Serving various Fridays throughout the month beginning at 5:30 pm.

TACO TUESDAY'S are BACK!

Serving from 5-7 pm. Stop in for a quick bite, or call ahead for take-out!

HAPPY HOUR
3-6 PM
MONDAY-FRIDAY



DRINK SPECIALS

MORGAN MONDAY
TACO TUESDAY
WINDSOR WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY TITO'S
RED FRIDAY
SELTZER SATURDAY
AND BLOODY MARY'S

For more information on these and other events check our facebook page (Kasson American Legion Post 333) or better yet, send an email to kalpost333@gmail.com asking to be added to our distribution list. You will receive our newsletter and announcements.

SAL FISH FRY



\$9.00
**Fish &
French Fries**
**All You
Can Eat!**

Proceeds go toward scholarships
and other SAL projects
Thank you for following all safety protocols.

Friday, April 2nd, 5:30 p.m.

Waseca American Legion
700 South State St ~ 507-833-9935

